TORTURED BUT

UNCONQUERABLE



56

#### INFORMATION LEAFLETS No. 9

### TORTURED BUT UNCONQUERABLE UKRAINE

by John F. Stewart
Chairman, Scottish League for European Freedom

SCOTTISH LEAGUE FOR EUROPEAN FREEDOM, EDINBURGH.

APRIL 1953

PRICE 1/-

### SCOTTISH LEAGUE FOR EUROPEAN FREEDOM

#### President

The Right Honourable LORD IRONSIDE, G.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., LL.D., Field Marshal

#### Vice-Presidents

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Mansfield Gordon Duncan
Professor A. Dewar Gibb
Sir Malcolm Barclay Harvey, K.C.M.G.
Major Guy Lloyd, D.S.O., M.P.
Captain J. H. F. M'Ewen
Lt.-Col. Sir Thomas Moore, C.B.E., M.P.
Sir Andrew Murray
Sir George A. Waters

#### Chairman

John F. Stewart

Vice-Chairman

D. Macnaughton, W.S.

PERSON EURO

#### Foreword

At the time of the Commemoration of the terrible tragedy which overtook Ukraine in the planned 1933 famine, I wish, in the name of the Scottish League for European Freedom, and, I would hope, of the Scottish people, who have known what it has meant to fight for long years for mere freedom, to express our deep sympathy for a people who have been exposed to and have suffered torture and death to an extent, as far as I am aware, known nowhere else in the world.

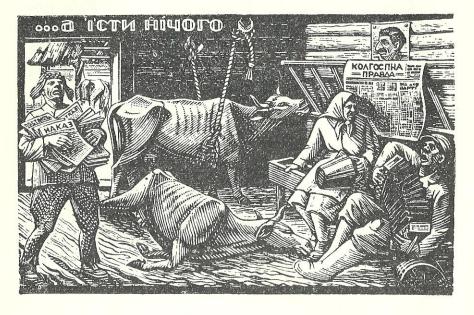
The West simply shut its eyes and ears, and yet, had it not been for Ukrainian resistance in the past, we would have been in the condition in which they are now. And even to-day, much as the Western politicians would wish to ignore it, the anticipated attack by Russia on the West is held up largely by the fear of what the Ukrainians and other non-Russian peoples in the U.S.S.R. might do. It is due at least partly to them that we are still a free people and yet we do not extend to them even moral support. It is much more than time that public opinion was directed to this sinister attitude, and to insist that contact at least be made with a great and able people whose real object is the same as our professed one—Freedom.

Returning to the Famine, it is curious that I myself should long have possessed confirmation supplied to me by an eye-witness.

In the early 1930s when I was again in Eastern Europe on professional business, I met a very much respected German. In my extensive travels in Soviet Russia (again on professional business) he had been a very real friend indeed. The Germans were then in high favour in Moscow, and my friend was obviously most influential at the German Embassy, and persona gratissima with the Soviet as well. He always seemed to me to be able to go where he liked, and I formed the opinion that, as well as being an exsoldier of the German Army, he was a spy, but for whom I never knew. We were very good friends and had a high regard for each other. He had been in Ukraine during the time of the famine and saw the most heart-rending scenes of which he gave me a description, to which, for utter horror, no writing could do justice. He had been in the great battles of the First World War, and heaps of the dead were no novelty to him. So I had no difficulty in believing his estimate of the scores of thousands of bodiesskeletons, which he saw piled up in many places for transport to concealment by grave, fire or some other means by which Moscow tried to hide the massacre from the world,

So I knew about the tragedy and its extent and its object years before hints of it began to get abroad. Why did I not make it public? In what way could I? I tried. But no newspaper that I knew of but was devoted to appearing the Russians, and none, in my experience, would publish a word against them. Our politicians, unfortunately, had never read Russian history, or they would have known at least the possibilities of the Russians for wholesale massacre, and, who knows, might have begun enquiries. It is hardly likely they would have welcomed the assassins who were destroying Ukraine, as Allies and brought them into the heart of Europe.

We ordinary people, unable to remedy what has passed, can at least show our very deep sympathy with "Ukraine: Tortured but Unconquerable."



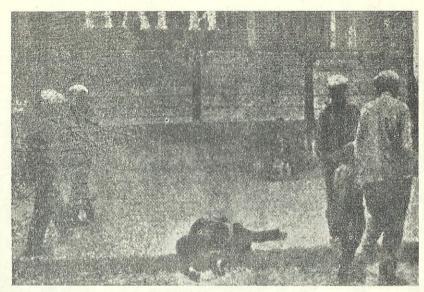
#### "THE HAPPY LIFE"

Woodcut made November 3rd 1949 by Myron (a Ukrainian Underground fighter) under supervision of Nil Khasewych

The "happy life" on the collective farms in Ukraine is shown to best effect in this picture. While a messenger brings new "nakazeh" (decrees), even the cows starve. The caption fittingly reads:

"... But nothing to eat"

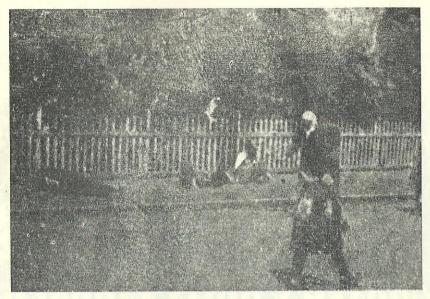
## More than Six Million Ukrainians in 1932/33 were deliberately starved to death in pursuance of Russian policy.



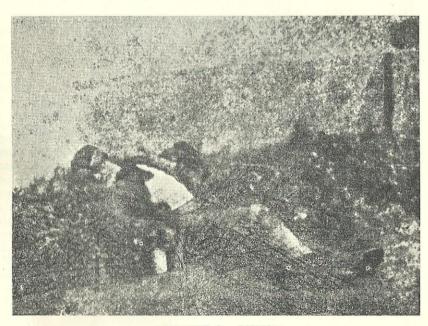
YOUNG and OLD



AT REST



CITY STREET — A COMMON SIGHT



"PEACE" by RUSSIA



#### THE PEOPLE ARE YOKED

Woodcut by Nil Khasewych (an artist of the Ukrainian Underground)

In many villages and collective farms in Ukraine the people were forced to substitute for non-existent horses and tractors to do the ploughing. The driver is Russian Communist Party.

# Tortured but Unconquerable Nation

Artificial famine in Ukraine (1932/33)—method of Russian policy of "peace" and building of Communism.

Twenty years have passed from the time when was perpretated the most appalling crime in history, the Famine deliberately planned by Moscow in Ukraine, in the years 1932-1933.

By this almost incredibly atrocious deed more than 6 million Ukrainians died of sheer starvation.

This happened in the smiling Ukraine, agriculturally the richest country in Europe, the owner of the famous black soil.

There was no natural cause for this famine; it was purposely created by Moscow to break the resistance of the Ukrainian peasants to the collective farm system—a system of slavery, to "teach the Ukrainians a lesson" by the grim method of starvation, to force them to recognize the supremacy of Russia, to accept Russian domination over Ukraine.

There was no excuse of, say, a drought or bad season. Statistics later available showed that crops harvested in 1932 were good and the yield was sufficient to feed the Ukrainian population for two years and four months. But all the grain was loaded into special trains as soon as it was threshed, and immediately appropriated by the Soviet-Russian government. The bursting carloads rolled northward to feed the bureaucrats of Moscow or to finance and to support the Chinese Communist revolution. With the Ukrainian grain grown by the Ukrainian people who were dying of hunger the Soviet Russians were depressing the world markets by dumping. At the time of famine in Ukraine, Russian ships which put into Belgian and Dutch ports invited all and sundry to dances, banquets and other free entertainments on board to show how bursting with food the U.S.S.R. was, and what a happy land was this. Could anything be more brutal and more cynical? At the very moment

when the Soviet authorities were knowingly murdering millions through the theft of their food, they were flaunting their abundance in the eyes of Western Europe, and pouring it out for nothing.

Having mastered Ukraine, after its heroic and long struggle, the Russians set as their goal the task of denationalizing it, destroying it spiritually and nationally by proceeding to make of the multinational U.S.S.R. a single Red Russian Empire. Since Ukraine was the richest republic of the U.S.S.R. and the second in size after Russia, the Russians decided to subdue it at any cost. They entered upon the path of provocation, terror and physical annihilation of whole masses of the people, a policy which was well known to the Russian Tsars which has been followed during the entire period of Russian domination and which is still continuing.

Not only to oppress but to strike a deadly blow at the Ukrainian nation, and, after it, at all the other non-Russian peoples in the U.S.S.R., and then to master the whole world, is Russian centuries-old dream and policy, and this is why defeated Ukrainians, overcome by violence and fraud, had to die by thousands in the N.K.V.D. prisons, by tens of thousands in Siberia, by millions in the famine in Ukraine.

In 1933, through the streets of Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa and other cities, the miserable wrecks of humanity dragged themselves on swollen feet, begging for crusts of bread, or searching for scraps in garbage heaps, frozen and filthy. Each morning wagons rolled along the streets, picking up the emaciated remains of the dead. The year 1933 brought death to the villages of Ukraine. Many which had formerly boasted of populations of from 2500 to 3000, now counted some 200 to 300. Later, the Moscow government transported whole colonies of Russians into these villages, where the Russian families occupied the vacant homes, and to this day these plough and till the rich black loam of Ukraine.

The requisition of grain was done in most brutal way. Armed gangs of "peace-loving" and "progressive" Moscow showed no mercy to the Ukrainian population. The great vehicles of the Kremlin rolled north by day, scraping every grain from the people, leaving them nothing. It is frightful to have to record, of so highly civilised and cultured a people as the Ukrainians, that the mothers completely maddened by hunger, were reduced to cannibalism, eating their own loved children! The writer knows countless Ukrainians. These mothers were beautiful, refined women, of the same stock as the Grand Princess Olga who brought Christianity at the dawn of civilization, and for centuries the nation formed a powerful rampart, defending the West from the inroads of savage hordes from the East. The Ukrainians are a most devout, religious nation, and nothing has shocked them more than the attacks on their religion and their devoted priesthood. "For God and Country: For Freedom for Peoples and Nations" truly describes their aims.

And the Western world did not take any notice by the quiver of an eyelid! All this could not have been unknown to the Western Governments, but they concealed it from their peoples.

Just think of it—six million men, women, and little children starved to death deliberately, and driven to cannibalism! Will the mothers of Britain, France, Italy, Scandinavia, not just try to think what this would mean to them? And it will come to them if Russia's age-long dream of world conquest is realised. And this dream is Russian, it is not Bolshevik, Communist or anything but Russian.

The dimensions of the devastation of Ukraine by the famine organized by Soviet Russia were carefully concealed by the Russian Communist government, and are even now kept secret. Only by chance some foreign correspondents learned of this famine in Ukraine. The well-known American journalist W. H. Chamberlin, who was in Ukraine later, calls that famine a political one, wrote:

"Early in 1933 Ukraine was declared 'out of bounds' for foreign correspondents, so that there could be no widely circulated accounts of the great human tragedy. What had happened was not hardship, or privation, or distress, or food shortage, to mention the deceptively euphemestic words that were allowed to pass the Soviet censorship, but stark, outright famine, with its victims counted in millions. No one will probably ever know the exact toll of death, because the Soviet-Russian Government preserved the strictest secrecy about the whole matter, officially denied that there was any famine, and rebuffed all attempts to organize relief abroad.

Walking through the dusty streets of the villages in Ukraine one was impressed by the sense of death and desertion. House after house seemed to be abandoned with window panes fallen in and corn growing mixed with the weeds in gardens which had been abandoned by their owners. Nearly in every village the death rate was not less than ten per cent.

There has perhaps been no disaster of comparable magnitude that received so little international attention. The Soviet-Russian method of stifling direct reporting of the famine by refusing permission to correspondents to visit the stricken regions until a new crop had been harvested and the outward signs of the mass mortality had been largely eliminated proved very effective. Officially Moscow continued to deny brazenly that there had been any starvation. Few correspondents were inclined to risk difficulties with the censorship by sending the story of events which had occurred some months in the past."

It is important to emphasize that at the time of the famine in Ukraine there was nothing of the kind in Russia proper. The Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* (October 21, 1933) wrote: "It can be definitely stated that no provinces within a radius

of several hundred miles of Moscow experienced the Ukrainian extremities."

So the greatest massacre of all time was committed in Ukraine, and six million of people died.

No one in the Kremlin raised a finger to save the Ukrainian people. On the contrary, Stalin refused the assistance which was organized in Western Ukraine (then under Polish occupation), under the leadership of Metropolitan Sheptytsky. Soviet Russia declared that there was no starvation in Ukraine.

While no official statistics about this tragedy have been published, there is a document—The Small Soviet Encyclopedia of 1940, in which it is stated that Ukraine had in 1927 a population of 32 millions, and in 1939, only twelve years later, a population of 28 million. Where had the 4 millions gone to, apart from what should have been the natural increase of at least another 4 million?

Who are the Ukrainians anyway? Has Russia any right to destroy them? They are an ancient people of approximately 45 millions in South-eastern Europe, an agricultural people, highly cultured; they were an old, old bastion defending the Christian West centuries before the Muscovites were even heard of by Europe, of which they have never to this day been a part.

The Ukrainians have never accepted Russian domination which the Russians were imposing with consistent cruelty. The Ukrainians love their country and this is the crime of crimes in the U.S.S.R. In that prison of nations everyone must love and worship only Russia. The Ukrainians wish to have their country free and independent, and this is why their people are being diminished by the sacrifice of millions. To the Muscovites, human life is nothing. And they are people whom the insanity or worse of the West brought into the heart of Christian Europe!

For many centuries the Ukrainians have fought for their freedom and independence against the hordes of Moscow, again and again they seemed doomed. But again and again they re-appeared, as determined as ever to throw off the yoke of the detested invader, whether Tsarist, Communist, Socialist or any other; to them the yoke does not belong to any particular political body, they desire their release, not from any ideology, but from their oppressor through the centuries—Russia, a Russia of any colour.

At the moment they have their own Underground Resistance, with a well organized army (U.P.A.) which is able to cause much anxiety in the Kremlin. And behind this Resistance, and behind this Army stands the Ukrainian Nation. Such a people can never be crushed. Ukraine has consistently fought and will fight until Ukraine will be free. And that time will come, and with it the freedom of the world and peace to humanity.

