

The following information is "old news" (November 11) regarding a Veteran's Day Ceremony which took place.

Editor

A bust of Stalin

Bedford, VA - A notorious figure known for forming the Iron Curtin and committing massive crimes against humanity has a place at the D-Day Memorial in Bedford. Officials there want to tell Joseph Stalin's role in the D-Day invasion. Stalin was an ally in the invasion, but a lot of people aren't happy at all with having his likeness at the memorial. But the operator of the memorial says this is a decision that's been years in the making and is more about preserving a time in history than anything else.

"It's not the fitting place for him," Helen Walker with VFW Women's Auxiliary said. "I think it would bring up bad memories for some."

A bust of Joseph Stalin has been planned for the memorial since 2005. Now some citizens are asking the National D-Day Memorial to rethink the decision.

"When you hear that they're going to put a bust of one of the most evil men in the world, it bothers you a little bit," Douglas Cooper director of the Bedford Museum said.

Dr. William McIntosh serves as the Memorial President. He says, regardless of what you think of Stalin, his involvement was crucial to the allies' success on D-Day.

"No one was naive, Churchill, Roosevelt that Stalin was going to be a friend, this was a temporary arrangement," Dr. McIntosh said. "He's a vital part of the story, not a nice part of the story, but one of the jobs of the foundation is to preserve the lessons and legacies of D-Day."

Cooper, also a man of history, says he understands Stalin's role in the battle, but asks, why give this man a statue?

"Will that be the next bust that they'll put up is one of Hitler?" Cooper said.

Memorial officials say the statue is not meant to celebrate, but rather illuminate a moment of time.

"Stalin is a part of the story, he's not there because we honor him, he's there because he's a critical piece of the puzzle and if you want to understand D-Day, that's what it's there for," McIntosh said.

The statue was made possible by a private donation.

While some people we spoke with say this move will hurt local donations, Doctor McIntosh tells us the National Park Service reacted positively when they learned about the planned statue. □

Josef Stalin should not have been Honored At The National D-Day Memorial

Dear Friends,

The National D-Day Memorial in Virginia has honored Josef Stalin by placing his bust on a pedestal at its museum.

Several Polish war veterans in New York, who fought against Stalin and Hitler, have asked me to write something about this outrageous development.

As my father and grandfather both fought against Nazi and Soviet troops during WWII, I could not sit back silently without commenting.

Here is the article on the Huffington Post. Feel free to add your own comments. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/alex-storozynski/us-honors-stalin-on-hallo_b_363141.html

If you are as outraged as I am, please send a letter to the President of the D-Day Memorial, William McIntosh at: dday@dday.org

Or, to President Barack Obama at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/CONTACT/>

Please let them know how you feel about the United States honoring Stalin with his bust in this memorial.

Sincerely,

Alex Storożyński

President & Executive Director

The Kościuszko Foundation

Huffington Post article:

U.S. Honors Stalin on Hallowed Ground

By: *Alex Storożyński*

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russians began taking down their statues of Josef Stalin, the mass murderer who killed millions of people. Astonishingly, in America, the National D-Day Memorial is honoring Stalin by placing his bust on a pedestal at its museum in Bedford, Virginia.

This misguided move will haunt millions of Ukrainians, Russians, Poles, Czechs, Hungarians, Jews, etc. whose families were massacred by this Soviet tyrant. Stalin's killing machine

Storożyński article to page 16



The end of a Love Affair

By: *Justyna Ball*

<http://justyna-polishdelight.blogspot.com>

Warning: If you care for the state of California and do not want to see it destroyed, do not see the film "2012." According to Hollywood producers, the first town (on the entire planet) that will be completely erased during the end of the world ... is Pasadena. I'm not kidding. The state of Hawaii will turned into a giant volcano. Those who survive will only do so because they paid 1 billion Euros each for a ticket on the ark... I bet the mayor of NYC will survive...For the rest of us... the end is near, but we still have some time to kill...

In the meantime, folks, the good news is that General Pułaski just received his US citizenship. I believe he is dead, and I do not think he cares at this point that much, but how about Polish soldiers fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan? Many are still alive and they may actually make some use out of it...

Why is it that in the Yankee Swap, Poles are always left with the lousiest of gifts?

Someone just asked me how I felt about the new US government's "friendship" with Poland. I do not feel as I'm numb...I became emotionally unresponsive...

There are two ways that the US government deals with Poland - one way is to "use it", and the previous administration for eight years did just that, and the second is to "ignore it", and that's the present administration's approach. Sadly, there are no other options.

It was not a surprise that one of the most important dates in modern history went unnoticed. It was June 4th 1989 that marked the end of communism. The 20th anniversary events lasted a week and there were pictures and stories available for the media.

It was last June that world leaders arrived to salute and celebrate, but as always, when it comes to commemorating any event of great importance happening in Poland, our media missed it.

We were instead presented with the November 12th Berlin Wall collapse.

Just a reminder - "the epicenter of the political earthquake" as some writer in my local paper called it, was not Berlin but Gdańsk. I'm surprised that the writer did not know that either.

In September of 1989, after the Round Table Talks, Poland's democratic government was reinstalled.

It is an undisputed fact that the Wall fell as the consequence of what happened in Poland and not the other way around. Frankly, the Berlin Wall collapse would not be possible if not for the changes in Poland earlier, as Chancellor Angela Merkel and other world leaders noted. Back in June 1989, Poles, unlike millions of Germans from the East, were already able to travel to West Germany freely.

Tens of thousands of Germans were in Warsaw to enter West Germany THROUGH Poland, camping around waiting for news from their homeland. And when they left, several streets were lined with ... Trabants. Those funky looking East German cars that Germans left behind in hope to start a new life.

Last week, paper after paper (my local paper included) reported on the Wall, in those papers, editors left Poland out, instead gave all the credits for toppling the communism to...Germans. I mean, seriously?

If you look closer at the giant domino set up for the occasion in Berlin, the very first piece called "Where it all began" shows Poland, Solidarity and is signed by no one other than Lech Wałęsa who at the ceremonies pushed that first piece triggering the domino effect.

He almost tripped as the cameraman tried to move along and cut him off.

No German Wall nor Germans saved millions of Poles from communist tyranny, as a writer in another paper implied. Poles did it themselves starting in 1970, continuing in 1980 till the grand finale.

Back then probably the same editors put Walesa on the cover of Newsweek and TIME, and 20 years later they show the signs of total amnesia.

But at the same time, what do you expect from those who each year dedicate only ONE sentence to the date of Germany's attack on Poland, the day that marks the beginning of WWII.

Mr. President - where were you on the 70th anniversary of the German invasion of Poland? The Polish government invited the President three months prior to the ceremony, but for some unknown reason, the White House, replied only several days before the event. It was strange enough, since Poles tried to reach the White House and the State Department during the summer months with no response. To their great amusement, someone from the White House said that "everyone was on vacation until after Labor Day" to which a Polish official sarcastically apologized that Adolf Hitler had invaded his country on Sept. 1st.

The more negative press coverage in US (Polish media inform the public occasionally), total ignorance in some cases, or more Polish soldiers in body bags arrive, the less sympathetic Poles felt toward the US.

I got a little confused that at the same time when the US government representing the military industry was trying to get Poland's approval to install the anti-missile bases, reportedly for Poland's safety, the fleet of F-16s that Poland bought from the US (members of Bush's administration strongly lobbied for it), will be ready for military action in ... 2012, which does not seem as if the US wants Poland to be prepared for a potential attack any time soon...it rather suggests that they wanted to get rid of old planes (they sold newer F-18s, "hornets" to Israel)... Czechs bought Swedish Gripen and are flying already.

Justyna Ball to page 16

NEWS OF POLONIA - home delivery

Annual Subscription Rate - \$25.00

Date: ___/___/___

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip _____ Tel () _____

Make your check payable to:

News of Polonia
2245 E. Colorado Blvd. #104/177
Pasadena, CA 91107

NEWS OF POLONIA

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

2245 E. Colorado Blvd. #104/177 - Pasadena, CA 91107

Tel: (626) 577-9797 Fax: (626) 449-3331

E-MAIL - polishnews@att.net

Editor in Chief: Betsy Cepielik

Polish Section, Editor-in-Chief: Zbysław (Bish) Petryka (323) 766-0026

Contributing writers

Justyna Ball Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski

Columnists:

Lila Ciecok - Orange Co. Fr. Lucjan Kamiński, SDB
Joanna Moran - Investments Prof. Jerzy Przystawa - Poland Politics
Chris Kerosky, Esq. - Legal matters Richard P. Król - Taxes
Edmund Lewandowski - Northern Cal. Jan Szczepański - Poland - Student
Dariusz Zakrzewski - Special Assignment Jadwiga Inglis - Special Assignment
Marek Żebrowski and Krysta Close - Polish Music Center @USC

Calendar of Events

Nov. 28, Sat. 7:30 p.m.—Karolina Naziemiec—Vocalist, Our Lady of the Bright Mount Hall - 3424 W. Adams Blvd. - Los Angeles

Dec. 6, Sun., Christmas party organized by the Polish Women's Alliance - "The Monterey" at the Encino Glen Country Club 16821 Burbank Blvd.

Information: Helen (818) 360-7707

13, Jaselka, Nativity play and Christmas Eve Dinner sponsored by the Polish School - Polish Center of John Paul II 3999 Rose Drive in Yorba Linda. Information: (760) 863-5302.

20, Sun., Polish Club of Laguna Woods - Traditional Christmas celebration Clubhouse 7 Info: Irena (949)206-9122.

SYLWESTER - New Year's Eve Dances

Our Lady of the Bright Mount - 3424 W. Adams Blvd. - Los Angeles (page 24)

Pope John Paul Polish Center - 3999 Rose Drive - Yorba Linda - (714) 996-8161

Please send information for the calendar to Bish Petryka - e-mail: zbyskoopet@aol.com ★

Disclaimer Notice:

The Views of our columnists and letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the News of Polonia.