The Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations & World AntiCommunist League

The ABN logo used an ancient German wolfsangel emblem. It was an early symbol of the Nazis and their SS divisions. The wolfsangel was later used by white-power Aryan Nations, the Christian Identity movement, Ukraine’s neo-Nazi Social-National Party (now Svoboda) and the Azov Battalion (a fascist militia that aided the 2014 Maidan coup and is now part of Ukraine’s military).

Postwar service to empire

After WWII, the CSN had to replace its Nazi sponsors. In 1946, with funding from the US, UK and West German governments, the CSN became the ABN. Its “most active group” remained the OUN(B). In 1951, US army intelligence said the OUN(B) was “composed of rough, tough, younger men of strong convictions without the slightest aversion to violent murder or otherwise ruthlessly disposing of any and all opposition.”

ABN leadership was a who’s who of fascists. Its president from 1946 until his death in 1986, was Bandera’s deputy, Yaroslav Stetsko. During a 1981 visit to the US to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the OUN-B declaration of an “independent” pro-Nazi Ukraine, Stetsko summed up the ABN’s goal and its violent strategy:

The complete destruction of the Russian empire through a Ukrainian national revolution and armed uprisings of all subjugated nations is the only means for achieving an independent Ukrainian state and the liberation of all nations subjugated by Moscow.

As a Cold War asset of the CIA, the ABN was central to its propaganda vehicles, like Radio Liberation from Bolshevism. As Jonathan Levy notes:

The ABN became the darling of the cold warriors ... and its questionable personalitics, by providing full access to Radio Liberty and other propaganda venues. Radio Liberty itself was sharply criticized as a mouthpiece for antisemitism and glorification of Ukrainian Nazi collaborators. Throughout the Cold War, the ABN held some of its largest events in Toronto. (See pp.60-63.) Its 1986 congress there received “warm greetings” from Pres. Reagan and PM Mulroney. Toronto was fertile ground for the ABN because many of the far-right immigrants selected by Canada, settled in Toronto after the war. They formed groups representing the anti-Soviet diaspora from Europe’s “captive nations.”

In 1996, after achieving the Nazi-cum-CIA dream of destroying their common Soviet enemy, the ABN ceased operations.

World AntiCommunist League (WACL)

Through the 1950s and 1960s, Stetsko attended meetings of the Asian People’s AntiCommunist League. Created in 1954 by US-backed regimes in South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines, it joined with Stetsko’s ABN and other fascist entities from six continents to form the World AntiCommunist League (WACL) in 1966.


WACL events were graced by Senators, Congressmen, MPs and archbishops. Its 1984 confab had greetings from US Pres. Reagan. No mere think tank, it was “an instrument for the practice of unconventional warfare—assassinations, death squads, sabotage—throughout the world.” After the USSR’s destruction, it became the World League for Freedom and Democracy.

References and notes

3. Ibid.
9. Ibid., p.321
10. Anderson and Anderson, op. cit., p.11.
O n June 30, 1941, one week after their Operation-Barbarossa invasion of the USSR, the Nazis took Lviv, Ukraine. Marching with them was the Nachtigall Battalion. It was allied to Stepan Bandera’s fascist Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B) which then proclaimed an “independent” Ukraine and gave its total support to Nazi Germany. Bandera’s deputy, Yaroslav Stetsko, declared himself the prime minister, while Nachtigall commander and OUN-B leader, Roman Shukhevych, became deputy defence minister.

Ukraine’s fascist state, 1941
The 1941 Act of Ukrainian Statehood glorified what it called their “bloody battle with the Moscovite-Bolshevik enslavers” and their “energetic battle for freedom.” Vowing to “continue to fight with the Allied German Army against Moscovite occupation for a sovereign and united State and a new order in the whole world,” they declared support for Hitler’s goal of a “new order in Europe and the world,” and said the: newly formed Ukrainian state will work closely with the National-Socialist Greater Germany, under the leadership of its leader Adolf Hitler which is forming a new order in Europe and the world and is helping the Ukrainian People to free itself from Moscovite occupation.1

Stetsko’s radio broadcast of this proclamation received immediate support from the top of the Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Greek Catholic churches. The latter’s Archbishop, Andrey Sheptytsky, wrote a pastoral letter stating:

“We greet the victorious German Army as deliverer from the enemy. We render our obedient homage to the government which has been erected. We recognize Mr. Yaroslav Stetsko as Head of State ... of the Ukraine,”2

Promoting genocide
That same day, OUN(B) notices plastered all over Lviv incited Ukrainians to ethnically cleanse their newly-created nation state: Do not throw away your weapons now. Take them in your hands. Destroy the enemy .... People! Know! Moscow, Poland, the Hungarians, the Jews are your enemies. Destroy them!

Know! Your leadership is the Leadership of Ukrainian Nationalists, is the OUN. Your Leader is Stepan Bandera. Your goal is an Independent United Ukrainian State. Your path is the path of the Ukrainian National Revolution, the path of armed struggle, the path of the OUN. Glory to Ukraine! Glory to the Heroes! Glory to the Leader!3

After thus unleashing mass murder in Lviv, the Nazis and their Ukrainian allies went on to slaughter four million Soviet civilians in Ukraine alone.

According to Stetsko

“I consider Marxism to be a product of the Jewish mind, which has been applied in the Muscovite prison of peoples by the Muscovite-Asian people with the assistance of Jews. Moscow and Jewry are Ukraine’s greatest enemies and bearers of corruptive Bolshevik international ideas. Although I consider Moscow, which in fact held Ukraine in captivity, and not Jewry, to be the main and decisive enemy, I nonetheless fully appreciate the undeniably harmful and hostile role of the Jews, who are helping Moscow to enslave Ukraine. I therefore support the destruction of the Jews and the expedience of bringing German methods of exterminating Jewry to Ukraine, barring their assimilation....”


Whitewashing Stetsko’s Ukraine
Ukrainian ethnonationalists deny OUN(B) links to Nazism. For example, in its article on the 1941 Act of Ukrainian Statehood, the Encyclopedia of Ukraine does not mention the OUN-B’s declaration’s effusive alliance with Hitler, the Nazis and “the Allied German Army against Moscovite occupation.” Instead, it decries communist criticism of the OUN(B) efforts saying: “Soviet authorities … painted them in the blackest terms as the perfidious undertakings of evil collaborators riding on the coattails of the Nazis.”4

Similarly, the proBandera-Stetsko League of Ukrainian Canadians used the canard of Nazi-Soviet equivalency to praise the OUN-B’s 1941 proclamation, by saying: when Ukraine was sandwiched between two likeminded, murderous invaders, Soviet Russia from the east and Nazi Germany from the west ... Stepan Bandera and Yaroslav Stetsko, gave the nation hope for a better, free, democratic future by bravely declaring independence....5

References and notes
2. Ibid., p.81.

On May 8, 1939, Novyi shliakh [the official publication of the Ukrainian National Federation of Canada] had an article by Yaroslav Stetsko. In it he insisted that Jews were “horrible parasites,” a nation of “swindlers, materialists and egotists,” “devoid of heroism....” Jews, Stetsko said, were only interested in “personal profit,” found “pleasure in ... the basest instincts,” and were determined “to corrupt the heroic culture of warrior nations.” Ukrainians, Stetsko said, being “the first people in Europe to understand the corrupting work of Jewry,” had separated themselves from the Jews centuries ago, to retain “the purity of their spirituality and culture.” Stetsko also put Jews at the centre of an international conspiracy by suggesting that Jewish capitalists and Jewish Communists were collaborating to promote Jewish interests.


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