News of Polonia
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Wiadomości Polonijne
Volume 01, No. 13
May 2008
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9th Annual Polish Films Festival Los Angeles
By: Jadwiga Inglis

PAC Board of Directors Meeting
By: Betsy Cepielik

Cover Up For Those Who Carried Out Mass Murder
By: Herbert Romerstein

On May 7 – 9 the Polish American Board of Directors meeting was held at the beautiful Sheraton Crescent Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. The meeting took place in the city of the 95 degree temperature in Phoenix. (The hot weather will come in the summer.)

Pam Kowomorska coordinated the registration and many other administrative duties necessary for the running of the meeting. Pam reported there were 161 National Directors who were 69 directors in attendance – the most for several years. The meeting was all business with no banquets. Directors met with each other for dinner and discussions. On Thursday May 7, President Spula presided over an early meeting concerning work on breakfast for all Division Presidents. There was also a National Directors meeting geared for discussions.

South California was represented by SoCal President Marty Cepielik, and delegates Frank Kosowicz, Michael Dukowski, and Andrew Prokopczak. Rick Kobzi was a delegate-at-large. The Northern California delegation consisted of SoCal President Zdzislaw Zakrzewski, Edmund Lewandowski, and Krysztof Wisinski.

May 7
Professor Anthony Bajdek gave his American kompromit report. Mr. Bajdek stressed the importance of being in close contact with state legislators, as 54 percent of the present U.S. Congress have come out of state governments. Due to the activism of Bajdek and his group, Massachusetts passed a Visi Waiver for Poland in May 2004, established a Polish caucus in the legislature in February 2007, and proclaimed a Polish American Congress Day in April 2008. The PAC is the fifth largest ethnic organization in the U.S. He urged all to go to their state legislators and voice their opinions (conselly).

Seventeen states have PAC divisions, but more are needed. Illinois and Arizona have passed visa waiver resolutions, and he is working on Alaska. In Michigan and New York work is being done on the House and Senate bills. Jerry Surwiche is the Michigan Polish representative. In New York, Teresa Bank, Joe Macelog, and Frank Milewski are hard at work for Polish legislation. He urged California to work on the visa waiver. (California’s Northern delegation promised to work on it.)

Bajdek feels that there is “too much Polishamerica and not enough politics.”

In Pennsylvania, presidential candidate Barak Obama spoke to a Polish group in Pittsburgh.

Media and Public Relations – Jerzy Rozalski – Detroit, Michigan
A very brief report was given by VP of Public Relations, Jerzy Rozalski, who is attempting to work together with the mainstream media and the PolAm media.

Mass Murder cover up to page 15

UC Among Us

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Sendler risked her life to save 2,500 Jewish children
Long-unsung Polish heroine dead at 98
By: Robert Strybel, Our Warsaw Correspondent

WARSAW - Irena Sendler, one of Poland's greatest long-unsung heroine of World War II, died on Monday morning (May 12th) at a Warsaw nursing home at the age of 98. A social worker who went with saving in some 2,500 Jewish babies and youngsters from the Holocaust, Sendler, who died with the 114 year old woman in April with pneumonia, never to return to the Catholic nursing home where she had lived for the past four years.

During the Nazi occupation, she conspired with a group of other, mostly female social workers from the single Jewish women’s organization the Warsaw Ghetto and conceal them until the war was over. At great personal peril, she even gave false names and documents of Poland’s hated Nazi oppressors.

Capitalizing on the Germans’ fear of typhus, Sendler worked as a clinic -control nurse and was able to freely move about inside the walls-in ghetto. She talked Jewish parents into giving up their babies who were sedated and smuggled out in crates, sacks and coffins. Older kids left the ghetto through the sewers and secret crevices in the wall.

Outside the walls, the Jewish children were given new identities and placed in convents, orphanages, parishes and with Polish families. Sendler provided them with forged documents and even managed to divert some German occupation funds for the support of the younglings in hiding. But she did not have enough room for the kids of their true identities, so she wrote their true names and their aliases in thin strips of tissue tapes on their clothing. From there, the children were given new identities and placed in convents, orphanages, parishes and even in Catholic nursing home where she had lived for the past four years.

In 1942, she joined Żegota, the London-based Polish Government-in-Exile’s organization set up for the express purpose of saving Polish Jews. It was the only such government-run organization in Nazi-occupied Europe. But the following year, Irena Sendler was finally found out, arrested, tortured by the Gestapo at Pawiak Prison and sentenced to death. Under torture by the Gestapo, a woman laundress officer blew the whistle on her. In the nick of time, Zegota contacts managed to bribe a Nazi guard who had a blind eye to her escape.

Irena Sendler, who had sympathized with the socialist movement’s anti-communist wing, did not have an easy time of it after other post-war Poland’s communist take-over. She worked in the social-welfare department with all the whites and continued to help some of the youngsters she had saved. But the recognition she so richly deserved was completely washed. It wasn’t until two decades after the war that Jerusalem’s Yad Vashem Institute awarded Sendler a medal as a “Righteous Gentile” who risked her life to save Jews.

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