



**THE  
TRUTH  
ABOUT  
THE LIE**

# **THE TRUTH ABOUT THE LIE**

SOVIET SPORTS REALITY

ROMAN DUBLAN

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The Author



*This book is my contribution to humanity to warn the world about the worst evil on earth — communism.*

*I dedicate this book to the greatest Lady of them all — the Statue of Liberty on her 100th birthday.*



## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Mr. Roman Dublan is uniquely qualified to write on sports in the USSR — he is a native of Ukraine, a land that has been the breeding ground of hundreds of world champions and record holders, he was himself an outstanding soccer goalkeeper in Western Ukraine and post-war Germany, and he combines an acute sense of observation with a pen.

Since 1952 Mr. Dublan has been director of the International Radio Sports Program in Chicago, which has aired over such stations as WOPA, WBMX-AM and WSBC. He has been sports editor and analyst in several Ukrainian publications and has been an Associated Press stringer since 1975.

Apart from having followed sports in the Soviet Union for nearly four decades, Mr. Dublan has done a great deal of research on the subject and has been able to make personal observations as well as comparisons during his coverage of such events as the 1959 Pan-American Games in Chicago, the Soccer World Cup 1966 in England and 1982 in Spain, the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal, Canada and others. His knowledge of several languages has made it possible for him to communicate directly with some of the USSR's and other athletes from behind the iron curtain, thus acquiring insight and perception of their attitudes, mentalities, aspirations as well as machinations.

The reader will find his book original, informative and quite revealing.

Zenon Snylyk





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## CONTENTS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION	1 - 3
1. FROM THE COUNTERFEIT REVOLUTION TO THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE	4 - 14
2. PROPAGANDA	15 - 21
3. SYSTEM OF SOVIET PHYSICAL EDUCATION (APPENDICES A & B)	22 - 30
4. WHAT IS A STATE AMATEUR?	31 - 38
5. FINANCING (APPENDIX C)	39 - 44
6. COACHING AND TRAINING IN U.S.S.R. (APPENDIX D)	45 - 57
7. DRUG AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE	58 - 66
8. FOR INDEPENDENT OLYMPIC PARTICIPATION	67 - 71
9. SOVIET OR RUSSIAN?	72 - 81
10. SOVIET SOCCER (APPENDICES E & F)	82 - 93
11. GLASNOST, SPORT AND REALITY	94 - 97
CONCLUSION	98 - 100
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	101 - 102
INDEX AND GLOSSARY	103 - 111



## ILLUSTRATIONS

1.PHOTO OF SOVIET SPORTS NEWSPAPER	21
2.VASILI ALEXEYEV	38
3.OLGA KORBUT	46
4.L.A. PRESS CONFERENCE	52
5.RENATE VOGEL	59
6.VIKTOR KORCHNOI	61
7.LUDMILA & OLEG PROTOPOPOVS	64
8.ALEXANDER METREVELI	78
9.VLADIMIR KUTS	79
10.SERHIY BUBKA & BILLY OLSON	80
11.OLEKSANDER SKOCEN	86
12.TWO VERSIONS OF DINAMO—KIEV	87



## INTRODUCTION

*"Sin has many tools, but a lie is  
the handle which fits them all."*

*O. W. Holmes*

What is the truth? According to Webster, "it is a transcendent state, or quality of being fundamental, or spiritual reality".

The only way of arriving at the truth is through clash of opposing views and ideas. As a result of a highly intellectual debate and constructive argumentation the opponents seeking to highlight their points will have to reach a final conclusion which is error free. In such a discussion communist theoreticians will have to lose, because they are perfectly aware of the fact that their arguments are based on false premises. They know that communism which, in fact, is a revolutionary theory of economics, politics, and society and, by definition, claims to be a truthful philosophy, prohibits any questioning of its premises. Thus, communism does not permit



an objective search for truth. Communists also know that their aim to cure all the world's evils and to make everybody equal under the sun is an illusion. The communist dream of ideal society has been proven a nightmare by the reality of life in the Soviet Union. The never-ending stream of defectors from the so-called worker's paradise, despite Berlin walls and iron curtains, is a living proof of that undeniable fact. Nevertheless, there is still plenty of temptation in the human mind which attracts mankind to join the revolutionary movements in forging a better world in which to live. The idea of a world of equal justice for all and without any exploitation of man by another man regardless of race, creed and religion is certainly appealing. Furthermore, the revolution of rising expectations is a natural reaction against poverty and misery, but the truth is that communism is not the solution. Rather than transforming the oppressed poor into a world of equal justice, it is the greatest parasite of that transforming process, preying on the desperation of people. It takes advantage of the situation and gambles with people's lives and fortunes, eventually turning them into slaves of their own convictions for a violent cause. I underline the word "violent", because communism advocates clearly and openly the achievement of its goals by force, terror, and oppression - reducing a man to an animal whose only destiny is Godless society of materialism. Communism is a philosophy of treachery and deceit. Its strategy is based on terrorism, subversion, sabotage, repression, purges, assassinations, infiltration and blackmail.

The purpose of this book is not to prove the weakness of the communist doctrine, nor to show its failure as a political system. The real objective is to unveil the truth about many lies that made the Soviet sport what it is today, to show how they tricked themselves into international competition, and how they succeeded in their lies by posing as amateurs, when in reality they were nothing less than well trained, well prepared and well paid professionals.

In order to better understand the issues-let us start with the history of Soviet sports right from the beginning up to the present. Let's take a close look at its birth and rise from a primitive stage to a world power.

# 1

## FROM THE COUNTERFEIT<sup>\*</sup> REVOLUTION TO THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

*"Any and every means, including lie,  
fraud and even murder is justified  
as long as they lead toward the final  
victory of communism over capitalism."*

*Lenin*

The smell of fresh blood was still in the air and the shots of numerous Bolshevik firing squads executing thousands of innocent people were heard from Leningrad all the way to the Black Sea and from Moscow to Vladivostok, when Supreme Soviet Council under personal supervision of Nikolai Lenin (real name: Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov) was preparing its first major assault against mankind in the form of a new and relatively unknown, but an extremely dangerous and contagious, idea of international communism. With a typical slogan: "Proletars of all

lands unite" - the goal of a world-wide revolution was clearly indicated. Their main desire was to make the red flag with hammer and sickle fly on the top of the world. To pursue this objective, communist leaders decided to use every possible means to secure their final victory. That's how lies, force, terror and fear became the basic tools of their political doctrine and the main strategy of their political party. A certain scheme was set up to put the wheels of this gigantic red machine in motion. Sport was automatically included or, rather, built into this mechanism as a vital part of its function, since, according to Lenin, physical education was essential for the survival of the working class. As he stated in one of his many speeches during the struggle for political power.

*"In our land of working class we need armies of millions of physically strong young people with will power, courage, energy and consistency. The future belongs to them and only with their hands the right of building new society will be fought for. They will have to finish the work which was started by their predecessors, namely to continue the battle for the cause of communism. That challenge must be met with strength, good health, cool nerves and steel muscles."*

But how should the new communist regime promote "strength, good health, cool nerves, and steel muscles"? Lenin knew the importance of a comprehensive sports program and its immediate implementation. He did not underestimate its value, since he himself believed in a healthy body through sports, or as he used to say: "Healthy bodies - healthy minds". He was a good swimmer, strong chess player, and enthusiastic ice-skater.

He also liked bicycle-riding and never missed his morning exercises, especially push-ups. He did not drink or smoke.

When Bolshevik forces seized control in the struggle for power in Russia in 1917, the entire political, economical and cultural life of the country, including the sports picture was in a complete shambles. What was left was the legacy of Pyotr Lesgaft, the father of Russian physical education, and an idea for the centralization and military mobilization of sports resources instituted by general Voyerikov in 1912 shortly before World War I.

Under Tsarist rule, the sports sector, with the possible exception of soccer, had been badly neglected and limited only to the privileged class of so-called bourgeoisie consisting of doctors, high-ranking government officials and officers of the army. After the Japanese war (1905), the rulers started to inject the idea of sporting preoccupation into the lower classes mainly to divert young minds' attention from political activity which was quickly spreading, especially among students, and threatening to overthrow the existing government. The formation of "Sokols" and other youth organizations came way too late, however, since the groundwork for the revolution had already been laid down and had taken hold all over the country.

After all, the Russian participation in the 1908-London Olympics (5 men) and the 1912-Olympiad in Stockholm (169 athletes) was merely a cover-up for the poor state of the Russian sports program. So, the Bolsheviks, when they took power in 1917, had really to start from scratch in building a new society quickly and efficiently. Under the motto: "Sports into masses",

they have mobilized all their resources to make sports activity as popular as possible everywhere: in schools, in factories, in the army, on railroads, in mines and on farms. Lenin's plans to use sports to build a proletariat of steel muscles had begun!

In its initial stages the sports program was known as "VSEVOBUCH" (Vseobshcheye Voennoye Obucheniye) which in translation equalled pre-military training and was geared entirely to the needs and efforts of wartime. The main task of the physical education program during that period was simply to supply the Red Army with physically fit soldiers, aged 16-40 years, for military service and to prepare them for the fight against the enemies of the young Soviet Republic. The militarization of sport led to requisitioning all sports facilities and equipment from the existing Sports Clubs. Many of them, founded by the Tsarist regime, resisted the take-over and were simply disbanded, their membership arrested and liquidated. Thus sports were taken from the hands of the amateur civilians and placed into the hands of the military and security forces.

By the 1920's when the peaceful restoration and reconstruction period began, and the first 5-year plan (pyatiletka) took effect, things started to tighten up. The Central Committee of the Communist Party assumed undisputed leadership, taking over full control of the sports activities of the country and ordering the politization of sports while setting certain guidelines to be followed. Every detail of this gigantic project had been carefully planned and designed by Party leaders who were destined to carry it out with help of the Red

Army, the Security Forces and the “Komsomol” (Communist Youth League). Any independent operation of individual Sports Clubs was strictly prohibited. That is how Sports Organizations and Sports Associations on the State level started to develop in the U.S.S.R.; first the Dinamo, a paramilitary sports organization(not related to the Army Clubs or Trade Unions) was established in 1923 by Felix Dzerzhinsky, leader of CHEKA for the staff of internal security and border guards. It is the oldest, the largest, and the richest Sports Society in the Soviet Union.

All Dinamo Clubs throughout the U.S.S.R. were, and still are, controlled and supervised by security organizations known under different names at different periods as CHEKA, G.P.U., N.K.V.D., M.V.D., M.G.B. and K.G.B. Under Stalin it was the most powerful, most privileged and most feared organization in the country.

Then comes C.D.K.A. (Central House of the Red Army) later renamed to C.A.S.C. (Central Army Sports Club) with its individual Sports Clubs in all military districts, so-called Sportivniye Kluby Armii (S.K.A.) organized also in 1923, but a few months later. They were fully supervised by the military (Ministry of Defense).

In the Soviet society, the association between both of them (Dinamo and C.D.K.A.) has been particularly emphasized due to the highly centralized control over sport and the sporting ties between the Army and Secret Service. Military and security forces created the basic mixture in building Soviet power from the early days of the revolution and became the major organizational pillars of the Soviet sports movement.

The third and the latest ingredient was added by the Komsomol which was mainly responsible for providing the link between collective farmers (peasants), who represented the great majority of U.S.S.R.'s population in rural areas, and the industrial workers of the urban population. The Komsomol encouraged the forming and expanding what were termed "Trade Unions" and "Cooperative Societies". These unions and cooperatives were known in villages under the names of "Kolhospnik" (collective farmer), "Urozhai" (harvest), "Kolos"(wheat head) etc. and in the cities as: "Spartak" (representing white collar workers), "Burevestnik" (representing students), "Lokomotiv" (representing railway employees), "Vodnik"(representing water transport), "Zenit" (representing heavy industry) etc.

At first, the main objective of the Soviet sports program was to improve the morale and health among the workers and peasants throughout the country with the accent on general participation, discipline and development of skills. Later, the sports program became an important instrument for the implementation of social and political policies with the emphasis on pre-military training. It became a vehicle and a weapon of protecting, propagating and expanding the way of life under communism. It is no secret that sports in the Soviet Union today is not an entertainment anymore. It is a media through which the Soviet system is publicized and popularized. At the same time, it is not the expensive privilege of a few anymore either, as it was under the Tsar, but a "duty-free duty" accessible to all. It has



become an integral part of the daily routine of every Soviet citizen (man and woman alike).

Physical education has been made compulsory for pre-school and school age children. Special secondary, vocational, and higher learning institutions were set up to develop extraordinary sporting talents. Certain norms have been introduced for different age groups to be met, known as G.T.O. (Ready for Labour and Defense). Those norms became the basis for selecting better talents in each sports category and for preparing these talents for bigger tasks, but we will go into this aspect more specifically in a separate chapter pertaining to the Soviet physical education system.

In the 1930's, as the country turned from a backward agrarian nation into an advanced industrial nation, the whole scope of Soviet life was devoted to progress, including sports and especially, spectator sports, like soccer for instance. Sports became an increasingly important part of the fulfillment of a political and economic plan. The new Stalin doctrine of expanding communism internationally was the main target. By the same token, the doctrine of expansion was a clear signal to come out of isolation and venture into international competition. Previous Soviet isolation was due to two main reasons:

a) Unpreparedness of Soviet athletes for international competition and, b) Resentment of some neighboring anti-communist countries to grant entry visas to Soviet sportsmen.

New stadiums, sports arenas, swimming pools and other facilities started to mushroom to accomodate the growing

number of sports enthusiasts and to meet the demand for physical fitness programs. It was in the 1930's that sports facilities quadrupled. For example, the 150,000 seat Kirov Stadium in Leningrad was built; a 104,000 capacity Lenin Stadium in Moscow was erected; and Bagirov Stadium in Baku for 80,000 spectators became a reality.

Eventually, national championships, better known as "Spartakiads" became necessary. They were organized, first, to show the Soviet people the extent of progress made by communism in the field of sports, and second, as a springboard for Soviet athletes in preparation for international events, such as Olympics, World and European championships.

As we know, until 1923 the entire sports activity in the U.S.S.R. was almost completely isolated. Except for a few soccer matches with neighboring countries like Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Poland, Germany and Turkey - no effort was undertaken to expose the sleeping Soviet giant to the world until 1937, when the first organized Soviet sports delegation mainly composed of gymnasts, boxers, weightlifters, soccer players and track & field athletes was sent to Antwerp (Belgium) to participate in the Third Workers Olympiad. This was, however, their first and their last major international appearance before World War II.

After the war, despite tremendous losses in human and material resources amounting to over one billion rubles in damages and 20 million lives, Soviet authorities started to rebuild their sporting life where they left off before the war broke out. In a

relatively short time, they were ready to enter international competition on all fronts and in full force. In 1946, Soviet Sports Organizations started to join International Sports Federations with soccer, weightlifting, boxing, track & field and gymnastics leading the way. Between 1946 and 1950 Soviets were carefully testing their strength against the bourgeoisie forces by sending a Dinamo-Moscow soccer team to play some international matches in Sweden, Norway and Great Britain in 1946, followed by wrestling exhibitions in 1947, and world chess championships won by Soviet grand-master Mikhail Botvinnik in 1948. It must be underlined that in this critical period of time, the Soviets proceeded very carefully and tended not to enter any competition or event without reasonable expectation of victory.

In 1951 the U.S.S.R. officially became a member of the International Olympic Committee with one thing in mind - to be eligible for the 1952 Summer Olympic Games in Helsinki (Finland). It was their first Olympic experience and, by their own admission, a disappointing one, despite the fact that Soviet athletes won a total of 71 medals (22 gold) and tied the U.S.A. in the unofficial standings with 494 points.

The poor showing in Helsinki necessitated a lot of changes in the Soviet sports structure and revived the old idea of "Spartakiad" renewal as per 1928 sample. The first such all-Soviet-olympic-style "Spartakiad" was staged in Moscow in 1956, just before the Olympic Games at Melbourne (Australia). This "Spartakiad" assembled over 23 million sportsmen from all 15 Soviet Republics. Among them were about 8,000 olympic

hopefuls and 1500 masters of sport in 20 different categories. It was a mass demonstration of Soviet preparedness for international competition and was attended by many dignitaries, including Avery Brundage.

The second "Spartakiad" was held in 1959 and, from thereon, "Spartakiads" became regular events held every four years in preparation for the Olympics. The fourth Summer "Spartakiad" held in 1967 needs to be mentioned, because it was dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the U.S.S.R.

1956 was the year in which the Soviet Union had entered the VII Winter Olympic Games for the first time in history. This debut was a great success and inspired Soviet sports authorities to even greater accomplishments in the years to come. What followed then was the constantly growing influence of the Soviet sports involvement on an international level and, consequently, a tremendously growing pressure for stronger representation in the Olympic movement. Spearheading the assault was the chairman of the Soviet Central Committee of Physical Culture and Sport and also a chairman of the Soviet Olympic Committee - Sergei Pavlov.

With the awarding of the XXII Olympic Games to Moscow in 1980, and the American boycott which followed, even more gains were accomplished than anticipated in the securing of power and prestige within the I.O.C., almost to the point of nearly complete control of the policies of that important international body. By 1975 some 200 Soviet officials held posts in International Sports Organizations. The ultimate goal would

undoubtedly be the presidency of the I.O.C. Amazing, how things can change within only half a century! From practically nothing, to a world power. From complete isolation to international prominence and all this accomplished through a well-planned strategy based on using lies, treachery and deceit to convince the I.O.C. that the State-subsidized Soviet athlete, trained in State-subsidized military-based sports programs is merely a true amateur in the purest sense, with tremendous potential to help the fading olympic movement in its recovery. At that particular time, our blind forefathers of the modern Olympics, badly in need of a shot in the arm, if not a complete blood transfusion, could not recognize this "wolf in sheep's clothing" who, by lying through his teeth, forced his way into a free society with only one objective in sight: to utilize sports as a vehicle to conquer the world by spreading the poisonous doctrine of communism and preaching revolution. Instead of refreshing the olympic spirit with some new and positive ideas, the Soviets have attempted to pollute the free world with cheap and empty propaganda, contaminating human minds with a false impression of the superiority of their system and their better way of life, which I will concentrate on in the next chapter.

*\* There were actually two revolutions in Russia in 1917. The real one in March of that year which overthrew the Tsarist regime and established the Provisional Government and the second one of counterfeit nature on Oct. 25th (or Nov. 7th according to Gregorian calendar) which was staged by Lenin's Bolshevik minority and which overthrew the Provisional Government of Alexander Kerensky.*



## PROPAGANDA

*"Propaganda-is the interpretation of ideas, teachings, political opinions and knowledge representing component parts of the work of communist parties in ideological training of masses.*

*Definition from Soviet dictionary-encyclopedia.*

I do not know of any country or nation in the world, except maybe the Third Reich, that was more conscious of the real value of propaganda and knew better the importance of its application in sports, than the Soviet Union.

During the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Adolf Hitler used propaganda to show the superiority of the Aryan race in sports. According to Hitler, propaganda was a weapon, in his words, "most terrifying weapon in the hands of those who knew how to use it". He also defined the art of propaganda as, "being able to awaken the imagination of the public through an appeal to

their feelings, in finding the appropriate form that will arrest the attention and appeal to the hearts of the national masses”.

The Soviets use propaganda in two ways: at home to develop patriotic pride, and abroad to display the superiority of their system so as to convince the outsiders that their way of life under communism is better and more suitable to developing sporting talents than is the capitalist way of life. In other words, the main objective of the Soviet sports propaganda machine is to inspire their own masses toward national patriotism and the love of communism, while, at the same time, showing the world the best side of the Soviet system and discrediting all other opposing alternatives. Propaganda is a big thing in the U.S.S.R. and a very serious business. The importance of its sport sector is best illustrated in the fact that the Committee of Physical Culture & Sport is directly attached to the Department of Propaganda of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. (Politbureau). Propaganda is an integral part of everyday life of every Soviet citizen from cradle to grave.

No matter where one turns, there is a slogan, a banner, or a picture reminding everybody how nice it is to live in a worker's paradise. Whatever cannot be accomplished by visual effects on billboards and posters in schools, in factories, on streets and in subways, will be accomplished through political speeches at public gatherings, political meetings, and at thousands of agitation places (agitpunkty) throughout the entire country, where armies of well-trained agitators are being used regularly to indoctrinate and brainwash the masses. Then, there is the news

media: television, radio and press which are completely controlled by the State. It also includes the official Soviet News Agency - T.A.S.S. (Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union). Every piece of information is strictly and carefully censored by the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Quite often certain news items of sensitive nature are thoughtfully manipulated according to the desires of the Party by twisting the facts and hiding the truth. The tremendous limitation of news coverage imposed by the Soviet government and clearly spelled out by its own "code of ethics" gives a lot of space and opportunity to propaganda. No wonder that the entire printed and electronic media is full of propaganda and agitation praising the Soviet system and idolizing its creators. There are about 8,000 newspapers in the U.S.S.R., but they are all tuned to just a few big ones like "Pravda" which is a Communist Party newspaper, "Izvestiia" which is the official organ of the government, "Krasnaya Zvezda" which is the military publication, and "Komsomolskaya Pravda" which is the official spokesman of the Communist Youth League.

Since the general daily press in the U.S.S.R. does not deal with sports at all, there are almost 50 sports periodicals concentrating exclusively on different aspects of physical culture in two categories: sports information and sports theory. These periodicals have a circulation of approximately 10 million (50,000 abroad). One third are published centrally in Moscow and two-thirds are published in the rest of the country, some of them in non-Russian languages.



Without any doubt, the leading sports publication in the U.S.S.R. is "Sovetskii Sport" with by far the largest daily circulation, 4 million copies printed in 35 Soviet cities. It is an organ of the U.S.S.R. Sports Committee, published since 1924 by a collegium of Party members under tight supervision of the State. It appears every day (except Monday) and also has 3 supplements: 2 weeklies "Futbol" (soccer-football) and "Khokkei" (ice-hockey) and 1 semi-monthly "Sport za Rubezhom" (sport abroad). "Sovetskii Sport" is the main forum of Soviet sports policy in relation to domestic and international issues. It sets the tone and the guidelines for all other sports publications in the country and establishes the goals for future programs as well as regulates the existing ones. Like other papers in the U.S.S.R. "Sovetskii Sport" has a strong political overtone and is very propaganda-conscious. It gives a lot of room to propaganda issues glorifying Soviet athletic accomplishments at home and abroad and idolizing Soviet heroes.

And again, there are two kinds of sports propaganda in the Soviet Union: One that applies to domestic use only; and, the other one, which is made for export. There is definitely a distinct difference between the two and one who knows both approaches can tell them apart almost instantly. As far as the propaganda for the outside world is concerned, it is partially done by the press, but mainly carried out by the individual athletes who leave the country for international competition, never without proper preparation and supervision. Any time a Soviet team or sports

delegation travels abroad, along goes a whole staff of watchdogs or "politruks", as they call them. They are experts in twisting facts and denying any truth that might incriminate them, or their subjects. The lie about the truth is their major business, their biggest weapon and their most valuable asset. Some well informed sources dealing with statistical data estimate that approximately one-third of every Soviet delegation is composed of those political informants. They usually pose as physicians, trainers, special advisors, chaperones, or interpreters, but in reality they are K.G.B. agents whose basic duty is to keep their athletes under constant surveillance and overlook their behaviour to prevent possible defections. They are also assigned to advise their athletes when to talk and what to say. That's the main reason why most of the Soviet athletes shy away from conversations with foreigners and very seldom, if ever, are seen alone. They normally walk in pairs or in bunches of three with one of them being an agent, for sure. When confronted by questions, they will try to escape to a propaganda issue which is their favored subject and for which they are specially trained. Any friendly attitude toward foreigners from the capitalist countries is strongly discouraged in the U.S.S.R. and communicating information critical of communism or favorable about western societies is strictly prohibited by Soviet law and punishable as counter-revolutionary activity.

There have been numerous cases in Soviet sports history (some of them highly publicized to scare off the others) of athletes punished for breaking such laws. For example, there

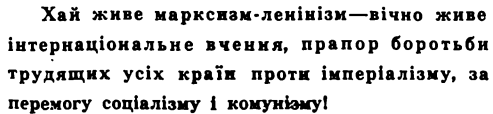
was the trial of the Starostyn brothers (Nikolai, Alexander, Andrei and Petro) - a famous quartet of leading soccer players from the Ukraine who were accused convicted and sent to labor camps in Siberia for cultivating friendships with sportsmen from capitalist countries and spreading positive news about the good life abroad.

Another soccer player by the name of Konstantyn Shchekhotsky who was a member of the Soviet national team was also accused of anti-Soviet activity and deported to Siberia.

A very reknown Ukrainian international from Lviv, Oleksander Skocen, in his book, "Z FUTBOLOM U SVIT", tells of many N.K.V.D. harassments and investigations of sportsmen, including his own misfortune which almost cost him his life.

And who knows what happened to athletes like Boris Onishchenko and Sergei Nemtsanov, or even some non-sportsmen like for instance that Ukrainian sailor Myroslav Medvid who jumped the Soviet ship in New Orleans? He obviously must have been an excellent diver and swimmer. Where are they today and what are they doing? Soviet athletes sent abroad to represent their country are expected to spread only good news about communism and the revolution. They must do it to fulfill one of their obligations toward the State in order to partially repay the dues for the so-called free education and free access to practice sport in their homeland. The other part of the payment comes in the arena or on the playing field in the form of a victory at any cost.

Those two basic demands represent a sacred duty for all



(по Закону ЦК КПРС до 1 Травня 1970 року).

Пронетар: едн. чрпн. чмднтрс.

Рік видання 21-й

Орган Комітету по фізичній культурі і спорту при Раді Міністрів  
Української РСР і Української Республіканської Ради Профспілок

...Нас з тэхніку і пазнаеце мого і.  
Російскіх, украінскіх, беларускіх, чорні, мо-  
дава і вірша. Часта гаворыце про  
дзівны жыццё іх. А тэхна іхадзіт.

*This is a front page of a leading sports newspaper in the Ukrainian Soviet Republic "Sportivna Hazeta" published in Kiev. Typically, like any other sports publication in the U.S.S.R. it carries a lot of political propaganda.*



## SYSTEM OF SOVIET PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*"We must hate. Hatred is the basis of communism. Children must be taught to hate their parents, if they are not communists."*

*Lenin*

There is a saying in the Soviet Union which goes like this: "Who does not work - does not eat." That's where the entire educational process with strong political overtones and emphasis on collectivism begins. It literally forces a great majority of parents to go to work and give up most of the control and the custody of their children at a relatively early stage, leaving them more or less under full supervision and mercy of the State. That's how Soviet children are actually being raised outside their homes, first at "yasli" (nursery schools) for children up to 4 years of age. Then between the ages of 4 and 7, they enter

“detskie sady” (kindergartens) where they receive their first taste of Soviet education, which, at that particular level, consists in part of light physical exercises and in part of initial political indoctrination. This political indoctrination comes in the form of simple lessons about the collective community, red army, fathers of the revolution, communist heroes and current Soviet leaders to inject into their young hearts a patriotic feeling. Soviet educators believe in brainwashing at an early age. The brain of a child is much more susceptible to those teachings than the brain of a grown man or woman. The communists also believe in early specialization of talent which must be raised in a controlled environment providing the best coaching, equipment and medical supervision. Early specialization is regarded essential to attain the highest standards and best results in contemporary international competition. According to the communist system, this is the only way to be competitive and win championships. The ultimate goal is to produce winners in the future.

The school system in the U.S.S.R. is comprehensive, co-educational and separated from the church. There are no private or independent schools in that country. The real school age begins at 7, when the child becomes an Octobrist. Then at 10, he or she is upgraded to be Pioneer. One among eleven basic rules that every Pioneer pledges to obey is to strengthen himself and do physical exercises every day. At the age of 15, Soviet children become eligible to enter “Komsomol” (Communist Youth League) which is not a compulsory organization, but is strongly encouraged by the government, especially among the

more promising and outstanding individuals. Membership is considered a privilege and is usually the first step to becoming an active Party member in later years. In a way it is a downpayment toward a better living, a more promising career, and a brighter future. "Komsomol" is the elite group. Members are powerful agents of the political structure and socialization process. Their role in Soviet society goes far beyond school and quite often touches the personal life of other people, creating a conflict between family and State. The best example of this is the fact that among the many obligations expected from each "komsomolets" is the duty to report all irregularities, dissensions, or any other anti-communist activity to the secret service people, no matter how small and no matter who is involved. It could be a friend, a next-door neighbor, or even a relative, like a parent, brother, or sister. The prevailing attitude of the "Komsomol" organization is distrust, spreading fear and, above all, absolute loyalty to the communist cause. According to the Soviet educational system, basic school consists of 10 years of classes (desyatiletka) during which every child has to go through a mandatory and comprehensive sports program designed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Physical culture is an integral part of that system and schools are the main source of its implementation. They are the bulwark of communist physical fitness policy. Here is where physical education becomes a serious business, since, from this point on, every young individual is carefully watched and monitored for unusual physical ability and exceptional sporting accomplishments.

Gifted children are detected early by teachers or coaches and earmarked for special treatment. That treatment often means being taken out of the normal cycle and put through a more specialized program under much better conditions which then could lead to highly sophisticated preparation and full-time sports training limited only to selected individuals who are fit to become potential candidates for top national and international honors. They call those schools "Sportivniye Shkoly Masterstva" or special institutions for talented children. Their aim is to prepare future Soviet olympic reserves. Their *modus operandi* is to specialize in a certain single category through very selective and intensive coaching. They train 4 to 6 hours a day, 6 days a week. Some of those special schools are boarding schools which do not show great popularity among parents, because they almost completely destroy family ties. But who cares about family bonds in the U.S.S.R. when more important projects are at stake?

Another truth about the so-called specialization is that, in this process, children are evaluated strictly by results measured in terms of success. In the race for those results, some children are thrown overboard as a waste and only a few will make it to the top. Those who make it will have doors opened wide to higher educational institutions such as Institutes of Physical Culture where they can be trained as physicians, coaches, instructors and teachers of sport; or they can choose to enter so-called special Regional Centers where only the best athletes of the country, regardless of their sports society affiliation, are allowed



to participate. This is the ultimate “factory” for the preparation of Soviet athletes for international competition under nearly ideal conditions for athletic development. The entire program here is supervised by a Special Committee of Physical Culture and is conducted by top Soviet coaches in the country, many of them former masters of sport.

Ordinary school children normally follow the regular path of physical activity which includes the fulfillment of all G.T.O. norms prescribed by the authorities in order to become healthy, law-abiding citizens capable of defending their country.

What is G.T.O.? It is an abbreviation of “Gotov k Trudu y Oboronye” which means ready for labour and defense. It was introduced in 1931 during Stalin’s years on the initiative of “Komsomol” and was approved by the Soviet government. The main objective of its creation was to improve physical fitness among the masses and its target was to constantly expand and enlarge the scope of sports participation, especially in rural areas. In other words, the G.T.O. was to provide the horizontal basis for physical development and constituted the fundamental platform in selecting talents for future consideration. It became a mandatory physical fitness program well prepared, carefully designed and re-designed several times by the government for different age groups as follows:

- 1) *Boys and Girls from 10 to 13 years of age*
- 2) *Boys and Girls from 14 to 15 years of age*
- 3) *Boys and Girls from 16 to 18 years of age*

- 4) *Men from 19 to 39 years of age or  
Women from 19 to 34 years of age*
- 5) *Men from 40 to 60 years of age or  
Women from 35 to 55 years of age*

There are two badges awarded for G.T.O. accomplishments in each of the five categories with gold being the higher and silver being the lower. G.T.O. requirements vary anywhere from 15 to 22 sports events and consist of such disciplines as running, jumping, throwing, swimming, cycling and skiing. They also include theoretical knowledge of hygiene and basic history of Soviet physical culture and sport as well as some military exercises (like shooting or hand grenade throwing). In higher educational institutions such as Institutes and Universities, the knowledge of the Marxist-Leninist philosophy, political economy and history of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. are required, even though they have nothing to do with sports. Without those ideological courses, there is no academic graduation and consequently no advanced career of any kind in sports.

After school, it is the responsibility of the Dinamo Clubs, Trade Unions and especially the Red Army to stimulate further development of sports talents, if necessary at the highest possible level. Since every healthy Soviet citizen has a duty to perform military service (lasting anywhere from 2 to 5 years), the Army offers an excellent opportunity for advanced sportsmen to reach the ultimate goals in physical education. The more talented they are, the more attention will be given to them in the

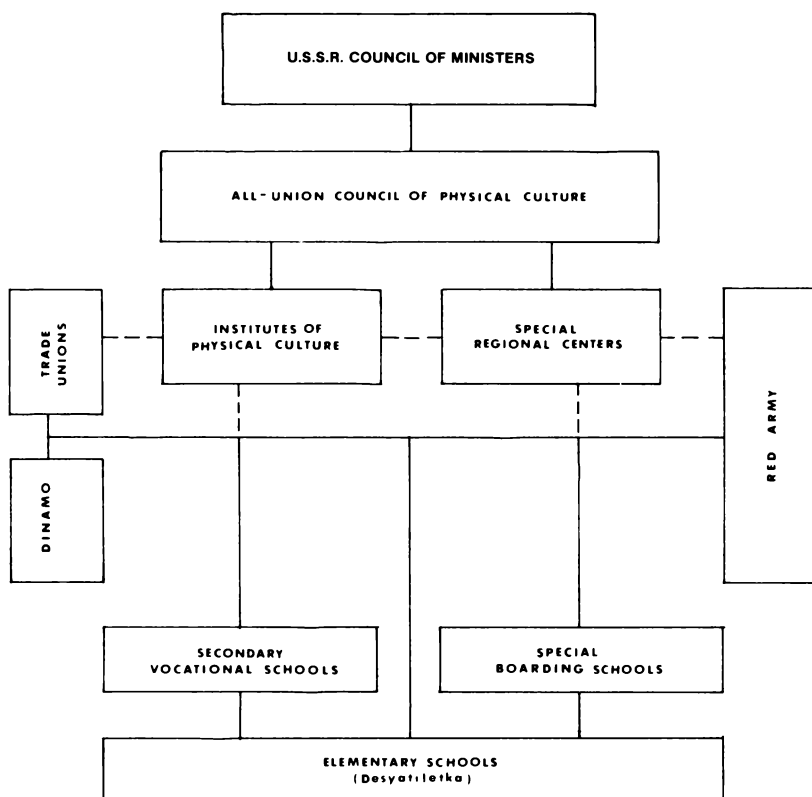
form of certain privileges such as time to practice, access to the best possible facilities, and the most sophisticated equipment and training methods. As a matter of fact, especially gifted draftees are exempted from their military duties and can devote all their time to athletic preparation. The best army athletes are members of the Central Army Sports Clubs (C.A.S.C.), formerly (C.D.K.A.). Eventually some of them will blossom into masters of sport and will join the privileged class of people in this so-called classless society of workers. They will not have to work, period. All they will do is keep in shape for international competition and take orders from the top. Within the U.S.S.R. they will make a living from sport (and a good one at that by Soviet standards), but to the outside world they will only be known as so-called "State amateurs".

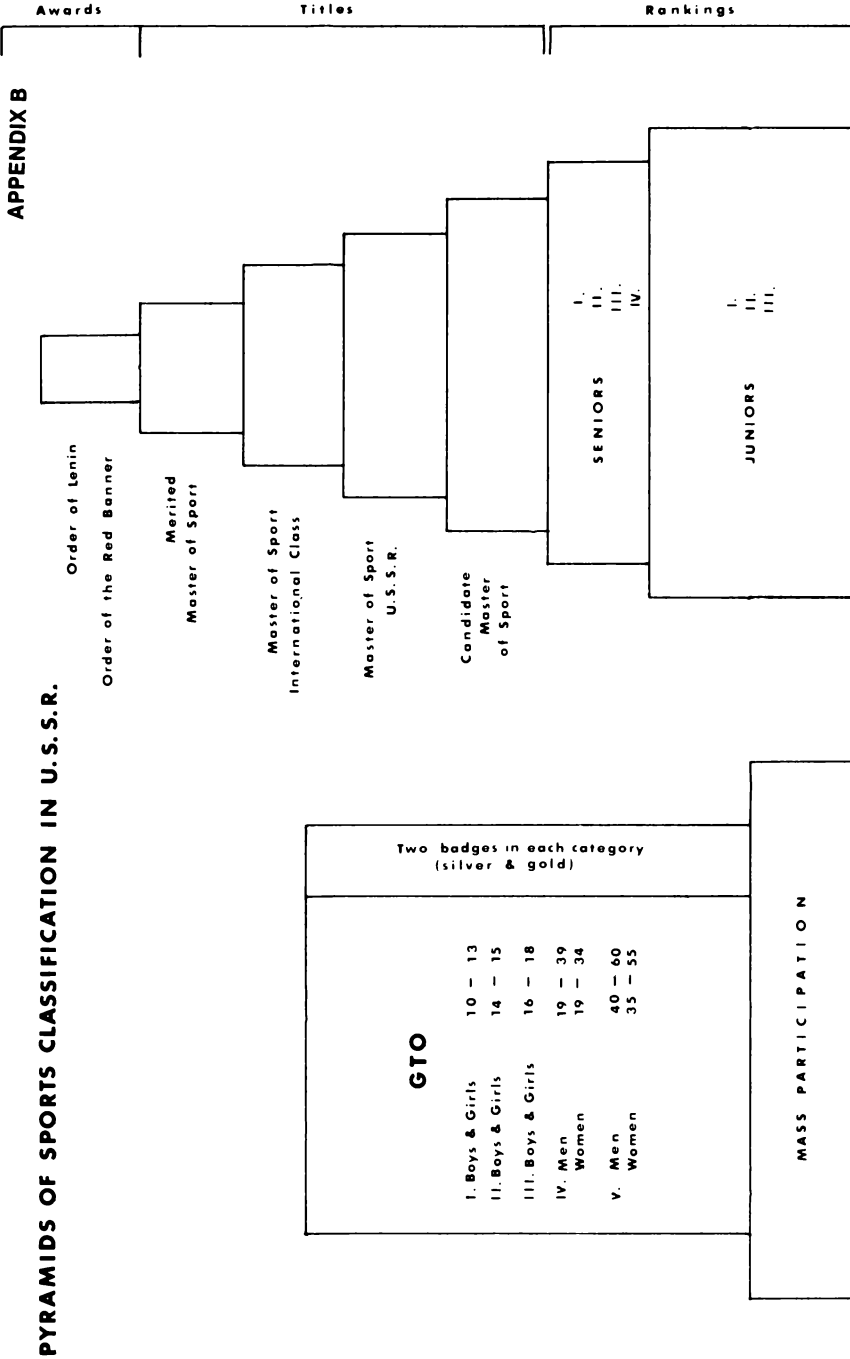
**Note:**

*See Appendix "A" for a diagram of Soviet educational System and Appendix "B" showing the pyramids of horizontal and vertical development of sporting talent in the U.S.S.R. and its classification, which follow this chapter.*

## APPENDIX A

## SOVIET PHYSICAL EDUCATION DIAGRAM





# 4

## WHAT IS A STATE AMATEUR?

*"An amateur is one who participates and always has participated in sports solely for pleasure and for the physical, mental or social benefits he derives therefrom, and to whom participation in sports is nothing more than recreation without material gain of any kind, direct or indirect. In addition he must comply with the rules of the International Federation concerned."*

*Olympic Code, rule 26*

This olympic commandment is further supplemented with a statement that "athletes subsidized by governments, businesses, or educational institutions are not amateurs and therefore are ineligible for amateur competition."

But what about the "State amateur"? What is he? "State amateur" is an expression invented by the Soviets after World War II to give them the opportunity to enter the international sports scene. It is a term which allowed the Soviet government to disguise its professional athletes in order to compete with amateurs of the world. It is an excuse for a professional to enter the amateur competition. Furthermore, it entails an obligation toward the State which turns a free society into a slave state and makes individual athletes mechanical component parts of a gigantic propaganda machine.

What is really the difference between a professional and a State amateur? Statuswise, none. Both are employed on a full-time basis to perform a certain sporting duty and make a living from it. Their daily itineraries or chores, if you will, are very similar, even though the approach might be somewhat different. They include extensive physical training, theoretical studies, clinics, meet participation, special diets and a lot of rest. No other wage-earning work at all.

In the case of Soviet athletes - they are very well protected on the outside by being given fictitious jobs in addition to their regular sports obligations. These "jobs" serve only as decoys and cannot be seriously considered to be true or permanent. In order to make it even more confusing for outsiders and to maintain an impression of pure amateurism, the payroll of certain athletes is transferred into the accounts of their imaginary places of work from which they receive their monthly allowances including bonuses for outstanding sporting accomplishments.

This kind of practice has been adopted by Soviet authorities to camouflage the professional status of their athletes and represents yet another of the many lies that have been successfully introduced to the world by tricky communist tactics.

A typical example of that cover-up operation was recently discovered in Sweden, embarrassing not only Soviet sports authorities, but the entire government at the highest level. It was the case of Vyatcheslav Bykov, Soviet star center forward of the national hockey team, who, after being caught shoplifting in Stockholm, was arrested by Swedish police and taken to court. When the Swedish judge asked him what his profession was and how much he was making, Bykov replied, "I am playing ice-hockey on a full-time basis in the U.S.S.R. and earn 4,000 rubles a year." For that statement he was immediately dropped by the head coach, Viktor Tikhonov, from the Soviet olympic team and replaced by rookie, Mikhail Vasiliyev, in the olympic hockey tournament in Sarajevo. This unfortunate incident proves only one thing beyond any shadow of a doubt - that Soviet athletes, or for that matter, athletes of any other communist country, are indeed full-blooded professionals even though they are officially recognized as amateurs by the I.O.C. Naturally, just on that basis alone their pseudo-amateur status could be seriously challenged and disputed by any standard of international law or any rule of sports etiquette, but who wants to jeopardize Soviet participation in the Olympics now? That should have been done before the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki.

Let us examine, instead, more closely, the basic



differences between the State-amateur and the western-style professional. There are three distinct properties that distinguish them. The first one is rather obvious: one admits the professional status and the other does not. The second difference lies in freedom of choice: the "westerners" have an unrestricted right to make their own decisions regarding their sports careers and the "easterners" have not. The State chooses for them. The third and probably the most important difference relates to the questions of employment: who pays and how?

In the capitalist countries, the generally accepted procedure is based on the free enterprise system under which the employer is normally a private person or organization investing money in the sports business strictly for reasons of personal gain, mainly to make a profit and the athlete has a right to accept or reject the offer. This is a natural process accomplished through collective bargaining between the parties involved until full agreement is reached and the contract is formally signed. Under the Soviet totalitarian system, we have to deal with a State-operated subsidy where the athletes are clearly manipulated at will. They cannot bargain with the management for better conditions because all rules and regulations are pre-set and strictly controlled by the State. The State assumes the role of an unconditional employer, exploiter, and provider as well. Individual Soviet athletes have nothing to say and nothing to bargain for. They do not dare to challenge this system, because there is too much at stake. Any resistance carries a potential risk of automatic disqualification and complete expulsion from

Soviet sports circles. And that means the end of one's sports career, good-bye to the relatively easy life and back to the salt mines.

As a rule, top Soviet athletes are well paid and well rewarded for their performances. Their average pay, not counting special bonuses for outstanding accomplishments, varies anywhere from 4,000 to 6,000 rubles a year, which, by American standards, does not seem very much, but it is plenty in the U.S.S.R. considering that minimum wage there is 840 rubles per year, the average worker gets about 1,900 rubles per year and the Chairman of the Soviet Presidium (the highest paid job in the country) makes approximately 11,000 rubles per year.

Besides their regular salary, as was mentioned before, advanced Soviet athletes receive special bonuses in the form of cash prizes for outstanding accomplishments. For instance, world and European records are worth anywhere from 15,000 to 25,000 rubles extra; domestic records are worth 5,000 to 15,000 rubles; and records in the Junior Division are worth 1,000 to 3,000 rubles. This award system of additional financial compensation, which was apparently abolished with the Soviet entry into the Olympic movement, but in reality still exists in the form of well hidden payments under the table, was introduced in 1945 right after the war as part of Stalin's policy to "professionalize" sport in order to speed up the process of catching up with the capitalistic countries and then eventually in overtaking them in the field of sports. Politically it was also designed to make Soviet athletes competitive enough and capable enough to properly represent

their homeland abroad. They were molded to become main carriers of Soviet propaganda with the ultimate goal of spreading international communism and of using the olympic torch to ignite the idea of global revolution.

It is very doubtful whether the Soviet system of physical culture would be able to produce today's results in terms of records and championships without giving individual athletes, besides money, certain material advantages which are so important, especially in the society where poor economic situation always has been a major problem and where money cannot buy a lot of things. The promise of better living is the key to Soviet successes. The right to live better cannot be bought in the Soviet Union. It is a privilege to be earned and given only by the State to a limited amount of people, like Party members, high government officials, national heroes, certain military personnel and advanced athletes. Those people constitute the best situated class in a classless society of workers, the elite or intelligentsia of the proletariat. They enjoy all the benefits and advantages of the political system. Those benefits include such paraphernalia as better housing accommodations, the promise of higher education, access to special shops normally closed to the general public and other luxuries - Soviet style - like the privilege to own an automobile, maintain a country home, keep household help and probably the most sought after by anybody - the freedom to travel abroad.

Deserving Soviet sportsmen are richly rewarded with badges, medals and titles. There are at least 25 known different

decorations for athletic achievements which come along with certificates and citations. The most coveted, however, are the titles like: "candidate master of sport", "master of sport" and "merited master of sport" which are reserved and given only to outstanding athletes for extraordinary accomplishments such as all-union, European, olympic and world records. Those titles are extremely important, because they create a certain image absolutely necessary for their classification. From that classification depends the size of the bread slices to which each individual athlete is entitled to and decides his, or her share of freedom under the sun in worker's paradise.

It must be said in the conclusion of this chapter that there are very few opportunities in worker's paradise for advancement into the upper bracket. One of them (relatively the easiest to obtain with proper physical qualifications) is stardom in sports. It is not necessarily the most profitable one in the long run due to a limited career, but it certainly looks mighty good next to factory worker, miner or farmer.

A typical example of that stardom in sports is a well known Soviet weight-lifting champion Vasili Alexeyev who established many world records in his field at his prime. He is a perfect picture of a "State-amateur" of the highest professional caliber who knows his capabilities and his responsibilities.

In an interview with an L.A. Times reporter, when asked about his sports career, he described it very openly by saying, "I hold many records, but I will set another one whenever my country orders me to be a hero, again. My only competition

comes from the Soviet weightlifters. Our men develop better in the Soviet Union, because of the system." A System which illustrates complete State supervision, State financing and State coercion of "amateur" athletes.



*Vasili Alexeyev of the Soviet Union trying to fulfill his country's order to win the title and establish a new world record in the superheavyweight division during the European Weightlifting Championships at Verona, Italy in June 1974. He succeeded in doing so.*

# 5

## FINANCING

*"Unlike in America - we do not have to worry about money and how to live tomorrow. We have no unemployment and no debtors."*

*Vasili Alexeyev*

It is common knowledge that there is no such thing as a "free lunch", especially not in the Soviet Union. I do not know of any institution on this planet that would spend its money more wisely and more rationally than the Kremlin, but, by the same token, I do not know of any other government which would be willing to protect its investment more carefully than that one in Moscow. Every ruble spent is a well calculated risk protected by the best insurance in the world - the human life.

Money in the U.S.S.R., like anything else, is centrally controlled. Regardless of where it comes from, it is channelled through one financial institution-the National Bank, which is

owned by the State. Every financial transaction of the country, no matter how small, must be recorded here without any delays and exceptions. There are no other financial institutions or independent banks in the U.S.S.R.. There is also no private enterprise and no private property. No stock market and no speculation of any kind. It is against the principle of communist ideology. How do Soviets finance their sports and educational programs which, as we know, are free of charge and free for all regardless of sex, income or social background?

In order to better understand the financing of physical education and sports programs in the U.S.S.R. it is necessary to get acquainted with the political structure of the State, or the so-called political hierarchy. The highest body of the country is the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. with its Presidium (elected every four years). It is composed of two chambers: the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of the Nationalities. Then comes the Council of Ministers with its Departments. The Committee of Physical Culture and Sport is attached to the Department of Propaganda of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (Politbureau), Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Internal Security. It has a network of numerous Sub-Committees on different levels, like international, national, republic, regional, city etc. covering different areas of physical education, and controls all 36 Sports Societies\* of the country, 34 of which are Trade Unions and 2 are Non-Trade Union Societies. Out of 34 Trade Union Sports Societies, 15 are urban republican, 15 are rural republican and 4 are all-union societies. The 4 all-union

societies are: "Burevestnik" (representing students from higher educational institutions); "Lokomotiv" (representing railway employees); "Vodnik" (representing water transport); and "Spartak" (representing white-collar workers). The two Non-Trade Union Societies are: "Dinamo", run by the Ministry of International Security; and "Labor Reserves", operated by students of lower educational institutions and technical colleges. One major sports organization outside the framework is the C.D.K.A. or C.A.S.C. (Red Army Clubs) responsible directly to the Ministry of Defense.

Even though the entire sports system in the U.S.S.R. is highly centralized, the financing of physical education and sports programs of the country comes from different sources. It is generally financed through State budget allocations, commercial income from manufacturing and sale of sports equipment operated by the Dinamo Clubs, Trade Unions and Cooperative membership fees, income from sports events and a lottery. The lottery as a means of financing is an especially interesting phenomenon, since according to Soviet law, it is illegal. Communist ideology prohibits any kind of speculation or profit-making from activities other than work. Yet, in spite of this contradiction, sport-lotto introduced in 1964 became a permanent bourgeois establishment in the communist society. For 30 kopeks a Soviet citizen has a chance to win up to 5,000 rubles for three or more out of six numbers drawn three times a month. One-half of the pool is given back in cash prizes and the other half goes toward funding of the Soviet Olympic team. A big



chunk of Soviet finances comes recently from abroad, especially from the U.S.A. and Canada. The touring Soviet athletes (or rather their superiors) are demanding and successfully collecting astronomical figures for their performances.

What do they do with the money? Let's look for the answer to that question in an interview with Mr. Harold E. Ballard, the owner of the Toronto Maple Leafs Hockey Club recorded by me right after two Soviet hockey teams (the Red Army Club and the Dinamo-Moscow) toured the North-American continent in February, 1986, collecting \$250,000.00 in hard American currency. After President of the N.H.L., Mr. John A. Ziegler, Jr. suggested replacing future N.H.L. All-Star classics with exhibition games against the Soviet teams, Mr. Ballard said;

*"Let's face it, I am definitely against it. Those Russians do not come here for sport or hockey. They come here for our money. All they have are dollar bills in front of their eyes. I am not interested in them getting rich, here. I am interested in the welfare of our country and I am not going to have those bastards over here, certainly not in my rink, to take the money away from us and later buy lead to shoot our kids. I am a Canadian. I love my country and I like our neighbors next-door to us, the U.S. people, and I don't think we should be sucked in by a lot of thieves and hoodlums."\*\**

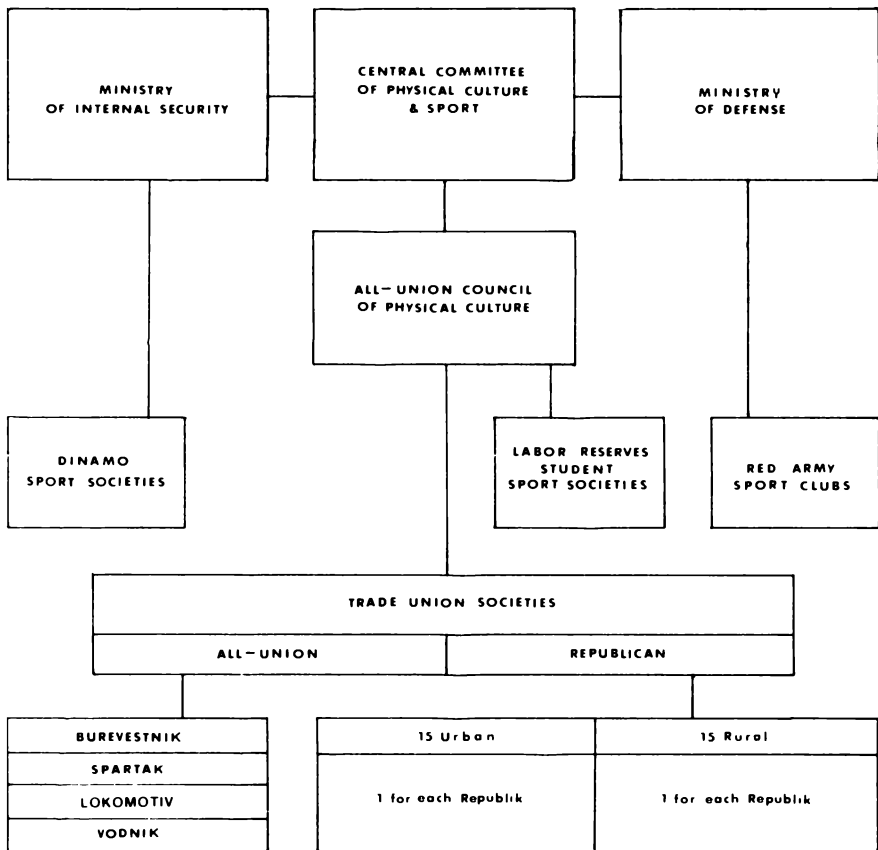
The opinion of Mr. Ballard does not stand alone in this field. There are many more patriotic minded individuals in Canada and the U.S.A., including myself, who share his view. Why should we participate in financing Soviet sports programs that are aimed to destroy us or "bury us", as Nikita S. Khrushchev once said. Let them pay us instead for all the propaganda they are getting here for nothing, in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

*\*See Appendix "C" for special chart at the end of this chapter.*

*\*\*This exclusive interview with Mr. H.E. Ballard was taped in Chicago on Feb. 13th, 1986 during the game between the Chicago Black Hawks and the Toronto Maple Leafs.*

## APPENDIX C

## STRUCTURAL CHART OF SOVIET SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS



## 6

**COACHING AND TRAINING IN U.S.S.R.**

*"They don't fire coaches in U.S.S.R.  
They replace the athletes after failure."*

*Anonymous quote.*

I heard that saying during my visit to Poland. A typical example of that policy is a famous Soviet gymnast, Olga Korbut, who went through a period of disfavor in the Soviet Union which ultimately has ended her brief, but brilliant career, because she challenged the coaches and the system while performing abroad. The Soviet theory of physical education has devised a way to influence and assist coaches in their work to produce a high caliber of athletes without giving them individual athletic freedom of movement and freedom of thought. As a result this has destroyed the emotion, creativity and feelings which Olga Korbut instinctively had, but which most of the Soviet athletes lack.



*Beginning of an end. Olga Korbut, a darling of the western world being helped after injuring her ankle during a performance in London (1973) which signaled her last public appearance before retirement, but according to some well informed sources - there was more to it than just an injury.*

The U.S.S.R. with its central administration has a well coordinated system of professional athletic training for every level of sport and a necessary coaching staff to execute it properly. Soviet coaches, many of whom are previous champions and masters of sport, are well skilled specialists in their own field with detailed knowledge of discipline, sports medicine, sports psychology and political science. They understand quite well the anatomy of the human body, its basic functions, how to prepare it physically and mentally and how to motivate it. They are also real experts, when it comes to extracting maximum effort from an athlete in order to get maximum results. These tactics to increase maximum productivity among the athletes quite often border on human incapability causing considerable damage in terms of health hazards and, consequently, lead to inevitable sacrifices and casualties.

According to the latest available statistics, excessive training in communist countries, including the Soviet Union has increased athletic disability due to over-strained hearts and other physical defects by about 25%.\* But who cares about the well-being of an individual in the U.S.S.R., when certain political goals have to be reached at a given point in time and the coaches are under constant pressure to achieve them? The extraordinary qualifications of Soviet coaches is a combination of specialized education obtained in Institutes of Physical Culture and techniques stolen from the West and carefully refined to fit the Soviet mold. The only shortcoming of Soviet coaches is lack of independent thinking. Just like the athletes, they are

programmed by their Sports Federations to conduct their training strictly according to plans and schedules of the Federation officials and their guidelines. Under that system certain goals are set in advance and clearly spelled out in a five or seven-year plan. In order to fulfill those plans certain norms are established. Of course, the Soviet government expects everybody to do better and improve those standards according to the Stakhanov rule by telling people that this is necessary for the survival of communism. At the same time, the best training facilities and equipment are used along with the most updated training methods to achieve those results. Normally, advanced athletes (with high rankings) train 5 to 7 days a week, 5 to 6 hours a day to reach the highest level of proficiency 2 to 3 weeks before the important competition. At their prime, they practice 11 months per year to maintain efficiency and proper conditioning and are allowed to take a 30 to 40 day break which they spend in one of the pre-arranged Black Sea resorts.

**Children at the age of 7 to 11 (in some cases even earlier) have usually 2 hour sessions, 3 to 4 times a week depending on the category. Their training consists of:**

1. Introductory part-about 5 minutes
2. Warm up-about 30 minutes
3. Basic training-about 80 minutes
4. Concluding part-about 5 minutes

There are three basic methods of advanced Soviet training:

1. By spoken word (explanation of training procedures).
2. Visual (by demonstration).
3. Practical exercises - which could be divided into three categories:
  - a. **Technique.** Teaching of movements and their repetition.
  - b. **Tactic.** Development of tactical skills and complete sports analysis.
  - c. **Psychology.** Mental preparation for competition such as political indoctrination, build up of will power, encouragement, inspiration etc.

One of the greatest secrets of Soviet coaching, however, is to produce “one-eyed robots” right from earliest childhood in making fundamental movements of trainees fully automatic. In other words, they are trained in one particular direction to perform a single duty with an almost total perfection. It is like clock work: mechanical, punctual and precise. These red super stars are raised to have one-track minds and taught to win at any price for the communist cause and for the glory of State, even if it takes lying or cheating, as it was in the case of Boris Onishchenko. Boris Onishchenko was a well-publicized casualty of the Soviet system, who during the olympic fencing competition at Montreal in 1976, was caught cheating by having his epee wired with an electrical circuit to register non-existent hits. One has to be really naive to believe that the “bug” placed in



Onishchenko's epee was his own idea to win the modern pentathlon, as the Soviet officials explained to get off the hook.

This is absolutely no joke, but one of the very serious implications Soviet athletes have to take to protect the guilty, especially when the guilty parties are Soviet sports authorities. This is a part of so-called political indoctrination they receive that goes hand in hand with their athletic preparation. All Soviet athletes, before leaving their country, are made to understand the social and political importance of their participation and made perfectly aware of the tasks and responsibilities that go with it. This is better known as "brainwashing procedure" which Soviet teachers have expertly developed and managed to successfully introduce in other communist countries. According to this well-established technique, every potential sports talent is injected with a certain amount of fear based on their realization of the consequences in case of defeat or other misfortune. Consequences could vary from loss of privileges to personal persecution depending on individual cases and circumstances.

This brings us to another aspect of psychological training Bolshevik-style where the question between promotion and degradation becomes a paramount issue. Quite often it becomes a matter of life and death. On one hand, this fear leads to the promotion of the involuntary help of drugs as an escape from desperation when the athlete can't produce anymore according to the requirements and demands of his superiors. On the other hand there is a choice to face demotion or possibly defection. Defection is the last alternative Soviet athletes will contemplate,

because of the enormous risks and dangers associated with it. The main reason why the number of sports defectors remains at a low level is the fact that the price of defection is much greater than the relatively unknown value of gains expected from the "promised land". The Soviet system is based on vengeance and punishment of others. Quite often innocent people, like friends, or relatives of defectors are automatically made victims of reprisals and harrassment as a result of the natural chain reaction motivated by a simple Soviet rule: one for all and all for one.

Take the case of Walter Polovchak, a 12 year old Ukrainian boy who refused to return to the Soviet Union and asked American authorities for political asylum. Eventually he won his freedom, thanks to the excellent defensive skills of his Chicago attorney, Dr. Julian Kulas, but for his parents the case is by far not finished. For them the nightmare is just beginning.

No doubt about it. Defection is a dangerous thing and the greatest enemy of the Soviet lie, because it brings to daylight the hidden atrocities and the horrible exploitation of their human resources along with all the other weaknesses of the entire system.

**Note:**

*\*"Smoloskyp"- quarterly in its Fall-1984 issue, Vol.6, No. 25 released data pointing to an alarmingly high death rate among Soviet olympic athletes, caused, according to unofficial Soviet sources, by abuses and experimentation in Soviet training methods and sports medicine. See Appendix D at the end of this chapter.*



Anti-Soviet press conference held on August 2, 1984 in the Greater Los Angeles Press Club, at which the list of 59 dead Soviet Olympians was first released. From left to right — Mona Snylyk, Andriy Karkos and Andrew Sorokowski discussing the extent of national discrimination in Soviet Olympic sports.

**APPENDIX D****LIST OF DEAD SOVIET OLYMPIANS  
LINKED TO ABUSES IN SOVIET SPORTS PROGRAM**

This list was released on Aug. 2, 1984 during a press conference held by the "SMOLOSYP QUARTERLY" at the Greater L.A. Press Club in Los Angeles which was attended by over 70 members of the media, including correspondents from the Soviet Union, Hungary, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.

According to "SMOLOSYP" this list was obtained from Soviet athletes who claimed that the overwhelming majority of the deaths were directly attributable to experimentation and abuses in the Soviet sports medicine program as well as other exploitative training methods of biological and physiological nature. According to the statement by Andrew Sorokowski, a San Francisco attorney: "The list of 59 deceased Soviet athletes may be far from complete. The death of a famous athlete in the West is given the widest press coverage. In the Soviet Union a champion's death is treated as a State secret. In many cases former athletes in the U.S.S.R., especially those that show the first symptoms of illness, are normally moved from place to place so that not even their friends can know their whereabouts or their fate."

**1.BABYCH, YEVGENIY.** 51 years old, Russian. Hockey, Gold medal winner, VIIth Winter Olympic Games. Born January 7, 1921, Died June 11, 1972.

**2.BYELOV, ALEKSANDER.** 27 years old, Russian. Basketball, Gold medal winner, XX st Olympic Games. Born November 9, 1951, Died October 3, 1978.

**3.BLINOV, VIKTOR.** 23 years old, Russian. Hockey, Gold medal winner, Xth Winter Olympic Games. Born September 1, 1945, Died July 9, 1968.

**4.BOBROV, VSEVOLOD.** 57 years old, Russian. Hockey, Gold medal winner, VIIth Winter Olympic Games. Born December 1, 1922, Died July 1, 1979.

**5.BOTEV, GRATSYAN.** 53 years old, Russian. Canoeing, Gold and Silver medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born December 13, 1928, Died 1981.

**6.BAKATIN, ALEKSANDER.** 55 years old, Russian. Diving, 7th place, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1922, Died 1977.

**7.BOKUN, HERMAN.** 51 years old, Byelorussian. Fencing, member of the USSR team, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1927, Died 1978.

**8.BULATOV, VLADIMIR.** 47 years old, Byelorussian. Track and Field, 9th place, pole vault, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1929, Died 1976.

**9.BULDAKOV, IGOR.** 49 years old, Russian. Rowing, Silver medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born August 26, 1930, Died April 30, 1979.

**10.CHEREPOVICH, ANATOLIY.** 34 years old, Russian. Cycling, 6th place, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1936, Died 1970.

**11.CHIKVILADZE, PARNAOZ.** 25 years old, Georgian. Judo, Bronze medal winner, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born April 14, 1941, Died June 14, 1966.

**12.DZENELADZE, ROMAN.** 33 years old, Georgian. Wrestling, Bronze medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1933, Died 1966.

**13.EMELYANOV, VLADIMIR.** 35 years old, Russian. Boxing, Bronze medal winner, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born April 25, 1942. Died May 27, 1977.

**14.FEDOROV, VLADIMIR.** 24 years old, Kazakh. Football, Bronze medal winner, XXIth Olympic Games. Born January 5, 1955, Died August 11, 1979.

**15.GORBYATKOVA, NELLI.** 23 years old, Russian. Field Hockey, Bronze medal winner, XXIth Olympic Games. Born June 25, 1958, Died August 7, 1981.

**16.KARAVAYEV, OLEG.** 42 years old, Byelorussian. Wrestling, Gold medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born May 20, 1936, Died August 23, 1978.

**17.KARMANOV, VISILIY.** 40 years old, Russian. Swimming, 10th place, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1927, Died 1967.

**18.KHARLAMOV, VALERIY.** 33 years old, Russian. Hockey, Gold medal winner, XIth and XIIth Winter Olympic Games. Born January 14, 1948, Died August 27, 1981.

19.**KIKNADZE, ANZOR.** 43 years old, Georgian. Judo, Bronze medal winner, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born March 26, 1934, Died November 17, 1977.

20.**KOMNATOV, GENNADIY.** 33 years old, Russian. Cycling, Gold medal winner, XXth Olympic Games. Born September 18th, 1946, Died April 1, 1979.

21.**KONYEV, ANTOLIY.** 44 years old, Russian. Basketball, Silver medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1921, Died November 9, 1965.

22.**KORIDZE, AVTANDIL.** 31 years old, Georgian. Wrestling, Gold medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born April 15, 1935, Died April 12, 1966.

23.**KRYLOV, YURIY.** 49 years old Russian. Hockey, Gold medal winner, VIIth Winter Olympic Games. Born March 11, 1930, Died November 4, 1979.

24.**KURYNOV, ALEKSANDER.** 39 years old, Russian. Weightlifting, Gold medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born July 8, 1934, Died November 30, 1973.

25.**KUTS, VOLODYMYR.** 48 years old, Ukrainian. Track and Field, double Gold medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born February 7, 1927, Died August 16, 1975.

26.**LAHUTYN, YURIY.** 29 years old, Ukrainian. Handball, Gold medal winner, XXIst Olympic Games. Born February 15, 1949, Died April 30, 1978.

27.**LATSE, RENATE.** 24 years old, Lithuanian. Track and Field, 4th place, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born 1943, Died 1967.

28.**LIOV, BORIS.** 46 years old, Russian. Equestrian Sports, member of the USSR team, XVth and XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1923, Died 1969.

29.**LOMAKIN, TROFIM.** 49 years old, Russian. Weightlifting, Gold medal winner, XVth Olympic Games, Silver medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born August 2, 1924, Died June 13, 1973.

30.**MAMEDBEKOV, RASHID.** 44 years old, Azerbaijani. Wrestling, Silver medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1927, Died 1971.

31.**MATVEYEV, BORIS.** 39 years old, Russian. Track and Field, 10th place, discus, XVth Olympic Games, 9th place, discus, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1929, Died 1968.

32.**MEKOKISHVILI, ARSEN.** 60 years old, Georgian,. Wrestling, Gold medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born April 12, 1912, Died March 9, 1972.

33.**MOKEYEV, ALBERT.** 33 years old, Russian. Modern Pentathlon, Gold medal winner, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born January 4, 1936, Died February 27, 1969.

34.**MUKHIN, LEV.** 41 years old, Russian. Boxing, Silver medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1936, Died May 25, 1977.

35.**MURAUSKAS ROMUALDAS.** 45 years old, Lithuanian. Boxing, Bronze medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1934, Died May 23, 1979.

36.**NIKANCHIKOV, ALEKSEY.** 32 years old, Byelorussian. Fencing, 5th place XVIIIth Olympic Games, Silver medal winner, XIXth Olympic Games. Born July 30, 1940, Died January 28, 1972.

**37.NOVAK, HRYHORIY.** 61 years old, Ukrainian. Weightlifting, Silver medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born March 5, 1919, Died 1980.

**38.NOVIKOV, VLADIMIR.** 43 years old, Russian. Water Polo, Silver medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born June 25, 1937, Died 1980.

**39.OGONKOV, MIKHAIL.** 47 years old, Russian. Football, Gold medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born June 24, 1932, Died 1979.

**40.PAVLOVSKY, ALEKSANDER.** 41 years old, Byelorussian. Fencing, Bronze medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born July 14, 1936, Died 1977.

**41.PETROV, ALEKSANDER.** 47 years old, Russian. Football, member of the USSR team, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1925, Died 1972.

**42.PIATRAS, KARLA.** 32 years old, Lithuanian. Canoeing, 5th place, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born 1937, Died 1969.

**43.POPENCHENKO, VALERIY.** 38 years old, Byelorussian. Boxing, Gold medal winner, XVIIIth Olympic Games. Born August 26, 1937, Died February 15, 1975.

**44.RUBASHVILI, VLADIMIR.** 25 years old, Georgian. Wrestling, Bronze medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born December 26, 1940, Died February 4, 1965.

**45.RYABCHYNSKA, YULIYA.** 26 years old, Ukrainian. Canoeing, Gold medal winner, XXth Olympic Games. Born January 26, 1947, Died January 13, 1973.

**46.SAFRONOV, VLADIMIR.** 45 years old, Russian. Boxing, Gold medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born December 29, 1934, Died December 26, 1979.

**47.SAVINA, NINA.** 50 years old, Russian. Canoeing, Bronze medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born September 29, 1915, Died 1965.

**48.SHAVRIN, YURIY.** 50 years old, Russian. Yachting, 12th place, XVIth Olympic Games. Born September 29, 1915, Died 1965.

**49.SIVKO, SERGEY.** 26 years old, Russian. Boxing, Silver medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games. Born June 7, 1940, Died November 10, 1966.

**50.SMAHA, MYKOLA.** 43 years old, Ukrainian. Track and Field, Bronze medal winner XIXth Olympic Games. Born August 27, 1938, Died March 25, 1981.

**51.SPIRIN, LEONID.** 50 years old, Russian. Track and Field, Gold medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born June 21, 1932, Died February 23, 1982.

**52.TERENTIYEV, FEDOR.** 38 years old, Russian. Skiing, Gold medal winner, VIIth Winter Olympic Games. Born October 4, 1925, Died January 20, 1963.

**53.TISHIN, BORIS.** 51 years old, Russian. Boxing, Bronze medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1929, Died September 1, 1980.

**54.TYSHCHENKO, MYKOLA.** 55 years old, Ukrainian. Football, Gold medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1926, Died 1981.

55. **UDODOV, IVAN.** 57 years old, Russian. Weightlifting, Gold medal winner, XVth Olympic Games. Born May 20, 1924, Died October 16, 1981.

58. **ZHIGALOV, ALEKSEY.** 47 years old, Russian. Diving 8th place, XVth Olympic Games. Born 1915, Died 1962.

56. **UMAROV, MAKHMUD.** 37 years old, Russian. Shooting, Silver medal winner, XVIth Olympic Games and XVIIth Olympic Games. Born September 10, 1924, Died December 25, 1961.

59. **ZHIGALOV, LYUBOV.** 54 years old, Russian. Diving 6th place, XVth Olympic Games and XVIth Olympic Games. Born 1925, Died 1978.

57. **YUKHNA, SIGMAS.** 45 years old, Lithuanian. Rowing, Silver medal winner, XVIIth Olympic Games, 5th place, XVIIIth Olympic Games, Bronze medal winner XIXth Olympic Games. Born July 13, 1935, Died October 7, 1980.

Diagram No.1

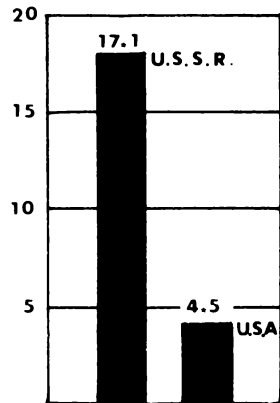
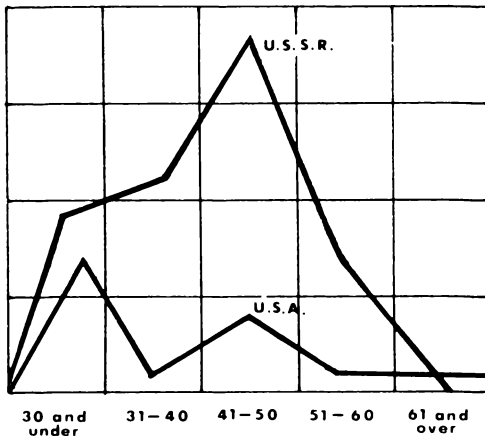


Diagram No.2

Diagram No. 1 - Illustrating the mortality of olympic medalists in various age groups for the period of 1952-1982.

Diagram No. 2 -Showing the number of dead olympic medalists per thousand olympians in the period of 1952-1982.





## DRUG AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE

*"The East German sports authorities have treated us, like we were **guinea pigs**. They were exploiting us by indoctrinating our minds with communist ideology and poisoning our bodies with harmful additives. In East Germany successes are exactly planned as the production of people's factory and sport is the means to an end."*

*Renate Vogel*

Who is Renate Vogel? She is a former leading East German swimmer and world record holder in the breast stroke (1973 and 1974) whose home was Karl Marx Stadt (formerly Chemnitz) and who in 1983 decided to defect to West Germany due to political harassment and reprisals for her refusal to join the communist party after retirement. She said during an interview in Stuttgart after her defection, "I could not do it, because the communist ideology East German-style was not acceptable to me."



*Renate Vogel from East Germany right after she has established a new world record in 100m breaststroke during the European Swimming Championships in 1974 with the time of 1:12.91.*

Her case is a typical example of human rights abuse by political indoctrination and drug enforcement which are rather common in all communist controlled countries. They are especially widespread and very popular in the U.S.S.R. where this kind of treatment is applied to upgrade physical capabilities and increase productivity of their young athletes, regardless of consequences. And those consequences could be extremely detrimental to health, especially in later years. Many doctors have warned about the use of anabolic steroids and other illegal drugs as potential health hazards causing permanent liver damage, infertility (especially in women), heart diseases and even cancer.

Before Renate Vogel there was another East German girl, Renate Neufeld, a promising young sprinter, who defected to West Germany in 1977 for similar reasons. She refused to submit to political teachings and rejected the acceptance of anabolic steroids prescribed to her by the trainer as "vitamin pills". After her defection there were naturally some retributions. She learned that her father lost his job as a teacher in Berlin and her younger sister fell victim of disfavor by being dropped from the handball team in school.

To a rather respectable list of sports defectors from East Germany and other Soviet satellite countries such as Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland, I would like to add one prominent name from my native land, the Ukraine (today's U.S.R.), Viktor Korchnoi, the former Soviet chess grandmaster who defected to the West in 1976 during an



Viktor Kortschnoi

Tigran Petrossian

## VELDEN / WÖRTHSEE



Exiled Soviet grandmaster, Viktor Kortschnoi (left) only a few moves away from defeating another Soviet grandmaster Tigran Petrossian in the World Chess Championship quarterfinals at Velden, Austria on March 19, 1980, but unaware of the fact that his son in the Soviet Union was sent to a labour camp.

international chess tournament in Amsterdam and later settled down in Switzerland after receiving political asylum there. Korchnoi's defection was based on his disillusionment and displeasure about the way he was treated by the Soviet Chess Federation officials, who, at one point, were clearly favoring young Anatoly Karpov and considered 46 year old Korchnoi a considerable risk in communist representation abroad. In the eyes of his superiors, he had apparently failed the political test and was no longer fit to properly represent the Soviet Union in international competition. In other words, his winning ability for the communist cause could not be trusted anymore and he was practically dropped from the Soviet national team. In 1978, however, as a Swiss citizen, Korchnoi, proved beyond any doubt his winning ability as he qualified to the final of the world chess championship tournament in the Phillipines by defeating, among others, two Soviet grandmasters and former champions: Tigran Petrosyan and Boris Spassky, another Soviet defector who now lives in France. After his heartbreaking loss to Anatoly Karpov in the final by a close score of 6:5, Korchnoi has promised to continue his fight against the communist sports machine and the Soviet system he despises so much.

By comparison the most sensational and most controversial international scandal was created by a shocking defection of a famous Soviet figure-skating couple, Ludmila Belousova and Oleg Protopopov in 1983. A husband and wife team which dominated world pair skating competition in the mid 1960's,

winning four consecutive world titles and two olympic championships, they asked Swiss government officials in Geneva for political asylum after their successful four-week exhibition tour of West Germany and Switzerland. At first they did not make any public statements, or give any reason for their action, but later they admitted that the main reason for their defection was "no freedom of artistic expression in their country". They felt that Soviet sports authorities were limiting their artistic capabilities to the extent that any further development of their brilliant ice skating career was in jeopardy. They were not allowed certain moves and self-interpretation on the ice. Their beautiful creation of "Ave Maria", for instance, a year later during the professional World Championships in Landover, MA (which was a real masterpiece by itself and drew unanimously perfect scoring from the judges), would have never been possible in the Soviet Union. Composition of that kind is an absolute "nyet" in the U.S.S.R.

Since the Protopopovs were highly celebrated Soviet performers and held many honors, including the prestigious title of Merited Masters of Sport, their defection is even more incriminating. Needless to say, it represented a devastating blow to the entire political system of the U.S.S.R. in general, and its physical education in particular.

Many freedom-loving people throughout the world today accept the potential and the capability of the communist system without looking at the methods this system has used and still is using at the expense of human rights and individual freedoms.



*Famous Soviet ice-skating pair, Ludmila and Oleg Protopopovs (right) meeting with a Swiss lawyer (standing in the middle) and an interpreter (left corner) right after their defection in 1983 to discuss the future.*

Many fail to recognize the enormous sacrifices of human lives it took to become a world power in such relatively short time.

Sports in the U.S.S.R. has always been political and has claimed a lot of victims even in the highest Party ranks. History gives us many vivid examples of purges and executions of noted athletes and top sports officials. Here are just some of them listed in alphabetical order:

**ANTIPOV, NIKOLAI** — Chairman of the Trade Union's Central Council. Arrested during Bukharin trial and shot in 1941.

**APPOLONOV, NIKOLAI** — Chairman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture. Removed from his office in 1953 and never heard from since.

**KHARCHENKO, IVAN** — Chairman of the Committee of Physical Culture & Sport. Sent to labour camp where he died in 1939.

**KNOPOVA, E.L.** — Chairwoman of the Central Committee of Physical Culture & Sport. The only woman in Soviet history to occupy such a high administrative position in the Politbureau. She was arrested in 1938 and disappeared from sight forever.

**MANTSEV, VASILI** — One of the founders of Dinamo Sports Society. Executed in 1939.

**PODVOISKY, NIKOLAI** — Chairman of the VSEVOBUCH. Degraded and deprived of all influence in the mid 1930's, but by a miracle escaped arrest and execution during Stalin years.

**SHCHEKHOTSKY, KONSTANTIN** — Member of the Soviet national soccer team. Tried, convicted and sent to Siberia where he spent 3 years in the gulag.



**STAROSTYN BROTHERS (NIKOLAI, ALEXANDER, ANDREI & PETRO)** — Famous quartet of leading Soviet soccer players from the Ukraine. Convicted and sent to labor camps in Siberia for 8 to 10 years.

**ZELIKOV, ALEXANDER** — Chairman of the Central Committee of Physical Culture & Sport. Removed from his post in 1938 and disappeared. His ultimate fate is unknown.

This list is relatively short and unimpressive in comparison with thousands and thousands of Ukrainians (among them many noted athletes and sports officials, for instance: Alexander Levytsky, Petro Gnura, Evstakhy Tikheliz, Petro Kharak and others) who were brutally murdered during Soviet occupation of Western Ukraine (1939 to 1941) as a result of mass executions of Ukrainian nationals in major western-Ukrainian cities, especially in Lviv, Zholochiv and Ternopil. Many more fled the country as political or religious objectors to look for shelter in other countries, especially in the U.S.A. and Canada. One of those refugees, a close friend of mine, whom I have known for almost half a century, Mr. Oleksander Skocen, has recently published a book "WITH SOCCER INTO THE WORLD" in which he describes, among other things, his own experiences and memoirs under Soviet occupation as a member of the Dinamo-Kiev soccer team. His book is written in Ukrainian, but hopefully soon will be translated into the English language by popular demand. This book contradicts a lot of pro-Soviet nonsense expressed by some English and American writers about sports in the U.S.S.R. in general and soccer-football in particular.



## FOR INDEPENDENT OLYMPIC PARTICIPATION

*"The important thing in the Olympic Games  
is not to win, but to take part."*

*Pierre de Coubertin*

The question of nationality problems in the U.S.S.R. and occupied territories combined with the continuously growing trend to break away from "Mother Russia" is quite evident in the form of numerous uprisings in the Ukraine\*, Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

An especially interesting situation has developed in the Ukraine which, unlike the so-called "Soviet satellite countries" is one of the Soviet Republics with much tighter supervision, and self-representation. That country of 60 million people (the second largest in the U.S.S.R.), often referred to as "the bread basket of Europe", has been manipulated by the red rulers in the Kremlin to such an extent that it became a blind puppet dancing to the tunes

and desires of the Russian balalaika. It was allowed, for instance, to participate in the United Nations as an independent country in order to gain an additional pro-Soviet vote in the General Assembly and, yet, it was not permitted to form its own Olympic Committee and separately participate in the Olympic Games, mainly for one obvious reason: to help the Soviet Union in the olympic medal quest to show its superiority over the West, especially the U.S.A. As we know from the olympic and other available records, Ukrainian athletes have been potential medal contributors to Soviet successes in international competition. It could be easily proven statistically that without their support, the U.S.S.R. would not have won a single Olympiad.\*\*

The Ukrainian World Committee for Sports Affairs (formerly known as the Ukrainian Olympic Committee in Exile) launched a massive campaign against this paradox, forcing the issue of an independent participation of the U.S.R. (Ukrainian Soviet Republic) in any parallel competition abroad, especially in the highly prestigious Olympic Games. This move is in agreement with Ukraine's struggle for complete separation from Russia.

Unfortunately, the I.O.C. under heavy Soviet pressure, does not recognize the Ukrainian World Committee for Sports Affairs and similar other organizations of the Anti-Communist Block of Nations (A.B.N.) in the free world considering them illegal and/or unlawful. Consequently, it does not allow any anti-Soviet demonstrations or protests of any kind during the Olympic Games on olympic premises. This policy was quite evident during the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Many entry visas were

denied then by the Soviet authorities to so-called "personas non-gratas", among them, to some accredited correspondents and reporters of such prestigious News Agencies as, for instance, "Voice of America" and "Radio Free Europe". Nonsense of this kind is only possible in totalitarian countries where freedoms of speech, press and assembly are non-existent. Regrettable, however, is the pro-Soviet position of the I.O.C. on this issue which contradicts all democratic principles of free expression. It even contradicts its own constitution which clearly states, "No discrimination is allowed against any country or person on grounds of color, religion or politics", (Charter of the Olympic Games, paragraph I, fundamental principles). It also declares in Paragraph 39, Section IV, Charter of I.O.C. "that the Olympic Committee welcomes new member nations who are completely independent or those who possess only a partial independence". At the same time, Olympic officials overlook the fact that Ukraine, despite her formally independent status, apparently guaranteed by the so-called constitution of the U.S.S.R., and despite recognition by the United Nations Charter, is prohibited from forming her own Olympic Committee. How do we explain then that colonies, like Antilles, Bahamas, Bermuda, British Guiana, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Malta, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, Puerto Rico and others, are allowed to have their own Olympic Committees and to be independent participants in the Olympic Games? A full international investigation should be conducted in this matter and the sooner the better. The truth is (and I.O.C. knows it) that Russians do not like the disclosure of their

discriminatory practices toward the non-Russian minorities in the Soviet Union. The Soviet Russian government has continuously opposed all independent movements among the non-Russian nationalities in the Soviet Union. The Russians feel that independent National Olympic Committees within their colonial empire would jeopardize any move toward complete Russification of the non-Russian population. This fear is evident especially in relation to the Baltic States, like Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Prior to World War II those countries had National Olympic Committees and their athletes took part in almost all pre-war Olympic Games. But with the annexation of these countries, all their Olympic Committees were disbanded or liquidated, if you will, and the sportsmen of these States were forced to compete under the Russian flag so that Soviet Russia could claim and collect all the credits for their sports accomplishments.

The U.S.S.R. today is using hundreds and even thousands of non-Russians in its bid for athletic supremacy and the western world is obviously closing its eyes to it. In fact, the western press, radio and television generally ignore this pitiful situation by classifying all members of the Soviet sports delegation as Russians. By doing so, the media not only distorts the truth, but also helps the communist cause to legally tighten up the chains of slavery on all freedom-loving nationalities under communist domination today.

*\*Uprisings in the Ukraine get very little (if any) attention in the western press. One of them dates back to the early 1930's, when in 1932-33, Ukrainian peasants rose in protest against the Bolshevik economic and agricultural policies of pacification, resisting the collectivization of their farmlands imposed by Stalin. This policy resulted in famine killing over 7 million people by hunger and starvation in a country which was considered the "bread basket" of Europe. Note: "Execution by Hunger" (The Hidden Holocaust) by Myron Dolot-1985. Another major uprising (very little or wrongly publicized) took place during and after World War II when the Ukrainian Resurgent Army (UPA) fought against the Soviet and German invaders, Note: "Litopys UPA"-Vol. 1-10, Toronto 1976-1984.*

*\*\*Statistical data available from olympic reports and manuals compiled by O. Zinkewych in "Ukrainian Olympic Champions"-1984.*



## SOVIET OR RUSSIAN?

*"Of all the urgent problems that have accumulated in our life, the most painful seems to be that concerning relations between the various nationalities in the U.S.S.R. No other question arouses such explosion of resentment, malice and pain—neither material inequality, nor lack of spiritual freedom, nor even the persecution of religion."*

*Ihor Shafarevych*

Reading about Soviet sports in the western press, one gets a false impression that all the accomplishments of individual athletes, or groups of athletes from the U.S.S.R. are due to one master race: the Russians. And that is wrong and very misleading. For some strange reason a great majority of western reporters in the print and electronic media, misuse and

misinterpret the expression "Russia" and "Russian" in the general sense-thus giving undeserved credit to one particular ethnic group or nationality within the Soviet Union. As we know, the U.S.S.R. or Union of Soviet Socialist Republics consists officially of 15 different and separate states. They are (in alphabetical order) Armenia, Azerbaidzhan, Byelorussia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. All of them according to the Soviet constitution should be independent Republics with their own administration having full rights to maintain their traditions, culture, language and religion. In reality, this is not true. Instead, there is a growing tendency in the U.S.S.R. to intensify Russification policies by widely expanding the use of the Russian language among national minorities in the non-Russian Republics and the mass-relocation of people by forceful deportation and colonization. The incompetence and/or ignorance of western writers, especially Americans in recognizing this problem not only helps to speed up the process of Russification in the U.S.S.R., but, at the same time, offends the national pride of all non-Russian minorities there. It also certifies a complete non-recognition of the human rights issues and fosters a disregard of the high aspirations of many dissidents and freedom fighters who gave their lives for that particular cause. The cause, is to be free and independent.

American insensitivity to national problems within the U.S.S.R. offends the very dignity of all oppressed and conquered



peoples, except naturally, Russians, who are the oppressors and benefit from anything that contributes to holding and expanding their multi-national empire.

For several centuries now, Russians have been a dominating ethnic group among the Slavs and represent a ruling majority in the U.S.S.R. today. The general trend of this supremacy has really never changed. It originated during the Tsar era and has been continued by the Bolsheviks since the early days of the revolution. The hidden goals behind the Russian eagle as well as hammer and sickle remain exactly the same and are commonly known as Russian imperialism, or Russian colonialism.

Bearing this in mind, the word "Russia" or "Russian" should never be used in general terms, unless it specifically pertains to one particular ethnic group (in this case the Russian ethnic group) which claims the geographical rights to territorial boundaries known today as the Russian Socialist Republic with its capital city in Moscow. Otherwise, the proper word in general terms should be "Soviet Union" or "Soviet". Naturally, Russians would prefer to see it the other way as a comfortable vehicle of their supremacy and imperialistic ideas. Their appetite for world conquest has never changed and never lessened. The best and the latest proof of it is the fact of their considerable territorial gains in Eastern Europe after World War II and more recently, in annihilation of Afghanistan.

If one carefully watches the Afghanistan issue and follows the developments there, one will sooner or later find out the

formula by which the Soviet empire was built and what it really represents. It is a typical cliché - a reenactment of what happened to all the other so-called Soviet Republics in the past. If somebody thinks for a minute that Soviet troops will eventually pull out of the occupied territories and allow Afghanistan to be a free nation again, one is a naive fool or a dreamer. Let me assure you that Afghanistan is much closer to becoming the 16th Soviet Republic than one can possibly imagine.

Since the invasion of Afghanistan by Soviet armed forces in 1979 was an obvious act of war against one of the members of the I.O.C. (International Olympic Committee), it should have not been left unpunished. The Games in Moscow a year later should have been definitely cancelled or postponed just because of that particular infraction. The non-committal attitude on the part of the I.O.C. led then to a partial boycott of the Moscow Olympics initiated by the U.S.A.

As much as the American boycott ordered by President Carter was absolutely justified, the Soviet boycott of the L.A. Olympics four years later did not have any merit at all. It was clearly a sadistic act of vengeance and retaliation. This also was not the first time in the history of sports that Soviets have boycotted any event. They had been boycotting the olympic movement for 35 years calling it a bourgeois invention intended to destroy the working class.

And how can one forget the Soviet withdrawal from the 1977 Wimbledon Tennis Tournament because of South African participation, or the refusal of the Soviet national soccer team to

play a return match for the 1978 World Cup eliminations in Santiago (Chile) because of political overthrow there of the communist-oriented government of Salvador Allende. And one high-ranking Soviet olympic official still had enough shame to say that the word "boycott" is not to be found in the Soviet dictionary.

But returning to our subject of nationality conflict one must ask how the Soviet sportsmen feel about it. Well, to be perfectly honest, some of them don't really care, but most of them do. Most like to be called what they are and as a rule resent to be called anything else, especially Russians, if they are not.

During the Olympic Games in Montreal, I had a chance to talk incognito to some Soviet athletes of other than Russian descent and my feeling was that they were pretty proud of their heritage. They did not even mind using their native tongue (instead of Russian).

One case deserves special attention, because it is unique and unprecedented in the history of the Olympics. Everybody knew that the Soviet national soccer team at the Montreal Olympics was represented by the Dinamo-Kiev, the official champion of the U.S.S.R. It was also no secret that Dinamo-Kiev was not a Russian, but rather, a Ukrainian team, composed mostly of Ukrainian players. During one of the press conferences, to be more specific, the conference after the game which was interrupted by a fan who ran onto the field displaying the blue and yellow Ukrainian national flag in protest of a Ukrainian team being forced to play under the red communist banner, the

assistant coach of the team, O. Basilevych was approached by a Canadian reporter with a question in the Ukrainian language which he did not refuse to answer. The incident caused quite a confusion, however, because the official interpreter did not understand Ukrainian (which is quite different from Russian) and consequently could not follow through with a simultaneous translation into other languages. Important is the fact that the management of the Dinamo-Kiev represented then by Mr. O. Basilevych, did not mind being publicly addressed in a non-Russian language. Highly celebrated Soviet gymnast, Olga Korbut, never kept it a secret that she was a Byelorussian and not a Russian, as many thought. She was also very much pro-western which was one of the reasons for her premature departure from the international arena.

One of the best Soviet tennis players, Alexander Metreveli from Georgia, was so outraged at one of the western reporters for calling him a Russian that he plainly refused to submit to an interview. He was simply just too proud of his Georgian origin and felt offended to be called a Russian.

A very famous Ukrainian long-distance runner and world record holder in 5000m and 10000 m runs, Vladimir Kuts, who as a child was deported from the Ukraine to Russia, has never concealed his Ukrainian identity even though he forgot his native language and unfortunately spoke Russian only. He was also a typical example of Soviet physical exploitation, a victim of a premature death due to heart attack at the age of 48.

There are many other cases in the history of sports indicative of



*Alexander Metreveli top Soviet tennis player from Georgia during the game against Britain's Roger Taylor whom he defeated 6:3, 0:6, 6:0, 6:2, in the first round of men's singles at Wimbledon, London on June 20th 1966.*



*Ukrainian track star and world record holder in 5000 and 10,000m runs, Vladimir Kuts during his regular work-out at Melbourne's University grounds in preparation for the Olympic Games in 1956.*



*World record holder in pole vault Serhiy Bubka from the Ukraine (right) meeting his American rival Billy Olson (left) in New York before Indoor Championships at Madison Square Garden on February 26, 1986.*

the nationality problem in the U.S.S.R. as a highly emotional issue. So, don't try to call everybody that comes from this part of the world a Russian, because not all of them are. Here are some tips for western reporters: If you are not sure of true national identity - use the commonly accepted terminology in the general sense, "Soviet", instead of "Russian", or "Soviet Union" instead of "Russia". That way you will assure yourself of not offending anybody's national pride and possibly save yourself a lot of unnecessary embarrassment by being accused of ignorance.

Never use Soviet interpreters to clear up sensitive issues of nationality, religious background, patriotic feelings etc. because as K.G.B. agents they will never tell you the truth, anyway.

Do some homework on pronouncing the Eastern European names correctly. It is not Mandli'kova, but Mandliko'va; it is not Kazanki'na, but Kaza'nkina; it is not Turishche'va, but Turi'shcheva; not Chernetska'ya, but Cherne'tskaya; not Kuzne'tsov, but Kuznetso'v; correct pronunciation for Bubka is (Boobka) and not (Baabka); and, it is Brume'l and not Bru'mel etc.



## 10

**SOVIET SOCCER**

*"Soviet sports environment, especially in soccer-football is so different from the western world that it is extremely hard for an outsider to understand its unique phenomenon."*

*Oleksander Skocen*

Soccer-football was the only sport inherited by the Soviets from the Tsarist regime which was fairly well-developed and organized. It had already several Leagues in existence, including the first one formed in St. Petersburg in 1898 and one formed in Moscow three years later with some experience in international and olympic competition. All the Soviets had to do was to take over the ownership of the existing clubs, confiscate their property, and change their names. They did just that on a large

scale in 1920 during the general "clean-up", when the so-called transition from revolutionary chaos to a more stabilized policy took place.

During the almost complete Soviet isolation in that period, soccer provided the only communication with the outside world. The first international soccer match known to be played by Soviets was in 1922 against a Finnish worker's team, "TUL" (won by Muscovites 7:1), and followed then by some matches with Sweden, Norway, Turkey, Germany, Poland and France.

In 1935, during Stalin's reign, nationwide soccer League and Cup competition began in the U.S.S.R. but it was not until 1946, one year after World War II, that the Soviet Soccer Association joined the International Soccer Federation (F.I.F.A.). By that time, Soviet sports authorities felt that their footballers were ready to challenge the world. Their initial test against highly regarded British teams showed some encouraging results after they destroyed Cardiff 10:1, defeated Arsenal 4:3 and played to a draw with Chelsea 3:3 and Glasgow Rangers 2:2.

With those successes, however, came some set-backs such as the arrest of the then famous Starostyn brothers quartet for alleged counter-revolutionary activities, followed by a score of politically motivated threats for anti-communist behavior from which Soviet soccer has never fully recovered.

Despite its continuously growing popularity as a spectator sport within the country, and the enormous human resources available to draw the talent from, Soviet soccer has generally failed to produce the desired results. Except for winning the gold medal in

the 1956 Olympic tournament in Melbourne against a rather mediocre competition and the capturing of the European "Cup Winners" and "National Champions" Cups by Dinamo-Kiev (not even a Russian team) in 1960, 1975 and 1986, soccer has not played any major role on an international level. It also has never placed anybody (with the possible exception of goalie, Lev Yashin) on the World All Star Team.

What is the reason for this phenomenon? Why have the Soviets, so successful in other sports, been unable to show their superiority in soccer and with soccer successes, claim the superiority of their communist political system?

Let us focus our attention on some explanations from an expert in this field, Mr. Oleksander Skocen, who played for several major teams in Europe, including Dinamo-Kiev, and also trained some of them. According to Mr. Skocen:

*"Soviet soccer-football more than any other sports category due to its tremendous popularity and general appeal in all the Republics preserved a certain ethnic pride among participating players. The resentment of national discrimination toward minorities imposed by the "older brother" became main stumbling block in proper development of non-Russian talent. Russian chauvinism in that respect was not only quite evident, but also very brutal and severe in the U.S.S.R. Anything relating to Republican patriotism was strongly critisized, supressed and rejected."*

*"Another important factor and major obstacle in the*

*development of Soviet soccer lies in the collective attitude imposed on Soviet society eliminating any kind of individualism and replacing it with team work. Consequently, the Soviet Union was never able to produce great soccer stars of international caliber, like Pele, Piola, Matthews, Puskas, Cruyff, Maradona and others. That's against the principal of communism."*

*"Despite the generally good physical and mental preparation of the Soviet soccerballers, they show rather mediocre technical and tactical knowledge. This is basically due to a lack of high class international coaching which, for several different reasons, was never trusted and never employed by the Soviet government."*

*"The immobility of the Soviet soccer policy (due to the highly centralized system in the U.S.S.R.) toward the changes taking place in international competition limited the ability of Soviet coaches to adjust to new methods and systems of play, otherwise almost instantly updated and implemented by all free nations of Europe and South America. Consequently, Soviet soccer was virtually at a stand-still making very little progress under communist rule and is still regarded pretty much backward in the world today."*

Mr. Skocen, celebrated by many as a "Ukrainian Pele", is a close friend of mine with whom I had the honor and pleasure to play soccer together back in Eastern and Western Europe. He is considered undoubtedly the finest soccer expert, especially on Soviet soccer, and his quotation in this book is a great contribution toward resolving some unanswered questions about the Soviet shortcomings in this particular category.



*Oleksander Skocen, famous Ukrainian international who besides his native clubs S.T. Ukraina-Lviv and Dinamo-Kjev — also played for such known professional teams as F.C. Phonix-Karlsruhe (Germany), Olympic-Charleroi (Belgium) and O.G.C. Nice (France).*

**IN THE U.S.S.R. THEY RE WRITE THE HISTORY WITH SCISSORS—**

*Below are two versions of the same photograph upper is the original photo taken from Mr. O. Skocen's archives where he is shown in the second row at extreme left.*

*Lower is the photo taken from an album of "Dinamo-Kiev" where he was deliberately cut out.*



My own observation about Soviet soccer is simply this: It is too mechanical, too schematic and therefore extremely predictable. It is based on sheer hard work rather than originality and imagination. What it badly needs is freedom of thought and freedom of expression which unfortunately are prohibited in the Soviet Union. Communism was always afraid of a free and independent mind. Like William Cowper once said, "Only he is a free man whom the truth gave freedom of thought."

*Note: For organizational structure of Soviet soccer see Appendix "E" and for Soviet World Cup participation see Appendix "F" which follow this chapter.*

## APPENDIX E

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF SOVIET

## SOCCER—FOOTBALL

The highest League in the Country is the Soviet Major (Upper) Soccer League. In 1986 it consisted of 16 teams and finished the season in following order:

1. Dinamo-Kiev (Ukraine)*	30	53:33	39-21
2. Dinamo-Moscow (Russia)	30	46:26	38-22
3. Spartak-Moscow (Russia)	30	52:21	37-23
4. Zenit-Leningrad (Russia)	30	44:36	33-27
5. Dinamo-Tbilisi (Georgia)	30	36:36	33—27
6. Shakhtar-Donetsk (Ukraine)	30	40:38	31-29
7. Kairat-Alma Ata (Kazakhstan)	30	33:39	30-30
8. Zalgiris-Vilnius (Lithuania)	30	32:37	30-30
9. Torpedo-Moscow (Russia)	30	31:28	30-30
10. Dinamo-Minsk (Byelorussia)	30	37:40	28:32
11. Dnipro-Dnipropetrovsk (Ukraine)	30	41:41	28-32
12. Metalist-Kharkiv (Ukraine)	30	21:25	27-33
13. Neftchi-Baku (Azerbaijan)	30	33:38	26-34
14. Ararat-Yerevan (Armenia)	30	27:44	26-34
15. Chornomorets-Odessa (Ukraine)	30	29:37	23-37
16. Torpedo-Kutaisi (Georgia)	30	24:60	17-43



At the end of each season 2 teams drop out to the lower League to make room for the champion and runner-up of the First Division which in 1986 consisted of 24 teams.

There is also a Second Division in the Soviet soccer structure composed of over 100 teams which are divided into six geographical groups. Before the end of each season the zone champions compete for the vacant spots in the First Division to take place of those teams which drop out.

\* Defending champion and USSR Cup winner 1985.

### SOVIET WORLD CUP PARTICIPATION

Soviets entered the World Cup competition in 1958 held in Sweden. They made it to the quarter-finals but were eliminated by Sweden with a score of 2:0 in Gothenburg.

1962 -(Chile), eliminated in quarter-finals by Chile in Rancagua 2:1.

1966 -(England), eliminated in semi-finals by West Germany 2:1 in London (Wembley).

1970 -(Mexico), eliminated in quarter-finals by Uruguay 1:0 in Mexico City.

1974 -(West Germany), after qualifying from the European Group, Soviets refused to play-off vs. Chile in Santiago for political reasons and were disqualified by the FIFA from further competition allowing Chile automatic advancement into the final round of 16.

1978 -(Argentina), U.S.S.R. did not qualify for the XI World Cup.

1982 -(Spain), eliminated in the quarter-finals of the 2nd round of Group A in Barcelona by Poland on the basis of worse goal average.

1986 -(Mexico), eliminated in the 2nd round by Belgium in Leon 4:3 in O.T.

As it was already mentioned in chapter 8 of this book in comparison with professional teams of the world, Soviets have not done very well and have not been able to match the highest soccer standards.

As a matter of fact, none of the Communist controlled countries has ever won the cup and only two have reached the final: Hungary in 1954 and Czechoslovakia in 1962.

Below is the official line-up of the Soviet national team which participated in the World Cup - 1986 in Mexico:

1. Rinat Dassayev	goalkeeper	Spartak-Moscow
2. Vladimir Bessonov	defender	Dinamo-Kiev
3. Alexander Chivadze	defender	Dinamo-Tbilisi
4. Gennadi Morozov	defender	Spartak-Moscow
5. Anatoli Demyanenko	defender	Dinamo-Kiev
6. Alexander Bubnov	defender	Spartak-Moscow
7. Ivan Yaremchuk	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
8. Pavlo Yakovenko	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
9. Alexander Zavarow	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
10. Oleg Kuznetsov	defender	Dinamo-Kiev
11. Oleg Blokhin	striker	Dinamo-Kiev
12. Andrei Bal	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
13. Gennadi Litovchenko	midfielder	Dnipro-Dnipropetrovsk
14. Sergei Rodionov	striker	Spartak-Moscow
15. Nikolai Larionov	midfielder	Zenit-Leningrad
16. Viktor Chanov	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
17. Vadim Yevtushenko	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev

18. Oleg Protasov	striker	Dnipro-Dnipropetrovsk
19. Ihor Belanov	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
20. Sergei Aleinikov	midfielder	Dinamo-Minsk
21. Vasili Rats	midfielder	Dinamo-Kiev
22. Sergei Krakovskii	midfielder	Dnipro-Dnipropetrovsk
Mikhail Mikhailov	goalkeeper	Dinamo-Kiev
Valeri Lobanovsky	coach	Dinamo-Kiev

Standard colors — red shirts, white shorts and red socks.

Reserve colors — white shirts, white shorts and white socks.

# 11

## GLASNOST, SPORT AND REALITY

*"Glasnost is the means to an end-  
and the end is not different than before."*

*Anonymous quote from the streets of Moscow*

"Glasnost" (openness) recently proclaimed in the U.S.S.R. by its new leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, has brought about an unprecedented softening trend of Soviet domestic and foreign policy in many areas, including the sports sector.

The return of the Soviet national soccer team from an unsuccessful and rather disappointing 1986-World Cup in Mexico combined with other blunders in international competition already on record, has encouraged some high-ranking Soviet sports officials to use this opportunity to take a hard look at their own sports educational system.

First it was Arkady Vorobyov, former Soviet olympic champion in weightlifting and now professor of physical education at the Moscow Regional Sports Institute who critically addressed the problem. In his article published in the national trade union newspaper "Trud" he called for a complete overhaul

of the current physical education program. He claimed that obsolete training methods, especially in track and field, and incompetent coaching are the main reasons behind the faltering performance of the Soviet athletes in international competition. He also warned that this gap between the growing quality of world class performances and those of Soviet athletes would probably widen in the years to come if no counter measures are taken soon.

Amid this growing criticism Irina Rodnina, 3-times Olympic Champion in Figure Skating came out with her comments in "Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya" attacking current Soviet training methods by saying that they turned young athletes into "Mechanical Soldiers". Rodnina added that a "Mania for records and success had taken all the joy out of Soviet sports." She also mentioned the increasingly growing use of drugs among Soviet athletes.

Another prominent sports figure, Valeri Lobanovsky, head coach of the Dinamo Kiev soccer club and the Soviet national soccer team, went even a step further. He suggested a complete reorganization of Soviet soccer structure by allowing individual clubs to have financial independence and freedom to operate on a more professional basis. According to Lobanovsky, individual players should be able to negotiate their own contracts and be paid according to their ability and performance. Each club should be run like a business and be permitted to do its own accounting, promotion and advertising. Collection of revenues from special events, like the sale of souvenirs, lottery tickets and

private donations from prospective sponsors should also be within the clubs' jurisdiction.

What all this amounts to is a major reversal to a capitalistic form of operation and a 180 degree turn toward professionalism "western style". It also signals a complete departure from State controlled "amateurism". This is the only way to put Soviet soccer on the map and to make it truly competitive with the rest of the world.

Lobanovsky is a genius of his time, but how well and how soon his ideas will be implemented remains to be seen. I have serious doubts about the sincerity and durability of any such implementation under "glasnost". Communism is an animal of many faces and colors. History tells us that, in the long run, it is deceiving and can under no circumstances be trusted. History also reminds us that there were many promises made in the past under communism and never kept. How can one forget the fact that ideas of this kind, if made under any other Soviet ruler and Stalin in particular, would have had some grave consequences. Those people would have been arrested, tried and convicted on charges of counter-revolutionary activity which is punishable by death in the U.S.S.R.

It is not true, however, to assume that a real counter-revolution among the higher ranks is taking place. Rather, the winds of change blowing from the East are bringing across the message of possible adjustments at work. In the sports sector these adjustments are necessary, if not inevitable, to cope with

the growing tendency in the free world to revise amateur status and open olympic competition to professionals. Soviet professionals have to modernize in order to keep up with the changing world. They desperately have to continue to stay on top and keep on edge over the West, even if it means to swallow a bitter pill of relaxing the grip on Soviet athletes and coaches, giving them more freedom of expression or incentive and, at the same time, accepting certain capitalistic standards of bourgeois behavior.



## CONCLUSION

*Interpretation of change can be explained by measure of truth which at a given time is favoured more, or less.*

*Robert Frost*

At the time this book was ready to be published, an important olympic decision was in the making which could influence the olympic movement in the years, or even centuries, to come. It was a new proposal, strongly supported by the president of the I.O.C., Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, to change the rules regarding amateur status in order to grant professionals equal participation in the Olympic Games. The first two meetings, in Rome (March, 1986) and Seoul (April, 1986), of the Executive Committee and the representatives of 23 Athletic Federations on that issue, failed to produce any results, due to the understandably heavy opposition from the communist block and the third world countries. The only conclusion reached was

an agreement to postpone the decision until the next general meeting of the I.O.C. in Lausanne (October, 1986).

The idea to make the olympic competition open to all had two basic reasons:

- 1.To upgrade the atheletic accomplishments by allowing truly the best individuals to participate on equal terms and to make modern Olympiads a real showcase of the truly highest sporting abilities and values humanly possible.
- 2.To eliminate all future falsifications of the amateur status by preventing any under the table deals such as illegal pay-offs, shady commercial bargains, industrial cover-ups etc.

If successfully introduced and enforced, this policy would considerably even out the competition between the East and the West. It would be clearly and cleanly communist State subsidy vs capitalist free enterprise. What an interesting confrontation - which could bring along some dramatic changes in approaches to sports and alter the entire olympic philosophy.

Whether Mr. Avery Brundage will turn in his grave or not, when he hears all about this, remains to be seen. The image of the pure amateur he always dreamed of was long gone with the wind before he even died. The legacy of Pierre de Coubertin about fair play was badly tarnished with the entrance of the U.S.S.R. into the olympic movement and introduction of so-called State amateur.

Today's adjustments are more or less the consequence of a constantly changing world and the rapidly growing demands to

improve it. Who would have thought, for instance, a quarter of a century ago, about the computer age taking over and replacing the conventional type of life?

Let history be the best judge of the rightfulness or wrongfulness of those unknown, but courageous steps and actions our contemporary olympic fathers are forced to take today in order to make things look better and brighter tomorrow.

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## INDEX AND GLOSSARY

**A.B.N.** — Anti-Communist Block of Nations; 68.

**AFGHANISTAN** — Republic in Asia invaded by Soviet troops in 1979; 74, 75.

**AGITPUNKTY** — Agitation points or propaganda centers; 16.

**ALEXEYEV, VASILI** — Soviet weightlifter and Merited Master of Sport. Olympic and world champion in super-heavyweight division; 37-39.

**ALLENDE, SALVADOR** (1908-1973) — Marxist President of Chile; 76.

**ANTIPOV, NIKOLAI** — Chairman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture; 65.

**APPOLONOV, NIKOLAI** — Chairman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture and Sports Affairs; 65.

**BALALAIKA** — Russian instrument; 68.

**BALLARD, HAROLD** — Owner of the Toronto "Maple Leafs" Hockey Club; 42, 43.

**BASILEVYCH, OLEH** — Assistant coach of the Dinamo-Kiev soccer club; 77.

**BELOUSOVA, LUDMILA** — see PROTOPOPOVS.

**BOLSHEVIK** — Member of Lenin's wing of Russian Communist Party; 6, 71.

**BOTVINNIK, MIKHAIL** — Soviet grandmaster and world champion in chess; 12.

**BRUNDAGE, AVERY** (1887 - 1975) — American born President of the I.O.C.; 13, 98.

**BUBKA, SERHIY** — Ukrainian World champion in pole vault; 80, 81.

**BUREVESTNIK** — Soviet Sports Society; 9, 41.

**BYKOV, VYATCHESLAV** — Soviet star hockey player. Merited Master of Sport; 33.

**C.D.K.A.** — (Tsentralnyi Dom Krasnoi Armii), Central House of the Red Army; 8, 28, 41.

**CHEKA** — (Chrezvychainaya Komissiya), Extraordinary Commission; 8.

**COWPER, WILLIAM** (1731-1800) — English poet; 88.

**CRUYFF, JOHAN** — Famous Dutch soccer player; 85.

**DE COUBERTIN, PIERRE** (1863-1937) — French nobleman and founder of the modern Olympic Games; 67, 98.

**DETSKIE SADY** — Kindergartens; 23.

**DINAMO** — Soviet Sports Society; 8, 41.

**DINAMO — KIEV** — Most celebrated Soviet soccer club from Ukraine; 67, 76, 77, 84, 87, 89, 95.

**DZERZHINSKY, FELIX** — Leader of CHEKA and founder of Dinamo Sports Society; 8.

**F.I.F.A.** — Federation of International Football Associations; 83.

**FROST, ROBERT LEE** (1874-1963) — American Poet; 97.

**FUTBOL** — “Soccer”, weekly supplement to “Sovetskii Sport” newspaper; 18.

**GLASNOST** — (OPENNESS). Name of the new Soviet policy introduced by Mikhail Gorbachev; 94, 96.

**GNURA, PETRO** — Promising young goalkeeper of a leading soccer club in Western Ukraine; 66.

**GORBACHEV, MIKHAIL** — Soviet leader and head of State; 94.

**G.P.U.** — (Gosudarstvennoye Politicheskoye Upravlenie), State Political Administration; 8.

**G.T.O.** — (Gotov k Trudu y Oboronye), Ready for Labour and Defense. Soviet Physical Fitness Program; 10, 26, 27, 30.

**GULAG** — Soviet labour camp; 65.

**HITLER, ADOLF** (1889-1945) — German dictator, founder and leader of National Socialist Party; 15.

**I.O.C.** — International Olympic Committee; 13, 14, 68, 69, 75, 97, 98.

**IZVESTIYA** — ("THE NEWS"), official newspaper of the Soviet government; 17.

**KARPOV, ANATOLI** — Soviet grandmaster and world chess champion; 62.

**K.G.B.** — (Komissariat Gosudarstvennoi Bezopasnosti), Commissariat of State Security; 8, 19.

**KHARAK, PETRO** — Noted western-Ukrainian boxing expert and coach; 66.

**KHARCHENKO, IVAN** — Chairman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture and Sport Affairs; 65.

**KHOKKEI** — "HOCKEY", weekly supplement to "SOVETSKII SPORT" newspaper; 18.

**KHRUSHCHEV, NIKITA** — Soviet communist leader and head of State; 43.

**KIROV STADIUM** — Soviet Stadium in Leningrad named after Sergei Kirov, known communist activist; 11.

**KNOPOVA, E.L.** — Chairwoman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture and Sport. The only Soviet woman to hold such a high administrative office; 65.

**KOLHOSNIK** — (Collective Farmer), Soviet rural Sports Society; 9.

**KOLOS** — (Wheat Head), Soviet rural Sports Society; 9.

**KOMSOMOL** — Russian abbreviation of Communist Youth League; 8, 9, 23, 24, 26.

**KORBUT, OLGA** — Famous Byelorussian gymnast and Merited Master of Sport; 45, 46, 77.

**KORCHNOI, VIKTOR** — Soviet grandmaster in chess who defected in 1976; 60-62.

**KRASNAYA ZVEZDA** ("RED STAR") — Newspaper of the Red Army; 17.



**KULAS, JULIAN** — Attorney at Law who successfully defended Walter Polovchak; 51.

**KUTS, VLADIMIR** — Ukrainian long distance runner, World record holder in 5,000 and 10,000 m; 77, 79.

**LENIN, NIKOLAI** — real name — ULYANOV, VLADIMIR ILYICH (1870-1924) Russian Marxist revolutionary, creator of Bolshevism and founder of Soviet State; 4, 5, 7, 22.

**LESGAFT, PYOTR** (1837-1909) — Father of Russian physical education; 6.

**LEVYTSKY, OLEKSANDER** President of the "S.T. Ukraina-Lviv", Prominent Sport Club in Western Ukraine; 66.

**LOBANOVSKY, VALERI** — Head coach of Dinamo-Kiev and Soviet national soccer team; 93, 95.

**LOKOMOTIV** — Soviet Sports Society; 9, 41.

**LVIV** also **LVOV** — Major City in Western Ukraine; 20, 66.

**MANTSEV, VASILI** — Chairman of the All-Union Council of Physical Culture and Sport; 65.

**MARADONA, DIEGO ARMANDO** — Best Argentinian soccer player, called "pivo di oro" (golden boy); 85.

**MARX, KARL** (1818-1883) — German born socialist, author of "Das Kapital" and "Communist Manifesto"; 27.

**MASSOVOST** — Mass participation; 30.

**MASTERSTVO** — Proficiency; 30.

**MATTHEWS, STANLEY** — Famous British soccer player, 85.

**MEDVID, MYROSLAV** — Ukrainian Sailor who jumped ship in New Orleans, but was denied asylum in U.S.A.; 20.

**METREVELI, ALEX** — Leading Soviet tennis player; 77, 78.

**M.V.D.** — (Ministerstvo Vnutrennikh Dyel), Ministry of Internal Affairs; 8.

**NEMTSANOV, SERGEI** — Russian diver, member of Soviet Olympic team, Master of Sport, international class; 20.

**NEUFELD, RENATE** — East German runner; 60.

**N.K.V.D.** — (Narodnii Komissariat Vnutrennikh Dyel), Ministry of Internal Affairs; 8, 20.

**OCTOBRIST** — Youth belonging to organization for children 7 - 10 years of age; 23.

**ONISHCHENKO, BORIS** — Ukrainian pentathlonist, member of the Soviet Olympic team, Merited Master of Sport; 20, 49, 50.

**PAVLOV, SERGEI** — Chairman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture and Sports Affairs and Chairman of the U.S.S.R. Olympic Committee; 13.

**PELE** (full name — **EDSON ARANTES DO NASCIMENTO**) — Brazilian soccer "king". Considered the best player in the world; 85.

**PETROSYAN, TIGRAN** — Soviet grandmaster in chess; 62.

**PIOLA, SILVIO** — Italian soccer star in 1930's; 85.

**PIONEER** — Youth belonging to organization for children 10 - 15 years of age; 23.

**PODVOISKY, NIKOLAI** — Chairman of Vsevoluch; 65.

**POLITBURO** — Political Bureau, the most powerful policy making body in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union consisting of 14 - 20 members; 16.

**POLITRUK** — Party man, Soviet agitator; 19.

**POLOVCHAK, WALTER** — Ukrainian boy who refused to return to Soviet Union and received political asylum in the U.S.A. His case drew international attention; 51.

**PRAVDA ("THE TRUTH")** — Newspaper of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R.; 17.

**PROTOPOPOVS, OLEG AND LUDMILA** — Famous Soviet figure-skating pair, Merited Masters of Sport who defected in 1983; 62, 64.

**PUSKAS, FERENC** — Best Hungarian soccer player; 85.

**PYATILETKA** — Five year plan; 7.

**RADIO FREE EUROPE** — Anti-Communist Broadcasting Service based in West Germany; 69.

**RODNINA, IRINA** — Soviet Pairs Figure Skating Champion, Triple Olympic Gold Medal Winner (1972, 1976 and 1980); 95.

**SAMARANCH, JUAN ANTONIO** — Spanish born President of the I.O.C.; 97.

**SHAFAREVYCH, IHOR** — Well known Soviet mathematician and dissident of Ukrainian descent; 72.

**SHCHEKHOTSKY, ALEXANDER** — Member of the Soviet national soccer team; 20, 65.

**S.K.A. (Sportivnye Kluby Armii)** — Army Sports Clubs; 8.

**SKOCEN, OLEKSANDER** — Best Ukrainian soccer player; 20, 66, 82, 84-87.

**SOKOL** — Gymnastics and sports organization which originated in Czechoslovakia and found application in Russia; 6.

**SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA** — Organ of the Soviet industry.

**SOVETSKII SPORT** — Soviet Sports Daily; 18.

**SPARTAK** — Soviet Sport Society; 9, 41.

**SPARTAKIAD** — Soviet quadrennial sports festival; 11, 13.

**SPASSKY, BORIS** — Soviet chess champion and grandmaster who defected to France; 62.

**SPORTIVNIYE SHKOLY MASTERSTVA** — Sports schools for highest proficiency; 25.

**SPORT ZA RUBEZHOM ("SPORT ABROAD")** — Semi-monthly supplement to "SOVETSKII SPORT" newspaper; 18.

**STAKHANOV, ALEKSEY** — Soviet coal miner after whom a movement aimed to increase production norms was named; 48.

**STALIN** (man of steel) real name — **DZUGASHVILI, YOSIF VISSIRYONOVICH** — Soviet Communist leader and head of the U.S.S.R.; 10, 35, 71, 96.

**STAROSTYN BROTHERS (NIKOLAI, ALEXANDER, ANDREI and PETRO)** — Leading Soviet soccer players from Ukraine; 20, 66, 83.

**SUPREME SOVIET** — The highest legislative body of the U.S.S.R. consisting of 1,500 members, 40.

**TASS** — Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union. Official Soviet News Agency; 17.

**TIKHOLIZ, EVSTAKHY** — Prominent soccer player in Western Ukraine; 66.

**TIKHONOV, VIKTOR** — Head coach of the Soviet Olympic ice-hockey team; 33.

**TRUD** — Soviet national trade union newspaper; 94.

**TRUDOVIYE RESERVY** (Labour Reserves) — Soviet Sport Society; 41.

**UROZHAI** (Harvest) — Soviet Russian rural Sports Society; 9.

**U.S.R.** — Ukrainian Soviet Republic; 60, 68.

**U.S.S.R.** — Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Russian version "СССР" — Soyuz Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik; 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 19, 23, 25, 27, 28, 33, 35, 39, 40, 41, 45, 47, 53, 60, 63, 65, 70, 72, 74, 76, 81, 83, 85, 94, 96, 98.

**VASILYEV, MIKHAIL** — Soviet Olympic hockey player, Master of Sport, international class; 33.

**VODNIK** — Soviet Sport Society; 9, 41.

**VOGEL, RENATE** — East German swimmer and world record holder in breast stroke; 58-60.

**VOICE OF AMERICA** — U.S. Broadcasting Information Agency. Multi-language programming service aimed primarily at Communist countries; 69.

**VOROBYOV, ARKADY** — Former Soviet olympic champion and professor of physical education at Moscow Regional Sports Institute; 94.

**VOYEIKOV, V.** — Russian general and minister of sport under Tsar; 6.

**VSEVOBUCH** — (Vseobshcheye Voyennoye Obucheniye) pre-military training; 7, 65.

**WORLD CUP** — Soccer championships held every four years since 1930. Largest international sports event next to Olympics; 76, 91, 94.

**YASHIN, LEV** — Soviet leading goalkeeper in soccer. Merited Master of Sport decorated with order of Lenin; 84.

**YASLI** — Nursery centers for children; 22.

**ZELIKOV, ALEXANDER** — Chairman of the All-Union Committee of Physical Culture and Sports Affairs; 66.

**ZENIT** — Soviet Sport Society; 9.

**ZIEGLER, JOHN JR.** — President of the N.H.L.; 42.

