

TWG SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO DETERMINE THE TRUTH BEHIND THE 1932-1933 FAMINE IN UKRAINE AND TO PUBLICIZE THE RESULTS

Please also see the Photo albums for the years 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989

1. Marco Carynnyk, a writer, editor, translator and research associate at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in Edmonton, Canada (May 17, 1985 / TWG NEWS June 1985)

The Washington Group sponsored a presentation by Marco Carynnyk on the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933. (The term “Holodomor” was not in use at the time.) Mr. Carynnyk made the following points:

1. The Ukrainian Famine needs to be “de-ideologized.” That is, it should be accepted as fact by the general public regardless of the political worldviews of different people.
2. Scholarship needs to provide definitive answers to the central issue about the famine: Was it man-made, premeditated, genocidal?
3. The Ukrainian community will have to redouble its efforts in research, recording oral history, and publishing documentary evidence.

2. “Execution by Hunger” (TWG NEWS July 1985)

TWG NEWS carried an article promoting “Execution by Hunger,” a book about the famine in Ukraine by Miron Dolot.

3. “Harvest of Despair” (August 8, 1985 / TWG NEWS September 1985)

TWG organized the premiere of “Harvest of Despair,” a Nowitski/Luhovy film on the famine in Ukraine 1932-1933.

4. “Harvest of Despair” (TWG NEWS November and December 1985)

The November 1985 issue of TWG NEWS described the film and advertised its showing on November 26, 1985 at the Biograph Theater in Washington, D.C. The December 1985 issue of TWG NEWS outlined the effort of TWG and Ukrainian National Women’s League of America (UNWLA) to promote the film and then reported on the audience reception of the film.

5. Famine Commission (TWG NEWS April 1986)

TWG NEWS listed the Ukrainian-Americans who were to serve as public members of the recently formed U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine. They were: Bohdan Fedorak, Myron Kuropas, Ulana Mazurkevych, Oleh Weres, Daniel Marchishin, Lubow Margolin-Hansen.

6. TWG Welcomes James Mace (April 18, 1986 / TWG NEWS May 1986)

TWG held a reception for Dr. James Mace, executive director of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine and his wife, Dr. Gloria y’Edynak. During the reception, TWG president Natalie Sluzar pledged support for Dr. Mace’s efforts.

7. Film “Harvest of Despair” (TWG NEWS June 1986 and July 1986)

TWG NEWS provided an update on Ukrainian-American community efforts, including TWG endeavors, to get the film “Harvest of Despair” to be shown on PBS channels. Additionally, logistical help was to be provided to Robert Conquest, author of “Harvest of Sorrow” for his book presentation in Washington on December 3. The July issue of TWG NEWS then informed readers that PBS agreed to show “Harvest of

Despair” on September 24 as part of the “Firing Line” program hosted by William Buckley.

8. Film “Harvest of Despair” (TWG NEWS October 1986)

TWG NEWS reported on the PBS showing of “Harvest of Despair” and on the commentary about the film as well as background on how difficult it was to bring the film to a large audience. **Link to Firing Line program and “Harvest of Despair:”**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4S_M4ioHy0&t=1s

9. Robert Conquest, a senior fellow at the Hoover Institute and author of “Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-Famine.” (TWG NEWS November 1986)

TWG NEWS covered Robert Conquest’s speech at the Kennan Institute where Conquest said that his research reveals that the Ukrainian famine of 1932-33 was the result of a deliberate political decision made by Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin and his advisers.

10. Famine Commission Fundraiser (TWG NEWS March 1988)

TWG NEWS reported on the fundraiser for the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine at the Holy Family Parish Center. Commission Staff Director James Mace stated that the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine needs \$47,000 or it will face the prospect of going out of existence.

11. Antonovych Award Recipient Robert Conquest (March 20, 1988 / TWG NEWS March 1988)

TWG co-sponsored the Antonovych Award ceremony. The awardees were Leonid Plyushch for his book “Ekzod Tarasa Shevchenka” and

Robert Conquest for his book "The Harvest of Sorrow." In presenting the award to Conquest, Dr. Roman Szporluk, the head of the Awards jury said, "Conquest has helped the Ukrainian people 'bring back some amputated cells of national memory--bring them back to national consciousness'."

In accepting the award Conquest said that while the effort to educate the West about the Great Famine and other Stalinist crimes can be called successful, there are, nonetheless, "a handful of vicious or stupid 'academics' " who continue to "retail slander" not only on Ukrainian matters but in defense of Stalin in general. Under glasnost, Soviet leaders have "opened the agenda to everything, including even the famine, and they have already made, in minor ways, certain concessions to the truth. If things develop in the Soviet Union as they may, we may learn a lot more of the truth."

12. "Spotlight on James Mace" (TWG NEWS May-June 1988)

TWG NEWS carried a "Spotlight on James Mace" article. In this article Dr. Mace describes how he got interested in the issue of the Ukrainian famine and provides a summary history of the Ukrainian famine.

13. "The Moscow Correspondents" (TWG NEWS August 1988)

TWG NEWS carried an article "Ukrainian Famine Highlighted in New Book." The book, "The Moscow Correspondents: Reporting on Russia from the Revolution to Glasnost" by Whitman Bassow, describes how the Soviet regime was able to corrupt the contemporaneous coverage of the Ukrainian famine.

14. TWG U.S. Presidential Election Position Paper (TWG NEWS October 1988)

In the run-up to the 1988 United States Presidential elections TWG issued a Position Paper on issues of importance to the Ukrainian-American community. The Position Paper summarizes the accomplishments of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine and praises it. It expresses the hope that there would be an exhibit on the Ukrainian genocide sponsored by the U.S. Holocaust Commission. Link to Position paper: <https://thewashingtongroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/TWG-Position-Papers-1988.pdf>

15. Epilogue

15.1 Red Famine – Stalin’s War on Ukraine

Anne Applebaum was awarded the Antonovych Award for 2017 for her book “Red Famine – Stalin’s War on Ukraine.” See book reviews on Amazon.com. Link: https://www.amazon.com/Red-Famine-Stalins-War-Ukraine/dp/0804170886/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3BTW273LWX2EH&keywords=red+famine+anne+applebaum&qid=1636740358&srefix=Red+Famine%2Caps%2C182&sr=8-1

15.2 Holodomor Memorial

TWG/TWGCF member Larysa Kurylas was the architect of the Holodomor Memorial in Washington, D.C. See link: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holodomor_Genocide_Memorial



16. Commission on the Ukraine Famine - Report to Congress

Link: [https://thewashingtongroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Investigation of the Ukrainian Famine 1932-1933 report to Congress.pdf](https://thewashingtongroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Investigation_of_the_Ukrainian_Famine_1932-1933_report_to_Congress.pdf)