

## Germany seeks forgiveness from Poland 80 years after WWII start

Germany made an emotional appeal for forgiveness to neighboring Poland 80 years after the start of World War II that was met by a renewed demand for **reparations** by the fellow European Union member's prime minister.

reparations 赔款

casualty 伤亡人员; 意外事故

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, visiting the town of Wielun, Poland, where Nazi bombers caused the first large-scale civilian **casualties** of the conflict in an **air raid** on Sept. 1, 1939, said his country won't forget the past and takes responsibility for the war's terror and **atrocities**.

raid 袭击; 突袭

atrocities 暴行; 残暴

At a ceremony in Gdansk commemorating an attack on Poland from the **Baltic Sea**, Polish **Premier** Mateusz Morawiecki returned to the controversial topic of wartime reparations. He called on his nation's western neighbor and biggest trading partner to take "responsibility" for the economic costs of its invasion and occupation.

Baltic Sea 波罗的海

premier 总理; 首相; 首要的

Earlier this year, a Polish special **parliamentary** group published a **preliminary** study that showed the six-year conflict may have cost the Polish economy more than \$850 billion. The German government has said all claims were settled long ago.

parliamentary 议会的; 国会的

preliminary 初步的; 预备的

Calls for reparations from the 1939-1945 conflict, during which about 6 million Poles — half of them Jews — were killed, have **soured** ties between **Warsaw** and Berlin since 2017.

sour 酸的; 讨厌的

Warsaw 华沙

"We have to remember the victims and we have to demand compensation," Morawiecki said.