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**Ambassador's Briefing:
Ukraine Today**
by Natalie Sluzar

After four months on the post as U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, Roman Popadiuk returned to Washington for consultations and dropped in on a TWG Board of Directors meeting.

Ambassador Popadiuk described the rapid expansion of the U.S. Embassy in Kiev, making it the largest diplomatic representation in Ukraine. There are currently 45 staff members, including staff from the United States Information Agency, De-

Continued on page 10

**Our Consul Knows
Her D's**

by R. L. Chomiak

In January, 1992, when the United States took possession of an imposing Kiev building to house its embassy, it felt like walking into a movie set: desks were cluttered with papers and various accessories, as if the office occupants had just stepped out for lunch, but the calendars were opened to August, 1991. The building, formerly the headquarters of the Shevchenko district committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, had been sealed since the abortive *putsch*, and reopened only after it was leased to the U.S.

TWG member and former editor of TWG NEWS, Maria Rudensky, arrived in the embassy just a week after it was unsealed, as one of its consular officers. She shared her impressions — those of an American diplomat in a brand new country called Ukraine — with TWG members at the Ukrainian Catholic Shrine in Washington October 26.

The description of the eerie building when it was unsealed was second hand — from her colleagues Jon Gundersen, the embassy's charge d'affaires, and political officer John Stepanchuk, who also shared their "opening day" photos with her; everything else was Marika's first person account.

She emphasized at the outset, that she was speaking as a TWG member to TWG members, not as a representative of the U.S. Department of State. She did a show-and-tell about her job: showing pictures, and telling what she does, six and seven days a week, with more than eight hours on a given day.

There are four sections in the Kiev embassy, she said. They are political, economic, administrative and consular. In the consular section, Rudensky said, "We deal with the little people, we deal with the average Ukrainian citizens who have some matter with the American government." These days, the typical matter is the visa, she explained, and added that since August, 1992, the American consulate in Kiev issues

Continued on page 8

TWG Events

Tuesday, December 1
Breakfast with
Charles Mayne, Editor
Foreign Policy

Friday, December 4
TWG Christmas Party

Friday, December 11
Breakfast with
John Sears, Chairman
of the
Nixon and Reagan
Presidential Campaigns

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Happy Thanksgiving



From the TWG Board of Directors:

• A list of TWG Leadership Conference attendees is available upon request for a \$5.00 processing fee. If you attended the conference, or are interested in knowing who did, please submit your request to:

TWG Leadership Conference List
P. O. Box 11248
Washington, DC 20008

• December is usually the month when many of the TWG members renew their membership. If your membership expires in December, please remember to renew promptly. Renewal notices are sent only once.

• As a special reminder to those members whose membership expired several months ago, a complimentary issue of TWG NEWS was mailed to them to encourage renewal.

• TWG membership can now be charged to your Visa or Master card. Call Nick Babiak (202)347-4264

• Taras Shevchenko Ridna Shkola is once again asking for your Giant and Safeway cash register receipts. These supermarkets are donating computers and other educational equipment for a certain value of cash register receipts. Last year the school was able to get a computer and some equipment. Please send your receipts to TWG, P. O. Box 11248, Washington, DC 20008.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Roman Popadiuk	1
Maria Rudensky	1
Award Presentations	3
Town Meeting	4
Legal Aspects of Reform	5
New Members	5
S&T Infrastructure	6
Health and Medical Aspects	7
Notes on Members	7
Community Calendar	11

Secretary of Defense Cheney and Syndicated Columnist Cord Meyer Receive TWG Awards

(Below is an abridged text of the award presentations made by TWG President Lydia Chopivsky-Benson at the Leadership Conference Banquet)

Friend of Ukraine Award:

It comes as no surprise to anyone that the Honorable Richard Cheney was chosen to receive The Washington Group's Friend of Ukraine Award. Secretary Cheney was a "friend" to Ukraine long before it was popular to do so.

As a member of Congress and as a member of the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives, Congressman Cheney of Wyoming supported the interests of the "Captive Nations" and supported the various resolutions and legislative interests pursued by the Ukrainian-American community. His interest in these issues continued after he became Secretary of Defense.

In September, 1990, when many others in Washington were listening to and following the urging of Gorbachev and Sheverdnadze to avoid the "radical nationalists" of Ukraine, and while he was supervising the extraordinary Desert Storm mobilization, Secretary Cheney was open to receiving all forms of information regarding the development of the democratic movement in Ukraine.

Among the highest officers of the United States Government, it has been Secretary Cheney who has listened to the Ukrainian perspective from the outset, it has been Secretary Cheney who looked past the self-serving admonitions of Gorbachev's Kremlin. It was Secretary Cheney who moved quickly to establish communications and relations with independent Ukraine's Ministry of Defense.

Last November, before Ukraine's referendum, President Bush prepared to meet with representatives of the Ukrainian-American community and the White House continued to evaluate Ukraine and the significance of the referendum. Then, on the day before Thanksgiving, the President met with Ukrainian-Americans (and I might add, one Irish-American, who happened to be very influential in promoting Ukraine with the Secretary) and announced his desire to "applaud" Ukraine's expected vote for independence. Obviously, this was a major story.

But remember what was in every news story about the President's announcement: that there had been competing views within the Administration. The press reported that Cheney's argument was, "To get in on the ground floor...so as not to sour our relations with such an important state..."

With Ukrainian independence and United States recognition came a new Defense Department initiatives. Secretary Cheney invited Minister Morozov to visit the United States, to establish formal relations with the Pentagon. This was important not only for the United States and Ukraine, but for the world perceptions of how the United States intended to treat Ukraine.

The first time the blue and yellow flag of independent Ukraine flew on a U.S. government flagpole was at the Pentagon as 19 cannons fired their salute and Secretary Cheney welcomed Ukraine's Minister of Defense. It was April, 1992. Within weeks Secretary Cheney provided a 21 gun salute and a Pentagon welcome to President Kravchuk.

Just last month, Secretary Cheney welcomed the Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Rada, Ivan Pliushch, to the Pentagon. The Chairman and the Secretary had very meaningful discussions and, as a result of those discussions, a number of issues of great importance to Ukraine are being pursued by the Administration. As we dine here tonight, Under Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense Lewis Libby are flying to Kiev on behalf of the Secretary for meetings with Minister Morozov and others.

Ukraine and Ukrainian-Americans can be thankful, and proud, because Dick Cheney has been an extraordinary friend of Ukraine. Secretary Cheney's schedule did not allow him to join us this evening, He did, however, send a message that I will now read:.

It is indeed a great honor to be the recipient of the award that your organization has bestowed upon me. I am delighted to be recognized officially as a "friend of Ukraine". I regret being out of town and unable to be with you at your banquet to personally receive the award, but please be assured that I am with you in spirit.

Were I able to be present I am sure we would enjoy sharing our mutual appreciation and support for the importance of independence, freedom and prosperity in Ukraine, and increasingly warm and close relations between Ukraine and the United States. These were the same views I had the privilege of sharing earlier this year with many leaders from Ukraine during their visits to the United States.

I wish you the best for a successful conference and banquet and again, thank you for the award.

*Dick Cheney
Secretary of Defense*

Continued on page 9

Town Meeting on International Trade, Investment and Technical Assistance to Ukraine

by Andrian Karmazyn

The second morning session, a "town meeting" on international trade, investment and technical assistance featured six speakers. Andrew Bihun of the Department of Commerce served as moderator.

Tamara Woroby, associate professor of economics at Towson State University, began her talk by identifying the major players involved in the process of rebuilding Ukraine's economy: the Ukrainian government, economists and the international community. Professor Woroby stressed the importance for the Ukrainian government to introduce a new currency and that this would provide the chance to wipe the slate clean and start over. She cautioned that the government should bear in mind the lessons learned from the introduction and use of the Ukrainian coupon and that a concerted effort must be made to truly begin privatization. The government must take control of economic policy, she said. Professor Woroby noted that the role of the international community is to provide seed money for the former Soviet republics to carry out reform on their own. Although there is much talk about rapid privatization, organizations like the International Monetary Fund recognize the difficulties of embarking on such a course. The problem is not so much that Ukraine isn't emulating the more austere Polish program for economic reform, but rather that it hasn't come up with a Ukrainian plan that deals with macroeconomic stabilization and structural reform, explained Prof. Woroby.

Michael Oxman of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation described the ways in which his organization assists US investors who wish to invest abroad. OPIC provides investors with financing, insurance and investor services. OPIC provides information on the host country's investment laws and conducts feasibility studies. He said that nearly forty parties have expressed interest in investing in Ukraine with the help of OPIC. Mr. Oxman noted that these potential investors are interested in projects involving telecommunications, refining, consumer goods, cable television and fertilizer. OPIC plans to send a mission to Ukraine in April, 1993.

Serhiy Koulyk, principal economic officer at the Ukrainian Embassy is responsible for the development of bilateral trade relations between Ukraine and the US. He listed several agreements signed between the US and Ukraine in this area, including the bilateral trade agreement signed during President Kravchuk's visit to Washington in May of this year. He noted that one of the main problems in developing trade is the lack of Ukrainian products that can be sold abroad. He invited the audience to attend the first Ukrainian-American trade

show which will be held in Las Vegas in early December. In response to a question about Ukraine's failure to meet IMF requirements on economic reform in comparison with Russia's apparently respectable record, Mr. Koulyk called the Russian promises a bluff, saying that Russia has been unable to keep its commitments to the IMF. He said that Ukraine is trying to take a realistic approach.

Jack Brougher, director of the Commerce Department's Russia and Independent States Division stated that the Department of Commerce has opened a Foreign Commercial Service Office in Kiev to assist American business persons wishing to invest in Ukraine. Thus far, the department has sponsored one trade mission to Ukraine which involved eight food processing companies. Another mission, involving medical and pharmaceutical companies, is in the planning stages. Mr. Brougher also discussed a business internship program which will soon bring some 17 Ukrainians to the US to participate in internships in American companies. He said that last year the US exported \$100 million worth of goods (mostly wheat and corn) to Ukraine and that Ukraine exported about \$24 million in goods (mostly chemicals) to the US.

Oleh Semenets, an official with the Ukrainian government responsible for coordinating international technical assistance in Ukraine, noted that Italy is most active in terms of aiding Ukraine. He said that Italy has allocated \$25 million of aid per year for 1992-4. He said that Canada, Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, Turkey, Egypt, India and the United States are also providing significant assistance. Ukraine hopes to direct the aid it receives toward supporting the transition to a market economy, food processing industries, defense conversion, solving environmental problems and supporting democracy. The emphasis is on training those involved in rebuilding the economy, said Semenets.

The last speaker during the second morning session was Greg Huger of the US Agency for International Development. As director of the Office of Private Sector Initiatives for the newly independent states he explained that the program is demand driven, i.e., there is no specific budget for Ukraine. Mr. Huger said that his office looks to support long-term business partnerships between US and Ukrainian companies, tries to support local small businesses in Ukraine and tries to support efforts of government officials involved in promoting the above. AID aims to provide advisors and lists of Americans with appropriate experience. Noting Ukraine's vast agricultural potential he said that AID is putting \$60 million into supporting US agribusinesses to work in the newly independent states.

Legal Aspects of Ukrainian-American Cooperation

by *Daria Stec*

On Saturday afternoon of The Washington Group's Leadership Conference, The Ukrainian American Bar Association (UABA) sponsored a panel discussion on "Legal Aspects of Ukrainian-American Cooperation." Myroslaw Smorodsky, President of the UABA and counsel to a major international trading company, moderated the panel.

The first speaker was the Honorable Bohdan Futey, a judge on the United States Claims Court. Judge Futey discussed Ukraine's draft Constitution, which is being reviewed for comment by attorneys and constitutional experts in the West. He noted that there are several problems with the Constitution as currently drafted. In general, it is very long and cumbersome, enumerating many rights that cannot be enforced, or which the government or another law can take away. Many provisions contradict free market principles. Judge Futey emphasized that, before a workable Constitution can be drawn up, Ukraine must determine what type of political structure to adopt. At this point, Ukraine appears to be moving towards a unitary rather than federal system of government.

According to Judge Futey, Ukraine needs to move from a legal command system to the rule of law before a market economy can flourish. In addition, the judiciary must be made independent of and equal to the other branches of government. Although President Kravchuk has strongly endorsed both principles, the Constitution as currently drafted does not clearly reflect this intent.

Judge Futey recommendations for strengthening Ukraine's judiciary included the following: establishing a procuracy that is not within the judicial branch; ensuring the independence of the judicial from the legislative and executive branches; providing lifetime tenure and an adequate salary for judges; allocating a fixed percentage of the budget to the judiciary, clearly defining procedures for nominating and appointing judges; granting judges full immunity; guaranteeing public trials and decisions; creating a code of professional conduct; and shortening the Constitution. In sum, Judge Futey believes that "What is needed is a credible document that will gain the confidence of the people."

Ms. Maureen O'Brien, a private practitioner in Florida who specializes in international investment, business and corporate law with a primary emphasis on business in Ukraine, spoke about the various options for and current trends in, foreign investment in Ukraine. Ms. O'Brien noted, that initially, joint ventures were the primary vehicle for foreign companies to conduct business in Ukraine because they were

the only option in a closed society. Many joint ventures have been successful, but a significant number have been terminated. Now there are other options for foreign investors, notable wholly owned subsidiaries and representational or branch offices, and joint ventures can be used only where appropriate. Ms. O'Brien listed various factors that a foreign investor should consider in determining what form of investment to utilize, including the nature and type of business involved, the location, the legal structure of the country in which this investment is to be made, the assets of the parties, and the amount of decision making or control to be exercised by the local partners.

Rounding out the panel was Bohdan Shandor, of the law firm of Mudge Rose Guthrie Alexander & Ferdon. Mr. Shandor spoke about Ukraine's privatization program, which the leadership is saying will commence in a month or two. He noted that what is happening in terms of privatization in the former communist countries is a historical first, and the various countries have adopted differing approaches towards the same end of acquiring capital. Czechoslovakia, for example, undertook the single most aggressive and radical program to get rid of state ownership by giving each citizen an opportunity to purchase vouchers for investment in formerly state-owned property. Poland is giving away vouchers for investment in Western developed mutual funds, in this way providing for ownership that will be 1/3 local and 2/3 foreign. Russia is giving the equivalent of 10,000 rubles in vouchers to each citizen; these vouchers are fully transferable — they can be sold, invested or pooled.

Ukraine's privatization program contemplates distributing 30,000 coupons' worth (about \$100) of non-transferable vouchers to each citizen. According to Mr. Shandor, the non-transferability condition is a terrible mistake because it will create a market for under-the-table deals, an undesirable situation in a developing country.



Science and Technology Infrastructure

by Ihor Vitkovitsky

The second session of the afternoon, "Science and Technology: Base for Modern Infrastructure" dealt with some of the most important topics that must be solved in Ukraine in order for that country to start on the road of recovery, following 70 years of Communism. This session was chaired by Dr. Marta Cehelsky of the National Science Board. Dr. Cehelsky, in her introductory remarks, noted that for Ukraine these are the best times — Ukraine has independent access to resources — and the worst of times with tremendous ecological, economical and political problems, seeking solutions all at the same time.

The first panelist, Dr. George Gamota, Director of the MITRE Institute, stated that his experience directing basic research at the Defense Department, his work with the American Physical Society and his recent involvement with Japanese technology enables him to access Ukraine's problems and needs realistically. He recently met with his Ukrainian counterparts and visited several R&D facilities. Dr. Gamota emphasized that Ukraine is not, by any stretch of imagination, a third world country. It is endowed with a first-rate science and technology base, many gifted scientists, skilled technicians and workers. This scientific infrastructure is in danger of decay because there is no means to pay for it.

Some signs of a new way of doing business are appearing, however. Lviv's "Electron" a TV manufacturing company, 100% employee owned, is very successful. Its TV's are the most popular brand in Ukraine and are also sold in several other countries.

On the national security front, the defense strategies are not fully developed, as evidenced by the reorganization of military districts facing the least threatening fronts. Overall, however, all people in Ukraine—Ukrainians and other nationalities—want to stay independent, especially from Moscow, and wish to join the European community.

In the next presentation, Dr. Mark Rice of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, discussed the "Incubator" program and its expansion into Ukraine. This is a privately funded program which teaches local entrepreneurs how to start businesses. It focuses on the best human resources in a community and attempts to form islands of business activity that could grow throughout the region. There are some 500 Incubator Centers in the U.S.

After unsuccessfully attempting to initiate such centers in Russia, RPI found much more fertile ground in Ukraine. It is now sending a young, successful businessman, Andrew

Dressel, to open a new incubator center in Kiev at the Kiev Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Rice left the audience with an impression, dovetailing that left by Dr. Gamota, that Ukraine has potential for rapidly becoming a country with a vibrant future because it has many people with entrepreneurial ambitions.

Dr. Rice suggested to the conference participants that for those Americans who wish to learn more about this grass roots concept to contact him at RPI (tel: 518-276-6658) or recommend contacting Mr. Dressel in Kiev (telephone has not yet been hooked up)

The final speaker was Dr. Roman Pyrih of GEOCHEM, Inc., director of Ukrainian Operations for the corporation, while at the same time serving as Director of Geochemistry Division. Dr. Pyrih, noted that Ukraine is very rich in minerals. It produces one seventh of the world's iron ore, one third of the world's manganese and some 7% of the world's coal. At this time 80 types of minerals in 800 deposits have been identified in Ukraine. This speaks well for Ukraine's future, but lack of capital and technology is limiting the development of these resources. Inherited mineral extraction technology, poor quality of produced raw materials and wasteful use of mineral wealth, produces billions of tons of mining and processing waste. Much of this "waste" is so rich in valuable minerals that its recovery with modern technology could pay for industrial clean-up.

Dr. Pyrih believes that private sector initiatives will be most promising in starting rational development of mineral resources, clean-up of the environment and ultimately in helping Ukraine get on its feet. For those who want some results from the conference, Dr. Pyrih offered services in Ukraine. GEOCHEM provides cash effective and time-saving services for pursuing opportunities in industrial development in Ukraine. Full information can be obtained by calling the company's headquarters in Lakewood, CO (313-988-8902)

The session was closed by Dr. Cehelsky. She noted the common denominators in the presentations, specifically, the slow pace with which the world's governments move in providing aid to Ukraine. There are, however, very promising opportunities at the micro-economic level. Some very promising things have already begun to happen within the last one-two years. Many new businesses have already opened-up in Ukraine. Helpful economic and business information and hard data is hard to come by, but progress is being made.

Hospital Partnerships Program a “Two-Way Street” Between U.S., Ukrainian Doctors

By Xenia Jowyk

The afternoon session on “Health and Environment in Ukraine” detailed a U.S.-funded hospital partnership program designed to prevent the deterioration of health care in former Soviet republics during the transition to market economies, and to help these institutions upgrade their facilities for the future. Moderated by Dr. Askold D. Mosijczuk, the panel included Jaroslav Dutkewych, recently appointed director of the Peace Corps in Ukraine, and Peter Yu, director of special projects at the American Public Health Association.

The program is funded partially through a \$13-1/2 million grant from the American International Health Alliance (AIHA), a coalition of key hospital and hospital-related organizations. The mix of financial resources also includes “a lot of voluntary time,” according to Mr. Yu, as well as donated equipment and supplies from hospitals and medical institutions. AIHA will work closely with USAID, the U.S. Agency for International Development, to identify, support and coordinate the activities of approximately 10 to 15 partnerships in the 12 republics over the next two years.

Thus far, the program has initiated two U.S.-Ukraine partnerships, one between a hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y. and an Odessa oblast hospital, and another between Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and a hospital in Kiev. According to Mr. Yu, the partnership program aims to build long-lasting relationships between the institutions that involve hospital administrators and managers as well as doctors.

One of the biggest benefits of the program, said Mr. Yu, was the ability to share information among hospitals in the program. “Something we learn in oncology in Alma Ata or Tashkent can be shared with doctors in Chernobyl.” He also

emphasized that the technical exchange was beneficial for both sides. “It’s a full technical exchange—a two-way street. The skills of physicians in Ukraine are as great or greater than those of their U.S. counterparts, who have come to rely heavily on high technology diagnostic tools,” he said. Mr. Dutkewych agreed, adding that the advance teams heading up this partnership found similar problems in Brooklyn and Odessa hospitals.

Also surprising was Mr. Dutkewych’s statement that of the 35 Ukrainian hospitals visited by the team, each has a “junk room,” filled with Western equipment that either doesn’t work, doesn’t have a manual or doesn’t work on the hospital’s European voltage. The junk rooms also often contain medicines that are not used because there is not enough to treat everyone in the hospital with a particular condition, or because the drugs have passed their expiration dates.

According to Mr. Dutkewych, the AIHA delegation also found hospitals whose patients literally didn’t want to go home and who lived at the hospital for over one year. They found the children’s hospital in Lviv to be “one of the best equipped hospitals they’ve ever seen.” Other findings: patients in Ukraine typically stay in the hospital three times as long as patients in U.S. hospitals; laboratories in Ukrainian hospitals often look the way U.S. labs looked in the 1940s; medical records are handwritten; and many hospitals are only 50 percent filled.

Looking ahead, Mr. Yu said the program intends to bring “all public health officials from the former Soviet republics” to the United States in February to expose them to the Western health care system, in particular, financing of health care. Mr. Dutkewych added that there is considerable interest in the exchange program among U.S. facilities.

Notes on Members

Former TWG President **Jaro Bihun** has been assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Kiev to assist the U.S. Information Agency staff. His stay has recently been extended for another month. TWG Society Editor hears that Yaro is having himself a great ol’ time.

Jerry Dutkewych, named Director of the Peace Corps in Ukraine spent some time in Washington with about 60 Peace Corps volunteers before they set off to Ukraine for intensive 3 month language training. TWG and the US-Ukraine Foun-

ation sponsored a send-off reception for them. (see December TWG NEWS) Jerry will stay in Michigan for Thanksgiving and then depart to Ukraine. Good luck!

Roman Ferencewych will be heading out to Kiev next month to replace **George Sajewych** as the VOA Kiev correspondent. Roman will be reporting from Kiev for the next 3 months. Only those in Ukraine will have the opportunity to listen to his reports since VOA cannot broadcast in the U.S. Sorry all you folks in Parma, OH.

Consul Rudensky

continued from page 1

a number of non-immigrant visas. Persons wishing to emigrate to the United States, have to do the visa process in Moscow, which is the regional center for that part of the world.

She also said that this is the trend at American missions abroad, and soon, the single regional consular center for immigrant visas in Western Europe will be in Brussels.

But there are many non-immigrant visas Uncle Sam has in his consular manuals, all of which are available in Kiev. Rudensky listed some of them: B-2 — tourist visa; B-1 — business visa; A-1 — visa for the head of state (yes, President Leonid Kravchuk needs a visa to come to the U.S.) and government ministers; A-2 — visa for lower government officials and diplomats permanently assigned to the United States; C visa for transiting the U.S.; a D visa for aircraft and ship owners; then there is a plethora of J visas for students, professors and scholarly researchers.

The nice thing about getting a U.S. visa in Kiev is that you don't have to stand in line outside the embassy building. Rudensky explained that the way the system works, is that an applicant in Ukraine calls the consulate for an appointment, which usually can be set for two days hence, or at a later date if the applicant wishes. The appointment is for a face-to-face interview with a consular officer, who then decides — based on various guidelines — whether to issue the visa or not, or rather, whether the applicant qualifies as a non-immigrant visitor to the U.S. And after the visa is issued, it's the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) officer on the American soil — at the border, or an airport, who decides how long the visitor can stay in the U.S.

American consuls abroad also deal with American citizens. Rudensky said those usually fall into one of the "D" categories: dead, destitute, diseased, deranged, detained, denaturalized, divorced, or even dehydrated. (Yes, there have been "amcits," as they are called in State department cables, who were afraid to drink Kiev

tap water, and who have come to the consulate asking for a glass to quench their thirst.) And when it comes to the deranged, Rudensky escorted one back to the States when she was traveling for home leave in October (this trip also allowed her to attend the TWG Leadership Conference, and address the October 26 meeting just before returning to Kiev).

In the "dead" category, Consul Rudensky has had to identify the body of a dead American and make arrangements to ship it back to the States for burial. (She has a tip for relatives facing this misfortune: it is very expensive to ship a body back to the U.S.; it's much cheaper to have the loved one buried in Ukraine.)

In the "detained" category she has visited a naturalized American who was imprisoned for burglary. (He is out now).

Rudensky

continued from page 8

The destitute? A victim of a pickpocket thief, who may need a new passport and a small loan.

American Embassy Kiev, which was not yet ten months old when Rudensky addressed the TWG meeting (it was January 23, 1992, that Ukraine and United States exchanged notes on full diplomatic presence in each country) had 30 Americans on staff and 40 Ukrainians. That's big for a country that for some 15 years sought to have an American consulate on its territory, and an embassy seemed like a pipe dream. Last Christmas, the American consulate was operating in Kiev as part of the U.S. mission in USSR, when President Bush decided to grant diplomatic recognition to Ukraine. Then preparations to open and staff an embassy went into high gear. By the end of January, 1992, when former American consul in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Maria Rudensky, arrived in Kiev, there was an American Embassy, and there was a building to house it. There was no Communist Party of Ukraine which had once occupied it.

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Outstanding Journalism Award:

continued from page 3

The Washington Group's Outstanding Journalism Award is presented to a journalist in the electronic or print media who has shown an exemplary perceptiveness and objectivity while reporting on Ukraine.

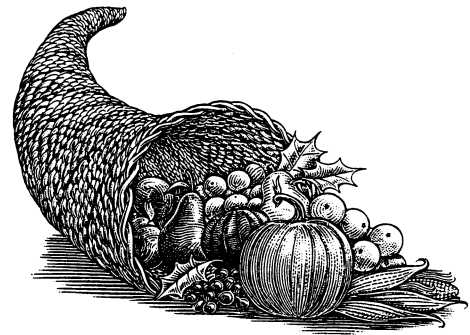
This year's recipient is a nationally syndicated columnist, whose articles appeared in the *Washington Times*, *New York Post*, and the *Birmingham News*, just to name a few. He writes often about Ukraine, and I'm sure many of us can recall articles he has just written (in the *Washington Times*) in the last few months: February 7 — "Old Conflict Creating New Tremors"; April 17 — "Ukrainians Going Their Own Way"; May 15 — "Coming to Terms Over Crimea"; June 5 — "View From Kiev" and most recently in yesterday's (October 9) paper, "Ukraine's Crucial Posture."

He also won a special Weintal Award for his national column on foreign affairs.

Our outstanding journalist's talents do not lie solely in the print media, however. He was with the Central Intelligence Agency from 1951 to 1977, and was instrumental in the development of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, which as we all know had and continues to have a direct impact on Ukraine.

He is a graduate of Yale University, a member of the Society of Fellows at Harvard University, and is a retired captain of the United States Marine Corps, who has earned a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

I am proud to introduce to you the recipient of The Washington Group's Outstanding Journalism Award—Mr. Cord Meyer.



Ambassador's Briefing

continued from page 1

partment of Commerce Foreign Commercial Service, United States Agency for International Development, and now the Peace Corps. A detachment of 32 Marines is scheduled to arrive by December. A defense attaché is also scheduled to arrive. His sole task will be to strengthen the U.S.-Ukrainian military cooperation and contact. Ambassador Popadiuk believes that it is important for the United States to have strong bilateral relations with Ukraine and vigorously strives to make that a reality.

The American presence in Ukraine has been greatly increased by the opening of numerous U.S. corporate offices in Kiev. There are currently 80 U.S. companies doing business in Ukraine, among them giants like DuPont, Kellogg, Pepsi Cola and Coca Cola.

In addition to the business and Embassy presence there are several non-profit agencies actively providing technical assistance and humanitarian aid in Ukraine. The most notable is the International Executive Service Corps, headed by former TWG member Don Wynnyczok. IESC is comprised of former CEO's of large U.S. corporations who are willing to donate their skills and experiences to help develop business ventures in Ukraine and other countries of the former Soviet Union.

Ambassador Popadiuk said that the first American school in the FSU has opened in Kiev. An American couple experienced in teaching and administering American schools overseas are the only faculty of this 11 student school located behind the U.S. Embassy building. Besides the four Popadiuk children, the children of the Norwegian and Swedish Ambassadors also attend. A scholarship was given to a local Ukrainian student. Ambassador Popadiuk said that he expects as many as 200 children attending the school within the next year.

Visas are now available at the U.S. Embassy, and the visa consul Maria Rudensky and her assistants are kept very busy. (See story page 1) They issue about 100 visas per day. Presently, an appointment must be made to come for an interview for a visa. Soon, Ambassador Popadiuk said, no appointment will be necessary, and citizens of Ukraine can come to the Embassy and apply for a visa on a first-come first-served basis. Asked about the possibilities about long lines at the Embassy, as seen in Moscow and other capitals of Eastern Europe, Ambassador Popadiuk thought that the crowds could be managed.

Giving an assessment of the current political and economic situation in Ukraine, Ambassador Popadiuk was optimistic

but cautious. He sees little significant economic reform occurring, especially in privatization of land and industry. Little land reform has taken place and the voucher system exists only on paper, said Ambassador Popadiuk. According to estimates, 60% of the collectives are still under control of the old party directors. The old party apparatus still controls much of the production and distribution of food, and goods.

Politically, the primary goal of the Kravchuk administration is the preservation of Ukraine as an independent entity. The opposition to the Kravchuk government is non-existent, although some groups like the *New Ukraine* are pushing to hasten economic reform. Ambassador Popadiuk has met with members of *New Ukraine* and believes that their ideas are important and good, but their plans for executing them are incoherent and vague. Ambassador Popadiuk sees the Ukrainian government gradually acquiring more and more confidence in its ability to provide peace, stability, and prosperity. Unfortunately, the system of government Ukrainian officials are most enamored with is the Chinese system. The notion of tight political control from the top, and a pseudo-market economic system is the most visionary ideals that the leaders of Ukraine have at present.

Ambassador Popadiuk responded to questions on numerous topics. Asked about the \$10M for a science and technology center stipulated in the Nunn-Lugar Amendment, Ambassador Popadiuk said that negotiations have been resumed and items of contention have been ironed out. He anticipates the agreement to create this center will be signed soon.

There is a powerful, organized Mafia in Ukraine. It's unfortunate because they take money and goods, but produce nothing. They do not contribute to the production economy in any way, and harm the process of economic reform and creation of a market oriented infrastructure, said Ambassador Popadiuk.

Asked if there was much interest in Ukraine in the upcoming U.S. presidential elections, Ambassador Popadiuk said that most Ukrainians don't think it will help them in any way and therefore weren't interested. Ambassador Popadiuk predicted that President Bush will be re-elected. In any event, he didn't foresee much change in the U.S.-Ukrainian relations, even with a Democrat in the White House.

Community Calendar

Every Sunday in December

Christmas Bazaar

Holy Trinity Particular Ukrainian Catholic Church
Beginning at 12:45
For information call: Irena Stawnychy (301)439-7319

December 1 — Tuesday

Breakfast with Charles William Maynes, Editor

Foreign Policy magazine. Topic: Ethnic Minorities in Ukraine; a Pot Ready to Boil

8:00 AM

La Colline, 400 N. Capitol Street (Union Station Metro)

\$10.00 per person

RSVP by Monday, November 30 to Nick Babiak (202)347-4264

December 4 — Friday

TWG Christmas Party

Bellevue Hotel

15 "E" Street, NW

(Union Station, Red Line Metro stop)

8:00 PM

Admission: \$12.00 includes food, music, dancing

Cash Bar

Hotel garage parking available for a charge

For information call: Natalie Korytnyk (301)718-1067

December 5, 6 — Saturday, Sunday

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 10:00 - 5:00, Sunday 12:00 - 4:00

Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine

For information call: Rev. Krawchuk (202)526-3737

December 6 — Sunday

Dumka Kiev National Choir

4:00 PM, tickets \$20.00 per person

Archbishop Carroll High School

4300 Harewood Rd., NE, Washington, DC

For information call: UNA Washington office (202)347-8629

December 10 — Thursday

Benefit for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund

Marocco's Restaurant

1120 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC

Cocktails, auction beginning at 6:00 PM

Sponsored by the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund

For information call: (202)347-8629

December 11 - Friday

Breakfast with John Sears, Chairman

Nixon and Reagan Presidential Campaigns

Topic: Republican Strategies Toward the Ethnic Bloc: Did Bush Neglect Ukrainians?

8:00 AM

La Colline

400 N. Capitol Street (Union Station Metro)

RSVP by December 9th to Nick Babiak (202) 347-4264

December 11 — Friday

Post-Election Brainstorming

Sponsored by the Ukrainian American Community Network

7:30 PM

9311 Kendale Rd.

Potomac, MD

For information call: Larissa Fontana (301)365-2490

December 12 — Saturday

Andriyivskiy Vechir (A Night of Folklore and Traditions)

Sponsored by Plast

7:00 - 11:00 PM

Holy Trinity Particular Ukrainian Catholic Church

For information call: Tamara Woroby (301)622-5456

December 19 — Saturday

Svyatoho Mykolaya

Sponsored by Ridna Shkola

Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church

2:00 PM

For information call: Zirka Harabatch (301)916-0978

December 31 — Thursday

New Year's Celebration

9:00PM - 1:00 AM

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Music, Buffet and Dance

For information call: Slave Francuzenko (301)774-9656

January 16, 1993 — Saturday

Malanka and presentation of Debutantes

Sponsored by the Ukrainian Association of Washington

Indian Spring Country Club

For Information call: Ihor Mouchyn (301)568-4917

Danusia Wasyliwskyj is the Community Calendar Coordinator. Organization leaders are requested to notify Danusia of their upcoming events, prior to the 15th of each month. This schedule will be published in the TWG NEWS calendar. Danusia's phone number is (301)652-3938

DO YOU WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE WASHINGTON GROUP?

The Washington Group (TWG) is an association of Ukrainian-American professionals who live throughout the United States and in several countries of the world. It offers its members an opportunity to meet and get to know each other through a variety of professional, educational and social activities. TWG NEWS is a monthly newsletter for TWG members, and a membership directory, published for members only, helps them in networking.

To apply for membership, please fill out the form below and mail with a check to:

The Washington Group, P.O. Box 11248, Washington, D.C. 20008.

(The Board of Directors considers membership applications at its monthly meetings.)

Name _____ Profession _____

Home address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home phone _____

Company _____ Position _____

Business address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Office phone _____

Circle information you would like omitted from the published TWG Directory.

Membership Dues (Please check where appropriate):

\$50 Full Membership

\$35 Associate (Members outside Washington metropolitan area and retirees)

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