

U K R A I N E: 1963

**CLOSE-UP OF RUSSIAN COLONIALISM
AND IMPERIALISM**

MEMORANDUM

TO

**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
XVIIIth SESSION**

**Submitted by
THE UKRAINIAN CONGRESS COMMITTEE OF AMERICA, INC.
New York, N. Y.**

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UKRAINE: The broken line denotes the boundaries of the Ukrainian S.S.R. The shaded line denotes the limits of the Ukrainian ethnographic territory. Population of Ukraine: 41,860,000 in 1959. — Land area: 232,000 sq. miles.

YOUR EXCELLENCY:

This Memorandum concerning the Russian communist colonialism and enslavement of Ukraine is respectfully presented to you by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Inc., an American organization representing over 2,000,000 American citizens of Ukrainian descent and origin. It is our considered opinion that the fullest knowledge and information is indispensable and vital for any successful effort to establish a genuine peace with justice and freedom throughout the world, which is the paramount objective of the United Nations.

Inasmuch as the Soviet Union, the largest remaining colonial empire in the world today, is a totalitarian dictatorship, separated from the rest of the world by a rigid Iron Curtain, a large section of the free world, including some members of the United Nations, is insufficiently informed as to what is going on in the USSR and its captive non-Russian colonies.

It is with this in mind that we respectfully present the case of enslaved Ukraine, which perhaps best exemplifies Russian communist colonial rule over a conquered country.

1. TERRITORY AND POPULATION

Ukraine, in territory and population, is the largest non-Russian nation not only in the Soviet Union, but behind the Iron Curtain as well.

a) *Area:* Ukraine embraces an area of 289,000 sq. miles, and is larger than France, Germany, Great Britain, and Spain, and larger than Poland and Yugoslavia combined. It lies in the southwestern part of the USSR, bounded on the west by Rumania, Hungary and Poland, on the east by the Don territory, on the south by the Black Sea, on the north by Byelorussia and on the northeast by Russia.

b) *Population:* Despite the periodic Soviet Russian man-made famines in Ukraine (1921 and 1933), the constant deportations of Ukrainians to Siberia, and the ravages of World War II, the population of Ukraine is today 42 million persons, of whom at least 37-38 million are Ukrainians. Another 10 million Ukrainians are dispersed throughout the Asiatic areas of the USSR. The Ukrainian language is a separate and distinctive Slavic language. The Ukrainian peasantry, the backbone of the Ukrainian nation, is well known for its individualism and opposition to communism.

2. AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

a) *Agriculture:* Ukraine has long been known as "the granary of Europe," but today it is the breadbasket and sugarbowl of the Russian totalitarian empire. Its famous black soil produces grain, sugar beets and other foodstuffs. Despite the characteristic ineptness of Soviet Russian management, Ukraine accounts for 70 per cent of the total Soviet output of sugar, 23 per cent of the grain and 30 per cent of the meat.

b) *Industry*: Industrially, Ukraine is the most highly developed republic of the USSR.

The Donbas and Dnieper areas of Ukraine make up the primary coal and metallurgical base of the USSR. They provide 58.1% of the coal, 49.5% of the pig iron, 37% of the steel, 35% of the manganese, 37% of the rolled steel, 50% of the iron ore and 53.5% of the coke—all of the total Soviet output. Ukraine possesses powerful thermal and hydraulic power installations, is a leading republic in machinery and is important in chemicals and oil production (Western Ukraine).

The Kremlin has been ruthlessly exploiting the riches of the Ukrainian nation for its imperialistic adventures in such far-off places as Cuba, Laos, and Vietnam, and, of course, in Berlin.

3. PHASES OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE

Ukraine has had three distinct periods of political independence and statehood:

1) *First Period*: The first Ukrainian independent state, known as *Kievan Rus*, existed from the IXth to the XIV centuries. That phase of Ukrainian statehood, known in Ukrainian history as the "Princely Period," was destroyed by the forces of Genghis Khan and his Mongol-Tartar successors. As a result of these developments Ukraine was conquered by Poland in the XIVth and XVth centuries.

2) *The Second or Kozak Period of Ukrainian Statehood*: During the XVIIth century the Ukrainian people overthrew the Polish rulers who had gained control of the country, and remained free, with intermittent lapses, until 1783. In 1654 *Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky*, the head of the Ukrainian state, concluded a treaty with the Czar of Muscovy which stipulated that Moscow would guarantee the independence of Ukraine. Muscovite troops settled in Ukraine ostensibly to defend Ukraine against the Poles but actually were occupation forces. During the 250-year period of Russian enslavement, the desire for Ukrainian freedom and independence was kept alive in Ukrainian literature and folklore. A leader in the national revival of Ukrainian independence was poet *Taras Shevchenko*. His contribution to the cause of universal freedom was recognized by the U.S. Congress, which has allotted a special site in Washington, D. C. for a commemorative statue to be erected in 1964.

3) *The Third or Modern Period of Ukrainian Statehood*: In March, 1917, immediately after the outbreak of the revolution in the Russian Empire, the Ukrainians took steps to re-establish their own independent and sovereign state (November 20, 1917). On January 22, 1918, Ukraine declared its full and unqualified independence. On February 9, 1918, it signed a peace treaty in Brest Litovsk with the Central Powers. It received *de jure* and *de facto* recognition not only from the Central Powers, but from a number of states of the Entente, including France and Great Britain.

Soviet Russia, too, in a diplomatic note of December 17, 1917, seven weeks before the proclamation of the full independence of Ukraine, officially recognized the government of the Ukrainian National Republic, stating the following:

"...Therefore, we, the Council of People's Commissars, recognize the Ukrainian National Republic and its right to full separation from Russia, and acknowledge it may enter upon negotiations with the Russian Republic in the matter of federal or other relations with it. The Council of People's Commissars of the Russian Republic recognizes, without any limits or conditions, and in all respects, the national rights and independence of the Ukrainian Republic..." (Italics added.)

(Official Organ of the Provisional Government of Workers and Soldiers, No. 26, December 6, 1917, Moscow.)

But immediately upon recognizing Ukraine as an independent state the Soviet government took military action to conquer it. After more than three years of valiant opposition on the part of the Ukrainian National Republic the Russian Bolsheviks succeeded in destroying the Ukrainian national government and imposing a puppet government. In 1923 Ukraine was formally incorporated into the Soviet Union as a constituent republic with the "right to freely secede from the USSR." This "right" cannot be realized legally because any attempt to do so would provoke harsh reaction on the part of Moscow.

4. RUSSIAN COMMUNIST RULE OVER UKRAINE

The past forty-three years of Communist Russian enslavement and domination of Ukraine have been characterized by a series of anti-communist uprisings and a brutal policy of genocide pursued by the Kremlin.

Some highlights of the Russian communist rule in Ukraine are revealing:

¶ Moscow's "liquidation" of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the 1920's;

¶ The trial of Ukrainian intellectuals in Kharkiv in 1930;

¶ Moscow's man-made famines in Ukraine in 1921 and in 1932-1933, with Pavel Postyshev as Stalin's chief emissary and genocidist, leading to the destruction of some 6 million Ukrainian patriotic citizens refusing to submit to enslaving collectivization;

¶ Russian communist massacre of 10,000 Ukrainians in the city of Vynnytsia in 1937-1938 during the Yezhov and Khrushchev reign of terror;

¶ Russian communist atrocities and massacres of Ukrainian political prisoners during the retreat of the Soviet troops from Ukraine during the German-Soviet war in June, 1941;

¶ Desertion of some 2 million Ukrainian soldiers from the Soviet armies to the German lines in 1941;

¶ Ukrainian underground anti-Nazi and anti-Bolshevik resistance led by the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) in 1943-1945, and its gallant struggle against the Soviet MVD security forces up to 1950, during which some 35,000 Soviet security officers and enlisted men were killed by the UPA (Alexei Adzhubei, Khrushchev's son-in-law and editor of *Izvestia*, when visiting the late Pope John XXIII in Rome last winter, commented on the release of Metropolitan Joseph Slipy, Ukrainian Catholic martyr, stating that "Cardinal Slipy came from Ukraine where many Soviet soldiers were killed," apparently by the UPA);

¶ Wanton destruction of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Western Ukraine in 1945: arrest of the entire hierarchy and deportation and execution of hundreds of priests, monks, nuns and lay leaders;

¶ Uprisings and revolts of Ukrainian political prisoners in Soviet concentration camps in Vorkuta, Karaganda and elsewhere;

¶ Desertions of Ukrainians from the Soviet armies during the Hungarian revolution in 1956;

¶ Sporadic anti-Soviet attempts and passive resistance of the Ukrainian youth in late 1959 and in the 1960's.

It was none other than Nikita Khrushchev who stated at the XXth Congress of the Communist Party in February, 1962:

"Stalin wanted to deport all Ukrainians, but there were too many of them and there was no place to which they could be deported."

Of course, we must assume that Stalin was backed by the Soviet government, of which Nikita S. Khrushchev was an influential member at that time.

5. THE USSR: THE LARGEST REMAINING COLONIAL EMPIRE

The present Soviet Russian empire—the USSR—is a conglomeration of many conquered nations and countries, which are held under Russian totalitarian control by force of bayonets and police terror.

Khrushchev has been championing the cause of liberation of the African and Asian nations, and professes openly that he will bury the West through his "war of national liberation," which he has been waging successfully so far in Cuba, Laos, Vietnam. But at the same time he keeps in subjugation Ukraine and other captive non-Russian nations.

The most striking characteristics of the Soviet Union were described by two outstanding U.S. statesmen, both staunch supporters of the United Nations.

The Hon. Dean Acheson, testifying before the House Foreign Relations Committee on June 21, 1951, made the following statement:

"Historically, the Russian state has three great drives—to the west in Europe, to the south into the Middle East, and to the east in Asia... The Politburo has acted in the same way. It carried on and built on the imperialist tradition. What it has added consists mainly of new weapons and new tactics... The ruling power in Moscow has long been the imperial power and it now rules over a greatly extended empire... It is clear that this process of encroachment and consolidation by which Russia has grown in the last 500 years from the Duchy of Moscow to a vast empire has got to be stopped..."

Ten years later, the Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., sent a memorandum to U.N. Missions on November 25, 1961, in which he stated:

"... We are told that the peoples of the Soviet Union enjoy the right of self-determination. Indeed, the Soviet regime at its inception issued a Declaration of Rights which proclaimed 'the right of the nations of Russia to free self-determination, including the right to secede and form independent States.'

"... How did this 'right' work in practice? An independent Ukrainian Republic was recognized by the Bolsheviks in 1917, but in 1917 they established a rival Republic in Kharkov. In July, 1923, with the help of the Red Army, a Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was established and incorporated into the USSR..."

The same methods of subversion and direct invasion were employed by the Soviet government in crushing the independent states of Armenia, Byelorussia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Turkestan, and the Cossack

State—all of which had declared their independence after the fall of Russian Czardom. They were reconquered by the Soviet government. This in turn inflicted upon them a rigid totalitarian control, the like of which is unknown in the history of any other colonial rule.

6. SOVIET MISRULE OF CAPTIVE UKRAINE TODAY

Ever since the partial retreat of Khrushchev in his dangerous adventure in Cuba last fall, and since the outbreak of an open rift between Moscow and Peiping, there has been much speculation on the "mellowing out" of the Soviet system. Especially with the signing of the nuclear test-ban treaty by the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union, much has been said of an allegedly "evolving Soviet technocratic society," which presumably is prone to forget the principal objective of Communism under the leadership of Moscow: world conquest and establishment of a World Union of Soviet Republics, with headquarters in Moscow, the perennial center of totalitarianism and enslavement.

In the case of Ukraine, too, there has been much talk, mostly among foreign tourists, that conditions have allegedly eased, especially after Khrushchev's release in February, 1963 of Archbishop Joseph Slipy, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, after a detention of 18 years in Soviet prisons and concentration camps.

But the iron-clad reality of Soviet Russian rule in Ukraine today can be best described as follows:

¶ From the time of the destruction of Ukrainian independence in 1920, Ukraine has been a colony of Moscow, the so-called Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic being a subsidiary branch of the Russian colonial government in Ukraine;

¶ The Soviet government in Ukraine in essence is the Soviet Russian despotic government, which enslaves and exploits the Ukrainian nation;

¶ The Ukrainian nation cannot avail itself of the rich natural resources with which God blessed Ukraine;

¶ The economic development of Ukraine is exploited by Moscow for its imperialistic power politics and its competition with the United States in the underdeveloped countries of the world;

¶ Moscow is relentlessly pressing in Ukraine its traditional policy of Russification, aiming at the cultural and linguistic genocide of the Ukrainian people;

¶ Despite Soviet propaganda fanfare that there exists a "freedom of religion" in the Soviet Union, there is no freedom of religion whatsoever in Ukraine. All religions of Ukraine, the Orthodox and Catholic faiths, Protestantism, Islamism and Judaism, are ruthlessly persecuted by the Soviet government and the Communist Party;

¶ Moscow continues the deportation of Ukrainians to Central Asia, replacing them with Russian settlers brought in from Russia for the purpose of augmenting the Russian element in Ukraine and thus keeping the captive Ukrainian people under more effective control;

¶ Arrests, trials and concentration camps—notwithstanding the claims of Khrushchev to the contrary—remain the principal instruments of the Russian communist regime in Ukraine.

¶ Murder of Ukrainian freedom fighters abroad, as was the case with Dr. Lev R. Rebet, Ukrainian writer, and then Stepan Bandera, head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), assassinated with a poison gun by a KGB agent in 1957 and 1959 in Munich, Germany. The criminal, who defected in 1961 to West Berlin, admitted both killings, was tried by the German Supreme Court in October, 1962 and was condemned to eight years at hard labor. These murders followed the Muscovite pattern of assassination in 1926 in Paris of Simon Petlura, head of the Ukrainian National Republic, and Col. Eugene Konovalets, Ukrainian independence leader, in 1938 in Rotterdam.

YOUR EXCELLENCY:

You, as a representative of your great country, are undoubtedly against all forms of colonial enslavement. There exists within the United Nations a Committee on Colonialism, which is charged with the study of all complaints submitted to the U.N. in matters of colonialism.

We humbly suggest that you take a close look at the record of Russian colonial enslavement and exploitation of Ukraine. This shocking record is unmatched by even the worst of the colonial empires of the past.

The Soviet leaders have succeeded in hoodwinking the entire West by turning its eyes from the ruthless Soviet domination over the captive nations to the so-called "white colonialism" in Africa and Asia.

Finally, the signing of the partial nuclear test-ban treaty by Moscow by no means constitutes conclusive proof that the Soviet Union has changed its primary objective to communize the world and impose its system of slavery upon mankind.

The reasons for its present tactics are to be found in its current ideological difficulties with Communist China, in a number of recent setbacks in its satellite empire, and in its domestic economic difficulties. Hence the search for foreign foodstuffs.

But, above all, Moscow is beset by the restlessness and opposition of its captive nations—from East Germany through Ukraine to the Turkic peoples of Turkestan, and from the Baltic countries to the peoples of the Caucasus!

You have a great opportunity to serve the cause of universal freedom by exposing and condemning Russian communist colonialism and imperialism.

The Berlin Wall, Vietnam, Laos and Cuba—these are traps set by the Kremlin whereby it seeks to strain and snap the moral fiber of the Western non-communist world, making it that much easier to impose the despotic and inhuman Communist system and rule upon humanity at large.

In helping expose Russian colonial domination over some 22 captive nations, you will serve not only your own country, but the cause of freedom, justice and peace for the world as well.

**UKRAINIAN CONGRESS
COMMITTEE OF AMERICA, Inc.**