

Mother Russia by Luba George

Racist society steps into limelight

The Russian "Memory" society has come out of the shadows to bolster the Military Command's ambitions for world rule.

World Zionism, Freemasonry and imperialism" threaten the world, and above all, Mother Russia. A "Russian national rebirth" must occur, based on a mixture of Russian Orthodoxy and a return to old-Russian beliefs away from "the Jewish religion" of Christianity, to the old Slavic gods of Perun and Dash. This is the credo of a Great Russian racist society, called *Pamyat* (Memory), now getting enormous publicity in the U.S.S.R. Its leaders include the Dostoevskian mystic icon-painter, Ilya Glazunov.

Pamyat, the latest manifestation of organized Great Russian Race chauvinism, is prominently featured in the Soviet media and has received all-but official endorsement. The Moscow-based *Pamyat* Society, a creature of the "Russian Party," was formed in the early 1980s, as the post-Brezhnev period began. Originally devoted to "preserving Russian historical and cultural monuments, sites and treasures," it has now shown its true colors as an anti-Semitic society.

The Soviet youth paper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, May 24, quoted *Pamyat* members objecting to Jewish emigrants being allowed to return to the U.S.S.R. "Instead they should be facing a firing squad," said one.

On May 6, over 400 *Pamyat* members demonstrated near the Kremlin, unmolested of course, with placards reading "Down with the enemies of *perestroika* (restructuring)." The next day, a *Pamyat* delegation was received by Soviet candidate Politburo member and Moscow city party boss, Boris Yeltsin. According to the West

German daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* of May 26, *Pamyat* has been heavily funded and otherwise promoted by the GRU and KGB, with much of the operation conducted through the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

In recent months, *Pamyat* has attracted popular support across the Russian Republic and beyond. This is not surprising. Many *Pamyat* members also belong to another "Russian Party" creation, the mass-based Society for the Protection of Ancient Monuments, founded by the late Soviet Marshal V. Chuikov. According to exiled Russian author A. Yanov, it was Marshals Chuikov and Kulikov, Warsaw Pact commander in chief, who secured permission for the publication in Moscow of Ivan Shevtsov's explicitly chauvinist and anti-Semitic novels.

Pamyat's program can be traced to other "Russian Party"-created vanguard movements, in the 1970s and earlier, ranging from dissident groups and underground organizations linked to the *Veche* and *Mnogaya Leta* publications, to official publications like *Molodaya Guardiia* and *Nash Sovremennik*, out of which came the "village writers" Valentin Rasputin, Vasili Belov, and Sergei Zalygin, who today adorn the leadership of Raisa Gorbachova's Soviet Culture Foundation.

The *samizdat* (underground) journal *Veche*, spawned in 1971, professed loyalty to the Soviet state, but attacked the State's widespread destruction of Russian historical and cultural monuments, "the rape of the environment," demographic and social threats to the well-being of "ethnic

Russians," and the persecution of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Veche was suppressed in 1974. Then in 1980-81 appeared another *samizdat* publication, called *Mnogaya Leta* (*Many Years*). Its editor is Genadi Shimanov, an extreme Russian chauvinist, who had been interned for several years at a KGB psychiatric ward. *Mnogaya Leta* was allowed to advance, uncensored, the *Veche* line, now stressing the common interests between the Orthodox conservatives and the Soviet State. The true spiritual danger to Mother Russia, argued Shimanov, was the "Jewish-Masonic conspiracy" and the West, especially the United States, the latter-day Babylon. False, secular Western models must be replaced by a "religio-patriarchal organization of life."

There are striking similarities between *Mnogaya Leta's* program and *Pamyat's*. *Pamyat* members attack "international Zionism" and the "Americanization" of Soviet society, with the same language found in *Mnogaya Leta*. *Pamyat*, like *Mnogaya Leta*, also advocates a "concordat" between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Soviet State.

This is the *Mein Kampf* milieu out of which the Soviet Culture Foundation leadership emerged. The head of the Foundation's Presidium, Dmitri S. Likhachov, 80, an arch-Russian chauvinist, was prominently featured in a 1981 *Pamyat* publication as the movement's "spiritual father."

Many reliable sources have noted for some time that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov and Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov are leading members of the "Russian Party." The Russian High Command understands that Ogarkov's *perestroika* requires the enlistment of a "Great Russian" people to make the sacrifices necessary so that Moscow can enter the Third Millennium ruling the world.