

Poland, Germany spar over WW II museum

by UPI

BERLIN -- Poland's prime minister has rankled Germany by saying a better place than Berlin for a World War II museum would be the Polish city of Gdansk. In 2000, a German group began lobbying for a site in Berlin to honor an estimated 15 million ethnic Germans who were expelled from their homes during or directly following the war. In an interview with Germany's Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper, Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said it would be more fitting for a grand scale museum to be built in the Baltic Sea port city of Gdansk, where German troops launched the war on Sept. 1, 1939, Deutsche Welle reported. "The war began here, but in a sense it also ended here when the Solidarity movement was founded in 1980," Tusk said, referring to the labor movement that toppled communist rule. "The problem is not that anyone wants to prevent the Germans from remembering the suffering of their own people," Tusk said. "It becomes problematic when this remembrance of the German suffering diminishes another memory -- namely that of the collective responsibility of the Germans."

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