

The Crash to be Investigated

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)

The official accident report issued by the Russian Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC, Russian acronym, MAK) was found misleading in their findings and not backed by the evidence.

On 3rd and 4th February 2012 [two meetings](#) took place in Ottawa, Canada. These two meetings were attended by [Mr. Antoni Macierewicz](#), Member of Polish Parliament, Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission on the Polish Presidential Plane Crash, [Dr. Wieslaw Binienda](#), University of Akron, Ohio, [Dr. Kazimierz Nowaczyk](#), University of Maryland, Maryland and [Mrs. Maria Szonert-Binienda, Esq.](#), Libra Institute, Cleveland, Ohio.

Our guests presented their papers disputing MAK's statements:

- A. The MAK report states that the pivotal point of the aircraft destruction was a collision between a birch tree and the left wing. They concluded that this collision resulted in wing damage to such an extent that part of the wing detached from the aircraft causing the chain of events which led to the total destruction of the aircraft.

A verifiable computer animation proves that the probable collision between the birch and the wing could not have taken place as described. First, the aircraft was passing at a distance of 25 m from the birch tree, secondly, that any collision of the wing with the tree of this size would result in total cut off of the tree with no significant damage to the wing.

- B. The MAK report purposely falsified data from the TAWS (Terrain Avoidance and Warning System) computer.

In particular, the reading from locator #38, which proves, contrary to the MAK Report, that the aircraft was on a 267 degree course, passing the birch within a distance of 25 meters (not losing part of the wing – as stipulated by MAK) and later experiencing an “unknown disaster” about 69 meters thereafter. This “unknown disaster” which was marked by the stoppage of all instruments 15m above the ground, was preceded by two sudden shakes, as recorded by TAWS.

- C. The MAK report falsely concludes that general Błasik (Commander-in-Chief of the Air Force) was present in the cockpit, pressing the pilots to perform the landing in the fog.

The reading of the tape presented by the Forensic Institute in Cracow has revealed that the voice attributed to general Błasik was in fact, the voice of the second pilot. There is no indication of general Błasik's presence in the cockpit, nor of any pressure induced by anyone, on the pilots.

- D. The MAK report incorrectly states that the pilots were unfit to conduct the flight.

The crew performance during the last half hour of flight (as confirmed by CVR and TAWS reading) was adequate according to the condition and situation in which the landing was initially carried out to be later aborted. There is no explanation as to why the aircraft in the last seconds of the flight was not performing as expected by the crew.

To make the proper determination as of the cause of the "unknown disaster", there is a need to investigate the aircraft's remains, in particular the departed part of the wing. Dr. Binienda has offered to conduct a full forensic investigation of the wing in the USA, however his intention was met with a cold shoulder by the Polish and Russian authorities.

Because the MAK final report was found to be less than trustworthy, there is a need to call for an International Investigating Team to conduct a proper crash investigation into this case.

Dr. Eng. Bogdan Gajewski – Association of Polish Engineers in Canada, Ottawa Branch

Dr. Eng. Aleksander Maciej Jabłoński – Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in Canada – Ottawa Branch

Stefan Skulski – Polish National Union in Canada - Ottawa Chapter Nr. 25

Jerzy Czartoryski – Canadian Polish Congress – Capital Branch - Ottawa