



January 1996
Volume XII, Number 1



Monthly newsletter of The Washington Group
An Association of Ukrainian American Professionals

Dinner Planned for President Kuchma

The Washington Group will be one of the co-sponsors of a Freedom House reception and dinner in honor of President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 21.

The \$100-a-plate affair will be held at the Mayflower Hotel. The reception, which will start at 7:00 p.m., will be followed by a dinner at 8:00 p.m.

President Kuchma will address the gathering on "Democratic transformation in Ukraine as a factor in European stability."

The Ukrainian president will visit Washington at the invitation of Freedom House. While in the capital, he will meet with President Clinton and International Monetary Fund Executive Director Michel Camdessus.

For date confirmation and reservations, please contact Vicki Thomas, of Freedom House, at 202-296-5101.

Washington Post Kyiv Correspondent Optimistic about Ukraine's Future

James Rupert addresses
TWG, SAIS Forum

TWG and the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies came together once again Jan. 19 to sponsor another informative evening on developments in Ukraine. This time the featured guest was James Rupert, the Washington Post's correspondent in Kyiv.

Mr. Rupert shared his observations about Ukraine, its relationship with Russia and the West, the "good news" and the "bad news" in its effort to secure political and economic stability.

He said he found Ukraine to be in a very fortunate position: "It is now moving towards stability—the elusive post-Soviet stability that all the former republics of the Soviet Union should be seeking—but with a better chance of achieving it than most."

James Rupert arrived in Kyiv—following assignments Uzbekistan and



James Rupert

other parts of the former Soviet Union and in South Asia—in November 1994, when, as he recalled, Ukraine was being painted in a US intelligence estimate as "perhaps a non-viable state" on the verge of dismemberment. That

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**TWG
ANNUAL
MEETING
and
Reception**

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 16, at 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: US Botanic Garden Conservatory
100 Maryland Ave. SW (Near Federal Center SW and Capitol South Metro)

Interested in being on the Board of Directors? Contact George Masiuk 202-651-2302 or 703-960-0043 (eve).

New Members



Notes on Members

- **Halia Bula**, with IBM, Goldens Bridge, NY.
- **Zenon M. Feszczak**, research administrator with the Childrens' Hospital, Philadelphia, PA.
- **Jerome E. Kurpel**, New Orleans, LA.
- **Michael Mazur**, Arlington, VA.
- **Julia Puchalsky**, Cedarhurst, NY.
- **Paul Thomas Rabchenuk**, attorney, Marblehead, MA.
- **Bohdan Rekshynskyj**, New York, NY.
- **Alexandria Rycar**, New York, NY.
- **Roman Wasylkevych**, planning manager for Latin America, ADP Dealer Services, Waterford, MI.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If your TWG membership has or is about to expire (see mailing label) please complete the renewal form on the back page of this TWG News and, along with your check, mail to: TWG, Attn: Membership Director, PO Box 11248, Washington, DC 20008.

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Material in this publication may be reprinted, provided TWG NEWS is cited as the source.

ADVERTISING: Business card size: \$10 per issue, or \$25 for three issues for TWG members; \$15/\$40 for non-members. Quarter page: \$45 members, \$55 non-members. Half page: \$60 members, \$75 non-members. Full page: \$100 members/\$140 non-members. Please contact TWG Treasurer Roman Stelmach (410) 997-0853.

If you have any interesting news about a TWG colleague, or about yourself, share it with the rest of the TWG family. Send it to the TWG NEWS editor by e-mail, if you can, (yarob@aol.com) or by "snail-mail" to TWG, Attn: Editor, P.O. Box 11248, Washington DC 20008.

Dmytro Korbutiak

Dmytro Korbutiak, a prominent Washington-area journalist and community leader died on Nov. 21. He was 84.

Until his retirement in the mid-1970s, Mr. Korbutiak was senior editor of the Ukrainian Branch of the Voice of America, which he joined in 1955 following seven years as editor-in-chief of *Narodna Volya*, a Ukrainian-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian Fraternal Association (UFA) in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Born in the village of Kulachkiwtsi, in the Kolomyia region of Ukraine, on October 18, 1911, Mr. Korbutiak began his journalistic career while still in Ukraine. In addition to his work at *Narodna Volya* and VOA, he wrote numerous articles, which were published in such periodicals as *Svoboda*, *Ukrainian Life*, *Moloda Ukraina*, *Suchasnist* and *Forum*, and to several American journals.

Mr. Korbutiak was a long-time associate member of TWG, who not only attended numerous TWG events but participated in them as well. He was the featured speaker at last year's TWG-sponsored Taras Shevchenko commemoration at the Embassy of Ukraine, discussing the Ukrainian poet's relationship with the prominent 19th-Century African-American actor, Ira Aldridge.

A prominent UFA activist, Mr. Korbutiak was a member of the Auditing Committee in 1978 and 1982, second vice-president of the UFA, and an honorary member of the UFA's Supreme Council. He founded the UFA Branch in Washington in 1955 and, since then, had served as its secretary.

Mr. Korbutiak is survived by his wife, Claudia, son, George, and daughter-in-law, Margaret.

Nick Deychakiwsky named Kyiv director

Nick Deychakiwsky was named director the Kyiv Regional Office of the Eurasia Foundation.

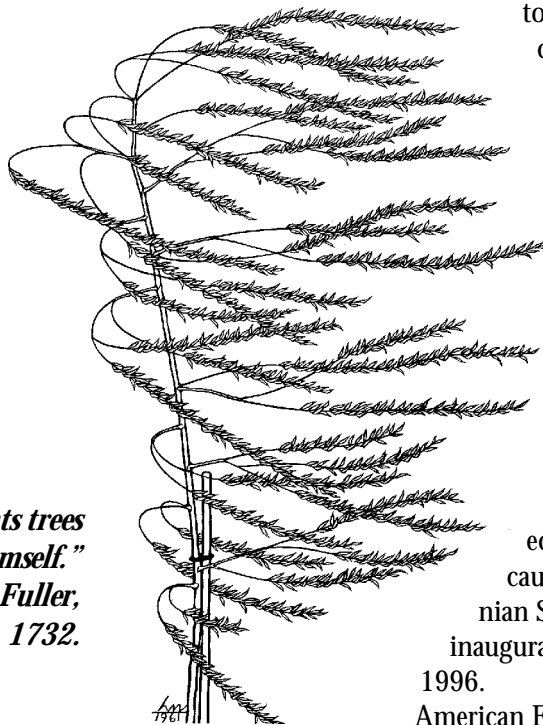
Established in 1993, the Eurasia Foundation is a privately managed, non-profit grant-making organization, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). It has implemented several grassroots campaigns, including a small business lending

(See *Notes* Page 8)

Miracle Trees

By Jane Kunka

*"He that plants trees
loves others beside himself."
—Thomas Fuller,
Unomologia, 1732.*



Young Willow by Jacques Hnizdovsky

There is no better way to memorialize the victims and help the survivors of the Chernobyl disaster during the 10th anniversary year than planting a tree in their honor. American Forests, the oldest national conservation organization, in cooperation with the Chernobyl Committee of Washington, DC, has developed a fund-raising program to commemorate this tragedy.

The "plant a tree" undertaking is rightfully attributed to two individuals—Dr. Yaroslav Movchan, former Executive Vice President of the National Ecological Centre of Ukraine, and our own TWG member, Chrystia Sonevytsky, along with the Chernobyl Committee of Washington, DC. Dr. Movchan, who single-handedly designed the project in Ukraine, sees a trees as a miracle which will restore the "green canopy" for people in the Polissia region of Ukraine affected by the nuclear disaster on April 26, 1986, as well as in other areas where the victims have relocated. It was Mrs. Sonevytsky's idea to start the program in the United States. The United States' 314-acre commemorative forest will be established near Palatka, Florida, not far from Orlando. A visit to the site for millions vacationing in that area will not simply be another stop on a travel itinerary but a pilgrimage to the hollowed area which will symbolize hope and promise for the victims of Chernobyl.

Mrs. Sonevytsky, demure but dedicated to the project, invites all individuals, communities, organizations, and businesses, Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian, to observe the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster by planting trees in the United States and Ukraine beginning this Spring. The tree-planting will be ongoing throughout the year. It is also her wish that more people become involved in this program by organizing community events to increase awareness of the disaster. She also believes that educating children is beneficial to the cause. She plans to contact all Ukrainian Sister Cities to participate in the inaugural planting scheduled for March 29, 1996.

American Forests pledges to plant one tree for every dollar contributed; a \$20 donation will result in the planting of 20 trees—10 in Ukraine and 10 in Florida. A personalized certificate will be issued for every \$20 donation. Coincidentally, this year the Chernobyl anniversary is also National Arbor Day.

Mrs. Sonevytsky urges everyone to let a miracle happen by helping Chernobyl survivors and memorializing those who died as a result of the disaster. For more information you may contact Chrystia Sonevytsky at 202-667-3300, ext. 231; \$20 tax-deductible contributions may be sent directly to: American Forests/Chernobyl, Global ReLeaf International, PO Box 2000, Washington, DC 20013.

Chernobyl 10th Anniversary Events

Mar. 31, Sunday

Fund-raiser: Auction of art by children from Chernobyl and concert featuring *kobzar* Pavlo Suprun and Olena Shevchuk of the Kyiv Conservatory Drevo Ensemble.

Apr. 25-26, Thursday-Friday

Conference at Georgetown University

Apr. 26, Friday

Rally and Vigil

Apr. 28, Sunday, 2:00 p.m.

Concert, featuring the Odessa Philharmonic, John F. Kennedy Center Concert Hall.

Watch for details in future announcements

Bilynsky, Radejko discuss work in Kyiv

Replace planned forum with Rudensky, Sulzynsky

The political tug-of-war between the Congress and President Clinton over the budget had a direct effect on the TWG Friday Evening Forum November 17.

The previously announced featured speakers for the evening—Maria Rudensky and Wolodymyr Sulzynsky, two TWG member State Department diplomats who had just returned after three-year tours of duty at the US Embassy in Kyiv—were unable to address the forum because of the Federal Government shutdown, which prohibited all “non-essential” activities by government employees.

Learning about this development two days before the event, its moderator, Orest Deychakivsky, like a magician pulling rabbits out of a hat, found two other speakers with responsible positions in Kyiv to discuss developments in Ukraine and the work of the US-funded institutions they direct: Markian Bilynsky, director of the Pylyp Orlyk Institute, and Bohdan Radejko, project director of the Parliamentary Development Project.

While not behind the podium, Ms. Rudensky and Mr. Sulzynsky were in the audience, however, and Mr. Deychakivsky paid tribute to their individual effort and the work of the US Embassy in Kyiv in general, which, he said, “was of critical importance in furthering US-Ukrainian relations, which, as we all know, have come a long way in the last three and a half years.”

The Pylyp Orlyk Institute, which Mr. Bilynsky directs, is an indepen-

dent, non-profit public policy and research and information service in Kyiv, sponsored by the US-Ukraine Foundation.

Mr. Bilynsky began the discussion by describing the work of the Institute. It publishes a daily bulletin and weekly digest of American news articles and



Photo by Edward Wizniak

Bohdan Radejko and Markian Bilynsky

analyses which is distributed to members of the government, media and academia; translates longer articles from Western scholarly journals and books on democracy-building and the free market; conducts research and answer queries from parliamentarians; on request, writes analytical pieces on important topics; and conducts roundtables and seminars.

The institute is working on two projects—non-government organizations development and local government development, trying to raise their level of expertise, he said.

Recently, it discussed with NATO the possibility of sponsoring a project on civilian control over the armed forces and security ministries, which is one of the conditions for NATO membership, Mr. Bilynsky said.

“A lot has been written in the press about Ukraine being the first former Soviet republic having a civilian defense minister. But, believe me, the reality is far different. In fact, because he doesn’t have any kind of political base or natural constituency within the armed forces, Mr. Shmarov, more often than he would like, finds himself under the control of the military,” he said.

Mr. Bilynsky said that the US-Ukraine Foundation as well as his and Mr. Radejko’s organizations have a “philosophical agenda—we want to help promote the ideas and foster the growth of democracy and a free market,” he said.

“We do not have a political agenda,” and, therefore, he added, “we’re far more concerned with process rather than content.”

“Although there are many encouraging developments in post-Soviet Ukrainian political culture,” Mr. Bilynsky said, “I think one of the more negative aspects I’ve noticed, particularly since this new Parliament has been elected, has been that issues have tended to become horribly politicized, and you can’t tell where the debate over policy ends and the politics begins.”

He observed that “there is a struggle of primary values here that can only be resolved by somebody cutting the Gordian knot. And, in fact, what we see is the president using unconstitutional means to force a political decision.”

Despite what others may say, Mr. Bilynsky said, “I am firmly convinced that the constitutional agreement was extremely unconstitutional and did not
(See *Forum*, Page 5)

Juliana Osinchuk performs in JFK Center

The TWG Cultural Fund honored Juliana Osinchuk, concert pianist and TWG member from far-off Alaska, at a reception following her triumphant John F. Kennedy Center recital Oct. 27.

The recital featured the World and Washington premieres of works by three Alaskan composers—Craig Coray, John Luther Adams and Philip Munger as well as pieces by Victor Kostenko, Bach/Busoni, Liszt and Gershwin.

Following the recital, the Cultural Fund hosted a reception for Ms. Osinchuk at the home of its director, Laryssa Chopivsky. Among those attending were a large group of Alaskans who traveled to Washington for her performance, among

them the composer Craig Corey and the wife of Senator Ted Stevens (the Senator was at a late Senate session).

Ms. Osinchuk's performance was well received by Washington Post reviewer Judy Gruber, who pointed out that the pianist has a "real affinity for this music, with a deep intellectual understanding of the pieces and the technical ability to interpret them."

The reviewer noted that Ms. Osinchuk "is as comfortable with 19th Century music as she is with contemporary works," and added that "nowhere was this affinity more evident than in her performance of Ukrainian composer Victor Kostenko's hauntingly beautiful *Two Poem Legends*, Op. 12, which proved



Juliana Osinchuk

one of the highlights of the evening."

The recital was partly funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Forum...(from preceding page)
set a very good precedent when it came to resolving issues."

Mr. Bilynsky pointed out, however, that "power on paper doesn't mean anything if there isn't any structure to implement the decrees or whatever kind of authority the individual has. I think President Kuchma drew the correct conclusions from his term as prime minister, and right at the beginning he commenced organizing the executive branch."

This brought on the "clash of primary political values, the clash over the future development of the Ukrainian state—should it be a parliamentary presidential democracy or should it be a presidential parliamentary democracy," he said.

While in the initial search for models "all eyes, almost exclusively, were fixed on the United States," he said, "there has been an evolution in the political elite towards the European models."

The Europeans also appear to be doing a better job of providing assistance while spending less than the United States, which continues to try to solve problems by throwing money at them, he said.

"Many of the victories, even today, in the US assistance program, tend to be Pyrrhic. In other words, the result is disproportionately, I feel, disappointing, disproportionately small when compare to the amount of funds that were made available. And that, too, has created a sense of disenchantment with the American effort," he said.

In answer to a question about the political far left, Mr. Bilynsky cautioned against categorizing political figures in Ukraine in black and white terms. Not all communists are against Ukrainian independence, he said, and not all nationalists are for a democratic Ukraine.

Mr. Bilynsky has authored numerous articles, which have appeared in the New York Times, Washington

Post, Washington Times, the Wall Street Journal and in many Ukrainian papers; he has been interviewed on CNN, ABC News and other electronic media.

Bohdan Radejko has been project director of the Parliamentary Development Project since April 1994. The PDP, as he calls it, is a joint project in Kyiv of the US-Ukraine Foundation and Indiana University designed to help improve the structure and operation of the Ukrainian Parliament by focusing on the budget process, the work of committees, relations with the executive branch, citizen relations and the legislative process. It is funded by the US Agency for International Development.

The project also publishes a thematic semi-monthly newsletter, *Visnyk*, which is distributed to government officials, in Kyiv and at the local level.

An important aspect of the work is coordination with the numerous institutions.
(See *Forum*, Page 6)

Forum...(from preceding page)

tutions and organizations doing similar work in Ukraine in order to minimize unnecessary duplication, Mr. Radejko said.

He noted that one of the difficulties encountered in the project is that Ukrainian lawmakers—while appreciating being presented with alternatives—would rather not choose on their own, preferring to be told which is the best alternative. “It’s part of their political culture,” he said, “but it’s frustrating in many ways.”

“In many cases, they don’t have the background, the comparative information in order to make an educated choice. That is one of the things, I

think, that makes them turn to advisers and say, ‘Why don’t you help me choose?’” Mr. Radejko said. The advisers have to walk a fine line between providing them with comparative information and what could be seen as meddling in the legislative process, he added.

One of the benefits of a long-term project like the PDP is that both sides learn and grow over time, Mr. Radejko said.

During a recent PDP parliamentary fact-finding mission to study the budgetary process in Sweden, which is struggling to solve its own massive deficit problems, the Ukrainian deputies, who were looking for quick-fix answers to their problems found that

the Swedes, too, were looking for answers.

“This is what they need to learn,” he said, “that running a civil society is a process” and that it cannot be dictated by some statist *gosplan*.

However one views the Verkhovna Rada, Mr. Radejko said, it, like other elected bodies in Ukraine, has had a large turnover of people since independence. That cannot be said about the executive branch, he added, which, in large part, consists of “leftovers from the Soviet system.”

And at the lower levels of the executive branch there are those who collude with fractions in Parliament in actively sabotaging President Kuchma’s policy initiatives, he said.

Rupert...(from Page 1)

estimate, while “far too pessimistic,” he said, helped convince the Washington Post to open its bureau in Kyiv.

Until recently, the West looked at Ukraine through Moscow’s “lens” or “filter,” which tended to present a “much more negative” view of Ukraine than what he found by living there, Mr. Rupert said.

Not all of the blame can be placed on the Moscow “filter,” he added—the Kravchuk administration had not made a serious effort in reforming the economy or in defining a security structure for Ukraine.

Since then, however, he added, “in both of these areas, I think, the Kuchma administration has gotten to grips with the essential tasks in ways that the previous administration did not seem to have done.”

That’s not to say that the Kuchma reforms have succeeded, he said. “They’re having an immense amount of trouble. But the point is, they’re working, the grindstone is turning and grinding away at the features of the Soviet command economy, and so, progress can be made.”

“I have now a much more optimistic view of Ukraine and where it’s headed than when I went there,” Mr. Rupert said, observing that Ukraine has “most, if not perhaps all, of the basic essential building blocks of viable, independent statehood.”

He pointed out that Ukrainians have a strong sense of national identity, a “much more cohesive sense” for the kind of state that they would like to create than most other republics of the former Soviet Union. The idea of an independent Ukrainian state is not new to them, and they feel very much a part of Europe, he said.

“They want investment from Europe, they want to be able to travel to Europe, they want their country to look like and work like European countries work. That’s not something you can say about Russia...or Belarus, or Tajikistan, or Uzbekistan.”

Mr. Rupert also noted that while different people interpret “democracy” in different ways, there’s much more consensus among Ukrainians that they want “something called democracy” than in most other parts of the former Soviet Union.

Also on the “good news” side of the ledger, Mr. Rupert noted that Ukraine has had four years of independence without any serious political violence, unlike Russia and some other newly independent states that have been plagued by civil wars.

Despite all of the dire predictions about what was going to happen in Crimea and about the danger of a split between eastern and western Ukraine, political violence has been so rare, he said, that only two cases come to mind: some rioting in Crimea after a Mafia shooting of Tatars and the “immensely lamentable” affair at St. Sophia’s Cathedral during the burial of Patriarch Volodymyr.

“The idea of violence in politics and extremism in politics is much more anathema in Kyiv than it is in Moscow, and that’s shaped the histories of these two countries in the short time they’ve parted after the Soviet collapse.”

Mr. Rupert said he’s intrigued by this difference in the two political cultures. “My sense is that it goes back to the difference between being the exer-
(See *Rupert*, Page 7)

Fund Grantee features TWG, Washington in Kyiv newspaper

Oleh Skydan, executive editor of *Narodna Hazeta*, a major independent weekly newspaper with a national-democratic orientation published in Kyiv, received a grant from the TWG Fellowship Fund to conduct a two-week reporting assignment in Washington. During his October visit, Mr. Skydan covered U.S.-Ukrainian relations and Ukrainian-American institutions and activists in Washington.

Mr. Skydan felt that it would be valuable to familiarize readers with various aspects of Ukrainian-American life in Washington and the role that Ukrainian-Americans play in the political life of the capital, especially as it pertains to Ukraine. These issues have received inadequate coverage in the Ukrainian media because Ukraine apparently

has no permanent independent correspondents in the United States.

During the last few months of 1995, *Narodna Hazeta* featured a substantial number of articles/interviews on the Washington Ukrainian-American scene authored by Oleh Skydan. These included an article on the TWG Leadership Conference, interviews with TWG members: Jurij Dobczansky of the Library of Congress, (TWG Secretary) Orest Deychakiwsky of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Nadia McConnell of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and Ihor Gawdiak of the Ukrainian-American Coordinating Council Washington Office.

Other articles by Mr. Skydan covering Washington Ukrainian-American institutions or personali-

ties included interviews with George Nesterczuk of the US House Committee on Governmental Reform, Eugene Iwanciw (formerly of the UNA Washington office), Tamara Gallo of UNIS, and Wolodymyr Bilajiw of VOA's Ukrainian Branch.

Mr. Skydan also penned articles on the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian School (*Ridna Shkola*), Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church and St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church and an analytical article entitled "Ukrainian-American Relations: Myth and Realities," which was based on his visit to Washington.

TWG welcomes contributions to the Fellowship Fund. Checks may be sent to The Washington Group, P.O. Box 11248, Washington, DC 20008.

Rupert... (from preceding page)

cisers and the subjects of empire. There is no Ukrainian idea of a 'great *derzhava*,' a great state with great ambitions that by some natural, God-given right ought to be ruling all the way down to the Bosphorus. And yet, you can find people who dream these dreams with their eyes open in Russia—and a lot of people. It's a part of the political culture."

Visiting Moscow on assignments, Mr. Rupert said he found that Russians, in general, still find it hard to accept the idea of Ukraine being independent of Russia. And the recent election results show that the idea of a Slavic union is still very powerful in Russia, he said.

"It's a popular view, it's a street-level view of Ukraine, and it's also a view which is held within the halls of power in Russia." While not everyone holds to this view, he added, "it's still an important player in the Russian

political mind."

In answer to a question, Mr. Rupert said he sees no immediate, short-term danger for Ukraine from the communist gains in the recent election in Russia. He said he found the purging of democrats and economic reformers from the Yeltsin cabinet more dangerous, in a general sense.

"I think Ukraine's independent statehood is established," he said, and it cannot be undone except through something as drastic as a world war or a conflagration like in Yugoslavia. And even among those in Russia who loath to accept Ukraine's independence—except for extremists like Zhirinovskiy—no one thinks that Ukraine can be brought back into the fold by force.

"They can't even subdue Chechnya, for Pete's sake," he pointed out. "That's been a sobering lesson to the Russians. And so, any idea of a forceful reintegration of Ukraine, I think, died in the streets of Grozny within the first days

of the assault on Chechnya."

What could happen, however, is the development of a Ukraine so dependent on Russia—for energy and other things—that it would be unable to pursue the interests of its own people, he said. But unlike Belarus, Ukraine is moving in a direction that tends to reduce the danger of this happening.

As for the Commonwealth of Independent States, Mr. Rupert sees an ongoing fight between those, on the one hand, who want to have the CIS perform a legitimate coordinating role between the economies of the newly independent states, and, on the other hand, Russia, which would like to make it a tool of its foreign policy—as was made clear in a policy document from President Yeltsin's office made public a few months ago.

In the "bad news" category, Mr. Rupert noted Ukraine's total dependence on Russia as its supplier of energy, the slow pace of privatization and
(See *Rupert*, Page 8)

Rupert... (from preceding page)

the yet-unresolved constitutional, power-sharing arrangement between the president and the parliament.

The lack of a reliable energy supply, Mr. Rupert said, "is Ukraine's Achilles' heal." Ukraine remains "horrendously dependent" on Russia as the source and transmitter of its energy supplies. He sees the establishment of Ukraine's energy independence as one of the most important, and least fulfilled, tasks of the Ukrainian government.

On the privatization front, the State Property Fund is months behind its targets in privatizing businesses, and the selling off of land is even further behind, he said. The resistance to reform by *oblast*- and *rayon*-level bureaucracies is fueling a political battle in Kyiv, where President Kuchma is fighting to get control over the reins of power, including direct authority over the administrative structures at the provincial level.

Mr. Rupert feels that the president "eventually will manage to get enough power in hand to force through the essentials of his reform program in a way that they will become irreversible." After three years of economic depression, the Ukrainian people are receptive to change, he said, and there is no clearly articulated alternative to Kuchma's reform plan.

Why did Ukraine so readily give up its nuclear weapons? As the Washington Post correspondent sees it, "The Ukrainian military did its math and concluded that it could not afford these weapons." And as for Ukraine's perceived hesitation, it "was in part, because Ukraine wanted to get something in return for giving up those missiles."

Asked to assess Western media coverage of Ukraine, Mr. Rupert said, "It's far too little attention for a country of 55 million people, whose fate has immensely important implications for the stability of the region as a whole,"

"We need to do a lot better" he added. Unfortunately, as he tells his colleagues in Kyiv, the collapse of the Soviet Union did not coincide with an increase in the budgets of the Western press, and it's difficult to do a job well on a shoestring.

(See *Rupert*, Page 9)

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Notes... (from Page 2)

program, a management training and education program, a media and communication program, an economic education and support program, and a research and governmental reform program.

Mr. Deychakiwsky, who was born in Cleveland, Ohio, has been working in Kyiv for the past five years, as MBA program director at the International Management Institute, executive secretary of the Council of Advisors to the Parliament of Ukraine, and most recently, deputy general director of the International Renaissance Foundation (the Soros Foundation in Ukraine).

Headquartered in Washington, the Eurasia Foundation has field offices in Kyiv, Moscow, Saratov, Tashkent, Vladivostok and Yerevan. The Kyiv Regional Office supports grants and programs for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova. Since its establishment in late 1993, the Kyiv office has made close to 200 grants totaling approximately \$25 million.

Dobczansky, Horodecka at LC conference in Kyiv

Jurij Dobczansky and Oxana Horodecka were among nine policy analysts and Library of Congress librarians who participated in a Kyiv conference sponsored by the Congressional Research Service and the US Association of Former Members of Congress. The five-day conference—for a group of 35 interns from all over Ukraine and staff of the Rada—focused on research and analysis. The LC analysts and librarians conducted panel discussions, shared their expertise and insights and mentored small groups of interns who developed and presented research reports at the conclusion of the conference.

Orest Deychakiwsky monitors Russian elections

TWG Secretary Orest Deychakiwsky was in Russia as an international observer of the December 17 elections. As part of the O.S.C.E. parliamentary assembly delegation, Mr. Deychakiwsky observed polling in Moscow oblast, Tver, and Torzhok. During his visit, he met Vasyly Kolomacky of the Association of Ukrainians in Russia, who passed along recent issues of *Ukrainskii Vybir*, the independent newspaper of Ukrainians in Russia. Anyone wishing a copy this newspaper can contact Mr. Deychakiwsky at (301) 937-0492.

Holowinsky serving in Bosnia

Yurij Holowinsky, TWG board member-at-large, has been called to active duty to serve with the US forces in Bosnia. As during his previous overseas assignments, he said he would like to hear from his TWG friends while in Bosnia. His mailing address is: DMCA, Attention: Holowinsky, Unit 30401, APO AE 09131.

COMING EVENTS

- Feb. 14, Wednesday,
6:30 p.m. **Onward in Search of the Hetman's Treasure**, a film by Castelli.
8:30 p.m. **Fuchzhou**, by M. Iliencko.
Both Films in Ukrainian with English subtitles.
American Film Institute Theater at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.
Contact: AFI 202-828-4000.
- Feb. 16, Friday, 6:30 p.m.
TWG Annual Meeting and Reception. U.S. Botanic Garden Conservatory, 100 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington. Contact: George Masiuk 202-651-2302 (day) or 703-960-0043 (eve).
- Feb. 17 Saturday, 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.
St. Valentine's Day Dance, Zapusna Zabava. St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall, 2401 Eastern Ave., Baltimore. Contact: Roman Stelmach 410-997-0853
- Feb. 18, Wednesday,
1:00 p.m. **Onward in Search of the Hetman's Treasure**, a film by Castelli.
3:00 p.m. **Fuchzhou**, by M. Iliencko
Both Films in Ukrainian with English subtitles.
American Film Institute Theater at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.
Contact: AFI 202-828-4000.
- Feb. 21, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Reception and Dinner in honor of President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma, co-sponsored by TWG and Freedom House. President Kuchma will deliver a major address. Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington. \$100 per person. Reception 7:00 p.m.; Dinner 8:00 p.m. Contact: Freedom House, Vicki Thomas 202-296-5101.
- Feb. 25, Sunday, 1:00 p.m.
A program of recent short Ukrainian-language films. Guest speaker: Ludmyla Lohiyko, producer's representatives from Ukraine. **Tentative:** watch for future announcements. Sponsored by TWG Cultural Fund. Contact Slavko Nowytski 202-338-7636 (eve), 202-219-9733 (day).
- Mar. 15, Friday
Concert featuring four laureates of the 1995 Horowitz International Piano Competition. At the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW, Washington.
Chornobyl 10th Anniversary Events
- Mar. 31, Sunday
Fund-raiser: Auction of art by children from Chornobyl and concert featuring *kobzar* Pavlo Suprun and Olena Shevchuk of the Kyiv Conservatory Drevo Ensemble.
- Apr. 25-26, Thursday-Friday
Conference at Georgetown University
- Apr. 26, Friday
Rally and Vigil
- Apr. 28, Sunday, 2:00 p.m.
Concert, featuring the Odessa Philharmonic, John F. Kennedy Center Concert Hall.
Watch for details in future announcements

Rupert... (from preceding page)

Three Western news operations maintain large bureaus in Kyiv: Reuters, BBC and Radio Liberty. (Radio Liberty, like the Voice of America, which has a small bureau in Kyiv, however, directs its reporting not to the West but back into Ukraine.)

Those with "serious commitments" in Ukraine, he said, include: the Washington Post, Associated Press, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, and The Ukrainian Weekly. In addition there are stringers for the Los Angeles Times, CBS, CNN and a number of Western European news agencies..

Mr. Rupert singled out the The Ukrainian Weekly "as a very important element of the Western press presence in Ukraine."

"I always tell Marta Kolomayets, who's the correspondent for the Ukrainian Weekly, that of all the foreign correspondents in Kyiv, she is by far the most influential.

"She laughs about this," he said, "But, actually, back here in the States...there are very few of my readers who are going to get up in the morning after I've written a story about this or that going on in Ukraine and are going to leap to the

phone to call their congressman. But within the Ukrainian-American community, of course, that tendency is much greater, and they're reading very attentively the Ukrainian Weekly."

James Rupert, who returned to Washington with his wife for the birth their daughter, has since gone back to Kyiv. Asked about living conditions there, he said he found living in Kyiv better than in Moscow or Tashkent. There is crime, he said, "But I find that I'm no more concerned in walking around in Kyiv at night than I was when I lived here in Washington—which is to say I'm concerned but not panicked."

Computers for Ukrainian School

Don't forget to save your receipts from Washington-area supermarkets participating in the computers for schools program and turn them in to the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian School.

The Washington Group Membership Information/Application Form

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.)

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