

Symposium from 9

between us and Poland will grow. "Now take this heritage and make it your own, so that it serves the future," Radziłowski urged in conclusion.

The last panelist was Irene Tomaszewski, author and Founding President of the Canadian Foundation for Polish Studies. She stated that when young Polish students go to college they blend in. The Polish Community needs to attract them and compete against the mainstream. They should take their Polishness with them and integrate it. The Poland in the Rockies conference for young Poles brings in excellent speakers. Young people can have a "bigger stage" and develop self-confidence and knowledge.

Summary of the Issue Sessions

The moderators of the issue session summarized key points made by panelists and discussants.

Conclusion:

Frank Spula concluded the symposium by saying that we should build bridges with other groups, build unity in our own groups, respect each other, make changes, and be positive. There is a need for the PAC – more now than before. He thanked all of the speakers, volunteers, and staff for their hard work.

All of the attendees left with hopes that there will be more of these symposiums in the future.

Dedication of Lech Wałęsa Bust

In May, a building on the Northeastern Illinois Campus was named for Lech Wałęsa. A bronze bust of Wałęsa, donated by the Polish Arts Club of Chicago, was dedicated at the conclusion of the conference.

Dr. Sharon Haas, President of Northeastern Illinois University, welcomed the guests.

Edward Dykla, Trustee, unveiled two plaques naming the donors. President Spula stressed the need to encourage Polish culture in the news and in the media.

President Haas, President Spula, and Trustee Dykla then unveiled the bust. A reception followed

Concert: Grażyna Auguscik

The day/evening concluded with a concert by Grażyna Auguscik and accompaniment of keyboard, guitar, drums, and bass. This was a jazz concert with a series of jazz numbers. The group is well-known and appreciated in the jazz world.

Conference Sponsors: In addition to the Polish American Congress, support for the conference was provided by the Polish National Alliance, the Senate of the Republic of Poland, Wspólnota Polska, and LOT Polish Airlines. □

Piotr (Peter) Sidoruk

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Chicago's Polonia...

The largest Polish-American population in the United States resides within the Comcast Digital Cable, channel 248 broadcast radius. Polvision is available to 2 million 300,000 thousand homes on Comcast Digital Cable.

Statistical Data for Chicago-land Polish-Americans¹.

Population:

Illinois	Chicagoland
944,804	865,573

The economic status of the Polish community has risen rapidly. The average income of the Polish family exceeds the United States average income by 15%².

Income:

Mean Household	Mean Family
\$63,456.00	\$74,230.00

¹ Source: US Census Bureau 2000.

² Source: Professor Andrew Greely

(University of Chicago)

and Professor Thomas Sowell (UCLA)

Occupation:

Professionals	Technical
362,816	352,145
Service	Production
118,449	120,583
	Laborers
	130,187

The Polish community has the highest Chicago-land percentage of homeowners.

Education:

High School	College Degree
635,994	245,434

Home Owners:

With Mortgage	Without Mortgage
671,209	394,829

http://www.polvision.com/about_audience.html □

Polish families ousted by a German

A November 11 article from *Polskie Radio – thenews.pl* website reports... The District Court in Szczytno, north east Poland, has ruled that two families have to evacuate the house they inhabited for over thirty years, because it formally belongs to German citizen Agnes Trawny.

Agnes Trawny is the first German citizen to win a property restitution case in Polish courts. In 2005, Trawny, who left Poland in 1977, recovered forty-seven hectares of land and a 250-metre house which originally belonged to her mother and which she was forced to give up when she decided to move to Germany. Two families, which have lived in the Narty village – the Moskalikowie and Głowaccy families – were supposed to move out by December 2008.

However, the destitute families – each consisting of six members – decided to stay and fight for their rights to the house. The inhabitants claim that Trawny abandoned the house and land and was not interested in it for almost thirty years, while they invested their money in maintaining the property. The Moskalikowie and Głowaccy families also blame the communist State Treasury for accommodating them in a house left by Trawny without securing rights to the property.

Trawny took the Moskalikowie and Głowaccy families to court in Szczytno and won a case for eviction. The two families will have to move out by summer 2010 and the state will not be obliged to provide them with a replacement home.

The issue of property restitution, from citizens of another country, is both controversial and mounting in Poland. Large movements of people during and after WWII have meant that many land settlements have yet to be resolved. □

Afghanistan and the great game for the domination of Eurasia.

By: *Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski*

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On November 12, 2009 the financial press reports, that the creditors of the US, are trying to "Buck Up Dollar" in order to raise competitive prices of American exports and to stop loss of value of their large "reserve currency" accounts. At the same time President Obama is pondering four new game plans for the pacification of Afghanistan, none of which spells out American exit strategy. There are vague notions about eventually trying to create out of Afghanistan an "American partner" similar to "The Banana Republics" of Latin America.

The present situation is a blowback, resulting from American help given to Muslim fanatics to fight Russian occupation during the Cold War, which kept American arms industries busy, in line with the wishes of the military-industrial complex and the financial elite, which controls the American economy by controlling its monetary policy. Unemployment was relatively low. That was a long time ago.

Twelve years after the fall of the Soviet Union and the replacement of the Cold War by a "Global War on Terror" in September 2001, this time against Muslim terrorists, who earlier were armed by the US against the Red Russian occupation of Afghanistan, a country characterized by Lord Curzon as "the graveyard of empires." American strategists start talking pessimistically about the outcome of the pacification of Afghanistan. Some compare war in Afghanistan to the war in Vietnam. The majority of Americans are against prolongation of the hopeless struggle in Afghanistan.

In September 2001 President Bush talked about bringing Osama bin Laden to justice "dead or alive." So far the FBI has not included bin Laden among the guilty of the 9/11 tragedy and many Americans cannot understand why bin Laden and his close associates were not killed or at least arrested. Meanwhile the American global war on terror radicalizes young Muslims who are recruited by terrorists to serve as suicide bombers or became radical Taliban, etc.

It is estimated at least 10% of the value of American aid to Afghanistan and American supplies delivered overland, is paid out by local contractors, in Pakistan and in Afghanistan, to the Taliban in order to be able to make deliveries needed in pacification and nation building programs.

According to the radio broadcast of the program "Democracy Now" of December 12, 2009, two Afghani origin men, who were previous charged and convicted as drug dealers in the US, are now receiving 360 million dollars per year, paid by the US government, for transporting supplies through Afghanistan and Pakistan. This is done with the full knowledge of the US military and other organizations. This situation is described in detail in the current issue of the "Nation" magazine.

Traditional hostility towards foreigners and also now against the puppet regime in Kabul makes it especially difficult to deal with an illiterate population which is traditionally ready to defend itself against foreigners.

Afghanistan should be evaluated as part of the great game for the domination of Eurasia, in which the crucial fact is that the region of the Persian Gulf and Caspian Sea contains over 70% of world's crude oil reserves and over 40% of the natural gas. That fact plays a major role even at the time when other sources of energy are promoted because of climate change.

Who wins the great game for the domination of Eurasia achieves the domination of the world, according to geopolitical theory. Eurasia is the crucial

"heartland of the globe" and at the same time, the scene of a rapid change in the world balance of economic power.

China recently replaced Germany as the world's third largest economy, after the US and Japan. More than half of all the money in the world is now in East Asia. In the near future China is expected to have the world's largest economy and dominate the Eurasian land mass and parts of Africa as well as having a strong influence in Latin America, provided that biological or other warfare is not used against China in order to alter this scenario, in the tradition of the "opium wars" launched by the British against China early in the XIX century.

In view of the large reserves of hydrocarbons on American territory and programs of increasing the use of renewable energy sources, President Obama might conclude, that his program of reform would be served better by bringing in partners for the program of the pacification of Central Asia, states that we strongly oppose terrorism of radical Muslims such as China, India, and Russia, as well as Iran.

In reality Iran is in the best geopolitical position to help in the effort of weakening Al Qaida and the Taliban. It should be remembered, that Iran helped Americans against AlQaida and the Taliban, after the tragedy of 9/11, to be later treated with contempt by the pro-Israeli Bush administration.

Unfortunately the US-Israel axis during the Bush administration turned against Iraq as an imaginary "existential threat to Israel." Similar accusation is now used against Iran. According to headlines in the Jerusalem daily paper Ha'aretz, now Iran constitutes "a nightmare of the possible loss of nuclear monopoly of Israel in the Middle East." This headline itself constitutes an admission that in fact the existence of the Israeli nuclear arsenal constitutes one of the main causes of the destabilization of the Middle East.

Such a change in strategy, independent of Israeli influence, would require quitting the yearly destabilization program against Iran, funded by the US Congress in Washington. On the other hand the conflict between India and Pakistan, probably excludes any constructive role of India, in bringing peace to Afghanistan.

US government is deeply involved in a self-defeating program in Afghanistan and does not know how to get out and not to lose the great game for the domination of Eurasia. □

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