

FOIAb3b

WAS THE CZAR REALLY ASSASSINATED?

Say Lenin Spirited

Royal Family Out of Russia

By GUY RICHARDS

CPYRGHT Copyright, 1964, N. Y. Journal-American

According to most histories, Czar Nicholas II of Russian and six members of his family were assassinated by Communist revolutionaries at Ekaterinburg, Siberia, on the night of July 16, 1918.

Their bodies were burned and the remains—with a smattering of crown jewels—were tossed into a stone pit in the nearby countryside, the official chroniclers state.

By this murder and burial as reported, the power of the imperial Romanov dynasty was ended in a social cataclysm which has maintained the Communists in the Kremlin for nearly half a century.

That's the story as it has been known and accepted by the world.

But now comes a competent team of investigators who claim, after a protracted probe in two continents—that the historical account is a complete fraud.

There was no imperial assassination, they say.

Czar Nicholas, his wife and five children were all spirited out of Ekaterinburg in disguise on a deal arranged by Lenin himself, according to Robert Speller, publisher, of 33 W. 42d st.

"There is no doubt that all the children are alive today," said Mr. Speller, "and in a few days at least four of them, including three of the Grand Duchesses, will be together here in New York and ready to tell their stories."

Delayed Shocker On the Tsarevitch

But the real delayed shocker in Mr. Speller's account concerns the Czar's only son, the Tsarevitch Alexei.

Alexei is not only alive and well and a three-year resident of Long Island, Mrs. Speller avers.

But Alexei is also the highly mysterious and controversial defector and former Polish secret police official, Michael Goleniewski, whose story first appeared in the N. Y. Journal-American last March 2.

"One of the reasons Alexei was able to rise so high in the secret police as well as in Communist circles in Poland," said Mr. Speller, "is that so many high-placed Poles, many of them members of the clandestine Russian patriotic organization, the White Guard, knew his real identity."

"My sons and I have checked out this fact in several parts of Europe," said Mr. Speller. "We know it to be true."

"Michael Goleniewski was not only a secret police official. He was a high-ranking officer in the White Guard and in command of some 15,000 officers in the Polish armed forces. Many of the latter knew Goleniewski was Alexei."

"For some time after this story came to us, we as well as officials of the U.S. Government were on the alert to check it out. It would be part of a slick Communist

plot to back Goleniewski's claim to the Czar's fortune in cash and jewels in The West—a fortune estimated to be around \$400 million.

"If Goleniewski, with the tacit assistance of the Kremlin, could win legal claim to that fortune, then the United States, for example, could not deduct such huge governmental debts as Russia has run up on lend-lease, etc.

"In other words, Goleniewski, as an individual, could get the whole pile — then divvy it up with the Kremlin as per prior secret agreement."

"Well, we have run out that theory and have found it doesn't hold water. We are satisfied that Alexei, as Goleniewski, has been secretly working against the Communists his whole life long and with especial effectiveness since he entered the Polish Army in 1946 and rose to the rank of colonel."

This reporter then interviewed Goleniewski in his apartment, an interview arranged by Mr. Speller. He was greeted by a handsome medium-build figure with a "Guardsmen" moustache, an urbane manner and a slightly Oxonian accent.

"Are you really Grand Duke Alexei, the Tsarevitch?"

"Yes," he replied.

Why He Wanted To Reveal Self

"Why have you waited all these years to say so?"

"While Stalin and my father were both alive, we were in constant danger and we all followed my father's orders to remain underground in peril of being killed if our identity became known."

"When did your father die?"

"In 1952."

"Well, then, since Stalin, of whom you lived in such fear, died the following year, what has deterred you in the last ten years from making known who you are?"

"Believe me, in those ten years I have thought of little else. But I had to give grave consideration to the safety of those Russian and Polish patriots who had risked their lives to protect me and my family. That is still an urgent matter. It governs every move I make."

"When you defected to the United States in January, 1961, with the help of the Central Intelligence Agency, did the CIA know that you, Michael Goleniewski, were also Alexei, son of the Czar?"

"Certainly. I had an interview with Allen Dulles, then CIA director, a few