
**Internal memorandum from the Deputy People's Commissar of Agriculture of the USSR,
A. V. Grinevich, to the People's Commissar of Agriculture of the USSR, A. Ya. Yakovlev,
on the situation in Zinovivsk [Kirovohrad] raion, Ukrainian SSR**

In Tragediia sovetskoj derevni (2001). Excerpts, pp. 363–65. Translated by Bohdan Klid.

3 May 1932

Top Secret

To the People's Commissar of Agriculture of the USSR, Comrade Yakovlev...

1. Zinovivsk raion is 98 percent collectivized. As a result of the past production year, the collective farmers, on the basis of information from seventy collective farms, received on average 76 kg of grain per person, and that was to be their nourishment for the whole year. There were a number of cases of swelling from hunger. At present, according to information received from workers in the county and the observations that I have had occasion to make in the villages, there is almost no grain on the collective farms. By March there were many in the raion who were starving....
2. Since 1 January 1932, according to information from village councils, 28.3 thousand persons (out of a population of 100 thousand) have left the raion, and it is the adult inhabitants, the healthier ones, who are leaving....
3. As of 1 July 1931, according to agricultural tax records, there were 18,908 horses. According to census records, as of 1 February 1932 there were 11,934 horses. According to information from the village councils, as of 25 April 9,026 horses were left, that is, in less than a year more than 50 percent of the stock of horses has disappeared. Moreover, of the remaining horses, no less than 50 percent should be removed from work very soon, as working them will soon lead to the demise of that portion because of their extreme exhaustion....

Deputy People's Commissar of Agriculture of the USSR, Grinevich