

NEW YORK TIMES
15 March 1952**U. S. KATYN REPORT
WAS HELD SECRET****Colonel's Accusation Against
Russians, Just Declassified,
Is Read to Congress Unit**

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CHICAGO, March 15—Parts of a United States Army colonel's report on the massacre of 14,000 Polish soldiers in Katyn Forest, near Smolensk, Russia, that was held secret until this week were read into the record of an investigation by a Congressional committee today.

The report, placing the blame for the killings on the Russians, was by Col. Henry I. Szymanski, who had investigated the Katyn atrocity on orders from the Pentagon.

His report was classified "secret" from May, 1943, until this week, when the Army declassified the report and turned it over to the commission.

Colonel Szymanski at the time of his inquiry was liaison officer for the United States Army at the headquarters of the Polish Army under the command of Gen. Wladyslaw Anders.

Portions of his report read today revealed that Colonel Szymanski had forwarded his account of the Katyn massacres outside regular army channels to Maj. Gen. George V. Strong, the intelligence chief.

In a covering letter the colonel had written that the report contained "too much dynamite" to be forwarded through normal channels.

The report compiled by Colonel Szymanski was based, he said, on conversations with "hundreds" of Poles who had knowledge of the Katyn killings by the Russians.

The officer concluded his testimony and identification of his report by declaring that there existed in his mind no shadow of doubt that the Polish officers slain at Katyn were slaughtered by the Russians in a planned and calculated act of genocide whose intent was the liquidation of the Polish Army leadership, the eradication of Polish intelligentsia and the reduction of Poland to impotency.

A former Red Army colonel told the committee how a drunken Soviet secret police officer boasted of having participated in the mass executions, during World War II.

Col. Vasili Ershov, the 45-year-old witness, who fled the Soviet Union in 1949, explained that as quartermaster of a Soviet Army unit he met a Captain Borisov in 1944 in the Malkinia-Gorna district of Poland. Captain Borisov, the colonel said, boasted of the vast quantities of vodka consumed by the Katyn murder squads before and after the slayings.

The revelation came about, Colonel Ershov said, when Captain Borisov begged the quartermaster officer for vodka.