

Soviet communists. This year marks the 68th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide perpetrated by Stalin in an attempt to subjugate the people of Ukraine.

In order to achieve his vision of a strong industrialized Soviet Union, Stalin sought to force Ukraine into compliance. However, his policy of forced collectivization was strongly resisted by the freedom-loving peasantry. In an effort to break the spirit of the Ukrainian people, Stalin used food as a weapon, starving between six and eight million people to death, while confiscating and exporting massive quantities of grain. This was a naked act of genocide against Ukraine and her people.

The famine was entirely the creation of Stalin's totalitarian policies. The Communist State's prohibition of private land ownership and Stalin's excessive seizures of agricultural products created an intolerable life for the Ukrainian peasantry. This situation escalated when state-sanctioned production quotas could not be filled. The quotas were designed to guarantee failure. The failure of quota fulfillment was interpreted, by Stalin, as anti-Soviet behavior, as treason, and acted upon accordingly.

Stalin ordered the Soviet secret police, the GPU (State Political Directorate), later the NKVD (People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs), to enforce his quotas by whatever means necessary. The GPU, with the help of local party officials, seized all the available food and seed, rendering the peasantry incapable of producing even enough to feed themselves in the most fertile regions of Europe and Asia. As a result, a mass migration of peasantry loomed. Many sought a chance for survival in the cities, others merely brought their children to urban areas and left them in the hope they would survive, returning, themselves, to their villages to die.

To prevent the migration, the "social parasitism" Stalin implemented a passport system, which forced the peasantry to remain in their villages. Those caught hiding food were either deported to Siberian labor camps or shot. Often, the grain collected would begin to rot while it waited for pickup. Those trying to steal even the rotting grain faced the same fate as those hiding it. Anyone who did not appear to be starving was suspected of hoarding food and faced death or deportation. Unable to eat, under penalty of death, the peasants starved to death.

The fate of these victims is a lasting testament to the failure of the Soviet system. Stalin's quote, "a single death is a tragedy, a million are just a statistic," responding to a question about the reported deaths of millions of Ukrainians, is evidence of the horror Ukraine faced.

In 1986, the U.S. Congress appointed a Commission on the Ukraine Famine. After two years, the Commission confirmed these terrible events did occur and constituted an act of genocide against Ukrainians. Over two hundred courageous Ukrainian survivors testified before the Commission. Their testimony is preserved in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. These terrible events must not be forgotten. Because of the courage of survivors and the commitment of those who remember and commemorate this tragedy, they will not be.

PROCLAMATION FOR JAMES LEHANE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students, James Lehane. This young man has received the Eagle Scout honor from their peers in recognition of their achievements.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

The Eagle Scout award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; they must earn a minimum of 23 merit badges as well as contribute at least 100 man-hours toward a community oriented service project.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of James and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition, Friday, January 4th, 2002. Congratulations to James and his family.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAUL JORDAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Paul Jordan for his contributions to this country. Paul began his service to our nation in 1942 by reporting for duty as a new army recruit at Fort Logan, CO. Following his training, Paul was assigned as a tank assistant gunner for the invasion of Sicily, Italy in June of 1943.

Mr. Jordan's company supported cover for the 45th Division and served in the initial invasion of Sicily. The Allied success brought Paul to the invasion of Salerno in September of that same year. It was during this invasion that Paul had his first tank destroyed by enemy

fire. Paul survived and later was reunited with his company and assigned a new tank. After fighting for three months near Monte Cassino, Paul was assigned to yet another invasion force, this time the invasion of Southern France. Fighting near Cannes in 1944, Paul's tank was again destroyed by an enemy attack. Evading enemy forces once again, Paul was promoted to tank commander upon reaching his unit. The war ended for Paul in Strasborg, France close to the German border in 1945.

Mr. Jordan returned to Colorado in November 1945. He married his sweetheart Ellen and raised three children. He went on to work in the Delta County School District for almost 30 years. Paul and his wife Ellen recently traveled back to France to visit a small village his unit liberated during the war, and to visit a memorial to five of his comrades who died during the fighting.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize and pay tribute to Paul Jordan for his service to his country during World War II. He served selflessly in a time of great need, bringing credit to himself and this nation. Paul is one reason that our country enjoys the freedom that we hold so high today.

TRIBUTE TO EDDIE BOLAND

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and former colleague Eddie Boland. By his own choosing, he loyally served this body for 36 years with minimal national attention. And yet despite his best efforts to remain known only to his constituents and his colleagues, his name carries a familiar ring to a vast number of Americans.

While it was his role as Chairman of the House Select Committee on Intelligence that brought him household recognition, Eddie Boland stood for more than the namesake amendments that helped set the stage for the Iran-contra affair. To his constituents, he was a friend, a steadfast supporter of civil rights and simply unbeatable when it came to the polls. To members of this body, he was an honest, sincere and dedicated man who came to Washington to serve his district and did it well.

It has been over 13 years since Eddie Boland last graced the halls of Congress as a distinguished member of the House of Representatives, but the ideals that he quietly fought for during his tenure have not been lost. I extend my sincere condolences to his wife Mary and their four children.

HONORING SERGEANT JOSEPH BUONOME ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to