

The Committee in Defense of
Valentyn Moroz
c/o 10507-Saskatchewan Dr.,
Edmonton, Alberta
November 12, 1974

Dear

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated, October , 1974 and express our appreciation for your concern in the matter of imprisoned Ukrainian historian Valentyn Moroz.

Our Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable ~~Allen J. MacEachen~~, has, in response to several questions raised by honourable members, specifically on October 1, October 8, October 11, and October 22, continually stated that in private talks with Soviet Foreign Affairs Minister, Andrei Gromyko, at the United Nations on September 27, he had been assured that a physical examination indicated Moroz to be in normal health, that he is taking regular exercise and is under normal medical care.

Further to Mr. Gromyko's statements, the Press Office of the USSR Embassy in Canada released a communique, (#74 (47)) in October 1974, outlining "facts concerning Valentyn Moroz". By the release of such a lengthy statement it is obvious that the Soviet Government has acknowledged the importance of the Moroz issue in Soviet-Western relations. A paragraph from the communique states:

"The Soviet Embassy in Canada receives occasionally letters from Canadians concerning the criminal Valentyn Moroz which show their unawareness of facts. The Embassy has since sent the information about the criminal to mass media but to our regret it was not used by them. Though the public is not yet aware of the reality."

It further states that:

"As to the staged campaign about Moroz's health the facts are once more against the organizers of this hysteria. According to competent Soviet medical authorities, "The state of health of Moroz is satisfactory: the pulse count and arterial pressure do not show any deviation from norm. The temperature is also normal. The blood analysis shows that its composition is within the norm. Moroz is under permanent medical observation. He does his physical exercises regularly. At present he has no complaints at the state of his health." "