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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Long-awaited reactor No. 2 at Khmelnytskyi goes on line

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The controversial, newly constructed No. 2 nuclear reactor at Khmelnytskyi was finally commissioned on August 8 during a ceremony attended by President Leonid Kuchma.

After giving the official command that brought Ukraine's newest, most modern and ostensibly safest atomic power plant on line at noon on August 8, the president again criticized the West, and particularly the Group of 7 most economically advanced countries, for failing to extend needed credits to Ukraine to complete the project, which Ukraine finally did so on its own.

Ukraine had requested money to help finish the second reactor at Khmelnytskyi (K2), as well as the fourth reactor at the Rivne nuclear plant (R4), in a deal struck with the G-7 in 1995 whose central focus was the closing of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in 1999.

"We were solemnly promised aid, partic-

ularly in the construction of a new shelter at the Chernobyl power plant; for the completion of the Khmelnytskyi and Rivne nuclear power plants; as well as construction of high-voltage transmission lines; and finally, completion of the Dnister hydroelectric plant," explained Mr. Kuchma in an address after the start-up command was issued during the Khmelnytskyi ceremony.

He said that, in the end, Ukraine "had not received a kopyyka for the completion of the power units, transmission lines, not to mention the Dnister hydroelectric project."

The G-7 had given the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development the task of developing the necessary programs to help fulfill the conditions of the agreement to close Chernobyl as it was spelled out in the memorandum signed in 1995. The EBRD attached strict demands for energy reform and the privatization of the energy sector as conditions for receiving the loans.

As the K2R4 project ground to a standstill over the lack of reforms in Ukraine's

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Yushchenko accuses state militia of secretly tracking his movements

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko on August 10 accused the state militia of secretly tracking him. The charge came after members of his campaign team caught individuals with sophisticated camera equipment photographing Mr. Yushchenko as he ascended Ay Petri, the highest peak in the Crimean Mountains.

Mr. Yushchenko, a mountain climbing enthusiast, was on the mountain in conjunction with the ecological program "Clean Up Ukraine" that is part of his presidential campaign message. Earlier this year, the presidential candidate had climbed the country's highest peak, Hoverlia, located in the Carpathian Mountains, to promote the ecological program.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs did not deny that state militia officers had been following the Yushchenko entourage. It claimed during a press conference in Symferopol that the officers had been acting as a security detail for the presidential candidate. However Mr. Yushchenko said he had not approved any such security detail.

"In the United States, too, police film presidents and candidates as part of secu-

rity operations. Recall the film footage of the assassination of President [John] Kennedy. That was part of a police security operation, but it was a failure in that instance," explained the spokesman for the Crimean division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs during an ICTV news program.

Meanwhile Serhii Kivalov, head of the Central Election Committee, said on August 11 that he had yet to receive a complaint from the campaign team of Mr. Yushchenko on the matter. He noted that he had sent a list of the registered presidential candidates to the Ministry of Internal Affairs recently asking that security be provided for all candidates, with their consent.

Mr. Yushchenko said his people had apprehended three men who had been shadowing him for some time and discovered in their possession a directional microphone, radios, video cameras and a videocassette showing the presidential candidate during a visit with his family in the Crimean city of Sevastopol. The car in which the three men had driven contained 12 Ukrainian license plates with various numbers.

The men failed to adequately explain what they were doing, according to Iryna

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A send-off for Ukraine's Olympians



Aleksandr Sinitsa/UNIAN

KYIV – A couple of thousand people gathered on Independence Square in Kyiv on August 10 for a gala send-off for the 243 athletes who comprise Ukraine's Olympic team as they prepared to leave for the 28th Olympic Games, which were to begin in Athens on August 13. The team will be competing in 19 of the 28 events that will make up these Olympics and vying for more than simply the gold, silver and bronze medals awarded the top finishers. As Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych – who is also president of the National Olympic Committee – noted, that day the Cabinet of Ministers had raised the monetary rewards it would present to Ukrainian Olympians capturing the top three spots in their events to \$100,000 for a gold medal, \$70,000 for a silver and \$50,000 for a bronze. In previous Olympics, the top monetary prize was \$50,000 for a gold medal. Ukraine is hoping to finish in the top 15 in this year's Games in Greece and is counting on winning five gold medals.

– Roman Woronowycz

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: Yanukovych speaks on his candidacy and plans

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych declared his intention to run for president after he received the backing of President Leonid Kuchma in the second part of 2003. On July 3 he officially was registered as a candidate.

Mr. Yanukovych was appointed to head the Ukrainian government by Mr. Kuchma on November 21, 2002, becoming the 10th prime minister of Ukraine since independence was declared in August 1991.

Previously, Mr. Yanukovych was chairman of the Donetsk Oblast, overseeing its revival as a leading economic region of the country. He holds a degree in mechanical engineering from Donetsk Polytechnic Institute (today Donetsk State Technical University), which he received in 1980, and a master's degree in international law from the Ukrainian Academy of Foreign Trade, awarded in 2001.

According to nationwide polls, Mr. Yanukovych currently trails opposition

leader Viktor Yushchenko, the head of the Our Ukraine political bloc, in the race for the presidential seat. A survey of voters by the polling firm. Ukrainian Sociological Service showed that Mr. Yushchenko, who headed the government of Ukraine in 2000-2001, would win the election if it were held today by a margin of 38 percent to 26 percent over Mr. Yanukovych.

The following is an exclusive interview with Mr. Yanukovych, conducted in the prime minister's office in the Cabinet of Ministers Building on August 5.

Mr. Yanukovych, in your opinion, why should Ukrainians vote for you? Is it a matter of your experience, your ideas and plans, or perhaps because of some special talents you hold?

The voter will vote how his conscience tells him, first of all. Second, in my life I never became used to someone pressuring me. I have always been against the application of pres-

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ANALYSIS

Rising abuse of administrative resources seen in Ukrainian election campaign

by **Taras Kuzio**
Eurasia Daily Monitor

In late July, the Ukrainian Ministry of Families, Children and Youth unofficially organized a youth forum to rally support for President Leonid Kuchma's candidate in the upcoming presidential elections, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. Each oblast branch of the ministry received instructions to organize "delegates" for the youth rally.

The Minister of Families, Children and Youth is Valentyna Dovzhenko, who is also the leader of the Women for the Future Party. Women for the Future, which ran in the 2002 parliamentary elections as a pro-Kuchma party but failed to cross the 4 percent threshold, back Mr. Yanukovich's candidacy.

The use and abuse of "state-administrative resources" was first tried in 1999, perfected in the 2002 elections and is again quickly becoming a major issue in this year's election campaign. Opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko complained to the Central Election Commission that local state administrations are actively campaigning for Mr. Yanukovich (Ukrainian News, July 15).

The pro-Kuchma camp has denied the allegation. The first deputy head of the presidential administration, Vasyl Baziv, claimed, "The collection of signatures [for Mr. Yanukovich] is being undertaken by his elections centers and not organs of the authorities" (Ukrainska Pravda, July 23). Interviewed by the Washington Times (July 9), Mr. Yanukovich declared, "I don't need elections at any price," and he pledged that the elections would be free and fair.

It is difficult to believe that Mr. Yanukovich has reformed. The 1999 and 2002 elections in the Donetsk Oblast,

when he was still oblast chairman there, were falsified. In a conversation taped by Mykola Melnychenko between President Kuchma and Chairman Yanukovich, the latter said, "Well Leonid Danylovych, a miracle does not happen. The boys who were put in place fulfilled what was asked of them. And, in reality [Oleksander] Moroz came in third. Basically he received 12-13 percent" (Ukrainska Pravda, July 23). Mr. Moroz was officially given 6 percent in Donetsk. The Our Ukraine movement's 2002 election result in the Donetsk Oblast was also reduced from 8-10 percent to less than 4 percent, thereby ensuring they would not enter Parliament. The April mayoral elections in the city of Mukachiv and the June parliamentary elections in the Poltava Oblast have been widely condemned for fraud on the part of state authorities. Yet President Kuchma even awarded a state medal to the head of the Mukachiv Territorial Election Commission (Ukrainska Pravda, July 7).

The use and abuse of state-administrative resources is ongoing. Examples such as Mukachiv and Poltava make it difficult to accept claims by Serhii Tyhypko, head of Mr. Yanukovich's election campaign, that, "I will do everything so that the campaign goes transparently, openly and in a maximum way democratically without quarrels and administrative resources" (Ukrainska Pravda, July 15).

The head of the Kharkiv state administration, Yevhen Kushnariov, openly conceded that state-administrative resources would be abused because of the minimal political culture and disrespect for the rule of law in Ukraine. Mr. Yanukovich's top aide, Volodymyr Rybak, even admit-

(Continued on page 23)

Survey says 70 percent in Ukraine consider themselves religious

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

KYIV – The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church's Bureau for External Affairs in Kyiv released information indicating that approximately 70 percent of Ukrainian citizens consider themselves religious. These were the results of a national sociological survey, "Religion and the Church in Modern Ukraine," which was conducted by the Ukrainian Sociology Service at the request of the UGCC in November 2003.

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, primate of the UGCC, announced the results on June 14.

Among the 70 percent of Ukrainians who consider themselves religious, 40 percent belong to particular religions and denominations, and 29 percent have not decided on their religion. About 16 percent of respondents said they are not religious, and another 14 percent remain undecided.

The survey also revealed that the three biggest denominations in Ukraine are the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP), the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) and the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) with 37.8, 28.7 and 18.6 percent of the faithful, respectively. The faithful of these Churches constitute about 85 percent of the Ukrainians who identified themselves as religious.

The survey also showed that only 73.3 percent of faithful attend church and only approximately 22 percent attend churches and belong to religious communities. The UGCC has the greatest percentage of faithful who attend church at least once a month, which is 23 percent of those who belong to a particular religion or denomination and nearly one-third of those who stated they were religious. Among other churches whose faithful are active are the UOC-MP, the UOC-KP and Protestant churches.

Finally, the survey demonstrated that most Ukrainian citizens do not treat Jehovah's Witnesses and Protestant communities with tolerance. Most Ukrainians consider these groups to be the same and use a generalized pejorative term, "sectarians," to denote these religious communities.

Only 6.5 to 8 percent of Ukrainians evaluate their activities positively, whereas 25 percent have a negative attitude toward Seventh-Day Adventists and 34 percent toward Jehovah's Witnesses. Eight percent of Ukrainians are tolerant of Judaism, whereas 19 percent stated otherwise. Thirteen percent of Ukrainians treat Islam positively, while 15 percent are not tolerant of this religion.

The survey polled 3,000 respondents from all regions of Ukraine and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, with a margin of error not exceeding 1.8 percent.

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine starts up new nuclear reactor

KHMELNYTSKYI – President Leonid Kuchma attended the start-up of the No. 2 reactor at the Khmelnytskyi nuclear power plant on August 8, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Another new reactor at the Rivne nuclear power plant, also in western Ukraine, is set to be completed this year. President Kuchma upbraided Western countries for their failure to finance safety upgrades at both reactors with an \$83 million loan to supplement a \$42 million facility from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Privatization to continue despite election

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said on August 7 that the October 31 presidential election should not affect the privatization of state property, New Channel television reported. Mr. Yanukovich also said that fulfilling the privatization program will allow for additional funds for social protection. In a major and controversial privatization in June the government sold steelmaker Kryvorizhstal to a company linked to President Leonid Kuchma's son-in-law, Viktor Pinchuk, drawing criticism from the Ukrainian opposition and foreign bidders who said their offers were much higher than the \$800 million pledged by the winner. The government is also planning soon to sell a 43 percent stake in Ukrtelecom, the largest national telecommunications operator in Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv hails abolition of some VAT

KYIV – Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mykola Azarov on August 5 welcomed the Russian Duma's decision the same day to cancel the value-added tax (VAT) on oil and gas exports to CIS countries as of January 1, Interfax and ITAR-TASS reported. "This is an extremely positive decision that undoubtedly will give an additional impetus to Ukrainian-Russian trade and economic relations," Mr. Azarov said. "This is a real implementation of the principles underlying the creation of a Single Economic Space [of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakstan]." Mr. Azarov said that as of January 2005, VAT on Russian oil and gas exports will be collected according to the country-of-destination. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM criticizes Moldovan sanctions

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said in a letter to his Moldovan counterpart, Vasile Tarlev, on August 4 that Moldova's decision to suspend customs certificates for Transnistrian enterprises that

are not legally registered in Moldova would make the implementation of the customs agreement between Ukraine and Moldova difficult, Infotag and ITAR-TASS reported. "The build-up of a large number of vehicles at border crossing points will disrupt traffic across the Transnistrier territory and is fraught with unpredictable social and economic consequences," Infotag quoted Mr. Yanukovich as saying. The Ukrainian prime minister also said that while the "acts of the Transnistrier administration violate European human rights and freedoms," retaliation by economic measures would result in the "further accumulation of problems and a snowballing effect," Infotag reported. He also said Ukraine cannot remain indifferent to the fate of the 200,000 ethnic Ukrainians living in the Transnistrier region who would be affected by the Moldovan sanctions. Transnistrier leader Igor Smirnov told Ukraine's Ambassador to Moldova Petro Chalvi on August 4 that Moldova's recent economic sanctions on the Transnistrier are tantamount to a "total economic siege." ITAR-TASS reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Bishops seek fair treatment of schools

LVIV – The Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv and Halych Metropolitanate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) has asked the oblast administrations in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil and Zakarpattia for fair treatment of Christian schools. In particular, the bishops stress the status of Christian schools as non-profit organizations and emphasize the importance of introducing changes in the price policy on communal services (utilities) for them. Christian schools currently pay the same rates for utilities as commercial organizations. The press service of the UGCC released the synod's statement on June 17. According to the statement, the law of Ukraine "On Education" states that Christian schools of general secondary education are registered as private educational institutions, which equates them with commercial organizations, having to pay a higher price for communal services. The bishops expressed their conviction that such a policy toward Christian schools impedes their development and imposes a very heavy financial burden on church communities and parents. Taking into account the significance of church schools for the good of Ukrainian society, the bishops called upon the oblast administrations to consider renting out premises and land areas for educational purposes, charging them the same fees for communal services as those paid by state educational institutions, and establishing performance-based salary standards for

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COMMENTARY ON THE NEWS

Russia bashing time

by Roman Kupchinsky

It seems that now is the appropriate time to engage in something that some people do not particularly enjoy, but with the danger of losing everything why not? The unpleasant exercise is Russia bashing and, with an election brewing in Ukraine, the President of Russia has provided the needed provocation.

On July 26 Vladimir Putin told an audience of Ukrainian politicians such as Leonid Kuchma, Viktor Yanukovich and their busboys, along with an assortment of oil oligarch's and other hangers-on that evil Western intelligence agents were actively trying to sow discord between the Ukrainian and Russian people and prevent "the integration of Russia and Ukraine."

"The intelligence networks of our Western partners are trying in every way to hamper our movement towards each other," the president of all of Russia told the gathering in Yalta. Nobody in the crowd dared to contradict his words and, as with all such pronouncements, it was rapidly picked up by different news agencies and Internet websites and disseminated worldwide.

Given Mr. Putin's somewhat awkward intellectual abilities – formulated and molded by years of service in the KGB, and his team's penchant for nostalgia, the statement by itself will no doubt be written off by many people as yet another "Putinism," along with his other quaint views such as his threats of drowning people in toilets.

But in this case it is not only President Putin speaking – it is the voice of imperial Russia. The silly canard that Western intelligence services were somehow preventing Ukrainians and Russians from merging into one giant samovar was used by Soviet politicians throughout the existence of the USSR. Spokesmen for Russian chauvinism have always claimed that Ukrainian patriotism was an imported concept ("Ukrainian-German nationalism" was the term used by Stalin) and,

Roman Kupchinsky is a journalist based in Prague.

therefore, not a natural phenomena.

This bizarre idea stuck in the minds of its users for decades and seemed to have been buried when the USSR went to its grave, but now Mr. Putin is bent on digging it up. In effect it means that any attempt on the part of Ukraine to prevent "integration" with Russia and remain independent is a plot inspired in Langley or on the Thames in London and, therefore, not the natural will of the Ukrainian or Russian nations.

What had failed miserably during bad old Soviet times (the USSR collapsed mainly because Ukrainians did not want Mr. Putin's predecessors ruling them any longer) is now being mindlessly resurrected by the post-Soviet Russian leadership which has elected Mr. Putin as their new great white hope.

President Putin's statement is not the first time this concept was unfurled. The Russian media, along with the Kuchma camp, had long been spreading rumors that Viktor Yushchenko's wife, Katherine, was an "agent of the CIA." She was, after all, an American, had worked in the State Department and in the twisted logic of the former Chief Security Service of Ukraine boss Leonid Derkach and his pal Leonid Kuchma, this made her a CIA agent. It stood to reason that her husband, who was not willing to play along with Russians, was under her influence. Nothing could be more clear.

Everyone knew that this was a dirty smear campaign, but that did not prevent image-makers in the Kremlin and their Ukrainian sidekicks from repeating it over and over in the hope that someone would nibble at it.

Any reader can be sure of one thing: when voicing this view, President Putin did not mean that Western agents were trying to influence the sober Russian nation into rejecting integration with Ukraine. There they clearly did not stand a chance. It was the Ukrainian nation which, in Mr. Putin's view, was the target for those unnamed Western agents.

It might be interesting for Mr. Putin to

(Continued on page 19)

Ukraine's media under threat in run-up to presidential elections

NEW YORK – As Ukrainian citizens prepare to vote in important national elections in October, the country's news media is under increasing assault, threatening the chances for a fair electoral contest, according to a new Freedom House report issued in July.

The report, "Under Assault: Ukraine's News Media and the 2004 Presidential Elections," was first released in October 2003 and has been updated to reflect crackdowns on the press since the beginning of 2004.

Ukraine's pivotal presidential election holds significant political, social and economic importance, offering a new beginning for Ukraine. The contest will have major implications for Europe and the transatlantic community.

The updated report is available online at: www.freedomhouse.org/research/specreports/ukmedia604.pdf. A version of the report in Ukrainian is available at:

www.freedomhouse.org/research/specreports/ukmedia604UKR.pdf

"Ukraine's news media suffer under an elaborate system of control that keeps opposition political groups and other crit-

ics off the airwaves and out of print," said Freedom House Executive Director Jennifer Windsor. "The situation has only worsened as election day approaches."

Since January Ukrainian authorities have stepped up their harassment and intimidation of independent and opposition media.

According to the report, independent radio stations (i.e. those not controlled by the state) have been shut down to "remove alternative voices and political debate from the airwaves." In February Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) ceased broadcasting on Radio Dovira, a decision made by the radio station's new director, a known loyalist of President Leonid Kuchma. Authorities abruptly shut down Radio Kontynent once it picked up the RFE/RL feed.

In a disturbing incident, Heorhii Chechyk, director of the private radio and television company Yuta, died in a car crash on March 3. Several independent Ukrainian journalists have also been mysteriously murdered in recent years, including Heorhii Gongadze, a journalist

(Continued on page 22)

ELECTION WATCH**Yushchenko is being shadowed**

KYIV – Presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, who leads the opposition Our Ukraine bloc, and his bodyguards detained three men who were shadowing him in Crimea on August 10, the Ukrainska Pravda website reported. The men had a directional microphone, radios, video cameras and a car with 12 extra license plates. They also had a videocassette documenting one day of Mr. Yushchenko's stay with his family in Sevastopol. According to Mr. Yushchenko's spokeswoman Iryna Heraschenko, the detained men could not explain what they were doing in Crimea. Mr. Yushchenko reported the incident to the police. "Such people in uniforms discredit not only their service but also the law and the country as a whole," the Our Ukraine leader commented on the detainees.

Rival claims "Georgian scenario"

KYIV – Serhii Tyhypko, head of the presidential campaign staff of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, said on ICTV on August 10 that Mr. Yushchenko and his followers are going to hold the upcoming presidential elections under a "Georgian scenario," the Ukrainska Pravda website reported. "Now they are trying to zombie [voters] – if Yushchenko loses, it will mean that the elections were rigged," Mr. Tyhypko said. "Then the next steps will follow – a Georgian variant, a revolution. ... I want to ask [our] opponents: Do we need a revolution or elections?" (RFE/RL Newsline)

26 candidates are running

KYIV – The Central Election Commission (CEC) on August 5 registered Mykola Rohozhynskyi and Mykola Hrabar as presidential candidates for the October 31 ballot, bringing the total number of registered hopefuls to 26, Ukrainian media reported. "This is the final figure," the CEC's Serhii Kyvalov told journalists. "We did not expect that there would be 26 candidates, but this is no obstacle to us." Mr. Kyvalov said a preliminary estimate of state election expenditures was based on 20 candidates competing, and must be revised. Meanwhile, President Leonid Kuchma said in an interview with Fakty i Kommentarii on August 6: "[The registration of such a number of candidates] is by no means a case when we can say, 'the

more the better.'" (RFE/RL Newsline)

Candidates to receive airtime

KYIV – The Central Election Commission on August 10 adopted, on the basis of a draw, a schedule for using television and radio airtime as well as print space in the newspapers Holos Ukrainy and Uriadovyi Kurier by 26 presidential candidates for budget-funded election advertisements, Interfax reported. In particular, each presidential contender has the right to address viewers on the national UT-1 television channel three times for 10 minutes each. In addition, each contender can use 45 minutes of airtime on a nationwide radio channel as well as 30 minutes on a regional television channel and 20 minutes on a regional radio channel in each of Ukraine's 27 regions. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko wants troop pullout

KYIV – Presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, the leader of the opposition Our Ukraine bloc, has vowed to withdraw the Ukrainian military contingent from Iraq if he wins the country's presidential election, UNIAN reported on August 10. "The regime of [Prime Minister Viktor] Yanukovich and [President Leonid] Kuchma [considers the presence of the Ukrainian troops in Iraq] an excuse for anti-democratic actions in Ukraine," Mr. Yushchenko told a group of voters in Crimea. "We don't want to restore democracy in Iraq through a suppression of democracy in Ukraine. ... The current rotation of the contingent should be the last." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Communist leader courts Moroz

KYIV – Presidential candidate Petro Symonenko, the leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU), has said that, if he wins this fall's presidential election, he is ready to offer the post of prime minister to another leftist presidential candidate, Socialist Party Chairman Oleksander Moroz, Interfax reported on August 10. Touching on the possibility of unifying the political left in Ukraine, Mr. Symonenko said, "The epochal unification of the leftists as a powerful political alternative to the dictatorship of criminal oligarchy is possible only on the basis of the CPU." Mr. Moroz ran in the 1994 and

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Long-awaited reactor...

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energy sector, Ukraine turned to Moscow and received funding from Russia to continue with K2R4 construction. When the EBRD demanded more reforms even after Ukraine had completed a large portion of the privatization of the energy sector before it would disburse credits – and with Ukraine's hot economy beginning to fill government coffers with much-needed revenues – Kyiv decided to go it alone and completed K2 towards the end of 2003.

But on the first day of official operation more problems arose, albeit only minor technical ones, as it turned out. Turbine and generator malfunctions twice caused automatic shutdowns of K2.

The first automatic shutdown occurred only an hour and a half after the official ceremony had finished. Engineers blamed a faulty generator. They restarted the reactor three and a half hours later only to have it shut down again two hours after that. This time a faulty turbine pump was to blame. After a full day off-line the reactor was restarted for testing on August 10.

Even with the minor setbacks, Ukrainian

officials hailed the commissioning of the newest Ukrainian nuclear power reactor over much financial difficulty. Mr. Kuchma called the completion of the second nuclear block at Khmelnytskyi "our common victory." He identified K2 as "one of the most modern energy-producing facilities in the world."

The K2 plant received the international OK to begin its work after the International Atomic Energy Agency reviewed the construction work and then supervised the loading of nuclear fuel into the reactor in February. Ukraine's energy organization, EnergoAtom, obtained the requisite licensing from Ukraine's Nuclear Regulatory Committee on August 5 and immediately began the slow process of starting up the nuclear fission process that turns the huge turbine that generates the electricity. The reactor was not expected to reach full capacity for 128 days.

The R4, the new nuclear reactor at Rivne, has also been completed and is expected to be commissioned at the end of September. The two new reactors, when fully functional, should allow Ukraine to become a net energy exporter to Europe.

UOC mission team briefed before leaving for Ukraine

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – On July 30, after a day briefing at the Church Center, a team of faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. has left for Ukraine.

Nine young adults and college students, led by Father Taras Naumenko of Palos Park, Ill., will spend two weeks working at the two orphanages that are sponsored by the Church, helping with basic repairs to the facilities, assisting the staff with basic care and providing comfort to the needy children.

The nuclear disaster at the Chornobyl

nuclear power plant in Ukraine on April 26, 1986, and the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe have brought disarray to the economic and social fabric of Ukraine. Most vulnerable during these trying times have been the elderly, the handicapped and the orphaned children. Since Ukraine's declaration of Independence in 1991, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. has been supportive in aiding Ukraine's children.

The United Orthodox Sisterhoods, St.

(Continued on page 19)



Archbishop Antony (center) with members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's mission team headed for orphanages in Ukraine.

Larissa Oprysko joins staff of Weekly as layout artist

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Larissa Oprysko has joined the production staff of The Ukrainian Weekly as a layout artist as of August 10.

Ms. Oprysko, 25, hails from Vernon, Conn., a suburb of Hartford. She graduated from the University of Connecticut in Storrs with a B.A. in communications and design.

She began working at The Weekly on May 10 and now, three months later, has officially joined the staff.

Ms. Oprysko has worked on the design of websites, newsletters and brochures for two Connecticut companies, and was an intern at the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund based in Short Hills, N.J.

The Weekly's newest staffer is a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Chortopolokhy sorority, and serves as director of public relations for the U.S. National Plast Command. She enjoys art, dancing, backpacking and kayaking.

Ms. Oprysko, who now resides in Short Hills, N.J., is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 277.



Andrew Nynka

Larissa Oprysko

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Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

A special yearlong feature focusing on the history of the Ukrainian National Association.

"Remember the past – look to the future" was the motto for the UNA's 28th Convention, which took place in Philadelphia on May 20-25, 1974, with 426 delegates participating.

On the eve of the convention – held during the UNA's 80th anniversary year – convention organizers put on a Dance Festival featuring six top Ukrainian folk dance ensembles from the United States and Canada.

UNA membership as of the end of 1973 stood at 89,119 members; and a pre-convention organizing drive encouraged branch secretaries and organizers to do their utmost so that the figure of 90,000 could be

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA Executive Committee meets to review first quarter results

by **Christine E. Kozak**
UNA National Secretary

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association Inc. met on Friday, July 9, here at the UNA's Home Office.

Present were Stefan Kaczaraj, president; Martha Lysko, first vice-president; Eugene Iwanciw, second vice-president; and Christine E. Kozak, national secretary. Roma Lisovich, treasurer, and Al Kachkowski, director for Canada, could not be present due to personal reasons.

President Kaczaraj reported a deficit of \$250,000 for the first quarter of 2004, resulting in a decrease of surplus from \$6,297,000 to \$6,038,500. The net income from operations was \$137,000, excluding expenses paid for Soyuzivka, publications and premiums paid on behalf of the UNA's senior members age 79 and over. The total fraternal benefit expenses for Soyuzivka, UNA publications and the premiums paid for seniors was \$339,000.

The UNA did see a modest increase of \$108,671 in premium income as compared to the first quarter in 2003. This was due mostly to the increase in premiums received from members (new policies purchased) for life insurance policies and annuities. At the same time, the UNA's commission expenses increased by \$11,000; as always, first-year commissions are higher. As more life policies and annuities are sold, the UNA pays more in commissions.

General expenses for this reporting period have decreased by \$23,000, mostly due to the decrease in fees paid to the various state insurance departments, noted the UNA president.

Soyuzivka had an expense increase of \$93,500 when compared to this same reporting period in 2003. This is due to expenditures for repairs and maintenance in preparation for the 2004 spring and summer season, the hiring of Nestor Paslawsky as Soyuzivka's general manager, who came on board in February 2003, and insurance premium payments. Soyuzivka must not be looked at on a quarterly basis, but on an annual basis, since most income is realized in the summer months of June, July, August and September. Therefore, we are expecting to see an improvement by year-end 2004, Mr. Kaczaraj explained.

The UNA's publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, showed a decrease in the net loss from operations by \$14,500 when compared to the same quarter in the prior year. Total expenses for both publications decreased by \$43,000, thus netting a loss total of \$16,400 for the first quarter of 2004. Svoboda showed a loss of 64 subscriptions and The Ukrainian Weekly had an increase of two.

The Ukrainian National Urban Renewal Corp. posted a profit of \$36,782 in the first quarter of 2004. Automatic doors have been installed on both the front and back entrances to the building,

improving accessibility to the building for deliveries, but most importantly for the wheelchair-bound elderly coming into the building for dialysis.

Ms. Kozak, national secretary, reported that the UNA is working diligently and tirelessly on several fronts. Our goal, she said, is to educate the Ukrainian community about the UNA, involve secretaries and districts in fraternalism, educate the Ukrainian community about the UNA insurance and annuity products, and increase the UNA membership.

The UNA has begun advertising in publications. The UNA plans to also advertise in many local community papers, on the Internet and in other Slavic newspapers.

Plans were finalized for the launch of a new UNA member benefit; the ScriptSave Prescription Medical Discount Card. This card will give UNA members access to discounts for prescription medications in over 55,000 pharmacies across the United States. In addition, this card offers discounts for hearing aids, vision care and diabetic and medical supplies, Ms. Kozak noted.

Spring district meetings were held in Chicago, Detroit, Central New Jersey, Northern New Jersey, Connecticut, Rochester and Albany, N.Y., Cleveland, New York, Rochester and Pittsburgh. At each meeting a member of the Executive Committee or a member of the General Assembly was in attendance.

The following branches were merged: Branch 222 into Branch 112, with Alice Olenchuk remaining as the branch secretary, effective February 1; and Branch 156 into Branch 173, with Peter Serba remaining as the branch secretary, effective March 1.

The national secretary acknowledged the top three achievers for most policies sold in the first quarter of 2004: Steven Woch, professional agent and Home Office employee; Nina Bilchuk, Home Office employee; and Myron Kuzio, secretary of Branch 277. The top two producers for most life insurance sold were Ms. Bilchuk and Taras Szmagala Jr. And the top three annuity producers were Mr. Woch; Christine Brodyn, secretary of Branch 27, professional agent and Home Office employee; and Mr. Kuzio. In the first quarter of 2004, the UNA had a total of 62 life insurance certificates and 17 annuities sold, for a total of \$377,969 in premiums.

Osy Hawryluk, General Assembly member, Buffalo District chairman and Branch 360 secretary, began a monthly column that is being published in both Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. Mr. Hawryluk's goal is to enlighten, educate and advise the reader about the need for life insurance. His column offers readers basic information regarding life insurance and annuities; it will also educate readers in particular about UNA life insurance and annuity products.

"Ukrainian-American Citadel": from the pages of UNA history

Following is part of a series of excerpts from "Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First 100 Years of the Ukrainian National Association" by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, published in 1996 by East European Monographs of Boulder, Colo. The excerpts are reprinted with the permission of the author. (The book is available from the author for \$25, plus \$2.50 shipping, by writing to: Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, 107 Ilhamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115.)

Chapter 5 Establishing a national UNA ideology

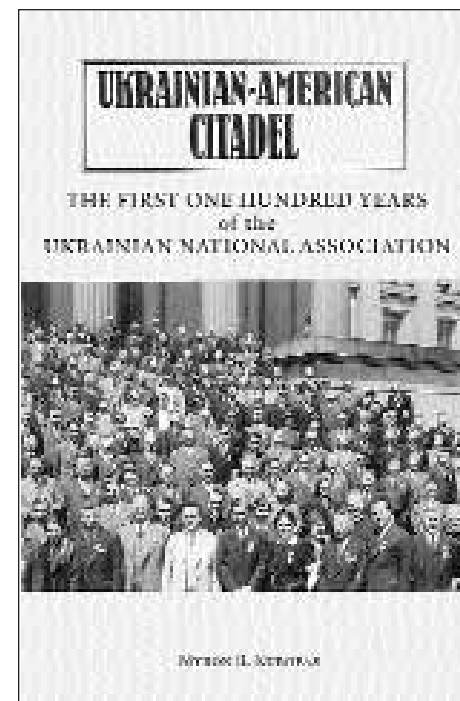
The collapse of the Russian empire and the establishment of [Central] Rada rule in Ukraine in 1917 electrified the community and inaugurated a new series of debates regarding the future political alignment of Ukraine. In an April editorial titled "The Russian Revolution and the Ukrainian Question," Svoboda reflected on initial Rada support for federation with Russia: "We don't dare deny our people, in their evolutionary development, the establishment of their own nation either in a union with the Russians or in their own independent manner. ... When the existence of a nation is possible for Poles, Lithuanians, Finns, and even ... Armenians ... then we believe it is absolutely natural that a Ukrainian nation be created on Ukrainian ethnographic territory on the basis of certain basic human rights and laws." ...

"We should not be divided by party differences," Svoboda editorialized on May 10. "We shouldn't dare be bigger socialists, bourgeois, Catholics or Orthodox than we are Ukrainians. On the contrary, first we should be Ukrainians ... we must all begin the national work" and "become extreme nationalists."

In an article titled "Must We Wait Much Longer?" Svoboda expressed dismay with the apparent lack of nationalist zeal exhibited by the Rada. "The national indifference of Russian Ukrainians has reached the point that at a time when all kinds of peoples are exercising their independence and autonomy, Russian Ukrainians are still not coming out as Ukrainians but as Russian progressives ... For them the Ukrainian national situation is in last place."

Later, however, Svoboda again reviewed Ukraine's tragic past and, reflecting on its own earlier advocacy of total independence, published an editorial titled "Khmelnysky or Mazepa?":

"To argue now in favor of independence is very nice, in words, but we must be aware of the present situation in Ukraine, the present strength and the present maneuvering of her nearest neighbors. We are not saying Ukrainians should not have national aspirations. God forbid! We would love to have an independent Ukraine today but looking at things realistically, we are afraid that the struggle might have an unfortunate ending ... we believe we should seek an autonomous Ukraine united with Russia on the basis of an equal with an equal. ... That means we believe Khmelnysky's plan to be a better plan than that of Mazepa. ... Selecting union with Russia as the most realistic plan for the formation of our national life in keeping with



Khmelnysky's ideal does not mean, however, that we are rejecting the future realization of the Mazepa ideal."

"Russian Ukrainians Striving for Ukrainian Republic United with Russia on Federated Basis" read the headline for the lead article that same day. "Russia must be transformed into a series of republics united by common interests and a common spirit," the story declared. "All must be equal, not centralized control but decentralized." On June 26 Svoboda reported that the UNA and Svoboda sent the following telegram to the Ukrainian congress in Kyiv: "Sincere greetings to all participants at the Ukrainian Congress in Kyiv! Hold high the flag of a free Ukraine which is dear to all of us regardless of borders and oceans which have divided the sons of our large Ukrainian family. Go forward bravely and a free, united Ukraine will come to be." Svoboda monitored events in Ukraine very closely in the days that followed and used big, bold headlines to call attention to what was happening. "Huge manifestation in Kyiv," read the headline on May 22. "Ukrainian soldiers delegation demand autonomous Ukraine" declared Svoboda two days later.

As soon as it became apparent that a federation with Russia meant Russian domination, Svoboda changed its posture.

"Until very recently, the ideal prevailed among Ukrainian revolutionaries ... of a federated, cooperative life between Ukraine and Moscow on the basis of a partnership between equals; when, however, Moscow is demonstrating its desire to continue to rule and to direct all Russian peoples, including Ukrainians, then for the Ukrainians there is only one road and that is the mobilization of all of their strength towards freeing themselves from the hands of the Muscovite occupants and the establishment of their own nation."

As the Kerensky government began to disintegrate, Svoboda kept its readers informed with headlines such as: "New Crisis in Russian Cabinet" (August 7); "New Cabinet in Russia Ratified; Non-Socialists Have Majority" (August 9);

(Continued on page 21)



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Visit Soyuzivka's newly redesigned website:
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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

In praise of our Kyiv bureau

Right around this time each year, as we look ahead to commemorations of yet another anniversary of Ukraine's independence, our thoughts turn to Kyiv. This week, our thoughts are "closer to home" – still in Kyiv, but with our very own Kyiv Press Bureau.

Founded in January 1991, our Kyiv Press Bureau continues to be the only full-time U.S. news bureau in Ukraine. Its establishment goes back to 1990 when the 32nd UNA Convention meeting in Baltimore approved a resolution urging the UNA Executive Committee to look into the possibility of opening a news bureau in the capital of Ukraine and/or Lviv that "would provide direct news service on a regular basis to our UNA publications."

Our efforts toward that goal began in earnest in October of that year when a UNA delegation and the editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly, who were in Kyiv to attend the second congress of Rukh, or the Popular Movement of Ukraine for Perebudova, met in Kyiv with officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Months of delays, uncertainty and red tape culminated with the arrival on January 13, 1991, of the press bureau's first correspondent, Marta Kolomayets, in Kyiv. In fact, she arrived the same month that the first U.S. consul general, Jon Gundersen, arrived in Ukraine. Though Ms. Kolomayets was the second foreign journalist to be accredited in Ukraine, The Ukrainian Weekly became the first foreign newspaper to establish a bureau in the country.

Other staffers of The Weekly also did tours of duty in Kyiv: Chrystyna Lapychak, Khristina Lew and Roman Woronowycz. Mr. Woronowycz's latest tour of duty began way back in September of 1997. All have filed significant news stories and commentaries in the form of columns from Ukraine. They have written articles on developments that were simply not reported in any other publication in the world. They were, and are, pioneer journalists reporting the news from Ukraine specifically for our Ukrainian diaspora, as well as for scholars, opinion makers, political leaders, etc., who follow events as they unfold in Ukraine.

During the 13-plus years of its existence, our Kyiv Press Bureau has more than lived up to the mission it was given by the UNA. Thanks to the bureau's staffers, our readers received first-hand reports from the scene about that fateful day of August 24, 1991, as well as the equally fateful events leading up to the proclamation of Ukraine's independence. They have learned about Ukraine's democratization and move toward a market economy, about elections of presidents and Parliaments, about Ukraine's relations with neighboring states and the West, about the ideas of its leaders and the lives of its people. Just take a look at the Ukraine sections in our annual Year in Review issues and you will appreciate the remarkable scope of their reporting.

Our Kyiv Press Bureau has provided insight into the events and people shaping Ukraine's future. Its staffers have helped us make sense out of what oftentimes seems to be a bewildering country; they have reported the good and the bad (even though lately it seems the bad outweighs the good...); they have given us a look beyond the simple headlines that may be available elsewhere.

In just this week's issue we can proudly point to Mr. Woronowycz's reporting on the harassment of the presidential campaign of Viktor Yushchenko, his exclusive interview with Viktor Yanukovich and his commentary on scenarios related to the presidential election. Readers of Mr. Woronowycz's reports, we are sure, value his experience, knowledge, thoughtfulness and writing skill in conveying the news from Ukraine.

And so, as another Ukrainian Independence Day approaches, we take our hats off to our Kyiv Press Bureau. Long may it serve our readers and our community.

Rough draft

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

The Chestnut Revolution

Some are calling it the coming Chestnut Revolution. These observers envision a scenario developing in which a non-violent uprising could occur in Kyiv on the evening of October 31 with the goal of toppling a regime bent on retaining power through fraudulent means. They make comparisons to Georgia's recent Rose Revolution, which brought Mikhail Shakhshvili to power, and the Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia, which toppled the Communist regime in Prague in 1989.

However, the person who should ostensibly carry the torch that would fire up the nation has said it is not appropriate to compare the situation in Ukraine with what prompted these successful non-violent social uprisings. Presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko has said he is proceeding on the belief that he will become the country's next president through a democratic election – and not by some other means.

Those skeptical that the scenario for a Chestnut Revolution could develop accuse those predicting social upheaval and mass protest if Viktor Yushchenko does not win the presidential elections of tilting at windmills or at least smoking funny "makhorka."

The scenario that could lead to a social uprising looks like this: The last month of the presidential campaign is marked by accusations and allegations that the forces of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich are flagrantly pressuring students, government workers and pensioners to support his candidacy, while the campaign supporters of his main opponent, Mr. Yushchenko, complain of widespread harassment by law enforcement officials, blocked access to public forums for their candidate and a press blackout.

Nevertheless, Mr. Yushchenko maintains a comfortable lead over the prime minister in the most respected and trusted opinion polls as the last surveys are taken two weeks before Election Day.

On Election Day, after the polls close, exit polling shows that Mr. Yushchenko should see a comfortable victory once the vote is officially counted. As more than 100,000 jubilant Yushchenko supporters fill Lesia Ukrainka Square before the building that houses the Central Election Commission to await the official announcement, beads of sweat begin to appear on the faces of some CEC members as they realize that the vote tallies arriving electronically from the election districts show a result contrary to what the crowds outside are anticipating. All have the same concern: how to break the news to the press in the room next door that Mr. Yanukovich will be the next Ukrainian president. And, they wonder, what should we expect from the crowd waiting outside?

Today it is unrealistic – some would say simply crazy – to believe that even a million Ukrainians, angered by a fraudulent vote count and a rigged election, could rise up in violent or non-violent protest to the degree necessary to affect change. Many here doubt that even 100,000 Ukrainians could be gathered for a political forum. The prevailing belief is that too many people here still are controlled by a Soviet-instilled fear of authority and skeptical about the effectiveness of public protest, and few would be ready to go to extremes to

make sure that justice is served. After all, staged elections were routine for more than 70 years, so what could be new in this instance?

More recent events substantiate this doubt. When barely 20,000 people could be counted on to show up at several protests between 2001 and 2003 to oust the ruling political leadership after it was accused of complicity in the death of journalist Heorhii Gongadze, why should one suddenly expect such a grass-roots uprising this time?

Those who doubt that anything like what happened in Georgia could develop in Ukraine also note that Kyiv authorities would not allow uncontrolled throngs to enter the city, even if the passive Ukrainian nation could be spurred to protest on a mass scale. They argue that the militia has far too much power and would effectively prevent such a scenario from developing.

They note that earlier this year local law enforcement officials in Sumy and Donetsk, in carrying out political orders, effectively hampered and to a lesser degree controlled the ingress of busloads of Yushchenko supporters who had traveled to rallies held there. They outrightly blocked entry to the respective cities for some buses, allegedly blowing out the tires of others.

Those awaiting the grand Chestnut Revolution in Kyiv refer to the overthrow of the regime of Georgia's President Eduard Shevardnadze as the precedent upon which they build their case. They note that nobody there would have placed a bet on a quick and bloodless ouster of the Georgian president, who also ruled with a strong hand.

They argue that the foundation for their scenario exists. They point to the fact that some 50,000 Yushchenko supporters found it important enough to express their support for their candidate when they gathered on Spivochko Pole in Kyiv on July 3 to give his campaign for the presidency a proper send-off. It was by far the largest gathering for a political event in Kyiv in recent memory.

While the Ukrainian and international press did not give the Yushchenko forces their due for an impressive display of national support on that first day of electioneering, it was, nonetheless, solid proof that real people with real problems with the current leadership stood behind Mr. Yushchenko – that his is not a campaign sustained by public relations experts and spin.

But lest we get carried away with conspiracy theories, it is important to note that the person at the center of all this talk has not lent his support to the idea of a Chestnut Revolution – which, by the way, gets its name from the many chestnut trees that grace Kyiv. In an interview in UNIAN published on July 29, Mr. Yushchenko rejected any alternatives other than an electorally supported democratic win on October 31. Yet, he did not categorically reject the possibility that the masses would make sure their voice was heard in one way or another.

"I do not think it possible or necessary to compare the situation in Ukraine with the situation in Georgia, or Poland, or any other country. We will not blindly follow somebody else's example," explained Mr. Yushchenko. "I am convinced, however, that if the elections are not honest and

(Continued on page 8)

April
17
1997

Turning the pages back...

On August 17, 1997, The Weekly reported on yet another sports milestone surpassed by the spectacular Serhii Bubka. As Andriy Wynnyckyj of our staff wrote: "To the roar of 60,000 spectators in Athens, Ukraine's Serhii Bubka vaulted over a bar set 6.01 meters (19 feet, 8.5 inches, or over two stories) above the ground at the International Amateur Athletic Federation's world championships on August 10, reaffirming his pre-eminence in a sport he has dominated since his arrival on the scene in the early 1980s. His jump extended the greatest winning streak in the championships' history."

By claiming the gold in his event on that day in 1997, the 33-year-old Bubka continued his reign as the only athlete to take top honors in all six world competitions since their inception in 1983. Germany's world champion in discus, Lars Riedel, 30, who won his event for the fourth time in succession that same day, was the only other competitor at that time to come close.

"When Ukraine's most successful athlete ever arrived in Athens in 1997," wrote Mr. Wynnyckyj, "his rivals were waiting for him: 1992 Olympic Champion Tarasov; 1996 Olympic Champion Galfione. South African Okkert Brits was also in the field." Brits, Bubka and Russia's Igor Trandenkov were the only three members of the exclusive 6.00-meter club – at the time they were the only men in history to have cleared this height; Bubka was the charter member, having established the mark in 1991, then surpassing it 40 times by 1997.

After setting 35 separate world records (18 indoor and 17 outdoor) and winning six consecutive world championships and an Olympic gold medal in 1988, Bubka officially retired on February 4, 2001, in his hometown of Donetsk, Ukraine, where in 1993 he had set the world indoor record of 20 feet, 2 inches.

Source: "Bubka extends streak to six at world meet in Athens," by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 17, 1997, Vol. LXV, No. 33; "Sports roundup: baseball to yachting," in "2001: The Year in Review," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, January 6, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Selfreliance responds to statements by Kulas

Dear Editor:

As the president and chief executive officer of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, I feel it is necessary to answer the question posed by Julian Kulas in a letter to the editor in the August 1 issue of *The Ukrainian Weekly*: "Why did the local Ukrainian credit union in Chicago decline in deposits in 2003 by \$7.7 million and why did it suffer a decline in assets by \$12.3 million, the largest dollar decrease in its history?"

Had this question been posed to us, as it was at our annual meeting, Mr. Kulas would have been informed that the drop was due to the maturity of a \$20 million State of Illinois non-member deposit. The State of Illinois had this deposit with our institution for a number of years, allowing us to increase our earnings for our members. In 2003, with the state facing a financial shortfall, it was no longer profitable for us to maintain this deposit and it was returned. This prudent decision coupled with our overall financially sound management allowed Selfreliance to enjoy its most profitable year, with member deposits increasing by \$12.3 million and net income exceeding \$4.5 million.

In 2004 we are continuing to experience exceptional growth and profitability. During the first seven months of this year our member deposits have grown over \$15 million, representing a growth rate of over 8 percent.

Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union has experienced consistent growth and profitability since our creation by the Ukrainian community in 1951. We are committed to helping all our members achieve financial success and helping our Ukrainian community grow and prosper. Visit us at our website at www.Selfreliance.com to learn more about Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union.

Bohdan Watral
Chicago

The letter-writer is president/CEO of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union.

Sikorsky letter reveals his Ukrainian origin

Dear Editor:

Recently Soboda (July 9) had a well-documented and interesting article by Mykola Kravets on Igor Sikorsky, a pioneer airplane builder and inventor of the helicopter. Sikorsky is known worldwide as "Russian," and this designation seems to be accepted in Ukraine today with a qualification that he was born in Kyiv.

Yet Sikorsky himself did not deny his Ukrainian origin. In a letter to Wasyl Halich, written on Sikorsky Aviation Corp. stationery, dated August 30, 1933, he writes:

"My family is of purely Ukrainian origin, having come from a village in the State of Kiev where my grandfather and great-grandfather were priests. However, we consider ourselves Russian by origin of a certain part of Russia, considering the Ukrainian people an integral part of Russia, just as Texas or Louisiana is an integral part of the United States."

This letter is probably the only existing document bearing Sikorsky's signature that clearly states that he is "of purely Ukrainian origin." That he also regarded himself as Russian is more of a political identification and a testimony to the success of the Russification policies of tsarist Russia in Ukraine. Sikorsky achieved his most important successes in the United States, a country he greatly admired, and was profoundly grateful for the freedom he enjoyed here. He and sportsman Bronko Nagurski are the only Ukrainians thus far honored by United States postal stamps.

Mr. Kravets proposes to rename Boryspil International Airport as Ihor Sikorsky Airport. It's about time that Ukraine starts reclaiming its native sons and daughters.

Daria Markus
Chicago

UCU students were a blessing for hromada

Dear Editor:

I would like to add a comment to your article "Grads of Ukrainian Catholic University continue their education abroad" (July 18). I want your readers to know what a joy and a blessing it is to have these students from Ukraine join our community in the South Bend/Mishawaka area of Indiana.

Along with Taras Tymo and his family there were two other students from Ukraine studying at Notre Dame this year who came to our parish, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church in Mishawaka. They were a breath of fresh air. Their competence, accomplishments and devotion to our Church were refreshing.

I want to urge individuals to support the work of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv and, if possible, to sponsor a student.

Lesia Melnyczuk Borszcz
Mishawaka, Ind.

Parma cathedral used for political purposes

Dear Editor:

Being a member of the Ukrainian Catholic community in the United States, I was somewhat surprised and dismayed when I read your front-page story of how St. Josaphat Cathedral in Parma, Ohio, was used by the Bush administration for a political photo-op. Given the fact that George the First made disparaging "Chicken Kiev" remarks about Ukraine, and Dubya never even spoke to the president of Ukraine, let alone visit the country, I cannot understand this political affinity.

I am certain that not all members of St. Josaphat Cathedral are supporters of the radical right. With a congregation as large as that of the cathedral, there must be moderates, Democrats and yes, even the "L" word parishioners. I would be troubled by having my church used by any political party to push their agenda. I strongly suggest that if St. Josaphat Cathedral is so political and so partisan, they should be taxed like the rest of us and give up their tax-free Church status to become a political organization rather than a church community that is supposed to welcome and unite all.

Ray Wihak
Syracuse, N.Y.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



Memories of Montreal

Despite controversies, the Olympic Games are still the premier sporting event in the world. And so, like billions of others, I'll be parked in front of the TV set enjoying the spectacle and drama. As I do, my thoughts will surely go back to the Montreal Olympics, which I attended as a spectator 28 years ago. Interestingly enough, I was 28 years old back then. So from where I stand today, the summer of 1976 was the mid-point of my life. And what a grand time it was.

Earlier that spring, the renowned Ukrainian rights activist and head of Smoloskyp Publishing Osyp Zinkewycz, had called to invite me to join a group of young Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian Canadians who were going to Montreal to focus attention on the issue of Ukraine's right to field its own Olympic team. After all, the argument went, the Ukrainian SSR was a member of the United Nations and, according to various treaties, constitutions and agreements, was at least nominally a sovereign state. So why shouldn't Ukraine have a separate Olympic team? After all, Puerto Rico had one.

The Soviets viewed that as incendiary. They feared a separate Ukrainian Olympic team would help to ignite nationalist fires they had spent half a century dousing, at the cost of millions of lives. It didn't help that a disproportionate number of Soviet athletes were Ukrainians, popularly known as "Russians." That was more reason to oppose a separate Ukrainian team. The same objection applied to an Armenian, Georgian, Estonian, Lithuanian or Uzbek team, for if each of these so-called republics were to field its own team, the medal count for the USSR would be substantially lower, diminishing the political pay-off for the Soviets who cited athletic prowess as proof of ideological superiority. So, for them, the idea of a Ukrainian Olympic team was a non-starter. The International Olympic Committee agreed with the Soviet position.

But none of that stopped Mr. Zinkewycz. He prepared lists of Soviet Ukrainian Olympic champions from the past, along with a roster of Ukrainians representing the USSR. At the same time, he recruited a few dozen young people, including me, to come to Montreal. He arranged places for us to stay in the vibrant Ukrainian community there, set up office space and financing and lined up tickets to events.

Montreal was a thrill I'll never forget. For three weeks we not only passed out fliers, prepared press releases and held news conferences, we also attended events and even got to mingle with world-class athletes. I was in the stadium when Hungary's Miklos Nemeth threw the javelin more than 300 feet for a gold medal and a world record. I saw America's Edwin Moses win the 400-meter hurdles. I was in the hall when Poland played Cuba in an epic volleyball match that ended with a 20-18 Polish win in the fifth and final game. I rose to my feet respectfully when Queen Elizabeth entered the arena for the diving competition and later leaped to my feet when a young Oleh Blokhin from Kyiv Dynamo appeared on the soccer field

Andrew Fedynsky's e-mail address is: fedynsky@stratos.net.

with the Soviet team. I joined people from six continents to dance in the streets of Old Town until late into the night. Ah youth!

Yet nothing matched the men's 100-meter dash. Because the winner is traditionally dubbed the "World's Fastest Human," this premier sprint is usually scheduled toward the end of the Games to build the drama. The defending Olympic Champion was Valerii Borzov of the Soviet Union. I had seen him four years before on TV from the Munich Games, when Jim McKay of ABC Sports told viewers that the fabulous sprinter, winner of two gold medals and a silver, wasn't Russian at all – he's Ukrainian. Wow!

The 100 meters in Montreal, therefore, was a hot ticket, and I was lucky to have one. By that time, those of us promoting Ukraine's right to participate in the Games had received a good bit of attention. The Soviets certainly knew we were there. Take women's handball, where the Soviet Union was represented by Spartak from Kyiv. In a game against Romania, diaspora Ukrainians waved the blue- and-yellow banner and cheered the Soviet women with chants of "Ukraina! Ukraina!" On the other side of the arena, Soviet coaches and officials responded with "Soyuz! Soyuz!" while waving the red flag with the yellow hammer and sickle. By week three, television and newspapers were devoting coverage to the issue of Ukraine's exclusion from the Olympic Games and by the time of the 100-meter dash, there was definitely a buzz over this issue.

Rumors were rampant: "Borzov has defected," someone said. "Not so. They drugged him and he's in a KGB prison," someone else knew for a fact. "He's dead. They staged a fake accident," was yet another story. Would Borzov, the "World's Fastest Human," answer the referee's call to take his mark? Everyone was equally ignorant, equally expectant.

Well, Borzov did show up and made an extremely brave statement doing so. That year, the Soviet track team wore a blue warm-up suit emblazoned with "СССР" (USSR) and that's what Borzov wore, of course – only over the blue pants, he had a pair of nylon pull-up pants – they were yellow. Few among the 60,000 spectators in Olympic Stadium saw any significance to that, but I did along with a select group of others.

Like the other sprinters, Borzov warmed up before slowly removing the nylon pull-ups and his warm-up suit and finally backing into the starting blocks. In the finals, he came in third, ceding his title as "World's Fastest Human" to Hasely Crawford of Trinidad and Tobago, an island nation in the Caribbean, the size of Delaware with a population of a million. It was their moment of glory. Good for them.

As a former track coach, I find it amazing that Borzov ran the exact same time in Montreal to win a bronze medal that he ran in Munich for the gold: 10.14 seconds. Today, 28 years later, he's Ukraine's minister of youth and sports. Earlier this year, he carried the Olympic torch as it made its way to Athens. As for Crawford, he's a national hero with postage stamps issued in his honor and an airplane and

(Continued on page 21)

BOOK NOTES

Fisherman named Rybaak authors two guides on fishing in New York

"*Fishing Eastern New York*," by Spider Rybaak, Guilford, Conn.: The Globe Pequot Press, 2004, 346 pp., \$16.50 (paperback); and "*Fishing Western New York*," by Spider Rybaak, Guilford, Conn.: The Globe Pequot Press, 2004, 328 pp., \$15.95 (paperback).

"*Fishing Eastern New York*," billed as an "angler's guide to more than 240 top fishing spots" thoroughly covers all of the information that an angler needs to know to go fishing. It is also reader friendly; the table of contents clearly separates New York into regions and then lists the bodies of water in those regions. Detailed maps of each body of water and the highways, roads, trails, campgrounds, colleges and other pertinent points in the

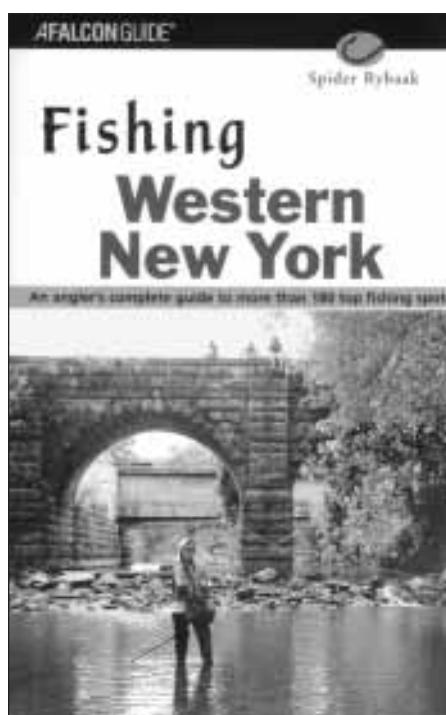
vicinity, appear within the text.

Most of the lakes, rivers and ponds that Spider Rybaak writes about in this guidebook are concentrated in the Adirondack Mountain region. Mr. Rybaak, who hails from Syracuse, N.Y., fished 95 percent of the 170 Adirondack waters that he describes in his book and his knowledge is apparent. The scientific and popular names of various fish, their descriptions, distribution and additional information about the area where these fish can be caught comprise the bulk of the book.

Mr. Rybaak details different fishing strategies for some of the waters, along with which species to fish for at different times of year. Tips on flies, lures, bait and tackle can also be found in "*Fishing Eastern New York*."

The author became interested in fishing early in his childhood when he and his father used to go fishing together on the Oswego and Seneca rivers. Mr. Rybaak's father's favorite fish to catch were northern pike, so his book has a special focus on that type of fish.

Though other fishing books concentrating on the Adirondacks have been written, Fred LeBrun, a correspondent for *Adirondack Explorer*, wrote: "There's never been a lack of advice in print on where or how to fish in the Adirondacks ... But the best yet in terms of depth and



breadth of helpful coverage is the newly published '*Fishing Eastern New York*' by Spider Rybaak ..."

In "*Fishing Western New York*," Mr. Rybaak provides useful information on the western portion of the state, covering

The Chestnut...

(Continued from page 6)

transparent, the people will not remain silent, considering the unprecedented level of distrust toward the government."

Today, Mr. Yushchenko retains a comfortable 8 percent to 10 percent lead over Mr. Yanukovich in most surveys. Both candidates are in full campaign mode, freely and peacefully traveling around the country with campaign stops in small villages and towns, as well as large cities. It even looks as if the two Viktor's will meet

more than 180 top fishing locales.

This book covers two of the Great Lakes, the Finger Lakes, many rivers, plus backcountry streams. Like its companion volume, it provides site descriptions and information on how to access them, tips on fishing techniques, and maps and photos.

Mr. Rybaak, whose real name is Raymond Hrynyk (the last name of his pseudonym is undoubtedly from the Ukrainian word for fisherman, "rybak"), has been a freelance writer/photographer for 19 years and has published hundreds of features in numerous magazines and newspapers. He also contributes regularly to *Outdoor Life*, *In-Fisherman*, *Great Lakes Angler* and *Fishing & Hunting News*.

He notes in his biographical information that he is a "son of Ukrainian immigrants who survived years of slave labor under the Nazis and avoided Stalin's terror by coming to America after the war."

Both books, part of The Globe Pequot Press's Falcon Guides series, are available in book stores, as well as from Globe Pequot Press, 246 Goose Lane, Box 480, Guilford, CT 06437; telephone (800) 962-0973.

for at least one television debate before October 31. There have been few reported instances of outright use of administrative resources, although some local officials are already stating that they are being pressured to make sure that majorities in their municipalities and raions turn out in support of Mr. Yanukovich.

Thus far, there is no substantial basis to believe that a Chestnut Revolution scenario is developing. However there are nearly 90 potentially sizzling campaign days before October 31, and we all know that chestnuts roast nicely on an open fire.

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Shevchenko comments on leading role in Italian 'A' league, family and future



Andriy Shevchenko of AC Milan.

by Andrew Nynka

NEW YORK – Andriy Shevchenko, the Ukrainian international soccer sensation known for his deft scoring touch, added a pair of crucial goals to help lift his Italian club team, AC Milan, over two premier British clubs during the ChampionsWorld Series held throughout the United States.

Prior to Milan's first game against Manchester United on July 31, Shevchenko spoke exclusively with The Ukrainian Weekly about his role as a leading sniper in the Italian first division, the importance for him of playing for the Ukrainian national team, and his new role as a husband and expectant father.

Speaking at the Macy's here in Herald Square on July 30, Shevchenko confirmed his marriage to American model Kristen Pazik. The two met in Milan three years ago and expect the arrival of a son, whom they plan to name Jordan, in the next four months, Shevchenko said.

Milan teammates, executives and a host of their fans packed the Macy's store here to unveil the team's new jersey, which they will begin wearing this season. International media surrounded them, while loyal fans, some from as far away as Italy, came to catch a glimpse of their favorite players during the event.

Asked after the jersey unveiling about his performance this past year with Milan, Shevchenko said he was pleased but also noted that he plans to focus on his family. "If I get some personal acknowledgment, I'm happy, but what's better than expecting a baby in about four months?" he asked an Italian reporter recently.

Shevchenko said Milan was "a great place for a family," though he still intends to play with his Ukrainian national team. "It is a dream to be playing for Ukraine," he said. Playing for both his Milan team and the Ukrainian national squad are equally important, said Shevchenko, adding that his role as a leading player in one of the top European leagues was indicative of the future for Ukrainian soccer. He spoke with The Weekly in Ukrainian and English, but said he was much more comfortable now speaking Italian, which he said he's learned as a result of living in Milan.

The 28-year-old forward confirmed that he signed a three-year contract extension with his Italian club and will likely stay in Milan until 2009. Last year Shevchenko led the Italian first division, the Serie A, in scoring with 24 goals – his second title as the top Italian finisher. In New York, team executives told The Weekly he is a "fundamental" part of AC Milan and said his

ability to score crucial last-minute goals is "critical" for the team's success.

"Undoubtedly the greatest in our club – but one player does not make the entire team," said Adriano Galliani, AC Milan's vice-president and chief executive officer. "But as a team player, Shevchenko is fundamental – a great scorer in key games," Galliani said. The Milan CEO also said that the prospect of Ukrainian players moving to top European clubs is imminent, though hampered somewhat by a lack of funds for Ukrainian clubs to properly develop talent.

Shevchenko, however, again proved his worth on a number of occasions during the ChampionsWorld Series, a set of 11 friendly matches at eight venues across the United States and Canada, involving clubs from England, Italy, Scotland, Portugal, Germany and Turkey.

A perfect 87th-minute free kick by Shevchenko, buried just inside the right post from 28 yards out, gave the Italian power a 3-2 victory over British side Chelsea at Lincoln Financial Field in

Philadelphia on August 2.

On July 31, with Manchester United beating Milan 1-0, Shevchenko tied the game on a 90th-minute deflection at the top of the six-yard box. The Italian side went on to win the game in a penalty shootout, with Shevchenko converting on his side's first attempt. Milan took the game 9-8 in the shootout after Manchester goalkeeper Tim Howard, an American who grew up in New Jersey, hit the left post with his shot.

"This is a good moment for him," AC Milan manager Carlo Ancelotti said of Shevchenko. "But it is also a good sign for us, because it shows that we are good to the last minute," he said after the Manchester game.

The match against Manchester drew a crowd of 74,511 to Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., while the game in Philadelphia against Chelsea saw 39,123 fans in attendance.

Ancelotti, the Milan head coach, said after the Manchester match that he was sat-

isfied with certain aspects of play but was looking for his players to improve. "We played well in the first half, especially in the first half-hour. Manchester, however, found more rhythm and took the game to us; it was important to stay in it right until the end. [Hernan] Crespo and Shevchenko pleased me in attack, obviously they can get better. Everyone must improve."

"I am very pleased that we won in New York, as last year we lost on penalties. We redeemed ourselves for the game against Juventus," Shevchenko said. "We definitely felt the hard work of the trip, also the heat, but Milan showed great character and we did well. ... We are not in top shape yet, we definitely have to improve, but I am quite satisfied with what we have done."

Shevchenko and his Milan teammates will now move on to prepare for the Italian Supercup against Lazio, which will be played in Milan on August 21, and the beginning of the Serie A season, which starts on September 12.



AC Milan players and club officials unveil the team's new jersey in New York. Milan Chief Executive Officer Adriano Galliani is seen holding the jersey (on the right), while Andriy Shevchenko is pictured third from left.

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Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 1)

sure. I firmly believe that each person has the right to choose freely. A person is born free and should be free. We must respect human rights.

That is why I can't agree that someone should vote one way or another. People have the right to decide; they should make their choices based on their principles. I have never believed that a person must do something in a certain way because I hold a certain [government] post.

They should vote for my policies, my human qualities, my political views, my ability to unite people, but never because of the post I hold.

When local officials try to show me good will by "creating bad situations," that is by pressuring people [to support the Yanukovych candidacy], they are not doing me any good. I am not that kind of person. I am against this.

I have always maintained this, and will be saying much more on this topic in the future. I do not like hearing that someone is gathering signatures and utilizing administrative pressure to obtain voter support for me. I am against that. I have asked no one to do this.

I maintain an opposite viewpoint. When I am on the road I expressly request [of my supporters] that under no conditions should they undertake these types of efforts because it will not go for my benefit. I tell them that – quite the opposite – it will only lead to negative results. I tell them that if you are against me, then go ahead and pressure the people, but if you want to show your support for me, do not do this under any circumstances.

You just answered part of my next question. However, if in addition to the government and the president, you also have now publicly stated that administrative resources and pressure should not be brought to bear in your campaign, then who should take responsibility if and when local administrators make decisions to pressure the local population to support you in the belief that it will earn them good standing should you win?

There is the law and there is the Constitution, and every person is responsible before the law and the Constitution.

Second, where there are violations I would want them identified by all sides. The many international independent observers should work to bring them to light. We will react to the signals we get from them. Here I will use my authority to make sure those responsible for violations will be held accountable.

As for my work as prime minister, I have a responsibility to continue fulfilling the requirements of my office. I cannot ignore these commitments. I retain responsibility.

The state lives, nothing changes in the life of the citizens. Elections are a limited phenomenon. That is why the executive organs must work as efficiently as ever in fulfilling their responsibilities. My demands to officials in the various regions do not pertain to the pre-election campaign; they pertain to fulfilling the responsibilities of the government before society. The government mechanism must keep working no matter the weather, be it political, or environmental, or whatever.

In your opinion, what changes are most vital to make the Ukrainian marketplace more attractive to the foreign investor? Some changes have taken place but others undoubtedly are still needed.

We are currently creating a State Agency for Investment. In August it should begin its work. It will probably take some time for it to get moving. In any case, the elections will be taking place, and as you know, investors are currently

awaiting the new political line-up and who will be the political face of the state.

The agency will take upon itself the development of all relations between the state and investors. First of all, this will consist of improving current Ukrainian law. This is a process that certainly must take place with the close cooperation of investors and with the assistance of the agency, which will cooperate with the government and the Verkhovna Rada to improve Ukrainian law so that it meets global requirements. In this way the process will move forward more dynamically.

For each investor this agency will also act as a guiding hand of sorts. It will help to acquaint investors with Ukrainian law and local conditions; will aid in finding local partners; and will propose innovative projects, and so on.

In my opinion this will help to develop a level playing field and equal opportunities for investors as well as to promote transparent conditions. It will squelch many of the uncertainties that have arisen regarding Ukraine.

I have much experience in this type of work, which I obtained in my work in Donetsk Oblast. In a short time we developed a close relationship with investors. We developed many entities to support favorable conditions for investors. There are many positive moments here. I have often worked with investors. We need to develop similar conditions in each region and on the national level. In addition to local issues, there are general, national concerns as well.

The formula is as follows: the investor needs to work according to Ukrainian law; and the government needs to develop laws that benefit them.

Do you have a specific plan to fight the corruption and the bribery that are so prevalent within government structures?

The fight must take place by various means. We need to develop a legal system that will not give the government official the ability to take bribes, in other words to remove the individual official as a vital cog in the administrative process. We need to get many of our decision-making processes out of manual mode so that they are systematized and made routine.

One example I can give you regards the budget and the work of the Ministry of Finance. Today there no longer are lines at the Ministry of Finance and the Treasury Department. No longer must people queue to ask for [budgetary] money. Why? Because we have created a system that automatically assigns – there is a budgetary schedule, which is approved annually and the officials need to stick to it.

No one asks me for money. Those who talk of bribes say there is nothing to do at the Ministry of Finance (laughing). They say, "What did Yanukovych do, so that the Ministry of Finance is no longer respected in Ukraine?"

There used to be huge lines. There used to be thousands of letters requesting budgetary outlays. Today there are no letters at all. There are also no letters thanking us that the problems have been resolved either, if I may add. You would think that at least one person would be civil and thank us for budget outlays that are being made in a timely manner (laughing). But we do hear from people thankful that we relieved them of the belittling experience of having to beg for money here. Yet this was the situation throughout all the years of independence, the budget was allocated by hand. Some received their outlay; others did not. There were huge discrepancies within the budgetary statutes. Today it works only through the budgetary schedule.

Initially I closely watched the allocations from the Treasury. Now I will review outlay reports two or three times a month to be sure that they are going according to the budgetary schedule.

In unusual situations – floods and nat-



Efrem Lukatsky

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych in his office.

ural disasters – a state committee has the responsibility to review the matter on site and then in a transparent manner decide who and what should receive state compensation. However, shortly even this will not be required because we will be going to an insurance system. We are intensely working to develop an insurance system so that the official will not have the responsibility of deciding whether he should go to an emergency site to decide compensation issues or not.

Today we are working to encourage the development of insurance companies, but they have yet to permeate all levels of society. For example in Krasnolymansk, the coal mine where the miners died recently, they had an insurance system in place even though the state still took part in the process of counting up the compensation to be paid out to individuals and families. The state commission reviewed the situation in every family and made the awards individually, but this, too, will soon pass.

However, there should always be a small reserve in the national budget for various unforeseen circumstances. Not every situation can be predicted.

Most people believe that the court system in Ukraine is also unusually corrupt. In your estimation, what needs to be done here? Does Ukraine need extensive additional judicial reform or would the removal of certain judges improve the situation?

If the system isn't changed, nothing else will help. No matter how often you change people, the situation will not improve. We need legislation to develop a court system. I am not a specialist in these matters, but we will absolutely need to take advantage of international experience and we will pursue judicial reform according to world standards.

Now for two seemingly unrelated questions, which are tied to relations with Moscow. As president, will you be ready to change the course of your international economic policy as envisaged by the Single Economic Space? And second, do you think that it was necessary to change the defense doctrine and send a message of doubt regarding Ukraine's commitment to European integration. Wasn't this another hit against Ukraine's international image?

I believe that we have become more specific in our approach, our evaluation, our cooperation and the integration of Ukraine in various directions. Let me use as an example Ukraine's integration with the European Union.

When I began my work [as prime minister] I noticed that there were many declarations with no content. I reviewed

relations of countries like Switzerland and Norway with the European Union because this greatly interested me.

I believe that Ukraine, too, must harmonize its legislation with the European Union, raise living standards, develop European freedoms and so on. We need to do this and in this way integration will proceed peacefully. As for economic relations, we do not need to pretend that we are in love, but only [find] specific ways in which to cooperate. Ukraine needs conditions equal to what other countries enjoy.

Ukraine will become a member of the World Trade Organization, I am sure of this because it is our goal. Ukraine is ready to work with the European Union and build relations as an equal partner.

As for changing the defense doctrine, when we talk about NATO integration we need to ask a single question: When will we be ready to this? The answer is that we will be ready only after the Ukrainian military has undergone reform.

Today it is a cumbersome structure, which is why we first need to do reforms at home, and then proceed to integration. That is why we do not need to dwell upon this question, to talk about it incessantly, have it all down on paper, and do nothing in practice, as we have done for all these years of independence.

We did not finance the military. We allowed it to become unable to provide for defense. Slowly our technology stagnated, while social problems among the soldiers remain unresolved. How is it that 36,000 soldiers do not have their own dwellings? How can we not provide for proper pensions for retirees? Those who retired during independence have pensions twice the amount given to those who retired prior to independence.

Therefore, we first need to take care of our soldiers' social needs and then we need to reform the armed forces. These are the two most important questions. As for our relations with NATO, we need to openly cooperate. Openly, not on paper, but in concrete terms.

In the first 100 days of a Yanukovych presidency – these 100 days have developed a meaning in many countries as that period which sets the tone and the rhythm of a presidency – are there certain decisions or programs and policies that you plan to initiate immediately?

I will continue in the many directions in which I am currently working as the head of government. However, I will be able to do it, as they say, using my own handwriting, more efficiently and more dynamically. I am sure more effectively as well, because I will have all the tools at my disposal. My goal is to obtain power to realize my dreams. Not power for the

(Continued on page 17)

UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS: *Active in our communities*

Ukrainian American Veterans continue to seek federal charter

by Mathew Koziak

UAV National Commander

One of the important projects that the Ukrainian American Veterans have undertaken has been the campaign to obtain a federal charter. This objective of the UAV to get equal status with other veterans service organizations has had some success, but it has not yet reached its ultimate goal.

Letter-writing campaigns and other attempts to contact staff and elected representatives in the House has not always been met with responsive replies. Although the UAV realizes that Congress has many important points of business currently being conducted, we nonetheless cannot understand why the charter bill continues to languish in the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims which is under the Judiciary Committee.

The whole experience has been a real eye opener into the legislative process, as well as into the range of responsiveness from our legislators. It would appear that some legislators do not value the votes of the Ukrainian American community or have an interest in supporting veterans' issues.

There has been a wide range of

responses to our attempts to make contact with local congressmen, from those receiving no response altogether to those producing very positive responses. The best of these has resulted in representatives signing on as co-sponsors of our bill. The worst has been total silence, without so much as a confirmation of having received any information from our organization or membership. Some representatives have personally met with our membership, have been very hospitable and have listened to our request. These are some of the best examples of our elected representatives acting upon their promise to be responsive to their constituents. These responses/non-responses are important to remember during election time.

It must be underscored that the UAV is not asking for anything more than other veterans organizations currently enjoy in having been granted a Federal Charter. Ukrainian Americans have never faltered or hesitated in responding to this country's need to fight for its freedoms and support its constitution and democratic way of life. Why can they not be included in the community of recognized veterans' service organizations? Is it a matter of cost effectiveness? It cannot possibly

be that as there are no costs associated with this bill. Is it a matter of not granting any more federal charters? That cannot be as there definitely have been new charters granted in the past few years. Is it a matter of bias? One can only hope that this is not the case.

Our bill, H.R. 1615, to grant the Ukrainian Americans Veterans a federal charter (title: "To amend title 36, United States Code, to Grant a Federal charter to the Ukrainian American Veterans Inc.") was introduced on April 3, 2003, by Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.). It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims.

The bill currently has 20 co-sponsors: Reps. Corrine Brown (D-Fla.), Michael E. Capuano (D-Mass.), Joseph Crowley (D-N.Y.), William D. Delahunt (D-Mass.), John D. Dingell (D-Mich.), Eliot L. Engel (D-N.Y.), Phil English (R-Pa.), Bob Filner (D-Calif.), Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Martin Frost (D-Texas), James C. Greenwood (R-Pa.), Maurice D. Hinchey (D-N.Y.), Joseph M. Hoeffel (D-Pa.), Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Dale E. Kildee (D-Mich.), Joe Knollenberg (R-Mich.), James P. McGovern (D-Mass.), Michael R. McNulty (D-N.Y.), Juanity Millender-

McDonald (D-Calif.), Richard E. Neal (D-Mass.), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D.C.), Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.), Donald M. Payne (D-N.J.), Todd Russell Platts (R-Pa.), Rob Simmons (R-Conn.), Louise McIntosh Slaughter (D-N.Y.), Edolphus Towns (D-N.Y.), Curt Weldon (R-Pa.) and Robert Wexler (D-Fla.)

We would like to thank each of these representatives for his/her interest and support.

Recently, members of our organization had an opportunity to participate in a special program organized by Rep. Rush Holt (D-N.J.) for Central Jersey veterans. The program focused on issues important to veterans and was very helpful in providing updated information. During this forum we also had an opportunity to meet Rep. Lane Evans (D-Ill.). Both congressmen expressed their support for our efforts.

In the near future we will be tracking congressional support for our bill on our website (www.uavets.org). We urge our community to pay attention to this information. We also urge our posts and all community members to continue their campaigns to contact their representatives and seek their support in co-sponsoring and moving H.R. 1615.

UAV dedicates new memorial in Hamptonburgh, N.Y.

by Mathew Koziak

UAV National Commander

HAMPTONBURGH, N.Y. – A new monument to Ukrainian American Veterans was dedicated here on June 13. This dedication was the result of the combined efforts of several UAV posts in the Archeparchy of Stamford, including those in Brooklyn (Post 27), Yonkers (301), Spring Valley (19) and Boston (31).

Although there are monuments dedicated to veterans at some local parish cemeteries, the UAV felt that it would also be appropriate to have a monument at the diocesan cemetery commemorating and honoring the many veterans buried there.

A monument committee was formed in November 2002 to plan the memorial and to raise funds needed for the project. The committee consisted of representatives from the four posts located in the diocese. PNC Steven Shewczuk became chair of this committee.

Upon completion of the monument, the committee prepared a program and set a date for the dedication. The ceremony

started with the unveiling of the memorial, followed by the raising of colors, the dedication and blessing by Bishop Basil Losten, the laying of wreaths and the playing of taps by a bugler from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Bishop Losten extended concluding remarks to end the dedication.

The completed monument includes the emblems of all the branches of the U.S. armed forces and is dedicated to all veterans of Ukrainian descent who have served in those forces. Adjacent to the memorial is a Veterans' Walkway. Bricks comprising the walkway may be purchased with a donation of \$200 for each brick and may include an inscription honoring a specific veteran, family member or donor. Bricks may be purchased by contacting the UAV Monument Fund at 173 N. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11211-2303.

Participating in the ceremony were members of the sponsoring posts, as well as other UAV members from posts as far

(Continued on page 14)



Bishop Basil Losten among veterans after the blessing of the veterans memorial.



UAV members (from right) Mathew Koziak, Vasyl Luchkiw, Eugene Sagasz and George Mutlos during the ceremonies in Hamptonburgh, N.Y.



The newly dedicated veterans memorial at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery.

UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS: Active in our communities

UAV posts active on local level

• **Post 17, Clifton, N.J.:** A week after Easter, members of Post 17, along with colleagues from Posts 27 and 30, participated in St. Thomas Sunday services at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J. They formed an honor guard at the cemetery's monument to all Ukrainian veterans, where Archbishop Antony and many members of the clergy conducted a panakhyda (memorial service).

On May 30, the entire post gathered at Lakeview Cemetery next to the Ukrainian veterans' monument for a requiem service offered by local clergy and a brief military ceremony. State Assemblyman Peter Eagler joined the post to pay respects to his fallen comrades.

• **Post 24, Cleveland:** On Memorial Day, post members attended a service and a program at Cleveland City Hall, Parma's Veterans Center and the local cemetery. U.S. flags were placed by post members on all veterans' graves at St. Andrew's Cemetery and at Pokrova Cemetery.

The post also is involved with other veterans groups in taking disabled veterans to mass on the first Sunday of each month and afterwards for coffee and doughnuts.

• **Post 24, Cleveland, and Post 28, Akron, Ohio:** Members of these two UAV posts attended the "Four Chaplains" commemoration at the Tallmadge Community Center in Akron on February 7. The annual ceremony recalls the heroism of chaplains aboard the Dorchester who gave up their life vests to other troops as the ship was sinking on February 3, 1943. Six hundred men were lost, but the four chaplains are credited with saving over 200 lives.

• **Post 25, Trenton, N.J.:** Post members participated in the Armed Forces Day ceremony at Mercer County Park in Hamilton, N.J., as well as in the Memorial Day service at Greenwood Cemetery. A week before the ceremony, post members placed flags at Riverview Cemetery, in accordance with their responsibility as an integral part of the Mercer County Veterans Council.

• **Post 30, Holmdel, N.J.:** Every year since the official opening of the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial here in 1995, UAV Post 30 members have honored New Jersey Vietnam veterans, among them Ukrainian Americans, whose names are among the nearly 1,600 engraved in stone

on the memorial. Special tribute has always been paid to the patron of UAV Post 30, Maj. Myron Diduryk (U.S. Army), who was killed by a sniper in Vietnam on April 24, 1970, during his second tour of duty.

The post is seeking information about Ukrainian Americans for the biographical data being compiled by the Vietnam Era Educational Center at the memorial. The post is specifically searching for information about Bohdan Kowal, Mikolaj Melnyk, George M. Smyrychynski, Nicholas Szawaluk and Julius Zaporozec, including others who may not be known to the post. Readers may e-mail uav.post30@worldnet.att.net or write to: UAV Post 30, P.O. Box 172, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0172.

• **Post 31, Boston:** Post members were among the veterans' groups participating in Memorial Day events in their city.

In addition, the post's members served as an honor guard for the Ukrainian American Youth Association's (SUM) "Heroes' Day" commemoration.

• **Post 32, Chicago:** In commemoration of Armed Forces Day, the post attended liturgy at St. Nicholas Church on Sunday, May 16.

A week later the post members served as an honor guard and participated in a program at St. Andrew's Church honoring the memory of Symon Petliura.

• **Post 35, Palatine, Ill.:** The village of Palatine celebrated Flag Day on June 13, which also happened to be the U.S. Army's birthday. Post Commander Roman G. Golash participated in the ceremony by reading a letter from a soldier serving in Iraq.

Named in honor of 1st Lt. Ivan Shandor, the post supports the efforts of the Yellow Ribbon Group, which sends out care packages to American soldiers overseas.

• **Post 40, North Port, Fla.:** In May the post held a very successful luncheon meeting at the Olde World Restaurant that was attended by more than 50 members and guests. The guest speaker was newspaper columnist and author Don Moore, author of the recently published book "War Tales." Two members of the armed forces of Ukraine, Maj. Oleksiy Andriushyn and Capt. Maksym Pihan, members of Ukraine's liaison team with the U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force



The monument of Post 17 at Lakeview Cemetery in Clifton, N.J.

Base in Tampa, Fla., were special guests at the event. The post is named in honor of Roman F. Lazor.

The post also participated in the traditional panakhyda at the local Ukrainian Catholic church and in the community's Memorial Day service at Veterans' Park. The color guard of Post 40, as well as the Ladies Auxiliary also took part. In attendance were two representatives of Ukraine's Embassy in Washington: Consul General Yakiv Pyrih and Vice-Consul Oleksii Sviatun.

• **Post 101, Mich.:** Members attended Memorial Day services at St. Josaphat Church. Due to inclement weather, the panakhyda was held indoors. Post members served as flag-bearers during the ceremony. A luncheon was held immediately afterwards.

• **Post 301, Yonkers, N.Y.:** The post annually participates in the decoration of graves throughout Yonkers, and this year post members attended the Memorial Day Parade in front of City Hall in Yonkers and the reception afterwards that honored Grand Marshall Herbert Blum. The post also attends all the meetings of the Central Committee Veterans' Organization, which is responsible for organizing veterans' activities for the Mayor of Yonkers.

A notable event this year was the mayor's presentation of a posthumous Purple Heart to World War I Ukrainian American veteran John Shutovech. The medal was given to his daughter Katarina Kurilla, who attends St. Michael's Ukrainian Church in Yonkers. Ms. Kurilla's children and grandchildren also attended the reception.



Members of Posts 24 and 28 (from left), Mike Mitchell, Bohdan Samokyszyn, Mike Demchuk, Roman Dowhahiuk and Dorothy Budacki, who also is the Ohio state commander of the UAV, during a commemoration in Akron, Ohio, of the "Four Chaplains" of the Dorchester.



Members of Post 25 (from left), Roman Kuzyk, Roman Fedorak and Ivan Haftkowycz, place flags on veterans' graves at Riverview Cemetery in Trenton, N.J.

UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS: *Active in our communities*

UAV contingent marches in Chicago on Memorial Day

CHICAGO – Led by a color guard of eight UAV members representing various branches of the military and bearing national and post flags, the UAV contingent in Chicago's Memorial Day parade – one of the largest such commemorations in the country – looked very impressive as members marched in step to the beat of neighboring bands and their own counting cadence.

Members of Post 32 came out in large numbers to take part in this year's parade despite the inclement weather. Also joining the group were Ranger Andy Karaszajczuk from Post 35, National Commander Mathew Koziak and UAV Ladies Auxiliary Vice-President Oksana Koziak.

Dressed in a Civil War uniform, Peter Hanchar symbolized the patron of Post 32, Gen. John B. Turchin. Mr. Hanchar has been working on a history of Gen. Turchin, whose contributions to this country's history serve as a source of pride not only to members of the post, but to all Ukrainian Americans.

Following the color guard was the first of three military vehicles that participated with the post in the parade. The military Hummer was directly followed by a contingent of marching post members led by National Commander Koziak and Post Commander Walter Chyterbok. Military flags adorned each vehicle, which carried additional post members, family and supporters.

While passing the dais, the UAV was announced, and members saluted the various dignitaries, including Mayor Richard Daley. Encouraging shouts of support for our troops were heard all along the parade route from the large crowd gathered to view the Memorial Day celebration.

Post 32 continued its observance of Memorial Day by participating in services at the St. Nicholas Cemetery on both Sunday and Monday. Earlier in the week several post members had come to the cemetery to place small Ukrainian and American flags on the graves of all the veterans laid to rest there.



Members of UAV Post 32 assemble before marching in the Memorial Day parade.



The veterans' color guard during memorial services at St. Nicholas Cemetery.

UAVets represented at dedication of World War II National Memorial



A view of a portion of the World War II National Memorial in Washington.

by Anna Krawczuk

UAV National Vice-Commander

WASHINGTON – The sun smiled at hundreds of thousands of Americans who came to pay tribute to veterans and attend the dedication ceremonies of the World War II National Memorial on May 29. Ukrainian American Veterans Inc. were represented by Dorothy Budacki, UAV national chaplain and a World War II honoree; Anna Krawczuk, UAV national vice commander; and UAV Post 30 Commander Bernard W. Krawczuk. Dorothy's daughter Denise Duke, recently retired from the U.S. Navy, and Orysia Stefaniw from Williamsburg, Va., made the representation complete. The group was fortunate to be among the 117,000 tickets holders for the seating sections on the National Mall.

The program started at 11 a.m. with the dedication scheduled for 2 p.m.

The tribute program began with images, song and dance performances from that era that were also displayed on large screens throughout the mall for everyone to see. This was followed by the United States Postal Service First Day of Issue Stamp Dedication by John E. Potter, postmaster general and chief executive officer of the U.S. Postal Service.

Opening remarks were made by Rep. Marcy Kaptur, member of Congress, who was the pivotal force behind the idea of the memorial. The official ceremony started with the presentation of state flags and an invocation by Archbishop Philip M. Hannan (World War II chaplain) followed by welcoming remarks by Gen. P. X. Kelley U.S. Marine Corps (ret), chairman of the American Battle Monuments

Commission. Brief remarks were made by Tom Brokaw, Tom Hanks, Frederick W. Smith and Sen. Bob Dole.

The presentation of the World War II Memorial to the nation was made by Gen. Kelley, which was followed by remarks by President George W. Bush. Also participating in the program were military bands and the U.S. Army Chorus, which closed the ceremonies with "God Bless America." The benediction was by Dr. Barry C. Black, chaplain of the U.S. Senate, and the Blue Angels gave the final salute by flying overhead.

It was indeed a very moving tribute to over 400,000 soldiers who gave their lives for liberty and justice in the world. It was also a tribute to 16 million who served in uniform, and millions of civilians who worked at home. As Mr. Brokaw wrote, it was a tribute to "The Greatest Generation."

Among the tents set up on the mall, it was evident that the World War II reunion tent was the most popular. Many veterans left notes on the bulletin board; others remembered the moments of the long time ago; still others rejoiced at meeting up with old comrades.

The Veterans History Project tent also had many visitors. Since its inception in 2002, the project has received over 20,000 oral histories. There were many high school volunteers throughout the mall interviewing veterans, just shaking their hands and expressing thanks for their service, or giving out thank-you notes.

The World War II National Memorial was re-opened at 7 p.m. and thousands of visitors streamed to it. It was a very moving sight to behold the monument bathed in lights in the evening.



Ukrainian American veterans at the memorial's dedication (from left): Anna Krawczuk, Bernard W. Krawczuk, Dorothy Budacki and Denise Duke.

UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS: *Active in our communities*

Ukrainian Americans called to active duty Convention slated for September 16-19



Lt. Col. Gerald V. Nestor in Iraq.

CHICAGO – Since the beginning of U.S. involvement in Iraq UAV members have been called to active duty.

Lt. Col. Gerald V. Nestor, son of UAV member Gerald Nestor of Post 27 is presently serving as a deputy brigade commander of the 16th MP Brigade (Airborne) in Baghdad. He earned his air assault wings in 1984 and served as a captain in Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1991.

Lt. Col. Nestor was born in Glasgow, Mont., on December 22, 1958, where his father was stationed while serving in the U.S. Air Force. He was raised in New York and graduated from Long Island City High School. He went on to earn a master's degree from Long Island University and was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1981. He is married (wife Kristin Anne née Ditmars) and has three daughters (Courtney, Danielle and Christina).

Walter Nalywajko of Post 32 in Chicago began his military service in June 1977 by enlisting in the Army Reserves and becoming a member of the 327th MP Battalion at O'Hare. He presently holds the rank of sergeant first class E7.

On February 2, 2002, he was called to active duty for two years to work with the 85th Headquarters Training Support in Arlington Heights, Ill. He is to return to reservist status with the 85th as their supply sergeant. Sgt. Nalywajko is married (wife Myra), has three sons (Jerry, Taras and Andrew) and lives in Palatine, Ill.

Mike Chyterbok, also of Post 32,

started his military service in 1980 with an ROTC commission as a second lieutenant. His military career has included three years with the 101st Airborne Division, two plus years of duty at Fort Campbell, Ky. and six months of duty with the Sinai U.N. peacekeeping force. He has been a member of the Army Reserve since 1983. He has attended numerous military schools for Airborne, U.S. Ranger and Infantry and currently holds the rank of lieutenant colonel.

On May 3 Lt. Col. Chyterbok was activated for a minimum one-year tour of duty at the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga. Mike is married (wife Wendy), has two sons (Michael and Paul), and lives in Rockton, Ill. The post hosted a farewell party on April 24 at the EZ Inn in Chicago; members and close friends attended to wish him well and to bid him a safe and healthy return.

Ladies Auxiliary supports UAV

Founded in 1974, the National Ladies Auxiliary of the Ukrainian American Veterans is seen as a support group that cares for the needs of veterans. Through various fund-raising activities, the auxiliary has contributed to the UAV national welfare and scholarship funds. The auxiliary also participates in many memorial functions for deceased veterans, and members regularly visit veterans hospitals.

The charter members of the auxiliary were: Helen Drabyk, Lydia Hendricks,

DEDHAM, Mass. – The Ukrainian American Veterans will hold their 57th convention here at the Holiday Inn on Thursday through Sunday, September 16-19.

The convention banquet, to be followed by a dance, will take place on Saturday, September 18, beginning at 5:50 p.m.

Banquet tickets, which include admission to the dance, are \$45 per person; attire is semi-formal.

Tickets to the dance only are \$20 and may be purchased at the door. Music will be provided by the Vechirka band of New York.

For further information, readers may log on to www.uavets.org, or call Stephen Kostecki, (508) 746-7164.

Mary Kopko, Mary Luchkiw, Olga Lupa, Anne McAloon, Laura Pellock, Rosalie Polche, Rena Sagasz, Olga Wengrynowich, Olga Wengryn and Anne Zedayko.

The UAV National Ladies Auxiliary will be celebrating its 30th anniversary at the UAV national convention in Boston on September 16-19. Special recognition will be given to the past presidents of the National Ladies Auxiliary. The current president of the auxiliary is Helen Drabyk.

COMMENTARY: *If I had five minutes with Congress...*

by Paul Hlynsky
Post 28 Commander

As Americans we are very lucky. We live in the greatest country in the world. We live a life of freedom that many around the world can only dream about and hope to experience.

We have a very responsive government. I have traveled to Washington as a union president to lobby for numerous labor issues, and I can honestly say that every time I've asked for an appointment to see various senators and congressmen I have gotten it – even when they knew I did not live in the areas they represent. I bet if you compare governments around the world, that doesn't happen in very many places.

However, I sometimes dream of an opportunity to address all of Congress for five minutes. What would I say? Well, I thought about it and would like to share it with you.

I would tell Congress that in addition to being a proud American, a veteran who is

proud to have served his country, and would do so again in a moment's notice (unfortunately the years have taken their toll and I am well past the age limit), and a proud Ukrainian American.

I come from a proud Ukrainian American family that is grateful to this nation and has never asked for anything in return. They came to the United States with \$2 in their pocket after suffering the horrors of World War II. They carved out a life for our family, raised three kids and somehow made ends meet without any help. They vote in every election, celebrate national holidays that honor this country, stand up for the United States of America at every opportunity and pray for it. That is why there are a few things that I don't understand and would want to address in my five minutes.

I would ask what is the reluctance in granting a national charter to the Ukrainian American Veterans. I would tell them that in my post there are veterans who have served in all the armed forces of the United States, and all our wars. We have veterans who were there on D-Day, fought at the Battle of the Bulge, Iwo Jima, Pearl Harbor and the Battle of Midway. We have veterans who fought in the mountains of Korea and the jungles of Vietnam. Yes, some years ago I even had the honor and privilege to talk to World War I veterans who fought unbelievable battles of trench warfare which were incredibly bloody.

We have servicemen of Ukrainian descent currently in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and other areas around the world. In our post, we even have a member of the Waves. I can't remember when I haven't seen her wearing red, white and blue, or participating in veterans programs.

If this great country of ours grants char-

ters to other groups (and they all deserve it) such as Italian Americans, Greek Americans, Polish Americans, Spanish Americans and countless others, there is absolutely no reason – no excuse – for not granting a national charter to Ukrainian American Veterans. The blood they shed for America's freedom was just as precious. Ukrainian Americans were, are and always will be loyal American citizens just as are the other nationalities which make up the United States.

Hopefully, I would still have two and one half minutes to ask Congress why there is such a reluctance to formally recognize that nearly 10 million Ukrainians were murdered and starved to death by Joseph Stalin through his forced collectivization. This was a genocide of the Ukrainian people. It happened. It has been proven it happened. The old Soviet Union reluctantly admitted it happened. The remnants of that government just don't want to remember or be reminded of it.

There is never an excuse for murder and mass murder. There was no excuse for the murder of millions of Jewish people by Adolph Hitler. I have been to Holocaust remembrance services, and have yet to walk away with dry eyes. There was no excuse for the mass murder of people in Africa, Bosnia, Serbia, Poland or any place else in the world.

The millions of Ukrainians who died at the hands of Stalin deserve a monument in Washington so this horrid event is not forgotten by anyone. Ten million people! The United States has never looked the other way from atrocities around the world or in this country. I would ask our representatives to not look the other way on this atrocity.

Finally, with 30 seconds left, I would ask

Congress to seek the truth about Ukraine. The potential is there for a great ally. Unfortunately, the government of Ukraine is still plagued by old Communists who, hopefully, are finally being voted out. Market reforms have come about and will be perfected. It is difficult to form a flawless democracy in 13 years.

American military advisors to Ukraine should be learning the Ukrainian language at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., not Russian. It is not the same. They should be working with the Ukrainian military to develop tactics that are common with NATO forces, which would lead to the eventual integration of Ukraine into NATO. There should be no advice given to the Ukrainian military using any languages other than Ukrainian or English. It is not my intent to offend Russia or its people, but realize this: Ukrainians are not Russians, Little Russians, or "little brothers" to Russia.

The history of Ukraine proves that, unfortunately, for many years the history of Ukraine was a forbidden subject under forced Soviet rule. Ukraine faces presidential elections this fall. I would ask the government of the United States to keep the pressure on to ensure that the elections are free and represent the will of the Ukrainian people. If that happens, Ukraine will finally elect a president who wants an independent Ukraine and a Ukraine that is a true ally of the West. This alliance would be a strategic victory and a great economic opportunity for the United States and Ukraine.

Did I go longer than five minutes? Maybe I did, but can you blame me? How many people have the opportunity to have five minutes with Congress?

I should have asked for 10.

UAV dedicates...

(Continued from page 11)

away as Michigan and Florida.

The current UAV national commander as well as three past national commanders were present. Representatives and commanders of other organizations, including veterans of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and the 2nd Division of the Ukrainian National Army, as well as the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), also participated in the dedication, along with the many visitors who were attending services at the cemetery.

Highlights...

(Continued from page 4)

reached by the end of the jubilee year.

Total assets of the UNA at the time of the 28th Convention were \$38,815,133.53. It was reported that since the previous convention the UNA had sent \$5,000 in aid to Ukrainians in Yugoslavia affected by the earthquake in that country, nearly \$14,000 to UNA members in flood-ravaged areas in Pennsylvania and New York state, and had spent over \$310,000 on publishing the two-volume "Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia."

Among the convention's most important decisions was the establishment of the post of supreme organizer as a member of the Executive Committee and the creation of the title of honorary member of the Supreme Assembly, which would be reserved for those members of the assembly who have served at least 12 years, subject to nomination by the Auditing Committee and approval by convention delegates. As well, delegates voted to lower the age at which a UNA member could become a convention delegate from 21 to 18, and to become a supreme officer from 24 to 21.

The convention approved nearly \$18,000 in donations to various Ukrainian institutions and organizations, and voted a sum of \$9,000 for human rights defense efforts, with the latter amount coming from the delegates themselves who donated \$20 each to promote human rights in Ukraine.

Joseph Lesawyer was re-elected to his fourth term as supreme president; Stefan Hawrysz was elected for the newly created post of supreme organizer.

John Odezynsky, a candidate for supreme advisor, asked for and received a recount of the vote totals which showed him as losing by one vote for the 14th, or last, spot on the Supreme Assembly. As a result of a recount by a specially designated committee, it was announced that Mr. Odezynsky and Eugene Iwanciw had tied in the number of votes received. The committee decided that the methods of selection for that post should be determined by the two candidates. A compromise was reached whereby Mr. Odezynsky served the first two years of the term, and Mr. Iwanciw served the last two years.

The recount committee also found some irregularities in the voting for other positions on the Supreme Assembly, as a result of which some candidates lost as many as 14 votes, while others gained as many as 26. However, none of the altered vote totals affected the ultimate outcome of the elections.

A highlight of the convention was the address delivered by George Bush, then chairman of the Republican National Committee. On the other side of the aisle, Basil Paterson, deputy chairman of the Democratic National Committee, also addressed the assemblage.

Source: "Joseph Lesawyer re-elected UNA supreme president. Dr. John Flis elected vice-president, Sen. Paul Yuzyk is re-elected director for Canada and Mary Dushnyck again chosen vice-president, Walter Sochan and Ulana Diachuk re-elected by acclamation for secretary and treasurer, Stepan Hawrysz chosen for new post of supreme organizer, convention votes \$18,000 for national causes, \$15,000 for scholarships, adopts series of resolutions and recommendations," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 29, 1974; "Announcement of UNA Convention and Elections Committee Presidiums," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 8, 1974; and "Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First 100 Years of the Ukrainian National Association," by Myron B. Kuropas, Boulder, Colo.: East European Monographs, 1996. The border used for this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dating to 1919.

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(Empire State Building)

will be illuminated
in the colors of the Ukrainian flag

Blue and Yellow

National Executive Board
of the Ukrainian Youth Association of America

ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 3)

1999 presidential elections, in which he won 13.3 percent and 11.3 percent of the vote, respectively. Mr. Symonenko ran in the 1999 election, obtaining 36.5 percent of the vote in the first round and 37.8 percent in the runoff. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Moroz urges statement on Gonggadze

KYIV – Socialist Party leader and presidential candidate Oleksander Moroz has called on the country's leaders to "immediately issue an official statement on the deliberate violation of the law on investigative activity" in connection with "the admission by the Procurator General's Office that police officers were illegally shadowing journalist Heorhii Gonggadze," Interfax reported on August 4. Mr. Moroz referred to leaked documents posted at www.delogongadze.org, which include records of the questioning of police officers who said they had been shadowing Gonggadze before his disappearance in September 2000. Earlier that week, a spokesman for the Ukrainian Procurator General's Office admitted that the documents published at www.delogongadze.org are authentic. "All the new information about the circumstances of the crime and the complete inactivity of the authorities will be officially submitted to all the leading international organizations that follow developments in the Gonggadze investigation," Mr. Moroz said in a letter to the president, procurator general and internal affairs minister. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Yushchenko program promoted in Moscow

KYIV – Oleksander Zinchenko, presidential campaign manager of Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko, was in Moscow on August 4 to challenge the Russian perception of Mr. Yushchenko as a radical

nationalist, Ukraine's private ICTV television reported. Mr. Zinchenko met with Russia's Federation Council Chairman Sergei Mironov and members of the Russian Duma's Committee on Relations with Ukraine and held a news conference at the Sobesiednik weekly's editorial office. Mr. Zinchenko's news conference at Interfax in Moscow was canceled by the agency on short notice – a move blamed by Mr. Yushchenko on behind-the-scenes pressure by the Ukrainian presidential administration. "With Yushchenko as president, Ukraine will be a consistent partner, a pragmatic partner, a predictable partner," Mr. Zinchenko said in Moscow. "I guarantee that everything will be all right in this respect. You will not get more stable relations under any other regime." The general perception of both Russian and Ukrainian observers is that the Kremlin unofficially favors Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych for president. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Yushchenko supports freedom of speech

IVANO-FRANKIVSK – Speaking at a press conference here on July 16, Viktor Yushchenko said he is convinced that democracy is impossible without providing complete information to the people. "Your freedom of speech, mass media, means freedom of choice for the people," Mr. Yushchenko told journalists. "A politician who cannot guarantee the freedom of speech will not bring progress to the nation." The presidential candidate stated that Our Ukraine has consistently supported freedom of speech. In the parliament Our Ukraine fights for journalists' rights. Mr. Yushchenko noted that it was his faction that had initiated hearings on the freedom of speech and renewed tax benefits for media. "We see freedom of speech as the primary task for the new government; journalists must be free, and the press must not be persecuted," emphasized Mr. Yushchenko. (www.razom.org.ua)



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Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 10)

sake of power, but primarily to work unceasingly for society, for the country.

Would you be ready to take the reins of a presidency that could become reduced in scope and authority, depending on whether or to what extent political reform succeeds in Ukraine in the next year?

I am absolutely sure that it is necessary to optimize the mandates held by the president, the government and the Parliament. The mandates must include responsibility for the actions of the three branches of power. Absolutely.

The executive branch must work more efficiently. Currently there are many shortcomings, and I see them. For this reason the government needs to be strengthened, so that it can control the execution of the law in Ukraine; so that it has sufficient influence over the vertical structure of power within the country. I am ready to see this through.

The Parliament must be more responsible. The president should have effective influence over both the Parliament and the executive branch. We know that today's model [of governance] is not effective in balancing power. This must be accomplished. If we can do it this year, we will certainly do it this year. If it isn't possible to do this year, if the political powers are not ready, then it will certainly be done during my presidential tenure.

Last question. Where is the weak link in your presidential campaign? Perhaps something that needs more attention paid to it.

I believe that this is not only a problem for me, but also a problem for all political powers: when we say there is a law, all must obey it. We must make fewer declarations. We do not need more signatures on legislative acts on various declarations, memoranda, while [all the while] violating the law.

I believe that those who talk most today about lawlessness are the ones who are breaking the law most often. This is a problem. We need to respect the law.

There is a law on honor and dignity as well. There are spiritual values. There are many faithful [in Ukraine], and we must also live with that faith, with honesty and with conscience.

Politicians suffer from this problem, and I believe it must be eradicated. Society should have access to this information through the mass media by means of freedom of expression, freedom of the press and transparency, so that it is possible to evaluate a specific political situation or a politician.

This is a general problem, one about which I have firm beliefs. I take seriously each and every word I utter. Throughout my life I have held myself accountable for my words, and now more so. Most politicians do not hold such values, which saddens me. I want society to consider this.

Yushchenko accuses...

(Continued from page 1)

Heraschenko, press spokeswoman for Mr. Yushchenko. She said identification that two of the men finally produced showed them to be state militia officers. Mr. Yushchenko said that one of the men simulated a fainting spell in order not to have to show his identification card.

"Such people discredit not only their profession but also the law and the country as a whole," stated Mr. Yushchenko according to the ICTV report.

Mr. Yushchenko, a national deputy and leader of the Our Ukraine parliamentary faction, which is the primary opposition to the administration of the outgoing president, said he had known he was under observation for sometime, but lately it had become obnoxiously obvious and he had tired of it. The presidential front-runner said he would turn to the country's State Security Service to review and monitor the situation further.

Less than a week earlier the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, a watchdog organization, issued a statement in which it noted that administrative resources – government finances, personnel and authority – were already being tapped illegally in Ukraine's presidential election campaigns.

It reported on August 3 that "reliable evidence suggests that governmental officials in several sectors are illegally abusing public institutions to manipulate the outcome of the October 31 presidential election," reported Interfax-Ukraine.

The international organization pointed out that another problem was that TV coverage of the candidates gave priority to Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, Mr. Yushchenko's main competitor. It said that most coverage of Mr. Yushchenko was of a negative nature.

In another report, the Razumkov Center for Economic and Foreign Policy

Studies said that 4 percent of Ukrainians were being forced to actively support the candidacy of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych. A BBC report explained that the Razumkov Center had asked Ukrainian citizens whether they had been forced to take part in "rallies, forums and conferences in support of presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovych."

Some 27 percent of the residents of the Kharkiv Oblast, said they had been forced to do so, while about 8 percent of the residents of the Donetsk Oblast also answered in the affirmative. The survey was taken on July 22-28 among 2,014 adults who lived in 122 cities and towns across Ukraine. The margin of error was 2.3 percent.

Meanwhile, Serhii Tyhytko, the chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine who is on a leave of absence and acting as campaign chairman for Prime Minister Yanukovych, told ICTV on August 10 that the leaders of the Yushchenko campaign were preparing Ukrainian citizens for a social upheaval – a Georgian scenario – as he called it. He explained that by crying foul at every turn in the campaign season, Mr. Yushchenko's people were preparing to accuse the Yanukovych team of fixing the elections with the goal of inciting the Ukrainian citizenry to social unrest and upheaval.

The announcement came as 39 members of the Donetsk organization of the Social Democratic Party United, which is headed by Viktor Medvedchuk, the chief of staff for President Kuchma, announced that they could not support the presidential candidacy of Prime Minister Yanukovych. The group, from the village of Gvardievsk, said the prime minister's present policies did not give any grounds for optimism that he would be able to develop an effective social policy as president. Mr. Yanukovych was chairman of the Donetsk Oblast Administration before becoming prime minister in November 2002.



HELEN OLEK-SCOTT

April 28, 1913 – July 31, 2004

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 22 and to the UNA membership at large that Helen Olek-Scott, Honorary Member of the General Assembly for 10 years, former advisor of the Ukrainian National Association for 24 years, and former secretary of Branch 22, died on Saturday, July 31, 2004.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to her son Steven Olek-Scott and family, and the entire Olek-Scott family. Services were held on Thursday, August 5, 2004, at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Church in Chicago. Mrs. Olek-Scott was laid to rest at St. Nicholas Cemetery in Chicago. Mrs. Olek-Scott will be remembered as one of the major forces in organizing new members in the Chicago area and for her loyalty, dedication and many years of service to the Ukrainian National Association.

Вічна Її Пам'ять!

Employment Opportunity

The Harriman Institute seeks a staff associate to provide assistance with research relating to the Ukrainian Studies Program. He/she will review literature in assigned areas and help develop academic conferences and other events related to Ukrainian studies. He/she will liaise with (international and local) Ukrainian studies scholars/centers and the Ukrainian émigré community in North America. He/she will help update the Program's donor databases and devise questionnaires to obtain client feedback. He/she will help prepare reports and grant proposals. Some overnight, weekend and/or international travel will be required.

Qualifications: Master's degree in international affairs or Slavic studies; fluent command of spoken and written Ukrainian and English; at least 2-3 years experience in a university research setting; familiarity with Ukrainian studies scholarship and intimate knowledge of North American Ukrainian communities. Also necessary are the ability to work independently, demonstrate organizational skills, and have a good working knowledge of computers. Experience working in Ukraine is highly preferable.

Cover letter and resume should be sent to ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu. For more information, contact Frank Bohan, personnel and budget officer, Harriman Institute, Columbia University, 420 W. 118th Street, NY, NY 10027; tel. (212) 854-6217. Applicants will be reviewed starting August 26.

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Pennsylvania Chapter of UMANA elects new officers

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – The Pennsylvania Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) held its annual meeting here at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center on May 19 to elect officers for the upcoming year. The 2004 election marked a change in leadership from the veteran group capably captained for so many years by Wasyl Salak, M.D.

Responding to the resurgence of interest in UMANA, the members of the Pennsylvania Chapter are forging ahead with a fresh slate of candidates, whose mandate is to address the needs and interests of newer UMANA candidates while renewing the activity of long standing full members.

The new officers are: president – Ihor

Fedoriw, O.D.; vice-president – Oksana Baltarowich-Hud, M.D.; secretary – Oksana Sayko, M.D.; treasurer – Orest Hawryluk, M.D., and members-at-large, Larissa Bilaniuk, M.D., George Isajiw, M.D., Vsevolod Kohutiak, M.D., Eugene Novosad, M.D., George Popel, M.D., Ihor Rak, M.D., and Wasyl Salak, M.D.

Additional members present who contributed to the discussion planning the new direction the chapter should take included Oleh Onyskiw, M.D., Natalia Slotylo, M.D., and Roman Dykyj, M.D.

Under the leadership of Dr. Fedoriw, the Pennsylvania Chapter is poised for a serious renaissance of activity. UMANA Pennsylvania has historically been a center of UMANA action, hosting two major

scientific conferences and assemblies of delegates in 1970 and 1986. It is tied for third place with UMANA Michigan for number of active members. In 2003, a hugely successful Philadelphia Open Forum/Seminar on HIV/AIDS in Ukraine was hosted by the then reigning Miss Universe, Justine Pasek, at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center.

The Chapter will continue the work of Drs. Salak and Novosad, presenting lectures of medical interest to senior citizens and the general community. The traditional Yalynka

and picnic, held jointly with the Philadelphia chapter of the Ukrainian Engineer's Society, will remain as requested activities.

Upcoming meetings include the forum "State of Medicine Today" to be held at the Center City Philadelphia in November 2004. The chapter is preparing to actively take part in the UMANA Scientific Conference and Assembly of Delegates in Edmonton, in late June/early July 2005.

For further information about UMANA Pennsylvania, readers may contact Dr. Fedoriw at (610) 434-1371.



UMANA Pennsylvania Chapter officers and members (from left): President Ihor Fedoriw, members Eugene Novosad, Oleh Onyskiw, Natalia Slotylo, and George Isajiw, Vice-President Oksana Baltarowich-Hud, Treasurer Orest Hawryluk, member Roman Dykyj and outgoing President Wasyl Salak.

UOC mission...

(Continued from page 4)

Andrew's Society, the Ukrainian Orthodox League and individual parishes through a multitude of civic funds have provided for the needs of children, especially the orphans in Ukraine. Six years ago, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church here in America coordinated an effort to establish a neo-natal unit at a children's hospital in Chernihiv, just 60 miles from Chernobyl.

Recently, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. has taken on the sponsorship of two orphanages in Ukraine, again through the coordination of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. One children's home is in Znamianka, Kirovohad Oblast, and the other in Zaluchia, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast.

The Zaluchia orphanage is home to many handicapped children that probably will never be adopted. This is the second time that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church has sent such a mission team to work at these two orphanages.

Russia bashing...

(Continued from page 3)

name these agents and the countries that employ them. Have any of them been arrested and charged with "preventing integration"? Is there such a crime in the Ukrainian or Russian criminal codes?

President Putin's revelation about these mythical agents was his formal entry into the Ukrainian election campaign on the side of Viktor Yanukovich.

Mr. Yanukovich had clearly demonstrated his loyalty to the Kremlin only a few days prior to the Yalta summit by reversing his mind on the matter of which direction oil would flow in the Odesa-Brody pipeline. The Ukrainian prime minister chose the route favored by Mr. Putin and the Russian oil companies, that is from Brody to Odesa.

By doing so, Yanukovich endeared himself to the Russians and proved that no Western agent was capable of messing with his mind.

Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood: Roundtable V: "Ukraine's Transition to a Stable Democracy"

September 13/14, 2004

Montpellier Room

James Madison Memorial Building
6th Floor

US Library of Congress
101 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC

Monday, September 13th

9 a.m. - Opening Remarks
9:30 a.m. - Focus Session I
10 a.m.-12:45 p.m. - 3 Panels - Session I -
Rule of Law: Assessing Ukraine's Progress
12:45-2:45 p.m. - Working Lunch:
2004 Elections - UA Third Section/Fourth Estate Speaks Out
2:45-5:30 p.m. - 3 Panels - Session II -
Development of Civil Society: Assessing Ukraine's Progress
5:30-6 p.m. - Focus Session II
7:30 p.m. - Patrons' Reception

Tuesday, September 14th

9 a.m. - Focus Session III
9:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. - 3 Panel - Session III -
Protection of Fundamental Rights: Assessing Ukraine's Progress

12:15-2:15 p.m. - Working Lunch: 2004
Elections - UA Political Spectrum Speaks Out
2:15-5 p.m. - 3 Panels - Session IV
Comparing Models of Government in the Post Soviet Space
5-5:30 p.m. - Focus Session IV
5:30-6 p.m. - Concluding Remarks
7-9 p.m. - Conference Reception

The organizers of the *Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable Series* are pleased to announce that this year's *Roundtable*, the fifth of its kind, will be hosted by the U.S. Library of Congress in its prestigious Montpellier Room/James Madison Building complex on September 13-14, 2004. The forum will be entitled "*Ukraine's Transition to a Stable Democracy*" and will be held at a crucial time for Ukraine: one month before the presidential elections and the next big test for the country's democratic institutions.

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference participants at the:
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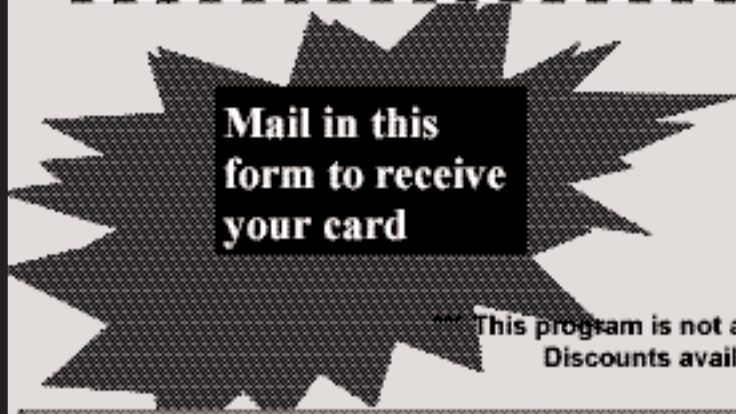


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"Ukrainian-American...

(Continued from page 5)

"Russia Bordering on Ruin Once Again" (August 25); "Situation in Ukraine Creates New Crisis in Russian Cabinet" (September 11); "Ukraine on Side of Kerensky" (September 15); "40 Different Nationalities Take Part in Kyiv Congress" (September 29).

On November 20, Svoboda greeted the third Rada universal proclaiming the establishment of an autonomous Ukrainian republic with bold headlines: "Independent Ukraine: Bolshevik Leadership Proclaims Right of Self-Determination of Russia's Peoples - Kerensky Flees." Admitting that Ukraine's move toward greater independence came as a surprise, Svoboda, like the Rada, still believed an alliance with Russia was possible. "We must believe that the national declaration of independence of the peoples is only the first programmatic step taken at the congress in Kyiv," Svoboda declared the same day. "The next item on the agenda must be the creation of a democratic federation of free peoples for the purpose of peaceful coexistence and a common defense."

Svoboda initially welcomed the forced Bolshevik takeover of the Russian government. Federal union was still possible, Svoboda editorialized, if the Russians would accept "separation for all non-Muscovite peoples from the Muscovite nation." When Bolshevik words turned to Bolshevik domination, Svoboda changed its mind again. By December 13, Svoboda was blasting Lenin and Trotsky for calling the Rada bourgeois. "It is true that the Rada is not wholly socialistic because it includes representatives of other organizations ... and that is because the Rada is a representative body for all Ukraine. ... But to tell the truth, Bolsheviks would not be happy even if the Rada were socialist. They would be satisfied only if the Rada were Bolshevik. ... Ukraine does not need one party to run things."

By January 1918, Svoboda was even more wary of the Bolsheviks. "The Ukrainian Rada in Kyiv is having troubles not only with Russian Bolsheviks but also with Ukrainian Bolsheviks, or rather, the 'homegrown' variety," Svoboda wrote. "Why should there be a Russian Social Democratic Party in Ukraine as well as a Ukrainian Social Democratic Party as an affiliate?"

Responding to the Rada's January 22 declaration of independence (by a vote of 508 to 4), Svoboda editorialized:

"This change in posture did not come about as the result of the Rada's own initiative. This change was precipitated by Muscovy's traditional approach to Ukraine.

"Ukraine has had enough of Muscovite brotherhood. Ukraine was once united with tsarist Muscovy as a free and autonomous nation. Muscovy trampled this freedom and subjected the Ukrainian people to a yoke of oppression. ...

"Ukrainians fought alongside Muscovites to rid themselves of tsarist oppression. They toppled the tsar and his bureaucracy; it appeared as if the two brotherly peoples could now enjoy their freedom and independently decide their destinies.

"But no. The regime of Prince Lvov 'permitted' Ukrainian students to learn in their own language and there the matter ended. ... The socialist Kerensky came into power but he too hesitated in permitting full autonomy to Ukraine. ... The Bolsheviks took over. In principle, they not only recognize Ukraine's right to autonomy but to independence as well; in practice, however, they support the Muscovite-Bolshevik front in Ukraine ... with rifles and cannons.

"To all these provocations of the new Muscovy, from Lvov to Lenin, the Rada - only now, in unequivocal terms - has

answered with the proclamation of an independent Ukrainian republic."

"The struggle of the Ukrainian National Rada against the Bolsheviks," explained Svoboda, "is the struggle of federalism against centralism. It is the struggle of the Drahomaniv ideal against those of Lenin. ... Every neutral person must admit that within Lenin's program there is hidden a streak of Russophilism."

The Ukrainian Alliance of America, meanwhile, established a Ukrainian information bureau in the Capitol office suite of Rep. [James A.] Hamill and intensified its efforts to influence U.S. foreign policy. By that time, however, the Poles had already gained the upper hand within the White House. When President [Woodrow] Wilson promulgated his famed "Fourteen Points" on January 8, 1918, calling for, among other things, national self-determination in Europe and a redrawing of European boundaries along national lines, the 13th point dealt specifically with Poland. It declared that "an independent Polish state should be erected which should include the territories inhabited by an indisputably Polish population, which should be assured free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity would be guaranteed by covenant." The alliance responded to Wilson's Fourteen Points with the following telegram to the president:

"We greet your message on the peace program with heartfelt appreciation [and believe it is] a means of opening the way for a free world in modern times. ... In particular we appreciate your declaration that the new Polish kingdom should embrace only those lands which are indisputably inhabited by Poles. This signals support for the cause of the Ukrainian people which are now struggling against attempts ... to subject the Ukrainian provinces of East Galicia, northwestern Bukovyna, and Kholm, inhabited by over 5 million Ukrainians, to the new Polish kingdom, ruled by Polish nobility."

Initially, the Ukrainian American community believed that Wilson's support for national self-determination included Ukraine's aspirations. Their optimism was short-lived.

In his reflections on Ukrainian American involvement during this period, Father [Peter] Poniatyshyn related how, with the assistance of Rep. Hamill, the UNA and other alliance executives met with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, East European specialists in the State Department, and even Secretary of State Robert Lansing. The response was always the same: it was in the best interests of the United States to have Ukraine remain an integral part of Russia.

Memories of...

(Continued from page 7)

sports stadium named after him.

Hundreds of thousands of athletes, coaches, officials and tourists will be in Athens for the Olympics. Each will leave with a story from this special event that's nearly 3,000 years old. My own story intertwines however briefly with the story of one of history's greatest athletes and with the story of an unsung hero of Ukraine's liberation, how Ukraine's flag made its first appearance on an Olympic playing field: the blue top emblazoned with "CCCP" and the yellow pants that Valerii Borzov wore for the 100 meters in Montreal. I hope he, Osyp Zinkewych, and everyone else enjoy the 2004 Games as much as I will, parked as I'll be in front of a TV set, comfortably positioned midway between then and now, marveling at the skill of today's athletes and wondering at the way 28 years can fly by like a 100-meter dash. Wow!



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UKRAINIAN SPORTS FEDERATION OF U.S.A. AND CANADA



UKRAINIAN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP OF USA AND CANADA LABOR DAY, 2004

Dates: September 4-6, 2004

Place: Soyuzivka, UNA Resort, Kerhonkson, NY

Starting Times: Play will start Saturday, September 4, at 8:30 a.m.
For individual starting times contact tournament committee at Soyuzivka after 5 p.m.
on Friday, September 3.

Rules: All USTA and USCAK rules for tournament play will apply. Participants must be Ukrainian by birth, heritage or marriage. Play will be in singles only. Players should enter only one playing group. However, players wishing to play in second group should indicate so on the entry form but designate the first choice group. Play in two groups will be determined by the tournament committee.

Awards: Trophies, funded by the Ukrainian National Association, will be awarded to winners and finalists in each playing group. Financial stipends, funded by Winner Ford Group, Mr. John Hynansky owner, will be awarded to winners and finalists of men's, women's and junior groups.

Host Club: KLK, Ukrainian American Sports Club.

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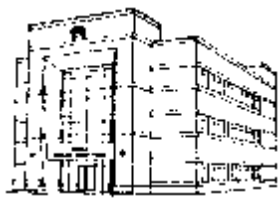
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Ukraine's media...

(Continued from page 3)

who investigated high-level government corruption. Secret tape recordings made in President Kuchma's office shortly before Mr. Gongadze's disappearance in September 2000 appear to implicate the president in the journalist's abduction.

The report highlights how the Kuchma administration directly distorts news and skews coverage of political affairs. In addition to state influence and interference, the report outlines other obstacles facing the news media in Ukraine, including economic vulnerabilities, poor ethical standards and inadequate journalism training.

The presidential administration has also reportedly issued a series of decrees forbidding any reporting of negative statements about Ukraine by international organizations or governments, suggesting a "determined attempt to shield the electorate from criticism emanating from Brussels and Washington," the report said.

"According to our earlier assessment, the level of official harassment of Ukraine's independent media made unlikely an open contest of ideas and opinions ahead of October's elections," said Ms. Windsor. "Now we are seeing a stepping up of intimidation, along with the alarming death of a journalist. This raises fresh concerns not only that honest and fair coverage of the elections will be absent, but that overall press freedom conditions in Ukraine are reaching a new, perilous low."

The report warns that despite the inability of President Kuchma to seek a third term, he and his backers will attempt to determine the electoral victory of a chosen successor.

Unless the international community

and Ukraine's media owners, editors, journalists and civic organizations exert substantial pressure, uniformity and bias in mass media coverage of Ukraine's political life will only intensify in the run-up to the elections, the report warns.

Among several recommendations, the report urges the Ukrainian government to:

- immediately cease issuing and distributing "temnyky" (theme directives that instruct editors on news coverage), and end the intimidation of top-level editors at news media companies; and

- ensure equal access of leading candidates to the airwaves on state-owned television and radio broadcasts, and guarantee that candidates criticized in state-owned media are given equal air time in the lead up to voting.

The report also urges the international community to:

- urge Ukraine's government and administration to uphold freedom of speech and freedom of information rights, and in particular to legally enforce domestic laws already protecting these freedoms in Ukraine;

- ensure that international election monitoring begins six months before the vote, with extensive and systematic monitoring of news media bias and equal access.

The report was prepared for Freedom House by Jeremy Druker and Dean Cox, Prague-based analysts at Transitions Online, in cooperation with the Freedom House research team.

In last year's annual global survey of press freedom, Freedom of the Press 2003, Freedom House downgraded Ukraine from "partly free" to "not free," because of "state censorship of television broadcasts, continued harassment and disruption of independent media, and the failure of the authorities to adequately investigate attacks against journalists."

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

teachers who fully meet the requirements of general education in Ukraine. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Russia allocates funds for UOC-MP

MOSCOW – Russian President Vladimir Putin instructed the External Economic Bank of Russia to issue a check for 10 million rubles (about \$350,000) to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) for the restoration of its church buildings, it was reported on June 11. Serhii Storchak, deputy head of the External Economic Bank, handed the check to Metropolitan Volodymyr Sabodan, leader of the UOC-MP. The money will go toward the restoration of the Cathedral of All Saints of Volyn in northwestern Lutsk; the cathedral in Ternopil; the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Symferopol, Crimea; the cathedral in Ivano-Frankivsk; and the Memorial Church Complex in Kyiv. Metropolitan Volodymyr stressed that the money will be used to build churches in cities where the UOC-MP communities lost their church buildings because of the division in Ukrainian Orthodoxy. “We are currently concerned over the division among the Ukrainian people, caused by the recent split,” said Metropolitan Volodymyr. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Georgian, Ukrainian presidents meet

YALTA – Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili met with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in Yalta on August 10, Rustavi-2 and Caucasus Press reported. The two presidents reviewed measures seeking to expand bilateral cooperation in energy and trade, and discussed the latest situation in South Ossetia. The visit is characterized as “unofficial” and is timed with the 64th birthday of the

Ukrainian leader. (RFE/RL Newsline)

UOC-KP exarch in Greece dies

KYIV – Metropolitan Tymofii (Kutalianos) of Korsun (Keratsyn and Salamin), the patriarchal exarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyivan Patriarchate (UOC-KP) in Greece, passed away on July 31. The metropolitan was appointed by the Synod on March 15, 1996. Patriarch Filaret, head of the UOC-KP, forwarded a telegram of condolences to the faithful in Greece in which he wrote: “Our Church lost a faithful son who sincerely witnessed about the Kyivan Patriarchate in Greece and devoted himself to the task of recognition thereof by the Hellenic sister Church.” According to a decree of Patriarch Filaret, Archimandrite Nektarii, the protosyncellus (chancellor) of the patriarchal exarchate in Greece, is to serve as acting head. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

New UOC-KP bishop ordained

KYIV – In accordance with a decision of the Holy Synod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyivan Patriarchate (UOC-KP), Archimandrite Feodosii (Paikush) on July 28 was ordained bishop of Chernihiv and Nizhyn in St. Volodymyr Cathedral in Kyiv. Patriarch Filaret (Denysenko), head of the UOC-KP, performed the ordination together with bishops of the UOC-KP. Patriarch Filaret addressed the new bishop: “After you received secular education and graduated from the seminary, you worked in God’s vineyard for more than 13 years. At a mature age, you took monastic vows and worked fruitfully as a pastor in the Chernihiv eparchy. Now, through the election of the Holy Synod and Chernihiv clergy, the Lord calls you to a higher ministry as bishop... A bishop can do much good for the Church if he has in his soul the constant fear of the Lord and awareness of his responsibility.” (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Rising abuse...

(Continued from page 2)

ted, “I, for example, am in favor of harnessing administrative resources in total” (Ukrainska Pravda, July 22). To minimize the potential for such manipulation, Mr. Kushnariov recommended that oblast chairmen be popularly elected, rather than appointed by the executive.

However, Mr. Kushnariov has himself abused state-administrative resources to support Mr. Yanukovych. He organized a pro-Yanukovych rally on July 14 that was attended by some 70,000 Kharkiv residents. Most of the crowd turned out because employees in state enterprises and state institutions had been ordered to attend on threat of losing their jobs or being expelled from their university. The Kharkiv branch of Mr. Yushchenko’s election campaign received hundreds of complaints from local residents who had been forced to attend the rally. Similarly, Transport Minister Heorhii Kirpa’s newly established pro-Kuchma revival party reportedly is forcing employees in the transportation sector to join under threat of losing their jobs or vacation leave (Ukrainska Pravda, July 13 and 17).

How much this type of abuse of state-administrative resources will backfire against the authorities is difficult to foretell. Mr. Yushchenko’s supporters handed out campaign literature at the Kharkiv rally, which were eagerly taken (Ukraina Moloda, July 15).

When asked about the Kharkiv rally, Mr. Tyhypko replied, “Administrative resources should not be used in any way.” His reasoning was not based on principles, but because, Mr. Tyhypko said, “I fear that it [administrative resources] will bury the candidate and his best qualities” (Ukrainska Pravda, July 15). Attempts to portray Mr. Yanukovych in a better light, particularly by

papering over his prison record, will obviously fail if such blatant abuses continue. Anatolii Kinakh, the dissident candidate from the pro-Kuchma camp, warned his colleagues, “I am certain that those who dream about victory obtained only on the basis of administrative resources or domination of the media are deeply wrong” (Ukrainska Pravda, July 10).

The Kuchma camp has utilized state resources in several ways. Meetings have been held in factories or town halls where employees are “advised” by state bureaucrats about which candidate to pick. Reports of people being forced to sign pre-printed texts in support of Mr. Yanukovych have appeared throughout Ukraine, ranging from librarians in the Lviv Oblast, residency associations and students in Sumy, to medical staff and patients in Odesa (Ukrainska Pravda, July 21 and 22). Each signature is reportedly worth one hryvnia (about 20 cents). Teachers are sent instructions to take to the streets and support Mr. Yanukovych when he visits a city. According to Mr. Yanukovych’s election team, they have already collected 1 million signatures, when the election law only requires candidates to collect 500,000 (TV Channel 5, July 21).

Other tactics include pressuring bus companies to refuse to transport opposition supporters to rallies, closing roads and denying access to meeting facilities or public squares for opposition rallies (Ukrainska Pravda, June 29).

State-administrative resources can play a negative role against the authorities but, at the same time, they can also assist them in winning elections. They can provide the 5 to 10 percent vote margin to tip the balance in closely fought elections, such as the upcoming presidential race in Ukraine (Ukraina Moloda, July 3).



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The Eurasia Foundation (EF), an international non-profit organization supporting the development of civil society and private enterprise in the countries of the former Soviet Union, is accepting applications for the following position: **Regional Vice President for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova.**

Based in Kyiv, Ukraine, the Regional Vice President will oversee the work of all Foundation programs in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova. As the Foundation’s key representative and decision-maker in the region, the Regional Vice President leads the strategic programming, evaluation, and outreach activities ensuring program consistency and optimum effectiveness in the region and represents the interests of the Foundation with donors and partners.

Requirements: Previous program management experience in the former Soviet region required; fluency in written and spoken English; functional Ukrainian and Russian language skills required. At least ten years professional experience in business, non-profit, academic, or government sectors required.

Preferences: Education to the level of master’s degree or equivalent, preferably in public policy, public administration, economics, or business management. Salary commensurate with experience. All qualified candidates welcome to apply.

Please send cover letter and resume to: The Eurasia Foundation, resumes@eurasia.org. Deadline August 31, 2004. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE. EEO

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

August 14, 2004

Miss Soyuzivka Weekend
Zabava - Luna - 10 pm

August 14-22, 2004

Club Suzy-Q Week

August 20, 2004

Pub Night with Midnight Bigus

August 21, 2004

Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky
Dance Camp Recital with
intermission performance by
Olya Chodoba Fryz - 8 pm
Zabava - Fata Morgana - 10 pm

August 22-29, 2004

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August 28, 2004

Halychansky Vechir, details to follow

September 3, 2004

Zabava - Luna - 10 pm

September 4, 2004

Zabava - Fata Morgana & Tempo

September 4-5, 2004

Lisi Jewelry Exhibit and more

September 5, 2004

Zabava - Tempo & Vorony

September 10-12, 2004

KLK Weekend - General Meeting
& 80th Anniversary Banquet
Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion
Plast Sorority Rada -
"Ti Shcho Hrebliv Rvut"

September 11-12, 2004

Plast Sorority Rada -
"Lisovi Mavky"

September 13-16, 2004

Regensburg Reunion

September 18, 2004

Wedding - Michelle Wynarczuk and
Michael Ritz

September 24-25, 2004

Plast Sorority Rada - "Spartanky"



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, August 21

JEWETT, N.Y.: The newly formed "Music at the Grazhda" Chamber Music Society – Natalia Khoma, cello; Solomiya Ivakhiv, violin; Randolph Kelly, viola; Yuri Kharenko, violin; Volodymyr Vynnytsky, piano – makes its debut in a concert at the Grazhda at 8 p.m. The concert program will feature works by Schubert and Brahms. The Grazhda is located on Route 23 A, five miles west of Hunter, N.Y. For additional information call (518) 263-4335.

Sunday, August 22

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub cordially invites everyone to attend its 13th annual Ukrainian Folk Festival celebrating Ukraine's independence. It will commence at noon, on Sunday, August 22, at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads in Horsham, Pa. This year's stage show will feature many folk music and dance artists, including: the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia), the Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (London, Ontario), the Obrij Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (New York) and the summer campers of the Voloshky School of Dance. This year's headliners also include the vocal duo, Sisters Oros (Ukraine and New York), who will present a unique repertoire of Ukrainian folk songs. A solemn prayer for Ukraine led by representatives of all Ukrainian faiths and an a capella performance by the Ukrainian Baptist Male Choir will add further depth to the occasion. The festivities will close with a Ukrainian dance to the music of the Harmonia Orchestra. Traditional Ukrainian ethnic foods, standard picnic fare and cool refreshments will be available throughout the day. There will also be a bazaar with folk arts, crafts, music and video vendors and exhibitors. Admission is \$10 per person; free for children under 13.

HORSHAM, Pa.: USO Tryzub (Phila.) will square off against Ukraina S.C. (Toronto) for the 2004 North American Ukrainian Soccer League Championship, officially sanctioned by the Ukrainian Sport Center of America and Canada (USCAK). The competition will take place at the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, Lower State and County Line roads, Horsham, Pa., during the Folk Festival commemorating the 13th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence. The festivities are scheduled to commence at noon; the game begins at 4:30 p.m. Ukraina S.C. reached the finals competition at the USCAK-West tournament on May 29-30 in Detroit. Tryzub took first place at the

USCAK-East tournament held on Independence Day weekend, 2004, at Verkhovyna, Glen Spey, N.Y. At the conclusion of the game, USCAK representatives will award the winner with the USCAK Cup.

TRENTON, N.J.: The Ukrainian National Home will host a festival celebration to honor the 13th anniversary of Ukrainian independence. The celebration will be held at 477 Jeremiah Ave. beginning at 1 p.m. A moleben will be celebrated at 2 p.m. by local priests from St. George Ukrainian Orthodox Church and St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church. Festivities include opening remarks by Petro Tereschuk, head of the Ukrainian National Home, performances by the church choirs of the aforementioned two parishes, the Evangelical Baptist Church and an address by local municipal officials. Entertainment planned for children includes prizes donated by Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, as well as volleyball and soccer games for young and old alike. Ukrainian food and drinks will be served. Admission for adults is \$2; free for children. For more information call Mr. Tereschuk, (609) 406-9224, or Roman Kuzyk, (609) 809-7533.

Saturday, August 28

WILDWOOD, N.J.: The Plast sorority Spartanky are organizing a Mixed Triples Volleyball and Doubles Bocce Ball Tournament. For further information please visit the website at www.geocities.com/spartanky/volleyball_bocce_english.doc or contact Tania Dulyn at taniadulyn@yahoo.com.

Sunday, August 29

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The Committee for Aid to Ukraine (Central New Jersey Branch) will host a celebration of the 13th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., Somerset (South Bound Brook), NJ. The program will begin at 3 p.m. The program will feature the vocal-instrumental ensemble "Ukrainian Barvy" from Kyiv; opera and theater soprano Anna Bachynska; opera and theater tenor Roman Cymbala; the opera and theater pianist Maria Cymbala; youth and dance ensemble Barvinok. The entrance fee is a \$15 donation towards the betterment of education in Ukraine. For more information about the program or the cause it supports call Michael Shulha, (908) 534-6683; Damjan Gecha, (908) 755-8156; or the Rev. Ivan Lyshyk, (908) 253-0410 or (212) 873-8550.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$20 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received **prior** to publication.

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.

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