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## NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

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### LEV FLORIANOVICH MAGEROVSKY, 1896–1986

Lev Florianovich Magerovsky, former curator of Columbia University's Bakhmeteff Archive of Russian and East European History and Culture died on 8 July 1986 at the age of ninety.

Magerovsky was born in Odessa on 18 February 1896, and after graduating from the Vladimirskii Kadetskii Korpus in 1914 he enrolled in the law school of Kiev University. World War I, and Russia's need for able-bodied young men to serve in the military, drew him away from his law studies and the next year young Magerovsky was a student at the Mikhailovskoe Artilleriiskoe Uchilishche in St. Petersburg. Upon graduation he was sent to the southwestern front and by 1917 he was a commander of anti-aircraft artillery. Following Russia's withdrawal from World War I Magerovsky tried to resume his law studies, but his antipathy for the Bolsheviks made it impossible for him to remain in Russia, and in the early 1920s he emigrated to Prague with his wife Ol'ga Nikolaevna Merklng. There Magerovsky took an active part in many Russian émigré organizations, including *Russkii sokol* and *Soiuz russkikh pisatelei i zhurnalistov*. Most important, in Prague he became involved in the collection and preservation of Russian archival materials, the activity that was to become his life's work.

One of the proudest products of Czechoslovakia's large Russian émigré community was the Prague Russian Historical Archive, which contained thousands of manuscripts, books, and serials concerning Russian history and the emigration. Magerovsky served as head of the archive's newspaper division during the key years 1927 to 1944 when the collections were rapidly developing and the archive became an important center for the study of Russian history. The archive continued to operate throughout World War II, but in 1945 its collections were broken up when the Czechoslovak government gave the document section to the Soviet Union, purportedly in gratitude for Russian help in liberating Czechoslovakia from the Nazis.

That same year Magerovsky and his family once again decided to flee rather than live under a Communist regime and in 1948 they moved to New York City where Magerovsky was to remain for the rest of his life. In 1951, when Columbia University opened its Archive of Russian and East European History and Culture, Magerovsky was appointed its first curator, a post he held for twenty-six years, until his retirement at the age of 81. For many years he worked closely with Columbia professors Philip Mosely and Gerold T. Robinson to collect the archives of Russian émigrés living throughout the world. By the time he retired, the archive had become one of the largest and richest repositories of Russian historical and cultural materials outside of the Soviet Union, an indispensable resource for a broad range of publications on the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

ELLEN SCARUFFI

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### STEPHAN M. HORAK (1920–1986)

The field of Russian and East European studies lost a major driving force, and many of us lost an esteemed colleague and dear friend, when Stephan Horak, professor of history at Eastern Illinois University, died suddenly on 20 December 1986 of heart failure at the age of 66.

What became a professional life distinguished by extraordinary vigor and far-ranging achievement began on 23 October 1920 in Horodok, Ukraine, then a part of Polish Galicia. After completing his secondary education in L'viv, first under Polish and then, after 1939, Soviet control, he enrolled at the University of Erlangen, West Germany, where he earned the Ph.D. degree in 1949. He taught for several years at a German *Gymnasium* and, then, pursued postdoctoral study at the University of Bonn and the University of Michigan, where he added a Master of Arts in Library Science to his credentials. Subsequently, he served as a librarian at Wayne State and Indiana universities before answering his true calling as a professor of history, first at the University of Kentucky and, from 1965, Eastern Illinois University.

A man of seemingly boundless energy, Horak had a scholarly interest both far ranging in scope and impressive in depth. He wrote several monographs on modern Polish and Ukrainian history, well over thirty articles for historical journals, an equal number of papers for presentation at major academic conferences in North America and Europe, countless book reviews, and hundreds of newspaper articles. Perhaps his most valuable contribution was a series of annotated bibliographic guides to Russian, Soviet, and East European history, the last of which he completed shortly before his death. In addition, he had just finished editing a collection of essays on the Ukrainian experience during World War II (forthcoming from University of Illinois Press) and what should prove to be the definitive work on the Brest-Litovsk Treaty between Ukraine and the Central Powers in 1918 (forthcoming in the East European Monograph series of Columbia University Press). But Horak was no desk-bound scholar. His services to the profession were equally important in stimulating interest in, and advancing the knowledge of, Russian and East European studies. He regularly organized panels for AAASS and American Historical Association gatherings, as well as regional conferences, and was instrumental in helping launch an annual conference on Ukrainian studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana each summer. No doubt his major contribution in this regard will prove to be the creation and fathering to maturity of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (USSR and East Europe) to focus on the ethnoreligious minority groups of this region. His activities as the association's leader, along with those as editor of its journal *Nationalities Papers*, helped generate a new awareness of the contemporary as well as historical problems facing many nations in this ethnically heterogeneous area and ensured that academic work dealing with it adhered to the highest qualitative standards.

Throughout all of his endeavors, Stephan was noteworthy for his infectious enthusiasm and keen sense of professional as well as personal pride and integrity. He freely offered his time and efforts to whatever task was at hand and was always concerned that the objects of his attention—be they students, colleagues, friends, or simply interested parties—receive the full advantage of what he had to impart. All who knew him, and the profession in general, will sorely miss him.

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