

**Justyna Ball from 2****Where else did the money go?**

We should know that bribing Iraqi police is not a good investment as they will always come for more. And we blame THEM for not doing enough... and the circle goes around so we're still there...

Once in a while, the army puts some representative of Iraqi police in front of the camera, who swears that there is great success but they are not ready yet to take full control so the US army should definitely hang around some more. Translation: Bring more US dollars. ASAP.

**Where is the limit?**

When do we say stop? Don't numbers mean anything to us?

How many more soldiers have to die before Americans understand that this war is wrong and should never have happened?

As we "entered" (or should I say, attacked, bombed and occupied) Iraq, we took off a guy that held all three groups (Sunnis, Shite, Kurds) together by an iron fist. The guy had nothing to do with 9/11. We come and we kill him after declaring him a number one dictator in the world, and we fight with the Sunnis, his supporters, relieving the Shiites, a religious group. The democratic elections that were supposed to fix all the problems and bring our troops home brought the Shiites to power against the Sunnis. How does it relate to us? First, we had US soldiers fighting against both the Shiites and the Sunnis, no Al Qaeda in sight.

Two years later, in 2005, the American soldiers were on one side with the Shiites, and the Sunnis and now, the Al Qaeda are on the opposite side. In 2008 you have Sunnis and Shiites on one side and Shiites and Al Qaeda on the other with American soldiers looking down in confusion. There is no progress, its just people moving around fighting amongst themselves. Now, five years have passed and we, the superpower, is still fighting Al Qaeda in Afghanistan and Iraq.

**I put emphasis on "still fighting."**

How is our presence in Iraq helping? Either we are there or not, and at this point everybody is fighting with everybody. The only people that benefit are those who make money on this war, and of course, they will fight to keep the business going. These are the lobbyists for military industry or companies that supply our troops with food or sunscreen.

That week when the media was preoccupied with the Jeremiah Wright comments, 49 US soldiers died. Did it make the news?

Although, there was some link between the pastor and war, Rev Wright was in Vietnam. Dick Cheney or George Bush were not. I say stop the money flow, and the war will stop.

**Whatever happened to the concept of saving?**

The spending makes sense only if we can save more than we can spend. Our priorities got mixed up. Are we trying to outspend China? Fine, but they have money, we are borrowing ours lately.

China's economy is growing and growing, and so are their savings. To the Chinese government, our anti-China demonstrations seem like a mosquito bite, annoying but eventually will go away.

Thanks to the record high oil prices, our longtime adversary Russia is also gaining. It is one of the largest exporters of oil. We are talking about a country that was a bankrupt by a combination of war expenses and cheap oil. Russia's main source of revenue. As much as we love to believe so, it wasn't Pres Regan, Margaret Thatcher or even the Pope that defeated great Soviet Union, but the cheap oil prices and war in Afghanistan.

Now Russia has a trade surplus, which means that it's gaining back its power while in the US, we are deeper and deeper in debt that will have to be paid for by our children and grandchildren. Something to think about...

In a cartoon by Lee Lorentz, a weeping bank teller says to a customer who is making a deposit, "God Bless you, sir."

Do you think its funny? □

**Music News from 3**

chamber works" referred to above, like a mint in between courses to clear the palate. Paderewski's *Mélodie*, Op. 16 no. 2 and Chopin's *Nocturne in E-flat major*, Op. 55 no. 2, arranged for violin, cello and piano by Mr. Żebrowski, were performed by Joel Pargman, violin, Lars Hoefs, cello, and Marek Żebrowski.

Penderecki's compelling *Second Violin Sonata* was performed by the inestimable Midori who considers the *Sonata* one of the greatest duo works written for violin and piano at the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. "The *Sonata* is an epic," Midori writes, "beginning with the birth of ideas that are developed as the work progresses and then gradually terminated at the conclusion."

Midori's performance was spellbinding, nearly to the point of pain. Her playing had the qualities of a Greek tragedy and reminded this writer of Zoe Wanamaker's electrifying 1999 New York performance as Sophocles' Electra. Midori's artistry defines her greatness, and her single-minded drive and rapturous intensity kept the audience spellbound in Penderecki's mesmerizing *Sonata*.

\* \* \*

*Barbara Kraft is a public relations specialist and producer, writer and narrator of KCRW's hour-long documentary on Segerstrom Hall, "Transforming O.C." She has contributed to The Hudson Review, The Michigan Quarterly, The Canadian Theatre Review, Ohio University Press, et al. She has just completed a book-length memoir entitled The Death of Anais Nin: Lux Aeterna. □*

**Legal from 3**

would cause your U.S. citizen or permanent resident relative "exceptional and extremely unusual hardship". In your case, you need to show that your son would suffer such hardship if your husband is returned to the Poland.

This is not easy to do because the immigration law requires you to show very unusual circumstances to qualify for this. The normal problems that would be caused to a young child or elderly parent by your deportation is not enough. For example, it's not enough to simply show that your son doesn't speak Polish and will have to return to Poland, probably resulting in difficulties in school, development, socialization. It is also usually not enough to show that your elderly parent needs your help or financial support. The government considers this "usual" and therefore not "extremely unusual" hardship. Most of the cases like this are simply denied.

Certainly, the best arguments are that your relative has "special needs" – for example, their physical problems or diseases would not receive adequate medical treatment in the home country. In this case, if you can show that your son has special medical or psychological needs that will increase your chances of winning this status and staying in the U.S.

Other factors such as your relative's age, language skills, acculturation, and the conditions in your home country can also be used to strengthen your arguments.

As I mentioned above, the government's rules governing "cancellation of removal" are very strict and it is very difficult to win these cases. I generally don't recommend that you voluntarily identify yourself to the government and apply for this status – even if you have been here 10 years and have a qualifying relative. There are many unscrupulous lawyers and "translators" who have been taking people's money on the promise that they qualify for a green card on this basis and then the person ends up being deported. (I will write about this in the next issue.) However, if your husband has been arrested, I would certainly apply for this status to prevent his deportation, or at least delay a deportation order until such time as there is legalization passed by Congress that may also allow him to stay. □

**Investments from 3****Potential Risks**

Although securities-based borrowing can be a great way for associations to manage their portfolios and their cash flow needs, it can also involve some risk. The lender may request that additional cash or securities be deposited or that securities be sold, sometimes on short notice, if the institution determines that the securities on deposit are not sufficient to support the approved loan amount. The lender may call the loan at any time and for any reason, sufficient collateral needs to be maintained, and your collateral maintenance requirements may be increased at any time without notice.

**For More Information**

To learn more about how a securities-based loan may be able to provide you with increased financial flexibility, please contact the News of Polonia. □

**Taxes from 3**

research the financial strength and reputation of any potential insurer, review the firm's rating information at Moody's or another rating agency. You can also find out whether an individual agent or company is properly licensed by contacting your state insurance department.

**3. Is the policy "noncancelable" or "guaranteed renewable"?**

These terms indicate whether the policy's terms are subject to change. If a policy is "noncancelable," the company cannot cancel your policy (except for failure to pay the premiums), and you can renew the policy without an increase in the premiums or a reduction of benefits. On the other hand, a "guaranteed renewable" policy allows the insurer to increase the premiums under certain conditions.

Many other components such as waiting periods, inflation provisions, benefit amounts, definitions of "disability," age, health and occupation can factor into the cost and benefits of a particular policy. So understanding the ins and outs of long-term disability insurance isn't always a cake walk. But with a little time and effort you can sort through the jargon and find a policy that makes sense for you.

If you have additional questions about the ideas mentioned here and/or the many other strategies available to you, they may be directed to me at 800-CPA-KROL (272-5765), or you may write to:

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**Goodyear to increase its stake in a Polish tiremaker**

A recent article by Scott Suttell in *Crain's Cleveland Business* website reports that Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. (NYSE: GT) said it will increase its stake in TC Debica, a Polish contract tiremaker, and will ask the company to nearly triple its commercial tire production for Goodyear.

Under an agreement with PZU, a Polish asset-management company and TC Debica shareholder, Akron-based Goodyear will boost its stake in TC Debica to 66% from 59.9% through a tender offer for 6.12% of all outstanding shares of the company. Goodyear said the investment in the tender totals \$40 million to \$45 million.

TC Debica will remain listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange. "Since Goodyear became the majority shareholder 13 years ago, TC Debica's operations have grown dramatically - nearly doubling the number of tires manufactured daily - and it has evolved from being a largely domestic manufacturer of low-cost tires to a provider of increasingly high-value tires to markets throughout Europe and elsewhere in the world," said Darren R. Wells, senior vice president of finance and strategy for Goodyear.

In addition to the tender offer, Goodyear said it will "support and cooperate" with TC Debica to nearly triple its daily commercial truck tire production to up to 5,000 tires a day to meet increasing demand in Europe.

TC Debica's management board will decide whether to expand production in Poland. Goodyear said the expansion would require an investment of more than \$200 million and likely involve assistance from Polish national and regional authorities.

An expansion would create 350 to 400 new jobs at TC Debica. "This additional capacity would make TC Debica one of our largest suppliers of tires in the world," said Michel Rzonczef, president of Goodyear's Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa countries. □

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Oferujemy pełen zakres usług związanych ze zgonem. Przygotowanie pogrzebu, możliwość kremacji zwłok. Msza pogrzebowa w języku polskim, pogrzeb na polskim cmentarzu, stypa. Zawiadom nas, a my zajmiemy się przygotowaniem i formalnościami.

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