

Gregory Kuksa

GK - The neighboring village was called Semyhirya, about 8 km from us. There, the village completely revolted, and didn't let in any representatives from the raion [county government]. The village became like a republic. So a regiment of soldiers was called in from Kremenchuk. The village was in a valley, so the army surrounded the village and shot at anything that moved. That was Semyhirya village.

Interviewer - *And in your village there was a womens' revolt?*

GK - In our village there was a womens' revolt. But there were no soldiers.

Interview - *Describe this revolt.*

GK - A woman, I remember her name, said, "People, let's go and get all the things, the tools, the horses, and take them back [from the collective farm]." The women all went, and took the implements, the tools, that were used to cultivate the land, and the authorities couldn't do anything about it. They tried to convince them to stop, but nobody listened. Everyone took what was theirs and took it home, horses, everything. This was one example of a womens' revolt.

Interviewer - *And this was women?*

GK - This was women. The men stood by, as if they were neutral. But they were there. I was there, I just watched. I remember, the representative, [from the authorities], because they had said, "Join the collective farm voluntarily!," that was the propaganda. And when they revolted against the collective farm, that representative said, "But you joined the collective farm voluntarily!" A man said, "Voluntarily?! You pulled us by our hearts into that collective farm! That's how we went voluntarily!" That's what I remember of one of these womens' revolts.

I can only say that this wasn't a naturally occurring, but a planned Famine, planned in Ukraine, in order to undermine the potential strength of the Ukrainian people. This was a planned action, of the Central Committee [of the Communist Party], from Moscow.