

GRAVES OF SMOLENSK MYSTERY

Nazi Propaganda Makes Big Thing
Out of Alleged Russian
Atrocities

Since the Berlin Reichstag fire of February 27, 1933, Nazi propaganda has not launched anything as big as the atrocity story about their discovery in the wood of Katyn, writes Ernest S. Plisko. Katyn is a place near Smolensk, occupied by the Germans since the fall of 1941, and there they reported to have found two weeks ago an entire row of mass graves and in them the bodies of 10,000 Polish officers, allegedly slain by their Russian captors in the spring of 1941.

No one, presumably, except a few people in Germany and in Russia

know for sure whether the story is true or not. All we know is that some 500,000 Polish soldiers and some 15,000 of their officers surrendered to the Russians in the second half of September, 1939.

We also know that negotiations between the Polish government in exile and Moscow concerning the release of the Polish prisoners of war did not run as smoothly as would have been desirable. We may further regard as a proven fact that mass graves were indeed discovered in the wood of Katyn. Yet any connection between these facts is sheer guesswork. It is based on nothing but Nazi statements of a doubtful validity.

Series of Broadcasts

This writer listened to Radio Berlin when it announced its "hasty" discovery and when it elaborated on it in a series of broadcasts. The story resembled rather strikingly those of the Reichstag fire, the Roehm purge, or the bomb explosion in the Munich beer hall on November 8, 1939.

What "evidence" the Nazis pro-

duced in the Katyn case was quite inconclusive.

The Germans gave in their first report the number of slain men as 10,000. But it became clear from subsequent broadcasts that at that time they had not even discovered all the graves, let alone opened them.

Again, the Nazis stated that the exhumations were carried out under supervision through a professor of the Breslau University and in the presence of the former Polish minister Koslovsky. Assuming that both these gentlemen were present, there was apparently nothing to be gained from this fact—certainly not what the Nazis wanted to prove, namely, the identity of the bodies.

Are Documents Reliable?

According to Radio Berlin the identity was established by the aid of documents which were found in the clothes of the victims. Whether the documents really belonged to the men on whom they were found still requires proof.

To none of the papers was the

photograph of the bearer affixed, apparently, as is usually the case, with certificates of identity. At least, the Nazis did not mention photos—and this can hardly have been a mere omission. By the same token, there is no way of ascertaining whether the documents were genuine or faked, or whether the victims were Poles, or Russians or Germans.

The alleged evidence brought forth by the Nazis against the Russians, in fact, is not only purely circumstantial but also full of gaps.

On the other hand, extermination of conquered people is a well-known Nazi custom. The Russians have not been addicted to this expedient during the war, so far as is known. In the case of the Volga Germans, they were satisfied to shift that group of potential "fifth columnists" farther inland. Moreover the Russians could expect to gain little but trouble from the murdering of Polish officers. The Germans, however, who are reported to have been murdering civilians continuously ever since September,

Uncha Valley Woman Passes

Funeral of Mrs. Katherine Blakely
Campbell at Burns Lake

BURNS LAKE, May 8—Funeral services were held in Burns Lake United Church on Wednesday for Katherine Blakely Campbell of Uncha Valley, widow of Donald Campbell, who predeceased her three months ago. Interment was in the Burns Lake Cemetery, Rev. Adam Crisp officiating.

During the service in the church the hymns "Peace, Perfect Peace" and "Abide With Me" were sung and a solo "One Sweetly Solemn

1939, could expect from their coup exactly the result which they achieved—a serious disagreement between several members of the United Nations.

Thought" was rendered by Mrs. Adam Crisp.

The pallbearers were M. L. McLeod, Blake Nobles, W. Wilson, John Berg, A. R. Brown and Hume Linton.

The late Mrs. Campbell was a lady of gentle manners and kindly personality and greatly endeared herself to all who were fortunate enough to know her.

Sympathy is extended to her sister, Mrs. Laura Copeland, who came from Hope to be with her in her final illness and to her only son, William Harvey Campbell of Uncha Valley.

Britain produced 135,000 tons of home-grown tomatoes last year, a 75,000-ton increase over pre-war figures.

Schoolchildren in South Coast towns in England may have their desks replaced by Morrison table shelters as an added protection against hit-and-run raiders.

Send Your Copy Early

Local news contributions should be in the Daily News office by 10 a.m. on the day following the event—preferably the night before, a letterbox in the door being there to receive copy. Local news not in by 10 a.m. runs the risk of not being published. We prefer to have news contributions typewritten neatly and double spaced, if possible. However, legible writing will do.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the "Administration Act" and

In the Matter of the Estate of Albert Menard, Otherwise Known as Albert Lalonde, Deceased, Intestate

TAKE NOTICE that by order of His Honor, W. E. Fisher, made on the 30th day of April A.D. 1943, I was appointed Administrator of the estate of Albert Menard, otherwise known as Albert Lalonde, deceased, and all parties having claims against the said estate are hereby required to furnish same, properly verified, to me on or before the 1st day of June, A.D. 1943, and all parties indebted to the estate are required to pay the amount of their indebtedness to me forthwith.

DATED at Prince Rupert, B.C. this 1st day of May A.D. 1943

NORMAN A. WATT
Official Administrator
Prince Rupert, B.C.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the "Administration Act" and

In the Matter of the Estate of Louis Elmer Johansen, Otherwise Known as Louis Johansen, Deceased, Intestate

TAKE NOTICE that by order of His Honor, W. E. Fisher, made on the 30th day of April A.D. 1943, I was appointed Administrator of the estate of Louis Elmer Johansen, otherwise known as Louis Johansen, deceased, and all parties having claims against the said estate are hereby required to furnish same, properly verified, to me on or before the 1st day of June, A.D. 1943, and all parties indebted to the estate are required to pay the amount of their indebtedness to me forthwith.

DATED at Prince Rupert, B.C. this 1st day of May A.D. 1943

NORMAN A. WATT
Official Administrator
Prince Rupert, B.C.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IN PROBATE

In the Matter of the "Administration Act" and

In the Matter of the Estate of John Klee, Deceased, Intestate

TAKE NOTICE that by Order of His Honor, W. E. Fisher made on the 22nd day of April A. D. 1943, I was appointed Administrator of the Estate of John Klee, deceased, and all parties having claims against the said estate are hereby required to furnish same, properly verified, to me on or about the 27th day of May, A. D. 1943, and all parties indebted to the estate are required to pay the amount of their indebtedness to me forthwith.

DATED at Prince Rupert, B.C. this 27th day of April A. D. 1943

G. H. HALLETT
Official Administrator
Atlin, B.C.

Industry is helping win the war...

industry must help build a peacetime world

Today, all industries must produce as never before—must speed the output of food, tanks, planes, guns, ships and other instruments of war—must conserve vital supplies—that we may win quickly a decisive victory.

Tomorrow, all industries must continue to produce—beating swords into plowshares—to prevent world-wide unemployment leading to ultimate economic collapse.

If the world is to prosper, there must be the same cohesion among the United Nations during the transition period and thereafter as now exists during the world-wide conflict. Internal stability here and in other nations can be gained and maintained only by sustained industrial production and by interdependence.

The people of this country, in common with the people of other lands, will prosper materially and spiritually when this war is ended but only if plans world-wide in scope are formulated promptly for A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE.

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