

# The Washington Times

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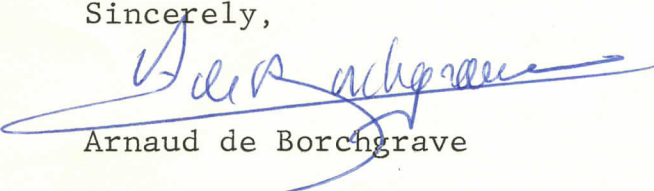
Dr. Zdzislaw M. Rurarz  
P. O. Box 634  
Vienna, VA 22180

Dear Dr. Rurarz:

Thank you for your letter of July 14 and the accompanying article. I am forwarding "The Most Perfidious Disinformation" to my Commentary Editor, Mary Lou Forbes, for her review.

Your great love of your countrymen and your courage come through in your letter. Many thanks for writing.

Sincerely,



Arnaud de Borchgrave

pc

cc: Mary Lou Forbes

Dr. Zdzislaw M. Rurarz  
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Res.476-2094

July 14, 1987

Mr. Arnaud de Borchgrave  
Editor-in-Chief  
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Washington, D.C.20002

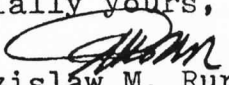
Dear Mr. Borchgrave,

I avail myself to bother you again with the request to publish the attached piece. It is self-explanatory. The Soviets, I am afraid, are winning this particular war of disinformation. It is almost incredible how many idiots, if not worse, believe in Soviet lies like those on Katyn/Khatyn where the Soviets have thoroughly confused many otherwise knowledgeable people, like those who produced that unfortunate program for Channel 56.

Please do not refuse my request as the Soviet murder of my fellow countrymen in Katyn cannot slip into oblivion! I will never capitulate in my efforts to pin up the Soviet lies on Katyn/may I say that even in the past I never failed to say this openly to the Soviets themselves/.

Taking this occasion I wish you all the best in your efforts to enlighten many people in this country and elsewhere in the world.

Cordially yours,

  
Dr. Zdzislaw M. Rurarz  
former Ambassador of Poland  
to Japan

1 enclosure

Dear Reed,

I attach herewith my piece  
sent to The Washington Times which  
Mr. de Borchgrave sent to Ms. M.L.  
Forbes for "review".

Cordially,

*Dzidek*

8/4/87

Dr. Zdzislaw M. Rurarz  
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July 14, 1987

THE MOST PERFIDIOUS DISINFORMATION

The USSR, the inventor and perpetrator of the most perfidious and criminal methods of disinformation, looks like not only continuing them and despite all the glasnost, but like succeeding in achieving the desired goal.

For example, on July 13 Channel 56 presented Bob Gliner's 1-hour long documentary "Russia: Off the Record". Apart of many hopeless nai-vetés demonstrated by the producer on this occasion, one episode deserves special attention.

In it, the program's producers are led by their Soviet hosts to the Khatyn memorial which the commentator presents as "Katyn". One could see then hundreds of people paying tribute to the memory of those who died in Khatyn and elsewhere in rural Byelorussia during the Nazi occupation of it between July 1941 and September 1943, since the Khatyn memorial symbolizes all Byelorussian villages razed to the ground by that occupation.

One could also hear Soviet war veterans, visiting the place, speak to the program's crew. They pronounced, in Russian of course, the name of the place as "Khatyn", while the English translation appearing on the screen read "Katyn".

Why? Well, in this place an explanation is needed. Both in Russian, Byelorussian and Ukrainian, the word "Khatyn" starts with the Cyrillic letter "X", which roughly corresponds to "Kh" in English pronunciation in Latin alphabet transliteration.

It is because of this that the Soviets chose to substitute "Katyn" with "Khatyn" and that is why they built the mentioned memorial and now

bring all the tourists, from the West especially, to this place and otherwise made it a national shrine of martyrdom.

But why the Soviets would attempt to substitute Katyn with Khatyn?

As known, Katyn is the place, a little forest on the Dnieper river near Smolensk, also in Soviet Byelorussia, where the NKVD killed some 4.2 thou. Polish Army officers in April-May 1940/4,143 bodies were later exhumed but it is not certain whether more of them are not in the area/. Those officers are those out of more than 15 thou. who were taken prisoners by the Red Army when it invaded Poland in September 1939 while joining in the German aggression following the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact. Almost all of these officers, initially kept in three POW camps, Kozielsk, Starobielsk and Ostashkov, disappeared in the spring of 1940. Those from Kozielsk were found in April 1943 by the Germans in mass graves of the Katyn forest.

The USSR accused the Germans of the crime instead and tried to do so during the Nuremberg Trial as well.

The Poles know only too well about the Nazi crimes against them, but in this particular case it was not them <sup>Nazis</sup> who are guilty of that particular atrocity. Neither the mentioned Nuremberg Trial found the Nazi guilty of it/though the Soviets falsely maintain it did/.

The USSR apart, nobody else believes its version of the story/the US Congress, after investigating the case thoroughly, concluded in 1952 that it was the Soviets who are guilty of Katyn/.

Because of all that the USSR decided to confuse all those who may not remember the truth about Katyn.

In the Great Soviet Encyclopedia, Vol. 46 of 1953, the entry "Katyn" is still there and, of course, the Germans are accused of the crime. But in the next edition of it, in Vol. 11 of 1973, the entry "Katyn" disappeared. Instead, in Vol. 28 of 1978, the entry "Khatyn" appeared. It is

explained on this occasion that on July 5, 1969 the mentioned memorial was unveiled and the picture of it is reproduced.

In the Soviet Byelorussian Encyclopedia of 1974, Vol. 11, the Khatyn memorial is also mentioned. It is also added that the Khatyn village, near Minsk, was subjected to German reprisals on March 22, 1943, that 149 inhabitants of it, 75 of them children, perished and that 26 homes were burned. What is not mentioned it is that most of those villagers were ethnic Poles and Catholics/incidentally, the German war records do not mention any reprisals against the Khatyn village at all/.

At any rate, it is quite clear why the Soviets decided to pick up Khatyn out of <sup>many 627</sup> (186) other Byelorussian villages which, as the Soviets claim, were destroyed in the same way. <sup>by the Nazis and 186 losing all its inhabitants and were rebuilt again.</sup> Khatyn fits perfectly the purpose and many take it for Katyn, the mentioned Channel 56 program including.

Yet the above Soviet effort to disseminate this perfidious disinformation may soon be put to the most unexpected test. Gen. W. Jaruzelski signed with M. Gorbachev a declaration in Moscow last April in which it is said that all "blank spots" in Soviet-Polish history of mutual relations are to be finally explained. Since in Poland Katyn was for long officially not mentioned at all, and two years ago the Soviet version on it was indirectly embraced by Gen. Jaruzelski, then it remains to be seen whether the Katyn crime will be finally explained as to its true perpetrators, or will be considered as already explained along the lines of the Soviet official version on it.

Whatever the end will be, the Soviets seem to be quite successful in the mentioned disinformation on the crime belonging not only to the greatest ones in man's history, but equally to those where the perpetrators of it escaped the punishment and now even try to erase it from the memory of all others by such dirty tricks as mentioned above.

It is only a pity that many buy this perfidious Soviet lie.