



Quixote

by David Marples

"You wanted to hide people in the forests of Mordovia; instead, you placed them on a stage for all the world to see.... You hurled a stone at every spark of life on the Ukrainian horizon and every stone became a boomerang."

The author of these defiant lines addressed to the Soviet government was Valentyn Moroz, a former Ukrainian political prisoner who will be visiting the University of Alberta next week. The courage and perseverance of Moroz, in the face of fourteen years of incarceration in Soviet labor camps for "subversive" activities saw his elevation to the status of hero amongst Ukrainians in the West. When fellow dissidents such as Ivan Dziuba recanted their views in the repressive period of the early seventies, Moroz stood firm and unrepentant. His release last year was thus widely acclaimed, not only by North American compatriots, but by all who knew of Moroz and his writings.

Yet since his arrival on the shores of this continent, the forty three year old historian and publicist has cast himself in the role of devil's advocate, berating Ukrainians for their slothfulness towards the Soviet threat, advocating military aggression in order to win independence for Ukraine and accusing the Edmonton-based Ukrainian newspaper *Student* of promoting a pro-Soviet and internationalist line. According to Moroz, the Eighties will herald an era of nationalist revival and Ukrainians should be convinced of the sanctity and all-embracing importance of their nation.

During his address last year to the 20th Congress of the Ukrainian-Canadian Students Union in Montreal, as reported by *Student*, Moroz elaborated his views. He put forward the notion of a "new force" in Ukrainian life, which would be called the "Knights of Sviatoslav." This would be an elite corps under a clear leader and with a mission to steer Ukrainians away from the dangers of pacifism and "Jewish" theories about the equality of nations. Through aggression and confidence in their own strength, Ukrainians could then win their place "in the sun", since "to shed blood for one's nation is an honour." Moroz's Ukraine would flourish on the basis of a *fuehrerprinzip* and by military conquest.

This transformation from the political prisoner who once offered to shake the hand of all who dedicated their lives to overthrowing totalitarian regimes to an extreme nationalist, apparently hell-bent on rejuvenating the Cold War, was initially perplexing. As an admirer of Moroz's works, it was difficult to

comprehend that this was the same man. However, upon Reflection, it is not unusual for a prominent dissident to turn on his captors and urge a violent retribution. Solzhenitsyn, for example, did the same thing upon his deportation from the USSR.

Clearly though, Solzhenitsyn lacked the influence amongst exiled compatriots which Moroz has. Whereas the Russian merely issued verbal warnings to the West about Soviet hegemony, Moroz has appointed himself the spokesman of the emigre Ukrainian community. Other dissidents from Soviet Ukraine, such as Petro Grigorenko and Leonid Plyushch (both delegates of the Ukrainian Helsinki Monitoring Group) have been denounced as outdated representatives of the sixties. Instead, Moroz has formed close alliances with both the extremist faction of Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and the Anti-Bolshevik bloc of Nations (ABN), a grouping which makes the CIA look distinctly pink by comparison.

The OUN dates back to 1929 and the era of integral nationalism, when fascism was sweep-

ing Europe. In the Ukrainian context, it was not so sinister. It can be viewed as a natural expression of frustrated nationhood, rather than open agreement with the ideas of Hitler. On the other hand, it is astonishing that Moroz, who wrote his doctoral thesis on this very period, should exhort his admirers to resurrect 1930s-style nationalism. It suggests a lamentable bankruptcy of political alternatives on the part of this modern-day Ukrainian prophet.

I would be the first to admit that Ukrainian claims to independent nationhood are a legitimate concern of Canadian Ukrainians. Moroz has every right to condemn the current russification of his country. His solutions however are outdated. Paradoxically, he was a much more potent threat to the Soviets when writing polemics from Mordovia than he is now in the "free" West. His works *Report from the Beria Reserve* and *Amid the Snows* will remain a lasting testament to the spirit of this bravest of dissidents. Yet the man himself is losing his credibility. With his bellicose offerings, he is fast creating his vary own boomerang.

Res candidate states platform

Mackenzie Hall Residents:

My name is Al Dawes, and I wish to declare my candidacy for the position of Mackenzie Hall President.

If you elect me as your Hall President, I will be responsible for the development and effective administration of residence policies and programs. In addition, I will be accessible to you the student, be prepared to deal quickly and effectively with questions or problems as they arise and be receptive to ideas for new programs.

I will bring to this position three things:

1. Organizational ability.
2. Practical business experience.
3. A willingness to listen to your concerns.

I have two goals for the forthcoming year:

1. Develop better communication between LHSA and the student body.
2. A more effective voice for student concerns.

The candidates will be stopping at each of your floors Thursday night to discuss the problems and issues they feel to be most important.

My most immediate concerns are:

1. Role of LHSA

2. Food system
3. Security

You have a right to know something about the person you are electing to this position, and I hope to try to meet with as many of you as possible over the next few days to discuss any issues that concern you.

Your vote is important — Make it count.

Al Dawes

Literacy in all Faculties

As an Education student I am compelled to respond to Ms. Loov's and Ms. Schell's letter which appeared in *The Gateway* February 14 ("Ed Students can't rite(sic)"). In spite of their sensationalism, they make a valid point: unfortunately some students are able to enter and survive in the Faculty of Education without good writing skills.

These writers, however, should not restrict their criticism to the Faculty of Education. The fact that all freshmen entering this University may be required to take a writing skills test suggests that problems with writing skills exist in every faculty. How well do students in strict science programs such as Engineering write? In my second year a math professor misspelled 'sandwich' on the blackboard. Such errors do not excuse the

lack of literary competence that Loov and Schell describe; I merely wish to point out that improvement is required throughout this university.

Loov and Schell are to be commended for showing concern in this controversial area — even if their methods are somewhat questionable. Will they limit their concern to the effort required to write a letter to *The Gateway*? There are other avenues open to them. Nominations for Education representatives to General Faculties Council (G F C) open soon. Sitting on G F C will allow them to express their concerns to an audience more influential than *The Gateway* readers. Real action requires so much more effort than criticism.

Bob Raynard
Education IV

New standards needed now

In reply to the February 14 *Gateway* letter titled, 'Ed students can't rite', I am appalled at the attitude of these two future teachers! I suppose if Ms. Loov and Ms. Schell are embarrassed, that is their problem, but to put down the faculty of Education is totally uncalled for!

Granted, changes should be made in the Education Faculty to upgrade the standards, but that is also true of every other faculty on campus. Proper English and good grammar should not only be confined to the Education Faculty.

Something I am puzzled about is how or where you found the critique you used to prove that Education students can't write. I am wondering if you have that person's permission to defame his/her critique. Also, who's to say that this critique wasn't someone's rough draft or that this paper did receive a low grade. I feel that this example, therefore, is invalid.

I am offended that two people such as yourselves can judge the entire faculty so poorly. As a fellow Ed. student, I am

deeply offended by your comments. You criticize your fellow colleagues, yet offer no solutions to the problems you see.

If you Ms. Loov, and you Ms. Schell, want to change certain aspects of our Faculty, why don't you do something constructive, such as join the G.F.C. (General Faculties Council) or the E.S.A. (Education Students Association).

Whatever you do though, don't put down the entire Faculty because of your biases!

I am proud to be in the Education Faculty. I am actively involved in constructively improving the Faculty by my presence and work in various organizations on campus. How about you?

Raelene Poulin
Education IV

LETTERS

Letters to the *Gateway* should be a maximum of 250 words on any subject. Letters must be signed and should include faculty, year and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters must be typed (or very neatly written). We reserve the right to edit for libel and length.



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Responsibility: The Student Advocate is the Students' Union officer who represents and advises students on academic appeals and grievances. He/She must acquaint him/herself with academic appeal procedures so as to assist students.

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Honorarium: \$1,000 per Winter Session (\$125 per month)

For more information, please contact Chanchal Bhattacharya, Vice-President (Academic), 259 Students' Union Building, phone 432-4236.

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For information, contact
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