

William Hawking, il fisico britannico - fra i più importanti e conosciuti del mondo -, l'autore del libro *Dal Big bang ai buchi neri*, qualsiasi teoria è provvisoria e rimane solo un'ipotesi poiché non si può avere la certezza di provarla in maniera definitiva. Anche se i risultati di un esperimento sono in accordo con una teoria, non si può mai essere del tutto sicuri che in un esperimento successivo i risultati non entrino in contraddizione con quelli degli esperimenti precedenti. Del resto per smentire una teoria è sufficiente una sola osservazione che sia contrasto con le predizioni della teoria stessa. Quindi riferendo all'opinione del grande fisico britannico le parole appena sopraddette valgono per ogni disciplina scientifica cos'anche per la linguistica, per la storia e naturalmente anche per le ricerche per scoprire che cosa si nasconde dietro il mistero degli Etruschi.

Link:

L'articoli consultabili nell'internet dell'*Osservatorio Letterario* che trattano argomenti riguardanti agli Etruschi:

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Fonte: *Supplemento online dell'«Osservatorio Letterario» di Ferrara, del 20 novembre 2008:*
<http://www.osservatorioletterario.net/oggettomisterioso.pdf>

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DALL'ALTROVE...

A Hungarian victim of the Soviet massacre of Polish POW officers at Katyń, Charkow and Twer in 1940

It is known only by a comparatively few people that among the victims of the 1940 massacre of Polish POW officers by Russian NKVD units under the command of the "Soviet Eichmann", colonel *Petr Karpovich Soprunienko*, there was also a Hungarian, *Emanuel Aladár Korompay*, lecturer of Hungarian language of Warsaw Józef Piłsudski University.

The German-Russian (or Ribbentrop-Molotov) Non-Aggression Pact, signed on the 23rd Aug. 1939 in Moscow had a secret annex, dividing Poland between Germany and the USSR and declaring that the Baltic states and Finland belong to the Soviet sphere of influence. Germany attacked Poland on the 1st September 1939, occupying the western half of the country. This was followed by the Russian attack – without declaring war – on the 17th. They occupied the eastern half of the country and deported 1.2 million

Poles into the internal parts of the USSR. (Half of them have survived it.). A great number of Poles fled to Hungary and Romania.

The Polish military officers, who became POW's of the Soviet army and were found to be unreliable for the USSR in the following investigations lasting for months, were secretly sentenced to death. This was done on the recommendation of *Lavrentii Beriia*, people's commissar (minister) of the interior, on the 5th March 1940 by the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, with the agreement of *I.V. Stalin*, who signed the corresponding document, that was kept secret and was denied even to exist for 50 years.

Emanuel Aladár Korompay – in the earlier documents his name is given as *Manó Aladár Korompay* – was born in Budapest on the 23rd March 1890. He was the seventh child of his parents, he was Roman Catholic. His father, *Márton Korompay* was a pharmacist. He attended the Reformed (Calvinist) secondary school at Street Lónyay in Budapest, as witnessed by the yearbooks of the school. His matriculation document No. 614 was issued there on the 24th June 1908. Following this, from 1908 on to the second term of the 1911-1912 academic year he was a student of the Faculty of Arts of Budapest University. His graduation document (absolutorium) was issued on the 3rd October 1912, signed by *János Kiss*, rector of the university and *Ernő Fináczy*, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

He was first a teacher of Latin and Greek of the secondary school in Léva in Northern Hungary (now in Slovakia), but soon after the outbreak of World War I he was called to the army. He was commandeered to Przemyśl (then in Austria-Hungary). In 1916 he became acquainted there with a Polish lady, *Miss Mieczysława Grabas*, acting as an interpreter. First they talked in German with each other. They were soon married and in the same year their first daughter, *Ilona* was born. Korompay then payed a short visit to Budapest but soon returned to Przemyśl. In 1919 he became Polish citizen and joined to Polish Army as a lieutenant. In 1929 he retired from active service as a captain.

In 1930 he met professor *Adorján Divéky* (1880-1956), teaching then both at the Báthory University in Wilno (then in Poland, now Vilnius in Lithuania) and at the Józef Piłsudski University in Warsaw. He has taken over the teaching of Hungarian in Warsaw, the tasks of the cultural attaché at the Hungarian Embassy in the Polish capital and also the chairmanship of the Polish-Hungarian Association from *Divéky*. His family has moved to Warsaw. Soon two girls were born there in the family, *Marta* and *Elisabeth*. It was recorded, that he was a good player of piano, flute and organ. – He published a small Hungarian-Polish Dictionary on the 15th March (the Hungarian national holiday) of 1936, soon followed by its Polish-Hungarian counterpart. He is the author of a Polish-Hungarian book of conversations too.

In 1939, together with a group of Poles learning Hungarian, he came to visit Budapest. During their stay there, World War II broke out. The members of the group have survived it in Hungary, he, however, immediately returned to Warsaw and obeyed the call to

join the army. As a member of the staff of the Hungarian Embassy, he could have obtained an exemption, but he did not use this opportunity. In the same year he was taken prisoner of war of the Soviet Army. He was taken to the Starobielsk camp, one of the three camps for officers. (The other two camps were in Kozielsk and in Twer.) Removing his insignia of rank he could have left the camp, but he refrained from doing it. – A postcard sent from the camp to his wife in Warsaw has survived until now.

In April and May 1940, 3739 POW's of the Starobielsk camp were shot dead in the nearby Kharkov, in the cellar of the Soviet Secret Police, the NKVD, and were then buried in Piatihatki. A monument honouring those killed was consecrated there on the 17th June 2000. The list of the names of the POW's killed in Kharkov is included in the book entitled "Rozstrzelani w Charkowie" (Shot Dead in Kharkov), published in Warsaw by the Ośrodek Karta Publisher in 1996. The name of *Emanuel Aladár Korompay* is the second in column 3, on page 94.

The first memorial tablet honouring *Emanuel Korompay* was unveiled on the wall of his former home in Warsaw, at the corner of streets Podchorążych and Holówki on the 12th April 1992. At Warsaw University on the building of Oriental Studies – housing once the Hungarian Department – at 26/28 Krakowskie Przedmieście, on Hungarian initiative, on the 21st November 2002 a Korompay memorial was unveiled, with military honours, in the presence of a delegation of the Hungarian Parliament headed by the historian, *Tamás Katona MP*. This was the first act of the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Department. The inscription of the memorial reads:

Emanuel Korompay / 1890-1940 / lektor języka węgierskiego / na Uniwersytecie Warszawskim w latach 1930-1939, / kapitan Wojska Polskiego, / uczestnik kampanii wrześniowej 1939, / więzień obozu w Starobielsku, zamordowany w Charkowie / –

In English translation: *Emanuel Korompay* / 1890-1940 / Lecturer of Hungarian language / at the University of Warsaw between 1930 and 1939 / captain of the Polish Army, / participant of the 1939 September campaign / prisoner of the Starobielsk camp, killed in Kharkov.

Hopefully sooner or later his birthplace, Budapest will also give him a due commemoration.

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Note. 4441 detainees of the Kozielsk camp were killed in Katyń, and were also buried there, the list of their names was published in 1995. The list of names of 6311 POW's of the Ostaszków camp, most of them reserve officers and Polish intellectuals, murdered in Twer and buried in Miednoje, was published in 1997. – According to official Soviet data 7305 more detainees were killed in different prisons. – 448 selected prisoners of the three camps, considered reliable, were taken to the Gрязowiec camp, they have survived, their

correspondence with their families has continued after April 1940.

In July 1946 in the Nuremberg International Court of Justice the Russian prosecutor *Pokrovskii* charged the Germans with killing the Polish officers. The court has dropped the charge. In spite of this, for fifty years the Russians blamed the Germans for killing the Polish officers and it was the official policy of the satellite countries too. The booklet of the Polish journalist *Bolesław Wójcicki*, entitled "The truth about Katyń" blaming the Germans for the crime was published twice, in 1952 and 1953. – A memorial bearing the inscription: 1940 Katyń – Starobielsk – Ostaszków was set up on the 31st July 1981 at Warsaw Powoźki Military Cemetery. It was destroyed on the following night by the Polish Security Services.

It was on the 13th April 1990 that President *Mikhail Gorbachev* confessed to the crime and then some of the corresponding documents were handed over to the Polish President *Lech Wałęsa* by President *Boris Jeltsin*, who also paid tribute to the victims in the Powoźki Cemetery in Warsaw. – The monument honouring the victims of the massacre was consecrated in Katyń on the 28th July 2000, in Twer on the 2nd September 2000.

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Slightly revised version of the article, published in the Hungarian weekly *Élet és Tudomány (Life and Science)* Vol. 63. No 19. p 589-590. (9th May, 2008)