

Equal time for all concerned

"When men are sentenced for "a dangerous way of thinking";
When those who think differently are re-educated by means of hunger in camp prisons;
When an artist is ordered what colors to use;
When the UN Declaration of Human Rights is considered to be a seditious document even though it has been ratified by the Government...
...When men who fight against the Russian chauvinist stranglehold in Ukraine are thrown behind bars while the world passes through an era of the rebirth of nations: all this degrades the state which allows such phenomena."...

"...In 1946 Europe put the last full stop to the verdict of the Nuremberg Trials. The nightmares of Auschwitz had passed into history. The knell of Buchenwald rang out, and petals fluttered over the world from a small flower that had faded in the dawn of life -- a young Jewish girl, Anne Frank, who left only a diary. Meanwhile permafrost still held sway in the distant Siberian tundra. There they crushed innocent, worn-out human beings with tanks for demanding humane treatment. One hand was signing the sentence at Nuremberg, the other a sentence of death by starvation for hundreds of thousands of people in Norilsk and Verkhoyansk."...

"...But does anyone really naively imagine that these will be no need to answer for all this? No -- on these great plains everything comes about fifty years late.... But it inevitably comes about!

A crime is a crime and it is inevitably followed by retribution. In accordance with the Constitution which, after all, will some day become the law, there will be no evading responsibility for those who were shot and those who were put to death by hunger. Someone will also have to be held responsible for the robot capable of calmly running a man through with a pike -- someone who robbed him of his soul and of his humanity.

A lie has short legs -- that has long been known. But it is only half the truth. Let no one forget:

TRUTH HAS LONG ARMS!
April 15, 1967

These are the final paragraphs of Valentyn Moroz's Report from the Beria Reserve for which he was, in 1970, sentenced to ~~nine~~ years imprisonment and five years of exile. The "Beria Reserve" itself refers to a gigantic complex of concentration camps in the Mordovian ASSR where Moroz spent four years and is analagous to what Russian author, Alexander Solzhenitzyn, called "the Gulag Archipelago."

The Gateway article, "Moroz Advocates Terrorism", of Thursday, January 9th/75, reprinted from the November 13th edition of the Canadian Tribune, contains several misrepresentations and omissions on the part of those responsible for its authorship, which, if left unclarified, would leave the reader with a distorted view of the entire Moroz issue. The fact that the person(s) responsible for its

submission remain unidentified is one of the issues we are least concerned about.

The article itself is a patchwork of several Soviet Embassy releases and communiques readily obtainable in Canada from the Press Office of the USSR Embassy in Ottawa. Among the communiques from which statements were taken are Soviet Embassy press releases: No. 74(34), No. 74(47), No. 74(49), No. 74(50), and No. 74(52).

The same article labels Moroz's reportage (i.e. the Beria Reserve) as "slandering" and outlines precisely what his "crimes" included... "seditious intent and conspiracy... He taught and advocated the use of force as a means of accomplishing a governmental change in the Soviet Union. His aim was to abolish the existing legal power in the Ukraine and to separate it from the USSR -- by means including force, with the help of foreign armies."

It is rather odd that with each succeeding Soviet press release Moroz's alleged crimes multiply and change in nature until now, they are not even reminiscent of what he was actually tried for and "convicted" of. Perhaps this is understandable in light of the fact that the Moroz issue has exploded in the Western press as well as the domains of government and foreign relations -- something the Soviets were not prepared for.

The Soviet authorities assure us that Moroz was caught "red-handed" and that he is serving his sentence in accordance with article 62 of the Criminal Code of the UkrSSR (anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda).

The fact is that these charges are incompatible with article 62 and would necessarily be covered by other articles in the Criminal Code, namely: Article 56 (Treason); article 57 (Espionage); article 63 (Propagandizing of Dangerous Crimes Against the State and Also Participation in Anti-Soviet Organizations); article 66 (Violation of Equality of Rights of Nationalities and Races).

The Soviet authorities consider it necessary to justify Moroz's imprisonment by alleging "crimes" for which Moroz was clearly not indicted. It appears that they felt that the actual facts of the case were not convincing enough to justify either the harshness of the sentence or the closed nature of his trial before Canadian public opinion.

Moroz was tried for his authorship of four articles:

1. Report from the Beria Reserve

2. In the Midst of the Snows

3. Moses and Dathan

4. Chronicle of Resistance

This fact was acknowledged in the newspaper "Soviet Education" by Ya. Radchenko in his article "An apostle and His Standards" published on August 14, 1971 where he states:

"And so, the convicted V. Moroz not only systematically wrote slanderous anti-Soviet 'works' but personally disseminated this poison illegally, and conducted anti-Soviet propaganda; for this he stood trial a second time and received his just desserts."

Canadian readers can obtain these writings under the title *Report from the Beria Reserve* and judge for themselves the nature of Moroz's work.

"In the interest of fairness" as proposed by the anonymous submitter of the Canadian Tribune article, perhaps a brief overview of the "Report..." would be in order.

The "Report..." addressed to the Deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR, was sent by Moroz not to 'accomplices abroad' but to the journalist V. Chornovil, who then forwarded it to the deputies D.S. Korotchenko, A. Zlenko, S.V. Stefanyk and M. Kikh of the Supreme Soviet.

The "Report..." is an analysis of the Soviet secret police and penal system, in which Moroz indicates that the practices and totalitarian control of the Stalinist era, although officially denounced, continue to be evident. Moroz was quite open about the "Report..." and never considered it to be a subversive document. Thus, while he was being investigated for the report in Kiev prison in May 1968, he wrote to the First Secretary of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, Petro Shelest on May 15, 1968:

"In my 'Report' there is not one word against Soviet power or the communist ideology. The document is directed against infractions of the law. I listed facts regarding crimes. And still the document is declared not only 'anti-Soviet' but 'seditious'. It is clear that the prosecution is not for anti-Soviet activity, on the contrary, the violators of the law took revenge on those who exposed them. In the document it is clearly stated that it is directed previously against those who compromise and consequently undermine the social order. Yet the document is declared 'seditious'. He who is robbed is labelled thief."

As to Moroz's trial itself,

despite attempts by Soviet authorities to invoke the issue of "state security" after his trial, there was absolutely no basis for the trial being closed to the public. The question of "state security" was simply not raised at the trial. Article 91 of the Constitution of the UkrSSR, Article III of the Constitution of the USSR, as well as, Article 20 and 22 of the Code of Criminal procedure of the Ukrainian SSR clearly stipulate the right to public trial. This is said to be a basic democratic right in the Soviet Union: the public nature of the judicial process is a guarantee of adherence to the law by the agencies of justice and an educational process for the people. All of the above provisions were violated in Moroz's case and must be considered a violation of procedural norms sufficient to nullify the verdict by dismissal or annulment (Article 370 and 389 of the Code of Criminal procedure of the Ukrainian SSR). Moroz's "criminality" is also refuted by the International Commission of Jurists in its journal "The Review" (No. 10, 1973).

Further, to vilify Moroz by innuendo of Nazi collaboration, racism and anti-semitism when his writings clearly condemn these phenomena, is highly reminiscent of the Goebbels-Stalin style of propaganda and constitutes an insult to reasoning Canadians.

The Canadian Tribune article also makes reference to Moroz's bourgeois "historical conception" and generally his "anti-progressive line". This may best be clarified by referring to Moroz's works... "There is nothing wrong with mass education or mass medicine, however, with them came mass culture. Instead of the heaven that the Utopians promised us, came de-humanization, alienation, de-culturization and the loss of one's roots. People are excessively developing their technical function at the expense of the spiritual, and this, for some reason is called progress... Assimilation is not simply robbing a nation of a set number of individuals. Assimilation is the destruction of traditional structures - a process that is far from mechanical. It is rather a delicate chemical process of extricating the means which binds a nation.

Stalin borrowed a method proved successful by the Romans. Historians are puzzled to this day at the speed with which the Romans Romanized their subjugated nations. The secret of the Roman method was intermixing. A Gaul, an Egyptian and a Syrian, when brought together, were forced

to speak Latin. Similarly, a German, a Ukrainian and a Kazakh, on a collective farm on the virgin lands, must converse with each other in Russian... Therein lies the root of the Ukrainian tragedy."

For expressing views such as these Moroz has been charged with slander, preaching national hatred, ethnic slurs, racism, anti-semitism, facism, and a host of other regularly cited official condemnations. Those in the West who defend Moroz all stand united in advocating his right to express his views freely and without fear of persecution. For this they have been labelled "overseas bourgeois nationalistic garbage heaps" (No. 74(49), or "humanitarian anti-Soviet hypocrisy" (No. 74(47)) and other similarly sophisticated expressions.

The question remains, does the Canadian government which made inquiries into Moroz's condition, fall into the same category; or the hundreds of university professors and academics who have signed petitions for his release or various humanitarian organizations including Amnesty International, Andrei Sakharov's Moscow Committee on Human Rights, or the International Red Cross; or Canadian statesmen/women from all sides of the fence including Edward Broadbent, NDP House leader, Stanley Knowles, Judy LaMarsh, John Diefenbaker, Premiers Schreyer, Davis, and Lougheed, Mitchell Sharp, Allan MacEachen, and countless others; or Philip Berrigan, anti-Vietnam War activist (who will be in Edmonton February 9th and 10th to speak about Moroz); or Terrence Little, British labour union and worker activist, (who'll speak about Moroz and Soviet political prisoners in March here in Edmonton), and others as well?

As Canadians we live in a state which strives to respect the basic rights of freedom of speech and conscience. We live in a state in which criticisms of its shortcomings are part of the democratic and political process. Quests for cultural and linguistic rights are not considered as "preaching of national discord and promoting chauvinism". We live in a state in which even separatism is provided parliamentary expression and is not considered to be a "crime against the individual, society or state."

Instead of their communiques we challenge the Soviet authorities to provide Canadians will full and unaltered transcripts of the proceedings of Valentyn Moroz's trial and in light of the illegality of Moroz's trial we demand his immediate and unconditional release.

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On Illogical Arguments

The article reprinted in the No. 9 Gateway from the Canadian Tribune is the Communist Party's attempt to respond to the growing outcry against the criminal policies followed by the Soviet Government in relation to

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