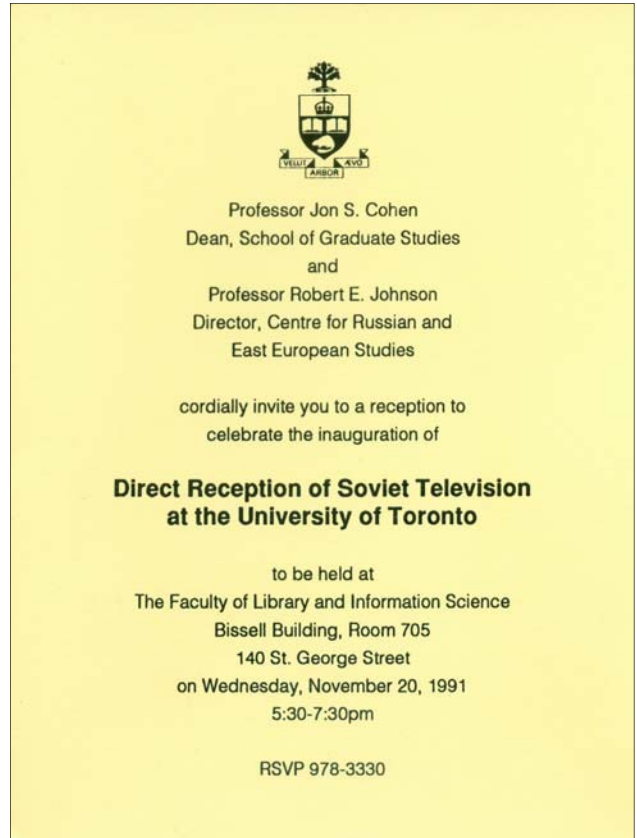# PJRC update

EAVESDROPPING ON RUSSIA

In 1981 rock music publicist and wireless microphone inventor Kenny Schaffer turned his Midtown Manhattan satellite dish to the east and was soon watching Soviet television. "They're just regular bozos like us," he remembers thinking (Martin, 1987). Schaffer then refined his signal capture technique, founded Orbita Technologies and sold the first satellite TV package to Columbia University in New York City. In 1984 Columbia became the first American university to receive live Soviet television. Before long, a number of other universities purchased the same TV package for $55,000 each. And then there were the competitors and imitators both in the United States and Canada. The State University of New York (SUNY) even tried to commercialize the service with help from PSC Inc. of Fairfax, Virginia, a U.S. Department of Defense contractor.

In Canada, Carleton University was able to receive its own signal in the late 1980s and the University of Toronto followed in 1991. Ironically, the Centre for Russian and East European Studies (CREES, now CERES) inaugurated the reception of Soviet television just 18 days

Professor Jon S. Cohen
Dean, School of Graduate Studies
and
Professor Robert E. Johnson
Director, Centre for Russian and
East European Studies

cordially invite you to a reception to
celebrate the inauguration of

**Direct Reception of Soviet Television
at the University of Toronto**

to be held at
The Faculty of Library and Information Science
Bissell Building, Room 705
140 St. George Street
on Wednesday, November 20, 1991
5:30-7:30pm

RSVP 978-3330

Invitation issued in November, 1991.

before the demise of the Soviet Union. A large satellite dish, placed on top of Varsity Arena, captured the satellite signal. It was computer controlled from a special bunker built underneath the stands of Varsity Stadium. The signal was decoded and transmitted by microwave into Robarts Library where a viewing facility was set up. This television room became the nucleus for the Petro Jacyk Resource Centre (PJRC). In the early days of PJRC the Russian TV

Vremia
Russian News № 01

DVD VIDEO

December 22, 1995
December 31, 1995
January 01, 1996
January 02, 1996

PETRO JACYK CENTRAL AND EAST EUROPEAN RESOURCE CENTRE

Robarts Library, Room 3008
130 St. George Street
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5S 1A5

416-978-0588
centreja@utoronto.ca
http://content.library.utoronto.ca/pjrc/

Left: the former PJRC television room, 8th floor, Robarts Library; right: the iconic logo of the "Vremia" television news broadcast.

room became the home away from home for students, faculty and many post-1991 Russian émigrés.

In the beginning, CREES recorded everything that could be received from the Gorizont satellite and created a thematically organized archive of VHS cassettes. Today, only 57 tapes survive. The initial plan to record the daily news broadcast *Vremia* failed because the program was taken off the air in 1991, right after the abortive August Putsch. It returned to the air waves April 1, 1995. PJRC began taping *Vremia* later that year, just before Christmas. In May 2000, right after the inauguration of President Vladimir Putin in Russia, the Gorizont signal disappeared. Then on August 27, the Ostankino Tower in Moscow, the broadcasting centre of Russia's Channel 1 and *Vremia*, was gutted by fire. The sole media survivor of the disaster was NTV, an independent channel founded by Vladimir Gusinsky.

Meanwhile, U of T's Media Centre discovered that NTV's satellite service NTV Plus was being rebroadcast in the United States and set up a new satellite system to capture this signal. Starting in September 2000, PJRC switched to recording the NTV Plus news program, *Segodnia*. But on April 14, 2001 the Russian government took over NTV and Gusinsky was forced to leave Russia a few months later. Gusinsky reorganized NTV Plus as RTV International (RTVi). By November 1, 2002 the channel was rebranded. Eventually, RTVi developed a Canadian cable service, which aired July 1, 2004 as RTVi Canada. This was followed by RTVi+ Canada in November, 2005. The taping of Russian news came to an end in May 2005. Technological change, the proliferation of Russian media and the ubiquitous nature of the Internet made the Russian TV room at PJRC obsolete.

Today, PJRC has an archive of more than 600 hours of Russian news recorded on more than 100 VHS cassettes. To preserve the recordings for posterity, it was decided to transfer them to DVD. So far we have completed one third of the project, producing more than 100 DVDs for the period December 1995 – December 1998. The DVDs are available at the Media Commons (3rd floor) desk in Robarts Library. PJRC would like to thank CERES for its continuing support of this project.

Wasyl Sydorenko

Martin, D. (1987). About New York; A rock wizard hopes glasnost means 'Mr. Ed'. *The New York Times*. Retrieved September 24, 2008, from http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9B0DE5DE1730F935A2575AC0A961948260

Petro Jacyk Central and East European Resource Centre

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1968

The exhibition **Czechoslovakia 1968** has opened on the second floor of Robarts Library at the University of Toronto. Forty years ago, on August 24, 1968, the Soviet Army invaded Czechoslovakia. The occupation marked the end of the Czechoslovak reform movement known as the Prague Spring.

Staff from the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and the Petro Jacyk Resource Centre designed and produced the exhibition. The exhibition accompanies the conference **Light in Shadows: Czechoslovakia** held at the Munk Centre for International Studies.
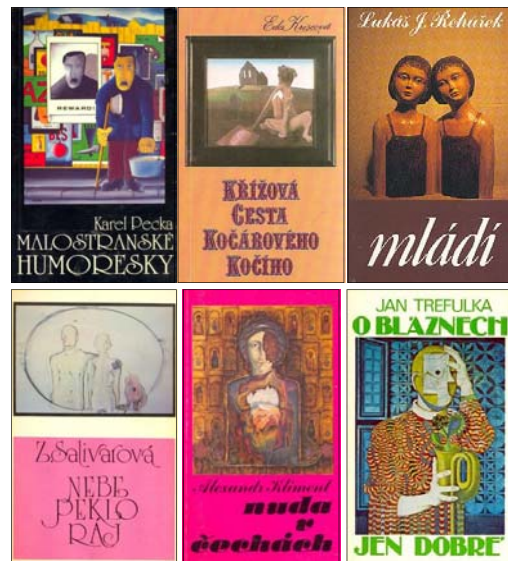
1969. For more than twenty years, until the fall of communism, they were supporters of dissident Czech writers. The third part displays unique materials from the Jazz Section – Jazzová Sekce, a collection of documents of the Czechoslovak Union of Musicians, which promoted alternative music in Czechoslovakia. The Jazz Section's original purpose was to promote jazz and rock music. It was officially banned by the government in 1984, but continued to function underground.

The fourth part of the exhibition contains books published by the publishing house Sixty-Eight Publishers – Nakladatelství 68, founded in Toronto in 1971. Its founders were Josef Škvorecký and his

Professor Josef Škvorecký and his wife, Zdena Salivarová.

There are four components to the exhibition. The first three contain materials from the rich Czechoslovak collections housed in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Part one is devoted to samizdat publications in the Czech and Slovak languages. These works were not allowed to be published in communist Czechoslovakia. The subjects covered include politics, history, philosophy, religion, and economics. The second part is dedicated to Josef Škvorecký, a leading contemporary Czech writer, essayist, poet, translator, and publisher. Škvorecký and his wife, Zdena Salivarová, have been living in Toronto since

wife, Zdena Salivarová, a writer, publisher, translator, singer, and actress. The main goal of the publishing house was to publish books from original manuscripts banned in communist Czechoslovakia. The name Sixty-Eight Publishers is a tribute to the Prague Spring of 1968. After the Soviet invasion many Czech and Slovak writers fled into exile. Around 500 writers were banned by the communist regime. Sixty-Eight Publishers was committed to keep Czech and Slovak literature alive during these years by publishing the works of exiled writers as well as those of dissidents within Czechoslovakia. The books

on display are written by such famous writers like Josef Škvorecký, Zdena Salivarová, Bohumil Hrabal – a renowned Czech novelist, short-story writer, poet, and screen-writer, Jaroslav Seifert – the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, Václav Havel – a Czech playwright, essayist, political activist, and the last president of Czechoslovakia and first president of the Czech Republic, Milan Kundera – the most highly regarded Czech novelist, short-story writer, and playwright, Alexandr Kliment – a famous prose writer, dramatist, poet, and screen writer, and Eda Kriseová – a Czech novelist, short-story writer, and journalist, widely known as the author of an authorized biography of Václav Havel.

The exhibition **Czechoslovakia 1968** will be of interest to scholars, students, and anyone interested in the history of the country.

Nadia Zavorotna

ONLINE RESEARCH GUIDES @ PJRC

Basic Research Strategies

http://content.library.utoronto.ca/pjrc/resources/basic_research

This guide helps users with the tools and skills for doing library research Slavic and East European studies. It provides research strategies and explanations for locating materials in UTL with examples at each step.

Resources Research Guide

http://content.library.utoronto.ca/pjrc/resources/resource_guide

This guide includes annotated links to selected electronic resources, such as online library catalogues, archival guides, digital collections, dictionaries and encyclopaedias, databases, e-journals, and search engines in Slavic and East European studies.

SCHOLAR, HISTORIAN, PUBLIC ADVOCATE

October 2, St. Vladimir Institute on Spadina Avenue hosted a round table discussion in honour of Prof. Paul Robert Magocsi as part of its 2008 Professor Ed Burstynsky Memorial Lecture Series. Both Canadian and American scholars attended: Prof. M. Marrus, University of Toronto; Prof. G. G. Grabowicz and Prof. S. Plokhy, Harvard University; Prof. T. Kuzio, Carleton University; Prof. A. J. Motyl, Rutgers University-Newark; and Prof. D. Arel, University of Ottawa.

The Petro Jacyk Resource Centre (PJRC) commemorated the occasion with an exhibit of books authored, edited and published by Prof. Magocsi. The University of Toronto Libraries wish to thank Prof. Magocsi for all the gifts of books, journals, newspapers and microfilms that it has received from him over the past 28 years.

Petro Jacyk Central and East European Resource Centre

THE HONOURABLE JOHN YAREMKO PRESENTS GIFT TO UTL

On April 3, 2008, The Honourable John Yaremko presented the University of Toronto Library with a cheque for $10,000, the first instalment on a $50,000 pledge, payable over five years, to be used for special projects to preserve and improve access to Ukrainian materials held by Robarts and Thomas Fisher Rare Book Libraries.

The generosity of John Yaremko and the Foundation set up in his and his late wife Mary's name will allow the Library to preserve and make broadly accessible retrospec-

Karen Turko accepts the cheque from John Yaremko while his guardians William and Rose Sametz look on.

tive library materials relating to Ukrainian history, literature, language, and culture through digitization. This initiative is a first step in ensuring that the Library's collections of Ucrainica, one of the premier Ukrainian collections in North America, are preserved for the future, and will help enhance research in Ukrainian studies at the University and worldwide.

Karen Turko, Director of Special Projects for the University of Toronto Libraries, accepted the cheque on behalf of Carole Moore, the Chief Librarian. In her thanks she commented on how "once books are digitized and available on the web, it is surprising how many people actually want to see the physical items." She was happy to report to Mr. Yaremko that his gift of digitization would actually draw more people to the Library. Ms. Turko also expressed her gratitude to William and Rose Sametz, Directors of the John and Mary A. Yaremko Foundation, who were instrumental in coordinating this gift and in negotiating its terms. Others in attendance were, from the Library: Ksenya Kiebuzinski, Slavic Resources Coordinator, and Head, Petro Jacyk Central and East Euro-

pean Resource Centre; and Wasyl Sydorenko, Reference Specialist, Petro Jacyk Central and East European Resource Centre; along with Andrew Stelmacovich from the Department of Alumni and Development at the University of Toronto, and Daria Diakowsky, from the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Ontario Branch.

The presentation of the cheque took place inside the exhibit curated by Diakowsky "At Home with Heritage: The John and Mary Yaremko Collection" in the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Ontario Branch, located in St. Vladimir Institute at 620 Spadina Avenue. The exhibit celebrates the accomplishments of the Yaremkos who, from an early age, valued their Ukrainian heritage and Canadian traditions. The exhibit traces their public and private lives through a series of vignettes, photographs, documents and the treasures they collected.

John Yaremko during the ceremony, amid this personal and familiar setting, reminisced about his youth, family, and career in public service. In one anecdote he recounted the impact his first visit to a library at age ten had on him, and how the

generosity of a librarian in Hamilton, Ontario, who loaned him a nickel so he could become a member, helped foster his love of books and libraries for decades to come. On that first visit he took home three books only to discover once at home that they were on anthropology. From then on, he would visit the library daily taking home three new books nightly. He could not believe that someone originally from a one-room schoolhouse in Welland could have such worlds of learning opened to him. The gift to the University of Toronto Library is his wish to do the same for others.

The future Canadian statesman, lawyer, and civic leader, was born in Crowland Township, Welland County, Ontario, on 10 August 1918. John is the son of George and Mary Yaremko (née Boiechko) who had immigrated to Canada from Ukraine in 1912. He was a student in the Honours Law program at University College in the late 1930s. He graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto and was called to the Ontario bar in 1944. An unwavering advocate of the importance of education, Yaremko entered the public service in 1951 as the Progressive Conservative member in the Ontario Legislature for Bellwoods Riding. He was the first Ukrainian Canadian elected to the Ontario Legislature and the first Ukrainian Canadian to be appointed cabinet minister in Ontario. His tenure as a public servant lasted for more than 23 years, and his was a strong voice in the cabinets of Frost, Robarts, and Davis for human rights and multiculturalism. Yaremko held numerous cabinet posts, including minister of transportation, provincial secretary and minister of citizenship, minister of public welfare, minister of family and social services, provincial secretary, and solicitor general. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1953.

Yaremko married Mary A. Materyn of Montreal in 1945. Mary Yaremko worked as a registered nurse, and was an accomplished pianist. Her love of music and the arts included supporting the Roy Thompson Hall, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Canadian Opera Company, and the Royal Ontario Museum. Mary Yaremko passed away on 28 March 2005.

Together, the Yaremkos were strong supporters of the University of Toronto. They established the John and Mary A. Yaremko Programme in Multiculturalism and Human Rights at the Faculty of Law in 2002. The program supports an annual forum that brings scholars and teachers to the Law School to engage the community in vital discussion about the core concepts underlying what it means to be Canadian: pluralism, multiculturalism, and inclusion. In addition to the Yaremko Program, the couple established the Yaremko Leadership Award and the Yaremko Opportunity Award at the Law School. These programs reflect Yaremko's long-standing interests in advocating for the rights of immigrants, social justice, and in bettering the welfare of fellow Canadians. To honour his wife's interest in music, the Yaremko's established the Mary A. and John Yaremko Q.C. Scholarship at the Faculty of Music in 1994. The scholarship is to be given annually to students who exemplify a particular degree of voice and musical excellence and who will benefit from a third year of study in the Opera division.

The gift to the University of Toronto Library honours John and Mary Yaremko's Ukrainian heritage, and their legacy of philanthropy supporting programs focusing on Canada's plural and multicultural society.

Ksenya Kiebuzinski

New Acquisitions @ PJRC

Every two months the Petro Jacyk Resource Centre (PJRC) displays the most recent publications from Central and Eastern Europe. Please drop by anytime to check out the latest arrivals. PJRC is located in Room 3008, Robarts Library.

HOLODOMOR GENOCIDE BY FAMINE

10,000,000 UKRAINE 1932 - 1933

The exhibit was produced by the League of Ukrainian Canadians
Exhibit Authors: Oleh Romanyshyn • Andrew Gregorovich • Orest Steciw • Myhajlo Hucman • Volodymyr Paslavskyi
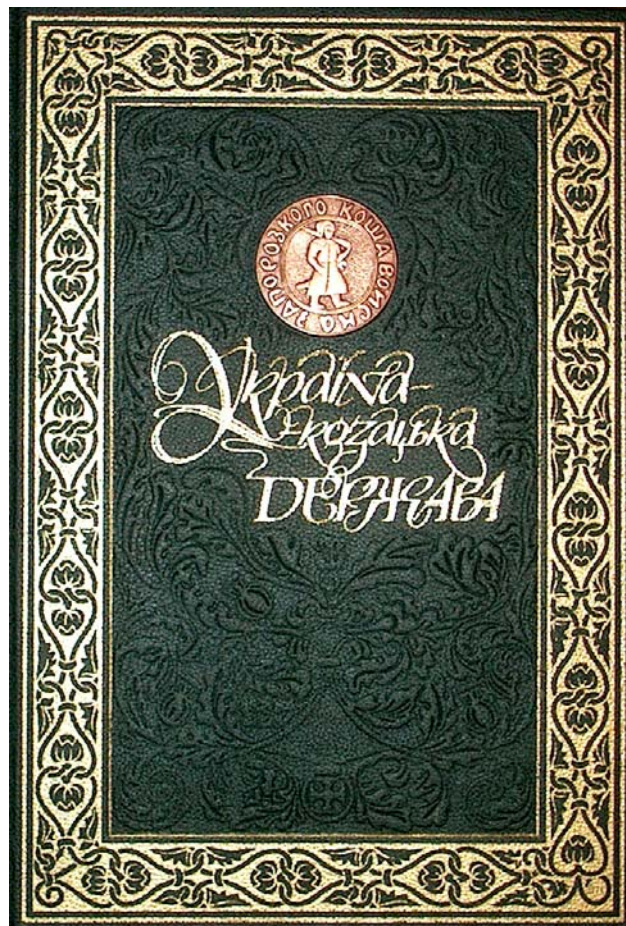© Copyright by League of Ukrainian Canadians 2008

HOLODOMOR: GENOCIDE BY FAMINE,

by Oleh Romanyshyn, Andrew Gregorovich, and Orest Steciw. League of Ukrainian Canadians, Toronto, 2008. Folio, 98 poster panels, 1 DVD, 1 CD-ROM.

This is an exhibit in a box on the Ukrainian famine-genocide of 1932-1933. An accompanying DVD (74 min.) includes footage of the exhibit at Toronto City Hall, April 18, 2008, of the speeches and speakers, and of the arrival in Canada of the International Remembrance Flame. A digital version of the posters is included on CD.

The exhibit is a gift from the League of Ukrainian Canadians. Additional materials and information can be found on their web site (www.lucorg.com) or that of the exhibit (www.holodomoreducation.org).

Patrons must inquire at the desk in PJRC.

UKRAINA KOZATS'KA DERZHAVA,

edited by Volodymyr Nediak, second edition, amended and expanded. Emma, Kyiv, 2007. ISBN 966-95841-7-5 Folio, 1216 pp., 5175 illustrations.

Weighing in at 9.5 kg, this is the most famous Ukrainian book to be published in the last 10 years. Now this award-winning tome is available at the reference desk in PJRC. More than four hundred years of illustrated Cossack history from 1500 to WWI has been crammed into one mega-volume. With articles by some of the best scholars in the field and many never-before-published photographs, paintings and images, this is a must see for every Cossack researcher. The book covers everything from history and biography to art and artefact, from book printing to ship building, from warfare to worship, from…

DK508.55 .N43 2007 PJRC
Patrons must inquire at the desk in PJRC.

Petro Jacyk Library Fellow

The University of Toronto Library is delighted to announce that Lyuba Pidtserkovna, librarian at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, has been nominated as the 2008-2009 Petro Jacyk Library Fellow. Ms. Pidtserkovna comes to the University of Toronto with over ten years cataloguing experience and a wide range of academic experience, having previously interned at the libraries of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy, and Warsaw and Louvain universities. She will come to Toronto in spring 2009 to work on cataloguing the John Luczkiw Collection of Ukrainian Canadiana housed in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

The Luczkiw Collection contains material on Ukrainians and by Ukrainians in Canada from about 1900 to 1950. It is in part a record of the life and times of the first two waves of Ukrainian immigrants who often with great effort maintained their cultural heritage under adverse conditions far from their homeland. Their past is recounted in histories, novels, poetry, plays, and song; and documented in polemical, educational, legal, and statistical works.

This collection of Ukrainian Canadiana was assembled by the late John Luczkiw (1923-1974), a prominent University of Toronto alumnus, and a former World War II refugee, who came to Canada in 1950. His family donated the collection to the Fisher Library in 1982. Over the years the collection has been supplemented by gifts from other donors living in the Greater Toronto Area.

The library fellowship is being supported through the generosity of the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation. The Foundation established the program to allow for information and library professionals from Ukraine to spend several months at UTL to learn new skills, to establish professional contacts, and to learn different methods of librarianship that will be of help to them and their colleagues at their home institutions in Ukraine.

Searching OPAC using Cyrillic

A recent improvement to the online public access catalogue (OPAC) interface now allows library users to search the database using Cyrillic characters. As yet, there are few library (MARC) records that contain information in both the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets. A search for CCCP turns up only 25 items, whereas a search for USSR turns up 3,812 hits. In time the number of these records will increase and searching in Cyrillic will become more practical. In fact, searching for key words, names and other terms in the original language should alleviate the problem of dealing with different transliteration schemes. Searching for Pushkin one had to remember it was Pouchkin in French, Puschkin in German, Puškin in Italian, etc. Now, you can simply type Пушкин in Russian and find 11 titles out of a total of 2,102. As you're checking out the Cyrillic possibilities of the catalogue, you can become acquainted with the library's new soon-to-be-implemented public interface: search1.library.utoronto.ca/UTL/search.jsp

In addition to the new interface, the library's Licensed Software Office offers language packs for Microsoft Office 2002, 2003 and 2007. For licensed users of Office there is a basic add-on fee of $18 and a charge of $4 per CD/DVD. The language packs provide proofing tools for Bulgarian, Russian, Ukrainian, etc. For more details, visit the Licensed Software Office.

Petro Jacyk Central and East European Resource Centre