



# News of Polonia

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## Wiadomości Polonijne

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### February 10th, 1940...

#### The First Transport of Poles to Siberia

By: *Zofia Cybulska-Adamowicz*,  
Siberian survivor

February 10<sup>th</sup> will mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first and the most tragic exportation of eastern Poles to Siberia and Kazakhstan. In the early morning hours of February 10, 1940, NKVD agents brutally invaded thousands of Polish homes. Each family was given twenty minutes to half an hour to gather their most important belongings and then was taken to the train station, where cattle wagons were waiting for them.

Each wagon was overloaded with people. Not even scared, sleepy children, pregnant women or elderly were spared. Successive exportations took place on April 13, June 20 the same year and the last one in 1941 shortly before the Soviet-Nazi war started. All together, a million and a half innocent people were deported, just because they were Polish.

The journey took from 4 to 6 weeks. The winter of 1940 was extremely fierce. The wagons were not heated and a hole cut in the floor served as a toilet making its usage embarrassing and undignified. Bunk beds attached to the side of the wagons were used as crowded beds or sitting spaces. From time to time the wagons were opened and a bucket of hot soup (the Sybiraki called "urine") was served. Scared children were clinging to their mothers asking where they were going. Unfortunately, nobody knew the answer. Many died and many lost hope. It was a nightmare and a human tragedy.

The final destination turned out to be a harsh, Siberian wilderness far away from civilization. Victims were housed in old, falling apart, overcrowded barracks and

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### 65 years ago

#### Yalta Conference

From *Wikipedia*,  
the free encyclopedia



L. - Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin

The **Yalta Conference**, sometimes called the **Crimea Conference** and codenamed the **Argonaut Conference**, was the **February 4–11, 1945** wartime meeting of the heads of government of the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union—President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and General Secretary Joseph Stalin, respectively—for the purpose of discussing Europe's postwar reorganization. Mainly, it was intended to discuss the re-establishment of the nations of war-torn Europe.

The conference convened in the Livadia Palace near Yalta, the Crimea. It was the second of three wartime conferences among the Big Three (Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin). It had been preceded by the Tehran Conference in 1943, and it was followed by the Potsdam Conference, which Harry S Truman attended in place of the late Roosevelt.

#### The conference

All three leaders were trying to establish an agenda for governing post-war Germany. Churchill's Soviet policy differed vastly from that of Roosevelt, with the former believing Stalin to be a "devil"-like tyrant leading a vile system. In 1942, U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union William Christian Bullitt, Jr.'s thesis prophesied the "flow of the Red amoeba into Europe". Roosevelt responded to Bullitt, Jr. with a statement summarizing his rationale for war time relations with Stalin:

*"I just have a hunch that Stalin is not that kind of a man. . . . I think that if I give him everything I possibly can and ask for nothing from him in return, noblesse oblige, he won't try to annex anything and will work with me for a world of democracy and peace."*

—Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1943

On the Eastern Front, the Front Line at the end of December 1943 remained in the Soviet Union, but by August 1944 Soviet forces were inside Poland and parts of Romania in their relentless drive West. By the time of the Conference, Red Army Marshal Georgy Zhukov's forces were 65 km from Berlin. Stalin's position at the conference was one which he felt was so strong that he could dictate terms. As U.S. delegation member and future Secretary of State James F. Byrnes commented, "It was not a question of what we [the West] would let the Russians do, but what we could get the Russians to do." Moreover, Roosevelt had hoped for Stalin's commitment to participate in the United Nations.

The main objective of Winston Churchill and Stalin was the capture of

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The following is a full report on the participation of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) in the 2009 Annual National Conference for the Social Studies in Atlanta, GA. The Council is deeply grateful for the countless hours of preparation, and setting up, manning and dismantling the booths by the Co-Chairs Barbara Lemecha and Henrietta Nowakowski. Joining them in the demanding tasks at the Conference were ACPC President Debbie Majka and Donna Chmara, Immediate Past Pres. of the Polish Arts Club of Trenton NJ. This team not only sacrificed many hours and much energy, but also most generously did not request compensation for their travel expenses - airfare, lodging and meals. Other volunteers who assisted at the conference site are sincerely recognized in the report.

*Jo Louise Winters, ACPC PR Chair*

#### National Conference for the Social Studies

Atlanta, Georgia

By: *Barbara Lemecha*



L. - Barbara Lemecha with visiting teachers

"Dreams and Deeds" was the theme of this year's conference in Atlanta, GA, which took place November 13-15, 2009. Once again the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) took advantage of this great opportunity for its "Polish Perspectives" manned booths to interact with teachers, providing them with historically accurate facts and highlighting Polish contributions to American and world history that are not readily available in American text books.

At this 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference with a gathering of 4,000 educators, ACPC presented Polish perspectives on World War II and Polish contributions to the Allied victory. Since the year 2009 marked the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the beginning of WWII and the 20<sup>th</sup> of the Solidarity Movement's success in expelling Communism, materials were prepared that highlighted Poland's accomplishments during those periods of time.

ACPC invested in a new display unit and filled it with invaluable educational posters that were acquired especially for this year's conference. A poster *Poland First to Fight*, was our main focus, supported by posters featuring Irena Sendler's heroic deeds, the *Battle of Monte Cassino*, *Solidarity*, and a few other posters bearing significant historical facts. Also on display was the poster dedicated to the *Kościuszko Squadron*, which was created by the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford.

The ACPC display tables were piled high with books and other printed materials such as: "A Question of Honor", "Null and Void", "Warsaw Uprising",

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The following entry was posted on "*The Occidental Observer Blog*" on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 and is filed under *Kevin MacDonald*

#### Kevin MacDonald: Controlling Historical Memory

Kevin MacDonald: Dovid Katz's article in *The Guardian* "Halting Holocaust Obfuscation" (Please see the Guardian's Katz article below) is yet another example of Jewish intellectual activists with access to the media attempting to control historical memory in a way that highlights Jewish suffering and presents Jewish behavior as nothing more than innocent victimhood. Katz is determined to disallow any equivalence between the horrors inflicted on the populations of Eastern Europe by the Germans and by the Soviets. He condemns Polish MEP Michal Kamiński, linking to [this article](#), (Please see the Tim Whewell article in the Guardian after the Katz article) for bringing up Jewish behavior in the [Jedwabne incident](#) in which Jews were murdered during the German occupation of Poland during WWII:

**One of the participants in the 2001 meeting, Maria Mazurczyk, told us: "I think that Mr Kamiński, like us, wanted everything to be revealed: the times before the war when things were good – and the time of the Soviet occupation when the Jews didn't respect their Polish neighbours – and later the effect of all this."**

At the time Kamiński condemned Poles who'd killed Jews – though he suggested the massacre was principally carried out by Germans. But it appears his principal concern was with alleged Jewish guilt. Anna Bikont of the liberal Polish daily *Gazeta Wyborcza*, who spent much time in Jedwabne in 2001 while researching a book, says: "Mr Kamiński came to the place where an incredible crime was committed – and he told not about the women, children, old people who died in this horrible manner, but he told about Jews who collaborated with Soviets and who killed Poles."

**Would a British politician who'd behaved in a similar way survive in the mainstream of British politics?**

Probably not! But that's only because mentioning Jewish behavior as contributing in even the slightest way to anti-Jewish attitudes is off limits, even if they collaborated with the Soviets against the Poles or against the Baltic peoples. The following is from a review of Alexandr Solzhenitsyn's *200 Years Together* (italicized quotes are translations of Solzhenitsyn): "*Everyone was listening intently to determine if the Germans were already on the way.*"

In June and July of 1941 those living in the regions of eastern Poland occupied by the Red Army – Polish farmers, the bourgeoisie, the clergy, ex-soldiers, and intellectuals – all awaited the invasion of German troops. This quote is from the Polish Jewish historian J. Gross, author of the book *Neighbors: The Murder of the Jews of Jedwabne*. Solzhenitsyn explains why Poles, Lithuanians, Latvians, Ukrainians, Estonians, Belorussians, Bukowina-, and Moldava-Romanians

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