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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Pulitzer Board declines to revoke Duranty's prize

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — In response to an international campaign which asked that the 1932 Pulitzer Prize awarded to Walter Duranty of The New York Times be revoked, the Pulitzer Prize Board announced on November 21 that, "after more than six months of study and deliberation," it would not posthumously take away Mr. Duranty's award.

According to a statement issued by the Pulitzer Board that same day, the portfolio of 13 articles for which Mr. Duranty won the Pulitzer Prize, "measured by today's standards for foreign reporting, falls seriously short." The statement also said that the board's view in the matter "is similar to that of The New York Times itself and of some scholars who have examined [Duranty's] 1931 reports."

The New York Times recently characterized Mr. Duranty's work as "slovenly," and Dr. Mark von Hagen, a Columbia University history professor hired by The New York Times to examine Mr. Duranty's dispatches from the former Soviet Union, characterized Mr. Duranty's Pulitzer Prize-winning articles as "cynical in tone and apologist in purpose and effect in terms of justifying what the Stalinist regime was up to."

However, in explaining the decision not to revoke Mr. Duranty's award, the board said "there was not clear and convincing evidence of deliberate deception, the relevant standard in this case."

"Revoking a prize 71 years after it was awarded under different circumstances, when all principals are dead and unable to respond, would be a momentous step and therefore would have to rise to that threshold," the Pulitzer Board statement said.

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, which initiated the international campaign to have Mr. Duranty's Pulitzer Prize revoked or returned, responded to the Pulitzer decision in a statement issued on November 21.

According to that statement, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, research director at the UCCLA, said: "It is a documented fact that Duranty was Stalin's apologist, a shill for the Soviets before, during and after 1932-1933. For the Pulitzer Prize Committee to render this tartuffish decision and announce it on the eve of the fourth Saturday in November, a day officially set aside in Ukraine for national mourning, is base."

The board has repeatedly stated that a Pulitzer Prize for reporting is awarded not for an author's body of work or for the author's character, but for the specific pieces entered into the competition.

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Kyiv remembers 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide



Roman Woronowycz

The scene at Kyiv's memorial to the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, located in Mykhailivsky Square, where a public commemoration of the Holodomor's 70th anniversary was held on November 22.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Candlelight filled the evening on one of Kyiv's main squares on November 22 where earlier in the day thousands of people held a peaceful rally and commemorative march as Ukraine remembered the victims of the Famine.

Observations of the 70th anniversary of the artificially created famine occurred in Kyiv in splintered fashion. It was far from the atmosphere of solidarity and unity that its leaders had called upon to remember the 7 million to 10 million victims of Stalin's genocide of the Ukrainian population in 1932-1933.

Official celebrations were simple, consisting of a wreath-laying ceremony by government leaders at the Great Famine Memorial that stands before St. Michael's Golden-Domed Cathedral on Mykhailivskyi Square and a requiem concert attended by hundreds of school-age children — but nearly no government officials.

The most extensive and most widely attended memorial event occurred at the same Great Famine Memorial after government leaders had left, where one religious leader stated that a lack of historic unity by the Ukrainian nation — in addition to the brutal and murderous policy towards the Ukrainian nation by the Soviet leadership in Moscow — was a reason for the nation's tragic plight.

"Something is missing here," noted Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the

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Statement from the UNA: Let the healing begin

Following is the text of a statement issued by the Ukrainian National Association's Executive Committee on November 25.

At the annual UNA General Assembly meeting, held November 21-23, 2003 at Soyuzivka, the General Assembly members came to a historic decision in passing the following resolution.

The Ukrainian National Association, Inc. recognizes the pressing need of our Ukrainian-American community to stand strong and united. Only from a position of strength and cooperation can we, as a community have a powerful, united voice in the public arena.

As such, the Ukrainian National Association, mindful of the fact it represents a body of over 45,000 members of diverse and varied viewpoints, believes it is essential to foster a cooperative and unifying spirit within our community.

The UNA, as a co-founder of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, at its annual general assembly meeting which was held at Soyuzivka votes to restore their decades-long relationship with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of

America (UCCA) on the same basis and status as had been established during its original membership. It is our sincere hope that this step will serve as an incentive for others to seek common ground on which to build mutual cooperation for the good of our community. For let us remember, only with unity comes strength.

UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj, commenting on this decision, which was unanimous, stated, "Recent events regarding the unsuccessful campaign to revoke Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize highlights this need of our community to continue working together for the good of the community and Ukraine. How much more can be accomplished if we can put the arguments and divisions of the past behind us? It is time for the healing process to begin and divisions among us to cease."

"This action in no way impacts our present memberships and relations with any other community organization," Mr. Kaczaraj underscored.

Further details of the General Assembly meeting will follow in the next issues of the UNA's official publications.

ANALYSIS

Who is in charge of Ukraine?

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newsline

Recent contradictory events in Ukraine force us to choose between two conclusions. The first is that President Leonid Kuchma is no longer in control of political life in Ukraine and has become a puppet of presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk, who is chairman of the oligarchic Social Democratic Party-united (SDPU). Mr. Medvedchuk reportedly relishes playing the same behind-the-scenes role that former Russian oligarch Boris Berezovskii did in the last years of Boris Yeltsin's presidency in Russia.

The second option is to conclude that Kuchma remains in charge of daily political life in Ukraine, but is simply playing a game of deception in league with Mr. Medvedchuk. Under this scenario, President Kuchma is saying one thing to the European Union, NATO and foreign diplomats, while simultaneously ordering Mr. Medvedchuk to do the opposite. Analysts believe this conclusion is more likely to be true.

In February, then Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council Yevhen Marchuk said at a Kyiv conference that "the time for declarations and the elaboration of intentions has passed" with regard to Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration. Mr. Marchuk became defense minister in June and is known to be a strong supporter of cooperation with, and integration into, NATO. Mr. Kuchma also complained on the eve of the annual EU-Ukraine summit in October that he is tired of waiting for the EU to offer Ukraine a timetable for membership.

Mr. Marchuk's problem is that the left opposition – the Communists and Socialists – are hostile to NATO mem-

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

bership, which has strong support only from the opposition national democrats. There is broader political support for joining the EU, but membership in that organization is seen as far more unrealistic than of NATO.

The pro-presidential center is either ambivalent or, in the case of Mr. Medvedchuk, even hostile to NATO membership, something that gives him added incentive to undermine Ukraine's drive toward NATO. Support for NATO membership is low within the pro-presidential oligarchic parties.

The shared preoccupation of Mr. Kuchma and the pro-presidential center with blocking a victory by Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko in the 2004 presidential election could present another obstacle to Ukraine's NATO aspirations. A repeat of Ukraine's democratic 1994 election process, which resulted in a smooth transfer of power from Leonid Kravchuk to Mr. Kuchma, seems unlikely. The crucial difference between 1994 and 2004, however, is that the issue of presidential immunity and the fate of the oligarchs and their assets has only recently become an issue. In 1994 there were no oligarchs, as economic reform had yet to begin. The issue of immunity from prosecution for President Kravchuk simply never came up.

On November 10 a joint meeting of three parliamentary committees was held to discuss alleged violations of the law by the security forces and the Internal Affairs Ministry in Donetsk on October 31, when Mr. Yushchenko's party was prevented from holding a regional congress. At that meeting, leading SDPU member Nestor Shufrych told opposition deputies, "You are struggling for power, but nobody will transfer this to you."

It is widely believed that Mr. Medvedchuk and the SDP have the most to lose from a Mr. Yushchenko victory – as they did during the 1999-2001 Mr. Yushchenko government. Mr.

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Our Ukraine bloc complains of series of campaign disruptions by government

by **Askold Krushelnycky**

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Supporters of Ukraine's largest opposition bloc, Our Ukraine, are blaming the government for disrupting a series of meetings across the country organized to explain the party's platform to potential voters.

Viktor Yushchenko is the leader of Our Ukraine, a candidate in next year's presidential election, and – according to polls – the country's most popular politician. Mr. Yushchenko and Our Ukraine accuse regional officials of disrupting a rally two weeks ago in the eastern city of Donetsk by packing a previously booked hall with hundreds of anti-Mr. Yushchenko demonstrators.

The party says many of the demonstrators were drunk and alleges they had been paid to take part. Our Ukraine also says police and local officials tried to block Yushchenko and his group from disembarking from their plane and leaving Donetsk airport.

Donetsk Mayor Oleksander Lukianchenko said Our Ukraine had not "coordinated" with Donetsk police to

hold the rally.

Mr. Yushchenko says he has no doubt the government is responsible for the attempts to wreck his party's meetings. He told RFE/RL he has a copy of a confidential document, allegedly originating from the office of the presidential administration, that includes instructions to local authorities for how to oppose Our Ukraine rallies, saying, "This was handed to us by competent sources from several regional authorities – people whom we trust."

Mr. Yushchenko said the document contains advice on how to disrupt appearances by himself and his supporters, how to prevent well-known local figures from taking part in rallies, and how to infiltrate anti-Yushchenko people into rally venues.

The document is similar to instructions alleged to have been distributed by the presidential administration to Ukrainian newspapers, TV and radio. Called "temnyky," the alleged documents instructed the media on how to handle the news to cast the government in the best light and to besmirch the opposition. It was leaked to opposition members of parliament earlier this year and then

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Askold Krushelnycky is an RFE/RL correspondent based in Prague.

NEWSBRIEFS**Rada sets new minimum wage**

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada voted 237-46 to approve a new minimum monthly wage at 205 hrv (\$38.50) as of December 2003, 237 hrv as of November 2004, and 262 hrv as of January 2005, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Some 161 opposition lawmakers ignored the vote. Deputies from the Our Ukraine, Socialist Party and Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc caucuses blocked the parliamentary rostrum before and after the vote as a means of protesting this new minimum wage, which they consider too low. Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn closed the session over the tumult. The current minimum monthly wage in Ukraine is 185 hrv. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma urges commemoration of Famine

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has called on his fellow compatriots to pay tribute to the victims of the man-made 1932-33 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine that claimed the lives of 7 million to 10 million people, Interfax reported on November 22. "Severe starvation was the apogee of mass repressions in Ukraine. ... The truth [about the 1932-33 Famine] only became common knowledge for the international public in the years since Ukraine's independence. In fact, the Famine is today recognized as a tragedy of mankind," President Kuchma said in his appeal. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Compensation for downed airliner OKd

KYIV – Ukrainian First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yosef Lapid signed an agreement in Kyiv on November 20, whereby Ukraine will pay financial compensation to the families of Israeli passengers who died on October 4, 2001, when a stray Ukrainian rocket shot down the civilian passenger jet in which they were flying, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. The missile, launched during a military exercise, hit the Russian TU-154 over the Black Sea, killing all 78 people onboard, most of whom were Israeli and Russian citizens. Mr. Lapid told the Kyiv-based Segodnya newspaper that relatives of the 40 Israelis killed in the tragedy will receive a total of \$7.5 million. Mr. Azarov told journalists that a similar agreement on compensation is expected between Ukraine and the Russian Federation "shortly." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Journalist attacked in Odesa

ODESA – Oleksander Levit, a correspondent for the Kyiv-based Fakty i Kommentarii newspaper, was attacked in Odesa on November 19 by five unidentified people, Interfax reported, quoting a

police source. The attackers reportedly beat the journalist and told him that he will be killed if he continues to write "critical materials." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv might turn to Hague re Tuzla

KYIV – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko told journalists on November 19 that Kyiv might ask the International Court of Justice in The Hague to resolve the Ukrainian-Russian dispute over Tuzla Island in the Kerch Strait if bilateral talks with Moscow prove unsatisfactory, Interfax reported. "However, we of course prefer to find a solution in a bilateral format, which can allow us [to put the issue behind us] much sooner than any court examination or hearing," Mr. Gryshchenko added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Uzbeks want to work with Kyiv

TASHKENT – Uzbekistan wants to work jointly with Ukraine on the reconstruction of Afghanistan, Uzbek Foreign Minister Sodyk Safaev told a news conference in Tashkent after a meeting with his visiting Ukrainian counterpart, Konstantyn Gryshchenko, Interfax-Ukraine reported the same day. Mr. Safaev said that Uzbekistan's experience with working in Afghanistan, combined with Ukraine's industrial and construction potential, could bring tangible results in the industrialization of Afghanistan. He suggested that Uzbekistan and Ukraine could work together on the restoration of irrigation facilities and building power plants, roads and rail lines. The Uzbek foreign minister also said that Ukrainian firms should participate in the process of privatization in Uzbekistan. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Pipeline key in Kazak-Ukrainian relations

ASTANA – Foreign Minister Qasymzhomart Toqayev of Kazakstan told his Ukrainian counterpart, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, in Astana on November 4 that the completion of the Ukrainian Odesa-Brody oil pipeline and its extension to the Polish port of Gdansk is a top priority in Kazak-Ukrainian relations, Kazinform and khabar.kz reported. Mr. Gryshchenko heard a similar message from Kazak President Nursultan Nazarbaev the same day. Both Messrs. Toqayev and Nazarbaev assessed the current state of bilateral relations in the oil-and-gas sphere positively. Kazakstan is hoping to use the Odesa-Brody pipeline to export oil to Europe. Mr. Toqayev noted that the extension of the pipeline to Poland is also in the European Union's development plans. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Pulitzer Board...

(Continued from page 1)

The board, therefore, said in its statement that it reviewed only the 13 articles that actually won the prize, articles written and published during 1931.

Dr. Luciuk said those 13 articles were "clearly nothing more than a regurgitation of the official Soviet line." Dr. Luciuk told The Weekly by telephone on November 25 that, in focusing only on the 13 articles, the Pulitzer Prize Board was "concentrating on minutiae and ignoring the greater truth. It's a sleight of hand."

In his statement, posted on the UCCLA website on Nov. 21, Dr. Luciuk said the Pulitzer Prize Board's decision not to revoke Mr. Duranty's prize tarnished what the prize is meant to represent. "All who hold a Pulitzer Prize should think about whether what was once the most prestigious distinction in journalism still is. Duranty's prize soils all Pulitzer Prizes."

The decision not to revoke Mr. Duranty's Pulitzer came during a semi-annual meeting of the 17-member Pulitzer Prize Board, held at Columbia University's journalism building in New York City.

Sig Gissler, administrator for the

Pulitzer Prizes, told The Weekly on November 24 that the Pulitzer Board voted not to revoke Mr. Duranty's award, but he would not say whether the vote was unanimous. Mr. Gissler explained that all proceedings of Pulitzer Prize Board meetings are confidential.

The statement from the Pulitzer Prize Board acknowledged that "the famine of 1932-1933 was horrific and has not received the international attention it deserves."

"By its decision, the board in no way wishes to diminish the gravity of that loss. The board extends its sympathy to Ukrainians and others in the United States and throughout the world who still mourn the suffering and deaths brought on by Joseph Stalin," the Pulitzer Board said.

Dr. Luciuk said the UCCLA "prayed the Pulitzer Prize Committee would do the decent thing and revoke Duranty's ill-gotten award on the 70th anniversary of the Terror-Famine. They were granted a unique chance to champion truth. Instead they have rallied around a liar and by so doing have further slighted the sufferings of millions of innocents. They will be remembered by history for what they have done today. As for Duranty, he will no doubt be pleased to be in their company."

The UCCLA said it still expects that The New York Times will return Mr. Duranty's Pulitzer Prize.

CIS diplomats meet in Kyiv to discuss crisis in Georgia

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Diplomatic representatives from the 12 countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, including Foreign Ministers Igor Ivanov of Russia and Kostyantyn Gryshchenko of Ukraine, issued a statement calling on democratic principles and rule of law to predominate in Georgia as the country prepares for new parliamentary and presidential.

The statement was released in Kyiv on November 26 after foreign diplomats from the CIS had met in special session to review the situation in Georgia, where President Eduard Shevardnadze had resigned three days earlier after weeks of civic unrest and political turmoil in response to charges that the Georgian leader and his supporters had rigged recent parliamentary elections. Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, who now chairs the CIS and is a close friend of Mr. Shevardnadze, requested the special session to discuss the topic.

The document the diplomats issued, after a meeting that went an hour longer than had been anticipated, criticized the unconstitutional manner in which the Georgian leadership was deposed, and emphasized that the events "could have destabilized not only Georgia but the region as a whole."

"We are not indifferent to the fate of Georgia, and we retain hope that the new Georgian leadership along with all the leaders of the Georgian nation will do all that is needed to ensure that political processes continue in a constitutional

manner, to establish normal functioning government structures that will ensure civil peace. Towards this end we are ready to take all action and give all help that is required," read the statement.

It emerged after the meeting of CIS diplomats that another, perhaps more important issue discussed during the meeting was how the "velvet revolution," as the victors in the Georgian civil unrest have described their ouster of Mr. Shevardnadze, took place so quickly and so decidedly. That discussion addressed the methods needed to be developed to make sure that another Georgian scenario does not develop and is not repeated in other CIS member-states.

"This was one of the questions we addressed," explained Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov at a brief press conference after the special session. "Not only the matter of Georgia's situation, but how not to let this happen again on the territory of the CIS. I think we addressed the issue successfully."

Mr. Ivanov did not explain what specific actions had been agreed upon.

Mr. Ivanov also underscored that, while rumors abounded about efforts by at least one Georgian province to become part of Russia, Moscow had no intention of absorbing any part of the beleaguered country.

"Russia recognizes and will continue to recognize the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia. We have no desires for any part of Georgia. As we have said before, we want normal diplomatic and economic relations with that region," explained Mr. Ivanov.

Pulitzer Prize Board's statement

Following is the full text of the Pulitzer Prize Board's statement concerning its decision not to revoke the 1932 Pulitzer Prize awarded to Walter Duranty of The New York Times. The statement was issued on November 21.

Statement on Walter Duranty's 1932 Prize

After more than six months of study and deliberation, the Pulitzer Prize Board has decided it will not revoke the foreign reporting prize awarded in 1932 to Walter Duranty of The New York Times.

In recent months, much attention has been paid to Mr. Duranty's dispatches regarding the famine in the Soviet Union in 1932-1933, which have been criticized as gravely defective. However, a Pulitzer Prize for reporting is awarded not for the author's body of work or for the author's character but for the specific pieces entered in the competition. Therefore, the Board focused its attention on the 13 articles that actually won the prize, articles written and published during 1931. [A complete list of the articles, with dates and headlines, is attached.]

In its review of the 13 articles, the Board determined that Mr. Duranty's 1931 work, measured by today's standards for foreign reporting, falls seriously short. In that regard, the Board's view is similar to that of The New York Times itself and of some scholars who have examined his 1931 reports. However, the Board concluded that there was not clear and convincing evidence of deliberate deception, the relevant standard in this case. Revoking a prize 71 years after it was awarded under different circumstances, when all principals are dead and unable to respond, would be a momentous step and therefore would have to rise to that threshold.

The famine of 1932-1933 was horrific and has not received the international attention it deserves. By its decision, the Board in no way wishes to diminish the gravity of that loss. The Board extends its sympathy to Ukrainians and others in the United States and throughout the world who still mourn the suffering and deaths brought on by Josef Stalin.

Walter Duranty's 13 articles in 1931 submitted for 1932 Pulitzer Prize

Eleven-part series in The New York Times:

6/14/1931

"Red Russia of Today Ruled by Stalinism, Not Communism"

6/16/1931

"Socialism First Aim in Soviet's Program; Trade Gains Second"

6/18/1931

"Stalinism Shelves World Revolt Idea; To Win Russia First"

6/19/1931

"Industrial Success Emboldens Soviet in New World Policy"

6/20/1931

"Trade Equilibrium is New Soviet Goal"

6/22/1931

"Soviet Fixes Opinion by Widest Control"

6/23/1931

"Soviet Censorship Hurts Russia Most"

6/24/1931

"Stalinism Smashes Foes in Marx's Name"

6/25/1931

"Red Army is Held No Menace to Peace"

6/26/1931

"Stalinism Solving Minorities Problem"

6/27/1931

"Stalinism's Mark is Party Discipline"

Two articles in The New York Times magazine :

3/29/1931

"The Russian Looks at the World"

12/20/1931

"Stalin's Russia Is An Echo of Iron Ivan's"

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Dispute over Moldova's federalization

CHISINAU – Russian President Vladimir Putin on November 25 canceled a visit to Chisinau that the Moldovan presidency had announced the previous day, RFE/RL's bureau in the Moldovan capital reported. No reasons were given for the cancellation, but the bureau said demonstrators blocked traffic on Chisinau's main boulevard protesting the Russian plan for Moldova's federalization. On November 24 Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin announced that Mr. Putin would pay a "working visit" to Chisinau the next day. Presidential spokesman Valeriu Renita said that same day that Moldovan and Transdnier experts have succeeded in eliminating the last obstacles to approving the federalization plan Russia proposed earlier this month. Mr. Putin was to witness

the signing of the agreement by President Voronin and separatist leader Igor Smirnov, according to Infotag. Ukraine said it "fully backs" the Russian plan for Moldova's federalization in its capacity as one of the mediators and guarantor-states, RFE/RL's Chisinau bureau reported on November 24, citing a statement by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. The opposition Our Moldova Alliance said on November 24 that if President Voronin signs the federalization plan proposed by Russia, he will "commit high treason by [attempting to bring about the] liquidation of the Moldovan state" and consequently will have to be impeached. Opposition parties called on Moldovans to be ready to defend the country's independence and constitutional democracy. Twenty-two parliamentary and extra-parliamentary formations announced on November 24 they have set up a Committee for the Defense of Moldova's Independence and Constitution. (RFE/RL Newslines)

Quotable notes

"The conflict around Tuzla is practically wrecking all of Russia's plans regarding Ukraine. It is wrecking the ratification of the accord on the Single Economic Space. It is wrecking the implementation of some military doctrines that Russia has planned to develop jointly with Ukraine. It is also ruining Russia's international image. ... We can see that, following the outbreak of this conflict, Russia has lost its magic influence on a part of Ukraine's pro-Russian population. In other words, a consolidation of the nation has begun [in Ukraine]. ... This conflict is detaching the people of Russia from those of Ukraine. ... Therefore, Ukraine should not tremble today and seek to settle the conflict by giving away part of its territory to Russia. Ukraine should take an iron-concrete stand on its frontier and make a fortress of this island [Tuzla]. ... There is no need today to hold talks at any price [with Russia]. We have to build a unity of the nation around this incident."

– Ukrainian opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko in an interview with Hromadske Radio on October 31, as cited by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.

Tikrit-Kyiv-Parsippany connection brings news of U.S. Army doctor

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – To his family, relatives and friends, his wife and three children, his brother and sister, his fellow Siromantsi in the Plast fraternity, his fellow graduates of Newark's Ridna Shkola Class of 1982; his friends in El Paso, Texas, where he now lives, in New Jersey, where he was raised, and in Chicago, where he was born: Lt. Col. Roman Bilynsky is healthy and doing fine. Or, as he put it, he's "wonderful."

Lt. Col. Bilynsky is currently stationed in Tikrit, Iraq, one of the more searing "hot spots" on the globe, as part of the U.S.-led international stabilization force. He is an Army medical doctor with the 4th Forward Support Battalion, but is currently assigned to the I-22 Infantry Battalion. He has been in Iraq since July and, while he has not faced daily combat, he has seen his share of firepower.

"I've been shot at with mortar and with rocket-propelled grenades while part of a convoy," explained Lt. Col. Bilynsky. "Our base gets rocketed regu-

larly," he added.

As a result, Lt. Col. Bilynsky doesn't get out much nowadays. He has, however, been to Kirkuk in the safer, northern, Kurdish area of Iraq. He said the city and the residents "are very nice."

The way The Ukrainian Weekly stumbled upon Lt. Col. Bilynsky – or more accurately, how he bumped into us – in desolate and dangerous Tikrit would make a worthwhile addition to any book written on unexpected circumstances and strange coincidences, especially for the chapter "What a small world."

Lt. Col. Bilynsky explained that, had he not agreed to replace a fellow doctor at one of Saddam Hussein's palaces in Tikrit, which U.S. troops often use as bases, he would never have met a photojournalist affiliated with The Weekly – a newspaper he has read since childhood – who put him in touch with the newspaper's Kyiv Bureau.

Already stationed at the palace in Tikrit at the time was Efrem Lukatsky, a photojournalist for the Associated Press in Kyiv and a regular photo contributor to

The Weekly. The AP had sent Mr. Lukatsky to Tikrit on assignment only a few days earlier. He was staying at the palace and hanging out on a balcony with fellow journalists the day Lt. Col. Bilynsky was taken on a tour after having recently arrived.

Mr. Lukatsky was introduced to the Ukrainian American lieutenant colonel as a journalist from Kyiv and as happens when two Ukrainians get together, they began throwing out names of people whom they might both know. The rest, as they say, is a paean to the hi-tech age.

During a short telephone conversation via cell phone between Kyiv (i.e., this correspondent) and Tikrit, the 39-year-old career officer had but one gripe: the extreme weather during his four-month stay in the combat zone. He said that in July and August temperatures hovered at 130 degrees Fahrenheit, but noted with relief that the weather had finally cooled off and was now a much more reasonable 70 degrees during the day and around 50 degrees at night.

Lt. Col. Bilynsky said he had not met

any other Ukrainian Americans during his time in Iraq, but knew for a fact that others had been assigned to the combat zone, including the Rev. Ivan Kaszczak, a former Plast chaplain from New York.

Asked how he felt about serving in Iraq, his first tour in combat, Lt. Col. Bilynsky answered quite professionally: "It comes with the job."

The Ukrainian American asked us to convey warm greetings to his wife, Tamara; his children, Lesia, Maria and Dmytro; his brother, Paul; his sister, Lydia; and everybody else who might like to hear from him. He threw in a greeting to Martha Lysko, a longtime family friend and the first vice-president of the Ukrainian National Association, The Weekly's publisher.

Lt. Col. Bilynsky said he plans to be home in February or March. That ruled out having Thanksgiving turkey or Christmas kutia with his family this year, but left hope that on Easter they would decorate pysanky and eat paska together.

Good luck, Lt. Col. Bilynsky, and Gods speed!

Kyiv remembers...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, during a prayer ceremony in honor of the victims, which he concelebrated with Patriarch Filaret, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

"Today as we stand staring at the representation of death, remembering our compatriots," Cardinal Husar continued, "there should be others here. We should all be here: government officials, all the political parties and representatives of all religious confessions."

"Perhaps this would not have happened if we would have stood together as one nation as we should be doing before this memorial to those whose lives were taken from them 70 years ago," he continued.

"This was a chance to show our unity. It would have been better if all of us had been here together in the heart of Ukraine. We could have all remained silent. There would have been no need to say a word. Then we could have said we properly honored the victims," Cardinal Husar said.

The hierarch spoke to some 2,000 people who had gathered on Mykhailivskyi

Square about an hour after Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko had driven up in their black European limousines and in silence placed wreaths before the simple granite monument to the victims of the mass murder planned and executed by Stalin and his henchmen – Lazar Kaganovich, Pavel Postyshev and Stanislav Kossior – and then driven away.

President Leonid Kuchma did not lead the official delegation because he remains hospitalized recovering from emergency intestinal surgery last week.

An hour after the state and government leaders had quickly left, National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko, chairman of the Our Ukraine political bloc, which organized the memorial service, told the gathering of his grandfather, who succumbed to starvation in 1933.

"My village paid with 600 lives," said Mr. Yushchenko. "When I come to visit my mother, she has five or six bags of dried bread in the kitchen at all times. I tell her they are no longer needed, but I know they will always be there."

The 70th anniversary commemoration began during a damp late autumn morning in St. Sophia Square, where people from all parts of the country gathered to take part in a memorial demonstration and prayer service. As the column of marchers approached the site of the Great Famine Monument, a recording of women and children alternately wailing and then gently weeping filled the square, accompanied by the tolling of a single bell in the St. Michael's Cathedral bell tower.

Over loud speakers, a solemn baritone voice offered a narrative and reminded the crowd, "We are not only a post-Communist society, we are also a post-genocide nation," and, "We must ask ourselves: 'What happened to us? Who is to blame?'"

Among the individuals given an opportunity to speak after the 30-minute prayer service – in addition to the political and religious leaders – was Kateryna Marchenko, a witness to the famine.

"We watched as dead people were dumped into open pits without a proper religious burial or commemoration," said Ms. Marchenko, who was then 7 years old. She added, "I heard of incidents of cannibalism."

She finished her remarks with a statement describing the state of contempo-

rary Ukrainian society: "In the 13th year of our independence our people do not have a worthy life. The genocidal famine of 1932-1933 led to the spiritual famine we have today," Ms. Marchenko explained.

As the hourlong ceremony, which proceeded under the slogan "Light a Candle," came to its climax, composer Myroslav Skoryk's "Requiem" began to play. Mr. Yushchenko led a group of his fellow politicians to the commemorative monument, at the foot of which the group placed votive candles in colorful candleholders. Mr. Yushchenko, who was present at the service with his wife and youngest child, then urged others to add their candles to create a huge memorial.

By nightfall, when Mr. Yushchenko reappeared on the square, thousands of green, red, yellow and blue translucent candleholders held lit candles flickering in the night wind.

Mr. Yushchenko said he would like to see the practice become an annual event, so that eventually 25,000 candles light up Mykhailivskyi Square each November 22 in honor of the like number of Ukrainians who died daily at the height of the genocide.

In the afternoon, the Ministry of Culture and Art held a requiem concert at the Shevchenko Opera Theater, where Prime Minister Yanukovich and other government leaders had been expected. The highest-ranking government official on hand, as it turned out, was Minister of Culture Yurii Bohutskyi who attended with a handful of his underlings.

The hall was filled for the most part with school age children who had been given free tickets and ordered to attend as part of a school assignment. It wasn't any easy task for them – the performance was the first-ever playing of Oleksander Yakivchuk's "33rd Symphony," an unnerving and difficult piece performed by the Ukrainian Pop Symphony and sung by the Pochaina Chorus of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. One high school student in the second row spent the better part of the concert dozing.

The 70th anniversary commemorations began the previous evening with the opening of an exhibition of 70 years of artwork and posters on the subject of the Great Famine featuring more than 100 objects. The exhibit included paintings and murals, with works by Edward Kozak and Mykhailo Dmytrenko, two well-known



Roman Woronowycz

Kateryna Marchenko, a survivor of the Famine, addresses the solemn gathering.

(Continued on page 19)

Ukrainian Catholic University's history program is accredited

by Matthew Matuszak

LVIV – The history program of the Humanities Faculty of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv received state accreditation last summer. That was the topic of a press conference held at the UCU on November 12, with the participation of the rector, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, and the staff of the faculty.

According to Ihor Pidkova, head of UCU's accreditation department, the accreditation process lasted two years and the UCU can now start joint educational projects with other universities. UCU students will have the opportunity to take courses offered by similar departments in other institutions. One example of such cooperation is an individualized humanities studies program arranged between UCU and Ivan Franko National University in Lviv.

"UCU is an institution in which humanities studies, based on the Christian viewpoint, can seriously, creatively and critically develop," said Father Gudziak. "We have our own unique laboratory for integrating Ukrainian society into the world, and so, undoubtedly, we deserve the recognition and support of our government."

"The potential for UCU that we have been nourishing for years can finally begin to function in the field of education and research, accredited by the state," continued Father Gudziak. "For a long time, the state did not recognize our programs, but in this we see the providence of God, because from a certain point of view the absence of state accreditation gave us more freedom. Due to a more creative approach to the development of curricula, the university has accumulated many interesting proposals that will undoubtedly influence the reform of humanities education in Ukraine in general."

However, Father Gudziak noted that "The problem of the accreditation of the UCU's theology program is yet to be resolved. For now, while officials in Kyiv are preparing to approve it, we are trying not to waste time and are training specialists whose diplomas are recognized

worldwide. We hope, and exert every effort, to be able to admit students in 2004 for an accredited program at the Faculty of Philosophy and Theology," said Father Gudziak.

"Today we have witnessed a small event, which is however an event at the all-Ukrainian scale," stressed Olena Dzhezhora, acting dean of the UCU Humanities Faculty. "Our goal is to create a generation of young professionals whose knowledge will be used in Ukraine." Ms. Dzhezhora added that there is no concern over potential pressure from the Ministry of Education trying to impose its standards. She stated that the process of reform of higher education in Ukraine is significant and the ministry is not interested in hindering it.

The UCU Humanities Faculty, now consisting of the history program, was established in July 2001. In addition to the courses required by the state standard list for history specialists, the students also take basic courses in theology. Special emphasis has been placed on the teaching of intellectual and social history, the history of Central and Eastern Europe, and the teaching of classical and modern foreign languages.

The UCU actually received the license authorizing it to grant a bachelor's degree in history on July 22. The university decided to publicize the information on November 12, before Student Day is celebrated in Ukraine on November 17. As part of the ceremony, the 35 first-year students enrolled in the UCU's history program received government identification to allow them to take public transportation at the student rate. The 190 seminarians and 145 general department students in the UCU Faculty of Philosophy and Theology do not have such identification, because their program is still not fully accredited by the Ukrainian government.

For further information about the Ukrainian Catholic University readers may contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone, (773) 235-8462; fax, (773) 235-8464; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org; website, <http://www.ucef.org>.



The rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, Father Borys Gudziak (center), gives a student his government identification as Ihor Pidkova, head of the UCU's accreditation department (left), looks on.

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THE UNA FORUM



It is with great sadness that all of us at the Ukrainian National Association mourn the passing on Sunday, November 23, of our fellow employee, Maria Haluszczak. Our sympathy goes out to her grieving family and friends. And her memory will forever remain among us.

Maria Haluszczak was a devoted employee for over 10 years at the UNA, where she served as a claims clerk. Enthusiastic and energetic, she also served as secretary of UNA Branch 70 in Jersey City, N.J.

She is survived by her husband Alexander; son Alexander; daughter Anya Jacewicz; mother Eva Czekaj; two sisters, Melania Tchir and Anna Wasko; and two grandchildren.

Visitation: Monday, November 24, 7-9 p.m.; Tuesday, November 25, 2-4. Parastas at 7 p.m. on Tuesday at the Riotto Funeral Home, 3205 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, N.J. The funeral service will take place on Wednesday, November 26, at 10 a.m. at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Jersey City, N.J.

– Executive Committee and employees of the Ukrainian National Association, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – AUGUST 2003

Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 7/2003	5,973	12,296	2,709	20,978
Total Inactive Members – 7/2003	7,635	16,153	0	23,788
Total Members – 7/2003	13,608	28,449	2,709	44,766

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 8/2003

New members	11	12	0	23
New members UL	0	0	0	0
Reinstated	4	4	6	14
Total Gains:	15	16	6	37

Losses in 8/2003

Died	2	20	1	23
Cash surrender	6	9	0	15
Endowment matured	7	5	0	12
Fully paid-up	9	15	0	24
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	18	31	0	49
Certificates lapsed (active)	13	3	32	48
Certificate terminated	1	2	5	8
Total Losses	56	85	38	179
Total Active Members – 8/2003	5,932	12,227	2,677	20,836

INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 8/2003

Paid-up	9	15	0	24
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	18	31	0	49
Total Gains	27	46	0	73

Losses in 8/2003

* Died	2	40	0	42
* Cash surrender	6	16	0	22
Pure endowment matured	1	8	0	9
Reinstated to active	4	4	0	8
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	2	6	0	8
Total Losses	15	74	0	89
Total Inactive Members – 8/2003	7,647	16,125	0	23,772

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 8/2003	13,579	28,352	2,677	44,608
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(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Pulitzer Board wimps out

On November 21, the Pulitzer Prize Board, quite obviously, took the easy way out by deciding to let stand the 1932 prize awarded to Walter Duranty of The New York Times. Its members, you see, did not want to set a precedent that could upset the cronyism of that special world occupied by the news media. Needless to say, no details were given of just what sort of "study and deliberation" occurred during the six months cited by the board in its statement (see page 3). We were not told the findings of the special committee set up to review Duranty's work. We were not even told how many yeas or nays were registered. So much for the public's right to know; that only applies to adversaries of the news media – not to the news media themselves. The Pulitzer process is secret, so tightly controlled that it is doubtful any board member will tell what happened in the disposition of the Duranty case. (Do we dare to hope against hope? That perhaps there will be one person of conscience who will feel compelled to speak out?)

The board explained that a Pulitzer is not given for a correspondent's character, or for his body of work, but for "specific pieces entered in the competition." Need we remind our readers that the body of 13 Pulitzer-winning articles was examined by Prof. Mark von Hagen (along with other examples of Duranty's 1931 work) at the request of The New York Times and that the historian's conclusion was that Duranty's dispatches were disgraceful and a blot on the record of The Times?

The Pulitzer Board also stated that, although it found that Duranty's work, "measured by today's standards for foreign reporting, falls seriously short," "there was not clear and convincing evidence of deliberate deception, the relevant standard in this case." And what of the documents that quote Duranty himself telling a U.S. diplomat that "in agreement with The New York Times and the Soviet authorities" his dispatches always reflect the position of the Soviet regime? Isn't that convincing evidence?

And here's our favorite example of the board's equivocation: "Revoking a prize 71 years after it was awarded under different circumstances, when all principals are dead and unable to respond, would be a momentous step and therefore would have to rise to that threshold [clear and convincing evidence of deliberate deception]." Really? And shouldn't one count among those principals the 10 million who died in the Famine that Duranty denied – including the 150,000 who died in 1931 (yes, 1931 – Pulitzer Board, please note) as a result of Stalin's collectivization policies? Were they ever given a chance to speak out? Anyone familiar with Duranty's work knows that they were the subjects of his infamous line: "You can't make an omelet without breaking eggs." They were the price that had to be paid for Stalin's "successes" as chronicled by Duranty.

Not being privy to the Pulitzer Board's thinking, we cannot say where we go from here to get the board to acknowledge what so many others know: that Duranty was a fraud – he was a fraud in 1932-1933, and he was a fraud in 1931. He is undeserving of the Pulitzer Prize for 1931, or for any year, because he was a toady, a sycophant, an apologist for Stalin and his regime – a regime that began its genocidal campaign in Ukraine in 1929 with dekurkulization and collectivization.

As for The New York Times, perhaps there still is some hope. The Times still can act like the newspaper of record it claims to be, like the newspaper that carries "All the news that's fit to print." It is in the Times' power to finally tell the complete story of Walter Duranty and how he duped his editors (at least at first), his readers, his nation and the world. The Times owes this to the public and to the international community. It owes it to the 10 million who perished in the Famine-Genocide.

The only question is: Will the Times' hubris – and that all-important tally of Pulitzer Prizes – allow it to do the right thing?

Dec.
1
2002

Turning the pages back...

Last year at this time we reported on the kick-off to the renaissance of Soyuzivka, the beloved resort owned by the Ukrainian National Association that has hosted countless Ukrainians from all parts of North America and, indeed, all parts of the globe.

Hundreds of guests accepted the UNA's invitation to "come home to Soyuzivka" for the estate's 50th anniversary gala on Saturday, November 23, 2002. They learned that there is a promising plan for Soyuzivka's future as a four-season resort serving the Ukrainian community. The theme for the celebration was "I Love Suzy-Q," and that message was evident throughout: on balloons, on programs, on wine glasses; it was even spelled out in lights.

The resort was booked solid (and many stayed at nearby hotels). Cocktail hour in the Main House lobby and library was jam-packed with guests, as they mingled with old friends and enjoyed the photo display of people and events from years past at Soyuzivka. Present at the filled-to-capacity banquet in the Veselka auditorium were: Soyuzivka regulars, former employees, UNA officials, participants of Soyuzivka's sports competitions, leaders of Soyuzivka camps and many others who have come to love this unique resort.

UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj noted that "Soyuzivka holds a very special place in our hearts." After giving a capsule history of the significance of Soyuzivka for Ukrainian children, youths and parents, for campers, athletes and devotees of Ukrainian culture, he vowed: "We must and we will do all in our power, with God's help and the community's support, to rebuild Soyuzivka, to make sure that it is secure for our children and grandchildren." Presentations were also made by UNA National Secretary Christine E. Kozak and UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich. The keynote address was by Roman Kyzyk, a Soyuzivka devotee who grew up at the resort and today brings his children there, who reflected on the meaning of Soyuzivka and the connections it has engendered through the years.

A high point of the evening came when it was announced that the Self Reliance (New York) Federal Credit Union was donating \$50,000 to Soyuzivka – the first donation to what was later dubbed "Soyuzivka Project Renaissance."

Source: "Soyuzivka celebrates 50th anniversary as plan for its renaissance is announced," by Roma Hadzewycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 1, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 48.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Another model for Ukrainian studies

Dear Editor:

I read your article, "Ukrainian Studies Fund raises \$750,000 for Columbia's Interdisciplinary Program" with great interest. As a graduate of Columbia University (1960 BA, 1961 MA), and a still active (but retired) member of the department of Slavic and East European languages and literatures at the Ohio State University (OSU), I was pleased to read that my alma mater is going to offer a course in Ukrainian History. I was likewise touched by the generosity of the Ukrainian American community to make this happen.

At the same time, I find it dismaying to learn that the Ukrainian community has to raise a million dollars before Columbia would agree to offer the course. I guarantee you that there was never such a hitch made for introducing a Russian, French or German course. Certainly Columbia is one of the most heavily endowed universities in the nation (i.e., they own the land under Rockefeller Center), and they can afford to do anything they set their minds to.

Just for the information of your readers, in the spring of 2004, when Columbia begins offering its first Ukrainian history course, my colleague Andrew Fedynsky (director of the Ukrainian Museum Archives in Cleveland) and I will begin our sixth year co-teaching "Introduction to Ukrainian Culture" (Slavic 245) at OSU. With topics ranging from Shevchenko to Khvylioviy, videos about the Famine and Kozaks, slides of Ukrainian art, recordings of Ukrainian music, a wealth of photographs and other materials, as well as a field trip to the Museum in Cleveland, the course is lively, informative and popular. Our enrollments have ranged from a low of 40 to a high of 60. Interestingly enough, at least 90 percent of our students have been of non-Ukrainian heritage.

As regards the course financing, it is paid out of the normal Ohio State budget, taken from students' tuition fees and from the citizens of Ohio who subsidize higher education with their taxes. Ohio State includes this course in its list of distributive requirements for graduation, further demonstrating its commitment to placing Slavic 245 in its "mainstream" of subjects.

Certainly I admire the work of Columbia and applaud Prof. Mark von Hagen for expanding Slavic studies at my alma mater to include Ukrainian history, culture and language. But, I would like the readers at The Ukrainian Weekly to know there's another model. All universities rely on tuition, taxes and various federal, state and private funds. They certainly should offer courses in Ukrainian history, language and culture without making them contingent on the Ukrainian community raising huge amounts of money. We've done it at OSU, and successfully, for over five years. Ukrainian courses will support themselves of any university because they are as important at any other courses the university offers, including, well, Russian.

George Kalbous
Columbus, Ohio

The letter-writer is associate professor emeritus of Slavic and East European languages and literatures.

I support our troops in Iraq 100 percent

Dear Editor:

The letter from Karen Bapst, Ph.D., published in The Ukrainian Weekly of November 2 truly concerned me. Like Ms. Bapst I am a veteran who for a long time belonged to the Ukrainian American Veterans Post 30. I served in the United States Army during the Korean War which, similarly to the current war in Iraq, did not have the undivided support of the American nation.

One thing I learned at the very beginning of my military service: you follow orders at all times, you respect the rank held by your superior officers. How can a veteran, therefore, publicly accuse our commander-in-chief, our President George W. Bush of "exploiting ignorance and post-9/11 fear and hatred to gain support for its irrational and nepotistic war?"

Prior to immigrating to the United States as a displaced person I lived in Europe through World War II from beginning to end. I witnessed first-hand the tremendous atrocities committed by the Russian secret police (NKVD) and next the German secret police (Gestapo).

If American soldiers would not have sacrificed their lives by the thousands I probably would not have been alive today. Numerous members of my family lost their lives after being branded enemies of the existing regimes. Did Ms. Bapst serve in World War II? Did she see the horrible-looking human beings freed by the American military from the German concentration camps? Did she visit South Korea years after the war like I did in 1998? Did she hear the gratitude expressed repeatedly by South Korean citizens to the Americans for placing their lives on the line to secure South Korea's freedom from communism?

An Associated Press article published by the U.S. press on November 9, disclosed that "as many as 300,000 Iraqis killed during Saddam Hussein's 23-year dictatorship are believed to be buried in more than 250 mass graves found so far around the country."

Should President Bush have continued to stand by idly while mass murders were committed? How does Dr. Bapst think our soldiers feel when they read and they hear their country is not supporting what they are risking their lives for?

I do have a son in the U.S. Army, an officer with 16 years of service. I and my whole family support his efforts and those of his fellow soldiers 100 percent.

Does Dr. Bapst support them also?

Mykola Holinaty
Manchester, N.J.

Thanks for article on Bronko Nagurski

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank you for publishing that wonderful article, written by Inger Kuzycz, on Bronko Nagurski.

My dad's brother, Dan Yurkiewich, was married to Bronk's aunt.

I would also like to thank you for publishing "Faces and Places" by Myron B. Kuropas. Keep up the good work.

Myrosław (Merle) Jurkiewicz
Toledo, Ohio

NEWS AND VIEWS

On Remembrance Day: what and why we remember

Below is the speech by Andrew Gregorovich, member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 360, at Ukrainian Canadian Memorial Park in Toronto, on Sunday, November 9.

Today we commemorate Remembrance Day, a day for us to remember both as Canadians and as Ukrainian Canadians. On behalf of John Gregorovich, the president of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 360 in Toronto, I would like to explain what and why we remember on this the 85th anniversary of the end of World War I on November 11.

It is appropriate that we meet in this park, the Ukrainian Canadian Memorial Park, at the Ukrainian Canadian Cenotaph, since our branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was responsible for establishing this park and its monument bearing a dedication in English, Ukrainian and French. Let us not forget that Poppy Week in Canada is a sacred week to remember all the Canadians who died in Canada's wars.

The first thing we remember as Canadians is the sacrifice and the service of so many Canadian soldiers, including thousands of Ukrainian Canadians. There were 10,000 Ukrainian Canadians who served in the first world war and 45,000 in the second world war. We should not forget that Ukrainian Canadians have fought for Canada in all our wars since the Boer War of 1898, including the Korean War. Canadian war hero Cpl. Filip Konoval at the age of 19 was awarded the highest British medal, the Victoria Cross, for bravery and valor in the Battle of Lens, France, in 1917. He is the patron of our branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

We are proud of the fact that Ukrainian Canadians fulfilled their duty as citizens of Canada to serve in its armed forces more than a century.

I was not in the war but as a boy in Vancouver I heard about it on Canadian radio. In particular, I remember the famous bombing raid of American and British bombers in February 1944. What I did not know then was that those American bombers were killing Ukrainians who were slave laborers, or Ostarbeiters, in German military factories. Nazi Germany took almost 2.5 million slave laborers from Ukraine to Germany to help its war effort.

We remember with pride, and sorrow, that Ukrainians served in many armies in World War II including those of Canada, the United States, Great Britain, the Ukrainian SSR, Poland and Romania. Ukrainians were even in the French Resistance, fighting against the German occupation Army.

The dress rehearsal for the second world war took place on March 15, 1939, when Carpatho-Ukraine declared its independence from Czechoslovakia. On the same day, with Hitler's approval, it was invaded by Hungarian troops. Because of this the small Carpatho-Ukrainian army was the very first army to oppose Nazi Germany. As a result, we must remember that those Ukrainian soldiers were the first to be killed in armed conflict against Nazi Germany and its allies.

We must remember that just before the second world war on August 25, 1933, Nazi Germany became a partner of Soviet Russia when they signed the Nazi-Soviet Friendship Pact. Just one

week later this opened the door for the German invasion of Poland by Hitler's army on September 1, 1939.

Today all of us are sympathetic to the plight of the American soldiers who are targeted in occupied Iraq. Some 240 have been killed during the Iraq War and the current occupation. But let us put this most recent war in comparison to the losses in World War II. Ukraine's Memorial Book for World War II has 250 volumes and lists the names and full biographical details. There were 6,019,000 casualties of Ukrainian soldiers killed, wounded and missing in action during that war. No country in the world matches Ukraine's military loss of 6,019,000. In World War II the United States had 405,399 military killed, Canada had about 42,000 military killed and Great Britain about 350,000. Germany lost 6.5 million soldiers and civilians dead.

We remember that, in addition to 6 million soldiers, Ukraine also lost up to 4 million civilian citizens killed giving a total of 8 million to 10 million killed according to the president of Ukraine. Among these were 600,000 Jewish Ukrainians killed by the Nazi German Holocaust. But many Jews were saved by Righteous, Ukrainians making Ukraine fourth out of 35 countries for the number of Righteous, according to Yad Vashem in Israel.

Most Ukrainian soldiers in World War II, over 6 million, fought in the ranks of the Red Army and later the Soviet Army. The First Ukrainian Front Armies captured Auschwitz, freed the last prisoners, and then went on to help capture Berlin together with the Belarus Front Armies.

We must remember that Ukraine also created two other armies, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (Ukrainska Povstanska Armia, or UPA) and the Galicia Division. Both UPA and the Divizia were patriotic Ukrainian armies and many in their ranks fought against both Hitler and Stalin. We honor the veterans here today of all three armies, Canadian, UPA and the Divizia.

Perhaps you have seen the new documentary film produced by the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center titled "Between Hitler and Stalin" and narrated by Jack Palance. For the first time it gives a basic review of the unknown and untold story of Ukraine in World War II. I think you will agree that this is a film that should be shown on Canadian and American TV.

Veterans, reverend fathers, distinguished guests, consul general of Ukraine, ladies and gentlemen:

Very few Canadians and Americans know that Ukrainians fought against both Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia during the war. We remember these soldiers because they fought for the freedom and independence of Ukraine. Ukraine is independent today, but perhaps its independence is fragile. This is why we must preserve the memory of our sacrifices for Canada, for Ukraine and for democracy.

I have told you what we must remember and now I will give you another reason why we must remember. We remember, we must remember, our part in Canadian and world history because no one else will do this for us. This is what we remember and why we remember this day.

"My pamiatayemo!" (We remember)



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

Our memory project – before it's too late

"No, I don't want to. And I can't. I just can't. After all I've lived through, I want to remember the good times, happiness, mostly now. My heart could not bear remembering and retelling all that. ..."

The elderly woman thanked me for asking her to record her recollections of the Holodomor (the Famine-Genocide of 1932-33), but declined. There had been the Holodomor, then the war, then the Displaced Persons' camp and the fear of repatriation, then emigration, settling in a new land, and the deaths of her husband, son and grandson. She wanted to experience only the good times with her grandchildren, and have no thoughts other than happy ones. While her husband was alive, the two of them sat and kept an "aural" journal, as she called it; they reminisced. But now he's gone, and she does not want to dredge up heart-wrenching memories.

But someone must. Those experiences, those memories are history. In the introduction to the 10 testimonies of survivors which I translated for the special Holodomor issue of Canadian American Slavic Studies (Vol. 37, No. 3, fall 2003) I wrote: "All the statistics, documents, and studies in the world are worthless without the first-person accounts, without the survivor and eyewitness testimonies of those living through an event. There can be no history without the stories of the individuals who were there."

This applies to any place and time: first emigration from Ukraine, pioneer times, the mines and mills, World War I, the inter-war years, the Pacification, the Holodomor, World War II – and all that entails, UPA, the underground, repatriation, exile to Siberia and Central Asia, Soviet persecution and imprisonment, the Displaced Persons camps, immigration to North America, Soviet times and Polish post-war times for those who remained back home, dissident experiences...

Ukrainians sure have experienced more than enough "history" in their lives.

Take out that tape recorder, or video camera, have some coffee or tea, and sit down with your parent, or your elderly relative or friend, and ask a few questions. What is Baba's first memory? When did Dido start school? Where did they live? What did they eat? What songs did they sing? How many siblings were there? How did they wind up in America, or Canada? That will get them started. It is much easier than expecting them to write their story down. For most, that is too intimidating, or just too difficult. The tape recorder can just be there, ready to be turned on at any time.

If they realize that the family is interested in their life, and they are told how important it is to the family and to the community, the elderly will be encouraged to tell their stories. It will be difficult for them to remember and relive the horrors. But the good times will also be remembered. Each ordinary life is important, is part of a greater whole – and is not that ordinary. It will be better and easier to tell the stories in small segments, over time. The tape can then be transcribed, typed out in Ukrainian, and translated into English.

A booklet can be prepared for the family, and can include photographs and

maps. This can remain a private project for the family, or can be expanded into a genealogical record, or an actual book.

So many times I have heard people express regret that they did not listen to the stories, and did not write them down or tape them. "And now it's too late ..."

Recording and documenting people's experiences is at a peak right now. There are many memory projects. The Library of Congress has its "American Memory: Historical Collections" for the National Digital Library. The Dominion Institute in Canada, in partnership with The Globe and Mail newspaper, has "The Memory Project" to provide oral histories on the Canadian experience; this includes separate sections on "Passages to Canada" and "Peace and War." The CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corp.) has begun "Canada's War: The Lost Colour Archives," and is asking for wartime diaries, films, photos, letters, to create a documentary to coincide with the 60th anniversary of D-Day.

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) has initiated the "Roll Call Project," to contact the thousands of Canadian families who are the descendants of Ukrainians and other Europeans imprisoned as "enemy aliens" during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920. The UCCLA's webpage is www.uccla.ca. In Ukraine, a number of books on wartime and Holodomor experiences have been published. Over the decades, many books in the diaspora covered the same topics.

The Concordia University Chair in Canadian Jewish Studies in Montreal launched the "Memoirs of Holocaust Survivors in Canada" project, to enable them to bring these testimonies to a wider audience. "Therefore, at irregular intervals, time and funds permitting, we are making these memoirs available in two forms: a small number of copies will be photocopied and deposited in relevant libraries and Holocaust Centers; in addition, the memoirs will be posted on the Internet at the following address: <http://migs.concordia.ca/survivor.html> This is an ongoing project..."

When I see these and other memoirs about the Holocaust, and how widely they are distributed, I cannot help but think about how few there are about the experiences of Ukrainians during the 20th century. There is a dearth of English-language material, and this is specifically what is needed both for general readers, and for academia. With English as the lingua franca, Ukrainian material must be available in excellent English translations. Our stories must be out there, published by mainstream publishers and distributed accordingly. The self-published, poorly edited and translated material does no one a service, and barely sees the light of day. Sporadically, over the decades, some memoirs have been collected in the community, but these have been stored locally and by now have been forgotten. Of course, there have been excellent publications in English by Ukrainian academic presses – more power to them, and may there be many more. My comments are intended to cover the individual, non-academic books.

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THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

Shevchenko Scientific Society hosts conference on Holodomor

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – On November 8, the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) held its second scholarly conference this year dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Holodomor – the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide. The program featured four speakers from Ukraine and one from Great Britain. It was chaired by Dr. Taras Hunczak, professor of history and political science at Rutgers University, himself a prolific writer and lecturer on the subject of the Holodomor.

The symposium opened with an English-language presentation by Dr. James Mace of Kyiv, professor at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, associate editor of *Politychna Dumka* and former staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, who spoke on the topic “Why Was It Genocide?”

The term “genocide” was coined by Rafael Lemkin, a jurist who formulated the International Convention on Genocide and lobbied successfully to have it adopted by the United Nations in 1946 and 1948. Underlying these conventions is the belief that all groups of the human race contribute to human civilization and if any one of them is destroyed or partially crippled, all of humanity is impoverished, said Dr. Mace.

Genocide is defined as an attempt to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, with the objective of altering the national character of a given region by criminal methods. Genocide may be perpetrated either by outright killing of the members of the victimized group, or by the intentional creation of such conditions that would lead to the group’s complete or partial destruction.

According to Dr. Mace, in 1932-1933 the Soviet regime showed a pattern of intent to destroy the Ukrainian population. Unreasonably high grain procurement quotas, that were impossible to meet, were

imposed on Ukraine’s farming communities, whereupon the “delinquent” districts would be blacklisted and had their foodstuffs confiscated by bands of armed Communist activists, while their population was prevented from leaving for other areas. To say that such measures were not intended to create a famine is incomprehensible, said Dr. Mace. The political rationale for engineering the Famine-Genocide was revealed in the August 11, 1932, letter from Joseph Stalin to Lazar Kaganovich, in which the Soviet dictator warned that Ukraine could be “lost,” unless it was made to be the “most inalienable part of the Soviet Union.” According to Dr. Mace, the only way to accomplish this was to take the national content out of the Ukrainian SSR, or to de-Ukrainize Ukraine.

The scheme involved the decimation through Famine of Ukraine’s peasant population, which represented the bulwark of the Ukrainian nation. This was followed, however, by the liquidation of the leadership of the Communist Party of Ukraine and much of the patriotic intelligentsia. Significantly, the mass murder was accompanied by assault on the Ukrainian language as well. You didn’t have to change the Ukrainian orthography to help collectivization, commented Dr. Mace. Not coincidentally, the engineered Famine was extended also to the Kuban region of Russia, which at the time was 80 percent Ukrainian-speaking, where it was accompanied by the de-Ukrainization of Ukraine, the evidence of which is plentiful today. It led to the anomaly where today patriotic Ukrainians are a minority in their own country. Thus, it was genocide against the Ukrainian people, concluded Dr. Mace.

Next to speak was Dr. Margaret Siriol Colley of Great Britain, who offered an affectionate account of the brief but notable life of her uncle Gareth Jones, a Welsh journalist and foreign-affairs adviser to Lloyd George, the former British prime

minister. Jones had visited rural areas of Ukraine at the height of the Famine in 1933. The title of Dr. Colley’s talk, “Gareth Jones: A Voice Crying in the Wilderness,” reflects the fact that upon his return from Ukraine Jones published a number of articles revealing the truth about the horrors of the Ukrainian Famine, at a time when most Western journalists preferred to parrot the Moscow propaganda line, which altogether denied the existence of any famine.

Using his first-hand observations of the Famine, Jones published in *The New York Times* a rebuttal to the notorious lies on the subject by its Moscow correspondent, Walter Duranty, while in the *Manchester Guardian* he criticized that paper’s pro-Soviet stance in its editorial support for the Famine deniers. Subsequently, Jones was accused by the Soviet authorities of espionage and denied a visa for re-entry.

In 1935, while traveling through China, Jones was kidnapped and murdered on the eve of his 30th birthday by “bandits” near the Mongolian border. Considering that this happened in an area where the interests of China, Japan and the Soviet Union clashed at the time, Jones’ murder may have been politically motivated, opined Dr. Colley. Her book “Gareth Jones: A Manchukuo Incident” (2002) tells a fascinating story of Jones’ travels through the Far East, up to his tragic demise.

The Ukrainian-language part of the program featured three speakers from Kyiv: Natalya Dziubenko, a writer, spoke on the “Holodomor: Eyewitness Testimony,” focusing primarily on the compilation of accounts of the Famine survivors that was published in 1990 in a book titled “Holod. Narodna Knyha-Memorial” (Famine. A Memorial Book of the People). A total of 6,000 survivors were polled for this publication, of whose testimonies 1,000 were incorporated in the book.

According to Ms. Dziubenko, the impetus for this belated project in Ukraine came from the unique study which was conduct-

ed in the 1980s for the U.S. Congress by a group headed by Dr. Mace (to whom she is married), in which some 200 Famine survivors were interviewed. Although the polling for the 1990 “Memorial” in Ukraine contained a self-serving spin for the benefit of the Communist Party (suggesting that the party was actually aiding the starving people), the publication of this compilation became a watershed event that opened the floodgates for subsequent appearance of numerous works on the Famine-Genocide.

Ms. Dziubenko reminded all Ukrainians to light a candle in their window on the fourth Saturday of November in memory of the victims of the Holodomor.

Volodymyr Lozitskyi, director of the Central State Archive of Civic Organization in Kyiv, opened his presentation with the statement that the archive of the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) possessed all the information pertaining to life in Soviet Ukraine. It comprised the secret decrees of the CPU as well as the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR; reports of local and regional party committees, state security organs, police, as well as letters from ordinary people.

All of this information, however, was kept secret until about 1988, when the Famine-Genocide was exposed and condemned in the “Report to Congress: Commission on the Ukraine Famine” authored by Dr. Mace. This exposure, as well as the political thaw of the Gorbachev era, helped open the Soviet archives to scholars.

Dr. Lozitskyi pointed out that, while these archives do contain the mortality figures for some individual localities, there are no hard statistical data on the Famine-caused mortality in Ukraine as a whole. The estimates presented by scholars are based on demographic analyses. Nevertheless, considering that concurrently with the starvation the Soviet regime implemented a policy of de-Ukrainization both in Ukraine and in the Kuban region, there is no question that we are dealing here with genocide against the Ukrainian people, concluded Dr. Lozitskyi.

Volodymyr Danylenko, director of the State Archive of the Kyiv Oblast, which has more than 2.5 million documents, focused on a few raions (counties) and even some specific villages in the Kyiv region, for which he described the events of the Famine-Genocide period in painfully graphic detail. Going beyond the cold statistics, which attested to the loss of up to 50 percent of the population in some areas, he recited a multitude of family names as well as first names of the victims of persecutions, expropriations, death by hunger and even cannibalism.

Illustrative of the brutality of the Soviet regime, Dr. Danylenko said, was the decision of the Kyiv City Council in May 1933 to bar any peasants from entering the city in order to buy bread. The speaker concluded by referring to Ukrainian proverbs that were generated by the people’s experiences during the Famine-Genocide.

The program was closed by the president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S., Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych, who thanked the speakers, as well as the standing-room-only audience. In attendance were members of Ukraine’s diplomatic corps, who were introduced earlier: Markian Kulyk, deputy permanent representative of the Mission of Ukraine to the U.N.; Danylo Lubkivsky, the Mission’s second secretary; and the Andrii Nadzov, vice-consul of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York.

FOR THE RECORD: Remarks by Prof. Mark von Hagen at Columbia

Following are the opening remarks of Prof. Mark von Hagen at the International Conference at Columbia University on “The Man-Made Great Famine in Ukraine of 1932-1933 (Holodomor)” held on Monday, November 10.

Welcome to Columbia University, its School of International and Public Affairs and the Ukrainian Studies Program of the Harriman Institute. We are honored by your participation; many members of the audience are no less experts on the subject of our conference than the formal panelists, so we look forward to an exciting day of discussions and exchange.

The Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, Kazakstan and parts of Russia was a particularly stark demonstration of the brutality of the Soviet regime and how far it had betrayed its Social-Democratic commitment to creating better lives for the peasants and workers of the Soviet Union.

The goal of collectivization, in whose name the Famine was tolerated and exacerbated by consciously murderous measures, was acknowledged even by Soviet sources, at least after Stalin’s death, to have been a colossal economic and political failure. Not only did the wasteful and ill-prepared collectivization drives set back agricultural productivity and turn the peasantry into bitter enemies of the Soviet regime; another important casual-

ty of the collectivization and famine was the Soviet citizenry’s right to a truthful and open discussion about all important social or political issues, a trend that had been emerging, it is true, from the first days after the Bolshevik seizure of power in 1917. The NKVD rose to a position of immense power during the collectivization campaigns and insisted on ever higher levels of classification, secrecy and censorship in all public documents and speeches, culminating in an important sense in the 55-year denial of the man-made Famine in Ukraine and elsewhere in the Soviet Union.

Compounding this conspiracy of silence ruthlessly enforced by the Soviet government was the complicity of many governments of “civilized” peoples and the reporters of the foreign press in Moscow, most notoriously Walter Duranty of *The New York Times*. But, sadly, professional historians reinforced this silence with their own denials until recently, despite the overwhelming evidence of oral history testimonies recorded from survivors and eyewitnesses in the Ukrainian diaspora populations of North America.

Much has changed in the past dozen years. Ukrainian state independence and the parallel declarations of independence by Ukrainian historians from Moscow narratives and silences, the opening of previously classified party, state and

police archives – have made possible publications that document the Famine and break the decades of officially imposed silence in the country for which this tragic event has the most political, moral and social significance. Restoring the truth about the Famine-Genocide is one of the central tasks in reshaping Ukrainian historical and civic consciousness and in its de-Sovietization. Accordingly, Ukrainian parliamentary deputies organized hearings earlier this year which resulted in resolutions demanding that the Ukrainian government work with the international community to gain recognition for this tragedy as a criminal violation of human rights and lives.

A new generation of North American and European historians has been responsive to the changes in archival access and to the revision of the historical record by our Ukrainian colleagues and has dramatically recast the terms of debate on the Famine.

Our conference today is the first full-fledged exploration of the political, historical and socio-cultural aspects of the Famine-Genocide at Columbia University, but ours is not unique. Similar conferences have been held or are being planned at our sister institutions across North America – Harvard, Stanford, the Kennan Institute,

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THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

International conference at Columbia University examines Famine-Genocide

by Roma Hadzewycz

NEW YORK – An international conference at Columbia University's International Affairs Building discussed the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, focusing on three main topics: "the politics of acknowledgment" of the Famine, new archival evidence that has emerged since the fall of the Soviet Union, and the Famine in people's memory and the arts.

Held on Monday, November 10, the conference was the kick-off to Famine Remembrance Week in New York City, which also featured an exhibit, a screening of the documentary "Harvest of Despair" and a memorial concert at the United Nations, as well as a March of Remembrance and requiem service at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

The international conference was opened with remarks by Prof. Mark von Hagen, a professor of history at Columbia University, who underscored the relevance of the proceedings being held 70 years after 7 million to 10 million people in Ukraine died as a result of Stalin's genocidal policies. Prof. von Hagen, who also chaired the conference's first two panels, noted that "restoring the truth about the Famine-Genocide is one of the central tasks in reshaping Ukrainian historical and civic consciousness." He also cited similar conferences taking place at Harvard and Stanford universities, the Kennan Institute in Washington and the University of Toronto. (For full text of Prof. von Hagen's remarks, see page 8.)

Welcoming remarks were delivered also by Andrei Harasymiak, executive secretary of the Ukrainian Studies Fund; Victoria Baranetsky, president of the Columbia University Ukrainian Student Society; and Catharine Nepomnashchy, director of the Harriman Institute at Columbia.

The conference's first panel examined "The Politics of Acknowledgment," that is, the "National and International Response to the Man-Made Famine." Valeriy Kuchinsky, Ukraine's permanent representative to the United Nations stated that "The Stalinist regime, in two years, purposely exterminated over 7 million innocent men, women and children. And the basis of these criminal acts had a political purpose."

He went on to explain: "It was necessary for the regime to liquidate the wealthier independent-minded peasants who were the backbone of the Ukrainian nation. Due to state regulations, all trade was prohibited in rural areas, food supplies were cut off from the villages, the distribution of bread was 'unlawful,' and a system of mass grain confiscation was implemented. Against this background, a campaign targeting the Ukrainian intelligentsia and priests was carried out as well. Even the slightest attempts to resurrect the Ukrainian language, culture and national consciousness were stemmed."

"In fact, the Famine of 1933," he underscored, "was a horrific weapon of mass destruction which was used by the Soviet regime in Ukraine. It was not by any means a natural phenomenon but a cynical form of state terrorism against its own people." (The text of Ambassador Kuchinsky's remarks was published in last week's issue.)

Ambassador Kuchinsky also took some time in his remarks to explain the significance of a joint declaration "On the 70th Anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine (Holodomor)" that was being released that day as an official document of the United Nations signed by 30 member-states. Explaining that the declara-



Ukrainian National Deputy Hennadii Udovenko addresses the conference. He is flanked by Ukraine's Ambassador to the United Nations Valeriy Kuchinsky (right) and Prof. Mark von Hagen of Columbia University.

tion refers to the Famine as "a national tragedy for the Ukrainian people," he said it does not, however, call it a genocide. The diplomat added that "this is just the first step" and that Ukraine "will continue to press this issue further."

Next to speak was National Deputy Hennadii Udovenko, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, formerly Ukraine's minister of foreign affairs and Ukraine's former ambassador to the United Nations. Mr. Udovenko provided some perspective on what he called "the conservative nature of the U.N.," which he said makes it "difficult to get recognition of the Famine as genocide." He expressed his hope that the Famine-Genocide would someday be as well-known throughout the world as the Holocaust. "I would like to achieve the stage when the whole world knows what 'Holodomor' means, that 10 million people died, that it was a genocide."

Dr. James Mace, who served as staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine established by the U.S. Congress and today teaches at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, began his remarks by observing that "it is very important for Ukraine to have recognition of the Famine as genocide." He went on to note that one of the first recognitions of this fact came from the autonomous Basque region of Spain and that the Basques have raised this issue in the European Union's Parliament. Dr. Mace pointed also to resolutions adopted in Argentina, Canada and Australia, as well as by the Foreign Affairs Committee in Hungary, and the U.S. House of Representatives. The latter, though it referred to the finding of the U.S.

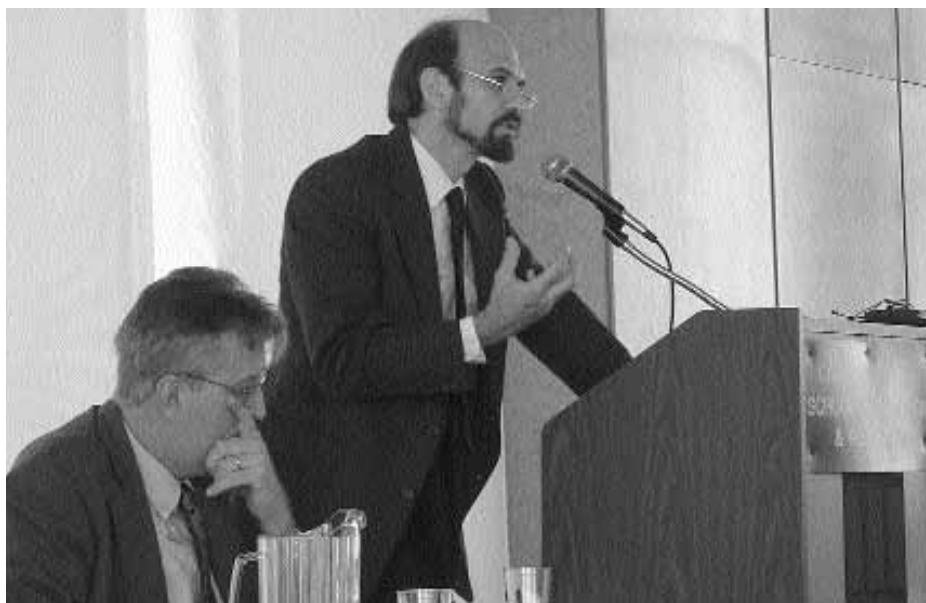
Commission on the Ukraine Famine that the Famine was genocide, did not declare outright that the Great Famine of 1932-1933 was genocide. He added that Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada passed a measure in May which declared that the Famine was genocide.

Dr. Mace then went on to speak about the politics behind the establishment of the U.S. commission, as well as the oral history project conducted by the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons of New York and New Jersey, which served as the basis for the commission's own oral history component of its report, along with the public hearings held at several venues throughout the United States to hear survivors' testimony.

Dr. Mace said that he "argued to the commission that there was a pattern of intent which constituted a pattern of genocide" against the Ukrainian nation.

The case of Gareth Jones

"Gareth Jones: A Voice Crying in the Wilderness" was the title of the presentation by Dr. Margaret Siriol Colley, niece of the Welsh journalist who exposed the truth about the Famine in Ukraine. (The full text of her presentation will be published in next week's issue.) The speaker is the author of "Gareth Jones: A Manchukuo Incident," a book that details the young journalist's travels and reports from the scene, which ultimately took him to Japanese-occupied Manchuria, known as Manchukuo, where he was murdered by bandits. According to Dr. Colley, Jones "was conveniently airbrushed out of history" even though he was the journalist who first told the truth about the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine.



Leonard Leshuk speaks on information about the Famine found in declassified U.S. intelligence archives.

"His only crime," Dr. Colley underlined, "was to tell the truth." She then recounted how in March 1933 when the young Jones filed a news reports from Berlin that was transmitted by the Knickerbocker news service, the world learned about people in Ukraine dying of hunger. The infamous Walter Duranty of The New York Times, she continued, issued a rebuttal two days later, claiming that there was no famine in Ukraine, perhaps only cases of malnutrition. Jones responded to that rebuttal in a letter to the editor of The New York Times published in May 1933 in which he stood by his story and congratulated the Soviets and their supporters on their success in concealing the truth about what was happening in the Ukrainian countryside.

Jones also told the story of what he had observed in the USSR in a of talks through Europe and the United States. In 1935 he reasserted his previous observations from 1933 in the Hearst newspapers in the United States. Soon after that he was murdered under mysterious circumstances in Manchukuo. "For almost 70 years his articles were forgotten. Now he has been rediscovered and his reporting has been vindicated," stated Dr. Colley. "Gareth Jones' ghost has come back to haunt those who stopped at nothing to silence his conscience," she said.

Dr. Colley concluded with a thank-you to Prof. von Hagen "for the honor of speaking at this prestigious platform, which has allowed me to finally put my uncle's soul to rest – by recognizing at this conference his courageous role in [uncovering] one of the great barbaric episodes in humanity."

The Kazakstani tragedy

At the conclusion of the morning panel, Kazakhstan's ambassador to the United Nations, Yerzhan Kh. Kazykhanov, delivered a statement of support and sympathy for the victims of the Great Famine of 1932-1933.

"Expressing deepest sympathies to the victims of the Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933, we believe that we should honor their memory in a meaningful way: that is, we should work to raise the awareness of the world public of the tragic events in the history of Ukraine so that people in every part of the globe know about them and feel compassion. We owe it to them," he stated.

"Like our brothers in Ukraine, we do not want to settle scores with the past. Indeed, you cannot change your past. Yet we deeply believe that we should never forget all those who perished in that Famine and that we should be mindful of our history. That memory will be a guiding light for future generations that will help them prevent the reoccurrence of similar human disasters. That can be achieved only through the rule of law, full enjoyment of human rights and the democratization of our societies."

Ambassador Kazykhanov stated: "Kazakhstan and Ukraine share the same history, whose tragic pages are part of their heritage. Just as for Ukraine, the 1930s were one of the toughest periods in the history of our country that witnesses a mass loss of life of Kazaks during forced general collectivization that became known as the Kazakstani tragedy." He went on to note that "the people of Kazakhstan in reality fell victims to oppression bordering on genocide," that the nation's traditional way of life was destroyed, that Kazakhstan "was turned into a huge camp for prisoners from all over the Soviet Union," and that "peasants who were supposed to feed other

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THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

International conference...

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groups of the population became themselves victims of the famine." Those well off, he continued, were exiled and their property was seized, mass political repressions affected practically all segments of society, as many were shot, sent to prison camps or exiled. "In two years, 1.8 million people, or a third of the general population of the republics lost their lives," he stated.

New evidence from the archives

The second panel of the conference was devoted to "Archival Evidence Since the End of the Soviet Union," featured three scholars from Ukraine and one from Washington.

In his paper, Volodymyr S. Lozitskyi, director of the Central States Archives of Public Organizations of Ukraine, who also heads the Society of Archivists of Ukraine, noted that there are three types of documents that relate to the events surrounding the Famine-Genocide: documents on the direction of grain procurements; documents on suffering, deaths and mortality in local regions (though no comprehensive figures are available); and documents regarding the political disposition of the peasantry, for example their displacement to collective farms or deportation.

Mr. Lozitskyi noted that it was only in January 1990 that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine issued a decree on previously secret archives that permitted their release. "Without exaggeration it is possible to say that the truth about the Famine played a key role in the national renaissance at the end of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s and became one of the most important factors in the gaining of Ukraine's independence," he said.

"In archival documentation the personal participation of Stalin, [Viacheslav] Molotov and [Lazar] Kaganovich in the excessive application of the grain procurement plan or Ukraine in 1932 is clearly traced, as well as the severe methods by which they sought the plan's unconditional execution and the provision of other districts of the Soviet Union with grain," he revealed.

"Whatever the cost," he explained, "it was necessary to extract grain from Ukraine, the northern Caucasus and the Kuban, where the population was primarily Ukrainian." Still other documents, Mr. Lozitskyi pointed out, focus on the need to stop Ukrainianization and liquidate the opposition.

The speaker concluded his presentation by commenting that "now that the archives in Ukraine and some in Russia are open, there is an opportunity to conduct new and further research."

Volodymyr P. Danylenko, director of the Kyiv Oblast Archive, explained at the outset of his presentation that "over the course of 60 years no one spoke of the tragic events of 1932-1933; instead they were hidden from the Ukrainian people and the international community. ... The Great Famine was a closed topic for researchers, and it was not permitted to mention a word of this horrible catastrophe in newspapers or official documents. Information from abroad was qualified as insinuations."

It was only in November 1987 that Communist Party officials revealed that in late 1932 and early 1933 there were serious provisional hardships in Ukraine, "and famine in rural localities." Mr. Danylenko went on to note that eyewitness accounts in the Kyiv Oblast do not constitute a large collection, but they demonstrate that "the Famine of 1933

was a logical consequence of Moscow's program of forced collectivization."

"In 1929-1933, the Ukrainian village was dealt a double blow," he said, "dekurkulization and collectivization. This meant, first, the physical annihilation or deportation of millions of peasants to the north, and, second, the concentration of the rest of the peasantry in Bolshevik-controlled kolhospy (collective farms)."

Mr. Danylenko went on to cite the recollections of Famine survivors. In the Obukhiv region, for example, the Great Famine took 27,000 lives – a third of them children. "These are horrible numbers indeed, made more so with the realization that 6,000 Obukhiv residents died over the course of the four years of World War II."

He concluded his presentation by observing that "Despite the decades-long silence of the truth about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 committed by the Communist authorities, the Ukrainian people have remembered these horrible times. In village cemeteries today, one can see small bouquets of wheat and rye placed on the graves. This is a monument to the Great Famine, to its innocent victims."

Yurii Shapoval, a historian with the Institute of Political Analysis in Kyiv, spoke on documents in the archives of the present-day security services of Ukraine (SBU) and Russia (FSB). He explained at the beginning of his talk that Ukraine today finds itself in a triangle that stymies its work on "that which should not be forgotten": Vladimir Putin's Russia, the unsure attitude of the West and the uncertain leadership in Ukraine. Furthermore, he noted, "we cannot objectively assess the topic [of the Famine] without looking at Ukraine-Russia relations at the time." This effort is hampered by the fact that right now there are no contacts between Russian and Ukrainian scholars that would be able to support such efforts.

Dr. Shapoval was critical of Russia's attitude toward the Famine, pointing to the Russian Embassy's statement that U.S. legislators do not know what genocide is – this in reference to Senate Resolution 202, which unequivocally calls the famine a genocide. He was critical also of the joint declaration released that day at the United Nations in which he pointed out "there is not a word about condemnation of Stalinism" and questioned "Is this a step forward for the U.N.?"

The speaker went on to point to new revelations found in Soviet archives. For example, he said, it is now known that in 1931 150,000 people died. "We've never seen this number before; it was an awful, concrete signal to the authorities."

As proof of the premeditated nature of Stalin's policies in Ukraine, he also cited a March 15, 1933, letter from Stanislav Kossior, a leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, to Stalin. The letter reported: "Starvation has not yet taught many kolhosp members sense and reason."

Dr. Shapoval also reported that Stalin's treatment of Ukraine and even its party cadres was particular. Party members' loyalty was questioned at the time of the grain procurements, and it was stated that "if we do not correct what is going on we will lose Ukraine." Fines were applied to both individuals and collective farms in Ukraine; there was a prohibition against trading in foodstuffs and livestock; and there was a halt of deliveries of provisions to certain areas, he explained. Most nefarious was a prohibition against fleeing Ukraine, a food blockade and a prohibition against delivering food to help the people survive," Dr. Shapoval emphasized.

Dr. Leonard Leshuk, a freelance historian and author of "U.S. Intelligence Perceptions of Soviet Power, 1921-1946," spoke on information in declassified docu-

ments in U.S. intelligence archives. Those documents, he related, reveal "wide swings in perceptions of the USSR and its power, from powerful and bent on world domination to weak and ineffective."

He commented that the information in the archives leading up to 1932-1933 is very significant to the study of the Famine. In the late 1920s, for instance, he said there were reports of resistance and the desire for outside help. "Already one could see all the conditions developing for a catastrophic famine." These reports, he explained, came from U.S. diplomats in Warsaw and in Berlin. In July 1930, for example, there is a report from Berlin on a temporary halt to collectivization and the danger of millions of people perishing.

In 1931, Dr. Leshuk said, there is a report from a Belarusian who tells of confiscation of foodstuffs, farms and livestock, of deportations in 1929-1931; the informant tells of meeting deported Ukrainians and of soldiers guarding bread trucks.

Also in 1931, a U.S. diplomat reported that the USSR's populace was deeply discontented, the speaker reported. Then, in September 1933, Duranty, while privately saying millions had died, also said the Soviet regime had so alienated the people that it could not embark on a foreign adventure for at least five years.

All these materials, Dr. Leshuk underscored, need to be mined for information and their original sources found if possible, before it's too late. Those comments were echoed by Mr. Danylenko of Kyiv who stated that Kyiv archives "have been almost untouched in terms of Famine research, while Holocaust researchers have made extensive use of them."

Survivors' memories

The final panel of the conference focused on the role of memory and the arts in telling the story of the Famine Genocide. Dr. Mace returned to the previously broached topic of oral history noting that, although "one of the charges against it is that Famine research is based on witnesses who are unreliable and biased, "it is in fact "an old methodology pioneered by Thucydides in his retelling of the Peloponnesian War."

Oral history, he continued, "can provide information on what happened, but not why," Dr. Mace continued, going on to explain the methodology used in obtaining information from subjects and the difficulties involved in the process. In the case of the Famine-Genocide, he said "there were two realities: the one you were supposed to repeat, or the official view; and the one you saw with your own eyes." Thus, he said, the realities can become confused and memories can vary.

At the time of the oral history project on the Great Famine, work that began in 1984, "people were still afraid to talk due to the

reach of the USSR ... two-thirds of those who spoke [to the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine] demanded absolute anonymity." Nonetheless, Dr. Mace recalled, "We created a resource that would have been lost. Now it should be reviewed; the transcriptions should be checked and corrected. But we owe a great thanks to those who had the courage to remember."

The panel, which was chaired by Prof. Myroslava Znayenko of Rutgers University, also featured a paper by Roman Krutysk, chairman of the Memorial Society of Kyiv, who was unable to attend. His paper on oral history in post-Soviet Ukraine (read by Marko Suprun) stated that the first references to the Great Famine were in official documents from November 1987 by First Secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine Volodymyr Scherbysky who referred simply to food shortages.

"The seminal breakthrough," he wrote, "was the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine and its report. Also important was the documentary 'Harvest of Despair.'" Today, much work remains to be done, Mr. Krutysk said. "Closed archives still need to be researched" and "Soviet documents must be examined with a critical eye."

The Famine researcher also cautioned that "even today people are afraid to talk about the Holodomor." Mr. Krutysk also expressed criticism of the Ukrainian government, which continues to debate where in Kyiv to situate a memorial complex dedicated to the victims of the Famine and Soviet repressions. He also noted that "pro-Russian forces are working against educating the public about the Holodomor."

Finally, Mr. Krutysk stated that, unfortunately, "the international community has not recognized this genocide and no one has been brought to responsibility for the Famine."

At the conclusion of the third panel, in an example of literary detective work, Dr. Larissa M.L. Onyshkevych, president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, analyzed a drama written by Yurii Yanovsky of Kharkiv titled "Potomky." Analyzing various versions of the play, which ultimately was published in 1939, Dr. Onyshkevych pointed to clues about the Famine and descriptions of the people's suffering and their thoughts.

Referring to the "hidden information in his play," especially in earlier drafts, Dr. Onyshkevych concluded that the writer "probably left [these earlier drafts] for the sake of his conscience" and "perhaps, in his own unusual way, Yanovsky was attempting to restore the truth."

The conference was sponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program and the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations, the Shevchenko Scientific Society, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.A.



Famine researchers from Ukraine: (from left) Volodymyr Danylenko, Volodymyr Lozitskyi and Yurii Shapoval during the session on archival evidence since the fall of the USSR.

THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

Film screening, memorial concert reflect Ukraine's suffering

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Two outstanding events of “Famine Remembrance Week,” held on separate days at the United Nations complex, mirrored the horrific images of life and death in Ukraine in the 1930s and the sorrowful grieving for seven million lost souls that has followed since then, just as the loss of a loved one is followed by a funeral dirge.

On Wednesday evening, the award-winning documentary film “Harvest of Despair” was screened at the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium, portraying the bleak life of peasants in eastern Ukraine who defied Stalin’s collectivization edicts. A memorial concert which took place Friday evening in the Poseidon area of the U.N. Visitors’ Lobby, centering on a presentation of Ukrainian sacred music by the Ukrainian Chorus Dumka, concluded with a poignant rendering of Lysenko’s solemn prayer “Vladyko, Neba i Zemli.”

“Harvest of Despair,” premiered in Toronto in 1984, employs rare archival footage to depict the man-made famine that ravaged Ukraine in the early 1930s. Millions of Ukrainians, almost one-quarter of Ukraine’s population, died of starvation – at the rate of 25,000 a day – as the result of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin’s ruthless decree to stop the Ukrainian nation’s struggle for political and cultural autonomy in the 1920s and 1930s.

The unforgettable story of a lost generation is told through haunting images of gaunt people with sunken eyes begging for bread or searching for grains of wheat, of children with swollen bellies and emaciated bodies, of piles of frozen corpses lying in a field.

Petro Grigorenko, a former Soviet general, the British journalist and author Malcolm Muggeridge and Andor Hencke, then German consul in Kyiv, are among survivors who relate the horror of events in Ukraine. There is moving testimony by eyewitnesses, among them Lyubov Drashevskya of New York, who describe scenes of death and devastation.

Remarks by...

(Continued from page 8)

the University of Toronto, and others. All these institutions have committed significant resources to Ukrainian studies and all acknowledge the centrality of the history of the Famine-Genocide to an understanding of Ukraine’s fate in the 20th century.

These conferences demonstrate that, for all the new documents, indeed thanks to the flood of new information, there is still room for scholars, political and civic leaders, and concerned citizens to debate important aspects of the Famine-Genocide: its relationship to assaults on the Ukrainian cultural and political elites, its ties to parallel famines in Russian regions and Kazakhstan, even the proper name for this catastrophe, whether Famine-Genocide, man-made or artificial Famine, or some other variant.

This fact nonetheless testifies to a new phase in our understanding of the history of this tragic episode and comes just as the original generation of survivors and eyewitnesses to the Famine-Genocide are themselves becoming silenced through death and illness. The Ukrainian hromada abroad has been an important, indeed very important, part of the story of today’s conference. The persistence, patience, and courage of a generation of survivors – and now their children and

Witnesses speak of seeing people eating leaves, dogs and corpses.

Emphasizing the deliberate manner in which the famine was engineered and then concealed, “Harvest of Despair” explores the roles played in the coverup by French Premier Edouard Herriot, George Bernard Shaw and Walter Duranty, the Pulitzer Prize-winning correspondent of The New York Times.

Ukraine’s permanent representative to the United Nations, Valeriy Kuchinsky, stated that “Harvest of Despair” is “a powerful film that provides insights into one of the most vicious genocides of the last century.”

Mr. Kuchinsky said the Ukrainian community hoped to draw the attention of the world public to the flagrant violations of human rights so that these crimes could never be repeated.

Before the film showing, Dr. James E. Mace, former staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, told the audience that the film was a testimony not only of the loss to the Ukrainian people but of the loss to humanity as a whole. Dr. Mace, who currently teaches politics at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, has devoted his career to the study of Soviet policies in Ukraine.

“As you look at this film, I would like you to realize that we’re not only talking about genocide, but the collective suffering of a nation, of a people and, by extension, the collective suffering of humanity, which has lost the contributions that could have been made by the creative figures of the 1920s – people like Mykola Khvylioviy, historians who were thinking of new ways of understanding the Ukrainian past, artists like Boychuk, for example, who were exploring new ways of artistic expression,” he pointed out.

“Harvest of Despair,” a 55-minute color film, was directed by Slavko Nowytski and produced by Mr. Nowytski and Yuriy Luhovy under the sponsorship of the Ukrainian Famine Research Committee of Canada, with the assistance of the National Film Board of Canada.

grandchildren – has preserved the precious collective memory of these events and published research based on the available archives of foreign governments and international organizations. That generation belatedly joined by those survivors inside Ukraine itself who could speak the truth publicly only after independence, are the human voices that have kept this tragic history from complete oblivion over the decades.

These, in short, are the concerns and issues that we have tried to bring together in our conference today and which also reflect the generous contributions of our many partners in this unique collaboration – from the hromada civic and scholarly organizations, the Shevchenko Scientific Society, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in America, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and the Ukrainian Studies Fund; the Ukrainian government and its Permanent Mission to the United Nations; leading archivists from Ukraine’s State Committee on Archives; and the private and non-profit sector, in the persons of Primary Source Microfilms/Gale Group and the foundation of Yaroslav Chelak.

Once again, welcome from the faculty, staff and students of Columbia University and best wishes for a productive conference.

A musical homage

Solemn evening vespers and an excerpt from the liturgy, both arranged by Kyrylo Stetsenko, set the tone for the reverential presentations offered by the Dumka Chorus under the direction of Vasyl Hrechynsky.

Stetsenko’s “Bless the Lord, O My Soul” and his arrangement of “The Lord’s Prayer” were included in the program, along with Yatskevych’s “Hail Mary” and Lysenko’s “Cherubic Hymn” and his hymn “Your Presence is Everywhere, O Lord.” Soloists for the hymn were Eugenia Babenko-Klufas, Larysa Bulyha and Mykhailo Moczula.

The concert reached its zenith with two heart-rending Bortniansky works – a slow, stately “Let My Prayer Reach You, O Lord” and the triumphant work “O Lord, In Your Strength The King Rejoices” from his Concerto No. 3. Solo portions in the second piece were performed by Ms. Babenko-Klufas, Ms. Bulyha, Klara Lehka, Olena Nowicka, Bohdan Kekish, Borys Kekish, Paul Liteplo and George Shtohryn.

Ambassador Kuchinsky told the audience that through the sacred music “we are paying tribute to those who 70 years ago in devastated Ukraine died in solitude, in despair, in irreparable sorrow.”

Ukrainian sacred music, one of the most striking expressions of the soul of the Ukrainian nation, was always preserved, even in the toughest times in the nation’s memory, Mr. Kuchinsky said. “Now it helps us to revive and to strengthen our roots.”

Ukrainian World Congress President Askold Lozynskyj, who called for a moment of silence to remember the dead, noted that the memorial concert had a dual significance: it was a requiem observance as well as a celebration of life, because “finally the international community has remembered the victims of the Great Famine, and a sovereign and democratic Ukrainian state serves as the best guarantee that a similar genocide will never be perpetrated again.”

The concert, like the film screening, was attended by top officials of Ukraine’s Mission to the U.N. and the Ukrainian Consulate General in New York, as well as visiting dignitaries from Ukraine, including Hennadi Udovenko, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada’s Committee on Human Rights, and Volodymyr Yelchenko, vice-minister of foreign affairs. Leading officers of Ukrainian national organizations included Michael Sawkiw of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and Iryna Kurowycky of the Ukrainian National Women’s League of America.

Among other honored visitors at the concert were Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., who attended with a retinue of clergy from South Bound Brook, N.J. Marta Kokolska, a representative of the Ukrainian World Congress to the United Nations, was mistress of ceremonies.

Film viewers included Margaret Siriol-Colley, niece of Gareth Jones, the Welsh journalist who is credited with bringing the earliest reports of the famine to the West, and her son, Nigel Linsan Colley.

BOOK NOTES

A collection of short stories related to the Famine-Genocide

“A Hunger Most Cruel,” Sonia Morris, editor. Winnipeg Language Lanterns Publications 2002. 284 pp.

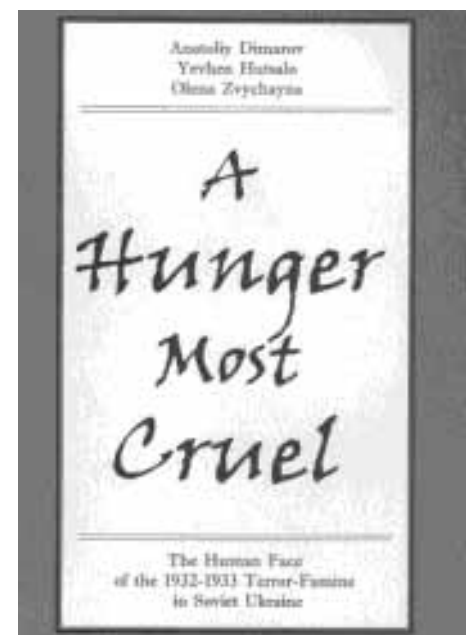
“A Hunger Most Cruel” is a collection of fictional short stories relating to the Great Famine in the winter of 1932-1933, an artificial famine orchestrated by Stalin’s government in which millions of Ukrainians starved to death.

The book was edited by Sonia Morris, and the stories were translated from Ukrainian into English by Roma Franko. “A Hunger Most Cruel” contains the English translations of the work of three Ukrainian authors: Anatoliy Dimarov, Yevhen Hutsalo and Olena Zvyhayna.

Anatoliy Dimarov’s story “The Thirties (A Parable about Bread),” which is contained in the book, first appeared in 1966 and was published in the literary journal Suchasnist in 1989. During the time of the Great Famine, Mr. Dimarov had to flee his village with his stepmother because his father had been labelled a “kulak” – a wealthy farmer seen by the Soviets as a threat to collectivism. Dimarov’s writing focuses on turning points in the lives of ordinary people and the emotional effects of these events.

“A Hunger Most Cruel” also includes Yevhen Hutsalo’s “Holodomor: Murder by Starvation.” Hutsalo was a member of the group of poets and writers known as the “Shestydesiatnyky,” writers of the 1960s. He has published more than 30 collections of novellas and short stories, as well as a trilogy of novels. His work tends to focus on the psychological aspect of tragedy, with additional focus on nature and language.

“A Hunger Most Cruel” also includes four stories by Olena Zvyhayna: “The Market at Myrhorod,” “Socialist Potatoes,” “Lucky Hanna” and “Without Doctors and Priests, Without Graves and Crosses.” Ms. Zvyhayna moved to the United States in the 1940s after having been held prisoner at a Nazi labor camp. Only after her arrival in the United States did she begin to publish her work, since she had refused to publish while under Soviet censorship. Her work focuses on the oppression endured by Ukrainians at the hands of the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany.



THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

Holodomor exhibit is presented at the United Nations

by Marta Baczynsky

UNITED NATIONS – An unprecedented event, the exhibition “Holodomor: The Great Man-Made Famine in Ukraine 1932-1933” opened in the Visitors’ Lobby of the United Nations on November 10. Among the hundreds of people who came to the opening were numerous United Nations dignitaries, members of the Ukrainian diplomatic corps, civic leaders, researchers and scholars. The exhibit was one in a series of events during a weeklong commemoration in New York of the 70th anniversary of Ukraine’s greatest tragedy.

The literal definition of the word “Holodomor” is “murder by hunger.” Seven million to 10 million men, women and children in Ukraine were starved to death through an artificially created famine by the Soviet government in order to achieve a political purpose.

The Holodomor exhibition was organized by The Ukrainian Museum in New York City at the request of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations. It will be on view through November 30.

Through photographs, documents and publications the exhibit examines the political and social climate of Ukraine in the decade preceding the Famine and the events that led to the genocide. It also addresses the aftermath of this tragedy, the meager attention of the world press to the Famine and the cover-up and the consistent denial of the Soviets as to its existence. The efforts of the Ukrainian community to provide relief to the victims, as well as the attempts to spread the truth about the Famine Genocide to the rest of the world are also recognized.

The central focus of the exhibit is the devastation wrought by the Famine in terms of human despair, suffering and painful death. The words of the survivors, witnesses and chroniclers of the Famine bring out the full horror of this heinous and monumental crime and are presented to the exhibition viewer.

The exhibit is largely based on Harvard University’s catalogue of its 1983 exhibition, “Famine in the Soviet Ukraine 1932-1933” and on photographs and documents recently made available from Ukraine’s newly released Central Government

Archives. The archival documents made public by the Ukrainian government after the break-up of the Soviet Union contain a storehouse of information about the Famine.

The actions of government officials that had a bearing on the Famine are evident in their letters, telegrams, notes, charts and photos. The officials’ cold analyses concerning the scope of the human devastation is clearly stated, and the documentation presents a horrifying record of one of the darkest chapters in the history of Ukraine under Soviet domination. The exhibit informs viewers that the most striking documents were found in the records of the government health authority and in the photos held by the Central Government Video-Photo-Audio Archives.

The exhibition organizers also utilized as sources the archives of the Ukrainian National Women’s League of America, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Ukrainian Museum’s own archival collection of photographs and memoirs, especially those of Vadym Pavlovsky, who was a Famine witness and a chronicler of the tragedy, as well as copies of relevant newspapers donated by Mykola Panchenko, proved invaluable. The exhibition organizers also looked to various books and newspapers for photographic material and other information on the Famine in public and private libraries.

The exhibition is presented in chronological order on panels discussing the events of the decade preceding the Famine. Viewers are informed also about the development of a cultural renaissance, which bloomed in Ukraine in the 1920s. Literature, cinema, theater and visual arts flourished but for a brief period, as did independent farming and private enterprise under the Bolshevik government’s New Economic Policy.

Stalin’s ascent to power in 1928 ended this independent cultural and political life in Ukraine. His five-year plan proposing the collectivization of farmland was the harbinger of the terrible disaster to come. Those opposing him soon found themselves enveloped in a reign of terror.

The exhibition panels discuss the collectivization of individually owned lands, the



Julian Hunte (left), president of the 58th Session of the United Nations, with Valeriy Kuchinsky (center), Ukraine’s ambassador to the U.N., and Hennadii Udovenko, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada’s Committee on Human Rights.

forced seizure of grains, food and personal possessions. It shows the purges of Ukraine’s intelligentsia and clergy through mass arrests, deportations to Arctic labor camps and executions, as well as the deliberate destruction of centuries-old churches and cultural institutions. In other words, the aim was to achieve the total obliteration of national consciousness.

Photographs of the 1932-1933 Great Famine portray the skeletal bodies, the sunken eyes and the unbelievable stacks of corpses, carted for burial.

A panel discusses the perfidy of Walter Duranty, Moscow correspondent of The New York Times, who wrote articles in 1933 stating that there was no Famine in Ukraine, while privately confiding to colleagues that people in Ukraine were dying from starvation. This coincided with the Soviet government’s denial of the existence of the Famine. The Soviets blamed the weather for a poor harvest, while shipping thousands of tons of Ukrainian grain to the West for profit.

The reproductions of front pages of several Hearst newspapers in the United States, which reported about the Famine, are displayed on panels, as are pages from the Christian Science Monitor of Boston and the Manchester Guardian of England.

The exhibit presents documents of resolutions issued by various governments – the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina. They show the tragedy of the Holodomor and condemn Stalin’s policies, while honoring the memory of the victims of the Famine.

Simultaneous with the opening of the exhibition, the Ukrainian Mission to the United Nations presented, as an official document of the United Nations General Assembly, a joint declaration on the 70th Anniversary of the Holodomor that was co-sponsored by 50 member-states of the United Nations.

Valeriy Kuchinsky, Ukraine’s ambassador to the U.N. said at the exhibit opening: “The declaration is unique in that it is the first of its kind within the United Nations to publicly condemn the Soviet totalitarian regime for the murder of millions of innocent victims. We are convinced that exposing violations of human rights, preserving historical records and restoring the dignity of victims by recognizing their suffering will help the international community avoid similar catastrophes in the future.”

The Ukrainian Museum also published a brochure that accompanied the exhibit; via photos and brief text in the English language, the brochure captures the essence of the exhibit.

The fact that the Holodomor exhibition was mounted at the United Nations is a great victory for justice. The enormous Visitors’ Lobby is a thoroughfare for thousands of people each day – those who have business to attend to and visitors from every corner of the globe. People would pass by and stop by the exhibition panels but for a moment, intending to move on. But few did. Most stayed and became absorbed in panel after panel, and read about the horrible crime that was neither recognized nor acknowledged by much of the world for such a long time.

Organizing the Holodomor exhibition was an important project for The Ukrainian Museum and reflective of its mission: to preserve the cultural and historical heritage of Ukrainian Americans and share it with the public. It was also in keeping with the museum’s agenda of engaging in cooperative endeavors with the cultural and artistic communities in Ukraine, through cooperation with and the endorsement and support of the government of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Museum has been a viable member of the greater Ukrainian community and a respected participant in the prestigious circle of New York’s cultural institutions for 27 years. Its successes and accomplishments are underwritten by the generous support of its members and friends.



Visitors view the display during the opening of the exhibit at the United Nations.

THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

Lobbying by diaspora changes Holodomor stamp's design

by Inger Kuzych
and Morgan Williams

SPRINGFIELD, Va. – Concerted pressure from Ukrainian Diaspora groups in the United States and Canada – led in no small part by the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) – caused Ukrposhta, Ukraine's state postal service, to withdraw the design for a postage stamp commemorating Ukraine's Great Famine of 1932 and 1933.

Marka Ukrainy, Ukrposhta's printing house, canceled plans in late September to issue the stamp because it not only erroneously showed victims of an earlier famine in 1921, but also depicted victims who were Russian, not Ukrainian.

The stamp was intended to commemorate the genocidal famine referred to as the "Holodomor" (death torture by forced starvation). During the Famine, millions of peasants starved to death while Western markets were flooded with confiscated Ukrainian grain in order to fund the Stalin-era industrialization of the Soviet Union.

The stamp's introduction was originally planned to coincide with the Famine-Genocide commemorations that take place during the fourth weekend of November every year. Postal officials had to scramble during October and early November to redesign and print a new stamp in time to meet a November 21, 2003, release date.

Morgan Williams, UPNS member, senior advisor of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF), and publisher of the www.ArtUkraine.com Information Service (ARTUIS), obtained a copy of the stamp from an undisclosed source. Several things immediately caught his eye. The first was that three Ukrainian famines were being commemorated on a single stamp (1921-1922, 1932-1933, and 1946-1947). Such a grouping it was felt would dilute the real reason for issuing the stamp: to concretely recognize the immensity of the Holodomor of the 1930s that was imposed on Ukraine – a

tragedy that to this day continues to be glossed over by many Soviet-era holdovers still in government positions. Additionally, the design was terribly cluttered with the word "Holodomor" repeated three times.

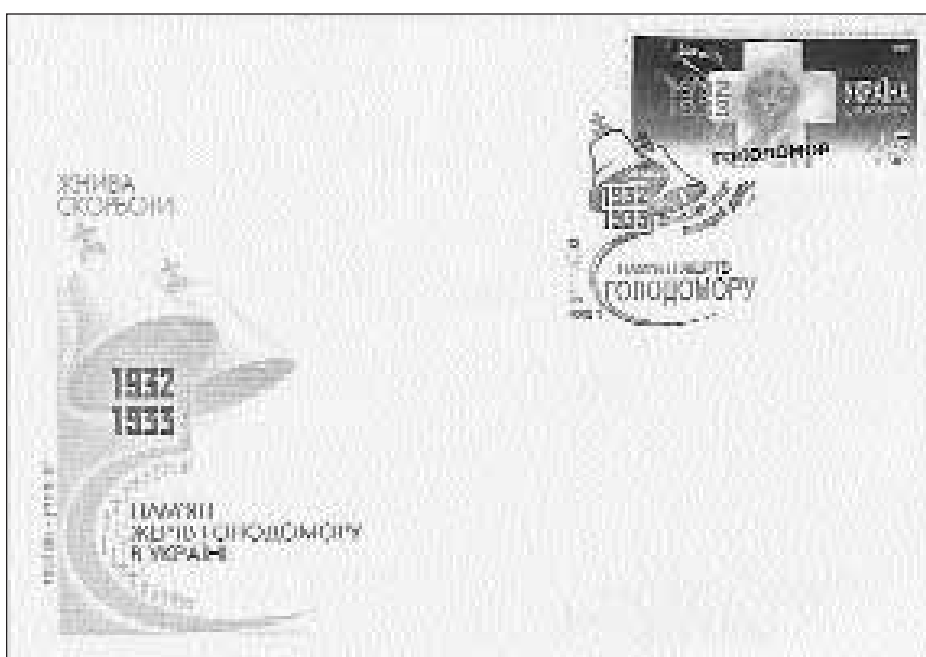
What was really troubling about the image, however, was the starving peasants on the left side of the stamp. Mr. Williams recognized the figures of three women, a baby and a girl with a swollen belly as having come from a 1921 famine photograph. He then asked two prominent scholars, Dr. James Mace at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and Dr. Roman Serbyn of the University of Quebec at Montreal, to confirm his discovery. Both men have extensively researched the famines that occurred in Soviet times. Not only did they agree that the photo was taken more than 10 years before the 1930s famine, but they also indicated that it pictured Russian peasants from Buzulak in Soviet Russia, not Ukraine.

Mr. Williams sent e-mails to anyone he could, alerting them to the error and trying to get the printing house to contact Marka Ukrainy and have them change the design. On September 29 he contacted Inger Kuzych, president of the UPNS, with details of the planned stamp (including the stamp design) and with information about its erroneous depiction. That same evening, Dr. Kuzych sent out a letter – with copies of Mr. Williams' message – to over 100 UPNS members who have e-mails urging them to contact Marka Ukrainy and express their concern (see accompanying box).

On the following day Mr. Williams was able to set up a meeting at his Kyiv office with Valentyna Khudoliy, director of Marka Ukrainy. Also present at the get-together – called with just a three-hour notice – were Ross Chomiak, an American journalist living in Kyiv; Dr. Anatol Lysyj, president, Minnesota Chapter, Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine; and Dr. George Krywolap, Secretary, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of



A sheet of the Holodomor stamps released by Ukraine.



The stamp cover marking the 70th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

the U.S.A. (Dr. Mace, internationally recognized expert on the Holodomor, was tied up teaching a class at that time period.)

During the meeting, the gentlemen tried to convey their profound concerns about the stamp design. Ms. Khudoliy, however, informed them that it was too

late to change the stamp's design since it had already received government approval. In addition, she was skeptical of Mr. Williams' claim that the stamp could be traced to 1921 and Soviet Russia since Ukrinform, the state infor-

(Continued on page 14)

FOR THE RECORD: Philatelic society's letter to its members

Below is the text of the letter sent out to all UPNS members with e-mail addresses on the society roster.

Dear UPNS Member or Concerned Citizen:

I have just been informed of the incredibly inappropriate stamp design that Marka Ukrainy has proposed to issue in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine in Ukraine (Holodomor). Although some may quibble about details of the overall design, the blatant use of a photo showing a starving Russian family instead of Ukrainian victims cannot be left unchallenged. (Details of the stamp design and verification that the persons depicted are Russian appear below.)

If such a stamp were to appear it would be an insult to the 7 million to 10 million Ukrainian victims who were the victims of this Soviet Russian-instigated horror.



The original design for the Holodomor stamp.

I am sending this letter to all UPNS members with e-mail addresses as well as to others who I hope will be able to help in a letter-writing campaign to change the stamp design. Unfortunately, the time is short. The anniversary of the Holodomor is commemorated during the fourth weekend of November every year. I imagine the stamp would be issued a couple of weeks ahead of this time. That only leaves about six to seven weeks to cancel the present design and undertake a stamp change. Please join me in contacting Marka Ukrainy as soon as possible!

The address of the head of Marka Ukrainy is: Valentyna Khudoliy, Khreshchatyk, 22 Kyiv-1, 01001, Ukraine.

The e-mail address I was able to find at the Marka Ukrainy website (www.stamp.kiev.ua) was: markaua@ukr.net

Please send copies of this request to anyone you can think of who would be willing to drop a line to Marka Ukrainy to see that the impending philatelic travesty does not occur.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Dr. Inger Kuzych, President
Ukrainian Philatelic
and Numismatic Society

Attached to this missive was information supplied by Morgan Williams documenting the fact that the persons

shown on the stamp were Russian peasants from a photograph of 1921.

In a distinct understatement Ms. Khudoliy allowed that, "The Americans were very worried about [the stamp]." As it turns out, they had every right to be. Marka Ukrainy planned to print 200,000 copies of the Holodomor stamp with a face value of 45 kopyky. Whether these had to be destroyed is currently unknown.

Nevertheless, some basic information – as well as the new stamp design – has emerged. The new Holodomor stamp was prepared by Kost' Lavro, Marka Ukrainy's highest-paid designer.

Unlike the earlier design, the new main image does not utilize any historical photos. Instead a simple, powerful, symbolic representation is used. Shown is a Kozak-style granite cross, out of which emerges the ghostly head of a child with a frozen expression that can be interpreted as grief, regret and/or despair. The expression is haunting and is somewhat reminiscent of Edvard Munch's "The Scream." The single word "Holodomor" says all that is necessary and the blood red year numerals contrast sharply with the grays and black of the rest of the design. A few spindly stalks of grain add to the poignancy of the image." All in all, it is a very effective and heart-rending design.

Only 100,000 copies of the new 45-kopyyka Holodomor stamps were reportedly printed, a ludicrous-

(Continued on page 14)

THE 70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

IN THE PRESS: Columbia Journalism Review, New York papers, VOA on Duranty case

Columbia Journalism Review

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Columbia Journalism Review and several New York-based newspapers, as well as the Voice of America were among the news media outlets that recently focused on the case of Walter Duranty and his 1932 Pulitzer Prize.

The November/December issue of the Columbia Journalism Review dedicated over 4,400 words – in an article titled “Should this Pulitzer be pulled?” – to the issue of Walter Duranty and the 1932 Pulitzer Prize he won for reporting from the former Soviet Union.

The author of the article, Contributing Editor Douglas McCollam, wrote: “In 1932, at the age of 47, Duranty was awarded the Pulitzer for a series of stories that the board thought showed a ‘profound and intimate comprehension of conditions in Russia,’ consistent with ‘the best type of foreign correspondence.’ Next to Duranty’s portrait appears the following note: ‘Other writers in the Times and elsewhere have discredited this coverage.’”

He continued: “Indeed they have, and this year, more than 70 years after Duranty won the prize, both Arthur Sulzberger Jr., publisher of The New York Times, and members of the Pulitzer board have found themselves inundated with letters, postcards, faxes, e-mails and phone calls demanding that Duranty’s prize be returned or revoked. The campaign has left some of its targets mystified. ‘The whole thing is just odd,’ says Andrew Barnes, chairman and chief executive officer of the St. Petersburg Times, who has served on the Pulitzer board for seven years. David Klatell, who was on the board for a year as interim dean of Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism, also was a bit stumped when he began receiving the letters last fall. ‘It’s been a fairly massive writing campaign,’ says Klatell, who estimates that he and Sig Gissler, administrator of the prizes, have received tens of thousands of cards and letters. ‘Whoever funded it has spent a good deal of money,’ Klatell says.”

Mr. McCollam wrote further:

“Both Arthur Sulzberger Jr., and his father, Arthur Sulzberger Sr., the previous publisher, declined to be interviewed for this article, but a Times spokesman, Toby Usnik, did e-mail a statement, saying, in part, that The Times has ‘reported often and thoroughly on the defects in Duranty’s journalism, as viewed through the lens of later events.’”

“In April the board voted to consider the question again, forming a special committee to investigate, a step it hasn’t taken in the past. Gissler, who became administrator of the prizes in 2002, says the committee was not formed in response to the letter-writing campaign, which he says didn’t start in earnest until around May of this year, but because the board views the allegations against Duranty as serious enough to merit an in-depth inquiry. The special committee is scheduled to make a report to the full board at its November meeting. The committee’s preliminary findings were being calculated as I worked on this article, but Gissler declined to make it available, nor would he comment on the substance of the controversy.

“Most of the 22 other present and past board members I contacted were similarly mum, including William Safire, the Times columnist who currently co-chairs the Pulitzer board, and Richard Opper, the editor of the Austin American-

Statesman, who heads the special investigative committee.

Mr. McCollam said that in order to get a clearer picture of the issues facing the Pulitzer board, he spent some time researching Duranty and his work in the Library of Congress.

“Duranty worked within the [Soviet] system, trading softer coverage for continuing access. Deciding whether that exchange ended up with the Times substantially whitewashing Soviet atrocities requires a closer examination of Duranty’s work,” he added.

The author concluded:

“Taken together the 13 articles (11 were part of a series, datelined from Paris, that ran in June of 1931; the two others were separate stories), are a sometimes prescient exploration of a kind of totalitarian government the world had never seen before. Duranty’s writing style is often stilted, and the stories are flawed in many respects, but overall seem sound, and even include notes of moral condemnation rarely found elsewhere in his work.

“The same cannot be said about Duranty’s coverage – or lack of coverage – of the 1932-1933 famine in Ukraine. After five years of brutal agricultural collectivization, Stalin increased the grain quotas due from Ukraine despite a poor harvest year. When it became evident that the quotas would not be met, Soviet troops and party activists swept through Ukraine tearing apart peasant farms looking for secret grain hordes. They stripped the people clean and the result was catastrophic. Though no reliable census data are available, most historians now estimate at least 5 million people starved to death. Ukrainian groups put the figure at 7 million to 10 million and passionately believe it reflects a deliberate campaign by Stalin to break resistance to the Soviets in Ukraine and obliterate the Ukrainian identity, though not all historians agree with that interpretation.

“If the case for revoking the prize is based solely on the series that Duranty won for, then it is less compelling. If it is based instead on the totality of his reporting, then the prize should probably be revoked,” Mr. McCollam concluded.

New York Sun

“Ukrainians are besieging The New York Times office in New York City – and in Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Toronto and Moscow – to try to persuade the newspaper to end its equivocating over Walter Duranty and his 1932 Pulitzer Prize,” wrote Eric Wolff in a November 18 article published by the New York Sun titled “Ukrainians protest prize to N.Y. Times.”

The article went on to report that the demonstrations would consist mainly of handing out informational leaflets at the doors of The New York Times bureaus and were timed to allow the newspaper to mull over its position before a Pulitzer Prize Board meeting on November 21.

According to the article, the leaflets “detail Duranty’s coverage of the Soviet Union while he was The Times’ correspondent in Moscow and ask, ‘When Jayson Blair’s lies were uncovered, The New York Times apologized. Why won’t they now?’”

The article went on to say that, “The two Ukrainian groups [Ukrainian World Congress and Ukrainian Congress Committee of America] plan to demonstrate on [November 21], which will

include further leafleting, outside the Pulitzer Board’s meeting room at Columbia University.”

“This is not a protest against the Pulitzer Board,” the article quoted Askold Lozynskyy, president of the UWC, as saying. “It’s a vigil to let the board know that the Ukrainian community is very interested in the decision. We realize it’s not an easy one for them.”

The article also reported that, “The administrator of the Pulitzer Board, Sig Gissler, had not known of the vigil, but said, ‘We’re certainly aware of their concerns. Our inquiry is ongoing.’”

New York Newsday

The daily newspaper New York Newsday reported on November 15 that some 3,000 people marched in New York City that day to show the world they remember the “‘hidden holocaust’ or ‘forgotten famine.’”

Staff writer Elizabeth Cady Brown reported in the article that: “It was crisp and sunny for the marchers gathered at noon in front of St. George Catholic Church in the East Village. The procession, a sea of blue and gold Ukrainian flags and colorful embroidered head scarves, moved slowly up Third Avenue to Bryant Park, ending at St. Patrick’s Cathedral for a requiem mass. It was at once a celebration of Ukrainian culture and a time of collective mourning.”

The article, titled “‘Forgotten famine’ remembered,” quoted several of the marchers who told Ms. Brown how they were affected by the famine, either directly or indirectly. Paul Makovski, who lives in Sheepshead Bay, N.Y., but was born in Ukraine, told Ms. Brown that, “My mother and her sister ate anything to stay alive. They would make bread with bark or grass. It was terrible for them.”

Ms. Brown also spoke with Ukraine’s permanent representative to the United Nations, Valeriy Kuchinsky, who told the

journalist that he hoped the demonstration would increase international awareness of the genocide. “We don’t want to avenge the history. The main thing is that mass human rights violations must never be repeated. For that, we must remember,” Mr. Kuchinsky said.

The New York Daily News reported on the famine commemorations that took place on November 15 in New York City in its November 18 edition. In a subsection titled “Protest set for Times,” columnist Paul Colford wrote that “Ukrainian groups gathered in New York last week for a memorial service at St. Patrick’s Cathedral and other programs marking the 70th anniversary of the Ukraine Famine that killed millions.”

Mr. Colford also reported that the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America has planned to step up its campaign urging the revocation of the 1932 Pulitzer Prize won by Moscow correspondent Walter Duranty of The New York Times by protesting outside of The Times headquarters building and its bureaus around the country. “Another protest is set for Friday [November 21] at Columbia University, where the Pulitzer Board is due to meet, months after it was announced a subcommittee would review the Duranty case,” Mr. Colford wrote.

Voice of America

Voice of America also carried an English-language story on the controversy surrounding Walter Duranty’s 1932 Pulitzer Prize. On November 19 Kerry Sheridan reported that “A controversy is heating up over a prestigious journalism award given to a reporter whose allegedly biased coverage of the Soviet Union in the early 1930s largely ignored the famine that resulted in millions of Ukrainian deaths. More and more members of New York’s Ukrainian community are calling for the Pulitzer Prize to be revoked.”

Lobbying...

(Continued from page 13)

mation agency, had been commissioned to provide a historically accurate photo. Ms. Khudoliy also mentioned that the photo had recently been published in a book on 20th century Ukraine, where it had been labeled as being from Ukraine, albeit from 1921. She did not realize that very few images are available from the 1933 famine because of the clampdown on any photographs being taken that could verify the tragedy that was taking place.

Mr. Williams understood how crucial it was to use an image from the proper famine. In an otherwise excellent 1986 documentary on the Holodomor, “Harvest of Despair,” the filmmakers had erroneously used photos from a Russian famine. This oversight gave some Russians a pretext to deny that the

Holodomor had ever occurred. The fear was that similar allegations would arise if the stamp design in question was used.

Recipients of Mr. Williams’ and Mr. Kuzych’s e-mail campaign responded quickly. Ms. Khudoliy later affirmed that Marka Ukrainy started receiving messages at about the time that residents of North America’s East Coast were waking up on September 30. By 4 p.m. that day, just hours after her meeting with Mr. Williams, she called to tell him that the stamp would be held up and that Marka Ukrainy would try to find a new photo.

Ms. Khudoliy acknowledged that pressure from “our Ukrainian diaspora” was the primary reason for the decision to hold up the production and sale of the stamp. She admitted that Ukrposhta was “surprised but unimpressed” that the stamp’s design had been leaked before its scheduled release date, an action she called a gross violation of the designer’s rights.

Philatelic society’s...

(Continued from page 13)

ly small quantity for a nation with a population of just under 50 million. Why such a minuscule amount was produced remains a puzzle. Once an acceptable Holodomor stamp design was approved, this particular issue should have been printed in far larger numbers to help edu-

cate the populace – and the world – of this greatest of Ukraine’s tragedies. One can only hope that Marka Ukrainy will wise up and reprint further quantities.

The authors wish to thank the many people who took the time to contact Marka Ukrainy and express their views on the unsuitable original Holodomor stamp.

Who is in charge...

(Continued from page 2)

Medvedchuk, therefore, sees his role as twofold. First, he must maintain President Kuchma in office beyond next year's elections, either through a third term or by amending the Constitution. Mr. Medvedchuk is opposed to either Mr. Yushchenko or Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych becoming president. Secondly, he must block the emergence of any alliances between the pro-presidential clans and Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko took with him to Donetsk a large group of EU ambassadors so that they could witness first-hand the tactics employed against the opposition by the presidential administration. After Donetsk, he met with 11 Western ambassadors and showed them a 15-minute film about the Donetsk events. German Ambassador to Ukraine Dietmar Studemann was aghast at the Donetsk events, and he told the online newspaper "Glavred," that they were "completely inadmissible ... from the point of view of civilized European countries." Mr. Studemann said the Donetsk events showed a "well-thought-out action developing in line with someone's scenario."

Hanne Severinsen, head of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's monitoring committee on Ukraine, said last week that "if there is no possibility of enjoying freedom of assembly, then we cannot expect there to be fair and free elections" in Ukraine. The EU troika issued a "demarche" to the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry on November 7, the same day that the largest faction in the European Parliament, the center-right European Peoples Party, condemned the Donetsk events. Visiting Kyiv on November 10, EU External Affairs Commissioner Chris Patten also warned President Kuchma that the EU will closely monitor the election campaign.

The United States and other NATO countries repeated these condemnations. U.S. Ambassador John Herbst said that after Donetsk he understood that a "normal election campaign" is impossible in Ukraine. Such presidential tactics would harm Ukraine's bilateral relations with the United States and Ukraine's efforts at integration into NATO, he said. At a Kyiv conference on Euro-Atlantic integration, ambassadors from NATO member-states made clear that Ukraine's chances of joining the alliance are contingent on its holding democratic elections.

If Mr. Medvedchuk's tactics against the opposition continue unchanged in the year preceding the 2004 election, their impact on Ukraine's efforts toward Euro-Atlantic integration will be disastrous. After Donetsk, Our Ukraine continued to face similar problems that prevented the holding of regional congresses in Sumy, Lutsk and the Crimea.

On November 11, President Kuchma issued a secret decree calling upon the security forces to investigate the blocking of Our Ukraine congresses around Ukraine. This is ironic as leaked internal documents signed by the deputy chief of the presidential administration prove that the executive branch is actually behind these very tactics against the opposition, tactics that the EU, the Council of Europe and NATO have condemned.

At the same time, President Kuchma reportedly assured Ambassador Herbst in a recent private conversation that next year's elections in Ukraine will be free and fair. A November poll conducted by the Ukrainian Democratic Circle on behalf of the Institute of Politics revealed public doubts, with a staggering 72 percent of Ukrainians not believing that next year's elections will be free and fair and only 6 percent thinking otherwise.

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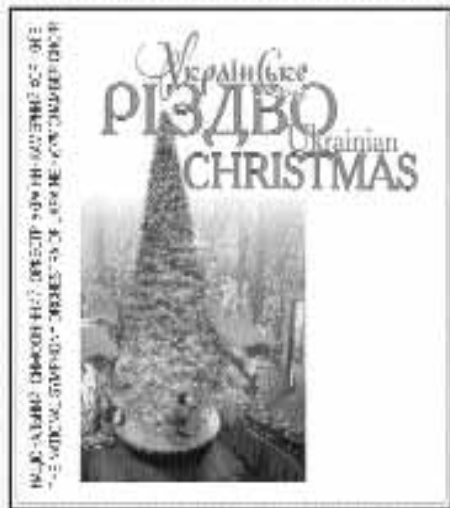
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

NHL 2003-2004 preview

Hatcher's Wings? Fedorov's Ducks? Kariya's Avalanche? Oh yes, things are mighty different this season in Hockeyland. And not just because the clock is ticking away on the NHL's labor agreement. There's new money in Buffalo and Ottawa, new coaches in Pittsburgh, Boston and New York. Of course there's new hope in every locker room, as each team figures they have a chance to etch their names in silver.

The Detroit Red Wings are the easy Stanley Cup pick for anyone who puts stock in the return of the Dominator behind a formidable defense. Who could argue with picking Colorado, now that they boast such a potent offense? Another good selection would be the Devils, the defending Stanley Cup champions who have the best goaltender, Martin Brodeur, in the game.

But the pick here is the Ottawa Senators, an explosive team, to lift the Cup when this season is all said and done. Just like their ancestors, the Ottawa Silver Seven, did four times and the original Ottawa Senators did seven times in pro hockey's early days.

"They're a young team, and they are only going to get better," Devils' defenseman Scott Niedermayer says.

Agreed. In the following preview we rate the squads 1-30 with a mention of each club's top players, a scouting report for 2003-2004, and attention to Ukrainian contributors.

1. OTTAWA SENATORS – Marian Hossa scores, Wade Redden defends, Patrick Lalime knocking on the door of greatness in goal. Best team in its division, probably in the conference. Very well coached with a whole bunch of highlight forwards. Very good, underrated defense. Curtis Leschyshyn enters the season as the club's seventh defenseman in a rotation of six. Still valuable guy to have around.

2. DETROIT RED WINGS – GT Dominik Hasek returns after a year of retirement to re-join captain Steve Yzerman, who's recovering from knee surgery. Ray Whitney teams with Brendan Shanahan on the scoring line. Their blue-line, with the addition of Derian Hatcher, can be as good as any in the league. Youngsters Pavel Datsyuk and Henrik Zetterberg must produce. No Ukrainians on roster.

3. NEW JERSEY DEVILS – Defending champs play tight trap with Scott Stevens and Scott Niedermayer anchoring defense in front of Vezina winner Martin Brodeur. Nobody really scores a lot here. They have a decent group of forwards, but will have to tweak a little with personnel to repeat. Tough guy Rob Skrlac still in Albany (AHL).

4. DALLAS STARS – Mike Modano adds the captain's C to his allround game. Sergei Zubov anchors strong power play from the point.

Marty Turco was terrific as starting goalie in 2002-2003. This team had one down year and then were right back on top. Lack of physical presence on defense will be addressed when needed. With Hatcher leaving as a free agent, Richard Matvichuk moves up into a key role as a top-four defender. Dave Bararuk shows promise for the future.

5. ST. LOUIS BLUES – Chris Pronger and top rookie Barret Jackman are superior defensemen. Pavol Demitra and Doug Weight are scorers. These big spenders slashed payroll to a lower \$59 million. Still need a shutdown goalie, but will field deep lineup. Keith Tkachuk still one of the top power forwards in the game. Sergei Varlamov very close to becoming regular

among forwards. Igor Valeev patrols the wing in Worcester, while Cody Rudkowsky is far down on the goalie depth chart.

6. VANCOUVER CANUCKS – Stars Todd Bertuzzi and Markus Naslund are only a season or two into their primes. Ed Jovanovski is one of league's best blueline cops. Dan Cloutier has to prove himself in the playoffs or else goaltending will be questioned. Is the team tough enough? Zenith Komarniski and Rene Vydareny sent down for more seasoning in Manitoba.

7. COLORADO AVALANCHE – Paul Kariya and Teemu Selanne come over as free agents to try and win a Cup with Peter Forsberg, Joe Sakic, Milan Hejduk and others. The only things which could hold them back are health issues and suspect goaltending with Patrick Roy retiring. Andre Nikolishin acquired in off-season to anchor checking line. Jordan Krestanovich honing his skills in Hershey while Johnny Boychuk was returned to Moose Jaw juniors.

8. PHILADELPHIA FLYERS – Once again a playoff contender, but weak between the pipes. Jeremy Roenick leads the forwards, Eric Desjardins the defense. When healthy, new goalie Jeff Hackett is pretty solid. These Flyers are the flip side of the Devils, strong at forward, not as strong on defense. Todd Fedoruk is the enforcer on the fourth line. Jeff Woywitka should see NHL ice time for the first time.

9. TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING – Vincent Lecavalier, Brad Richards and Martin St. Louis are high octane on offense. Dan Boyle underrated as two-way defenseman. Nikolai Khabibulin needs to re-prove himself. Team has a lot of players on the cusp of being at the height of their game. Great leadership with captain Dave Andreychuk. This year's breakthrough 'Bolt could be Ruslan Fedotenko. Brad Lukowich moves up to No. 4 on blue line. Nikita Alexeev begins season in the minors.

10. TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS – Joe Nieuwendyk's signing was a huge move. Alexander Mogilny and Mats Sundin are proven snipers. Ed Belfour will face tons of shots due to porous line of defense. Leafs seem like an old team of patchwork players with little bite. Wade Belak a very valuable commodity as forward/defenseman with tons of grit. Rookie Matt Stajan and Olympian Alexei Ponikarovsky both made the parent club coming out of training camp.

11. ANAHEIM MIGHTY DUCKS – Sergei Fedorov and Vinny Prospal come over to kickstart the offense. Team lived and died with netminder Jean-Sebastien Giguere in the past. Last year Giggy went from Who? to Wow! in 21-game playoff run. Vitaly Vishnevski is one of the best body checkers around on D. Will not duplicate last year's surprise in the Western Conference.

12. BOSTON BRUINS – Capt. Joe Thornton fast becoming an elite player. Glen Murray and Sergei Samsonov are major scoring threats. Atmosphere should improve with new coach. Defense is suspect on top of two new netminders (Felix Potvin and Andrew Raycroft). No Ukrainians on training camp roster.

13. MINNESOTA WILD – Their only name player, Marian Gaborik, remained unsigned into the start of the season. Goaltending duo of Manny Fernandez and Dwayne Roloson had a combined 2.10 GAA in 2002-2003. Coach Jacques Lemaire and his neutral-zone trap yields great results, but a boring looking game. Chris Bala skating in Houston.

14. WASHINGTON CAPITALS – When he feels like it, Jaromir Jagr can be the best player in the world. Peter Bondra

(Continued on page 17)

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Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 16)

and Robert Lang add much potential and offensive pop. The perennial MVP is goalie Olaf Kolzig. The defense needs a total overhaul. Coaching is suspect. Steve Konowalchuk named team captain last year, one of few Caps to truly lay it on the line every night.

15. ATLANTA THRASHERS – Wonder wing Ilya Kovalchuk will be league's next Pavel Bure. He gets help from Slava Kozlov and Marc Savard. Superstar-in-the-making Dany Heatley's career on hold after horrific auto accident. Coach Bob Hartley did a great job coming in last season and getting the guys to buy into his team-defense system. Should be a surprise play-off team. Ex-first round draft choice Dave Kaczowka looks like a career minor leaguer.

16. N.Y. ISLANDERS – Alexei Yashin needs two good wingers. Captain Michael Peca needs to be healthy the whole year. Adrian Aucoin and Roman Hamrlik log lots of ice time. Very solid defense and strong up the middle offset by lack of depth and inexperience on the wings. Goaltending may be questioned. Wade Dubielewicz debuts in pros as backup goalie in Bridgeport (AHL).

17. CAROLINA HURRICANES – Looking to reverse the first to worst disaster in 2002-2003. Ron Francis still a sparkplug, while Rod Brind' Amour and Eric Cole are healthy again. Jeff O'Neill is established as scorer – Kevin Weekes in net. Team has improved their defense and added more grit. No way this season can mirror Murphy's Law from a year ago. Joey Tetarenko acquired as part of more grit. Ryan Bayda showed promise in late season call-up. Damian Surma hopes to do the same if given an opportunity.

18. LOS ANGELES – Last season was a big pain – Jason Allison and Adam Deadmarsh alone missed 118 games between them. Ziggy Palffy is still very dangerous with the puck. Roman Cechmanek comes over from Philly to tend the nets. Last year's injuries did allow them to look at younger players and build depth. If healthy, these guys should contend for a playoff berth. Zero Ukrainians in the organization.

19. MONTREAL CANADIENS – Travelled back in time when Bob Gainey was hired as new GM. He admits club is light years removed from its glory days. Goaltender Jose Theodore must rebound from very weak season while ignoring family's legal problems. Saku Koivu needs two functioning knees and Richard Zednik is quality to build around. Not a very good team probably in rebuilding mode. Haven't seen a Ukrainian puckster in these parts for a while.

20. N.Y. RANGERS – Recent coaches have had no luck turning highpriced stars Eric Lindros, Mark Messier, Bobby Holik and Alexei Kovalev into a cohesive unit. GM Glen Sather fired the coaches and hired himself. Pavel Bure may never see the ice due to bad knees. This team continues struggling for an identity. Compounding this are continuing defensive lapses and more chemistry problems. Maybe its a good thing there are no Ukes around.

21. FLORIDA PANTHERS – Franchise goalie Roberto Luongo, unexpected All-Star Olli Jokinen and cream-of-the-crop rookie D Jay Bouwmeester form strong foundation. Power struggle between coach Mike Keenan and GM Rick Dudley must be resolved to ascertain club's future direction. Lots of young talent includes Ivan Novoseltsev and thus far disappointing top draftee Denis Shvidki. To protect the crew of speedy imports, Darcy Hordichuk was added as on-ice cop.

22. EDMONTON OILERS – The Oilers are putting their trust in kids and the promise of a new labor pact. Ryan Smith, Eric

Brewer and GT Tommy Salo will keep fans interested. This hockey organization has never lost their character or confidence. They're young, talented and exciting. A couple of very young Ukrainians, Curtis Sheptak and Kyle Brodziak could both be part of still another future youth movement in a small market town.

23. CALGARY FLAMES – New captain Jarome Iginla, veteran Craig Conroy and speedy Martin Gelin are only proven offensive weapons. Goaltender Marty Turco is plagued by inconsistency. With coach Darryl Sutter, Calgary will be one of the hardest working teams in the league. They simply need more talent. No Ukes on Alberta horizon.

24. NASHVILLE PREDATORS – Bank on this: penny-pinching Preds get younger; coach Barry Trotz gets grayer; GT Tomas Vokoun gets better. David Legwand needs help on forward line while Kimmo Timonen begs for assistance on the back line. When their payroll dips below \$25 million, Nashville replaces Minnesota as hockey's tightest unit. Down on the farm Darren Haydar hopes to duplicate his AHL All-Star status.

25. BUFFALO SABRES – Billionaire Thomas Golisano saved the franchise from relocation. Chris Drury comes over to join Miroslav Satan and Ales Kotalik as team's top guns. Deep in net with Martin Biron and Mika Noronen both still developing. Veteran Alexei Zhitnik quarterbackes the power play and leads the defense corps. Its another rebuilding year, but if some rookies pan out and Biron stiffens up, they might not be rebuilding for long.

26. CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS – After Alex Zhamnov, Steve Sullivan and Eric Daze there are many questions and not enough answers. Netminder Jocelyn Thibault earned a lot of respect, but not many wins. Hawks can't wait for 6-4, 200-lb. Anton Babchuk to be recalled from AHL Norfolk – this top pick from two years ago is destined to be a great one. Scott Balan currently skating with Babchuk on the minor league blueline circuit.

27. COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS – Loss of Ray Whitney to Detroit will hurt. C Andrew Cassels a gifted playmaker. Sophomore Rick Nash a superstar-in-the-making. Todd Marchant signed from Edmonton to offset Whitney's loss. Welcome aboard Darryl Sydor to the ranks of Ukrainian hockey stars in Columbus. Martin Kubaliak (juniors) and Joe Motzko (college) are junior Blue Jackets. Shane Bendera continues to learn the pro netminding game in the lower minors. President-GM Doug MacLean added head coach to his resume.

28. PITTSBURGH PENGUINS – New coach Ed Olczyk has Mario Lemieux and a bunch of newbies and geezers to work with after the team dumped all of their mildly pricey talent. Top overall draft pick Marc-Andre Fleury was so impressive in camp he stuck as the No. 1 goalie. Ross Lupaschuk has returned to Wilkes-Barre/Scranton of the AHL. At his advanced Mario cannot carry the load.

29. SAN JOSE – Centers Patrick Marleau, Mike Ricci and Vincent Damphousse make for a stout troika. Defense is very young which necessitates Evgeni Nabokov's comeback in goal. Two Ukrainian prospects in Cleveland: GT Seamus Kotyk tending behind defender Tyler Hanchuk. Sharks' free fall from the top of the Western Conference toward the cellar will likely continue.

30. PHOENIX COYOTES – Right wing Shane Doan and centers Daymond Langkow and Ladislav Nagy must step up as scorers. GT Sean Burke wins when he plays, which is when he's not on the injured list. This is now a team with few veterans, but with a bright future thanks to promising youth on the way up. Short term will be a struggle for the Desert Dogs, owned in part by No. 99.

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Our Ukraine bloc...

(Continued from page 2)

made public.

Mr. Yushchenko says the government's actions show why Ukrainians need to elect a president that will oversee a government committed to the democratic rights enshrined in the Ukrainian Constitution. "The Constitution does not work in Ukraine and these fundamental rights for [free] assembly and the conduct of meetings, as has been shown in Donetsk, don't work," he said.

Serhii Vasyliiev is the head of the presidential administration's press and information policy department and is the person accused of authoring the "temnyky." In an interview with RFE/RL, he denied that the "temnyky" or the new document Mr. Yushchenko claims to have been distributed by his office.

"From the moment the opposition started to attack the presidential administration, there have been so many declarations about various documents, beginning with those associated with my field of work, the so-called 'temnyky' - which were written by others but are attributed to the presidential administration and directly to me - and other so-called documents referred to by Mr. Yushchenko and other members of the opposition. So many of them have been mentioned that, in all seriousness, I don't want to speak about them," Mr. Vasyliiev said.

Mr. Vasyliiev said that, in the run-up to the election, many unsubstantiated allegations have been made by enemies of the Ukrainian government. He said the accusations now being made by Mr. Yushchenko should be viewed with that in mind. "What Viktor Yushchenko says is one thing, and what the truth may be is another," he said.

He said the document Mr. Yushchenko claims to have should be subjected to expert examination. He said there are many identifying marks on genuine official documents that prove they are the real thing. "The document that Mr. Yushchenko displays is not proof that the presidential administration is really responsible for what Mr. Yushchenko accuses it of," Mr. Vasyliiev said.

In addition to Donetsk, similar campaign disruptions occurred on November 9 in the northern city of Sumy. Our Ukraine officials claim local authorities mobilized police and paid demonstrators to prevent a rally, which eventually was held in the open air instead of in a hall.

The tires of some 30 buses scheduled to carry Our Ukraine members to the rally were slashed. Police detained activists distributing Our Ukraine literature.

Mr. Vasyliiev said he does not believe the version of events from Donetsk and Sumy that is being put forward by Our Ukraine. He suggested the authorities in those cities did not abuse their powers and that people were merely exercising their democratic rights to oppose Our Ukraine. "The streets were filled with representatives of society. The streets were filled with the electorate, which either will or will not vote for Mr. Yushchenko. That's their right. That's democracy in this country," he said.

Our Ukraine says such rallies are essential because the country's mass media gives little or no coverage to opposition parties. Western diplomats and institutions have criticized the campaign disruptions. The U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, John Herbst, said interference in the campaign efforts of Our Ukraine is a "matter of concern."

The Council of Europe, of which Ukraine is a member, monitors whether governments adhere to democratic standards. Hanne Severinsen is the representative to Ukraine for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). She told RFE/RL that one of the most important human rights is the right to peaceful assembly and that if Ukrainian authorities do not ensure that right, free elections are impossible.

"If one of the most popular blocs and one of the most popular politicians cannot hold a rally without being disturbed, then I think we will have really an attempt to disrupt this [presidential election] campaign," Ms. Severinsen said.

She said local authorities loyal to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma likely believe that using their powers to disrupt opposition activities is considered part of their duty. Ms. Severinsen said Mr. Kuchma must ensure every political party in Ukraine has the right to hold meetings freely. "Mr. Kuchma promised [on November 10] the American ambassador that there should be both democratic and transparent elections. So what he says is very fine, but if his authorities do not do anything, he is responsible," she said.

Ms. Severinsen visited Ukraine to speak with journalists and members of Parliament about censorship during the election campaign. She said she will report back to her colleagues at PACE that the "temnyky" are having a considerable effect. "I will report on the meeting I had on [10 November] and about how 'temnyky' really seem to be influential in the way media, especially electronic media, now cover everything," she said. "If you look at the different TV stations, they have the same news in the same order. This is something new and, in a way, more efficient than when some of [the journalists] feared for their lives and then were courageous [enough to defy them]. But now they are uniform."

Mr. Vasyliiev, the head of the presidential administration's press and information policy department, said he believes Ms. Severinsen is being duped by the opposition. "They have made her - Ms. Severinsen - a 'zaruchnyk' [an instrument] in a political game," he said. "They have made her an instrument by which opposition groups try to influence the situation beyond Ukraine's frontiers by exploiting the name of the Council of Europe. Ms. Severinsen obviously does not, because she does not possess complete information, or by using information from only one source publicizes things that really do not correspond to the truth."

Ms. Severinsen said PACE is setting up a special commission of observers to monitor the presidential election in Ukraine, which is scheduled for October 2004. She says it will begin its work in February.

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Taras Kulish to perform in special holiday concert in Quebec

MONTREAL – Bass-baritone Taras Kulish will join three other professional opera singers – tenor Michel Corbeil, first soprano Monique Pagé, second soprano Mariateresa Magisano, with piano accompanist Martin Dubé in a holiday concert titled “Natale in Canto” (Christmas in Song) on Friday, December 19, at the Leonardo da Vinci Center, 8370 Blvd. Lacordaire, in St. Leonard, Quebec, at 8 p.m.

The concert program will feature arias, duets, trios and quartets of operas’ great hits, as well as Christmas songs from

various nations in various languages, including French, English, Italian, Ukrainian and German.

For tickets, at \$20 (reserved seating), call (514) 955-8370.

A native of Montreal, Taras Kulish’s career is flourishing at a quick pace as a leading bass-baritone of opera houses and orchestras in North America while being noted by critics for his high-quality rich voice and charismatic stage presence.

Kyiv remembers...

(Continued from page 4)

artists from the Ukrainian diaspora, on display. A poster released by the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM) on 1948, commemorating the 15th anniversary of the Great Famine, was on view, as was one published by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America from the October 2, 1983, a mass demonstration in Washington during the 50th anniversary commemorations of the Famine. A Polish poster, also on view, pleaded in four languages – Polish, Ukrainian, German and Russian – for help to “save the starving people of Russia in Ukraine.”

At the center of the exhibition was a display of domestic and agricultural tools and instruments from the Famine period, part of a larger collection owned by National Deputy Yushchenko.

United States Ambassador John Herbst joined Canadian Ambassador Andrew Robinson at the opening. Mr. Robinson also attended the memorial service on Mykhailivskyi Square the next day.

In honor of the victims of the Great

Famine, the Ukrainian Postal Service issued a special edition commemorative stamp on November 21. Marka Ukrainy, the stamp publishing arm of the postal service, issued the series, which features a traditional Ukrainian cross with the image of a starving child’s face imprinted on its center. The dates 1932-1933 in red type and a few shafts of wheat are found on the left, and the word “Ukraina” is emblazoned on the right side.

The new series was rushed into print to replace one that had to be withdrawn after individuals in the Ukrainian diaspora had discovered and informed Ukrainian postal officials that a photo that was to be reproduced as part of the first Famine stamp was in fact a Russian photo from the 1921 Soviet famine. (For the complete story of this commemorative stamp see story on page 13.)

On November 24 Interfax-Ukraine reported that Pope John Paul II had sent a letter to the Ukrainian nation through Cardinal Husar on the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine in which the pontiff urged Ukrainians not to forget the tragedy in which “millions of people died in cruel suffering.”

Mr. Kulish made his European debut in 2002 touring France and Belgium in the title role of “Don Giovanni” to much critical acclaim. He has had huge successes performing roles such as Figaro in “Le Nozze di Figaro” and Leporello in “Don Giovanni” with both the Saskatchewan Opera and the Vancouver Opera.

A frequent guest at the Lanaudière International Festival, Mr. Kulish has performed at American festivals such as Ravinia’s Steans Institute, the Aspen Music Festival and Tanglewood, where he sang in the anniversary production of “Peter Grimes” under conductor Seiji Ozawa.

Mr. Kulish’s most recent engagement was with Manitoba Opera in Winnipeg, where he sang the role of Leporello in “Don Giovanni” – a role for which he was hailed by critics, who said he “... literally steals the show in his portrayal of the Don’s foil. His acting is top-notch and his sense of comic timing is impeccable” (Winnipeg Free Press, November 2).

His engagements for the upcoming year include singing for the first time the role of the wicked stepfather Don Magnifico in the opera “La Cenerentola” (Cinderella) with the Saskatchewan Opera (February 2004), followed by an appearance in April with Opera Lyra Ottawa, where he will sing the role of the assassin Sparafucile in “Rigoletto.” Mr. Kulish will return to Opera Lyra Ottawa in 2005 to sing the roles of Crespel, Shlemil and Luther in “The Tales of Hoffman.”

Mr. Kulish received his training at McGill University and the University of Toronto, and as a member of the young artist programs of Montreal and



Robert Tinker

Bass-baritone Taras Kulish in the role of Leporello in “Don Giovanni” in a production staged at the Manitoba Opera this fall.

Vancouver operas. He was a district winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council, a finalist at the prestigious Belvedere International Opera Competition in Vienna, a recipient of a Canada Council grant, and a grant from the Jacqueline Desmarais Foundation for Young Canadian Opera Singers.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Popowicz siblings' list of achievements

CLIFTON, N.J. – After graduating in May 2002 from Seton Hall University with a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice, Mark D. Popowicz was commissioned in June as second lieutenant, Field Artillery, in the United States Army.

Having successfully completed Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Okla., in April, Lt. Popowicz underwent intensive training at Fort Benning, Ga., and Eglin Air Force Base in Florida and was awarded the distinction of Army Ranger in September. He is presently deployed to Camp Stanley in South Korea.

His brother Matthew Popowicz, who graduated from the University of Delaware in 2001 with a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice, has recently become employed by the Passaic County Sheriff's Department as an investigator and is currently enrolled at the Passaic County Police Academy.

Natalie Popowicz, who graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in exercise science from the University of Rhode Island in May, is currently attending Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons graduate program for occupational therapy at the Health Sciences campus.

The youngest Popowicz sibling, Dana, graduated from Clifton High School in



The Popowiczes: Matthew, Mark, Natalie and Dana.

Clifton, N.J., in June 2003 and is currently attending Seton Hall University College of Nursing in South Orange, N.J.

Matthew, Mark, Natalie and Dana are the children of Joseph and Diane Popowicz of Clifton, N.J., and the grandchildren of Justyna Popowicz and the late Walter Popowicz of Glen Spey, N.Y.

The siblings are members of Ukrainian National Association Branch 234.

Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.

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Toronto youth ensembles to perform Christmas concerts

PINE BROOK, N.J. – The New York City and New Jersey area public will have the rare opportunity to enjoy the performances of the combined Ukrainian Youth Ensembles from Toronto. The 80-member ensemble consisting of Vanguard concert/marching band, its color guard, Orion male and Levada female choirs, and their junior drummers will perform a concert of Christmas carols which they traditionally perform for the Toronto audience every year.

The ensembles were founded by the late Maestro Wasyl Kardash, who during his long and dedicated career groomed many outstanding musicians and singers who continue to perform for the enjoyment of the public. Their performances are a delight for the eyes and ears of spectators. The colorful embroidered costumes and band uniforms are symbolic of Ukrainian history and contemporary style. The ensembles had performed and delighted the public in Europe, Canada and United States.

Most memorable was the ensembles' 1990 trip to Ukraine, where a 250-member group, with the participation of local artists performed at stadiums, concert halls and theaters of major Ukrainian cities. Their performances brought tears of joy to the eyes of the people, who were led to believe that Ukrainians in the

diaspora were non-existent. They were elated to see young performers who not only spoke the language but also preserved their culture and rich musical heritage.

The ensembles will perform in the following two concerts under the direction of Dmytro Bilan, Roman Yasinsky and Oleksander Levkovitch:

- Saturday, December 13, at 7:30 p.m. in St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 30 E. Seventh St., New York City. Advance tickets are available at Laundrobot, 202 E. Sixth St., New York, telephone (212-533-0704) or from Computeradio.

- Sunday, December 14, at 3 p.m. at St. Pius X Parish Center, 24 Changebridge Road, Montville, N.J. (Route 287 Exit 47, 202 North, right on Changebridge Road traffic light) in a concert sponsored by the St. Pius X Knights of Columbus.

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о. ПАТРИКІЙ ПЕТРО ПАЩАК, ЧСВВ

Отець Патрикій був висулуженим протоігуменом оо. Василіян в Америці та довголітнім парохом церкви св. Юра в Нью-Йорку.

Тіло покійного о. Патрикія буде виставлене 30 листопада 2003 р., в неділю о 3-ій год. по полудні в церкві св. Юра, 30 East 7th Street (між 2 і 3 Авеню). Від цієї години буде відкрита Церква. В цей день о 7-ій год. вечора буде відслужений монаший Парастас, а в понеділок о 10-ій год. ранку розпочнеться заупокійна Божественна Літургія.

ПОХОРОН відбудеться у Вініпезі, Канада.

„Я воскресіння і життя: Хто в мене вірує, – той навіть вмерши – житиме“. (Ів. 11, 25).

Вічна Йому пам'ять!

Душу Покійного поручається Вашим молитвам.

Із сумом і любов'ю: оо. Василіяни, родина Пашчаків та парафія св. Юра.

Our memory...

(Continued from page 7)

This may be a naive and optimistically cockeyed view, but why can't the way a few Polish combatants' memoirs have been recently. Why would a Holodomor survivor's story not be as mind-gripping as a Holocaust survivor's? There may have been resistance (to put it kindly) in the mainstream publishing industry to the Ukrainian experience, or possibly good material had not been submitted up to now (giving them the benefit of the doubt). Now that the Duranty/Pulitzer/Holodomor issue has hit the fan, maybe Ukrainians will be "in" for a while.

Our Ukrainian schools and youth and other organizations could take this on as a project, to go into the community - after training - to family and the elderly, to tape the life stories. These could then be transcribed, edited and translated by qualified personnel. This project could be coordinated nationally and internationally by one of our major umbrella organizations, university chairs, or foundations.

What a project for cooperation and coordination among the many groups. Surely a philanthropist or a foundation could fund this project. And American and Canadian granting agencies could be approached, because these are the memoirs of the citizens of these countries. A memoir series could be published - in translation; it could also be posted online. The Ukrainian version could also be published and posted online, for the benefit of those in Ukraine and those learning the language anywhere.

This would be a learning experience for us all, while the result would be a teaching experience for the world. We need this individual documentation of Ukrainian 20th century history.

We must do this before it's too late.

Georgetown Law Center establishes Shandor Scholarship for Ukrainian students

WASHINGTON - Georgetown University Law Center announced the establishment of the Ivan Shandor Memorial Ukrainian American Bar Association Endowed Scholarship Fund on November 14. The scholarship was made possible through the generous donations of Lidia Shandor of Lake Forest, Ill., and the Ukrainian American Bar Association.

The Shandor Scholarship was established to honor the late Ivan Shandor, a 1973 graduate of the University's Law Center. The scholarship is awarded with preference to law students enrolled in the masters of laws

degree program at Georgetown who meet the following criteria: candidates are residents of, or have resided in Ukraine; are fluent in the Ukrainian language; and demonstrate a desire to promote democracy and uphold the rule of law in Ukraine.

The Ivan Shandor Memorial Scholarship was awarded for the first time in academic year 2003-2004 to Lilia Ostapenko, a native of and a master of laws student at Georgetown.

Ms. Ostapenko graduated from the State University Law School in Lviv in 1997. She has worked at the Lviv Center

for Human Rights and with the Committee on Legal Policy and Court Reform of the Ukrainian Parliament and has participated in several independent projects examining various facets of Ukrainian society, including the Ukrainian Parliament and the educational system.

To make a contribution or to obtain more information regarding the Ivan Shandor Memorial Ukrainian American Bar Association Endowed Scholarship Fund, please contact Kara Tershel, Georgetown University Law Center, Office of Development, at (202) 662-9506.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
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| December 5
Accord Fire Company Christmas Party | p.m., \$27.50+per person
overnight package available |
| December 6
UNA Christmas Party
Eastern Correctional Christmas Party | December 31
New Year's Eve formal banquet and zabava with Tempo, \$85 per person. Overnight packages available. Stay 3 nights 4th night FREE! (see ad for details). |
| December 11
Hrydo Aluminum Christmas Party | January 6, 2004
Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner, Traditional 12-Course Meal, 6 p.m., \$27.50+per person
overnight package available |
| December 12
UNWLA Branch 95 Christmas Party | February 14, 2004
Valentines Day Weekend, Dinner and Show |
| December 13
Micros Christmas Party and
Ulster Correctional Christmas Party | February 21, 2004
Napanoch Fire Department Banquet |
| December 14
NY Self Reliance Credit Union
St. Andrew's Eve Luncheon,
12 noon | February 28, 2004
SUNY New Paltz Sorority Semi
Formal Banquet |
| December 24
Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner,
Traditional 12-Course Meal, 6 | |



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, December 5

PHILADELPHIA: The American Ukrainian Youth Association, Mykola Pavlushkov Branch of Chicago, presents the concert "From Us To You," featuring the eponymous choir, vocal ensemble, and theater group. The concert will be held at 7 p.m. at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa. The "From Us To You" concert tour is sponsored by the 1st Security Federal Savings Bank of Chicago and Philadelphia.

Saturday, December 6

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society will hold a literary evening for Wira Wowk (pseudonym of Vira Selianska) of Brazi – noted writer, literary scholar and translator, professor of comparative literature at the Catholic and Federal universities of Rio de Janeiro – on the occasion of the recent publication of her four-volume collection titled "Poesiyyi" (Poetry). Dr. Wowk, who will be reading from her work, writes in three genres: poetry, prose and drama, with poetry being by far the most voluminous in her creative output. The program will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., (between Ninth and 10th streets), at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 108, in conjunction with the Connecticut Ukrainian American Historical Society, is sponsoring a commemorative exhibit on the 70th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine – "Holodomor," to be held at the Ethnic Heritage Center, 270 Fitch St., in the heart of Southern Connecticut State University. The traveling exhibit, which was most recently on view at Columbia University, includes archival photos collected by Roman Krutsyk of the Kyiv-based Memorial Society. The exhibit will be on view through Sunday, December 21. Exhibit hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. There is no admission charge. For more information call (203) 269-5909 or (203) 397-2087.

PARMA, Ohio: The American Ukrainian Youth Association, Mykola Pavlushkov Branch of Chicago, presents the concert – "From Us To You" featuring the a-choir, vocal ensemble and theater group to be held at the Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church, 6812 Broadview Road, at 7:30 p.m. The "From Us to You" concert tour is sponsored by the 1st Security Federal Savings Bank of Chicago and Philadelphia.

Saturday-Sunday, December 6-7

HARTFORD, Conn.: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Hartford Branch, invites the public to their annual Christmas Bazaar, to be held at St. Michael's Ukrainian School Hall, 125 Wethersfield Ave., Saturday, December 6, at

10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday, December 7, at 10 a.m.-1 p.m. There will be handmade gifts, ornaments, paintings, jewelry, embroidery, as well as baked goods and a luncheon.

Sunday, December 7

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) Whippany Branch, invites all good boys and girls to visit with St. Nicholas at 3 p.m. in the church hall of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, South Jefferson Road and Route 10 (east-bound). The Heavenly Office will be open from noon to 3 p.m. Admission: \$5 per adult; children, free. There will be a charge of \$2 per gift; program organizers ask that gifts be limited to one per child. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact Christine Rizzo, (908) 322-1840.

Friday, Sunday, December 12-14

NEW YORK: The Verkhovynky Plast sorority and Branch 64 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America invite the public to an exhibit of linoprints and landscapes by noted Ukrainian graphic artist Bohdan Soroka of Lviv. The exhibit opens Friday, December 7, at the building of the Self Reliance Association, 98 Second Ave. (between Fifth and Sixth streets), at 7 p.m.; exhibit hours: Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Sunday, December 14

PHILADELPHIA: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Philadelphia Branch, invites the Ukrainian American community in the Philadelphia area to attend a fun-filled Christmas bazaar and meeting with St. Nicholas which will take place in the church hall of the Anunciation Ukrainian Catholic Church, Old York Road and Cheltenham Avenue, in the Melrose Park section of Philadelphia, starting at 9:30 a.m. There will be plenty of delicious food for breakfast and lunch, hot and cold drinks, games and entertainment for children, a "Wheel of Fortune" and "Basket of Cheer" for adults, many items for sale, including Christmas cards, the traditional "kutia," poppyseeds, books and more. St. Nicholas will pay a visit at 2 p.m.; the Heavenly Office will be open from 1 p.m.

Friday, December 19

MONTREAL: Bass-baritone Taras Kulish will join tenor Michel Corbeil, first soprano Monique Pagé, second soprano Mariateresa Magisano and pianist Martin Dubé in a holiday concert titled "Natale in Canto" (Christmas in Song) to be held at the Leonardo da Vinci Center, 8370 Blvd. Lacordaire, St. Leonard, Quebec, at 8 p.m. The first part of the concert program will feature opera's greatest hits (arias, duets, trios, quartets); the second half – Christmas songs from various nations in various languages, including French, English, Italian, Ukrainian and German. For tickets, at \$20 (reserved seating), call (514) 955-8370.

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