

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1314

Remembering the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932–1933 and extending the deepest sympathies of the House of Representatives to the victims, survivors, and families of this tragedy, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2008

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McNULTY, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. WALZ of Minnesota) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Remembering the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932–1933 and extending the deepest sympathies of the House of Representatives to the victims, survivors, and families of this tragedy, and for other purposes.

Whereas in 1932 and 1933, nearly 10 million Ukrainian people perished at the will of the totalitarian Stalinist government of the former Soviet Union, which perpetrated a premeditated famine in Ukraine in an effort to break the nation's resistance to collectivization and communist occupation;

Whereas the Soviet Government deliberately confiscated grain harvests and starved millions of Ukrainian men, women, and children by a policy of forced collectivization that sought to destroy the nationally conscious movement for independence;

Whereas Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin ordered the borders of Ukraine sealed to prevent anyone from escaping the man-made starvation and preventing any international food aid that would provide relief to the starving;

Whereas Canadian wheat expert Andrew Cairns visited Ukraine in 1932 and was told that there was no grain “because the government had collected so much grain and exported it to England and Italy,” while simultaneously denying food aid to the people of Ukraine;

Whereas nearly a quarter of the rural population of Ukraine was eliminated due to forced starvation, while the entire nation suffered from the consequences of the prolonged lack of food;

Whereas the Soviet Government manipulated and censored foreign journalists, including New York Times correspondent Walter Duranty, who knowingly denied not only the scope and magnitude, but also the existence, of a deadly man-made famine in his reports from Ukraine;

Whereas noted correspondents of the time were castigated by the Soviet Union for their accuracy and courage in depicting and reporting the famine-genocide in Ukraine, including Gareth Jones, William Henry Chamberlin, and Malcolm Muggeridge, who wrote, “[The farmers] will tell you that many have already died of famine and that many are dying every day; that thousands have been shot by the government and hundreds of thousands exiled”;

Whereas in May 1934, former Congressman Hamilton Fish introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives (House Resolution 399 of the 73d Congress) which called for the condemnation of the Soviet Government for its acts of destruction against the Ukrainian people;

Whereas the United States Commission on the Ukraine Famine, formed on December 13, 1985, conducted a study with the goal of expanding the world's knowledge and understanding of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932–1933 (Holodomor), and concluded that the victims were “starved to death in a man-made famine” and that “Joseph Stalin and those around him committed genocide against Ukrainians in 1932–1933”;

Whereas on May 15, 2003, in a special session, the Ukrainian Parliament acknowledged that the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide was engineered by Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Government deliberately against the Ukrainian nation;

Whereas with the dissolution of the Soviet Union, archival documents confirmed the deliberate and pre-meditated deadly nature of the famine, and the Soviet Government was exposed for its atrocities against the Ukrainian people; and

Whereas on October 13, 2006, the President of the United States signed into law Public Law 109–340, authorizing the construction of a memorial in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide, in recognition of the upcoming 75th anniversary of the genocide in 2008: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) solemnly remembers the 75th anniversary of
2 the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932–1933 and
3 extends its deepest sympathies to the victims, sur-
4 vivors, and families of this tragedy;

5 (2) condemns the systematic violations of
6 human rights, including the freedom of self-deter-
7 mination and freedom of speech, of the Ukrainian
8 people by the Soviet Government;

9 (3) encourages dissemination of information re-
10 garding the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide in order to
11 expand the world’s knowledge of this man-made
12 tragedy; and

13 (4) supports the continuing efforts of Ukraine
14 to work toward ensuring democratic principles, a
15 free-market economy, and full respect for human
16 rights, in order to enable Ukraine to achieve its po-
17 tential as an important strategic partner of the
18 United States in that region of the world.

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