

CARLO MATTOGNO ON AUSCHWITZ CREMATIONS

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Russ Granata Reports on Carlo Mattogno

Thank you for that introduction.

To the facilitators, participants and attendees of this Second International Conference on Authentic History and the First Amendment, I extend my greetings as does Carlo Mattogno from Rome.

Ladies and gentlemen - I was one of those scheduled speakers to the Beirut Lebanon Conference on Zionism and Revisionism. As we know, that conference was suddenly canceled after great pressure was brought to bear upon the government of Lebanon earlier this year. I am an American, and now I shall speak here in America's capital city, speech which I was denied to speak in Lebanon's capital city. Shame on those who would deny us our Freedom of Speech, and may this conference be remembered not only as the honoring of America's First Amendment, but also as another milestone in the pursuit of historical truth!

I shall speak about the work of Carlo Mattogno. I shall first of all

present 77 Carlo Mattogno points concerning Auschwitz cremations, and secondly, I shall present just a few points in Mattogno's latest refutation of the work of Samuel Crowell in that on-going debate between these two writers.

I have always considered it an honor to be spokesman for that researcher who has been referred to as 'that modern Renaissance man'. The last time I spoke to an audience about Mattogno was at the inauguration of the David Irving Real History USA meetings.

On that occasion, Germar Rudolf was quoted as stating that the most productive revisionist researcher of the 1990s, was the Italian, Carlo Mattogno. Then I proceeded to address that David Irving audience on 40 points concerning that productive Italian. Well, this time, Ladies and Gentlemen, *RussGranataReports* on 77 Carlo Mattogno Points Concerning Auschwitz Cremations. These points are buttressed by his magnum opus which is being published in Italy. Its title is *I forni crematori di Auschwitz: Studio storico-tecnico con la collaborazione del dott. ing. Franco Deana*. [The Auschwitz Crematories: A Historical-Technical Study with the collaboration of Doctor of Engineering Franco Deana]. Without making reference to his major work, it would be impossible for Mattogno to meaningfully discuss Auschwitz cremations.

Point 1 This work represents the first scientific study on cremations at Auschwitz, although there had been prior work by others, to which Mattogno cites as preliminary studies. The cremation question had been one of the big unsolved problems in the historiography of the Auschwitz camp. It was in 1989 that it came out of the collective hysteria closet to which it had for decades been relegated, and only then did it begin to assume some scientific connotation, thanks to Jean-Claude Pressac who in that year came out with *Auschwitz: Technique and Operation of the Gas Chambers*.

Point 2 The merit of that French researcher ends here however.

Pressac attempted to confront the problem on a scientific plain, but his deficient procedures and conclusions revealed a lack of technical knowledge which also continued to be evident in his second book on Auschwitz which appeared in 1993 entitled *Les crématoires d'Auschwitz: La machinerie du meurtre de masse*. Such deficiencies made Mattogno feel that the necessity was even more pressing for someone to make a rigorous scientific treatment of this topic.

Point 3 Mattogno wanted to be that someone. He began occupying himself with the general problem of cremation in the summer of 1987. It was during the next year that he began his valuable collaboration with the Doctor of engineering, Franco Deana. Dr. Deana has been indispensable for the scientific organization of this work. Equally as valuable was the collaboration with a German engineer whose name must remain unrevealed and whose assistance unfortunately has not been available since 1991. It is thanks to these gentlemen, and a few others, that Mattogno was able to visit for the first time the camps at Auschwitz, Buchenwald, Dachau, Mauthausen, and Gusen.

Point 4 At first this study was confronted with the technical problems of duration-time of cremation and the amount of fuel consumption during the cremation process, but the publication of Pressac's first book in 1989 gave Mattogno new incentive and expanded his field of interest and historical level.

Point 5 It was in 1993, at a time when Mattogno thought that his research was almost complete, that Pressac, in his second book, indicated the existence of a vast trove of materials on Auschwitz cremations located in the Viborskaja Street Moscow archives.

Point 6 Mattogno had already seen some parts of these things in photocopy form in an extract at the Auschwitz State Museum, based on heretofore little-known documents found by Pressac and which were published in the 1994 anthology entitled *Grundlagen*

zur Zeitgeschichte.

Point 7 In 1995, accompanied by Jürgen Graf and Russ Granata, Mattogno was able to see in the above-mentioned Moscow archives, the approximately 88,200 pages of the Auschwitz Central Building Administration Document Collection which contained an abundant correspondence between that office and the firm of Topf and Sons of Erfurt - the same company that constructed the Auschwitz crematory ovens.

Point 8 In the years 1997 and 1998, Mattogno found important new documents in archives of Poland and Holland.

Point 9 Among Mattogno's research trips, in the Spring of 1999, he visited together with Jürgen Graf, both the museum and the crematorium of Terezin, from which both sites revealed significant material for his major book.

Point 10 During the Summer of 1999, Mattogno concluded his research in the Erfurt municipal archive wherefrom on the 5th of August of the year 1996, he had already obtained custody of a considerably large amount of documentation concerning the activity of the Topf company. This was not confined solely to the construction of crematory ovens.

Point 11 The Structure of the Mattogno Study of the Auschwitz Cremations:

Through the passing years, Mattogno's initial Study Plan broadened considerably, both on the historical, as well as on the technical level - to the point where it became necessary to put this study into two volumes - one volume to contain its own text, and the other volume for copies of the documents.

Point 12 This work is being published in Italy by Edizioni di Ar and is entitled: *I forni crematori di Auschwitz: Studio storico-*

tecnico con la collaborazione del dott. ing. Franco Deana. [The Auschwitz Crematories: A Historical-Technical Study with the Collaboration of Doctor of Engineering Franco Deana].

Point 13 The Auschwitz gasogene-fired, coke-fueled cremation ovens, were actually simplifications of civilian crematory ovens - but since it was so difficult for anyone to find any really meaningful information concerning these installations, even in the specialized literature - Mattoigno decided he would fill that void by beginning his study with an explanatory introduction of those installations. This constitutes Part One of Volume One.

Point 14 Because the Auschwitz crematory ovens were actually simple combustion systems, Mattoigno thought it would be helpful to preliminarily present general principles of cremation combustion techniques and the chemical processes which are verified in the course of a cremation. He presents both the general theoretical principles and construction of a gasogene-fired, coke-fueled crematory oven, with an accurate description of its structure and function. In this way, the reader receives a basis for understanding cremation technology.

Point 15 After all, since the crematories of Auschwitz were the result of the technology of their own time, it seemed it would be helpful to go back over the history of modern cremation with particular references to gasogene-fired, coke-fueled ovens, such as those which were installed at Auschwitz - without neglecting the other heating systems such as gas, electricity, and naphtha. In this way, the reader is provided basic information regarding the development of all those combustion installations (including all their known problems) spanning from the last decades of the 1800s, up to the Second World War. This historical synthesis of crematory ovens is carried out with a parallel study of installations designed for hygienic-sanitary mass cremations (in cases of wars, epidemics, or other natural disasters). Mattoigno has positioned this information at the end of his work with a brief analysis of

contemporary crematory ovens.

Point 16 Scientific cremation experiments which were carried out in Germany (and in Switzerland) during the late 1920s, are utilized as a firm experimental basis for confronting and resolving essential questions of cremation duration and fuel consumption of a gasogene-fired, coke-fueled cremation oven, which are examined in detail in two specific chapters.

Point 17 To present the public with as complete a picture as possible of Auschwitz cremation, Mattogno has not neglected the legal and statistical aspects with specific reference to Germany. These topics are presented in Part One of Volume I.

Point 18 In Part Two, Mattogno has outlined the activities of the Topf company in the planning and constructing of civilian crematory ovens (which were among the Topf company's various other installations), describing in detail the structure and operation of the Topf crematory ovens which were fueled by coke, gas, and electricity. In this section is also found reports on the numerous patents (and applications for patents) which were granted, noticed, or submitted between the 1920s and the 1950s.

Point 19 After his general introduction concerning the production of Topf company crematory installations for civilian use, Mattogno then presents information regarding the crematory facilities which were planned and constructed for the German World War Two concentration camps. He begins with the facilities at Dachau and Gusen (they had two-muffled crematory oven cremation chambers heated by naphtha, which were later converted to coke-fueled facilities).

Point 20 With this, Mattogno gets into a main theme of this work, which begins with a documented history of the construction of the Auschwitz-Birkenau cremation ovens. This is followed by an accurate presentation of the structure and the operation of these

technical installations - crematory ovens of two, three, and eight muffles - and an exposition of the Topf company projections in case of the necessity of mass cremations in that camp.

Point 21 Three fundamental questions: duration of the cremation process, capacity of the crematory, and fuel consumption of the Topf Auschwitz-Birkenau crematory ovens are all scientifically treated on the basis of a large amount of documentation.

Point 22 To ascertain the duration of the cremation process, Mattogno draws from experimental data - specifically from the scientific cremation experiments which used a coke-heated crematory oven that were carried out by engineer Kessler in Germany during the late 1920s, as well as experimental tests which were conducted by the engineer Jones in England during the 1970s in a gas-heated crematory oven - to an extract of the cremation lists of the Gusen crematory, and to the lists of the cremations nearly completed of the crematory of Westerbork. The register lists of the cremations of Terezin (in which Mattogno studied the vast compilation of 717 consecutive cremations which took place from the 3rd of October and the 15th of November of 1943) - all this data furnishes an important comparison regarding the average duration of cremations, the results of which constitute the lower limits which are documented as being possible in the cremation installations of that era.

Point 23 The treatise of the problem of cremation capacity of the Auschwitz-Birkenau crematory ovens contains a preliminary study of the outer limits of the constant functioning of the installations (which would have been subject to inevitable slag-formation down-time; the shutting down of crematory ovens for the removal of slag build-up from the grills) as well as the question of muffle load - that is regarding the possibility of cremating several cadavers at the same time [simultaneously] in one muffle. This possibility becomes excluded on the basis of experimental data (as per the experience of crematories at Westerbork and Gusen, as well as of

incinerators for slaughterhouses).

Point 24 The Topf ovens at Auschwitz-Birkenau were designed for the cremation of single cadavers, and trying to exceed their technical limits could not have brought any economic advantages in the cremating.

Point 25 The Soviet-Polish Expert Reports on the Kori coke-heated crematory ovens in the concentration camps at Lublin-Majdanek, Sachsenhausen and Stutthof, which are being presented for the first time in an Italian language translation (leaving aside any purely propagandistic aspects they may have) actually provide an indirect proof of the accuracy of the Carlo Mattogno assertions regarding the duration of a cremation, which is 60 minutes.

Point 26 The Soviet experts who worked out an orientation chart to determine the combustion time (duration) of cadavers in various crematory ovens operating at the temperature which was the normal running temperature of a crematory oven - that is 800 degrees [Celsius] - ended up with results of a cremation duration time amounting to 2 hours. At a temperature of 1,000 degrees, which was the maximum outer limit of the Birkenau ovens, that corresponded on the chart to a cremation duration of an hour and a half.

Point 27 The Soviet experts avoided the obstacle of an assumption in which the temperature of the ovens catches up to 1,500 degrees Celsius, whereby at such a temperature the duration of the cremation process would figure to be 15 minutes, which is simply absurd.

Point 28 Those Soviets also alleged that 4 or 5 corpses were stuffed altogether into every cremation chamber - and that nevertheless, the duration-time of the cremations still remained at 15 minutes, which is twice as absurd.

Point 29 With these tricks those Soviet experts attributed to the Auschwitz crematory ovens a cremation capacity absolutely excessive. Now we shall see the how and the why.

Point 30 In this treatise, Mattogno did not limit himself to simply assessing the numerical data. He also examined the historical issues concerning the planning and construction of the Auschwitz-Birkenau crematory ovens.

Point 31 Heat balance and calculation of crematory oven coke-fuel consumption, is based upon specific experimental data: that is the consumption of the Topf two muffle-chambered crematory oven of the Gusen crematorium. Point 32 The calculations hold account of the technical data concerning coke in the ovens (with a detailed study concerning the hourly heat loss in the Gusen oven and in the two and three-muffle oven at Auschwitz-Birkenau) as well as a classification of corpses, which come in three main types: normal, medium, and thin.

Point 33 Fuel consumption (as well as the total combustion air, theoretical air, and surplus air) is calculated for every type of oven and for every type of corpse.

Point 34 In order to better evaluate the technical characteristics of the Topf crematory ovens at Auschwitz-Birkenau, Mattogno also thoroughly studied the coke and naphtha crematory ovens for the concentration camps which were constructed by the Hans Kori company of Berlin - which was the main competitor of the Topf company, as well as those of the Ignis-Huettenbau company which were installed in the crematory of Terezin. These were without doubt the most efficient installations of all those which were constructed in Europe during the 1940s.

Point 35 The last topic dealt with in Part Two is that of legal regulations concerning cremation in the concentration camps, and of the compatibility of the camp crematory oven system to those

legal regulations.

Point 36 The Mattogno study is based upon absolutely, and without exception, first-hand sources. The bibliographical sources are listed in the Bibliography, and those which are documentary are cited in the notes.

Point 37 Mattogno first of all collected the most significant German historical and technical literature which still existed on this topic. He included this information as well as patents which still existed on civilian crematory ovens (recognizing that many civilian crematory oven patents were lost in the Second World War due to the allied bombings [or otherwise unavailable]). At the same time he has put himself in contact with various manufacturers of crematory ovens, and he has personally visited crematories in Italy and in France.

Point 38 To understand the structure and functioning of the Topf and Kori crematory ovens, Mattogno studied in particular the stored German documents such as the Zentralbauleitung [central construction administration] of Auschwitz, as well as other documents housed in various other European archives. With that, he inspected and photographed the installations still existing in the former German concentration camps of:

1. Auschwitz: two Topf double muffled ovens which were badly reconstructed by the Poles - one Kori moveable naphtha burning oven;
2. Buchenwald: two Topf triple muffled coke heated ovens (one prepared also for being heated by naphtha) the same as those installed in Crematory II and III at Birkenau;
3. Dachau: one Topf double muffled coke heated oven which was originally a moveable naphtha heated oven, and four Kori coke heated ovens;

4. Gusen: one double muffled Topf coke heated oven which was originally a moveable naphtha heated oven;
5. Mathausen: one Topf double muffled coke heated oven, the same model as the three double muffled ovens installed in Crematory I at Auschwitz, and one Kori coke heated oven;
6. Gross-Rosen: one Kori mobile naphtha fueled oven;
7. Lublin: five Kori coke fueled ovens and one Kori mobile naphtha fueled oven
8. Stutthof: two Kori coke fueled ovens and one Kori mobile naphtha fueled oven;
9. Terezin: four stationary Ignis-Huettenbau naphtha fueled ovens.

Point 39 In the second volume of his magnum opus, Mattoigno illustrates installations in detail with 360 photographs subdivided into eleven sections, each section dedicated to a specific installation. This documentation contains photographs of installations which up to now have been unknown (such as the Terezin crematory ovens) or little noted even among the specialists, such as the crematory ovens of Gusen, Gross-Rosen, Stutthof, and also of Lublin-Majdanek.

Point 40 It is also to be noted that the photography of these installations represents a significant new development, showing for the first time their essential elements, which is indispensable for understanding their structure and their functioning.

Point 41 The second volume contains 270 documents, many of which have never been published before or are unknown to specialists. The first 101 documents refer to civilian crematory ovens. The documents numbered from 102 to 143 concern the

civilian activity of the Topf company. Lastly, those documents numbered 144 to 270 are a selection of the most important documents concerning the Topf crematory ovens at Mauthausen, Gusen, Buchenwald, and Auschwitz-Birkenau (plans, designs, projects, cost estimates, shipping notices, invoices, service instructions, diagrams, etc.), about the Kori ovens concerning the above-mentioned areas (above all, original designs and designs very much cared for by Soviet experts), - these concern technical and administrative questions and about the crematory bureaucracy in the concentration camps.

Point 42 The Importance of Cremation Studies to Auschwitz Historiography.

On 27 January of 1945, the Soviet military entered Auschwitz. For propaganda reasons, they quickly appointed various investigation commissions which were supposed to shed light on alleged crimes perpetrated by the Germans in that camp. The activities of these commissions naturally did not try to assess what really occurred, but simply tried to give the appearance of being scientific as per the political directives of the Communist Party.

Point 43 There is no doubt that the campaign which was the most nefarious and ominous for western historiography was that one which was sponsored by four engineers: two Poles and two Russians, which came up with the number of victims at Auschwitz: the mysterious 4 million!

Point 44 It is not known with certainty whether this figure was proposed, or imposed - by the Polish-Soviet commission based on the so-called eye witnesses, or if it was drafted from their declarations. Mattoigno inclines toward the first hypothesis, because the Soviets, in order to attempt to destroy National Socialist ideology, needed to present this as the apex of horror and to identify National Socialism with Auschwitz.

Point 45 The Soviets in August of 1944, having already attributed to the Lublin-Majdanek camp an enormous number of victims: that is 1,500,000 deaths, 35 times more than the real figure for Auschwitz at that time, they therefore imposed a figure even more erroneous, from where we get the necessity of the four million.

Point 46 It is important to determine by what aberrant pseudoscientific processes the Polish-Soviet investigating commission came up with such a figure. Those experts, in order to reach the conclusion to which they had to give a scientific appearance, did not use any document, but instead they based it exclusively on their presumed cremation capacity of the crematory ovens and on the presumed cremation pits at Auschwitz - and not only did they attribute to these systems a cremation capacity ten times more than reality, but they multiplied it for an activity-time full of blunders - that is for the entire existence of the above-mentioned systems, only partially limited by so-called "coefficients of inactivity" which is rather imaginative. This was the way the mythical figure of 4 million was presented and remained in vogue until the year 1989.

Point 47 But here Mattogno is anxious to point out that although it was fashionable then, it was not factual at that time, and it still is not factual today. It is certainly important that the first figure [of 4 million] was deflated down to 1,100,000 according to the Auschwitz State Museum, and even down to 631,000 (the minimum figure) as per Jean-Claude Pressac. The question as to just how many instead, is due to the numerical restructuring of the Auschwitz deceased; it is not following a parallel numerical restructuring of the capacity of the cremation systems.

Point 48 Let's have Mattogno clear up this essential point. In 1945, the self-styled eye witnesses enthusiastically embraced the cause of the 4 million, and to justify it they resorted to technically absurd declarations; for example, 'witness' Henryk Tauber declared to the Soviet investigators that the ovens at Birkenau normally cremated 4

to 5 cadavers within 20 to 25 minutes in every crematory muffle chamber! - and the other self-styled eye witnesses quickly fell in line with this order of magnitude and even surpassed it! - and so we get the self-styled eye witness Dov Paisikovic affirming that the cremation of one cadaver took 4 minutes!

Point 49 In effect, it is only with such absurdity that they could "demonstrate" the mystical figure of 4 million. But when this has collapsed, the absurd testimony of Tauber and his colleagues, instead of being scattered among the wreckage of Soviet propaganda, remains set and indestructible, and incredibly, there are still many adherents of the holocaust who take these people seriously.

Point 50 At this point it is easy to understand the importance of the study of cremation in the historiography of Auschwitz, which is explicit in essential points:

Point (A). The Soviets found in Auschwitz, 536 cadavers and 46 registries of the deceased (Sterbebücher) which contained the names of approximately 67,200 deaths. Although these registers referred (with some gaps) to the period from August 1941 to December 1943, they nevertheless showed the order of magnitude of the mortality which contrasted in a strident way with the mythical figure of 4 million. Therefore those registers were very secretly transferred to Moscow and no commission of inquiry concerning Auschwitz has ever mentioned them. They reappeared only after the collapse of communism in Russia. Now the study of cremation allows verification to determine if the popular figure of Auschwitz deaths is technically possible, or in other words, is the story of mass extermination technically possible.

Point (B). History of the alleged homicidal gas chamber at Auschwitz is still based essentially on pretentious eye witness testimony: if these witnesses concerning cremations have lied, then for what reason should we believe in their declarations concerning

homicidal gassings?

We shall subsequently see what conclusions result from the study of cremations at Auschwitz, but first we shall clarify essential parts of this topic, which brings us to:

Point 51 The Beginning of Modern Cremation

Cremating human cadavers had been going on in Europe for more than a thousand years even before the time of Homer, and human cremation continued to be practiced until the year 785, when it was prohibited under penalty of death by Charles the Great with his decree of Paderborn.

Point 52 In the following centuries, in Christian Europe, [or Christendom as it was called] the cremation of cadavers fell completely out of use as a funeral custom. Its revival took place with the modern cremation movement which began in 1849 when the German philologist Jakob Grimm delivered a speech on this topic at the Berlin Academy of Science. The idea was quickly picked up and disseminated enthusiastically among tireless pioneers such as the military medical doctor Trusen, the professor Moleschott, professor Richter, professor Reclam and professor Küchenmeister. The first cremation in a crematory oven in Europe occurred on the 9th of October 1874 in Dresden Germany in a Siemens temporary or prototype crematory oven. The remains of an English woman were cremated on that occasion. She was Lady Dilke, who had been the wife of the secretary of state Dilke. This was followed by the cremation on the 6th of November of the remains of the wife of Wiesbaden sanitary commissioner Thilenius, and yet still others, but then these experimental cremations became prohibited by the government of Saxony.

Point 53 Italy quickly was in the forefront of the modern cremation movement both from the legal as well as the technical point of view. The principal of cadaver cremation was recognized by the

Italian sanitary regulations of the 6th of September of 1874. This period saw a great fervor of studies and of experiments which resulted in the construction of several types of crematory ovens. Modern cremation had to satisfy the prevailing aesthetic and economic requirements which were formulated for the first time at a conference convened in Dresden on the 7th of June of 1876.

Point 54 The first crematorium in Europe was erected in Milan Italy in 1875. It was equipped with a Polli-Clericetti cremation oven and was inaugurated on the 22nd of January 1876 with the cremation of the cadaver of Albert Keller.

Point 55 The first German crematory was placed into service in Gotha on the 10th of December of 1878, and for the following twelve years, the Gotha crematory remained the only crematory in all of Germany. During the last decade of the 1800s the number of crematories in Germany had changed very little, and in 1900 there were merely five. An increase was recorded only during the years just before the First World War so that in 1913 the number of crematories had grown to 40. By the end of the First World War there were 52. During the period between the two world wars, the German cremation movement grew as follows:

in 1920 there were 54 crematories, in 1925 there were 66 crematories, in 1930 there were 104 crematories, in 1935 there were 114 crematories.

With the opening of the crematorium at Lahr on the 16th of July of 1939 - the last crematorium before the outbreak of the Second World War - the number of crematories had reached 122, within the old Reich, and within the territory of Greater Germany there existed altogether 131 crematories, of which 5 were in Austria, and 4 in the Sudetanland.

Point 56 Because at first the practice of modern cremation was a novelty - often taken hostage by the dominant cultural atmosphere -

consequently there existed only a few crematories in Germany - and the number of cremations remained very meager for quite a long time and only began to grow in a consistent way after the First World War. It remained under 100 until 1886, went up to 1,000 in 1902, and went to 10,000 in 1912. In 1918, the number of cremations was 15,878 and in the following years it grew quickly until exceeding 100,000 cremations in the year 1939. Altogether, from 1878 to 1939 in Germany, 1,201,823 corpses were cremated. In 1939, the number of deaths in Greater Germany was 1,007,122 of which there were 102,022 bodies cremated. In 1940 there were 108,630 cremations; in 1941 there were 107,103, and in 1942 there were 114,184.

Point 57 As far as crematories were concerned - at the end of 1938 in Germany there were 130 crematories while in England there were 47, in Italy 37 (of which 7 were out of service), in Sweden and Switzerland 22, Denmark 16, Norway 10, Czechoslovakia 9, France 6, Russia 2, and in Belgium, Finland, Holland, Portugal and Romania - each of those countries had only one crematory. After Germany, the other European countries recording the largest number of cremations were England (16,312 cremations), Switzerland (7,071 cremations), the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (5,535 cremations), Sweden (4,434 cremations), Denmark (4,031 cremations), Norway (2,261 cremations) and France (1,340 cremations).

Point 58 But the Japanese hold the world record for the number of crematories as well as for the number of cremations. Already in the year 1912 Japan possessed a good 36,723 crematory installations. In the year 1929, the Japanese cremated 622,492 cadavers.

Point 59 The Crematories in the German Concentration Camps

The institution of crematories in German concentration camps, goes back to this long tradition. In fact, during the Third Reich when the first concentration camps were instituted, the administrative SS

authorities, not anticipating the high rate of mortality which they were to encounter in the following years, normally sent the cadavers of their deceased to civilian crematories. It was only thereafter, when the mortality began to increase at such a high rate beyond their expectation, that they decided to institute their own crematories within the camps. Originally Konzentrationslager Buchenwald used the State Crematory at Weimar. From the 5th of September of 1938 to the 3rd of May of 1940, the deceased inmates of the Konzentrationslager Mauthausen were brought to the Municipal Crematory at Steyr. The Konzentrationslager Wewelsburg, up to at least December of 1941, brought their deceased to the crematory at Bielefeld, while the Kriegsgefangenen- Arbeitslager Gross-Rosen, from the 21st of August of 1940 until the 28th of January of 1943, used the Municipal Crematory at Legnitz. And believe-it-or-not at first even Auschwitz relied upon a civilian crematory - the one at Gleiwitz (spelled Gliwice in Polish).

Point 60 As soon as the German concentration camps began to provide their own crematories, they were subjected to the same strict legislation regulating civilian crematories, as derived from the **"Decree on the Performance of Cremations in the Crematory of the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp"** which was declared by Himmler on the 28th of February of 1940. According to these regulations, the urns containing the ashes of the cremated prisoners could be buried in a cemetery at the place of origin of the deceased. Subsequently, with the tragic worsening of the sanitary conditions of the camps, the crematories became indispensable hygienic-sanitary instruments and the cremations were carried out without a lot of legal restrictions.

Point 61 Origins of the Auschwitz Crematories

At Auschwitz there originally existed one single crematorium with three 2-muffled ovens or cremation chambers. For the camp at Birkenau there was initially projected one crematorium with five 3-

muffled ovens. In August of 1942 the SS authorities decided to install at Birkenau another 3 crematories. This decision was taken as a result of two facts: the expected increase of the population of the camp having to take on up to 200,000 prisoners, and the affliction of the terrible typhus epidemic which broke out at the beginning of July of 1942. So throughout the entire Auschwitz-Birkenau complex there existed five crematoria described in the following way:

At Auschwitz itself, the crematory with three 2-muffle chambered ovens. At Birkenau, Crematories II and III, each with five 3-muffle chambered ovens, as well as Crematories IV and V, each with 8-muffle chambered ovens. Taken altogether, there existed therefore 52 muffle chambers at Auschwitz-Birkenau as of July of 1943, which went down to 48 muffle chambers with the closing of Crematory I. The equipment of Auschwitz-Birkenau was not on a par with the other camps, but that does not mean that it was disproportionate; after all, neither was the natural mortality rate of Auschwitz on a par with the other camps. For example the camp at Dachau which had a crematory with a 2-muffle chambered oven, when in March of 1942, the local authorities projected or planned a new crematory with 4 ovens, the average mortality rate was at 2 deaths per day; and in the camp at Buchenwald when the two new 3-muffle chambered crematory ovens were installed, the average mortality rate was between 8 to 12 deaths per day. But on the other hand, when the SS authorities decided to construct the three crematories just mentioned, mortality at Auschwitz was at the rate of 277 deaths per day! So therefore for Auschwitz they projected an increase in the number of crematory oven muffle chambers 8 times more than they projected for Buchenwald, but with a daily death rate 23 times higher.

Point 62 On the other hand, from a letter from the head of the Auschwitz Zentralbauleitung [central building administration] dated July the 10th of 1942, it turns out that a crematory with five 3-muffled ovens was planned for 30,000 inmates, which amounts to

a muffle-inmate ratio of 1 to 2,000 [one muffle for every 2000 inmates]. The 46 muffles at Birkenau were therefore planned for 92,000 inmates, but, as has been stated, according to the initial SS plans, the Birkenau camp was to hold 200,000 prisoners, and that would have required 100 muffles. So from a practical standpoint, the number of muffles at Birkenau were not enough in terms of the population increase which was planned for that camp.

Point 63 Structure and Operation of the Birkenau Crematory Ovens

The crematory ovens of Auschwitz were simpler systems than those in use in civilian crematories. The Topf company got the Auschwitz contracts not because their products were the best, but simply because they were the least expensive. By assembling two, three and four crematory ovens in a single structure, the Topf company created competitive installations because they knew how to save a remarkable amount of material. But with that, in the process of cremations, there were problems which did not occur in the single ovens of the competition. On the contrary, the shoddy quality of the Auschwitz ovens appeared documentarily from the correspondence between the Topf company and the Zentralbauleitung of Auschwitz: it turns out that practically not a month went by without the verification that there were damages of various kinds, some so serious as to compromise the functioning of the entire system, such as the case of Crematory IV, which had to be shut down after some months of operation.

Point 64 The crematory ovens had gasogene-fired, coke-fueled cremation chambers known as muffles, and an ash-collecting receptacle. In the gasogene, which was situated at the posterior part of the oven, was found the oven hearth grill on which the coke was burned. The combustion products entered the muffle through an appropriate aperture and invested the cadaver which lay on a refractory clay grill. The cadaver was introduced into the muffle chamber through a special door which was located at the rear of the oven. The residuals of the cadavers fell through the fissures of the

grill down onto the ash-pit below, where they were completely consumed, and then from there the ashes were removed through an appropriate door located under the cadaver-introductory door. The air for corpse combustion was supplied from a blower connected to the oven. The by-products of the combustion of the cadavers, and the exhaust produced by the draft of the chimney, entered into the smoke duct from where it went on up into the chimney.

Point 65 During the operation of the crematory ovens, because of their structure, the chimney gave off smoke, but did not emit flames, contrary to what was asserted by various so-called eye witnesses.

Point 66 The Duration of the Cremation Process and the Consumption of Coke

The cremation of a cadaver is a natural chemical-physical combustion process which requires its own natural time to be carried out. In the best civilian crematory ovens working with coke, the average duration of a cremation took approximately 80 to 90 minutes. The main combustion of the cadaver took place within approximately 60 minutes, after which the residual particles dropped down through the bars of the grill onto the ash-pit below, where they stayed for another 20 to 30 minutes until their complete combustion. Then the ashes were extracted from the crematory oven.

Point 67 In the Auschwitz crematory ovens, the average duration for the completion of a cremation was approximately 60 minutes, not because these systems were more efficient, but because they followed a different practice, which went like this: Soon after approximately 60 minutes, and after the residuals of one cadaver had dropped down into the ash-pit, another cadaver was quickly introduced into the muffle chamber. Therefore, two cadavers were in the oven at the same time, but one cadaver was in its final stage of the cremation process, while the other cadaver was in its initial

stage. This system of cremation could not have been carried out in the civilian crematories because it was illegal.

Point 68 The Auschwitz crematory ovens were planned and built for the cremation of one single cadaver at a time. The very same planning engineer - the Topf company engineer Kurt Prüfer - when he was interrogated by the Soviets in 1946, confirmed that the crematory ovens of Birkenau could cremate one cadaver per hour per muffle, and furthermore, he declared that the attempt which was conducted in his presence to try to cremate two cadavers together in one muffle, failed.

Point 69 Coke consumption of the ovens varied according to the model. For a very thin adult cadaver - which in Auschwitz at that time was just about the norm, this was averaging approximately 32.5 kg of coke fuel for the 2-muffled oven, and approximately 22 kg for the 3-muffled oven, and approximately 16 kg for the 8-muffled oven.

Point 70 Coke Consumption in 1943

From the 1st of March to the 24th of October of 1943, for the crematories of Auschwitz-Birkenau, there was supplied altogether 641.5 tons of coke. During this period, the number of prisoners who died of natural causes was approximately 19,000. The number of prisoners alleged to have been homicidally gassed is given as approximately 118,000 - altogether approximately 137,000 dead who were allegedly all cremated in the crematory ovens. Now, for the actual deceased that turns out to be an average coke availability of approximately 33.8 kg per cadaver, which comprises also the coke used for heating up the ovens and is therefore quite compatible with the consumption of the ovens. But if the dead really had numbered 137,000, the consumption of coke per each cadaver would had to have been 4.7 kg and that is simply impossible!

Point 71 Therefore during the period I have cited above, the crematory ovens cremated only the cadavers of prisoners who had died of natural causes.

Point 72 The Duration of the Fire-Resistant Masonry of the Cremation Ovens

In 1941, the duration of the refractory or fire resistant lining of the Topf crematory ovens which were heated electrically, was up to 3,000 cremations. However the electrical heating system guaranteed a uniform diffusion of heat, which prolonged the life of the refractory masonry lining of the oven walls. In fact the Topf coke-fueled 2-muffled oven at Gusen, which was a subsidiary camp of Mauthausen, resisted only about 3,200 cremations, which comes to 1,600 cremations per muffle. Then after that, the refractory oven walls had to be dismantled and renovated.

Point 73 As I have pointed out previously--the official death figure at Auschwitz which is actually given is 1,100,000 persons, the largest proportion of which--that is at least 800,000 persons--were supposed to have been cremated in the Crematory, and the rest of them were supposed to have been cremated out in the open air. Well, even if we were to assume an extreme limit of 3,000 cremations, the 52 crematory muffles of Auschwitz-Birkenau could have cremated 156,000 corpses, and the cremation of 800,000 corpses would therefore have required five complete replacements of the refractory walls of all the crematory ovens. However in the archives of the Auschwitz Zentralbauleitung, which has the register of all replacement orders made by the Topf company, there is no trace of this work, which means that it was never performed. Therefore it follows that the cremation of 800,000 cadavers in the crematories of Auschwitz-Birkenau was technically impossible.

Point 74 As far as the cremation in so-called "cremation pits," the figure which is presented by the so-called eye witnesses is absolutely excessive. There is no doubt that in the early summer of

1942 until the opening of the two crematories in March of 1943 - especially when the high death rate from a typhus epidemic was raging through the camp - there is no doubt that several thousands of corpses were burned out in the open - probably with rudimentary camp-brick furnaces. But that does not have anything to do with the burning of at least 300,000 alleged homicidally gassed people. This allegation is categorically refuted by the two American aerial photographs taken on the 31st of May of 1944, during that crucial time of an alleged mass extermination of Hungarian Jews, when, according to the so-called eye witnesses, at Birkenau there was supposed to have been two enormous cremation pits in the area of so-called Bunker 2, and another five enormous pits in the courtyard of Crematory V - pits which we are told swallowed up thousands of cadavers per day.

Point 75 During that entire period of time, it would have been possible to cremate on the average out in the open air, approximately 9,500 cadavers, which would have required a total burning surface of approximately 7,600 square meters.

Point 76 The two aerial photographs do not show the slightest trace of any of this alleged activity: In these photographs there appears a single minuscule column of smoke which arises from the courtyard of Crematory V and which corresponds to a burning surface area not greater than 50 square meters. 7,600 square meters against 50 square meters: Here therefore also collapses the story of mass open-air cremation. The small column of smoke mentioned previously, is explained by the documented fact that on the 31st of May of 1944, the four crematory facilities in Birkenau were not in operation and were being repaired, and that therefore cadavers of prisoners who had died of natural causes had to be burned out in the open air.

Point 77 **The Lies of the so-called Eye Witnesses**

The scientific study of cremation at Auschwitz demonstrates that no mass cremation occurred and consequently no mass extermination

occurred. Furthermore this demonstrates in an irrefutable way that **all** - and let me repeat, I say **all** the so-called eye witnesses have shamelessly lied about cremations of the cadavers at Auschwitz, and there does not exist one single witness who has rendered any plausible technical declaration in this regard.

But after all, since they so shamelessly lied about the cremation of the cadavers, why should they be believed about the homicidal gassing of the Jews?

Of course there is NO reason to believe them, because they have lied about cremations in order to try to cover their lies about homicidal gassings - the one lie is inseparable from the other, and the destruction of the one lie inevitably brings the destruction of the other.

Some Excerpts From The Latest Carlo Mattogno Refutation of the Samuel Crowell Auschwitz Bomb Shelter Theses.

This entire article is posted on the internet at:
<http://www.russgranata.com/Crowell-final-eng.html>

1. I promised myself not to return to this topic, which, for my part, I considered to be closed. Nonetheless, Crowell's systematic distortion of documents and facts in his article "Bomb Shelters in Birkenau: A Reappraisal "[4] and his unshakeable tenacity for supporting patently false theses, induced me to reconsider my decision. Since his thesis has found proselytes among revisionists - however incredible this may seem - and for the sake of historical

accuracy, I again take part in the debate. This is also because Crowell wanted to again put forward arguments that I had already proved to be without any foundation.

2. One of the assumptions of the Crowell Bomb Shelter Thesis is that "all air-raid shelter doors were equipped with peepholes."

3. In reality this assumption is completely unfounded as are the consequences that Crowell draws from it.

4. It is equally false that an anti-gas door with a "peephole" cannot be a door of a disinfestation chamber, as can be seen from certain photographs.

5. The case of the gas-tight doors of the Entwesungsanlage at Majdanek is the clearest example of Crowell's aberrant methodology. Since 1997 he has been instigating Bradley Smith to engage the Washington Holocaust Museum in this well-known sterile controversy.

6. The presence of huge stains of ferro-ferric cyanide in the walls of the "Entwesungskammer" situated on the north-west shows that hydrocyanic acid was employed in this chamber; contrary to what Crowell claims, nothing shows that the disinfestation chambers served also as air-raid shelters.

7. If Crowell persists in ignoring these proofs and to negate the evidence, his thesis will be transformed from one of error into one of imposture.

8. Crowell claims that the "measures" for constructing "civil air defence" were carried out on the orders of Himmler to Glücks dated 8 February 1943 (his document 12), which in fact have nothing to do with "bomb shelters." Therefore he believes a directive from above would have been put into effect modifying the crematoria into "bomb shelters." Obviously, being a matter of a directive from

above, it had to be executed in more or less the whole Auschwitz complex, so that during this period from 8 February to 16 November 1943 several "bomb shelters" must have been constructed, intended either for detainees or the troops. Crowell subdivides the documents on "bomb shelters" adduced by him into three sections which he labels "high level," "mid-level" and "low level." This tripartite division ultimately serves only to complicate the essential issue to be resolved, which is simply: between February and November 1943 were orders imparted and carried out for the construction of "bomb shelters"?

9. Here is a document which irrefutably proves that Crowell's ponderings are mere fantasies - and that is why he took good care not to say a single word about it. This is not surprising since in order to play it down or disguise the document he would have had to have recourse to even more foolish fantasies.

10. The suicidal "bomb shelters" of Kremas IV and V

The idea supported by Crowell that the Zentralbauleitung could use the rooms in the west wing of Kremas IV and V as air-raid shelters is decisively absurd.

Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your kind attention, and wish you well.

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