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10 European Countries Back United States Policy on Iraq

LJUBLJANA — Ten European countries that are candidates for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization adopted a declaration supporting U.S. policy on Iraq, Slovenia's STA news service reported.

Slovenia, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Albania, Croatia and Macedonia signed a declaration saying the U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell proved to the United Nations Security Council in an address last week that Iraq has violated

UN resolutions, the report said.

The countries are also willing to participate in an international coalition to disarm Iraq, STA said. It didn't give details.

In his address, Powell produced a compilation of intercepted telephone conversations, satellite photographs and testimony of captives and defectors suggesting Iraq is hiding its weapons activities and building alliances with terrorist agents.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for providing this news.

Waterfalls Dedicated at Rose-Mary Center



Officers of The Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation look at the waterfalls which the foundation funded for The Ellen Bonnie Mandel Sensory Garden project of the Rose-Mary Center, 19350 Euclid Avenue, Euclid, Ohio 44117. The Sensory Garden Project was dedicated on Saturday, September 21, 2002 with an outdoor Mass and blessing celebrated by Most Reverend Anthony M. Pilla, Bishop of Cleveland.

The Sensory Garden is replete with smells, sounds, textures, and colors. The garden itself is fenced to allow a safe and controlled environment for exploration. The waterfall is the central feature of the garden. Free form sandstone boulders are dry-stacked and a slate of granite is placed on top so that water sheets down into a small pool where children can put their feet and hands.

Having severe physical and developmental disabilities, many of the children at Rose-Mary struggle to explore and know their world.

At Rose-Mary, The Johanna Grasselli Rehabilitation and Education Center, multiply handicapped children are given the opportunity not only to

receive what the Church has to offer, but they, in turn, contribute to the life of the community by their individual dignity as persons and by the positive human values they stimulate in others.

Rose-Mary Center assists and empowers individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities to achieve lives of increasing abilities and personal fulfillment, thereby becoming more independent and integrated members of the community. The Center supports and joins with families in this pursuit.

Mary Erdani McMurray is Administrator of Community and Therapeutic Programs.

Donations may be sent to the Rose-Mary Center at the address listed above.

Pictured, left to right, are, James V. Debevec, President, Madeline D. Debevec, Secretary-Treasurer, and John M. Urbancich, Trustee of The Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation. The grant for the Waterfalls in the Sensory Garden was given in memory of Frank J. Lausche, a former U.S. Senator, and governor from the State of Ohio.

Slovenia Expects to Join EU Soon; But There Are Doubters

Among the eight ex-communist countries likely to join the European Union in 2004, Slovenia is an oddity. Until 1991, it was part of Yugoslavia, not of the Soviet Union or its empire. It achieved independence in 1991 with barely any of the violence that ravaged Croatia and Bosnia. And, by ex-communist standards, its 2 million people are well off, the richest of the eight. Indeed, Slovenians these days like to deny that they are part of the Balkans at all.

For them, joining the EU has a double value. It both confirms their alignment with Western Europe and, however paradoxically, their independence until 1991, Slovenia had been subject to outsiders throughout its history. At last, here it is, a nation free to choose for itself. In a referendum vote, its voters will probably choose to join the EU.

Not that they expect life inside the EU to be vastly better. Indeed, many have recently become warier of joining the club. They detect double standards in Brussels. Because Slovenia is rich, compared with, say, Poland, it has been squeezed by the EU to open its land to purchase by foreigners as soon as it joins, as Polish land will not be. But because it is also poor, compared with, say, next-door Austria, its people must wait seven years before

they can move freely to work inside today's EU.

In GDP per person, Slovenia is about as rich as Greece. But while Greece has had lavish EU handouts, for being at the bottom of the EU's first division, Slovenia — it is felt — is paying for being at the top of the incoming second group. But for EU concessions, it would probably have been a net contributor to the EU's budget from the day it joined. Even now, the EU assurance that new members will not be hit that way lasts only for their first three years. Thereafter, says the foreign minister, Dimitrij Rupel, "We could be in trouble."

Its farmers have special fears. Slovenian farming is more like that of Switzerland than of Poland's broad plains, and, to keep it solvent, farm prices are already high. So the EU's plans — in the early years — to subsidize the new members' farmers far less than those of current ones, could mean that Slovenian farmers would at first actually be worse off than now.

Doubts about the EU are more than equaled by doubts about NATO. The political elite was eager for the invitation to sign up that it got from the NATO summit in Prague. Ordinary Slovenians ask why. Some think their fellow Alpinists, the Austrians and Swiss, are right to

cherish their neutrality. Overall, say pollsters, only half want NATO membership.

Still, that, too, would be a step away from their ex-Yugoslav cousins. Relations with Croatia are cool. The two have arguments over their coastal border, over an alleged debt of some \$400 million, going back to Yugoslav times, owed by a Slovenian bank to Croatians, and over the running of a jointly owned nuclear power plant.

In praise of dullness

Not that Slovenians are looking for trouble. They value their stability. The man who led them to independence in 1991, Milam Kucan, has been president ever since. As he cannot stay for a third term, Slovenians have elected the current, center-left prime minister, dull but steady Janez Drnovsek, who has held that post almost continuously since 1992, to replace him.

Continuity may indeed be a problem in the years ahead. Mr. Kucan, a former com-

munist, is widely popular. He is also, say many anti-communists, at the center of a shadowy, almost masonic, network of ex-communist officials who seem still to hold many of the levers of power.

—The Economist

Thanks to **Rudolph F. Lukez** of Kirtland, Ohio for this article.

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No. 7 February 13, 2003

REFLECTIONS BY RUDY

Incredible, Edible Eggs

by RUDY FLIS

Eggs! How I enjoy the taste of eggs. Scrambled, with pork and beans, or my favorite, an omelet with klobase, between two pieces of bread. What a sandwich – and such flavor. It is the taste for the gods.

But I will eat a salad with hard boiled eggs in it, especially a kidney bean salad, with salt and pepper, vinegar and oil, onion and hard boiled eggs. Such allies in flavor are forever victorious with my taste buds. And American potato salad is nothing without hard boiled eggs.

When I boil an egg, I boil forever, sometimes to make sure the yolk isn't soft. The yolk is always dark on its surface. Who cares? It tastes great going into the stomach, as long as it doesn't get stuck in the throat passage, a common occurrence at Easter time.

When I visited my brother Tony last month, he

boiled eggs for potato salad. As he sliced the hard boiled egg, I saw a bright yellow egg yolk. It was beautiful, like a bright yellow spring flower.

"How come those egg yolks are so yellow, Tony?" He told me, "I boil them the right time, not too long over the heat." Then he said "Put your eggs in a pan, fill it with cold water, about two inches above the eggs. Turn on the heat and bring eggs to a boil. Boil the eggs for one minute, then turn off the heat and cover the pan. Leave the eggs in the pan for 15 minutes, then rinse with cold water. Your eggs will be a bright yellow."

It did work for me. Cleveland water might be colder than California water, but our eggs like swimming in it, as long as you don't forget them.

I like my teeth white and my egg yolks a bright yellow, and I now know how to do it.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

THINNEST BOOKS FOUND IN THE U.S.

(Received via e-mail from a friend – author unknown, but probably a Republican)

1. How I Served My Country - by Jane Fonda
2. My Super Bowl Highlights - by Dan Marino
3. Things I Love About Bill - by Hillary Clinton
4. Things I Cannot Afford - by Bill Gates
5. Things I Would Not Do For Money - by Dennis Rodman
6. My Wild Years - by Al Gore
7. A Collection Of Motivational Speeches - by Dr. Kevorkian
8. Everything Men Know About Women - author unknown
9. Everything Women Know About Men - author unknown
10. Mike Tyson's Guide To Dating Etiquette - by M. Tyson
11. The Amish Phone Directory - author unknown

*Happy Valentine's Day to all the readers of
American Home!*

VOA Ends Slovenian Broadcasts

The Voice of America will end its foreign language service to 10 Eastern European countries under its 2004 budget, officials said last week.

The U.S. government service will shut down its services in Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Slovenian, Slovak, and Romanian, the officials said. There will also be substantial cuts in its Ukrainian and Armenian services.

According to VOA management, the changes are motivated by strategic rather than by economic reasons. VOA's budget for 2004 was actually increased by 9.5 percent to \$563.5 million.

But VOA wants to use the increased funding to develop programming aimed at the Middle East and Southeast Asia. A total of \$30 million will be used to initiate the Middle East Television Network, a new satellite service in Arabic. Indonesian programming will be doubled to five hours a week.

"Our world is changing," said VOA Director David Jackson in a telephone interview. "Ever since VOA was created 62 years ago, our countries have changed as

the geopolitical situation has changed."

Some analysts agree its time for VOA to rethink its strategy. Simon Serfaty, director of European studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), said he was sympathetic to the decision to reduce the European division.

"In the conditions of scarce resources Europe doesn't hold that kind of priority for pursuing such activity as other parts of the world," he said.

VOA, supervised by the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), beams about 1,000 hours of news, information, and educational and cultural programs every week to an audience of some 94 million people worldwide in more than 50 languages, according to the VOA Web site.

"We operate much like the private media, journalistically," Mr. Jackson said. "However, part of our mission is to report on the U.S. government and its policies."

The BBG also oversees Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, Radio Sawa, and Radio Faroa in Arabic, Radio Free Asia, Radio and TV

Marti, and Worldset Television.

RFE/RL, which was created to broadcast local news to countries where free speech is suppressed, will also drop service in six languages, Bulgarian, Croatian, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Slovak. Operational costs of Armenian, Georgian, Serbian and Ukrainian services will be reduced as well.

In a statement to VOA staff last week, BBG Chairman Kenneth Tomlinson said the victory in the Cold War was a direct result of VOA broadcasts to Eastern and Central Europe.

He said that "the goal these services struggled and sacrificed for, has been achieved, and they should take great pride in the role they played in this historic mission."

Mr. Jackson said the broadcast service is doing its best to help workers find new jobs. However, according to union leaders, many VOA employees believe the European services are still needed.

--The Washington Times

Thanks to Stane Sustarsic for this news.

Heritage Foundation Presents Talk on Slovenian Impressionist Painters

The Slovenian American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the first talk in our 2003 lecture series. The Foundation is extremely pleased that Anthony W. Hiti will discuss the life and work of Slovenia's Impressionist Painters.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Wednesday, February 19 at 7 p.m. in the Lower Hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio. A coffee and strudel social will follow the lecture.

In his presentation, Mr. Hiti will review the artistic contributions of the Slovenian Impres-

sionist painters Matija Jama, Ivan Grohar and Matej Sternen, with a special emphasis on Richard Jakopič. These individuals helped establish Slovenia's artist identity during the early part of the 20th Century and played an important role in founding a number of significant cultural institutions.

Anthony Hiti, the current President of the Slovenian American Heritage Foundation, is an architect for the firm Herman Gibans Fodor, Inc. in Cleveland. In his practice, he is involved in the design of environments for the elderly, multi-family housing and historic preservation projects.

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Life in the Refugee Camps

by ANTON ZAKELJ
translated and edited
by JOHN ZAKELJ

Saturday, July 13, 1946

I read all morning, for the first time in a long time. I am very tired.

Sunday, July 14, 1946

I slept poorly last night. I had bad dreams about my home in Slovenia.

Tuesday, July 16, 1946

I sold 240 Shillings worth of lace in the city.

I visited the Murdorf camp and noticed that the person who has responsibility for refugee employment at that camp (comparable to my position here) has a nice office. I have to do everything out of the room where I live with 11 other people. I complained to Dr. Est, who said I could use the camp office.

Wednesday, July 17, 1946

I met for 3 hours with Miss Russon and Kurdidik. We set up an accounts book for the "Welfare Fund."

A new UNRRA director, Dr. Dantry, arrived.

Thursday, July 18, 1946

A number of refugees from our camp took their written driving tests today. Out of 24 taking the test, 18 passed. Franc Demsar would have passed but he made a mistake because he was mad about something. I didn't go because I haven't had the time to study, and I don't have the 300 Shillings for the required fee.

Because of my work on the craft show, I am receiving double food rations. At least I have enough food!

Friday, July 19, 1946

I worked with Miss Russon on a final accounting for the craft show. Total income was 2,830 Shillings and expenses were 730, for a profit of 2,100 for the Red Cross. As a reward for my work, I received 2 cigarettes.

Holzinger, the tailor, agreed to make me an overcoat for 40 Shillings and Pirnat agreed to make me a shirt for 20 Shillings. Karl agreed to fix my shoes for free, but I had to pay 20 Shillings for the leather.

Saturday, July 20, 1946

We hear on the news that the Russians demand our forced return to Yugoslavia, but the British insist that nobody will be moved against their will.

Tuesday, July 23, 1946

After a long break due to my work on the craft show, I again began reading and studying English.

After the craft show, our refugees received many orders to produce items for sale, but we can't get the raw materials we need. I went to the UNRRA offices to beg for the materials we need, but couldn't get anything.

(My diary does not say anything about this, but I believe it was around this time that I begged the authorities to give us permission to salvage metal from the many downed American

warplanes which could be found in the surrounding woods. Mr. Podhorsky finally obtained permission for Tone Babnik to do that, but I think the other refugees thought I had profited by selling those rights to Babnik. I think that may have been why I had some problems getting cooperation from the other refugees for the craft show. As it turned out, the American planes were of no use to us, since they were made of Duraluminum, which was too hard to work with by hand. The German planes that we had found earlier were made of softer aluminum, which was very workable.)

Wednesday, July 24, 1946

Our food rations were adequate for a while, but now they are being cut back again. In the evening, they give me extra pea soup as a reward for my work. But the soup has more mouse droppings in it than peas.

Friday, July 26, 1946

I've been to the UNRRA offices 5 times this week to beg for materials - always without success. Even Miss Russon can't help me. I gave her a list of everything we need.

Saturday, July 27, 1946

Two higher level UNRRA officials arrived from Vienna to tour our camp workshop. Maybe they can help us get raw materials.

(To Be Continued)



Bernie Sajovec **Julia Mejac**

This past week, two residents from St. Vitus Village in Cleveland celebrated their birthdays. Julia Mejac's birthday was Feb. 2nd. She turned 85 years young. Bernie Sajovec's birthday was Feb. 8th and she is 81 years young. We wish both of them the very best!

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- Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Tour - Sept 13-27
- Slovenia Highlights II w/Frankie Spetich - Sept 29 - Oct 11

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NATIONAL ATLAS OF SLOVENIA


"It is indeed impressive when a country that is smaller than Lake Ontario and has about two million people - fewer than many U.S. cities - can put out a national atlas as well presented as this one."

The Library Journal, June, 2002

This is a great reference book for students of all ages and a captivating portrait of Slovenia to share with friends or give as a gift. It was produced by a team of geographers, historians and social scientists to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Slovenia's independence. The atlas has 106 maps, including historic drawings of Slovenian towns and regions, 76 color photographs and 24 tables and graphs in its nearly two hundred pages. Cloth-bound edition - \$75.00 (ISBN - 961-209-213-3); also available in Slovenian.

 This book is imported by Books of Slovenia, a division of Delphi Associates. To order, please send a check or purchase order to Delphi Associates at 453 Rialto Avenue, Venice, CA 90291. Or order on-line at www.BooksOfSlovenia.com. All major credit cards accepted. Prices include shipping and handling. For information or a catalogue call (310) 392 4843 or email BooksofSlovenia@attbi.com.

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Slovenia: Where beauty's a bargain

by Karen Torne Olson
Knights Rider News Service

LJUBLJANA, Slovenia - Kosovo is where my son Greg lives and works, but Slovenia is where he plays.

After spending a couple of days with him in Kosovo, we took the 90-minute Adria Airlines flight from Pristina to the Slovenian capital of Ljubljana, where his fiancée, Sanja, was waiting with her car after making the two-hour drive from Zagreb, Croatia.

Slovenia is a relatively unknown destination for American travelers, and it was a mystery to me. I had no idea what to expect here, but the country's meadows and mountains, castles and caves, cities and seashore are no secret to Europeans, who have been vacationing in the region for hundreds of years. Slovenia's compact size (about the same as New Jersey) makes almost every town a day trip from anywhere else in the country.

Our first stop was Kranjska Gora, a mountain village northwest of Ljubljana with a Teutonic feel and spectacular views of the Julian Alps. We stopped at what looked like a private residence but what actually is Greg and Sanja's favorite Slovenian bed-and-breakfast.

Knowing that Greg is a bit "frugal," I was expecting rugged accommodations, but the B&B, Banic's Rooms, was spacious, immaculate, and comfortably furnished, complete with amenities such as satellite TV, private baths, and hair dryers. But the biggest - and best - surprise was the cost, a mere \$33 for our two rooms and three huge breakfasts.

Despite its attractive exchange rate, Slovenia's tourism declined during the Kosovo War even though none of the hostilities reached here. But there are signs of a developing boom all over the country and in the Kranjska Gora area, which once was a winter playground for wealthy Austrians. Several plush hotels and condominium developments are under construction, and restaurants abound, sparking Greg's fears that his \$12 lift tickets could be in jeopardy.

So far, however, Slovenia is still a bargain. Dining in a U.S. ski town can break the bank, but dinner for three at Gostilna Pri Martinu, one of the village's best restaurants, was a mere \$18 including tip for a meal of local specialties that included venison medallions, *telecja obara* (veal stew), and a liter of excellent Slovenian wine.

The next morning we am-

bled through the village and browsed in shops selling local crafts and produce before heading south for Bled, Slovenia's most popular resort town. Bled is a town made for postcard photographers. Its natural beauty and terrain draw visitors who can also take advantage of its thermal springs, casino, medieval castle, pricey boutiques and baroque church, which seems to float above shimmering Lake Bled while perched on Slovenia's only island.

We began our exploration of Bled with a climb up one of two trails to Bled Castle, which is built on a bluff 300 feet above the lake. You have to work to experience the castle's charms and spectacular views.

I was struggling to keep up with my two athletic companions, so I suggested lunch at the castle's restaurant, but Greg insisted we continue on to Vintgar Gorge, a mile-plus walk from Bled. There is a bus from town for those unwilling to make the hike, but that wasn't on our agenda.

The gorge is a mini Grand Canyon that frames the Radovna River, a rolling stream beneath a narrow wooden walkway that dates from 1893. The path, which can be slippery, hugs one of the rock walls for about a mile and crosses rapids, waterfalls and deceptively still pools four times before it reaches the graceful Sum Waterfall.

It was just afternoon when we left Vintgar Gorge and headed southwest to Bohinj, where a glacial lake attracts kayakers, fly fishermen and canoeists. A hotel, tourist kiosks, a church and a restaurant are situated on the bank of the crystal-clear lake teeming with trout.

After a short respite, Greg and Sanja led the way up a steep, winding trail for more than half an hour (signs don't give the length of the climb in distance, only in time). The arduous climb rewards hikers with the spectacular sight of Savica Waterfall erupting from a sheer rock wall. Not only is it one of the region's most impressive sights, it is the source of the Reka River.

After our descent (during which we grinned smugly at hikers on their way up), we celebrated with a glass of wine at the trailhead restaurant and made plans to spend the night at a farmhouse inn near Bled so we could get an early start back to Ljubljana.

None of us knew what to expect when we pulled up at PR' Povsin, a farm and guest house in the tiny town of Selo. What we got was a tour of the farm's milking opera-

tion, two lovely rooms with private baths in a detached guest-house, and more bargain prices.

We were up with the chickens - literally - and made a beeline for the buffet of homemade breads, jams and yogurts, plus some of the farm's eggs, dairy products and fruit juices. The government-licensed inn is a sideline for Joze and Romana Soklic and their two children, all of whom work the farm. The bargain basement prices bolster the family's income, but still were astonishingly low: two rooms and three breakfasts were \$36.00.

The drive to picturesque Ljubljana took less than an hour, and our first stop was the city's Central Market next to the Plecnik Colonnade above the Ljubljanica River. Here vendors adjacent to the Cathedral of St. Nicholas sell fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, baked goods, fish, herbs and spices, and a fabulous array of meats and cheeses.

Across the Triple Bridge is a beautiful square where people meet or just hang out at the monument to France Preseren, a 19th century Slovenian poet, as street musicians play American jazz. One of the buildings on the north side of the square is the 17th-century Franciscan Church of the Annunciation, an eye-catching, salmon-and-white structure.

We browsed the kiosks, munched on cherry-filled pastries, and visited both churches until Greg decided it was time for our daily climb, this time up Castle Hill to the Ljubljana Castle. Most of the castle dates to the 16th century, but the interior has been transformed into an odd, multipurpose conglomeration of disco / cocktail lounge / souvenir shop / museum. Views of the city from the castle's roof are panoramic.

We spent the next few hours wandering Ljubljana's narrow streets and joining what seemed like the entire city of 330,000 on the river promenade on a lazy Saturday afternoon. Everyone seemed to be roller-blading, strolling or just sipping wine at one of the many outdoor cafes overlooking the river.

We had planned to spend the night in Ljubljana but decided instead to drive to Slovenia's sparkling Adriatic coast. In less than two hours, mountains and farmland gave way to palm trees, olive groves and vineyards. We stopped for the night in Koper, a blue-collar port city with an industrial feel and a small but well-preserved medieval old town.

Koper is about 12 miles from Trieste, Italy, and it shows. Signs are in Slovenian and Italian, menus are full of Italian cuisine, and the town has a definite Mediterranean look about it.

We checked into the aseptic Hotel Koper, dined at Skipper, a no-frills seafood restaurant, and left the next morning for the Skocjan Caves in the Karst region, which were included in UNESCO's World Heritage Sites list in 1986.

No trams or signs mar the natural beauty of the caves that run 800 feet below ground. The rush of the Reka River rumbles audibly throughout the caves it carved ages ago. Crossing a narrow bridge 150 feet above the cave's floor offers a frightening but spectacular view of the subterranean landscape of stalactites, stalagmites and flow stones.

After spending the morning in the dark, we headed back to the coast and the sunshine. We decided to spend our last night in the seaside resort town of Portoroz and to splurge on a hotel that looked like it would fit right in at South Beach. Our "room" at the

Riviera was a two-story suite with balconies and skylights opening to the sea, two bedrooms and living rooms, elaborate baths with whirlpools and showers as big as a walk-in closet, plus other amenities and, of course, a huge breakfast.

This was by far the most expensive of our accommodations, but at \$300 it was just \$50 more than a tiny room for one in the Zurich Airport Hilton. We walked along the beach, explored the adjacent sea town of Piran, sampled *gelato* on the promenade, and watched night fall on the Adriatic.

The next day I would fly back to America, Sanja would go back to her job in Croatia, and Greg would return to his work in Kosovo. But until then, we immersed ourselves in the perfumed air of the sea and waited for the sun to rise.

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Highlights of Slovenia

September 3 - 10

Explore Your Roots w/the Slovenian Genealogy Society

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September 6 - 12

Slovenian Women's Union of America
77th Anniversary

Slovenia Heritage Tour

w/Bavaria and Austria September 13 - 27

Slovenia Highlights II

with Frankie Spetich

September 29 - October 11

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In Memory of Jernej Zupan

The following eulogy was given by Jernej Zupan's eldest son, Jerry Zupan.

"My father, Jernej, lapsed into a coma; they gave him only two more days to live." I broke the news to my family in New York. "I have to go to Ohio immediately to see him before he dies. I might not even arrive in time."

"But Dad," my son Michael chided me, "that means you gave up all hope already. That's just the opposite of everything you always taught us."

A parent's dilemma: what to respond.

"Of course I hope that he lives longer," I soothed, "but the doctors know the signs, and I'm sure that God wants him now." I believed I had all the answers.

Five hundred miles later across snow white country, I arrived at his bedside. Semi-comatose, yet at the sound of my voice, he squeezed my hand, mouthed unintelligible words, and his eyes flickered. We connected.

As the vital signs deteriorated, the family projected a quick death, and started making plans for the funeral. We kept constant vigil at his bedside, not sure who was in more pain, him struggling for breath or us watching him die.

Another long day passed. Another longer day passed. We now prayed that God release him from his suffering; instead, another day passed; day five since his lapse into a coma. Perhaps Jernej was trying to teach us one more lesson: "I, your God, am in control; not you." One by one, we began to accept this fact, and a sort of peace wafted into our souls.

On the evening of day seven, Jernej's final breath came ever so silently, like a snowflake touching the ground, like an autumn leaf on a calm day that just inexplicably broke free from a branch and lazily floated to the ground. Jernej, you beat the medical experts' odds by five days.

Don't give up hope, no matter what God or life throws at you. This summed Jernej's life of 87 years. World War I was still raging when Jernej was born on September 3rd, 1916, the 3rd of 9 children, to hardy Slovenian mountain folk in a tiny hamlet in the Alps that divide Austria and Slovenia. His childhood spanned the postwar depression decade. But Jernej was blissfully unaware of their poverty, whether walking barefoot through the grass, or sledging down mountain slopes, or picking fresh fruit off of a tree. To him, a mountain was

paradise itself.

In 1930, at the age of 14, Jernej wanted to follow in the footsteps of his oldest brother and enroll in college, but his father had to crush this dream. There simply was no money. But don't give up hope. Jernej became a 3-year apprentice to a merchant in the nearby town. Just 10 years later, in 1940, Jernej was a business partner of a thriving shoe-making company. His future prosperity seemed guaranteed, but World War 2 intervened.

The Nazis once nearly shot him, having been falsely suspected of being a partisan spy. But the communists knew different: Jernej was wealthy and influential, and he came from a solid Catholic family, and that was evidence enough to be earmarked for liquidation.

Miraculously he escaped not one, but four separate attempts on his life during the war.

As the Soviet Red Army invaded his country at the war's end, to save his life, he had no choice but to give up everything, his home, his business, the land of his birth, and join the thousands of similar refugees swarming to the supposedly safe haven in Austria to avoid a government of communism, persecution, and certainly death.

Once in Austria, he would have joined the Slovenian anti-communist army like his brothers, had not a gutsy girlfriend, Rozalia Racic, decided at the last minute to join his family's exodus. Her presence saved his life, otherwise he would have been repatriated by the British like his brothers and thousands of other Slovenian young men, and massacred two weeks later.

With two knapsacks to hold all their worldly possessions, Jernej and Zalka were married in the refugee tent city just three weeks after they crossed the border.

They spent the next four years in DP (Displaced Persons) camps with other Slovenians who, like themselves, had refused to give up hope, and with nothing, started life anew. The DP camp was a perfect Christian community. Each refugee always did anything possible to alleviate one another's suffering. As one example, although the refugees were forbidden to bring food from the outside into the starving DP camp, Jernej once tried to smuggle in some eggs for a pregnant refugee. For this one act of Christian kindness, Jernej was sentenced to one month in jail. But never give up hope. Three babies and four years later, they emigrated to the USA

through the sponsorship of his wife's brother, Ivan Racic. To show their gratitude, they had another baby and named him Ivan.

Once again they were foreign people in a foreign land, starting again at the bottom rung with nothing. His goal, like that of every other refugee, was to raise his family in the traditional solid Slovenian values that had formed him. Yet it was easier this time. Nurturing him were St. Vitus parish and the teamwork of fellow refugees who had shared the same trials and tribulations and hopes and dreams. Some of you are here today.

With the help of his devoted wife, relatives, fellow refugees, and Saint Vitus Parish, Jernej had advanced from janitor, painter, auto assembly line worker, to machinist and homeowner. He was president of the Slovenian school, where his hope was that Slovenian children would learn to cherish their heritage and develop lifelong friendships, and he succeeded: some of you are here today. He was one of the original prime movers who located and purchased a recreational site for future Slovenian generations, and he succeeded: you have the Slovenska Pristava.

Having been raised in the mountains, Jernej just could not find comfort in city life. He purchased some acreage in rural northeast Ohio - the lot was pure wilderness, overgrown with impassable brush and brambles, a dilapidated shack, no running water, no electricity. "Ata," we chided him, "how could you waste money on such a piece of garbage!" But he just smiled his enigmatic "Don't give up hope" smile. In a few years, he taught us how to transform that wasteland into a manicured farm with vineyards, orchards, and a chalet. His place became a welcome haven for many a visiting former fellow refugee.

It took the arrival of 13 grandchildren to mellow him in his old age. Like ducklings, they followed him around the farm. Like him, they walked barefoot on the grass, felt him jump on the back of their toboggan, and ate freshly picked fruit. He taught them how to drive a riding mower, and they practiced by trying to run down their siblings. He let them experience their first cup of coffee, even their first glass of wine.

In the winter of Jernej's life, God sent blows that would test the mettle of any man. His devoted wife of 52 years died of cancer. His eyesight was irreversibly

failing, then a heart attack, a stroke, a lung clot, and the death of his companion dog. His beloved farm had to be sold to afford his move to a home for assisted living. This wasn't "home," but it was the next best thing.

Yet the blows continued: Parkinson's disease, bouts with dementia. He had once said that he wanted to die "at home." His younger daughter and her family took him into their home so he could live the final four months of his life in dignity. Down to

his last conscious day, he never once complained about his pain or suffering. Come to think of it, he had never complained once about a single one of his misfortunes in life, nor had he ever said an unkind word about anybody.

When comatose, and given two days to live, Jernej had to stretch that to seven days as if to tell us one more time, his final legacy: "No matter what life may throw at you, never give up hope. God is in control."



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Dogs, Friends, and Streetcars

by JOE GLINSEK

(Continued from last week)

Another kid I hung around with lived down our alley. Bobby's house was one of those with no driveway. The garage door faced the alley, and inside was his dad's old 'Franklin.' It was a very unusual car for our neighborhood, in fact, I don't recall seeing another like it, except in the museum. Long and black, half its length seemed to be the hood, under which was an air cooled engine that marked this car as unique. His dad was fairly lenient about Bobby and I pretended to drive in this black beauty. It had a fancy dashboard with more dials and instruments than any car I'd ever seen. The '32 Franklin spent a lot more time parked than it did running, and his dad tinkered with the engine on many weekends. Occasionally the royal coach appeared on the street, but usually it sat in the garage or alley.

They also had a police dog, "Collinwood-speak" for German shepherds or similar breeds. "Tiger" lived in his backyard doghouse on the end of a chain. He was used to seeing me with Bobby and had never given me trouble, but I still gave him a wide berth. Playing in the vacant lot next door, Bobby and I were dressed for the cold autumn day. I was wearing a zippered 'lumber jacket' typical of the period. Made of densely woven black wool, the sturdy fabric was a quarter inch thick and very stiff. The cloth gathered in the crook of your elbow when you bent your arm, partially restricting its movement.

Bobby's dad was in the yard chopping wood when his mother called us in for milk and cookies. We were almost to the back door when 'Tiger' suddenly leaped at me, his teeth piercing the thick fabric on both sides of my arm as I froze in my tracks. Bobby screamed, and his dad went at the door brandishing a chunk of firewood. The dog retreated, but not in time to avoid the wooden club that sent him whimpering into his doghouse. Though innocent of any provocation, I felt terrible thinking that I was the cause of it all. The cookies and milk were temporarily forgotten while my wounds were treated. We all remarked that I was lucky to be wearing that thick lumber jacket. There was no tetanus shot or rabies test, just a

thorough squeezing of the puncture wounds to flush the blood, and a liberal application of iodine. I was less concerned about my arm than the jacket and shirt, which is an example of the priorities of life in the 1930's.

Later, I learned that this was not the first erratic act of violence by Tiger. I tried to keep the incident from my mother who was as paranoid about dogs as I was about water and drowning (but that's another story). She was once bitten as a small child and would actually cross the street if a dog approached, even one on a leash. She was also leery of riding streetcars, and for good reason. She did occasionally venture downtown and we had to ride the streetcar to get there, but in addition to her many allergies she apparently suffered from motion sickness. A trip downtown on a streetcar should have taken about an hour. For us it took two because we had to make about three stops on the way.

On stage one of a trip, we never made it much past the car barns on the south side of St. Clair around East 129th. We'd get off and walk around and maybe get a glass of water or soda in a drug store while waiting for the next streetcar. The same routine was repeated between 105th and 79th Street and again around 40th. This was the usual pattern, and you can imagine how frustrated it was for a little kid who wasn't that pleased to go downtown with 'mommy' in the first place. She would get a little pale and nauseous, and head for the door to wait the next stop. Mom never actually got sick on the car, always managing to get off before it was too late.

Through trial and error, she found it made no difference where she sat in the streetcar. Oddly, automobiles did not affect her. She actually learned to drive my car while I was in the army, but whether riding or driving, they were very short trips.

Downtown trips with Mom were not for idle entertainment or window shopping. Taken only when really necessary, they became very infrequent. On one of these exceptional trips, we left soon after I finished an ethnic breakfast of 'milky rice' made from leftover cooked rice. With no warning, I 'threw up' on the floor between the seats. It caused my mother quite a shock and an unexpected extra stop. I guess we got off because of sheer embarrassment, be-

cause I felt just fine after I 'lost' the rice. It was the first and last time I've been sick on a streetcar.

Dogs, friends, and streetcars; a 'oose connection at best, but I prefer it to "miscellaneous."

Happy Birthday, Chuck Koracin

The very best birthday wishes to **Chuck Koracin** on Feb. 19th from loving wife **Dottie**.

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Slovenian Art Guild News

The Slovenian National Art Guild is trying to arrange two or three bus tours for Art Guild members and their friends to special art exhibits in the area. The cost will be subsidized by the Guild with members paying a very small fee (\$5 - \$10). Non-members will pay the total cost.

The three exhibits are the Van Gogh in Toledo, the Rodin exhibit in Akron, and the Medici-Michelangelo exhibit in Detroit. We are trying to combine each of these museum visits with another attraction in the area to make for a memorable day. The Akron Rodin exhibit tour could be held later in the spring to combine it with a visit to Stan Hewitt Hall and their lovely spring gardens. The Medici-Michelangelo exhibit could be combined with a visit to one of the casinos in Detroit, always a big draw. We are still trying to find some place in the Toledo area to complement the Rodin exhibit.

Our next meeting is Monday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. at Slovenian Society Home in Euclid. If you cannot attend this meeting, but are interested in attending any of these tours, please call me at 440-943-3623.

--Patricia Habat,
Editor

Coming Events

Feb. 15 - 22

Slovenian group organizing one week ski vacation to Lake Tahoe. Info: Ivan Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Friday, Feb. 21

Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th, Cleveland, Pork, Sauerkraut, Potato Dumpling Dinner. \$9. Serving 5 - 7 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 by Frank Moravcik.

Sunday, Feb. 23

St. Vitus Slovenian Language School hosts Annual Benefit Dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parish auditorium.

Friday, March 7

Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th, Cleveland, Fish Fry - Walleye or Shrimp or Pierogi or Mac & Cheese \$8, serving 5 - 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

Slovenian Man and Woman of the Year Banquet at SNH, St. Clair. Tickets \$22.

Friday, March 21

Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th, Cleveland, Fish Fry - Walleye or Shrimp or Pierogi or Mac & Cheese \$8, serving 5 - 7 p.m.

Friday, March 28

Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th, Cleveland, Fish Fry - Walleye or Shrimp or Pierogi or Mac & Cheese \$8, serving 5 - 7 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. by Wayne and Joe.

Sunday, March 23

St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School breakfast 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Sunday, April 6

Super Button Box Bash XXI at Slovenian Society Home, both halls featuring 15 button accordion bands.

Sunday, April 6

Drama Club LILJA presents a comedy "The Wicked Widow" at Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave., beginning at 3:30 in the afternoon. Everybody welcome!

Sunday, April 13

St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Palm Sunday 9:45 a.m. blessing of butare and procession. 10 a.m. Mass.

Sunday, April 13

Annual benefit dinner for

Seniors Program at St. Vitus Auditorium sponsored by Holy Name Society, KSKJ Lodge No. 25, and Altar Society.

Tuesday, April 22

St. Vitus Catholic War Veterans Dinner (Reverse raffle). Tickets \$40.00. \$2,500 total cash prizes. Contact Rich Mott at (216) 531-4556.

Sunday, May 4

Holmes Ave. Pensioners Club annual dinner dance, Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave. Dinner 2 p.m., dancing to Ray Polantz 3 to 7 p.m. All Welcome! Tickets call 216 531-2088 or 440 943-3784 before April 26.

Sunday, May 11

Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80 St., Cleveland, Annual Mother's Day Breakfast Brunch. \$7. Serving 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

Sunday, June 8

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School picnic at Slovenska Pristava, 12:30 Mass followed by dinner.

Wednesday, July 9

Holmes Ave. Pensioners Club Annual Picnic at VFW Post 4358 on White Rd. between Bishop & Rockefeller Rds., noon to 6 p.m. All welcome. Free admission. Music by Fred Ziwich 2:30 - 4:30. Info call 440 943-3784.

Sunday, July 13

Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Fed. of American Slovenian Senior Citizens Annual Picnic at SNPJ Farm on Heath Rd., Kirtland, OH. Dinner 1 p.m. Dancing to Frank Moravcik 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. For tickets see club members or call 216 481-0163 or 440-943-3784 before Aug. 5.

Sat., Sun., Sept. 13, 14

Annual Bishop Baraga Days in Indianapolis.

Sunday, Sept. 21

St. Vitus Altar Society annual dinner.

Sunday, Nov. 9

Slovenian Junior Chorus Fall Concert, Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, OH.

You should always believe all you read in newspapers, as this makes them more interesting.
-Rose Macaulay



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Death Notices

VICTORIA L. SPECH

Victoria L. Spech (nee Turk) (Skerl) passed away on Friday, January 31, 2003 at her residence in Euclid, Ohio. She was a retired Quality Control Inspector for Superior Carbon.

Mrs. Spech was a member of the Newburgh-Maple Hts. Pensioners, St. Francis Mission Circle #150, COF Maximilian Court 2268, St. Vitus Altar Society, Holy Name Society, KSKJ Lodge No. 150, and St. Clair Pensioners.

She was the beloved wife of the late William J. "Bill;" daughter of Louis Turk and Rose (nee Tercek) (both deceased); sister of William Skerl (Judy, deceased), John Skerl (Evelyn), Angela Battaglia (Chuck), Albina Cigany (Andy), Bernard Skerl (Barbara) and the following deceased: Louis, Frank, Rose, Lawrence, Joseph, Richard and Patricia; grandmother of William (Alice); great-grandmother of Renee, Ryan and Stephen; dear aunt and great-aunt to many.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Tuesday, Feb. 4 at St. Vitus Church in Cleveland, Ohio at 11:30 a.m. Burial in All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, Ohio.

Family and friends were received at Zak Funeral Home, 6016 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, on Monday, Feb. 3rd.

Family suggests memorial contributions to St. Vitus Church.

FRIDA HELEN MICHELITCH

Frida Helen Michelitch, 86, passed away on Feb. 5 at A Caring Place in Great Falls, VA.

Loving sister of Herman, Rockville, MD, Mary Petrick, Baltimore, MD, Dr. Edward, Great Falls, VA, Joseph, Albuquerque, NM, Robert, Sterling, VA, Phillip, Waldorf, MD, Harry, Hamilton, VA, and Rebecca Nagel, Falls Church, VA. Frida is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents John

CARST-NAGY Memorials

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"Serving the Slovenian Community"

and Mary; her brothers William and Raymond, and sister Anna Michelitch.

Frida was President of the Washington Branch 103 of the Slovenian Women's Union for more than 15 years.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 1020 Springvale Rd., Great Falls on Monday, Feb. 10, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. Interment Fairfax Memorial Park. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Slovenian Women's Union of America, 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432.

Large Donation

Many Thanks to **John Gorican** of Richmond Hts., OH who donated \$165.00 to the Ameriška Domovina. Your generous gift is greatly appreciated.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Perme** of Euclid, Ohio who renewed their subscription plus added a \$25.00 donation in memory of the deceased members of **Levstik and Perme Families**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Maria Suman** of Mentor, Ohio who renewed her subscription and added a \$20.00 donation in memory of **Ludvik Suman**.

In Loving Memory of the

38th Anniversary of the passing of my dear "Pop"



John Muniza Sr.

died Feb. 16, 1965

You have been gone since Feb. 16, 1965; But you have never been forgotten.

Loved and Missed
John - Son

Pequot Lakes, MN Feb. 13, 2003

In Memory

Thanks to **Olga Kalar** of Euclid, OH who renewed her subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Ludvik Kalar**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Joseph and Pamela Petrich** who renewed their subscription plus added a \$25.00 donation in memory of **Maria Brencic and Frances Brencic**.

Donation

Thanks to **Slovenian Ski Group** of Middle Village, NY who submitted a \$100 donation.

In Memory of Karl Klesin

Helen Klesin of Ridge-wood, NY sent \$200 in donations in memory of her husband, **Karl Klesin**. They include \$100 from **Dr. Veronica Ravnikar Sicilian**, and **Helena Klesin** -- \$100.

Thank you very much!

Things are beautiful if you love them.

--Jean Anouilh

In Loving Memory

of

ANN VRHOVC

91st birthday Feb. 13

Greatly missed by:
Family

In Loving Memory of



Frank E. Zupancic

Died February 9, 2000

*With every act of kindness,
Every smile and word of cheer,
You built a lasting monument
In the hearts that mourn you here.*

May God grant you eternal peace.

Sadly missed by:
Family and Friends

In Memory

Thanks to **Mary Cermely** of Rocky River, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$10.00 donation in memory of her deceased parents.

In Memory

Thanks to **Anthony Luzar** of Cleveland, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$20.00 donation in memory of parents **Anton and Johanna Luzar**.

Donation

Thanks to **Dorothy Bryan** of Richmond Hts., OH for her generous donation of \$38.75.

In Memory

Thanks to **Arnold Pristernik** of Rockaway, NJ who renewed his subscription and added a \$35.00 donation in memory of his wife, **Elene**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Frank Branisel** of Euclid, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$10.00 donation in memory of **Mary, Jacob and Frances** (family).

Donation

Thanks to **Ernie and Gaye Ryavec** of Santa Monica, Calif., who enclosed a great \$50.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Angela Hutar**, of Euclid, OH who sent in a \$10.00 donation in memory of her wonderful husband, **Matt Hutar**.

Donation

Thanks to **Helen and John Kozlevchar** of Willowick, OH for their \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Lucille Romih** of Cleveland, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$30.00 donation in memory of her parents, **Martin and Lucija Romih** and friends **Dorothy and Florian Zagar** and **John and Johana Menart**.

Donations

Thanks to the following for their generous donations to the Ameriška Domovina:

Frank Gobec, Chardon, OH -- \$15.00

Rudy Pivik, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Rudy Klammer, Willowick, OH -- \$15.00

Mrs. Edward Glicker, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Stan Sajnovic, Atherly, Ont., Canada -- \$10.00

Vinko Zakelj, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Josephine M. Ponikvar, Cleveland, in memory of **John and Ursula Ponikvar**,

-- \$10.00.

Love never dies as long as someone remembers.

In Loving Memory of



Josephine Klemencic

6th Anniversary

of our dear Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother Sister, and Aunt who died Feb. 14, 1997

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Loved and remembered every day.*

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8 Mlakar Travels Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

Well, after a fabulous trip to Harrison Gardens, New Jersey, I am now back to the pits of Fort Dix, New Jersey, but before we get back to duty, time out for a couple of jokes. Hells bells, this column would not be worth reading if it were not for Ray's jokes. Well, at least that is what I like to believe.

Okay, joke number one. A pastor was preaching an impassioned sermon on the evils of television. "It steals away precious time that could be better spent on other things..." he said, advising the congregation to what he and his family had done. "We put our television away in a closet." His wife said, "That's right, but it gets awfully crowded in there."

One more for the road. My brother finally decided to marry. He said he had to because he could not hold in his stomach forever.

Well, back to Fort Dix, and it seems that with the winter, one of the added duties was to shovel snow. From the barracks to the Company Street where all the formations and roll calls were held, was some good 100 feet of walk. They did plow the streets with Army trucks with snow plows in front, but it was us soldiers who had to shovel the walks from the barracks' door to the company street. It did work up an appetite for breakfast but unfortunately I skipped a lot of breakfasts for it seemed that they

served Rudy Flis' favorite "SOS" better known as chipped beef creamed on dry toast. Often I wanted to tell the cooks where to shove it but then they would end up on sick call and we would end up with no lunch or supper.

Although we did not have parades or have yearly firing on the range, we did get our share of guard duty and "C.Q.O" (Change of Quarters). The guard duty was something else and as sure as God made little green apples, my name seemed to get to the top of the list once a month for a weekend of guard duty.

The uniform was Class "I.E.," the work uniform with helmet liners and the M1 rifles. A joke, for they gave us M1 rifles but no ammo, but then who in their right mind would want to enter Fort Dix just to poke around.

Our main duty on guard was to march around all the buildings, going into the boiler rooms to insure that the fire was stoked and there was no possibility of a fire throughout the barracks.

Needless to say, there was a lot of shoveling of coal into the furnaces which reminded me of home for "Pa" always felt it was my job to keep the furnaces going, but then maybe he felt my sisters could not handle a coal shovel.

It was 2 hours of guard duty and four hours off, but in those two hours you were constantly busy during the winter months keeping the furnace stacked with coal for by the time you got around to all the barracks, the orderly room, the supply room, it was time to start all over again, for the furnaces had to be restacked with coal.

Well, Spring would be coming before too long and when I wrote home, I asked Dad to check on the possibility of getting me a used car that I could pick up on one of my future leaves and drive back to Fort Dix thereby making the final year in the service a little bit more pleasant. I had saved money before I got into the service and had an account at the Lorain Street Bank which is now history. I guess it had to make history when I withdrew my money for the car.

Dad kept close tabs on the newspaper and found a nice gray Chevy Impala that was owned by a nurse that was going for a reasonable price. (the car not the nurse). The car was a couple of years old, but low mileage well kept up.

For Easter which came early that year, I went home on a five day leave to pick

up the car to drive back to Fort Dix. Getting the car was a mistake on my part because before you can bring a car on post you had to have insurance, what they called 5-10-5. Five thousand if you kill one person, \$10,000 if you kill two persons, and \$5,000 in property damage. Without proof of insurance, you could not bring the car on post and pray tell what good would a car do if you had to park it in town.

Dad scouted around without much success and then he tried the woman (Slovenian) who insured our house as well as Dad's car for a great number of years. First she said NO... absolutely No, for she felt that I was too young, being only 21 and a soldier on top of that, she felt I would be one wild kid with a car on an Army Post. But Dad informed her that I was a good son and that she would have no insurance claim from me, ever.

Well, she granted Pa's request and we got the insurance. Mom and Irene drove back with me to Fort Dix with Irene sharing the driving. Well, we got to the border line of Ohio when snow fell like it was going out of style, and down a steep hill we went, and low and behold we discovered the brakes were no good.

(Sorry, will have to continue next week. The computer says "No more room.")

In closing, may the Good Lord bless and watch over all of you.

In Memory of Vicki Spech

In Memory of a Dear Friend...

This lovely, quiet, unassuming lady made a mark of friendship on all who were blessed to know her. She became a part of our scene... always willing to participate in club activities... always willing to work... How we will miss her.

Her captivating smile, her meticulous presentation of self... and big heart... made her seem taller than her 5'1" stature. We all truly loved her... the friend that she be-

came... the friend that she was.

As quietly as she entered our lives... so was her exit. No time to say goodbye. She is just gone from our presence... but we know she is with us in spirit.

So long, Dear Friend. One day soon, we will have the "Meeting in the Heavens," and "God only knows" ... maybe they will have a "Poor Man's Raffle" up there, too.

Thanks for being our friend.

--Annie, Daniella & Aggie

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(between Shore Carpet & Fun Services)

Aunt Mary's Cabbage Soup

This recipe is from Mrs. Muzic, but we really don't know whose Aunt Mary originated it, but the soup is delicious and is a Muzic family favorite.

Ingredients:

- 1 T vegetable oil
- 1 C chopped onion
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 1 lb. smoked klobase
- 3 medium carrots, sliced
- 8 C coarsely shredded cabbage
- 1 medium green pepper, seeded and chopped
- 1 ½ qt. water
- 1 t salt
- 3 med. potatoes, peeled and cut into 1" cubes

Roux:

- 2 T vegetable oil
- 1/3 C flour
- 2 t paprika
- 1 ½ C tomato juice

Directions:

In a heavy saucepan, heat oil, add onion and garlic and cook until onion softens. Prick klobase with fork and brown in pan. Add vegetables (except potatoes), water, salt and pepper. Cook uncovered for 5 minutes over medium heat. Cover and cook 10 minutes longer. Add potatoes, cover and cook 15 minutes, until cabbage is tender.

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, make the roux. Heat oil and stir in flour, stirring constantly, until golden brown. Stir in paprika and remove from heat. Ladle one cup of liquid from soup and whisk into roux. Whisk in tomato juice until smooth. Stir mixture into soup. Take out klobase and slice into ½" rounds and return to soup. Makes 4 qts.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh

Our Family and Friends Recipes

Slovenian School Dinner

The St. Vitus Slovenian Language School Annual Benefit Dinner of Pork Roast or Chicken is being held Sunday, Feb. 23 in the St. Vitus Auditorium between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Take-outs will be available in the social room.

The cost is \$10.00 for

adults and \$5 for children. Tickets may be purchased in advance from the Slovenian School parents or at the door on the day of the event.

Come join us for this community event and help support the Slovenian school.

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Slovenija bo upoštevala varnostni svet ZN pri krizi z Irakom, ne ZDA

Včerajšnji *Delo* poroča, da slovenska vlada ne podpira ZDA pri napadu na Irak, če bi se ta začel brez odobritve varnostnega sveta Združenih narodov. Zadeva se je sprožila ob izjavi senatorja Josepha Bidna, ki vodi demokratsko manjšino v senatnem odboru za zunanje zadeve, da pač Slovenija kakor tudi države, ki so podpisale tkim. vilniuško izjavo pred nedavnim, podpirajo napad na Irak. Tiskovna predstavnica zunanjega ministrstva Nataša Prah je novinarje napotila na izjavo ministrstva z dne 28. januarja. Tam piše, da Slovenija "meni, da je vrhovna avtoriteta za reševanje sporov v mednarodni skupnosti varnostni svet", in "se zavzema za to, da iskanje rešitve iraške krize ostane v okvirih ZN, in poudarja primarno vlogo in odgovornost varnostnega sveta pri skrbi za mednarodni mir in varnost". To je bistvo slovenskega stališča, kar besede v vilniuški izjavi ne spremenijo.

Opazno je predvsem v levičarskem tisku v Sloveniji zadnje tedne močno rastoči odpor proti napadu na Irak. Če bi do vojne res prišlo, utegne to vplivati na izid referendumu o NATU, ki bo 23. marca, to tudi v slučaju, da bi se taka vojna hitro oz. uspešno končala. Zunanji minister Dimitrij Rupel je tarča napadov v tisku, to zaradi njegovega "amerikanofilstva".

Boj za manjšinski radio na avstrijskem Koroškem se nadaljuje

Boj za ohranitev celodnevne slovenskega *Radio 2/Agora* na avstrijskem Koroškem se po petdnevni opozorilni gladovni stavki četverice uslužbencev manjšinskega radia v Celovcu nadaljuje na politični ravni. V torek in v sredo so zastopniki *Radia 2/Agora* (ta si deli frekvenco z *Radiom 2*) povabljeni v Strasbourgu, kjer bodo o manjšinskih pravicah v Avstriji na področju medijske os-

krbe in dvojezične topografije obvestili pristojne odbore Sveta Evrope in evropskega parlamenta. 20. februarja bodo avstrijskemu državnemu sekretarju za umetnost Franzu Moraku izročili 8000 podpisov za ogroženi radio. Avstrijska vlada se je po večtedenskem molku konec minulega tedna vendarle odločila za termin predaje.

Prešernovi nagrajenci za leto 2003

Pretekli petek zvečer se je približno 850 povabljenih zbralo v Unionski dvorani hotela Union, da bi prisostvovali podelitvi Prešernovih nagrad letošnjim dobitnikom. To je bilo prvič v zadnjih letih, ko ta prireditelj ni bila v prostorih Cankarjevega doma, dvorana v hotelu Union je pa bila pred nedavnim celotno obnovljena.

Veliko nagrado Prešernovega sklada sta dobila za svoja ustvarjalna opusa igravec Zlatko Šugman in arhitekt Vojteh Ravnikar. Druge nagrade iz sklada so prejeli gledališka režiserka Mateja Koležnik, pesnik Andrej Medved, kipar Alen Ožbolt, pihalni kvintet Slowind, skladateljica Lariša Vrhunc in filmski režiser Jan Cvitkovič. Le Cvitkovič ni prišel osebno na prireditev.

Uspešni diplomanti

Po sicer še neuradnih podatkih šolskega ministrstva je bilo lani podeljenih 14.728 diplom, v visokem šolstvu 13.345, v višjem strokovnem izobraževanju pa 933. Med diplomanti dodiplomskega študija si jih je univerzitetno izobrazbo pridobilo 5830, visoko strokovno izobrazbo pa 5049, med njimi si je 71 pridobilo diplomu o specializaciji, 941 magistrsko diplomu, 310 pa doktorsko.

Sneg povzročil težave

Zaradi močnega sneženja (v Ljubljani 25, ponekod na Gorenjskem 40 cm) so po vsej državi nastali zastoji v prometu. Zgodilo se je 170 nesreč. Brez elektrike je bilo nekaj časa več kot sto tisoč ljudi.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Slovenska šola vabi—

Kosilo Slovenske šole pri Sv. Vidu bo v nedeljo, 23. februarja, v dvorani sv. Vida na Lausche Ave. Servirali bodo svinjsko pečenko in kokoš, to od 11. dop. do 1. pop. Cena kosila je \$10 za odrasle in \$5 za otroke. Nakaznice lahko dobite pri vratih na dan kosila. Pridite!

Maša za dr. Meršola—

To nedeljo dop. ob 10. bo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete sv. maša za pok. dr. Valentina Meršola. Tabor DSPB vabi, da se te maše udeležite, posebno tisti in potomci tistih, ki radi njegovega posredovanja niso bili vrnjeni v Jugoslavijo.

Izredna podpora—

G. John Goričan, Richmond Hts., O., je poklonil \$165 v podporo našemu listu. Iskrena hvala!

Novi grobovi

Vlasta Urh

Umrla je 54 let stara Vlasta Urh, rojena Zupančič, žena Leopolda, mati Marthe in Lidije, sestra Franca, Antona in Andreja (vsi v Sloveniji), teta. Pogreb bo v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda jutri, v petek, zj. ob 8.45, v cerkev sv. Kristine ob 9.30 in od tam na Vernih duš pokopališče. Kropljenje je danes, 13. febr., pop. od 2. do 4. in zv. od 7. do 9.

Frida Helen Michelitch

Dne 5. februarja je umrla 86 let stara Frida Helen Michelitch iz Great Fallsa, Va., sestra Hermana, Josepha, Roberta, Philipa, Harryja, Rebecce Nagel ter že pok. Williama, Raymonda in Anne Michelitch, teta in prateta, več kot 15 let je bila predsednica podružnice št. 103 Slovenske ženske zveze v Washingtonu, D.C. Pogreb je bil 10. februarja v Great Fallsu. Družina priporoča darove v pokojničin spomin Slovenian Women's Union of America, 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432.

Frank A. Misić

Umrli je 74 let stari Frank A. Misić, brat Sylvije Cserbak, stric in prastric, zaposlen 33 let, do svoje upokojitve, v oddelku za rekreacijo mesta Clevelanda. Pogreb je danes v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Jeroma in pokopom na Sv. Križa pokopališču.

Referendum—

Tisti državljani Slovenije, ki bi radi sodelovali na referendumih, ki bosta v Sloveniji 23. marca in sicer o slovenskem članstvu v EU in NATU, bodo lahko na njih glasovali. Gl. poročilo na str. 10. Če dobimo več informacij, bomo naknadno poročali.

Slovenski impresionisti—

O njih bo v sredo, 19. februarja, govoril Anthony Hiti in to ob 7h zv. v spodnji dvorani SDD na Recherjevi ulici. Sponzor je Slovenian American Heritage Foundation, ki mu arhitekt Hiti tudi predseduje. Vstopnine ni, javnost je vabljen.

Korotanov koncert—

Pevski zbor Korotan sporoča, da bo letošnji vsakoletni koncert v nedeljo, 25. maja, v Slovenskem narodnem domu na St. Clairju in ne 17. maja, kot je bilo prvotno objavljeno.

Slovenska Čitalnica—

Preteklo nedeljo popoldne je imela v svojih prostorih v SND na St. Clairju Slovenska čitalnica svojo letno sejo. Za predsednika in zapisničarja je bil izvoljen ur. AD, podpredsednik bo še Joseph Valenčič, funkcije tajnika, blagajnika in knjižničarja še opravlja Franc Kovarčič. V nadzornem odboru so Frank Lovšin, Joe Zab in Larry Hocevar.

KOLENDAR

FEBRUAR

15. – 20. – **Smučarski izlet** v Lake Tahoe. Informacije: Ivan Kamin 718-424-2711.

23. – **Slovenska šola** pri Sv. Vidu postreže s kosilom v farnem avditoriju s serviranjem od 11. dop. do 1. pop.

MAREC

15. – **Federacija slovenskih narodnih domov** priredi "mož in ženska leta" banket v SND na St. Clairju.

23. – **Slovenska šola** pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima zajtrk v šolski dvorani med 9. dop. in 12. opoldne.

APRIL

6. – **Dramsko društvo** Lilija uprizori veseloigro "Vražja vdova" v Slov. domu na Holmes Ave. Pričetek ob 3.30 pop.



AMERIŠKA LETALONOSILKA HARRY S. TRUMAN SE USTAVILA V KOPRU – V začetku februarja se je v koprskem pristanišču za krajši čas mudila letalonosilka Truman, ki je bila na poti proti dolžnostim v bližini Iraka in bo morda sodelovala v prihajajočem vojnem spopadu. Letalonosilka je najnovejša v ameriški floti, zgrajena šele leta 1998, poganjata jo dva jedrska reaktorja. Poveljnik Michael R. Groothausen je novinarjem povedal, da je decembra odplula iz ZDA in v Sredozemlju nadomešča letalonosilko George Washington. Na ladji služi kar 5000 mornarjev in še 600 mornark. Admiral je dejal, da zaenkrat ni načrtov, da bi se ladja neposredno angažirala v verjetni vojni z Irakom, se pa lahko kaj hitro pripravlja na to možnost. Po njegovem gre za najboljšo ameriško letalonosilko in bi se lahko v le nekaj urah odpravila na bojišče, če bi bilo treba. Letalonosilka ima namen ostati na Sredozemskem morju približno pol leta.

Posredoval generalni konzul Republike Slovenije
v Clevelandu Anton Gogala:

Informacija o referendumih za vstop Slovenije v EU in NATO

V Republiki Sloveniji bosta v nedeljo, 23. marca 2003, potekala posvetovalna referenduma o vstopu Slovenije v Evropsko unijo (EU) in zaveznitvo NATO. Na podlagi odločbe Ustavnega sodišča se bodo za glasovanje na referendumu uporabljali tudi določbe o glasovanju na diplomatsko konzularnih predstavništvih (DKP) v tujini ter o glasovanju po pošti iz tujine, kar pomeni, da lahko na referendumih sodelujejo državljani RS s stalnim ali začasnim bivališčem v tujini.

Podrobnejše informacije bodo posredovane po 14. februarju 2003, ko začnejo teči roki za referendumsko opravila. Glasovanje na diplomatsko konzularnih predstavništvih ter po pošti iz tujine bo potekalo podobno, kot je bilo ob zadnjih volitvah.

Priporočamo, da dovolilni upravičenci, ki se želijo udeležiti referendumov, pozorno spremljajo obvestila, ob tem pa opozarjamo, da nekateri podatki o naslovih volilnih upravičencev še vedno niso popolne in jih je potrebno dopolniti. Vsi, ki še niso vpisani v stalno evidenco volilne pravice državljanov RS s stalnim bivališčem v tujini, na podlagi katere bodo pripravljene volilni imeniki (torej tisti, ki niso sodelovali na volitvah leta 1997, 2000 ali 2002), lahko zahtevo za vpis vložijo na diplomatsko konzularnih predstavništvih RS.

Ministrstvo za zunanje zadeve
Urad za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu

Msgr. FRANCI PETRIČ

Naš komentar

Politična igra z džamijo

Musliman Hassam Tibi, profesor za mednarodno politiko na Harvardu in v Tübingenu, je 27. januarja v Rimu govoril o tako imenovanem evroislamizmu. Dejal je, da je navzočnost muslimanov v Evropi postala dejstvo, ki ga ne moremo obiti. V letu 2035 bo v nekdanji krščanski Evropi že štirideset milijonov muslimanov. Pri tem je poudaril: "Če hoče biti islam evropski, mora ločiti vero od politike, sprejeti demokracijo, pospeševati človekovo pravice, spoštovati civilno družbo in biti pluralističen. Islam še ni dosegel teh ciljev."

Te njegove besede prihajajo v pravem trenutku v slovenske razgrete pogovore o primernosti gradnje prve džamije v naši državi. Muslimani v Sloveniji hočejo v Ljubljani zidati džamijo. Nekdanja mestna komunistična oblast in dosedanja liberalna jim nista izdali gradbenega dovoljenja zanjo. Že leta zato opozarjajo na prostorske stiske in težave, s katerimi se srečujejo pri svojem zbiranju. Pri tem jim je v času komunističnega režima pomagala tudi katoliška Cerkev (zbirali so se npr. v dvorani Teološke fakultete v Ljubljani ali pa v Elijevi rotundi v Kopru). Med Cerkvijo in muslimansko skupnostjo tudi zato nikoli ni bilo nasprotij. Slovenska oblast takim potrebam vernih katolčanov, muslimanov ali tudi pravoslavnikov (nekaj cerkva imajo "na posodo" od katoliške Cerkve) še danes ni naklonjena. Na gradbeno dovoljenje npr. čakata dve župniji v Mariboru, ena v Velenju in v Luciji pri Portorožu, pravoslavni bi radi cerkev v Mariboru in Celju pa še kje ...

Ob zadnjih razpravah je zato presenetil mufti Đogić z ostrim besednim napadom na nadškofa dr. Rodeta, ker je ta v božičnem pogovoru za POP TV povedal, da je odločitev za zidavo džamije v rokah politikov. Ostrina muftijevih besed v izjavi, ki je sledila, in njegove obtožbe na račun vodstva Cerkve v nekaterih pogovorih so zbudile v javnosti začudenje in marsikakšno vprašanje. Čemu (komu) služi tak oster napad? Mar katoliška Cerkev daje dovoljenja za zidavo džamij? Ko so konec lanskega leta policisti pridržali muftijevo ženo, Đogić še zdaleč ni tako ostro reagiral.

(dalje na str. 12)



Dvanajsti slovenski smučarski "Weekend"

CLEVELAND, O. – Tradicionalni vsakoletni smučarski izlet na Catskills goro Windham nas je zopet združil s prijatelji iz New Yorka, Toronta, Clevelanda in drugih predelov Združenih držav, to v prvih dneh februarja.

Lepa udeležba smučarjev, deskarjev in gledalcev je bila pravi dokaz, da se Slovenci tu v Severni Ameriki sorazmerno številno udeležujemo v tej snežni panogi. Brez te aktivnosti bi bila zima res predolga.

Po celodnevem smučanju v petek, 31. januarja, smo se srečali z drugimi znanci pri gostoljubni družini Ivana Kamina, kjer smo bili deležni čevapčičev, katere je "expressno" poslal naš clevelandski rojak Kristjan Sedmak. Pokramljali smo o dogodkih preteklega leta, potem pa kar zgodaj odšli na počitek v pripravi na sobotni veleslalom.

Za tekmovalce v veleslalomu se nas je prijavilo 36 moških in dvanajst predstavnic nežnega spola, ki so se uvrstile prve na progi, nakar smo sledili vsi ostali. Letele so smuči. Med vratci, letele so kape, palice in druga oprema, kadar koli je kdo padel. Nekateri so bili opremljeni s čeladami, drugi pa tudi brez kap, vsak pa je bil odločen, da pride na cilj v najhitrejšem času.

Po dveh preizkušnjah na tekmovalni progi je bilo mnogo izgovorov, zakaj se dotičnemu ni posrečilo doseči boljšega rezultata, bodisi da ni mazal smuči, ali je stal

preveč pokonci, ali pa ni jedel dovolj zabeljenih žgancev.

Najhitrejši med nami je bil Ivan Kamin ml., med dekleti pa je bila skoro enako hitra Janja Lupše, ki je tudi po Nastar standardu dosegla kvalifikacijo "ekspert", kar pomeni, da je med najhitrejšimi smučarkami v njeni starostni skupini.

Izmed preostalih 47 tekmovalcev je bil Franček Toplak najbližji tej Nastar definiciji in bi dosegel ekspert status s časovnim izboljšanjem ene sekunde, kar nam mlajšim smučarjem ni dosegljivo. Čestitamo.

V tekmovalstvu med družinami je Brančeva družina zasedla prvo mesto, Škerjančeva drugo in Hartmannsgruberjeva tretje.

Odkar se je Tone Kačnik izpovedal, da žganci pripomorejo k zboljšanju tekmovalnih časov, so žganci čedalje bolj priljubljena hrana naših smučarjev, katerih eden

je John Košir, ki je za tri stotinke sekunde prepuštil zlato medaljo Andiju Stajanu iz Kanade.

Deskanje (angl. snowboarding) postaja čedalje bolj popularno med mladino. Zadnji dan, v nedeljo, smo še mi starejši norci zopet poskusili to umetnost. Četrtrič v dolino sem že lepo peljal, toda celotedenske posledice mi pravijo, da je deskanje predvsem za mlade.

Dvanajsti izlet v Windham je zopet lepo uspel in bil brez nesreče. Vreme nam je bilo naklonjeno in novih trajnih spominov je spet za en koš. Ivan Kamin z ženo Barbaro, hčerko Vicky, svakom Petrom in Tino so nas zopet presenetili z organizacijskimi talenti in gostoljubjem za dobrobit slovenske družbe. Najlepša vam hvala!

Metod Ilc

Seznam zmagovalcev najdete na str. 11.



Prejemniki medalij v raznih kategorijah na tekmovanju v Windhamu

ZLATE MEDALJE

(Prvo mesto)

Nina Zakotnik
Mojca Branč
Janja Lupše
Simona Škerjanec
Mojca Cigler
Robert Zakotnik
Matej Branč
Ivan Kamin ml.
Andy Stajan
Joe Škof
Metod Ilc
Jan Škrli (deskanje)

SREBRNE MEDALJE

(Drugo mesto)

Clara Hartmannsgruber
Jasna Mišvelj
Mija Branč
Majda Škrli-Volk
Johnny Harmannsgruber
Miha Rossler
John Košir
Miloš Lužar
Ivan Kamin
Jaka Škrli (deskanje)

BRONASTE MEDALJE

(Tretje mesto)

Pia Cigler
Renata Weber
Maxi Hartmannsgruber
Boštjan Leskovar
Gaber Puc
Janez Mavretič
Tone Kačnik
Miro Škrli (deskanje)

DESET NAJBOLJŠIH

Ivan Kamin ml.
Miha Rossler
Janja Lupše
Boštjan Leskovar
Matej Branč
Andrej Branč
Marko Zupanc
Andy Stajan
John Košir
Joe Škof

PAVLE BORŠTNIK

Jera Vodušek Starič: Slovenski špijoni in SOE, 1938-1942

Po svoji značilno za to knjigo je že samo dejstvo, da je izšla v samozaložbi. Avtorica je morda želela, da je pri pisanju čimbolj neodvisna, simbolično pa to dejstvo samo še potrjuje žalostno resnico, da gre za domala nepoznane "junake", ki jih je uradna zgodovina zamolčala, ker njihove ideje in prizadevanja niso odgovarjala ne "revolucionarni strani" medvojne dogajanja, ne njeni povojni "kontinuiteti". Knjiga obsega 446 strani in je izšla v nakladi 800 izvodov, kar pomeni, da bo našla mesto na razmeroma redkih knjižnih policah. Upati je, da bodo njeni odmevi te nedostatke zapolnili do čimvečje možne mere.

Voduškova že v samem Predgovoru nakaže, za kaj gre: "Že med svetovno vojno smo ustvarili - slovensko mafijo" ... Ta "mafija" torej stori na začetku vsega opisovanega dogajanja med drugo svetovno vojno v Sloveniji. (Prim. jubilejno število revije *Misel in delo*, 1938. Ob 20-letnici Jugoslavije) V tej mafiji so v stari Avstro-Ogrski delovali slovenski študentje z dunajske in praške univerze, vsi do zadnjega učenci ali pristaši Tomasa Masaryka. Njihovo delovanje je obrodilo zaželeni sad - Jugoslavijo, in ko je padla, so se v zrelih letih, z istim mladostnim zanosom zavzeli, da jo spet priključijo v življenje.

Njihova osebna tragika je zato v dejstvu, da so jim ta prizadevanja v veliki meri zapravili z zgrešeno, sebično politiko, prav isti ljudje, po večini iz britanskega miselnega območja, za katerih koristi so si prizadevali v obeh svetovnih vojnah. Zato perfidni Albion nima na vesti le slovenskih domobrancev, temveč tudi te idealiste in njihovo potepano čast.

"Ti ljudje," piše Vodušekova, "naši junaki", še do danes - ne slučajno - niso prišli ne v slovensko enciklopedijo in ne v biografiko, postali so - "neosebnosti". (str. III) (In ko se je - kot glas vpijočega - oglasila britanska časnikarka Nora Beloff s "Titovo šepavo dediščino", so se ji brezvestni britanski "zgodovinarji" v slovenski družbi v Bohinju decembra 1985 posmehovali z žaljivo dopisnico: "Tukaj smo na tajni misiji, da preučimo svojo "šepavo dediščino" ... op. p.)

Za nekoga, ki je odra-

Knjižna recenzija s komentarjem

ne usodno napako. Toliko za uvod.

Na predvečer II. svetovne vojne

V nasprotju s cincarsko politiko takratnega britanskega ministrskega predsednika Chamberlaina, je bila britanska obveščevalna skupnost že do kraja alarmirana v zadnjih mesecih pred izbruhom druge svetovne vojne, gotovo pa po podpisu nemško-sovjetskega nenapadnega pakta, avgusta 1939.

Alarmirane pa so bile tudi vse države, ki so se kakokoli čutile ogrožene od Nemčije. Se pravi, vse države, z izjemo - Jugoslavije. V Jugoslaviji - in Sloveniji sami - so odgovorni ljudje z neučinkovito politiko (delno tudi zaradi negotovosti s Hrvaško) prepustili državo razvoju dogodkov, dokler ni stvari vzela v svoje roke - dobro organizirana komunistična partija (str. 1).

V tem je bila v resnici prva usodna napaka: meščanske stranke so bile ob začetku vojne, še bolj pa ob padcu Jugoslavije, do kraja dezorientirane. Znašla se je le komunistična partija, z bogatimi izkušnjami v podtalnem delovanju, četudi prizadeta spričo senzacionalnega sporazuma med Hitlerjevo Nemčijo in Stalinovo Sovjetsko zvezo.

V Sloveniji sami je prišlo do nekega osveščanja, ko se je poleg fašizma na zahodni meji, kjer je že med obema vojnama neusmiljeno zatiral slovenski živelj, pojavil še nacizem na severni meji. To je bil trenutek, ko so Britanci iz svojih obveščevalnih arhivov potegnili tudi imena pripadnikov nekdanje slovenske mafije - ter z njimi obnovili stike. Pri tem pa ni šlo le za redke posameznike,

temveč za celo plejado ljudi iz t.i. liberalnega tabora. "Angleška obveščevalna služba", navaja Vodušekova, "se je pri operativnem delu na področju Slovenije, opirala skoraj povsem na sredinsko-liberalno, mihailovičevo mrežo". (str. 5)

Ta obnovljena mafija seveda ni ostala prikrita komunističnim agentom, ki so takrat delovali v polnem soglasju z določili nemško-sovjetskega zavezništva in kasnejšega nenapadnega pakta. Zato je partija že v prvih mesecih okupacije ukazala "skupen boj proti angleškemu agentom in poskusom obnovitve starega reda" ter je v ta namen "mobilizirala vse svoje sile v boju proti razpihovanju nacionalnega sovraštva, ki ga okupatorji in njihovi angleški agenti širijo z vsemi sredstvi." (Josip Broz Tito, Zbrana dela, 7/41)

Na samem začetku okupacije torej, ko se navadnemu državljanu ni dosti sanjalo niti o odporu, niti o bližajoči se revoluciji, je komunistična partija že ožigosala "angleške agente" kot ljudi, ki v resnici delujejo v interesu okupatorja.

To stališče je sovpadalo z odločitvijo Osvobodilne fronte, da pod smrtno kaznijo prepove kakršnokoli organiziranje narodnega odpora izven njene neposredne kontrole. Komunistična obveščevalna služba je pravilno ocenila daljnoročno vrednost takega britansko-slovenskega ali jugoslovanskega sodelovanja. Po drugi strani pa je za ta razvoj seveda izvedela tudi nacistična obveščevalna služba, zato se je prvi nemški gnev izlil prav na pripadnike tega "liberalno nacionalističnega tabora" ...

Britanski obveščevalna služba pa je aktivirala stike s slovensko (in jugoslovansko) mafijo, ne toliko z namenom, da državo pridobi za vstop v vojno proti Nemčiji, kolikor in predvsem, da čimbolj zniža eventuelne koristi, ki bi jih Nemčija mogla izsiliti iz Jugoslavije (in Slovenije), pri čemer je bil še najbolj konkreten cilj - sabotaza železniškega prometa z nafto in plovbe po Donavi.

(dálje na str. 12)

ščal v "nacionalističnih" ali, če hočete, liberalnih krogih, je knjiga pravo razodetje: vsi do zadnjega so bili povezani v podtalni organizaciji! Od A do Ž! Imena se vrstijo kot jagode na "paternoštu": od rafiniranih politikov kot npr. dr. Albert Kramer, do zanesenjakov a la rudi Marinčič (starosta Viškega Sokola) in do "navadnih" (?) železničarjev, kot je bil Bogo Kemperle, železniški uradnik in podstarosta Viškega Sokola, ki je mazal osišča v Nemčijo namenjenih vlakov s smolo, napolnjeno z železnimi opilki, v vagone z nafto opa metal tempirane vžigalnike (str. 150) in potem končal na Grčaricah.

Padale so glave, ljudje so romali v taborišča, gestapovske mučilnice so odmevale od njihovih krikov, in na koncu - se je vse sprevrglo v popoln polóm. Britanski agitatorji so pozabili nanje; po navodilih zunanjega ministra Edena so napeli vse sile, da se prikupijo Stalinovi Sovjetski zvezi, ki je bila očitno "sila bodočnosti", kateri mora "velika" Britanija nuditi vso pomoč, če hoče sama obstati. Eden je postavil svojevrsten rekord: malokateri politik v zgodovini je zagrešil tako nepremišljeno, za milijono-

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Slovenski špijoni in SOE

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 11)

Britanci so – v skladu s svojim splošnim strateškim programom – tudi v Jugoslaviji vpeljali dejavnost treh ločenih veobveščevalne službe: Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), MI6, Državna obveščevalna služba in MIR, Vojaška obveščevalna služba. Kasneje je nastopila še SOE (angl. Special Operations Executive).

Opisati točen delokrog teh služb je nemogoče še danes, in ni bilo mogoče takrat. Interesi in akcije so se prekrivale, prišlo je celo do medsebojnega tekmovalnega za uspehe, ena posledica pa je bila, da so bili Jugoslovani, Srbi, Slovenci ali Hrvati, ki so prišli v stik z agenti teh obveščevalnih organizacij, pogosto do kraja zmedeni in so tu in tam zagrešili tudi težke, tragične napake na ta račun.

Organizacijsko je to pomenilo tri ločene resorje: obveščevalno delovanje, sabotažno delovanje in strateško-vojaško delovanje. V vseh treh dejavnostih se od samega začetka pojavljajo imena: Kramer, Ribnikar, Žitnik, Vrhunec, Mačkovšek, Ambrož, Puc iz Ljubljane, pa Primorca Ivan Rudolf in Ivan Marija Cok. In z njima cela vrsta primorskih rodoljubov iz Tigra.

Center Beograd

Voduškova navaja pet glavnih centrov: Beograd, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Maribor in Celje, so pa gotovo delovali še manj pomembni centri na jugu države. V glavnem, Beogradu, spet srečujemo slovenska imena.

Britanski veleposlanik Ronald Campbell je še pred izbruhom vojne opozoril svojo vlado, da se Slovenci najgloblje zavedajo nemške nevarnosti in med njimi najbolj – dr. Korošec. Ta pa je decembra 1940 nenadoma umrl, tako ni nobene sledi o njegovi eventualni povezanosti z Britanci.

V zadnjih mesecih pred vojno je v Jugoslaviji potekala intenzivna kampanja za srbsko-hrvaški sporazum, ki je bil res podpisan skoraj istočasno s podpisom nemško-sovjetskega nenapadnega pakta. Bilo pa je v

resnici že prepozno, kar so Hrvati – upravičeno – dolžili Britance, češ da so ves čas pogajanj odklanjali vsakršno intervencijo v korist Hrvatov, zanašali pa so se na "realizem" dr. Mačka, da Srbom ne bo postavljaj pretiranih zahtev. Ena posledica patetičnega zavlacovanja srbsko-hrvaških pogajanj je bila apatija in nezaupanje volivcev do državnih oblasti. Povezano s pretiranim rusofilstvom in panslavizmom pa je vse to odpiralo vrata – komunistični taktiki.

Med prvimi, ki so v Beogradu navezali stike z britanskimi agenti je bil Slovenec Anton Batagelj, uradnik notranjega ministrstva, rojen v Sturjah na Primorskem. Kmalu so bili pritegnjeni še advokata dr. Stanko Zorko, dr. Vinko Zorc, finančni uradnik Savinšek, Ela Potočnikova, obveščevalec Andrej Rejec, in seveda dr. Ivan Marija Cok.

Slovenci so od vsega začetka tudi gojili stike s Čehi, pri čemer je posredoval dr. Vladimir Kalan, po rodu iz Celja, sicer pa češki in britanski državljani, ki se je kasneje umaknil v Ljubljano, odšel od tam v četniški odred, bil zajet na Grčarih in kljub diplomat-

skemu statusu ustreljen v Dolenjskih Toplicah jeseni 1943.

Vzporedno z britansko navzočnostjo v Beogradu pa je naraščalo tudi protivojno razporejenost in konec leta 1939 je prišlo do težkih demonstracij, v katerih so komunisti poudarjali neupravičenost vojne za korist "imperialistov", padlo pa je tudi geslo, da je "bolje umreti na beograjskih ulicah, kot na slovenski meji".

Veleposlanik Campbell pravi o teh demonstracijah, da "ni nobenega dvoma, da za večino komunistične propagande v tej državi stojita nemški denar in nemški agentje" (str. 37).

"Razmere v Jugoslaviji," je zapisal Campbell, "so idealne za demagoge in nihče ne prekaša komunistov v demagogiji. Njihove govore je mogoče slišati na vsakem koraku. Kar so obsojali včeraj, danes hvalijo in kar danes obsojajo, bodo morda hvalili jutri. Zanesljivo pa bodo sledili ukazom centra."

Poleti 1940 je Campbell poslal v London šifrirano poročilo, ki je vsebovalo načrt državne udara v Jugoslaviji. Predviden naj bi bil istočasni udar v Bolgariji in nato združitev obeh držav pod srbsko dinastijo, napad na Albanijo in povezava z britanskimi vojnimi načrti.

Campbell je načrt zavrnil, češ da ni mogoče ugotoviti, kakšno zaslombo imajo "uporniki" med narodom, britanska vlada pa naj bi mu naročila, naj upornikom pove, naj ne računajo na britansko podporo. Pač pa so se razmahnile akcije sabotažnega oddelka, ki so zajemale predvsem železniški promet in pa plovbo po Donavi. V poročilih te sekcije pa se je pričel omenjati agent z oznako A/H31. Bil je to Draža Mihajlović.

Center Zagreb

Slovenski "napredni krog" je bil tesno povezan tudi z britanskimi agencijami, ki so delovale v zagrebškem centru. Prve stike naj bi dosegel Dimitrij Omerza, brat slovenskega kiparja Nikolaja Omerze, in pomorski častnik. Kot tak se je

Politična igra z džamijo

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 10)

Zdaj pa večinsko katoliško Cerkev uvršča k nacionalistom Jelinčičevega kova.

Nerazumljivo napadalno držo muslimanskega verskega voditelja razumemo v novi luči, če pogledamo, kakšne so trenutne družbene razmere. Zmagovalni polet liberalne demokracije v navezi s prenoviteljsko komunistično stranko je v zadnjih letih ustvaril plodna tla novega enoumja. To v veliki meri nekritično podpirajo slovenski mediji. Ker je nadškof opozoril na dejstvo, da je odločitev za džamijo v rokah politikov, je s tem nehote pokazal, kdo je kriv, da je ni. Obenem pa je opozoril, kaj pomeni džamija v islamskem svetu ter posredno spodbudil odgovorne, da je treba ljudi celovito obveščati ob tej odločitvi. Ko je natančneje o razlikah med džamijo in cerkvijo spregovoril tudi profesor za verstva na Teološki fakulteti dr. Drago Ocvirk, sta bila z nadškofom deležna očitkov nestrpnosti. Medtem pa so šli nekateri v naklonjenosti do muftija tako daleč, da so celo lepšali njegove izjave (kako drugače razumeti televizijski izrez Đogićevega izbruha proti svetniku Jarcu v Trenjih na POP TV 23. januarja, ki ga gledalci nismo mogli videti. Slovenski liberalno-prenoviteljski politiki, ki jo najbolj povezuje protikatolištvo, pride zelo prav spor muslimanov in katoličanov, da s tem opraviči svojo držo in odločitve. Da bi jim bilo lažje, so priklicali na pomoč tudi vedno pripravljene "anticerkvene" Roterjeve sociologe. Obojim ne gre za obveščenoost, ampak le za zbujanje sovraštva in nezaupanja do cerkvenega vodstva.

Z muslimani bomo v Sloveniji živeli tudi v prihodnosti. Tega se katoličani dobro zavedamo, zato jim ne odrekamo pravice do zbiranja in molitve v lastnih prostorih. Ker smo delili z njimi totalitarno preteklost, ki je zatirala oboje, si želimo tako prihodnost, ki bo mirna in urejena in ne bo prinašala kasnejših sporov. Za to pa se je ob odločanju za zidavo džamije vredno pogovarjati in biti celovito obveščeni. Za to mora poskrbeti oblast. Bo znala sprejeti ta izziv?

DRUŽINA, 2. febr. 2003

celo udeležil španske državljanske vojne na strani republikancev in se vrnil v Zagreb tik po izbruhu svetovne vojne ter dobil zaposlitev na britanskem konzulatu. Tega je vodil konzul Terrence C. Rapp, ki je bil zelo dobro poučen o razmerah na Hrvaškem. Kmalu mu je bil kot vicekonzul dodeljen Trevor J. Glanville, ki je kasneje tudi vzpostavil radijsko zvezo med ljubljanskim centrom in jugoslovansko ambasado v Ženevi.

Med slovenskimi imeni, ki se pojavljajo v zvezi z delovanjem britanskih agencij v Zagrebu, so še dr. Odon Šorli iz Maribora, dr. Milan Orožen iz Celja, zakonca Nastja in Stanislav Žgur, prav tako iz Maribora, pa tudi vse "omizje" v slovenski Černetovi gostilni v Zagrebu: Dane Modic, zdravnik dr. Černetič, dr. Zarnik, Miha Korošec, pevec Mario Šimenc, slikar Zoran Mušič in še kdo. Vsi ti, piše Voduškova, so bili po vojni

osumljeni sodelovanja z Britanci.

Zanimiva je navedba na str. 87, po kateri je Trevor Glanville označil slovenskega bana dr. Natlačena za "iskrenega prijatelja Velike Britanije", čeprav v isti sapi navaja tudi, da slovenski liberalci svojih stikov z Britanci niso razkrili klerikalcem, ker jim niso zaupali.

Ko je Glanville prevzel nadzor nad delovanjem obveščevalnih agencij v Sloveniji, je razvil stike s štirimi skupinami: liberalno, "Brezigarjevo" skupino, z organizacijo slovenskih četnikov (organizacija je delovala v stari Jugoslaviji), ki naj bi jo vodil neki Hojnik iz Kamnika, z vojaško obveščevalno organizacijo pod vodstvom podpolkovnika Branka Plhaka in pa s Primorsko skupino, ki sta jo vodila Cok in Rudolf. Glanville je to skupino označeval za "slovensko domoljubno organizacijo". V njej so bili

(dalje na str. 14)

V BLAG SPOMIN

ob deseti obletnici smrti dragega moža, očeta, starega očeta, brata in strica



PAVEL ŽAKELJ

Umril je 17. februarja 1993

*V miru božjem Ti počivaj,
dragi, nepozabni nam,
v nebesih rajsko srečo uživaj
v ljubezni božji vekomaj.*

Žalujoči:

Marija - žena
Otroci - Ani Zitko, Pavle,
Stanko, Tone, Janko in Vinko
z družinami
ter ostalo sorodstvo

IVAN ŠTUHEC

Ljubljana

Metafizični ples duš

Ob slovesu od Jožeta Pučnika

V soboto, 18. januarja, se je množica ljudi na črešnjevske pokopališču pri Slovenski Bistrici poslovila od dr. Jožeta Pučnika, ki je bil po J. E. Kreku tista osrednja osebnost slovenskega političnega življenja, brez katere bi bila današnja podoba Slovenije bistveno drugačna.



Kakor je Krek popeljal Slovence iz monarhične družbene ureditve v začetku slovenskega parlamentarizma, tako je Pučnik s svojo odločnostjo prispeval bistveni delež k temu, da smo se iztrgali iz komunističnega totalitarizma na Balkanu ter postavili temelje sodobni, demokratični slovenski državi, ki sedaj suverena vstopa v svetovne povezave.

Državniška revščina

V dneh po njegovi smrti so vsi priznali, da je on oče slovenske samostojnosti, s tem pa slovenske demokracije in države. Zato je bilo vedno parlamentarcev in slovenskega političnega vrha toliko bolj pritlehno, ko se je ugibalo o žalni seji, dnevu žalovanja in državniškem pogrebu.

Če bi v vrhu slovenske politike bilo kaj svetovljanske širine, pravega liberalnega duha zahodnoevropske tradicije, državniškega ponosa in spoštljivega odnosa do pokojnika, bi v trenutku, ko je prišla vest o njegovi smrti, moralo biti vsem jasno, da se je od tega človeka treba posloviti na najvišji možni dostojanstveni način, na način, s katerim bi vsem Slovencem in Slovenkam bilo posredovano jasno sporočilo: poslavljam se od osebnosti, ki je oblikovala našo skupno zavest in bo v njej tudi vedno ostala.

Če pomislimo na ves cirkus, ki so ga mediji in politika zganjali ob smrti Tita in Kardelja, teh dveh zaviralcev demokratičnega razvoja slovenskega naroda, nam je seveda jasno, da njun duh še vedno navdihuje tiste poslance in poslanke, ki so na želi seji pustili prazne in neme stole.

Kučan, Drnovšek in Pahor so se izvlekli pri zadnjih vratih. Prva dva

sta se udeležila žalne seje, ki je kljub vsej protokolarni bornosti in klavrnosti Pahorjeva zasluga. Da Ropa ni bilo ne na seji ne na pogrebu, je podatek, ki sam po sebi govori o državniškem formatu sedanjega predsednika vlade.

Vsemu temu se končno ne smemo čuditi, saj je popolnoma v skladu z logiko in odnosom dela slovenske politike do mrtvih. Kdaj bodo spoznali, da je že starim Grkom pieteta pomenila več kot politične razlike, dolžnosti in pravila?

Moralni predsednik države

Tiste dni smo tudi slišali opozorilo, češ, sedaj si ga bodo vsi lastili. Pučnika si ni treba lastiti, on je ključna osebnost, ki je s svojo odločitvijo za plebiscit dobil največje soglasje Slovenk in Slovencev v zgodovini našega naroda. Zato je tudi bil in bo ostal moralni prvi predsednik slovenske države.

Bil bi tudi formalni, če mu tega ne bi preprečila nizkotna propaganda slovenskih medijev, ki so v devetdesetih letih skovali mit Milana Kučana in demonizirali Pučnika kot prišleka, Švaba, revanšista, skratka radikalca, zaradi katerega bodo upokojenci ostali brez pokojnin, Slovenija pa bo postala dežela revežev, kot nam je vsako jutro

po radiu za pozdrav nanzanjala Lada Zei.

Tako smo namesto pokončnosti dobili zvitost, namesto jasnosti meglo, namesto državniškega ponosa z moralno avtoriteto pragmatizem za vsakdanjo, predvsem lastno rabo, namesto demokracije novo oligarhijo in namesto socialne države nove kapitaliste, ki so z dvojnimi okradenjem naroda v drugi poloviti dvajsetega stoletja vzpostavili lakomnost in prevvaro kot najvišji vrline za obvladovanje ljudstva.

Sprevrženost vrednostnega reda je šla tako daleč, da so solze Lokarjeve v jugoslovanskem parlamentu dobile večjo težo kot Pučnikovih sedem let zapora in vse drugo, kar je preostal in dal za resnico, pravico, človeško dostojanstvo in demokratično državo.

Uradni del slovenske vladajoče politike se je v skladu z nepučnikovim duhom poslovil od njega in samo potrdil že tolikokrat videna dejstva. A ob smrti vsakega človeka je konec cinizma in nihilizma pa tudi konec napihnjene slave, za katero ne stojijo dejanja.

"Velika slovenska duša"

Čisto drugačen obraz so pokazali tisti, ki so mu na pogrebu spregovorili. Najprej so bile prisrčne besede domačinke Zdenke Bizjak, ki so pokazale na Pučnikovo povezanost z domačim malim in preprostim človekom.

Janez Janša je pokazal, da ni samo hladen politik, ampak človek, ki razume, kaj človeku duša govori. Njegova meditacija o Pučnikovi notranji svobodi, svobodi duše, ki je niso strli in tudi ne naučili sovražiti, kot bi dejal Janko Čar, nam je razstrla tudi Pučnika v tisti presežni dimenziji, ki jo je nosil v sebi, čeprav se je deklariral za ateista.

Seveda se ob tem zastavlja vprašanje: v odnosu do kakšnega boga je Pučnik sebe razumel kot ateista? Bilo bi zoper pieteto in njegovo izjemno avtonomno osebnost, če bi ga hoteli proti njegovi



volji imeti za vernika.

A vsekakor njegovo življenje z dejstvi govori o tem, da je bil dosleden iskalec resnice, pravice, svobode in ljubezni, da je imel izjemno silo upanja in vero, da bo nekega dne zasijala luč svobode njemu in njegovemu narodu, sledil je moralnemu imperativu v sebi.

To, kar je zmožel Pučnik kot edini resnični slovenski politični oporečnik, ki je izhajal iz levičarskih družbenih krogov, to zmorejo samo ljudje, ki so pripravljeni svojemu notranjemu glasu (duši) prisluhniti do obisti. Po apostolu Pavlu bodo takšni ljudje zveličani v skladu s svojo vestjo, s svojimi spoznanji (Rim, 2,14).

Ob tem dejstvu je s strani katoličanov potrebno Pučniku izreči naš oprost, ker mnogi niso prepoznali, da je za iskreno izjavo ateizma več vere kot za premnogim blebetanjem *Gospod, Gospod*.

Naš oprost naj se pridruži tistemu, ki ga je izrekel Ivo Urbančič v svojem pretresljivem govoru, ko se je od svojega sošolca in prijatelja poslovil s tresočim glasom, ki je razodeval občutenje še večje samote ob izgubi dragocenega prijatelja.

Njegovo opravičilo je bilo namenjeno Jožetovi duši, ki je, če je res, kar pravijo klinično mrtvi, bila navzoča, ko smo se poslavljali od njegovih telesnih ostankov.

Tudi filozof Urbančič ni mogel ob Pučnikovi smrti sprejeti nihilističnega cinizma, ker tega, kar je dragoceno, ni želel in mogel izgubiti. Njegovo

retorično vprašanje, če je res, kar pravijo klinično mrtvi, govori samo v prid dejstvu, da ljudje takšnega formata, kot sta Pučnik in Urbančič, ob dejstvu smrti in dejstvu pojava človek razmišljajo in iščejo odgovor z vso bivajnsko dramatičnostjo.

Če Pučnikov pogreb ni bil zaznamovan z državniškimi častmi in paradami, ga je zaznamoval mistični ples duš, ki so mu spregovorile iz srca iz tistega osebnega odnosa, ki je sposoben dojeti globine slehernega človeka, ki išče in je odprt za resnico o sebi, o svoji lastni eksistenci in eksistenci drugih.

Kakor je njegovo dušo zeblo v zaportu, v tujini, takrat, ko so ga prijatelji zapuščali in ko mu je bila domovina večkrat mačeha kot mati, tako je zeblo tudi nas tisti zimski dan, ki je črešnjevske pokopališče ovil v belo-sivo meglo in v belino ivja, ki iz dreves naredi neveste v svatovskem oblačilu.

Nekje nad meglicami smo čutili sonce in za hip se je pokazala modrina neba. Takrat je že pri maši zadušnici škof Stres razgrinjal *magno charto* evangeljskih človekovih pravic ...

"Blagor lačnim in žejnim pravicom... Blagor tistim, ki delajo za mir ... ki so zaradi pravice preganjani ... Blagor vam, kadar vas bodo zaradi mene zasramovali, preganjali in vse grdo o vas lažnivo govorili. Veselite se in vriskajte, ker je vaše plačilo v nebesih veliko. Tako so namreč preganjali že preroke, ki so bili pred vami" (Mt 5,3-12).

DRUŽINA,
2. februarja 2003

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V svojem govoru pred varnostnim svetom OZN je Colin Powell omenil tudi Slovenijo ...

Irak vabil slovenska podjetja

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 7. febr. 2003) — "Državni sekretar Colin Powell je v govoru pred varnostnim svetom OZN navedel primer Slovenije izključno z namenom, da bi pokazal, kako poskuša Irak pridobiti komponente za svoj jedrski program. To je bil neuspešen poskus Iraka, da bi kupil takšne materiale. Ker je izvozni nadzor v Sloveniji učinkovit, ti materiali niso bili nikoli poslani v Irak," se je glasilo pojasnilo veleposlaništva ZDA v Sloveniji o izjavi ameriškega zunanjega ministra 5. februarja, da naj bi bil režim Sadama Huseina v letih 1999 in 2000 vabil tudi nekatera slovenska podjetja, naj sodelujejo pri gradnji tovarne posebnih magnetov, ki bi jih Iranci lahko uporabljali za obogatitev urana.

Iz izobraževalnega centra za jedrsko tehnologijo pri Institutu Jožef Stefan pa smo dobili potrdilo, da hranijo videokaseto — takoj po operaciji Puščavski vihar (Desert Storm) leta 1991 so jo v Iraku posneli inšpektorji Mednarodne agencije za jedrsko energijo (IAEA) — ki dokazuje, da so Iranci sistematično poskušali izdelati jedrsko orožje.

Kot je za Delo povedal Dušan Bevc, sekretar Sekcije za obrambno industrijo pri Gospodarski zbornici Slovenije, slovenska podjetja, ki so včlanjena v to sekcijo, po njegovih podatkih vse od leta 1990 ne sodelujejo z Irakom, saj je takrat Organizacija Združenih na-

rodov zaradi napada na Kuvejt uvedla gospodarske in politične sankcije zoper Irak.

"Kot mi je znano, naša podjetja dosledno spoštujemo embargo na poslovanje z Irakom, ne izključujemo pa možnosti, da je kakšna naša firma kdaj posredovala pri prodaji kakšnih spornih materialov iz neke tretje države prek Slovenije v Irak," je menil Bevc.

Po njegovih besedah je sicer nadzor nad izvozom produktov, ki jih je mogoče uporabiti tudi v vojaške namene, v pristojnosti ministrstva za gospodarstvo.

Iz dobro obveščenih virov smo dobili informacijo, da so morda Iranci za sodelovanje pri gradnji tovarne od 20 do 30 gramskih magnetov snubili ljubljansko podjetje Iskra Feriti.

"Že več kot 15 let sem direktor te firme in zagotavljam vam, da po uvedbi sankcij OZN proti tej arabski državi nismo imeli nikakršnih stikov z iraškimi predstavniki. Sodelovali pa smo z nekaterimi podjetji v Iranu, vendar je moralo sleherno od njih predložiti izjavo, da bodo naše izdelke uporabljali izključno v civilne namene. Seveda so to obljubo lahko prelomili, a to je že izven naše moči," je bil kategoričen Marko Živec, direktor Iskre Feriti.

To podjetje proizvaja feritne izdelke (keramika z magnetnimi lastnostmi), ki so sestavni del produktov v telekomunikaci-

jah, raznih napajalnikov in produktov za široko potrošnjo (filtri, televizijski sprejemniki in avtomobilska elektronika).

Enako odločna je bila tudi Janja Erman, direktorica kadrovskega sektorja podjetja Magneti iz Ljubljane: "S tem nimamo absolutno nič. Z Iranci nismo imeli in nimamo nobenih poslov, prav tako pa jih niti ne načrtujemo."

Omenjeno podjetje sicer izdeluje t. i. permanentne magnetne, ki se uporabljajo v avtomobilski industriji, in pri izdelavi elektronskih števecov.

Direktor našega najbolj znanega in mednarodno uveljavljenega orožarskega podjetja Fotona, Matjaž Lukač, pa je za Delo izjavil: "Z Iranci smo sodelovali v obdobju, ko je še obstajala nekdanja Jugoslavija; takrat smo v Irak izvažali predvsem merilne laserje za tanke. Odkar je proti Iraku v veljavi embargo, z njimi ne sodelujemo več."

Matjaž Koželj, predavatelj na Izobraževalnem centru za jedrsko tehnologijo pri Institutu Jožef Stefan, pa je za Delo povedal, da je videokaseta, ki jo hranijo, uradno gradivo IAEA, njen naslov pa je *Misija Irak (Mission Irak)*.

"To so posnetki laboratorijev in drugih objektov, v katerih so Iranci izvajali jedrski program. Predvsem so poskušali pridobiti čim večje količine uranovega izotopa 235, ki je potreben za fisijsko jedrsko orožje.

Pri tem so uporabljali dve metodi: prva je metoda elektromagnetske separacije izotopov urana, ki so jo že v 40 letih 20. stoletja razvili Američani. Ta metoda je zelo primitivna. Druga metoda, ki jo Iranci obvladajo, pa je centrifugna metoda pridobivanja uranovega izotopa 235. Ta postopek pa je tehnološko precej zahteven," je navedel Koželj.

Inšpektorji IAEA so po njegovih besedah tudi ugotovili, da je imel Irak na območju južno od Bagdada še dva raziskovalna jedrska reaktorja ter laboratorij za separacijo plutonija in objekt za samo sestavljanje jedrskega naboja.

"Nekateri od naštetih objektov so bili uničeni že med zahodnim voja-

škim posredovanjem leta 1991, preostale pa so bili Iranci prisiljeni uničiti po vojni, in sicer po vsej verjetnosti pod nadzorom inšpektorjev. Ti so našli tudi veliko količino dokumentacije, ki dokazuje, da si je Sadam Husein zelo resno prizadeval pridobiti jedrsko orožje," je na naše vprašanje, kakšna je (bila) usoda teh objektov, odgovoril Koželj.

"Izvedenci IAEA so na temelju zbranih informacij ocenili, da bi bili Iranci na začetku leta 1991 potrebovali še 3 do 4 leta, da bi razvili učinkovito jedrsko orožje," je še dodal Koželj.

Iz Slovenske obveščevalne agencije (Sova) pa so nam na naše poizvedovanje, ali imajo kakšne informacije, ki bi potrjevale trditev šefa ameriške diplomacije, da so Iranci tudi slovenska podjetja vabili k sodelovanju pri gradnji tovarne magnetov, odgovorili:

"Republika Slovenija ima v okviru sistema nacionalne varnosti, katerega del je Sova, vzpostavljene ustrezne mehanizme, ki na varostnem področju med drugim spremljajo in preprečujejo tudi morebitne kršitve ter zlorabe mednarodnih dogovorov in konvencij na področju širjenja in izvoza blaga za dvojno rabo. Omenjeni sistem je dovolj učinkovito deloval tudi v obdobju 1999-2000, saj tudi po podatkih agencije takšne načrtovane zlorabe ali kršitve niso bile ugotovljene."

Marko Osolnik

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(NADALJEVANJE s str. 12)

aktivni poleg Coka in Rudolfa še dr. Marušič, ki je kasneje prešel v OF, dr. Furlan, dr. Lavo Čermelj, Rado Bordon, Just Godnič, brata Ujčić, ki so vsi imeli zveze ali so sodelovali tudi s Tigrum.

V Zagrebu je bil povezan z vsem tem delovanjem tudi dr. Oton Ambrož, dopisnik ljubljanskega *Jutra*, časopisa, ki ga je izdajal dr. Albert Kramer. Ambrož je bil tesno povezan z Milanom Orožnom, Stankom Rapotcem in Bojanom Ribnikarjem, ki so imeli zveze z Brezigarjevo skupino.

Nekak povezovalc je vseh teh še danes "skrivenostnih" mrež in interesov je bil dr. Vinko Vrhunc, direktor Trboveljske premogokopne družbe, za katerega obstajajo določeni znaki, da je bil povezan tudi s francosko obveščevalno službo. Zaradi svojih poslovnih stikov je Vrhunc pogosto potoval tudi v Rim, vendar Voduškova ne navaja nobenih znakov, da bi imel kakršnekoli stike s katerokoli italijansko obveščevalno agencijo.

Vse te skupine so v Zagrebu razvijale svoje dejavnosti predvsem v času srbsko-hrvaških pogajanj in so se v glavnem ali v celoti razpršile ob nemškem napadu na Jugoslavijo in so delovane spričo ustaškega terorja le s težavo obnovljale.

(nadaljevanje prihodnjič)

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Kandidatke za NATO podprle ZDA

Ljubljana – Države t. i. vilniške skupine (*Vilnius je glavno mesto Litve, op. ur. AD*) kandidatka za vstop v NATO so po govoru 5. februarja Colina Powella v varnostnem svetu Združenih narodov sprejele skupno pismo v podporo ameriški politiki do Iraka, v katerem so pozvale varnostni svet OZN, naj "sproži nujne in potrebne ukrepe, s katerimi bo odgovoril na iraške grožnje miru in varnosti".

Diplomatski viri v Washingtonu so nam namignili, da naj bi bil idejni osnutek pisma napisan v prostorih zunanjega ministrstva in poslan deseterici držav – Bolgariji, Estoniji, Latviji, Litvi, Romuniji, Slovaški in Sloveniji kot povabljenkam v NATO ter Makedoniji, Hrvaški in Albaniji, ki na povabilo še čakajo – v potrditev in podpis. V prid tem namigom govori tudi vsebina pisma podpore, ki je v primerjavi z nedavnim pismom osmerice evropskih državnikov neprijetno ostrejša in bolj naklonjena amerškemu pogledu do iraške krize.

Pismo se začne z opisom govora ameriškega državnega sekretarja Colina Powella, za katerega deseterica vzhodnoevropskih držav meni, da so z njim ZDA varnostnemu svetu ZN predstavile "neizpodbitne dokaze o iraških orožjih za množično uničevanje", o aktivnih iraških prizadevanjih pri zavajanju inšpektorjev in iraških povezavah z mednarodnim terorizmom.

"Aktivno smo podprli prizadevanja za miroljubno razorožitev Iraka. Zdaj je jasno, da je Irak kršil resolucije VS vključno z resolucijo 1441. Kakor so države naše skupine izjavile že na vrhu NATO v Pragi, podpiramo cilje mednarodne skupnosti za popolno razorožitev Iraka, kot je to zapisano v resoluciji 1441. Jasna in neposredna nevarnost, ki jo predstavlja Sadam Husein, zahteva enoten odgovor skupnosti demokracij," me med drugim zapisano v pismu vilniške skupine.

Za komentar pisma vilniške skupine, pod katero se je podpisala tudi Slovenija, smo zaprosili tudi predsednika države Janeza Drnovška. Iz predsednikovega urada so nam sporočili, da predsednik izjave ne bo komentiral. Povedali so nam le, da je bil po mnenju predsednika Drnovška Colin Powell med predstavitvijo novih dokazov proti Iraku v varnostnem svetu ZN prepričljiv.

Pri ministrstvu za zunanje zadeve so v zvezi z razpravo 5. februarja v VS OZN sporočili, da so ZDA predstavile utemeljena dejstva, ki kažejo na nevarnost Sadamovega režima in nadaljevanje kršitev resolucij VS OZN.

Za Slovenijo je bistveno stališče VS OZN, piše v nadaljevanju sporočila, ki tudi navaja, da se je Slovenija pridružila demarši Evropske unije, ta poziva Irak, da se mora v celoti odpovedati orožju

za množično uničevanje, ter se v okviru OZN pridružila skupnemu stališču vilniške skupine, ki združuje države kandidatke tako za EU kot za NATO.

Kot članica skupnosti demokratičnih držav Slovenija ne more biti ravnodušna do režimov, ki grobo in množično kršijo človekove pravice in resolucije VS, še piše v izjavi ministrstva za zunanje zadeve.

STA, Veso Stojanov
Delo fax, 6. febr. 2002

Irma M. Ožbalt

Pozdrav iz domovine

(Ta članek oz. komentar je bil objavljen v rubriki "Prejeli smo" sobotne priloge Dela z dne 25. januarja. Ga. Ožbalt je pisateljica – to je razvidno tudi v pričujočem tekstu –, živeča v Montrealu. Ur. AD)

Montrealški festival svetovnega filma se je končal 2. septembra v kulturnem centru Place des Arts z govori in nagradami. Nagrajeni so bili filmi in njihovi ustvarjalci iz Latinske Amerike, Irana, Skandinavije, Italije, Turčije, Francije in – seveda – Kanade. Med festivalom samim, ki je trajal deset dni, so zavrteli nad 400 filmov.

V objavah in reklamah za festival so organizatorji ponosno zagotavljali, da bodo prikazali filme z vsega sveta, se pravi, ne le filme bogatih, razvitih dežel, ki si jih sicer zmeraj lahko ogledaš v rednih kinematografih, pač pa filme iz neznanih dežel, majhnih, eksotičnih. Med zadnjimi so omenili tudi Slovenijo ...

Z nemajhno nestrpnostjo sem čakala na ta pozdrav iz domovine. Nabavila sem si festivalski program in ugotovila, da bodo slovenski filmski ustvarjalci v Montrealu prikazali dva filma, "Šelestenje" in "Varuh meje", vsakega od njih pa bodo ob različnih urah dneva zavrteli štirikrat.

Kratki opis vsebine filmov v programu je obetal pokrajinsko sliko Slovenije, oba sta bila posneta na podeželju. "Varuh meje" največ ob Kolpi v Beli krajini.

Dialog naj bo konstruktiven

Ljubljana (*Delo fax, 6. febr. 2003*) – Predsednik vlade Anton Rop in ljubljanski nadškof in metropolit Franc Rode sta se 5. februarja sestala prvič, odkar je Rop na novi funkciji. Po naših podatkih je srečanje predlagal nadškof. Rode je, kot so sporočili iz urada predsednika vlade, seznanil Ropa z nekaterimi aktualnimi vprašanji, s katerimi se ubada Cerkev pri svojem delovanju. Sicer pa sta sogovornika ocenila, da so odnosi med državo in Katoliško cerkvijo dobri, in se zavzela za konstruktivni dialog.

Posebej sta spregovorila tudi o sporazumu med Slovenijo in Svetim sedežem o pravnih vprašanjih, ki je bil podpisan decembra 2001. Premier je povedal, da vlada čaka na izrek mnenja ustavnega sodišča o skladnosti sporazuma z ustavo, in izrazil upanje, da bo odločitev ustavnega sodišča kmalu uresničena. R. P.

Montreal, Kanada

Jezik, ki ga govore igralci, je pogovorna slovensščina, na debelo premazana z ljubljansčino. A kakšna ljubljansščina! Gre za vulgarno, surovo zaganjanje mladih ljudi, katerih edina konverzacija je prepir, zadirčno zmerjanje ali pritoževanje. Pritoževanje nad čim?

Vsega imajo, najnovejše avtomobile (kar BMW-je in audi-je in z vsem opremljene stanovanjske prikolice), najmodernejšo športno opremo, pa ustrezljive, dobro situirane starše (ime jima je "fotr" in "mat"), ki jih rešujejo iz zagat in jim tapecirajo vsakdanjik.

Mlada človeka v "Šelestenju" kar naprej pijeta drug drugemu kri, čeprav sta se že stokrat ozmerjala in si vse povedala, tri scrkljane, vsega site, obzrte ljubljanske gospodične, ki se s kanuji spuščajo po Kolpi, pa več ne vedo, kaj bi si še izmislile za zabavo: norčujejo se iz najmlajše, ki naj bi bila devica, se spakujejo ob srečanjih s kmeti, slovenskimi in hrvaškimi (oboji so predstavljeni kot folklor, spačene, grde lutke, Butalci), za povrh pa seks v vseh oblikah, hetero- in homoseksualni – kot da bi režiserji in producenti več ne vedeli, kaj naj še zbašejo v štorijo, da bo film čimbolj podoben ameriškim, čimbolj "moderen" in "razvit".

(dalje na str. 16)

Sprememba naslova

Ko se selite, trajno ali začasno, ste lepo naprošeni, da naši pisarni posredujete pravočasno tako Vaš nov naslov kakor sedanji. To omogoča, da boste brez prekinitve dobivali naš list, prihranili boste pa pisarni strošek 60 centov, ki jih računa pošta za vsak povrnjen oziroma ne dostavljen izvod lista. Uporabljajte ta obrazec za posredovanje potrebnih informacij.

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9. februarja, v Clevelandu, je bilo lepo obiskano. Tanka snežna odeja, ki je zjutraj pokrila naše mesto, se je morala umakniti sončnim žarkom, ki so kukali izza oblakov. Svetovidski avditorij je bil kar pomladno pripravljen na sprejem gostov, ko so pričeli prihajati. Ustavljali so se pri ročnem delu, si ga malo ogledali, poiskali srečo pri mačku v žaklju in si pri pecivu nabirali, kar so imeli za potrebno.

Pridne kuharice so imele vse pripravljeno in vrsta se je hitro pomikala proti oknu s postrežbo. Hvala najprej v kuhinji, ki so vse jutro pripravljale okusno hrano, prav tako vsem, ki so stregle in skrbele, da je bilo vsega dovolj. Hvala vsem pri pripravi, pri pospravi in tudi vsem pri darovanju v blagu za kuhinjo, za pecivo in za ročna dela. Seveda hvala vsem pri prodaji nakaznic in pri darovanju denarja za misijone. Preveč oseb je tu vključenih in bi najbrže koga izpuštila, kar bi ne bilo prav, zato naj za vse velja: Bog vam povrni s svojim blagoslovom!

Hvala za darovano cvetje cvetličarju Jimmyju Slapniku, Ameriški Domovini za vse objavljeno v zvezi s kosilom ter radijskima postajama za objavlanje po radijskih valovih.

Veselo sta nas presenetila tudi Madeline in James Debevec s pismom in priloženim čekom od Frances in Jane S. Lausche Foundation, katere vsota bo pomagala našim misijonarjem pri izvrševanju težkega misijonskega dela. Bog Vaju ohrani pri zdravju in v vsem blagoslovu, iskreno želimo vsi sodelavci na misijonskem polju v zaledju. Bog povrni! Darovi bodo objavljeni v naslednji številki AD.

Misijonarka s. dr. Miriam Praprotnik, ki deluje v albanskem mestu Drač, je poslala zanimivi pismi, eno Celestinovi, drugo podpisani:

"Spoštovana in draga gospa! Z velikim veseljem in hvaležnostjo se danes oglašam. Zvedela sem, da ste mi poslali \$900, kar bom prejela po živi pošti, ko katera od sester pride iz Pariza v Slovenijo. Čas tako hitro beži, najrazličnejših opravil pa je toliko! Saj ostaja Albanija, sicer tako lepa zemlja v vsakem pogledu, tudi bogata rudnin, nafte, ima prek 400 km morske obale, ugodne podnebje posebno ob morju itd., vendar ostaja nerazvita, vedno bolj revna, ker mladina zapušča domovino. Ne vidi zase nobene perspektive. Mladi so na moč inteligentni in če najdejo v tujini srečo, so najboljši študentje in delavci. Narod pa gladuje, vse več otrok ne zahaja več v šolo in nepismenost raste.

Okrog večjih mest, torej tudi okrog Drača, ki je največje albansko pristanišče, so se doselili prebivalci iz goratih pasivnih predelov te dežele. Prišli so na nič. Tako se je število prebivalcev v našem mestu in okolici od 100.000 povzpelo na 200.000. Moj Bog, v kakšnih pogojih živi večina priseljenih! Saj tukaj nihče ne more najti zaposlitve. Že tako in tako je tistih, ki so od nekdanj v Draču brezposelnih. In prav nobenegaboljšanja gospodarstva oz. politike ni videti na obzorju.

Naš sv. Vincencij Pavelski nam je priporočal vedno, da mora naša ljubezen biti ne samo v čustvih, ampak dejavna, zato se usmiljenke in tudi lazaristi vedno prizadevamo oznanjati evangelij z dejavno ljubeznijo. Se pravi nekako po modri ugotovitvi našega pregovora: ljubezen gre skozi želodec. Ko sem pred Božičem z našim g. župnikom obiskala ljudi, ki so se pred nedavnim doselili iz goratih severnih predelov 4 km od našega mesta, in ko sem videla, kako vse "kar leze ino gre", grebe z golimi rokami po gričevju odpadkov, kamor jih dovažajo iz mesta vsak dan, da bi našli kaj za pod zob ali steklenice, staro železje, deske, da bi preživeli. In teh družin je 150. Ko sem to videla, sem se zjokala in mislila v sebi: le kako naj se tem revežem približam in jim govorim o skrbi Nebeškega Očeta zanje. Pa je g. župnik našel dobrodelno organizacijo, ki sedaj skrbi za te družine z moko in sladkorjem, me pa smo našle še nekaj oblačil in odej. Saj je sedaj tukaj hladno, čeprav smo ob morju.

Hvala Bogu, še vedno me Bog ohranja pri močeh, kljub moji že visoki starosti. Sama se ne počutim nič staro, vendar leta so tu in se zelo zavestno in z veseljem pripravljam na gledanje mojega ljubljene Jezusa iz obličja v Obličje. Letos bom ob rožnem vencu na pobudo našega zares svetega očeta premišljevala Jezusovo Obličje.

Sprejmite iz albanskega misijona od vseh naših, mojih sester in ubogih hvaležne, prisrčne pozdrave z zagotovilom molitve. Tudi me se priporočamo vašim pogovorom z Bogom, vaša hvaležna s. Miriam Praprotnik."

Drugo pismo sem podpisana prejela istočasno, a je malo drugačno:

"Spoštovana! Z velikim veseljem sem prejela Vaše božično-novoletna voščila, ki sem jih prenesla tudi svojim sosestram. Vse smo se Vas in vseh naših dobrotnikov spomnile ob jaslicah. Prepričane smo, da smo bili takrat še bolj kot sicer eno v ljubezni Jezusa Odrešenika. Gotovo smo vse čutile tako, Vi tam daleč od domovine, kot me v albanskem misijonu, kako lepo je deliti božično voščilo z bliznjimi. Tukaj predvsem z našimi ubogimi, ki smo jim s pomočjo dobrotnikov ob pripovedanju božične skrivnosti lahko razveselile tudi z nekaj hrane in obleke. Ko je človek lačen in nima dovolj hrane, ga še bolj zebe.

Iz srca se Vam zahvaljujem v imenu sester, v svojem in naših ubogih, posebno bolnikov, za dar, dar vseh dobrotnikov in sodelujočih pri misijonskem delu v zaledju. Za to vsoto, ki jo bom prejela, bom lahko za mesec dni nakupila zdravil za naše najrevnejše, ki so v tem mestu upokojenci. Vsi zgarani, prezgodaj ostareli, z najrazličnejšimi kroničnimi boleznimi, a s pičlo pokojnino do največ \$50 mesečno. Zdravila, ki so zelo draga, pa morajo jemati doživljenjsko.

Sama mislim, Bog je gospodar zgodovine, zgodovine sveta, zgodovine vsakega naroda in slehernega človeka, da bo končno zmaga Njegova, da nas pravo življenje čaka po izteku tega življenja. Zato moramo ohranjati krščansko upanje in popolnoma zaupati Božji usmiljeni ljubezni.

Sprejmite tople in hvaležne pozdrav po Materi Mariji! Vaša dr. s. Miriam Praprotnik, usmiljenka."

Zelo zanimivi pismi, kjer sestra zdravnica pomaga kolikor je v njeni moči. Naj ji da Nebeški Oče zdravja, da bo še lahko zdravila in dajala korajžo vsem, ki to iščejo pri njej. Naj bo naša molitev in misel v tem tednu v pomoč tej veliki dobrotnici.

V imenu vseh sodelujočih prav lep misijonski pozdrav!

Marica Lavriša

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Pozdrav iz domovine

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

In slovenščina, beseda praznika in petja?

Tukaj bi žargonu tega filma lahko rekli le "gutter language". Saj je res, da imajo mladi svoj slang, tudi v slovenščini, a da bi bilo treba vsak stavek, ki se vsuje iz lepo našminkanih ust, potresti z mastnimi ocvirki, ki jim ubogi prevajalec ni našel ustrežajočih izrazov v angleščini in se je moral zadovoljiti z neprestanim ponavljanjem nedolžne "f-word"?

Ko bi šlo le za kake "hudiče" in "prmejduše", celo za kak bosanski "jebemti"! A gre za precizne izraze, samostalnike, pridevnike in glagole, izpeljane iz pocestnih imen za vsak del človeške anatomije, ki ima kaj opraviti z reprodukcijo in prebavnimi funkcijami.

Da je uboga slovenščina le še bolj ponižana, jo mladi bogatijo z neprevedenimi angleškimi izrazi: nič ni več v redu, lepo ali zabavno, vse je le super, best in O.K., če pa ni, se pritožujejo nad "lajfom". V slovenščino vnašajo osladno otročje izraze. Nihče več ne slika, ne dela fotografij ali posnetkov, vsi le "fotkajo" in delajo "fotke".

Če je slovenščina v domovini med mladimi tako na psu, čemu nekaj bi se Slovenci v tujini mučili in učili svoje potomce neki jezik, ki je – če sodimo po teh dveh filmih – izumrl?

Kot rečeno: dvorane so bile skoraj prazne. Hvala Bogu! Kakšna sreča, da so bili moji kanadski prijatelji zadržani in niso mogli z menoj v kino!

Kako naj bi jim še kdaj pripovedovala o slovenski kulturi, o naših razgledanih, pametnih ljudeh? Kakšna zamujena priložnost za slovensko kinematografijo, da bi našo neznanu deželo predstavila svetu tako, kakršna je, po pravici in resnici, ne pa s kvaziameriškimi kičem, ki že mejijo na pornografijo!

Cankar je nekje zapisal: "O, domovina, ti si kakor vlačuga!" Kaj bi rekel zdaj?

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO
STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

† V blag in ljubeč spomin † naših staršev

31. OBLETNICA

3. OBLETNICA



Alojz Šef

Premiul 30. oktobra 1972



Marija Šef

Premiula 17. februarja 2000

Ura slovesa je davno odbila, težke ločitve spomin se budi; ljubezen do vaju še vedno je živa, v našem življenju kot lučka gori.

V miru božjem zdaj počivajta, draga, nepozabna nam; v nebesih rajsko srečo uživajta do snidenja na vekomaj.

Žalujoci:

Lojze – sin
Mimi in Slavka – hčerki
z družinami