

POLAND MARKS 70th ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

At Westerplatte, close to Gdansk, where the first shots were fired marking the start of World War II, on September 1, 2009 world leaders Angela Merkel, Vladimir Putin heads of state of the two invaders, and other prominent heads of state gathered to commemorate the beginning of World War II. Disappointedly the United States sent Jim Jones a national security advisor.

It was on September 1, 1939 that Germany invaded Poland from the west and soon after on September 17th the Soviet Union stabbed Poland in the back by invading Poland from the east. This was the plan agreed upon by both invaders in August 1939, known as the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. Poland fought bravely alone and suffered immense losses some 6 million citizens – 3million of which were Polish Jews. Both invaders brought a reign of terror and the war in Poland lasted 5 years, 8 months and 8 days, the longest of any country invaded during WWII according to historical data.

The Polish Government-in-Exile headquartered in London, under Gen. Sikorski commanded the Polish armed forces which fought all over Europe on the sea, land and in the air, from Narvik in Norway to Tobruk in Arica along with the British forces. The Polish Government-in-Exile supported the AK(Polish Home Army) or the underground which fought both invaders through sabotage and staged an incredibly heroic Warsaw Uprising in 1944 with total resulted in the destruction of Warsaw and loss of approximately 250,000 men, women and children. It also helped the 110,000 survivors of the Soviet deportation to Siberia, that miraculously got out via the Caspian Sea to Iran, and formed the II Army Corps under Gen. Anders which bravely fought at Monte Cassino.

As a result of the war, Poland lost a very large segment of its educated class and leaders through concentration camps, deportations to Germany for labor, and deportations of 2 million Poles deep into Siberia of the Soviet Union. Approximately 20,000 Polish POW officers executed by the Soviets at Katyn, Starobielsk and Ostaszkow- was a war crime still not dealt with, but in 1998 Russia at last admitted responsibility for this horrendous crime.

At the end of the war, sad to say Poland was betrayed by the Allies at Yalta and fell under Soviet Communist domination. At last in 1989 when the first free elections were held with the election of Lech Walesa, the Solidarnosc hero, as President of the Republic of Poland. Ten years later Poland was admitted into NATO and five years ago joined the European Union.

World War II in reality ended in Poland not in 1945 with the so-called "liberation" by the Soviet Union, but in 1989 when the second invader's Soviet forces at last left Poland.

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