

PRESS RELEASE

**Association of Polish Engineers in Canada, Ottawa Branch
The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in Canada, Ottawa Branch
The Polish National Union of Canada, Ottawa Branch
*under auspices of the Canadian Polish Congress***

invite you to the free public presentations and panel discussion (both in English) titled

**UNANSWERED QUESTIONS
CRASH OF THE POLISH PRESIDENTIAL PLANE TU-154M**

Friday, 3 February, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium, Saint Paul University, 223 Main Street, Ottawa

The Polish presidential airplane, Russian made Tupolev TU-154M, crashed on April 10, 2010, in Smolensk, Russia, killing all 96 people aboard, many of whom were members of Polish Parliament and high-ranking officials. The long list of victims includes:

- Polish President Lech Kaczynski and his wife Maria,
- Ryszard Kaczorowski - last Polish President of the Government in Exile (residing in U.K. until Dec 1990),
- NATO officers, including six generals (Chief of the General Staff, Chiefs of all branches of Polish Armed Forces), and Vice-Admiral (Chief of the Navy)

Current state of affairs:

- The official accident report issued by the Russian Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC, Russian acr. MAK) and its claim of the plane's collision with a tree are not backed by evidence.
- From the beginning crucial evidence was tampered with and even destroyed, including the key parts of the plane wreckage. Passengers' phone conversations were withheld, the cards from passengers' phones and cameras were erased, president's phone has not been returned, etc. To this day, the black boxes, and plane wreckage have not been returned to Poland.
- The reported readings from the Flight Data Recorders (FDRs) were altered to misrepresent the situation in the cockpit during the final stage of the flight.
- The autopsies data provided by Russians have been proven to be false. Following Russian request, no post-mortem examinations were allowed in Poland prior to victims' burials.
- Independent investigators proved that the disintegration of the aircraft started 26 meters above the ground, as a result of two successive disturbances of unknown nature, which shook the aircraft. There is a very strong indication of the involvement of a third party, or parties.
- The Polish *Parliamentary Group for the Investigation of the Polish President Plane Crash* was formed by opposition MP's to investigate this case; however, they have a very limited access to crucial pieces of evidence which are being withheld by Russia as well as by Polish Authorities.
- Polish and Russian governments reject requests that NATO and EU specialists participate in the investigation.

A group of international experts (listed below), will present the results of analysis of currently available data. The presenters will debate the latest findings, and clarify what types of destructive situations are impossible, challenging the scenario presented in the crash reports issued by the Russian and Polish authorities. The experts, after presenting newest findings, will answer questions from the floor. Honourable Antoni Macierewicz will provide additional information about this tragedy and the investigation process. This should help us to find out how we Canadians could, or perhaps should, assist the investigation of this enormous tragedy that entailed the biggest loss of commanding NATO generals in history. What would we have done, if we had lost our Prime Minister, chiefs of all branches of Canadian Forces, and many of the other dignitaries and civic leaders in a plane crash on foreign soil?

- Honourable Antoni Macierewicz, *Member of Polish Parliament, Chairman of the Parliamentary Group for the Investigation of the Polish President plane crash*. On June 29-30, 2011 the committee published its interim report titled "White Book of Smolensk Tragedy". His committee continues to investigate all aspects of the crash, relying on experts from Poland, U.S., Russia and other countries. Antoni Macierewicz is a politician, anti-communist activist, Member of Parliament, and journalist. He was Minister of Internal Affairs (1991-1992) responsible for the police and security services, which entailed full access to the former communist archives, records of communist intelligence and secret service agents. Later, as a deputy Minister of Defence in the Jaroslaw Kaczynski's government, he spearheaded in 2006 the liquidation of the Military Information Services (WSI), and became the chief of the newly restructured military counter-intelligence service until the fall of Kaczynski government. Official liquidation report, known as "Macierewicz's Report", was published on 16 February 2007.

PRESS RELEASE

The long list of prominent names, former agents trained by Soviet GRU, was published. The report also contained detailed information on treacherous and criminal activities of the WSI that continued until 2006.

- **Dr. Wieslaw Binienda**, *F.ASCE, Professor, University of Akron, Ohio. Provided expert services to the Parliamentary Group for the Investigation of the Polish President plane crash.* Professor and Chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Akron. His research interests include impact simulation, fracture and damage of materials with emphasis on advanced composites, explicit and implicit finite element analysis, smart materials, structural design as well as optimization, characterization and constitutive equation development for ceramics, metals and polymer matrix composites. Dr. Binienda serves as co-director of the Gas Turbine Testing Center at the University of Akron where he is responsible for impact, material and structural experiments. He was elected in 2010 as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Aerospace Engineering. In 2004 Dr. Binienda received a prestigious NASA Award titled "Turning Goals Into Reality" for valuable contribution to Jet Engine Containment Concepts and Blade-Out Simulation Team and Exceptional Progress Toward Aviation Safety. In 2007 Dr. Binienda was honoured with the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Fellow in recognition for his research accomplishments. He is also a recipient of the College of Engineering Outstanding Researcher Award and The Louis A. Hill, Jr. Award of the University of Akron.

- **Dr. Kazimierz Nowaczyk**, *Assistant Professor, University of Maryland.* His area of expertise includes Applied Physics, Mathematics and Statistics, Data Analysis and Presentation, Instrumental Design and Development, Spectroscopy: UV-VIS, Fluorescence, Phosphorescence, Fluorescence Microscopy, computer hardware and operating systems. He provided reports of detailed analysis of data recorded by on-board instruments, TAWS and FMS logs, recovered after presidential plane crash.

- **Dr. Maria Szonert-Binienda**, *Esq., Libra Institute, Cleveland, Ohio.* Attorney, a law graduate from the University of Warsaw, with post-graduate study in journalism, she also earned Juris Doctor and MBA degrees in the United States. Attorney Szonert-Binienda represents the Katyn 2010 Families Association in the Smolensk crash case in the United States. Dr. Szonert is the Founder and President of Libra Institute, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of understanding between the people of Poland and the United States. In February of 2011, Libra Institute partnered with Case Western Reserve School of Law in organizing an international symposium on the legal analysis of the Katyn crime. Subsequently, Libra Institute organized a conference on the Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, and presented Expert Report from the Katyn Symposium to the US law makers. Currently Libra Institute cooperates with the US National Archives on the Katyn project to declassify and disclose to the public Katyn related documents in the possession of the US Federal Government. Dr. Szonert also serves as President of the Kresy-Siberia Foundation USA, a charitable organization dedicated to the research, remembrance and recognition of the Polish citizens repressed by the Soviet regime.

The plane crash of April 2010 instantly eliminated the majority of political and military leaders of the centre-conservative and Polish-sovereignty political lobby (the Law and Justice) - the very movement that guarded the freshly gained independence of Poland and its close ties with NATO and European Union. The Smolensk disaster resulted in the immediate transfer of political power in Poland to parties hostile to that formation. This power grab was well-organized and happened within hours and days after the accident took place. The circumstances of the crash and the political scandals that surround its investigation - or rather the lack of it - have created major doubts as to the real causes of the crash.

Some Unanswered Questions

- Why did the Polish Cabinet surrender all the inquiries to the Russian Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC), and rejected offers by NATO, the EU and various countries to aid in the investigation?
- Why, starting from the first day of the investigation, the fuselage was chopped into small pieces; windows shattered and most of the vital evidence destroyed?
- Why for almost two years were black boxes and the wreckage of the Polish Air Force One Airliner not returned to Poland, especially after the release of the final report by the IAC?
- How could an almost 60 ton aircraft, after a crash from a very low altitude, disintegrate into thousands of unrecognizable pieces, and none of the 96 passengers survived?
- Why were many bodies disintegrated to the point that they required DNA identification?

These and many many more unanswered questions are awaiting answers.

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Press Info: http://www.komott.net/main/eng/questions_TU154.htm

TV coverage: <http://www.TVinterPOLONIA.org>