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Bomb in Donetsk kills 6 in stadium

Marta Kolomayets
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Six people were killed and two were badly injured when a bomb exploded in the stands of the Donetsk soccer stadium on Sunday afternoon, October 15, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Among those killed was Oleksander Brahın, the president of the Donetsk soccer club, Shakhtar (Coal Miner), who was a wealthy businessman and the general director of the Lux commercial company. The blast occurred at 5:05 p.m. at the entrance to the VIP stands during a game between the Donetsk club and Symferopol Tavria. The game was halted immediately.

Mykola Plekhanov, the first deputy chief of Donetsk's Interior Ministry, told reporters at a news conference on Monday, October 16, that the assassination of Mr. Brahın, who also went by the name of Akhat, was connected to his alleged activities as a major crime boss in Donetsk.

This was not the first attempt on Mr. Brahın's life, according to Col. Arkadiy Boldovsky, also from the city's Interior Ministry, who told the newspaper Nezavisimost (Independence) in Kyiv that over the years there had been at least six attacks on Mr. Brahın, which resulted in 10 deaths.

Col. Boldovsky called the assassination a "contract killing," adding that the bomb blast occurred at the moment Mr. Brahın arrived, and caused minimal damage to the stadium.

"This was a reflection of turf wars going on in Donetsk," said the city official, "and is not associated with soccer, or sports, for that matter."

Mr. Brahın, 42, was an ethnic Tatar, whose nickname was Alex the Greek among leaders of mob circles in Donetsk; he was always cautious as he went about his daily business, surrounding himself with bodyguards and aides.

Such was the case on Sunday, October 15, as he had two bodyguards inspect the VIP box before he arrived for the game between Shakhtar and Tavria, a game attended by 8,000 fans.

However, according to local police, this time Mr. Brahın was dealing with professionals. A well-concealed bomb went off by remote control in the stands; the blast was so loud that it was heard three kilometers away, and it was so devastating that it ripped limbs off bodies and literally had one head rolling down the aisles.

Two of Kyiv's widely read newspapers, *Kievski Vedomosti* (Kyiv News) and *Nezavisimost* carried macabre photos of the crime scene, including one photo of a heart ripped from a body.

Although the bomb seems to have been

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Ukrainian Canadians ponder challenges of the future

by Andrij Wynnykij

WINNIPEG — For four days in October, an oversized Ukrainian flag hung from the facade of Winnipeg's Westin Hotel, a stone's throw from one of Canada's most famous intersections — the windy Portage and Main. The occasion was the 18th Triennial Convention of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, whose delegates met on October 6-9 to determine whether the umbrella organization's fate was, according to the slogan, "Evolution or Extinction."

The conclave's decisions to ratify a proposal to democratize the UCC's by-laws and to adopt a flexible approach to managing the fledgling Canada-Ukraine Foundation — perhaps the most ambitious project ever undertaken by the UCC — suggest the UCC is ready to shake off the institutional inertia drawing it to oblivion, and to evolve.

The need to do so is pressing, as seen from convention attendance. In a post-congress interview on October 9, UCC President Oleh Romanıw, re-elected to another three-year term by acclamation, avowed that the 256 delegates registered for this convention was the lowest number ever, a full 140 fewer than the total registered at the last convention. (The quorum was officially reduced from 205 to 175.)

But Mr. Romanıw dismissed notions

that the slogan was a "portent of doom." He told *The Weekly* it was a call to "get up, get thinking and get doing."

In his opening address on October 6, Mr. Romanıw signaled he was well aware of what had to be done to avoid the "organizational holocaust" UCC Alberta Provincial Council President Dmytro Jacuta warned was in the offing prior to the convention.

"We need to give a signal to younger Ukrainian Canadians, to newly arrived Ukrainians, and those currently outside the Ukrainian community that there is a home for them within the UCC," Mr. Romanıw said. "Age and knowledge of Ukrainian cannot be a condition of participation, otherwise membership will continue to drop," he added.

Judging by the convention's resolutions, the UCC realizes it has a long row to hoe in terms of outreach to youth and representation in the community at large. Heading the list in the UCC headquarters' press release following the congress was the following, decidedly activist measure: "That the UCC actively reach out to those Canadians of Ukrainian origin who are not involved in Ukrainian organizations, and take steps to involve them, through the development of new ... organizations."

Such declarations, although vague, are

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Andrij Wynnykij

UCC President Oleh Romanıw.

11th annual Leadership Conference discusses new roles for community

by Roman Woronowycz

ARLINGTON, Va. — The 1995 Leadership Conference of The Washington Group took place the weekend of October 6 at the Key Bridge Marriott here with "The Ukrainian Community: Defining a New Role" as its theme. The goal was for the more than 150 businesspersons and professionals who attended to review the direction in which the community is moving after five years of wholehearted financial and moral support for Ukraine.

This year the Ukrainian American Bar Association and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America joined the TWG conferees, who came from most of the major cities along the Eastern Seaboard, Chicago, Louisiana and Ukrainian communities in Canada. In addition, M.B.A. candidates from Lviv's Ivan Franko University, on their annual tour of the United States, stopped in on Saturday.

George Masiuk, president of TWG, said in his opening remarks that the time has come to refocus attention on the community's needs, analyze them and take appropriate action.

The conference had its share of speakers who made an effort to guide discussion toward the responsibilities and effort needed to refocus Ukrainian Americans

on maintaining community, traditions and a Ukrainian identity in the United States in the post-Soviet era of an independent Ukraine, but much time still was spent in presentations on where Ukraine stands in the world community today, how the Ukrainian American community can still help Ukraine and how to most effectively do it.

The keynotes

Two keynote speakers addressed the 11th annual conference, Coit Blacker, special assistant to President Bill Clinton and senior director of the National Security Council on Ukraine, Russia and Eurasia, and Adrian Karatnycky, president of Freedom House, a non-partisan human rights watchdog group.

Mr. Blacker spoke on U.S. policy toward Ukraine and emphasized the need to push economic reform in Ukraine at a time the country seems to have taken a step back. He also laid out U.S. objectives in its relationship with the new democracy (see page 4).

Mr. Karatnycky focused on the conference's theme, addressing two major gaps he feels exist in the community's ability to effectively work in the Washington policy-making environment.

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Kyiv it is

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Authorities in the capital of Ukraine have finally decided how to spell the city's name: Kyiv. No more Kiev, Kyyiv or any other versions thereof.

The decision came on October 14 during the first meeting of the Committee on Legal Terminology headed by the newly appointed minister of justice, Serhiy Holovaty.

As reported by the Respublika information agency, the committee voted to adopt the spelling "Kyiv" after a long debate, during which it was noted that the spelling "Kiev" does not correspond to the Ukrainian-language version of the name of Ukraine's capital.

Committee members adopted "Kyiv" as the official spelling that will be used in all legal and official acts of Ukraine.

Previously the only officially sanctioned spelling of the city formerly known worldwide as Kiev was "Kyyiv," adopted by the Ukrainian Mapping Agency, Ukraine's state cartographic service. The agency's recommendation came after Ukrainian authorities repeatedly stated that

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National Security Council member speaks at TWG conference

by Roman Woronowycz

ARLINGTON, Va. — Coit Blacker, special assistant to President Bill Clinton and senior director of the National Security Council on Ukraine, Russia and Eurasia, delivered the keynote address on United States policy toward Ukraine at the Leadership Conference of The Washington Group held the weekend of October 6. He presented the Clinton administration's view on Ukraine and asked for the diaspora to push Ukraine to continue economic reform. Although it did not pertain to the theme of the conference, which was "The Ukrainian Community: Defining a New Role," participants roundly applauded the address.

Mr. Blacker, who was deputy director and senior fellow at the Institute for International Studies and co-director of the International Policy Studies Program at Stanford University before his appointment, said Ukraine is poised for an "economic take-off" and that its "bold measures" have allowed relations between it and the U.S. to be the strongest they have ever been, to accomplishments that he credited to President Leonid Kuchma and to "the Ukrainian people for their quiet courage and steadiness of purpose."

He emphasized the international community's role and specifically the G-7

industrialized nations, which have given Ukraine \$4 billion in aid and assistance over the last two years with pledges secured for an additional \$2 billion for next year.

Mr. Blacker also said that much of the credit for Ukraine's success to date must be given to the Ukrainian American community, as Ukraine's Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk had stated during his visit to Washington several weeks prior.

After reviewing Ukraine's accomplishments of the last four years, the national security advisor moved to a major emphasis of his address: Ukraine seems to have taken a step back from reforms, which could be a serious mistake, and it must continue in strong step down the road towards a free market system.

"The storm clouds first began to gather in late June when President Kuchma suggested that Ukraine must 'correct' its economic reform program," said Mr. Blacker. "Similar themes were sounded in early September. Government officials tell us this is only for domestic consumption, but such mixed signals take a heavy toll... To muddle along is to muddle down."

During his presentation, Mr. Blacker repeatedly called on the Ukrainian

American community to use its influence in Ukraine to ensure that the country keeps moving down the path to economic reform. "Experience in the command economy taught them to control all economic variables," he said. "The marketplace requires that they learn to let go. We — and you in this room can help."

In its foreign relations Mr. Blacker underscored that the U.S. understands that "Ukraine's aspirations lie with Europe." He added, "Ukraine is attracted to European models and structures. However, if it wishes to aspire to them, it must transform itself to look — and be — more like Europe. It must develop a competitive market economy. It must foster participatory democracy and a society based on the rule of law," said Mr. Blacker.

He said that geopolitical realities exist that make this move a bit complicated. He emphasized that Ukraine must and does understand that it has to develop peaceful relations with its giant northern neighbor, Russia, and that the best way to go about resolving the Black Sea Fleet dispute is with "patience and quiet encouragement."

Mr. Blacker explained that U.S. policy toward Ukraine has three dimensions: reinforcing Ukraine's emerging civil

society, strengthening a nascent market economy and nurturing new security relationships.

He said the key to building a civil society is to establish local government structures, to build local organizations, legal centers, environmental groups, business associations, independent newspapers; to build society from the bottom up. "Their strength, over time, will provide a brake on government that promotes stability and forces the state to respond, not dictate, to its people," said Mr. Blacker.

He identified "five pillars" needed to successfully build a market economy: integration with multilateral and regional structures such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; macro-economic policy support; privatization; energy reform (he said that Ukraine consumes 40 percent more energy than other countries with a similar sized economy.); and by developing commercial ties with Western business firms.

He said that in terms of building security structures, "the fundamental goal of our policy is to ensure regional stability, so as to provide Ukraine the confidence it needs to focus attention, not on its neighbors, but on crafting a better future for its citizens."

RFE/RL, VOA awarded TWG Journalist of the Year Award

by Roman Woronowycz

ARLINGTON, Va. — Two highly respected U.S. government broadcast services praised universally for contributing to the downfall of the Iron Curtain and the Soviet Union received The Washington Group Journalism Award on October 7 at a time when government cuts threaten their continued existence.

The Ukrainian Service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Ukrainian Branch of Voice of America, which broadcast to the Soviet Union before the collapse of communism and now continue their work as Ukraine moves from the rubble toward democracy, received the award at the 11th annual TWG Leadership Conference.

TWG Vice-President Marta Zielyk, who has worked for both news organizations, presented the award, which was bestowed upon the two U.S. agency directors "in recognition of their unwavering commitment to the cause of truth, freedom and democracy for the people of Ukraine."

The two agencies have broadcast news to Ukraine for more than four decades, VOA concentrating on news about the U.S. and the West, the RFE/RL signal carrying information about events occurring in Ukraine.

That could change dramatically very shortly. On October 1 the U.S. Senate cut an already substantially reduced RFE/RL budget by two-thirds, reducing its 1996 appropriation from \$75 million to \$29 million. Last year the Congress had cut the budget from \$229 million.

RFE/RL Director Kevin Klose, formerly Moscow editor for The Washington Post who was picked to direct the reorganization of the government radio by President Bill Clinton, called the agency's work "a tradition of excellence and commitment," while accepting the award on behalf of the agency and the Ukrainian service.

However, Mr. Klose emphasized that RFE/RL's essential work is still not complete and still much needed. He said a free press is still not established in Ukraine and that too many factors yet exist in the region that can disinform

Ukrainians, reiterating many of the comments he made at a conference sponsored by Freedom House, a human rights watchdog group, the previous day.

"The reason the radios were created in the 1950s was to bring about the defeat of communism," continued Mr. Klose. "The reason I believe the radios retain a vital concern to Americans today is illustrated by Ukraine, for example, which is a nation of 55 million (sic) and the keystone in many ways to what happens in Europe. American national security and peace for our children and grandchildren depends on stability and peace in Central Europe. Communism has been defeated, but democracy is by no means guaranteed."

Mr. Klose was preceded at the microphone by VOA Director Geoffrey Cowen

who emphasized that those saying that either VOA or RFE/RL is needed, but not both, are wrong, that the two broadcasters' functions are quite different and equally important.

He also alluded to the importance of Ukraine in the post-Cold War world. "The security and independence of Ukraine is perhaps more important than the strengthening of NATO," said Mr. Cowen.

Mr. Cowen also underscored that VOA has a television program in only one country, the Ukrainian program "Window on America," a popular show broadcast from Kyiv in Ukrainian. "It is a statement of the importance we place on that country," said the director.

Also on hand to accept the awards

were VOA Ukrainian Service Chief Wolodymyr Bilajiw and two former Ukrainian service chiefs, Michael Terpak and Mykola Francuzenko, as well as Michael Mihalisko, RFE/RL senior correspondent of the Ukrainian service.

The VOA is the international radio service of the U.S. Information Agency, broadcasting 900 hours a week in English and 46 other languages to 92 million listeners. VOA broadcasts to Ukraine two hours daily over the Radio Ukraine frequency and on shortwave frequencies.

RFE/RL, a non-profit corporation funded by U.S. government grants, broadcasts 700 hours of programming a week to 25 million listeners in the former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe, including in Ukraine.



After the awarding of the TWG Journalist of the Year Award to VOA and RFE/RL, from left: former VOA Ukrainian service chief, Mykola Francuzenko; current chief, Wolodymyr Bilajiw; former chief, Michael Terpak; VOA Director Geoffrey Cowen; RFE/RL Director Kevin Klose; TWG Vice-President Marta Zielyk; President George Masiuk; Adrian Karmazyn of VOA; and Michael Mihalisko, senior correspondent of RFE/RL.

11th annual...

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First, said Mr. Karatnycky, there is an absolute dearth of specialists on Ukraine in government and in such respected policy-setting think-tanks as the Heritage Foundation or the American Enterprise Institute. He cited only one exception, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where Zbigniew Brzezinski has led an effort to study Ukraine.

He said that although institutions studying Ukraine do exist in the United States, such as the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, they are not "inside-the-Beltway" institutions with knowledge of how the game is played in Washington, and that their distance from Washington affects their influence.

Mr. Karatnycky remarked that the Ukrainian American community must gather the finances to fund several young research scholars at some of the more influential think-tanks in Washington.

The other gap, recently created, is the closing of the Ukrainian National Association's Washington Office, a move he called the "most damaging setback to Ukrainian interests."

Mr. Karatnycky said the UNA should not be responsible for shouldering the burden of such an office for the entire Ukrainian American community, but, nonetheless, such an office is critical to maintaining influence in Washington. He referred to the American Israeli Political Action Committee as a model for a future Ukrainian presence in Washington.

The Freedom House president also expressed his disapproval of the Senate's recent decision to slash the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty appropriation by two-thirds.

Noted Ukrainian American attorney Julian Kulas suggested during the question/answer period that another way Ukrainians could become involved with policy-making in Washington is to become more active in grass-roots politics. "Get to know your politicians, join one of the two parties, get active in election campaigns," he said.

Four panels formulate the discussion

The conferees then settled in for a series of four panels that were designed to spark discussion and provide answers for the convention's theme.

Andrew Masiuk, director general of the International Management Institute in Kyiv, and Orest Subtelny, professor of history and political science at York University in Toronto, discussed developing a consensus on Ukrainian community goals.

Prof. Subtelny whittled the issue down to two options. One, do Ukrainians in America view themselves as a group that will carry a non-ideological base; that exists because it likes being together, because of common experiences, backgrounds and goals?

If so, he listed the goals of such a community as, possibly, helping Ukrainians find employment, finding teachers for Ukrainian language schools, coaches for soccer, instructors for dance groups.

Or else, he queried, should Ukrainians become a support group "as an outlet for altruism," as he described it. He called it "a fan club for Ukraine... that continues our parents' tradition in looking to Ukraine." He suggested that organizations in the U.S. could expand to include membership in organizations in Ukraine.

The second panel, titled "Providing Services to Our Community," which included Orest Jejna and Timothy Trusewych, respective presidents of the UABA and the UMANA, and Orysia Hewka, executive director of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center of Philadelphia, focused most clearly on the conference's theme.

Ms. Hewka attacked the problems associated with limited organizational funds, a central issue for countless organizations bent on providing community services, and came away with several commonsense ideas. She suggested that people become involved in local and state politics. "If you need money, get behind a single candidate who later may channel funds your way," she said, explaining that she and several others did exactly that to obtain funding for the cultural center's social services program.

Another idea: use available government financial assistance. "The time has come to stop digging money out of our own pockets," she asserted.

Ms. Hewka also stated that individuals and groups of people can be effective in helping the community; that task forces are not always the best answer. Putting a different spin on a passage from the Bible, she exclaimed, "And God so loved the world that he sent his only Son — not a committee!"

Both Mr. Jejna and Mr. Trusewych explained community efforts undertaken by their respective organizations. Mr. Jejna said the UABA was reviewing its goals with regard to the community. He spoke of "going back to the basics" of "lighting a fire and keeping that fire burning."

After a luncheon highlighted by a slide presentation of President Bill Clinton's visit to Kyiv in May, which was given by Melanne Verveer, a Ukrainian American who is deputy assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff to the first lady, the conferees returned to a panel on how to make Americans more aware of Ukraine and Ukrainian Americans.

Panel member Askold Lozynskij, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, said Ukrainian Americans must think of diaspora "in the Jewish sense, intent on assisting the land of our ancestors and our brethren in Ukraine to develop a better existence." He said that otherwise "our message is largely irrelevant."

His co-panelist, Richard Murphy of the CSIS, said that if Ukrainian American organizations would join forces, the representation in the nation's capital would remain strong and effective.

A third member of the panel, Irene Jarosewicz, who spent time in Ukraine organizing Rukh's press effort, enumerated what the community must do to make itself heard in the United States, which includes sending positive messages and being aggressive in dealing with the media.

She suggested that less attention should be paid to mega-large publications like The New York Times and The Washington Post and more to smaller newspapers and trade journals. She said journalists and editors should be briefed and prepped so that they will have the information needed when a cause involving Ukraine needs publicity.

The last panel of the day was in essence a short workshop on how to get government grants; how to write the necessary proposals and how to work with grant givers. The speakers were Tamara Gallo of the Ukrainian National Information Service, the UCCA's Washington-based office, which has received two government grants; Greta Bull of the Eurasia Foundation, a grant-giver who has worked with Ms. Gallo; and Nadia Komarnycky-McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

Ms. Gallo cited her winning grant proposals on the UCCA Commercial Law Project and the Mass Media Civic Project as meeting the requirements that agencies look for in a proposal: "a persuasive concept responsive to a critical need." She said both proposals "contained the important element of advance preparation, and demonstrated a well-established working relationship with credible Ukrainian partners."



Coit Blacker, special assistant to U.S. President Bill Clinton and senior director of the National Security Council on Ukraine, gives a keynote address at the TWG Leadership Conference. Astride him sit (from right) Freedom House President Adrian Karatnycky and TWG President George Masiuk.

Ms. Bull said the Eurasia Foundation looks for projects that are task-oriented and focused. For the proposal writer, however, she said persistence is most important. She explained that many proposals are accepted after having been initially rejected largely because the proposals are better written.

One other panel, an informal get-together for those interested in discovering cyberspace, was held on Sunday afternoon with several enthusiasts explaining where the information superhighway can take you.

RFE/RL and VOA honored

Others who delivered presentations were Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Yuri Shcherbak, who spoke after the Sunday afternoon brunch, and the directors of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Voice of America, who were presented with TWG's Journalism Award at the Saturday evening dinner.

Ambassador Shcherbak spoke of the "spirit of Kyiv," coining a phrase that describes the new spirit of cooperation and friendship between President Clinton and President Kuchma that has grown out of Mr. Clinton's May visit to Kyiv.

However, the ambassador said, the honeymoon period between Ukraine and Ukrainian Americans is over; that Ukrainian Americans must open their eyes to the realities in present-day Ukraine; to the Russification and Sovietization that will take years to undo.

Dr. Shcherbak asked the community to support and maintain ties between Ukraine and the world information and intellectual communities. He also challenged

Ukrainian Americans to organize and develop a Ukrainian Business Council and a Ukrainian Information Bureau.

On Saturday evening after dinner the annual TWG Journalism Award was presented to both RFE/RL and VOA for the service they have performed in keeping Ukraine properly informed on events in the world and providing balanced reporting to Ukrainian listeners.

Both RFE/RL Director Kevin Klose and VOA Director Geoffrey Cowan spent a good portion of their speeches lamenting the legislative slashing of funds to the organizations and explaining why the two broadcast services are still needed (see page 4).

Work, then play

In addition to the work, there was plenty of play. Friday night guests were treated to a buffet in the Gannett Building with a spectacular 30th floor view of Washington and its lighted monuments.

Saturday after dinner and the award's banquet the crowd traveled to the rooftop restaurant of the Key Bridge Marriott to listen to Darka and Slavko, the well-known Ukrainian folk duo and equally renowned pianist Andrew Stasiw.

Then on Sunday after brunch, John Stetch, Ukrainian-Canadian jazz pianist extraordinaire, performed a dazzling array of compositions interweaving Ukrainian folk themes with jazz structures. Afterwards, those desiring visited the Alla Rogers Gallery in Georgetown to view works by Alexander Pogrebinsky and other Ukrainian artists, bringing a well-balanced weekend of toil and pleasure to a close.



Darka and Slavko entertain at Saturday evening cabaret.