## BEZTARTAIST

Volume 4 March 1984 No. 3

### A NEW SOVIET LEADER!



INSIDE: EULOGY FOR YURI

VISTI ON THE BALL AGAIN!

# Андропов поздоровів **поздорові**в

Советський диктатор Юрій Андропов має нову нирку і після операції почувається ліпше, подає західнонімецька газета.

Експресс повідомляє, що він уже працює і скоро приступить до виконання своїх обов'язків.

Ukrainian News, 10 February 1984 (the day of Andropov's death)

\*

#### UP, UP AND AWAY

The first kite was built and given a preliminary trial that very same day, and it passed its first test with flying colours.

From the Shumuk memoirs

\*

#### HISTORY AS IT WAS

(Extracts from a 300-level examination paper)

Josephinism - this is when Joseph I and Maria Theresa were in power. Joseph was a beautiful man who wanted to abolish serfdom and give them their freedom. He also wanted to change the church so it did not rule everything.

Rusalka Dnistrovaia - these are writings of Ukrainian history and folklore which followed Istoriia Rusov. These were written by 3 men who were called the 3 musketeers. The main man was named Sherchevych and the other name (that I remember) is Holovatsky. They wrote some original things that were all compiled together and formed these readings.

#### Essay topic

Serfdom was a way to keep things in order in the Slavic countries. Most of the Slavic countries had serfdom or something very close to it. Serfs or peasants were those people who were considered the common people. They were taken for granted, used, abused and demoralized.

#### HISTORY AS IT WAS (continued)

These peasants had only one thing to do in life and that was to work. Day in and day out they toiled away never stoppin unless they were very sick or dead....It was all part of a class system which was made to function properly so their economic prosperity would flourish.

The serfs worked on farms which were subdivided and given out by the gentry or nobility who ran the whole farm from behind closed doors.... Due to the times the wages were very low and a lot of times were non existant therefore it was a hard time trying to make ends meet money-wize. There was no birth control at the time so the families grew and due to the shortage of money sometimes all they had to eat was what they grew in their gardens....

The serfs all worked for the same purposes and reasons; they had  ${\hbox{NO CHOICE}}$ . They worked to make the crops grow or the factories hum. What they grew and made the upper class had first choice of and then it worked its way on down the line if it made it that far. The serfs boosted the economy up because they were virtually working for nothing. When a profit is made and nothing needs to be paid out in return for the effort more profit is made. The serfs did not fare so well economically basically because they had  ${\hbox{NO MONEY}}$  they just made it for others....

It isn't till the 20th century that education went into full swing and the peasants learned how to read and write. But due to the people who wrote the first books on Ukrainian history and folklore and also due to the age of Romanticism and people like Metternich who made things work for the people (peasants) life became easier to deal with They understood their pasts and maybe even saw futures....

The system of serfdom was on the verge of change because it couldn't function any longer treating people like animals. It had to allow for hopes dreams and some reality. It had to open up the eyes of all men to themselves and their heritage as well as serve their national spirit and their will to survive.

\*

#### THE WEEKEND

One weekend, Mrs. Lupul and Mrs. Savaryn on a shopping trip to Vancouver, leaving their husbands to fend for themselves. Having flipped a coin, PS is allotted the task of getting the groceries in.

"Are you sure you can manage?" ML asks. PS nods firmly. Three hours later he returns, perspiring. ML looks askance. On the kitchen table are 38 bottles of rye and 2 loaves of bread.

"Oh my God!" says ML, "I should have gone myself."

"Is something wrong Manoly?"

"Is something wrong? What in hell's name are we going to do with all this bread?"

\*

# FAME AND FATE: THE PRINCES GALITZINE IN THE DRAMA OF RUSSIAN HISTORY A SYNOPSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

The present volume is concerned with those Galitzines who were extraordinary either in themselves or in the way they participated in the Drama of Russian History.

#### I. THE RURIKOVICHI AND THE GED MINOVICHI

The Drama begins in 862 with Rurik, but whilst the Rurikovichi and Slavs were dominated by the Mongol Horde from 1240, it was the non-Slav Gedyminovichi who from the middle of the 15th century became the foremost princes of Eastern Europe.

#### II. THE FIRST GALITZINE AND IVAN THE TERRIBLE

He was a Jedyminovich voyevoda or "warrior-leader" of Moscow, nicknamed Golitza, "the Gauntlet". Unfortunate in war, he was at least lucky to die in 1554, before Ivan became the Terrible.

#### III. GALITZINE, SHUISKY AND GODUNOV

When the upstart Boris Godunov died in 1605, no one could tolerate the Rurikovich Shuisky, but there was no agreement on a candidate for the throne, not even on the Gedyminovich Galitzine, the logical choice.

#### IV. CANDIDATE WITH ROMANOV FOR THE THRONE

For fear of the mob and the pretender to the extinct dynasty of Rurik, the temporary government in the Time of Troubles admitted the Polish commander into Moscow, and he placed Galitzine in the Polish King's hands, who imprisoned him. Michael Romanov, a mere boy, was then elected by the patriots in 1613, because he was considered manageable.

#### V. THE GREAT GALITZINE AND THE TSAREVNA SOPHIA

He became the favourite of the invalid Tsar Theodore's energetic sister, who in 1682 liberated herself from the custom of being secluded. Galitzine, a great reformer, wanted to people the wilderness, make the poor rich, and civilize the savages in Russia.

#### VI. YOUNG TSAR PETER'S TUTOR, COMPANION AND GUIDE

Particularly when Peter came of age in 1689 and was the intended victim of a plot against his life by his half-sister the Tsarevna-Regent Sophia. She was confined to a convent, her paramour prime minister sent penniless to Siberia.

#### VII. FIELD-MARSHAL CF PETER THE GREAT

During the Great Northern Mar which began in 1700, he captured key Schlüsselburg from the Swedes, and led a new Russian naval surge from Finland, so that by the Peace of Nystad in 1721, Russia instead of Sweden became a great power.

#### VIII. THE CONSTITUTIONALIST AND THE EMPRESS AND

He originated the idea of limiting autocracy by subjecting it to the Supreme Privy Council established in 1726, but when the Empress-elect realized the Guards were on her side, she destroyed the constitution so hopefully designed by Galitzine.

#### IX. ANNE'S PERSECUTION OF THE GALITZINES

Anne could not forgive Galitzine his 'conditions', and on an inconsequential pretext he was sent to prison, where he died. The grandson of the Great Galitzine was degraded into a court fool, and commanded to marry a hideous Mongol in the famous Ice House built in 1739.

#### X. THE EMPRESS ELIZABETH'S ENVOY TO GEORGIAN ENGLAND

During the Seven Year's War which began in 1756, Elizabeth's firm resolve to crush the Prussian King, through the diplomacy of Galitzine, received encouragement from George III, yet was confronted by Pitt's equally firm determination to stand by Frederick the Great.

#### XI. VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE YOUNG EMPRESS CATHERINE II

Elizabeth's death in 1762 was a decisive change, for her successor Peter III saved Frederick from ruin, but when the Guards declared Peter's popular wife sole Empress, it was Galitzine who brought Catherine II her husband's abject abdication.

#### XII. AN ENLIGHTENED ENVOY AND A HUMANE GENERAL OF CATHERINE THE GREAT

Friend of Voltaire and Diderot, a Galitzine first suggested the abolition of serfdom, but when the landowners baulked, Catherine began a search for glory against the Turks, and in this, another Galitzine was brilliantly successful, though humane, when he conquered Moldavia in 1769.

#### XIII. CATHOLIC MISSIONARY PRIEST IN THE EARLY U.S.A.

He was six at the time of the Declaration of American Independence in 1776, and as he could not join the Austrian army after the French Revolution of 1789, his parents sent him to America to study the new constitution, but he chose in 1799 to devote himself to missionary work in the backwoods of the Allegheny Mountains of Pennsylvania.

#### XI/. GALITZINES AGAINST NAPOLEON

The present writer's direct ancestor was ambiguously involved as an infantry general in stratagems between Napoleon and Tsar Alexander. A 17-year-old Galitzine wrote "An Officer's Notes" about the Patriotic War of 1812. A veteran general Galitzine defeated the French during Napoleon's retreat from Moscow. XV. MINISTER OF THE MYSTIC TSAR ALEXANDER I

He made an effort to realize the Tsar's mystical idea of government, which tolerated all religions, but when the reactionary period began in Russia, he

was anathematized by an Orthodox fanatic, who had been instigated by his rival, and in 1824 Galitzine was retired from office.

#### XVI. REBEL AGALIST THE IRON TSAR NICHOLAS I

In the Rising of the Decembrists of 1825, he wished the peasants to be freed, a constitutional government to be established, and he had knowledge of the intentions to annihilate the whole imperial family. Condemned as a criminal, he was sent for life to Siberia.

#### XVII. PATRON OF BEETHOVEN AND HIS CONCERT MAESTRO SON

With no opportunities, not even for the aristocracy to participate in government under Nicholas I, a father and son turned to music. Beethoven's Solemn Mass and other great works were sponsored by Galitzine. The Crimean War ruined the Iron Tsar in 1855, but the Galitzine son survived it, only to fall foul of imperial favour under Alexander II for wishing freedom for Russia. It was in exile that he became famous as a concert maestro.

#### XVIII. GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE CAUCASUS

He was appointed in 1896 to continue Alexander III's policy of Russification under NicholasII, but in his concern about disruptive nationalities he overlooked dangerous ideologies, and let slip young Stalin, the later tyrant, through his fingers.

#### XIX. THE LAST PRIME MINISTER OF NICHOLAS II AND ALEXANDRA

Though elderly, he was ordered by the Tsar to be Prime Minister in 1916, after the assassination of Rasputin, but the Minister of the Interior, a protegee of the Tsarina and Rasputin, continued to meddle dangerously, thus causing the February 1917 Revolution and the downfall of the Romanov dynasty.

#### XX. TWO SCIENTISTS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

A Galitzine, who died during World War I, was an expert on earthquakes and a founder of seismology. The present author is the second scientist of the family. I was evacuated from the Crimea to Malta on H.M.S. Marlborough following the Bolshevik Revolution, and found my vocation in Canada at the National Research Council, where my specialty was thermodynamics and cloud simulation in icing tests of British jet engines.

#### CONCLUSION IN THE REALM OF FANTASY

One day the Russians will arouse themselves to dispose of the dismal system by which they are now misruled, and in freedom choose a constitution modelled on the British. Who knows, one of the younger and better members of the numerous Galitzine family may then be chosen sovereign. Can anyone suggest a better such candidate?

#### Eulogy to Yury A.

And so, you are dead, Andropov, After much suspense You finally dropped off, You look out of your tomb At the geriatrics in black, At Chernenko the nondescript, And Romanov the hack, But you had your chance Little gnome in thick glasses, You got to the top And looked down at the masses, For a brief, fleeting moment You were indeed number one, But you had rotten kidneys, So now you are gone, It matters not one whit That you ruled all those police From Moscow to Kiev, From London to Nice, That they killed and they purged Ukrainians and Jews, That you had a little empire To use and abuse, You see over here In our living rooms we sit, We read all about you And we don't give a shit, As far as we know You're all old men in one bed, Several shades of blue And very little red, You're old and you're boring And you've nowhere to go, Our cry goes up: one old vulture dead! Eleven more to go....

#### THE CIUS REGISTER OF LOST SOULS, 1984-5

KASINEC, Edward. Born at the age of thirty-nine. Drifts from one end of the continent to the other, residing in filing cabinets. Once known as a bibliographer, but compiled one filing card too many. Latest news of EK is that he has resurfaced in New York. Was only once seen to smile upon rediscovering a missing page from Bohdan Khmelnytsky's original agreement with Tsar Aleksei Mikhailovich at the bottom of the Black Sea.

KUBIJOVYC, Volodymyr. Now over 300 years old. Spends most of his time in sullen silence. Is under the illusion that he can still work. Hates everyone and grants interviews only to those that bow and scrape. Lives in Paris where he operates an imaginary institute.

MARKUS, Vasyl. Admittedly a borderline case. Markus is quite normal until he decides to give a lecture, which unfortunately, is quite a common occurrence. Then he enters a realm of consciousness impenetrable to all but mystics and cave-dwellers. Can induce sleep with a single syllable, hence has some claim to be a hypnotist. No one who attends one of VM's lectures is ever quite the same again.

PRITSAK, Omeljan. Living history. Will spend decades analyzing a single work in a document, write realms of information about it, only to refute his own arguments several years later. The world's greatest connoisseur of minutiae. Has been acclaimed as a renowned scholar, but claim somewhat dubious because no one else on the planet knows what he is talking about.

RUDNYCKYJ, Jaroslav. The world's most published man, JB as he is known to his three friends, writes 2,345,700 books a year at a conservative estimate. The average length of each book is 3 sentences, and they are mostly about Egypt. In addition, thinks he is prime minister of Ukraine and wears a badge to support this claim. Since no one has thus far denied it, it may possibly be true. JB is president of 34 committees, many of which have as much relevance as the official opposition in the Alberta Legislature. A man to watch.

#### CIUS REGISTER (contd.)

SHANKOWSKY, Lev. Walking history, Uncle Lev is at war with the Soviets. A mine of information on UPA, and will always consent to an interview on condition that he breaks his leg beforehand. Thinks all his neighbours are in the KGB and is immediately suspicious of anyone with a non-Ukrainian name. In fact, has little trust in Ukrainians either. Lives in a retreat in New Jersey which he has modelled on an original UPA bunker.

\*



The Provincial Government of Alberta invites you to the

#### 1984 IVAN FRANKO LECTURE

"The World Conspiracy: Some New Evidence"

 ${\tt Speaker:} \quad {\tt BUD} \ {\tt ZIP,} \ {\tt MLA} \ {\tt Calgary} \ {\tt Mountview}$ 

With an Introduction by Stephen Stiles MLA

And a special guest appearance by JIM KEEGSTRA

March 13, 1984, 8.00pm, Education North

Beztaktnist thanks AH, MY, B. Klid, RS and KK for contributions to and help with this issue.