

## Opinion

## International action is required to halt Moroz' latest persecution

By ANHELYNA SZUCH

Two York University students, myself and Bohdam Kupyez, are now in the eleventh day of a hunger-strike protesting the illegal imprisonment and inhumane treatment of Valentyn Moroz.

Moroz, one of the leading intellectuals in the Soviet Union, was arrested in 1965 on charges of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda", for possessing foreign publications and Samizdat, a clandestinely published journal.

During his imprisonment of 1966-69 Moroz wrote Report from the Beria Reserve, a powerful critique of the totalitarian Soviet system in which the KGB constitutes "a state within a state", which suppresses individuality and stifles creativity.

Moroz writes, "With the disappearance of each individual point of view, we lose irrevocably one possibility; and at the same time, one facet of the million-faced mosaic of the human spirit ceases to sparkle."

Moroz believes that intellectual achievement and true progress is the work of the individual. In his view, change and progress are opposed by some for the sake of human standardization:

"The desire not to be conspicuous in any way, to merge into the mass, to resemble the next person in order not to attract attention, became universal. This meant the complete erosion of individuality."

The real believers in the cog are those for whom maintenance of status quo provides privileges. Such are the KGB who proudly consider themselves to be descendants of Stalin.

Moroz states that "the level of civilization of a society is determined by the degree of its concern for its citizens." If we are the world community we claim to be, then the plight of Moroz is the concern of us all.

Report from the Beria Reserve is a profound reflection on the degradation of civic consciousness in Soviet society, the values of the individual, the insignificance of mass culture and the cruelty of Soviet officialdom, and a penetrating foray into international judicial norms.

The terror techniques of Stalinist times are comprehensively documented in Samidat publications. Moroz' book dispels any doubt that these nightmarish activities are things of the past.

Just prior to his arrest in 1965, Moroz was one of the "generation of the sixties" in Ukraine which produced some of the most politically sophisticated, anti-Stalinist (but pro-socialist) literature published abroad.

After nine months of freedom, Moroz was re-arrested in 1970 on the same charge of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda".

The trial was closed and therefore illegal according to the Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR as well as Articles 20 and 22 of the Ukrainian criminal code.

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 the above provisions were violated in Moroz' case and must be considered a violation of procedural norms sufficient to nullify the verdict.

To initiate the process of reversing the sentence would require efforts on an international scale, involving individual and organizations concerned with human rights who would act patiently but

decisively on Moroz' behalf.

Alexander-Yesenin Volpin states,

"Many of those who protest human rights elsewhere cease their activities when it comes to the "socialist" countries, not wanting to damage the prestige of socialism. Is "socialism" so important that one must bow in awe before it and disregard the fate of outstanding people who are deprived of their freedom?"

At both trials Moroz was arrested and charged for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda". This clause's application and interpretation by Soviet courts is so broad that it in effect nullifies the rights of freedom of speech and freedom of the press guaranteed by the constitution. In practice, the clause has been applied to any expression of opinion which the bureaucracy considers to be ideologically harmful.

In November 1971 Moroz was reported to be critically ill and was therefore moved to the prison hospital. In the hospital he was stabbed by criminal inmates, and upon demanding safety and protection, was placed in isolation in Vladimir prison, known for its harsh treatments.

Reports in early 1974 listed Moroz in an extremely poor physical condition as a result of beatings by criminal inmates, and stated that he was being abused physically and mentally by prison guards and the KGB, who repeatedly attempt to obtain a recantation.

Moroz began a hunger-strike last July 1 in protest of his treatment and will continue until his demands are met - or until death.

There is no hope for Moroz' survival as long as he remains in Vladimir prison, notorious for inhumane treatment of prisoners.

An editorial in the New York Times stated:

"Moroz is not well known in the West, and his plight has attracted little attention outside the circle of Ukrainians in this country and in Canada. Perhaps for this reason, Soviet authorities have so far turned deaf ears to pleas on his behalf from international civil libertarian groups. Moscow's policy-makers should not be deluded into waiting until some specific outrage against the... intellectuals makes the protest genuinely universal."

When asked what to transmit to the West regarding his current situation, Moroz whispered, "Tell them that I am kept with the insane, that they are attempting to make me as insane as those they throw in here. I can't breathe." He repeated this several times.

In reply, the Soviet power concedes by stating that in fact "cough pills were prescribed" for Moroz due to his complaints.

Obviously they're playing games with the Canadian public, grossly underestimating the western world's intelligence.

Telegrams can be sent to the paid apologist for the tormentors of Moroz, Alexander Nikolaevich Yakovlev, the Soviet ambassador to Canada, 285 Charlotte Street, Ottawa. His home is at 390 Lisgar Road in Rockliff Park, Ottawa.

As James Eayrs of the University of Toronto has said,

"Moroz will have his honoured place. His ordeal has been a saga of the human spirit as noble as that of Socrates, as bold as Joan of Arc's. But it is not yet so well known in the world as to require no recounting".

## Letters

### Not an isolated case

Had the recent outbreak of wanton damage to and theft of objects from the University's art collection been an unprecedented event, there might be some justification for your charge of "over-reaction" in the decision to remove all vulnerable works of art to a place of safety until such time as they can be displayed under conditions of optimum security.

Unfortunately, this was not an isolated case but just the culminating and final unacceptable blow in a succession of similar incidents during the past few years.

There comes a point where the continued survival of the collection must take precedence over all other considerations, even though this may seem to negate the original purpose for which the works of art were acquired, namely, the enhancement of our somewhat bleak environment.

Insurance compensation for such losses is now virtually non-existent. In any case a work of art is not like a common room sofa: it can't be replaced.

The decision was not easily taken; but in weighing one responsibility against another it seemed to be unavoidable.

Michael Greenwood  
Curator of Art

### Residence cool

It's 2 a.m. and I'm still not asleep. (Nope - not insomnia. Hibernating creatures never suffer from that.) But it's so bloody cold in my room - and no wonder. The residence air conditioner is going full blast.

It was just as ludicrous last week. I was both incensed and amused at myself for reacting with such melodrama to a cold room when, on Thursday, some kindly soul turned on the heat.

I was on the verge of collapse by then anyway, so it's a good thing relief came when it did.

Nonetheless, I was willing to forgive the ogre for this deprivation after the heat was turned on.

So I merrily departed for the weekend, and Zap!, they turned it off again. I was even kind enough to leave my control switched off (conservation and all that) while I was away, only to come back and, after being frozen to the marrow when my indicator pointed to 'High', discover that I was back to square one again.

I feel horribly like the proverbial 'Voice in the Wilderness', but I dearly wish that the Heat Controller (or whoever) would regulate the heat in accordance with the temperature outside, and not wait for an official sounding of the winter drum.

Can you hear me, physical plant?

Mary Quan

### On free tuitions

I would like to respond to the comments of Bill Small, vice president for administration as quoted in an Excalibur interview of September 12, 1974. "Free family tuition outdated, says Small."

Mr. Small is quite wrong, college professors are not better off now than in the past. Over the past three years, the real salaries of York professors have gone down because of unfavourable salary settlements which did not keep pace with the rate of inflation.

The result has been a lowering of faculty morale and a restiveness among many senior faculty who are thinking about better paying positions at other universities, with government or private industry.

In the light of these facts, I am surprised Mr. Small should suggest ending the policy of granting free tuition to faculty dependents.

I am also puzzled by Mr. Small's comment that "if the practice could not be curtailed, staff members should be given the same privileges now enjoyed by faculty." Does Mr. Small mean that faculty should give up the free tuition policy so as to preclude the staff's obtaining the same privilege? I certainly hope not, for the faculty would certainly not want to do any such thing.

Does he mean that whatever benefits faculty get the staff should get too? This is possible, but it is a matter for negotiation between the administration and the staff. Whatever he means, however, I am sure that most faculty members would be pleased to see the administration extend the free tuition policy to staff dependents.

Finally, I am glad that the administration is not considering making any unilateral change in the free tuition policy in the future and that Mr. Small thinks the policy is pretty much here to stay.

HARVEY G. SIMMONS

Chairman  
York University Faculty Association

## On Campus

Events for On Campus should be sent to Department of Information and Publications, S802 Ross. Deadline is Monday, 12 noon.

### SPECIAL LECTURES

Thursday, 2:00 p.m. — Research Seminar [University of Toronto-York University Joint Program in Transportation] "The Effects of Land Ownership on Settlement Patterns in the Canadian West" by University of Toronto student, Karen Anderson — Room 111, Coach House, University of Toronto.

### FILMS, ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, 12 noon — P.E.A.K. in Process [Program in Theatre, Bethune College Council] first in a series of Friday noon-hour presentations in which emphasis will be placed entirely on performance, direction and writing, and in which the "in process" aspects of the work will be shared with the audience — for further information call Bonnie Juliani at 667-3240 — Junior Common Room, Bethune College.

Saturday, 8:30 p.m. — Film [Bethune College] "Daisy Miller" directed by Peter Bogdanovich (Cybill Shepherd) — admission \$1.25 — Room L, Curtis Lecture Hall

Sunday, 8:30 p.m. — Film [Bethune College] "Daisy Miller" — admission \$1.25 — Room L, Curtis Lecture Hall.

Monday, 4 p.m. — Films in Canadian History [History Department] "Louisbourg" (20 mins.) and "Wolfe and Montcalm" (29 mins.) — Room I, Curtis Lecture Halls

Wednesday, 4:15 p.m. — Film [Humanities 373] "Fall of Babylon (section of intolerance) by D.W. Griffith — Room 204, York Hall, Glendon College.

### COFFEE HOUSES, PUBS

For days and hours open, please call the individual coffee houses:

Absinthe Coffee House — 013, Winters (2439).  
Ainger Coffee Shop — Atkinson Coffee (3544).  
Argh Coffee Shop — 051, McLaughlin (3606).  
Comeback Inn — 2nd floor, Phase II, Atkinson (2489).  
Cock & Bull Coffee Shop — 023, Founders (3667).  
Green Bush Inn — T.B.A. (3019).  
Just Another Cofree Shop — 112, Bethune (3579).  
Open End Coffee Shop — 004, Vanier (6386).  
Orange Snail Coffee Shop — 107, Stong (3587).  
Osgoode Pub — JCR, Osgoode (3019).

### CLUBS, MEETINGS

Thursday, 7 p.m. — General Meeting — of the Council of the York Student Federation; agenda is available from the C.Y.S.F. Office — Room N111, the Ross Building.

Monday, 7:30 p.m. — York Bridge Club — Vanier College

Dining Hall.

Wednesday — 4 p.m. — Christian Science College Organization — will meet every Wednesday until further notice; all interested persons welcome — Room S501, the Ross Building.

### SPORTS, RECREATION

Sunday, 1 p.m. — Third World Gymnastics Trials — to determine the Canadian Mens' Gymnastic Team — general admission is \$2.00; \$1.00 for students — Tait McKenzie Building.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Saturday, 10:30 a.m. — INSTALLATION-CONVOCATION CEREMONIES — the Installation of H. Ian Macdonald as President of York University will take place as well as the Atkinson College Convocation — the ceremonies will be held at the podium level of Central Square (in case of inclement weather, they will take place in the Tait McKenzie Building)

Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Roman Catholic Mass — Room 107, Stedman Lecture Halls (Note: Father G. Tannam, Catholic Chaplain to York, has an office in Room 035, McLaughlin College — telephone 667-3673 — and will be available on Wednesdays at the Glendon campus in Room 120, York Hall — telephone 487-6119)