

МАКЕДОНСКА АКАДЕМИЈА НА НАУКИТЕ И УМЕТНОСТИТЕ
MACEDONIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS

ОДДЕЛЕНИЕ ЗА ЛИНГВИСТИКА И ЛИТЕРАТУРНА НАУКА, XXIII 1-2
SECTION OF LINGUISTIC AND LITERARY SCIENCES, XXIII 1-2

Посебен отпечаток
Offprint

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STUDIES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

СКОПЈЕ – SKOPJE
1998

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Horace G. Lunt, the author of the first scholarly grammar of literary Macedonian in a foreign language and the first U. S. citizen to be elected to the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, first learned about Macedonian during its first year as an official language, 1944. He was at the time a U. S. soldier serving in a joint American-British unit in Bari, Italy. Lunt had studied German and Slavic languages at Harvard, and obtained an M.A. in Russian from the University of California at Berkeley in 1942. Drafted into the army, he served briefly in the Medical Department and then was assigned to the Counter-Intelligence Corps early in 1943. Suddenly plucked from routine duties in Dallas, Texas, Lunt found himself being rushed to various secluded army camps for intensive training in the use of varied weapons and vehicles, as a member of a small group of soldiers, each of whom knew several languages. The training was abruptly terminated in August and the group was sent, under strictest secrecy, to a rural camp to await transportation overseas. They waited, but not until October were they hurriedly embarked on a ship that took them to Oran, in Algeria. Another wait, another troop-ship, and they finally reached Cairo on December 11, to be received by an incredulous officer who having the written orders that the group had embarked in August—was certain that they had perished at sea. It turned out that Lunt was scheduled to assist as a Russian interpreter in the conferences Winston Churchill and F. D. Roosevelt had in Cairo with Chiang Kai-shek, Nov. 23–27, and in Teheran with Stalin in early December. Had Lunt indeed been able to use his Russian under such circumstances, it is probable that his career would have been very

different. However, the meetings were done with, the Middle East was no longer an active war zone, and the allied Anglo-American forces in Egypt were being dispersed. It was discovered that Lunt had some knowledge of Serbo-Croatian, which he had studied at Harvard and Berkeley, and he was assigned to an Anglo-American team. From early March, 1944, until the end of the war in Europe a year later, he was in Bari, Italy, interrogating refugees who had crossed the Adriatic from Yugoslavia. His team also had regular contact with Allied soldiers and fliers who were parachuted into Yugoslavia. Among the materials received from some of these people were some news bulletins and a newspaper in Macedonian, and one of the first booklets translated from Russian into the new standard language, „Станавме други луѓе“, by Benjamin Kaverin.

In June, 1945, Lunt was sent to Trieste, where his unit was integrated into the Allied Military Government. He was to report on Slovenian political activity in the Trieste region, and he quickly learned Slovenian and began to study the local dialects. In late October he was suddenly ordered to report to Washington, DC, for a new assignment. At the time, he was not yet eligible for discharge from the Army and under ordinary circumstances would have remained as a soldier in Europe for at least several months. During his troopship return from Italy, however, the sum of “points” (calculated according to time spent in the Army, place and type of service, dependents, etc.) required for discharge was lowered, and when he reached Washington in mid-November, he had the right to become a civilian at once. Despite pressure to undertake a new assignment in one of the Army intelligence services, he insisted on immediate discharge so he could get back to school. As he said: “I wanted no part of such things.”

Lunt enrolled in the PhD program at Berkeley and served as a Teaching Assistant in Russian during the spring of 1946. He attended the Linguistic Institute summer program of the Linguistic Society of America, at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, which gave him intensive training in the latest trends of Neo-Bloomfieldian descriptive linguistics. His desire to study in Moscow or Belgrade was thwarted by the extreme anti-American policies of both Stalin and Tito, but he was determined to study in a Slavic country. In September he was in Prague, financed by a Masaryk Fellowship awarded by the Czechoslovak government, fully accredited as a PhD candidate in Slavic at the Charles University. Along with courses in Russian, Slovene, and Serbo-Croatian, he enrolled in Professor Antonín Frinta’s course in Macedonian. This was the first formal course dealing with the new official

language that was offered outside Yugoslavia. It was there that Lunt became acquainted with the first and second editions of Krume Kepeski’s school grammar, and, in the spring of 1947, with the first slim edition of Blaže Koneski’s description. Professor Lunt still has his notes from that course.

Lunt was dissuaded by both Czech and American advisors from remaining in Prague, in part because of the deteriorating political situation and in part because Roman Jakobson was at Columbia University. During his second year at Columbia, 1948–49, Lunt was a lecturer in Serbo-Croatian. His dissertation (on early East Slavic orthography) was accepted in 1949 (but the PhD diploma was not awarded until 1950, when Columbia abandoned its rule that sixty printed copies of a dissertation must be deposited in the library). From 1949 to 1954 Lunt was Assistant Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University, responsible for the Russian language program, Old Church Slavonic, and some historical linguistic courses. It was during this period that he did his ground-breaking work on Macedonian.

In June of 1950, Prof. Lunt was sent by the Harvard University Library in order to re-establish the exchanges that had been disrupted since 1941 by war and post-war policies. In August he was invited to the Seminar for Foreign Slavists, at Bled, sponsored by the Yugoslav Ministry of Science and Culture. Among the Yugoslav scholars who lectured were Blaže Koneski, Krum Tošev, and Haralampije Polenaković. Lunt was able to talk to them about the Macedonian language, and he asked about the possibilities of doing linguistic fieldwork in Macedonia. Professor Koneski was impressed with the knowledge Lunt had been able to acquire about the details of the new standard language, and agreed to try to make arrangements for Lunt to visit. Harvard granted Lunt a semester off, and, thanks to the efforts of Blaže Koneski to obtain the difficult permissions needed for an American to reside in Macedonia, Lunt spent May, June, and July of 1951 in Skopje. Toward the end of his stay, the Yugoslav Council for Science and Culture and the Macedonian Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture sponsored a comprehensive tour of Macedonia, in which Lunt was accompanied by Koneski. In addition to constant help from Professor Koneski, Lunt depended heavily on information provided by Božo Vidoeski and Rada Ugrinova, then assistants in the Department of South Slavic Languages (later the Macedonian Department) at the new university. Lunt lived in the Hotel Makedonija, one of the landmarks of pre-war Skopje; it was completely destroyed in the earthquake of 26 July 1963. Although he was unaware of it at the time, Lunt was followed everywhere by the secret police. It was not until years later that he heard about how

difficult this fact had made if for those like Vidoeski and Ugrinova, whose association with Lunt might always be regarded as suspicious.

The first tangible result of Lunt's observations in Macedonia was his seminal article on the Morphology of the Macedonian Verb (*Makedonski jazik*, Vol. 2, No. 6, June, 1951, pp. 123–31). This classic application of Jakobson's one-stem approach had lasting results in Macedonian descriptive grammar and lexicology, for it established the use of the third singular person singular as the citation form for verbs. The article was completed in a two-day session, with Lunt dictating in Serbian and Koneski translating into Macedonian as Lunt typed the final wording. It appeared within weeks, while Lunt was still in Skopje.

During the academic year 1951–52 Professor Lunt managed to write his grammar, select and edit the texts, and compile the dictionary that is included in the book. It is worth noting that the vocabulary includes not only words used in the grammatical examples and texts, but also most of the words in the 1950 *Makedonski pravopis* and a significant selection of items culled from newspapers and magazines. It thus is fair to count Professor Lunt's work not only as the first monograph-length description of Macedonian in a foreign language, but also the first serious Macedonian-English lexicon. Professor Lunt did the typing himself on to ditto masters, using one typewriter for Latin and another for Cyrillic. The full text was sent to Macedonia in May and typesetting began in June in Belgrade. Lunt spent four weeks in Belgrade, with three or four quick visits to Skopje, reading proof and verifying data so that the book was completed in record time. In August, 1952, the *Grammar of Literary Macedonian* was published by the Jugoštampa printing house in a tirage of 2,000 copies. The publisher was the State Jugoštampa Publishing House (Државно книгоиздателство на НР Македонија). This can be taken as the definitive beginning of Macedonian studies in North America, since Lunt's work was available to North American scholars, and the fact that it was in English made it accessible to beginning Slavists.

Виктор ФРИДМАН

**ХОРАС. Г. ЛАНТ И ПОЧЕТОЦИТЕ
НА МАКЕДОНИСТИЧКИТЕ СТУДИИ ВО САД**

(Резиме)

Авторот ги опишува компликуваните текстови на војничката служба и универзитетските студии на акад. Х. Г. Лант коишто довеле до раѓањето на неговата граматика на македонскиот стандарден јазик, првата македонска научна граматика од перото на еден странец.