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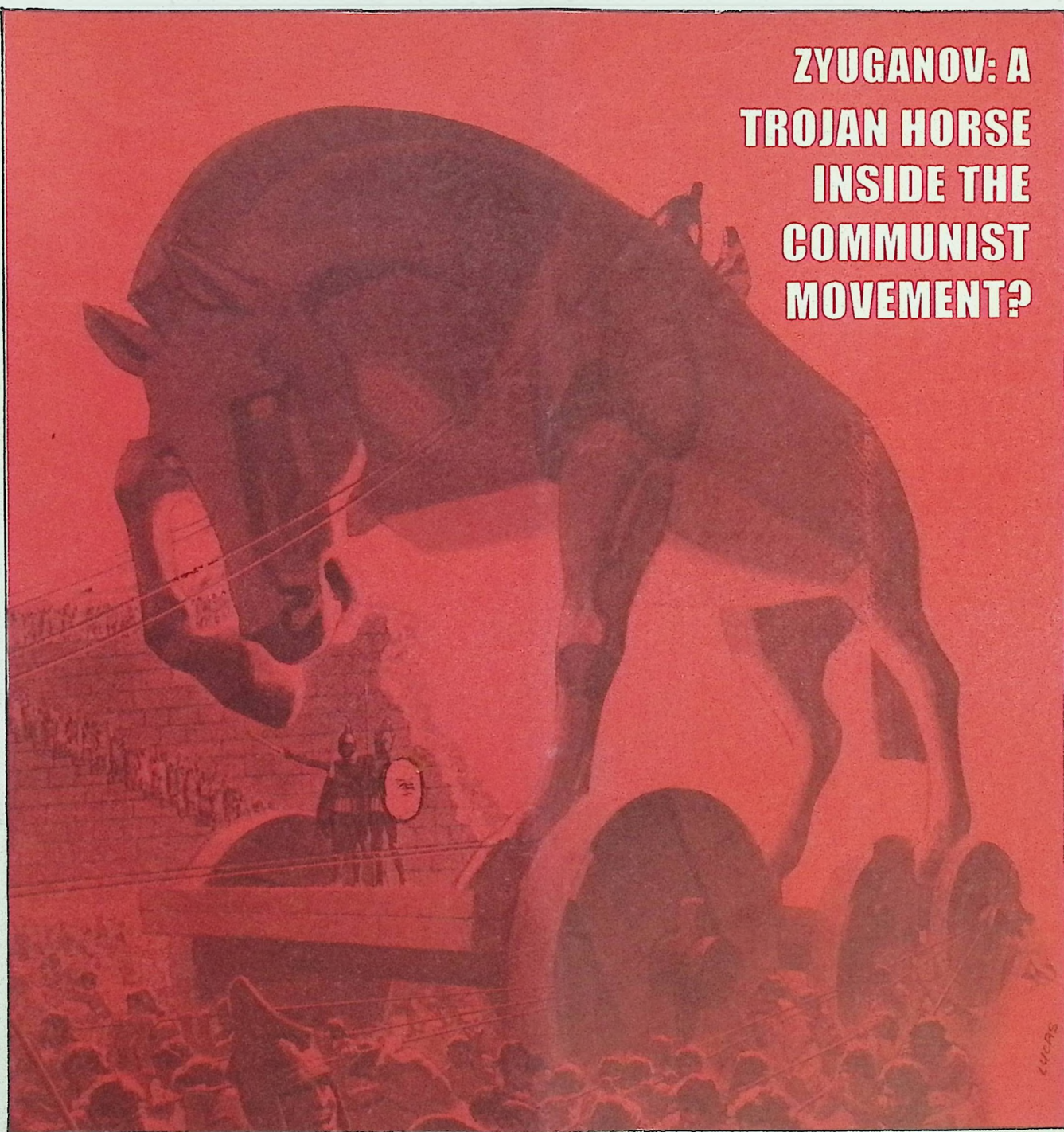


northstar COMPASS

Published by the Organizing Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People

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**ZYUGANOV: A
TROJAN HORSE
INSIDE THE
COMMUNIST
MOVEMENT?**



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CREDO OF NORTHSTAR COMPASS

Northstar Compass is the public voice of the Organizing Committee to establish an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People and is dedicated to the resurrection of the Soviet Union as a Socialist State.

In the tradition since 1918 when "Hands Off Russia Committees" were established in many countries of the world, we are devoted to international co-operation in building socialism and solidarity in a world at peace. □

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EDITORIAL

IS THERE A TROJAN HORSE IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY INSIDE THE RUSSIAN DUMA?

The story of the Trojan Horse is set in Greek history. It looked like a happy day for Troy. The Greek army that had laid seige to their town had withdrawn. And, it was obvious that the gods were pleased by this for they sent Troy a beautiful gift: a large wooden horse which was standing outside the city walls.

So, in celebration of their easy victory, the Trojans dragged their "gift from the gods" into the center of town.

Unfortunately for the hapless Trojans, their celebration was short-lived. Their "gift horse" was filled with Greek soldiers and, as night fell, so did Troy.

***MORAL: Sometimes
you get more than
you bargained for!***

With the latest results from former Soviet Union of horse-trading going on in the on-and off-again crisis, the Trojan

Horse historical fact is very relevant in the situation that is transpiring in Russia today.

Yeltsin, playing the card dealt to him by the West, has astutely made a deal by appointment of Yevgeny Primakov as the compromise name for the post of Prime Minister.

As we predicted in the last issue of NSC that this "crisis" shall be just a tempest in a tea pot and that Gennady Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party of Russian Federation shall AGAIN rescue the present regime from the brink. This is exactly what has happened.

In the next issue of NSC you shall read an article by Ray Stevenson which will explain in more detail as to what is the prediction of the Western pundits regarding the events in the foreseeable future. We just want to dwell on the question of the Russian "loyal opposition" namely the CPRF which has the largest number of seats in the Russian Duma.

The Russian Duma has confirmed Primakov in place of Chernomydrin. "Good sense has prevailed this time," said jubilant Gennady Zyuganov.

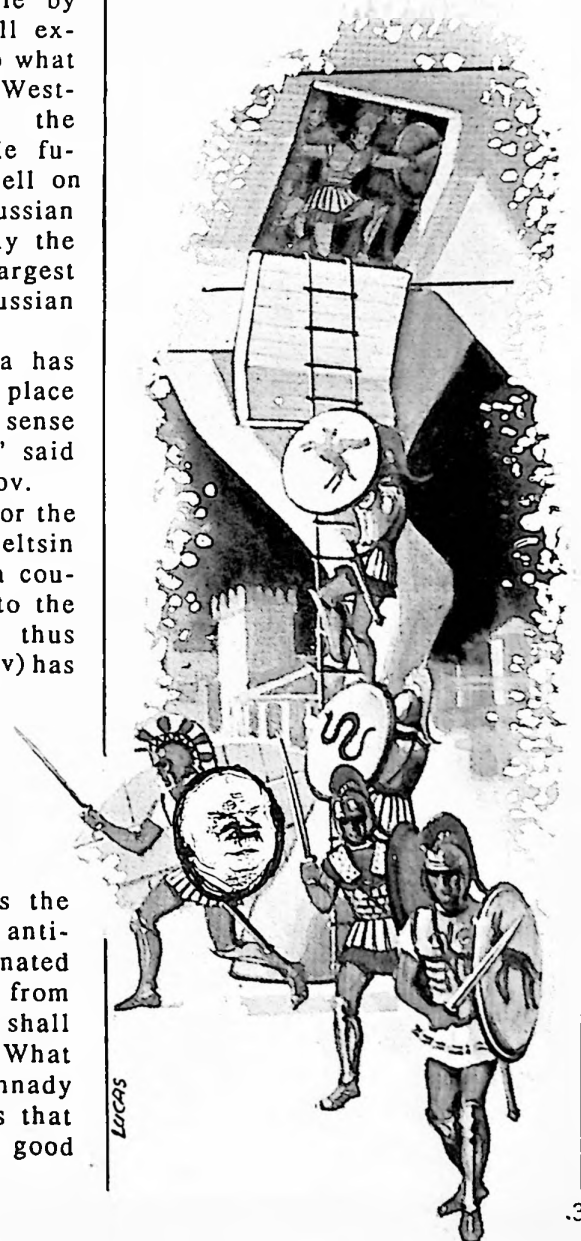
It's only logical that for the "communist" support, Yeltsin and Primakov will give a couple of Ministerial posts to the "loyal opposition" and thus again the CPRF (Zyuganov) has saved Yeltsin's bacon.

Yavlinsky, who heads the Jabloko Party, a vicious anti-Communist who nominated Primakov and got the nod from Zyuganov that the CPRF shall support him in the vote. What is ironic is that Gennady Zyuganov said afterwards that Primakov will be a very good "consolidating figure."

A CHANCE WAS MISSED!

That is why the "Trojan Horse" history is very relevant today in the political situation that is transpiring today in former Soviet Union!

The chance was there to call the Soviet people into a United Front to get rid of the whole of Yeltsin regime. The CPRF leadership should have proposed UNITY of all patriotic forces and let Yeltsin dissolve the Duma, call an election and this would have given all of the opposition movements across former USSR the opportunity to go into the streets, demonstrate and forge the





BORIS (VODKA) YELTSIN

GENNADY ZYUGANOV



YEVGENY PRIMAKOV



unity that this time of crisis demanded.

Another opportunity was blown by the Trojan Horse inside the Communist movement. What was Zyganov and the leadership of CPRF afraid of? Of losing their cushy seats in the Duma? Their high pay and perks? Did Zyuganov really think that the two or three Ministers that his party shall be given will automatically give results for the resurrection of the Soviet Union?

Cleverly, the Western press writes and threatens that "Primakov will go to the left, will nationalize some industries and carry on a socialist revival?". Whom are these Western hacks trying to fool? Do they think as do some of the progressives, and yes, even some communists believe that this is the beginning to socialism? This is wishful thinking to be sure!

This maneuver is meant to push aside any real UNITY against the present regime...to delay the eventual reckoning that is coming.

The constant strikes, work-stoppages, protests, marches, demands, are all leading towards a confrontation with the present regime. Time is very ripe for a unified movement

that will be there when the West will try to play its trump card by bringing in General Lebed (who is waiting in the wings) to come forth and on the orders of the West shall try to bring in fascism to save Western interests. Soviet people in their struggles cannot allow quasi-fascism to be put upon them in order to save Western interests in the former Soviet Union!

Soviet people have a long memory and they shall see who was a patriot and who was a Trojan Horse!

Let us all remember as to what the aims of Trojan Horses are meant to accomplish. Instead of getting inside Troy, our present Trojan Horses are now very comfortable inside the Kremlin!

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Oh Mandela! Why?

The whole world was a witness to the sordid details of events around President Clinton of the USA. The question in these remarks is about the role in all of this by Nelson Mandela, South African President.

The world was privy in all of the news media in the last while about Clinton and the "sex scandal" which polluted the airways all over the world...now admitted even by President Clinton himself) that he lied, manipulated all of the facts. The truth in all of this is that it is a cover-up for a much more reactionary policy that is being brought about by the reactionary American Imperialism. The quasi-fascist forces in the USA are going all out to dominate, subjugate even more world politics, economic rape and culture of this planet.

Therefore it is very sad that Nelson Mandela should have said the following on September 22, 1998 while in the USA, after he and other world leaders gave Clinton a standing ovation at the United Nations in New York. Then at a reception President Mandela had this to say about Clinton:

"I want to really tell you that although I do not know the history of the United States very well, in my view there is no (prior) president who has identified himself with the aspirations of blacks inside this country and in Africa.

I will support my friends even if they have been deserted by the entire group. I will support him."

Nelson Mandela while in Canada received the "Order of Canada" which has never been given to a foreigner. While in the USA he also received the highest honor the Congres-



AP PHOTO

HIGHEST HONOURS: President Bill Clinton applauds Nelson Mandela yesterday following a Capitol Hill ceremony in which Mandela was presented with the Congressional Gold Medal.

sional Medal, besides being Knighted by Queen of England and now he carries the title of Sir Nelson Mandela.

If it was not for the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, maybe South African would still be under the heel of white supremacy and apartheid.

History has seen leaders who have succumbed to international reactionary forces after their release from captivity. We hope that Sir Nelson Mandela does not fall into this category.

South African people shall resolve their problems themselves and, we feel that socialism shall be the choice for their future. □

VODKA, BUT NOT WAGES!

Over the radio this bit of news came from Moscow, which is very hard to believe, not alone to digest!

"School teachers in Moscow, who were on strike and had not been paid for many and many months on end, received 15 bottles of Vodka instead of their wages!"

If you can't pay them wages, keep them supplied with Vodka and maybe they shall drink their troubles away and thus prolong the existence of the present Yeltsin (Vodka) bourgeois regime. This is being done in order to stupefy the people on the one hand, and on the other hand, to make them sell their vodka on the black market in order to at least get some food to their families and thus forestall the inevitable coming revolution!

We wonder whether teachers in the other countries of the world would accept this exchange of vodka for wages owing? □

**HAVE YOU RENEWED
YOUR SUB?**

SPECIAL FOR NORTHSTAR COMPASS

FROM NEWSPAPER
YEDINSTVO(UNITY)
OREL, RUSSIA

FATHER AND GRANDFATHER OF YELTSIN WERE JAILED BY SOVIETS

Going through protocols of OGPU(KGB) which chronicals the court cases held against enemies of the Soviet Union in the district of Kazan, Tatar ASSR, Professor of Kazan University Alexei Litien came across the file #5644 and lo and behold there it was - the known name of Yeltsin family.



Nikolai Yeltsin was sentenced in 1934 to 3 years for his anti-state activities as a Kulak who worked against the organs of State and took part in sabotage of the collective farms.

Brothers of Yeltsin were from very rich peasant families. Ignat Yeltsin, grandfather of Yeltsin had two mills plus

large estate of land and stock. This anti-Soviet group was disbanded, some members were arrested - all six members of this family.

Comment

Boris (Vodka) Yeltsin took his time, wormed himself into the CPSU and waited for his moment to arrive and unfortunately he did what he set out to do since he was a small lad and he did it to the detriment of the Soviet people and the working class of the world.

But history travels on, and Boris shall be forgotten together with other traitors of the world. □

CLASS STRUGGLES ACROSS RUSSIA!

Below we reprint a synopsis of class struggles that took place just in certain localities during the month of July, 1998. Many readers requested us to have in every issue some news of the struggles. In all of the former 15 Soviet republics there are daily struggles that are not even reported in the newspapers we receive, due to the lack of coverage by the Yeltsin media. This is done on purpose to make people believe that no unrest is going on.

MOSCOW

All these months (including July) the protest actions by the miners and other help from all strikers to supplement the strikers that are steadily demonstrating in front of the Duma... strikers from Tula and other centers arrive to show their solidarity. Coal Miners Federation of France sent its solidarity message and help to the striking Russian miners.

KUZBASS

On May 24 the striking miners closed off the trans Siberian railway, other main highways in Kemerovo province. The pickets demanded not only economic but political demands and were joined by other miners from adjoining cities and shafts.

CHELIABINSK

Miners struck again and again to protest the breaking of agreements reached between them and the owners only one month ago.

PRIMORSKY REGION

After being promised pay, the miners struck again by occupying the mines and will not budge until their demands are met.

SARATOV

On July 2 the strike was called by the forklift workers who demanded back pay since they did not receive it since last December.

SAKHALIN

Women marched, together with 67 children plus 107 people, for 25 miles as a hunger march. The women demanded better prices and conditions and also demanded that the present director of "Sakhalinlesproma" (forest industrial enterprise) be put on trial, and they demanded that the back pay should be paid to their husbands.

VOLGOGRAD DISTRICT

Teachers of the Volzhko blocked the main highway (Astrakhal-Volgograd) and demanded back payment for nearly 8 months plus money for textbooks and their holiday pay.

CHUVASHIA

Over 200 teachers in the city of Kanash went on strike for pay and decided that they shall refuse to give exams to the students.

MADAGAN

Dockers started a work stoppage and pickets of the ocean transport. They also demanded that the Director of this port be fired.

MOSCOW

On June 20 the CC CPRF had its meeting and again showed that they are ready and willing to cooperate with the present regime to the detriment of the workers., The CPRF leadership hardly supports any of the strikes or pickets.

ROSTOV DISTRICT

In the mine Taunskaya the miners went on strike. Some miners declared a hunger strike.

VLADIMIR DISTRICT

300 medical personnel and Doctors, all in white marched on the streets of Vladimir. They were joined practically by all medical personnel from surrounding districts and also by the 20 out of 33 schools and their teachers.

SVERDLOVSK DISTRICT

In the city of Orbit there was unveiled a monument to V.I. Lenin. Six years ago the present regime took down this monument. The enthusiasts did start to collect money, repaired the damage and put it up on the same place as it was before. They had a special tablet designed on the monument which said: "The class struggle continues, and our task - to make certain that we help in this struggle unto victory".

GEORGIA

The regime of Shevernadze is compiling a law that will see the possible banning of the Communist Party of Georgia.

UKRAINE

At the same time as the March on Moscow (organized by Victor Anpilov) was taking

place in Russia, there took place the huge tent cities in front of the Ukrainian Government building in Kiev which saw thousands of workers supporting the coal miners in their struggles. □

ELECTION IN SWEDEN



By Teddy-John Frank
KPML(r) Inter-secr.

After four years of right wing politics under the Social Democratic government, the election in Sweden on September 20th, gave a clear reaction from working class and employees.

A clear tendency of polarization between right and left among Swedish voters is one of the results. The so-called "political bourgeoisie middle", represented by the Liberal party and the Center party (former Peasant party) was severely reduced (less than 10% of the votes together).

Instead, the Christian Democrats established themselves for the first time with a very strong result (from 4% to 11%). Which means that they broke throughout the "sanctified wall" of only being a party of Christian believers. (One should note that church going in Sweden is very low, around 4% of the population, so religious matters play a very insignificant role in politics.)

Since the large Conservative party (led by Carl Bildt, who

might be well-known to foreign readers as the "High Commissioner" in Bosnia for two years) has been transformed to a very extreme neo-liberal party, with a message of lowering taxes for the rich, higher profits for investors, share holders and corporations, de-regulations of employment etc. This opened up for the Christian Democrats to present themselves as representing a broader spectra of Conservative ideas and values (family, law and order, traditions, etc.)

The bourgeoisie votes are now gathered mainly in these two parties (Conservatives at 22% while Christian Democrats at 11%).

WORKING CLASS

During the 90s-and especially since Sweden joined the European Union in 1994 - mass unemployment, privatization and vehement attacks on the welfare system has been the content of government politics. Today more than 13% are unemployed and income and standard of living has been severely reduced to most



working families and individuals.

Social Democracy has adopted most of the demands of the "market" in what is called "crisis awareness". The class differences have increased enormously these years. Sweden today experiences real poverty in growing sectors of the working class, among unemployed and sectors of young people. At the same time the rich have become tremendously richer. The

"Tony Blair syndrome" has dominated the Social Democrats, and Blair's electoral experts have been "guiding" the Social Democrats also here in Sweden.

The reaction to this from working class people can be measured in different actions in this election:

*A clear left wing upsurge, in the parliamentary situation, mainly manifested in voting for the Left party (former revisionist party, but since two decades back cutting all remaining link with its Communist past. The party defines itself today with publicity as "feminist, humanitarian and socialist" and is strictly a parliamentary party. Rather skillfully this party has presented its politics as representing a traditional Social Democratic reformism in the election campaign). The Left party doubled its votes, from 6% to more than 12%.

*An electoral catastrophe for the Social Democrats. They had their lowest percentage of votes since 1928! And their losses compared to previous election was the largest ever. From 45% of the votes in 1994 to 36.5% this year.

*Almost eight percent more of the electorate abstained from voting, compared to last election. Especially in working class areas this is even more significant. In the major cities the number of voters in working class districts reached almost American figures, i.e. 50% or even less! For Sweden this is completely unique, since voting attendance usually is 85-90%. This must be seen as a protest from frustrated Social-Democrat voters against their own party.

LEFT WINDS

We must regard the clear wind to the left as something very encouraging and promising. The dominant position of

Social-Democracy among the workers and public sector employees is gradually eroding, and this election might be a turning point in that respect.

One should not have any illusions concerning the Left party. It is a reformist party, petty-bourgeoisie in its character. But in this elevation it represented the only left alternative for all those who wanted to protest the present politics, demanding a turn to the left. The Left party, together with the Green Party (with 4.5% of the votes), are now negotiating with the Social-Democrats to see if they can form a parliamentary majority.

Because, weakened as the Social-Democrats are, they will nevertheless remain in power, but need the support of two or more parties.

The outcome of these talks are yet not clear. But the Left party is heavily tempted by its own success and its desire to play a role. This might make it prepared to "sell out" most of its promises, for the only reason to sit together with the Social-Democrats. Therefore its great success now, might change quicker than expected.

The tactics of the Social-Democrats were in the beginning hard attacks on all of the left demands, talking about irresponsible positions etc. Instead the Social-Democrats gave clear signals of continued co-operation with the "bourgeoisie middle" after the election. When the Social-Democrats understood that this line would lead to a huge defeat for them, they tried to shift tactics, and suddenly talked about the left as a possible partner. This was, however, seen through by many as opportunistic maneuvering, and it caused confusion for the Social-Democrats apparatus and campaigners who had al-

ready prepared themselves for the usual anti-social, anti-left phrasing.

INFORMERS

Added to this has been the continued revelation of the Social-Democrats and party's shameful past. Two months before the election, facts came up about the methods how the Democrats trade unionists had been spying and registering Communists and other radical workers in all major industries and plants since the end of the Second World War! The Social-Democrats even installed their own party spy organization working in 1957, where 22,000(!!!) Social-Democratic trade unionists on local level continuously reported the names of fellow workers, who were not Social-Democrats to their party central.

This was done partly as an exclusive Social-Democratic spy organization, partly in co-operation with the employers organization and the security police.

The reason given for all this is that "Communists could be a danger to the national security" and that they could be suspected of "supporting a foreign nation", i.e. traitors-to-be! This was of course during the Cold War hysteria but

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IN MEMORIAM

Northstar Compass had many requests to have a section in NSC where ads in memory of loved ones and friends can be expressed. Donations will be accepted in this column.

it has been going on ever since. Step by step the truth has come out, how permanently all left-wing persons, young people in solidarity movements, etc. have been registered. (In 1969, a law was introduced in Sweden, by the Social-Democratic government at that time, that made it illegal to register any person "because of his or her political opinions". But the Social-Democrats just kept doing it, thereby committing this crime against their own proposed law!)

And most shamefully: it was done on orders from the U.S., as a precondition for Sweden to be able to get U.S. high technology.

A secret protocol from a meeting with the inner circle of the Social-Democrats from 1973 (when Olof Palme was their chairperson and Swedish prime minister), that was published only a month ago, reveals that the spying was aimed at our party's members, since the Social-Democrats had "big problems with the political activities of KPML(r) and our trade unionists sometimes have big troubles to handle their propaganda."

This was one reason for this unlawful registering. How many people were black-listed due to this no one can tell. But that the people were black-listed or experienced other problems and difficulties in their lives, is clear. One must also ask how and for what purpose these lists with more than 200,000 names were going to be used in the event of the cold war turning hot?

And who are really the "traitors-to-be" in such a situation, if these lists were turned over to U.S. imperialists and NATO? One can only recall how Pinochet in Chile

in the military coup there in 1973 within 24 hours could round up more than 20,000 anti-Fascists and radical citizens in the sports stadium in Santiago, where thousands of them were murdered, tortured or disappeared the following months. Who had prepared the lists with these 20,000 names?

These matters have caused much upheaval in Sweden. Leading Social-Democrats at this time have come out in the media that they "are proud of fighting Communists" this way, but a majority of their own voters feel ashamed of their own party. Much more is to come out in these matters, since facts concerning Sweden's so called post-war neutrality and non-alignment politics is beginning to appear.

Already the secret cooperation with NATO has been exposed countless sordid details. (Building air strips in north of Sweden for B-52s; US Marine officers were secretly placed on Swedish marine ships in accordance with secret agreements, Swedish military strategy and defense plans were revealed to US Chiefs of Staff, and they were allowed to visit the most top secret war time headquarters, drilled into mountain caves etc. etc.).

When all of these things come to the surface, it will also mean that the Social-Democratic icons like Olof Palme and his predecessor Tage Erlander, will be losing their saintly halo, a most traumatic situation.

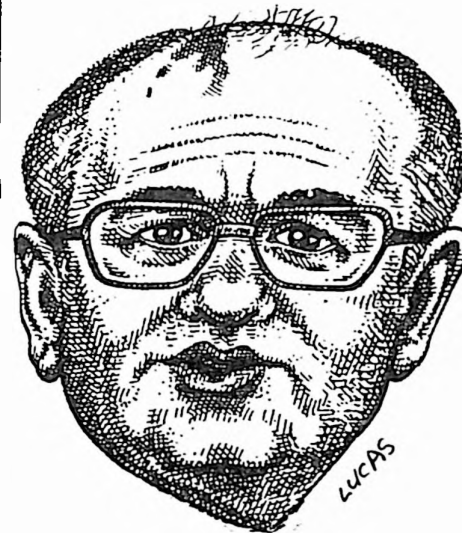
THE COMMUNIST PARTY

Finally a few words about the electoral outcome for our own party. We participated only in a number of local elections (all elections take place the same day in Sweden). Our party de-

fended its previous seats and the number of votes were increased, with only one local exception. In Gothenburg the party increased its number of votes with more than 1,000. All in all the party increased its number of votes by more than 30%.

Together with the general left wing upsurge this is a very positive situation for the Communist party, which we intend to utilize to the fullest. □

COMRADE GORBACHEV PERESTROIKA- BACK WITH A PIZZA COMMERCIAL



Gorbachev, ex-leader of Soviet Union,
Biggest land on earth,
Has had a holy rebirth.
Gorby now makes daily communion
With a new savior; U.S. Pizza Hut.
In a million-dollar TV toast
He swallows,
As though it were the sacred host,*
One of its pizzas into his gut.

Having onetime headed
First socialist land in existence,
Does he not find it surreal
To pull off a capitalist deal
That makes Pizza a Pizza de resistance?

Apparently not. Give him sufficient pay,
 And plugging Pizza's de more congruous
 Than plugging the Nike shoe is
 For basketball champ, Jordan,
 Michael JH.

And thereon hangs a tale:
 For traitors, Gorbys Pizza communion
 Is pure state-of-the-arty.
 There're always been some in the Party
 Who were up for sale.
 Nothing new: some leaders turn coat.
 U.S.'s Benedict Arnold was hero
 of West Point.
 Yet when time came he sold out the joint
 And almost managed to sink the boat.

**HOST- The little wafer swallowed in the Catholic communion ritual.*

By Bernard Livingston
 Member of the NSC Editorial Board in NY, USA

Bernard Livingston has been a lawyer, film maker, photojournalist, publicist and author. Published four books, one a Doubleday Bestseller, another a Main Selection of the Natural Science Book Club. He made twelve films, one of which won two national awards and is now in the Permanent Collection of the New York Museum of Modern Art. He has been a photojournalist for the United Press International and is a poet.

FRIENDSHIP NEWS

GREETINGS SENT TO CUBA

The Editorial Board of Northstar Compass and the Canadian Council of Canadian

Friends of Soviet People wishes to extend fraternal greetings to the Cuban Movement for Peace and Peoples Sovereignty on this its' conference on "Human Rights".

We want to wish you success in your efforts to show the close connection between human rights and peace. We further want to extend our fervent hope that your work will help to expose the hypocrisy connected with this subject when dealt with so often in the worlds' mass media. Truth shall prevail and peace shall be the order of the future.

With fraternal greetings

The Editorial Board of NSC and Council of Canadian Friends of Soviet People. □

NEWS FROM FORMER SOVIET UNION

FELIX GORELIK



"INDEPENDENCE DAY" IN LUGANSK

On August 24 President Kuchma of Ukraine reviewed a military parade on Kreshchatik Blvd. the central street in Kiev. Blue and yellow flags of nationalism were flying all over the buildings, all these decorations were to have been enough to heal the wounds of the backlash against the declaration 7 years ago of the "Independent Ukraine". The biggest signs were on all the outdoor advertising stands with just

one word on them ""Lets go on!" by the movement RUKH!

No matter how much the government tried, together with the movement RUKH, the event showed that the people remembered this day as the anniversary of a tragedy for Ukraine. Near the monument to Shevchenko and V.I. Lenin in Lugansk, people gathered there in their thousands, under red flags and red banners demanding a return to the USSR and socialism. During the many speeches at the meeting there were comparisons in all facets of what was then and what is now. One of the facts repeated over again was the fact that in 1990 there was a work force employed that numbered 23 million workers, while now in 1998 there were only 9 million workers still working, even though they wait to get paid months on end. Standard of life is 8 times lower than before. Every year the population of Ukraine is down by over 400,000 people due to lack of medical care, starvation and suicides. In the last year alone, in the Lugansk district of Ukraine there were over 1,200 suicides.

As if to support this situation and facts, during this day of "Independence" there was a bloody carnage against the striking coal miners.

Returning from this meeting, I could not have imagined as to

YOU HAVE AN OPINION ABOUT NSC? WRITE!

All translations from Russian, Byelorussian, Ukrainian, Czech and Slovak by Michael Lucas.

GET YOUR FRIENDS TO SUBSCRIBE TO NORTHSTAR COMPASS!

what was to transpire here during the evening. Coming to the tent where the headquarters of the striking miners was, I met my old friend, a miner of many years V. Gordus. He asked for a red flag from the participants of the meeting and tied it solidly unto a fence so that it would fly and would not be easily torn off by the nationalists or the militia. Immediately, as if drawn by a magnet, scores of police rushed to this red flag, even mounted militia dashed here on their horses. Soon the whole Square was surrounded by the militia "special division"-a provocation was being planned.

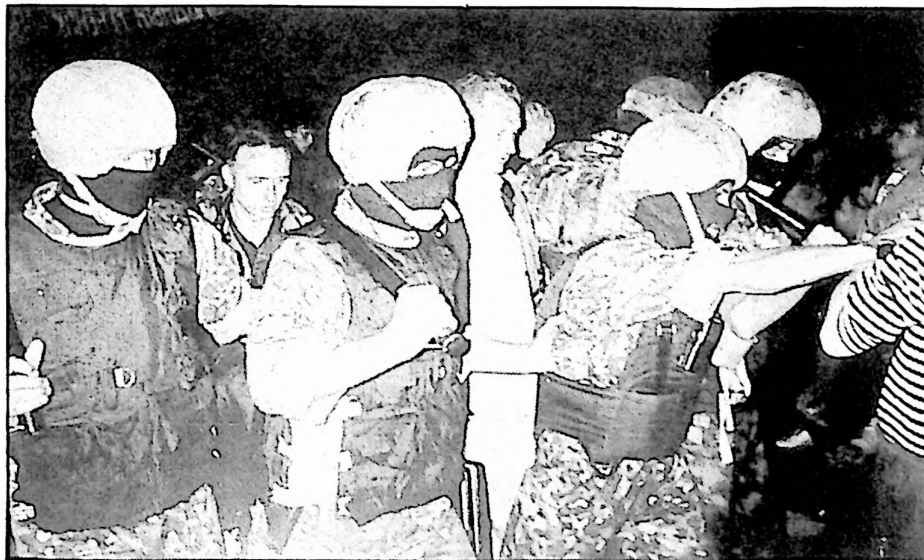
There came high ranking city officials, Army sapers in camouflage uniforms and dogs from the division "Berkut" and demanded to be given the "stuffed mannequin" which the miners were going to burn in effigy, representing the present Ukrainian government. The mannequin was named "Parasite". The army personnel told the miners that this "mannequin" was a time bomb and telling the miners to move back 50 meters and the soldiers shall detonate the "bomb". The miners were suspicious since there was NO bomb there and smelled a provocation! This mannequin was being constructed with straw under the very eyes

of the militia. What kind of bomb could there be?

Immediately the police, militia started to attack the peaceful miners with clubs and the commander yelling "finish them off!" The leader of the striking miners Dmitry Kalitventsev received two shattering blows to



HERE ARE THE GOONS OF UKRAINIAN "INDEPENDENT STATE PRACTICING "DEMOCRACY"!



the head, yelled at V. Gordus to run, since you are an invalid, since he had 4 accidents at the mine and his leg was broken. But this old miner also was beaten into unconsciousness... the militia attacked the leadership first and beat them savagely. The miners rushed to help their comrades, many were carted off to hospitals. Nevertheless the striking miners had their torch parade, but were not able to put on fire their "parasite" since the militia took it away.

In what way were the miners guilty? What did they demand?

They only demanded their back pay now. They wanted to emulate their comrades who last year held a striking vigil in this square for 52 days - 40 of those days under rain. At that time the back pay also was in arrears 7 months. They did everything, they demonstrated, they called a hunger strike, some of the miners even threatened to set themselves on fire. It was only on the eve of the "Day of the Miner" that they were promised their back pay.

During the spring and summer of this year, the coal miners held marches, protested and marched on Kiev, but this was to no avail. They did not get their back pay. So there was no other choice but to repeat the protests again.

Just one example of the hardships and tragedies that are daily occurrences. A young woman told me that her husband died in the coal mine in 1988, leaving her with a small little girl. Working as an elevator operator, she did not get paid for over one year. Her little girl is not going to school, since she has no money to buy the little girl shoes or boots. She cannot buy coal for heat, people have to steal at night to heat their homes. She was on a hunger strike for 20 days near the doors of the local administration, but of no use! They somehow paid some people 50 Hryvnia... but you have

to stand in line for hours -you cannot be sick, otherwise if you came later, there might be no money left altogether. There are instances of people dying in line, awaiting these miserable Hriven due to malnutrition, sickness and lack of medicines.

Instead of money, most people if they're lucky get paid in goods they manufacture and it's up to them to try and sell them, if they're lucky. There is a firm "Feliks" belonging to Kirrilov, who in a few years somehow managed to get about 10 stores in his hands in Krasnodon, and now has over 900 people working for him. Robbery, Mafiosi dealings are common amongst the new rich. These new "owners" like Kirrilov are exploiting the people to the ground. This "democratic state" is defended and supported on the batons of the militia.

The coal miners at first listened to these demagogues of "Independent Ukraine" believing that private enterprise and the West will make their lives easy and they shall be the benefactors of this "democracy". They thought that they will receive huge pay raises and bonuses. They soon found out that not only was there no money for their pays, but no money to improve the machinery, innovations in production or that safety shall be improved. The machinery was not replaced or fixed up in ten years, there are accidents daily and many deaths. In August there was an explosion in the Shaft XIX Congress where 63 miners died. Then another explosion where 23 miners perished. These mines are now owned privately by people who amass fortunes on the backs of the workers. Offering them instead of pay some piece of rocky land in the woods for their private lots. The price of coal has risen twice. The Ukrainian state has allowed the Ukrainian people to be robbed by these private in-

dividuals. Many directors of these mines, members of RUKH work hand-in-glove with the owners to make themselves rich. This is another reason for the storm that is coming over the horizon. This is wild capitalism, in which the coal miners before believed would make their life a "paradise".

Today the coal miners in Ukraine is costlier by 1.5 times than other countries coal. Where is the solution? Under the direction the International Monetary Fund, the present Ukrainian government is going to institute a "restructuring program" which means in effect to close "unprofitable mines". In other words, less competition to the West. Thus mines, towns in the Donbass region are becoming "ghost towns".

Even the former Premier Efim Zviagilsky stated that this plan of reforms is "the biggest crime ever committed".

This bloody attack against the coal miners has opened many eyes of the miners. The miners still are not marching wholly under the Red banners, but under black and blue flags of NPG. Majority still believe that only economic demands are to be voiced and made. "We do not want to protest under political slogans or manouvers" stated the leaders of the Krasnodon miners. But after this bloody attack. I feel that the situation is changing. It is not by chance that after this bloody clash more than 28 miners joined the Communist movement. In the last election in the Lugansk region over 53% of voters voted for Communist candidates. In Krasnodon the mayor is V. Ilionov, member of the Communist Party of Ukraine.

But we cannot be under any illusions: in most districts during the election, again the capitalists got elected. In Lugansk for the third time there was

elected the reformist Kolomoitsev and Borzykh due to demagogy, buying of votes etc.

But life is the best teacher. On your own skin the miners are being woken up, knowing what they had under socialism, what was brought to them by "Independent Ukraine" under the heal of capitalism. The "Day of Independence" in Lugansk - a new strike against cooperation with capitalism and its illusions, a new lesson in the political understanding of the working class!

FROM NEWSPAPER
"VOICE OF A
COMMUNIST" MOSCOW



"Golos Kommunist" (Voice of a Communist) is the organ of the Russian Communist Party-CPSU and below we publish an article as to their interpretation of the present horse-trading that went on in the Russian Duma by all factions concerned - including the CPRF and Zyuganov!

OPPOSITION IS ON ITS KNEES

For over 5 weeks under the complete pressure of the President and his servants in the Duma, brought about the desired results. In the secret voting when Kirienko was nominated by Yeltsin, 251 deputies voted for him - this included also many members of the Communist Party of Russian Federation.

Why did these Deputies vote like that? The propaganda in the regime-controlled media went all out to praise to high

heavens Kirienko and to tell the Russian people that it is an obligation of the Duma to vote with the Government (Yeltsin) and that Yeltsin's regime is not going against the Constitution. Besides all this, Yeltsin and his cohorts stated that there are no finances to hold another election and that by spending all these finances, shall make the people even poorer and make more hardships.

The clincher was the following, which unfortunately even the CPRF unfortunately swallowed; "The country cannot exist without the Duma".

During that voting, the CPRF which has now 165 Deputies-it showed that 10 CPRF deputies did not even show up, 95 CPRF deputies did not bother to vote, while only 10 CPRF deputies voted against Kirienko.

Zyuganov during this "cha-

rade" spoke in the Duma, and although he spoke against Kirienko, his speech was strong only on: "we must cooperate, we must agree - we must not allow protests in the streets - we must have control - we can improve the present regime by a dialogue, etc. etc." He wound up with his favorite thesis - "Russia has had enough of revolutions!" But during those days and growing ever louder is the saying: "Russia has had enough of evolution - we need a revolution!":

The authority of CPRF has fallen. Unfortunately the pessimistic prognosis by our newspaper previously proved to be correct. "Up to this time in all of the analogical situations there was always a certain scenario. At first the declarations (CPRF) were always revolutionary rhetoric. Then there started to take place secret and official meetings and discussions, at which this compromise was arrived at. (By

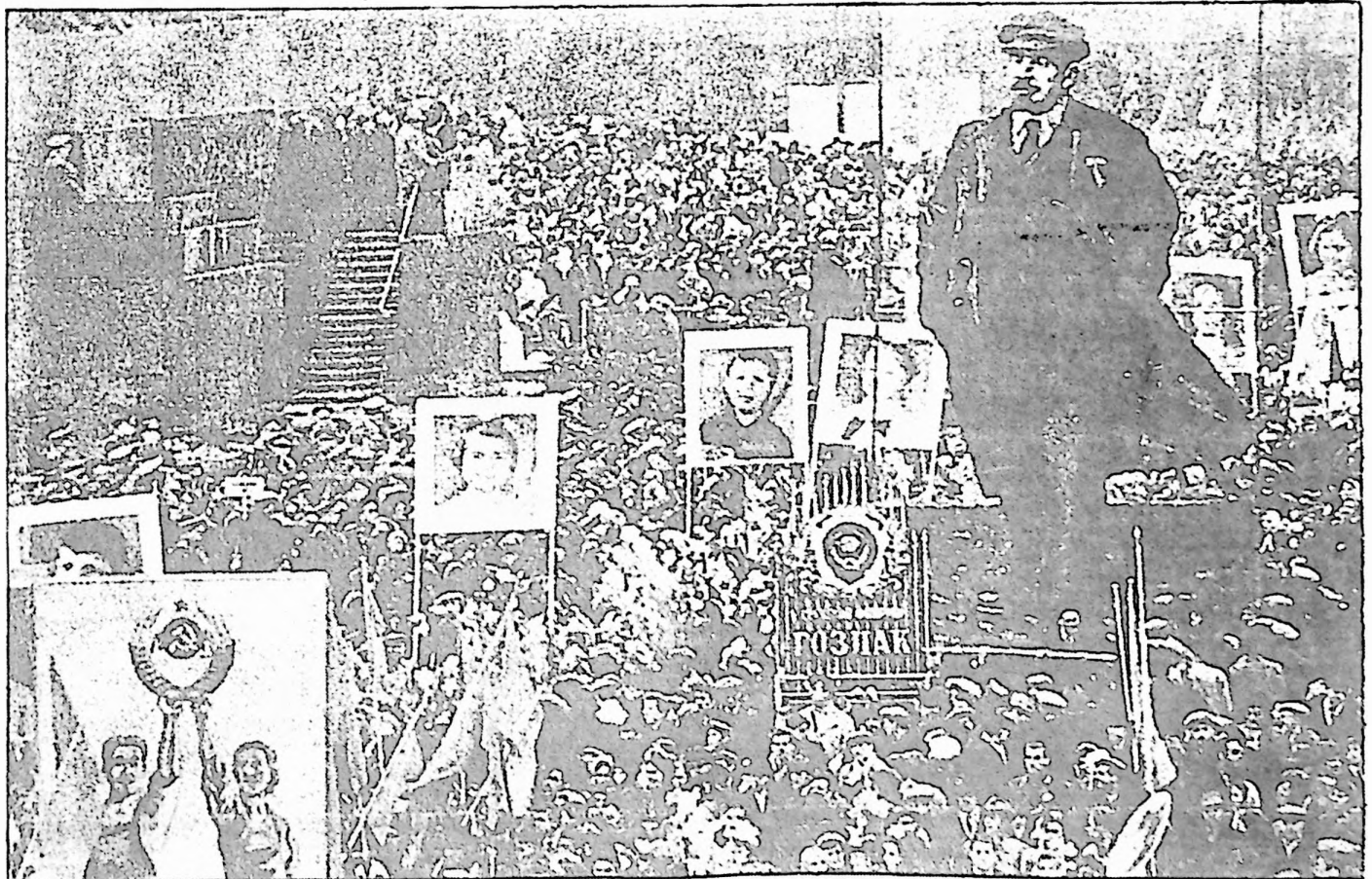
this we mean the compromise candidate of Primakov). Then after this the voting went as planned. This meant that Kirienko received the number of votes that were planned at his second nomination. Without the number of Communist votes neither Kirienko (2nd round) or Primakov would never have been elected.

What then is the future of the CPRF in the Duma? In the last few years there transpired a split - a left wing inside CPRF was established and if this continues than the Russian Communist Party-CPSU will be on the same side of the barricades.

Alexei Prigarin

We publish a photograph that accompanied this article with the heading which states:

IT WAS LIKE THAT, AND IT SHALL BE LIKE THAT □



ANALYSES OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN RUSSIA

By Nina Andreeva
General Secretary
All Union Communist
Party of Bolsheviks

NINA A.
ANDREEVA



The observed and prolonged financial, economic and political crisis in Russia - this is a crisis of the restoration of capitalism. The policies and politics of Yeltsin and his regime of economic reform and market economy is discredited itself fully amongst wide masses of the population of our country. The attempt of the present regime to find an answer and road by changing the political figures in the Government, forceful structures, and by utilizing the method of economic and political dictatorship, will absolutely fail. (Economic dictatorship - in part, attempting to force more from the majority of people, and the small businessmen-"here today and gone tomorrow tent bazaar businesses" etc. etc.! Political dictatorship - is in fact not the slogan of democracy as is being propagated, hampering the opposition, terminating political speeches and gatherings, arresting the leadership of workers and strike committees, more and more using jail methods when they dispers meetings, protests and sit-ins and pickets, etc. etc., plus hampering and closing of the

opposition press by being forced to go bankrupt due to newsprint and printing sabotage.)

Because there is weaknesses at the "centre", the growing tendency in outside districts of the country for separate governing structures, brings out in these districts the growth of nomeclatura-mafiosi structures and nationalist elements, this is starting to be a great danger to the unity of Russia. Tens of billions of dollars, in this also the receiving of American dollars through the International Monetary Fund, all aimed to further proceed with economic market reforms in Russia" of course affect the country immensely. The present regime in Moscow is helpless to stop this process even if it wanted to. Russia is on the brink of disaster, pulls along all the capitalist countries, to whom it was "tied to" by the "democrats". The "free world" itself is suffering and leering from this world financial crisis, which encompasses one region after another. In this way the attempt to "help Russia to institute democratic reforms" is not succeeding.

It is for certain that today the only section of society that is supporting and benefitting from this chaos are the supporters of Yeltsin regime - these are well paid cliques of traitorous Generals, the corrupted leadership of Internal Security, militia structures, other punitive governmental military structures of the present regime.

The parliamentary opposition, headed by revisionists, again demonstrated its non-effectiveness and in this manner compromised itself by cooperating fully with the present regime. As an example, some of the latest pronouncements by Gennady Zyuganov in front of the Russian media. "... We are all interested that everything that the Government now proposes should be

agreed upon." (?)

The utilization by the revisionists of revolutionary slogans only serves to push down off the correct road some of the naive population, brings confusion into their minds, and it deepens the crisis inside the communist movements.

The economic factor in the first place is the generator which keeps the mass protests growing, the geography of which is constantly going wider and wider in Russia. This is helped by the ever-higher prices for goods, inflation, the ever-worsening daily situation of the majority of the population. This is especially extremely hard on the children and elder people. The calls for mass protests and demonstrations, organized by trade unions and opposition leaders, which they agree upon around "a round table" together with the Government which promote and publicize these actions in the mass media (such as the action planned for October 7th of this year).

And, we ask, what kind is this "opposition", if it is cooperating and fulfilling these actions on behalf of the present regime? It is meant only to have these actions act as "letting off steam" by the population from this boiling kettle, to manipulate the masses by this section of the opposition.) What kind of opposition is this that completely fulfills the plans of the regime? A revolutionary situation has not yet manifested itself in Russia. Communist movement as yet unfortunately has not managed to have very close ties with the working class. The main opposition party is the one that is headed by Victor Anpilov, revolutionary in words, but he is still hoping that the parliamentary road is the road towards getting more seats into the Russian Duma. It is the same as (Parliamentary cretinism). The only correct and

trustworthy instrument of the proletarian state - Bolshevized Soviets - practically are not active. The mass media scares the people with civil war, inserting anti-communism psychology day in day out.

Our analyses of the developing situation shows a tendency of further social unrest in the society, which can bring about a regime of fascist dictatorship.

To save the present regime of mafiosi corrupted structures, at any moment General Lebed can anytime be called upon, having the support of NTS-section affiliated with the CIA. General Lebed, who in the words of Gorbachev, is like "an armored train which now stands on a siding in reserve"(...)

Our party, the All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, at the moment proceeds on its main task of wide propaganda amongst all sections of the population, in order to realistically try to Bolshevize the Communist movements, by giving a helping hand to regions and territories where strike committees are being set up, where protest committees are being set up in all enterprises and factories and to transform them into dedicated existing SOVIETS-organs of the state of proletarian dictatorship.

Our party aims - all-sided help to opposition parties and movements, demonstrations and pickets, the most wide and all - encompassing agitation work amongst all sections of the people.

The developing situation in Russia again demonstrates our previous prognosis, that to restore capitalism in our country, upon people who lived under socialism - its historically impossible.

The future, no matter how hard the situation is at the present, the future is for social progress -for Socialism!

P.S. In the telephone conversation with the Editor of NSC , Nina Andreeva pointed out that Yeltsin-Primakov and Zyuganov cooperation produced a new Government that is composed practically with all members who were hand-picked by Gorbachev to institute "perestroika" which then became the downfall of the Soviet Union.

How could Zyuganov and the CPRF have agreed to such composition? The answer is very simple! Gorbachev also had Zyuganov in the ranks of the "perestoika" team which saw the temporary demise of the USSR! □

FROM NEWSPAPER
"WORKERS-FARMERS
PRAVDA"
MUKACHEVO, UKRAINE



RESULTS OF 7 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE!

Below we publish some statistics from this newspaper which shows graphically the terrible conditions of the people due to this "Nationalistic Independence" for Ukraine!

*The internal debt of Ukraine is over 10 billion dollars. On top of this Ukraine owes International Monetary Fund over \$2.2 billion U.S. dollars. The interest that has to be paid yearly is as much as 7% of the whole production of goods in all of the Ukraine!

* While in 1995 the infection of Aids in the population was 187, while during Soviet times it was hardly even on the

charts - in 1997 it was already 24,000 and growing alarmingly.

*Every year, due to unsafe working conditions there are killed over 50,000 people. From the beginning of 1998 till August of this year, already 264 miners lost their lives.

* Due to terrible economic hardships for a majority of the people, the population of this country of ours is dying prematurely. The population inside of 5 years has decreased from 52.2 millions to 50.5 million, a loss of over 1.7 million people.

The average span of life now in Ukraine is as follows:

-Men -62.3 years
-Women - 73.2 years

According to UNESCO the figures show that Ukraine is between 121-130th place out of 198 countries of the world in deaths per capita-on the level of Morocco or Tunisia.

WE CAN ONLY SAY...

**TO OUR SOVIET FRIENDS:
ARISE, YOU
MIGHTY LAND!**

STAMP COLLECTORS!

We have on hand hundreds of stamps from over 60 countries of the world. They can be yours for a donation to the NSC Sustaining Fund. They are packaged and shall be sent to you after receiving your request and a donation.

BEAUTIFUL STAMPS FROM COUNTRIES LIKE NEPAL OR SAN MARINO!

FAMOUS PROVERBS!

"The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.

-Chinese proverb

"Obstacles are things a person sees when he takes his eyes off his goal."

-E. Joseph Cossman

NEWS DIGEST COMMENT

USA AND ITS WARS AGAINST THE PEOPLE!

We publish some of the details from an exceptionally written article by Joan Coxwedge which was published in the Australian newspaper "FrontLine" sent to us by our reader from Australia, Dr. Vera Butler.

Borders of many countries of the world, including of Kuwait were imposed by British and American imperialists when the Ottoman Empire broke up after WW1 to ensure that no single Arab nation would emerge and that oil would remain in western control.

Kuwait is not a nation. It was created in 1922 by a British diplomat, Sir Percy Cox, drawing a red line on a map.

If our readers would remember that Washington wanted to strike again at Iraq by unleashing the proposed "Operation Rolling Thunder" on Iraqi people. Seven years after invasion, under the code name of "Operation Desert Storm". At that time President

Bush described it as a "famous victory and the greatest moral crusade since the Second World War". The full cost of this "victory" was never disclosed.

Having entrapped Saddam Hussein into invading Kuwait, the US military machine grabbed the opportunity to test its arsenal of new weapons in a ferocious six-week around the clock bombardment and this included 90,000 bombing runs, the equivalent of seven Hiroshimas. This was done against a vastly inferior opponent.

Here are just some samples of weapons used, not only against military but mostly on civilians:

*Rockeye Cluster Bomb Mark 20, made up of 24 bomblets, each anti-personnel grenade that exploded into 2,000 high velocity fragments, shredding human beings.

*They dropped "fuel-air bomb" where a fine spray of fuel was ignited above a target and the resulting whoosh of fire sucked the oxygen from human lungs, plus their own favourites napalm and phosphorous. They dropped anti-personnel weapons with names like, Adam, Beehive and Bouncing Betty.

*A quarter of a million people were killed.

*Two days before the cease-fire, three brigades of the U.S. 1st Mechanized Infantry Division used snowploughs mounted on tanks and combat earth movers to bury thousands of Iraqis some still alive - under tonnes of earth in more than 70 miles of trenches, an action said to be "cost effective".

*After the cease-fire, in another act of sheer barbarism, US pilots were ordered to chase the retreating soldiers - many young conscripts and refugees along the road to Basra. Tens of thousands were slaughtered. Pilots described the "thrill" of picking off fleeing soldiers and it was described as a "Turkey shoot".

*Only 148 Americans were killed during this campaign, more than a quarter of them by their own comrades. US after supporting Saddam Hussein and seeing him gain popularity and power and he was controlling 20% of the world's oil reserves, Saddam Hussein had become too powerful and had to go.

*United Nations is being used as a vehicle for the policy of USA. United Nations inspections - paid by Iraq - are a deadly ideological game.

*The USA is now secretly passing a law allowing the President to refuse inspection of its own huge chemical arsenal except to its own hand-picked few, denying excess to representatives of other countries which are members of the UNO. Two inspectors, one Cuban and one Iranian, have already been struck off this hand-picked list. Other provisions exempt private companies in U.S. and by-product toxins from inspection.

This is just a sample of what US imperialism is doing with the UNO and its policy of subjugating other countries to its will! □

OBITUARY

IN MEMORY
of our beloved
neighbor and friend,



EVAN MIHALCEAN
ardent supporter
of Socialism
and fervent
naturalist.

Carolyn Thibault
Hope, Idaho, USA

SPECIAL

Blackshirts don't like the F-word

Dear reader!

The following article will probably shock you and you might likely not believe that such a possibility exists in former Soviet Union. It is hard to comprehend that a country that suffered over 27 million war dead in the Second World War would allow the sprouting of this fascist germ!

This article was sent to us by Dr. Vera Butler from Australia and it was published in the "Guardian Weekly".

It should be noted that this black plaque is formed in Stavropol, Ukraine and being the seat of Ukrainian nationalism from long ago, it is no wonder that this would be the breeding ground. It is also very shocking to see the fascist movement also in Russia — all wrapped in nationalism, supported by the Orthodox Church plus the intelligence agencies of the West.

Imperialism is playing many cards, waiting which one will be the "trump card"! There's "constitutional monarch"; and if that is not to be, then there's the "replacement of Yeltsin with Chernomydrin"; then there is of course General (Pinochet) Lebed is awaiting his cue"; of course there's the forthcoming deal to have "General Lebed as President and Chernomydrin as Prime Minister while Zyganov and his CPRF gets some unimportant ministerial "posts"!

The choices are numerous.

If the communists of CPRF strike a deal with Chernomydrin and thus replace Yeltsin, that of course will NOT solve the problem at all! Cooperating with Yeltsin-Chernomydrin-Lebed is de facto recognizing the present regime and thus giving full rein to the West supported fascist parties and movements.

NOW IS THE TIME TO UNITE AND IN A COMMON FRONT TO KICK OUT THE ENTIRE PRESENT WEST-ORIENTED REGIME!

GUARDIAN WEEKLY
July 12 1998

They wear swastikas and hate Jews, but no one in Russia dares call them fascists. **James Meek** reports from Stavropol

ONE DAY Galina Tuz had a nightmare. She was in a courtroom surrounded by racist young men with close-cropped hair wearing black shirts and swastika armbands. She knew they were fascists, they knew they were fascists, the whole town knew they were fascists — yet when she tried to say so out loud, the judge accused her of defamation and fined her the equivalent of \$80.

Like all the worst nightmares, this one really happened. Last month a judge confirmed the decision of a lower court to award damages to the blackshirts of the avowedly racist Russian National Unity party for "harm to their reputation" caused by Tuz's description of them in a local newspaper as "fascists".

The party, known as RNE from its Russian initials, has hundreds of members in the southern town of Stavropol, where it openly operates a military training school. The town is plastered with posters preaching RNE's message of racial exclusivity and appealing for recruits.

Yet when Tuz took up her pen, she turned out to be the only person in this town of 300,000 — where Mikhail Gorbachev grew up, and which, during the war, experienced the savagery of Nazi occupation — who could remember, or wanted to remember, what a fascist was.

"My intention was that they

should understand that there is a force here in Stavropol which is going to resist them," said Tuz, a journalist and university teacher. "It didn't quite turn out that way because they saw that I was alone. And a woman alone on the battlefield is not a warrior."

Tuz wrote her article in reply to an interview with the local RNE leader, Andrei Dudinov, in the newspaper Stavropolskaya Pravda. In it Dudinov said party members were not fascists but national socialists. He accused the Jews of being responsible for "genocide" against ethnic Russians during the Soviet years.

In a chilling comment, Dudinov said the old Soviet intelligentsia should be "wholly replaced . . . they can be of no use whatsoever to an ethnic state".

None of this was enough for the judges to accept that Tuz had a right to call RNE members fascists. Nor was the extract from the RNE code of honour that made clear the Führer-like role of their leader Alexander Barkashov, who carries the title Chief Soratnik, or comrade-in-arms. "In any situation the comrade is guided only by his righteous national consciousness according to the powers given him by the Chief Soratnik," the code says. "He is not subordinate to any other laws. The comrade must always remember Russia has no friends. Anyone who forgets this is a traitor."

In court RNE members explained that their swastika — like the Nazi symbol but with four prongs at the corners — was a traditional Russian religious symbol. The salute of the Barkashovisy — an exact copy of the Nazi salute — was "a traditional Slavic greeting".

In an eight-page judgment in March, confirmed last month by a regional court, judge Yelena Kriyolapovaya and two lay magistrates concluded that RNE's programme and publications had nothing in common with fascism "in the household understanding of the word . . . on the contrary, the materials studied demonstrate the patriotic aims of the Stavropol RNE".

As well as Tuz's fine, the paper was ordered to pay the equivalent of \$1,000. "It was like Kafka," said Tuz. "I had the impression I was living in an alternative reality."

The offices of the Stavropol RNE are on one of the town's main streets, Lenin Street. There is nothing covert about them. A large red swastika hangs outside.

Inside are a handful of muscular youths, copies of the RNE newspaper Russian Order, and an older, tersely courteous man in a green T-shirt — Yuri Andreyev, the local spokesman. Except he wasn't going to speak. "We're acting in accor-

dance with the Constitution . . . The media doesn't objectively cover our activities," he said.

In a front-page interview in Russian Order, Chief Soratnik spoke about what RNE had planned for rich Russian Jews, such as the media tycoon Vladimir Gusinsky.

"We will come to power by legal means, with the broadest possible support of our people, and then, by the same legal means, seek answers from Gusinsky and others for all that they have done in Russia since 1917, for all the crimes they have committed and continue to commit

cists. I'd stay just to spite them," she said. "I'm running from my friends. I suggested to people that we mount some kind of campaign. Somebody said: 'Oh, I don't think we should pay any attention; let's pretend they don't exist.' I understood I wouldn't get support."

When the trial began, Tuz said, she was surprised that none of her friends, most of them journalists, asked any questions about it. Partly, she believes, there was a lack of interest in what they thought was a marginal phenomenon. Partly it was calculated fear of the future.



Russian National Unity members, with swastikas similar to the Nazis but with four prongs at the corners, at a rally PHOTO MOSCOW

now," Barkashov said.

The Tuz case is now before Russia's supreme court, and the country's best-known lawyer, Genri Reznik, has suggested taking it to the European Court of Human Rights if necessary. But whatever happens, Tuz is leaving Stavropol for St Petersburg. Not because of fear of RNE reprisals, but because she believes the town itself has failed her.

"I am not running from the fas-

"The Barkashovtsy have weapons. They're training. They're even carrying out parachute jumps. And everyone thinks: 'What if suddenly . . . perhaps they will come to power. As long as they don't touch me'."

One acquaintance of Tuz, Volodya Fitsov, explained Stavropol's attitude. "Their posters are on the walls, sure, but what else do they do?" he said. "They don't do anything vicious or damaging. They promote

anti-Semitism, but that doesn't acquire any tangible form either. Why should I do anything about it? It's not my business. It's the government's."

For all RNE's anti-Semitism, there are few Jews left in Stavropol. One of the reasons the Barkashovtsy have so much passive support in their hostility towards *inorodtsy* — "those not of our race" — is the tension between ethnic Russians and members of the darker-skinned Caucasian peoples, particularly the Chechens. The war in Chechnya produced a flood of ethnic Russian refugees.

"I know one family of refugees, very intelligent people, the parents taught at Grozny university," said Tuz. "The Chechens killed their son's grandfather in front of his eyes. I can't condemn him, but the boy has joined the Barkashovtsy. He goes around sticking up posters."

Alexander, a police lieutenant, said he knew colleagues who had joined RNE. When I told him that Caucasians in the town's market did not seem to feel threatened, he smiled. "Yes, they feel quite at home here," he said. "They've got very cocky of late."

The lieutenant, who refused to give his last name, said he didn't take the Barkashovtsy too seriously, but wouldn't mind them getting involved in police duties. "I'd welcome it. Particularly since they're made up of volunteers.

"Maybe their appearance means something for the older generation, but for the young generation it doesn't have the same impact. Under Hitler the Germans established order."

The Barkashovtsy already work with local authorities in cities such as Moscow, where they provide "security" in a public park.

Some Muscovites believe that the RNE threat is being hyped by the Kremlin to create a menace for Boris Yeltsin in target in the 2000 presidential elections. If true, it has only exposed the disturbing degree to which ordinary Russians are prepared to offer at least the support of indifference to home-grown fascism and racism.

The support does go further. The region west of Stavropol, Krasnodar, which covers all Russia's Black Sea resort areas, has elected as its governor one of the most unashamed anti-Semitic politicians in Europe, Nikolai Kondratenko.

This year he subjected a gathering of local youth organisations to a vicious tirade against "Zionism". "Their tactic was to become as Russians, to infiltrate Russian families," he said. "For years, decades, evil was accumulated, and Russians understood nothing."

PAGES FROM OUR PAST

Dedicated to those who are believers but support war imperialism!

Mark Twain's War Prayer



SPECIAL FOR NORTHSTAR COMPASS

U.S. PERSECUTES CITIZEN FOR CUBA TRAVEL

Dan Snow is a U.S. citizen who traveled to Cuba several times between 1977 and 1987 to go bass fishing and carry out scientific research on that fish, which is endemic to the U.S. state of Florida. As a result of those trips, he was sentenced by a Texas court to

five years in prison and \$300 fine and 1000 hours of work cleaning streets and communities.

He is still unable to fulfill his wish of returning to Cuba to see his friends. Another visit would mean ten more years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

We wonder whether the good Pope John II will intervene for Dan Snow? We doubt it very much! After all, USA is "democratic" and how can a Pontiff make a statement to the contrary? □

"All eyes following and wondering, he made his silent way ...the preacher, with eyes closed, continued his prayer."

Illustration by Stan Grant.

The timeless quality of truth is well exemplified in this "The War Prayer". Perhaps the psychic numbing consciously or unconsciously employed by many of us in the nuclear age could stand being prodded by the likes of Mark Twain. Those who invoke "victory" for our side may need a more graphic explanation of what they are wishing not just upon our "enemies" but upon ourselves.

It was a time of great and exalting excitement. The country was up in arms, the war was on, in every breast burned the holy fire of patriotism; the drums were beating, the bands playing, the toy pistols popping, the bunched firecrackers hissing and spluttering; on every hand and far down the receding and fading spread of roofs and balconies a fluttering wilderness of flags flashed in the sun; daily the young volunteers marched down the wide avenue gay and fine in their new uniforms, the proud fathers and mothers and sisters and sweethearts cheering them with voices choked with happy emotion as they swing by; nightly the packed mass-meetings listened, panting, to patriot oratory which stirred the deepest depths of their hearts, and which the interrupted at briefest intervals with cyclones of applause, the tears running down their cheeks the while; in the churches the pastors preached devotion to flag and country, and involved the God of Battles, Beseeking His aid in our good cause in outpourings of fervid eloquence which moved every listener. It was indeed a glad and gracious time, the half dozen rash spirits that ventured to disapprove of the war and cast a doubt upon its righteousness straight way got such a stern and angry warning that for their personal safety's sake they quickly shrank out of sight and offended no more in that way.

Sunday morning came next day the battalions would leave for the front; the church was filled; the volunteers were

there, their young faces alight with marital dreams-visions of the stern advance, the gathering momentum, the rushing charge, the flashing sabres, the flight of foe, the tumult, the enveloping smoke, the fierce pursuit, the surrender! -then home from the war, bronzed heroes, welcomed, adored, submerged in golden seas of glory! With the volunteers sat their dear ones, proud, happy and envied by the neighbours and friends who had no sons and brothers to send forth to the field of honour, there to win for the flag, or, failing, die the noblest of noble deaths. The service proceeded; A war chapter from the Old Testament was read; the first prayer was said; it was followed by and organ-burst that shook the building, and with one impulse the house rose, with glowing eyes and beating hearts and poured out that tremendous invocation-

God the all-terrible! Thou who ordainest, Thunder thy clarion and lightning thy sword!

Then came the "long" prayer. None could remember the like of it for passionate pleading and moving and beautiful language. The burden of its supplication was, that the ever-merciful and benignant Father of us all would watch over our noble young soldiers, and aid, comfort and encourage them in their patriotic work; bless them, shield them in the day of battle and the hour of peril, bear them in His mighty hand make them strong and confident, invincible in the bloody onset, help them to crush the foe, grant to them and to their flag and country imperishable honour and glory-

An aged stranger entered, and moved with slow and noiseless step up the main aisle, his eyes fixed upon the minister, his long body clothed in a robe that reached his feet, his head bare, his white hair descending in a frothy cataract to his shoulders, his seamy face unnaturally pale, pale even to ghastliness. With all eyes following him and wondering, he made his silent way; without pausing, he ascended to the preacher's side and stood there, waiting. With shut lids the preacher, unconscious of his presence, continued his moving prayer, and at last finished it with the words, uttered in feverant appeal, "Bless our arms, grant us the victory, O Lord our God, Father and Protector of our land and flag!"

The stranger touched his arm, motioned him to step aside- which the star-

led minister did-and took his place. During some moments he surveyed the spell-bound audience with solemn eyes, in which burned an uncanny light; then in a deep voice he said-

"I come from the Thorn-bearing a message from the Almighty God!" The words smote the house with a shock; if the stranger perceived it he gave it no attention. "He has heard the prayer of his servant your shepherd, and it will grant it if such will be your desire after I, His messenger, shall have explained to you its import-that is to say, its full import. For it is like unto many of the prayers of men, in that it asks for more than he who utters it is aware of-except he pause and think.

"God's servant and yours has prayed his prayer. Has he paused, and taken thought? Is it one prayer? No it is two- one uttered, the other not. Both have reached the ear of Him who heareth all supplications, the spoken and the unspoken. Ponder this-keep it in mind. If you beseech a blessing upon yourself, beware! Lest without intent you invoke a curse upon a neighbour at the same time. If you pray for the blessing of rain on your crop which needs it, by that act you are possibly praying for a curse upon some neighbour's crop which may not need rain and can be injured by it.

"You have heard your servants's prayer-the uttered part of it. I am commissioned of God to put into words the other part of it-that part which the pastor-and also you in your hearts-feverently prayed silently. And ignorantly and unthinkingly? God grant that it was so! You heard these words: 'Grant us the victory, O Lord our God!' That is sufficient. The whole of the uttered prayer is compacted into those pregnant words. Elaboration's were not necessary. When you have prayed for victory you have prayed for many more to follow it, cannot help but follow it. Upon the listening spirit of God the Father fell also the unspoken part of the prayer. He commandeth me to put it into words. Listen!

"Our Lord, our Father, our young patriots, idols of our hearts, go forth to battle-be thou near them! With then-in spirit-we also go forth from sweet peace of our beloved firesides to smite the foe. O Lord, our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells; help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead; help us to drown the thunder of the guns with the shrieks of their wounded, writhing in pain;

help us to lay waste their humble homes with a hurricane of fire; help us to wring the hearts of their little children who wander unfriended the wastes of their desolate land in rags and hunger and thirst, sport of the sun-flames of summer and the icy wind of winter, broken in spirit, worn with travail, imploring thee for the refuge of the grave and denied it- for our sakes who adore Thee, Lord blast their hopes, blight their lives, protract their bitter pilgrimage, make heavy their steps, water their way with their tears, stain the white snow with the blood of their wounded feet! We ask it, in the spirit of love, of Him who is the source of Love, and who is the ever-faithful refuge and friend of all that are sore beset and seek His aid with humble and contrite hearts. Amen."

"Ye have prayed it; if ye still desire it, speak! -The messenger of the Most High waits."

It was believed after, that the little man was a lunatic, because there was no sense in what he said.

"Who, then, is the country? In a republic it is the common voice of people. Each of you for himself, by himself and on his own responsibility, and not lightly to be flung aside at the bullying of the pulpit, press, government or the empty catch phrases of politicians. Each must for himself alone decide what is right and what is wrong, and which course is patriotic and which isn't. You cannot Shirk this and be a man."

Mark Twain

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Submitted by
LYDIA S. KARHU

BOOK REVIEWS

FOR UNDIVIDED
HUMANISM AND
SOCIALISM

By Donald Kenneth Stevens

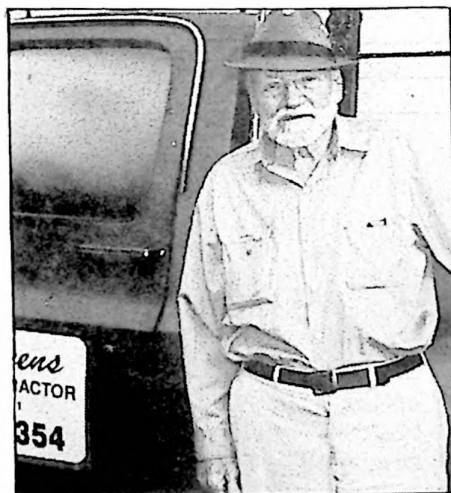
Donald Stevens is a long time reader and supporter of Northstar Compass, living in California, USA. His article

was sent to us and after reading it, the decision was made by the Editorial Board to publish this excellent material as a supplement in future issues of NSC.

Being a Marxist and an Atheist, Donald Stevens analyses the present situation in the world, looks in to history and states the role religion has played in terrible events, then comes up with a proposal for humankind as to the possible answer to get humanity on the road to socialism and humanism.

His analysis of the bigotry of religion starts off with a quote from Karl Marx: "The first requirement for the happiness of people is the abolition of religion." He then quotes V.I. Lenin who when writing to Maxim Gorky, a red longshoreman writer whom Lenin feared was backsliding from dialectical materialism toward religious idealism. After reading this from Lenin: "All god-seeking is vile" -Gorky stopped sliding back.

Below we publish a picture of comrade Don Stevens who is 99 years young (this photo was taken on April 17th, 1998). Stevens is an active California building contractor. He was a newspaper man in San Francisco, New York and Chicago.



He was the Newspaper Guild's first General organizer and based in Chicago for four years in the CIO drive era, including the legendary 17 month strike on two of Hearst papers there. Late during the Truman (McCarthy) red purge he was fired as a Korean wartime "communist national security risk" from 1940-1950 in his last job at the San Francisco Chronicle in charge of the world and national news. He then became a union carpenter, then a contractor.

WE HOPE THAT THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR \$50,000 SUSTAINING FUND GETS OVERFULFILLED AND THUS WE SHALL HAVE MEANS TO PUBLISH THIS EXCELLENT MATERIAL.

Dear Don Stevens - "Keep on working, keep on writing and keep the young people on their toes!"

OPEN FORUM

FROM
RABOCHE-KRESTIANSKA
PRAVDA"
UKRAINE



WHOSE BONES WERE BURIED IN PETROPAVLOVSK ON JULY 17, 1998?

With the connivance and plans of the present regime about former Czar and his family, had become the main topic of propaganda, press, radio and TV reports. As the day of the "burial" came closer the media was constantly playing over and over fiction, facts, attitudes and rumours 24 hours per day. Why is it only the so-called "official version" that is being promoted ad nauseum? Regarding the fate of the Czars family, the official Channel 11 NTV in Moscow, there was a complete blockade of the airwaves to any other information about this charade, and it was even closed to the Russian Orthodox Church.

From the state budget during these terrible economic hardships for the people, the present regime spent over 5 million rubles.

BUT THERE ARE OTHER VERSIONS OF THE FATE OF THE CZARS FAMILY....AND THESE ARE BACKED BY FACTS!

One of these versions(backed by documented materials) the TV-TNT situated in Leningrad (St.Petersburg) ran a TV program for 40 minutes which contained the following facts:

Right after Admiral Kolchak in 1918 during the civil war against the Revolution found himself in Omsk, at his command there was put into gathering of evidence as to what happened to the royal family of Romanovs. Admiral Kolchak appointed the first expert-scientist Namiotkin, who came to the conclusion that there was no possibility that the Romanov family were shot, because the Czar's family were never in Ekaterenburg. (The TV commentator added his own editorial in which he said that the Bolsheviks would not have been that stupid as to let the Romanov family that far away from Moscow).

After reporting his findings to Admiral Kolchak he returned back to Tobolsk, where he gave an interview to the local and foreign press on his findings. Next day Nameitkin was found dead in his hotel room, burned to death.

The next investigator also appointed by Kolchak came to the same conclusion as the first investigator. After his report to Kolchak he was found shot to death. The third investigator Sokolov, looking at what transpired to the first two came to a much better "conclusion", but he also categorically refused to state that Czar and his family were shot.

After he immigrated to Paris, France in 1933, at a press conference he supported the findings in all of its details by Nametkin and Segiev and told the news conference that he has written a book on this question and that the manuscript is ready for publication. The second day after the press conference Sokolov was found dead in a hotel room, but the manuscript was never found.

Another investigator who dwelt into the so-called "daily dairy" of Czar Nicholas II, it was found that the diary was written by a Professor-Historian Pokrovsky.

This TNT-TV channel stated the documented facts that the Czar's family after that were split:Nikolai II lived in Moscow in Lefortov Castle (not Lefortov jail) and in 1921 he died from complications of insulin. His wife died in 1931 outliving the Czar by 10 years. She was buried in the Novodevich cemetery under an assumed name. As was reported by the TV, the documents and facts are in the KGB archives. Alexei the heir to the throne was living and studying in a monastery in Suzdal then- he was being brought up by a family in Saratov. He became a candidate of Biological Sciences, living in Saratov under the name of Dalsky and died in 1965. He is buried in Saratov and on his graverstone there is written that here lies Alexei, a Prince. This place to this day is looked after by people who still call themselves monarchists.

WHAT ABOUT THE DAUGHTERS OF THE CZAR?

Mary immigrated to Spain and became a citizens of that country and accepted as a Princess with all the perks of royalty and was accepted by royalty of Monaco and died there in 1954. To her funeral Prince Alexei flew. Olga lived

in Switzerland and visited USSR many times and died in 1974.The most baffled faith is of the daughter Anna, since there were many pretenders to her position as the heir to the throne. She also lived in Switzerland, where she died but did not leave any children.

The only remaining potential heir is Alexei Dalsky, or his son who now lives in Moscow- he was Rear Admiral of the Baltic Navy. The TV commentator is personally acquainted with him and they meet regularly.

WHY ALL THE INTEREST?

Why all the secrets about the Czar's family? It shows that all this is only about MONEY! In one of the Swiss Banks the bank account of the Czars' family amounts to over 2 billion American dollars!What was interesting is that none of the Czars' family ever tried to get this money from Switzerland....they wanted to live under assumed names.

In 1994 under instructions of the then mayor of Leningrad, Sobchak, there were given documents about the deaths of the Czars' family. Foreign living relatives or family of the late Czar approached the Swiss Bank to get the money. According to the TV announcer they were told to "go away!" because the Bank knew facts, details, secrets, all about the children and the deaths of the royal family. These facts are known even to the Council of the Orthodox Church, which was the main reason for the Church to boycott this farcical "reburial" even though they support the present Yeltsin regime.

The commission headed by Nemtsov as appointed by the present regime and their find-

ings were never published except by publisher Saudovsky Aravii. There are supporting evidence by others. Here is one of them.

As is known, before Czar Nicholas II was crowned, he visited Japan where he was attacked in an assassination attempt as a result he received a blow to the head by a Broadsword. From that time the Bandage that was used to tie the future Czars head is preserved in one of the top Japanese Museum. According to Japanese experts the DNA tests of the blood on this Bandage does not match the DNA of the bones of the Czar that were found in Ekaterenburg. Besides all this, according to experts of DNA analyses, there should have been left on the skull of the Czar a severe bruise, but the skull that is supposed to be of the Czar that was buried had no scar from a blow of a Broadsword at all.

WHO IS BENEFITING FROM THIS CHARADE?

According to the TV broadcast there is mentioned the family name of Shehelokov, former Minister of Internal Affairs of USSR under Brezhnev. Someone, fulfilling his directive, as if it was his personal initiative, gathered all those "bones" and brought them to Moscow as to determine that these remains were the bones of the Czar and family. (And this is during the time of Brezhnev!) They hid these remains for over three years at home in a box under a bed and only then they buried them without any publicity. These "remains" they gave to the Commission appointed by Yeltsin. There could be other versions also, but all depends upon the \$2 billion U.S. in a Swiss bank.

In one of his interviews Nemtsov, the head of the Commission said that his experts are sure 99.99% that

**PRODUCED BY
VOLUNTEER LABOUR**

these bones are the remains of the Czar and family. Even though it is normal that no experts shall give more than 70%. There are many questions still unanswered. But the present regime ignores them, started on this adventure and is paying out millions of dollars to convince the people that the truth is what they say it is.

No amount of appeals and de facto statement that this episode has ended, that Bolsheviks are to blame and that let us put all this behind us will work!

Is the aim of all this pointing to the Swiss Bank and \$2 billion U.S. dollars?

*Leningrad Committee
All Union Communist Party
of Bolsheviks* □

AS I SEE IT!

FROM EUROPE

By Jerry Morse

WASHINGTON. USA

USA Think Tanks are leaking all over Indonesia by sending "Piddler Platoons" of cloned intellectuals to help solve technical questions for jump-starting financial and industrial losses in Indonesia.

These experts will reverse Asian Bankruptcies by using new urinal technology which directs muddy investments water through Wall Street sewage "Enterprise"- filtering out further profits from economic investments, real estate, resources and labour markets low-wage hand-outs.

It was not enough to have polluted the waters causing the Asian crisis in the first place, now we will see monetary policies wearing rubber-boots in cleaning up the Transnational mess.

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

OPEC must become OH-PEAK! With Saudi Arabia leading the way, followed by Americanized Mexico, Venezuela and the right-wing Russian traders joining in, U.S. financial advisors with NATO hardware available - a new Conglomerate will control international collusion machinery in order to rob even further the world working class.

Making sure that oil and gas prices remain at maximum profit "OH-PEAK" bullet-proof pipeline valves are to be installed all over the world.

These will be opened and closed according to Supply and Demand - that is - keeping barrel prices for crude above \$23.00 U.S.

Factored into the pricing methods will be half-barrel, quarter barrel and/or pork barrel sanctions against any rebel producers along the left-leaning politicians.

They will be branded as "Barrel-price terrorists".

The new Conglomerate "OH-PEAK" threatens to be very crude. However, we on the working-class might add - we shall become more crude also, since you have robbed us long enough, using our resources. We could also suggest that you change your swindling name to "O-PACK" - the day being not far off when the world's working class will cause you to pack-up and leave.

Canoes are 23 rubles per half hour at Caspian Resorts. They don't need oil or gas!

VIENNA -

A Conference was held by many religious organizations

**DID YOU DONATE TO
SUSTAINING FUND?**

from all over the world. Subject discussed was: Irresponsibility of Transnational Corporations who promote and benefit from Globalization. Every speaker condemned the TNCs for flouting humanitarian rights and of putting as little as possible back into the countries that they exploit. They called for a United Front to struggle against these corporations. Are the prayers of Lenin and Stalin going to be answered? Not likely without a struggle by all people concerned. Roads to socialism are being found in unlikely places!

PRAGUE -

A noticeable trend is gaining ground by population who want the privatized industries to be nationalized again. West has interest to stop this swell of public opinion. Western advisors will sleep (fully dressed) amid nightmares of corporate tax reduction promises (45% to 20%) plus other perks that they are to lose in nationalization takes place again. The Czech working class is on the move.

WASHINGTON -

New proposals are being advanced in the Congress. The law makers are proposing that all sex in the USA is to come under a subdivision of National Security called "Condomism". 75% of all Congress sessions must be spent to discuss and settle sex problems. Furthermore all Washington decision makers in Congress must submit to medical examiners, and also psychological assessors to record saneness, DNA, longness or shortness measurements, wave and particle sex acts as defined under Amendment B-4, and after clarifications within such Amendment to the Constitution for states within jurisdiction of Congress and any House thereto! □

LETTERS FROM ABROAD

FROM
OREL
"UNITY" NEWSPAPER
RUSSIA



Dear comrades:

I am sincerely honored to be a member of the NSC Editorial Committee. I must confess that it's a great honor to be a member, besides a great responsibility of this world-wide publication.

I promise to send regularly information, such as our newspaper and other publications.

As a sign of respect towards NSC, I'm sending you brochures and books that I have written and published, having great historical significance.

With all best wishes!

A. Ustinsky
Editor of Unity newspaper

We certainly shall be looking for articles about the present situation, not only in Orel, but from all corners of former Soviet Union.

FROM
LVOV
UKRAINE

NATIONAL FASCISM UKRAINIAN STYLE

In Lvov, roving gangs of nationalists, young and old have

become "red crazy" by destroying everything in sight that is red!

It seems that a private business store having a display of cloth in many different colors (amongst them red cloth for dresses etc.) was attacked by these hoodlums and ransacked. All cloth that resembled red was put unto the street and burned.

Streetcar operators who wear red kerchiefs around their neck as part of a uniform were physically beaten-up by these fascists and had to completely take off the red kerchiefs for fear of their life.

Advertising on streetcars is the vogue now in capitalist Lvov. A private Bank, with foreign investors was advertising their bank on these tramways and these nationalist went along each street car and made the conductors tear off these signs because the advertising lettering was in RED!!!

It seems that the present Ukrainian militia is not very quick to come to the rescue of these streetcar conductors. It was seen that the militia just turned the other way when these attacks were going on! □

From
MARXIST WORKERS PARTY
Australia

Dear Comrades!

We were delighted to receive your phone call and are looking forward to receiving the videos. We very much appreciate the detailed work Comrade Helen put into the account. We are forwarding with this letter a bank cheque for \$52 we owe on the videos, and for \$20 subs for a new reader of Northstar Compass. I will see the bank tomorrow and send the equivalent amount in Australian dollars, we will add \$10 Australian extra as the Australian dollar is going down due to the Asian crisis.

The extra subscription is for the Fred Paterson Society, Albury 2640, New South Wales, Australia. Albury is a fairly

big country town on the border of New South Wales and Victoria. The Society is comprised of workers. Fred Paterson was the only Communist ever elected to a Parliament in Australia. He won the seat and was re-elected and the only way the capitalists could get rid of him was to carve up his seat between several other seats. He was a lawyer, and devoted his skills to the causes of the working class and the Aboriginal people. He was a Rhodes Scholar and died in 1931. His Parliamentary seat was in Queensland, and he had tremendous support among the people.

May Day in all capital cities in Australia was bigger than it has been for some time, and this was due to the feeling engendered by waterside dispute. The Wharfies Union led our May Day march this year, and we had about 6-7000 in the march all our activities were successful, and we felt fairly happy with the result. Vic, with whom you spoke on the phone, is the Secretary of the Melbourne May Day committee. He said we should send you a copy of the "Short History of May Day" published by the Melbourne May Day Committee to celebrate the 100th anniversary of May Day in 1990. We will send this by separate parcel. We had a number of country centres come down to Melbourne for the May Day march, including the Fred Paterson Society.

With Warm Comradely Greetings,
Vida Little.

We thank our comrades for this informative letter plus the inserts that the letter contained. We publish a copy of the poster. We hope that this inspires other movements to emulate your example! □

FROM
RUSTAVI
GEORGIA

Dear friends:

We're worried that we did not receive the NSC for June or July. We certainly hope that NSC is in no financial trouble! Articles from NSC are always translated by us and given out to other progressive press and organizations plus the Communist Party.

We were deeply touched by your (Michael Lucas) open letter to former leaders of Union of Soviet Friendship

Societies. We would like you to know that your feelings are easily understood by us. It is good that you are an eternal optimist!

We would like to inform you that the Georgian economic position deteriorates, people are dying of starvation and illnesses. They cannot afford to buy medicines or pay for medical treatments. Tuberculosis and other contagious diseases are raging over our country. In our country hundreds of thousands of people are unemployed. People are not optimistic about the future and are forced to leave Georgia looking for work in other countries. Amongst these are also our members of the Association for Friendship of Georgian Peoples.

We are appealing to you dear friends for assistance in maybe trying to provide some members of our organization with jobs in Canada. If this would be possible, I'm certain that these members would donate towards the \$50,000 Sustaining Fund of NSC.

Thank you for getting us in contact with some U.S. friends.

Avtandil Maruashvili
President
Helen Blau
Vice President
Association of Friendship

Your letter is being discussed by the Editorial Board and by the Council of the Canadian Friends of Soviet People to see whether it is possible for us to help you.

It certainly is tragic that Georgia, one of the former 15 republics of USSR should have sunk into such misery. The birthplace of J. Stalin and one of the most developed and beautiful republics of former Soviet Union.

We shall do everything that we can to help out our friends! That is why we desperately need to fulfill the \$50,000 Sustaining Fund for NSC! □

FROM
VICENZA
ITALY

Just to inform you that we agree with the Call for the International Council and shall have a delegation coming to it when its called. It is an important event for friendship and socialism.

Please send us 5 copies of NSC every issue since there is great interest in the journal.

With comradely greetings

Antonio Dori

Five subscriptions will be sent of each issue and lets make certain that the upcoming Conference in 1999 is a success! □

FROM EDITORIAL BOARD
YEDINSTVO (UNITY)
OREL, RUSSIA

Dear comrades:

We received a plea from NSC re Sustaining Fund help. Unfortunately we are having problems ourselves to issue regularly our newspaper, since everyone is a volunteer. Even the honorariums I receive personally for my many published books is not enough. Therefore we cannot help you in reply to your appeal which we're certain you've sent to your mailing list.

In the next issue we shall have an Ad in the paper to see whatever help we can send you comrades.

If you would be able to translate some of my important books, like, "Czar's Diary" any profit from sales would go towards NSC campaign.

With great respect and good wishes.

A. Ustinsky
Editor of Yedinstvo newspaper

Friends! We appreciate your offer and if finances shall

permit we shall translate and publish this excellent book. In the meanwhile, all of us shall work towards our goal of socialism and resurrection of the Soviet □

FROM
SEVASTAPOL
UKRAINE

Dear comrades:

Regarding the letter that I received, I just want to congratulate you on the successful 5th International Conference that you had.

But I cannot understand some of your pessimism. You mention that unless there is quick move towards unity that we might see American boots marching on Red Square! This is impossible - even in the situation that exists right now.

You must remember that starting at the end of October 1997 was the world financial crisis, right at the beginning of our 80th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution. This crisis struck at Indonesia, Japan and it's turning into a catastrophe which all Bolsheviks were predicting. My prognosis since 1993 is proving correct.

If this international financial revolution is being governed by the International Financial Capital because of its greed and stupidity of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, and not by the communist parties, this should not matter, the main thing is that results should be the same. In this regards many scholars wrote about this, even exclusive of Marx and Engels, Lenin and Stalin. Even in 1875 the well known scholar of scientific-communism Peter Tkachev wrote: "The preparation of a revolutionary situation by others than Commu-

nists should not worry them. If the exploiters prepare the ground through their stupidity through capitalists, clergy, and others, this should be utilized by Marxists, combine the tactics and move this upheaval towards a socialist revolution!" Therefore pessimism must be utilized and turned into optimism in order to bring this into a successful socialist revolution. What the delegates at your 5th International Conference did and the demonstrations that shook Toronto, Canada at that time is only about 1% to what will have to be achieved on the world scale.

Now to the question as to what is this "National Bolshevism"? First of all this terminology is not correct, since Bolshevism means "Russian Communism", so talk about "national bolshevism" is like saying that "water is wet" or that "pork is fat". This terminology is being utilized by Communist enemies who try to equate it with "national socialism", which is being spread now as the coming of "Russian fascism" by political types such as Chubais and Gaidar. There is no fascism (national socialism) in Russia. Although some might call themselves "national socialists", the enemies compare this to the German period of 1930s, but these people do not proclaim for "super race" theories of the fascists or to make their lives better at the expense of other nationalities. The real national socialism exists in the USA since the "New Order" came to be after the death of President Roosevelt. Now it has attained its supreme place as a race theory. Why? Americans just make up 4% of the population of the world, but utilize 40% of the

world resources and in return they pollute over 50% of the worlds' atmosphere, water and natural habitat!

Now to answer your question as who are the present people who call themselves "National Bolsheviks"?

This terminology was first written about during 1930s and then used in films, books, paintings and literature during 1980s and now is being taken up by newspapers in Russia such as "Duel" and writers during 1996-1997.

Regarding Victor Anpilov and his "supposed" cooperation with the National Bolsheviks, and the criticism by some Communist parties are absolutely unwarranted. Anpilov was a State employee during Soviet times...defending the Soviet Union and Socialism. Anpilov worked as a correspondent inside Nicaragua where at that time there was going on a civil war plus U.S. Intervention. Considering his age at that time he was in the higher organs of security. His political activity started at that time and a patriot all the way through.

We must understand that the security forces at that time were under the control of the CC CPSU. When perestroika was instituted the CC CPSU (under Gorbachev tutelage) formed a section inside the CC CPSU which was headed by non other than Genady Zyuganov. Their task was to start the process of a "multiparty system in the USSR". KGB was now reformed and made responsible for this anti-state activity. Under Gorbachev's direction, inside the CPSU there was formed the "Democratic Union" headed by (Novosadovskaya), "Pamyat" at that time by (Vasiliev)," then there was set up the "Liberal

Democratic Party" headed by (Zhirinovsky)"Peoples's Fraction" in the Baltic republics. In order to promote these "communist multi-parties", first there was set up within the CPSU the following: "Marxist Platform", then the "Democratic Platform", "Society Unity". After that the "Movement for Communist Initiative" and many other parties and movements. Then these were split into the parties that exists at the moment...like - Communist Party of Russian Federation - Zyuganov, Russian Communist Workers Party (Tiulkin) then the Workers Russia (Anpilov) and All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks (Andreeva). Now there are scores of parties and movements which is at the moment detrimental for unity.

From the leadership of the bourgeois parties the most tight cooperation is maintained by Zhirinovsky. We must realize that the KGB is not what it was under Stalin, but is now in the service of Russian capitalism.

KGB was a patriotic organization, guaranteeing the integrity of the USSR and Socialism and was the guarantor that the Soviet Union shall flourish and be defended from internal and external enemies. There were Patriots inside the KGB after it was purged of enemies. Today there are still some dedicated patriots inside its ranks, awaiting the moment to come to the fore and help reconstruct the Soviet Union - their Motherland.

The revolutionary process is ongoing and the process shall gather revolutionary upheavals shall gather momentum and might and we shall see the USSR reborn! No time for pessimism! □

FROM

KRASNY LUCH
UKRAINE

Dear Canadian friends:

Sincere thanks to you for your letter and the financial help that some of your readers sent me.

The police regime of Kuchma in Ukraine has fired me from the Donbass coal mines for my work as a Safety Inspector and also because of my protests against the terrible unsafe conditions that are allowed to continue, thus causing deaths and accidents.

The regime not only caused the death of my old father through constant searches of our home and physical abuse, thus causing a heart attack in my father during one of these provocations, at present they have stopped old age pension for my mother.

Your international solidarity and help through NSC is a sign of comradeship. We thank you for all that you have done for us.

In return I'm sending you some materials plus revolutionary poetry that you might be interested in.

Yours

Igor Knyshov

With the materials that Igor sent is a copy of a document signed by 161 miners demanding that Igor be reinstated as their Safety Inspector. The Kuchma regime of course is dragging its feet. Igor is a member of the All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks.

27 killed in Ukraine mine explosion!

After this article sent to us by Igor Knyshov who was fired from the mine in Lugansk, on August 17 news despatch by AP press, it was reported that 123 miners were underground at that time, and thus 27 miners perished - methane

blast.. More than 200 miners have already died this year alone in Ukraine's deteriorating coal mines."

If Igor would have been kept working and if the safety measures would be obeyed, this tragedy would not have happened!

FROM

COMMUNIST PARTY OF
AUSTRALIA

Dear comrades:

Enclosed are bulk orders for the books you have published plus our payment.

We find the material produced by Northstar Compass very useful and will no doubt be in touch again to submit further orders.

Yours fraternally

Ray Berbling

State President of CPA

Books are on their way to you and we're hoping that our co-operation shall produce the results that we are all striving for.

FROM

WALES
GREAT BRITAIN

Dear comrades:

No doubt that you've heard about the death of NSC reader Denis Martin. We were both guests of Soviet Veterans in 1985, visiting the 5 Hero Cities Denis served in the R.A.F. while I served in the Royal Armoured Corps.

Our ranks are becoming thin but we will continue the struggle for Socialism and the restoration of the Soviet Union!

Charles Denton

Although the ranks of elder comrades are thinning out, the dedication is there which shall be picked up by the young generation now, since capitalism certainly hasn't got all the an-

swers as the young generation is bitterly finding out!

FROM

OAXACA
MEXICO

Dear friends:

Enclosed is my subscription and a donation, It looks as if there shall be a possibility of changes towards socialism coming in Mexico soon. August is the month for elections and I feel that the PRD is going to win. Many demonstrations of teachers, workers, trade unions and companeros are up in arms.

I hope that socialism comes quickly to former USSR and Vodka Yeltsin shall be overthrown! I visited the region of Chiapas. These people have a long history of struggle - they defeated the Aztecs and then the Spaniards and they shall be the Spearhead to defeat the present regime.

Now that I live in Mexico, it is a far cry from my Saskatoon Sask. in Canada when I was leading the branch of the Canada-USSR Association. I really feel that Mexico shall be the next country to go socialist.

Nadage McConnell
Former Chairperson of Canada-USSR Association Branch in Saskatoon, Canada.

It's nice to hear from you Nadage. Let us do as much as we did before in both countries to resurrect the Soviet Union.

FROM

VICENZA
ITALY

Your struggle is mine! Your work is invaluable!

Yours as ever
Antonio Dori

Thank you for your generous donation! We shall work together.

NEWS FROM U.S. FRIENDS OF SOVIET PEOPLE

FROM
SAN MATEO
CA., USA

Dear Editor:

After reading your excellent review of the book by Ludo Martens "Another View Of Stalin" I ordered the book. What an eye opener?

I am of Finnish descent and I have made a study of Finnish history and their relation to Russia and the USSR. During the Finnish fascist period of the early 1930s many Finns illegally emigrated to Finnish Karelia. Also many American Finns did the same. Many were never heard of again. I would like to get more information about this.

Best of luck in all of your endeavors!

Minerva Massen

CREDO OF USFSP

U.S. Friends of Soviet People (USFSP) is the U.S. affiliate of the Organizing Committee to establish an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People in their struggles to restore the multi-national Soviet Union as a Socialist State. USFSP is in the tradition of the "Hands Off Russia Committees" which were internationally established in 1918 to help protect the young Soviet Republic from foreign intervention. Our aim is international cooperation in building Socialism and solidarity with the Anti-Imperialist forces of the world who are struggling and fighting against U.S. Imperialism - the main enemy of mankind. Northstar Compass journal is our public voice.

U.S. Friends of Soviet People

acts as a unifying force to consolidate and help to coordinate the Anti-Imperialist forces of the world with the ongoing movement to restore the Soviet Union. We act as a united front and dedicated to restore the Soviet Union but we are not a forum for ideological debates. Soviet people themselves will choose the path towards socialism under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Your kind words shall make us do even better to present facts about the present struggles □

From
HONOLULU
USA

Comrades!

The struggle continues despite Yeltsin, Clinton, Lebed and neo-liberalism in general! Cuba stands alone and will continue to exist despite the blockade.

J.J. Kaufman

We thank our friend in Honolulu, Hawaii for his point.

KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING!

Your letters and observations are very important to us since they contain suggestions, very often constructive criticisms and articles that find themselves of the pages of NSC.

From
GATESVILLE
Texas, USA

Dear NSC collective:

A friend of mine in the East Coast of USA sent me copies of NSC which I'm reading with great interest. I thank you for your struggle for socialism and the resurrection of the Soviet Union.

I read with interest Victor Anpoliv's article in NSC "Counter Attack". He is really right on the mark. His drive to unite all Communists into one CPSU must succeed...one program, one struggle and one CC CPSU.

I shall try to send money but in this America of ours it is hard to live only on your old age pension.

Enclosed is an article of mine and the cherished dream of forming the "Communist Party of Americas" which would unite this continent as

the USSR was united.
Ana Lucia Gelabert

For a patriot like you and your drive for socialism we wish you success and remind you to spread the good word to your friends about NSC. □

FROM
HOPE, IDAHO
USA

Dear friends:

I am writing to inform you that one of your loyal subscribers, Evan Mihalcean (99 years old) passed away recently. He lived long enough to see the copy of his letter and the donation you published in August/September issue of NSC. It meant a lot to him to have received your personal letter and to read his letter in NSC. He died happily knowing that there is a magazine and friends that are carrying on the struggle.

Please keep NSC coming since we want to continue it for our family.

Thanking you, I remain
Carolyn Thibault

Our deepest condolences to you and the family. We shall certainly carry on as Evan would want us to! □

FROM
LOS ANGELES
USA

Dear Editor:

In your journal you praise the advantages of the socialist system above capitalism, but I did not find serious analyses of the reasons for the failure of the socialist system and why so many traitors of the interests of the people took advantage, capitulated and surrendered to capitalism. These traitors sold out the lives of hundreds of millions of people to small groups of bankers and conglomerates which make huge profits by exploitation of the working class.

Why did this happen? What kind of reasons brought socialist system to its downfall?

These reasons must be carefully and completely investigated and determined. Here I would like to mention only two of the main reasons:

1. The problem to obtain visa for possible travel abroad or to stay there, This chance could have given people a real opportunity and a clear picture about the truly difficult life for the working class in the capitalist society. This not possible in the USSR and therefore people had wrong opinions about life under capitalism and millions of them were captured by all kind of capitalist propaganda and came under its influence,

2. The absence of the freedom to organize small private enterprises which will give an opportunity to spend energy to more initiative people. But with time these private enterprises and their owners would find out that working for a government is better as is happening in the USA, as government workers have more security, less working hours, longer vacations and much more benefits such as medical insurance, pensions and so on. But I must say that all of the above benefits the workers in the Soviet Union had also.

The advantages of the socialist system are obvious: no unemployment, free education and medical services, low cost of housing, utilities and public transportation - these are the main fundamental accessories of the human rights in a civilized society. These advantages of a socialist system must be clearly explained to the new generations with the purpose of avoiding or repeating tragic mistakes which led to the temporarily failure of socialism.

P.S. I was born in Moscow, 1938 and graduated from Mos-

cow Polytechnical Institute. In 1977 I arrived in New York city and worked for many major construction companies of USA. At present time I live in California with my wife and daughter of 15 years of age.

Please have this letter signed as I requested.

Lazar Tetiev

COMMENT

We appreciate your letter. We will make use of our editorial privilege to comment on two of your points.

1. *You are correct of course that so tragic an event such as the restoration of capitalism in the lands of the former Soviet Union need the most careful and complete investigation. With all the heavy sacrifices that revolutions demand, the last thing that the proletariat and peoples of the world need is for their sacrifices to be wasted by betrayal. Understanding concretely how this process of betrayal goes on and thereafter determining the appropriate ways of combating it is an urgent task.*

NSC, for its part, has worked hard with the limited resources that it has to publish the opinions and studies of communists and progressives from the former Soviet Union to encourage them to clarify lines, make account of the past, and to spread news of the struggles, etc., all with the purpose of aiding the proletariat and peoples of these countries in their efforts at reestablishing socialism and the USSR. After all only they can do this in their countries. Also, we have published information from around the world that in our opinion can aid them in their struggles.

It almost needs not saying that we have a long way to go and much to improve upon. One of these is, it seems, is a need to make more prominent the small amount that we have published or advertised of the already immense materials available which have been produced by communists, progressives and the all too rare honest scholars that go along way to explaining what happened in the USSR.

2. *As for the two main reasons*

that you mention, we think that they are mistaken.

a. *Travel is hardly the best way to inform millions of workers of the facts of capitalism. Travel is no guarantee for obtaining an all-sided view. In the first place, the chances are that in visiting imperialist countries, people will be herded off to view the more prosperous areas, namely the tourist sights, etc. In the second place, capitalism does not wear its ugliness up front. By its own processes, which Marx masterfully discussed, it usually portrays itself as its opposite except, of course, in moments of extreme crisis when the contradictions force themselves to the surface.*

The best way, in our opinion, to constantly inform and encourage the proletariat of the need to further push the revolution forward and to expose the horrors of capitalism is for the ruling Communist Party being absolutely honest -- including exposing dishonest elements and bringing to light the problems that must be tackled -- and propagating its ideas through the media.

b. *As for small enterprises and individual entrepreneurship being a solution to the problems of socialist construction, history has shown that this only leads to capitalism. Small entrepreneurs eventually swallow up other small entrepreneurs and become big entrepreneurs.*

Second, this process while it unleashes a narrow greedy destructive spirit in a few, demoralizes the majority of workers. The glorious achievements of the USSR were won not through individual entrepreneurs in small private enterprises but through the class conscious solidarity of Soviet workers, peasants and intellectuals mobilized by a truly Marxist-Leninist party through a centralized plan. In fact, it was the slow destruction of the Stalinist central planning procedure and the encouragement of individual enterprises to go on their own which has destroyed the economy. More than ever, the proletariat of your country has to seize power and to bring the economy under a centralized plan. □

A TIME TO REMEMBER

On October 11, 1998 at 1.00pm there will be held a Mini Festival of Ethnic Culture at Monmouth Junction, New Jersey, USA to celebrate the life and achievements of a great man, patriot and friend of Soviet People and Socialism.

Michael Logoyda passed away last year and he was one of the earliest subscribers to NSC. He was a leader of Carpatho-Russian Organizations, Lemko Association, Editor of newspaper Karpatska Reus, worked with other progressive organizations and movements.

WE WISH THE FAMILY WELL AND MAY ALL OF US EMULATE MICHAEL'S LIFE!

GIVE A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION OF NSC!

Our Soviet friends receive NSC free. We want to continue this mailing in order to show them our solidarity. One way of helping us is to give a gift subscription to our comrades in the parties, movements and newspapers.

Each \$20 you send in as a Gift Sub will go towards paying for one year subscription. Your name will be sent to our friends to tell them that it was YOU who undertook to make certain that they receive NSC regularly.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR GIFT SUBS TO HELP OUR SOVIET COMRADES RECEIVE NSC REGULARLY!

LETTERS

FROM VANCOUVER BC, CANADA

Enclosed are samples of my poetry which I hope to publish in the future under the title "To the Beauty of Poetry"

John Krasnikov

John also sent us some quotes, which we publish below.

DR. ALBERT EINSTEIN'S DEFINITION OF FASCISM:
"When a person believes that to make a profit is NOT only pleasurable, it is completely a holy bit of "work"-God's Will- then of course it follows that any means thinkable or unthinkable is justified in defending - that privilege or right-to defeat any opposition by those who do the work to create capital-no limit to the degree of force-brutality-to preserve that right-that privilege."

ABE LINCOLN SAID:

"Whenever a man says gleefully that he "made" a dollar without doing any work-it only means that some other poor devil DID the work and was NOT paid for it."

We wonder whether these two great men ever read or thought about Marx and Engels?

FROM PENTICTON B.C.

A RATIFIED MAI WOULD FORCE MORE CANADIANS TO LIVE A THIRD-WORLD LIFE-STYLE!

The MAI was proposed by the International Chamber of Commerce and brought to the capitals of 29 of the richest nations of the world through the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The MAI is the mother of all free trade deals in that it says that Canada and other countries that sign-on cannot make health, labor, environmental or financial laws — any regulations that

cut into the profits of corporations doing business in their country.

Poor countries at the edge of social and economic collapse because of huge debts and starving populations are forced to sign MAI-type deals. They can put their desperate people to work in sweatshop conditions at low pay in order to make themselves attractive foreign investors.

In these countries, thus snared into MAI, the plan is to make these people desperate. That's what "acceptable levels of unemployment" is all about.

What this means is that for the benefit of a small minority of global investors, many of which contribute lavishly to the ruling political parties in power, it means untold riches and untold profits. **THUS ELIMINATING** the social gains made by the working class through bitter struggles over scores of years.

Dave Cursons

COMMENT

It would be interesting to know where purported socialist countries like China stand on this? Why is there no policy statement against this financial robbery and colonialism coming from China? Is it that China's leadership no longer holds onto socialist ideals except in words? Look at the products in all the transnational department stores produced as they are by workers with slave like wages. A huge amount of it is produced by imperialist firms in countries like South Korea, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan — and China! Is this the "socialism with Chinese characteristics" peddled by Deng and his successors? The economies raped by Transnational Capital by driving to misery and hopelessness "cheap labour"? The world's working class still waits for some positive statement from China. It will only get whispers. And the republics of the former Soviet Union — they are already long down this path!

FROM WEST BANK B.C.

Enclosed are clippings from newspapers, magazines that might be of interest to NSC. It seems that in our system everything is under the table deals

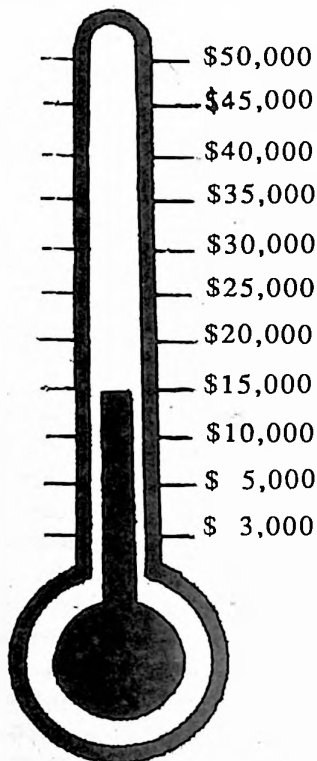
by the ruling class. History is marching on and only Socialism can save humanity. With all of the plastic money we are forced to utilize, we are controlled and manipulated.

The book says: "What is a man even if he owns the whole world but losses his soul?"

Love, Olga Krimtschenko

We thank you for your donation and clippings. We feel that sooner than later these present leaders shall pay the supreme price when the people proclaim: "We have had enough!"

\$50,000 SUSTAINING FUND



**DID YOU DONATE
YET TO THE
SUSTAINING FUND?**

From
WINNIPEG
Manitoba

Dear friends:

I was not able to correspond with you and of course was not able to attend the last Conference '98 of NSC. Enclosed please find a \$200 donation towards the Sustaining Fund. Keep up the good work!

Walter Tyshko

We wish you speedy recovery Walter and your constant example of help we hope shall be followed by others.

From
PELLY
Saskatchewan

Dear comrades:

Enclosed is \$100 towards NSC and its Sustaining Fund!

Victor Berezowsky

Many thanks and every bit helps to reach the \$50,000!

northstar COMPASS

**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR AN
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL AND
NORTHSTAR COMPASS CAMPAIGN FOR
\$50,000 SUSTAINING FUND**

Delegates of the Conference '98 agreed to launch a \$50,000 Financial Campaign in order to sustain and expand the work as outlined by the 5th Conference held in February, 1998.

This campaign is being participated in by all readers in the countries where NSC is read and we are certain that it shall be achieved.

The Organizing Committee for an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People is in the midst of sending out the "CALL" to hold an International Conference in 1999 in Europe in order to elect the International Council.

There are requests that Northstar Compass journal be printed in Spanish, Russian and French editions. How successful this can be depends on donations that NSC receives!

**HELP US TO REACH
THE GOAL OF
\$50,000!**

LWCB5

FEATURE ANALYSIS

WHO'S WHO IN THE FORMER USSR RULING CLASS?

By Canadian Class Struggle

1. **A Reprise:** In an issue of *North Star Compass* 1997, an editorial entitled: "Whither Yeltsin and Zhuganov?" outlined class divisions within the capitalist class.¹ It argued that underlying bourgeois discussion of personalities, lurk "old" class conflicts:

"One is between workers and capitalists; the Second is between two wings of capital in the former USSR one pro-heavy and "Russian" capital, the other pro-light and "foreign capital". In Russia now, the capitalist profit bases, are split between the two types of industry noted by Marx, i.e.: Heavy (Department A) and Light (Department B). In the former USSR Stalin fought for heavy industry against first Bukharin, then Vosnosensky and Khrushchev. These latter three all promoted light industry. After Stalin's death, as profit became the regulator of production, the members of the now revisionist-capitalist led C.P.S.U.(B.) supported one or other wing of industry. The pro-light industry base was promoted by Khrushchev, then Kosygin and then Gorbachev — against the: "staggering share of resources committed to defence."² Gorbachev attached this programme against armed-heavy industry to another issue: "How much to link with foreign capitalists?" Light industrialists wanted links with foreign capital, heavy industrialists were reluctant. In turn the insistence of the IMF and the West upon strict monetarist policy ensured that a further link was made — between light industrialists, foreign capitalists, and the biggest Russian banks. Boris Yeltsin wanted a faster penetration by foreign capitalists than Gorbachev. Zhuganov represents the heavy industrial based, national capitalist class. Yeltsin represents the light industrial and banking capitalist

class who are most interested in linking with foreign capital. Initially at high levels in the President's office a "compromise" was struck. Thus the Deputy PM, Anatoly Chubais (favouring light industry and privatization on terms good for foreign capital) was counter-balanced by PM Viktor Chernomyrdin, who as the previous head of Gazprom (the state gas monopoly) favoured heavy industry. As the ensuing social and economic crises escalated, they led to repeated calls for "renationalisation".³ A special commission was struck to examine "privatization".⁴ In Yeltsin's temporary retreat in 1996, Yevgenii Primakov was put into the foreign secretary role. Zhuganov praised him as more "anti-West" than his predecessor Koyzrev. But this was misleading since: "One of Gorbachev's economic advisers was ... Yevgeny Primakov! He and Grigory Yavlinsky and Harvard economists Jeffrey Sachs (put) a re-vamped "500 day Plan"⁵ Zhuganov mollified worried foreign capitalists at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, saying: "A return to state monopoly is impossible. Total control by the state of the entire economy led us to the crisis. We recognise the role and the place of the US. and a good, stable, and long term relationship with her and other Western countries is in our interests."⁶

2. **Today's International Crisis:** The general analysis above has been borne out by recent events. There is no doubt that a new economic crisis has hit the Russian state. This is fuelled by the inability of all modern imperialisms to solve their crises. This is due to several factors: the falling rate of profit for industry, the ever increasing turn-over of the money supply due to technical changes such as computer tradings; and the ever diminishing markets for goods.⁷ Neither Monetarism nor Keynesian economics can save Capitalism. The first cuts off monies to industry, but please the financier as money remains expensive. The second primes the money pump and pleases the industrialists but since it leads to inflation and cheapens money — it makes bankers unhappy. The crisis is of an international dimension. Initially the collapse of the Asian markets was in part engineer-

ed by the USA imperialists, for the purpose of "dollarizing" the world economy. But this led to an unexpected international decline in trade and value of stocks. This led to an inevitable attack upon the objectively weak Russian economy.⁷ It resulted in the massive trading of currency against the Russian ruble.

3. **The New "Constitutional Coup" In Russia:** This in turn led to the defaulting of loans to Russia. As currency trading attacked the ruble, its devaluation became inevitable. So Yeltsin came under attack for the new crisis of living costs for the people, who were not even able to get their savings out of banks. The heavy industrial-national capitalists took their opportunity. Although Chernomyrdin favoured heavy industry, he was Yeltsin's nominee and previously was in a compromise cabinet with Chubais. So Primakov was foisted upon Yeltsin, having been proposed by Grigory Yavlinsky, the leader of the Liberal Yabloko party. This has resulted in the opinion of the influential business daily *Kommersant* Russia: "A constitutional coup has effectively taken place. Russia which was a presidential republic had become a parliamentary republic".⁸ The Liberal Yabloko are in alliance with the Communist Party in this coup. But Yavlinsky refused a cabinet post as "he disagreed with the economic policies of Mr. Primakov's economics chief, Yuri Maslyukov, a Communist Party member and former central planning chief."⁹ This indicates agreement upon a "national" capitalist basis, but some residual disagreements on exactly how much to favour heavy industry. Primakov appears to be again the "best compromise" candidate. But there are no doubts, that despite his previous links to Gorbachev, Primakov has turned to heavy industry saying "he will not be dominated by Russia's powerful bankers as previous governments had been".⁹ The split between the two industrial wings is quite open: "Signs emerged yesterday of open rivalry between industry chiefs and banking tycoons. For seven years we have been in isolation suffocating without any real investment which have been channelled into commercial banks," said Andrei Kochetov head of investor relations of Lukoil, Russia's larg-

est oil company. "But the era of the speculators financial sector is over".⁹ Commentators agree: "The balance of power between Russia's banking magnates and energy magnate is being transformed with the once dominant banks loosing out. While most Russian banks have been severely hit by devaluation and the governments default on its domestic debt, the oil and gas sector has gained. Devaluation has lowered the break-even point for oil companies by about 20% and is likely to continue to increase their profit margins as rouble costs fall relative to their hard currency revenues ... oil companies derive more than 50% of their revenues from exports, while 90% of their costs are in roubles."¹⁰ Primakov stresses repeatedly that there needs to be "priority of the "real" economy over the financial sector".¹⁰

4. **The New Economic Plans:** (i) It is agreed that there is going to be a "Programme of money printing".¹¹ The new head of the Russia Central Bank Victor Geraschenko previously undertook an inflationary monetary policy.⁸ This policy will be done for two main reasons: Firstly it will assist the government in "paying the wage arrears. It would be extremely hard to get support for a harsh stabilisation programme either in the Duma or among the public."¹⁰ Secondly, the industrialists are complaining that there are no investment capital available to them.⁹ (ii) It is agreed that there will be a bailout of domestic banks and their losses from devaluation, but not of foreign owners of the so called "restructured short-term treasury bills (GKO's)." The value of these have fallen to about three cents on the dollar. This state will honour domestic bank holdings at par or at face value, but not those of foreign holders.¹² This has been condemned as "immoral" by Boris Fyodorv the former deputy prime minister. (iii) A political attempt to soothe the IMF and the G7 finance leaders. It appears they have been successful in obtaining a further \$4.3 billion tranche support from the west.¹² Mr Primakov has denied any possible "red revenge", and he and Maslyukov are seen by the West as "charming Communists".¹³ Although Geraschenko wishes to impose currency controls, he is likely to be prevented in achieving this by the "char-

ming Communist".

5. **What are the Implication for Marxist-Leninists?** Whichever basic economic policy is followed in Russia — as elsewhere — neither Keynesian priming of the money pump nor monetarism will save the capitalist crisis. Only socialism can do that and bring the working class relief from a daily worsening situation. However — again like in every other country — the real communists (as opposed to the Western-friendly "Charming Communists") have not yet managed to weld a single broad United Front, nor a single and cohesive Bolshevik party. Until that is done on the basis of sound Marxist-Leninist practice, there will be no working class progress. The spectacle offered by a former adviser to Mr Yeltsin, one Otto Latsis may come to pass. He suggests that unless Mr Primakov succeeds: "the problems will be solved by a Russian Pinochet".¹³ The clock ticks fast in Russia at the moment. We wish the best representatives of the working class and peasantry all success — all the necessary tact, rejection of personal pride, common sense, and honest discussions — to create urgently one Marxist-Leninist Party of the masses.

**Long Live The workers and peasants of the former USSR!
Towards A Single Marxist-Leninist vanguard!**

NOTES

- 1 The original article is attached as the document labelled "Editorial".
- 2 Cited : Martin Walker, "The Waking Giant: The Soviet Union Under Gorbachev," London, 1986; p. 38.
- 3 Globe And Mail, Toronto; 15 Feb., 1996; p. A14.
- 4 Globe and Mail; Toronto; Wall St J Supplement; 13 February, 1996; p. B9.
- 5 Keesings Record; 1991; Vol. 38; p. 38, 272.
- 6 Laura Belin Omri Daily Digest; No. 26, Part I, 6 February 1996
- 7 Sec Alliance 3; & Canadian Class Struggles 3; 4.
- 8 Financial Times (UK); 14.9.98; p. 2.
- 10 Financial Times; 17.9.98; p. 2.
- 11 Financial times; Editorial 17.9.98

- 12 Financial Times; 16.9.98 p. 1.
- 13 Financial Times 18.9.98.; p. 13. □

STALIN DIDN'T DO IT!

By Kai Bird

Contributor Editor to Nation magazine whose overview of the book "Drawing The Line" The American Decision to Divide Germany, 1944-1949" by Carolyn Eisenberg is printed below



Nothing is inevitable in the course of human events. Yet every historian finds it difficult to persuade readers that what happened all those many year ago was not preordained, that indeed, choices were made which at that time were not necessarily obvious or at all inevitable. This challenge becomes particularly formidable when the history's topic is invested with powerful myths cultivated by the state.

Carolyn Eisenberg shatters the central myth at the origins of the cold war: that the post-war division of Germany was Stalin's fault. She demonstrates unequivocally that the partition of Germany was "fundamentally an American decision," strongly opposed by the Soviets. The implications are enormous. Germany's division led to the rapid division of Europe, condemning the Eastern Europe to a 40 year

siege. If the responsibility for this cruel separation of a continent into 2 armed military camps lies with Washington and not Moscow, then the entire cannon of the orthodox history of the cold war is called into question.

Eisenberg, a professor of history at Hofstra, took more than a dozen years to produce this exhaustively researched text. "Drawing The Line" - opens with a moving description of the idealistic hopes evoked by the meeting of U.S. and Soviet troops at the Elbe River on April 25, 1945. In the face of a common peril, a Grand Alliance had triumphed over German fascism.

A half a century later, we forget that many American had been confident that U.S.-Soviet cooperation could continue in the postwar period despite ideological differences. Even an establishment figure like Assistant Secretary of War John McCloy noted in his diary on April 30, 1945, "It is little wonder that as (the U.S. and the USSR) emerge in their own and in the eyes of everyone else as the two greatest powers that they should walk stiff-legged around the ring a bit." But McCloy and Secretary of War Henry Stimson believed that with time and hard work a "practical relationship" was possible and desirable. As for Germany, the New Dealers who then prevailed in foreign policy deliberations - Henry Morgenthau Jr., Harry Hopkins, Harry Dexter White, Henry Wallace, Harold Ickes - fully intended to cooperate with the Soviets in administering a "hard peace" in a unified German state. Roosevelt had agreed for a firm program of denazification, deindustrialization and demilitarization. The Soviets would share in the supervision

of a jointly occupied German state and be assured a share in reparations.

Then came Harry Truman, who was pretty much an empty vessel when it came to foreign policy. His instincts were erratic - McCloy wrote in his diary that after observing Truman at Potsdam, "He always gives me the impression of too quick judgment." Roosevelt's Soviet policies were soon showed aside. In the judgment of Truman's influential advisors - Dean Acheson, Averell Harriman, John Foster Dulles, George Marshall and James Forrestal - partition was preferable to the uncertainty of cooperating with a wartime ally in a joint occupation of the defeated enemy.

Truman's men didn't fear an invasion from the East but that the Soviets in their weakened position would offer a deal that could not easily be rejected in a public forum. As Ambassador Walter Bedell Smith wrote in December of 1947 to his old friend Dwight Eisenhower, "The difficulty under which we labor is that in spite of our announced position, we really do not intend to accept German unification on any terms that the Russians might agree to, even though they seemed to meet most of our requirements."

Acheson and his colleagues did not fear the Soviets - they understood that the Soviet system due to the war was economically weak as also militarily. And that was precisely why Washington could act unilaterally with little risk of provoking war. "This judgement," says Eisenberg, "allowed them to make careless calculations, to disregard the Soviet interests with a sense of impunity, and to sacrifice potentially favorable

bargains with the expectation of a complete collapse down the road." And act they did. In violation of Potsdam and Yalta, the Truman Administration fused the British and U.S. occupation zones economically in December of 1946, incorporating all of the western Germany into the Marshall Plan in July 1947, implemented a currency reform in June of 1948 and convened a parliamentary body in September of 1948 for the sole purpose of creating a formal West German State. Washington also abruptly ended denazification (leaving approximately 640,000 "highly incriminated persons" unprosecuted), halted deindustrialization and canceled steps already taken to break up the German economic cartels.

Soviet demands were remarkably consistent. They wanted what they understood and what the Allies promised them at Potsdam and Yalta: \$10 billion in reparations; four-power control of the Ruhr Valley; a vigorous denazification and permanent demilitarization and permanent denazification. The Soviets would permit a freely elected German government, modeled along Wirmar constitutional lines - a program, Eisenberg observed, that "did not differ appreciably from the previously advanced by liberals in the Roosevelt administration."

The Soviets began to try and defend themselves against this provocation and took steps to consult and unify a policy with the newly liberated countries in Eastern Europe. When the Soviets and other Eastern European countries decided to defend themselves, Truman's men were not all surprised. When, for instance, there had to be the step to defend Berlin from this encroachment and undermining of East German currency, this

was taken only after the unilateral American announcement of currency reform in western Germany, veteran diplomat Robert Murphy cabled Washington: "A blockade, with all its consequences, has had widespread repercussions, most of them favorable to us."

Not everyone agreed. The military governor of Germany, General Lucius Clay, opposed partition. So did the author of the containment theory, George Kennan. In 1948-49, Kennan vigorously contested both the division and militarization of Europe. In an attempt to preserve access to Eastern Europe he crafted what became known inside the bureaucracy as "Plan A" or "A Program for Germany" to create a unified German state. Both U.S. and Soviet troops would have been required to withdraw to the borders of Germany. U.N. supervised elections would have created a new all-German government. This reunified Germany would still have participated in the Marshall Plan, which implied, of course, that the German economy would be revived. Plan A was extraordinarily one-sided. The only thing that the Soviet would get would be guaranteed access to German exports - and the right to continued participation in the supervision of the German state through a diminished Allied Control Commission. Presumably, Germany would remain demilitarized.

Kennan very much doubted the Soviets would accept a plan requiring them virtually to surrender exclusive powers in eastern Germany for a limited role in supervising a unified German state. But he thought it imperative that the proposal be put on the table; if the Soviets accepted, the impending division of Europe could be avoided.

Astonishingly, the Soviets were not even given a chance to reject Plan A. Instead, the Truman Administration went ahead with unilateral partition. An appalled Kennan wrote Secretary of State Acheson, condemning the "steady and progressive discarding of all possibilities which might really have led to something like the unification of Germany under allied blessing." He warned that "some day we may pay bitterly for our present unconcern with the possibility of getting the Russians out of the Eastern zone."

"Drawing the Line" was largely researched prior to opening of some relevant archives in Moscow and Berlin. But none of the documents released in the East to date contradict Eisenberg's view that the Americans unilaterally opted for partition. Nor is she alone in her assessment of the origins and nature of the cold war. Significantly, her thesis has been endorsed by Melvyl Leffler, whose "A Preponderance of Power: National Security, the Truman Administration, and the Cold War (1992) established him as preeminent chronicler of the period. Leffler flatly states that Eisenberg has "proven her case," that her findings "will compel a rethinking of basic assumptions about the origins of the Cold War" - this from a historian who has written with great caution about politically charged questions of assigning responsibility.

Even more startling, however, is an essay Leffler wrote in the past summer's "Foreign Affairs, the house organ of the foreign policy establishment, titled "Inside Enemy Archives; The Cold War Reopened." Leffler's survey of the "enemy archives" it shows conclusively that the Soviets did not

have pre-conceived plans to make Eastern Europe communist, or to wage war in Korea." Stalin had no "master plan" for Germany, and wished to avoid military conflict with the United States. Indeed, he hoped a policy of "Realpolitik" would somewhat lead to a grudging cooperation between the former wartime allies. Leffler quotes David Holloway - a Stanford professor and author of "Stalin and the Bomb" (1994-who studied records of Stalin's military thinking in the postwar period and concluded, "There is absolutely no evidence to show that Stalin intended to invade Western Europe." Leffler argues that "USA words and deeds greatly heightened ambient anxieties and subsequently contributed to the arms race and the expansion of the Cold War into the Third World." The new archival findings suggest that U.S. policy prolonged the cold war, making it "difficult for understanding." To compound matters, Leffler suggests there were many missed opportunities in the fifties, sixties and seventies when Stalin's successors might have curtailed the conflict - but the "perceived threat emanating from the United States held them back."

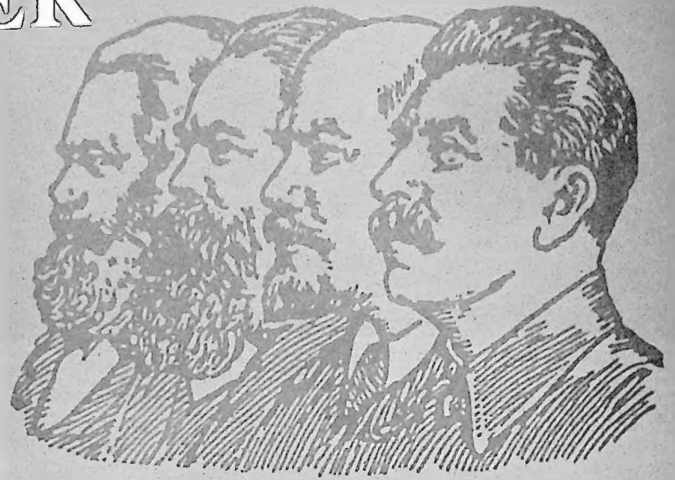
Eisenberg's book ends in 1949, when the cold war is about to open in earnest. But Leffler's essay underscores the tragic costs of a conflict that began with the USA decision to divide Germany. The most painful consequences, as Eisenberg points out, were "mainly borne by others." And yet, the tally sheet indirectly includes all those Americans who died in Vietnam and Korea. "In the wreckage of the Cold War," she concludes, - "America has yet to acknowledge responsibility for the structures it has built."

RED OCTOBER

Red October! Red Oc-
tober!

When a new dawn
woke the world,
When a people rose
triumphant
with a dawn-red flag
unfurled,
When a multitude of
heroes, marching forth
for peace and food,
Fought for all the
world of work-
ers, fought for world-
wide brotherhood.

Red October; Tyrant
forces toppling from
the brink of night,
Vanquished when those
men and women
marched as comrades
to the fight,
Marched with mighty-
hearted Stalin,
marching, marching
forward still.



Red October! Men
emerging from 10
thousand years of
strife,
Forth to wider and
human vistas, forth
to social ways of life,
Life that gave them
pride and purpose,
hope renewed &
strong accord,
Nerves of steel and
iron courage, strength
to fight the Fascist
horde.

Red October! Vast
horizons bright with
hope for all mankind,
Dawn-red flags &
mankind marching,
firm of faith & strong
of will,
Led by mighty-
hearted comrades,
marching, marching
forward still.

By Bartlett Adamson

*Sent in by Lydia S. Karhu-
dedicated to the Great Social-
ist Revolution and for the
resurrection of the Soviet Union*

