

FIFTY YEARS OF FRAUD AND OPPRESSION

DECLARATION

ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SPURIOUS RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

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DECLARATION

Of

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America On the 50th Anniversary of the Fraudulent Russian Revolution

On November 7, 1967 the Soviet Union will observe the 50th anniversary of the violent Bolshevik takeover of Czarist Russia. Vast preparations are being made throughout the USSR. The Soviet propaganda machine will devote all its might to propagate the message throughout the world that the Bolshevik upheaval brought freedom, social equality and economic well-being to all the peoples who once were under the domination of Russian Czars.

The world is to be saturated with official statements and statistics that the Soviet regime has a record of "spectacular" successes and achievements. The USSR, we already hear, has been wholly industrialized, has built a powerful military machine and is now outdistancing the United States in space exploration. We are told that the Soviet regime has abolished illiteracy, raised living standards, provided social services, clinics, hospitals, and medical care for the aged, and other benefits for its citizenry, too numerous to mention.

The Bolshevik leaders promised that after the liquidation of the Czarist regime, they would establish a new government of "workers and peasants," creating a new social and political order. Political, social, and national oppression would be eliminated and the new order would be based on the rule of the majority, led by those elected by the governed. A free social and economic system was promised, unbedeviled by monopolies. Above all, freedom was guaranteed to all the classes of Russia, and national freedom and self-determination to the non-Russian nations.

Lenin promised a "full restitution of freedom to Finland, Ukraine, Byelorussia, the Moslems..., including even the freedom to secede."

These claims, all in support of the contention that the USSR has become a technological giant and a progressive "enlightened society," are grossly exaggerated. Other major nations of the world have made as great or greater advancements in every phase of life, without resorting to huge sacrifices in political, religious, cultural and economic freedoms. The absence of these freedoms gives the lie to the claims of the Soviet propagandists.

Ukrainian National Revolution vs. Bolshevik Revolution

Soviet Russian leaders, more than ever on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their fraudulent revolution, echo the claim that owing to Communism the millenium has come to the Russian and non-Russian peoples. We are asked to believe it has established a paradise on earth.

In trumpeting these alleged gains of their revolution, the Kremlin chieftains also contend that they have "solved the nationality problem,"

bestowing "genuine independence and sovereignty" upon the non-Russian nations of the former Russian Czarist empire.

Ukrainians categorically reject the Russian Communist "thesis" regarding their "liberation" and self-determination. It was not the Russian Bolshevik revolution, but the Ukrainian National Revolution that brought freedom and independence to the Ukrainian people fifty years ago. The Ukrainian National Revolution, in contrast to the Bolshevik takeover, was similar to the American Revolution of 1776: its overall objective was the freedom and independence of the Ukrainian people, just as the American Revolution sought freedom and independence for the 13 American colonies.

On March 17, 1917, the Ukrainian Central *Rada* was established. Through a series of historic acts this representative body established first an autonomous state, and then a full-fledged independent and sovereign state of the Ukrainian people. The events followed this chronological order:

- * Two *Universals* were issued on June 23 and July 16, 1917, introducing an autonomous government in Ukraine. The organization of the Ukrainian national army, Ukrainian schools, and the Ukrainian administrative and judicial systems swiftly followed. A broad autonomy was provided for the national minorities.

- * On November 20, 1917, the Third *Universal* was issued proclaiming the *Ukrainian National Republic*.

The new state was promptly recognized by a number of foreign governments, including the government of Communist Russia. A note, signed by Lenin and Trotsky on December 17, 1917, stated:

The Soviet of People's Commissars of the Russian Republic recognizes, without any limitations or conditions, and in all respects, the national rights and independence of the Ukrainian Republic. . .

Yet at the very moment it was granting diplomatic recognition to Ukraine, Communist Russia invaded Ukraine. However, within six months the people of Ukraine and their newly organized military forces ousted Bolshevik aggressors from Ukraine.

- * January 22, 1918 was the date of the Fourth *Universal*, proclaiming the full and unqualified independence and sovereignty of Ukraine. On February 9, 1918, Ukraine concluded a peace treaty with the Central Powers in Brest Litovsk, and thereby won full-fledged recognition from Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. France and Great Britain also granted *de facto* recognition to Ukraine.

- * Ukraine maintained its independence throughout 1918 and 1919, first under the monarchist government of *Hetman* Paul Skoropadsky (1918) and then under the *Directorate* of the Ukrainian National Republic, headed by Simon Petlura.

- * On November 1, 1918, Western Ukraine (under Austria-Hungary) proclaimed its independence and was immediately forced to wage a defensive war against newly-born Poland, because the Poles claimed this ethnic Ukrainian territory as their "own historic land."

- * On January 22, 1919, the Western Ukrainian National Republic, including Carpatho-Ukraine and Bukovina, and the Ukrainian National Republic were merged by the Act of Union into one, united, independent and sovereign state of the Ukrainian people. In 1920 a military alliance

was concluded between Poland and Ukraine against the Russian Communists; the combined Polish-Ukrainian forces occupied Kiev for a brief period, but by the end of 1920 the Russian Communist forces had succeeded in occupying Ukraine and imposing a Communist regime, headed by Russians or their stooges and puppets in Ukraine.

* In March 1921 the Treaty of Riga between Communist Russia and Poland sealed the doom of the Ukrainian National Republic and its military forces, and the nation was again partitioned.

* Since 1923, Ukraine, renamed by Moscow the "Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic," has been a part of the Soviet Union as one of its "equal and sovereign constituent republics." Ukraine became a charter member of the United Nations in 1945, and maintains its permanent mission to this international organization to the present day.

Colonial Status of Ukraine under Russian Domination

In theory, Soviet Ukraine is an independent and sovereign state, with its separate government and a constitution which *guarantees* the right of secession from the Soviet Union.

In practice, however, Ukraine is a colony of Communist Russia, which rules the Ukrainian people with an iron hand, without the consent of the governed.

Political Subjugation

Ukraine is a political colony of Communist Russia because:

1) The "Ukrainian government" of Kiev is the puppet regime of an alien power; it is imposed upon the Ukrainian people against their will by the military might of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

2) The Communist Party of Ukraine is wholly subservient to Moscow.

3) Ukraine is a member of the U.N., but it has neither diplomatic representatives abroad nor any accredited foreign missions or embassies in Kiev.

4) Ukraine does not have its own army, currency, or foreign policy; in common with other captive nations, it is treated by Moscow as a region rather than as an equal member-state of the Soviet Union.

Economic Exploitation

In the economic field, Ukraine is rigidly subordinated to the central planning of Moscow. All Ukrainian ministries are controlled by the central Soviet government:

1) Taxes collected from the Ukrainian people help finance Russian foreign policy, geared primarily for imperialistic territorial aggrandizement;

2) The bulk of the industrial and agricultural output of Ukraine is destined either for other parts of the USSR or, primarily, for foreign export and competition with the United States and the free world; Ukraine receives little in return;

3) The economic policies of Moscow deliberately force the Ukrainian people to seek employment outside Ukraine; hundreds upon thousands of Ukrainian specialists and technicians are resettled in other parts of the Soviet Union while similar positions in Ukraine are occupied by Russian personnel;

4) Moscow keeps the Ukrainian rural population from settling in urban centers by special discriminatory decrees, thus providing for a spiraling growth of the Russian ethnic element in Ukrainian cities.

Religious Persecution

Although the Soviet and the Ukrainian constitutions provide for a "free exercise" of religion, Communist Russia's persecution of all churches in Ukraine is unmatched in ruthlessness in the history of mankind:

1) In the 1930's Moscow destroyed the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church by systematically murdering over 30 archbishops and bishops and over 20,000 clergy and monks;

2) In 1945-46 the Soviet government destroyed the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Western Ukraine by arresting 11 Ukrainian Catholic bishops and over 2,000 Catholic priests, monks and nuns; moreover, it forced Ukrainian Catholics into the fold of the Communist-controlled Russian Orthodox Church;

3) Moscow persistently harasses and persecutes other Christian adherents in Ukraine—Ukrainian Baptists, Evangelics, Seventh Day Adventists—and imposes heavy taxation upon their houses of prayer, arresting pastors for alleged "crimes" against the state;

4) The Soviet government in Ukraine is equally fanatic in its relentless persecution of the Judaic faith, depriving over 1 million Ukrainian Jews of their traditional religion by closing synagogues, molesting religious leaders and terrorizing worshippers. The same inhuman treatment is meted out to the Moslems and Buddhists in Ukraine, who are hounded by the secret police and the administration and effectively prevented from practicing their traditional religion.

Cultural and Linguistic Russification

The Soviet government, following in the footsteps of its predecessors, the Russian Czars, relentlessly pursues a policy of cultural Russification, aimed at the creation of a "Soviet man," who in essence is a Russian:

1) Although the Ukrainian language is the official language of the Ukrainian SSR, the Soviet government curtails the use of it;

2) Most schools in Ukraine are Russified, especially the eight Ukrainian universities, at which most of the subjects are taught in Russian;

3) Moscow has established a network of Russian schools in Ukraine, while at the same time it denies the right of setting up Ukrainian schools to some 8-9 million Ukrainians living in the Russian SFSR;

4) In 1965-66 the Soviet government arrested Ukrainian writers, poets, literary critics and other intellectuals for their non-conformity to party rules and for their love of Ukraine, Ukrainian history, literature and language.

Genocide

The most inhuman and barbaric feature of Russian Communist rule in Ukraine is outright genocide:

1) In the periodic man-made famines which ravaged Ukraine (in 1922, 1932-33 and 1946-47), at least 6,000,000 Ukrainians perished from hunger and starvation; in 1932 the famine was organized and sustained by the Kremlin as a means to force Ukrainian farmers into the collective farms;

2) By systematic deportations, as punishment for "crimes," several million Ukrainians have been exiled by Moscow;

3) At the 20th party Congress in February, 1956, Khrushchev openly admitted that "Stalin wanted to deport *all* Ukrainians, but there were too many of them and there was no place to which they could be deported. . .";

4) During the German-Soviet war in 1941 thousands of Ukrainian political prisoners were murdered by the NKVD, as thousands of them had been slaughtered during the "purges" of 1937-38; in Vynnytsia alone a mass grave of 10,000 executed Ukrainians was uncovered during World War II.

Assassination of Ukrainian Leaders Abroad

Several outstanding leaders of the Ukrainian independence movement have been assassinated in foreign countries by Soviet agents:

1) Simon Petlura, head of the Ukrainian government-in-exile, was assassinated on May 25, 1926, in Paris;

2) Col. Eugene Konovalets, head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), was murdered on May 23, 1938, in Rotterdam;

3) Dr. Lev R. Rebet, Ukrainian nationalist writer, was killed on October 12, 1957, in Munich;

4) Stepan Bandera, head of the OUN, was assassinated on October 15, 1959, also in Munich.

The slayings of both Rebet and Bandera were committed by KGB agent Bogdan N. Stashynsky, who subsequently defected to West Germany, confessed the crimes, and was sentenced in 1962 to eight years at hard labor.

This is a partial record of the Soviet regime in Ukraine.

Hence, the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik fraud cannot be passed by without recalling some of the infamous deeds of the Russian Communist tyrants in Ukraine.

The free world should take careful note of these inhuman acts perpetrated upon the Ukrainian people. It must also be remembered that Ukraine was not the only victim experiencing these cruel deeds committed in the name of the Bolshevik revolution.

We appeal to American writers, journalists and scholars to study the fate of the Ukrainian people. It is a dire fate, an unpleasant one to review, but its inherent lessons are too important for free men to overlook.

During the whole period of occupation of Ukraine the Ukrainian people waged and are waging now an incessant struggle for their liberation, as demonstrated by the proclamation of independence of Carpatho-Ukraine in 1939; the proclamation of Ukrainian Independence on June 30, 1941 in Lviv; and the activities of a series of Ukrainian underground organizations: the "Union for the Liberation of Ukraine" (SVU), the "Association of Ukrainian Youth (SUM), the Ukrainian Military Organization (UVO), the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA). The latter, under the command of General Roman Shukhevych (Taras Chuprynka) and the political leadership of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (UHVR), waged a full-scale war against both the Nazis and Russian Communists in Ukraine during and after World War II.

We advise the American people to view critically all pronouncements emanating from Moscow on the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, especially the claims that it brought freedom and social equity. The many millions of people languishing in the Soviet prison of nations—in the still numerous concentration camps, in the cramped, terrorized urban centers and in the regimented rural areas—are living witnesses of this unabashed fraud.

We can be grateful to the U.S. Congress, which fully recognized the essence of Bolshevism in the Captive Nations Week Resolution of July 17, 1959:

...The imperialistic policies of Communist Russia have led through direct and indirect aggression, to the subjugation of the national independence of Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Ukraine, Czechoslovakia, Latvia, Estonia, White Ruthenia, Rumania, East Germany, Bulgaria, mainland China, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, North Korea, Albania, Idel-Ural, Tibet, Cossackia, Turkestan, North Vietnam, and others...

We appeal to the U.S. Government not to give credence to the Soviet claims that the USSR has become a monolithic technological giant, and not to let itself be lured into any pact or agreement that would sanction the permanent enslavement of Ukraine and other captive nations, ancient nations, with thousand-year-old traditions of independent governments and cultural contributions to the development of mankind. Despite its claims, the USSR contributes little else but the sterility of the prison, snuffing out freedom, stifling imagination and creativity, and denying the soul.

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

November 7, 1967.