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CARPATHO-UKRAINE OBTAINED AUTONOMY AND  
FOUGHT CONSTANTLY AGAINST POLISH-HUNGARIAN  
DECLARED INDEPENDENCE MARCH 14 WHITE RUSSIA

Carpatho-Ukraine, the little independent state in central Europe, is fighting for its life today, obtained autonomy from Czechoslovakia last October after a 20-year struggle for self-rule.

The Czechs dominated the little state of less than a million people, sought to de-nationalize them, supported all anti-Ukrainian elements and were completely un-democratic in their treatment of Ukrainians. In effect Czechoslovakia was only a little less oppressive than were the occupants of other Ukrainian lands inhabited by nearly 50 million persons--Russia, Poland and Rumania.

Carpatho-Ukraine obtained its own government last October 8 when Premier Jan Syrový appointed Andriy Brody as Premier of Carpatho-Ukraine. Brody, a magyrophile, was unpopular with the people. He was arrested on Oct. 26 and charged with treason. (He was released last month). Monsignor Augustine Voloshyn was appointed second premier of Carpatho-Ukraine in place of Brody. The appointment was extremely popular, for Monsignor Voloshyn had fought for Ukrainian independence for the past four decades. Monsignor Voloshyn's chief minister was Julian Revay, formerly a professor also well-liked by the people.

Premier Voloshyn took office while the country was harassed by Polish and Hungarian terrorists, who until the present crisis continued their attacks intermittently. On Nov. 2 the Italo-German arbitration committee in Vienna ceded Uzhorod capital of Carpatho-Ukraine, and other territory to Hungary. The new capital became Chust. On Nov. 22 the Prague Parliament passed the Carpathian Ukraine autonomy bill guaranteeing self-rule. For the next three months the government was directed by Monsignor Voloshyn and Minister Revay toward the huge task of reconstruction.

The government was actively supported by a new defense organization called the Carpathian Sitch, named after the famous Ukrainian Cossack Sitch (fortress) on the Dnieper River in the middle ages. The Carpathian Sitch was organized by men who participated in the Carpatho-Ukrainian war with Hungary in 1919. Its officers are: Dmytro Klempush, commander-in-chief of the Carpathian Sitch; Ivan Roman, chief of staff; Ivan Rohach, an organizer of the Committee for the Defense of Carpatho-Ukraine abroad; Dr. Stepan Rosocha, secretary to the premier.

The Sitch was refused arms by the Czechs until the last. They finally obtained revolvers and a few other pieces of equipment. It is this small band of men numbering about 15,000 which is fighting a glorious battle against overwhelming Hungarian invaders today.

In January Prague again tried to interfere in the internal affairs of the country by appointing General Lew Prchala as third minister of Carpathian Ukrainian government. He was prevented from obtaining his post by huge demonstrations. On Feb. 12 the nation manifested its faith in the Voloshyn government by voting 92.4 per cent for the government list of candidates to the first Carpathian Ukrainian Diet. The Diet was to have met March 21.

The Prague government made a last attempt to regain control of Carpatho-Ukraine on March 6 when it dismissed Minister Revay. On March 14 Carpatho-Ukraine declared its independence after the Czech state was dissolved.

The present struggle of the tiny state for its existence demonstrates the will of the Ukrainian people for freedom and is part of the greater struggle of nearly 50 million Ukrainians for independence on their own ethnographic territories. Ukrainians throughout the world had hoped that Carpatho-Ukraine, which had already become the Mecca of Ukrainians, would become the keystone of a greater Ukraine.

Carpatho-Ukraine as it was comprised after the NOV. 2 Vienna decision included the following people according to official statistics: 413,481 Ukrainians (79.9 per cent); 65,828 Jews (12.8 per cent); 25,894 Hungarians (4.75 per cent); 17,495 Czechs and Slovaks (3.21 per cent); 3,715 Germans (1.6 per cent) and 13,268 Rumanians and others (2.44 per cent).

\* \* \* \* \*

UKRAINIAN PRESS SERVICE

It must be added that Carpatho-Ukraine has not yet that as the Carpatho-Ukrainians resisted for months against Hungarian armies of 1919, they will do so again. In Dmytro Klempush, who led the 1919 uprising, is again in command his men. They will continue fighting so long as Hungarians are on Carpatho-Ukrainian soil. They are demonstrating before the world that no matter what the odds Carpatho-Ukrainians, like the other Ukrainian territories inhabited by 50 million Ukrainians, will remain in a state of permanent revolution until independence is achieved.

AMERICAN-UKRAINIAN ORGANIZATIONS PROTEST AGAINST HUNGARIAN INVASION OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE AND URGE INTERCESSION BY MUNICH SIGNATORS

The following cables were dispatched by American-Ukrainian organizations March 16 to Chancellor Adolf Hitler of Germany and Premier Benito Mussolini of Italy, protesting against the Hungarian invasion of Carpatho-Ukraine and urging the intercession of the two Munich Pact signators:

MUNICH PACT BASED ON NATIONALITY AND ETHNOGRAPHICAL PRINCIPLES AROUSED HOPES FOR UKRAINIAN NATION STOP FAILURE OF MUNICH SIGNATORIES AND VIENNA ARBITERS TO PREVENT HUNGARY'S VIOLATION OF THESE PRINCIPLES WOULD RESULT IN DESTROYING TRUST OF UKRAINIAN MASSES IN POST-MUNICH POLICY TO THE LATTERS DETRIMENT STOP AMERICAN UKRAINIANS ON BEHALF OF FIFTY MILLION UKRAINIANS IN EUROPE PROTEST AGAINST UNPROVOKED AGGRESSION OF HUNGARY STOP WE BEG YOUR EXCELLENCY TO PREVENT HUNGARY FROM ANNIHILATING CARPATHO-UKRAINIAN STATE WHOSE HEROIC RESISTANCE PROVES ITS NATIONAL VITALITY.

FOR UKRAINIAN BUREAU IN WASHINGTON  
AND FOR UKRAINIAN PRESS SERVICE IN NEW YORK

Eugene Skotzko, Director

WE, AMERICANS OF UKRAINIAN DESCENT ORGANIZED IN ORGANIZATION FOR THE REBIRTH OF UKRAINE AND ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEFENSE OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE IN AMERICA, APPEAL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY TO OPPOSE BRUTAL INVASION OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE BY HUNGARIAN TROOPS.

CARPATHO-UKRAINIANS WHO FULLY APPLIED THE PRINCIPLE OF NATIONAL SELF-DETERMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH MUNICH PACT, HAVE ESTABLISHED THEIR INDEPENDENT STATE WITH MORAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF UKRAINIANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

UNPROVOKED INVASION OF CARPATHO-UKRAINIAN TERRITORY BY REGULAR HUNGARIAN ARMY FLAGRANTLY VIOLATES NOT ONLY THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION, BUT ALSO MUNICH PACT OF WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY WAS GUARANTOR.

BEING UNCONTROLLABLE MASTER OF CENTRAL EUROPE YOU MAY AVOID BLOODSHED OF INNOCENT CARPATHO-UKRAINIANS WHO ARE BEING KILLED AND MURDERED BY HUNGARIAN TROOPS.

BY YOUR DIRECT INTERVENTION IN BEHALF OF CARPATHO-UKRAINIAN STATE, YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL MANIFEST YOUR BELIEF IN THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND WILL PROVE THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY IS A PROTECTOR OF OPPRESSED PEOPLES.

AMERICAN UKRAINIANS WILL WITH ALL THEIR MANS TOGETHER WITH ENTIRE UKRAINIAN NATION OPPOSE HUNGARIAN INVASION OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE AND WILL UNCONDITIONALLY SUPPORT VOLOSHYN GOVERNMENT.

FOR ORGANIZATION FOR THE REBIRTH OF UKRAINE (ODWU) IN USA:  
DR. ALEXANDER GRANOVSKY-PRESIDENT  
VOLODYMYR RIZNYK-SECRETARY

FOR ORGANIZATION OF DEFENSE OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE:

REV. EMIL NAVITZKY-PRESIDENT  
REV. VASIL BENIO-SECRETARY

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# UKRAINIAN PRESS SERVICE

## NEW YORK, N. Y.—U. S. A.

51 East 42nd Street

No. 32

March 18, 1939

CARPATHIAN SITCH CONTINUES TO HOLD OUT AGAINST HUNGARIAN INVADERS;

AMERICAN UKRAINIAN ORGANIZATIONS PROTEST AGAINST INVASION;

RISE OF CARPATHO-UKRAINE REVIEWED.

The Carpathian Sitch, organized among the youths of Carpatho-Ukraine to defend the little state against attack, pitifully armed and outnumbered, continued holding out against overwhelming Hungarian invaders, according to latest reports.

Proclaiming their independence on March 14, the Carpatho-Ukrainians were immediately invaded by Hungary. For the past four days they have been fighting heroically against regular army troops.

Ukrainian Press Service on March 17 received a cable from Carpatho-Ukraine via Vienna that although Chust, the capital, had fallen, the Sitch guards were waging fierce resistance in the hills. Casualties among the Hungarians were reported heavy.

Premier Augustine Voloshyn, his life endangered and openly threatened by the Hungarian military and radio and press propaganda, was forced to seek refuge in Rumania.

The cable concluded, "Although we are in the midst of calamitous events, they shall not break us."

Despite reports from Warsaw and Budapest that the Hungarians were marching through Carpatho-Ukraine with not much resistance, the Ukrainian Press Service received numerous cables similar to the following received March 16:

"Towns of Sakhush and Svalava still held by Sitchoviky (Sitch guards). Towns of Czymodijiw and Domanynci were recaptured."

Premier Paul Teleky of Hungary announced March 16 in the Hungarian Parliament that Carpatho-Ukraine would "enjoy sweeping rights of self-government." That same evening Ukrainians in New York heard broadcasts from Budapest in the English language declaring that the beloved Premier Voloshyn was an enemy of the people, that only "Russiny" inhabited Carpatho-Ukraine and referring to Carpatho-Ukraine as "Carpatho-Russia". Ukrainians well remember the Hungarian oppression of pre-war days. It is to be seen whether Hungarian grants any sort of autonomy to Carpatho-Ukraine, if, of course, she conquers the little state, which is another story.

Invaded by the Hungarians and menaced by the armies of Poland and Rumania, Carpatho-Ukraine first had to fight against Czech troops in Chust to obtain guns. As reported admirably by Anne O'Hare McCormick in a dispatch to the New York Times from Budapest March 16, "Carpatho-Ukraine was actually under three flags in 27 hours." She concluded, "the boys at Chust are still fiercely resisting the occupation... Of course it is all to no purpose. The tail end will go the way of the rest of Czechoslovakia."

"Tomorrow" of the next day Huszt (Chust) will revert to the overgrown village it was before it became a symbol of a great Ukraine. In the cafe where Sitch members gathered nightly to plot and plan, there will be no more excitement. The great Ukraine will be developed somewhere else. But Huszt was a capital for a day, and it goes down fighting."