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CATHOLIC HOLIDAYS

Lithurgical Calendar AUGUST 2018

1 Wed Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
white
Memorial
Jer 15:10, 16-21/Mt 13:44-46 (403)

2 Thu Weekday green/white/white
[Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest]
Jer 18:1-6/Mt 13:47-53 (404)

3 Fri Weekday green
Jer 26:1-9/Mt 13:54-58 (405)

4 Sat Saint John Vianney, Priest white
Memorial
Jer 26:11-16, 24/Mt 14:1-12 (406)

5 SUN EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME green
Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35 (113) Pss II

6 Mon The Transfiguration of the Lord white
Feast
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10 (614) Pss Prop

7 Tue Weekday green/red/white
[Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint Cajetan, Priest]
Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14 (408)

8 Wed Saint Dominic, Priest white
Memorial
Jer 31:1-7/Mt 15:21-28 (409)

9 Thu Weekday green/red
[Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr]
Jer 31:31-34/Mt 16:13-23 (410)

10 Fri Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr red
Feast
2 Cor 9:6-10/Jn 12:24-26 (618) Pss Prop

11 Sat Saint Clare, Virgin white
Memorial
Hb 1:12—2:4/Mt 17:14-20 (412)

12 SUN NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME green
1 Kgs 19:4-8/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51 (116) Pss III

13 Mon Weekday green/red
[Saints Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs]
Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c/Mt 17:22-27 (413)

14 Tue Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr red
Memorial
Ez 2:8—3:4/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14 (414)

15 Wed THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
white
Solemnity [Holyday of Obligation]
Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 (621)
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56 (622) Pss Prop

16 Thu Weekday green/white
[Saint Stephen of Hungary]
Ez 12:1-12/Mt 18:21—19:1 (416)

17 Fri Weekday green
Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Mt 19:3-12 (417)

18 Sat Weekday green/white
[BVM]
Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32/Mt 19:13-15 (418)

19 SUN TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME green
Prv 9:1-6/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58 (119) Pss IV

20 Mon Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church white
Memorial
Ez 24:15-24/Mt 19:16-22 (419)

21 Tue Saint Pius X, Pope white
Memorial
Ez 28:1-10/Mt 19:23-30 (420)

22 Wed The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary white
Memorial
Ez 34:1-11/Mt 20:1-16 (421)

23 Thu Weekday green/white
[Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin]
Ez 36:23-28/Mt 22:1-14 (422)

24 Fri Saint Bartholomew, Apostle red
Feast
Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51 (629) Pss Prop

25 Sat Weekday green/white/white/white
[Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanx, Priest; BVM]
Ez 43:1-7ab/Mt 23:1-12 (424)

26 SUN TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME green
Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69 (122) Pss I

27 Mon Saint Monica white
Memorial
2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Mt 23:13-22 (425)
34

28 Tue Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church white
Memorial

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Mt 23:23-26 (426)

29 Wed The Passion of Saint John the Baptist red

Memorial

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18 (427)/Mk 6:17-29 (634) Pss Prop

30 Thu Weekday green

1 Cor 1:1-9/Mt 24:42-51 (428)

31 Fri Weekday green

1 Cor 1:17-25/Mt 25:1-13 (429)

Source: <http://www.usccb.org/about/divine-worship/liturgical-calendar/upload/2018cal.pdf>

AMERICAN POLONIA CHRONICLE

Ladies and Gentlemen, our hardworking historians constantly enrich knowledge about our history, so let us match them with their diligence as readers and in disseminating this knowledge. Main source for timeline information from: <https://history.state.gov> ; <https://www.loc.gov/> ; www.dzieje.pl

966 - Apostolic Polonia over 1052 years

Freedom is not free and we should learn from history, not repeat it. The intent of this chronicle is to share our knowledge of unrecognized, unpublished, significantly revealing history of Poland and its persistent efforts to maintain peace and prosperity since its existence. The sinister motives and actions of Poland's invaders documented here is something we cannot – we must not allow to repeat – yet - it is happening again in front of our eyes. To enjoy freedom is to understand how precious and vulnerable it is, and how much sacrifice is required to protect it.

Polonia-The Most Serene Republic, which can fairly be characterized as the original United States of Europe, was a monarchy (pre-presidents) where elections were held without prejudice, where Eastern Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Protestants and other religions, lived harmoniously with the Catholics in a united, yet diverse and extremely prosperous kingdom. Known as the Respublica Serenissima (“The Most Serene Republic”), this Polish democracy existed for the longest in time in the world AND while maintaining the largest territory of land during its time where its citizens enjoyed the most privileges relative to other monarchies in Europe. The masses were able to vote, own land, veto decisions made by their monarchy, including decisions made by its king. This spirit was resident in any territorial merger by Polonia including Lithuania, under the treaty signed in 1413 stating “we sign this union out of love”, and the 1569 union treaty signing “free with free, equals with equals”. When German Cross Riders (aka Crusaders) accused Polonia for harboring pagans, the Council of Constance in 1414-1418 revealed Polonia's position that everyone had a right to self-govern and live in peace on property that they owned, and that one's religious faith or lack of faith should not be an excuse for war, nor can an emperor or Pope violate the rules of natural law, nor can a stronger entity force international policy and relations like a cancer.

Polonia was brought to life by Baptism on Easter Saturday 966 AD by the Catholic church with a call by Christ to the Apostolic Mission in order to exist as a nation. The result was a model Catholic state in accordance with the teaching of Christ that has survived 800 years. It was a country that evangelized many and carried charity, humanitarian and citizen rights long before they became international law. The Polish defended their Catholic model of the state without giving into schisms and foreign ideology. Popes rightly called Polonia a "Relic", our kings “Orthodoxorum” (orthodox) and our national uprisings - "Insurrections of Saints". Fearing the possibility that people in tyrannical countries neighboring Polonia would want the same progressive human and citizens rights, those countries (Prussia (German Teutonic State), Moscovia (Russia), Austria) created a criminal union over 200 years of constant war, and eventually succeeded - with the help of England, France, Turkey, Sweden, Habsburg - in conquering and erasing Polonia off the map in 1772, 1793, and finally in 1795 for over 146 years. Polonia was occupied by three tyrannical regimes during which its people were constantly subject to mass genocide. Many Polish citizens fled to save themselves or to prevent themselves from starvation and poverty. However, wherever the Polish migrated, they fought and struggled for freedom for all nations. Polish citizens contributed in freeing many countries including the United States from the sinister plans of British bankers to profit from slavery and the Civil War. Polonia's “Respublica Serenissima” directly inspired many members of the founding fathers of the United States into condemning the traditions of old tyrannies brought from Great Britain, France, Germany and others. It took almost hundred years for the United States to bring justice for all by to abolishing ancient tyrannical rules that were inherited from the rules of the colonial administration, including slavery mandated by the British in 1650, the persecution the Christian church, the repression and persecution of Catholics, the depravation of Native Americans, and the deletion of many human and civil rights for women. Polonians coined the term “In God We Trust” as a fight against tyrannical structure, along with the phrase “For Our Freedom and for Yours.” in order to protect everyone's values of “God, Honor and Homeland”. Studying the history of Poland makes one think how possible it would be to dismantle the United States. Love your country.

14 VIII 1018 Boleslaw the Brave Intervention in The Kievan Succession Crisis, 1018



Boleslaw the Brave – painting Jan Matejko.
Expedition To Kiev

According to Thietmar, the army of Boleslaw crossed the border in 1018 and reached Kiev later that same year. Little is known about the armies. Thietmar relates:

"Among those rendering assistance to the aforesaid duke, were three hundred of our warriors, five hundred Hungarians, and one thousand Pechenegs".

Polish historian Rafał Jaworski states that the estimates of the size of Boleslaw's army range between 2,000–5,000 Polish warriors, in addition to Thietmar's reported 1,000 Pechenegs, 300 German knights, and 500 Hungarian mercenaries. Less is known about Yaroslav's army, but it is assumed that he managed to collect a force of similar size. It is also believed that he was aware of Boleslaw's intentions and had time to make defensive preparations.

The narrative of Boleslaw's invasion is almost entirely dependent upon the account of Thietmar:

"We may not keep silent regarding the sad and harmful events that occurred in Russia. For, on our advice, Boleslav attacked it with a large army and caused much destruction. On July 22, the duke came up to a certain river, where he ordered his army to set up camp and separate the necessary bridges. Also camped near the river, along with his army, was the king of the Russians."

Probably after concentrating his forces during June, in July Bolesław led his troops to the border - the banks of the Southern Bug River, near one of the settlements of the Volhynia region. In the meantime, Bolesław's Pecheneg allies approached Kiev, forcing Yaroslav to detach a part of his forces to ensure the safety of his capital. According to Jaworski, Yaroslav, in turn, wanted to prevent Bolesław from uniting with the Pechenegs, defeat Bolesław's main force and then take care of the less organized Pechenegs.

The two armies met on opposite banks of the River Bug. Yaroslav's forces may have take position with archers covering the crossing points. Bolesław seems to have taken his time, allowing his army to rest, and started work on makeshift bridges. The Battle of the River Bug finally occurred around July 23.

Thietmar's near-contemporary account offered the following:

The Poles provoked the enemy into fighting and, with unexpected success, drove them from the river bank which they were supposed to defend. Elated by this news, Boleslav hastily notified his companions and quickly cross the river although not without effort. In contrast, the hostile army, drawn up in battle formation, vainly attempted to defend its homeland. It collapsed at the first attack, however, and failed to mount any effective resistance. Among those who fled, many were killed, but only a few of the victors were lost. On our side, the dead included Erich, an illustrious knight whom our emperor had long held in chains. From that day on, with

every success, Boleslav drove the scattered enemies before him; and the whole populace received and honoured him with many gifts.

According to the later Chronicle of Polish Dukes by Gallus, the battle occurred by accident: When Bolesław decided to throw a feast to boost his army's morale, Yaroslav's archers and scouts decided to create trouble for the Polish servants who were gutting the animals and preparing them near the river. However, they only annoyed them enough that the servants themselves crossed the relatively shallow river and chased away Yaroslav's surprised troops, who had been guarding the river. Bolesław learned of the skirmish sooner than Yaroslav, and managed to move most of his army across the river, defeating the surprised Yaroslav.

The Russian Primary Chronicle gives a different version of events, in which both armies were combat ready and separated by the river before Bolesław, enraged by insults from across the river, charged with his army, surprising Yaroslav and scattering his forces. All accounts agree that the Polish prince was victorious in the battle. Yaroslav retreated north to Novgorod, rather than to Kiev - likely suspecting that he lacked enough strength to defend Kiev, which was besieged by the Pechenegs and had a significant pro-Sviatopolk faction within its walls. Nestor notes that after reaching Novgorod, Yaroslav attempted to flee "overseas" in hopes of coming back with a Varangian force, but according to the Primary Chronicle, the citizens of Novgorod pressured him to lead the fight back to Bolesław and Sviatopolk.

Source:
http://www.liquisearch.com/boleslaw_is_intervention_in_the_kievan_succession_crisis_1018/expedition_to_kiev

16 VIII 1264 the Duke of Greater Polonia Boleslaus the Pious gives The General Charter of Jewish Liberties known as the Statute of Kalisz

The General Charter of Jewish Liberties known as the Statute of Kalisz, and as the Kalisz Privilege, was issued by the Duke of Greater Polonia Boleslaus the Pious on August 16, 1264 in Kalisz.

The statute granted Jews unprecedented legal rights in Europe, including exclusive jurisdiction over Jewish matters to Jewish courts, and established a separate tribunal for other criminal matters involving Christians and Jews.

The statute was ratified by subsequent Polish Kings: Casimir III of Polonia in 1334, Casimir IV of Polonia in 1453, and Sigismund I of Polonia in 1539.

Excerptps

Following are abridged and translated excerpts from the thirty-six clauses of the Statute of Kalisz:[1]

1. ...Should a Jew be taken to court, not just only a Christian must testify against him, but also a Jew, in order for the case to be considered valid.

2. ... If any Christian shall sue a Jew, asserting that he has pawned securities with him, and the Jew denies it, then if the Christian refuses to accept the simple word of the Jew, the Jew by taking oath must be free of the Christian.

10. ... As punishment for killing a Jew, a suitable punishment and confiscation of property is necessary.

11. ... For striking a Jew, the usual punishment in the country shall apply.

13. ... Jews shall not pay for the transport of their dead.

14. Christian destroying cemetery except normal penalty will lose assets.

17. ...Any Jew may freely and securely walk or ride without any let or hindrance in our realm. They shall pay customary tolls just as other Christians do, and nothing else.

22. ... If any of the Christians rashly and presumptuously jeers at their synagogues, such a Christian shall be required to pay and must pay to our palatine their guardian two talents of pepper as punishment.



30. ... No Christian may summon any Jew into the ecclesiastical court in any way whatsoever, or for whatever property or summons he be summoned, nor shall the Jew make answer before the judge in the ecclesiastical court, but the Jew shall appear before his palatine appointed for that term, and furthermore the aforesaid palatine, along with our governor for that term, shall be required to defend and protect that Jew, and prohibit his responding to the summons of the ecclesiastical court. No Christian is to accuse a Jew of blood libel.

36. ... Jews are allowed to purchase any items, as well as to touch bread and other food.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statute_of_Kalisz

STATUT KALISKI DLA ŻYDÓW Z 1264 ROKU illustrated by Artur Szyk

Jews in Polonia

The First Jews in Polonia

The date of the arrival of the first Jews onto Polish soil is unknown. Ibrahim ibn Jakub (a Jewish traveler, merchant and diplomat from Tortosa, Spain) in the account of his journey in 965, mentioned Krakow and wrote of his first historic Duke of Polonia, Mieszko I. The author of these historically valuable notes was certainly not the only Jew to travel through the Piast lands. Some settled here permanently with their families to make their livelihoods through commerce and the crafts. In later times, banished from many countries, victims of social and religious upheavals, intolerance, and persecution, Jews looked to Polonia for asylum and here they found it.

Polish dukes and kings, such as Boleslaw Pobożny (1221-1279) and Kazimierz Wielki (1310-1370), appreciated their talents and thus granted them privileges and conditions for a peaceful life. Boleslaw Pobożny's Charter of Kalisz (1264) guaranteed full security for Jews, their communities, and property.

Accounts have survived of the "Rhodans", citizens of the cities in the Rhne River valley in Switzerland and France. Jewish traderstraveled to the countries of Eastern Europe with their wares. Many remained on Polish lands. They founded staging points for traveling Jews; many occupied themselves with commerce and crafts. Refugees from one powerful Khazar Empire located between the Volga and the Don Rivers, smashed in 965, wandered to the lands of Polonia and settled here permanently. The religion practiced by the Khazars, a tribe of Turkish origin, was Judaism because Jewish traders had been responsible for their conversion. A third group consisted of Orient Jews who came from the Near East.

The major influx of Jews into Polonia took place between the 12th and 15th centuries. This was the period when the Crusades and the Holy Inquisition led to the persecutions of Jews in the countries of Western Europe and their subsequent wandering eastwards in search for asylum. They found the protection and tolerance they sought in Polonia, a country which was, at that time, poorly developed and in need of merchants and craftsmen.

Polish Jewish Life

Polonia became host over time to the largest concentration of Jews in Europe and the most potent hub for Jewish culture as well. Polonia became home to primarily the Ashkenazi (Jews from Central and Eastern Europe), and the Sephardi (Southern European Jews including refugees from 15th century Spain and Portugal). There existed a diversity of various religious and cultural currents, from Chassidim (a movement for religious renewal in Polonia as Podolia (now the Ukraine) under the leadership of the legendary Baal-szem-tov (born 1700) all the way through progressive movements of the Enlightenment - the Maskilim (proponents of assimilation).

Jews in Polonia's Development

A major role in the industrialization of the nation was played by eminent group of Jewish entrepreneurs, bankers, industrialists, and

merchants. Many well known families - the Kronenbergs, Natansons, Epsteins, Toeplitzes, Wawelbergs, Rotwands, Fajanses, Reichmans - initiated, organized, and developed many fields of economic and cultural life. Jews were in the vanguard of modern banking, industry (including the sugar refining, textile, paper, and mechanical), commerce, export-import trade, and transportation (the construction of railway lines and river traffic on the Vistula). The Wawelbergs and Rotwands, for example, founded one of the first polytechnic colleges on Polish soil.

Jews and Polish Culture

Jewish citizens were prominent in the fields of publishing, photography and motion pictures.

Jews were also active in such fields as music and the fine arts. The well known composers, Adam Muncheimer and Ludwik Grossman, directed the Warsaw Opera for a time during the 19th century. The primary founder of the Warsaw Philharmonic (opened in 1901) was Aleksander Reichman, while its acclaimed director for many years during the period between the two World Wars was Grzegorz Fitelbe. Numerous Jews, both writers and poets, left their distinct mark on the history of Polish literature (Julian Tuwim, Boleslaw Lesmian, Antoni Slonimski, Mieczyslaw Jastrun, Włodzimierz Słobodnik, Arnold Ślucki, Jan Brzechwa (a favorite poet of Polish children), Stanisław Jerzy Lec, Anatol Stern, Janusz Korczak, Bruno Schulz and others) made notable contribution to Polish literature. In the world of art, many famous names are the Seidenbeutel twins, the Gotliebs, Maurycy Trebacz, Roman Kramsztyk, Artur Szyk, Leopold Pilichowski, and Marek Włodarski as well as renown sculptors Abraham Ostrzega and Henryk Kuna. Their works may be viewed in countless Polish and foreign museums, as well as in the Jewish Museum of the Historical Institute of Warsaw.

Jewish Culture

A unique Jewish culture blossomed in pre-World War II Polonia. Eminent writers and poets Icchak Lejb Perek, Szalom Alejchem, Szalom Asz, and Hirsz Dawid Nomberg created classic works. Jewish schools, both secular and religious, existed in Polonia. The YIVO (Jidiszer Wissenszaftlecher Institute) Scientific Institute was based in Wilno before transferring to New York during the war. The Main Judaic Library and the Institute of Judaic Studies are located in Warsaw in what is now the Jewish Historical Institute Building. Religious centers had at their disposal Talmudic Schools (Jeszybots), as well as synagogues, many of which are architecturally outstanding.

Jews in the Battle for Polish Independence

Jews actively participated in the national uprisings which took place on Polish lands. A colonel of the Polish Army, Berek Joselewicz, formed a Jewish cavalry regiment in 1794 which took part in the Kosciuszko Insurrection. The Colonel was killed during the battle of Kock in 1809. Jews were represented in the November Insurrection (1830 - 1831), the January Insurrection (1863), as well as in the revolutionary movement of 1905. Many Polish Jews were enlisted in the Legions, commanded by JOZEF Piłsudski, which fought for the independence finally achieved in 1918. About 100,000 Jewish soldiers found themselves in the ranks of the Polish Army at the start of World War II in September of 1939. Many were killed and wounded on the battlefield. For the duration of the war,

many Jews were in the Polish Armed Forces in the West, in the Polish People's Army formed in the Soviet Union, as well as in civilian resistance movements and guerrilla detachments. Many lost their lives or were wounded; very many received the highest combat distinctions.

Social and Political Life

During the period between the two World Wars, Jews accounted for 10% of Polonia's population of 33,00,000. The Jewish community developed many social and cultural organizations, and political parties including the left-wing Bund, and the Poalej Syjon, the Communists, as well as the Zionists, the orthodox "Mizrachi" and the "Agudas Izrael".

There were also the Folksists (People's Party), groups favoring

assimilation, as well as many vigorous trade unions. The interests of Jews in Polonia were represented by politicians and leaders with seats in the Sejm or the Senate, as well as in municipal councils and in Jewish religious communities. The interests of Polish Jewry were also served by the potent and well developed Jewish press published in Yiddish, Hebrew, and Polish. There were about thirty dailies and over 130 Jewish periodicals in circulation just prior to the outbreak of the war in 1939; these figures do not include the publications of the many small provincial towns throughout the nation.

<http://www.info.kalisz.pl/statut/jewsinpl.htm>

9 VIII 1382 Founding the monastery to the Pauline Fathers in Czeszochowa by Duke Ladislaus Dei Gracia Dux Opoliensis Wieloniensis et Terre Russie Domin et Heres



The origin of this miraculous image in Czeszochowa, Polonia is unknown for absolute certainty, but according to tradition the painting was a portrait of Our Lady done by St. John sometime after the Crucifixion of Our Lord and remained in the Holy Land until discovered by St. Helena of the Cross in the fourth century. The painting was taken to Constantinople, where St. Helena's son, the Emperor Constantine, erected a church for its enthronement. This image was revered by the people of the city.

During the siege by the Saracens, the invaders became frightened when the people carried the picture in a procession around the city; the infidels fled. Later, the image was threatened with burning by an evil emperor, who had a wife, Irene, who saved it and hid it from harm. The image was in that city for 500 years, until it became part of some dowries, eventually being taken to Russia to a region that later became Polonia.

After the portrait became the possession of the Polish prince, St. Ladislaus in the 15th century, it was installed in his castle. Tartar invaders besieged the castle and an enemy arrow pierced Our Lady's image, inflicting a scar. Interestingly, repeated attempts to fix the image, artistically have all failed.

Tradition says that St. Ladislaus determined to save the image from repeated invasions, so he went to his birthplace, Opala, stopping for rest in Czeszochowa; the image was brought nearby to Jasna Gora ["bright hill"] and placed in a small wooden church named for the Assumption. The following morning, after the picture was carefully placed in the wagon, the horses refused to move. **St. Ladislaus understood this to be a sign from Heaven that the image should stay in Czeszochowa; thus he replaced the painting in the Church of the Assumption, August 26, 1382, a day still observed as the Feast Day of the painting.** The Saint wished to have

the holiest of men guard the painting, so he assigned the church and (*founded*) the monastery to the Pauline Fathers, who have devoutly protected the image for the last six hundred years.

Having survived two attacks upon it, Our Lady's image was next imperiled by the Hussites, followers of the heretic priest, John Hus from Prague. The Hussites did

not accept papal authority as coming from Christ and taught that mortal sin deprived an office holder of his position, among other heresies. Hus had been influenced by John Wyclif and became infected with his errors. Hus was tried and condemned at Constance in 1415. The Hussites successfully stormed the Pauline monastery in 1430, plundering the sanctuary. Among the items stolen was the image. After putting it in their wagon, the Hussites went a little ways but then the horses refused to go any further. Recalling the former incident that was so similar, the heretics threw the portrait down to the ground, which shattered the image into three pieces. One of the plunderers drew his sword and slashed the image twice, causing two deep gashes; while attempting a third gash, he was overcome with a writhing agony and died.

The two slashes on the cheek of the Blessed Virgin, together with the one on the throat, not readily visible in our copy, have always reappeared after artistic attempts to fix them. The portrait again faced danger in 1655 by a Swedish horde of 12,000, which confronted the 300 men guarding the image. The band of 300 routed the 12,000 and the following year, the Holy Virgin was acclaimed Queen of Polonia.

In September 14, 1920, when the Russian army assembled at the River Vistula, in preparation for invading Warsaw, the Polish people prayed to Our Lady. the next day was the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. The Russians quickly withdrew after the image appeared in the clouds over Warsaw. In Polish history, this is known as the Miracle of Vistula.

During the Nazi occupation of Polonia in World War II, Hitler order all religious pilgrimages stopped. In a demonstration of love for Our Lady



and their confidence in her protection, a half million Poles went to the sanctuary in defiance of Hitler's orders. Following the liberation of Polonia in 1945, a million and a half people expressed their gratitude to the Madonna by praying before this miraculous image.

Twenty-eight years after the Russian's first attempt at capturing the city, they successfully took control of Warsaw and the entire nation in 1948. That year more than 800,000 brave Poles made a

pilgrimage to the sanctuary at Czeszochowa on the Feast of the Assumption, one of the three Feast days of the image; the pilgrims had to pass by the Communist soldiers who patrolled the streets.



Today, the Polish people continue to honor their beloved portrait of the Madonna and Child, especially on August 26, the day reserved by St. Ladislaus. Because of the dark pigment on Our Lady's face and hands, the image is affectionately called the "Black Madonna," most beautifully prefigured in the Bible, in the Canticle of Canticles, "I am black but beautiful." The pigmentation is ascribed primarily to age and the need to keep it hidden for long periods of time in places where the only light was from candles, which colored the painting with smoke.

The miracles attributed to Our Lady of Czestochowa are many and most spectacular. The original accounts of them, some of them cures, are archived by the Pauline Fathers at Jasna Gora.

Papal recognition of the miraculous image was made by Pope Clement XI in 1717. The crown given to the image was used in the first official coronation of the painting, which was stolen in 1909.

Pope Pius X replaced it with a gold one encrusted with jewels.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

23 VIII 1572 St. Bartholomew's Day execution of Huguenots



Massacre on the night of Saint. Bartłomiej [Hogenberg, Franz; Artist.] Early picture of the massacre on St. Bartholomew. Engraving, 10 3/4 x 14 inches; A modern printed inscription mounted above the image. For example, around 1572

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org>

Jozef Pelczar wrote about Calvin: "The Kolb historian rightly said that" Calvin wanted to change the whole land into a gloomy and cold penitentiary ". Calvin's followers always breathed religious fanaticism, a symptom of which was the murder of Catholics in France and Holland³. The anti-royal policy of the Huguenots (French followers of Calvinism) led to a long-lasting cruel civil war in which - before the night of Saint. Bartholomew in 1572 - the Huguenots prided themselves on demolishing 20,000 churches, 2009 monasteries and 9 hospitals, murdering about 4 thousand monks and a rape of almost 2 thousand nuns. The slaughter during the marriage of Princess Margaret and Henryk of Navarra was an

6 VIII 1711 First pilgrimage to Jasna Gora Monastery, Częstochowa

The Monastery of Jasna Góra in Częstochowa, Polonia, is the third-largest Catholic pilgrimage site in the world. Home to the beloved miraculous icon of Our Lady of Częstochowa, the monastery is also the national shrine of Polonia and the center of Polish Catholicism.

History of Jasna Gora Monastery

According to tradition, the icon of Jasna Góra was painted by Luke the Evangelist on a tabletop built by Jesus himself, and the icon was

[TO BE SAID EACH DAY UPON ARISING]

HOLY MOTHER of Czestochowa, Thou art full of grace, goodness and mercy. I consecrate to Thee all my thoughts, words and actions----my soul and body. I beseech Thy blessings and especially prayers for my salvation.

Today, I consecrate myself to Thee, Good Mother, totally ----with body and soul amid joy and sufferings to obtain for myself and others Thy blessings on this earth and eternal life in Heaven. Amen.

Imprimatur: Cardinal O' Boyle, Washington, DC

Source: <http://www.catholictradition.org/Mary/czesto.htm>

Pictures: Ducal seal Ladislaus Dei Gracia Dux Opoliensis Wieloniensis et Terre Russie Domin et Heres (ca. 1387) and

Vladislaus depicted in a 17th-century mosaic

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vladislaus_II_of_Opole

Day execution of Huguenots

act of political revenge, for which - as Józef Pelczar correctly writes - "the Church is not responsible".

Killing around, as some claim, 100,000 Protestants in 1572 in France, which began on St. Bartholomew is often called a crime of Catholics and it is said that it was a planned crime and the Pope agreed to it. The truth is that this was not planned, the Pope did not give his consent to it, and many less people died.

The Protestants' slaughter was a reaction to their crimes, which is nowadays mostly silent. In order to understand what happened and why this happened, we need to learn more about the relations that prevailed then. In the sixteenth century, the Calvinist branch of Protestantism developed very much in France. Her supporters were called huguons. They constituted a small part of the French society, but a significant part of the nobility. Huge monies remained in the hands of the Huguenots. It can not be said, as some say, that they acted moderately.

In 1560, in Amboise, their leaders Conde and Coligny organized a riot during which over 1,000 people were killed. A year later, the Huugolites devastated 60 churches and monasteries in Montpellier and murdered 150 priests and monks there. The reaction of Catholics was also violent, and so long-lasting wars began, in which both sides committed cruelty.

In 1572, peace was established between these camps. The reason for this was getting married by one of the Huguen chiefs, Henr of Navarra with Margaret Medici, sister of King Charles IX. It strengthened the hugonots. It also strengthened the position of their main leader, Coligny, who became a member of the royal council and wanted to take control of the weak king. He demanded that the king conduct a war with Spain, threatening that the Huguenots would start a war against him.(...)

Author: Peter Bielik - "Against the Church - counterfeiters of the truth-left-masons"

Source: <http://www.traditia.fora.pl/historia,41/noc-sw-bartlomieja-fragmenty-ksiazki-petera-bielika,12670.html>

discovered by St. Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine and collector of Christian relics in the Holy Land. The icon was then

enshrined in the imperial city of Constantinople, according to the legend, where it remained for the next 500 years.

In 803, the painting is said to have been given as a wedding gift from the Byzantine emperor to a Greek princess, who married a Ruthenian

nobleman. The image was then placed in the royal palace at Belz, where it remained for nearly 600 years.

History first combines with tradition upon the icon's arrival in Polonia in 1382 with a Polish army fleeing the Tartars, who had struck it with an arrow.

Legend has it that during the looting of Belz, a mysterious cloud enveloped the chapel containing the image. A monastery was founded in Częstochowa to enshrine the icon in 1386, and soon King Jagiello built a cathedral around the chapel containing the icon.

However, the image soon came under attack once again. In 1430, Hussites (pre-Reformation reformers) attacked the monastery, slashed the Virgin's face with a sword, and left it desecrated in a puddle of blood and mud.

It is said that when the monks pulled the icon from the mud, a miraculous fountain appeared, which they used to clean the painting. The icon was repainted in Krakow, but both the arrow mark and the gashes from the sword were left and remain clearly visible today.

The miracle for which the Black Madonna of Częstochowa is most famous occurred in 1655, when Swedish troops were about to invade Częstochowa. A group of Polish soldiers prayed fervently before the icon for deliverance, and the enemy retreated. In 1656, King John Casimir declared Our Lady of Częstochowa "Queen of Polonia" and made the city the spiritual capital of the nation.

The Virgin again came to the aid of her people in 1920, when the Soviet Russian Red Army gathered on the banks of the Vistula River, preparing to attack Warsaw. The citizens and soldiers fervently prayed to Our Lady of Częstochowa, and on September 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, she appeared in the clouds above Warsaw. The Russians were defeated in a series of battles later dubbed the "Miracle at the Vistula."

During Nazi occupation, Hitler prohibited pilgrimages to Jasna Góra, but many still secretly made the journey. In 1945, after Polonia was liberated, half a million pilgrims journeyed to Częstochowa to express their



gratitude. On September 8, 1946, 1.5 million people gathered at the shrine to rededicate the entire nation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. During the Cold War, Jasna Góra was a center of anti-Communist resistance. Pope John Paul II, a native of Polonia, was a fervent devotee of the Virgin Mary and of her icon at Częstochowa. As pope, he made pilgrimages to pray before the Black Madonna in 1979, 1983, 1991, and 1997. In 1991, he held his Sixth World Youth Day at Czetochowa, which was attended by 350,000 young people from across Europe.

Other popes have honored the "Queen of Polonia" as well. Pope Clement XI officially recognized the miraculous nature of the image in 1717 and in 1925 Pope Pius XI designated May 3 a feast day in her honor. Pope Benedict XVI visited the shrine on May 26, 2006.

What to See at Jasna Gora Monastery

The large baroque monastery of Jasna Góra dominates a hilltop in Częstochowa and is always bustling with pilgrims and worshippers. As pilgrims approach the monastery, the most striking sight is the 106-meter belltower, reconstructed in 1906 (the bottom part dates from 1714).

The second level contains four clocks, one on each side, that mark the passage of each 15 minutes with Marian melodies. Inside the third level are statues of St. Paul the Hermit, St. Florian, St. Casimir and the Saint-Queen Hedvig; the fifth level has statues of the church fathers St. Leo the Great, St. Gregory, St. Augustine and St. Ambrose.

The focus of pilgrims to Jasna Góra is not the monastery, but the icon of Our Lady of Częstochowa, which is displayed in a altar in the Chapel of the Black Madonna. The icon shows a serious Mary holding the infant Jesus on her left arm and gesturing towards him with her right hand. The Virgin's gaze is intense —pilgrims are moved by the way she seems to look right at them.

The Virgin's robe and mantle are decorated with lilies, the symbol of the Hungarian royal family. The infant Jesus is dressed in a red tunic and holds a Bible in his left hand and makes a gesture of blessing with his right. The Virgin and Child are dressed in bejeweled velvet robes and gold crowns for special occasions.

The image has been placed in a gold frame decorated with hundreds of precious jewels, and stands on an altar of ebony and silver donated by the Grand Chancellor George Ossoliński in 1650.

The altar with the icon is separated from the rest of the Chapel of the Black Madonna with a floor-to-ceiling iron screen. The large Gothic chapel includes five other altars, the most notable of which is the Altar of the Crucifix, to the right of the icon. Its cross dates from 1400. The walls of the chapel are full of ex-votos left by grateful pilgrims.

Attached to the Chapel of the Black Madonna is the baroque basilica, named the Church of the Holy Cross and Nativity of Mary. Rebuilt between 1692 and 1695, it has three aisles and ceilings decorated with accounts of the miracles of Our Lady of Częstochowa. The main altar was designed by the Italian artist Giacomo Antonio Buzzini between 1725 and 1728.

The monastery's treasury is a rich storehouse of votive offerings given to the Black Madonna over the centuries, from the 14th century to the



present. Gifts range from swords and scepters to rosaries made of dried bread in concentration camps.

Kings, queens and popes have donated a vast array of precious objects, such as King Michael Korybut Wiśniowiecki and the Archduchess

Eleanor of Austria on the occasion of their wedding in Jasna Góra in 1670. Also donated to the Virgin are tear-gas cylinders used by the Communists against Solidarity protestors in the 1980s, and the Nobel Peace Prize won by Lech Walesa in 1983.

There is also a richly decorated library housing precious manuscripts. Since 1920, the library has hosted the meetings of the Polish Episcopal Conference.

Around the perimeter of the basilica, where the moat once was, are the 14 Stations of the Cross represented by bronze statues sculpted by Pius Weloński in 1913. Nearly every pilgrim group prays at the Stations of the Cross; some move from one station to the next on their knees.

Pilgrimages and Festivals

Every day, from early in the morning to late in the evening, a steady stream of pilgrims approaches the shrine of Częstochowa via the tree-lined main avenue. The groups leave a few hundred feet in between them, so as not to disturb the others as they pray the rosary and sing hymns. Young men carry batteries and speakers to lead the singing.

Pilgrims wear badges with the name of their town and a number showing how many times they have come on pilgrimage to Częstochowa — many have come every year for decades. After venerating the icon in the Chapel of the Black Madonna, pilgrims usually pin their badges to the walls as a votive offering.

As the national shrine of Polonia, Częstochowa attracts delegations from all walks of life. Government leaders visit regularly; and students,

veterans, miners, actors, former Stalinist prisoners, and factory workers arrive on organized pilgrimages.

The preferred days to make the pilgrimage to Częstochowa are Marian feast days, especially the Feast of the Assumption on August 15. On this day, up to 500,000 people crowd the city. Since 1711, a pilgrimage has left Warsaw and 32 other towns and walked in procession to Częstochowa for up to 21 days.

Four other national pilgrimage days bring throngs of visitors: the Feast of Mary, Queen of Polonia (May 3); the Feast of Our Lady of Częstochowa (August 26); the Feast of the Nativity of Mary (September 8); and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8).

Getting There

Częstochowa is located in south central Polonia and is easily accessible from major cities. There are about six daily fast trains from Warsaw and Krakow, hourly departures from Katowice, and several daily trains from Lodz, Opole and Wroclaw. From the train station, you can take a bus or taxi to the shrine. By car from Krakow, take 4/E40 west to Katowice, and 1/E75 north to Częstochowa; from Warsaw, take 8/E67 then 1/E75 south to Częstochowa.

Source: <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/Polonia/czestochowa-jasna-gora>

Picture source:

<http://www.dziennikzachodni.pl/wiadomosci/czestochowa/a/pielgrzymki-do-czestochowy-patnicy-ruszaja-w-droge,12188221/>

8 VIII 1747 Opening The Załuski Library (Polish: Biblioteka Załuskich, Latin: Bibliotheca Zalusciana)



Załuski Library's original home: now "House of the Kings" (dom Pod Królami),

Architect Francesco Antonio Melana (1736-1745)

The Załuski Library (Polish: Biblioteka Załuskich, Latin: Bibliotheca Zalusciana) was built in Warsaw in 1747–1795 by Józef Andrzej Załuski and his brother, Andrzej Stanisław Załuski, both Roman Catholic bishops.

The library was the first Polish public library, the largest library in Polonia, and one of the earliest public libraries in Europe.[1][2]

After the Kościuszko Uprising (1794), Russian troops, acting on orders from Czarina Catherine II, seized the library's holdings and transported them to her personal collection at Saint Petersburg, where a year later it formed the cornerstone of the newly founded Imperial Public Library.[2] In the 1920s the government of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic returned some of the former Załuski Library holdings to the recently established Second Polish Republic thanks to the Treaty of Riga. These holdings were deliberately destroyed by German troops during the planned destruction of Warsaw in October 1944, following the collapse of the Warsaw Uprising.[2][3]

The Załuski Library was considered the first Polish public library[6] and one of the largest libraries in the contemporary world.[2] In all of Europe there were only two or three libraries that could boast such holdings.[7] The library initially held some 200,000 items, which grew to some 400,000 printed items, maps and manuscripts[2][8] by the end of the 1780s. It also accumulated a collection of art, scientific instruments, and plant and animal specimens.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Za%C5%82uski_Library

5 VIII 1772 First secret act of extermination of Polonia signed in Petersburg by: Russia, Prussia and Austria

*Semantical correction: the word “partition” should be replaced by **extermination** to give the truth about the tragedy that happened to Polonia.*

Picture: Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth partition after the First Partition as protectorate of the Russian Empire (1773–1789)

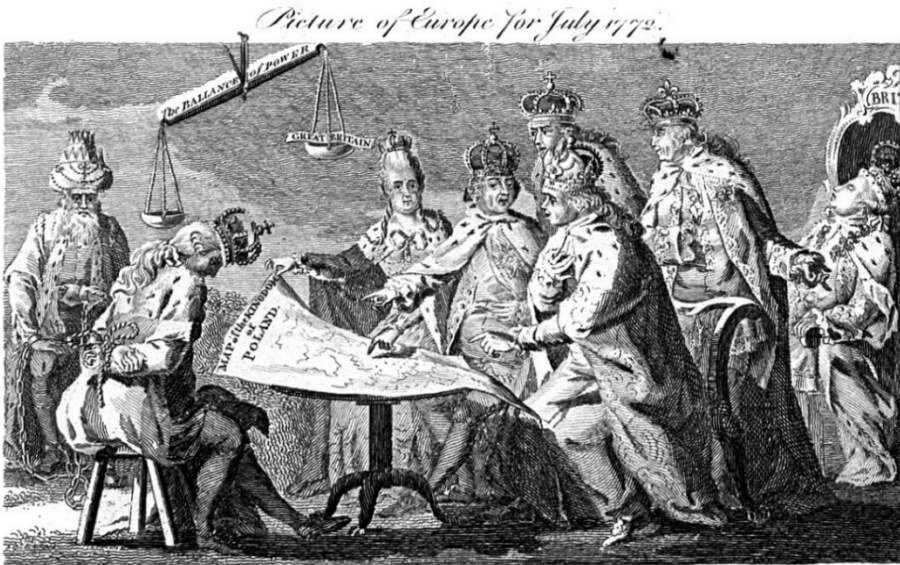
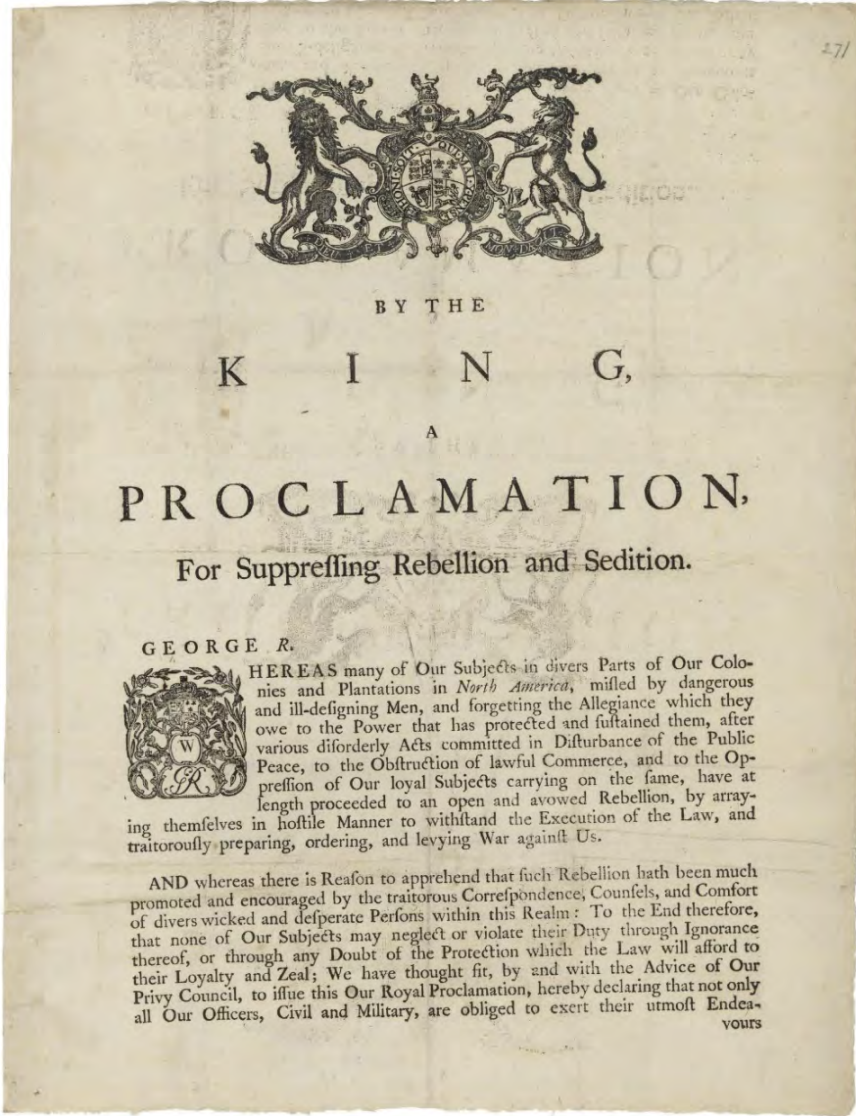
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Partition_of_Polonia

POLONIA, PARTITIONS OF. The partitions of Polonia, which ought to be known as the partitions of Polonia-Lithuania, saw the removal from the map of one of Europe's largest states at the end of the eighteenth century (1772–1773, 1793, 1795). Executed by the Austrian, Prussian, and Russian monarchies, the causes and dynamics of the partitions have been the subject of debate in both Polish and European historiography. The



Commonwealth of Polonia-Lithuania had existed in dynastic union since 1385 under the Union of Krewo and in constitutional union since the Union of Lublin in 1569. However, the eighteenth century had seen the

22 VIII 1775 King George III officially declares a state of open rebellion in the American colonies



Commonwealth beset by problems, including the Great Northern War with Sweden (1700–1721), the War of the Polish Succession (1733–1738), and increasing international intervention in Polish and Lithuanian affairs. After the death of Augustus III (1696–1763; ruled 1734–1763; elected to the Polish-Lithuanian throne at Russian behest), Stanisław Augustus Poniatowski (1732–1798; ruled 1764–1795), the former lover of Empress Catherine the Great (1729–1796; ruled 1762–1796) of Russia, was elected king in September 1764.

Source: <https://www.encyclopedia.com/history/modern-europe/polish-history/partitions-Polonia>

Drawing: Picture of Europe for July 1772, satirical British plate

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Partition_of_Polonia

"By the King, A Proclamation, For Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition"; Papers of the Continental Congress- 1774-1789, Item 152, Letters from Gen. George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Army, 1775-84, vol 1., p. 271; Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention; Record Group 360; National Archives Following the outbreak of armed conflict at Lexington and Concord in the spring of 1775, King George III of England issued this proclamation on August 23, 1775. It stated that the colonies stood in open rebellion to his authority and were subject to severe penalty, as was any British subject who failed to report the knowledge of rebellion or conspiracy. This document literally transformed loyal subjects into traitorous rebels.

Source: <https://www.archives.gov/historical-docs/todays-doc/?dod-date=823>

3 VIII 1777 Siege of Fort Stanwix

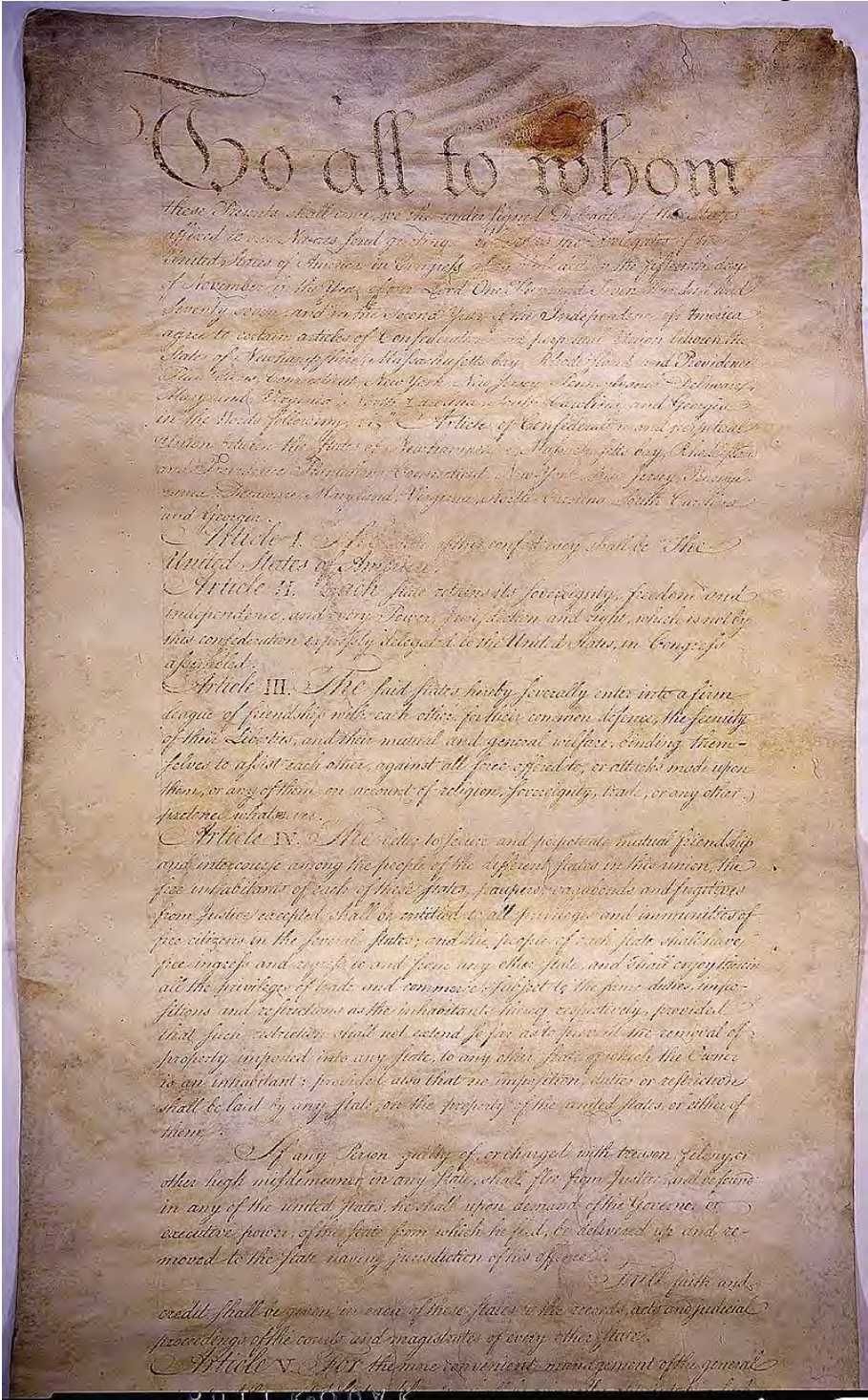
For thousands of years the ancient trail that connects the Mohawk River and Wood Creek served as a vital link for people traveling between the Atlantic Ocean and Lake Ontario. Travelers used this well-worn route through Oneida Indian territory to carry trade goods and news, as well as diseases, to others far away. When Europeans arrived they called this trail the Oneida Carrying Place and inaugurated a significant period in American history--a period when nations fought for control of not only the Oneida Carrying Place, but the Mohawk Valley, the homelands of the Six Nations Confederacy, and the rich resources of North America as well. In this struggle Fort Stanwix would play a vital role.

Known as "the fort that never surrendered," Fort Stanwix, under the command of Col. Peter Gansevoort, successfully repelled a prolonged siege, in August 1777, by British, German, Loyalist, Canadian, and

American Indian troops and warriors commanded by British Gen. Barry St. Leger. The failed siege combined with the battles at Oriskany, Bennington, and Saratoga thwarted a coordinated effort by the British in 1777, under the leadership of Gen. John Burgoyne, to take the northern colonies, and led to American alliances with France and the Netherlands. Troops from Fort Stanwix also participated in the 1779 Clinton-Sullivan Campaign and protected America's northwest frontier from British campaigns until finally being abandoned in 1781.
Title: A Brief History of Fort Stanwix NM
Description: Timeline of Fort Stanwix History and Events
Select Events:
265453,265455,265458,265460,265463,265467,265465,265469,265471,265475,265477,266846,266840,266844,266842,266848,266851,269777
Event Selector: 1

Source: <https://www.nps.gov/fost/learn/historyculture/index.htm>

8 VIII 1778 New Hampshire to ratify the Articles of Confederation



The Articles of Confederation
Agreed to by Congress November 15, 1777; ratified and in force, March 1, 1781.

Preamble
To all to whom these Presents shall come, we the undersigned Delegates of the States affixed to our Names send greeting.

Whereas the Delegates of the United States of America in Congress assembled did on the fifteenth day of November in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy seven, and in the Second Year of the Independence of America, agree to certain articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts-bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, in the words following, viz:

Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts-bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Article I. The Stile of this Confederacy shall be "The United States of America."

Article II. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every Power, Jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

Article III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretense whatever.

Article IV. The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different States in this union, the free inhabitants of each of these States, paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several States; and the people of each State shall have free ingress and regress to and from any other State, and shall enjoy therein all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions, and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided that such restrictions shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of property imported into any State, to any other State, of which the owner is an inhabitant; provided also that no imposition, duties or restriction shall be laid by any State, on the property of the united States, or either of them.

If any person guilty of, or charged with, treason, felony, or other high misdemeanor in any State, shall flee from justice, and be found in any of the united States, he shall, upon demand of the Governor or executive power of the State from which he fled, be delivered up and removed to the State having jurisdiction of his offense.

Full faith and credit shall be given in each of these States to the records, acts, and judicial proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other State.

Article V. For the most convenient management of the general interests of the united States, delegates shall be annually appointed in such manner as the legislatures of each State shall direct, to meet in Congress on the first Monday in November, in every year, with a power reserved to each State to recall its delegates, or any of them, at any time within the year, and to send others in their stead for the remainder of the year.

No State shall be represented in Congress by less than two, nor more than seven members; and no person shall be capable of being a delegate for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person, being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the united States, for which he, or another for his benefit, receives any salary, fees or emolument of any kind.

Each State shall maintain its own delegates in a meeting of the States, and while they act as members of the committee of the States.

In determining questions in the united States, in Congress assembled, each State shall have one vote.

Freedom of speech and debate in Congress shall not be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of Congress, and the members of Congress shall be protected in their persons from arrests or imprisonments, during the time of their going to and from, and attendance on Congress, except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace.

Article VI. No State, without the consent of the united States in Congress assembled, shall send any embassy to, or receive any embassy from, or enter into any conference, agreement, alliance or treaty with any King, Prince or State; nor shall any person holding any office of profit or trust under the united States, or any of them, accept any present, emolument, office or title of any kind whatever from any King, Prince or foreign State;

nor shall the United States in congress assembled, or any of them, grant any title of nobility.

No two or more States shall enter into any treaty, confederation or alliance whatever between them, without the consent of the united States in congress assembled, specifying accurately the purposes for which the same is to be entered into, and how long it shall continue.

No State shall lay any imposts or duties, which may interfere with any stipulations in treaties, entered into by the united States in congress assembled, with any King, Prince or State, in pursuance of any treaties already proposed by congress, to the courts of France and Spain.

No vessel of war shall be kept up in time of peace by any State, except such number only, as shall be deemed necessary by the united States in congress assembled, for the defense of such State, or its trade; nor shall any body of forces be kept up by any State in time of peace, except such number only, as in the judgement of the united States, in congress assembled, shall be deemed requisite to garrison the forts necessary for the defense of such State; but every State shall always keep up a well-regulated and disciplined militia, sufficiently armed and accoutered, and shall provide and constantly have ready for use, in public stores, a due number of field pieces and tents, and a proper quantity of arms, ammunition and camp equipage.

No State shall engage in any war without the consent of the united States in congress assembled, unless such State be actually invaded by enemies, or shall have received certain advice of a resolution being formed by some nation of Indians to invade such State, and the danger is so imminent as not to admit of a delay till the united States in congress assembled can be consulted; nor shall any State grant commissions to any ships or vessels of war, nor letters of marque or reprisal, except it be after a declaration of war by the united States in congress assembled, and then only against the kingdom or State and the subjects thereof, against which war has been so declared, and under such regulations as shall be established by the united States in congress assembled, unless such State be infested by pirates, in which case vessels of war may be fitted out for that occasion, and kept so long as the danger shall continue, or until the united States in congress assembled shall determine otherwise.

Article VII. When land forces are raised by any State for the common defense, all officers of or under the rank of colonel, shall be appointed by the legislature of each State respectively, by whom such forces shall be raised, or in such manner as such State shall direct, and all vacancies shall be filled up by the State which first made the appointment.

Article VIII. All charges of war, and all other expenses that shall be incurred for the common defense or general welfare, and allowed by the united States in congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several States in proportion to the value of all land within each State, granted or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon shall be estimated according to such mode as the united States in congress assembled, shall from time to time direct and appoint.

The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the several States within the time agreed upon by the united States in congress assembled.

Article IX. The united States in congress assembled, shall have the sole and exclusive right and power of determining on peace and war, except in the cases mentioned in the sixth article — of sending and receiving ambassadors — entering into treaties and alliances, provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective States shall be restrained from imposing such imposts and duties on foreigners, as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities whatsoever — of establishing rules for deciding in all cases, what captures on land or water shall be legal, and in what manner prizes taken by land or naval forces in the service of the United States shall be divided or appropriated — of granting letters of marque and reprisal in times of peace — appointing courts for the trial of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas and establishing courts for receiving and determining finally appeals in all cases of captures, provided that no member of Congress shall be appointed a judge of any of the said courts.

The United States in Congress assembled shall also be the last resort on appeal in all disputes and differences now subsisting or that hereafter may arise between two or more States concerning boundary, jurisdiction or any other causes whatever; which authority shall always be exercised in the manner following. Whenever the legislative or executive authority or lawful agent of any State in controversy with another shall present a petition to Congress stating the matter in question and praying for a hearing, notice thereof shall be given by order of Congress to the legislative or executive authority of the other State in controversy, and a day assigned for the appearance of the parties by their lawful agents, who shall then be directed to appoint by joint consent, commissioners or judges to constitute a court for hearing and determining the matter in question: but if they cannot agree, Congress shall name three persons out of each of the United States, and from the list of such persons each party shall alternately strike out one, the petitioners beginning, until the number shall be reduced to thirteen; and from that number not less than seven, nor more than nine names as Congress shall direct, shall in the presence of Congress be drawn out by lot, and the persons whose names shall be so drawn or any five of them, shall be commissioners or judges, to hear and finally determine the controversy, so always as a major part of the judges who shall hear the cause shall agree in the determination: and if either party shall neglect to attend at the day appointed, without showing reasons, which Congress shall judge sufficient, or being present shall refuse to strike, the Congress shall proceed to nominate three persons out of each State, and the secretary of Congress shall strike in behalf of such party absent or refusing; and the judgement and sentence of the court to be appointed, in the manner before prescribed, shall be final and conclusive; and if any of the parties shall refuse to submit to the authority of such court, or to appear or defend their claim or cause, the court shall nevertheless proceed to pronounce sentence, or judgement, which shall in like manner be final and decisive, the judgement or sentence and other proceedings being in either case transmitted to Congress, and lodged among the acts of Congress for the security of the parties concerned: provided that every commissioner, before he sits in judgement, shall take an oath to be administered by one of the judges of the supreme or superior court of the State, where the cause shall be tried, 'well and truly to hear and determine the matter in question, according to the best of his

judgement, without favor, affection or hope of reward': provided also, that no State shall be deprived of territory for the benefit of the United States.

All controversies concerning the private right of soil claimed under different grants of two or more States, whose jurisdictions as they may respect such lands, and the States which passed such grants are adjusted, the said grants or either of them being at the same time claimed to have originated antecedent to such settlement of jurisdiction, shall on the petition of either party to the Congress of the United States, be finally determined as near as may be in the same manner as is before prescribed for deciding disputes respecting territorial jurisdiction between different States.

The United States in Congress assembled shall also have the sole and exclusive right and power of regulating the alloy and value of coin struck by their own authority, or by that of the respective States — fixing the standards of weights and measures throughout the United States — regulating the trade and managing all affairs with the Indians, not members of any of the States, provided that the legislative right of any State within its own limits be not infringed or violated — establishing or regulating post offices from one State to another, throughout all the United States, and exacting such postage on the papers passing through the same as may be requisite to defray the expenses of the said office — appointing all officers of the land forces, in the service of the United States, excepting regimental officers — appointing all the officers of the naval forces, and commissioning all officers whatever in the service of the United States — making rules for the government and regulation of the said land and naval forces, and directing their operations.

The United States in Congress assembled shall have authority to appoint a committee, to sit in the recess of Congress, to be denominated 'A Committee of the States', and to consist of one delegate from each State; and to appoint such other committees and civil officers as may be necessary for managing the general affairs of the United States under their direction — to appoint one of their members to preside, provided that no person be allowed to serve in the office of president more than one year in any term of three years; to ascertain the necessary sums of money to be raised for the service of the United States, and to appropriate and apply the same for defraying the public expenses — to borrow money, or emit bills on the credit of the United States, transmitting every half-year to the respective States an account of the sums of money so borrowed or emitted — to build and equip a navy — to agree upon the number of land forces, and to make requisitions from each State for its quota, in proportion to the number of white inhabitants in such State; which requisition shall be binding, and thereupon the legislature of each State shall appoint the regimental officers, raise the men and cloath, arm and equip them in a solid- like manner, at the expense of the United States; and the officers and men so cloathed, armed and equipped shall march to the place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the United States in Congress assembled. But if the United States in Congress assembled shall, on consideration of circumstances judge proper that any State should not raise men, or should raise a smaller number of men than the quota thereof, such extra number shall be raised, officered, cloathed, armed and equipped in the same manner as the quota of each State, unless the legislature of such State shall judge that such extra number cannot be safely spread out in the same, in which case they shall raise, officer, cloath, arm and equip as many of such extra number as they judge can be safely spared. And the officers and men so cloathed, armed, and equipped, shall march to the

place appointed, and within the time agreed on by the united States in congress assembled.

The united States in congress assembled shall never engage in a war, nor grant letters of marque or reprisal in time of peace, nor enter into any treaties or alliances, nor coin money, nor regulate the value thereof, nor ascertain the sums and expenses necessary for the defense and welfare of the United States, or any of them, nor emit bills, nor borrow money on the credit of the united States, nor appropriate money, nor agree upon the number of vessels of war, to be built or purchased, or the number of land or sea forces to be raised, nor appoint a commander in chief of the army or navy, unless nine States assent to the same: nor shall a question on any other point, except for adjourning from day to day be determined, unless by the votes of the majority of the united States in congress assembled.

The congress of the united States shall have power to adjourn to any time within the year, and to any place within the united States, so that no period of adjournment be for a longer duration than the space of six months, and shall publish the journal of their proceedings monthly, except such parts thereof relating to treaties, alliances or military operations, as in their judgement require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the delegates of each State on any question shall be entered on the journal, when it is desired by any delegates of a State, or any of them, at his or their request shall be furnished with a transcript of the said journal, except such parts as are above excepted, to lay before the legislatures of the several States.

Article X. The committee of the States, or any nine of them, shall be authorized to execute, in the recess of congress, such of the powers of congress as the united States in congress assembled, by the consent of the nine States, shall from time to time think expedient to vest them with; provided that no power be delegated to the said Committee, for the exercise of which, by the articles of confederation, the voice of nine States in the Congress of the United States assembled be requisite.

Article XI. Canada acceding to this confederation, and adjoining in the measures of the united States, shall be admitted into, and entitled to all the advantages of this union; but no other colony shall be admitted into the same, unless such admission be agreed to by nine States.

Article XII. All bills of credit emitted, monies borrowed, and debts contracted by, or under the authority of congress, before the assembling of the united States, in pursuance of the present confederation, shall be deemed and considered as a charge against the United States, for payment and satisfaction whereof the said united States, and the public faith are hereby solemnly pledged.

Article XIII. Every State shall abide by the determination of the united States in congress assembled, on all questions which by this confederation are submitted to them. And the Articles of this confederation shall be inviolably observed by every State, and the union shall be perpetual; nor shall any alteration at any time hereafter be made in any of them; unless such alteration be agreed to in a congress of the united States, and be afterwards confirmed by the legislatures of every State.

And Whereas it hath pleased the Great Governor of the World to incline the hearts of the legislatures we respectively represent in Congress, to approve of, and to authorize us to ratify the said articles of confederation

and perpetual union. Know Ye that we the undersigned delegates, by virtue of the power and authority to us given for that purpose, do by these presents, in the name and in behalf of our respective constituents, fully and entirely ratify and confirm each and every of the said articles of confederation and perpetual union, and all and singular the matters and things therein contained: And we do further solemnly plight and engage the faith of our respective constituents, that they shall abide by the determinations of the united States in congress assembled, on all questions, which by the said confederation are submitted to them. And that the articles thereof shall be inviolably observed by the States we respectively represent, and that the union shall be perpetual.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands in Congress. Done at Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania the ninth Day of July in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven Hundred and Seventy-eight, and in the Third Year of the independence of America.

On the part and behalf of the State of New Hampshire:
Josiah Bartlett
John Wentworth Junr. August 8th 1778

On the part and behalf of The State of Massachusetts Bay:
John Hancock
Samuel Adams
Elbridge Gerry
Francis Dana
James Lovell
Samuel Holten

On the part and behalf of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations:
William Ellery
Henry Marchant
John Collins

On the part and behalf of the State of Connecticut:
Roger Sherman
Samuel Huntington
Oliver Wolcott
Titus Hosmer
Andrew Adams

On the Part and Behalf of the State of New York:
James Duane
Francis Lewis
Wm Duer
Gouv Morris

On the Part and in Behalf of the State of New Jersey, November 26, 1778.
Jno Witherspoon
Nath. Scudder

On the part and behalf of the State of Pennsylvania:
Robt Morris
Daniel Roberdeau
John Bayard Smith
William Clingan

Joseph Reed 22nd July 1778

On the part and behalf of the State of Delaware:
Tho McKean February 12, 1779
John Dickinson May 5th 1779
Nicholas Van Dyke

On the part and behalf of the State of Maryland:
John Hanson March 1 1781
Daniel Carroll

On the Part and Behalf of the State of Virginia:
Richard Henry Lee
John Banister
Thomas Adams
Jno Harvie
Francis Lightfoot Lee

On the part and Behalf of the State of No Carolina:

John Penn July 21st 1778
Corns Harnett
Jno Williams

On the part and behalf of the State of South Carolina:
Henry Laurens
William Henry Drayton
Jno Mathews
Richd Hutson
Thos Heyward Junr

On the part and behalf of the State of Georgia:
Jno Walton 24th July 1778
Edwd Telfair
Edwd Langworthy

Source: <https://www.usconstitution.net/articles.html>
Picture: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Articles_of_Confederation

7 VIII 1782 Gen. George Washington creates the Order of the Purple Heart for soldiers wounded in battle



Purple Heart (obverse) Purple Heart (reverse)
The Purple Heart-It is one of the most recognized and respected medals awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces. Introduced as the “Badge of Military Merit” by General George Washington in 1782, the Purple Heart is also the nation’s oldest military award. In military terms, the award had “broken service,” as it was ignored for nearly

150 years until it was re-introduced on February 22, 1932, on the 200th anniversary of George Washington’s birth. The medal’s plain inscription “FOR MILITARY MERIT” barely expresses its significance.

other incontestable proofs, and upon granting it, the name and regiment of the person with the action so certified are to be enrolled in the book of merit which will be kept at the orderly office. Men who have merited this last distinction to be suffered to pass all guards and sentinels which officers are permitted to do.

The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus open to all. This order is also to have retrospect to the earliest stages of the war, and to be considered as a permanent one.”
Only three soldiers are known to have received the original honor badge: Sergeant Daniel Bissell of the 2d Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Line; Sergeant William Brown of the 5th Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Line, and Sergeant Elijah Churchill of the 2d Continental Dragoons, also a Connecticut regiment.

For unknown reasons, the medal apparently was not awarded again. In fact, it was not until October 1927, after Word War I, that General Charles Summerall proposed that a bill be submitted to Congress to revive the “Badge of Military Merit.” In January, 1928, the Army’s Office of The Adjutant General was instructed to file the materials concerning the proposed medal. Among those materials was a rough drawing of a circular medal disc with a concave center on which a raised heart was visible. Engraved on the back of the medal was “For Military Merit.”

In January 1931, General Douglas MacArthur, Summerall’s successor as Army Chief of Staff, resurrected the idea for the medal. Miss Elizabeth Will, an Army heraldic specialist in the Office of the Quartermaster General, was assigned the task of designing the medal according to some general guidelines provided to her. The Commission of Fine Arts obtained plaster models from three sculptors and, in May 1931, selected the model produced by John Sinnock of the Philadelphia Mint.

On February 22, 1932 -- the 200th anniversary of George Washington’s birth -- the War Department (predecessor to the Department of Defense) announced the establishment of the Purple Heart award in General Order No. 3:
By order of the President of the United States, the Purple Heart established by General George Washington at Newburgh, August 7, 1782, during the War of the Revolution, is hereby revived out of respect to his memory and military achievements.
By Order of the Secretary War
Douglas MacArthur General Chief of Staff



O n August 7, 1782, from his headquarters in Newburgh, New York, General George Washington wrote: Gen. George Washington’s instructions for the Badge of Military Merit

“The General ever desirous to cherish virtuous ambition in his soldiers, as well as to foster and encourage every species of Military merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings over the left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth, or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding. Not only instances of unusual gallantry, but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with a due reward. Before this favour can be conferred on any man, the particular fact, or facts, on which it is to be grounded must be set forth to the Commander in chief accompanied with certificates from the Commanding officers of the regiment and brigade to which the Candidate for reward belonged, or

Army regulations specified the design of the medal as an enamel heart, purple in color and showing a relief profile of George Washington in Continental Army uniform within a quarter-inch bronze border. Above the enameled heart is Washington's family coat of arms between two sprays of leaves. On the reverse side, below the shield and leaves, is a raised bronze heart without enamel bearing the inscription "For Military Merit." The 1 11/16 inch medal is suspended by a purple cloth, 1 3/8 inches in length by 1 3/8 inches in width with 1/8-inch white edges.

Army regulations' eligibility criteria for the award included:

- Those in possession of a Meritorious Service Citation Certificate issued by the Commander-in Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I. (The Certificates had to be exchanged for the Purple Heart.)

- Those authorized by Army regulations to wear wound chevrons. (These men also had to apply for the new award.)

The newly reintroduced Purple Heart was not intended primarily as an award for those wounded in action -- the "wound chevron" worn by a soldier on his sleeve already fulfilled that purpose. Establishing the Meritorious Service Citation as a qualification for receiving the Purple Heart was very much in keeping with General Washington's original intent for the award.

However, authorizing the award in exchange for "wound chevrons" established the now familiar association of the award with injuries sustained in battle. This was reinforced by Army regulations, which stated that the

award required a "singularly meritorious act of extraordinary fidelity service" and that "a wound which necessitates treatment by a medical officer and which is received in action with an enemy, may, in the judgment of the commander authorized to make the award, be construed as resulting from a singularly meritorious act of essential service."



distance, and the lower for reading. Bifocals are commonly prescribed to people with presbyopia, a condition that Franklin suffered. Franklin wrote, in August 1784 to his friend George Whatley, that he was "happy in the

VIII 1784 Benjamin Franklin invents bi-focals

A modern replica pair of the type of split bifocal spectacles known to have been worn by Benjamin Franklin in the mid 1780s. Photo retrieved from Google Images Bifocals are eyeglasses with an upper and lower half, the upper for

Until Executive Order 9277 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in December 1942 authorized award of the Purple Heart to personnel from all of the military services (retroactive to December 7, 1941), the medal was exclusively an Army award. The Executive Order also stated that the Purple Heart was to be awarded to persons who "are wounded in action against an enemy of the United States, or as a result of an act of such enemy, provided such would necessitate treatment by a medical officer." In November 1952, President Harry S. Truman issued an Executive Order extending eligibility for the award to April 5, 1917, to coincide with the eligibility dates for Army personnel.

President John F. Kennedy issued Executive Order 11016 in April 1962 that further extended eligibility to "any civilian national of the United States, who while serving under competent authority in any capacity with an armed force..., has been, or may hereafter be, wounded" and authorized posthumous award of the medal.

Executive Order 12464 signed by President Ronald Reagan in February 1984, authorized award of the Purple Heart as a result of terrorist attacks or while serving as part of a peacekeeping force subsequent to March 28, 1973. The 1998 National Defense Authorization Act removed civilians from the list of personnel eligible for the medal.

The Purple Heart is ranked immediately behind the bronze star and ahead of the Defense Meritorious Service Medal in order of precedence.

Possession of the Purple Heart medal does not by itself qualify veterans for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability compensation. However, since November 1999, Purple Heart recipients have been placed in VA's enrollment priority group 3, unless eligible for the higher priority groups (1 or 2) based on service-connected disabilities. Recipients are also exempt from co-payments for VA hospital care and medical outpatient care, but not from pharmacy co-payments for medications prescribed for non-service connected conditions.

Source: <https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/celebrate/purple-heart.pdf>

invention of double spectacles, which serving for distant objects as well as near ones, make my eyes as useful to me as ever they were."

A list of Benjamin Franklin's inventions reveals a man of many talents and interests. It was the scientist in Ben that brought out the inventor. His natural curiosity about things and the way they work made him try to find ways to make them work better.

Ben had poor vision and needed glasses to read. He got tired of constantly taking them off and putting them back on, so he decided to figure out a way to make his glasses let him see both near and far. He had two pairs of spectacles cut in half and put half of each lens in a single frame. Today, we call them bifocals.

Source: <http://cf.libguides.com/franklin/invent>

8 VIII 1786 Continental Congress adopts the Dollar and decimal coinage

THE ADOPTION OF A DECIMAL SYSTEM FOR U.S. COINS

Throughout history, systems of coinage have almost always been the direct descendants of a nation's weights. This was true in ancient Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome, and, especially, in Great Britain. The conduct of the U.S. in establishing a new and radically different system of coinage in the 1780's without providing for the establishment of weights in the process of doing so may therefore be viewed as an anomaly. Nevertheless it was done and the action merits a brief review at this point

because the primary power behind the innovation of decimal coinage, Thomas Jefferson, was later to attempt to apply the same principle to U.S. weights and measures. A grave situation existed in the United States with respect to coinage during and immediately after the Revolution [3].

Monies were clipped and sweated to obtain the precious metals; a constant outflow of specie resulted from our deficient balance of trade; and so many foreign coins with so many different values were in circulation that commerce was hindered. When made aware of the situation. Congress, on

January 7, 1782, ordered Superintendent of Finance Robert Morris to investigate it and render a report [4]. Eight days later the report, prepared by Assistant Financier Gouverneur Morris, was submitted to Congress along with a plan to establish a standard of value and adopt a new monetary unit. The recommendations that he offered included a proposed system bearing a close affinity with the former currency; a plan to establish a mint and adopt a standard for coinage weights; a fundamental monetary unit based on the Spanish piece of eight (which was widely used at the time), and for which he suggested that its formal name — "dollar" — be used; and, finally, the adoption of a decimal ratio for the coins to be minted [5]. His reasons for proposing a decimal ratio were stated as follows: "Although it is not absolutely necessary, yet it is very desirable, that money should be increased in decimal ratio, because by that means all calculations of interest, exchange, insurance, and the like, are rendered much more simple and accurate, and of course, more within the power of the great mass of the people [6]." Eventually this report was turned over to a committee for review, one of the members of which was Thomas Jefferson. While Jefferson was intrigued with the proposals, he felt certain modifications were needed to make the system manageable "for the common purposes of society [7]." He therefore proposed that the dollar be made the unit of account, with its multiples and subdivisions being derived decimally. In a later paper he outlined what he considered to be the three requisites of a money unit [8]. First, it should be of a convenient size for daily transactions. The dollar, he felt, met this criterion: "I question if a common measure of more convenient size than the Dollar could be proposed. The value of 100, 1,000, 10,000 dollars is well estimated by the mind; so is that of a tenth or hundredth of a dollar. Few transactions are above or below these limits [9]." Jefferson's second desideratum was that the parts and multiples be in an easily calculated proportion to each other. For this purpose the decimal ratio was clearly favored. Finally, the unit should be sufficiently close to the value of some known coins so as to be easily adopted by the people. In this respect also, the dollar was not found wanting: "It is difficult to familiarize a new coin to the people; it is more difficult to familiarize them to a new coin with an old name. Happily, the dollar is familiar to them all, and is already as much referred to for a measure of value, as their respective provincial pounds [10].

"When the combined reports of Jefferson and Morris were considered in Congress, on July 6, 1785, the dollar was adopted as the unit of U.S. coinage

by a unanimous vote [11]. More than a year later, on August 8, 1786, a complete decimal system of coinage was approved by Congress [12]. Under the terms of this Act, the standard was set at 11 parts fine gold or silver and one part alloy, with the unit being 375.64 Troy grains of silver. In this way,

the question of weight units was avoided for the time being. The final step in implementing the new coinage system was the establishment of a mint to do the actual coining. After more than 5 years of study and discussion this was accomplished by passage of the Mint Act on April 2, 1792 [13]. The execution of the new system was not rapid, however, nor was it an overnight success. As noted by Adams in 1821: "It is now nearly thirty years since our new moneys of accounts, our coins, and our mint have been established. The dollar, under its new stamp, has preserved its name

and circulation. The cent has become tolerably familiarized to the tongue . . . But the dime having been seldom, and the mille never, presented in their material images to the people, have remained . . . utterly unknown . . . Even now, at the end of thirty years, ask a tradesman, or shopkeeper in any of our cities what is a dime or a mille, and the chances are four in five that he will not understand your question. . . . [They] remain, to the great mass of the people, among the hidden mysteries of political economy—state secrets [14]." While the subject of U.S. coinage per se is beyond the scope of this account, the Acts which established a decimal system of coinage impinge heavily on the history of the metric system. These decisions were oftentimes singled out in later years as precedents. Advocates of metric adoption were quick to use our coinage system as a demonstration of the advantages of a decimally-based system and the actions which established it were offered as proof of the ease with which such changes could be made. While the advantages of decimal ratios for computation and the desirability of a consistency between systems of enumeration, coinage, and measurement cannot be denied, the analogy between our coinage system and the metric system of weights and measures breaks down on several counts. Chief among these is the fact that governments are able to establish absolute control over the coins produced and used within their jurisdiction. Governments in short, have a monopoly when it comes to monetary systems. As yet, no government has been able to do the same for its measurements, nor has this often been an avowed purpose of government. This and other discrepancies between systems of coinage and measurement will be elaborated on in subsequent chapters. The important point is that the similarities were used as a part of the pro-metric case on several occasions and thus became a factor in the debate over metric adoption.

Source: U.S. METRIC STUDY
INTERIM REPORT

A HISTORY OF
THE METRIC SYSTEM
CONTROVERSY IN
THE UNITED STATES

Tenth in a series of reports prepared for the Congress U.S. METRIC STUDY

Daniel V. De Simone, Director Charles F. Treat, Historian National Bureau of Standards

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26 VIII 1791 The steamboat is patented in the United States by John Fitch. First launched on the Delaware River in 1787, and operated passenger service from Philadelphia to Burlington, New Jersey, which proved unprofitable.

17 VIII 1793 Dr. Benjamin Rush confers with two Philadelphia doctors about an epidemic of disease along the docks of Philadelphia over the preceding two weeks. By November, over 10% of the population of the city had succumbed, nearly 5,000 people. The disease

had been brought to the city by refugees from Haiti, then coupled with a wet spring and swamps that became an incubator for mosquitos.

20 VIII 1794 General Anthony Wayne, commander of the Ohio-Indiana area, routs a confederacy of Indian tribes, including Shawnee, Mingo, Delaware, Wyandot, Miami, Ottawa, Chippewa, and Potawatomi, at Fallen Timbers on the Maumee River, causing a retreat in disarray.

3 VIII 1795 Peace treaty with the Indians at Fort Greenville, Ohio

Summer 1795: The Treaty of Greenville creates an uneasy peace

By Eric Hemenway, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians



The years leading up to 1812 in the Great Lakes were filled with tribes coping with the displacement of their villages, attacks on civilians, and the loss of resources and land. As early as the Revolutionary War, Great Lakes tribes began to wage war against American incursion, with conflicts spanning from New York to Wisconsin.

The escalation of violence and the need to repay grievances in bloodshed spelled inevitable tribal involvement in the War of 1812.

Gnadenhutten Memorial in Ohio: log cabin in woods

The site of the Gnadenhutten Memorial in Ohio marks the spot of the massacre of 1782

The years between the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 were not peaceful: the American army was dealt its worst defeat ever between tribal nations and American forces, at the hands of tribal warriors led by Little Turtle of the Miami and Blue Jacket of the Shawnee. St. Clair's defeat in 1791 saw the American army lose approximately 1,000 men: three times the number lost during General Custer's better-known defeat at Little Bighorn in 1876.

Between 1774 and 1794, Indian villages in New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Ohio were constantly attacked by the American army and militias. The Shawnee, Delaware, Iroquois, Miami, Odawa, Wyandot and

Mingo saw unspeakable violence committed against their villages during this time period. Over 100 Indian villages were burned and destroyed, leaving an unknown number of civilian casualties. The most notorious frontier massacres occurred on March 8, 1782 on the Upper Sandusky River in Ohio, at a village known as Gnadenhutten. Over 90 Delaware Indians, the majority women and children, were returning to the village to gather food supplies. These Delaware, known as the Moraviantown Indians, were Christian and pacifists. Upon reaching their village, the Delaware were rounded up by Colonel David Williamson and the Pennsylvania militia. Two out buildings served as slaughter houses where the Indians were led, two at a time, to their execution.

In response to these tensions, the 1795 Treaty of Greenville aimed to end the hostilities that had engulfed the Great Lakes. It was an imperfect agreement not agreed upon by all the tribes, but it ended violence at least temporarily, and established Indian lands. But American expansion quickly nullified the agreement.

By 1800, numerous tribes from the eastern United States were pushed out of their homelands, due to an exploding American population hungry for land. The Shawnee and Delaware were two such tribes that were continually forced west by American expansion and attacks on their villages by American militia and frontiersmen. Tired of being displaced, the Shawnee, Delaware, Wea, Wyandot and other tribes made their last stand in Indiana and Ohio.

Atrocities against Indian villages in the Great Lakes at the hands of American forces would continue. Warriors would remember what had happened to their villages and those of their kin, such as the Gnadenhutten massacre, resulting in revenge killings on American settlements that further exacerbated a deteriorating relationship. Two such incidents in 1813, the attack on Fort Dearborn and the aftermath of the Battle of the River Raisin, saw American civilians and prisoners perish at the hands of vengeful Great Lakes warriors – ultimately at great cost to the nations. The escalation of violence and the need to repay grievances in bloodshed spelled inevitable tribal involvement in the War of 1812.

Source: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/a-long-legacy.htm>

4 VIII 1800 The second census of the United States is conducted. The total population of the USA was 5,308,483 and the center of its population was 18 miles west of Baltimore, Maryland.

17 VIII 1807 The first practical steamboat journey was made by Robert Fulton in the steamboat Clermont, who navigated the Hudson River from New York City to Albany in thirty-two hours, a trip of 150 miles. This becomes the first commercial steamboat service in the world.

VIII 1809 The U.S.S. Constitution is re-commissioned as the flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron.

6 VIII 1810 The center of the population of the United States, listed as 7,239,881 in the 1810 census, was only 40 miles northwest of Washington, D.C. in the state of Virginia.

13 VIII 1812 August naval battles in the War of 1812 begin with the United States Navy defeating the British when the U.S.S. Essex captured Alert.

By Jeremy Black

(...) The War of 1812 was a conflict between two very different naval powers, a pattern that is far more common in naval history than tends to be appreciated. Aside from a fundamental contrast in their strength—Britain had the world's leading navy while the United States lacked a battle fleet—the opposing sides used their navies for very different purposes. Because no large-scale naval clashes unfolded on the high seas, it is all too easy to underrate the crucial strategic dimensions of naval power and its importance for the character and development of the war.

The United States had maritime, rather than naval, strength. The American merchant marine had grown rapidly in size and importance after the Revolutionary War, and its range had greatly increased. However, there was no comparable expansion in American naval power because the new country did not seek command of the sea nor transoceanic commercial or political dominion. Indeed, the last American warship was sold in 1785.

The American Navy, however, was revived in the mid-1790s, albeit as a minor force. In 1794 Congress approved the construction of six frigates to fight against the privateering Barbary State of Algeria. The last of the six was launched during the 1798-1800 Quasi-War, which was the result of French maritime pressure on American trade. By 1812, the U.S. Navy had experience, but it was on a totally different scale to the Royal Navy. The Americans had an abundance of trained seamen to man their Fleet and the most powerful frigates of the age, which they were to prove adept at handling in ship-to-ship actions, but they had no ships-of-the-line, unlike Britain, which dominated in this sphere. The U.S. Navy at the outset of the War of 1812 comprised only 16 ships, nine of them frigates. The Americans thus lacked the capacity for fleet action.

This reflected the force structure and naval doctrine developed under President Thomas Jefferson's agrarian republicanism. ¹ In part, concerns about the cost and likely effectiveness of a large fleet had encouraged opposition within the United States to its creation, while the Jefferson administration's emphasis on gunboats conformed to a militia tradition.

Early American Naval Triumphs

Initially, the United States planned a quick land offensive against Lower Canada up the Champlain Valley, which led to only limited interest in a strategic role for the Navy. At the outbreak of the war, however, the Americans found it easier to act at sea than to strike on land, where there were problems with mobilization. ² The need to protect trade was also a key issue, and concern about safeguarding incoming merchantmen helped ensure a shift in attitude. As a result, ships were to be sent to sea, not only to convoy merchantmen but also to destroy the British warships that might attack them.

A naval emphasis also accorded with the politics of Americans who saw the purpose of the war not as conquering Canada, but as pressuring Britain to end hostile commercial policies. The seizure of territory in Canada was also intended to further this objective, although, conversely, naval action was seen as a possible way to put pressure on the British in Canada. Indeed, there was a common naval focus because Canada was perceived as a key source of the naval resources, especially timber, needed by the British Navy. Moreover, President James Madison was convinced that Napoleon would succeed in limiting British access to its other major

source of naval stores, the Baltic, which would focus greater attention on Canada. ³

Commodore John Rodgers, the U.S. Navy's senior officer, saw opportunities in taking the initiative, and in accordance with his proposal, the American warships at New York were sent to sea in two squadrons in 1812. The three frigates and two smaller vessels under Rodgers searched for a British convoy homeward bound from the West Indies, which he saw as a source of wealth for himself and the country. He failed to find his convoy, but after the squadrons had been dispersed, the U.S. frigates were more successful on their own. The British frigates *Guerriere* and *Java* fell victim to the *Constitution*, and a third Royal Navy frigate, the *Macedonian*, to the USS *United States*. With 24-pounder cannon, the American ships were more heavily gunned than the British vessels with their 18-pounders.

These successes provided an initially valuable boost to American morale. Congress awarded Captain Isaac Hull of the well-gunned *Constitution* a gold medal for his capture of the *Guerriere* on 19 August, although the collisions between the two ships showed that his seamanship was not what it should be. After the same ship captured the *Java* on 29 December, Captain William Bainbridge, who had replaced Hull in command, also received a Congressional Gold Medal.

Indeed, the Americans initially did better at sea than anticipated. The victories also helped cover the return of American merchantmen, whose cargoes and customs revenues contributed to financing the war. Conversely, the United States did worse on land, which made the naval triumphs particularly worthwhile. Speaker of the House of Representatives Henry Clay, however, grumbled, "Brilliant as they are . . . they do not fill up the void created by our misfortunes on land." ⁴

Reasons for the British Defeats

At sea, the British initially suffered from overconfidence; inaccurate gunnery, which reflected poor gun drill; and ships that were simply less powerful and less well prepared than those of their opponent. Fire from the *Constitution*'s double-shotted guns, for example, demasted the *Guerriere* and repeatedly pierced her hull. In addition, the Royal Navy's North American station was not key in the ongoing war with Napoleon and, as a result, had been starved of resources. Indeed, many of the British ships were in poor condition as well as short of sailors; the latter was a continual problem for the Royal Navy that had helped lead to war. Moreover, the dockyards in Halifax and Bermuda lacked sufficient materiel and skilled shipwrights to ensure that the fleet remained seaworthy, and ships requiring major repairs had to be sent back to British dockyards. ⁵ This was the underside of being the world's leading naval power.

In contrast, the Americans could call on effective local dockyards, while better gunners and heavier guns greatly helped their warships, as with the United States' capture of the *Macedonian* on 25 October 1812. Aside from the three frigates, the other British losses in 1812 were all of smaller vessels, such as the sloop *Alert*, carrying 20 guns, captured by the *Essex*, with 46, on 13 August. In this clash, the British guns were 18-pounder carronades, while all but six of the American guns were 32-pounder carronades. On 18 October, the sloop *Wasp* captured the British sloop *Frolic*, but was then quickly taken by the 74-gun HMS *Poictiers*. (...)

Source: <https://www.usni.org/magazines/navalhistory/2008-08/british-view-naval-war-1812>

24 VIII 1814 The White House is burned by British forces upon the occupation of Washington, D.C.

The Burning of Washington

By: Anthony S. Pitch

(...) But why would the British target Washington as the war entered its third year, after rumbles and clashes confined to the distant Canadian border? The American capital was nothing more than a gawky village, a mere embryo of the city it aspired to be. Only fourteen years had passed since the capital had moved from Philadelphia, and the population had grown to little more than 8,000, of whom one-sixth were slaves. The clammy expanses of its Potomac site were still almost barren and certainly bleak. Attorney General Richard Rush described Washington as “a meager village with a few bad houses and extensive swamps.” Augustus John Foster, who would be promoted from junior diplomat to the last British minister to the United States before the two countries went to war, lamented his posting to “an absolute sepulcher, this hole.” It was no coarse, woebegone, and lacking in refinement that in another letter home Foster wailed, “luckily for me I have been in Turkey, and quite at home in this primeval simplicity of manners.”

Even though Washington had no strategic significance for the British military, the commander and chief of the North American station, Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, had it in mind to give the American “a complete drubbing.” It would avenge the excesses of American who had plundered and burned public and private buildings the year before in York (modern Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada. Above all, seizing the capital would humiliate and demoralize American and, as a bonus, might even

6 VIII 1815 Piracy on the high seas by Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli is effectively ended by a flotilla from the United States.

VIII 1816 E. Remington and Sons is founded in 1816.

6 VIII 1819 The first private military school in the United States, Norwich University, is founded by Captain Alden Partridge in Vermont.

7 VIII 1820 Population in America continues to rise. The census of 1820 now includes 9,638,453 people living in the United States, 33% more than in 1810. The most populated state is New York, with 1,372,812 residents. The center of U.S. population now reaches 16 miles east of Moorefield, West Virginia.

4 VIII 1821 The Saturday Evening Post is published for the first time as a weekly newspaper by Atkinson and Alexander.

10 VIII 1821 Missouri is the 24th state admitted to the Union. Missouri was admitted as a slave state on August 10, 1821, after an agreement known as the Missouri Compromise in which Maine was admitted as a free state.

9 VIII 1823 Arikara Indian War

Arikara tipi, 1908, photo by Edward S. Curtis



The Arikara War – The First Plains Indian War

Taking place in 1823, the Arikara War is noted as the first Plains Indian War between the United States and the western Native Americans.

The Arikara, also known as the Arikaree or Ree Indians,

were a semi-nomadic group who lived in tipis on the plains of South Dakota for several hundred years. Primarily an agricultural society, they were often bullied by their nomadic neighbors, especially the Sioux.

lead to the disintegration of the United States. Early warning signs that Washington would be targeted went unheeded, even though the British press had openly speculated on the fate of the American capital. Little action was taken, even after U.S. emissaries in Europe warned that the fall of Napoleon in mid-1814 would free up thousands of British troops for the war against America. Secretary of War John Armstrong refused to take these signals seriously, even as the British fleet sailed into the Patuxent River, fifty miles east of Washington, in August 1814. “By God,” he fumed at Major General John Van Ness, the uneasy chief of militia in the District of Columbia, “they would not come with such a fleet without meaning to strike somewhere. But they certainly will not come here! What the devil will they do here? No! No! Baltimore is the place, Sir. That is of so much more consequence.”

If the secretary of war, a former major general with access to every morsel of intelligence, refused to take the British seriously, small wonder that the general population was caught off guard. As word of the British advance on land filtered through to Washingtonians, the uneasy calm turned into a full-fledged flight, driven by fear, then stark terror in the widening pandemonium. (...)

Source: <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-burning-of-washington>

Occupying a central location for trade between the Indians and the white settlers to the east, they also began to come into conflict with the many traders encroaching upon their lands.

Though the Arikara were never noted for their friendliness to white settlers, all hell would break loose when a chief’s son was killed by a trading company employee.

Furious with this event and losing control of their lands, the Arikara attacked a trapping expedition of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company who were traveling along the Missouri River on June 1, 1823, resulting in about a dozen of the trader’s deaths.

Afterwards, the survivors of the fur company retreated downriver where they waited more than a month for reinforcements so they might retaliate. The U.S. Army sent some 230 soldiers, 750 Sioux, and 50 trappers under the command of U.S. Army Colonel Henry Leavenworth, to take vengeance on the Arikara. After the attack on the Indians on August 9,

1823, some 50 of the Arikara lay dead. Six days later, on August 15th, the military forces burned an Arikara village, where they later built an American post as a message to other “unfriendly” Indians, including the Crow and the Blackfoot.

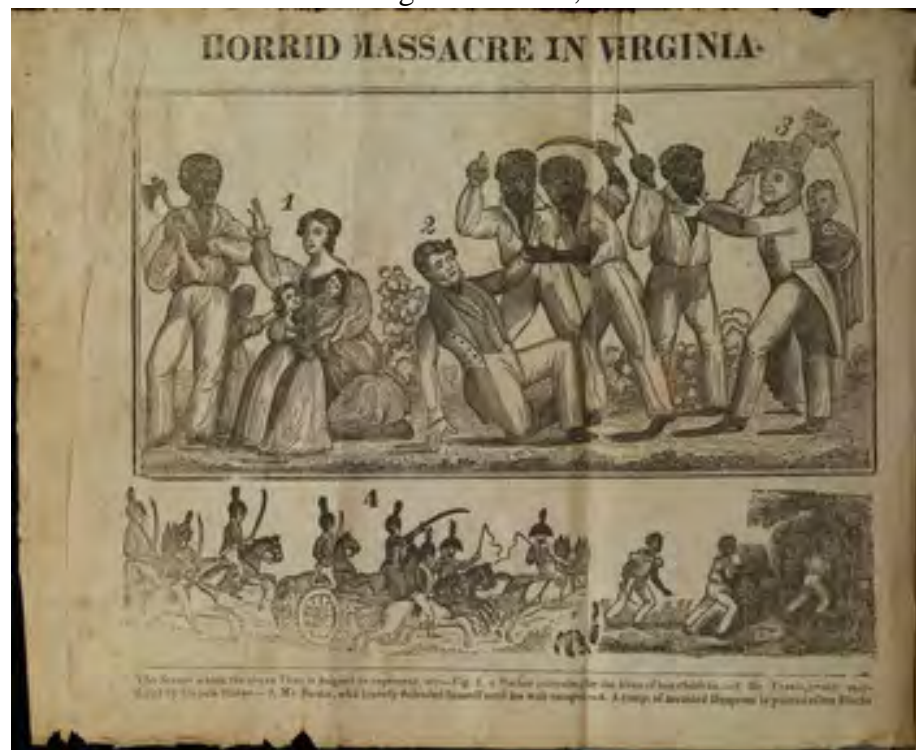
Though the U.S. Military was successful in subduing the Arikara, the conflict sparked a great debate because Colonel Henry Leavenworth had not entirely wiped out the tribe, at a time when Americans were demanding cohabitation and subjugation of the Native Americans.

21 VIII 1831 Slave rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia

Nat Turner's Revolt (1831)

Contributed by Patrick H. Breen

On the evening of August 21–22, 1831, an enslaved preacher and self-styled prophet named Nat Turner launched the most deadly slave revolt in the history of the United States. Over the course of a day in Southampton County, Turner and his allies killed fifty-five white men, women, and children as the rebels made their way toward Jerusalem, Virginia (now Courtland). Less than twenty-four hours after the revolt began, the rebels encountered organized resistance and were defeated in an encounter at James Parker's farm. Following this setback, Turner and other rebels



scrambled to reassemble their forces. The next day, a series of defeats led to the effective end of the revolt. Whites quickly and brutally reasserted their control over Southampton County, killing roughly three dozen blacks without trials. Within a few days of the revolt, white leaders in Southampton became increasingly confident that the revolt had been

In addition to subduing the Indians, the area was also central to the competition between the U.S. and Great Britain for control of the middle Missouri River and access to areas farther upriver and the Pacific Coast trade. After this first plains war, the American fur trade and exploration greatly expanded.

Kathy Weiser/Legends of America, updated April, 2017.

Source: <https://www.legendsofamerica.com/na-arikarawar/>

suppressed and worked to limit the extralegal killing of blacks. Instead, white leaders made sure that the remaining suspected slaves were tried, which also meant that the white slave owners would receive compensation from the state for condemned slaves, a benefit that the state did not extend to slave owners who owned suspected rebels killed without trials. This effort, which reached a climax with the declaration of martial law in Southampton a week after the revolt began, meant that Southampton court system would ultimately decide what to do with suspected slave rebels. Trials began on August 31, 1831, and the majority of trials were completed within a month. By the time that the trials were finished the following spring, thirty slaves and one free black had been condemned to death. Of these, nineteen were executed in Southampton: Governor John Floyd, following the recommendations of the court in Southampton, commuted twelve sentences. Turner himself had eluded whites throughout September and into October when two slaves spotted him close to where the revolt began. Once detected, Turner was forced to move, but he was unable to elude the renewed manhunt. He was captured on October 30. While in jail awaiting trial, Turner spoke freely with whites about the revolt. Local lawyer Thomas R. Gray approached Turner with a plan to take down his confessions. The Confessions of Nat Turner was published within weeks of the Turner's execution on November 11, 1831, and remains one of the most important sources for historians working on slavery in the United States. The revolt had important ramifications outside of Southampton, as several southern communities feared that slaves in their community were part of the revolt. In Richmond, Thomas Jefferson Randolph—the grandson of Thomas Jefferson—tried but failed to convince the General Assembly to enact a plan that would have put the state on the path to gradual emancipation. Abolitionists remembered the revolt as an important example of both slaves' hate for the system of slavery and their bravery. The cultural legacy of the revolt is still vibrant; the revolt remains the clearest example of overt resistance in the United States to the system of slavery.

Source: https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Revolt_Nat_Turner_s_1831

16 VIII 1841 President Tyler vetoes the bill re-establishing the Second Bank of the United States, causing an angry riot among Whig party members on White House grounds. It was the most violent demonstration on those grounds in U.S. history.



John Tyler X president of the United States: 1841-1845
Veto Message, August 16, 1841

The bill entitled "An act to incorporate the subscribers to the Fiscal Bank of the United States," which originated in the Senate, has been considered by me with a sincere desire to conform my action in regard to it to that of the two Houses of Congress. By the Constitution it is made my duty either to approve the bill by signing it or to return it with my objections to the House in which it originated. I can not conscientiously give it my approval, and I proceed to discharge the

duty required of me by the Constitution--to give my reasons for disapproving.

The power of Congress to create a national bank to operate per se over the Union has been a question of dispute from the origin of the Government. Men most justly and deservedly esteemed for their high intellectual endowments, their virtue, and their patriotism have in regard to it entertained different and conflicting opinions; Congresses have differed; the approval of one President has been followed by the disapproval of another; the people at different times have acquiesced in decisions both for

and againSt. The country has been and still is deeply agitated by this unsettled question. It will suffice for me to say that my own opinion has been uniformly proclaimed to be against the exercise of any such power by this Government. On all suitable occasions during a period of twenty-five years the opinion thus entertained has been unreservedly expressed. I declared it in the legislature of my native State; in the House of Representatives of the United States it has been openly vindicated by me; in the Senate Chamber, in the presence and hearing of many who are at this time members of that body, it has been affirmed and reaffirmed in speeches and reports there made and by votes there recorded; in popular assemblies I have unhesitatingly announced it, and the last public declaration which I made--and that but a short time before the late Presidential election--I referred to my previously expressed opinions as being those then entertained by me. With a full knowledge of the opinions thus entertained and never concealed, I was elected by the people Vice-President of the United States. By the occurrence of a contingency provided for in the Constitution and arising under an impressive dispensation of Providence I succeeded to the Presidential office. Before entering upon the duties of that office I took an oath that I would "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States." Entertaining the opinions alluded to and having taken this oath, the Senate and the country will see that I could not give my sanction to a measure of the character described without surrendering all claim to the respect of honorable men, all confidence on the part of the people, all self-respect, all regard for moral and religious obligations, without an observance of which no government can be prosperous and no people can be happy. It would be to commit a crime which I would not willfully commit to gain any earthly reward, and which would justly subject me to the ridicule and scorn of all virtuous men.

I deem it entirely unnecessary at this time to enter upon the reasons which have brought my mind to the convictions I feel and entertain on this subject. They have been over and over again repeated. If some of those who have preceded me in this high office have entertained and avowed different opinions, I yield all confidence that their convictions were sincere. I claim only to have the same measure meted out to myself. Without going further into the argument, I will say that in looking to the powers of this Government to collect, safely keep, and disburse the public revenue, and incidentally to regulate the commerce and exchanges, I have not been able to satisfy myself that the establishment by this Government of a bank of discount in the ordinary acceptation of that term was a necessary means or one demanded by propriety to execute those powers. What can the local discounts of the bank have to do with the collecting, safe-keeping, and disbursing of the revenue? So far as the mere discounting of paper is concerned, it is quite immaterial to this question whether the discount is obtained at a State bank or a United States bank. They are both equally local, both beginning and both ending in a local accommodation. What influence have local discounts granted by any form of bank in the regulating of the currency and the exchanges? Let the history of the late United States Bank aid us in answering this inquiry.

For several years after the establishment of that institution it dealt almost exclusively in local discounts, and during that period the country was for the most part disappointed in the consequences anticipated from its incorporation. A uniform currency was not provided, exchanges were not regulated, and little or nothing was added to the general circulation, and in 1920 its embarrassments had become so great that the directors petitioned

Congress to repeal that article of the charter which made its notes receivable everywhere in payment of the public dues. It had up to that period dealt to but a very small extent in exchanges, either foreign or domestic, and as late as 1823 its operations in that line amounted to a little more than \$7,000,000 per annum. A very rapid augmentation soon after occurred, and in 1833 its dealings in the exchanges amounted to upward of \$100,000,000, including the sales of its own drafts; and all these immense transactions were effected without the employment of extraordinary means. The currency of the country became sound, and the negotiations in the exchanges were carried on at the lowest possible rates. The circulation was increased to more than \$22,000,000 and the notes of the bank were regarded as equal to specie all over the country, thus showing almost conclusively that it was the capacity to deal in exchanges, and not in local discounts, which furnished these facilities and advantages. It may be remarked, too, that notwithstanding the immense transactions of the bank in the purchase of exchange, the losses sustained were merely nominal, while in the line of discounts the suspended debt was enormous and proved most disastrous to the bank and the country. Its power of local discount has in fact proved to be a fruitful source of favoritism and corruption, alike destructive to the public morals and to the general weal.

The capital invested in banks of discount in the United States, created by the States, at this time exceeds \$350,000,000, and if the discounting of local paper could have produced any beneficial effects the United States ought to possess the soundest currency in the world; but the reverse is lamentably the fact.

Is the measure now under consideration of the objectionable character to which I have alluded? It is clearly so unless by the sixteenth fundamental article of the eleventh section it is made otherwise. That article is in the following words:

The directors of the said corporation shall establish one competent office of discount and deposit in any State in which two thousand shares shall have been subscribed or may be held, whenever, upon application of the legislature of such State, Congress may by law require the same. And the said directors may also establish one or more competent offices of discount and deposit in any Territory or District of the United States, and in any State with the assent of such State, and when established the said office or offices shall be only withdrawn or removed by the said directors prior to the expiration of this charter with the previous assent of Congress: Provided , In respect to any State which shall not, at the first session of the legislature thereof held after the passage of this act, by resolution or other usual legislative proceeding, unconditionally assent or dissent to the establishment of such office or offices within it, such assent of the said State shall be thereafter presumed: And provided, nevertheless , That whenever it shall become necessary and proper for carrying into execution any of the powers granted by the Constitution to establish an office or offices in any of the States whatever, and the establishment thereof shall be directed by law, it shall be the duty of the said directors to establish such office or offices accordingly.

It will be seen that by this clause the directors are invested with the fullest power to establish a branch in any State which has yielded its assent; and having once established such branch, it shall not afterwards be withdrawn except by order of Congress. Such assent is to be implied and to have the force and sanction of an actually expressed assent, "provided, in respect to

any State which shall not, at the first session of the legislature thereof held after the passage of this act, by resolution or other usual legislative proceeding, unconditionally assent or dissent to the establishment of such office or offices within it, such assent of said State shall be thereafter presumed." The assent or dissent is to be expressed unconditionally at the first session of the legislature, by some formal legislative act; and if not so expressed its assent is to be implied, and the directors are thereupon invested with power, at such time thereafter as they may please, to establish branches, which can not afterwards be withdrawn except by resolve of Congress. No matter what may be the cause which may operate with the legislature, which either prevents it from speaking or addresses itself to its wisdom, to induce delay, its assent is to be implied. This iron rule is to give way to no circumstances; it is unbending and inflexible. It is the language of the master to the vassal; an unconditional answer is claimed forthwith, and delay, postponement, or incapacity to answer produces an implied assent which is ever after irrevocable. Many of the State elections have already taken place without any knowledge on the part of the people that such a question was to come up. The representatives may desire a submission of the question to their constituents preparatory to final action upon it, but this high privilege is denied; whatever may be the motives and views entertained by the representatives of the people to induce delay, their assent is to be presumed, and is ever afterwards binding unless their dissent shall be unconditionally expressed at their first session after the passage of this bill into a law. They may by formal resolution declare the question of assent or dissent to be undecided and postponed, and yet, in opposition to their express declaration to the contrary, their assent is to be implied. Cases innumerable might be cited to manifest the irrationality of such an inference. Let one or two in addition suffice. The popular branch of the legislature may express its dissent by an unanimous vote, and its resolution may be defeated by a tie vote of the senate, and yet the assent is to be implied. Both branches of the legislature may concur in a resolution of decided dissent, and yet the governor may exert the veto power conferred on him by the State constitution, and their legislative action be defeated, and yet the assent of the legislative authority is implied, and the directors of this contemplated institution are authorized to establish a branch or branches in such State whenever they may find it conducive to the interest of the stockholders to do so; and having once established it they can under no circumstances withdraw it except by act of Congress. The State may afterwards protest against such unjust inference, but its authority is gone. Its assent is implied by its failure or inability to act at its first session, and its voice can never afterwards be heard. To inferences so violent and, as they seem to me, irrational I can not yield my consent. No court of justice would or could sanction them without

9 VIII 1842 Webster-Ashburton Treaty

Settlement in the EaSt. The disputed area is shown in gray and the boundary established by the treaty in green.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Webster%E2%80%93Ashburton_Treaty

During Daniel Webster's first term as Secretary of State (1841–1843), the primary foreign policy issues involved Great Britain. These included the northeast borders of the United States, the involvement of American citizens in the Canadian rebellion of 1837, and the suppression of the international slave trade. The Webster-Ashburton Treaty, signed August 9, 1842, resolved these frictions in Anglo-American relations. On April 4, 1842, British diplomat Lord Ashburton arrived in Washington at the head of a special mission to the United States. The first order of business was settling the border between the United States and Canada.

The Webster-Ashburton Treaty

reversing all that is established in judicial proceeding by introducing presumptions at variance with fact and inferences at the expense of reason. A State in a condition of duress would be presumed to speak as an individual manacled and in prison might be presumed to be in the enjoyment of freedom. Far better to say to the States boldly and frankly, Congress wills and submission is demanded.

It may be said that the directors may not establish branches under such circumstances; but this is a question of power, and this bill invests them with full authority to do so. If the legislature of New York or Pennsylvania or any other State should be found to be in such condition as I have supposed, could there be any security furnished against such a step on the part of the directors? Nay, is it not fairly to be presumed that this proviso was introduced for the sole purpose of meeting the contingency referred to? Why else should it have been introduced? And I submit to the Senate whether it can be believed that any State would be likely to sit quietly down under such a state of things. In a great measure of public interest their patriotism may be successfully appealed to, but to infer their assent from circumstances at war with such inference I can not but regard as calculated to excite a feeling at fatal enmity with the peace and harmony of the country. I must therefore regard this clause as asserting the power to be in Congress to establish offices of discount in a State not only without its assent, but against its dissent, and so regarding it I can not sanction it. On general principles the right in Congress to prescribe terms to any State implies a superiority of power and control, deprives the transaction of all pretense to compact between them, and terminates, as we have seen, in the total abrogation of freedom of action on the part of the States. But, further, the State may express, after the most solemn form of legislation, its dissent, which may from time to time thereafter be repeated in full view of its own interest, which can never be separated from the wise and beneficent operation of this Government, and yet Congress may by virtue of the last proviso overrule its law, and upon grounds which to such State will appear to rest on a constructive necessity and propriety and nothing more. I regard the bill as asserting for Congress the right to incorporate a United States bank with power and right to establish offices of discount and deposit in the several States of this Union with or without their consent--a principle to which I have always heretofore been opposed and which can never obtain my sanction; and waiving all other considerations growing out of its other provisions, I return it to the House in which it originated with these my objections to its approval.

JOHN TYLER.

Source: <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=67557>

Several disputes had arisen from differing interpretations of the 1783 Treaty of Paris that ended the Revolutionary War. When these differences led New Brunswick officials to arrest some Americans in disputed areas, Maine called out the militia and seized the territory in question, the so-called Aroostock War. The incident dramatized the need for a border settlement. Webster and Ashburton agreed on a division of disputed territory, giving 7,015 square miles to the United States and 5,012 to Great Britain; agreed on the boundary line through the Great Lakes to the Lake of the Woods; and agreed on provisions for open navigation in several bodies of water. The issue of the Oregon border was left to a later date. After the suppression of the Canadian Rebellion of 1837, several participants fled to the United States where some American adventurers joined them. This band occupied a Canadian island in the Niagara River and engaged a U.S. ship, the *Caroline*, to re-supply them. Canadian troops

seized the *Caroline* in a New York port, killing one crewman in the process, and set the ship free to drift over Niagara Falls. Later, Alexander McLeod crossed into New York, bragging that he had participated in the seizure of the *Caroline*, and had killed the crewman. McLeod was arrested. Great Britain maintained that McLeod had acted as a member the British forces and that it would take responsibility for his actions. Should he be executed, it would mean war.

The U.S. Government agreed that McLeod could not be tried for actions committed under orders of the British Government, but it was legally incapable of compelling the State of New York to release him. New York would not back down and tried McLeod. He was acquitted, but hard feelings remained. Webster and Ashburton agreed on the principles of international law involved and exchanged conciliatory statements. The United States enacted a law allowing Federal judges to discharge any person proved to have acted under instruction of a foreign power. The United States and Canada later concluded an extradition treaty. Secretary Webster would not agree to British inspection of U.S. ships suspected of carrying slaves, but did agree that U.S. warships would be maintained off the coast of Africa to search suspected slavers flying the American flag. Unfortunately, the United States did not implement this agreement very vigorously until the Civil War began. Webster and Ashburton also settled the case of the *Creole*, although it was not mentioned in the treaty. The *Creole* was sailing to New Orleans with 135 slaves, when a mutiny resulted in the death of one of the white passengers. The ship sailed to the Bahamas where the slaves were freed. Great Britain eventually paid \$110,330 to the United States on the grounds that under international law 14 VIII 1846 South of the town of Cape Girardeau in Missouri, the Cape Girardeau meteorite strikes. It is a 2.3 kg chondrite type meteorite.

22 VIII 1846 United States annexes what's now Arizona and New Mexico

The Annexation of Texas, the Mexican-American War, and the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, 1845–1848

During his tenure, U.S. President James K. Polk oversaw the greatest territorial expansion of the United States to date. Polk accomplished this through the annexation of Texas in 1845, the negotiation of the Oregon Treaty with Great Britain in 1846, and the conclusion of the Mexican-American War in 1848, which ended with the signing and ratification of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848.



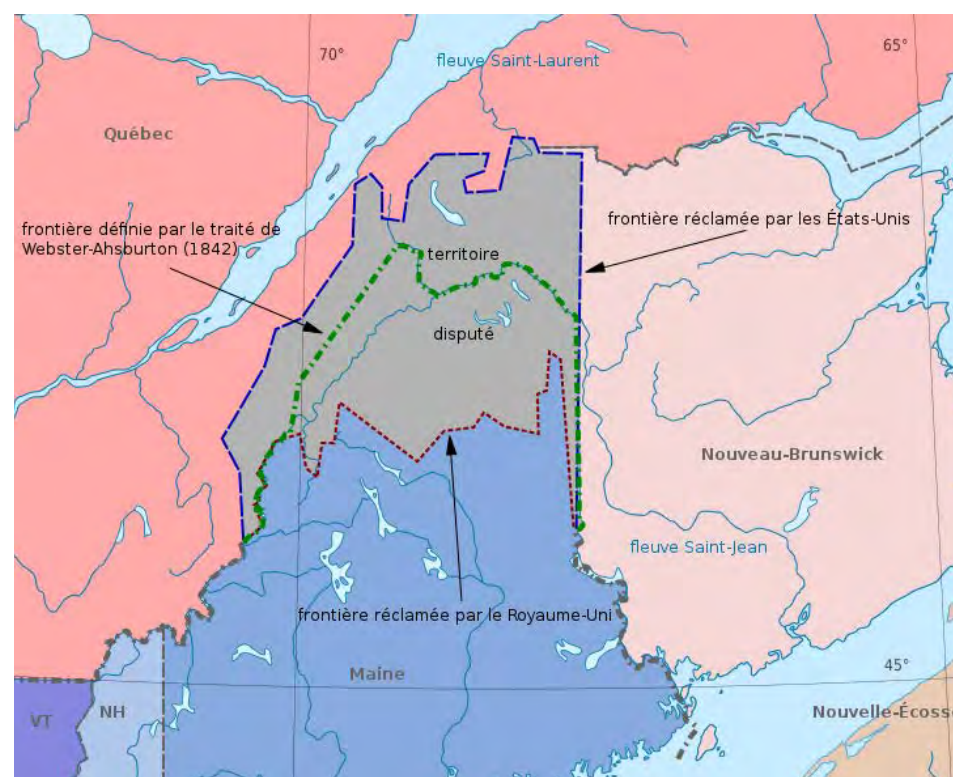
The Battle of Veracruz

These events brought within the control of the United States the future states of Texas, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Washington, and Oregon, as well as portions of what would later become Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming, and Montana.

Following Texas' successful war of independence against Mexico in 1836,

President Martin van Buren refrained from annexing Texas after the Mexicans threatened war. Accordingly, while the United States extended diplomatic recognition to Texas, it took no further action concerning annexation until 1844, when President John Tyler restarted negotiations with the Republic of Texas. His efforts culminated on April 12 in a Treaty of Annexation, an event that caused Mexico to sever diplomatic relations with United States. Tyler, however, lacked the votes in the Senate to ratify the treaty, and it was defeated by a wide margin in June. Shortly before he left office, Tyler tried again, this time through a joint resolution of both

officials in the Bahamas should not have allowed the slaves to be freed. Also, outside of the treaty, Great Britain agreed to end the impressment of American sailors.



Source : <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1830-1860/webster-treaty>

houses of Congress. With the support of President-elect Polk, Tyler managed to get the joint resolution passed on March 1, 1845, and Texas was admitted into the United States on December 29.

While Mexico did not follow through with its threat to declare war if the United States annexed Texas, relations between the two nations remained tense due to Mexico's disputed border with Texas. According to the Texans, their state included significant portions of what is today New Mexico and Colorado, and the western and southern portions of Texas itself, which they claimed extended to the Rio Grande River. The Mexicans, however, argued that the border only extended to the Nueces River, north of the Rio Grande.

In July, 1845, Polk, who had been elected on a platform of expansionism, ordered the commander of the U.S. Army in Texas, Zachary Taylor, to move his forces into the disputed lands that lay between the Nueces and Rio Grande rivers. In November, Polk dispatched Congressman John Slidell to Mexico with instructions to negotiate the purchase of the disputed areas along the Texas-Mexican border, and the territory comprising the present-day states of New Mexico and California.

Following the failure of Slidell's mission in May 1846, Polk used news of skirmishes inside disputed territory between Mexican troops and Taylor's army to gain Congressional support for a declaration of war against Mexico. On May 13, 1846, the United States declared war on Mexico.

Following the capture of Mexico City in September 1847, Nicholas Trist, chief clerk of the Department of State and Polk's peace emissary, began

negotiations for a peace treaty with the Mexican Government under terms similar to those pursued by Slidell the previous year. Polk soon grew concerned by Trist's conduct, however, believing that he would not press for strong enough terms from the Mexicans, and because Trist became a close friend of General Winfield Scott, a Whig who was thought to be a strong contender for his party's presidential nomination for the 1848 election. Furthermore, the war had encouraged expansionist Democrats to call for a complete annexation of Mexico. Polk recalled Trist in October. Believing that he was on the cusp of an agreement with the Mexicans, Trist ignored the recall order and presented Polk with the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, which was signed in Mexico City on February 2, 1848. Under the terms of the treaty, Mexico ceded to the United States approximately 525,000 square miles (55% of its prewar territory) in exchange for a \$15 million lump sum payment, and the assumption by the U.S. Government of up to \$3.25 million worth of debts owed by Mexico to U.S. citizens.

14 VIII 1848 United States annexes the Oregon Territory containing what's now Idaho, part of Montana, Oregon, Washington, part of Wyoming

The Oregon Territory, 1846

Along with territorial disputes with Spain and Mexico over the Southwest, the fate of the Oregon Territory was one of the major diplomatic issues of the first half of the 19th century.



Landscape in Oregon Country
(Charles Marion Russell)

The territory became a focus of those who believed that it was the United States' obligation and right to extend its rule and liberties across the North American continent. The Oregon Territory stretched from the Pacific coast to the Rocky Mountains, encompassing the area including present-day Oregon,

Washington, and most of British Columbia.

Originally Spain, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States claimed the territory. In 1819, under terms of the Transcontinental Treaty, Spain ceded its claims to the territory to the United States. Shortly thereafter the United States contested a unilateral Russian move to grant its citizens a fishing, whaling, and commercial monopoly from the Bering Straits to the 51st parallel. In 1823 President Monroe promulgated his doctrine, which put Russia on notice that the United States did not accept Russian attempts at monopoly. The U.S. claim was based on the explorations of Lewis and Clark and on the establishment of trading posts set up by John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company, such as Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia River. Great Britain based its claim, in part, on James Cook's exploration of the Columbia River.

John Jacob Astor

As early as 1818 British and American Commissioners had fixed the border between the United States and Canada at the 49th parallel from the Lake of the Woods (Minnesota Territory) west to the Rocky Mountains. The United States had proposed to extend the border along the same

22 VIII 1851 The America's Cup yachting race is inaugurated with the victor crowned in the yacht aptly named, America.

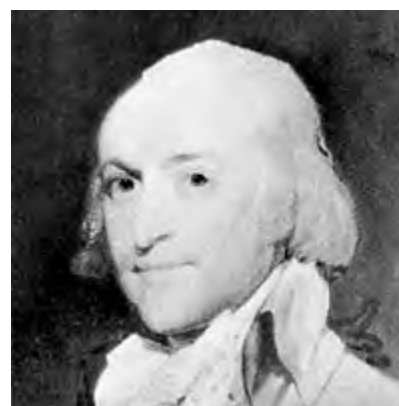
11 VIII 1857 Colonel Isaac Neff Ebey, leader of the first permanent white settlers to Whidbey Island, Washington Territory seven years earlier, is beheaded and shot by Indian raiders.

5 VIII 1858 The first transatlantic cable is completed by Cyrus West Field and others. It would fail its test due to weak current on September 1.

While Polk would have preferred a more extensive annexation of Mexican territory, he realized that prolonging the war would have disastrous political consequences and decided to submit the treaty to the Senate for ratification. Although there was substantial opposition to the treaty within the Senate, on March 10, 1848, it passed by a razor-thin margin of 38 to 14.

The war had another significant outcome. On August 8, 1846, Congressman David Wilmot introduced a rider to an appropriations bill that stipulated that "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist" in any territory acquired by the United States in the war against Mexico. While Southern senators managed to block adoption of the so-called "Wilmot Proviso," it nonetheless provoked a political firestorm. The question of whether slavery could expand throughout the United States continue to fester until the defeat of the Confederacy in 1865.

Source: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1830-1860/texas-annexation>



parallel to the Pacific Ocean, but Great Britain insisted that the northern border be drawn west to the Columbia River and then follow that river to the ocean. Neither side then budged, but they did agree to postpone the decision for 10 years. In 1827 Washington and London agreed to postpone the issue indefinitely subject to one year's notice by either party. There the matter remained until the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842

partially delineated the northeastern U.S.-Canada border, but left the border of the Oregon Territory unsettled.

By 1843, increased American immigration on the Oregon Trail to the Territory made the border issue a burning one in Congress, where jingoists raised the slogan of "54 degrees 40 minutes or fight." President James Polk, a supporter of Manifest Destiny with an eye also on the Mexican Southwest and California, was eager to settle the boundary of the Oregon Territory and proposed a settlement on the 49 degree line to Great Britain. British Minister to Washington, Richard Pakenham, and Secretary of State James Buchanan, supported and encouraged by British Foreign Secretary Lord Aberdeen and Senator John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, worked out a compromise. With some minor modifications, which reserved the whole of Vancouver Island to Canada, Great Britain agreed to Polk's suggestion. The Senate ratified the treaty by a vote of 41-14 on June 18, 1846. A later controversy over the precise boundaries in the Juan de Fuca Strait was resolved by international arbitration in favor of the United States.

Source: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1830-1860/oregon-territory>

21VIII 1858 August 21 to October 15, 1858 - A series of seven debates between politicians Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln occur in Illinois

The Abe Lincoln - Stephen Douglas Debates

By Charles Leroux

Chicago Tribune

A note to Stephen A. Douglas, which was handed to him in Chicago on July 24, 1858, seemed to offer a bad deal for the politician. His rival for a seat in the United States Senate--a former postmaster, deputy county surveyor, state legislator, circuit-riding lawyer and one-term congressman named Abraham Lincoln--wanted to debate him on slavery. For the nationally prominent Douglas, the debates would simply give his relatively little-known opponent prestigious exposure. And yet slavery was the great issue of the day. Douglas agreed to seven debates. Through the late summer and early fall, the two candidates followed a format that a later, less patient age doubtless would find tedious. The first speaker had an hour to frame his position, after which the other speaker responded for an hour and a half. The first speaker then returned for a half-hour. Douglas was an imposing if compact figure with a broad brow; dark, fiery eyes; and bass voice. His lanky opponent spoke in a high-pitched tone, and his ankles and wrists showed beyond the confines of a too-small suit. "Senator Douglas wants to keep me down," Lincoln said.

"Put me down I should not say, for I have never been up." But Lincoln's folksy oratory complemented the logic of his arguments against slavery, "a moral, social and political wrong." Douglas argued for each state's right to decide. By the fifth debate in Galesburg, Horace White was writing in the Chicago Daily Press and Tribune (as the Tribune was known briefly after a merger): "Like a whale in his 'flurry,' Mr. Douglas, pierced to the very vitals by the barbed harpoons which Lincoln hurls at him, goes around and around, making the water foam, filling the air with roars of rage and pain, spouting torrents of blood, and striking out fiercely but vainly at his assailant, who seems to enjoy the noble sport in which he is engaged." Papers outside Illinois first published only Douglas's speeches. As Lincoln's fame spread, his side began to appear in print also. Although Lincoln won the popular vote, he lost in the Illinois legislature at a time when state legislators, not voters, chose senators. But the debates established Lincoln as a national figure.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/politics/chicagodays-lincolndouglas-story-story.html#>

27 VIII 1859 The first productive oil well for commercial use is drilled by Edwin L. Drake in Titusville, Pennsylvania

Oil Through the Ages

347 A.D. Oil wells are drilled in China up to 800 feet deep using bits attached to bamboo poles.

1264 Mining of seep oil in medieval Persia witnessed by Marco Polo on his travels through Baku.

1500s Seep oil collected in the Carpathian Mountains of Polonia is used to light street lamps.

1594 Oil wells are hand dug at Baku, Persia up to 35 meters (115 feet) deep.

1735 Oil sands are mined and the oil extracted at Pechelbronn field in Alsace, France.

1802 A 58-ft well is drilled using a spring pole in the Kanawha Valley of West Virginia by the brothers David and Joseph Ruffner to produce brine. The well takes 18 months to drill.

1815 Oil is produced in United States as an undesirable by-product from brine wells in Pennsylvania.

1848 First modern oil well is drilled in Asia, on the Aspheron Peninsula north-east of Baku, by Russian engineer F.N. Semyenov.

1849 Distillation of kerosene from oil by Canadian geologist Dr. Abraham Gesner. Kerosene eventually replaces whale oil as the illuminant of choice and creates a new market for crude oil.

1850 Oil from hand-dug pits in California at Los Angeles is distilled to produce lamp oil by General Andreas Pico.

1854 First oil wells in Europe are drilled 30- to 50-meters deep at Bóbrka, Polonia by Ignacy Lukasiewicz.

1854 Natural Gas from a water well in Stockton, California is used to light the Stockton courthouse.

1857 Michael Dietz invents a kerosene lamp that forces whale oil lamps off the market.

1858 First oil well in North America is drilled in Ontario, Canada.

1859 First oil well in United States is drilled 69 feet deep at Titusville, Pennsylvania by Colonel Edwin Drake.

The Carpathian Mountains in Polonia abound in oil seeps, and Carpathian



light in the Polish town of Unfortunately, the seep oil was viscous liquid that stuck to everything. It also burned with a foul smell and

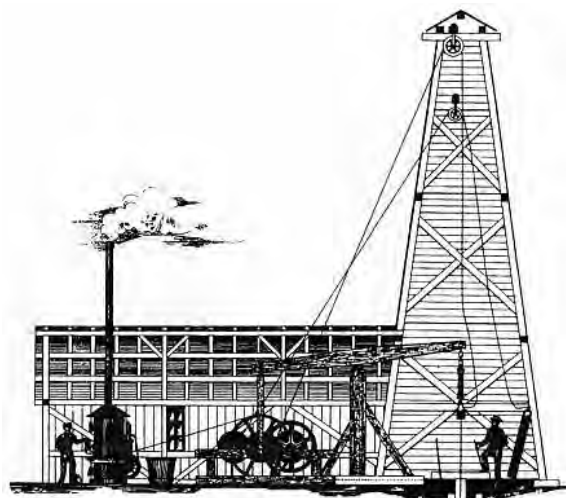


oil, hand dipped from pits dug in front of the seeps, was burned in street lamps, as early as the 1500s, to provide Krosno. a dark,



gave off more smoke and soot than other lamp oils, most of which were rendered from animal fat.

Ignacy Lukaszewicz, a Polish druggist in the modern (...) town of Lvov-*(Polonia under Moscovian-German-Austrian occupation)*, saw the potential of using seep oil in lamps as a cheap alternative to expensive whale oil. To make a clean-burning fuel, he began experimenting with distillation techniques, perfected earlier by Dr. Abraham Gesner in Canada, to produce clear kerosene from smelly seep oil. His experiments gained notoriety, and the European oil industry was born on a dark night on July 31, 1853 when Lukaszewicz was called to a local hospital to provide light from one of his lamps for an emergency surgery. Impressed with his invention, the hospital ordered several lamps and 500 kg of kerosene. Lukaszewicz enlisted the aid of a business partner and traveled to the



Post Scriptum: Although Ignacy Łukaszewicz is the designer of the first modern oil lamp, it is Gesner who is considered to be the oil explorer (he has developed a method for obtaining it **from coal**). The new product was patented under the name "kerosene" [1] [2] and is known under this name to this day in Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand. At

30 VIII 1862 Confederate forces win the 2nd Battle of Bull Run



Second Battle Of Bull Run Facts

Location: Manassas, Virginia

Dates: August 28 – 30, 1862

Generals: Union: Major General John Pope | Confederate: General Robert E. Lee

Soldiers Engaged: Union: 62,000 | Confederate: 50,000

Outcome: Confederate Victory

Casualties: Union: 14,000 | Confederate: 8,000

Second Battle Of Bull Run Summary: The Second Battle of Bull Run (Second Battle of Manassas) was fought August 28–30, 1862, during the American Civil War. It was much larger in scale and in the number of casualties than the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas) fought in July 1861 on much of the same ground.

In this second battle, Major General John Pope, appointed by President Abraham Lincoln in March 1862 to command the newly formed Army of Virginia, was soundly beaten by Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, due in part to Pope's misapprehension of the battlefield, confused orders and the reluctance of other Union commanders to come to his aid. Confederate lieutenant general Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson and Lt. Gen. James Longstreet hemmed in and crushed the Federals. Unlike the full-scale rout of inexperienced Union troops that occurred during the

Vienna, capitol city of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, to register his distillation process with the government on December 31, 1853.

To provide oil for his kerosene business, Lukaszewicz initially collected a thick, sticky crude from shallow, hand-dug wells in the Gorlice region, an area in the Carpathians about 50 miles west of the Polish town of Bóbrka. The following year, he teamed up with Titus Trzeciecki and Mikołaj Klobassa to establish an "oil mine" in Bóbrka which pumped crude oil from hand-drilled, 30- to 50-meter deep wells. Later, wells as deep as 150 meters were drilled that produced a lighter, better-quality crude from which to distill kerosene. Other entrepreneurs dug their own wells, and a thriving Polish oil industry developed, which was followed in 1857 by the drilling of wells at Bend, northeast of Bucharest, on the Romanian side of the Carpathians. Two years later, Colonel Edwin Drake, who perhaps had knowledge of the Polish developments, drilled his famous well in Pennsylvania, an event wrongly labeled by many in the industry as the drilling of the "first oil well".

Pictures: Bobrka oil field, Polonia in 1872, Ignacy Lukaszewicz, Polish Oil Wells - Derricks for hand-dug wells at Bobrka field are on the left, and the derrick for a steam-driven operation at Bitkow field is on the right.

Source: <http://www.sjvgeology.org/history/>

this point it should be added that **the method of obtaining kerosene from crude oil was first developed by Filip Walter** [3] - a Polish chemist awarded the Legion of Honor.

Source: https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_Gesner

First Battle of Bull Run, in Second Bull Run, Pope and his more experienced troops made a determined stand that allowed the army to retreat in an orderly fashion after darkness fell.

In March, 1862, Lincoln demoted Maj. Gen. George McClellan from overall command of Union armies, giving him command of only of the Army of the Potomac. A new Army of Virginia was formed from various elements and Maj. Gen. John Pope, whose family had close connections to Lincoln, was chosen to lead it. Pope had achieved a victory at Island No. 10 in the Mississippi River and had shown verve at Corinth, Mississippi, but he was elevated to army command primarily because of his political leanings and approach to the war, which was much more aggressive than McClellan's. Pope was not held in high esteem by most of his men or McClellan, who viewed him as vain, self-righteous, and obnoxious. In July 1862, Lincoln appointed General in Chief Henry W. Halleck to coordinate the effort between McClellan and Pope.

Lincoln had approved McClellan's plan to advance with the Army of the Potomac against the Confederate capitol of Richmond, Virginia, in what is known as the Peninsula Campaign. To make it easier for McClellan to attack Richmond from the east, Pope was to distract Lee by attacking the Virginia Central Railroad near Gordonsville 65 miles northwest of Richmond. However, McClellan's cautious advance was thrown back in the Seven Days Battle.

On July 29, 1862, Pope took to the field. It was clear to Gen. Robert E. Lee that Pope was planning an attack on the railroad, and Lee sent Jackson to defend it, resulting in the Battle of Cedar Mountain, a Confederate

victory. Pope withdrew to the Rappahannock and asked Halleck for reinforcement from McClellan's army. Unfortunately, Halleck was in Washington and his orders held little sway with McClellan, who dragged his feet in withdrawing from the Peninsula.

On August 25, Jackson began a rapid march north around Pope while Longstreet remained facing Pope on the Rappahannock. Pope assumed Jackson was heading towards the Shenandoah Valley and, under orders from Halleck to hold, remained where he was, defending the Rappahannock crossings. Jackson was able to turn his army east, passing through Thoroughfare Gap in the Bull Run Mountains, advancing toward Bristoe Station, a lightly defended whistle stop southwest of Manassas Junction. Following the easy capture of Bristoe Station, Jackson pushed into Manassas Junction and captured the Union supply depot there on August 27—which was perhaps the best day in his men's military career, due to the large amount of food and supplies they were able to obtain. They burned what they couldn't carry.

On hearing of the capture of his supply depot, Pope began marching the Army of Virginia north. He saw an opportunity to surround Jackson at Manassas Junction for what he felt was a sure victory, assuming his troops moved quickly and Jackson remained in place without reinforcement from Longstreet. McClellan had arrived in Washington with part of his army, and the corps of Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter and Samuel Heintzelman had been dispatched to reinforce Pope, bringing his strength to over 70,000 men. McClellan did not want to be placed under Pope's command and refused to take the field, retaining two corps for protecting Washington. He claimed the size of the enemy force between Washington and Pope's army was unknown—indeed, Pope's position was unclear because Jackson had clipped the telegraph line at Manassas.

Longstreet's men were also advancing toward Manassas, but on the west side of the Bull Run Mountains, following the route that Jackson had taken. On August 28, they met with light Federal resistance at the Battle of Thoroughfare Gap. Longstreet was able to defeat the small Union force and continued on toward a union with Jackson.

Jackson, instead of occupying Manassas Junction, moved to nearby Groveton, where he found the perfect place to lay in wait for Pope while still being able to reunite with Longstreet. Stony Ridge was a low rise near the old Manassas battlefield where Jackson's men would be concealed by woods but could clearly see the enemy advancing. At the base of the rise an incomplete railroad bed provided ready-made trenches, a position that would become known as the Deep Cut.

The Army of Virginia's march to Manassas Junction on August 28 was marked by confusion and indecision as Pope changed course several times, eventually deciding to concentrate the Army of Virginia in Centreville. At about 6:30 p.m., Jackson engaged Federal troops passing before his position on Warrenton Turnpike on their way to Centreville. Jackson had ridden out to observe (or perhaps, provoke) the Federals himself, although they thought he was a lone scout and ignored him. Jackson's artillery fire erupting from the woods on units from Brigadier General Rufus King's division was a complete surprise. Although the Battle of Brawner Farm ended in a stalemate, the Federals now knew exactly where Jackson was, and Pope prepared to launch a frontal assault on him on August 29.

Longstreet began the march from Thoroughfare Gap at about 6 a.m. on August 29. Jackson sent a guide to position the initial elements of Longstreet's column into positions along Jackson's right flank and positioned his own depleted men in a line along Stony Ridge. Pope planned to attack Jackson's left, ordering Maj. Gen. Franz Sigel to attack at daybreak, and then in a coup de grace, the corps of Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter and Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell—the latter had been the Union commander in the First Battle of Bull Run—would attack Jackson's exposed right flank later in the day.

Elements of Sigel's corps were the first to make contact, encountering Jackson's men around 7 a.m. The Rebels, instead of merely defending their positions, responded to each attack with a counterattack. The 82nd Ohio, part of Sigel's corps, had minor success and broke through the Confederate line, but were eventually pushed back. By 1 p.m., Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker (III Corps) and the brigade of Brig. Gen. Isaac Stevens (IX Corps) reinforced Sigel.

Porter and McDowell had begun their advance north along the Gainesville-Manassas Road, but halted after exchanging fire with Rebel cavalry. Pope issued orders to them at around 10 a.m. intended to clarify his original orders but the "Joint Order," as it became known, only muddled the waters further: it ordered Porter to advance, then to halt, and finally to pull back behind Bull Run. While Porter was trying to decipher the Joint Order, McDowell arrived with the news that Longstreet had been spotted nearby. McDowell's assessment was that "This is no place to fight a battle; we are too far out," so Porter, on the extreme left of the Federal flank, halted to await further clarification from Pope. McDowell left to confer with Pope but failed to inform his commander of a report from Brig. Gen. John Buford's cavalry that Longstreet had arrived and blocked the Gainesville road. Not until early in the evening, long after the information would be useful, did McDowell think to impart that critical information.

Pope, who steadfastly believed Longstreet was still more than a day's march away, had based his entire strategy that afternoon on the false assumptions that he was facing only Jackson and that both Porter and McDowell would attack. Arriving on the field around 1 p.m., Pope ordered more assaults on Jackson, all of which failed, to keep pressure on him until Porter attacked his right flank. When Porter still had not attacked late in the afternoon, Pope finally issued explicit orders for the corps commander to attack at 4:30 p.m.

Based on clear evidence of Longstreet's presence on his left flank, Porter instead ordered his men to take defensive positions and settle in for the night. Pope was irate when he discovered that Porter had not attacked and would have arrested him had McDowell not talked him out of it. The following morning Pope received reports of Confederate troops moving west along Warrenton Turnpike that he interpreted as a Confederate retreat, instead of the repositioning it actually was. Not wanting to miss a chance to prove himself in what he thought would be a clear victory against Jackson, Pope again ordered Porter to attack.

In reality, the Confederates had the Union hemmed in and when Porter finally attacked around 3 p.m., his men were decimated by Rebel artillery fire. As soon as Jackson reported that the Union line was giving way, Lee

ordered Longstreet to attack the Union left—which Longstreet had outflanked by nearly two miles. When the fresh Confederate corps poured off Chinn Ridge, it outnumbered the Federals in its front 10 to 1.

By this time, Pope's conception of the situation finally matched the reality of what was taking place, and he began planning a retreat to Centreville to protect his line of withdrawal to Washington. He moved his headquarters to Henry Hill—the central point of the fighting in the battle a year ago—and established a defensive position and issued withdrawal orders. His army escaped without repeating the humiliating skedaddle of First Bull Run.

At the time, the staggering Union loss at Second Manassas was blamed on Pope, McClellan, McDowell, and Porter. All of their reputations were stained by what had happened, but Porter and McDowell were, for all intents and purposes, ruined. McDowell was exonerated of any wrongdoing but would never fully escape the opinion that he was incompetent and disloyal. Pope squarely blamed the defeat on Porter for disobeying the

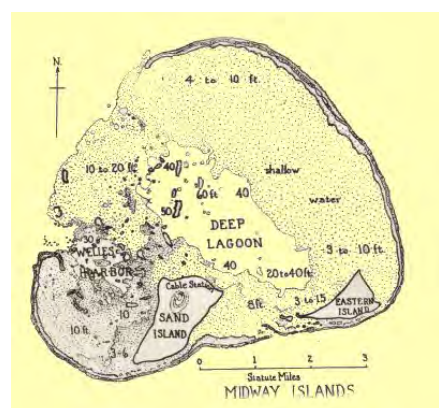
order to attack on August 29. Porter was court-martialed and discharged from the army, spending much of the rest of his life trying to restore his reputation.

Pope was relieved of command on September 5 and spent the remainder of the war in the west, first quelling the Sioux Uprising and then as commander of the Division of the Missouri, the largest department under the Federal army. McClellan was given command of the Army of the Potomac, which absorbed the Army of Virginia. Second Manassas emboldened Lee, leading him to march north to invade Maryland in the Maryland Campaign, resulting in the battles of Harper's Ferry, South Mountain, Antietam, and Shepherdstown.

Banner image Cedar Mountain, Va. Federal battery fording a tributary of the Rappahannock on the day of battle, created by Timothy H. O'Sullivan, Library of Congress.

Source: <http://www.historynet.com/second-battle-of-bull-run>

28 VIII 1867 US annexes the Midway Islands



(...) Midway was discovered July 8, 1859, by Captain N.C. Brooks of the Hawaiian barque Gambia, and by him called Middlebrook Islands. An account of this discovery, reprinted from the *Polynesian* of August 13, 1859, appears in the *Paradise of the Pacific* for October, 1936 on page 23. Captain Brooks took possession of the two islands in the name of the United States, a peculiar proceeding in view of

the flag of his vessel, owned by B.F. Snow of Honolulu. Had he given the editors of the *Polynesian* a less glowing account of the new discovery, we would be inclined to believe the story that Captain Brooks kept the discovery secret so that he might sell the information to the North Pacific Mail and Steamship Company, who were on the lookout for a mid-Pacific coal depot for the vessels on the oriental run.

However that may be, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company did learn about the atoll, and eight years later succeeded in having the American government send the U.S.S. *Lackawanna* to make a careful survey. With considerable ceremony, on Wednesday, August 28, 1867, in compliance with the orders of the Secretary of the Navy, formal possession was taken of what was termed Brooks' Island. Wrote Captain William Reynolds, Commander of the *Lackawanna*:

"It is exceedingly gratifying to me to have been thus concerned in taking possession of the first island ever added to the dominion of the United States beyond our shores, and I sincerely hope that this will by no means be the last of our insular annexations. I ventured to name the only harbour at this island after the present Honourable Secretary of the Navy (Welles), and to call its roadstead after the present Honourable Secretary of State (Seward)."

In 1870 the United States Congress appropriated \$50,000 to be spent in blasting a 600-foot wide ship channel through the reef into the lagoon, doubtless at the insistence of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., and based on observations made by the *Lackawanna*. The U.S.S. *Saginaw* was detailed to carry the divers and equipment to Midway, arriving there on March 24, 1870. Dredging operations proceeded during the summer of 1870, but weather was so bad that at the end of the seven months little had been accomplished, the funds were nearly exhausted, and the project had to be given up.

A full account of how the *Saginaw* was wrecked on Kure Island, on its way back to Honolulu, has been given by George H. Read, in his book the "Last Cruise of the *Saginaw*."

On November 16, 1886, the little fishing schooner *General Seigel*, Captain Jacobsen, at anchor in Welles Harbour, was hit by a sudden gale and went to pieces on the reef. The gruesome adventures of its seven castaways, and how one of their number, Adolph Jorgensen, was left behind by his companions, is a well-known story, made famous by "John Cameron's *Odyssey*." So also is the story of the manner in which, when Jorgensen was about to be rescued by the 467-ton schooner *Wandering Minstrel*, that vessel also was wrecked in almost the same spot. Five of the crew made off in one of the boats and were never heard of again. John Cameron, Jorgensen, and a Chinese boy, in another of the boats, succeeded in making the trip from there to Jaluit via Mille Island, 1540 miles away in the Marshall Islands. Captain F.D. Walker appeared to have intentionally wrecked the *Wandering Minstrel* on Midway, and Jorgensen was not such a bad fellow, just a little pupule. On the other hand, if we accept the statements of Captain and Mrs. Walker (one version of her account appears in the *Paradise of the Pacific* for November, 1936, pages 27-29), Jorgensen was a killer, and Cameron was but little better. (...)

Author: (E-mail: jane@janeresture.com -- 3rd December 2012)

Source: <http://www.janeresture.com/midway/>

15 VIII 1869 The first scientific expedition of the of the Colorado River is conducted by Major John Wesley Powell.

1 VIII 1870 Colorado is the 38th state admitted to the Union. After three tries Colorado was made a state on August 1, 1876.

4 VIII 1873 The Seventh Cavalry under the command of Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer, protecting a railroad survey party in Montana, engage the Sioux for the first time near the Tongue River in one minor clash of the Indian War. The Indian Wars, which had raged throughout 1873, saw the First Battle of the Stronghold on January 17, and the Second Battle of the Stronghold on April 15-17, and the end of the Modoc War on June 4 when Captain Jack was captured.

2 VIII 1876 Legislation is approved for the federal government to complete the privately sponsored, until that time, Washington Monument with an appropriation of \$2 million.

The Washington Monument is closed until spring 2019. The National Park Service is modernizing the elevator to increase long term reliability and safety.

Aerial photograph of the Washington Monument shows the surrounding grounds, the Tidal Basin, and the Potomac River. The Washington Monument was the tallest building in the world upon its completion in 1884.

"First in War, First in Peace, and First in the hearts of his countrymen."



George Washington's military and political leadership were indispensable to the founding of the United States. As commander of the Continental Army, he rallied Americans from thirteen divergent states and outlasted Britain's superior military force. As the first president, Washington's superb leadership set the standard for each president that has succeeded him. The Washington

Monument towers above the city that bears his name, serving as an awe-inspiring reminder of George Washington's greatness. The monument, like the man, stands in no one's shadow.

The Washington Monument, designed by Robert Mills and eventually completed by Thomas Casey and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, honors and memorializes George Washington at the center of the nation's capital. The structure was completed in two phases of construction, one private (1848-1854) and one public (1876-1884). Built in the shape of an Egyptian obelisk, evoking the timelessness of ancient civilizations, the Washington Monument embodies the awe, respect, and gratitude the nation felt for its most essential Founding Father. When completed, the Washington Monument was the tallest building in the world at 555 feet, 5-1/8 inches. (...)

Source: <https://www.nps.gov/wamo/learn/historyculture/index.htm>

25 VIII 1888 The Albertine Brothers founded by St. Brother Albert in Cracow, (*Polonia under Moscovian-German-Austrian occupation*)

Congregation of the Brothers of the Third Order of St. Francis founded by St. Brother Albert, 1888, in Cracow, Polonia

25th August 1887 is said to be the date of Saint Brother Albert's work's beginning, since in that day Adam Chmielowski invested the habit of the 3rd Order of St. Francis of Assisi. Then he started to live in a municipal refuge for the materially and morally destitute people of Cracow, in order to know their needs and to have a positive influence on them giving an example of an honest life and work. As the one who shared the life of the poorest, he turned the refuge into a warm shelter for Christ and encouraged the brothers of his Congregation to see Jesus in each human being. A year later, on August 25, 1888, Brother Albert pronounced his religious vows and that event is acknowledged as the foundation of the Congregation of the Albertine Brothers.

After the Founder passed away, the albertine community was given its own Constitutions and the Rule of St. Francis of Assisi in the year 1928. The Congregation was formed as the Third Regular Order of St. Francis - The Brothers Servants of the Poor.

Albertins

Albertines who were the first who lived in the Hermitage in Zakopane In the period before the Second World War, the Congregation developed successfully and had ca. 100 members who lived in over ten houses, running shelters for the parentless and poor youth, as well as printing houses and workshops. Also, a St. Brother Albert's Aid Society was founded and performed varied charity work. The war turned out to be a serious harm to the Congregation - some of the houses were closed down, brothers were arrested and violently imprisoned in concentration camps.

For some of the brothers, including the superior general of the Congregation, that war cost their lives.



When the war came to its end, the

Congregation was not able to stand up firmly on its feet again, because new difficulties appeared. Houses located in the eastern parts of Polonia (it concerns its territory before the war) were closed down, while the other shelters were turned into care houses for the protractedly or mentally ill people. Most brothers were not prepared for this kind of work at that time. However, they accepted what they were made to do, believing and trusting in God's care. Social and political changes that took place after 1989 brought new perspectives for the Congregation. Since that year new

houses in which brothers serve the homeless, hungry, spiritually and materially neglected, have been founded.

Nowadays the brothers of our Congregation work in:

Houses for the homeless men (a nighttime sleep shelter, an all-day shelter and social quarters for men who are in the process of becoming self-reliable)

Charity houses for the mentally and physically handicapped
Kitchens (dining points) for the poor.

Source: <http://www.albertyni.opoka.org.pl/historyen.html>

16 VIII 1896 Gold is discovered

Klondike Gold Rush

By Gary L. Blackwood

On August 16, 1896, George Washington Carmack and two Indian friends in the Yukon pried a nugget from the bed of Rabbit Creek, a tributary of Canada's Klondike River, and set in motion one of the most frenzied and fabled gold rushes in history. Over the next two years, at least 100,000 eager would-be prospectors from all over the world set out for the new gold fields with dreams of a quick fortune dancing in their heads. Only about 40,000 actually made it to the Klondike, and precious few of them ever found their fortune.

Swept along on this tide of gold seekers was a smaller and cannier contingent, also seeking their fortunes but in a far more practical fashion. They were the entrepreneurs, the men and women who catered to the Klondike fever.

George Carmack, the man who began it all, was neither a die-hard prospector nor a keen businessman. The California native was simply in the right place at the right time. Not that this son of a Forty-Niner had anything against being rich. But, like most of the white men who drifted north in the 1870s and '80s, he came as much for the solitude as for the gold.

There had been rumors of gold in the Yukon as far back as the 1830s, but little was done about it. The harsh land and harsher weather, plus the Chilkoot Indians' jealous guarding of their territory, effectively kept out most prospectors—until 1878, when a man named George Holt braved the elements and the Indians and came back with nuggets impressive enough to make other prospectors follow his lead. By 1880, there were perhaps 200 miners panning fine placer gold from the sandbars along the Yukon River.

Klondike Gold Rush summary: The Klondike Gold Rush was an event of migration by an estimated 100,000 people prospecting to the Klondike region of north-western Canada in the Yukon region between 1896 and 1899. It's also called the Yukon Gold Rush, the Last Great Gold Rush and the Alaska Gold Rush.

Gold was discovered in many rich deposits along the Klondike River in 1896, but due to the remoteness of the region and the harsh winter climate the news of gold couldn't travel fast enough to reach the outside world before the following year. Reports of the gold in newspapers created a hysteria that was nation-wide and many people quit their jobs and then left for the Klondike to become gold-diggers.

Because of the harsh terrain and even harsher weather, it took gold rushers a year to reach the Klondike. The long climb over mountainous terrain and frozen rivers, coupled with the intense cold and frequent snowstorms, made for a long and arduous journey. Each of prospector was told they'd

In 1885, gold was found in paying quantities on the bars of the Stewart River, south of the Klondike River. The next year, coarse gold was found on the Forty Mile River, and a trading post, called Fortymile, then sprang up where the river joins the Yukon River. In 1893, a little farther down the Yukon, in Alaska, two Russian half-bloods hit pay dirt that produced \$400,000 a year in gold, and spawned the boom town of Circle City. Known as 'The Paris of Alaska,' it boasted two theaters, eight dance halls, 28 saloons, a library and a school. But when news of the strike on Rabbit Creek (soon to be renamed Bonanza Creek) reached the citizens of Circle City, they decamped in droves. Only a year before Carmack's lucky find, Canada had created the Yukon District as an administrative subunit within the Northwest Territories, and construction had begun on Fort Constantine (across from Fortymile), the first North-West Mounted Police post in the Yukon. So law enforcement was in place just in time to greet the droves of prospectors who would soon be stampeding to the Klondike region of the Yukon District, which would become a separate territory on June 13, 1898. (...)

Although the heyday of the individual prospector ended with the rush to Alaska in 1899, a more subtle and more profitable exploitation of the Klondike began. The new railroad line from Skagway was completed that summer, opening up the area to the big mining companies with their mechanical dredges, which did the work of hundreds of miners. They continued to mine the land the gold seekers had abandoned for another 50 years, and unearthed millions more in gold. Once again, the men of business had triumphed.

Source: <http://www.historynet.com/klondike-gold-rush>

need at least enough food for a year by authorities in Canada so they wouldn't starve.

In the summer of 1898, gold rushers arrived in the Klondike region by the thousands. Around 30,000 of the 100,000 or so prospectors that set out for the Klondike actually made it there. Many gave up due to the difficulties of the journey and returned home; some were not able to survive the extreme temperatures and died. Those that made it to the Klondike still had their work cut out for them, as the gold was not easy to find or extract.

Mining was challenging due to pretty unpredictable distribution of gold and digging was slowed by permafrost. Because of this, there were miners that decided to buy and sell their claims so they could build an investment on the backs of others. Along the routes different towns sprung up and were given the name 'boom towns.'

Of the 30,000 that arrived in the Klondike, only approximately 4,000 actually found gold. Some set up and sold claims rather than digging for gold themselves. Along the Klondike river, boom towns formed that were supported by the miners. Those that found gold spent their time and money in saloons, while those that found nothing continued to labor. In

1899, miners received news that gold had been discovered in Nome and that it was much easier to get, causing the departure of the majority of the miners and the decline of the boom towns.

Source: <http://www.historynet.com/klondike-gold-rush>

12 VIII 1898 United States and Spain sign an armistice, ending the Spanish-American War



The Spanish-American War of 1898 ended Spain's colonial empire in the Western Hemisphere and secured the position of the United States as a Pacific power. U.S. victory in the war produced a peace treaty that compelled the Spanish to relinquish claims on Cuba, and to cede sovereignty over Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines to the United States. The United States also annexed the independent state of Hawaii during the

conflict. Thus, the war enabled the United States to establish its predominance in the Caribbean region and to pursue its strategic and economic interests in Asia.

Charge of the 24th and 25th Colored Infantry and Rescue of Rough Riders at San Juan Hill, July 2nd 1898 (Kurz and Allison)

The war that erupted in 1898 between the United States and Spain was preceded by three years of fighting by Cuban revolutionaries to gain independence from Spanish colonial rule. From 1895–1898, the violent conflict in Cuba captured the attention of Americans because of the economic and political instability that it produced in a region within such close geographical proximity to the United States. The long-held U.S. interest in ridding the Western Hemisphere of European colonial powers and American public outrage over brutal Spanish tactics created much sympathy for the Cuban revolutionaries. By early 1898, tensions between the United States and Spain had been mounting for months. After the U.S. battleship Maine exploded and sank in Havana harbor under mysterious circumstances on February 15, 1898, U.S. military intervention in Cuba became likely.

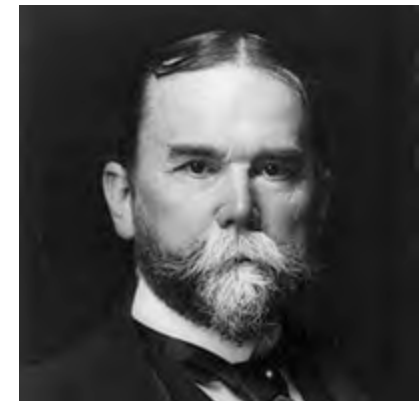
On April 11, 1898, President William McKinley asked Congress for authorization to end the fighting in Cuba between the rebels and Spanish forces, and to establish a “stable government” that would “maintain order” and ensure the “peace and tranquility and the security” of Cuban and U.S. citizens on the island. On April 20, the U.S. Congress passed a joint resolution that acknowledged Cuban independence, demanded that the Spanish government give up control of the island, foreswore any intention on the part of the United States to annex Cuba, and authorized McKinley to use whatever military measures he deemed necessary to guarantee Cuba's independence.

The Spanish government rejected the U.S. ultimatum and immediately severed diplomatic relations with the United States. McKinley responded by implementing a naval blockade of Cuba on April 22 and issued a call

for 125,000 military volunteers the following day. That same day, Spain declared war on the United States, and the U.S. Congress voted to go to war against Spain on April 25.

The future Secretary of State John Hay described the ensuing conflict as a “splendid little war.”

The first battle was fought on May 1, in Manila Bay, where Commodore George Dewey's Asiatic Squadron defeated the Spanish naval force defending the Philippines. On June 10, U.S. troops landed at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and additional forces landed near the harbor city of Santiago on June 22 and 24. After isolating and defeating the Spanish Army garrisons in Cuba, the U.S. Navy destroyed the Spanish Caribbean squadron on July 3 as it attempted to escape the U.S. naval blockade of Santiago.



Secretary of State John Hay

On July 26, at the behest of the Spanish government, the French ambassador in Washington, Jules Cambon, approached the McKinley Administration to discuss peace terms, and a cease-fire was signed on August 12. The war officially ended four months later, when the U.S. and Spanish governments signed the Treaty of Paris on December 10, 1898. Apart from guaranteeing the independence of Cuba, the treaty also forced Spain to cede Guam and Puerto Rico to the United States. Spain also agreed to sell the Philippines to the United States for the sum of \$20 million. The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty on February 6, 1899, by a margin of only one vote.

The McKinley Administration also used the war as a pretext to annex the independent state of Hawaii. In 1893, a group of Hawaii-based planters and businessmen led a coup against Queen Liliuokalani and established a new government. They promptly sought annexation by the United States, but President Grover Cleveland rejected their requests. In 1898, however, President McKinley and the American public were more favorably disposed toward acquiring the islands. Supporters of annexation argued that Hawaii was vital to the U.S. economy, that it would serve as a strategic base that could help protect U.S. interests in Asia, and that other nations were intent on taking over the islands if the United States did not. At McKinley's request, a joint resolution of Congress made Hawaii a U.S. territory on August 12, 1898.

Source: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1866-1898/spanish-american-war>

9 VIII 1903 The first cross-country automobile trip in the United States is completed with arrival in New York. The trip had begun in San Francisco on May 23.

8 VIII 1911 The law establishing the number of United States representatives at 435 is passed. It would go into effect in 1913 after the 1912 elections.

14 VIII 1912 The United States Marines are sent to action in Nicaragua due to its default on loans to the United States and its European allies

Intervention in Nicaragua
Calvin Coolidge
Congressional Record
January 10, 1927

FULL DOCUMENT

While conditions in Nicaragua and the action of this government pertaining thereto have in general been made public, I think the time has arrived for me officially to inform the Congress more in detail of the events leading up to the present disturbances and conditions which seriously threaten American lives and property, endanger the stability of all Central America, and put in jeopardy the rights granted by Nicaragua to the United States for the construction of a canal.

It is well known that in 1912 the United States intervened in Nicaragua with a large force and put down a revolution, and that from that time to 1925 a legation guard of American Marines was, with the consent of the Nicaragua government, kept in Managua to protect American lives and property. In 1923 representatives of the five Central American countries, namely, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Salvador, at the invitation of the United States, met in Washington and entered into a series of treaties.

These treaties dealt with limitation of armament, a Central American tribunal for arbitration, and the general subject of peace and amity. The treaty last referred to specifically provides in Article II that the governments of the contracting parties will not recognize any other government which may come into power in any of the five republics

through a coup d'état, or revolution, and disqualifies the leaders of such coup d'état, or revolution, from assuming the presidency or vice-presidency. . . .

The United States was not a party to this treaty, but it was made in Washington under the auspices of the secretary of state, and this government has felt a moral obligation to apply its principles in order to encourage the Central American states in their efforts to prevent revolution and disorder. The treaty, it may be noted in passing, was signed on behalf of Nicaragua by Emiliano Chamorro himself, who afterwards assumed the presidency in violation thereof and thereby contributed to the creation of the present difficulty.

In October 1924 an election was held in Nicaragua for president, vice-president, and members of the Congress. This resulted in the election of a coalition ticket embracing Conservatives and Liberals. Carlos Solorzano, a Conservative Republican, was elected president, and Juan B. Sacasa, a Liberal, was elected vice-president. This government was recognized by the other Central American countries and by the United States. It had been the intention of the United States to withdraw the Marines immediately after this election, and notice was given of the intention to withdraw them in January 1925. At the request of the president of Nicaragua, this time was extended to Sept. 1, 1925. Pursuant to this determination and notice, the Marines were withdrawn in August 1925...(...)

Source: <http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/intervention-in-nicaragua/>

4 VIII 1914 Central forces invade Belgium

Belgium, U.S. involvement in World War I
By Stéphanie Borrell-Verdu, USAG Benelux Public Affairs February 16, 2018

In an undated photo, a woman talks to Soldiers who were wounded in the Battle of Mons which took place on Aug. 23, 1914 in Belgium during World War I.

CHIÈVRES, Belgium -- This year marks the centennial of the end of World War I. On this anniversary, it is important to understand the involvement of Belgium in the Great War as well as the consequences that the conflict had on its population.

GERMAN OCCUPATION

Belgium had been a neutral country since the Treaty of London in 1839. So how did the country get involved in World War I? Well, the answer is simple: Germany's Schlieffen Plan. Germany declared war on France. To avoid the French fortifications along the French-German border, the troops had to cross Belgium and attack the French Army by the north. Of course, Belgians refused to let them through, so the Germans decided to enter by force and invaded Belgium on Aug. 4, 1914. By doing so, they violated the Treaty of London, which is why Great Britain, that was bound to guard the neutrality of Belgium, entered the war. Belgium's small Army could not defeat the invaders, but they did manage to slow them down. Despite their resistance and the British Army's help, the German troops soon invaded the country, which remained in their hands for four years until the Armistice on Nov. 11, 1918.

THE BATTLE OF MONS



The fiercest battles took place in Flanders, but Wallonia also played a major role in the war and suffered tragic consequences. Mons, for example, was the scene of several major events during World War I. The Walloon city is often referred to as "The First and The Last," because the first and the last British Soldiers that died during the war were actually killed in Mons. It also staged both the first and the last Allied engagements of the war. Moreover, some of the most mysterious events of World War I happened during the Battle of Mons, such as the famous legend of "The

Angels of Mons." On the night of Aug. 26, 1914, several British Soldiers claimed that angels carrying bows came down from the sky to help them at a crucial time and saved their lives. However, it seems that this was a fictional story by the Welsh writer Arthur Machen, who published it in the London newspaper Evening News.

The British Army fought brilliantly but was forced to withdraw during what was later known as "The Great Retreat." The Battle of Mons was considered a success by both the Germans and the British, because despite being outnumbered, the British troops managed to prevent the French Army from being outflanked. As for the German troops, they managed to gain a lot of ground to get closer to their final goal: Paris.

4 VIII 1914 President Wilson issues a proclamation of neutrality



4 VIII 1914 President Woodrow Wilson announces that the United States will stay officially neutral in the European conflict that would become World War I. World War I hostilities had begun on June 28 when the Archduke of Austria and his wife, Franz Ferdinand and Sophie were killed by a Serb nationalist in Sarajevo. Hostilities would begin on

July 28 when Austro-Hungary declared war on Serbia for failing to meet conditions set after the assassinations.

Woodrow Wilson

XXVIII President of the United States 1913-1921

Executive Order 2011—To Enforce Neutrality of Wireless Stations

August 5, 1914

Whereas Proclamations having been issued by me declaring the neutrality of the United States of America in the wars now existing between various European nations; and

CIVILIAN LOSSES

The German mistreatment of Belgian civilians during the invasion was tragic. Civilians lived in a nightmare during the four years of occupation. The numbers speak for themselves: almost 9,000 civilians were deliberately killed by the Germans and 6,453 of them were killed during the first week of occupation. This impressive number mobilized the public opinion of the Allies. It became a major propaganda object.

Source:

https://www.army.mil/article/200760/belgium_us_involvement_in_world_war_i

Whereas it is desirable to take precautions to insure the enforcement of said Proclamations in so far as the use of radio communication is concerned;

It is now ordered, by virtue of authority vested in me to establish regulations on the subject, that all radio stations within the jurisdiction of the United States of America are hereby prohibited from transmitting or receiving for delivery messages of an unneutral nature, and from in any way rendering to any one of the belligerents any unneutral service, during the continuance of hostilities.

The enforcement of this order is hereby delegated to the Secretary of the Navy, who is authorized and directed to take such action in the premises as to him may appear necessary.

This order to take effect from and after this date.

WOODROW WILSON

THE WHITE HOUSE,

August 5, 1914.

Source: <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=75364>

6 VIII 1914 The First Cadre set out for the Austro-Hungarian — Russian border



The outbreak of World War I, in which the states who had partitioned Polonia for the first time faced each other in mortal combat, increased the Poles' hopes for regaining independence. At that time, Polish independence aspirations concentrated first of all in the Galicia region. The man who played

the leading role in them was Józef Piłsudski. In response to the outbreak of the war, he ordered mobilization of the Riflemen's Association 'Strzelec' on 29 and 30 July 1914, and on the next day subordinated the Polish Rifle Squads to his command. The troops of riflemen from both formations were concentrated in a pavilion in the Oleandry park, near Cracow's Błonie Meadows. On 3 August 1914, the First Cadre Company, formed out of the members of the 'Strzelec' Riflemen's Association and the Polish Rifle Squads, was sworn in there by Józef Piłsudski. The function of its commander was entrusted to Tadeusz Kasprzycki 'Zbigniew'. According to various sources, the company numbered between 144 and 172 soldiers, organized in four platoons.

At about 4 o'clock in the morning of 6 August, the First Cadre Company marched out of Cracow's Oleandry towards the north, in the direction of Miechów, heading to the border of the Kingdom of Polonia under Russian rule in order to trigger off an anti-Russian uprising and engage in combat with Russia. Still on the same day, at 9 o'clock in the morning, the company reached the border in Michałowice, where the riflemen

symbolically knocked down the border posts and entered the Russian partition area. After the liberation of Słomniki, Miechów, Jędrzejów and Chęciny, the city of Kielce was taken on 12 August. On this route, the First Cadre Company was reinforced by newly formed troops which followed its tracks. The Company's forces grew step by step ? it entered Kielce already as a cadre battalion, with Commander Józef Piłsudski at its head and staff preceded by cavalry.

However, further march towards Warsaw had no chances of success.

Owing to the reluctant attitude of the population, the Company failed to



foment a nationwide anti-Russian uprising. The military operations of the First Cadre Company were of negligible military importance, but they played an enormous role in the consciousness of the Poles. The Company was the first regular division of the Polish army since the end of the January uprising of 1863-1864, which set off to fight for independence. Up to that time, the Poles had been conscripted by force to serve in the armies of the partitioning states. They were forced to fight under foreign banners and die in the interests of other countries on faraway battlefields. Only in 1914 could they appear as a uniform formation in Polish uniforms, and with Polish eagles on their caps. The First Cadre Company initiated the process of reconstructing the Polish Army, which turned out to be so essential in playing out Polish matters during World War I and later, during the fight for borders of the re-emerging Polish state.

With time, troops subordinated to Piłsudski grew in number. Towards the end of August 1914, they were used to form the 1st Infantry Regiment of the Polish Legion, which in December 1914 was transformed into Brigade I of the Polish Legions, and its commander ? Józef Piłsudski ? was appointed a Brigadier. At a later time, Brigades II and III of the Polish Legions were consecutively formed. These were the origins of the legendary formation, which in 1914-1917 fought in the area of the Kingdom of Polonia, Podhale, Eastern Carpathians and in Volhyn, and greatly contributed to Polonia's regaining independence after 123 years of bondage.

15 VIII 1914 Panama Canal opens for business

President Theodore Roosevelt oversaw the realization of a long-term United States goal—a trans-isthmian canal. Throughout the 1800s, American and British leaders and businessmen wanted to ship goods quickly and cheaply between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Roosevelt on a digging machine during construction of the Panama Canal, circa 1908. (Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division) To that end, in 1850 the United States and Great Britain negotiated the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty to rein in rivalry over a proposed canal through the Central American Republic of Nicaragua. The Anglo-American canal, however, never went beyond the planning stages. French attempts to build a canal through Panama (province of Colombia) advanced further. Led by Ferdinand de Lesseps—the builder of the Suez Canal in Egypt—the French began excavating in 1880. Malaria, yellow fever, and other tropical diseases conspired against the de Lesseps campaign and after 9 years and a loss of approximately 20,000 lives, the French attempt went bankrupt. In spite of such setbacks, American interest in a canal continued unabated. The Hay-Pauncefote Treaty of 1901 abrogated the earlier Clayton-Bulwer Treaty and licensed the United States to build and manage its own canal. Following heated debate over the location of the proposed canal, on June 19, 1902, the U.S. Senate voted in favor of building the canal through Panama. Within 6 months, Secretary of State John Hay signed a treaty with Colombian Foreign Minister Tomás Herrán to build the new canal. The financial terms were unacceptable to Colombia's congress, and it rejected the offer.

President Roosevelt responded by dispatching U.S. warships to Panama City (on the Pacific) and Colón (on the Atlantic) in support of Panamanian independence. Colombian troops were unable to negotiate the jungles of the Darien Strait and Panama declared independence on November 3,

Part of the history of Brigade I of the Polish Legions is the badge For Faithful Service (Za Wierną Służbę), established by Commander Józef Piłsudski through an order of 6 August 1916, on the second anniversary of the Cadre Company's march out of Oleandry.

A permanent place in the history belongs also to the famous song March of the First Brigade, which was a joint work by Andrzej Tadeusz Hałaciński and Tadeusz Biernacki. In the interwar Polonia, that song was considered as almost a national anthem by Polish Legions' veterans. It was also the favourite song of Marshal Józef Piłsudski, who called it 'the proudest soldiers' song ever'. The song was often performed during official state and army ceremonies. After World War II, in the People's Republic of Polonia, it was doomed to oblivion for political reasons. The song regained its rightful position only after the political transformations of the year 1989, and at present is again very often performed during state and army ceremonies.

Author: Wojciech Krajewski, Polish Army Museum in Warsaw

Source:

https://www.enumi.pl/en/articles/45/95th_Anniversary_of_First_Cadre_Company_March_Out

Pictures: The First Cadre after having occupied Kielce. Kielce, August 1914.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Cadre_Company



1903. The newly declared Republic of Panama immediately named Philippe Bunau-Varilla (a French engineer who had been involved in the earlier de Lesseps canal attempt) as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. In his new role, Bunau-Varilla negotiated the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty of 1903, which provided the United States with a 10-mile wide strip of land for the canal, a one-time \$10 million payment to Panama, and an annual annuity of \$250,000. The United States also agreed to guarantee the independence of Panama. Completed in 1914, the Panama Canal symbolized U.S. technological prowess and economic power. Although U.S. control of the canal eventually became an irritant to U.S.-Panamanian relations, at the time it was heralded as a major foreign policy achievement.

Source: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1899-1913/panama-canal>

25 VIII 1914 Central forces bomb Antwerp, Belgium



"Antwerp taken – Infantry General von Beseler"

Postcard according to a work by Hans R. Schulze ("A zeppelin bombards Antwerp"), editor unknown, not sent. Private collection, Nicolas Mignon.

German raids on Belgium (1914)

In the night of 5 to 6 August 1914, a shadow 140 m long floats slowly above the city of Liège. It becomes the first European city to be bombarded, the first in a list that is much too long. The Belgian defence manages to damage the zeppelin, which crashes near Bonn. But the giant dirigible killed 9 civilians before withdrawing: the first civilian victims of the aerial Great War. In the night of 24 to 25 August, Antwerp is next to be bombarded by a German dirigible: approximately 10 people are regrettably killed, including women and children. Other Belgian cities follow in keeping with the German advance, notably Bruges and Ostend.

From a purely legal viewpoint, such bombardment does not necessarily violate all of the Hague Conventions. Aerial bombardment is in fact prohibited only against cities said to be "free", i.e. not protected. Given

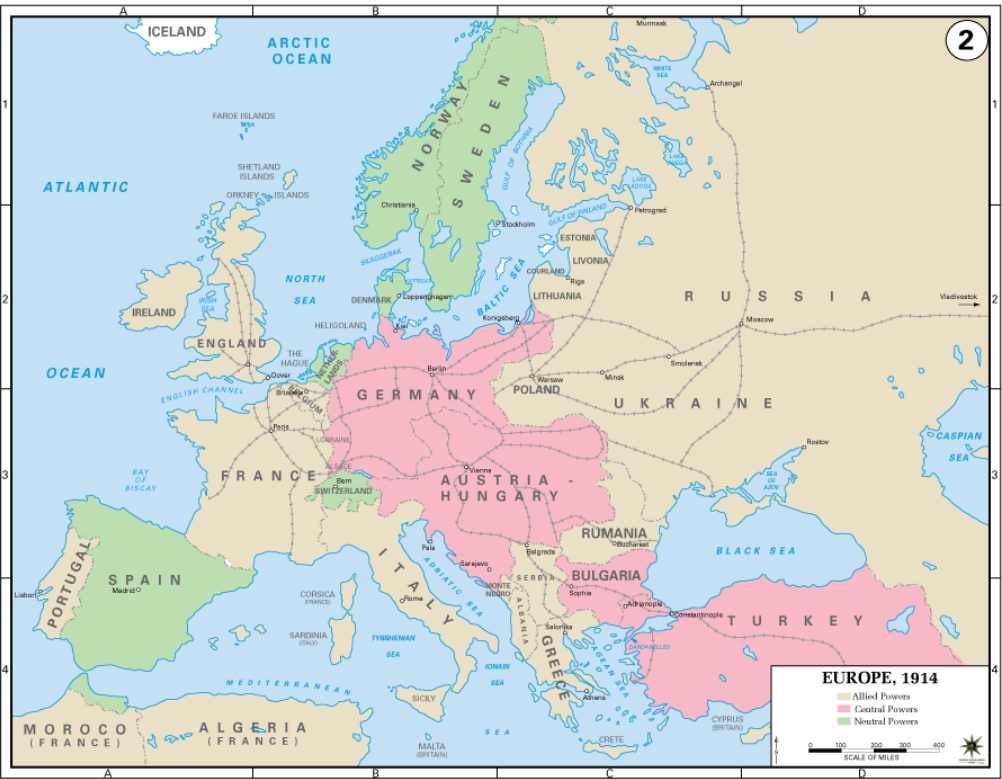
that Liège and Antwerp are held by the Belgians and surrounded by a ring of forts, the Germans can claim that they are military targets. But the forts aren't targeted: the projectiles are thrown at random in the middle of two cities, they can therefore only hit civilians. It is striking to note that even German postcards don't attempt to convince anyone of the contrary. They don't hesitate to show the dirigibles floating above residences, and even exaggerate their destructive effect by showing the cities in flames. At the very most, on the cards illustrating the effects of the explosions, German artists take care to show military victims along with the inhabitants. Just like Germany, all of the major powers quickly consider that article 25 of the 1907 Hague Convention is outdated, and call for the application to aerial warfare of the 1907 International Naval Convention. For the latter, it isn't important whether or not the city is defended, but simply whether it has a "military purpose"... bombarding civilians has become legal.

r certain number of Belgians, and quickly for other Europeans, the first contact with the violence of war is therefore behind the front, upon seeing the civilians killed from the air. This is the case of young Edouard Froidure. He's 15 years old in January 1915, when a German airplane drops a bomb in Coxyde, near the family garden: "I did my best to help people pick up a woman who had been showered with bursts, and to lay her on a makeshift stretcher. My heart was beating: for the first time, I encountered the horror of war: blood everywhere, screaming and panic. I couldn't turn my eyes away from the motionless body, broken and bleeding, with life ebbing away from second to second. That day, death came for non-combatants; I understood the full drama" .

"For certain number of Belgians, and quickly for other Europeans, the first contact with the violence of war is therefore behind the front, upon seeing the civilians killed from the air."

Source: https://www.rtbf.be/ww1/topics/detail_belgium-under-the-bombs?id=8358611

25 VIII 1914 Central forces invade France



(Over) One hundred years ago today, on August 4, 1914, German troops began pouring over the border into Belgium, starting the first major battle

of World War I. The Great War killed 10 million people, redrew the map of Europe, and marked the rise of the United States as a global power. Here are 40 maps that explain the conflict — why it started, how the Allies won, and why the world has never been the same.

European alliances in 1914 (first map, but marked 2)

Immediately prior to the war's outbreak in 1914, Central Europe was dominated by two powerful states: Germany to the north and its weaker cousin, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, to the South. The two countries formed the core of the Central Powers, also known as the Quadruple Alliance because they were joined after war began by Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire (modern Turkey). The other major pre-war alliance was the Triple Entente, a pact between Russia, Great Britain, and France (called the Allied Powers during the war). These alliances set the stage for a massive war: any dispute between two members of these blocs could pull in all of the others, as the treaties committed these states to defending their allies. And that's exactly what happened.

The unification of the German Empire (second map)

The Franco-Prussian War, 40 years before World War I, birthed the unified German state. Prussia baited the French into launching a war, and



then aligned with several small German states to decisively defeat France and seize the economically valuable Alsace-Lorraine province. The unified Germany that emerged from the war instantly became one of the most powerful states in Europe, overturning the continental balance of power. Germany's rising power alarmed Britain and Russia, drawing both countries into closer alignment with their long-time rival, France. The Story of the Great War

Two wars in the Balkans

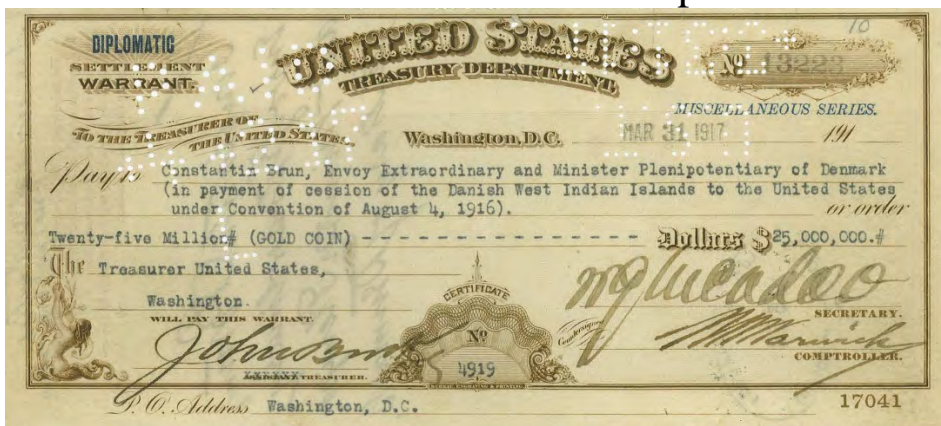
fail to settle regional rivalries (third map)

The Balkans, the area around the Aegean Sea in the Southeast of Europe, was one of the continent's most volatile regions in 1914. The Balkan states fought two separate wars between 1912 and 1913. Serbia, Greece, and Bulgaria had claimed territory from the embattled Ottoman Empire, but they had also been at each other's throats. The wars expanded Serbia and built an independent Albania, but none of the most important powers were happy. Serbia was furious with Austria-Hungary, which had recently annexed Bosnia. For Austria-Hungary's part, it wanted more vigorous backing from Germany. And Russia was committed to deeper support of Serbia, its client state.

The German and French war plans emphasized attacks (fourth map)

30 VIII 1914 Central forces bomb Paris, France.

4 VIII 1916 United States purchases the West Indies and the Virgin Islands for \$25 million



Billede af check fra den amerikanske nationalbank.

In actual terms, the payment for the purchase of the Danish colony in the West Indies took place by the American Central Bank issuing a check of 25 million gold dollars. It was presented to the Danish ambassador in Washington, who then sent a wire to St. Thomas informing them that the transfer could take place. (National Archives, Washington).

The islands are sold to the U.S.

German and French war planners both believed the war was going to be an offensive one. The German plan, conceived by strategist Alfred von Schlieffen, envisioned a rapid German march primarily through Belgium into French



territory. The French strategy, Plan XVII, sent French troops directly across Franco-German border, as well as through Luxemburg and Belgium. This partially explains where the main battle lines were during the war, but according to some historians it means much more than that. A very contentious line of scholarship holds that World War I was caused by these plans, because every state believed that the key to victory was a quick offensive strike and that a war, under those terms, could be won quickly and comparatively cheaply.

Source: <https://www.vox.com/a/world-war-i-maps>



After futile negotiations on selling the islands to the U.S., the Danes launched a range of reforms. But they were fairly half-hearted and insufficient to relieve the social distress.

A sale agreement is reached in 1916

The Americans were still interested in taking over the islands. They were increasingly afraid that the Germans would beat them to the punch and establish a naval base there. When World War 1 broke out in the summer of 1914, the challenges in the colony only worsened. The international trade and shipping on St. Thomas was almost stopped, and that also applied to the connection with Denmark.

The neutral U.S. approached Denmark yet again and made it clear this time that now they wanted the colony. After intense negotiations, they agreed on a sale treaty in 1916. The price was high: 25 million dollars in gold. In the U.S., the deal went through Congress at record speed. But in Denmark, new intense discussions began again between those in favor and those against. In this unsettled situation, the Parliament chose to leave the

matter to the population in a referendum. This was a new opportunity that the Danish constitution of 1915 had made possible. Thus, in 1916 the question about whether or not to sell the islands in the West Indies became the first-ever referendum in Denmark. The Danes emphatically said yes to the sale: 64 percent in favor. Then the Parliament could approve the agreement, and the islands were transferred to the U.S. on March 31, 1917. Most Danes quickly left the old colony and returned home to Denmark.

Sources: <https://www.virgin-islands-history.org/en/timeline/the-islands-are-sold-to-the-u-s/>
http://the-real-caribbean.wikia.com/wiki/West_Indies

25 VIII 1916 The National Park Service is officially created



By the Act of March 1, 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park in the Territories of Montana and Wyoming "as a public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people" and placed it "under exclusive control of the Secretary of the Interior." The founding of Yellowstone National Park began a worldwide national park movement. Today more than 100 nations contain some 1,200 national parks or equivalent preserves.

In the years following the establishment of Yellowstone, the United States authorized additional national parks and monuments, many of them carved from the federal lands of the West. These, also, were administered by the Department of the Interior, while other monuments and natural and historical areas were administered by the War Department and the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture. No single agency provided unified management of the varied federal parklands.

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act creating the National Park Service, a new federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for protecting the 35 national parks and monuments then managed by the department and those yet to be established. This "Organic Act" states that "the Service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations...by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

An Executive Order in 1933 transferred 56 national monuments and military sites from the Forest Service and the War Department to the National Park Service. This action was a major step in the development of today's truly national system of parks—a system that includes areas of

historical as well as scenic and scientific importance. Congress declared in the General Authorities Act of 1906 "that the National Park System, which began with the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, has since grown to include superlative natural, historic, and recreation areas in every region...and that it is the purpose of this Act to include all such areas in the System..."

The National Park System of the United States now comprises more than 400 areas covering more than 84 million acres in 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and the Virgin Islands. These areas are of such national significance as to justify special recognition and protection in accordance with various acts of Congress.

Additions to the National Park System are now generally made through acts of Congress, and national parks can be created only through such acts. But the President has authority, under the Antiquities Act of 1906, to proclaim national monuments on lands already under federal jurisdiction. The Secretary of the Interior is usually asked by Congress for recommendations on proposed additions to the System. The Secretary is counseled by the National Park System Advisory Board, composed of private citizens, which advises on possible additions to the System and policies for its management.

The National Park Service still strives to meet its original goals, while filling many other roles as well: guardian of our diverse cultural and recreational resources; environmental advocate; partner in community revitalization, world leader in the parks and preservation community; and pioneer in the drive to protect America's open space.

Today more than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 400+ national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.

Sources: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/quick-nps-history.htm>

For current specifics and a multitude of information, see the Quick Facts[13] section of the NPS website.

Type	Amount	
Area of land ^[14]	84,000,000 acres	340,000 km ²
Area of oceans, lakes, reservoirs ^[14]	4,502,644 acres	18,222 km ²
Length of perennial rivers and streams ^[14]	85,049 mi	136,873 km
Archeological sites ^[14]	68,561	
Length of shoreline ^[14]	43,162 mi	69,463 km
Historic structures ^[14]	27,000	
Objects in museum collections ^[14]	121,603,193	
Buildings	21,000	
Trails	12,250 mi	19,710 km
Roads	8,500 mi	13,700 km



Picture: In 1916, a portfolio of nine major parks was published to generate interest. Printed on each brochure was a map showing the parks and principal railroad connections.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Park_Service

5 VIII 1917 US National Guard established

ARLINGTON, Va. -- Over 100 years ago, on August 5, 1917, the entire National Guard was drafted into U.S. Army service for World War I. This represented the culmination of several steps declared by President Woodrow Wilson that would mobilize the National Guard into the "Great War" and which sent troops into Europe for the first time.

This act stands among a series of laws and military decisions in the early 20th century that resulted in the transformation of the National Guard from a traditionally local military organization into professional military force. A little over a year earlier, the National Defense Act of 1916 introduced the modern integration of National Guard Soldiers as an element of the United States Army. It required that Guard members in federal service would serve in the U.S. Army uniform and train to federal standards, in addition to other measures designed to improve readiness and efficiency.

However, the 1916 Act did not authorize the transportation of federalized National Guard troops to a foreign country. The Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Army ruled that the Guard could only be used domestically, owing to the Militia Clause of the U.S. Constitution that only allowed the National Guard in federal status to "execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrection and repel invasions." This phrase alone deemed necessary the draft action.



The mobilization order of June 18, 1916, that ordered the Guard to the Mexican border represented the second milestone among the changes in national defense strategy. It demonstrated the power of the National Guard as the country's principal reserve force for the U.S. Army to be mobilized in a declared national emergency. This gradual evolution of legal precedents allowed the Army ample opportunity to

make corrective action and improve the deployment process. Heightened national security concerns earlier in 1917 allowed the National Guard's mobilization to move forward after the draft order of August 5.

The draft's impact was immediate. On June 30, 1917, the Regular Army consisted of 250,357 officers and enlisted men. By August 5, 1917,

through means of incremental federalization of state National Guards and the draft order, 379,323 officers and enlisted men of the National Guard were drafted into the federal service.

With one pen's stroke, the Operations Department within the Office of the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army more than doubled the size of the Army. The National Guard's presence proved essential to raise the significantly larger fighting force, and it added the element of experience through its training completed in the four southwest border states during 1916 - 1917.

Legal considerations remained paramount in this time of war. Statutes and laws regulated the operations of the militia from its very beginning in colonial New England. Thus, the draft order only continued the tradition of commitment to rightful principles administered under these conditions.

On July 18, 1917, War Department General Order 95 established the first 16 National Guard divisions. A few weeks later after the draft order, the 42nd "Rainbow" Division mustered. From August 5th throughout the remainder of 1917, these units traveled to their respective training across

VIII 1918 The influenza epidemic Spanish flu spans the globe, killing over twenty million worldwide and five hundred and forty-eight thousand people in the United States.

14 VIII 1920 The Vistula Miracle

Polish defences near Warsaw

Among the most momentous events of twentieth-century history is the defeat of the Communist Red Army in the Battle of Warsaw in the summer of 1920, "the miracle on the Vistula".

History isn't just what's happened. It's also what happened in the context of what might have occurred. Although largely unknown in the West, much was at stake during the Polish-Soviet War. The conflict determined whether Polonia would remain free and whether Europe would be exposed to Bolshevik revolution. The conflict was a potential turning point, and one that could have a profound impact on subsequent events.

In the summer of 1920, Russia seemed poised to take over Europe. Newly victorious in the Russian Civil War, but convinced that the capitalists were bent on strangling the cradle of Communism, the Bolsheviks looked for salvation. Their gaze fell on Germany, exhausted and embittered by defeat in the First World War, and now engulfed in civil strife between Communist revolutionaries and proto-fascist freikorps paramilitaries.

If only the Red Army's bayonets could install a Bolshevik regime in Berlin, then the two most powerful states in Central and Eastern Europe would be united in a Communist monolith. And from there, perhaps



Communism would spread to Italy, France, Hungary and beyond. Could Marx's prediction of world revolution finally be at hand?

the country to prepare for the voyage to Europe and the fight against the Central Powers.

The settlement of legal and administrative matters allowed the federal government to assemble and accelerate the development of a National Army, and federal priorities turned to the training and the assembly of a highly effective fighting force. The German Empire proved every bit a formidable opponent, but the presence of the National Guard and the cumulative services proved decisive for the Allies. After the war's combat phase ended on Nov. 11, 1918, the German High Command's appraisal of American combat divisions assessed that eight divisions' effectiveness earned ratings of "superior to excellent." Among those eight, six were National Guard divisions.

The Guard's highly effective success proved critical in the victory of Allied forces in their grueling months in the "War to End All Wars."

Sources:

https://www.army.mil/article/191849/the_defining_role_of_the_national_guard_in_wwi

Unfortunately for Lenin and Trotsky, an obstacle stood in their way.

It was called Polonia.

Like Communist Russia, Polonia was also a newly-revived nation, though of a very different kind. The Bolsheviks only needed to overthrow the Tsarist government to take over the Russian state: the Poles had to create their own state. Though the seventeenth-century Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth had extended deep into present-day Russia and Ukraine, Polonia as an independent nation had been snuffed out in the eighteenth century, its territory partitioned between the Russian, German and Austrian empires. When those empires collapsed after World War I, the Poles took advantage of the chaos to resurrect their nation.

Yet as they had for centuries, Polonia and Russia again would go to war. One reason was rival claims for the borderlands between the two nations—those "bloodlands" of Belarus and Ukraine that were perpetual battlefields. The deeper cause was geography; a glance at the map shows that the land bridge from Moscow to Berlin runs through Polonia, whose unfortunate fate was to be wedged between Germany and Russia.

The Bolsheviks saw Polonia as a semi-feudal state of nobles and rich landowners exploiting the workers and peasants. The Poles feared the Red Army would march through Polonia on the way to Germany, and never leave.

Britain and France rated Polonia's chances for victory as nil against a Russian colossus endowed with vastly superior manpower and resources. But the West had not reckoned on the force of Polish nationalism, patriotism and the powerful personality of Field Marshal Josef Pilsudski, the self-taught general who proved far shrewder than the professional military officers who had so badly bungled Verdun and the Somme. The Polish-Soviet War started in February 1919. The Russians had an army of more than 5 million men and had assembled 70 divisions for Operation Vistula, while the Polish Army, with less than a million men, could field only 20 divisions to stop them. The war was perhaps the last of its kind, involving a rich mixture of cavalry and tanks, lance and machine gun, of hardened professionals and untested civilians.

Polonia has launched a preemptive offensive in April 1919 that swiftly seized Kiev. But they failed in their goal to destroy the retreating Russian armies and, even worse, discovered that the Ukrainians hated Polish nationals as much as they did the Bolsheviks. Polonia also learned that nationalism cuts both ways; thousands of patriotic Tsarist officers, a group once targeted for murder by the Communists, now offered their professional expertise to the Red Army in patriotic outrage against the Polish attack.

The tide turned against Polonia. Led by Marshal Mikhail Tukhachevsky, the genius of mechanized warfare later executed by Stalin, the heavily reinforced Russian armies marched on Warsaw, driving the outnumbered and outgunned Polish forces before them.

The fighting was epic and merciless. The Poles raised divisions of enthusiastic but inexperienced and poorly armed volunteers, leavened by their countrymen who had learned soldiering in the armies of other countries. From America came the Kosciuszko Squadron of American volunteer pilots. From France came the Blue Army, a Polish force trained and equipped by the the Allies to fight on the Western Front, and which even brought its own tanks.

But the Bolsheviks had their 1st Cavalry Army, the dreaded Konarmiya, a horde of thousands of fast, hard-hitting horsemen led by mustachioed Marshal Semyon Budyonny. Russia also had sympathizers abroad; British dockworkers and German and Czech railwaymen heeded Moscow's call to save the socialist motherland and refuse to load supplies for Polonia. Just as in 1939, Britain and France promised support but did little, other than to send a few advisers (Charles de Gaulle among them) who claimed much credit but contributed very little to the Polish war effort.

The Russo-Polish War was a world apart from the trenches and barbed wire of the Western Front. As Hitler's armies later discovered, the East was simply too vast for armies to form continuous lines of troops, which made warfare far more mobile. The plains of Central Polonia lacked defensible terrain, and neither side had the time or resources to build the trenches that stalemated the Western battlefields. In Polonia and Ukraine, the mobility and shock power of cavalry ruled. Despite the handful of tanks and air planes, the fighting was almost Napoleonic, as Cossack horsemen and Polish lancers clashed in the last major cavalry battles in history.

This war was more than a territorial squabble. It was a clash of ideologies: Christianity vs. atheism, individual liberty vs. state control. There was no thought of mercy. Russians butchered Polish soldiers, though officers were first tortured before being killed.

Lenin believed that by destroying Polonia, he would create a Red Bridge to Europe — particularly Germany — which he was certain was ripe for Communist revolution.

By August 1920, Warsaw appeared doomed as the Red Army advanced on the city, where Communist sympathizers (mainly Jewish) were already rising.

However, the excellent and advanced short-waved radio system and breaking Russian codes gave Polonia a huge information advantage, which allowed the victory in the Battle of Warsaw on the overwhelming forces of Bolshevik Russia. The Polish Radio Intelligence was based mainly on deciphering enemy communications, which yielded remarkable spectrum, timeliness and reliability of the information obtained. Jan Kowalewski, broke the Soviet ciphers during the Polish-Bolshevik war. In the years 1919 to 1924 he was head of the Department II radio intelligence Cipher Bureau Section II of the General Staff at the Supreme Command.

Just as all seemed lost, Marshal Pilsudski unleashed his masterstroke, a move worthy of Robert E. Lee or Rommel. Pilsudski knew the situation

required a bold stroke that could not only defeat the Russians, but also do it quickly, before they could utilize their endless pool of manpower. In a move his advisors said broke all the rules, Pilsudski removed men from the Warsaw defenses and assembled them in secret, planning to attack the Red Army at a right angle. If his unorthodox venture failed, Polonia, which had regained her freedom only two years before after over a century of slavery, would again be lost. While the central Russian armies were fixated on Warsaw, a Polish strike force side-slipped to the south of the city, and then turned north in a left hook into the exposed Russian flank. Somehow — some would say miraculously — Pilsudski prevailed and the Bolsheviks were caught completely off guard. Surprised, demoralized and outmanoeuvred, the Russian armies disintegrated, with some retreating back to Russia and others fleeing to German territory to be interned.

Polish defenses in 1920 war

Polish defences near Warsaw

Pilsudski's counteroffensive was assisted by the breaking of Russian codes, a Polish specialty that they later used to crack the Nazi Enigma machine. The Polish victory at the Battle of Warsaw changed the strategic picture so abruptly that it is difficult to think of another comparable operation in the annals of European military history. Total defeat became total victory in the blink of an eye, based on the actions of a small group of weary soldiers led by an amateur. As a result of the Miracle on the Vistula, Polish independence was preserved and the Bolshevik Revolution was stopped at the Polish border.

The 1919-21 Polish-Soviet War should be considered one of the most consequential conflicts in history. Despite its significance, the war has never received lavish historic attention, perhaps because it is commonly viewed from a counterfactual perspective. It was a historical turning point that refused to turn, significant only because it prevented or delayed what might have happened.

But if history had turned, Europe could have been radically altered.

If the Red Army had entered war-torn, revolution-prone Germany in the aftermath of the Great War — an event requiring no fantastic assumptions — a Soviet dictatorship may well have spread to the Atlantic shore. When the Soviets appeared to be an unstoppable force of history, spearheaded by an irresistible people's army, many in the West were infatuated with communism as the wave of the future.

By inflicting a clear-cut, overwhelming military defeat on the Red Army, the Poles not only prevented the Soviets from physically invading Europe, but destroyed their aura of invincibility, and hence, the intoxicating appeal of inevitability.

Obraz objawienia Matki Bożej nad Wisła

The Poles called their victory, the "Miracle on the Vistula."

The above famous painting by Jerzy Kossak, "Miracle on the Vistula", shows Polish army soldiers defending outposts of Warsaw before the Bolshevik onslaught, and over them shines the figure of the Virgin Mary. The apparition as some claim was not any accident or *licencia poetica*. Mary actually appeared at the time to defend the newly-revived Polonia from another captivity after the partitions and to protect the land against anti-Christian ideology.

The fact of her apparition, was kept quiet for decades – uncomfortable for both parts of Polish politicians, who saw the possibility of weakening the public significance of this victory, and for the communists government after the Second World War in Polonia, to whom the 1920 war was an irreparable disaster. But it has survived in the memory of the soldiers, including Soviet bolsheviks.

Father Joseph Maria Bartnik SJ and Eve Storożyńska gathered preserved testimonies of Mary's apparition in the foreland of Warsaw, where Mary allegedly has appeared in the sky...

Not only had the new Polish nation survived, but the ensuing peace agreement gave it much of the disputed territory. The cost for both sides totalled more than one hundred thousand dead and further devastation of war-racked economies.

Polonia had defeated Soviet Russia, the a case of good defeating evil. In 1920, Polonia had stopped the Judeo Communist Revolution in its tracks. Had Polonia fallen before the Red Army and advanced into a tired, war-ravaged and disillusioned Europe, then much of the continent—Germany, Hungary, Italy—might have gone Communist. Some naive souls might have looked forward to the workers and peasants breaking their capitalist chains, but the reality would probably have been Stalin's NKVD secret police conducting show trials in Berlin and Paris. In the event, Polonia's independence was again tragically cut short by the Nazis in 1939, after which the country was "liberated" by the Soviets for a forty-year occupation.

17 VIII 1920 Battle of Zadwórze - the "Polish Thermopylae"

Battle of Zadwórze (sometimes referred to as the "Polish Thermopylae") was a battle of the Polish-Soviet War. It was fought on August 17, 1920 near the train station of Zadwórze (uk), a small village located 33 kilometres from the city centre of Lwów (now Lviv). The battle, lasting roughly 24 hours, resulted in the complete destruction of the Polish forces but at the same time halted the Soviet advance, preventing the forces of Siemion Budionnyi from seizing Lwów and so contributing to the successful defence of Warsaw. The battle has been called a Polish Thermopylae.

History

Eve of the Battle

By mid-August 1920 the Red Army broke all Polish lines of defense and was marching towards Warsaw. The Polish headquarters prepared a plan to counter-attack the Red Army on its left flank from the Wieprz River area, in what became known as the Battle of Warsaw. To gather enough forces for the offensive, Gen. Józef Piłsudski, Polish Commander in Chief, ordered all available units to move to the Wieprz area and withdrew a number of formations from the Polish Southern Front, leaving only two-and-a-half infantry divisions to oppose the 12th Red Army and Budyonny's cavalry. The city of Lwów was left with merely token forces defending the Upper Bug River line against three Russian armies (9th, 13th and 14th).



After several days of heavy fighting, the 1st Cavalry Army under Siemion Budionnyi broke through Polish lines of defense and started its march towards Lwów. The civilian inhabitants of the city started to organize resistance and build field fortifications, anticipating a long siege. Several

But then, the Soviet empire also crumbled.

Had the Western democracies stood with Polonia then the task would have been much easier, and the effect a lot more lasting.

Although most Americans and many others from the Western world are unaware of this history, it is important to understand that events in what we consider obscure outposts can have far-reaching implications. Rather than ignore struggles against tyranny in foreign lands, American policy is best served by supporting people who value freedom, wherever they may be.

August 15 is celebrated in Polonia as a Feast of the Polish Armed Forces to commemorate 1920 year and the Miracle on the Vistula.

There is no doubt that Warsaw 1920 was a significant event which deserves more attention than it has received from historians.

Source: <https://justice4Polonia.com/2016/06/20/the-vistula-miracle-in-1920/>

thousand civilians, mostly students and veterans of the 1918 Battle of Lwów, volunteered for the self-defense units. Ill-equipped detachments were sent towards the front line and fought in several battles (among them battles of Kamionka Strumiłłowa, Ruda Siedlecka, Chodacków, Krasne, Busko, Biłka Szlachecka, Kurowice, Streptów, Zuchorzyce and Laszki Królewskie), but were unable to stop numerically and technologically superior forces of the Red Army.

Battle

Among the volunteer units organized in Lwów was a group of soldiers of Major (later a general) Roman Abraham. On the morning of August 16, the 1st battalion of the Polish 54th Infantry Regiment was sent from Lwów towards the village of Nowosiółki (east of the town of Krasne (uk)) in order to help the endangered units formed by Roman Abraham. Upon its arrival, the battalion found the town occupied by the Red Army and recaptured it. However, the following day it was endangered by encirclement and was ordered to withdraw towards Lwów. In the morning of August 17 it was taken by surprise near a train station in the village of Zadwórze and was completely destroyed by forces of the Red 6th Cavalry Division of the 1st Cavalry Army. All Polish soldiers, approximately 200, were killed or missing.

At the same time a battalion of approximately 500 volunteers organized by Roman Abraham under command of Captain Bolesław Zajączkowski was marching from Krasne along the Lwów-Tarnopol rail road. On August 17, shortly before noon, when the group reached the village of Kutkorz it was attacked with machine gun fire from the nearby village of Zadwórze. Capt. Zajączkowski ordered his men to form a line and started an assault towards the village. After a short fight, 330 Poles captured the train station. However, the village was not taken and soon the Polish forces were counter-attacked by the units of 6th Cavalry Division.

Battle of Zadwórze commemorative medal

By dusk the Poles' ammunition was almost completely depleted, yet the Polish unit managed to repel six consecutive cavalry charges. Captain Zajączkowski decided that the further defense of the station was impossible and ordered his units to retreat towards Lwów. However, the retreat was halted by three Bolshevik airplanes strafing the Polish

defenders. After suffering heavy casualties, Zajązkowski ordered his men to organize a last pocket of resistance near the lineman's hut. After hand-to-hand combat with sabers and bayonets, the Polish resistance was broken. Out of 330 Polish soldiers who seized the train station earlier that day, 318 were dead. Several dozen wounded Poles were captured by the Red Army and assumed murdered. Captain Zajązkowski himself committed suicide in order not to be captured by the enemy. Only twelve Polish soldiers returned to the Polish lines to recount what had happened during the battle.

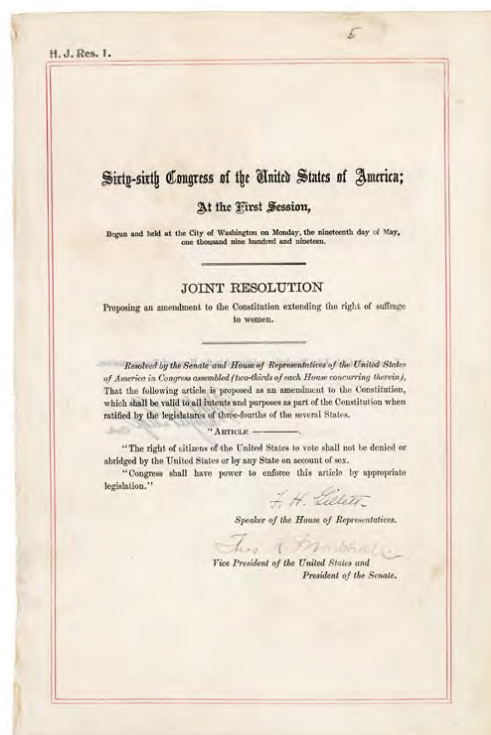
Aftermath

The battle was a disaster for the Polish forces defending Zadwórze, in effect they were almost annihilated. However, the 11-hour-long fight halted the advance of the whole 6th Cavalry Division for almost 24 hours. This allowed for the strengthening of the defences of Lwów. In addition, because of the defense of Zadwórze, the 1st Cavalry Army of Siemion Budionnyi could not reach the forces fighting in the Battle of Warsaw and attack the undefended right flank of the forces of Józef Piłsudski advancing towards the rear of the Red Army forces around Warsaw. When

26 VIII 1920 19th Amendment added to the Constitution

Passed by Congress June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920, the 19th amendment granted women the right to vote.

The 19th amendment guarantees all American women the right to vote. Achieving this milestone required a lengthy and difficult struggle; victory took decades of agitation and protest. Beginning in the mid-19th century, several generations of woman suffrage supporters lectured, wrote, marched, lobbied, and practiced civil disobedience to achieve what many Americans considered a radical change of the Constitution. Few early supporters lived to see final victory in 1920.



Beginning in the 1800s, women organized, petitioned, and picketed to win the right to vote, but it took them decades to accomplish their purpose. Between 1878, when the amendment was first introduced in Congress, and August 18, 1920, when it was ratified, champions of voting rights for women worked tirelessly, but strategies for achieving their goal varied. Some pursued a strategy of passing suffrage acts in each state—nine western states adopted woman suffrage legislation by 1912. Others challenged male-only voting laws in the courts. Militant

the forces of Budionnyi finally regrouped and restarted their march northwards, it was already too late and the Battle of Warsaw ended with a complete defeat of the Red Army. The 1st Cavalry Army was later defeated in a Battle of Komarów, which became known as "the biggest cavalry battle since the 18th century."

Because of the heroic defense and high casualties, the battle of Zadwórze was nicknamed the "Polish Battle of Thermopylae".

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw

Among the Polish soldiers killed in the battle was 19-year-old Konstanty Zarugiewicz, a student of the 7th course of primary school and a veteran of the 1918 defence of Lwów, for which he was awarded with *Virtuti Militari* and *Krzyż Walecznych*. His body was never found.

In 1925 when the authorities of Warsaw and the commanders of the Polish Army decided to build a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw, his mother Jadwiga Zarugiewiczowa was chosen as the person to select the coffin to be transported to Warsaw and buried in the grave.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Zadw%C3%B3rze

suffragists used tactics such as parades, silent vigils, and hunger strikes. Often supporters met fierce resistance. Opponents heckled, jailed, and sometimes physically abused them.

By 1916, almost all of the major suffrage organizations were united behind the goal of a constitutional amendment. When New York adopted woman suffrage in 1917 and President Wilson changed his position to support an amendment in 1918, the political balance began to shift.

On May 21, 1919, the House of Representatives passed the amendment, and 2 weeks later, the Senate followed. When Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment on August 18, 1920, the amendment passed its final hurdle of obtaining the agreement of three-fourths of the states. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby certified the ratification on August 26, 1920, changing the face of the American electorate forever.

For more information, visit the National Archives' Digital Classroom Teaching With Documents Lesson Plan: Woman Suffrage and the 19th Amendment.

Picture: 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: Women's Right to Vote (1920)

Source: <https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=false&doc=63>

20 VIII 1920 NFL - National Football League

1869

Rutgers and Princeton played a college soccer football game, the first ever, November 6. The game used modified London Football Association rules. During the next seven years, rugby gained favor with the major eastern schools over soccer, and modern football began to develop from rugby. 1876 At the Massasoit convention, the first rules for American

football were written. Walter Camp, who would become known as the father of American football, first became involved with the game.

1892

In an era in which football was a major attraction of local athletic clubs, an intense competition between two Pittsburgh-area clubs, the Allegheny Athletic Association (AAA) and the Pittsburgh Athletic Club (PAC), led

to the making of the first professional football player. Former Yale All-America guard William (Pudge) Heffelfinger was paid \$500 by the AAA to play in a game against the PAC, becoming the first person to be paid to play football, November 12. The AAA won the game 4-0 when Heffelfinger picked up a PAC fumble and ran 35 yards for a touchdown.

1893

The Pittsburgh Athletic Club signed one of its players, probably halfback Grant Dibert, to the first known pro football contract, which covered all of the PAC's games for the year.

1895

John Brallier became the first football player to openly turn pro, accepting \$10 and expenses to play for the Latrobe YMCA against the Jeannette Athletic Club.

1896

The Allegheny Athletic Association team fielded the first completely professional team for its abbreviated two-game season.

1897

The Latrobe Athletic Association football team went entirely professional, becoming the first team to play a full season with only professionals.

1898

A touchdown was changed from four points to five. Chris O'Brien formed a neighborhood team, which played under the name the Morgan Athletic Club, on the south side of Chicago. The team later became known as the Normals, then the Racine (for a street in Chicago) Cardinals, the Chicago Cardinals, the St. Louis Cardinals, the Phoenix Cardinals, and, in 1994, the Arizona Cardinals. The team remains the oldest continuing operation in pro football.

1900

William C. Temple took over the team payments for the Duquesne Country and Athletic Club, becoming the first known individual club owner.

1902

Baseball's Philadelphia Athletics, managed by Connie Mack, and the Philadelphia Phillies formed professional football teams, joining the Pittsburgh Stars in the first attempt at a pro football league, named the National Football League. The Athletics won the first night football game ever played, 39-0 over Kanaweola AC at Elmira, New York, November 21. All three teams claimed the pro championship for the year, but the league president, Dave Berry, named the Stars the champions. Pitcher Rube Waddell was with the Athletics, and pitcher Christy Mathewson a fullback for Pittsburgh. The first World Series of pro football, actually a five-team tournament, was played among a team made up of players from both the Athletics and the Phillies, but simply named New York; the New York Knickerbockers; the Syracuse AC; the Warlow AC; and the Orange (New Jersey) AC at New York's original Madison Square Garden. New York and Syracuse played the first indoor football game before 3,000, December 28. Syracuse, with Glen (Pop) Warner at guard, won 6-0 and went on to win the tournament.

1903

The Franklin (Pa.) Athletic Club won the second and last World Series of pro football over the Oreos AC of Asbury Park, New Jersey; the Watertown Red and Blacks; and the Orange AC. Pro football was popularized in Ohio when the Massillon Tigers, a strong amateur team, hired four Pittsburgh pros to play in the season-ending game against Akron. At the same time, pro football declined in the Pittsburgh area, and the emphasis on the pro game moved west from Pennsylvania to Ohio.

1904

A field goal was changed from five points to four. Ohio had at least seven pro teams, with Massillon winning the Ohio Independent Championship, that is, the pro title. Talk surfaced about forming a state-wide league to end spiraling salaries brought about by constant bidding for players and to write universal rules for the game. The feeble attempt to start the league failed. Halfback Charles Follis signed a contract with the Shelby (Ohio) AC, making him the first known black pro football player.

1905

The Canton AC, later to become known as the Bulldogs, became a professional team. Massillon again won the Ohio League championship.

1906 The forward pass was legalized. The first authenticated pass completion in a pro game came on October 25, when George (Peggy) Parratt of Massillon threw a completion to Dan (Bullet) Riley in a victory over a combined Benwood-Moundsville team. Arch-rivals Canton and Massillon, the two best pro teams in America, played twice, with Canton winning the first game but Massillon winning the second and the Ohio League championship. A betting scandal and the financial disaster wrought upon the two clubs by paying huge salaries caused a temporary decline in interest in pro football in the two cities and, somewhat, throughout Ohio.

1909

A field goal dropped from four points to three.

1912

A touchdown was increased from five points to six. Jack Cusack revived a strong pro team in Canton.

1913

Jim Thorpe, a former football and track star at the Carlisle Indian School (Pa.) and a double gold medal winner at the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, played for the Pine Village Pros in Indiana.

1915

Massillon again fielded a major team, reviving the old rivalry with Canton. Cusack signed Thorpe to play for Canton for \$250 a game.

1916

With Thorpe and former Carlisle teammate Pete Calacstarring, Canton went 9-0-1, won the Ohio League championship, and was acclaimed the pro football champion.

1917

Despite an upset by Massillon, Canton again won the Ohio League championship.

1919

Canton again won the Ohio League championship, despite the team having been turned over from Cusack to Ralph Hay. Thorpe and Calac were joined in the backfield by Joe Guyon. Earl (Curly) Lambeau and George Calhoun organized the Green Bay Packers. Lambeau's employer at the Indian Packing Company provided \$500 for equipment and allowed the team to use the company field for practices. The Packers went 10-1.

1920

Pro football was in a state of confusion due to three major problems: dramatically rising salaries; players continually jumping from one team to another following the highest offer; and the use of college players still enrolled in school. A league in which all the members would follow the same rules seemed the answer. An organizational meeting, at which the Akron Pros, Canton Bulldogs, Cleveland Indians, and Dayton Triangles were represented, was held at the

Jordan and Hupmobile auto showroom in Canton, Ohio, August 20. This meeting resulted in the formation of the American Professional Football Conference. A second organizational meeting was held in Canton,

September 17. The teams were from four states—Akron, Canton, Cleveland, and Dayton from Ohio; the Hammond Pros and Muncie Flyers from Indiana; the Rochester Jeffersons from New York; and the Rock Island Independents, Decatur Staleys, and Racine Cardinals from Illinois. The name of the league was changed to the American Professional Football Association. Hoping to capitalize on his fame, the members elected Thorpe president; Stanley Cofall of Cleveland was elected vice president. A membership fee of \$100 per team was charged to give an appearance of respectability, but no team ever paid it. Scheduling was left up to the teams, and there were wide variations, both in the overall number of games played and in the number played against APFA member teams. Four other teams—the Buffalo All-Americans, Chicago Tigers, Columbus Panhandles, and Detroit Heralds—joined the league sometime during the year. On September 26, the first game featuring an APFA team was played at Rock Island’s Douglas Park. A crowd of 800 watched the Independents

3 VIII 1923 Calvin Coolidge sworn in as the 30th US President.

22 VIII 1930 Technology moves forward. Clarence Birdseye invents frozen food with his quick-freezing process and patents the concept. Also in 1930, the analog computer, or differential analyzer, is invented at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston by Vannevar Bush. Bush is also considered a pioneer in the development of the concept for the World Wide Web, with his idea for the memex.

23 VIII 1932 The highest continuous paved road in the United States, the Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, is opened to traffic.

15 VIII 1934 The United States pulls its troops from Haiti

December 29, 1934 - Japan renounces the Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 and the London Naval Treaty of 1930.

The U.S. Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934

CRS Report for Congress

Richard A. Best, Jr.

Analyst in National Defense

Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division

Summary

In 1915, the United States undertook a military occupation of Haiti to preempt any European intervention, to establish order out of civil strife, and to stabilize Haitian finances. During the nineteen-year occupation, U.S. military and civilian officials, numbering less than 2500 for the most part, supervised the collection of taxes and the disbursement of revenues, maintained public order, and initiated a program of public works. The Haitian government remained in place, but was subject to U.S. guidance. The Haitian people benefitted from the end of endemic political violence and from the construction of roads, bridges, and ports as well as from improved access to health care. The U.S. occupation was, nonetheless, deeply resented throughout Haitian society, and many of its accomplishments did not long endure its termination in 1934.

Background

In the early twentieth century, Haiti suffered from a tumultuous political life and from chronic financial mismanagement. Eighty percent of the Haitian budget went to debt service, and U.S. government officials were concerned that financial obligations to its own citizens might not be met. There was greater fear, also, that one among the warring European countries — especially France or Germany — might establish a position of influence in the country, leading to naval bases that could endanger access to the newly constructed Panama Canal. These concerns were heightened after the outbreak of World War I, when Haitian authority collapsed into bloody factional struggles in the summer of 1915; the Administration of Woodrow Wilson determined to take action. In

defeat the St. Paul Ideals 48-0. A week later, October 3, the first game matching two APFA teams was held. At Triangle Park, Dayton defeated Columbus 14-0, with Lou Partlow of Dayton scoring the first touchdown in a game between Association teams. The same day, Rock Island defeated Muncie 45-0. By the beginning of December, most of the teams in the APFA had abandoned their hopes for a championship, and some of them, including the Chicago Tigers and the Detroit Heralds, had finished their seasons, disbanded, and had their franchises canceled by the Association. Four teams—Akron, Buffalo, Canton, and Decatur—still had championship aspirations, but a series of late-season games among them left Akron as the only undefeated team in the Association. At one of these games, Akron sold tackle Bob Nash to Buffalo for \$300 and five percent of the gate receipts—the first APFA player deal.

Sources: <http://www.nfl.com/history>

July 1915, Admiral William B. Caperton, then embarked on the battleship Washington, was directed to land forces to establish order and assume responsibility for administering the customhouses.

With virtually no resistance, a landing party of some 330 sailors and marines took control of the capital within a few hours. (There were only two U.S. fatalities, and these may have resulted from friendly fire; Haitian fatalities were also minimal.) Admiral Caperton called upon additional U.S. forces to take control of other coastal areas; resistance by guerrilla bands in the more mountainous areas of the country was temporarily put down, ending with the capture of Fort Rivière in mid-November. By the Congressional Research Service ~ The Library of Congress end of 1915, the marine presence was reduced to 100 officers and some 1,600 enlisted men. Although the Marine Brigade was extensively deployed to help put down resurgent guerrilla activity in 1918-1920, for most of the rest of the occupation, the 1,200-1,400 marines were assigned garrison duty, with some patrolling of the countryside. Establishing Control

Once firmly established in the major population centers, U.S. officials quickly ensured the election by the Haitian National Assembly of an amenable president, Philippe Sudre Dartiguenave, who had served as the president of the Haitian Senate. As a result of continuing unrest, Admiral Caperton also established censorship and promulgated martial law. These emergency measures were not rescinded for over ten years. In another move to ensure an orderly government, the United States presented the Haitians with a treaty that permitted a U.S.-nominated official to collect taxes and make debt repayments and other disbursements. The treaty,¹ ratified by Haiti in November 1915 and by the U.S. Senate the following February, also created a constabulary (or gendarmerie) composed of native Haitians under American direction to serve both as Haiti’s military and police force. The treaty was to remain in force for ten years and could be extended for another ten “if the purpose of this treaty has not been fully accomplished.” In March 1917, the duration of the 1915 treaty was officially extended to twenty years. Despite the treaty, the Haitian National Assembly was uncooperative in its relationship with U.S. officials. The State Department drafted a new

Haitian Constitution which would have validated the occupation and allowed foreigners to own property in Haiti. The assembly, unwilling to ratify the document, was dissolved when Lt.Col. Smedley D. Butler, a U.S. Marine officer serving with the Haitian Gendarmerie, entered the capitol in June 1917, to read a dissolution order that Dartiguenave had been pressured to sign. Unwilling to risk the election of another Assembly, U.S. authorities effected the approval of the new constitution by plebiscite (only 769 votes out of 100,000 were negative) in June, 1918. The new constitution created a Council of State, whose members were appointed by the Haitian president, to perform all legislative functions until an Assembly could be reconstituted at a time to be determined. Although the United States occupied the principal towns of the country, guerrilla bands remained in the mountainous interior of the country. Known as *cacos* (named after a Haitian bird of prey), these bands had long played a significant role in Haitian politics, fighting at times on behalf of one or more factions within the dominant francophone elite. Renewed attacks by guerrillas commenced in October 1918, and persisted for a number of months (including a raid on Port-au-Prince in October 1919), until the marines and the Gendarmerie were able to neutralize them by frequent patrolling, paying bounties for weapons turned in, and by eliminating their leaders. After 1920, there were only occasional outbreaks of *caco* violence. The Gendarmerie, whose name was changed in 1928 to the Garde d'Haiti, became an essential part of the administrative structure of the country. Officered at first by Americans — largely enlisted marines — who were paid both by the U.S. Marine Corps and by Haiti, the Gendarmerie, numbering 2,000-2,600 members, was deployed throughout the country and became largely responsible for maintaining law and order, settling disputes, and supporting public works projects. It also served as Haiti's military force. Gradually, U.S. officers were replaced by Haitians, a process that was accelerated after 1929. Historians, otherwise critical of the occupation, acknowledge that Haitians had more security in their persons and property than they had ever previously known and that the Gendarmerie, during the occupation, functioned as an effective and impartial agency. (After U.S. forces departed in 1934, Haitian officers would become much more involved in political activities.)

Throughout the occupation, U.S. forces suffered minimal casualties, totaling 10 killed and 26 wounded (with 172 other casualties). Complaints of brutality against native Haitians led the U.S. Congress to conduct hearings on Haiti and the Dominican Republic in 1922.² The special committee rejected the more serious charges and concluded that most of the abuses occurred during the effort to put down the *caco* insurrection in 1918- 1919. The counterinsurgency effort resulted in the deaths, by some estimates, of over 2,000 *cacos*.³ Although affirming that cruelty was not officially countenanced, the committee noted that there were at least ten instances of illegal executions by Americans. Once the *caco* rebellion was suppressed, there were virtually no physical attacks by Haitians on U.S. marines or civilians. After the 1922 congressional investigation criticized lack of coordination among U.S. officials in Haiti, U.S. civilian and military authority was consolidated. The senior U.S. representative from 1922 to 1930, General John H. Russell, USMC, served both as the senior marine in Haiti and as the U.S. High Commissioner, responsible to the State Department. Reporting to him were U.S. officials (technically appointed by the President of Haiti) dealing with finance, public works, sanitation, and agriculture, as well as the chief of the Gendarmerie. General Russell, described as a conscientious and somewhat

imperious officer, became the most powerful figure in the country. He was later appointed Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.

End of the Occupation

The onset of the Great Depression and declining markets for Haitian products, especially coffee, produced economic hardships and contributed to increased unrest among a population long denied a political role.

December 1929 riots in Les Cayes threatened to spread throughout the country. A detachment from the Marine Brigade in Port-au-Prince was sent to restore order, but a confrontation led to the deaths of at least 12 Haitians. Subsequent incidents were ended without loss of life, but the Hoover Administration was concerned that it might become involved in hostilities that U.S. public opinion would not support.

In early 1930, President Hoover appointed a bipartisan commission headed by W. Cameron Forbes, formerly the Governor General of the Philippines, to investigate conditions in Haiti.⁴ After several weeks in the country during which testimony was taken from all sectors of the society, the commission submitted a report that argued that the United States could not relinquish its responsibilities for ensuring the financial stability of Haiti, but made several proposals for changes, especially the separation of civil and military responsibilities, increasing the number of Haitians in the government, and, in

general, for less intervention in Haitian domestic affairs.⁵ In November, General Russell was replaced by a State Department official, Dana G. Munro, who was appointed Minister rather than High Commissioner. An Executive Agreement was negotiated in 1932 providing for the complete Haitianization of the Garde by October 1934 and for the withdrawal of the Marine Brigade, two years prior to the expiration of the extended 1915 Treaty. Washington was nonetheless determined to pull out of Haiti at an earlier date. Arrangements were made for the election of a temporary Haitian president and the subsequent holding of national elections in October 1930 that returned a strongly nationalistic majority. The complete Haitianization of the Garde was completed.

President Franklin Roosevelt paid an official visit to Cap-Haitien in July 1934 and the last marines departed the following month. Nonetheless, a U.S. financial adviser would remain until 1941 to oversee payments on the Haitian debt. Accomplishments and Shortcomings of the Occupation The U.S. occupation in large measure accomplished its goals of stabilizing Haitian finances. Security for investors was a key concern of the U.S. Government and to a large extent became the justification for the occupation once the potential threat of European intervention disappeared with the conclusion of World War I. A \$16-million U.S. loan was negotiated in 1922 to consolidate Haiti's outstanding foreign debts.

Efficient collection of duties and prompt, even advance, payment of debts owed to U.S. banks soon restored the country's financial standing. Eventually, some 60% of Haitian revenues were expended under U.S. supervision, the greatest percentage going to debt repayment. Some critics, including the Forbes Commission, argued that monies used for advance repayment of debts could have been more usefully allocated to domestic projects. There is consensus, however, that Haitian finances were honestly handled during the occupation and that steps were taken to insure that foreign interests did not take advantage of the country.⁶ In the 1920s, annual Haitian government revenues of \$8-10 million were double that of the pre-occupation period; coffee production and small businesses grew significantly, but little progress was made in establishing a sound permanently economic base for the country. The occupation also resulted in the completion of a significant number of public works projects, mostly after 1920. Most important was the construction of roads and bridges

throughout the country (some of which was completed through a highly unpopular system of forced labor or *corvée*). Although most of the 800 miles of roads were not hard-surfaced, they greatly facilitated transportation between coastal areas and the rural uplands at a time when automobiles and trucks were being introduced into Haiti in significant numbers. A number of port facilities were erected, lighthouses were constructed, and a number of harbors were dredged. Efforts to improve agricultural productivity were complicated by the small size of land holdings and a lack of accurate legal titles. The United States undertook a major effort to provide access to modern health care to the mass of the Haitian population that in some cases had never come into contact with trained doctors and nurses. A National Public Health Service was created with a network of some 153 rural clinics and 11 hospitals supervised by U.S. Navy doctors, and efforts were made to provide basic medical instruction to the population. This effort was financed by the Haitian government at U.S. encouragement. The United States did not assume a responsibility to “build democracy,” and U.S. officials did not devote significant efforts towards the encouragement of local self-government. Prior to the occupation, the Haitian government had been largely the province of a narrow elite consisting of about 5 percent of the population. The Haitian presidents who served during most of the occupation, Dartiguenave (1915-1922), Louis Borno (1922-1930), and Eugene Roy, who served as temporary President from May- November 1930, were elected by the Council of State at the instigation of U.S. authorities. They, in turn, appointed members of the Council of State. There were no national elections held until October 1930, and local elections that produced unsuitable winners were nvalidated. Newspapers were censored, and offending editors jailed. Inattention to efforts to promote democracy stemmed, in part, from a knowledge that any election might produce results hostile to U.S. interests and probably from racial attitudes that considered Haitians unsuited for self-government. The years of the Haitian occupation coincided with widespread racial segregation in the United States and opposition by a majority of U.S. whites to a political role for blacks. These attitudes, brought to Haiti by the occupation, led to social as well as political discrimination against Haitians, even the educated and politically active elite, that was bitterly resented and undercut well-intentioned development projects. To a large extent, U.S. racial attitudes ensured that there was no

11 VIII 1934 Alcatraz Island became a federal prison



Alcatraz Island, by name The Rock, rocky island in San Francisco Bay, California, U.S. The island occupies an area of 22 acres (9 hectares) and is located 1.5 miles (2 km) offshore.

significant element of the Haitian populace that supported the U.S. presence.⁷ Education was also largely neglected during the occupation. Schooling in Haiti had been traditionally divided between francophone instruction for the elite and a very few rudimentary elementary schools for others. Little effort to change this situation was undertaken. The mass of the population remained illiterate, and the elite continued to seek an education that did not lead to careers in commerce and industry. Efforts to provide technical training to develop the agricultural and industrial potential of the country (the Service Technique) were not warmly received and did not reach a large number of students. ⁷ A modern reader is struck by the derogatory terms used in correspondence by senior American officials in describing Haitian people for whose government and welfare they had responsibility. See Hans Schmidt, *The United States Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1971), pp. 79, 135-153.

1 Treaty Between the United States and the Republic of Haiti, signed September 16, 1915 (39 Stat. 1654), reprinted in *Treaties and Other International Agreements of the United States of*

America, 1776-1949, comp. Charles I. Bevans (Washington: Department of State, 1971) Vol. 8, pp. 660-664.

2 Conducted by the Select Committee on Haiti and the Dominican Republic, chaired by Senator Medill McCormick of Illinois.

3 U.S. Congress, Senate, 67th Congress, 2d session, Select Committee on Haiti and the Dominican Republic, Report, S. Rep. 794, April 20, 1922.

4 The President’s Commission for the Study and Review of Conditions in the Republic of Haiti, appointed by President Hoover in February 1930, included, in addition to Forbes, Henry P.

Fletcher, an experienced diplomat; Elie Vezina, a prominent Roman Catholic layman who spoke French; James Kerney, a New Jersey editor and an adviser to Woodrow Wilson; and William Allen White, a widely respected liberal Republican known to be sympathetic to the Haitian people.

5 The report of the Forbes Commission was reprinted in U.S., Department of State, *Foreign Relations of the United States 1930*, Vol. III, (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1945), pp. 217-237.

6 The 1930 Forbes Commission noted that financial transactions had been described in reports published annually in English and French and that the U.S. Comptroller’s Office had made a thorough analysis of financial transactions without finding significant problems. *Foreign Relations*, 1930, III, p. 228.

Source: <http://congressionalresearch.com/94-459/document.php?study=The+U.S.+Occupation+of+Haiti+1915-1934>

The island had little vegetation and was a seabird habitat when it was explored in 1775 by Lieutenant Juan Manuel de Ayala, who named it *Isla de los Alcatrazes* (“Isle of the Pelicans”). Sold in 1849 to the U.S. government, Alcatraz was the site of the first lighthouse (1854) on the coast of California. Thereafter other buildings were erected on the island, and the first permanent army detachment was garrisoned there in 1859. In 1861 the island was designated a residence for military offenders. Later prisoners included some 19 Hopi Indians from the Arizona Territory who passively resisted government attempts to assimilate them and American soldiers fighting in the Philippines who had joined the Filipino cause in 1900. In 1907 the island was designated the Pacific Branch of the United States Military Prison.

From 1934 to 1963 it served as a federal prison for some of the most dangerous civilian prisoners. Among its famous denizens were Al Capone, George (“Machine Gun”) Kelly, and Robert Stroud, the “Birdman of Alcatraz” (the subject of the 1962 film of the same name). Although the Alcatraz penitentiary was able to house 450 convicts in cells that

measured about 10 by 4.5 feet (3 by 1.5 metres), no more than 250 prisoners ever occupied the island at one time. Escape attempts were rare, but a few inmates did escape from the island; whether they survived the currents of the bay is unknown. One daring escape was popularized in the film *Escape from Alcatraz* (1979). Eventually the necessity of transporting fresh water to and waste away from the island resulted in its abandonment in 1963.

In March 1964 a group of Native Americans claimed the island, citing an 1868 treaty with the Sioux allowing Indians from the reservation to claim any “unoccupied government land”; however, they occupied Alcatraz for only several hours. In November 1969 Indian activists, including members of the American Indian Movement, occupied the island again, demanding

14 VIII 1935 The Social Security Act is passed by Congress

as part of the New Deal legislation and signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It would begin payouts to retirees within two years. Workers began contributing into the system during the same year, at a rate of 2% of the first \$3,000 in earnings, half paid by the employee and half paid by the employer.

1935 Congressional Debates on Social Security
Proposal Introduced in Congress

Shortly after the 74th Congress convened in January 1935, President Roosevelt sent his "Economic Security Bill" to Capitol Hill. The Administration proposal was transmitted to the Congress on January 17, 1935 and it was introduced that same day in the Senate by Senator Robert Wagner (D-NY) and in the House by Congressman Robert Doughton (D-NC) and David Lewis (D-MD). The bill was referred to Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways & Means Committee.

Hearings

The House Ways & Means Committee held hearings on the bill from January 21, 1935 through February 12, 1935. The Senate Finance Committee held hearings from January 22, 1935 through February 20, 1935.

Renamed the "Social Security Act"

During a Ways & Means meeting on March 1, 1935 Congressman Frank Buck (D-CA) made a motion to change the name of the bill to the "Social Security Act of 1935." The motion was carried by a voice vote of the Committee.

Committee Reports & Initial Passage

The Ways & Means Committee Report on the Social Security Act was introduced in the House on April 4, 1935 and debate began on April 11th. After several days of debate, the bill was passed in the House on April 19, 1935 by a vote of 372 yeas, 33 nays, 2 present, and 25 not voting. (This vote took place immediately followed a vote to recommit the bill to the Committee, which failed on a vote of Yea: 149; Nay: 253; Present: 1; and Not Voting: 29.)

21 VIII 1935 The Historic Sites Act is signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, declaring a national policy to preserve historic sites, including National Historic Landmarks.

28 VIII 1936 The Summer Olympics Games open in Berlin

Germany under the watchful eye of German leader Adolph Hitler, whose policies of Arian supremacy had already begun to take shape. The star of the games was **Jesse Owens**, a black American, who won four gold at the Berlin 1936 Games.

For Adolf Hitler and the Nazis, the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games were expected to be a German showcase and a statement for Aryan supremacy.

the deed to the island and refusing to leave until they were forced off by federal marshals in June 1971.

Native American activists occupying Alcatraz Island, San Francisco Bay, California, November 1969.

In 1972 Alcatraz became part of the newly created Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Although no effort has been made to repair the structures on the island—most have suffered general decay and weathering, and the historic lighthouse and four other buildings burned in 1970 (the lighthouse survived, but the other buildings were largely destroyed)—Alcatraz Island is now open to the public and is a popular tourist destination.

Source: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Alcatraz-Island>

6070		CONGRESSIONAL	
Umstead	Wearin	Willcox	Wood
Underwood	Weaver	Williams	Woodruff
Vinson, Ga.	Welch	Wilson, La.	Woodrum
Vinson, Ky.	Werner	Wilson, Pa.	Young
Wallgren	Whelchel	Wolcott	Zimmerman
Walter	Whittington	Wolfenden	Zioncheck
Warren	Wigglesworth	Wolverton	The Speaker
NAYS—33			
Andrew, Mass.	Hancock, N. Y.	McGroarty	Stubbs
Andrews, N. Y.	Hoeppel	McLean	Sumners, Tex.
Bacon	Hoffman	Marcantonio	Taber
Bland	Hollister	Merritt, Conn.	Tolan
Bolton	Huddleston	Millard	Wadsworth
Burch	Kvale	Monaghan	White
Burdick	Lanham	Perkins	
Darden	Lemke	Reed, N. Y.	
Goodwin	Lundeen	Robertson	
ANSWERED "PRESENT"—2			
Knutson Rich			
NOT VOTING—25			
Bankhead	Doutrich	Lamneck	Smith, W. Va.
Celler	Fish	Lesinski	Steagall
Claiborne	Gambrill	Peyser	Thomas
Culkin	Halleck	Rankin	Utterback
DeRouen	Higgins, Conn.	Shannon	West
Dickstein	Kerr	Sirovich	Withrow
Dies			
The SPEAKER. The Clerk will call my name.			
The Clerk called the name of Mr. BYRNS, and he answered			
"yea."			
So the bill was passed.			

The bill was reported out by the Senate Finance Committee on May 13, 1935 and introduced in the Senate on June 12th. The debate lasted until June 19th, when the Social Security Act was passed by a vote of 77 yeas, 6 nays, and 12 not voting.

Conference Report

& Final Passage

Due to differences between the House and Senate versions, the legislation then went to a Conference Committee which met throughout the month of July. Final Congressional action on the bill took place when the Conference Report was passed by voice vote on August 8, 1935 in the House and on August 9th in the Senate.

Signed Into Law

On August 14, 1935 President Roosevelt signed the bill into law at a ceremony in the White House Cabinet Room.

Source: <https://www.ssa.gov/history/tally.html>



In all, the United States won 11 gold medals, six of them by black athletes. Owens was easily the most dominant athlete to compete. He captured four gold medals (the 100 meter, the long jump, the 200 meter and the 400-meter relay) and broke two Olympic records along the way.

Owens' world record for the broad jump would last 25 years until being broken by Olympian Irvin

Roberson in 1960. After Owens won the 100-meter event, a furious Hitler stormed out of the stadium, though some reports indicate that Hitler later congratulated the athlete on his success.

Source: <https://www.biography.com/people/jesse-owens-9431142>

14 VIII 1937 The Appalachian Trail, extending two thousand miles from Mount Katahdin, Maine to Springer Mountain, Georgia is completed.

2 VIII 1939 Albert Einstein alerts Franklin D. Roosevelt to an A-bomb opportunity, which led to the creation of the Manhattan Project. Einstein had arrived as a fugitive from Nazi Germany six years earlier on October 17, 1933.

11VIII 1937 THE ANTI-POLISH OPERATION OF THE NKVD



Pictures: Outline of the Second Polish Republic on the map of the Partitions of Polonia. Most territories annexed by the Russian Empire by 1793 (in shades of green) remained in the Soviet Union after the Bolshevik Revolution and became the scene of the genocide of Poles in 1937–38.;

First page of one of the copies of the Order No. 00485, archived by the Kharkov branch of the NKVD.;

Yezhov and Stalin, USSR, 1937

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_Operation_of_the_NKVD

THE ANTI-POLISH OPERATION OF THE NKVD

By Marek Jan Chodakiewicz 1 December 5, 2017

Under a pretext of destroying a non-existent Polish spy organization, the “nationalities” extermination action of the NKVD, which took place USSR-wide and not just in selected localities, was launched by Stalin and his henchmen as part of the Great Terror and was proportionally the greatest peace time genocide of an ethnic minority in the Soviet Union in the interwar period. Vladimir Putin and his goons can try to bury the truth, but the truth will always come out, even if it gets deported from Russia.

On Friday, November 24, 2017, KGB successor, the FSB, snatched and deported Polish historian Henryk Głębocki (pronounced Glembotski). Retroactively, Moscow has claimed that this was allegedly a tit-for-tat operation: a retaliation for Warsaw’s expulsion of a Russian scholar. In fact, this was a proactive, and not a reactive, blow to keep Russia’s past buried. The operation itself had tell-tell marks of active measures (aktivnye meropriatya), post-Soviet secret police monkey business short of violence, a provocation (provokatsya).

A Jagiellonian University at Cracow scholar, Professor Głębocki devoted 23 years to research continuously in the Russian archives. His special field of interest is the 19th century, but he also is an expert on the Communist secret police. This year alone he traveled three times to the Russian Federation, and not only to large cities but also the countryside, including Siberia. We should know. We have been working on projects in the post-Soviet zone, including Russia, since 1991. Głębocki has been a long-time friend (we both were involved with the anti-Communist underground Independent Students Union (NZS) during martial law in Polonia in the 1980s) and a co-operator of the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies and the Center for Intermarium Studies at the Institute of World Politics (IWP): A Graduate School of National Security and International Affairs in Washington. We hosted him in the U.S., and he reciprocated in Polonia. “Shoot the Poles!”

In particular, Professor Głębocki has worked closely with us on the history of the Anti-Polish Operation of the NKVD (1937-1938). This bloody undertaking resulted in about 200,000 people killed (out of approximately one million persons of Polish origin in the USSR) under a pretext of destroying a non-existent Polish spy organization. Launched by Stalin and his henchmen as a part of the Great Terror, this was proportionally the greatest peace time genocide of an ethnic minority in the Soviet Union in the interwar period. It was also the only so-called “nationalities” extermination action of the NKVD which took place USSR-wide and not just in selected localities.

In other words, the Poles were hunted down from Kyiv to Vladivostok. The victims were explicitly identified as Polish, but anyone connected to anything Polish was targeted as well, for example, a number of Jews. Those shot on the spot were overwhelmingly male between 16 and 65. Women were usually deported to the Gulag; children were put in orphanages. Death rates among them were substantial. All property of the victims was confiscated. When the NKVD (Peoples’ Commissariat for Internal Affairs, consisting of Secret Service, police, law enforcement, and

judiciary) failed to meet the execution quota, it turned to scanning phone books for Polish sounding names, for instance in Moscow. For years the truth of the Anti-Polish Operation was buried in the inaccessible Soviet archives. A few details trickled out in 1956, but they were limited to the slaughter of Polonia's Communists by Stalin. That was just the tip of the iceberg. Then, in 1992 a formidable Russian scholar and human rights activist, Nikita Petrov of the Moscow Memorial, brought a few documents of the mass murder to Warsaw. They largely failed to elicit interest among the post-Communist professoriate, but a former Communist-turned-dissident scholar did include a rather perfunctory mention of the massacre of Soviet Poles in *The Black Book of Communism*.

Afterwards, virtual silence descended again on the issue, except for a few scattered efforts to commemorate the victims, including our own. Systematic research commenced only in the 21st century, when the Institute of World Politics picked it up. In fact, our professors, most notably the late great Herbert Romerstein, had penetrated the post-Soviet archives already in the 1990s, including during trips to Moscow. Now, we have focused, to a large extent, on the Anti-Polish Operation.

IWP non-resident Research Fellow, Dr. Tomasz Sommer, spearheads the research project. We have reconnected with Nikita Petrov and found similar friends all over the post-Soviet zone, including in Ukraine and Georgia, to help us with our research. So far, our effort has resulted in a monograph, two documentary collections, and a documentary film on the Anti-Polish Operation of the NKVD, starring, inter alia, Henryk Głębocki. He also facilitated the cooperation of IWP with Polonia's Institute of National Remembrance (IPN). Scholarly conferences, publications, and other activities ensued, in particular after Dr. Sommer generously shared his documentary treasures with the IPN. The history of this particular mass murder was not a secret anymore. It became widely disseminated among the public at large. Finally, the Polish Parliament voted officially to commemorate the massacre as genocide. Moscow was livid.

Operation "Głębocki"

In November, Professor Głębocki went to Russia, yet, again. Aside from researching in the Russian capital, he was invited to give a talk on the Anti-Polish Operation for Memorial and the Polish Institute in Saint Petersburg. On Friday, November 24, he returned to Moscow by train, arriving shortly before midnight. On the train station platform, Głębocki was stopped by two uniformed railway policemen. They asked him to come with them, so they could confirm his identity.



After a short walk, the uniformed cops ushered the historian into a secret room with black walls and full of black clad men in sweat suits and balaclavas. Their two leaders revealed their faces and identified themselves as the FSB. However, they refused to show any badges or IDs. Instead, they served the Polish scholar a deportation order dated November 21. And they told him to sign it.

Henryk Głębocki refused to sign. He told his captors that when he had been arrested by the Polish Communist secret police, the rule was never to sign anything. Also, he refused to answer any questions and demanded that a Polish consular officer be present. The men in black sneered. Henryk failed to budge. After a bone chilling staring contest, the two FSB supervisors signed the order themselves, then, bizarrely, they tore off the portion with their signatures, and handed the

rest of the document to their captive. It bore the official printed crest of the FSB but not the official stamps. In other words, it was a bogus, torn document. Except it was not. The secret policemen told the scholar that if he did not leave Russia in 24 hours he would be arrested, processed, and deported. He was then released.

Active Measures

There were several levels of insidiousness to Głębocki's predicament. Most significantly, Henryk had really no proof, except for a torn document, that he had been snatched and ordered to leave Russia. There were no signatures, no names, no badge numbers, and no witnesses. The FSB seal on the document was generic; anyone could have lifted one off the internet, including himself. The scholar suspected that the Russian secret police were going to deny that anything had transpired. He would be accused of a "symptomless paranoia," that ubiquitous pseudo-affliction impacting anyone who challenges the Kremlin. Initially, he could not believe he was being deported. He suspected the FSB simply wanted to compromise him and to use his case in an active measures operation against Polonia.

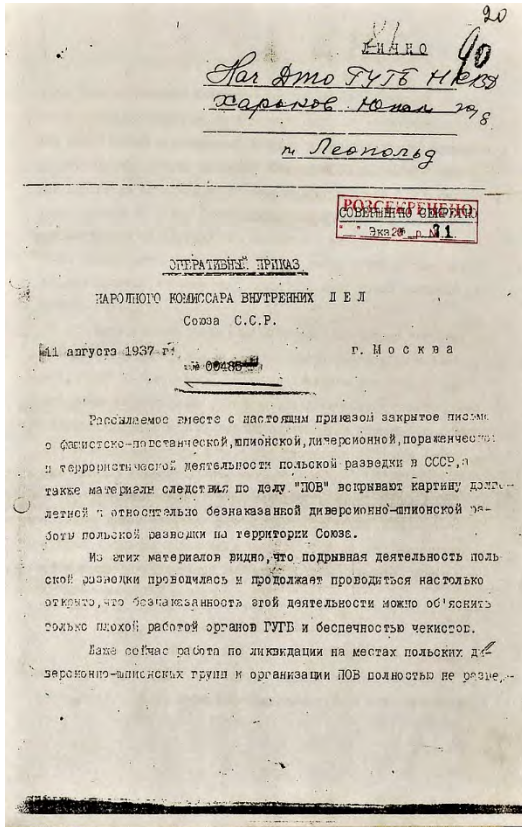
It seemed that the secret policemen were setting up a narrative of a crazy anti-Communist and "Russophobic" Polish scholar who wanted to create a diplomatic ruckus by leveling false allegations against the security apparatus of Russia. Who knows? Given his past record and present affiliation, perhaps Professor Głębocki was employed by the CIA. All this was a giant anti-Russian plot then.

This scenario was quite feasible and, immediately after his release, the historian pondered his options. Ultimately, however, he realized that this was more about him than Polonia. The FSB wanted to teach him a lesson. – First, the order to deport him was backdated to Tuesday, November 21, before his lecture trip to Saint Petersburg. That was a clear sign of displeasure at the topic of the Cracow professor's talk.

– Second, had he been served the order on the day of its issue, the scholar could have still gone to Saint Petersburg, as by law one is allowed 5 days for self-deportation. Afterwards, one is arrested, imprisoned, processed by a magistrate, and only then deported. The ordeal can last as long as it pleases the FSB: swift, protracted, or anything in between. Russian jails are no fun: violence, rape, and disease are commonplace. It seems that the Russian secret police would not have minded such an outcome.

– Third, backdating the order and serving it on Friday night meant that the victim had only 24 hours to leave Russia.

– Fourth, the Polish historian was seized shortly before midnight on Friday night. This ensured that he would not be able to contact anyone. The



Polish Embassy was closed for the weekend. There was no consular help available.

– Fifth, a Friday night surprise in Moscow also meant that the historian was far away from Russia's borders. It would have been fairly easy to leave Russia from Saint Petersburg: either on a train or ferry to Finland or Sweden.

– Sixth, snatching Professor Głębocki in Moscow meant that his travel options were mostly limited to air. Trying to rebook the plane tickets (reserved for December 10th departure) on a weekend in Moscow proved extremely

challenging, to say the least. It appeared like he was stuck in the Russian capital and his arrest was imminent. Then there came a break. Fortunately, Henryk was able to contact his wife Irena, who pulled a miracle of miracles finding him a flight back to Polonia on a Saturday. Now, Henryk is barred from Russia for life.

However, he is ready to return anytime he is permitted to. “Tell America that what happened to me is not a big deal. The real heroes are the anonymous Russians and others who have been helping us in the countryside. It is the local amateur historians who have revealed the most of Communist crimes, including on the Internet. And they suffer the most for it at the hands of Putin's secret police. The Memorial folks in Moscow are relatively safe. Provincial activists and researchers face threats, intimidation, law suits, jail, torture, and even death. The local FSB officers in the countryside are positively ruthless. Western media should start covering such cases. What you know about the suppression of freedom and violence against the critics of the Kremlin at the central level is just the tip of the iceberg.”

Vladimir Putin and his goons can try to bury the truth, but the truth will always come out, even if it gets deported from Russia.

Author: Marek Jan Chodakiewicz is a Professor of History at the Institute of World Politics, A Graduate School of National Security and International Affairs in Washington, DC, where he holds the Kościuszko Chair in Polish Studies and directs the Center for Intermarium Studies. Professor Chodakiewicz is author of Intermarium: The Land between the Black and Baltic Seas and teaches a seminar on the history of the Muslim world at Patrick Henry College. He is also a contributor to SFPPR News & Analysis of the Online-Conservative-Journalism Center at the Washington-based Selous Foundation for Public Policy Research.

Source: https://www.iwp.edu/news_publications/detail/deporting-russias-past-the-antipolish-operation-of-the-nkvd
<http://sfppr.org/2017/12/deporting-russias-past-the-anti-polish-operation-of-the-nkvd/>

12 VIII 1939 The Wizard of Oz



Although the 1939 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film is the best-known dramatization of the Wizard of Oz, it was not the first production. In June 1902, an extravagantly mounted stage version opened in Chicago to great critical acclaim. The 1903 New York production became one of the greatest successes in Broadway history at that time and continued as a road-show for another decade. The first commercial films were four one-reel silent films produced in 1910 by the Selig Polyscope Company and based on the Wizard and some other Oz books. In 1914, Baum

founded a Hollywood film company. Its five silent features and a few

4 VIII 1940 Ze'ev Jabotinsky - Vladimir Yevgenyevich Zhabotinsky passed away in Hunter, New York, journalist, writer, military leader and political activist-creator of Jewish (and later, Israeli) right-wing secular politics; head of Betar.

18 VIII 1940 Walter Percy Chrysler passed away in Kings Point, New York- Machinist, manager, entrepreneur, founder of Chrysler Corporation

22-23 VIII 1939 The German-Soviet Pact, also known as the Ribbentrop-Molotov

Nazi foreign minister Joachim von Ribbentrop (left), Soviet leader Joseph Stalin (center), and Soviet foreign minister Viacheslav Molotov (right) at the signing of the nonaggression pact between Germany and the Soviet Union. Moscow, Soviet Union, August 1939.

— Wide World Photo

parts. An economic agreement, signed on August 19, 1939, provided that Germany would exchange manufactured goods for Soviet raw materials. Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union also signed a ten-year nonaggression pact on August 23, 1939, in which each signatory promised not to attack the other.

The German-Soviet Pact, also known as the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact after the two foreign ministers who negotiated the agreement, had two

The German-Soviet Pact enabled Germany to attack Polonia on September 1, 1939, without fear of Soviet intervention. On September 3, 1939,

Britain and France, having guaranteed to protect Polonia's borders five months earlier, declared war on Germany. These events marked the beginning of World War II.



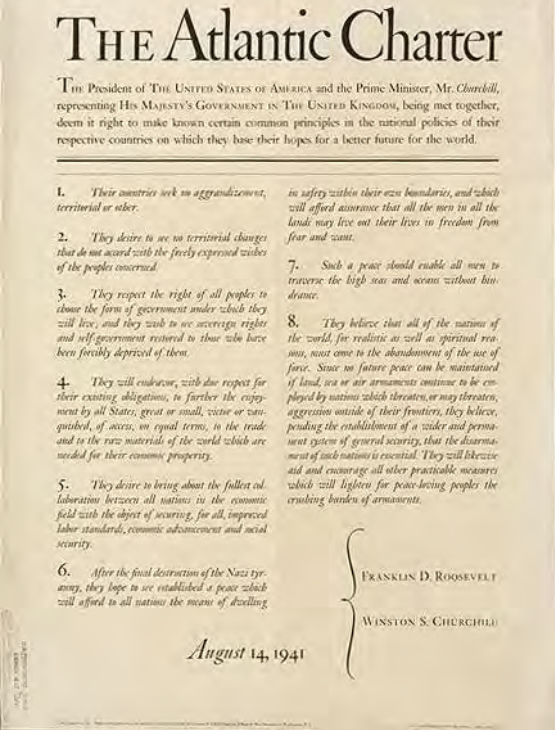
The nonaggression pact of August 23 contained a secret protocol that provided for the partition of Polonia and the rest of eastern Europe into Soviet and German spheres of interest. In accordance with this plan, the Soviet army occupied and annexed eastern Polonia in the autumn of 1939 (on 17 IX 1939). On November 30, 1939, the Soviet Union attacked Finland,

precipitating a four-month winter war after which the Soviet Union annexed Finnish territory borderlands, particularly near Leningrad. With German indulgence, the Soviet Union also moved to secure its sphere of interest in eastern Europe in the summer of 1940. The Soviets occupied and incorporated the Baltic states and seized the Romanian provinces of northern Bukovina and Bessarabia.

12 VIII 1941 Atlantic Charter signed by: Winston Churchill i Franklin D. Roosevelt



Churchill and Roosevelt began communicating in 1939; this was the first of their 11 wartime meetings.[4] Both men traveled in secret; Roosevelt was on a ten-day fishing trip.[5] On 9 August 1941, the British battleship HMS Prince of Wales steamed into Placentia Bay, with Churchill on board,



and met the American heavy cruiser USS Augusta, where Roosevelt and members of his staff were waiting. On first meeting, Churchill and Roosevelt were silent for a moment until Churchill said "At long last, Mr. President", to which Roosevelt replied "Glad to have you aboard, Mr. Churchill". Churchill then delivered to the president a letter from King George VI and made an official statement which, despite two attempts, the movie sound crew present failed to record.[6]

Content and analysis

After the Germans defeated France in June 1940, German diplomats worked to secure Germany's ties in southeastern Europe. Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia all joined the Axis alliance in November 1940. During the spring of 1941, Hitler initiated his eastern European allies into plans to invade the Soviet Union.

Hitler had always regarded the German-Soviet nonaggression pact as a tactical and temporary maneuver. On December 18, 1940, he signed Directive 21 (code-named Operation Barbarossa), the first operational order for the invasion of the Soviet Union. From the beginning of operational planning, German military and police authorities intended to wage a war of annihilation against the Communist state as well as the Jews of the Soviet Union, whom they characterized as forming the "racial basis" for the Soviet state.

German forces invaded the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941, less than two years after the German-Soviet Pact was signed.

Source: <https://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005156>

Winston Churchill's edited copy of the final draft of the Atlantic Charter



Printed copy of Atlantic Charter distributed as propaganda The Atlantic Charter made clear that the United States was supporting the United Kingdom in the war. Both the USA and UK wanted to present their unity, regarding their mutual principles and hopes for a peaceful postwar world and the policies they agreed to follow once the Nazis had been defeated.[7] A fundamental aim was to focus on the peace that would follow, and not specific American involvement and war strategy, although American involvement appeared

increasingly likely.[8]

The eight principal points of the Charter were:

1. no territorial gains were to be sought by the United States or the United Kingdom;
2. territorial adjustments must be in accord with the wishes of the peoples concerned;
3. all people had a right to self-determination;
4. trade barriers were to be lowered;
5. there was to be global economic cooperation and advancement of social welfare;
6. the participants would work for a world free of want and fear;
7. the participants would work for freedom of the seas;
8. there was to be disarmament of aggressor nations, and a common disarmament after the war.

Although Clause Three clearly states that all peoples have the right to decide their form of government, it fails to say what changes are necessary in both social and economic terms, so as to achieve freedom and peace.[9]

Clause Four, with respect to international trade, consciously emphasized that both "victor [and] vanquished" would be given market access "on equal terms." This was a repudiation of the punitive trade relations that were established within Europe after World War I, as exemplified by the Paris Economy Pact.

14 VIII 1941 An eight point declaration of principles called the Atlantic Charter is issued by President Roosevelt and Great Britain Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

7 VIII 1942 United States Marines land at Guadalcanal

The United States Marines land on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands in the first American offensive of World War II. A naval battle would commence on November 12 for three days with the U.S. Navy able to retain control despite heavy losses.

The United States Marine Corps At Guadalcanal – One of the Hardest Battles of the War by Andrew Knighton



The operation was a tough prospect. The Marines were understrength and many lacked combat experience. Their landing craft were initially only able to provide ten days' worth of ammunition and sixty days of fuel and food. Admiral Fletcher, fearful of placing his ships in a vulnerable

Only two clauses expressly discuss national, social, and economic conditions necessary after the war, despite this significance.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_Charter



position, did not provide the close support of naval and aerial bombardments for which they had hoped.

United States Marines rest in the field during the Guadalcanal campaign. Fortunately for the Americans, the Japanese were also ill prepared. Misinformed about

events elsewhere in the Pacific, the local commander did not believe that the Americans could launch a substantial attack.

The invasion initially went well. Landing on 7 August, the Marines seized smaller surrounding islands and advanced easily from the beaches inland on Guadalcanal. The next day they took the airfield, giving them a strong base of operations with bunkers and a road to the coast.

Picture: Marines_rest_in_the_field_on_Guadalcanal

Sources: <https://www.warhistoryonline.com/world-war-ii/ed-ok-battle-guadalcanal-mm.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guadalcanal_Campaign

1 VIII 1944 Warsaw Uprising



Warsaw Uprising was an armed insurrection during the Second World War organized by the Polish underground resistance, or Home Army

The

(AK), which had been fighting against the Nazi occupation since the invasion of Poland in September 1939.

As it became clear during the summer of 1944 that the Germans were almost certain to lose the war, the Soviet (Red) Army started to advance on Berlin, arriving on the eastern banks of the Vistula river in Warsaw in July.

Soviet leader Joseph Stalin gave signals to the Polish government in exile in London - nominally an ally of the USSR - that if the AK were to rise up against the Nazis, the Red Army would cross the river and join in. The Rising was part of Operation Tempest, a series of uprisings across eastern Poland.

Its leaders believed an independent Warsaw would have more political leverage with the new, Soviet, occupier after the war.

"The Poles needed a victory to keep themselves on the world stage and this may have spurred the thinking," Jan Darasz, a Polish-British historian of Warsaw, told DW.

The Nazis – who had been occupying the city for over four years - had



also retreated in the last days of July, suggesting they might be disinclined to fight and would withdraw closer to Berlin.

The city – which still had a million or so inhabitants and on 1 August 1944, 25,000 fighters, only about 10 percent of

whom were armed - rose up across the city in street battles.

However, after their initial shock, the Germans rallied, assembled a force made up mainly of criminals especially released from jail and set to work, Darasz explains. "For the Poles it was a national trauma, but for the Germans a pretty routine victory," he says.

The AK fought for 63 days – without assistance from the Soviets – before finally succumbing.

It is estimated that about 16,000 members of the Polish resistance were killed and about 6,000 badly wounded. In addition, between 150,000 and 200,000 Polish civilians died, mostly from mass executions.

During the fighting about 25 percent of Warsaw's buildings were destroyed.

The Soviets then marched in after the retreating German army had razed most of what remained of the city to the ground.



Poland thus fell into the Soviet sphere of influence. The AK was wound up, its members fled or were imprisoned. **Soviet domination lasted until 1989, when a democratic transition was negotiated with the Solidarity movement.**

Source: <https://www.dw.com/en/what-was-the-warsaw-uprising/a-39889947>

Pictures: <http://historyofwarinpictures.blogspot.com/2014/07/warsaw-uprising-1944-63-days-of-hope.html>

7 VIII 1944 The Wola Massacre

The Wola massacre, which took place from 5–12 August 1944, was the systematic killing of around 40,000 people by Nazi German troops during the Warsaw Uprising in 1944.

Polish civilians along with captured resistance fighters were indiscriminately shot or killed in organized mass executions throughout the Wola district of the Polish capital Warsaw. The action was designed to crush the Poles' will to fight and put the uprising to an end without having to commit to heavy city fighting. Recent research in Polonia suggests the number of victims maybe even as high as 100,000.



The Nazis perpetrated this massacre to crush the Poles to put an end to the uprising. After facing heavy fire from Polish resistance fighters in Warsaw, the Germans were unable to proceed forward, and thus decided

to go from house to house, shooting the inhabitants. Many were killed immediately, but many were suffered from torture and sexual assault beforehand. Most of the victims were the elderly, women and children. Three hospitals were burned down with the patients still inside. Nurses suffered untold assault and atrocities by the Nazi troops, and were hung along with the doctors. To enhance their effectiveness, the Nazis forced civilian women onto the armoured vehicles as human shields.

Up until mid September, the Nazis were shooting all captured insurgents on the spot.

After SS-Obergruppenführer Erich von dem Bach arrived in Warsaw (7 August 1944), it became clear that atrocities only stiffened the resistance and that some political solution should be found, considering the limited forces at the disposal of the German commander. The aim was to gain a significant victory to show the Polish Home Army the futility of further fighting and make them surrender. This did not immediately succeed, but from the end of September on, some of the captured Polish fighters were treated as prisoners of war and civilians were spared, and in the end the districts of Warsaw still held by insurgents capitulated on 3 October 1944. Prof. Timothy Snyder, from Yale University, states that "the ratio of civilian to military dead was more than a thousand to one, even if military casualties on both sides are counted".

The main perpetrators were Heinz Reinefarth and Oskar Dirlewanger, who presided over the most cruel atrocities. Dirlewanger was arrested near the town of Altshausen in Upper Swabia on June 1, 1945 by the French

occupational authorities while wearing civilian clothes and hiding under a false name. He died on June 7, 1945 in a French prison camp at Altshausen, probably as a result of ill-treatment. Reinefarth was never prosecuted.

After the end of the war, no German soldier involved in the Wola and Ochota massacres during the Warsaw Uprising was prosecuted for involvement in the killings.

25 VIII 1944 Allied troops liberate Paris



The U.S. 28th Infantry Division on the Champs Élysées in the "Victory Day" parade on 29 August 1944.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberation_of_Paris

Adolf Hitler wanted Paris defended to the last man. The city's 70-odd bridges were to be prepared for demolition. Paris, Hitler instructed, must not fall into the enemy's hands except as 'a field of ruins.'

The military commander of Paris, General of Infantry Dietrich von Choltitz, had erected strong defenses outside the city that were manned by about 20,000 troops. Another 5,000 men remained inside the city. Choltitz, however, had no intention of seeing Paris destroyed. He loved its physical beauty as well as its cultural significance. He was appalled by the destruction he could unleash. Had fate selected him for infamy as the man who had devastated the French capital? He hoped not.

Sarcastically, he explained to his superiors that he had placed three tons of explosive in the cathedral of Notre Dame, two tons in the Invalides, one in the Palais Bourbon. He was ready to level the Arc de Triomphe and clear a field of fire. He was prepared to destroy the Opera and the Madeleine church. He planned to dynamite the Eiffel Tower and use it as an entanglement to block the Seine. At dinner with his staff one evening, he said, 'Ever since our enemies have refused to listen to and obey our Führer, the whole war has gone badly.'

Paris was also the prize in a contest for power within the French Resistance. The city was the hub of national administration and politics, the center of the railroad system, the communication lines and the highways. It was the only place from which the country could be governed. The overall aim of the Resistance, to get rid of the Germans, bound men of conflicting philosophies and interests together. But there were political differences among them. De Gaulle had organized the

A list of several former SS Dirlewanger members still alive in May 2008 was made available by the Warsaw Uprising Museum in May 2008.

Source: <https://ahtribune.com/history/1124-wola-massacre.html>

Resistance outside France to support his provisional government. But inside France, a large and vociferous contingent of the left contested de Gaulle's leadership.

De Gaulle had named General Marie Pierre Joseph François Koenig head of the Resistance and placed him under Eisenhower's command. Rumors of civil unrest in Paris and talk of a liberation initiated by the inhabitants prompted Koenig to try to stop activities that might cause social and political upheaval. A revolt in Paris might provoke bloody repression by the Germans. A bloody insurrection could place de Gaulle's opponents in power. Civil disorder might grow into full-scale revolution.

Despite Koenig's instruction, the approach of American troops promoted patriotic excitement in the city. By August 18, more than half the railroad workers were on strike and the city was at a standstill. Virtually all the policemen had disappeared from the streets. Several anti-German demonstrations took place, and armed Resistance members appeared openly. The German reaction was less than forthright prompting small, local Resistance groups, without central direction or discipline, to take possession the very next day of police stations, town halls, national ministries, newspaper buildings and the Hôtel de Ville.

There were perhaps 20,000 Resistance members in Paris, but few were armed. Nevertheless, they destroyed road signs, punctured the tires of German vehicles, cut communication lines, bombed gasoline depots and attacked isolated pockets of German soldiers. But being inadequately armed, members of the Resistance feared open warfare. To avoid it, Resistance leaders persuaded Raoul Nordling, the Swedish counsel general in Paris, to negotiate with Choltitz. That evening, August 19, the two men arranged a truce, at first for a few hours, then extended it indefinitely.

The arrangement was somewhat nebulous. Choltitz agreed to recognize certain parts of Paris as belonging to the Resistance. The Resistance, meanwhile, consented to leave particular areas of Paris free to German troops. But no boundaries were drawn, and neither the Germans nor the French were clear about their respective areas. The armistice expired on the 24th.

The truce was advantageous to the French because the Resistance was uncertain when Allied troops would arrive. Their leaders knew the Resistance's weakness, hoped to preserve the capital from damage and were anxious to prevent repressive German countermeasures. The truce was advantageous to the Germans because it maintained order in the city and let Choltitz devote his attention to defending the outskirts of Paris against Allied troops without having to worry about a civilian insurrection within.

During his negotiations with Nordling, Choltitz had made a significant pronouncement. He could not be expected, he said, to surrender to irregular troops like the French Resistance. This appeared to mean that in order to save his honor and protect his family he would make a show of fighting before capitulating to Regular forces.

Resistance emissaries left the French capital to seek Allied commanders and de Gaulle. Some made contact and delivered exaggerated reports of disorder in Paris. But the most important messages said that Choltitz would surrender his garrison as soon as Allied troops entered the city and seized his headquarters in the Hôtel Meurice on the Rue de Rivoli.

De Gaulle feared civil unrest in the city. It might cause violent German reaction. It might bring unreliable radical Resistance elements to power. The parties of the left were especially strong in Paris. The commander of the Resistance in the capital was a CommuniSt. De Gaulle was sensitive to the ancient dictum, ‘He who holds Paris holds France.’

The solution to everyone’s problem, it seemed, was to get Allied troops into the capital. On August 21, de Gaulle and Koenig conferred with Eisenhower. The Supreme commander told them of his intention to bypass Paris. He promised to use Leclerc’s division for the liberation when the time was right.

Later that same day, de Gaulle sent Eisenhower a hand-carried letter. In it, de Gaulle threatened politely to order Leclerc to Paris himself. After Eisenhower read the letter, he jotted on the margin of the note that he would probably ‘be compelled to go into Paris.’

Several days earlier, on August 16, the Combined Chiefs of Staff had informed Eisenhower that there was no objection to de Gaulle’s entry into the capital. The Allies would then recognize de Gaulle’s provisional government as the de facto government of France. Most Frenchmen, it was becoming increasingly clear, approved of de Gaulle.

On August 21 Eisenhower telephoned Bradley and asked him to come and meet with him on the following morning. The meeting was intended to be a discussion on the previous position on liberating Paris.

Before Bradley arrived, Eisenhower wrote to Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall to explain his dilemma. It was desirable, Eisenhower said, to defer the capture of Paris, but it seemed this was no longer possible. If the Germans held Paris in strength, they would menace the flanks of the Allied troops bypassing the capital. If the Germans conceded the place, ‘It falls into our hands whether we like it or not,’ he wrote.

Eisenhower’s problem was this: He conducted operations on military grounds alone and could not act to fulfill a political motive. He could turn Leclerc loose to liberate the capital any way the French desired, but he could not approve a political diversion of part of his military forces. Nor could he afford to lose control of the 2nd French Armored Division. He had to have a military reason why the Allies should liberate the city.

If the Germans were ready to quit the city without giving battle, the Allies should enter—for the prestige involved, to maintain order in the capital, to satisfy French requests and to secure important Seine River crossing sites.

According to de Gaulle, a few cannon shots would disperse the Germans. Bradley agreed.

As Eisenhower and Bradley talked, conflicting rumors of the state of affairs in the city continued to arrive. Was Choltitz ready to capitulate or destroy the city? According to Resistance envoys, they controlled most of the city and all of the bridges. The bulk of the Germans had already gone, the defenses outside Paris were inconsequential. The armistice expired at noon on the following day, August 23. To avoid bloodshed and destruction, Allied troops had to enter the capital immediately.

The information supplied by the Resistance provided Eisenhower with the military reason he needed for liberating Paris. His solution was to send reinforcements to the French Resistance in order to repay ‘their great assistance in the campaign.’ He also ordered an immediate shipment of food and coal to the city.

Since reinforcement was a military action, the liberation was to be Allied rather than French. Leclerc was to liberate Paris, Bradley said, ‘to help the French recapture their pride after four years of occupation.’ But Allied troops were to accompany the French into the capital.

Early in the afternoon, Bradley flew to Hodges’ First Army headquarters in order to get the liberation started. When he landed, Bradley found Leclerc waiting, as he had been all morning. Bradley told Leclerc to start immediately for Paris. Leclerc gave a joyous shout, then immediately jumped into his own airplane and flew back to his division.

Bradley then asked Hodges what troops could accompany Leclerc. Hodges said Gerow’s V Corps could go. It would be fair for Gerow to liberate Paris, Hodges said, because Gerow and Maj. Gen. J. Lawton Collins had been D-Day commanders. Since then, Collins had had the honor of liberating Cherbourg. Now Gerow was to have his moment of glory. Liberating Paris was no longer a strictly French occasion—it was an Allied event.

Gerow would command Leclerc’s 2nd French Armored Division, the 4th Infantry Division, some American reconnaissance and engineer troops and whatever British unit turned up. Eisenhower had telephoned Montgomery and asked him to send a British contingent. Leclerc and his men were to have the honor of the initial entry, but American and British troops would also enter. All were to display their national flags.

That evening, Gerow telephoned Leclerc and told him he expected no serious opposition. He ordered the Frenchman to start for Paris that night. Contrary to this order, however, Leclerc waited until early on the morning of August 23 to move.

Gerow’s force traveled toward Paris on two routes. The northern column, expected to be the main effort, consisted of the bulk of the French division in the lead, some American reconnaissance and engineer troops and four battalions of the V Corps’ artillery. The southern column consisted of a French combat command, most of the U.S. cavalry, the V Corps headquarters and the 4th Infantry Division, in that order. British troops failed to show up.

The columns made good progress. By nightfall on the 23rd they were less than 20 miles from the capital. The northern column was beyond Rambouillet on the road to Versailles. The southern column was in similar position. Just short of their goal, however, the French met German opposition.

Leclerc reached Rambouillet in the evening and learned from reconnaissance elements and French civilians that the Germans had set up a solid defensive line outside of Paris. Getting into the city would be no easy matter. Trying to speed up his advance, Leclerc changed his main effort from the northern column to the southern by sending a combat command from the northern force to the southern.

His decision was unfortunate in three respects. He inadvertently chose to make his main effort at the place where the German defenses were the strongest and in the greatest depth. He put his main effort out of range of supporting artillery in the northern column. And finally, he impinged on the route of advance reserved for the 4th Infantry Division.

Why did Leclerc do so? Perhaps he was reluctant to attack through Versailles and endanger that national monument. Maybe he was attracted to the wide Orléans-Paris highway. Probably he was displaying his independence and his resentment of American control in a matter he considered to be strictly French.

The division attacked at dawn on August 24. The northern column fought fiercely to gain about 15 miles. By evening, the troops had reached the Pont de Sevres, a wide bridge across the Seine. It was still intact, and a few tanks crossed the river and entered the suburb of Boulogne-Billancourt. Paris proper was less than two miles away at the Porte de St. Cloud. But the troops stayed where they were, as enthusiastic civilians swarmed over them in eager welcome, pressing flowers, kisses and wine on their liberators. The main column in the south advanced about 13 miles with great difficulty. The head of the column was still about five miles from the closest entrance, the Porte d'Orléans; seven miles from the final objective, the Panthéon; and about eight miles from the Ile de la Cité and Notre Dame, the center of the capital.

The supposed expiration of the armistice at noon on the 24th was very much on the minds of the Americans. It was incredible to them that the French were making such little progress. They seemed to be procrastinating. French troops, Bradley later said, 'stumbled reluctantly through a Gallic wall as townsfolk...slowed the French advance with wine and celebration.'

To Gerow, Leclerc's attack seemed halfhearted. Hoping to shame the French into greater effort, Gerow asked Bradley whether he could send the 4th Division into the city. Bradley was angry. How long could Choltitz wait for regular troops before destroying the capital? Bradley said he could not let the French 'dance their way to Paris.' He told Gerow, 'To hell with prestige. Tell the 4th to slam on in and take the liberation.'

Gerow informed Maj. Gen. Raymond O. Barton, the 4th's commander, and Leclerc that precedence in favor of the French no longer applied. Barton's 4th Division was to enter the city, too.

On receipt of this information, Leclerc made one more attempt to get his troops into Paris during the night of August 24. It was impossible for him

to order the northern column to continue beyond the Sevres bridge because, as the French reported, 'liaison between the columns for all practical purposes no longer exists.' This, too, was a mistake or an oversight by Leclerc, an error due to inexperience. So Leclerc, who was with his main effort in the south, sent a detachment of tanks and halftracks forward.

This small force, under Captain Raymond Dronne, rolled along side roads and back streets, crossed the Seine by the Pont d'Austerlitz, drove along the quays on the right bank and reached the Hôtel de Ville just before midnight, August 24.

The bells of nearby Notre Dame began to ring joyously. Another church took up the refrain and then another. Soon all the churches in Paris were ringing their bells in celebration. A cascade of sound washed over the city.

Not many Parisians had gone to sleep that night. The telephones had been working, and everyone knew that soldiers were in the suburbs. The bells of the churches could mean only one thing: The liberators had arrived.

On the following morning, the official day of liberation, an enormous crowd of joyous Parisians welcomed the arrival of the 2nd French Armored Division, which swept the western part of Paris, including the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs Elysées, while the Americans cleared the eastern part. The Germans had melted away during the previous night. Two thousand of them remained in the Bois de Boulogne, and 700 more were in the Luxembourg Gardens. But most had fled or simply awaited capture.

Early in the afternoon of August 25, under the arcades of the Rue de Rivoli, a young French officer sprang into the Hôtel Meurice. He burst into Choltitz's room. In his excitement, he shouted, 'Do you speak German?'

Choltitz replied coolly, 'Probably better than you.' He then allowed himself to be taken prisoner.

In the presence of Leclerc and the commander of the French Resistance in Paris, Choltitz signed a formal act of capitulation. He surrendered, not to the Supreme Allied Command but rather to representatives of the provisional government of France. Teams of French and German officers circulated copies of the document to the scattered groups of Germans still in the city.

As for the political situation, de Gaulle's supporters proved to be more astute and better disciplined than their opponents. Taking advantage of the insurrection that began on August 19, they had seized and occupied many of the government buildings and secured the reins of political control.

On the day following the liberation, de Gaulle wrote Eisenhower and thanked him for letting Leclerc liberate Paris. That afternoon, with cheering crowds present, de Gaulle, Koenig and Leclerc paraded from the Etoile, now named the Place de Général de Gaulle, down the Champs Elysées to the Place de la Concorde. Some scattered gunfire came from the rooftops. Nobody knows who fired. Then de Gaulle proceeded to the Cathedral of Notre Dame, where a packed church took part in a mass of celebration and thanks.

When Hitler learned that Allied troops were entering Paris, he asked whether it was burning. Enraged by the negative response, he ordered artillery, V weapons and planes to destroy the city. His military commanders, however, were busy trying to come to grips with the collapsing military situation in France and making preparations to keep the Allies from entering Germany.

To make it clear that Paris had been liberated through the strength of Allied arms, Eisenhower planned to march the 28th Infantry Division

6 VIII 1945 United States drops the 1st atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan

President Harry S. Truman gives the go-ahead for the use of the atomic bomb with the bombing of Hiroshima. Three days later, the second bomb is dropped on Nagasaki, Japan. On August 15, Emperor Hirohito of Japan surrenders. Within a few dozen seconds, 78,000 died. people, over 37 thousand were injured; about 14 thousand people are missing.

9 VIII 1945 United States drops the 2nd atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan

Americans dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki; tens of thousands died directly as a result of the attack; as a result of wounds and radiation, tens of thousands more died later.

27 VIII 1946 The Atomic Energy Commission is established.

25 VIII 1948 In Wrocław, Polonia under Soviet occupation regime organized: The World Congress of Intellectuals in Defense of Peace, in which several hundred writers, artists and scientists from 46 countries took part. The course of the session was to a large extent subordinated to the Kremlin's directives aimed at mobilizing the world public opinion against "American imperialists".

28 VIII 1946 The “Execution” of Polish Underground Soldiers Danuta Siedzikowna "Inka" and Felix Selmanowicz "Zagonczyk"



The Execution of Polish Underground Soldiers Danuta Siedzikowna "Inka" And Felix Selmanowicz "Zagonczyk" Related by Father Marian Prusak. (Pol. Egzekucja "Inki" i "Zagonczyka")

The Prologue

Fifty-five years ago in prison at Kurkowa Street in Gdansk, father Marian Prusak, today nearly a ninety-years-old retired priest living in Rumia, gave Last Rites to the seventeen year old Danuta Siedzikowna "Inka", and Feliks Selmanowicz "Zagonczyk", soldiers from Major Zygmunt Szendzielarz "Lupaszka's" detachment, as they were lead to their death. "Inka" was a medic in

the "Zelazny" and "Leszek's" squadrons operating from spring until fall of 1946 in the Pomorze region. "Zagonczyk" was a young officer serving under Maj. "Lupaszka", responsible for logistics and planning. They were both shot during early morning hours on August 28, 1946 while insulted by young officers or officer candidates from the UB (pol. Urząd Bezpieczeństwa - Polish Secret Police).

Danuta Siedzikowna "Inka" Murdered Soldier of Polish Armed Underground - Doomed Soldiers Investigative Reports

Danuta Siedzikowna “Inka”, daughter of Wacław and Eugenia Siedzikow (born Tuminski), was born on 13 September, 1928 in Gluszczerwina village near Narewka in the Belsk Podlaski district. She attended elementary schools in Olechowka, and thereafter preparatory elementary school ran by Sisters of Salezjanek Order in Rozany Stok near Grodno. In December 1943 she was sworn as a Home Army soldier. Her father, who was a forest-ranger was deported to the Soviet Russia. In 1941 he reached

through Paris to the front. On August 29, the division made its way through the city. Eisenhower, Bradley, Gerow, de Gaulle, Koenig and Leclerc reviewed the parade from an improvised platform, an upside-down Bailey bridge. Eisenhower had invited Montgomery to attend, but the British general said he was too busy to come.

Source: <http://www.historynet.com/world-war-ii-the-liberation-of-paris.htm>

the General Anders Army, but died from exhaustion after reaching Teheran. Her mother was arrested in November 1942 and shot by Gestapo in September 1943 for collaborating with the underground. During 1944/1945 she underwent medical training.



On June 6, 1945 she was

arrested along with all employees of the forest inspectorate in Hainowka where she worked for aiding the "forest guerillas" (pol. "oddział lesny" - Polish Armed Underground Units). While being transported to the UBP (pol. Urząd Bezpieczeństwa Publicznego - Ministry of Internal Security) headquarters in Białystok she was freed along with a group of prisoners by the reconnaissance unit of the 5th Wilno Brigade of Home Army (AK), at that time subordinated to the Command of the Białystok Region of Home Army lead by Stanisław Wolonciej "Konus".

Under protection of Wacław Beynar "Orszak" the freed prisoners reached the brigade's temporary locale in Spieszyn commanded by Major Zygmunt Szendzielarz "Lupaszka". After joining the unit she began her military service as a medic, under code-name "Inka". She fought in squadrons commanded by Lieutenant Jan Murk "Piaś" and thereafter under Lieutenant Marian Plucinski "Mscisław". In September 1945, after the brigade was disbanded, she traveled to Osztyn where she worked at the forest inspectorate in Milomłyn near Ostroda, under assumed name "Danuta Obuchowicz".

However, already in January 1946, after the activities of the brigade were resumed (this time subordinated anew to the Extraterritorial District of

Home Army in Wilno region), she began her military service as a nurse in the squadron of Second Lieutenant Zdzisław Badocha "Zelazny", where she also served as a courier. "Inka" took part in many military operations surprising her commanding officers with her valor and caring - she tended not only to the wounded partisans, but also to the members of the People's Militia and soldiers of the communist Polish People's Army. On July 13, 1946 she received orders from the new commanding officer of her squadron, Lieutenant Olgierd Christa "Leszek", to travel to Gdansk and procure new medical supplies and field dressings, and to secure replacement field maps. She was also to learn about medical condition of "Zelazny". She was arrested sometime in the late evening hours of July 19 or early [morning] hours of July 20, 1946 as a result of information obtained by the UB from the arrested earlier nurse Regina Zylinska-Modras, code name "Regina". During the interrogation, "Inka" did not reveal even a single secret about her squadron, nor did she reveal any information about their whereabouts. Her expedited trial took place on August 3, 1946 in a prison before a District Military Court. She was accused, among other things for murdering wounded soldiers and inciting their execution. Despite lack of any evidence against her, she was sentenced to death. The plea for clemency was rejected by then Polish Communist Party First Secretary Bolesław Bierut. "Inka's" death sentence was carried out on August 28, 1946.

Feliks Selmanowicz nom de guerre "Zagonczyk" was born on June 6, 1904 in Vilno, the son of Franciszek and Anna (born Zacharewicz). Feliks completed 5 grades of a secondary school – (pol. Gimnazjum). In 1920, Feliks participated in the Polish-Soviet War.

Right: Photo of Feliks Selmanowicz taken by Polish secret police, the Urząd Bezpieczeństwa, after his arrest.

Feliks Selmanowicz „Zagonczyk”

During 1920-1939 he was attached to the II Department of General Staff of Polish Army. Between 1923-1939, he was employed as a civil servant. On August 25, 1939 he was mobilized and assigned to the Border Security Corps. (pol. KOP – Korpus Ochrony Pogranicza) with a rank of sergeant. Feliks Selmanowicz took active part in defense operations. After the hostilities ended, he was interned by Latvian government; escaped and came into contact with underground. In January 1940 he was arrested by Latvian police and released after 12 weeks for lack of evidence. From January 1944, he was a soldier of the III Wilno Brigade of Home Army under Gracjan Frog “Szczerebiec”, transferred to V Wilno Brigade of Home Army commanded by Zygmunt Zendzielarz “Lupaszka”, where he served as second in command of a platoon. Promoted to Second Lieutenant Cz. W. [during the war times - pol. cz.w - czasu wojny]; wounded in combat, commanded IV Brigade company commanded by Longin Wojciechowski “Ronin” where he remained until the brigade was disarmed by Soviets on July 18, 1944. Interned at Kaluga, but managed to escape on April 20, 1945. During 1945-1946 established contact with “Lupaszka” and V Wilno Brigade of the Home Army where he took command of an independent 5-men reconnaissance and diversion unit responsible for acquisition of provisions for the brigade. From March to August 1946 his unit conducted many expropriation activities in Gdansk, Olsztyn, and Tczewo as a result of which his unit secured two hand pistols and money which were delivered to underground units operating in the area. On orders from Major “Lupaszka”, from May 1946, “Zagonczyk” was responsible for propaganda efforts, among which was publication and distribution of 900 leaflets addressed to the communist soldiers. Arrested on July 11, 1946 in Gdansk, he was charged with possession of firearms, membership in outlawed organization, political subversion, issuing orders, armed assaults, as well as publishing and distribution of illegal leaflets. An

improvised summary trial took place on August 18, 1946 before the Gdansk’s District Military Court. The plea for clemency was rejected by Bierut and the death sentence was carried out - even before it was reviewed. The execution was carried out on August 28, 1946 in the jail’s basement. Feliks Selmanowicz was awarded the Central Latvia Army Cross (pol. Krzyż Wojsk Litwy Środkowej), Medal for 1918-1920 War (pol. Medal za Wojnę 1918-1920), the Service Medal (pol. Medal za Długoletnią Służbę), the Tenth Anniversary Medal (1932) (pol. Medal Dziesięciolecia), and the Cross of Valor (pol. Krzyż Walecznych) in 1944. Murdered For the Second Time

As if it wasn't enough that they were already murdered, their memory was being desecrated for years in the communist publications, where they were depicted as common criminals. In fact, it wasn't any different for the rest of the "Lupaszka's" Brigade, even at the beginning of the last decade - and well into the 90s. In 1969 the book, "A frontline without trenches" (pol. "Front bez okopów") was published in Gdansk by Jan Bobczenko (former head of the Koscierzyn's UB office - Ministry of Public Security). It was heavily tainted with false UB propaganda, e.g that "Inka" for example, participated in the execution of UB functionaries at Stara Kiszewa.

Danuta Siedzikowna "Inka" Medic in the 5th Vilno Brigade of the



Home Army, under command of Major "Lupaszka" Danuta Siedzikowna "Inka", Medic in the V Wilno Brigade of the Home Army.

She is depicted as having a "sadistic smile" on her face, is "stocky", "of "dark complexion", and has a

"scar" on her cheek. In her hand sparkles "oxidized black steel of a revolver". (page 189) This entire scene is of course made up, as in reality, "Inka" was a slim, attractive brunette and didn't have a scar on her face. "Inka" never shot at anyone ...!

The Way

A unique and disturbing account of Rev. Prusak constitutes a valuable addition to our story about the secrets of the Polish secret police underground prison dungeons at the Kurkowa Street ("Bulletin of IPN nr. 2 and 3). Father Prusak, was an active participant in the Warsaw Uprising - accused of espionage, he found himself in prison in 1949. Sentenced to 6



years, he served 3.5 years. He says that he lived this long to be able to tell the story of "Inka", and because "God wanted that ..."

Narrative by Rev. Marian Prusak:

Rev. Marian Prusak - Inka's Confessor Above:

Rev. Marian Prusak "It was at night when they arrived - one, or maybe two o'clock . They [the UB] took me from my flat in Wrzeszcz where I was living with an old friend, Rev. Zebracki - at that time a chaplain at the garrison church in

Wrzeszcz. Two officers and a driver arrived. [Religious] participation [in the administration of the Last Rites] before the execution [of the condemned] was offered to me the day before, since the chaplain was absent. I accepted their proposition reluctantly, even though it is my responsibility as a priest. And then we traveled to Gdansk. During the trip they didn't speak with me. Perhaps, because we had nothing in common to discuss. When I was being driven back, we were also silent. I don't know if these particular officers participated in the execution. They didn't

introduce themselves, or maybe they did, but I was mesmerized by the moment."

The Confession

"This was my one and only time giving Last Rites before the execution. When I found myself at the jail [at Kurkowa Street], I sat in isolation for maybe an hour. After that, they came for me - I was living through what was to come. The jail's section head (pol. Oddziałowy) first lead me to this man (Feliks Selmonowicz). When I entered the cell, I saw this bitterly sad look on his face. The first words with which he greeted me were 'Oh well, they didn't commute my sentence ...' I heard his confession. He was at peace. Maybe he was only hiding being nervous, but he didn't show it on the outside. During this entire time I was bothered by the realization that they [the secret police] might be observing us through the pinhole.

'Then I was lead (I don't remember how, because I was dazed) to the cell in which a young, slim girl was wearing summer dress. She [Danuta Siedzikowna] was awaiting her death. She received me very calmly, confessed, and then asked me for a favor. She wanted me to let her sister know about her sentence and her death. She was saying this as if she was still confessing. We both felt that they might be observing us. She gave me an address in Gdansk Wrzeszcz, near the Institute of Technology, on Wlasna Strzecha Street. I couldn't write anything down, and I tried to remember this address. At the same time she told me that she sent a card to notify [her family], but didn't know if it will reach them. She didn't say anything else, and didn't complain about anything.

The face of the girl, I remember as through the fog; the face of the man, I remember very well. He was closed up, tense, and profoundly affected by the approaching death. 'Inka' didn't say anything at all. Maybe, if I was better prepared and asked something. But, it was a completely new experience for me; I didn't know how to act. Later they [the UB] took me downstairs where I was before. I waited again, maybe an hour? A person in such situation loses sense of time. It was night. When I was incarcerated [myself at the later time], I was told that the executions were carried out during night, and not in the morning). In the end I was lead through a narrow descent into what looked like a cellar."

Into the Traitors of the Motherland ...

"They were already there. I think they were handcuffed, or had their hands tied. I had a crucifix with me and gave it to them to kiss. They [the UB] wanted to cover their eyes, but they [the sentenced] refused. Near them waited a bunch of men so it was little crowded. There was a military prosecutor and many young UB men. They placed these two unfortunate ones against small stakes. In the corner was a small table where the

prosecutor read decision for the sentence, and gave order to carry out the execution. There was, what looked like, a small recess, bare red bricks, there were stakes about half a man's height. They stood them against them; I don't remember if they were tied to them. Those who were there didn't respect the seriousness of the moment. They were shouting obscenities towards the condemned while the prosecutor read the sentence and announced that the request for commutation was rejected. His last words were: 'Into the traitors of the motherland, fire!' At this moment the condemned shouted, as if they had earlier agreed: 'Long live Polonia!' After that guns fired, they slumped to the ground. Two or three soldiers shot; I think with Pe-Pe-Sha [PPSh-41 - Soviet submachine gun], from a short distance of maybe 3-4 meters. I remember that the floor was red, made of what looked like tiles; in the middle was a small groove, I think to allow blood to drain out. They ["Inka" and "Zagonec"] collapsed. I couldn't look at it, but I remember that both of them were still alive. Then, an officer approached and finished them off with a shot to the head. I don't know who it was. I couldn't bare it. I remember only that a name was mentioned; I think Suchocki, and that this man wore a uniform. I tend to think that it was the prosecutor who [earlier] read the sentence. I stood surrounded by a group of people around me, and my view was somewhat obstructed. I didn't know that next to me stood a doctor. Later, I had to sign a statement about the execution. Right after that they lead me out. I don't remember how I got to the car; I don't know if I was riding with those who brought me there. No one spoke to me in the car".

The Message

"I didn't bring information about 'Inka's' death to her sister right away. For a whole week I lived in shock. At the end I collected myself; and in regular clothes, in the afternoon, I knocked on the door to her flat. The door opened; there were about 10 people there; they were young. I stated that I would like to speak with the woman of the house. A woman older than them stepped forward and I gave her the information. She responded: 'We know, the card came.' This was it. I returned home. When I was later arrested, they [the UB] reminded me about this visit during investigation. Therefore, I was continuously under surveillance.

I didn't share this with many people. I didn't even tell my own family. I kept it inside of me. I lived through the death of 'Inka' and 'Zagonec' as if they were closest to me. I am glad that now I am able to tell about it, and that that the memory of these people will not perish."

<http://www.doomedsoldiers.com/polish-secret-police-murders.html>

19 VIII 1953 The United States CIA assists in the overthrow of the government in Iran, and retains the Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi to the throne



(over) 64 Years Later, CIA Finally Releases Details of Iranian Coup

New documents reveal how the CIA attempted to call off the failing coup — only to be salvaged at the last minute by an insubordinate spy.

BY BETHANY ALLEN-EBRAHIMIAN | JUNE 20, 2017, 1:43 PM

Persian soldiers chase rioters during civil unrest in Tehran, August 1953. On August 19, 1953, democratically-elected Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh was overthrown in a coup orchestrated by the CIA and British intelligence, after having nationalized the oil industry. The Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was re-installed in the primary position of power. Massive protests broke out across the nation, leaving almost 300 dead in firefights in the streets of Tehran.

Persian soldiers chase rioters during civil unrest in Tehran, August 1953. On August 19, 1953, democratically-elected Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh was overthrown in a coup orchestrated by the

CIA and British intelligence, after having nationalized the oil industry. The Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was re-installed in the primary position of power. Massive protests broke out across the nation, leaving almost 300 dead in firefights in the streets of Tehran. **(Photo credit should read /AFP/Getty Images)**

Declassified documents released last week shed light on the Central Intelligence Agency's central role in the 1953 coup that brought down Iranian Prime Minister Muhammad Mossadegh, fueling a surge of nationalism which culminated in the 1979 Iranian Revolution and poisoning U.S.-Iran relations into the 21st century.

The approximately 1,000 pages of documents also reveal for the first time the details of how the CIA attempted to call off the failing coup — only to be salvaged at the last minute by an insubordinate spy on the ground. Known as Operation Ajax, the CIA plot was ultimately about oil. Western firms had for decades controlled the region's oil wealth, whether Arabian-American Oil Company in Saudi Arabia, or the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in Iran. When the U.S. firm in Saudi Arabia bowed to pressure in late 1950 and agreed to share oil revenues evenly with Riyadh, the British concession in Iran came under intense pressure to follow suit. But London adamantly refused.

So in early 1951, amid great popular acclaim, Mossadegh nationalized Iran's oil industry. A fuming United Kingdom began conspiring with U.S. intelligence services to overthrow Mossadegh and restore the monarchy under the shah. (Though some in the U.S. State Department, the newly released cables show, blamed British intransigence for the tensions and sought to work with Mossadegh.)

The coup attempt began on August 15 but was swiftly thwarted. Mossadegh made dozens of arrests. Gen. Fazlollah Zahedi, a top conspirator, went into hiding, and the shah fled the country.

The CIA, believing the coup to have failed, called it off.

“Operation has been tried and failed and we should not participate in any operation against Mossadegh which could be traced back to US,” CIA headquarters wrote to its station chief in Iran in a newly declassified cable

2 VIII 1954 Communists closed theological faculties in universities and colleges and created Communist operated Theological Academies

During the early post-war years, the curriculum was modified only slightly. In 1945 minor changes in Polish language teaching were introduced, concerning knowledge of World War II, social sciences, and working and rural classes. Teaching of foreign languages was commonly introduced. In spite of the breaking of the concordat with the Holy See, religious education in state or council schools was obligatory. In January 1947, major ideological changes were initiated. Education was infused with the principles of Marxism-Leninism. The educational system depicted the Soviet Union as the country's main partner and ally, and learning the Russian language learning became obligatory. Private schools were closed, and religious education was gradually eliminated. Many educational institutions fell under government control, and many disappeared.

In 1948 the eight year primary schools were evolved into seven year primary schools that were the base for four year lyceum or vocational schools. This change and workers' training were the educational system's

sent on Aug. 18, 1953. “Operations against Mossadegh should be discontinued.”“Operations against Mossadegh should be discontinued.”

That is the cable which Kermit Roosevelt, top CIA officer in Iran, purportedly and famously ignored, according to Malcolm Byrne, who directs the U.S.-Iran Relations Project at the National Security Archive at George Washington University.

At least “one guy was in the room with Kermit Roosevelt when he got this cable,” Byrne told Foreign Policy. “[Roosevelt] said no — we're not done here.” It was already known that Roosevelt had not carried out an order from Langley to cease and desiSt. But the cable itself and its contents were not previously published.

The consequences of his decision were momentous. The next day, on August 19, 1953, with the aid of “rented” crowds widely believed to have been arranged with CIA assistance, the coup succeeded. Iran's nationalist hero was jailed, the monarchy restored under the Western-friendly shah, and Anglo-Iranian oil — renamed British Petroleum — tried to get its fields back. (But didn't really: Despite the coup, nationalist pushback against a return to foreign control of oil was too much, leaving BP and other majors to share Iran's oil wealth with Tehran.)

Operation Ajax has long been a bogeyman for conservatives in Iran — but also for liberals. The coup fanned the flames of anti-Western sentiment, which reached a crescendo in 1979 with the U.S. hostage crisis, the final overthrow of the shah, and the creation of the Islamic Republic to counter the “Great Satan.”

The coup alienated liberals in Iran as well. Mossadegh is widely considered to be the closest thing Iran has ever had to a democratic leader. He openly championed democratic values and hoped to establish a democracy in Iran. The elected parliament selected him as prime minister, a position he used to reduce the power of the shah, thus bringing Iran closer in line with the political traditions that had developed in Europe. But any further democratic development was stymied on Aug. 19. (...)

Source: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2017/06/20/64-years-later-cia-finally-releases-details-of-iranian-coup-iran-tehran-oil/>

most important tasks. In 1955 about 90 percent of pupils were taught in primary 7-year schools. Between 1949 and 1951 about 80,000 teachers were involved in the education of 1,500,000 illiterates from ages 14 to 15. As a direct consequence, illiteracy was virtually eliminated. This was Communism's single, unquestioned contribution to Polish life. After 1954, two-year vocational schools and four-year technical schools were established. Industrialization drew much of the population to the cities. A decree of July 1958 mandated school attendance to age 18. As a result, training schools were established at factories. These schools were too specialized though and did not satisfy practical requirements. The number of universities, polytechnic schools, academies, and specialized colleges was considerably increased. The introduction of three-year vocational colleges, four-year vocational colleges, and two-year master's studies, with the exception of medical colleges, came about in 1947. Some faculties (medical, forest, and agricultural) were moved to independent (*separate*) colleges. After theological faculties were taken

from universities and colleges in 1954, the Academy of Catholic Theology (Akademia Teologii Katolickiej) and Christian Theological Academy (Chrześcijańska Akademia Teologiczna) were established. The former was composed of the theological faculty of Warsaw University, which had been separated from it by the Communist authorities to form the state-supported, Catholic, university-level institution. Because it was financed by the state, the bishops looked at it with suspicion. They feared its teachers might be loyal to the state, rather than the church. Priests were also employed by the Academy of Catholic Theology. In 1999 the institution was renamed Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University after one

26 VIII 1956 The renewal of Jasna Góra Vows

In celebration of the Jasna Góra Vows of the Nation, about a million believers attended the grounds in front of the Jasna Góra monastery. The Primate of Poland, Cardinal, did not take part in them. Stefan Wyszyński, who at that time was imprisoned by the communists in Komancza. A bouquet of white and red flowers lay on the chair for the Primate of Poland. The faithful gathered on the renewal of Jasna Góra Vows, Jasna Góra, August 26, 1956 / Zbyszko Siemaszko / FORUM Agency

The text of weddings cardinal Wyszyński wrote in the place of isolation, in Komancza. He wished that the 300th anniversary of Janusz Kazimierz's Wedding would be read out a new version, not royal vows, but marriages of the Polish nation.



According to the will of Cardinal Wyszyński's wedding vows were read by Bishop Michał Klepacz, acting chairman of the Polish Episcopate.

"Great God-Man Mother, Virgin Mother of God, God praised Mary the Queen of the world and Polish Queen!

When three centuries pass from the joyful day in which you have become the Queen of Poland, here we children of the Polish Nation and Your children, blood from the blood of our ancestors, we are again

in front of You, full of the same feelings of love, loyalty and hope that once enlivened our Fathers . (...)

Both ourselves and all Polish lands and all the People, we recommend your special protection and protection. "

The faithful responded to the call: "Queen of Poland - we promise!"



of the most respected, influential, and prominent figures in Polish religious and public life. The other religious university, the Christian Theological Academy, was for the protestant and orthodox churches. Lectures on Marxism-Leninism were obligatory in all types of schools, beginning in 1948 in evening technical colleges and in 1950 at part time colleges. The 1956 decree restored the importance of the pedagogical council and moderated discipline regulations.

Source: <http://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/1209/Polonia-HISTORY-BACKGROUND.html>

"(...) We promise to do everything that is in our power to make Poland a real kingdom of Your and Your Son, subject entirely to Your rule, in our personal, family, national and social life.

(...) We promise you, with your eyes fixed on the cradle of Bethlehem, that from now on we will all stand guard over the waking life. We will fight in defense of every child and every cradle as bravely as our fathers fought for the existence and freedom of the Nation, paying generously with their own blood. We are ready to death rather than death to the defenseless. We will consider the gift of life as the greatest grace of the Father of All Life and for the most precious treasure of the Nation.

(...) We promise you to raise the young generation in fidelity to Christ, to defend it against godlessness and corruption and to surround with vigilant parental care.

(...) We promise to work hard to ensure that in our country, all the Children of the Nation live in love and justice, in peace and in peace, that there be no hatred, violence and exploitation among us.

(...) We promise to fight under your banner the most sacred and the hardest fight against our national flaws. We promise to declare a fight of laziness and recklessness, wastage, drunkenness and promiscuity. We promise to gain the virtues of fidelity and diligence, diligence and savings, self-denial and mutual respect, love and social justice.

(...) Bogurodzico Dziewico, famous in so many our temples and especially in your Jasna Góra Capital. We promise you to follow in the footsteps of your virtues, Mother-Virgin and Miss Faithful, and with your help to bring our promises to life.

(...) In the performance of these promises, we see LIVE WOTUM OF THE NATION, kinder than granites and bronzes. May they oblige us to dignified our hearts for the Millennium of Polish Christianity.

(...) We put our past and future in your hands, our entire national and social life, the Church of Your Son and all that we love in God.



Lead us through the Polish land subjected to You to the gates of the Heavenly Homeland. And on the threshold of new life, show us Jesus, blessed fruit of your life. Amen".

Cardinal Wyszyński submitted Weddings in Komancza, in front of the image of Our Lady of Jasna Góra, 10 minutes before their reading at Jasna Góra.

1 VIII 1959 - Hawaii is the 50th state admitted to the Union

Hawaii joined the Union on this day in 1959, an act that remains historically significant but not without controversy.

The Admission Act was enacted on March 18, 1959 by Congress and President Dwight D. Eisenhower then signed a proclamation naming Hawaii as the 50th state on August 21, 1959.

Since then, there have been few attempts to add a 51st state, although Puerto Rico has considered a referendum.

Hawaii received a big assist from Alaska in its drive toward statehood.

It took Alaska 13 years to become a state, with the approval of Congress, after it passed its referendum in the wake of World War II. That came only after Hawaii, which was seen as a GOP-leaning state, was added to the bargain.

Hawaii took a different path, because it had a tradition of independence and a Republican presence. There were also southern politicians who were concerned about adding the territory's multiethnic population to the Union.

The Democrats during the 1950s favored Alaska as the 49th state, while the Republicans wanted Hawaii admitted by itself. The reason was that each new state gets two U.S. senators and at least one new House member, and the admission of a new state can swing votes in Congress.

Two powerful politicians, Lyndon Johnson and Sam Rayburn, adopted a strategy to get Alaska admitted first, which led to the Republicans to lobby for Hawaii as the 50th state.

13 VIII 1961 The construction of the Berlin Wall begins by the Soviet bloc, segregating the German city, previously held in four sectors by Allied forces, including the United States. The wall would last for twenty-eight years.



After the Second World War, the Allied forces (France, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Soviet Union) occupied Germany

and its capital, Berlin.

When the Soviet Union imposed the Berlin Blockade in 1948, major tensions between the Western Allies and the Soviet Union came to light. Fear of the Communist regime led increasing numbers of East Germans to emigrate to West Germany. Between 1949 and 1961, around three million

27 VIII 1962 The 24th Amendment passed by Congress

On this date in 1962, the House passed the 24th Amendment, outlawing the poll tax as a voting requirement in federal elections, by a vote of 295 to 86. At the time, five states maintained poll taxes which disproportionately affected African-American voters: Virginia, Alabama,

AS

Sources: <https://nowahistoria.interia.pl/kartka-z-kalendarza/news-26-sierpnia-1956-r-na-jasnej-gorze-odnowiono-sluby-jasnogors.nId,1489638> & <http://centrumzawierzenia.jasnagora.pl/sluby-jasnogorskie/>

Picture in color: <https://abpoland.com/package/czestochowa-tour-from-wroclaw/>

The Constitution is vague about the whole process of how a territory becomes a state, delegating the task to Congress.

In Article IV, Section 3, Congress is given the power to decide what states and territories are, but state legislatures would have to approve any act that would combine two existing states or form a new state from parts of other states. (So reuniting Pennsylvania and New Jersey, or Virginia and West Virginia, would be a very difficult task.)



After Hawaii became the 50th state in August 1959, the controversy over its admission didn't go away.

There are still those in Hawaii who want to see the state become an independent nation again.

Source:

<https://constitutioncenter.org/blog/it-was-54-years-ago-today-we-added-the-50th-state>

citizens of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) travelled through Berlin to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG).

For the GDR, the failure of the planned economy imposed by Moscow, coupled with the flight of its workers and trafficking of goods between East and West, posed a major economic problem.

The decision was taken to build a Wall. Work began in the early hours of 13 August 1961.

The Berlin Wall became the symbol of the Cold War and a tangible manifestation of the world's separation into two distinct ideological blocs.



Source: https://www.nato.int/cps/ie/natohq/declassified_136183.htm

Mississippi, Arkansas, and Texas. The poll tax exemplified "Jim Crow" laws, developed in the post-Reconstruction South, which aimed to disenfranchise black voters and institute segregation. Some critics of the legislation thought the amendment did not go far enough to protect black



voting rights in state and local elections. Representative John Lindsay of New York contended, “If we’re going to have a constitutional amendment, let’s have a meaningful one.” Judiciary Chairman Emanuel Celler of New York dismissed the criticism and proceeded with the bill as introduced. On January 23, 1964, the 24th Amendment became part of the Constitution when South Dakota ratified it.

28 VIII 1963 The Civil Rights march on Washington, D.C. with Dr. Martin Luther King's famous I Have a Dream speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial

The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom was planned to bring to the forefront the need for change. These changes, or demands as they were referred to, were included in all of the advance planning documents and programs for the event. Organizers called for a “comprehensive civil rights bill” to put an “end to segregation in public accommodations, decent housing, integrated education and the right to vote” among other things. The day began with a group of organizers meeting with members of Congress to officially present these demands and ended with Dr. King, A. Philip Randolph, Whitney Young, John Lewis, and other leaders of the march meeting with President John F. Kennedy and Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson at the White House where they discussed the need for stronger civil rights legislation.

The long awaited day finally arrived. One August 28, 1963, thousands poured into Washington, D.C., in buses, planes, trains, automobiles, and any other means of transportation. They were steadfast and determined. Participants were prepared to be seen and wanted the world to hear their

One of the longest-serving House Members in history, Congressman **Emanuel Celler** of New York dedicated nearly 50 years of service to his Brooklyn-area constituents. Image courtesy of Library of Congress

Source: <http://history.house.gov/HistoricalHighlight/Detail/37045>



message being delivered by the various speakers scheduled on the program. But most importantly, they were peaceful—a crowd of 250,000 people from just about every profession, background, and social class; from every race and

denomination; and from across the nation and even from other countries—all coming together for one important day to deliver one important message. Truly a day like no other.

Source: <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/march-on-washington/day-of-the-march.html>

29 VIII 1963 Signing of the Chamizal Treaty



Negotiating the Mexican-American Border: the Case of Chamizal
Defining the border between Mexico and the United States has not always been in the hands of politicians; at one point, a shift in the Rio Grande River created a new boundary and

generated a diplomatic dispute. In February 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War and designated the Rio Grande the boundary line between the two nations. However, due to flooding and the changing flow of the river, over time, the banks of Rio Grande shifted. The alteration was so significant that a 600 acre piece of land between El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, known as the Chamizal, went from being in Mexican territory to north of the river in American territory.

Americans began to settle in the Chamizal and incorporated the land into the city of El Paso. In 1895, the Mexican government, which claimed the land as part of Mexico, elevated the dispute to the International Boundary Commission (IBC), a body of U.S. and Mexican officials. Four years later, the IBC created a cement track to redirect the Rio Grande and avoid future floods, a project jointly funded by the U.S. and Mexico. This man-made alteration moved yet another piece of land, Cordova Island, from the Mexican to the American side.

Later, the Arbitration of 1911 awarded the Chamizal to Mexico, but the land remained disputed and Americans continued to live there. Cordova Island, an essential “no-man’s land” for decades, became a haven for illicit

activities from drug smuggling to human smuggling. Both the Chamizal and Cordova Island remained a source of friction between the countries. In 1962, amid the tensions of the Cold War, American President John F. Kennedy visited Mexico in an effort to improve Mexican-American relations and affirm an anti-communist attitude in the southern neighbor. As part of the friendship-building effort, Kennedy instructed his Ambassador to Mexico, Thomas Mann, to negotiate a peaceful resolution to the Chamizal dispute.

Thomas Mann served as Ambassador to Mexico from 1961-1963 and, in a November 1964 interview with Joe B. Franz, recalls how the Chamizal dispute was tackled.

Please follow the links to read more about boundary disputes, U.S.-Mexico relations, or the impact of geography on politics.

“We really succeeded by not talking about the past and beginning to look toward the future”

Thomas Mann, Ambassador to Mexico, 1961-1963

Thomas Mann (Chamizal)MANN: Chamizal had been discussed off and on for a hundred years and even more intensely for fifty years, I suppose, since the [1911 Arbitration] award, without any real progress having been made toward the solution (Mann is seen at left).

My own personal association with it began some years before...I suppose I was then Deputy Assistant Secretary, probably during the time Edward G. Miller was Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs (from 1949 to 1952.) The Counselor of the Mexican Embassy at that time was Vicente Sanchez-Gavito...

I remember we talked at that time about the possibility of some kind of an arrangement; and we went together, at that time, to El Paso and looked over the ground and explored a number of possible solutions. I explored with the people in El Paso what their wishes and desires might be.

That effort came to naught for two reasons, really. There was opposition on the part of the U.S. Boundary and Water Commission — of that time — to any settlement. The Mexican government backed away from active negotiations, I suppose, because of domestic political problems there in the country. So we dropped it.

It was an issue highly charged with emotion. It was very difficult for either side really to talk about the merits of the issue without getting involved in some of the emotional issues about what had gone on in the past, and who was right and who was wrong, and what the juridical aspects of the question were, and that sort of thing. We really succeeded by not talking about the past and beginning to look toward the future.

When I was assigned to Mexico, we had done some preliminary sounding on a very informal basis and without committing anybody between the foreign office and the Embassy. So when President Kennedy came, the Mexican government let it be known that they were now prepared to negotiate some kind of a settlement.

The two Presidents, President [Aldolfo] Lopez-Mateos and President [John F.] Kennedy, touched on this in their conversations in a very general way. The two Presidents authorized Mr. Manuel Tello, at that time the Foreign Minister, and myself to see what we could do to come up with concrete proposals for a settlement.

We started work. We worked quietly and fortunately without any publicity — otherwise I don't think it would have been possible to reach any settlement — for more than a year.

We drew maps. I went to El Paso three times and consulted with people there. The first man that I went to simply on the basis of personal friendship was Sam Young, who was chairman of the board of the El Paso National Bank. He got together his board of directors and they included people from many sectors of El Paso life ... who had spent most time studying the legal aspects of the issue and had been very much, prior to that time, opposed to any concessions. He was on the board. I remember a real estate man who probably had some property in the area — and others.

I think the feelings were very mixed in the beginning, and I didn't try to sell the people at El Paso any particular plan. I laid out a map and asked them whether they thought — if a settlement could be reached by redrawing the lines in the way shown on that map — that would be good or bad for their hometown. That's the way we started.



Well, the map that we started working with showed the river — I think it was an aerial photograph as it then was, and the boundary as it then was — with Cordova [Island] and the Chamizal tract; and superimposed on that

were possible new boundary lines which gave part of Cordova Island, which was Mexican territory, to the U. S. in exchange for land farther down the river and which gave a substantial part of the Chamizal to Mexico.

The question, I think, in the minds of all of us — all Americans at that time — was whether the net result of redrawing the line would be detrimental or beneficial to the people of El Paso, first of all, because they were the ones directly involved. So we talked about many facets of it and

after that, I went to the El Paso Chamber of Commerce. I went to the county officials, the city officials, quietly — no publicity. We talked about it some more and got their ideas about what an acceptable settlement might be like...

“We had every reason to live up to our treaty obligations”

62caa68ee268c7565a85aefff226257eToward the end, the people who were most vocal in their opposition to it were the Mexican-Americans in El Paso, strangely enough. Largely because some of them lived in the area, I think.

I must say — to leave that last statement in balance — that the LULACS [League of United Latin American Citizens] and other organizations supported this from the beginning. I'm talking about a local situation. I met with a group, I suppose two or three hundred people, who lived in the area; and there was some organized opposition to it on a small basis. I remember we debated before the press in Spanish — because not many of them spoke English—what the issues were and why we thought we should make a settlement.

My impression was—we did not take a vote—my impression was at the end of that two hour discussion that we had more than 50 percent of the people with us...and in the town of El Paso itself, I think a much larger percentage.

Then, on the basis of that, once El Paso was convinced that this was in their interest, Judge Hardy went with me to Austin and we talked with the Governor [John Connally] and with the Attorney General [Waggoner Carr] whom I found in Laredo.

Governor Connally...was recovering, I remember, from an operation and received us in the hospital and gave us his support. The Attorney General likewise. Then I went to Houston and talked with representatives of the press — the Texas press — from Dallas and Ft. Worth and Waco and other places, as well as Houston, and showed them the maps.

All of this was done without any publicity. I think that's the most interesting thing! We didn't exacerbate prejudices and feelings until we were pretty close to an agreement. We got a lot of support there. In fact, there was no opposition to it in Texas. Then, once Texas was convinced that this was the right thing to do, there was no difficulty up here in the Senate.

I sold it primarily on the basis that the U. S. had entered into a solemn treaty with Mexico, ratified by the Senate fifty years ago, wherein we had agreed to accept the arbitration award [of 1911], I think the phrase is, “final and binding and without appeal.”

I expressed the opinion that we had every reason to live up to our treaty obligations. We live in a contract society, and the U.S. above all has a great deal to gain by encouraging a respect for law and respect for contracts, and that this issue was more important than the few acres of land involved. And it wasn't a big tract.

“We didn't get everything we wanted, and they didn't get everything they wanted”

Signing of Chamizal Convention[The Mexican negotiators] had the same emotions — probably even greater emotions — to deal with [in the city of Ciudad Juarez] than we did here at home... That was really the hardest part, aside from our domestic political problems, that was of course the hardest part...(Photo at right shows U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Mann (left) and the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs Manuel Tello Baurraud (right) signing the Chamizal Convention in Mexico City on August 29, 1963.)

[It] was a problem of negotiating a fair agreement on the basis of give-and-take. We didn't get everything we wanted, and they didn't get

everything they wanted. We negotiated hard on that, and I think what came out of it was something which was good for Juarez, good for El Paso, and good for Chihuahua, and the State of Texas.

I think we had an extraordinarily dedicated and talented Foreign Minister who thought that this should be done, and I felt strongly that it should be done in the broader interests of both countries. We are neighbors, and this had been a thorn in our side exploited by nationalists and Communists and everybody else for fifty years, a constant source of friction in relations we thought ought to be removed.

There are a number of other small tracts, up and down the river, that I'm hopeful can be settled too. The title to those is in dispute. They're not

4 VIII 1964 Vietnamese forces attack an American Destroyer USS Maddox

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The Truth About Tonkin

By Lieutenant Commander Pat Paterson, U.S. Navy.

Questions about the Gulf of Tonkin incidents have persisted for more than 40 years. But once-classified documents and tapes released in the past several years, combined with previously uncovered facts, make clear that high government officials distorted facts and deceived the American public about events that led to full U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War.



On 2 August 1964, North Vietnamese patrol torpedo boats attacked the **USS Maddox (DD-731)** while the destroyer was in international waters in the Gulf of Tonkin. There is no doubting that fact. But what happened in the Gulf during the late hours of 4

August—and the consequential actions taken by U.S. officials in Washington—has been seemingly cloaked in confusion and mystery ever since that night.

Nearly 200 documents the National Security Agency (NSA) declassified and released in 2005 and 2006, however, have helped shed light on what transpired in the Gulf of Tonkin on 4 AuguSt. The papers, more than 140 of them classified top secret, include phone transcripts, oral-history interviews, signals intelligence (SIGINT) messages, and chronologies of the Tonkin events developed by Department of Defense and NSA officials. Combined with recently declassified tapes of phone calls from White House officials involved with the events and previously uncovered facts about Tonkin, these documents provide compelling evidence about the subsequent decisions that led to the full commitment of U.S. armed forces to the Vietnam War.

Raids and Patrols in the Tonkin Gulf

In early 1964, South Vietnam began conducting a covert series of U.S.-backed commando attacks and intelligence-gathering missions along the North Vietnamese coast. Codenamed Operations Plan (OPLAN) 34A, the activities were conceived and overseen by the Department of Defense, with the support of the Central Intelligence Agency, and carried out by the South Vietnamese Navy. Initial successes, however, were limited; numerous South Vietnamese raiders were captured, and OPLAN 34A units suffered heavy casualties. In July 1964, Lieutenant General William C. Westmoreland, commander of the U.S. Military Assistance Command,

really different from the Chamizal. Occasioned by river changes and the juridical question is whether the changes were abrupt or whether they were gradual. Sometimes these changes are neither all that abrupt nor all that gradual and then you get into courts.

None of these, fortunately, are surrounded with the same emotions that were built up in this hundred-year old debate ... Between the two cities, between the two states, and between the two countries.

Source: <https://adSt.org/2017/01/negotiating-mexican-american-border-case-chamizal/>

Vietnam, shifted the operation's tactics from commando attacks on land to shore bombardments using mortars, rockets, and recoilless rifles fired from South Vietnamese patrol boats. 1

The U.S. Navy, meanwhile, had been conducting occasional reconnaissance and SIGINT-gathering missions farther offshore in the Tonkin Gulf. Destroyers carried out these so-called Desoto patrols. After missions in December 1962 and April of the next year, patrols were scheduled for 1964 in the vicinity of OPLAN 34A raids. In fact, one of the patrols' main missions was to gather information that would be useful to the raiders. 2 A top-secret document declassified in 2005 revealed the standing orders to the Desoto patrols: "[L]ocate and identify all coastal radar transmitters, note all navigation aids along the DVR's [Democratic Republic of Vietnam's] coastline, and monitor the Vietnamese junk fleet for a possible connection to DRV/Viet Cong maritime supply and infiltration routes." 3

The United States was playing a dangerous game. The South Vietnamese—conducted OPLAN 34A raids and the U.S. Navy's Desoto patrols could be perceived as collaborative efforts against North Vietnamese targets. In reality, there was no coordination between the forces conducting the operations.

Daylight Attack on a Destroyer

On 28 July, the Maddox sortied from Taiwan en route to her Desoto patrol station. Specially equipped with a communications intercept van and 17 SIGINT specialists, she was to patrol in international waters off the North Vietnamese coast, from the demilitarized zone (DMZ) north to the Chinese border. On the night of 30-31 July, the destroyer was on station in the Gulf of Tonkin when a 34A raid was launched against Hon Me Island. From two boats, South Vietnamese commandos fired machine guns and small cannon at the island's radar and military installations. At the same time, two other South Vietnamese commando boats carried out a similar attack against Hon Ngu Island, more than 25 miles to the south. 4

After observing North Vietnamese patrol torpedo boats pursuing the vessels that had attacked Hon Me, the Maddox withdrew from the area. Nevertheless, when later queried by NSA headquarters, the destroyer indicated she had been unaware of the OPLAN raid on the island. 5 That ignorance set the stage for a showdown between North Vietnamese forces and the U.S. Navy eavesdropping platform.

By 1 August, the destroyer had returned to the area and was back on patrol. In the early hours of the next day, Maddox communication technicians intercepted SIGINT reports of North Vietnamese vessels

getting under way, possibly intent on attacking the destroyer. On board the ship, Commander, Destroyer Division 192, Captain John J. Herrick ordered the vessel out to sea, hoping to avoid a confrontation. But at 1045, he reversed orders, turning the Maddox back toward the coast, this time to the north of Hon Me Island.

Weather conditions were clear, and seas were calm. At 1440, the destroyer detected three North Vietnamese patrol boats approaching her position from the weSt. Aware of North Vietnamese intent from the earlier SIGINT message, Captain Herrick ordered gun crews to open fire if the fast-approaching trio closed to within 10,000 yards of the destroyer, and at about 1505 three 5-inch shots were fired across the bow of the closest boat. In return, the lead vessel launched a torpedo and veered away. A second boat then launched two "fish" but was hit by gunfire from the destroyer. Re-engaging, the first PT boat launched a second torpedo and opened fire with her 14.5-mm guns, but Maddox shell fire heavily damaged the vessel. 6

Overhead, meanwhile, four F8 Crusaders that the Maddox had called in earlier from the USS Ticonderoga (CVA-14) were rapidly approaching. One of the pilots, Navy Commander James Stockdale, commanding officer of VF-51, recalled that they passed over the unscathed Maddox at 1530, minutes after the 22-minute surface engagement had ended. All of the enemy boats were heading northwest at about 40 knots, two in front of the third by about a mile. The destroyer was retiring to the south.

Stockdale and the other pilots, with orders to "attack and destroy the PT boats," made multiple firing runs on the enemy vessels. The two lead boats maneuvered evasively but were nevertheless heavily damaged. The third was left dead in the water and burning. 7

Fighting Phantoms on 4 August

The next day, the Maddox resumed her Desoto patrol, and, to demonstrate American resolve and the right to navigate in international waters, President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered the USS Turner Joy (DD-951) to join the first destroyer on patrol off the North Vietnamese coast. That night, the South Vietnamese staged more OPLAN 34A raids. Three patrol craft attacked a security garrison at Cua Ron (the mouth of the Ron River) and a radar site at Vinh Son, firing 770 rounds of high-explosive munitions at the targets. 8 North Vietnamese installations had been attacked four separate times in five days.

On the morning of 4 August, U.S. intelligence intercepted a report indicating that the communists intended to conduct offensive maritime operations in the Gulf of Tonkin. In contrast to the clear conditions two days earlier, thunderstorms and rain squalls reduced visibility and increased wave heights to six feet. In addition to the difficult detection conditions, the Maddox 's SPS-40 long-range air-search radar and the Turner Joy 's SPG-53 fire-control radar were both inoperative. 9 That night, Herrick had the two ships move out to sea to give themselves maneuver space in case of attack.

The Maddox nevertheless reported at 2040 that she was tracking unidentified vessels. Although the U.S. destroyers were operating more than 100 miles from the North Vietnamese coastline, the approaching vessels seemed to come at the ships from multiple directions, some from the northeast, others from the southweSt. Still other targets appeared from the east, mimicking attacking profiles of torpedo boats. Targets would

disappear, and then new targets would appear from the opposite compass direction.

Over the next three hours, the two ships repeatedly maneuvered at high speeds to evade perceived enemy boat attacks. The destroyers reported automatic-weapons fire; more than 20 torpedo attacks; sightings of torpedo wakes, enemy cockpit lights, and searchlight illumination; and numerous radar and surface contacts. By the time the destroyers broke off their "counterattack," they had fired 249 5-inch shells, 123 3-inch shells, and four or five depth charges. 10

Commander Stockdale was again in the action, this time alone. When his wingman's aircraft developed trouble, Stockdale got permission to launch solo from the Ticonderoga . He arrived overhead at 2135. For more than 90 minutes, he made runs parallel to the ships' course and at low altitude (below 2,000 feet) looking for the enemy vessels. He reported later, "I had the best seat in the house to watch that event and our destroyers were just shooting at phantom targets—there were no PT boats there . . . there was nothing there but black water and American firepower." 11

Captain Herrick also began to have doubts about the attack. As the battle continued, he realized the "attacks" were actually the results of "overeager sonar operators" and poor equipment performance. The Turner Joy had not detected any torpedoes during the entire encounter, and Herrick determined that the Maddox 's operators were probably hearing the ship's propellers reflecting off her rudder during sharp turns. 12 The destroyer's main gun director was never able to lock onto any targets because, as the operator surmised, the radar was detecting the stormy sea's wave tops.

By 0127 on 5 August, hours after the "attacks" had occurred, Herrick had queried his crew and reviewed the preceding hours' events. He sent a flash (highest priority) message to Honolulu, which was received in Washington at 1327 on 4 August, declaring his doubts: "Review of action makes many reported contacts and torpedoes fired appear doubtful. Freak weather effects on radar and overeager sonarmen may have accounted for many reports. No actual visual sightings by MADDOX. Suggest complete evaluation before any further action taken." 13

Confusion in Washington

Messages declassified in 2005 and recently released tapes from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library reveal confusion among the leadership in Washington. Calls between the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the National Military Command Center; headquarters of the Commander in Chief, Pacific; and Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara were frequently exchanged during the phantom battle. Vietnam was 12 hours ahead of Washington time, so the "attacks" in the evening of 4 August in the Gulf of Tonkin were being monitored in Washington late that morning.

In Hawaii, Pacific Fleet Commander-in-Chief Admiral U. S. Grant Sharp was receiving Captain Herrick's reports by flash message traffic, not voice reports. At 0248 in the Gulf, Herrick sent another report in which he changed his previous story:

Certain that original ambush was bonafide. Details of action following present a confusing picture. Have interviewed witnesses who made positive visual sightings of cockpit lights or similar passing near MADDOX. Several reported torpedoes were probably boats themselves which were observed to make several close passes on MADDOX. Own

ship screw noises on rudders may have accounted for some. At present cannot even estimate number of boats involved. TURNER JOY reports two torpedoes passed near her. 14

McNamara phoned Sharp at 1608 Washington time to talk it over and asked, "Was there a possibility that there had been no attack?" Sharp admitted that there was a "slight possibility" because of freak radar echoes, inexperienced sonarmen, and no visual sightings of torpedo wakes. The admiral added that he was trying to get information and recommended holding any order for a retaliatory strike against North Vietnam until "we have a definite indication of what happened." 15

Other intelligence supported the belief that an attack had occurred. An intercepted SIGINT message, apparently from one of the patrol boats, reported: "Shot down two planes in the battle area. We sacrificed two comrades but all the rest are okay. The enemy ship could also have been damaged." 16 Amid all the other confusion and growing doubt about the attack, this battle report was a compelling piece of evidence. At 1723 in Washington, Air Force Lieutenant General David Burchinal, the director of the Joint Staff, was watching the events unfold from the National Military Command Center when he received a phone call from Sharp. He admitted that the new SIGINT intercept "pins it down better than anything so far." 17

7 VIII 1964 The Tonkin Resolution is passed by the United States Congress

On 7 August, Congress, with near unanimity, approved the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which President Johnson signed into law three days later. Requested by Johnson, the resolution authorized the chief executive to "take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression." No approval or oversight of military force was required by Congress, essentially eliminating the system of checks and balances so fundamental to the U.S. Constitution. On hearing of the authorization's passage by both houses of Congress, the delighted President remarked that the resolution "was like Grandma's nightshirt. It covers everything." 21

Analysis of the Evidence

Historians have long suspected that the second attack in the Gulf of Tonkin never occurred and that the resolution was based on faulty evidence. But no declassified information had suggested that McNamara, Johnson, or anyone else in the decision-making process had intentionally misinterpreted the intelligence concerning the 4 August incident. More than 40 years after the events, that all changed with the release of the nearly 200 documents related to the Gulf of Tonkin incident and transcripts from the Johnson Library.

These new documents and tapes reveal what historians could not prove: There was not a second attack on U.S. Navy ships in the Tonkin Gulf in early August 1964. Furthermore, the evidence suggests a disturbing and deliberate attempt by Secretary of Defense McNamara to distort the evidence and mislead Congress.

Among the most revealing documents is a study of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents by NSA historian Robert J. Hanyok. Titled "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds, and the Flying Fish: The Gulf of Tonkin Mystery, 2-4 August 1964," it had been published in the classified Cryptological Quarterly in early 2001. Hanyok conducted a comprehensive analysis of SIGINT records from the nights of the attacks and concluded that there

McNamara considered the report, coupled with Admiral Sharp's belief the attack was authentic, as conclusive proof. At 2336, President Johnson appeared on national television and announced his intent to retaliate against North Vietnamese targets: "Repeated acts of violence against the armed forces of the United States must be met not only with alert defense, but with positive reply. The reply is being given as I speak to you tonight." 18

Back on board the Ticonderoga, Commander Stockdale had been ordered to prepare to launch an air strike against the North Vietnamese targets for their "attacks" of the previous evening. Unlike Captain Herrick, Stockdale had no doubt about what had happened: "We were about to launch a war under false pretenses, in the face of the on-scene military commander's advice to the contrary." 19 Despite his reservations, Stockdale led a strike of 18 aircraft against an oil storage facility at Vinh, located just inland of where the alleged attacks on the Maddox and Turner Joy had occurred. Although the raid was successful (the oil depot was completely destroyed and 33 of 35 vessels were hit), two American aircraft were shot down; one pilot was killed and the second captured. 20
(article continued below)

was indeed an attack on 2 August but the attack on the 4th did not occur, despite claims to the contrary by President Johnson and Secretary McNamara. According to John Prados of the independent National Security Archive, Hanyok asserted that faulty signals intelligence became "vital evidence of a second attack and [Johnson and McNamara] used this claim to support retaliatory air strikes and to buttress the administration's request for a Congressional resolution that would give the White House freedom of action in Vietnam." 22

Almost 90 percent of the SIGINT intercepts that would have provided a conflicting account were kept out of the reports sent to the Pentagon and White House. Additionally, messages that were forwarded contained "severe analytic errors, unexplained translation changes, and the conjunction of two messages into one translation." Other vital intercepts mysteriously disappeared. Hanyok claimed that "The overwhelming body of reports, if used, would have told the story that no attack occurred." 23

The historian also concluded that some of the signals intercepted during the nights of 2 and 4 August were falsified to support the retaliatory attacks. Moreover, some intercepts were altered to show different receipt times, and other evidence was cherry picked to deliberately distort the truth. According to Hanyok, "SIGINT information was presented in such a manner as to preclude responsible decision makers in the Johnson Administration from having the complete and objective narrative of events of 04 August 1964." 24

And what about the North Vietnamese battle report that seemed to provide irrefutable confirmation of the attack? On further examination, it was found to be referring to the 2 August attacks against the Maddox but had been routinely transmitted in a follow-up report during the second "attack." The North Vietnamese were oblivious to the confusion it would generate.

What should have stood out to the U.S. leadership collecting all the data of these attacks was that, with the exception of the battle report, no other SIGINT "chatter" was detected during the attacks on 4 AuguSt. In contrast, during the 2 August attack NSA listening posts monitored VHF communications between North Vietnamese vessels, HF communications between higher headquarters in Hanoi and the boats, and communication relays to the regional naval station. None of these communications occurred on the night of 4 AuguSt.

The Defense Secretary's Role

Subsequently, Secretary McNamara intentionally misled Congress and the public about his knowledge of and the nature of the 34A operations, which surely would have been perceived as the actual cause for the 2 August attack on the Maddox and the apparent attack on the 4th. On 6 August, when called before a joint session of the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees to testify about the incident, McNamara eluded the questioning of Senator Wayne Morse (D-OR) when he asked specifically whether the 34A operations may have provoked the North Vietnamese response. McNamara instead declared that "our Navy played absolutely no part in, was not associated with, was not aware of, any South Vietnamese actions, if there were any." 25

Later that day, Secretary McNamara lied when he denied knowledge of the provocative 34A patrols at a Pentagon news conference. When asked by a reporter if he knew of any confrontations between the South and North Vietnamese navies, he responded: "No, none that I know of. . . . [T]hey operate on their own. They are part of the South Vietnamese Navy . . . operating in the coastal waters, inspecting suspicious incoming junks, seeking to deter and prevent the infiltration of both men and material." Another reporter pressed the issue, "Do these [patrol boats] go north, into North Vietnamese waters?" McNamara again eluded the question, "They have advanced closer and closer to the 17th parallel, and in some cases, I think they have moved beyond that in an effort to stop the infiltration closer to the point of origin." 26

In reality, McNamara knew full well that the 34A attacks had probably provoked the 2 August attacks on the Maddox . On an audio tape from the Johnson Library declassified in December 2005, he admitted to the President the morning after the attacks that the two events were almost certainly connected:

And I think I should also, or we should also at that time, Mr. President, explain this OPLAN 34-A, these covert operations. There's no question but what that had bearing on it. On Friday night, as you probably know, we had four TP [sic] boats from [South] Vietnam, manned by [South] Vietnamese or other nationals, attack two islands, and we expended, oh, 1,000 rounds of ammunition of one kind or another against them. We probably shot up a radar station and a few other miscellaneous buildings. And following 24 hours after that with this destroyer in the same area undoubtedly led them to connect the two events. . . ." 27

Intelligence officials realized the obvious. When President Johnson asked during a 4 August meeting of the National Security Council, "Do they want a war by attacking our ships in the middle of the Gulf of Tonkin?" CIA Director John McCone answered matter-of-factly, "No, the North Vietnamese are reacting defensively to our attacks on their offshore islands . . . the attack is a signal to us that the North Vietnamese have the will and determination to continue the war." 28

Johnson himself apparently had his own doubts about what happened in the Gulf on 4 AuguSt. A few days after the Tonkin Gulf Resolution was passed, he commented, "Hell, those damn, stupid sailors were just shooting at flying fish." 29

Can the omission of evidence by McNamara be forgiven? Within time, the conflict in Vietnam would likely have occurred anyway, given the political and military events already in motion. However, the retaliatory attack of 5 August marked the United States' first overt military action against the North Vietnamese and the most serious escalation up to that date. The Tonkin Gulf Resolution, essentially unchallenged by a Congress that believed it was an appropriate response to unprovoked, aggressive, and deliberate attacks on U.S. vessels on the high seas, would open the floodgates for direct American military involvement in Vietnam. McNamara's intentional distortion of events prevented Congress from providing the civilian oversight of military matters so fundamental to the congressional charter.

Some historians do not let the Johnson administration off so easily. Army Colonel H. R. McMaster, author of the highly acclaimed 1997 book *Derelection of Duty*, accused Johnson and McNamara of outright deception:

To enhance his chances for election, [Johnson] and McNamara deceived the American people and Congress about events and the nature of the American commitment in Vietnam. They used a questionable report of a North Vietnamese attack on American naval vessels to justify the president's policy to the electorate and to defuse Republican senator and presidential candidate Barry Goldwater's charges that Lyndon Johnson was irresolute and "soft" in the foreign policy arena. 30

For his part, McNamara never admitted his mistakes. In his award-winning 2003 video memoirs *Fog of War*, he remained unapologetic and even bragged of his ability to deceive: "I learned early on never answer the question that is asked of you. Answer the question that you wish had been asked of you. And quite frankly, I follow that rule. It's a very good rule." 31

We may never know the whole truth behind the Tonkin events and the motivations of those involved. However, it is important to put what we do know into context. The administration's zeal for aggressive action, motivated by President Johnson's election worries, created an atmosphere of recklessness and overenthusiasm in which it became easy to draw conclusions based on scanty evidence and to overlook normally prudent precautionary measures. Without the full picture, Congress could not offer the checks and balances it was designed to provide. Subsequently, the White House carried the nation into the longest and one of the most costly conflicts in our nation's history.

1. COMUSMACV 291233ZJuly64. Quoted in Dale Andrade and Kenneth Conboy, "The Secret Side of the Tonkin Gulf Incident," *Naval History* , 13:4, July/August 1999, pp. 27-8.
2. Edwin E. Moise, *Tonkin Gulf and the Escalation of the Vietnam War* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1996), pp. 50-51.
3. CINCPACFLT 140203ZJuly64. Quoted in Robert Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds, and the Flying Fish: The Gulf of Tonkin Mystery, 2-4 August 1964," *Cryptological Quarterly*, Winter 2000/Spring 2001, p. 6.
4. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 13.
5. NSAPAC REP VIETNAM 200100ZAUG64. See LTCOL Delmar C. Lang's chronology of the SIGINT reports (14 Oct 1964) on National Security Agency homepage, <http://www.nsa.gov/vietnam/> .

6. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 16; Edward J. Drea, "Tonkin Gulf Reappraisal: 40 Years Later," MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History, Vol. 16, No. 4, Summer 2004, p. 75.

7. Jim and Sybil Stockdale, In Love and War (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1990, rev. ed.), pp. 5-8; Andrade and Conboy, "The Secret Side."

8. Drea, "Tonkin Gulf Reappraisal," p. 5.

9. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 19.

10. Ibid., p. 23.

11. Jim and Sybil Stockdale, In Love and War (New York: Harper and Row, 1984), p. 23.

12. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 24.

13. Robert McNamara, In Retrospect (New York: Vintage, 1996) p. 133.

14. CTG 72.1 041848ZAUG64. Quoted in Robert McNamara's In Retrospect , (New York: Vintage, 1996) p. 133.

15. H. R. McMaster, Dereliction of Duty (New York: Harper Collins, 1997), p. 129.

16. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 25.

17. U.S. Grant Sharp and David Burchinal telephone call, 04 August 1964 at 5:23 PM, from the DOD National Military Command Center (NMCC), recording provided by the Lyndon B. Johnson Library and Museum.

18. Stanley Karnow, Vietnam: A History (New York: Penguin Books, 1983) p. 372.

19. Stockdale, In Love and War , p. 25.

20. McMasters, Dereliction of Duty , p. 119; Stockdale, In Love and War , p. 19.

21. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 46.

22. John Prados, "Tonkin Gulf Intelligence 'Skewed' According to Official History and Intercepts," National Security Agency Electronic Briefing Book, no. 132 (01 Dec 2005).

23. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 3.

24. Ibid., p. 3.

25. Executive Sessions of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Historical Series, version XVI, Washington: Government Printing Office, 1988, p. 293.

26. McMasters, Dereliction of Duty , p. 134.

27. Johnson and McNamara recording, 03 August 1964 at 10:30 a.m., recording provided by the, Presidential Recordings Program, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia. www.WhiteHouseTapes.org .

28. Foreign Relations of the United States, 1964-1968, vol. I, Vietnam 1964 (section 278). Department of State Bulletin, 24 August 1964: 558. See Summary Notes of the 538th meeting of the National Security Council.

29. Hanyok, "Skunks, Bogies, Silent Hounds," p. 47.

30. McMasters, Dereliction of Duty , p. 108.

31. Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara, directed by Errol Morris, Sony Pictures, 2003. The film won the Academy Award for best documentary feature for 2003.

Lieutenant Commander Paterson is a foreign area officer and former history instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy. He is currently assigned as the Andean Ridge and Southern Cone Desk officer at U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command in Mayport Florida.

Source: <https://www.usni.org/magazines/navalhistory/2008-02/truth-about-tonkin>

6 VIII 1965 The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Two significant portions of the act; the outlawing of the requirement of potential voters to take a literacy test in order to qualify and the provision of federal registration of voters in areas with less than 50% of all voters registered.

23 VIII 1965 The Watts race riots in Los Angeles begin a five day siege, culminating in the death of thirty-four people and property destruction in excess of \$200 million. W Los Angeles w dzielnicy Watts, zamieszkanej przez ludność afroamerykańską, wybuchły kilkudniowe zamieszki na tle etnicznym; wzięło w nich udział kilkadziesiąt tysięcy ludzi; 34 osoby poniosły śmierć, ponad tysiąc zostało rannych.

9 VIII 1969 Sharon Marie Tate Polanski was murdered



American actress and model. During the 1960s, she played small television roles before appearing in films and was regularly featured in fashion magazines as a model and cover girl. After receiving positive reviews for her comedic and dramatic acting performances, Tate was hailed as one of Hollywood's most promising newcomers. The Tate murders were a series of killings conducted by members of the Manson Family on

pregnant. Four members of the Family invaded the home of married celebrity couple, actress Sharon Tate and director Roman Polanski at 10050 Cielo Drive in Los Angeles. They murdered Tate (who was eight and a half months pregnant), along with three friends who were visiting at the time, and an 18-year-old visitor, who was slain as he was departing the home. Polanski was not present on the night of the murders as he was working on a film in Europe.

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org>

August 8–9, 1969, which claimed the lives of five people, one of them

22 VIII 1970 The United States Postal Service is made independent in a postal reform measure for the first time in almost two centuries.

9 VIII 1974 President Richard M. Nixon resigns the office of the presidency



Text of President Richard Nixon's resignation speech.
Richard Nixon
Good evening.
This is the 37th time I have spoken to you from this office, where so many decisions have been made that shaped the history of this Nation. Each time I have done so to discuss with you

some matter that I believe affected the national interest.

In all the decisions I have made in my public life, I have always tried to do what was best for the Nation. Throughout the long and difficult period of Watergate, I have felt it was my duty to persevere, to make every possible effort to complete the term of office to which you elected me.

In the past few days, however, it has become evident to me that I no longer have a strong enough political base in the Congress to justify continuing that effort. As long as there was such a base, I felt strongly that it was necessary to see the constitutional process through to its conclusion, that to do otherwise would be unfaithful to the spirit of that deliberately difficult process and a dangerously destabilizing precedent for the future. But with the disappearance of that base, I now believe that the constitutional purpose has been served, and there is no longer a need for the process to be prolonged.

I would have preferred to carry through to the finish whatever the personal agony it would have involved, and my family unanimously urged me to do so. But the interests of the Nation must always come before any personal considerations.

From the discussions I have had with Congressional and other leaders, I have concluded that because of the Watergate matter I might not have the support of the Congress that I would consider necessary to back the very

difficult decisions and carry out the duties of this office in the way the interests of the Nation would require.

I have never been a quitter. To leave office before my term is completed is abhorrent to every instinct in my body. But as President, I must put the interest of America first. America needs a full-time President and a full-time Congress, particularly at this time with problems we face at home and abroad.

To continue to fight through the months ahead for my personal vindication would almost totally absorb the time and attention of both the President and the Congress in a period when our entire focus should be on the great issues of peace abroad and prosperity without inflation at home.

Therefore, I shall resign the Presidency effective at noon tomorrow. Vice President Ford will be sworn in as President at that hour in this office.

As I recall the high hopes for America with which we began this second term, I feel a great sadness that I will not be here in this office working on your behalf to achieve those hopes in the next 2 1/2 years. But in turning over direction of the Government to Vice President Ford, I know, as I told the Nation when I nominated him for that office 10 months ago, that the leadership of America will be in good hands.

In passing this office to the Vice President, I also do so with the profound sense of the weight of responsibility that will fall on his shoulders tomorrow and, therefore, of the understanding, the patience, the cooperation he will need from all Americans.

As he assumes that responsibility, he will deserve the help and the support of all of us. As we look to the future, the first essential is to begin healing the wounds of this Nation, to put the bitterness and divisions of the recent past behind us, and to rediscover those shared ideals that lie at the heart of our strength and unity as a great and as a free people.

By taking this action, I hope that I will have hastened the start of that process of healing which is so desperately needed in America.

I regret deeply any injuries that may have been done in the course of the events that led to this decision. I would say only that if some of my judgments were wrong, and some were wrong, they were made in what I believed at the time to be the best interest of the Nation.

To those who have stood with me during these past difficult months, to my family, my friends, to many others who joined in supporting my cause because they believed it was right, I will be eternally grateful for your support.

And to those who have not felt able to give me your support, let me say I leave with no bitterness toward those who have opposed me, because all of us, in the final analysis, have been concerned with the good of the country, however our judgments might differ.

So, let us all now join together in affirming that common commitment and in helping our new President succeed for the benefit of all Americans.

I shall leave this office with regret at not completing my term, but with gratitude for the privilege of serving as your President for the past 5 1/2 years. These years have been a momentous time in the history of our Nation and the world. They have been a time of achievement in which we can all be proud, achievements that represent the shared efforts of the Administration, the Congress, and the people.

But the challenges ahead are equally great, and they, too, will require the support and the efforts of the Congress and the people working in cooperation with the new Administration.

We have ended America's longest war, but in the work of securing a lasting peace in the world, the goals ahead are even more far-reaching and more difficult. We must complete a structure of peace so that it will be

said of this generation, our generation of Americans, by the people of all nations, not only that we ended one war but that we prevented future wars. We have unlocked the doors that for a quarter of a century stood between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

We must now ensure that the one quarter of the world's people who live in the People's Republic of China will be and remain not our enemies but our friends.

In the Middle East, 100 million people in the Arab countries, many of whom have considered us their enemy for nearly 20 years, now look on us as their friends. We must continue to build on that friendship so that peace can settle at last over the Middle East and so that the cradle of civilization will not become its grave.

Together with the Soviet Union we have made the crucial breakthroughs that have begun the process of limiting nuclear arms. But we must set as our goal not just limiting but reducing and finally destroying these terrible weapons so that they cannot destroy civilization and so that the threat of nuclear war will no longer hang over the world and the people.

We have opened the new relation with the Soviet Union. We must continue to develop and expand that new relationship so that the two strongest nations of the world will live together in cooperation rather than confrontation.

Around the world, in Asia, in Africa, in Latin America, in the Middle East, there are millions of people who live in terrible poverty, even starvation.

We must keep as our goal turning away from production for war and expanding production for peace so that people everywhere on this earth can at last look forward in their children's time, if not in our own time, to having the necessities for a decent life.

Here in America, we are fortunate that most of our people have not only the blessings of liberty but also the means to live full and good and, by the world's standards, even abundant lives. We must press on, however, toward a goal of not only more and better jobs but of full opportunity for every American and of what we are striving so hard right now to achieve, prosperity without inflation.

For more than a quarter of a century in public life I have shared in the turbulent history of this era. I have fought for what I believed in. I have tried to the best of my ability to discharge those duties and meet those responsibilities that were entrusted to me.

Sometimes I have succeeded and sometimes I have failed, but always I have taken heart from what Theodore Roosevelt once said about the man in the arena, "whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again because there is not effort without error and shortcoming, but who does actually strive to do the deed, who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumphs of high achievements and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly."

I pledge to you tonight that as long as I have a breath of life in my body, I shall continue in that spirit. I shall continue to work for the great causes to which I have been dedicated throughout my years as a Congressman, a Senator, a Vice President, and President, the cause of peace not just for America but among all nations, prosperity, justice, and opportunity for all of our people.

There is one cause above all to which I have been devoted and to which I shall always be devoted for as long as I live.

When I first took the oath of office as President 5 1/2 years ago, I made this sacred commitment, to "consecrate my office, my energies, and all the wisdom I can summon to the cause of peace among nations."

I have done my very best in all the days since to be true to that pledge. As a result of these efforts, I am confident that the world is a safer place today, not only for the people of America but for the people of all nations, and that all of our children have a better chance than before of living in peace rather than dying in war.

This, more than anything, is what I hoped to achieve when I sought the Presidency. This, more than anything, is what I hope will be my legacy to you, to our country, as I leave the Presidency.



Charles Augustus Lindbergh (February 4, 1902 – August 26, 1974), nicknamed Lucky Lindy, The Lone Eagle, and Slim[1] was an American aviator, military officer, author, inventor, explorer, and environmental activist. At age 25 in 1927, he went from obscurity as a U.S. Air Mail pilot to instantaneous world fame by winning the Orteig Prize: making a nonstop flight from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, New York, to Paris, France. Lindbergh covered the 33 1/2-hour, 3,600 statute miles (5,800 km) alone in a single-

4 VIII 1977 The cabinet level Energy Department is created by Jimmy Carter.

17 VIII 1978 The first balloon, Double Eagle II, to cross the Atlantic Ocean comes to rest in Miserey, France, after one hundred and thirty-seven hours of flight from Presque Isle, Maine.

31 VIII 1980 Solidarity, the first independent labor union to develop in a Soviet bloc nation

A view from the top of the Gate No. 2 of the Gdansk Shipyard Lenin and crowds of people who are sympathetic to the strikers of Gdańsk



Source:

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikiprojekt:GLAM/Sierpie%C5%84_1980:_35_fotografii_strajku_w_Stoczni_Gda%C5%84skiej

On this day in 1980, representatives of the communist government of Polonia agree to the demands of striking shipyard workers in the city of Gdansk. (...)

In July 1980, facing economic crisis, Polonia's government raised the price of food and other goods, while curbing the growth of wages. The price hikes made it difficult for many Poles to afford basic necessities, and a wave of strikes swept the country. Amid mounting tensions, a popular forklift operator named Anna Walentynowicz was fired from the Lenin Shipyard in the northern Polish city of Gdansk. In mid-August, some

To have served in this office is to have felt a very personal sense of kinship with each and every American. In leaving it, I do so with this prayer: May God's grace be with you in all the days ahead.

Source: <http://watergate.info/1974/08/08/nixon-resignation-speech.html>

26 VIII 1974 Charles Augustus Lindbergh passed away

engine purpose-built Ryan monoplane, Spirit of St. Louis. This was not the first flight between North America and Europe, but he did achieve the first solo transatlantic flight and the first non-stop flight between North America and the European mainland. Lindbergh was an officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps Reserve, and he received the United States' highest military decoration, the Medal of Honor, for the feat

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Lindbergh

17,000 of the shipyard's workers began a sit-down strike to campaign for her reinstatement, as well as for a modest increase in wages. (...)

Despite governmental censorship and attempts to keep news of the strike from getting out, similar protests broke out in industrial cities throughout Polonia. On August 17, an Interfactory Strike Committee presented the Polish government with 21 ambitious demands, including the right to organize independent trade unions, the right to strike, the release of political prisoners and increased freedom of expression. Fearing the general strike would lead to a national revolt, the government sent a commission to Gdansk to negotiate with the rebellious workers. On August 31, (...) Deputy Premier Mieczysław Jagielski signed an agreement giving in to many of the workers' demands. Walesa signed the document with a giant ballpoint pen decorated with a picture of the newly elected Pope John Paul II (Karol Wojtyła, the former archbishop of Krakow).

In the wake of the Gdansk strike, leaders of the Interfactory Strike Committee voted to create a single national trade union known as Solidarnosc (Solidarity), which soon evolved into a mass social movement, with a membership of more than 10 million people. Solidarity attracted sympathy from Western leaders and hostility from Moscow, where the Kremlin considered a military invasion of Polonia. In late 1981, under Soviet pressure, the government of General Wojciech Jaruzelski annulled the recognition of Solidarity and declared martial law in Polonia. Some 6,000 Solidarity activists were arrested, including Walesa, who was detained for almost a year. The Solidarity movement moved underground, where it continued to enjoy support from international leaders such as U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who imposed sanctions on Polonia. Walesa was awarded the 1983 Nobel Peace Prize, and after the fall of communism in 1989 he became the first president of Polonia ever to be elected by popular vote.

Source: <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/polish-government-signs-accord-with-gdansk-shipyard-workers>

28 VIII 1981 IBM introduces the IBM-PC personal computer, the IBM 5150.

It was designed by twelve engineers and designers under Don Estridge of the IBM Entry Systems Division. It sold for \$1,565 in 1981.

12 VIII 1987 Near the end of hearings into the Iran-contra affair, President Reagan admits to a policy that went astray, but denied knowledge of the diversion of funds to the contras.

9 VIII 1989 The Savings and Loan Bailout is approved by Congress and signed into law by President George Herbert Walker Bush. The total cost of the bill would approach \$400 billion over thirty years to close and merge insolvent Savings and Loans.

16 VIII 1989 Army General Colin Powell is elevated to the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, becoming the first African American to be nominated to that post.

2 VIII 1990 Iraq invades its neighbor, Kuwait – the beginning of U.S. involvement in the Gulf War.

At the end of the Iran-Iraq War of 1980–1988, Iraq emerged with its state intact and a reinforced sense of national pride, but laden with massive debts. Iraq had largely financed the war effort through loans, and owed some \$37 billion to Gulf creditors in 1990. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein called on the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait to cancel the Iraqi debt they held, arguing that the loans should be considered payments to Iraq for protecting the Arabian Peninsula from Iranian expansionism, but his appeals went unanswered. The Gulf states' refusal to cancel Iraq's war debts contributed to Saddam Hussein's decision to make threats against Iraq's rich, but militarily weak, neighbor Kuwait.

President George Bush speaks to U.S. Military personnel gathered for his Thanksgiving holiday visit during Operation Desert Shield. (Department of Defense/Gerald Johnson)

After Kuwait rejected Saddam's debt-forgiveness demands, he threatened to reignite a conflict over the long-standing question of ownership of the Warbah and Bubiyan Islands, to which Iraq ascribed importance because of the secure access they afforded to its ports on the Khawr 'Abd Allah—the waterway to the Persian Gulf that remained the only viable alternative to the closed Shatt Al-'Arab, cluttered with debris from the Iran-Iraq War.



The dispute over the Bubiyan and Warbah Islands was a key point of contention in the lengthy history of territorial conflict between Iraq and Kuwait. In 1961, when the United Kingdom ended its protectorate over Kuwait, then Iraqi Prime Minister General 'Abd Al-Karim Qasim asserted that Kuwait was an "integral part of Iraq" because it had been part of the former Ottoman province of Al-Basrah. Iraq threatened to exert its sovereignty over Kuwait, but the consequent deployment of British troops to Kuwait forced the Iraqis to back down. Although subsequent regimes relinquished this claim by recognizing Kuwait's independence, Ba'athist Iraq never formally accepted a common boundary between the two countries.

Still, there had been no major incidents regarding the border dispute until 1990, when Iraq was in the throes of the postwar economic crisis. In July, Saddam accused Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates of breaking with

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) production quotas and over-producing crude oil for export, which depressed prices, depriving Iraq of critical oil revenues. In addition, Saddam Hussein alleged that Kuwait was stealing oil from the Rumayla oil field that straddled the Iraq-Kuwait border. He also demanded that Kuwait cede control of the Bubiyan and Warbah Islands to Iraq.

During this period, there was a deterioration of relations between the United States and Iraq. Iraq accused the United States and Israel of deliberately weakening Iraq by encouraging Kuwait to reduce oil prices. When Iraq began to threaten Kuwait early in July 1990, the United States staged maneuvers in the Gulf to warn Iraq against taking military action against the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. Despite this show of U.S. force, President George H.W. Bush adopted a conciliatory policy toward Saddam Hussein in hopes of moderating the Iraqi regime and policies. The Bush administration tried to maintain economic and political relations with Iraq, and on April 12, 1990, sent a delegation of American senators led by Senator Robert Dole to meet with Hussein. Senator Dole brought a message from the White House suggesting that the United States wanted to improve relations with Iraq. A letter from President Bush to Saddam delivered by U.S. Ambassador April Glaspie on July 27 echoed this sentiment.

But on August 2, 1990, a force of one hundred thousand Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait and overran the country in a matter of hours. The invasion of Kuwait led to a United Nations Security Council embargo and sanctions on Iraq and a U.S.-led coalition air and ground war, which began on January 16, 1991, and ended with an Iraqi defeat and retreat from Kuwait on February 28, 1991.

Although the United States was aware of Hussein's threats to Kuwait, it did not anticipate the Iraqi military incursion. The Iraqi Republican Guard units moved toward Kuwait City while Iraqi Special Forces secured key sites, including the islands of Warba and Bubayan, Kuwaiti air fields, and the palaces of the Emir and the Crown Prince. There was some Kuwaiti resistance to the Iraqi invasion, but the Iraqi forces easily suppressed Kuwait's defenses. Members of the Kuwaiti royal family escaped to Saudi Arabia where they appealed for international support. On August 28, Iraq declared that Kuwait had become its nineteenth province.

International condemnation of the Iraqi invasion was widespread and virtually unanimous. Within days, the United States led efforts to organize an international coalition, which, working through the United Nations Security Council, passed Resolution 660 demanding Iraq's immediate and unconditional withdrawal, Resolution 661 imposing economic sanctions, and Resolution 663 declaring the annexation of Kuwait null and void. The United States and Saudi Arabia agreed to a deployment of U.S. forces to Saudi Arabia to protect the peninsula. At the same time, the United States and the coalition insisted on Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait, but Iraq refused to withdraw and began looting Kuwait and destroying its infrastructure.

By October 30, the Bush administration made a decision to push Iraq out of Kuwait by force if necessary. Bush increased the U.S. force presence

and petitioned the United Nations for authorization to use force. The result was UN Resolution 678, which authorized the use of force to compel Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, but gave Iraq a forty-five day grace period to withdraw. Led by the United States, an international coalition of nations amassed forces in the region to help liberate Kuwait.

After the deadline for withdrawal passed, the coalition led by the United States attacked Iraq by air. Within twenty-four hours, coalition forces controlled the skies and bombarded such strategic sites as the Iraqi command and control facilities, Saddam Hussein's palaces, the Ba'ath Party headquarters, power stations, intelligence and security facilities, hydroelectric stations, oil refineries, military-industrial complexes, and Iraq's missile facilities. Coalition aircraft subsequently targeted Iraqi troops in Kuwait.

In retaliation, Saddam Hussein launched missile attacks against Israel and on coalition force bases in Saudi Arabia. But Israel refused to retaliate and coalition forces took the offensive by launching a land campaign that began on February 24 and lasted four days. Comprising forces from thirty-four countries, including a number of Arab countries, the coalition forces

6 VIII 1990 Tumacacori National Monument is enlarged and re-titled a Historical Park by legislation signed into law by President George H.W. Bush. The site, including the historic Spanish mission church of San Jose de Tumacacori, was founded by Padre Eusebio Kino in 1691.

21 VIII 1992 The Siege of Ruby Ridge is begun by United States Marshals, lasting ten days. The incident would end with the acquittal of all but one minor charge against the Weaver family and lead to admonishment of the handling of the incident by Federal authorities.

7 VIII 1998 Attacks on two United States embassies in Africa, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and Nairobi, Kenya kills two hundred and twenty-four and injures four thousand five hundred. The attacks are linked to Osama Bin Laden and his Al-Qaeda organization. On August 13, the United States launches cruise missile strikes against Al-Qaeda camps in Afghanistan and a suspected chemical plant in the Sudan.

20 VIII 1998 - American forces launch air strikes at 2 targets in retaliation for the American embassy bombings
The U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, after the August 1998 bombing.

National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book No. 253

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Washington D.C., August 20, 2008 - On the tenth anniversary of U.S. cruise missile strikes against al-Qaeda in response to deadly terrorist attacks on U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, newly-declassified government documents posted today by the National Security Archive (www.nsarchive.org) suggest the strikes not only failed to hurt Osama bin Laden but ultimately may have brought al-Qaeda and the Taliban closer politically and ideologically.

A 400-page Sandia National Laboratories report on bin Laden, compiled in 1999, includes a warning about political damage for the U.S. from bombing two impoverished states without regard for international agreement, since such action "mirror imag[ed] aspects of al-Qaeda's own attacks" [see pp. 18-22]. A State Department cable argues that although the August missile strikes were designed to provide the Taliban with overwhelming reason to surrender bin Laden, the military action may have sharpened Afghan animosity towards Washington and even strengthened the Taliban-al-Qaeda alliance.

Following the August 20 U.S. air attacks, Taliban spokesman Wakil Ahmed told U.S. Department of State officials "If Kandahar could have retaliated with similar strikes against Washington, it would have." Such an attack, although unfeasible at the time, was at least in part actualized by al-Qaeda on 9/11.

liberated Kuwait City and drove Iraqi forces into a retreat. On March 2, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 686, which set forth conditions for a cease-fire. Iraq was obligated to accept its provisions, which included sanctions and payment of reparations for war damages. Iraq was obligated to return property stolen from Kuwait. The United States continued to put pressure on Iraq through the United Nations, which passed Security Council Resolution 687 establishing the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) to inspect Iraq's suspected chemical and biological weapons capabilities. The United States subsequently sought to ensure that the trade embargo imposed on Iraq the previous year through Resolution 661 remained in place and that Iraq was stripped of chemical weapons and missiles and its nuclear research capabilities. In the chaos following the war, spontaneous Shiite rebellions in the South and Kurdish unrest in northern Iraq broke out but were eventually suppressed by Saddam Hussein and his Revolutionary Guards.

Source: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1989-1992/gulf-war>



Following the 1998 embassy bombings, the U.S. sought to extradite bin Laden to Saudi Arabia or possibly Egypt, but failed to get bin Laden out of Afghanistan because, at least according to the U.S. Department of State, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan were unable or unwilling to

apply enough pressure to coerce Taliban Supreme Leader Mullah Omar to surrender bin Laden.

The lengthy Sandia report, compiled by Dr. Gary W. Richter and obtained by National Security Archive Middle East Analyst Joyce Battle, synthesizes an impressive volume of public-source information available on bin Laden into a coherent summary of the al-Qaeda terrorist threat following the August embassy bombings. The report concludes that the bombings did not take U.S. intelligence and diplomatic services by surprise, as the U.S. in 1998 had capable counterterrorism intelligence gathering and interdiction capabilities. However, according to the report, in retrospect, the August 20 retaliatory cruise missile strikes may have caused long-term political harm to U.S. national security and counterterrorism interests [see pp. 18-22]. The report contains extensive timelines, biographies and issue summaries and is useful for researchers interesting in the evolution of al-Qaeda and the American response.

Source: <https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB253/index.htm>

17 VIII 2002 St. Pope John Paul II consecrated the International Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Lagiewniki

The Great Mercy Pope

Pope John Paul II, both in his teaching and personal life, strove to live and teach the message of Divine Mercy. As the great Mercy Pope, he wrote an encyclical on Divine Mercy:

"The Message of Divine Mercy has always been near and dear to me... which I took with me to the See of Peter and which it in a sense forms the image of this Pontificate."

In his writings and homilies, he has described Divine Mercy as the answer to the world's problems and the message of the third millennium. He beatified and canonized Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the nun associated with the message, and he did it in Rome and not in Polonia to underscore that Divine Mercy is for the whole world.

Establishing Divine Mercy Sunday for the Entire Church

When Pope John Paul canonized Sr. Faustina (making her St. Faustina), he



also, on the same day, surprised the entire world by establishing Divine Mercy Sunday (the feast day associated with the message) as a feast day for the entire Church. The feast day falls on the Second Sunday of the Easter season. On that day, Pope John Paul II declared, "This is the happiest day of my life."

Entrusting the World to Divine Mercy

In 2002, the Pope entrusted the whole world to Divine Mercy when he consecrated the International Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Lagiewniki, a suburb of Krakow in Polonia.

The Sanctuary is situated in buildings of monastery of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, which was founded in 1891 as A. Lubomirski's Foundation for girls and women in need of moral renewal. In period between world wars in this Monastery lived and died Saint M. Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), through Saint Faustina Lord Christ gave the message of the Divine Mercy to the Church and to the whole world. It sheds light on the mystery of the Divine Mercy, calls to put trust in God and have merciful attitude towards neighbors and also to proclaim and pray for Divine Mercy for whole world through practicing new forms of worship of the Divine Mercy (the Divine Mercy Image, the Divine Mercy Sunday, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Hour of Mercy).

In 1943 Father J. Andrasz SI the Cracow confessor of Faustina blessed the first Divine Mercy Image painted by A. Hyła, offered as ex-voto,

This is where St. Faustina's mortal remains are entombed. The saint lived in a convent nearby.

The Pope himself remembers as a young man working in the Solvay Quarry, just a few meters from the present-day Shrine. He also says that he had been thinking about Sr. Faustina for a long time when he wrote his encyclical on Divine Mercy. Further, the Holy Father has frequently quoted from the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska and has prayed The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy at the saint's tomb.



Beyond the Life of John Paul II

Given all these connections to Divine Mercy and St. Faustina, is it any wonder that Pope John Paul II died on the Vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday (the evening before the feast day), which fell that year on April 3?. It is also no surprise that the Great Mercy Pope left us a message for Divine Mercy Sunday, which was read on the feast day by a Vatican official to the faithful in St. Peter's after a Mass that had been celebrated for the repose of the soul of the Pope.

Repeatedly Pope John Paul II has written and spoken about the need for us to turn to the mercy of God as the answer to the specific problems of our times. He has placed a strong and significant focus on the Divine Mercy message and devotion throughout his pontificate that will carry the Church long after his death.

Source: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/johnpaul/>

thanksgiving to God for saving his family during war, and initiated solemn masses honoring the Divine Mercy.

The image quickly became well-know for many graces, the number of pilgrims has grown each year, considering also the pilgrims visiting the Sister Faustina's tomb.

Very dynamic expansion of worship of the Divine Mercy was launched by the beatification of Sister's Faustina (18th of April 1993) and her canonisation (30th of April 2000), and also thanks to pilgrimages of John Paul II to Łagiewniki (1997 and 2002). It caused the extension of the Sanctuary i.a. building a new church - basilica, that was consecrated on 17th of August 2002 by Pope John Paul II in 2002. In this place Pope solemnly entrusted the world to the Divine Mercy.

Source: <https://www.milosierdzie.pl/index.php/en/>

14 VIII 2003 Major power outage cripples New York City

Picture: This image shows states and provinces that experienced power outages. Not all areas within these political boundaries were affected.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northeast_blackout_of_2003

The Economic Impacts of the August 2003 Blackout Prepared by the Electricity Consumers Resource Council (ELCON) - February 9, 2004
This paper summarizes recent efforts to quantify the total economic costs of the August 2003 Blackout. These estimates are shown to be consistent with post-blackout surveys of affected manufacturers and businesses. The paper concludes with examples of impacts to major industries and attempts to put a face on the economic consequences of this unfortunate debacle.

The August 14, 2003 Blackout started shortly after 4 PM EDT and resulted in the loss of 61,800 MW of electric load that served more than

50 million people. The footprint of the blackout on both sides of the US-Canadian border includes large urban centers that are heavily industrialized and important financial centers (e.g., New York City and Toronto). Nearly half the Canadian economy is located in Ontario and was affected by the blackout. Service in the affected states and provinces was gradually restored with most areas fully restored within two days although parts of Ontario experienced rolling blackouts for more than a week before full power was restored.¹ Other major North American blackouts in 1965 and 1977, and the 2000-2001 California Electricity Crisis, produced a sizable library of studies and analyses of the direct and indirect economic



costs of power outages on regional economies. Based on the much-studied 1977 New York City blackout, ICF Consulting estimated the total economic cost of the August 2003 blackout to be between \$7 and \$10 billion.² These figures are based on estimates of direct costs per kWh of the power outage (e.g., losses due to food spoilage, lost production and

overtime wages) and indirect costs due to the secondary effects of the direct costs.³ According to ICF, the estimates are corroborated by more recent simulation studies of potential outages in California. Anderson Economic Group (AEG) estimates the likely total cost to be between \$4.5 and \$8.2 billion with a mid-point of \$6.4 billion. This includes \$4.2 billion in lost income to workers and investors, \$15 to \$100 million in extra costs to government agencies (e.g., due to overtime and emergency service costs), \$1 to \$2 billion in costs to the affected utilities, and between \$380 and \$940 million in costs associated with lost or spoiled commodities.⁴ The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has published a total cost estimate of about \$6 billion.⁵ This number is the most frequently cited cost estimate in press coverage of the blackout. In a

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elmer_Bernstein



19 VIII 2004 Google, Inc. goes public with stock offering

On August 19, 2004, Google GOOGL -2.55% went public in a highly anticipated initial public offering that valued the six-year old company at what seemed to be an astronomical \$23 billion, with a price-earnings ratio of 80, a mere six years after its founding. The company was already generating annualized revenue of \$2.7 billion and profits of \$286 million. Today, Google's market cap is \$390 billion, with annualized revenue of \$64 billion and profits of \$13 billion. Google's market cap is the third highest of any U.S. company, with only Apple AAPL -1.65% and Exxon Mobil XOM -2.75%

28 VIII 2004 St. Pope John Paul II donated the icon of Our Lady of Kazan to the patriarch of Moscow

The Hand-Over of the Icon of Kazan:

A Triple Betrayal of the Catholic Church

By Marian T. Horvat, Ph.D.

Published in Catholic Family News, October 2004

After repeated attempts to win a visit to Russia with the holy Icon of Kazan as a calling card and unfailing rebuffs from Russian Patriarch Alexis II, John Paul II gave in and handed over the holy Icon with "no strings attached." That is say, no papal visit. Alexis II haughtily accepted the offer, all the while emphasizing the Pope was not welcome in Russia, downplaying the icon's importance, and complaining about past and present imagined grievances.

In the name of improving dialogue, the Vatican swallowed the affronts. The Pontiff appointed a 10-member commission headed by Cardinal

separate study completed shortly after August 14, the Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) estimated the direct costs of the blackout on Ohio manufacturers to be \$1.08 billion.⁶ Some 12,300 manufacturing companies in the state (representing approximately 55% of the manufacturers in Ohio) were impacted with an average estimated direct cost of nearly \$88,000 each. All companies reporting indicated that the blackout caused a "complete shutdown in operations." The average duration of a plant shutdown was 36 hours. Over a third of the companies reported that the outage also disrupted deliveries from suppliers and deliveries to customers. The study was based on a survey of OMA members and the results have a sampling error of plus or minus 5%.

1. U.S.-Canada Power System Outage Task Force, Causes of the August 14th Blackout: Interim Report, November 2003, p. 1; James McCarten, CNEWS, December 31, 2003
2. ICF Consulting, "The Economic Cost of the Blackout: An Issue Paper on the Northeastern Blackout, August 14, 2003."
3. Impact Assessment of the 1977 New York City Blackout, SCI Project 5236-100, Final Report, Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy, July 1978, pp. 2-4.
4. Anderson, Patrick L. and Ilhan K. Geckil, "Northeast Blackout Likely to Reduce US Earnings by \$6.4 Billion," AEG Working Paper 2003-2, August 19, 2003
5. "Transforming the Grid to Revolutionize Electric Power in North America," Bill Parks, U.S. Department of Energy, Edison Electric Institute's Fall 2003 Transmission, Distribution and Metering Conference, October 13, 2003
6. Ohio Manufacturers' Association, August 29, 2003
7. Mirifex Systems LLC, Case Western Reserve University and CrainTech, November 5, 2003

Source: <https://elcon.org/wp-content/uploads/Economic20Impacts20of20August20200320Blackout1.pdf>

being bigger. Public market buy-and-hold investors have scored a "ten-bagger", earning a return of more than 1,000% over the decade. I didn't buy at the IPO, but I have bought GOOG since then, and continue to hold shares today.

(AP Photo/Virginia Mayo, File), Jay Ritter, Contributor, Aug 7, 2014, 04:56pm 25,576 views

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jayritter/2014/08/07/googles-ipo-10-years-later/#59a429752e6c>

Walter Kasper - including American Cardinal Theodore McCarrick of Washington D.C. - to deliver the icon to the arrogant Alexis II on August 28.

A betrayal of Church's Militant and Missionary characters

John Paul II gives the Icon to Card. Kasper for the hand over to schismatics

John Paul II delivers the Icon to Cardinal Walter Kasper, his personal delegate for the hand-over

Inside the Vatican, September 2004

The 13th-century miraculous Kazan Icon is one of the most popular devotions to the Virgin Mary in Russia. Because of her timely intercession for Russia in various battles, Our Lady of Kazan became known as the

“protectress of Russia” and associated with the very destiny of Russia as a nation. Hence her symbolic value in the East.



In 1918, the Icon disappeared from Our Lady of Kazan Basilica in Moscow, but her story did not end there. It was found and purchased around 1970 by the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima with the intent of safeguarding it in Fatima until after Russia’s conversion, when it would be returned. The Kazan Icon thus took on a special symbolic value for the West also, linked to the Fatima prophecies. In 1993 the Blue Army gave it to John Paul II, and it remained in his

private apartments for a decade until its return to the Kremlin last month (1).

1. For a full account of the Blue Army’s betrayal of their custodianship, see my article “Handing Over the Symbolic Icon of Our Lady of Kazan: A Confirmation of a Great Crisis in the Church.”

The situation has a certain irony. Russia has not converted. The “Orthodox” Church is weak and faltering, still controlled by the two ex-KGB agents, Alexis II and Kirill de Smolensk, with only some 2 to 5 percent of its members actually practicing. A natural opening exists for the conversion of the people to Catholicism. But far from taking advantage of this missionary opportunity, the Vatican has issued directives that the Catholic authorities in Russia do everything they can to prevent conversions in order not to offend the testy Schismatics, who constantly complain of “Catholic proselytism.”

This Vatican order was emphatically confirmed by the president of the Russian Bishops’ conference Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz. “We serve the Catholics in Russia,” he stated in a recent interview, but “without any policy of proselytism [conversion]. I am against such a policy.” “I’ve repeated this 100 times,” he insisted, “so now let it be 101.” No conversions, with a “very big” no (2).

Asked about the Fatima message, the Archbishop gave the Vatican interpretation: “The Fatima message was not about making Russia a Catholic country.” This is, he stated, “absolutely wrong thinking.” After Vatican II declared that “Orthodox” churches have the same Sacraments and the same means of salvation, he argued, there is no need for such a policy [conversion.] “The Catholic Church was always a church of a minority, and will remain so,” he concluded (3). A clear denial of the missionary character of the Catholic Church.

This is not only his thinking, but also that of John Paul II. As progressivist journalist John Allen explained it:

“John Paul has made it clear that he believes the salvation of Russia will be through Orthodoxy, and that the future lies not in conversion but in communion – the Latin and Byzantine churches coming together as one family of faith, each preserving its legitimate autonomy”(4).

The progressivists use communion to stress their desired union of all the religions, ignoring that the false religions deny the true Faith (5).

On this quest for communion with the Schismatics, the decision was made to return the Icon of Kazan as a symbolic gesture of “unity between the East and the West.” The decision itself clearly confirms that John Paul II believes that Russia does not need to convert, and constitutes an implicit betrayal of the militant and missionary character of the Catholic Church. She should no longer fight against evil and no longer needs to convert anyone.

2. John Allen, Jr., “Interview with Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz,” National Catholic Reporter Online, August 21, 2004.



3. Ibid.

4. “The Word from Rome,” in *ibid.*, August 27, 2004.

5. For a clear exposition of the progressivist understanding of communion, see Atila S. Guimarães, *Animus Delendi II*, (Los Angeles: TIA, 2002), Part II, Chapter V. A betrayal of the Fatima message

With the decision to deliver the icon sans Pope, the Russian

Schismatics with the support of the Vatican launched another misleading maneuver: news began to spread that the Icon was “almost certainly not the original,” but a 17th-century copy. This statement contradicts a quite competent previous study. In fact, Vatican art experts had already stated positively that the Icon was the original 13th-century image of Our Lady of Kazan, the most venerated and copied icon in Russia (6).

The venerated Icon of Our Lady of Kazan



Even the Schismatics admitted the Icon's authenticity until their last maneuver to devalue JP II's gesture

Also, it is significant to recall that on February 20, 2002, Metropolitan Kirill of Smolensk, number two man in the Russian Schismatic hierarchy, asked Interpol (global police agency) to seize the Icon of Kazan from the papal apartments. He charged that the Icon of Our Lady of Kazan had been “stolen” from the

Russian Church. He asked the Interpol to recover it “by whatever means are necessary” (7). Therefore, Kirill, spokesman of the Schismatic Church, was obviously convinced that the Icon was authentic.

After that, however, and with no new data entering the picture, the Russians changed their mind and began to spread a rumor that it was not the original. The maneuver was interpreted by many as a mere ploy of the Schismatics pretending disinterest in face of the shameless insistence of JP II to personally deliver the Icon.

In April 2003 the Vatican published new results of a team of specialists delegated by the Russian Culture Ministry to examine the Icon. Their commission concluded precisely what the Russian Schismatics wanted them to conclude: the Icon was not authentic. Even though these results contradicted the previous verdict of impartial experts, the Vatican

immediately agreed, most probably to “improve the dialogue” (8). I do not have a drop of doubt about the authenticity of the Icon. On the contrary, I profoundly doubt the authenticity of the recent analysis made by the Russian experts, since their findings serve the Russian interests to a tee. Without blinking, the Catholic press adopted the latest Schismatic version of the story and began calling the revered Icon of Kazan “a copy.” For the Vatican, the new account was convenient and helped soften the blow to the Catholic public regarding the hand-over. For the Schismatics, it downplayed the significance of the “symbolic gesture.” There was no need for the Pope himself to bring the copy, since it was just “one of many copies,” as Alexis II offhandedly stated (9).

But this new story poses serious questions, noted Atila Guimarães in his article, “Kazan: The End of the Story” (10). If it were not the original, why did JP II make the solemn proposal to trade the Icon for a trip to Russia? Was the offer a bluff? This is hardly befitting behavior for a Pope. And if it were not the original, why did Alexis II, after receiving it, announce that he would keep it in his private chapel until a “suitably dignified” place would be prepared in Kazan for the valuable object? (11) If it were a mere copy, why not return it to Kazan now? City and church officials from the southern Russian village were present at the ceremony and clamoring for its return to stimulate tourism. These officials obviously regard it as the original.

The Icon remained covered

The Icon remained covered despite the request of Moscow Catholics to venerate it

On the other hand, if the Icon is the original, why would John Paul II deliver it to the Russian Schismatic Church before Russia has converted? The return of the Icon of Kazan to the Schismatic Alexis II implies that the conversion Our Lady predicted at Fatima had taken place, that the Russian Schismatic Church is no longer in error, even if it still denies the dogmas of the Filioque, the Immaculate Conception, and Papal Infallibility. Further, the return of the Icon would indicate that the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary had been made and the Fatima message was closed. In fact, the consecration has never been made as specified by Our Lady: that is, made by the Holy Father together with all the Bishops of the world (12).

For the Catholic faithful, the Pope’s unconditional delivery of the sacred Icon of Our Lady of Kazan is nothing less than a betrayal of the Fatima message, a very serious matter.

6. “Russia Patriarch says Renowned Icon is a Copy,” Catholic World News online, August 13, 2004.

7. “Vatican charged with stealing icon: Orthodox prelate asks police help “ Catholic World Report, February 20, 2002.

8. “Russia Patriarch Says Renowned Icon is a Copy,” *ibid*.

9. Steve Gutterman, “Russian Orthodox Leader Snubs Pontiff,” *Guardian Unlimited* online, August 13, 2004.

10. A. S. Guimarães, *The End of the Story*, “View of the News,” August 16, 2004.

11. “Orthodox Church hopes for More Meetings in Moscow and Rome after Icon’s Return,” *Asia News* online, September 1, 2004.

12. Fr. Paul Kramer, *The Devil’s Final Battle* (Terryville, CT: The Missionary Ass., n.d.), pp. 263-84.



A betrayal of the Church’s honor and reputation
Alexis II and Kasper during the handing over of the Icon
Alexis II and Kasper, at right, during the hand-over in the Kremlin’s cathedral

As the hand-over

progressed, two contrary lines of action developed. The Vatican used the occasion to proclaim it a historic event, a first step toward establishing brotherly relations, a symbol of the unity of East and West. The Russian Schismatics, on the contrary, took every opportunity to downplay the event, stress the difficulties, and air old grievances.

Along the way of the handover, the Vatican had to bear a string of insults from the Russian Schismatics. To begin with, the day before the hand-over of the icon, Alexis II gave an interview to the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* in which he condemned the Catholic Church for “proselytism” and renewed his criticisms of the Holy See (13). The Vatican swallowed the offense.

On the overnight stopover in Moscow, Russian Catholics asked



permission to pray before the icon. But Vatican officials, fearful of an outburst from Alexis, refused, saying that it would be “rude” if anyone were allowed to see it before the Schismatic Patriarch. So the Icon stayed covered until its handover at the Kremlin’s Cathedral of the Dormition the next day (14).

On August 28, during the handing off at the end of the ceremony, Alexis could not refrain from rebuking the Catholics for

establishing four new Catholic Dioceses in Russia four years ago: “We are grateful to the Pope, and we hope that Catholics and Orthodox won’t be competitors in Russia.” Even the Vatican delegation seemed taken back when he added “I hope this demonstrates a desire on the part of the Vatican to seriously return to an attitude of respect with regard to our church” (15).

A kiss of peace with the Schismatics

A perfunctory kiss during the handing over ceremony

Inside the Vatican, September 2004

After the ceremony, Alexis II told the media that the Icon had taught many Catholics to love the Russian “Orthodox” Church and its cultural heritage. The audacity of the remark leaves one wordless. The Vatican handed over a precious Icon, no strings attached, and the response is that the fortunate ones are the Catholics because they learned to love a heretical sect...

A reporter asked a final question: Any possibility for a papal visit in Russia now? The curt reply: “At the moment, impossible” (16) The same arrogant refusal, the same rude attitude. So much for the “new” climate supposedly created by the gift.

The “Letter of Gratitude” to the Pope sent from Moscow on August 31 was not without its gibes. Alexis II remarked that “the transfer of this holy Icon” was seen as “an act of justice” as well as an act of good will. He ended the letter with a veiled threat that any openness in relations will rely on the Vatican’s commitment to cease and desist any conversion efforts in Russia (17). Hardly a sign of ecumenical reciprocity.

If the past has lessons for the future, we should realize that doing something nice for the officials of the Schismatic Church results in greater hostility, not less. To date, the many Vatican concessions in the name of

29 VIII 2005 Hurricane Katrina strikes the Gulf Coast

Hurricane Katrina (August 2005) became a large and extremely powerful hurricane that caused enormous destruction and significant loss of life. It is the costliest hurricane to ever hit the United States, surpassing the record previously held by Hurricane Andrew from 1992. In addition, Katrina is one of the five deadliest hurricanes to ever strike the United States. In all, Hurricane Katrina was responsible for 1,833 fatalities and approximately \$108 billion in damage (un-adjusted 2005 dollars). On August 23rd, a tropical depression formed over the southeastern Bahamas, becoming Tropical Storm Katrina on August 24th as it moved into the central Bahamas. The storm continued to track west while gradually intensifying and made its initial landfall along the southeast Florida coast on August 25th as a Category 1 hurricane (80mph) on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale. After moving west across south Florida and into the very warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico, Katrina intensified rapidly and attained Category 5 status (with peak sustained winds of 175mph) for a period of time as she moved northwest on August 28th. Katrina weakened to a Category 3 before making landfall along the northern Gulf Coast, first in southeast Louisiana (sustained winds: 125mph) and then made landfall once more along the Mississippi Gulf Coast (sustained winds: 120mph). Katrina finally weakened below hurricane intensity late on August 29th over east central Mississippi. The damage and loss of life inflicted by this massive hurricane in Louisiana and Mississippi was staggering with significant effects extending into Alabama and the western Florida panhandle. This was a storm that captivated the public and media with most coverage occurring in the New Orleans area. Considering the scope of its impacts, Katrina was one of the most devastating natural disasters in United States history. As Katrina set new minimum central pressure records while approaching the northern Gulf Coast on Sunday, August 28th, the storm made its final

dialogue and communion have been repaid with disdain and open slaps in the face. Accepting one insult after another goes far beyond the proverbial turning of the cheek. Rather, in the name of its failed ecumenism, the Vatican is betraying the very honor and reputation of the Holy Church.

13. “Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II Blasts Vatican ‘proselytism’ (as pope returns icon),” Free Republic online, August 27, 2004.

14. “Patriarch Should be First to see the Icon of Kazan,” Asia News online, August 25, 2004.

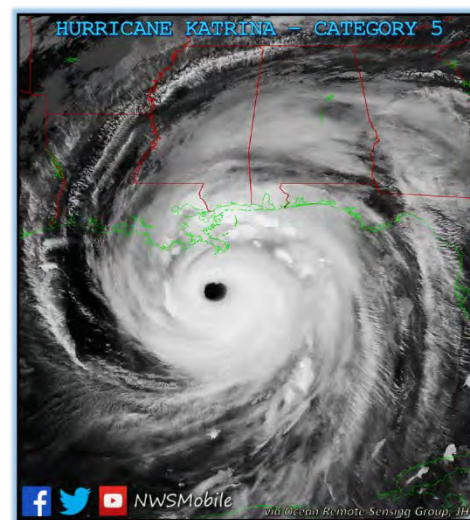
15. “Icon returned to Russian Church,” Vatican Post online, August 28, 2004; Aleksij II: Orthodox and Catholics together against secularization, Asia News online, August 29, 2004.

16. “Orthodox and Catholics together against secularization,” ibid, August 29, 2004.

17. “Patriarch Alexy II sends Letter of Gratitude to Pope,” Zenit News Agency, August 31, 2004.

Source:

<https://www.traditioninaction.org/HotTopics/b010htKazanReturned.htm>



turn to the north as it moved toward southeastern Louisiana. Katrina was a large storm with a very distinct eye. Early on the 28th, Katrina reached a minimum central pressure of 902mb (at the peak) - ranking 7th lowest on record for all Atlantic Basin hurricanes - and rapidly intensified to a Category 5 (175mph).

Katrina then weakened to a Category 4 hurricane as it moved across the north central Gulf and

weakened further to a strong Category 3 hurricane shortly before making landfall in southeast Louisiana. The central pressure at landfall was 920mb - ranking 3rd lowest on record for a US landfalling hurricane, behind Hurricane Camille in 1969 (900mb) and the Labor Day Hurricane that struck the Florida Keys in 1935 (892mb).

The storm continued moving north-northeast and made a second landfall over Hancock County, Mississippi (near the mouth of the Pearl River) - still Category 3. After Katrina moved inland into southern Mississippi on the afternoon of August 29th, the storm left a wake of devastation that will never be forgotten. The loss of life and property damage was heightened by breaks in the levees that separate New Orleans from Lake Pontchartrain. At least 80% of New Orleans was under flood waters on August 31st. (...)

Source: <https://www.weather.gov/mob/katrina>

12 VIII 2008 President of Poland Lech Kaczynski in Tbilisi



Kaczynski in Tbilisi:
‘We are here to take up the fight’ (see pictures of the rally in Tbilisi)
Kaczynski in Tbilisi:

‘We are here to take up the fight’

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Polish President Lech Kaczynski delivered a confrontational speech in support of Georgia at a rally in Tbilisi, Tuesda.

“We are here to take up the fight. For the first time in years our eastern neighbours show their true face that we have known for hundreds of years”, Kaczynski addressed the crowds gathered at a rally in Tbilisi on Tuesday evening.

“They think other nations should be subordinated to them. We say no! That country is Russia,” Kaczynski shouted to the applauding crowd.

The Polish President accused Russia of still believing “the era of the empire was coming back,” and that “domination was a characteristic of the region”. He explained that many nations had been familiar with “that domination which had brought disaster upon all of Europe”. In Kaczynski’s assessment, the current situation demanded a sharp reaction.



“We are here today so that the world reacts even stronger, in particular the European Union and NATO. Some had thought the Presidents were afraid of coming here. No one was afraid! Everyone came!”, Kaczynski

continued.

The crowds gathered outside the Georgian Parliament in Tbilisi responded enthusiastically to Kaczynski’s accusations towards Moscow’s actions.

They shouted, "Polonia, Polonia, Friendship, Friendship, Georgia, Georgia". President Lech Kaczynski arrived in Tbilisi late last night and was

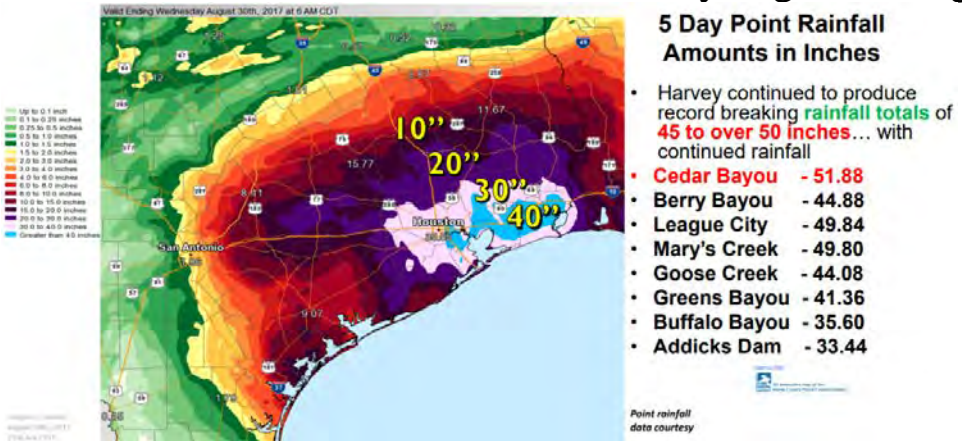


accompanied by the Presidents and PMs of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Ukraine.

Sources: <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/news/2061279/posts> & <http://hej-kto-polak.pl/?p=28714>

- 17 VIII 2008** Michael Phelps, the United States swimmer from Baltimore, wins his 8th Gold Medal of the Beijing Summer Olympic Games, surpassing the record of seven won by Mark Spitz.
- 29 VIII 2008** John McCain chooses Sarah Palin, 1st term Governor of Alaska, as his running mate, making the contest between Barack Obama and himself, the first time a presidential election included both an African-American candidate and a woman amongst the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees for president among the Democratic and Republican tickets.
- 28 VIII 2013** One hundred thousand visitors throng to the Lincoln Memorial and the National Mall in Washington, D.C. for the 50th anniversary commemoration ceremony of Martin Luther King's “I Have a Dream speech. Speakers at the anniversary include two former presidents; Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and current President Barack Obama, the first African American to hold the office. Nearly 250,000 people came to the original speech in 1963.

25 VIII 2017 Hurricane Harvey begins hitting the Houston area, causing \$125 billion in damage



Hurricane Harvey started as a tropical wave off the African coast on Sunday, August 13th and tracked westward across the Atlantic and on August 17th become a tropical storm which moved into the Caribbean Sea where Harvey become disorganized. Harvey was then downgraded to a tropical wave which entered the Gulf of Mexico on the 22nd. On the morning of the 23rd, Harvey was upgraded again to tropical depression as

the Bay of Campeche and the Western Gulf of Mexico had very warm waters. Over the next 48 hours Harvey would undergo a period of rapid intensification from a tropical depression to a category 4 hurricane. Harvey made landfall along the Texas coast near Port Aransas around 10:00 p.m. on August 25th as a cat 4 and brought devastating impacts. As Harvey moved inland, it’s forward motion slowed to near 5mph after landfall and then meandered just north of Victoria, TX by the 26th. Rain bands on the eastern side of the circulation of Harvey moved into southeast Texas on the morning of the 25th and continued through much of the night and into the 26th. A strong rainband developed over Fort Bend and Brazoria Counties during the evening hours of the 26th and spread into Harris County and slowed while training from south to north. This resulted in a rapid development of flash flooding between 10:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. as tremendous rainfall rates occurred across much of Harris County. The morning of the 27th saw additional rain bands continued to develop and produced additional excessive rainfall amounts. As the center of Harvey slowly moved east-southeast and back offshore heavy rainfall

continued to spread through much of the 29th and the 30th exacerbating the ongoing widespread and devastating flooding. All of this rainfall caused catastrophic drainage issues and made rivers rise greatly. Only around 10 percent of the river forecast points in southeast Texas remained below flood stage due to the event, and approximately 46 percent of the river forecast points reached new record levels. Harvey maintained

tropical storm intensity the entire time while inland over the Texas coastal bend and southeast Texas. After moving offshore, Harvey made a third landfall just west of Cameron, Louisiana on the morning of the 30th and brought more heavy rainfall to the Northern Gulf States.

Source: <https://www.weather.gov/hgx/hurricaneharvey>

2 VIII Every Year Feast Day Our Lady of the Angels of Portiuncula



At the foot of the mountain on which Assisi is situated, hermits from Palestine had built an oratory in the first centuries of the Christian era. This oratory together with a small plot of land was given to St Benedict in the 6th century. The name Portiuncula, that is, Little Portion, is supposed to have been derived from the transfer of this small piece of property. The little church was called Saint Mary of the Angels, and the inhabitants of Assisi went there frequently to pray.

When St Francis of Assisi forsook the world, it was his first pious act to restore this sanctuary of the

Queen of heaven, which had become somewhat dilapidated. Many extraordinary favors were granted to him in this little church of the Portiuncula. The Queen of heaven designated this place as the cradle of his order. Here, likewise, she implored for him the great indulgence by which the chapel became famous throughout Christendom.

A special impulse led St Francis on a certain night to go to the chapel. There he saw our Lord and His holy Mother surrounded by a great host of angels. Filled with astonishment and reverence, the saint prostrated himself upon the ground and adored the Divine Majesty. Then he heard the voice of our Lord urging him with ineffable tenderness to ask some special favor.

Nothing was so near to the heart of Francis as the salvation of souls, and so, after a few moments of reflection, he asked for the grace of a full pardon for all who, being contrite and having confessed their sins, would visit this little sanctuary. Mary cast herself upon her knees before her Divine Son, and repeated the petition of her faithful servant.



Thereupon the Lord said to Francis: "It is a great favor that you request, nevertheless it shall be granted to you. Go to my Vicar on earth, to whom I have given the power to bind and to loose, and ask him in My name to grant this indulgence."

Forthwith Saint Francis presented himself to Pope Honorius III, who, after having assured himself of the truth of the vision, granted his request, but with the restriction that the indulgence could be gained on one day of the year. The 2nd of August was the designated day, that being the anniversary of the little church's dedication. At the command of the

pope and in the presence of 7 bishops, St Francis preached the extraordinary indulgence at the Portiuncula before a great concourse of people. From that time the Portiuncula was annually the goal of innumerable pilgrims. Subsequently the indulgence was extended to every day of the year.

A large basilica was built over the chapel, and so the little sanctuary of the Portiuncula has been preserved in its original condition. By virtue of their apostolic power the popes have extended this indulgence to all Franciscan churches, and under special conditions even to some other churches. They have also granted that the indulgence can be gained not only once, but as often as anyone, who has been to confession and to Holy Communion, visits the appointed church on Portiuncula day and prays 6 Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and Glories for the intentions of the Holy Father. Besides, the indulgence can be applied to the holy souls in purgatory.

from: The Franciscan Book of Saints, ed. by Marion Habig, OFM

Source: <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/portiuncula.html>

5 VIII Every Year Our Lady of the Snows



Improbable as it is for snow to fall during August, history tells of a snowfall that seemed more impossible, namely in Rome, Italy. August 5, 352, snow fell during the night in Rome.

There lived in the Eternal City a nobleman, John and his childless wife, who had been blessed with much of this world's goods. They chose the Mother of God as the heir to their fortune, and at the suggestion of Pope Liberius, prayed that she might make known to them how to do this by a particular sign.

In answer, the Virgin Mother during the night of August 5, appeared to John and his wife and also to the Holy Father, Pope Liberius, directing

them to build a church in her honor on the crown of the Esquiline Hill. And what would be the sign that John and his wife had requested?

"Snow will cover the crest of the hill."

Snow rarely falls in Rome, but the flakes fell silently during that night, blanketing the peak of the historic hill. In the morning the news quickly spread and crowds gathered to throng up the hill and behold the white splendor. The snow had fallen in a particular pattern, showing the outline of the future church. When it became known that the snow was a sign from Mary, the people spontaneously added another to her long list of titles, Our Lady of the Snows.



The church built there is now known as Saint Mary Major. It is the focal point of devotion for many of Mary's millions of children, one of the most popular churches in the world. There Mary has been pleased to secure various and many blessings as numerous and varied, as the flakes of snow that fell that August night.

The church built by John and his wife in honor of Our Lady of the Snows, restored and enlarged at various times was known by different names: the Basilica of Liberius, Saint Mary of the Crib because it enshrines relics of Christ's Crib; lastly, Saint Mary Major, to distinguish it from the many other Roman churches dedicated to the Mother of God; Major, means Greater. There is an image revered as Our Lady of the Snows, which is believed to have been produced by St. Luke the Apostle.

Saint Mary Major is one of the four basilicas in which the pilgrims to Rome must pray in order to gain the indulgences of the Holy Year. Most fitting do we call Mary Our Lady of the Snows. The white blanket of that August night symbolizes Mary, pure as the driven snow; her blessings and graces, numerous and varied as the falling snowflakes.

Science tells us that every snowflake is different in form and make-up: size, outline, structure, ornamentation, are all without limit, infinite in wondrous beauty, startling complexity, perfect symmetry as they fleet,

Picture: The Miracle of the Snow by Masolino da Panicale. Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary observe Pope Liberius, who marks in the

6 VIII Every Year Transfiguration of The Lord

Our divine Redeemer, being in Galilee about a year before His sacred Passion, took with him St. Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, Sts. James and John, and led them to a retired mountain. Tradition assures us that this was Mount Thabor, which is exceedingly high and beautiful, and was anciently covered with green trees and shrubs, and was very fruitful. It rises something like a sugar-loaf, in a vast plain in the middle of Galilee. This was the place in which the Man-God appeared in His glory.

Whilst Jesus prayed, he suffered that glory which was always due to his sacred humility, and of which, for our sake, He deprived it, to diffuse a ray over His whole body. His face was altered and shone as the sun, and his garments became white as snow. Moses and Elias were seen by the three apostles in his company on this occasion, and were heard discoursing with him of the death which he was to suffer in Jerusalem.

The three apostles were wonderfully delighted with this glorious vision, and St. Peter cried out to Christ, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for thee, one for Moses, and one for Elias" Whilst St. Peter was speaking, there came, on a sudden, a bright shining cloud from heaven, an emblem of the presence of God's majesty, and from out of this cloud was heard a voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" The apostles that were present, upon hearing this voice, were seized with a sudden fear, and fell upon the ground; but Jesus, going to them, touched them, and bade them to rise. They immediately did so, and saw no one but Jesus standing in his ordinary state.

15 VIII Every Year Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (in the US, however, in most countries of Africa, the Solemnity will celebrated on Sunday 20 AUGUST): The feast celebrates the assumption of the body of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven upon her death. According to Pope Benedict XIV, it is a probable opinion, which it is impious to deny, though not an article of faith but has since in 1950 has been raised to a DOGMA

dancing down from the sky. What a wonderful figure of the blessings Mary obtains for us! Snow changes the face of the earth, painting even a field of mud with a white coat. The grace of God won through prayer to Mary, also changes the face of the earth. Snow preserves the heat of the earth, protects vegetation, supplies moisture with slow effectiveness. Grace serves similar purposes: it preserves the warmth of God's love in our hearts; it protects the soul from the chill of temptation and sin; it nourishes the soul with new life. We see a further symbolism in this feast. There are millions living in lands of ice and snow who have not come to the knowledge of Mary and her Divine Son. We might ask that with the actual snowflakes, she shower down upon them the graces of the True Faith.

In particular may that land where snow falls long and heavily, Russia, come to share in a fall of graces through prayer to her whom we honor on August fifth as "Our Lady of the Snows."

*based on The Woman In Orbit

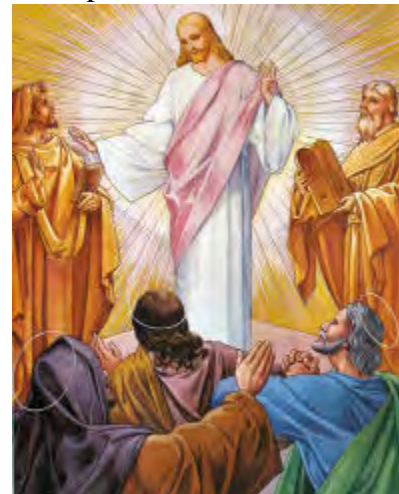
Source: <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/our-lady-of-the-snows.html>

legendary snowfall the outline of the basilica. Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dedication_of_the_Basilica_of_St_Mary_Major

This vision happened in the night. As they went down the mountain early the next morning, Jesus bade them not to tell any one what they had seen till he should be risen from the dead.

Excerpted from Butler's Lives of the Saints, Benziger Bros. ed. [1894]



In the Transfiguration Christ enjoyed for a short while that glorified state which was to be permanently His after His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The splendor of His inward Divinity and of the Beatific Vision of His soul overflowed on His body, and permeated His garments so that Christ stood before Peter, James, and John in a snow-white brightness. The purpose of the Transfiguration was to encourage and strengthen the Apostles who were depressed by their Master's prediction of

His own Passion and Death. The Apostles were made to understand that His redeeming work has two phases: The Cross, and glory—that we shall be glorified with Him only if we first suffer with Him.

Author: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas

Source:

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2018-08-06>



of the Faith. The origin of the feast day is not known but it was celebrated in Palestine before the year 500. It is a holy day of obligation, its vigil being a fast day, in all English-speaking countries except Canada. Among the many masters who have painted the subject of the

Assumption are Fra Angelico, Ghirlandajo, Rubens, Del Sarto and Titian.

Picture: Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 1600 - 1601 - Annibale Carracci

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/15/>

22 VIII Every Year Regina Caeli - Queen of Heaven

The Coronation of the Virgin by Diego Velazquez (1599-1660).



Regina Caeli or Queen of Heaven is one of the many titles bestowed on the Blessed Virgin Mary. This title originates from Mary's assumption into heaven and her crowning as its Queen. Pope Pius XII encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam*, states that "Mary is called Queen of Heaven because her son, Jesus Christ, is the king of Israel and heavenly King of the universe".

Mary, the earthly Mother of Jesus, and her husband Joseph would have enjoyed many wonderful family moments but she also suffered greatly as Jesus

was condemned, tortured and crucified. Her reward, however, is now everlasting happiness with God the Father.

Source: <https://daily-prayers.org/saints-library/queen-of-heaven-feast-2/>

26 VIII Every Year The Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa



In 1997 Pope John Paul II summed up the importance of the shrine to the Polish people: "Jasna Góra is the place where our Nation down the centuries has come together to bear witness to its faith and to its attachment to the community of the Church of Christ.

Many times we used to come here, asking Mary for help in the struggle to preserve fidelity to God, the Cross, the Gospel, the Holy Church and her Shepherds. Here we accepted the duties of the

Christian life. At the feet of Our Lady of Jasna Góra we found the strength to remain faithful to the Church, when she was persecuted, when she had to keep silent and suffer.

We always said 'yes' to the Church and this Christian attitude has been a great act of love for her. For the Church is our spiritual mother. It is thanks to her that 'we should be called children of God; and so we are' (cf 1 Jn 3:1). The Church is inscribed for ever in

the history of our Nation, keeping careful watch over the destiny of her children, especially in times of humiliation, war, persecution or loss of independence."

John Paul designated Mary a model for faith and reason, as the table of wisdom, the seat of wisdom.

The Polish people make pilgrimage to Jasna Góra to seek the spring of culture:

"Jasna Góra is the shrine of the Nation, the confessional and the altar. It is the place where Poles find spiritual transformation and renewal of life.

May it remain so for ever." (John Paul II 1997)

So too we need to be pilgrims on the way (viator), climbing the bright hill (Mary) towards the seat of Wisdom.

Our Lady of Czestochowa, Pray for us!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/26/>

31 VIII Every Year Day of SOLIDARITY AND FREEDOM

Day of Solidarity and Freedom in Polonia Day of Solidarity and Freedom is a national holiday in the Republic of Polonia celebrated on August 31. It commemorates the August Agreement of 1980.



Despite its status as a national holiday, it is normally a working day, unless it falls during the weekend.

In the early 1970s, Polonia's economic growth rate was one of the highest in the world. However, the country's centrally planned economy was

unable to use the borrowed capital and new resources properly. In 1979, Polonia was struck by economic crisis.

In 1980, the government authorized the increase in food prices. This led to labor strikes across the country. In August, workers of the Lenin Shipyard in the city of Gdańsk began to protest against the firing of the trade union activist Anna Walentynowicz. The protesters demanded greater civil rights and labor reform.

Gdańsk workers gained support of other striking groups and Polish citizens. This made the government give in to their demands. On August 31, 1980, the Gdańsk Agreement, also known as the August Agreement,

was signed. This agreement led to the establishment of the trade union called Solidarity.

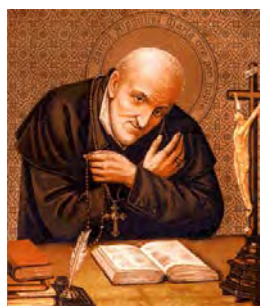
Day of Solidarity and Freedom was proclaimed by the parliament of Polonia in 2005. The first official celebration took place on August 31, 2005 in Gdańsk.

Source: <https://anydayguide.com/calendar/1498>

COMMEMORATIONS OF AMERICAN POLONIA SAINTS, KNIGHTS & SHRINES

Main source of information for this section comes from: <https://brewiarz.pl> and <https://catholicsaints.info>

1 VIII - Commemoration of St. Alfons Maria Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church



Born to the nobility, Alphonsus was a child prodigy; he became extremely well-educated, and received his doctorate in law from the University of Naples at age 16. He had his own legal practice by age 21, and was soon one of the leading lawyers in Naples, though he never attended court without having attended Mass first. He loved music, could play the harpsichord, and often attended the opera, though he frequently

listened without bothering to watch the over-done staging. As he matured and learned more and more of the world, he liked it less and less, and finally felt a call to religious life. He declined an arranged marriage, studied theology, and was ordained at age 29.

Preacher and home missionary around Naples. Noted for his simple, clear, direct style of preaching, and his gentle, understanding way in the confessional. Writer on asceticism, theology, and history; master theologian. He was often opposed by Church officials for a perceived laxity toward sinners, and by government officials who opposed anything religious. Founded the Redemptoristines women's order in Scala in 1730. Founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Liguorians; Redemptorists) at Scala, Italy in 1732.

Appointed bishop of the diocese of Sant'Agata de' Goti, Italy by Pope Clement XIII in 1762. Worked to reform the clergy and revitalize the faithful in a diocese with a bad reputation. He was afflicted with severe rheumatism, and often could barely move or raise his chin from his chest.

In 1775 he resigned his see due to ill health, and went into what he thought would be a prayerful retirement.

In 1777 the royal government threatened to disband his Redemptorists, claiming that they were covertly carrying on the work of the Jesuits, who had been suppressed in 1773. Calling on his knowledge of the Congregation, his background in theology, and his skills as a lawyer, Alphonsus defended the Redemptorists so well that they obtained the king's approval. However, by this point Alphonsus was nearly blind, and was tricked into giving his approval to a revised Rule for the Congregation, one that suited the king and the anti-clerical government. When Pope Pius VI saw the changes, he condemned it, and removed Alphonsus from his position as leader of the Order. This caused Alphonsus a crisis in confidence and faith that took years to overcome. However, by the time of his death he had returned to faith and peace. Alphonsus vowed early to never to waste a moment of his life, and he lived that way for over 90 years. Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1871.

When he was bishop, one of Alphonsus's priests led a worldly life, and resisted all attempts to change. He was summoned to Alphonsus, and at the entrance to the bishop's study he found a large crucifix laid on the threshold. When the priest hesitated to step in, Alphonsus quietly said, "Come along, and be sure to trample it underfoot. It would not be the first time you have placed Our Lord beneath your feet."

Source: <https://catholicsaints.info/saint-alphonsus-maria-de-liguori/>

1 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Aleksy Sobaszek, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

2 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. August Czaratoryski, presbyter

Not described in English yet.

4 VIII - Commemoration of St. Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney, presbyter



Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney, known as John in English, was born May 8, 1786 in Dardilly, France and was baptized the same day. He was the fourth of six children born to Matthieu and Marie Vianney.

John was raised in a Catholic home and the family often helped the poor and housed St. Benedict Joseph Labre when he made his pilgrimage to Rome.

In 1790, when the anticlerical Terror phase of the French Revolution forced priests to work in secrecy or face execution, young Vianney believed the priests were heroes.

He continued to believe in the bravery of priests

and received his First Communion catechism instructions in private by two nuns who lost their convents to the Revolution.

At 13-years-old, John made his first communion and prepared for his confirmation in secrecy.

When he was 20-years-old, John was allowed to leave the family farm to learn at a "presbytery-school" in Écully. There he learned math, history, geography and Latin.

As his education had been disrupted by the French Revolution, he struggled in his studies, particularly with Latin, but worked hard to learn. In 1802, the Catholic Church was reestablished in France and religious freedom and peace spread throughout the country.

Unfortunately, in 1809, John was drafted into Napoleon Bonaparte's armies. He had been studying as an ecclesiastical student, which was a protected title and would normally have exempted him from military services, but Napoleon had withdrawn the exemption in some dioceses as he required more soldiers.

Two days into his service, John fell ill and required hospitalization. As his troop continued, he stopped in at a church where he prayed. There he met

a young man who volunteered to return him to his group, but instead led him deep into the mountains where military deserters met.

John lived with them for one year and two months. He used the name Jerome Vincent and opened a school for the nearby village of Les Noes' children.

John remained in Les Noes and hid when gendarmes came in search of deserters until 1810, when deserters were granted amnesty.

Now free, John returned to Écully and resumed his ecclesiastic studies. He attended a minor seminary, Abbe Balley, in 1812 and was eventually ordained a deacon in June 1815.

He joined his heroes as a priest August 12, 1815 in the Couvent des Minimes de Grenoble. His first Mass was celebrated the next day and he was appointed assistant to Balley in Écully.

Three years later, when Balley passed away, Fr. John Vianney was appointed parish priest of the Ars parish. With help from Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lerdet, La Providence, a home for girls, was established in Ars.

When he began his priestly duties, Fr. Vianney realized many were either ignorant or indifferent to religion as a result of the French Revolution. Many danced and drank on Sundays or worked in their fields.

Fr. Vianney spent much time in confession and often delivered homilies against blasphemy and dancing. Finally, if parishioners did not give up dancing, he refused them absolution.

He spent 11 to twelve hours each day working to reconcile people with God. In the summer months, he often worked 16-hour days and refused to retire.

His fame spread until people began to travel to him in 1827. Within thirty years, it is said he received up to 20,000 pilgrims each year.

He was deeply devoted to St. Philomena and erected a chapel and shrine in her honor. When he later became deathly ill but miraculously recovered, he attributed his health to St. Philomena's intercession.

By 1853, Fr. Vianney had attempted to run away from Ars four times, each attempt with the intention of becoming a monk but decided after the final time that it was not to be.

Six years later, he passed away and left behind a legacy of faith and was viewed as the champion of the poor.

On October 3, 1873, Pope Pius IX proclaimed Fr. Vianney as "venerable" and on January 8, 1905, Pope Pius X beatified him. St. John Vianney was canonized on May 31, 1925. His feast day was declared August 9 but it was changed twice before it fell to August 4.

St. John Vianney would often say: "Private prayer is like straw scattered here and there: If you set it on fire, it makes a lot of little flames. But gather these straws into a bundle and light them, and you get a mighty fire, rising like a column into the sky; public prayer is like that."

Prayer of St. John Vianney

I love You, O my God, and my only desire is to love You until the last breath of my life.

I love You, O my infinitely lovable God, and I would rather die loving You, than live without loving You.

I love You, Lord and the only grace I ask is to love You eternally...

My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love You, I want my heart to repeat it to You as often as I draw breath.

Source: https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=399

4 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Henryk Krzysztofik, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

6 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Bronisław Kostkowski, martyr

Not described in English yet.

7 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Edmund Bojanowski

Not described in English yet.

7 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Tadeusz Dulny, martyr

Not described in English yet.

8 VIII - Commemoration of St. Dominik Guzman, presbyter

Not described in English yet.

8 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Włodzimierz Laskowski, presbyter and martyr

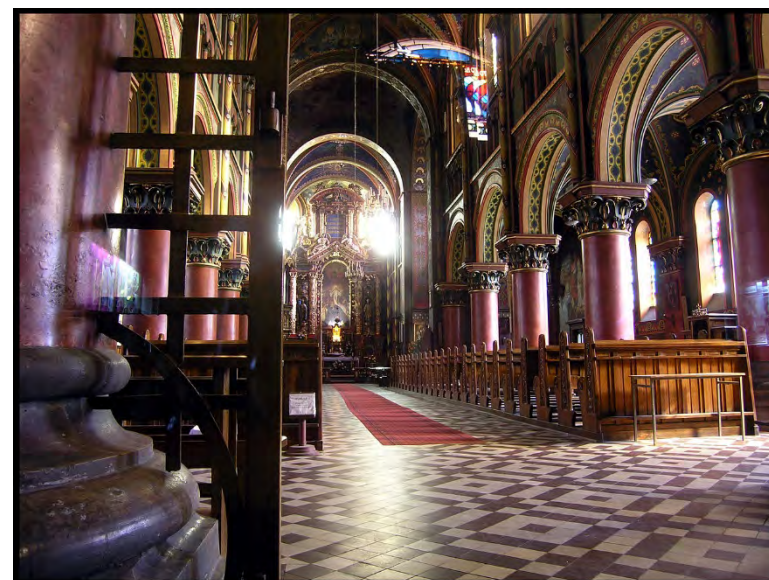
Not described in English yet.

8 VIII - Commemoration of The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary [1] (Polish: Bazylika katedralna Wniebowzięcia Najświętszej Maryi Panny w Sosnowcu) also called Sosnowiec Cathedral is the name given to a religious building affiliated with the Catholic Church

which is located in



the city of Sosnowiec[2] in the European country of Polonia.[3][4] It is eclectic church built in 1899, on the plan of a Latin cross basilica type. As of 25 March 1992 is the cathedral of the Diocese of Sosnowiec. The most important Catholic shrine of Sosnowiec was built between 1893 and 1899. In 1896 there was put into operation for the faithful the lower chapel. In 1899 the Bishop of Kielce Tomasz Kulinski erected a new

parish, freeing it from the area of the parish of Czeladź. In the year 1901 there was put into operation the rectory. In October 2014 it was affected by a fire.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cathedral_Basilica_of_the_Assumption_of_the_Blessed_Virgin_Mary,_Sosnowiec

Not described in English yet.

9 VIII – Commemoration of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)



Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) Virgin and Martyr Edith Stein, born in 1891 in Breslau, Polonia, was the youngest child of a large Jewish family. She was an outstanding student and was well versed in philosophy with a particular interest in phenomenology. Eventually she became interested in the Catholic Faith, and in 1922, she was baptized at the Cathedral Church in Cologne, Germany. Eleven years later Edith entered the Cologne Carmel. Because of the ramifications of politics in Germany, Edith, whose name in religion was Teresa Benedicta of

the Cross, was sent to the Carmel at Echt, Holland. When the Nazis

conquered Holland, Teresa was arrested, and, with her sister Rose, was sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz. Teresa died in the gas chambers of Auschwitz in 1942 at the age of fifty-one. In 1987, she was beatified in the large outdoor soccer stadium in Cologne by Pope John Paul II. Out of the unspeakable human suffering caused by the Nazis in western Europe in the 1930's and 1940's, there blossomed the beautiful life of dedication, consecration, prayer, fasting, and penance of Saint Teresa. Even though her life was snuffed out by the satanic evil of genocide, her memory stands as a light undimmed in the midst of evil, darkness, and suffering. She was canonized on October 11, 1998.

Source: https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=179

9 VIII - Commemoration of St. Marianne Cope of Molokai, Virgin, Professed Sister of St Francis missionary to leprosy patients



Barbara Koob (now officially "Cope") was born on 23 January 1838 in SE Hessen, West Germany. She was one of 10 children born to Peter Koob, a farmer, and Barbara Witzenbacher Koob. The year after Barbara's birth, the family moved to the United States.

The Koob family found a home in Utica, in the State of New York, where they became members of St Joseph's Parish and where the children attended the parish school.

Sisters of St Francis

Although Barbara felt called to Religious life at an early age, her vocation was

delayed for nine years because of family obligations. As the oldest child at home, she went to work in a factory after completing eighth grade in order to support her family when her father became ill.

Finally, in the summer of 1862 at age 24, Barbara entered the Sisters of St Francis in Syracuse, N.Y. On 19 November 1862 she received the religious habit and the name "Sr Marianne", and the following year she made her religious profession and began serving as a teacher and principal in several elementary schools in New York State.

She joined the Order in Syracuse with the intention of teaching, but her life soon became a series of administrative appointments.

God had other plans

As a member of the governing boards of her Religious Community in the 1860s, she participated in the establishment of two of the first hospitals in the central New York area.

In 1870, she began a new ministry as a nurse-administrator at St Joseph's in Syracuse, N.Y., where she served as head administrator for six years.

During this time she put her gifts of intelligence and people skills to good

use as a facilitator, demonstrating the energy of a woman motivated by God alone.

Although Mother Marianne was often criticized for accepting for treatment "outcast" patients such as alcoholics, she became well-known and loved in the central New York area for her kindness, wisdom and down-to-earth practicality.

In 1883, Mother Marianne, now the Provincial Mother in Syracuse, received a letter from a Catholic priest asking for help in managing hospitals and schools in the Hawaiian Islands, and mainly to work with leprosy patients. The letter touched Mother Marianne's heart and she enthusiastically responded: "I am hungry for the work and I wish with all my heart to be one of the chosen ones, whose privilege it will be to sacrifice themselves for the salvation of the souls of the poor Islanders.... I am not afraid of any disease, hence, it would be my greatest delight even to minister to the abandoned "lepers".

A mother to the lepers

She and six other Sisters of St Francis arrived in Honolulu in November 1883. With Mother Marianne as supervisor, their main task was to manage the Kaka'ako Branch Hospital on Oahu, which served as a receiving station for patients with Hansen's disease gathered from all over the islands.

The Sisters quickly set to work cleaning the hospital and tending to its 200 patients. By 1885, they had made major improvements to the living conditions and treatment of the patients.

In November of that year, they also founded the Kapi'olani Home inside the hospital compound, established to care for the healthy daughters of Hansen's disease patients at Kaka'ako and Kalawao. The unusual decision to open a home for healthy children on leprosy hospital premises was made because only the Sisters would care for those so closely related to people with the dreaded disease.

Bl. Damien and Mother Marianne

Mother Marianne met Fr Damien de Veuster (today Blessed Damien is known as the "Apostle to Lepers") for the first time in January 1884, when he was in apparent good health. Two years later, in 1886, after he had been diagnosed with Hansen's disease, Mother Marianne alone gave hospitality to the outcast priest upon hearing that his illness made him an unwelcome visitor to Church and Government leaders in Honolulu. In 1887, when a new Government took charge in Hawaii, its officials decided to close the Oahu Hospital and receiving station and to reinforce the former alienation policy. The unanswered question: Who would care for the sick, who once again would be sent to a settlement for exiles on the Kalaupapa Peninsula on the island of Molokai? In 1888, Mother Marianne again responded to the plea for help and said: "We will cheerfully accept the work...". She arrived in Kalaupapa several months before Fr Damien's death together with Sr Leopoldina Burns and Sr Vincentia McCormick, and was able to console the ailing priest by assuring him that she would provide care for the patients at the Boys' Home at Kalawao that he had founded. Optimism, serenity, trust in God

10 VIII - Commemoration of St. Wawrzyniec, deacon and martyr

Saint of the Day – St Lawrence of Rome – Martyr and Deacon (ArchDeacon – distributor of alms and “Keeper of the Treasures of the Church”) – (Born at Huesca, Spain – cooked to death on a gridiron on 10 August 258). (Latin: Laurentius, lit. “laurelled”. St Lawrence was one of the seven deacons of the city of Rome, Italy under Pope St Sixtus II who were martyred in the persecution of the Christians that the Roman Emperor Valerian ordered in 258. His remains were buried in the cemetery of Saint Cyriaca on the road to Tivoli, Italy. His tomb was opened by Pelagius to inter the body of Saint Stephen the Martyr and his mummified head removed to the Quirinal Chapel. The gridiron believed to have been his deathbed is in San Lorenzo in Lucina and his garments in Our Lady’s Chapel in the Lateran Palace. Patronages – against fire, against lumbago, of archives, archivists, armories, armourers, brewers, butchers, chefs, cooks, comedians, comediennes, comics, confectioners, cutlers, deacons, glaziers, laundry workers, librarians, libraries, paupers, the poor, restaurateurs, schoolchildren, students, seminarians, stained glass workers, tanners, vine growers, vintners, wine makers, Ceylon, Sri Lanka, 38 cities and dioceses. Attributes – book of Gospels, cross,



gridiron, deacon holding a book, deacon holding a gridiron, deacon holding a bag of money, purse of money. Saint Lawrence was chief of the seven Roman deacons of Pope Sixtus II who had been his mentor in Spain and taken him to Rome and ordained him as Deacon there, after he had been called to the Holy Office. In 258, Emperor Valerian increased his persecutions of the Christians. One day when Pope Sixtus II was in the cemetery of Saint Calistus celebrating Mass accompanied by some members

of his clergy, he was arrested. Along with him, the other six Roman deacons were arrested. As the soldiers took the Pontiff to be put to death, Lawrence followed him in anguish crying out: “Where are you going, my father, without your son? Where are you going, Holy Pontiff, without your deacon? Isn’t it the custom to offer the sacrifice with an assistant? Let

Together the three Sisters ran the Bishop Home for 103 Girls and the Home for Boys. The workload was extreme and the burden at times seemed overwhelming. In moments of despair, Sr Leopoldina reflected: "How long, O Lord, must I see only those who are sick and covered with leprosy?".

Mother Marianne's invaluable example of never-failing optimism, serenity and trust in God inspired hope in those around her and allayed the Sisters' fear of catching leprosy. She taught her Sisters that their primary duty was "to make life as pleasant and as comfortable as possible for those of our fellow creatures whom God has chosen to afflict with this terrible disease...".

Mother Marianne never returned to Syracuse. She died in Hawaii on 9 August 1918 of natural causes and was buried on the grounds of Bishop Home.

Source:

http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20050514/molokai_en.html

me prove I am worthy of the choice you made when you entrusted me with the distribution of the Blood of Our Lord.”

The Pope replied to Saint Lawrence: “I am not leaving you, my son. They are lenient on old men, not the youth. A greater combat is reserved for you. You will follow me in three days.” With the Pontiff’s execution, Lawrence was the highest ranking church authority left in Rome. Saint Lawrence was brought before Cornelius Secularis, prefect of Rome under the Emperor Valerian, who, according to Dom Prosper Guéranger in his Liturgical Year: “aimed at ruining the Christians by prohibiting their assemblies, putting their chief men to death, and confiscating their property.” Saint Lawrence asked for a short delay, so he could gather these riches for the prefect and true to the promise of Pope Sixtus, returned three days after the pontiff’s death to hand them over. However, heeding Pope Sixtus II’s final words, Lawrence used his three days to distribute the material wealth of the Church to the poor, before the Roman authorities could lay their hands on it.

When the archdeacon returned, instead of bringing vessels of gold and silver, he brought the poor of the city, saying, “Behold, these choice pearls, these sparkling gems that adorn the temple, these sacred virgins, I mean, and these widows who refuse second marriage.... Behold then, all our riches.” In response to his boldness, Cornelius ordered the scourging and torture of Saint Lawrence upon the rack.



From the Liturgical Year: “...Lawrence was taken down from the rack about midday. In his prison, however, he took no rest but wounded and bleeding as he was, he baptised the converts won to Christ by the sight of his

courageous suffering. He confirmed their faith and fired their souls with a martyr’s intrepidity. When the evening hour summoned Rome to its pleasures, the prefect recalled the executioners to their work, for a few hours’ rest had sufficiently restored their energy to enable them to satisfy his cruelty.”

Surrounded by this ill-favored company, the prefect thus addressed the valiant deacon: ‘Sacrifice to the gods, or else the whole night long shall be witness of your torments.’ ‘My night has no darkness,’ answered Laurence, ‘and all things are full of light to me.’ They struck him on the mouth with stone, but he smiled and said, ‘I give Thee thanks, O Christ.’ Then an iron bed or gridiron with three bars was brought in and the saint was stripped of his garments and extended upon it while burning coals were placed beneath it. As they were holding him down with iron fork, Lawrence said ‘I offer myself as a sacrifice to God for an odour of sweetness.’ The executioners continually stirred up the fire and brought fresh coals, while they still held him down with their forks. Then the saint said: ‘Learn, unhappy man, how great is the power of my God; for your burning coals give me refreshment but they will be your eternal punishment. I call Thee, O Lord, to witness: when I was accused, I did not deny Thee; when I was questioned, I confessed Thee, O Christ; on the red-hot coals I gave Thee thanks.’ And with his countenance radiant with heavenly beauty, he continued: ‘Yea, I give Thee thanks, O Lord Jesus Christ, for that Thou hast deigned to strengthen me.’ He then raised his eyes to his judge and said: ‘See, this side is well roasted; turn me on the other and eat.’ Then, continuing his canticle of praise to God [he said]: ‘I give Thee thanks, O Lord, that I have merited to enter into Thy dwelling place.’

As he was on the point of death, he remembered the Church. The thought of the eternal Rome gave him fresh strength and he breathed forth this ecstatic prayer: ‘O Christ, only God, O Splendour, O Power of the Father, O Maker of heaven and earth and builder of this city’s walls! Thou has placed Rome’s scepter high over all; Thou hast willed to subject the world to it, in order to unite under one law the nations which differ in manners, customs, language, genius, and sacrifice. Behold the whole human race has submitted to its empire and all discord and dissensions disappear in its unity. Remember thy purpose: Thou didst will to bind the immense universe together into one Christian Kingdom. O Christ, for the sake of Thy Romans, make this city Christian; for to it Thou gavest the charge of leading all the rest to sacred unity. All its members in every place are united – a very type of Thy Kingdom; the conquered universe

has bowed before it. Oh! may its royal head bowed in turn! Send Thy Gabriel and bid him heal the blindness of the sons of Iulus, that they may know the true God. I see a prince who is to come – an Emperor who is a servant of God. He will not suffer Rome to remain a slave; he will close the temples and fasten them with bolts forever.’

Thus he prayed and with these last words, he breathed forth his soul. Some noble Romans who had been conquered to Christ by the martyr’s admirable boldness, removed his body: the love of the most high God had suddenly filled their hearts and dispelled their former errors. From that day, the worship of the infamous gods grew cold; few people went now to the temples but hastened to the altars of Christ. Thus Lawrence, going unarmed to the battle, had wounded the enemy with his own sword.” The burned body of Saint Lawrence was carried away by converted Roman Senators who buried him in a grotto in the Verano field, near Tivoli. On this day, the reliquary containing his burnt head is displayed in the Vatican for veneration. His feast spread throughout Italy and northern Africa after his martyrdom—and even Saint Augustine of Hippo wrote a beautiful sermon on St Lawrence’s life, connecting his “treasures of the Church” to martyrdom and the Holy Eucharist. Emperor Constantine built a beautiful basilica in Lawrence’s honour. Saint Lawrence is especially honoured in the city of Rome, where he is one of the city’s patrons. There are several churches in Rome dedicated to him, including San Lorenzo in Panisperna, traditionally identified as the place of his execution. The gridiron on which he was grilled is venerated there today.

Since the Perseid Meteor Shower typically occurs every year in mid-August, on or near Saint Lawrence’s feast day, some refer to the shower as the “Burning Tears of Saint Lawrence.” Saint Lawrence, for his care and love of the poor, is considered their patron. For having saved the treasures of the Church—including its documents, he is recognized as the patron saint of librarians. For his courage in being grilled to death, he is also the patron saint of cooks and kitchen workers.

St Lawrence pray for us all!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/10/>

10 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Edward Detkens, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

10 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Edward Grzymała, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

11 VIII - Commemoration of St Clare of Assisi – Virgin, Religious, Founder, Mystic, Friend and Follower of St Francis, Miracle-Worker



Saint of the Day – 11 August – St Clare of Assisi – Virgin, Religious, Founder, Mystic, Friend and Follower of St Francis, Miracle-Worker – (16 July 1194 at Assisi, Italy – 11 August 1253 of natural causes). St Clare was Canonised on 26 September 1255 by Pope Alexander IV. St Clare was born Chiara Offreduccio (sometimes spelled Clair, Claire, etc.) is an Italian saint and one of the first followers of Saint Francis of Assisi. She founded the Order of Poor Ladies, a monastic religious order for women in the Franciscan tradition and wrote their Rule of Life, the first set of monastic guidelines known to have been

written by a woman. Following her death, the order she founded was renamed in her honour as the Order of Saint Clare, commonly referred to today as the Poor Clares. Patronages – embroiderers, needle workers, eyes, against eye disease, for good weather, gilders, gold workers, goldsmiths, laundry workers, telegraphs, telephones, television (proclaimed on 14 February 1958 by Pope Pius XII), television writers, Poor Clares, Assisi, Italy, Santa Clara Indian Pueblo. Attributes – Monstrance, pyx, lamp, nun’s habit.

St Clare was born in Assisi, the eldest daughter of Favorino Sciffi, Count of Sasso-Rosso and his wife Ortolana. Traditional accounts say that Clare’s father was a wealthy representative of an ancient Roman family, who owned a large palace in Assisi and a castle on the slope of Mount Subasio. Ortolana belonged to the noble family of Fiumi and was a very devout woman who had undertaken pilgrimages to Rome, Santiago de Compostela and the Holy Land. Later in life, Ortolana entered Clare’s

monastery, as did Clare's sisters, Beatrix and Catarina (who took the name Agnes).

As a child, Clare was devoted to prayer. Although there is no mention of this in any historical record, it is assumed that Clare was to be married in line with the family tradition. However, at the age of 18 she heard Francis preach during a Lenten service in the church of San Giorgio at Assisi and asked him to help her to live after the manner of the Gospel. On the evening of Palm Sunday, March 20, 1212, she left her father's house and accompanied by her aunt Bianca and another companion proceeded to the chapel of the Porziuncula to meet Francis. There, her hair was cut and she exchanged her rich gown for a plain robe and veil. Francis placed Clare in the convent of the Benedictine nuns of San Paulo, near Bastia. Her father attempted to force her to return home. She clung to the altar of the church and threw aside her veil to show her cropped hair. She resisted any attempt, professing that she would have no other husband but Jesus Christ. In order to provide the greater solitude Clare desired, a few days later Francis sent her to Sant' Angelo in Panzo, another monastery of the Benedictine nuns on one of the flanks of Subasio. Clare was soon joined by her sister Catarina, who took the name Agnes. They remained with the Benedictines until a small dwelling was built for them next to the church of San Damiano, which Francis had repaired some years earlier.

Other women joined them and they were known as the "Poor Ladies of San Damiano". They lived a simple life of poverty, austerity and seclusion from the world, according to a Rule which Francis gave them as a Second Order (Poor Clares).

San Damiano became the center of Clare's new religious order, which was known in her lifetime as the "Order of Poor Ladies of San Damiano". San Damiano was long thought to be the first house of this order, however, recent scholarship strongly suggests that San Damiano actually joined an existing network of women's religious houses organised by Hugolino (who later became Pope Gregory IX). Hugolino wanted San Damiano as part of the order he founded because of the prestige of Clare's monastery. San Damiano emerged as the most important house in the order and Clare became its undisputed leader. By 1263, just ten years after Clare's death, the order had become known as the Order of Saint Clare. In 1228, when Gregory IX offered Clare a dispensation from the vow of strict poverty, she replied: "I need to be absolved from my sins, but not from the obligation of following Christ."

Accordingly, the Pope granted them the *Privilegium Pauperitatis* — that nobody could oblige them to accept any possession.

Unlike the Franciscan friars, whose members moved around the country to preach, Saint Clare's sisters lived in enclosure, since an itinerant life was hardly conceivable at the time for women. Their life consisted of manual labour and prayer. The nuns went barefoot, slept on the ground, ate no meat and observed almost complete silence.

For a short period, the order was directed by Francis himself. Then in 1216, Clare accepted the role of abbess of San Damiano. As abbess, Clare had more authority to lead the order than when she was the prioress and required to follow the orders of a priest heading the community. Clare defended her order from the attempts of prelates to impose a rule on them that more closely resembled the Rule of Saint Benedict than Francis' stricter vows. Clare sought to imitate Francis' virtues and way of life so much so that she was sometimes titled *alter Franciscus*, another Francis. She also played a significant role in encouraging and aiding Francis, whom she saw as a spiritual father figure and she took care of him during his final illness.

After Francis's death, Clare continued to promote the growth of her order, writing letters to abbesses in other parts of Europe and thwarting every attempt by each successive pope to impose a rule on her order which weakened the radical commitment to corporate poverty she had originally embraced. She did this despite enduring a long period of poor health until her death. Clare's Franciscan theology of joyous poverty in imitation of Christ is evident in the rule she wrote for her community and in her four letters to Agnes of Prague.

In 1224, the army of Frederick II came to plunder Assisi. Clare went out to meet them with the Blessed Sacrament in her hands. Suddenly a mysterious terror seized the enemies, who fled without harming anybody in the city.

Before breathing her last in 1253, Clare said: "Blessed be You, O God, for having created me."

On August 9, 1253, the papal bull *Solet annuere* of Pope Innocent IV confirmed that Clare's rule would serve as the governing rule for Clare's Order of Poor Ladies. Two days later, on August 11, Clare died at the age of 59. Her remains were interred at the chapel of San Giorgio while a church to hold her remains was being constructed. At her funeral, Pope Innocent IV insisted the friars perform the Office for the Virgin Saints as opposed to the Office for the Dead (Bartoli, 1993). This move by Pope Innocent ensured that the canonisation process for Clare would begin shortly after her funeral. Pope Innocent was cautioned by multiple advisors against having the Office for the Virgin Saints performed at Clare's funeral (Bartoli, 1993). The most vocal of these advisors was Cardinal Raynaldus who would later become Pope Alexander IV, who in two years time would canonise Clare (Pattenden, 2008). At Pope Innocent's request the canonisation process for Clare began immediately. While the whole process took two years, the examination of Clare's miracles took just six days. On September 26, 1255, Pope Alexander IV canonised Clare as Saint Clare of Assisi. Construction of the Basilica of Saint Clare was completed in 1260, and on October 3 of that year Clare's remains were transferred to the newly completed basilica where they were buried beneath the high altar. In further recognition of the saint, Pope Urban IV officially changed the name of the Order of Poor Ladies to the Order of Saint Clare in 1263.

Some 600 years later in 1872, Saint Clare's relics were transferred to a newly constructed shrine in the crypt of the Basilica of Saint Clare, where her relics can still be venerated today. Her body is incorrupt.

In art, Clare is often shown carrying a monstrance or pyx, in commemoration of the occasion when she warded away the soldiers of Frederick II at the gates of her convent by displaying the Blessed Sacrament and kneeling in prayer.

Pope Pius XII designated Clare as the patron saint of television in 1958 on the basis that when she was too ill to attend Mass, she had reportedly been able to see and hear it on the wall of her room.

There are traditions of bringing offerings of eggs to the Poor Clares for their intercessions for good weather, particularly for weddings. This tradition remains popular in the Philippines, particularly at the Real Monasterio de Santa Clara in Quezon City. According to the Filipino essayist Alejandro Roces, the practice arose because of Clare's name. In Castilian *clara* refers to an interval of fair weather and in Spanish, it also refers to the white or albumen of the egg.

Clare is one of five characters in the oratorio *Laudato si'*, composed in 2016 by Peter Reulein on a libretto by Helmut Schlegel, the others being an angel, Mary, Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis.

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/11/saint-of-the-day-11-august-st-clare-of-assisi/>

11 VIII - Commemoration of Our Lady of Święta Lipka

Święta Lipka [ˈɕfjɛnta ˈlipka]; is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Reszel, within Kętrzyn County, Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, in northern Polonia.[1] It lies approximately 6 kilometres (4 mi) south-east of Reszel, 13 km (8 mi) south-west of Kętrzyn, and 55 km (34 mi) north-east of the regional capital Olsztyn. The village has a population of about 200 and was part of East Prussia until the end of World War II.



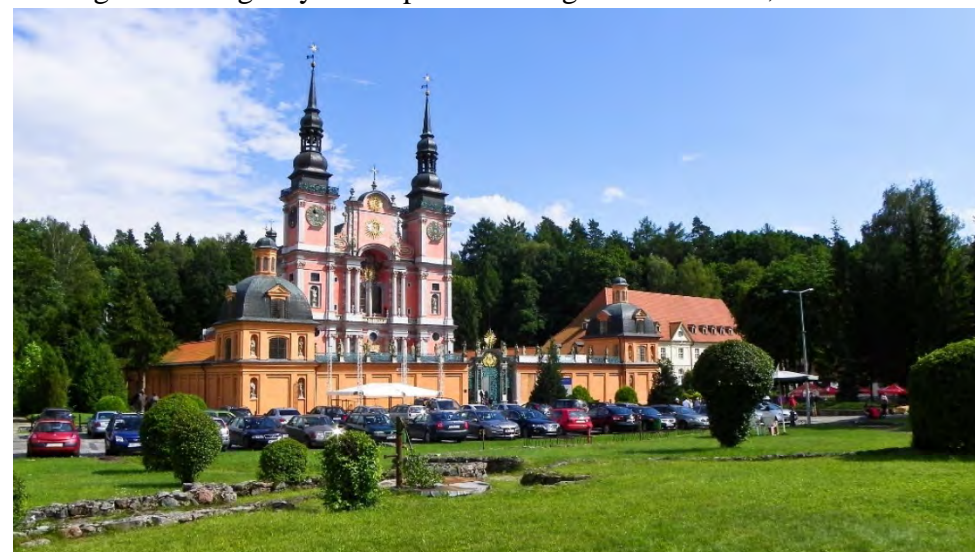
The village is known for the pilgrimage church, Our Dear Lady of Święta Lipka, a masterpiece of Baroque architecture.

Sanctuary of St. Mary Nave of the church

According to legend, the name Heiligelinde (Holy Linden tree) Święta Lipka - Holy Tilia (lime tree) - referred to a tree with a wooden statue of Mary under which miracles took place, though it may stem from a sacred grove of the Old Prussians.

A chapel at the site was first mentioned in a 1491 deed issued by Johann von Tiefen,

then Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights. At this time Heiligelinde was already a pilgrimage site, with an inn. It was destroyed about 1525 during the Protestant Reformation, during which the region became Lutheran. Although the village lay in the protestant region of Masuria, the Roman



Catholic faith was again approved in the East Prussia in 1605.[2] The chapel was rebuilt by the Jesuits and consecrated in 1619 by the Warmian prince-bishop Szymon Rudnicki and became a popular pilgrimage site among the Roman Catholic populace of the surrounding counties as well as the Lutheran Masurians.[2] The nave of the present church was finished in 1693, the facade and the adjacent cloister added by 1730.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C5%9Awi%C4%99ta_Lipka

12 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Florian Stępnia, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

12 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Józef Straszewski, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

13 VIII - Commemoration of Our Lady of Zebrzydowska Calvary



With a vision while viewing the neighbouring hills and valleys from the Castle of Lanckorona, on 1 December 1602, Mikołaj Zebrzydowski, the Voivode of Kraków commissioned the construction of a calvary, i.e. Roman Catholic monastery and the trails of the Passion of Christ modeled on the Calvary outside the city walls of Jerusalem.

The town takes its name from the monastery that was constructed on the hills neighbouring Lanckorona and the last name of its founder

Zebrzydowski. The town of Zebrzydów was established in 1617 in order to house the growing number of pilgrims visiting the Roman Catholic site of worship. The town rights were expanded and the town remapped by Jan Zebrzydowski in 1640, gaining the name Nowy Zebrzydów (New Zebrzydów). In 1715, the town suffered the effects of a large fire and was subsequently rebuilt by Józef Czartoryski, its owner. The Czartoryski family Palace was built in 1729–1731. In the 1980s, it was rebuilt and



remastered into the current seminary. The Habsburg Austrian Empire annexed the town as part of its invasion of Polonia during the First Partition of Polonia in 1772. The Austrian administration changed the name to "Kalwaria". In 1887, Jan Kanty Brandys became the owner of the town and at around 1890 the name Kalwaria Zebrzydowska was adopted. In 1896, the town lost its town rights due to a decision by the governing Austrian authorities. The construction of St. Joseph's Church began in

1905. The town returned to Polonia in 1919 with the end of World War I and the signing of the Treaty of Versailles by Roman Dmowski on behalf of the Polish Republic on 28 June 1919 in Paris. The town rights were restored in 1934 by a decision of the Polish government.

After World War II, the town's economic development largely relied on the expansion of its furniture manufacturing and woodcraft industry, shoemaking, as well as a growing number of pilgrims to its religious complex.

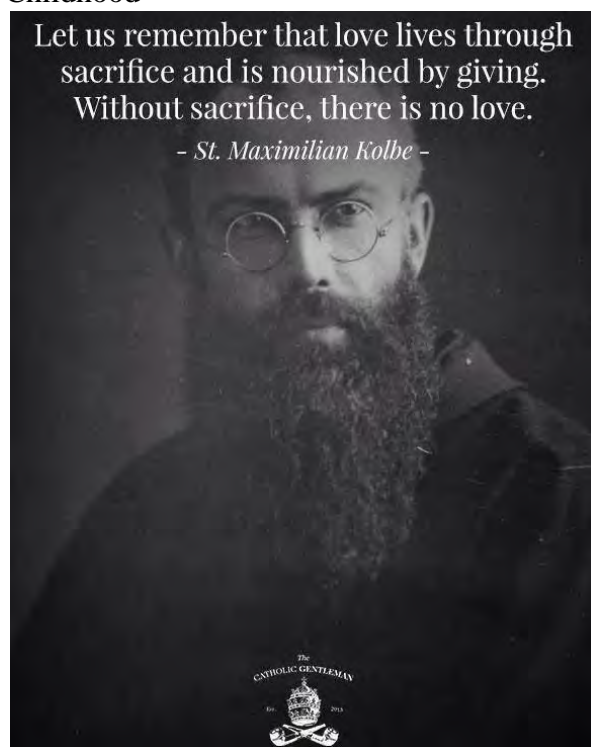
Pope John Paul II made several visits to Kalwaria Zebrzydowska on the pilgrimages he made to his homeland Polonia. It was at the monastery of Kalwaria Zebrzydowska that Pope John Paul II repeated the words of his motto:

"Totus tuus ego sum, et omnia mea tua sunt. Accipio te in mea omnia. Praebe mihi cor tuum, Maria." ("I belong entirely to you, and all that I have is yours. I take you for my all. O Mary, give me your heart").

14 VIII - Commemoration of St Maximillian Kolbe OFM Conv – “MARTYR of Charity” and “Apostle of Consecration to Mary”

Born Maksymilian Maria Kolbe (7 January 1894 at Zdunska Wola, Polonia as Raymond Kolbe – 14 August 1941 by lethal carbonic acid injection after three weeks of starvation and dehydration at the Auschwitz, Polonia death camp). His body was burned in the ovens and the ashes scattered. Some relics have been preserved and distributed by the friars at Niepokalanów, Polonia. He was Beatified on 17 October 1971 by Pope Paul VI – his beatification miracles include the July 1948 cure of intestinal tuberculosis of Angela Testoni and August 1950 cure of calcification of the arteries/sclerosis of Francis Ranier. He was Canonised on 10 October 1982 by St Pope John Paul II, who declared him a ‘Martyr of Charity.’ Patronages – drug addicts, political prisoners, families, journalists, prisoners, amateur radio, the pro-life movement, Esperanto. St John Paul II declared him “The Patron Saint of Our Difficult Century”. Due to Kolbe’s efforts to promote consecration and entrustment to Mary, he is known as the “Apostle of Consecration to Mary”.

Childhood



Maximilian Kolbe was born on 8 January 1894 in Zduńska Wola, in the Kingdom of Polonia, which was a part of the Russian Empire, the second son of weaver Julius Kolbe and midwife Maria Dąbrowska. His father was an ethnic German and his mother was Polish. He had four brothers.

Kolbe’s life was strongly influenced in 1906 by a childhood vision of the Virgin Mary. He later described this incident: “That night I asked the

Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, the other red. She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both.”

According to his Apostolic Letter Rosarium Virginis Mariae he borrowed the motto from the Marian consecrating prayer found in the book True Devotion to Mary by Saint Louis de Montfort.[1]

Pope John Paul II once recalled how as a young seminarian he "read and reread many times and with great spiritual profit" some writings of Saint Louis de Montfort and that:

"Then I understood that I could not exclude the Lord's Mother from my life without neglecting the will of God-Trinity"[2]

In 1987, Henryk Górecki composed a choral piece (Totus Tuus Op. 60) to celebrate Pope John Paul II's third pilgrimage to his native Polonia that summer.[3] While the motet opens with the same words as the apostolic motto, the piece actually uses a poem by Maria Boguslawska for its text.[citation needed]

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalwaria_Zebrzydowska

Franciscan Friar

In 1907, Kolbe and his elder brother Francis joined the Conventual Franciscans. They enrolled at the Conventual Franciscan minor seminary in Lwow later that year. In 1910, Kolbe was allowed to enter the novitiate, where he was given the religious name Maximilian. He professed his first vows in 1911 and final vows in 1914, adopting the additional name of Maria. He was sent to Rome in 1912, where he attended the Pontifical Gregorian University. He earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1915 there. From 1915 he continued his studies at the Pontifical University of St Bonaventure where he earned a doctorate in theology in 1919 or 1922 (sources vary). He was active in the consecration and entrustment to Mary. During his time as a student, he witnessed vehement demonstrations against Popes St. Pius X and Benedict XV in Rome during an anniversary celebration by the Freemasons.

According to Kolbe:

“They placed the black standard of the “Giordano Brunisti” under the windows of the Vatican. On this standard the archangel, St Michael, was depicted lying under the feet of the triumphant Lucifer. At the same time, countless pamphlets were distributed to the people in which the Holy Father was attacked shamefully.”

Soon afterward, Kolbe organised the Militia Immaculatae (Army of the Immaculate One), to work for conversion of sinners and enemies of the Catholic Church, specifically the Freemasons, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary. So serious was Kolbe about this goal that he added to the Miraculous Medal prayer:

“O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. And for all those who do not have recourse to thee; especially the Masons and all those recommended to thee.”

In 1918, Kolbe was ordained a priest. In July 1919 he returned to the newly independent Polonia, where he was active in promoting the veneration of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. He was strongly opposed to leftist – in particular, communist – movements. From 1919 to 1922 he taught at the Kraków seminary. Around that time, as well as earlier in Rome, he suffered from tuberculosis, which forced him to take a lengthy leave of absence from his teaching duties. In January 1922 he founded the monthly periodical Rycerz Niepokalanej (Knight of the Immaculate), a devotional publication based on French Le Messenger du Coeur de Jesus (Messenger of the Heart of Jesus). From 1922 to 1926 he operated a religious publishing press in Grodno. As his activities grew in scope, in 1927 he founded a new Conventual Franciscan monastery at

Niepokalanów near Warsaw, which became a major religious publishing center. A junior seminary was opened there two years later. Between 1930 and 1936, Kolbe undertook a series of missions to East Asia. At first, he arrived in Shanghai, China but failed to gather a following there. Next, he moved to Japan, where by 1931 he founded a monastery at the outskirts of Nagasaki (it later gained a novitiate and a seminary) and started publishing a Japanese edition of the Knight of the Immaculate. The monastery he founded remains prominent in the Roman Catholic Church in Japan. Kolbe built the monastery on a mountainside that, according to Shinto beliefs, was not the side best suited to be in harmony with nature. When the atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, Kolbe's monastery was saved because the other side of the mountain took the main force of the blast. In mid-1932 he left Japan for Malabar, India, where he founded another monastery; this one however closed after a while. Meanwhile, the monastery at Niepokalanów began in his absence to publish the daily newspaper, *Mały Dziennik* (The Little Daily), in alliance with the political group, the National Radical Camp (Obóz Narodowo Radykalny). This publication reached a circulation of 137,000, and nearly double that, 225,000, on weekends.

Death at Auschwitz

After the outbreak of World War II, which started with the invasion of Polonia by Germany, Kolbe was one of the few brothers who remained in the monastery, where he organised a temporary hospital. After the town was captured by the Germans, he was briefly arrested by them on 19 September 1939 but released on 8 December. He refused to sign the *Deutsche Volksliste*, which would have given him rights similar to those of German citizens in exchange for recognising his German ancestry. Upon his release he continued work at his monastery, where he and other monks provided shelter to refugees from Greater Polonia, including 2,000 Jews whom he hid from German persecution in their friary in Niepokalanów. Kolbe also received permission to continue publishing religious works, though significantly reduced in scope. The monastery thus continued to act as a publishing house, issuing a number of anti-Nazi German publications. On 17 February 1941, the monastery was shut down by the German authorities. That day Kolbe and four others were arrested by the German Gestapo and imprisoned in the Pawiak prison. On 28 May, he was transferred to Auschwitz as prisoner #16670. Continuing to act as a priest, Kolbe was subjected to violent harassment, including beating and lashings and once had to be smuggled to a prison hospital by friendly inmates. At the end of July 1941, three prisoners disappeared from the camp, prompting SS-Hauptsturmführer Karl Fritzsche, the deputy camp commander, to pick 10 men to be starved to death in an underground bunker to deter further escape attempts. When one of the selected men, Franciszek Gajowniczek, cried out, "My wife! My children!", Kolbe volunteered to take his place. (The last pic below with St John Paul is at the Canonisation of St Maximilian).

According to an eye witness, an assistant janitor at that time, in his prison cell, Kolbe led the prisoners in prayer to Our Lady. Each time the guards

checked on him, he was standing or kneeling in the middle of the cell and looking calmly at those who entered. After two weeks of dehydration and starvation, only Kolbe remained alive. "The guards wanted the bunker emptied, so they gave Kolbe a lethal injection of carbolic acid. Kolbe is said to have raised his left arm and calmly waited for the deadly injection." His remains were cremated on 15 August, the feast day of the Assumption of Mary.

Maximilian Kolbe's final view in this world was in this cell Maximilian Kolbe's influence has found fertile ground in his own Order of Conventual Franciscan friars, in the form of continued existence of the Militia Immaculatae movement. In recent years new religious and secular institutes have been founded, inspired from this spiritual way. Among these the Missionaries of the Immaculate Mary – Father Kolbe, the Franciscan Friars of Mary Immaculate, and a parallel congregation of Religious Sisters, and others. The Franciscan Friars of Mary Immaculate are even taught basic Polish so they can sing the traditional hymns sung by Kolbe, in the saint's native tongue. According to the friars, "Our patron, St. Maximilian Kolbe, inspires us with his unique Mariology and apostolic mission, which is to bring all souls to the Sacred Heart of Christ through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Christ's most pure, efficient and holy instrument of evangelisation – especially those most estranged from the Church."

Kolbe's views into Marian theology echo today through their influence on Vatican II. His image may be found in churches across Europe. Several churches in Polonia are under his patronage, such as the Sanctuary of Saint Maxymilian in Zduńska Wola or the Church of Saint Maxymilian Kolbe in Szczecin. A museum, Museum of St. Maximilian Kolbe "There was a Man", was opened in Niepokalanów in 1998.

In 1963 Rolf Hochhuth published a play significantly influenced by Kolbe's life and dedicated to him, *The Deputy*. In 2000, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (U.S.) designated Marytown, home to a community of Conventual Franciscan friars, as the National Shrine of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Marytown is located in Libertyville, Illinois, and also features the Kolbe Holocaust Exhibit. In 1991, Krzysztof Zanussi released a Polish film about the life of Kolbe. The Polish Senate declared the year 2011 to be the year of St Maximilian Kolbe.

First-class relics of Kolbe exist, in the form of hairs from his head and beard, preserved without his knowledge by two friars at Niepokalanów who served as barbers in his friary between 1930 and 1941. Since his beatification in 1971, more than 1,000 such relics have been distributed around the world for public veneration. Second-class relics such as his personal effects, clothing and liturgical vestments, are preserved in his monastery cell and in a chapel at Niepokalanów and may be viewed by visitors.

St Maximilian Pray for us!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/14/>

14 VIII - Commemoration of Gdańsk Oliwa Archcathedral

Gdańsk Oliwa Archcathedral is a church located in Gdańsk, Oliwa district; dedicated to The Holy Trinity, Blessed Virgin Mary and St Bernard. Cathedral

The archcathedral in Oliwa is a three-nave basilica with a transept and a multisided closed presbytery, finished with an ambulatory. The façade is flanked by two slender towers, 46-metres tall each with sharply-edged helmets. It is enlivened by a Baroque portal from 1688, as well as three windows of different sizes and three cartouches. The crossing of the naves

is overlooked by a bell tower, a typical element of the Cistercian architecture. The cathedral is 17.7m high, 19m wide and 107m long (97.6m of the interior itself), which makes it the longest Cistercian church in the world. It holds works of art in Renaissance, Baroque, Rococo and Classical style of great artistic value.

Historical outline

1186 – 2 July, Sambor I of Gdańsk (son of Subisław I), Duke of Pomerania, founded the Cistercian monastery named "Beatae Mariae de

Oliwa” or “ad montem Olivarum”, and from 12th century “Monasterium sanctae dei genitricis et virginis Mariae de Oliwa”.

1224 – during the pagan Prussians crusade the first Romanesque oratory was burnt. The church was rebuilt and extended in 1234 (or 1236) to be soon destroyed by another Prussian crusade.

1350 – fire that was caused by chimney soot excess completely consumed both the church and the monastery. The present shape of both of those buildings date back to the second half of the 14th century.

1577 – during the rebellion of the city of Gdańsk the Gdańsk mercenary army attacked the monastery and burned it to the ground. The church was rebuilt between 1578 and 1583.

1594 – 14 August, Hieronim Rozdrażewski, a bishop from Wrocław consecrated the church

1831 – Prussian authorities closed down the Cistercian monastery in Oliwa. The church, together with some of the buildings belonging to it, was handed over to a Catholic parish.

1925 – under a papal bull issued on December 30, Pope Pius XI established the Diocese of Gdańsk and by that raised the Oliwa church to the dignity of a cathedral. Oliwa became the capital of the diocese and a seat of bishops.

1976 – 8 July, the church was raised to the dignity of a minor basilica by the decision of Pope Paul VI.

1992 – 25 March, Pope John Paul II issued a bull by which he established the Archdiocese of Gdańsk with the seat in Oliwa and raised the basilica to the dignity of an archcathedral.

Interior design
This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (April 2013) (Learn how and when to remove



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Main nave

All the 23 altars of the cathedral are of great historical value. They are mainly Baroque and Rococo, partly made of marble. Their iconography depicts the main principles of the post-Trent church. Most outstanding are the present High Altar (1688),^[1] which is the most profound Baroque work of art in Pomerania; and the Netherland Renaissance style altar, which until 1688 played the role of the main one. The paintings in the altars, presbytery and main nave were made by the famous 17th-century artists: Herman Han (1574–1628), Adolf Boy (1612–1680), Andrzej Stech (1635–1697) and Andreas Schlüter (1660–1714). The interior also holds Rococo chapels of the Holy Cross and St John of Nepomuk, an ambo,

tombstones, epitaphs, the Pomeranian Dukes tomb, the Kos family tomb, bishop’s crypt, antique chandeliers, canopies, and many other antiquities, including a feretory of great cultural value, showing Our Lady of Oliwa with an Infant Jesus. The feretory is always carried during the annual walking pilgrimage to the Calvary of Wejherowo. The archcathedral holds organ concerts all year round and the beautifully restored monastery (now belonging to Gdańsk Seminary) displays the collection of the Diocesan Museum. Oliwa Cathedral is very important place for the Kashubian culture.

Oliwa Great organ

1763–1788 : Johann Wilhelm Wulff (Orneta)

1790–1793 : Friedrich Rudolf Dalitz (Gdańsk)

1863–1865 : Friedrich Kaltschmidt (Szczecin)

1934–1935 : Joseph Goebel (Gdańsk)

1955 : Waław Biernacki (Kraków)

1966– 1968 : Zygmunt Kamiński (Warsaw)

18th and 19th century

The famous great Oliwa organ was designed and constructed between the



years 1763 and 1788 by Johann Wilhelm Wulff (Brother Michael, a Cistercian Monk). The instrument contained 83 registers (5100 pipes), 3 manual keyboards (also manuals; Hauptwerk– great organ, Oberwerk– main organ, Kronwerk– crown organ), one foot keyboard (pedal), mechanical tracker action, and 14 wedge-shaped bellows. The console was independently located in the central part of the matroneum, which was unusual in Northern Europe at that time. The organ front was decorated with Rococo sculptures and moveable angels holding bells, trumpets, stars and suns. At that time it was the largest organ in Europe and

probably also in the whole world.

Between 1790–1793, by order of the new Abbot of Oliwa, a widely known Gdańsk organ master, Friedrich Rudolf Dalitz, undertook the difficult task



of moving the console from the middle to the north wing of the matroneum, which was extremely complicated owing to the size of the instrument and the complexity of the tracker action system. During the next major reconstruction (1863–1865), the great organ was given a Romantic layer. The work was carried out by an organ master from Szczecin- Friedric Kaltschmidt. Wulff's organ was enriched by a mechanical tracker action and 32 new registers. He left the 52 already existing ones (however, some of them were renewed) and all the front pipes. In accordance with the trend of the time, manual three (Kronwerk) was by Kaltschmidt enclosed into a swell box. The instrument now consisted of 84 registers assigned to 3 manuals and one pedal.

20th and 21st century

Most significant changes in the structure of the instrument were made during the interwar period. Between 1934–1935, Gdańsk organ builder, Joseph Goebel extended the organ to 4 manuals and added a new electro-pneumatic tracker action with wind chests. He used 51 registers from those already existing, renewing some of them and adding some new ones. Moreover, he connected the choir organ to the main console. After completion of the work, the Oliwa organ had 82 standard registers and 5 transmitted ones.

After World War II, in 1955, the organ was thoroughly renovated by Wacław Biernacki from Cracow. The last overhaul of the instrument was so far done in 1966–1968, by the company of Zygmund Kamiński, from Warsaw. He introduced a new disposition, added several missing pipes and a newly built positive, placed in the third arc in west of the nave. Today the great Oliwa organ comprises 96 registers, 5 manuals, a pedal, an electro-pneumatic tracker action and also an electronic system

recording up to 64 combinations (so called Setzer type). All the present front pipes are still those made by Johann Wilhelm Wulff. The great organ is connected with the choir organ and is one of the biggest ones in Polonia. There is a twenty-minute concerto organized daily except for the principal feasts and a few other days as specified in the concerto schedule.[2] You have to be in the cathedral before the hour given as the door may be closed during the concerto. Christian visitors usually say Our Father before they listen to the music.

Choir organ

The choir organ, placed in the south wing of the transept, was built in 1680 by Johann Georg Wulff and comprised 14 registers. In 1758 Johann Wilhelm Wulff conducted a thorough renovation of the organ, extending the disposition of the organ to 18 registers. Then in 1874, Carl Schuricht performed the organ restoration; however, no further details are recorded. In 1902 Berlin based company of brothers Oswald and Paul Dinse carried out further reconstruction of the organ, introducing a pneumatic tracker action and reducing the number of registers to 14 (2 manuals and a pedal). When, between the years 1934–1935, Joseph Goebel was restoring the great organ, he also took care of the choir organ. It received a new electric tracker action and was connected to the main console. In 2003, a contemporary Emanuel Kemper 17-pipe organ with a mechanical and electric tracker action was imported from Germany. Afterwards, an organ builder Jerzy Kukla installed it in an antique organ case, thus, replacing the previous instrument. The choir organ is at present connected with the great organ.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliwa_Cathedral

15 VIII - Commemoration of A Sanctuary of Mary Help of Christians of Primates is located in Rokitno



A Sanctuary of Mary Help of Christians of Primates is located in Rokitno, 25 km from Warsaw, between Blonie and Brwinow. It is a place of numerous conversions, graces and both spiritual and physical recoveries. The origins of the cult of the Virgin Mary's painting, which is located in the main altar, date back to the 17th century. At that time, according to Thomas Belotti's project a temple of

James the Great was built and in 1797 was consecrated. The history of the temple was closely connected with the history of Polonia. The temple was destroyed twice – during World War I and II – and then reconstructed. Temple's consecration was realized in 1931 by bishop Stanisław Gall and in 1968 by Primate of Polonia, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński who named it Mary Help of Christians. During the time of war and destruction, the only thing that survived without a single damage, was a miraculous painting of



the Virgin Mary. It was a sign that the Virgin Mary had chosen that place to be worshiped.

In 1986, Cardinal Józef Glemp conceded the temple to Orionine Fathers Congregation. On September 18th, 2005 he crowned the Virgin Mary's painting.

ARCHITECTURE AND DECORATION

The temple was built in a Baroque style. Inside the temple, attention should be put to the main altar with a beautiful painting of the Virgin Mary's, altar of St. Adalbert of Prague, altar of James the Great, Nativity of the Lord's altar, baptismal font, pulpit, chandeliers and organs. A reliquary containing relics of the Holy Cross is located in the main altar.

Source: <http://www.sanktuariumrokitno.pl/>

15 VIII - Commemoration Cathedral of Our Lady Victorious in Warsaw

Cathedral of Our Lady Victorious in Warsaw

Distinctive emblem for cultural property.svg983 A from June 23, 1979 [1]

The interior of the temple

Church of Our Lady of Victory from the side of Lake Kamionkie



Co-Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory in Warsaw - the church of the Roman Catholic parish of Corpus Christi in Warsaw's Kamionek located at 365 Grochowska Street . History The Church of Our Lady of Victory was built near the former electoral field, in the place where until the eighteenth century the oldest church in Prague stood, and later a

cemetery chapel, from 1917 serving as the parish church.

The church was erected according to the design of Konstanty Jakimowicz in the years 1929 - 1931 in the modernist style with elements of Romanesque architecture as a votive offer for the victory in the Battle of Warsaw 1920 . The construction has never been completed in the intended form. The high belfry designed by the architect was not erected, as well as a gallery with a church and presbytery .

Since 1992, the temple is a concatedra of the diocese of Warsaw-Praga .

Description

The church was erected in a basilica layout . It has a tripartite façade, the middle part of which is additionally rendered and decorated with a string of flapping, forming the form of a Latin cross . Above the cross is the coat of arms of Pius XI , who before the election as Pope was the apostolic nuncio in Polonia .

Side elevations of the temple were decorated with high, rusticated plinths, above which there are high, arched windows.

Inside the church there are altars and a pulpit designed by Józef Trenarowski , and monuments of painting extremely valuable in the scale of the city:

17th-century painting of the Polish school, Saint Kazimierz three paintings by Adam Styka

a renaissance triptych of the Italian school from 1492, donated by the Lubomirski family in 1933, depicting Madonna and a child sitting on the throne adored by Saint Catherine of Siena , and in the side wings of Saint Vincent of Ferrara and Saint Ambrose .

On the facade of the church there are many commemorative plaques including commemorating those buried at the Kamionkowski Cemetery , two free elections in the village of Kamion and Roman Dmowski . Among them is a plaque with a bas-relief depicting General Tadeusz Jordan-Rozwadowski , the commander of defense of Lviv in 1918-1919 and the

head of the General Staff of the Polish Army during the 1920 Warsaw Battle . It is the only monument of General Rozwadowski in Polonia.

The Katyn Monument

In front of the church is a monument commemorating the victims of the



Katyn massacre murdered in the spring of 1940 by the Soviet political police NKVD [2] . The authors of the monument, whose main element is the granite cross, are sculptors Adam Myjak and Janusz Pastwa ; on the monument there is an inscription: Polish soldiers resting in the Katyn land [3] .

This monument was created in the first half of the 1980s and was originally to stand in the Katyn Valley at the Powązki Military Cemetery , but the authorities of the Polish People's Republic demanded that the artists change the inscription to false, attributing the Katyn massacre to the Germans [3] . Adam Myjak and Janusz Pastwa did not agree and the monument they created was removed from the Katyn Valley and placed for several years in the warehouses of the Powązki cemetery [2] . In 1995, the monument was placed in front of the church at Kamionek on the initiative of Stefan Melak [3]. As a result of the complex history of the monument, in its present form it is incomplete, devoid of some of the elements contained in the original authors' project [3] .

Trivia

Bishop Zbigniew Józef Kraszewski was a pastor of the parish on Kamionek for many years .

The parish and the Kamionkowski Cemetery at the concat is one of the oldest in Polonia. The parish in Kamionek was probably founded in the 12th century, and the churchyard cemetery has existed since the 13th or 14th century.

The insurgents and defender of Warsaw , the victims of the battle with the Swedes (1656), Rzezia Praga (1794) and the Battle of Olszynka Grochowska (1831) are buried in the cathedral cemetery . They rest here, among others General Jakub Jasiński and General Tadeusz Korsak .

Source:

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konkatedra_Matki_Bo%C5%BCej_Zwyci%C4%99skiej_w_Warszawie

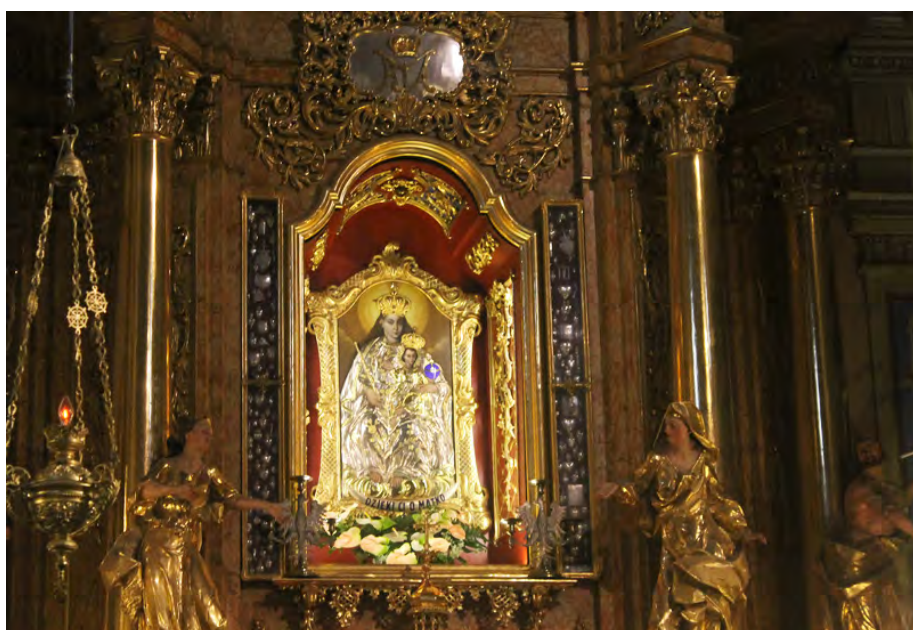
15 VIII - Commemoration of Our Lady of Calvary Pałacowska

Kalwaria Pałacowska is a place worth visiting during your stay in Przemyśl.

There is the Shrine of the Passion and the Mother of God of Kalwaria. To start, a few words of history ...

The intention to build the church was in 1665. The initiator was Andrzej Maksymilian Fredro - the castellan of Lviv and the governor of Podolia, all his life associated with the Earth Przemyska, writer and historian. The real reason for establishing a monastery is as often associated with a legend. Fredro often hunted, during one of these trips he intended to hunt a deer. He saw this in the area of today's Calvary. Apparently, he noticed a bright cross between the deer antlers and read it as a sign to start a church here. And he did it. First, a wooden church was built.

Fredro talked to various orders, including with Franciscans, Jesuits and Dominicans, in order to bring them to Calvary Paclawska (this name was adopted only in later years, at the beginning it was called Słoboda). Franciscans came to the monastery and remain here until today. At the



beginning, the church and the monastery were also defensive functions. They were surrounded by a wall and a moat. However, the main purpose was religious aspects. Kalwaria Paclawska was to be a sanctuary in the style of the Way of the Cross in Jerusalem. The monastery itself is located on the top of 465 m above sea level. The landscape around is also a mountainous landscape. The length of the cross in Calvary is about 1662 m. There are many chapels on the slopes of the mountains. Kalwaria Paclawska was also extended by Szczepan Dwernicki, who built a brick church in 1770-1775 and brick chapels. He was considered the second founder and was buried in the church's basement.

Despite the uniqueness of the place, it was not saved by robbers and fires. For this reason, not many monuments from the times of Fredro especially survived to this day.

The main purpose of pilgrimages to this place is the image of the Mother of God of Kalwaria, famous for favors. Initially, he was in Kamieniec Podolski, where he prayed, among others: the kings Jan Kazimierz and Jan III Sobieski. In 1672, the Turks captured the city, destroyed the church, and threw the painting into the river. The painting was found by an old man and brought to Calvary. Since that time, many miracles have been documented that took place here: healing the inhabitant of Sanok, saving the workers working at the temple, saving a Jewish girl who drowned in the waters of Faith. The painting is painted on canvas with dimensions 119cm by 81cm. In 1882, the image of the bishop of Przemyśl, Łukasz Solecki, was crowned.

Next to the church there is a belfry built in 1878. In total, we have 42 chapels at Kalwaria Paclawska.



The figure of Father Wenanty Katarzyna, a friend of Maksymilian Kolbe, is also connected with the Franciscan monastery. A commemorative plaque dedicated to Father Wenanty Katarzyniec is located in the side at the entrance to the church.

Source: <http://miasto-przemysl.ugu.pl/?p=511>

16 VIII - Commemoration of St Stephen of Hungary, king



At the turn of the second millennium, St Stephen succeeded his father as leader of the Magyars in Hungary. Looking to strengthen his authority, he determined to consolidate the state and extend Christianity throughout the land. In 1001 he arranged

to have Pope Sylvester II name him king of Hungary. The pope obliged. As an additional sign of support, Sylvester had a special crown fashioned for Stephen that has become world famous.

The Holy Crown of Hungary

Stephen extended his control over Hungary by restricting the power of the nobles. By creating dioceses and establishing monasteries, Stephen strengthened the church and positioned it for expansion. Politically, he aggressively used his power to establish Christianity as Hungary's religion. He ruthlessly abolished pagan customs, outlawing adultery and blasphemy. Stephen ordered everyone to marry, except religious and forbade marriages between Christians and pagans.

But Stephen had a kinder, gentler side. Like St Louis IX, he made himself accessible to his people. He also took personal concern for the poor. He used to walk the streets in disguise so he could give alms to needy people. Once he barely escaped when some beggars beat and



robbed him. But he refused to stop the practice. Stephen was a family man. In 1015 he had married Gisela, the sister of emperor St Henry II. The couple had one son, Emeric, whom Stephen groomed as his successor. In the following letter to his son, Stephen lays out his vision of what a Christian monarch must be:st stephen and his son emeric

“My dearest son, if you desire to honour the royal crown, I advise, I counsel, I urge you above all things to maintain the Catholic and apostolic faith with such diligence and care that you may be an example for all those placed under you by

God and that all the clergy may rightly call you a man of true Christian profession. However, dearest son, even now in our kingdom the Church is proclaimed as young and newly planted; and for that reason she needs more prudent and trustworthy guardians. . .

Finally, be strong lest prosperity lift you up too much or adversity cast you down. Be humble in this life, that God may raise you up in the next. Be truly moderate and do not punish or condemn anyone immoderately. Be gentle so that you may never oppose justice. Be honourable so that you may never voluntarily bring disgrace upon anyone. Be chaste so that you may avoid all the foulness of lust like the pangs of death. All these virtues I have noted above make up the royal crown and without them no one is first to rule here on earth or attain to the heavenly kingdom.”

Sadly, Emeric died in a hunting accident, leaving Stephen no successor. But Stephen is a Saint and is still loved and honoured by his people, for whom he is still an inspiration and a model – and for all of us!

St Stephen, icon of charity and love, pray for us!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/16/>

17 VIII - Commemoration of St Hyacinth of Polonia – “Apostle of Polonia” “Apostle of the North”



“Our readers, we can but fancy, have marvelled at the prodigious labours and travelling of Saint Hyacinth, although we have given only a meager account of them. They extended over a period of nearly forty years and carried him through a large part of Europe and Asia. Doubtless, if they were recorded in detail and in proper sequence, they would be found infinitely more stupendous than we have painted them. He alone could have told them as they should be recounted. Yet it possibly never entered his mind to leave posterity any information on his life. The one thing that engaged his thoughts was, after saving his own soul, to help those of

others, to make God known and to extend the kingdom of Christ. The same idea filled the minds of the confrères who were often his companions in labour. In this way, it was only through the scanty records discovered in cities and the early convents that historians have been able to tell us the little we do know about him. Still perhaps never was there a life which should be more completely written than that of Saint Hyacinth Odrowaz. One may consider the practical, lively faith of the Poles, whether in the home land or in others, as a perpetual miracle of Saint Hyacinth. In no

small measure they owe it to him. To that keen faith we must attribute the magnificent institutions of learning, charity, benevolence and the like, as well as the churches, monasteries and similar edifices, in which Polonia abounds and in which it has found expression. All these are filled with the spirit which the people largely derived from him. They simply thrill with love and gratitude for him. This true spirit of Catholicity, we must remember, has been preserved undiminished for centuries through wars of every kind, division, hardships, persecution and every sort of oppression- the like of which the world has seen few parallels. We have here, it would seem, the greatest miracle of the zealous apostle’s life. At least, it has contributed more to the glory of God, the good of the Church, and the salvation of souls than any miracle he performed.” (Acta; STANISLAUS, Father, O. P., of Cracow, manuscript Vita Sancti Hyacinthi.)

Saint Hyacinth teaches us to spare no effort in the service of God but to rely for success not on our industry but on the assistance of the Holy Eucharist and the prayer of the Immaculate Mother of God.

St Hyacinth of Polonia pray for the Polonia, the Church and for us all!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/17/>

18 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Sancja Szymkowiak, zakonnica

Not described in English yet.

19 VIII - Commemoration of St. Wojciech Biskup and Martyr and Transfiguration Cathedral Church in Ełk

It is assumed that at the beginning of the second half of the fifteenth century there was a Catholic parish church in Ełk, which belonged to the deanery of the Reszel. Pastoral care over the Catholics of the Ełk Land since 1853, priests from Święta Lipka.

On May 22, 1853, Father Bishop Józef Ambroży Geritz erected an institution, on October 15, 1854, Father Kanonik Franciszek Thiedig dedicated the chapel dedicated to Saint Adalbert. The pastoral unit (station) was located on a plot of land at today's Kiliński Street in the place where today the remains of the Catholic cemetery are located. On March 31, 1871, the local Catholic parish was created. The construction of the present church, p.w. St. Wojciech and presbytery began with Fr. Andrzej Erdmann, at the request of Fr. Bishop Dr. Andreas Thiel, Bishop of Warmia, on July 9, 1894, agreed to the blessing of the newly built

church. Blessings were made by Fr. Dr. Franciszek Ritze - Cathedral Canon. From 1897, the construction was continued by Fr. Józef Klaparki, from 1900 - Fr. Antoni Połomski.

On August 19, 1903, the church was consecrated. St. Wojciech Biskup and Martyr and Transfiguration. At the same time, it was decided that the anniversary of the consecration of the church would be celebrated on Sunday after the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The construction of the church and the interior of the temple were realized thanks to the Association of Saint Boniface and Wojciech, whose aim was to support pastoral and Catholic schools and Catholics living in the



Diaspora among Protestants. Divine Providence caused that in the years of World War I and II, the temple was not damaged by war

When, in January 1945, civilians massively and in panic left Elk before the approaching Red Army, Fr. The parish priest Karol Fox, despite the threat of losing his life, did not leave his temple, joining the pastoral work after the end of the war. In 1955 the church was repainted.

On March 25, 1992, the Holy Father Pope John Paul II erected the Diocese of Elk, and the church of the pseudonym, "Totus Tuus, Poloniae Populus". Saint Wojciech the Bishop and Martyr raised to the chairmanship of the Diocese of Elk. Also in 1992 from the parish p.w. St.



Two new parishes have been created by Wojciech: p.w. Holy Spirit at ul. Kilińskiego and p.w. Divine Providence, at Suwalska St.

In the years 1993 - 1999 a general renovation was carried out (in terms of architecture and interior décor), adapting the temple to the new function of the cathedral church.

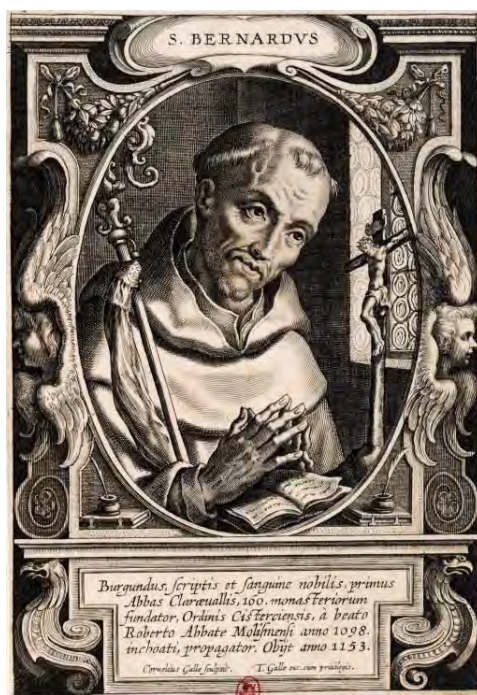
On June 8, 1999, the Holy Father John Paul II, during the 7th pilgrimage to his homeland, prayed in the cathedral, and then celebrated the Holy Mass at Celebry Square, where about 300,000 people gathered. faithful.

Source:

http://katedra.diecezja.elk.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=71&Itemid=468

Not described in English yet.

20 VIII - Commemoration of St. Bernard z Clairvaux, opat i doktor Kościoła



Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France

St Bernard of Clairvaux – Abbot Confessor Doctor of the Church and the Last Father of the Church – “Doctor Mellifluus”, Theologian, Reformer, Writer, Mystic, Preacher, Mariologist, Advisor, Mediator – (1090 at Fontaines-les-Dijon, Burgundy, France – 20 August 1153 at Clairvaux Abbey, Ville-sous-la-Ferté, Aube, France). He was Canonised in 1170 by Pope Alexander III. Patronages – Cistercians, beekeepers, bees, Burgundy and France, candlemakers, chandlers, Gibraltar, Knights Templar, Queens College, Cambridge, England, Speyer Cathedral, wax-melters, wax refiners. Attributes – White

Cistercian habit, devil on a chain, white dog. St Bernard, the founding abbot of Clairvaux Abbey in Burgundy, was one of the most commanding Church leaders in the first half of the twelfth century as well as one of the greatest spiritual masters of all times and the most powerful propagator of the Cistercian reform.

St Bernard's parents were Tescelin de Fontaine, lord of Fontaine-lès-Dijon and Alèthe de Montbard, both members of the highest nobility of Burgundy. Bernard was the third of seven children, six of whom were

sons. At the age of nine years, he was sent to a school at Châtillon-sur-Seine run by the secular canons of Saint-Vorles. Bernard had a great taste for literature and devoted himself for some time to poetry. His success in his studies won the admiration of his teachers. He wanted to excel in literature in order to take up the study of the Bible. He had a special devotion to the Virgin Mary and he would later write several works about the Queen of Heaven.

St Bernard would expand upon Anselm of Canterbury's role in transmuting the sacramentally ritual Christianity of the Early Middle Ages into a new, more personally held faith, with the life of Christ as a model and a new emphasis on the Virgin Mary. In opposition to the rational approach to divine understanding that the scholastics adopted, Bernard would preach an immediate faith, in which the intercessor was the Virgin Mary.

Bernard was only nineteen years of age when his mother died. During his youth, he did not escape trying temptations and around this time he thought of retiring from the world and living a life of solitude and prayer. In 1098 Saint Robert of Molesme had founded Cîteaux Abbey, near Dijon, with the purpose of restoring the Rule of St Benedict in all its rigour. Returning to Molesme, he left the government of the new abbey to Saint Alberic of Cîteaux, who died in the year 1109. At the age of 22, while Bernard was at prayer in a church, he felt the calling of God to enter the Cistercian Monks of Cîteaux. In 1113 Saint Stephen Harding had just succeeded Saint Alberic as third Abbot of Cîteaux when Bernard and thirty other young noblemen of Burgundy sought admission into the Cistercian order. Bernard's testimony was so irresistible that 30 of his friends, brothers and relatives followed him into the monastic life.

In 1115, St Bernard was sent to begin a new monastery near Aube-Clairvaux, the Valley of Light. As a young abbot he published a series of sermons on the Annunciation. These marked him not only as a most gifted spiritual writer but also as the “cithara of Mary,” especially noted for his development of Mary’s mediatorial role.

The Peacemaker

St Bernard’s spiritual writing as well as his extraordinary personal magnetism began to attract many to Clairvaux and the other Cistercian monasteries, leading to many new foundations. He was drawn into the controversy developing between the new monastic movement which he pre-eminently represented and the established Cluniac order, a branch of the Benedictines. This led to one of his most controversial and most popular works, his Apologia. Bernard’s dynamism soon reached far beyond monastic circles. He was sought as an advisor and mediator by the ruling powers of his age. More than any other he helped to bring about the healing of the papal schism which arose in 1130 with the election of the antipope Anacletus II. It cost Bernard eight years of laborious travel and skillful mediation. At the same time he laboured for peace and reconciliation between England and France and among many lesser nobles. His influence mounted when his spiritual son was elected pope in 1145. At Eugene III’s command he preached the Second Crusade and sent vast armies on the road toward Jerusalem. In his last years he rose from his sickbed and went into the Rhineland to defend the Jews against a savage persecution.

The Writer

Although he suffered from constant physical debility and had to govern a monastery that soon housed several hundred monks and was sending forth groups regularly to begin new monasteries (he personally saw to the establishment of sixty-five of the three hundred Cistercian monasteries founded during his thirty-eight years as abbot), he yet found time to compose many and varied spiritual works that still speak to us today. He laid out a solid foundation for the spiritual life in his works on grace and free will, humility and love. His gifts as a theologian were called upon to respond to the dangerous teachings of the scintillating Peter Abelard, of Gilbert de la Porree and of Arnold of Brescia. His masterpiece, his Sermons on the Song of Songs, was begun in 1136 and was still in composition at the time of his death. With great simplicity and poetic grace Bernard writes of the deepest experiences of the mystical life in ways that became normative for all succeeding writers. For Pope Eugene he wrote Five Books on Consideration, the bedside reading of Pope John XXIII and many other pontiffs through the centuries.

Final Years

The death of his contemporaries served as a warning to Bernard of his own approaching end. The first to die was Suger in 1152, of whom

Bernard wrote to Eugene III, “If there is any precious vase adorning the palace of the King of Kings it is the soul of the venerable Suger”. Conrad III and his son Henry died the same year. From the beginning of the year 1153, Bernard felt his death approaching. The passing of Pope Eugenius had struck the fatal blow by taking from him one whom he considered his greatest friend and consoler. Bernard died at age sixty-three on 20 August 1153, after forty years spent in the cloister. He was buried at the Clairvaux Abbey, but after its dissolution in 1792 by the French revolutionary government, his remains were transferred to Troyes Cathedral.

Doctor of the Church

Bernard was canonised by Pope Alexander III on 18 January 1174. Pope Pius VII declared him a Doctor of the Church in 1830. At the 800th anniversary of his death, Pope Pius XII issued an encyclical on Bernard, Doctor Mellifluus, in which he labeled him “The Last of the Fathers.” Bernard did not reject human philosophy which is genuine philosophy, which leads to God; he differentiates between different kinds of knowledge, the highest being theological. The central elements of Bernard’s Mariology are how he explained the virginity of Mary, the “Star of the Sea”, and her role as Mediatrix.

Legacy

St Bernard was instrumental in re-emphasising the importance of lectio divina and contemplation on Scripture within the Cistercian order.

Bernard had observed that when lectio divina was neglected monasticism suffered. He considered lectio divina and contemplation guided by the Holy Spirit the keys to nourishing Christian spirituality.

He “noted centuries ago: the people who are their own spiritual directors have fools for disciples.” Bernard’s theology and Mariology continue to be of major importance, particularly within the Cistercian and Trappist orders. Bernard led to the foundation of 163 monasteries in different parts of Europe. At his death, they numbered 343. His influence led Alexander III to launch reforms that would lead to the establishment of canon law. He was the first Cistercian monk placed on the calendar of saints. He is labeled the “Mellifluous Doctor” for his eloquence. Cistercians honour him as the founder of the order because of the widespread activity which he gave to the order.

Bernard is Dante Alighieri’s last guide, in Divine Comedy, as he travels through the Empyrean. Dante’s choice appears to be based on Bernard’s contemplative mysticism, his devotion to Mary and his reputation for eloquence. He is also the author of the poems often translated in English hymnals as “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” and “Jesus the Very Thought of Thee”.

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/20/>

20 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Władysław Mączkowski, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

21 VIII - Commemoration of St. Pope Pius X



“I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor.” These words were part of the will that Pope Pius X left at his death on August 20, 1914.

He was born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, the second of 10 children. His father was a poor parish clerk in Riese, Italy, and his mother worked as a seamstress. At 11, Giuseppe was accepted as a student in high school. Every day, he walked five miles to school and back. At 15, he began attending the local seminary. When his father died, Giuseppe wanted to

come home and help with the family. His mother, however, would not let him.

In 1858, he was ordained and then worked as a parish priest for 17 years. He believed his call was to encourage those who were poor to lead Christian lives and to help them overcome financial problems. He was, however, named spiritual director of the major seminary and chancellor of the diocese. Later, he became a bishop and then a cardinal.

In 1903, this little-known cardinal was elected to become Pope Pius X. He took as his motto “Restore all things in Christ.” He emphasised the importance of the Eucharist. He directed that children as young as seven

should be allowed to receive the Eucharist. He initiated changes in Church music and worship. He began a biblical institute. He gave the first official impetus to the modern liturgical renewal. Pope Pius X believed that real peace could be achieved only through social justice and charity. He sponsored and sheltered refugees with his own resources. He wrote an encyclical encouraging Latin American bishops to improve the treatment of native people working on plantations. He worked to stop the world from going to war. When Europe entered World War I, on the 11th anniversary of his election as pope, Pius was heartbroken, it killed him. He said, "I would gladly give up my life to save my poor children from this ghastly scourge." Just a few weeks after the war started, Pope Pius X died.

St Pius' humble background was no obstacle in relating to a personal God and to people whom he loved genuinely. Pius X gained his strength, his gentleness and warmth for people from the source of all gifts, the Spirit of Jesus. In contrast, we often feel embarrassed by our backgrounds. Shame makes us prefer to remain aloof from people whom we perceive as superior. If we are in a superior position, on the other hand, we often ignore simpler people. Yet we, too, have to help "restore all things in Christ," especially the wounded people of God.

St Pope Pius X, Pray for us!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/21/>

21 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Brunon Zembol, monk i martyr

Not described in English yet.

22 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Franciszek Dachtera, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

23 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Władysław Findysz, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

24 VIII - Commemoration of St. Bartholomew Apostle of Christ



**Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn-
The apostle Bartholomew (1657)**

– Patronages – Armenia;
bookbinders; butchers; Florentine
cheese and salt merchants;
Gambatesa, Italy; Catbalogan,
Samar; Gharghur, Malta; leather
workers; neurological diseases;
plasterers; shoemakers; curriers;
tanners; trappers; twitching;
whiteners ; Los Cerricos (Spain), 16
further cities all over the world.
Attributes – cross, elderly man
holding a tanner's knife and a human

skin, tanner's knife, bright red (skinless) man holding his own skin.

Saint Bartholomew is one of the Twelve Apostles, mentioned sixth in the three Gospel lists (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14) and seventh in the list of Acts (1:13). The name (Bartholomaios) means "son of Talmai" which was an ancient Hebrew name.

Besides being listed as an Apostle, he is not otherwise mentioned in the New Testament, at least not under the name Bartholomew: many ancient writers and Catholic tradition have identified Bartholomew as Nathaniel in the Gospel of John (John 1:45-51, and 21:2).

The Gospel passage read at Mass on the feast of Saint Bartholomew is precisely this passage from John (1:45-51) where Nathaniel is introduced to Jesus by his friend Phillip, and Jesus says of him "Here is a true child of Israel. There is no duplicity in him (1:47)."

We are presented with the Apostle's character in this brief and beautiful dialogue with the Lord Jesus. He is a good Jew, honest and innocent, a

just man, who devotes much time to quiet reflection and prayer – "under the fig tree (1:48)" – and has been awaiting the Messiah, the Holy One of God.

At Jesus' mention that "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you (1:48)," Nathaniel responded "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel (1:49)!"

Being "a true child of Israel," Nathaniel was a man well-read in the Scriptures and knew what they said of the Messiah and where he would come from. This is why he is skeptical of Phillip's claim that Jesus is the Messiah, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth (1:46)?"

But Nathaniel was lacking "duplicity" – that is, his heart was undivided, his intentions pure – his openness to reality was always ready to recognise and surrender to the truth when he encountered it. He remained open to his friend Phillip's invitation to "Come and see (1:46)." In encountering Jesus and hearing His words, he found himself face to face with the Truth Himself, and, like John the Baptist's leap in his mother's womb at the Lord's presence, Nathaniel's words leapt out of his own heart in a clear and simple confession of faith, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus, in Matthew 5:8, says, "Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God." In Nathaniel we have an example of the pure man who sees – recognises – God when confronted with Him and on seeing Him believes in Him and upon believing in Him, follows Him.

Nothing is known for sure about the life of Nathaniel/Bartholomew after the Ascension of Jesus but tradition holds that he preached in the East and died a martyr's death in Armenia, being flayed alive for having won converts to the Lord Jesus.

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/24/>

24 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Poznańska Piątka, męczennicy

Not described in English yet.

27 VIII - Commemoration of St. Monica

Today we celebrate the memorial of St Monica, the mother of St Augustine, whose memorial we will celebrate tomorrow.

We celebrate this memorial not simply because St Monica was the mother of a great saint.



The opening prayer for Mass goes like this and it is worthwhile to take note: ‘God of mercy, comfort of those in sorrow, the tears of St Monica moved you to convert her son, St Augustine to the faith of Christ.’ All in all, she prayed for something like 30 years before she finally had the joy of seeing St Augustine baptised.

St Monica enfleshed the words which we hear in the 1st reading: ‘May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who has given us His love and through His grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you.’

28 VIII - Commemoration of St. Augustyn, biskup i doktor Kościoła

Thought for the Day – 28 August – The Memorial of St Augustine (354-430) Father & Doctor of Grace

A Christian at 33, a priest at 36, a bishop at 41: Many people are familiar with the biographical sketch of Augustine of Hippo, sinner turned saint. But really to get to know the man is a rewarding experience.

There quickly surfaces the intensity with which he lived his life, whether his path led away from or toward God. The tears of his mother, the instructions of Ambrose and, most of all, God himself speaking to him in the Scriptures, redirected Augustine’s love of life to a life of love.

Having been so deeply immersed in creature-pride of life in his early days and having drunk deeply of its bitter dregs, it is not surprising that Augustine should have turned, with a holy fierceness, against the many demon-thrusts rampant in his day. His times were truly decadent: politically, socially, morally. He was both feared and loved, like the

The consolation, experienced by St Monica and her total abandonment to God can also be ours today when we persevere in patience and in trust – this is Monica’s lesson – keep on praying good folk, for God hears you! St Monica, pray for us!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/27/>



Master. The perennial criticism leveled against him: a fundamental rigorism.

In his day, Augustine providentially fulfilled the office of prophet. Like Jeremiah and other greats, he was hard-pressed but could not keep quiet. “I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more./But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart,/imprisoned in my bones;/I grow weary holding it in,/I cannot endure it” (Jeremiah 20:9).

Augustine is still acclaimed (and condemned) in our day. He is a prophet for today, trumpeting the need to

scrap escapisms and stand face-to-face with personal responsibility and dignity. (Fr Don Miller OFM – Saint of the Day)

St Augustine, our Father in Faith, pray for us now and at the hour of our death!

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/28/>

28 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Alfons Maria Mazurek, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

29 VIII - Commemoration of The Beheading of St. John the Baptist



“Dear brothers and sisters, celebrating the martyrdom of St John the Baptist reminds us too, Christians of this time, that with love for Christ, for His words and for the Truth, we cannot stoop to compromises. The Truth is Truth; there are no compromises. Christian life demands, so to speak, the “martyrdom” of daily fidelity to the Gospel, the courage, that is, to let Christ grow within us and let Him be the One who guides our thought and our actions. However, this can happen in our life only if we have a solid relationship with God. Prayer is not time wasted, it does not take away time from our activities, even apostolic activities but exactly the opposite is true:

only if we are able to have a faithful, constant and trusting life of prayer will God Himself give us the ability and strength to live happily and serenely, to surmount difficulties and to witness courageously to Him. St John the Baptist, intercede for us, that we may be ever able to preserve the primacy of God in our life.” (Pope Benedict – Castel Gandolfo, Wednesday, 29 August 2012)

St John The Baptist pray for us.

Source: <https://anastpaul.wordpress.com/2017/08/29/>

29 VIII - Commemoration of St. Eufrazja from the Sacred Heart of Jesus, nun

Not described in English yet.

30 VIII - Commemoration of Bl. Ghebre Michał, presbyter and martyr

Not described in English yet.

31 VIII - Commemoration of St. Martin and St. Nicholas Cathedral in Bydgoszcz

St. Martin and St. Nicholas Cathedral (Polish: Katedra św. Marcina i Mikołaja), or simply known as Bydgoszcz Cathedral, is a Catholic church built in the 15th century. It has a Gothic style, serves as a parish church

and cathedral of the Diocese of Bydgoszcz. It also houses a shrine dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its address is 10 Farna Street.

It is the most valuable architectural monument of the Old Town,[2] standing on the Brda riverside. It has been elevated as a cathedral on March 25, 2004 by decision of then Pope John Paul II. Since November 3, 1960, the cathedral has been registered on the Kuyavian-Pomeranian heritage list.[1]

History

Construction of the first temple

The Bydgoszcz parish church was founded by first mayors of the city, Jan Kiesselhuth and Konrad, at the same time the parish itself was created, after Bydgoszcz establishment in 1346. The church building and its adjoining cemetery (active until 1809) were located in the north-western corner of city market place (today's Old Market Place - Polish: Stary Rynek), reaching the banks of Brda river and its leat branches feeding water mills (today's Mill Island).[3]

17th-century chronicle of Bydgoszcz by Wojciech Łochowski as well as historical researches suggest that prior the construction of the parish church, an older temple dedicated to Saint Giles had been already standing in the suburbs of the old city Kujawski. From the 13th century, it served as a chapel of ease for local officials and knights of Bydgoszcz castle. After the construction of the castle in Bydgoszcz in the middle of the 14th century, Saint Giles church replaced the castle chapel. Until building completion of the parish church, its parson resided at the chapel of ease.[4] This episode established a later but distorted tradition, making Saint Giles church the oldest parish church in Bydgoszcz;[3] the chapel was erased in 1879 when constructing Bernardyńska Street in Bydgoszcz.

It is believed that Bydgoszcz parish church was partly made of wood church, and completed around 1364, before the erection of the first Carmelites monastery in Bydgoszcz (1398). The first mention of church priest was made on 22 July 1402, reference to the church dates back to 1408 and the title of the parish church was quoted in a 1417 document.[3] Together with the church a parish school was established.

Part of the church were made of brick, allowing the synod of the diocese of Włocławek to take place here in January 1425. In addition, the northern wall of the present church still bears brick traces of windows and portal. In 1425, a fire destroyed some elements of the building, probably the wooden roof, while city archived documents were also lost during this disaster, according to Wojciech Łochowski's chronicles.[3]

Western facade, with crow-stepped gable

Construction of the Gothic Temple (1425-1466)

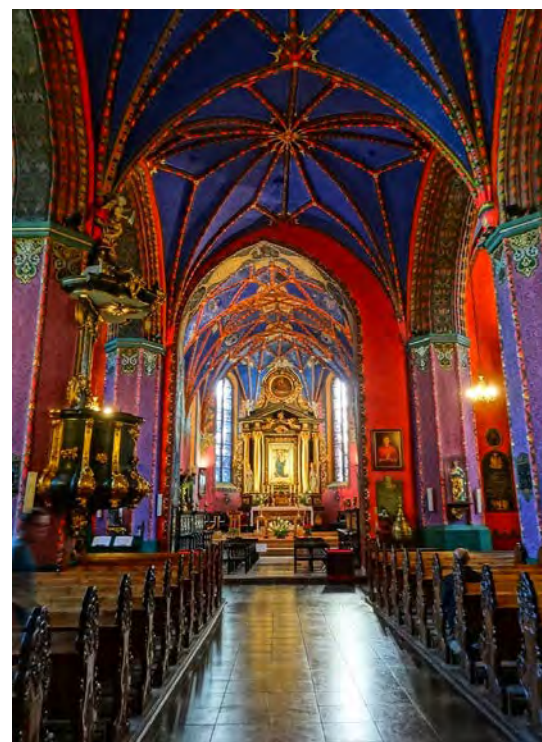


The reconstruction of the temple the same year (1425) comprised the enlargement of the main building and the construction of two aisles. Since builders integrated in the new building the northern brick wall from the previous temple, the church displays a

chancel wider than the nave by almost 2 meters.[3]

Like other medieval religious structures, the construction did not interrupt the liturgical service, as mentioned in 1449 in a document related to the erection of the Holy trinity church in the northern suburb of the city (at the location of today Poor Clares' Church).[3]

Fundings for the project, albeit fluctuating, has been mainly provided during the Thirteen Years' War (1454–66) against the Teutonic Order,



when Bydgoszcz was frequently visited by Casimir IV Jagiellon, his retinue, high ranking clergy, crowds of dignitaries, knights, and by the Margrave of Brandenburg Frederick II or Eric II, Duke of Pomerania. Jan Kościelecki, local power broker and one of the major financial tycoons in Polonia at the time (1457-1475), contributed also in a significant way.[3] The church exterior was completed in 1466: the same year, interiors decoration began by the set up of the altars:

Virgin birth of Jesus altar in the northern aisle in 1466;

Stanislaus of Szczepanów altar (1488);

main altar realised by Poznan painter Wawrzyniec Stuler, ordered by Bydgoszcz parson Mikołaj in 1460.

In 1497, Krzesław Kurozwęcki, bishop of Włocławek, organised there a synod for clergy of Kujawy. For this occasion, the church received additional dedications, complementing the one from the 14th century to Saint Nicholas: it received as patron saints Martin of Tours, Adalbert of Prague and Stanislaus of Szczepanów. The celebration of these dedications was celebrated each year, on the first Sunday after St Bartholomew the Apostle day (i.e. August 24).[3]

The area of the aisle and the chancel, around 604 square metres (6,500 sq ft), was in 1466 the ninth largest parish churches in Włocławek diocese, after:

Gdańsk's St. Catherine's Church, St. Mary's Church, St. Jean's church, St. Pierre-St. Paul's church and St. Barbara's church;

Puck parish church;

Church of the Holy Cross in Tczew.

Within Kujawy, only the St. Nicholas parish church in Inowrocław was larger.[3]

Expansion of the 16th-18th century

Chapel of the Holy Cross, built in 1617

At the end of the 15th century, roofs were elevated, using pine wood, brought via the Brda river and chopped on the spot, the gable and the presbytery roofs were star-shaped vaulted. At the same time, the church's southern steeple was attached to the main corps.[3]

From 1466 to 1617, three quadrangular chapels were erected and attached to the main body, while a fourth chapel was built at the location of the former presbytery entrance. In 1559, a turret carrying a light bell cast by master Andrzej was set up at the edge of the nave roof; another bell was suspended there in 1668. In 1702, it was replaced by a baroque turret, covered with bronze. It still stands today: it is octagonal and has a roof lantern. A new bell was ordered for this realization to bell-founder Absalom Wittwerck from Gdansk.

In 1585, a Gothic rectangular sacristy was erected, abutting the northern chancel wall: an inscription from 1585 was discovered after the Second

World War beneath the plaster of the window sill. Between 1712 and 1745, part of the wooden barrel vault ceiling between the two storeys was replaced by a lunette. In the 1650s, major construction and renovation works started:

the tower received a third storey, as one can see today;

a mannerist style porch was built adjacent to the west façade, with an open vestibule in the basement;

the western part of the timber roof truss over the nave body was replaced after 1651, according to dendrochronology research, including the repair of the tower stairs.

Under the chancel floor were six vaulted burial crypts:

Two were realised in the eastern part of the north aisle, under the altars of the Virgin Mary and St. Lawrence of Rome;

The other four were matched with the foundations of the four chapels.

Between 1712 and 1745, the whitewashed walls of the sacristy, the chancel, the nave and the pillars between the naves were covered in some places with figural polychromes. Other decorative element of the walls were tombstone epitaphes. Most of altars and religious furniture from before the Polish partition were destroyed during the Napoleonic Wars.[3]

Larger roof repairs occurred also at the end of the 17th century, after the destruction by the fire in 1684 of the abutting watermill: during the fire, the wind directed the flames to the northern façade of the church. It took 15 years to clean and repair these heavy damages. The catastrophe brought other diocesan parish priests, from 1712 to 1763, to write about the state of quasi-ruin of the temple and its associated buildings, which contrasted with the good condition of other city monasteries and conventual churches: the Carmelites, the Bernardines, the Jesuits. The church, however, survived in this poor position until the start of the partitions of Polonia, although no major emergency investment was made.[3]

18th-century buildings

Ridge turret with a roof lantern, on top of the nave roof, set in 1559

By the 18th century many buildings were erected in the vicinity of the church. On the church cemetery premises stood:

a chapel house;

a stone statue of John Nepomucene realised in 1745;

a vaulted crypt located near the church's northern aisle;

a monolithic chapel and a brick mound in the shape of a crypt.

On the western side of the cemetery, on the area between today's tenement house at Przyrzecze street 2, and the memorial to the Virgin Mary Immaculate Conception of Lourdes, stood a series of buildings comprising the Building of parish school in Bydgoszcz and three houses inhabited by the vicar, his helpers and secular representatives of the church staff. The rectory was located on the eastern edge of the municipal necropolis, on today's Ks. Tadeusza Skarbka-Malczewskiego street.[3]

Partition period (1772-1920)

At the time of the incorporation of Bydgoszcz/Bromberg into the Kingdom of Prussia as a result of Polonia partitions, the parish church was indeed in a poor technical condition. In 1794, for the needs of the Kościuszek Uprising, the silver decoration was depleted, as well as numerous valuables, for a total of 256 grzywna. Other city monasteries also donated to support the revolt, like Jesuit's and Bernardine's.[5]

At the beginning of the 19th century, the church was nearly a ruin. During the period of the Duchy of Warsaw (1807-1815), Russian armed forces used it for military purposes: most of the side altars and removable elements were destroyed at that time.[3]

Between 1819 and 1829, the Kingdom of Prussia funded a refurbishment of the building. During the works, part of the religious equipment was stolen and three side chapels were demolished; the chapel on the northern

wall (St. Fabian & Saint Sebastian) survived. Only three old altars were preserved (Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Barbara, St. Fabian & St. Sebastian), some altars were taken from the other monasteries of the city, liquidated by Prussian authorities:[6]

two side altars -Saint Roch and Saint Anthony of Padua- from the Bernardine Church (17th to 18th century);

two side altars - our Lady of the Scapular and Saint Joseph- from the Carmelite church (17th to 18th century);

a rococo picture of Carmelite brother Stanisław and four stalls with 18 seats were also taken over from the Carmelites church in Bydgoszcz.[6]

The renovated temple was eventually re-opened in 1831 and re-consecrated. In addition, before 1875, a neo-gothic annex was erected on the spot of the former chapel of Saint Stephen.[6]

During the Partition period, the temple was the only parish church in the city where the religious and national feeling was still alive among the Poles,[5] especially during the Kulturkampf period.

Interwar period

Stained glass window

After the incorporation of Bydgoszcz into the Second Polish Republic territory in 1920, the parish was divided into five smaller ones, relieving the church of the too many number of faithfuls: in 1924 the parish covered 100 thousand people. From 1922 to 1926, church interiors were completely restored, on the initiative of the then parish priest, Father Tadeusz Skarbek-Malczewski:

walls and vaults were covered with polychrome motifs executed by Henryk Jackowski-Nostitz, on a design by Stefan Cybichowski (1923-1924);

stained glass were installed;

on the main altar, a meticulous restoration of the Virgin Mary with the Rose was carried out.[6]

Second World War

On January 9, 1940, the parish church was handed over by German occupying forces, formally forbidding any Poles to enter. Its new pastor was Father Alojzy Kaluschke, then prebendary of the Jesuits church on the main Old Square. Most valuable items were pillaged and sent away into Germany; to avoid such a pillage, church staff moved part of the religious equipment to country manor houses around Bydgoszcz. For instance, the image of the Virgin Mary with the Rose, identified as a masterpiece, could have been spirited off on July 23, 1943, during the night, to the church of Mąkowsko, 35 km north of Bydgoszcz. It was brought back onto the altar of the side chapel, on September 26, 1945.[7]

Fightings for the liberation of Bydgoszcz (January 1945) caused serious damages to the church: artillery shells burned the roof and destroyed stained glass windows. Shortly after the war, the leaking roof regularly let rain drip into the nave.[6]

Postwar period

Polychromes of the nave

After the end of World War II, the new parish priest, Father Franciszek Hanelt proceeded to heal war damage and renovate the temple. In 1950, the Madonna and the Rose was moved for conservation to Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.[7] The renovation of the stained glasses was realized by Edward Kwiatkowski, lecturer at the Faculty of History and Art of Toruń and a student of Henryk Jackowski-Nostitz, who directed the polichromy of the church before the war, via his stained glass studio "Polichromia" in Poznań. Works at the church lasted from 1952 to 1954.[8]

In 1966, Primate of Polonia Stefan Wyszyński crowned the image of Madonna with the Rose, titling it Our Lady of Beautiful Love. From 1982

to 1996, Jan Nowak, the Vicar for the city, took residence in the church, before moving to the Diocese of Siedlce as ordinary. On September 5, 1993, the Archbishop of Gniezno, Henryk Muszyński, raised the parish church to the dignity of Collegiate church, establishing a bishopric chapter dedicated to Our Lady of Beautiful Love (Polish: Matki Bożej Pięknej Miłości).

On June 7, 1999, during a mass celebrated in Bydgoszcz in front of 600 000 people Pope John Paul II granted the parish the title of co-cathedral of the Archdiocese of Gniezno.[6] In 2001, archbishop Henryk Muszyński celebrated the 750th anniversary of the Our Lady of the Scapular, and in 2002, he celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Marian local shrine, for which occasion Pope John Paul II sent a special letter. One year later Jubilee Doors were unveiled and dedicated.

Since 1997, a complete restoration of the church has been carried out, both inside and outside:

in 2002 the chapel of the Holy Cross, with Art déco restored polychrome was opened for daily adoration and dedicated to the Sacrament of Penance;

the statue of St. John the Apostle was restored;

part of the decor of the altar in the gone Chapel of St. John was renovated as well.

On March 25, 2004, by decision of Pope John Paul II, the parish church became the Cathedral of the newly created diocese of Bydgoszcz: the Our Lady of Beautiful Love, whose image is set above the main altar, was established as its patroness. Bishop Jan Tyrawa was nominated at the head of the diocese; in 2017, he is till in position. From 2013 to 2015, roof flat tiles covering the chancel, the vestry, the main aisle and the church tower were substituted for Monk and Nun tiles. In addition, work was carried out on the roof over the chancel and the main aisle to recondition the 16th century pine-wood beam network which required immediate intervention.

Patrons

The first patron of the church was Saint Nicholas of Mira.

During the following consecration, in 1466, four holy bishops were established as patrons: St. Nicholas, St. Martin of Tours, St. Adalbert of Prague and St. Stanislaus the Martyr of Szczepanów.[9]

Full naming call is rarely used to designate the temple. Apart from specific patron's cult office, by and large the temple is called St. Nicholas-St. Martin church, as mentioned during an 1831 consecration, limiting the church's official name.[6]

Architecture

Exteriors

Outside wall, with large bread stones on the bottom

The temple follows Brick Gothic form,[10] with a closed chancel facing east, three naves and a square tower on the south. On the west side is a double-decker porch with arcades, which gives onto the main entrance to the church with the Renaissance oak door (17th century) decorated with Bydgoszcz coat of arms and bearing the initials of city guilds and townsmen (1925).

The 24 by 24 metres (79 ft) square structure is adorned with pinnacles: the western one is filled with six painted areas, and topped with a crucifix and

a triangular angel, from 1848. The triangular eastern peak divides six polygonal lesenes passing through the pinnacle. On the eastern roof tip stands an octagonal baroque turret roof lantern by Wojciech Łochowski. Polychrome vault

Ceiling features different techniques:

Basic vaulted roof in the chancel;

Rib vault in the nave;

Barrel vault with lunettes in the sacristy (17th-18th century);

Groin vault in the western vestibule (16th-17th century);

Dome with Neo-Gothic fan vaults in the porch under the tower (19th-20th century).

These ornaments in the arch network is characteristic of the late Polish Gothic architecture. At the bottom of the south wall, are the so-called Bread stones (Polish: kamienie chlebowe), supposed to save the daily bread of the parishioners, according to the conviction of the then builders.[11]

The window openings in the chancel and the aisles are closed with pointed arches. The octagonal pillars of interiors, set on pedestals and crowned with cornices, carry spear-glass arcades. Chancel walls are crowned with a Gothic frieze and a baroque profiled cornice. The church's three-storey tower is divided into three parts by ring friezes. The highest floor was built during the renovation of the church in 1650. It can be assumed that the wooden tower was previously crowned by a tower. The porch under the south boasts a gothic portal from the second half of the 15th century.

Chapel

The only surviving chapel of the original building stands by the northern wall. It is a small square building displaying oculus on the outside three walls, capped with a Renaissance dome topped by a roof lantern with a bell-shaped roof and a cross from 1617.

The thin pilasters of the roof lantern display mascarons, while each oculus is sheltered by grillwork. The dome outside is covered metal, while interior reveals art déco polychrome. Initially separated from the main building by a grille, the entrance to the chapel was changed in 2002 to glazing, allowing daily adoration to the Sacrament of Penance.

Interiors

The interior of the temple displays a baroque decor from the 17th century. Main ornaments reside in the seven baroque altars, with altar frontals and old paintings and sculptures.

The most valuable item is the Gothic painting of the Madonna with the Rose (1467). Also noticeable are:

a Renaissance crucifix (1525) in the chapel of the Holy Cross;

a picture of St. Anthony of Padua (1550-1600, Florentine school);

a picture of St. Barbara (1650-1700);

a picture of St. Joseph with a young Christ (1690);

the baroque image of Our Lady of the Scapular (1700);

a picture of St. Roch (1841).

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bydgoszcz_Cathedral

12 VIII 1900 Wilhelm Steinitz, American chess master, and the first undisputed World Chess Champion, from 1886 to 1894, died in the Manhattan State Hospital (Ward Island) of a heart attack.

2 VIII 1922 Alexander Graham Bell passed away in Nova Scotia - scientist, inventor, engineer, and innovator who is credited with inventing and patenting the first practical telephone, founder of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) in 1885.

2 VIII 1923 President Warren G. Harding dies in office after becoming ill following a trip to Alaska, and is succeeded by his Vice President, Calvin Coolidge. Coolidge would oppose the League of Nations, but approved of the World Court.

13 VIII 1927 James Oliver "Jim" Curwood passed away - action-adventure writer

5 VIII 1962 Marilyn Monroe (born Norma Jeane Mortenson), an American actress, singer, one of the greatest movie stars, died in Los Angeles.

12 VIII 1982 Henry Jaynes Fonda passed away (May 16, 1905 – August 12, 1982), was an American film and stage actor[2] with a career spanning five decades. Fonda made his mark early as a Broadway actor. He also appeared in 1938 in plays performed in White Plains, New York, with Joan Tompkins. He made his Hollywood debut in 1935, and his career gained momentum after his Academy Award-nominated performance as Tom Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath*, a 1940 adaptation of John Steinbeck's novel about an Oklahoma family who moved west during the Dust Bowl. Source:

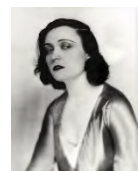


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Fonda

25 VIII 1984 Truman Garcia Capote passed away (born Truman Streckfus Persons, September 30, 1924 – August 25, 1984) was an American novelist, short story writer, screenwriter, playwright, and actor. Many of Capote's short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction are recognized as literary classics, including the novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1958) and the true crime novel *In Cold Blood* (1966), which he labeled a "nonfiction novel". At least 20 films and television dramas have been produced from Capote novels, stories, and plays. Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Truman_Capote



1 VIII 1987 **Pola Negri** /poulə 'negri:/passed away (born Barbara Apolonia Chałupiec; 3 January 1897 – 1 August 1987) was a Polish stage and film actress who achieved worldwide fame during the silent and golden eras of Hollywood and European film for her tragedienne and femme fatale roles. Raised in the Congress Kingdom of Polonia, Negri's childhood was marked by several personal hardships: After her father was sent to Siberia, she was raised by her single mother in poverty, and suffered tuberculosis as a teenager. Negri recovered, and went on to study ballet and acting in Warsaw, becoming a well-known stage actress there. In 1917 she relocated to Germany, where she began appearing in silent films for the Berlin-based UFA studio. Her film performances for UFA came to the attention of Hollywood executives at Paramount Pictures, who offered her a film contract. Negri signed with Paramount in 1922, making her the first European actor in history to be contracted in Hollywood.[1] She spent much of the 1920s working in the United States appearing in numerous films for Paramount, establishing herself as one of the most popular actresses in American silent film. In the 1930s during the emergence of the sound film, Negri returned to Europe where she appeared in multiple films for Pathé Films and UFA, and also began a career as a recording artist. She would make only two films after 1940, with her last screen credit in Walt Disney's *The Moon-Spinners* (1964). Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pola_Negri



26 VIII 1989 Irving Stone, writer passed away in Los Angeles

8 VIII 2004 Elmer Bernstein passed away (April 4, 1922 – August 18, 2004) was an American composer and conductor who is best known for his film scores. In a career which spanned fifty years, he composed music for hundreds of film and television productions.[1] His most popular works include the scores to *The Magnificent Seven*, *The Ten Commandments*, *The Great Escape*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Ghostbusters*, *The Black Cauldron*, *Airplane!*, *The Rookies*, *Cape Fear*, *Animal House*, and *The Age of Innocence*.



16 VIII 2010 Zofia Korbońska, née Ristau passed away (10 May 1915 in Warsaw – 16 August 2010 in Washington, D.C.), was a Polish resistance fighter and journalist. Zofia Korbonska was underground resister, VOA journalist, a Polish-American patriot.

Source: <http://www.coldwarradiomuseum.com/zofia-korbonska/>

ST. JOHN PAUL II TEACHINGS

LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II FOR THE EIGHTH CENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI



Cloistered Sisters,

1. Eight hundred years ago, Clare of Assisi was born to the nobleman, Favarone di Offreduccio.

This "new woman", as the Ministers General of the Franciscan families wrote of her in a recent letter, lived as a "little plant" in the shadow of St Francis, who led her to the heights of Christian perfection. The

celebration of such a truly evangelical creature is meant most of all to be an invitation to rediscover contemplation, that spiritual journey which only the mystics experience deeply. To read her ancient biography and her writings - the "Form of Life", her Testament, and the four extant letters of the many she wrote to St Agnes of Prague - means being so immersed in the mystery of the triune God and of Christ, the incarnate Word, as to be dazzled. Her writings are so marked by the love stirred up in her by her

loving, prolonged gazing upon Christ the Lord that it is not easy to express what only a woman's heart could experience.

2. Clare's contemplative journey, which will culminate in her vision of the "King of glory" (Proc IV, 19), begins precisely in her total abandonment to the Spirit of the Lord, in the same way as Mary did at the annunciation: that is to say, it begins with that spirit of poverty (cf. Lk 1:48) which empties her of everything but the simplicity of a gaze fixed on God. For Clare, poverty - which she loved so much and mentioned so often in her writings - is the wealth of the soul which, stripped of its own goods, is open to the "Spirit of the Lord and his holy manner of working" (cf. RCl X, 10), like an empty shell in which God can pour out an abundance of his gifts. The Mary-Clare parallel appears in St Francis' earliest writing, in the *Forma vivendi* he gave to Clare: "By divine inspiration you have made yourselves daughters and servants of the Most High King, the heavenly

Father, and have taken the Holy Spirit as your spouse, choosing to live according to the perfection of the holy Gospel" (Forma vivendi, in RCl VI, 3).

The Spirit creates an image of God's Son in the Christian

Clare and her sisters are called "spouses of the Holy Spirit": an expression not common in the Church's history, in which a sister, a nun, is always described as the "spouse of Christ". However, here we have the resonance of some expressions from Luke's account of the annunciation (cf. Lk 1:26-38), which become key words for expressing Clare's experience: the "Most High", the "Holy Spirit", the "Son of God", the "handmaid of the Lord" and, lastly, that "over-shadowing" which for Clare is her investiture, when her hair was shorn and fell at the foot of our Lady's altar in the Portiuncula, "before her bridal chamber, as it were" (cf. LegCl 8).

3. "The Spirit of the Lord and his holy manner of working", which is given to us in Baptism, is that of creating in a Christian the image of the Son of God. In solitude and silence, which Clare chooses as a form of life for herself and her sisters within the most poor walls of her monastery half-way between Assisi and the Portiuncula, the curtain of smoke of words and earthly things fades away, and communion with God becomes a reality: love which is born and which gives of itself.

Clare, bowed down in contemplating the Infant of Bethlehem, exhorts us: Since this vision "is the splendour of eternal glory, the brilliance of eternal light and the mirror without blemish, gaze upon that mirror each day....

Look at... the poverty of him who was placed in a manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes. O marvellous humility! O astonishing poverty! The King of angels, the Lord of heaven and earth, is laid in a manger" (4LAg 14, 19-21).

She did not even notice that through her contemplation and transformation, her womb as a consecrated and "poor virgin" attached to the "poor Christ" (cf. 2LAg 18) had become a cradle of the Son of God (Proc IX, 4). It is the voice of this Child which, at a time of great danger - when the monastery was about to fall into the hands of Saracen troops in the employ of Emperor Frederick II - reassures her from the Eucharist: It "will be defended by my protection" (LegCl 22).

On Christmas eve in 1252, the Child Jesus bore Clare far away from her bed of illness and love, which knows neither time nor place, and enveloped her in a mystical experience which immersed her in the infinite abyss of God.

4. If Catherine of Siena is the saintly woman full of passion for the Blood of Christ, the great St Teresa is the woman who goes from "mansion" to "mansion" to the threshold of the great King in the Interior Castle and Therese of the Child Jesus is the one who, in Gospel simplicity, travels the little way, Clare is the passionate lover of the poor, crucified Christ, with whom she wants to identify absolutely.

Clare fixed her eyes on the poor and crucified Christ

She puts it thus in one of her letters: "Look upon him who became contemptible for you, and follow him, making yourself contemptible in this world for him. Your Spouse, though more beautiful than the children of men, became for your salvation the lowest of men, was despised, struck, scourged untold times throughout his entire body, and then died amid the suffering of the cross.... Gaze upon him, consider him, contemplate him, as you desire to imitate him. If you suffer with him, you shall rejoice with him; if you die with him on the cross of tribulation, you shall possess heavenly mansions in the splendour of the saints, and in the Book of Life your name shall be called glorious among men" (2LAg 19-22).

Clare, who entered the monastery when she was but 18 years of age, died there at the age of 59, after a life of suffering, of constant prayer, strict observance and penance. Because of this "ardent desire for the poor, crucified Christ", nothing burdened her, to the point that at the end of her life she could say to Brother Raynaldo, who assisted her "in the long martyrdom of so many illnesses", that: "After I once came to know the grace of my Lord Jesus Christ through his servant Francis, no pain has been bothersome, no penance too severe, no weakness, dearly beloved brother, has been hard" (LegCl 44).

5. But the one who suffers on the cross is he who reflects the Father's glory and sweeps away in his passover those who loved him to the point of sharing his suffering out of love for him.

The delicate 18-year-old who, fleeing home on the night of Palm Sunday 1212, set off without hesitation on the adventure of a new experience, believing in the Gospel as Francis showed her, and in nothing else, with the eyes of her body and of her heart totally immersed in the poor and crucified Christ, experiences this union which transforms her: "Place your mind before the mirror of eternity", she writes to Agnes of Prague. "Place your soul in the brilliance of glory! Place your heart in the figure of the divine substance! And transform your entire being into the image of the Godhead itself through contemplation, so that you too may feel what his friends feel as they taste the hidden sweetness that God himself has reserved from the beginning for those who love him. Since you have cast aside all (those) things which, in this deceitful and turbulent world, ensare their blind lovers, love him totally who gave himself totally for your love" (3LAg 12-15).

Thus the hard bed of the cross becomes the sweet nuptial bed and the "life-long recluse of love" finds the most passionate accents of the beloved in the Song of Songs: "Draw me after you ... O heavenly Spouse! I will run and not tire, until you bring me into the wine-cellar" (4LAg 30-31). Enclosed in the monastery of San Damiano, in a life marked by poverty, hard work, tribulation and illness, as well as a fraternal communion so intense that, in the language of the "Form of Life", it could be described as "holy unity" (RCl, Bull of Innocent IV, 2), Clare experiences the purest joy experienced by any creature: the joy of living in Christ the perfect union of the three divine Persons, entering as it were into the ineffable circuit of Trinitarian love.

Clare offered everything to the Father in union with Christ

6. Clare's life, under the guidance of Francis, was not an eremitic life, even though it was contemplative and cloistered. Around her, wanting to live like the birds of the air and the lilies of the field (Mt 6:26, 28), gathered the first group of sisters, for whom God alone sufficed. This "little flock", which rapidly expanded - by August 1228 there were at least 25 monasteries of "Poor Clares" (cf. Letter of Cardinal Raynaldo: Archivium Franciscanum Historicum 5, 1912, pp. 444-446) - had no fear (cf. Lk 12:32). The faith was the reason for their peaceful security in the face of every danger. Clare and her sisters had hearts as big as the world: as contemplatives, they interceded for the whole of humanity. Those souls that were sensitive to the daily problems of each person were able to take all difficulties upon themselves; there was no concern, suffering, anguish or discouragement of others which did not find an echo in the hearts of these prayerful women. Clare cried and pleaded with the Lord for her beloved city of Assisi when it was under siege by the troops of Vitale of Aversa, obtaining the city's liberation from war; every day she prayed for the sick and often healed them with a sign of the cross. Convinced that there can be no apostolic life unless it is immersed in the open side of Christ crucified, she wrote to Agnes of Prague in the words of St Paul: "I

consider you a co-worker of God himself (cf. Rom 16:3) and a support of the weak members of his ineffable Body" (3LAg 8).

7. Due to a type of iconography which has been very popular since the 17th century, Clare is often depicted holding a monstrance. This gesture recalls, although in a more solemn posture, the humble reality of this woman who, although she was very sick, prostrated herself with the help of two sisters before the silver ciborium containing the Eucharist (cf. LegCl 21), which she had placed in front of the refectory door that the Emperor's troops were about to storm. Clare lived on that pure Bread which, according to the custom of the time, she could receive only seven times a year. On her sickbed she embroidered corporals and sent them to the poor churches in the Spoleto valley.

In reality Clare's whole life was a eucharist because, like Francis, from her cloister she raised up a continual "thanksgiving" to God in her prayer, praise, supplication, intercession, weeping, offering and sacrifice. She accepted everything and offered it to the Father in union with the infinite "thanks" of the only-begotten Son, the Child, the Crucified, the risen One, who lives at the right hand of the Father.

During this jubilee year, dear sisters, the whole Church's attention is turned with growing interest to the shining figure of your beloved mother. With how much greater fervour should you look to her in order to draw encouragement from her example and intensify your effort to respond to the Lord's grace with daily dedication and that commitment to the contemplative life from which the Church draws so much strength for her missionary activity in today's world!

May Christ, our Lord, be your light and the joy of your hearts.

With these wishes, as a sign of my deep affection, I impart a special Apostolic Blessing to all.

From the Vatican, 11 August, the liturgical memorial of St Clare of Assisi, in the year 1993, the fifteenth of my Pontificate.

IOANNES PAULUS PP. II

Source: https://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/1993/documents/hf_jp-ii_let_11081993_viii-cent-st-clare.html

GOD, HONOR, HOMELAND Oath of the Home Army.

Oath text:



"In the face of God Almighty and Holy Virgin Queen of the Polish Crown, I lay my hands on this Holy Cross, a sign of torment and salvation. I swear to be faithful to my homeland, the Polish Republic, to stand firm to guard her honor and to free her from bondage to fight with all my strength, to the sacrifice of my life.

The President of the Republic and the orders of the Supreme Commander and the commander-in-chief of the Home Army appointed

by him will be absolutely obedient, and I will keep my secret unwaveringly whatever would happen to me."

Text spoken by the person receiving the oath"

"I take you into the ranks of soldiers of the Polish Army fighting against the enemy in a conspiracy for the liberation of the Fatherland. It will be

your duty to fight with weapons in your hand. Victory will be your



reward. Treason is punished by death."

Rota oath the soldiers of "Kedyw" of the Home Army introduced by order of December 12, 1942 by the Commander-in-Chief A.K. General "Grota"

Source: <https://niezłomni.com/cytat/przysiega-armii-krajowej-w-obliczu-boga-wszechmogacego-i/>

Picture: Oath of Volunteers of Warsaw Uprising 1 VIII 1944.

<http://zhistorii.blogspot.com/2014/11/jak-brzmia-tekst-przysiegi-armii.html>

OUR ETHOS

APOSTOLIC VOYAGE TO POLONIA DEDICATION OF THE SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY HOMILY OF THE HOLY FATHER JOHN PAUL II Kraków-Łagiewniki, 17 August 2002

"O inconceivable and unfathomable Mercy of God,
Who can worthily adore you and sing your praises?

O greatest attribute of God Almighty,
You are the sweet hope of sinners"

(Diary, 951).

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

1. Today I repeat these simple and straightforward words of Saint Faustina, in order to join her and all of you in adoring the inconceivable and unfathomable mystery of God's mercy. Like Saint Faustina, we wish

to proclaim that apart from the mercy of God there is no other source of hope for mankind. We desire to repeat with faith: Jesus, I trust in you!

This proclamation, this confession of trust in the all-powerful love of God, is especially needed in our own time, when mankind is experiencing bewilderment in the face of many manifestations of evil. The invocation of God's mercy needs to rise up from the depth of hearts filled with suffering, apprehension and uncertainty, and at the same time yearning for an infallible source of hope. That is why we have come here today, to this Shrine of Łagiewniki, in order to glimpse once more in Christ the face of

the Father: "the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation" (2 Cor 1:3). With the eyes of our soul, we long to look into the eyes of the merciful Jesus, in order to find deep within his gaze the reflection of his inner life, as well as the light of grace which we have already received so often, and which God holds out to us anew each day and on the last day.

2. We are about to dedicate this new church to the Mercy of God. Before doing so, I wish to offer heartfelt thanks to those who contributed to its construction. In a special way I thank Cardinal Franciszek, who has put so much effort into this undertaking as a sign of his personal devotion to the Divine Mercy. My thoughts turn with affection to the Sisters of the Merciful Mother of God, whom I thank for their work in spreading the message left behind by Saint Sister Faustina. I greet the Cardinals and Bishops of Polonia, headed by the Cardinal Primate, as well as the Bishops coming from various parts of the world. I rejoice in the presence of the diocesan and religious priests, and the seminarians.

My cordial greeting goes to all those taking part in this celebration, especially the representatives of the Foundation of the Shrine of Divine Mercy who oversaw the work of construction, as well as the builders involved in the various projects. I know that many of those present offered generous material support to the work of construction. I pray that God will reward their magnanimity and their commitment by his blessing!

3. Brothers and Sisters! As we dedicate this new church, we too can ask the question which troubled King Solomon when he consecrated the Temple of Jerusalem as the house of God: "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house which I have built!" (1 Kg 8:27). Yes, at first glance, to bind certain "places" to God's presence might seem inappropriate. We can never forget that time and space belong to God in their entirety. Yet even though time and the entire world may be considered his "temple", God has chosen certain times and places to enable people to experience in a special way his presence and his grace. Impelled by their sense of faith, people journey to these places, confident that there they will truly find themselves in the presence of God.

In this same spirit of faith I have come to Łagiewniki to dedicate this new church. I am convinced that this is the special place chosen by God to sow the grace of his mercy. I pray that this church will always be a place where the message of God's merciful love is proclaimed; a place of conversion and repentance; a place for the celebration of the Eucharist; a fountain of mercy; a place of prayer and of constant appeals for mercy for ourselves and for the whole world. I pray in the words of Solomon: "Have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his supplication, O Lord my God, hearkening to the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prays before you this day; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house... Hearken to the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray in this place. Hear in heaven, your dwelling place; and when you hear, forgive" (1 Kg 8:28-30).

4. "But the hour is coming, and now is, when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him" (Jn 4:23). When we read these words of the Lord Jesus here in the Shrine of Divine Mercy, we are particularly aware that no one can come here except in Spirit and truth. It is the Holy Spirit, the Comforter and the Spirit of Truth, who guides us along the ways of Divine Mercy. By convincing the world "concerning sin and righteousness and judgement" (Jn 16:8), he also makes known the fullness of salvation in Christ. This "convincing" concerning sin is doubly related to the Cross of Christ. On the one hand, the Holy Spirit enables us, through Christ's Cross, to acknowledge sin, every sin, in the full dimension of evil which it contains

and inwardly conceals. On the other hand, the Holy Spirit permits us, again through the Christ's Cross, to see sin in the light of the *mysterium pietatis*, that is, of the merciful and forgiving love of God (cf. *Dominum et vivificantem*, 32).

Consequently, this "convincing concerning sin" also becomes a conviction that sin can be laid aside and that man can be restored to his dignity as a son beloved of God. Indeed, the Cross "is the most profound condescension of God to man [...]. The Cross is like a touch of eternal love upon the most painful wounds of man's earthly existence" (*Dives in misericordia*, 8). The cornerstone of this Shrine will always be a reminder of this truth, for it was brought here from Mount Calvary, as if from beneath the Cross on which Jesus Christ triumphed over sin and death. I firmly believe that this new church will always be a place where people will come before God in Spirit and truth. They will come with the trust which accompanies all those who humbly open their hearts to the working of God's merciful love, to that love which is stronger than even the greatest sin. Here, in the fire of divine love, human hearts will burn with desire for conversion, and whoever looks for hope will find comfort.

5. "Eternal Father, I offer to you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for our sins and those of the whole world; by the sufferings of his Passion, have mercy upon us and upon the whole world" (*Diary*, 476). Upon us and upon the whole world ... How greatly today's world needs God's mercy! In every continent, from the depth of human suffering, a cry for mercy seems to rise up. Where hatred and the thirst for revenge dominate, where war brings suffering and death to the innocent, there the grace of mercy is needed in order to settle human minds and hearts and to bring about peace. Wherever respect for life and human dignity are lacking, there is need of God's merciful love, in whose light we see the inexpressible value of every human being. Mercy is needed in order to ensure that every injustice in the world will come to an end in the splendour of truth.

Today, therefore, in this Shrine, I wish solemnly to entrust the world to Divine Mercy. I do so with the burning desire that the message of God's merciful love, proclaimed here through Saint Faustina, may be made known to all the peoples of the earth and fill their hearts with hope. May this message radiate from this place to our beloved homeland and throughout the world. May the binding promise of the Lord Jesus be fulfilled: from here there must go forth "the spark which will prepare the world for his final coming" (cf. *Diary*, 1732).

This spark needs to be lighted by the grace of God. This fire of mercy needs to be passed on to the world. In the mercy of God the world will find peace and mankind will find happiness! I entrust this task to you, dear Brothers and Sisters, to the Church in Kraków and Polonia, and to all the votaries of Divine Mercy who will come here from Polonia and from throughout the world. May you be witnesses to mercy!

6. God, merciful Father,
in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love
and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman.

Bend down to us sinners,
heal our weakness,
conquer all evil,
and grant that all the peoples of the earth
may experience your mercy.
In You, the Triune God,
may they ever find the source of hope.

Eternal Father,
by the Passion and Resurrection of your Son,
have mercy on us and upon the whole world!
Amen.

At the end of the Mass, before the final blessing, the Holy Father made these personal remarks:

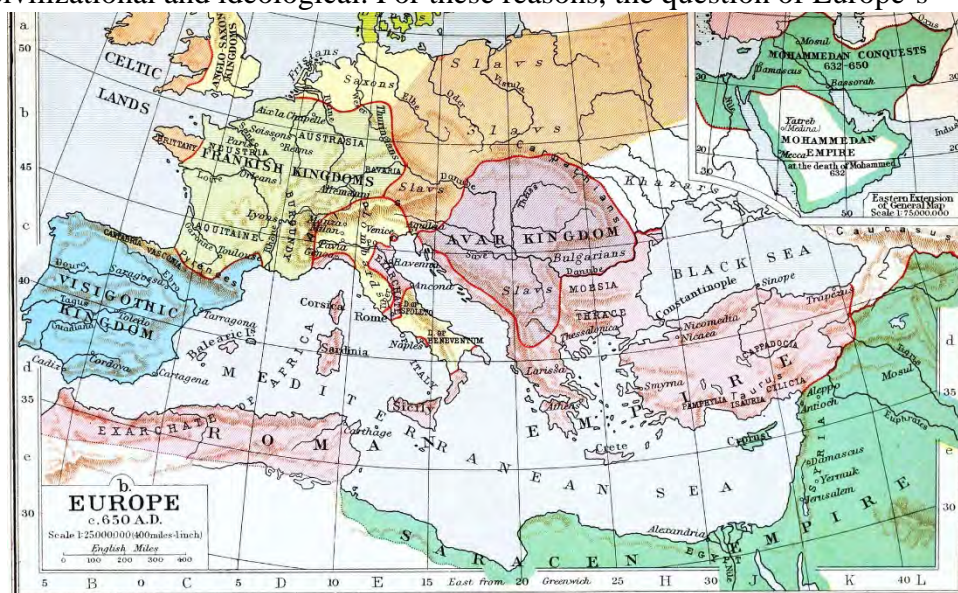
At the end of this solemn liturgy, I desire to say that many of my personal memories are tied to this place. During the Nazi occupation, when I was working in the Solvay factory near here, I used to come here. Even now I recall the street that goes from Borek Falecki to Debniki that I took every day going to work on the different turns with the wooden shoes on my feet. They're the shoes that we used to wear then. How was it possible to imagine that one day the man with the wooden shoes would consecrate the Basilica of the Divine Mercy at Lagiewniki of Kraków.

CATHOLIC PRESS IN POLONIA

Piotr Jaroszyński John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Polonia WHAT IS EUROPE?

THE GREEK BEGINNINGS

The discussion on what Europe is, what determines its identity, how to assess Europe, started in the era of classical Greece and continues up to now. Different aspects of this conversation invariably emerge: etymological, geographical, political, historical, cultural, religious, civilizational and ideological. For these reasons, the question of Europe's



identity becomes extremely complicated and even controversial. While discoursing on Europe, one should recognize the indicated aspects in order to avoid simplifications or even manipulation, which is nowadays frequently based on the unilateral and ahistorical concept of Europe, a concept put forward to satisfy media or ideological aims (especially when it comes to the European Union).

It is certain that Europe is not a ready category which can be indisputably referenced. Nor is it a completely fluid category which may be arbitrarily shaped. Europe has distinctive features, which have to be uncovered, appreciated, and saved. This is so not only because they enrich the spectrum of cultures and civilizations of the world, but also because they have a universal, trans-European value. It turns out that throughout history it is possible to find at least three different concepts of Europe. They appear in the context of clashes grounded in civilization; sometimes the clashes seek dominion in culture and, at other times, in religion or science. The impact of such clashes is variable and hard to measure. The nations involved are not exactly the same. The first concept of Europe emerges out of the context of the conflict between the Greeks and the Persians; the second one is induced by Christianity and Islam meeting head-on; whereas

I rejoice for the construction of this beautiful shrine dedicated to the Divine Mercy. I entrust to the care of Cardinal Macharski and to the whole Archdiocese of Kraków and to the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy the material, and especially, the spiritual upkeep of the shrine. May this collaboration in the work of spreading the devotion of the Merciful Jesus give blessed fruit in the hearts of the faithful in Polonia and in the whole world.

May the merciful God bless abundantly all the pilgrims who come and who will come here in the future.

Source: https://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/homilies/2002/documents/hf_jp-ii_hom_20020817_shrine-divine-mercy.html

the third concept results from European civilization confronting the cultures of the newly discovered peoples inhabiting other continents. It is just in the context of these indicated clashes that the concept of Europe is shaped as a phenomenon diversified not only geographically but also in terms of a civilization distinct from other cultures or civilizations. As a result of the meeting of the three aforementioned historical concepts, three new ideas of Europe emerge. In this case, however, they take the form of an internal conflict, an opposition against, what may be called, Greek Europe, followed by Christian Europe and eventually the Europe of the Enlightenment. The three new notions of Europe contradict these old concepts of Europe, and that opposition is their hallmark. These new notions are the rationale for a project which is implemented centrally via the tools available primarily to the state and international organizations. The European heritage and the classical idea of Europe are considered selectively, if at all, for the purpose of advancing the project. The project itself is what counts most of all, not the history or reality. The indicated project is designed in opposition to the Greek and Roman heritage, to Christianity (especially Catholicism), and even to the Enlightenment. Nowadays it is called the European Union. The concept of Europeanism in the cultural sense is crystallized in Greece at the turn of the fifth and fourth centuries before Christ. It emerges on the background of the opposition between the Greeks and Asians as well as other peoples, which were referred to as barbarians by the Greeks. Remarks made by Hippocrates and Aristotle are especially expressive. Hippocrates (about 400 B.C.) points to the organic and mental differences between the Greeks and Asians which primarily result from the climate. Asians are weak in spirit and lack courage, whereas the Greeks are full of spiritual vitality and courage. Why is it so?

Hippocrates believed that it was the effect of the climate: there is one season of the year in Asia, while in Greece, the seasons are varied, and the temperature is variable.¹ Herodotus infers that the monotonous climate and temperature in conditions favourable for humans generates individuals that are passive and lack initiative, whereas changing climate and temperature contribute to increased inventiveness and activeness. On the other hand, when Aristotle characterized Asians, he insisted that they lack the love of freedom. He admitted that they were creative, however, not very brave, and in consequence easily succumb to despotism. Additionally, while describing the peoples inhabiting northern Europe (i.e., geographic Europeans), Aristotle regarded them

as bold but not clever. According to Aristotle, the barbarians are neither smart nor brave. However, the Greeks, Aristotle boasts, possess both the aforementioned qualities to the highest degree.² A more detailed description of Greek culture, as distinct from other peoples' cultures, can be found in the famous funeral oration of Pericles (499–429 B.C.), which was delivered in honour of soldiers killed in the First Peloponnesian War. It is worth quoting:

Our constitution does not copy the laws of neighbouring states; we are rather a pattern to others than imitators ourselves. Its administration favours the many instead of the few; this is why it is called a democracy. If we look to the laws, they afford equal justice to all in their private differences; if no social standing, advancement in public life falls to reputation for capacity, class considerations not being allowed to interfere with merit; nor again does poverty bar the way, if a man is able to serve the state, he is not hindered by the obscurity of his condition. The freedom which we enjoy in our government extends also to our ordinary life. There, far from exercising a jealous surveillance over each other, we do not feel called upon to be angry with our neighbor for doing what he likes, or even to indulge in those injurious looks which cannot fail to be offensive, although they inflict no positive penalty. But all this ease in our private relations does not make us lawless as citizens. Against this fear is our chief safeguard, teaching us to obey the magistrates and the laws, particularly such as regard the protection of the injured, whether they are actually on the statute book, or belong to that code which, although unwritten, yet cannot be broken without acknowledged disgrace.³ Pericles presents the type of culture developed by the Greeks. It is focused on the individual and his fundamental rights as a life in a community organized into a state. Moreover, the individual is protected by divine law, which is above state law. The individual has the right to liberty, to develop one's talents, to protect one's privacy, to live according to his own preferences, in personal relationships to justice, understanding, and kindness. At the same time, the individual feels responsible for the country, is obliged to obey the legal authority, and loves the fatherland, which can be served by all citizens, not just the privileged or "chosen ones." In other words, patriotism is a virtue for every citizen. This characteristic manifesto showing what it means to be a Greek emerged not in a clash with Persia, but with Sparta, and this is because Sparta created statehood, which today is called totalitarianism (as opposed to despotism characteristic of the Persian state).⁴ The Spartan statolatry subjugated all people to the state, leaving no room for the rights of the individual or for private life. Meanwhile, the value of the individual was discovered in Athens. The Greeks considered it an achievement of their culture, as something unique, and as something that has endured as a characteristic feature of European and Western culture. Because of this, the heritage of Athens, with its culture of written literacy, even after nearly two-and-a-half-thousand years, is embraced by Western man as his distinctive worldview, while Sparta located next to Athens (and in Europe!) represents a completely different spirit. On account of multiple confrontations with the Persians, the Greeks could observe what the spirit of Asia, the spirit of the Orient, consists in, how it differs significantly from the Greek ideals. Aeschylus, who fought in two wars, first in the battle of Marathon, later in the battle of Salamis, gave it artistic expression. In his play, *The Persians*, Aeschylus presents the enemies of Greece as people who above all value luxury, unbridled sensuality, insatiable cruelty, and pride.⁵ Having said this, the aforementioned authors, such as Hippocrates, Aristotle and Pericles, who clearly notice the peculiarity of Greek culture, do not identify Greece with Europe or the Greeks with the Europeans. Such identification occurred

only in times difficult for Athens, when the voice of the rhetoricians rose up. Their presence and opinions were crucial for democracy. Perhaps surprisingly, they were the first to identify Greek values with Europeanism, in self-conscious opposition to what they regarded as Asian values. Isocrates (436–338 B.C.) and Lysias (450–378 B.C.) move to the foreground among the major speakers. Inasmuch as in the texts of other authors the word "Europe" appears as a mythological name or as the name of the continent (Hesiod, Herodotus, Plato, Aristotle, Aeschylus, Euripides, Ksenofont), it is Isocrates and Lysias who ascribe a crucial meaning to Europe in terms of civilization. The Europe they speak of is Greece itself. Isocrates believed that the key point in the history of Greece was the Trojan War, as it unveiled the differences which separated Europe from Asia. The Trojans represented Asia whereas the Greeks represented Europe.⁶ The famous rhetorician explained: Apart from art, philosophy and other benefits attributed to her [Helen] and the Trojan War, we should be excused for admitting that we owe it to Helen that we are not slaves to barbarians. We will see that she should be given credit for the unification of the Greeks in a harmonious accord and for the fact that they organized a joint expedition against the barbarians, and it was then that Europe raised the banner of victory over Asia for the first time . . .⁷ Isocrates treats the act of kidnapping Helen as a peculiar "blessed guilt," due to which admittedly Greece had to face a more powerful Persia. However, as a result of their victory, the Greeks better realized who they were and why, being culturally superior to Persia, they could define themselves as Europe. Isocrates claimed that it was necessary to Hellenize geographical Europe (the ambition of panhellenism). Therefore, he critically looked at the conflict between Athens and Macedonia, claiming that an agreement was required to facilitate the Hellenization of the barbarian, the unHellenized peoples of Europe, so to speak. He addressed King Philip of Macedonia (346 B.C.) with such a message.⁸ He grumbled that "Asia is more flourishing than Europe, and the barbarians enjoy greater affluence than the Greeks."⁹ While speaking of Asia, he meant Persia, and while talking about Europe, he referred to Greece. Isocrates stressed that Europe-Greece should be judged by its high culture and not its wealth. Persia was very rich, but it still remained barbaric. For generations, the Greeks and Persians waged a life or death struggle for dominion of Europe. In a way, their conflict echoed the earlier struggle for Greece between the Amazons and the Thracians.¹⁰ In the opinion of Isocrates the essence of Europe is Hellenism which aims to be universal. In this respect, it is based not on ethnicity but on the cultural assimilation. In one of his speeches, Isocrates explains: Moreover, philosophy, which facilitated the discovery and the establishment of so many institutions, which educated us to deal with public matters and taught us how to relate to one another in a gentle manner, which helped us distinguish between the misery resulting from ignorance and the one that was necessary and which taught us how to protect ourselves against the first type of misery and bravely endure the second one. Philosophy, I say, was given to the world through our city. It was Athens that honoured the art of speech, which all men desire and envy its holders; as it let people realize that this was the only emolument of our nature which distinguishes us from all the living creatures and by making use of the advantage we became superior to them in all respects; philosophy has proved that in other activities fortune can be so capricious that frequently a clever one falls and the stupid one is successful, whereas the beautiful and artistic speech never involves crude men but it is the work of an intelligent mind, and in this respect the contrast between the wise and the ignorant is best seen; it also revealed that the free education of man since early childhood depends neither on courage nor on wealth or

other benefits of that type but it is most visibly seen in speech, which is the most certain sign of culture in all of us, and those who are the highly skilled speakers are not only the people of power in their own cities, but are also honoured in other cities. Our city, however, has distanced the rest of mankind so much in thought and word that its students became the teachers of the rest of the world; consequently, the name “Hellen” is used with reference to those who are part of common culture rather than origin.

11 So Isocrates draws attention to the universality of Greek culture on grounds that it has discovered the qualities which make a human being human: a mind that communicates by means of the word. However, the mind and the word need to be developed and educated through philosophy and rhetoric, special achievements of the Greeks. Since the indicated culture has a universal dimension, and Hellenism is not determined purely biologically (by, say, racism or nationalism), Athens must remain open to all who wish to acquire its culture. The dream of Isocrates came true. Even though the empires changed and Greece lost its independence quickly, Athens remained the capital of world culture. Lysias, the second of the aforementioned orators, understands Europeanism similarly to Isocrates; however, he introduces a new idea: freedom. In his funeral oration, honoring the soldiers killed in the Corinthian war, Lysias uses the name “Europe” four times, evoking memories of the heroic Greeks who faced up to the Persians. For indeed, being of noble stock and having minds as noble, the ancestors of those who lie here achieved many noble and admirable things; but ever memorable and mighty are the trophies that their descendants have everywhere left behind them owing to their valor. For they alone risked their all in defending the whole of Greece against many myriads of the barbarians. For the King of Asia, not content with the wealth that he had already, but hoping to enslave Europe [EUROPEN DOULOSESTHAI] as well, dispatched an army of five hundred thousand. These, supposing that, if they obtained the willing friendship of this city or overwhelmed its resistance, they would easily dominate the rest of the Greeks . . . 12 The speech presents the Greeks as people of manifold nobility, capable of performing beautiful deeds, who are courageous and are not afraid of the overwhelming superiority of the enemy. Moreover, they realize that their fight will determine who will control not only Greece but the whole of Europe as well. Should Greece lose, the consequence would be enslavement, nothing less than taking freedom and independence away from the countries and nations of Europe. At this point, the clash between Greece and Persia means the struggle for the very survival of European freedom. The latter topic appears additionally in connection with the victorious Battle of Plataea (479 B.C.). Lysias stressed: “On that day they brought the ventures of the past to a most glorious consummation; for not only did they secure a permanence of freedom for Europe [ELEUTHERIAN TEI EUROPEI].” 13 It is noteworthy that Isocrates puts emphasis on culture, while Lysias focuses on freedom. 14 Culture and freedom constitute two arms of European identity, noticed by both eminent Greeks, who as rhetors and teachers of speech exerted impact on the elite of their country. Special importance was attached to the school founded by Isocrates in which a programme of education included so-called general education. The value of such education Latin writers later would express by the term *artes liberales*, on grounds that such education makes men free. This programme was assimilated in all places where Greek cultural ideals were appreciated. In Europe alone it lasted until the second half of the nineteenth century. The canon of classical subjects, such as Greek, Latin, Philosophy, Rhetoric was compulsory in classical gymnasiums in the Interwar period (also in Polonia), and today they are present where such gymnasiums still operate, e.g., in Germany. 15 The first concept of Europe bears very clear signs of

Greek culture and is of Greek authorship. The concept may be seen by paying attention to other aspects of Greek culture, which turn out to be influential and not necessarily related to Europe in the geographic sense.

SUMMARY

The article begins with the statement that there are three concepts of Europe historically significant. The first concept of Europe looms out in the context of the clash between the ancient Greeks and the Persians, the second one is induced by Christianity and Islam meeting head-on whereas the third concept results from the European civilization confronting the cultures of the newly discovered peoples inhabiting other continents. It is just in the context of the indicated clashes that the concept of Europe is shaped as a phenomenon diversified not only geographically but also in terms of civilization as regards other cultures or civilizations. The article then concerns with the concept of Europeanism which in the cultural sense was crystallized in Greece at the turn of the fifth and fourth centuries before Christ. It emerged on the background of the opposition between the Greeks and Asians as well as other peoples, which were referred to as barbarians by the Greeks. The article concludes that it was culture and freedom which constituted two arms of Europeaness shaped by the ancient Greeks. **KEYWORDS:** Europe, Greece, Persia, culture, civilization, freedom, barbarian.

Editio prima (in Polish): Piotr Jaroszyński, *Spór o Europę. Zderzenia cywilizacji* (Lublin: PTTA, 2016), 5–6, 17–25.

1 Hippocrates, *Influences of Atmosphere, Water and Situation*, trans. A. J. Toynbee, in *Greek Historical Thought from Homer to the Age of Heraclius* (Boston 1950), 165. *The History of the Idea of Europe*, 16.

2 Aristotle, *Politics*, VII, 1

3 Thucydides, *The History of the Peloponnesian War*, trans. R. Crawley, Book II, 37–38 (http://www.gutenberg.org/files/7142/7142-h/7142-h.htm#link2H_4_0007, accessed on March 20, 2016).

4 However, the difference between totalitarianism, despotism and tyranny should be kept in mind. Totalitarianism is a modern form of statolatry, i.e., such a form of organization of the state in which the state is the ultimate aim. Tyranny is the reign of an entity, which has absolute power, but it is transferred by the people. Despotism is also the reign of an individual, but the source of this power has a religious character, and it involves the theological identification of the ruler with a deity. In the latter case, the prototype of despotism can be found not in Persia, but in ancient Egypt. In connection with the latter problem, see R. N. Frye, *La herencia de Persia* (Madrid 1965), 127.

5 M. García Sánchez, *El gran rey de Persia. Formas de representación de la alteridad persa en el imaginario griego* (Barcelona 2009), 42–43.

6 Isocrates, *Helen*, 51, in Isocrates, ed. G. Norlin (London 1991), Vol. 3, 97. This speech was written in 370 B.C.

7 Id., 67, in Isocrates, 97.

8 Isocrates, *To Philip*, 152, in Isocrates, Vol. 1, 337.

9 Id., 132, in Isocrates, 325.

10 Isocrates, *Panegyricus*, 68–71, in Isocrates, 159–161. Isocrates states, by referring partly to the history and partly to the mythology, that when ancient Greece in ancient times was still weak, its territories were invaded by Thrace, led by Eumolpus, son of Poseidon, and also by the Scythians, led by Amazons, daughters of Ares. The invaders tried to extend their reign over Europe. Isocrates underlines that they hated the whole Hellenic race (*ton Hellenongenos*), especially the Athenians. According to Isocrates they thought that if they conquer one country, it will be easy to expand the reign over other Hellenic countries. But they did not succeed. In addition, Isocrates indicates that the invaders were punished: none of the Amazons returned home and those who stayed in their homes lost their power because of disasters; Thracians moved significantly to the north and their country did not border with the Greek countries any more.

11 Id., 47–50, in Isocrates, 146–149.

12 Lysias, with an English translation by W. R. M. Lamb (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press; London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1930), 20–21.

13 Id., 47.

14 This love of freedom manifested itself in very specific situations which sometimes required a lot of courage. In the case of the Greek the mentality of a free man emerged and it did not waver even in the face of death, which is not characteristic of subjects in a despotic system. It is suggestively expressed by a Roman historian who cites the

conversation of the kind of the Persians, Darius, with a Greek, Charidemus, and writes that the advice of the Greek angered the king so much that he ordered his execution. Then “The Greek, not even then forgetful of his free birth, said: ‘I have at hand an avenger of my death; that very man against whom I have warned You will exact punishment for the scorning of my advice’. Charidemus joined the side of Darius but until the end retained the characteristics of a free man and at that time only a Greek was capable of it.” Quintus Curtius, History of Alexander, trans. John C. Rolfe (London 1971), III, ii, 18.

15 In Bavaria there are about 59 gymnasiums of the classical profile. One of them is Maximiliansgymnasium:
<http://www.maxgym.musin.de/wordpress3/humanistischesgymnasium-warum/>, accessed on March 19, 2016.

Source: <http://gilsonsociety.com/files/205-215-Jaroszynski.pdf>
Picture: Europe c. 650
Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europe>

OLD BOOKSTORE REPRINTS

A Serious Thought - Thomas Paine

XIV.

A SERIOUS THOUGHT:¹

WHEN I reflect on the horrid cruelties exercised by Britain in the East Indies—How thousands perished by artificial famine—How religion and every manly principle of honour and honesty were sacrificed to luxury and pride—When I read of the wretched natives being blown away, for no other crime than because, sickened with the miserable scene, they refused to fight—When I reflect on these and a thousand instances of similar barbarity, I firmly believe that the Almighty, in compassion to mankind, will curtail the power of Britain.

And when I reflect on the use she hath made of the discovery of this new world—that the little paltry dignity of earthly kings hath been set up in preference to the great cause of the King of kings—That instead of Christian examples to the Indians, she hath basely tampered with their passions, imposed on their ignorance, and made them tools of treachery and murder—And when to these and many other melancholy reflections I add this sad remark, that ever since the discovery of America she hath employed herself in the most horrid of all traffics, that of human flesh, unknown to the most savage nations, hath yearly (without provocation and in cold blood) ravaged the hapless shores of Africa, robbing it of its unoffending inhabitants to cultivate her stolen dominions in the West—When I reflect on these, I hesitate not for a moment to believe that the Almighty

¹ *Pennsylvania Journal*, October 18, 1775. This was probably the earliest anticipation of the Declaration of Independence written and published in America.—*Editor*.
VOL. I.—3

66 THE WRITINGS OF THOMAS PAINE. [1775

will finally separate America from Britain. Call it Independence or what you will, if it is the cause of God and humanity it will go on.

And when the Almighty shall have blest us, and made us a people *dependent only upon Him*, then may our first gratitude be shown by an act of continental legislation, which shall put a stop to the importation of Negroes for sale, soften the hard fate of those already here, and in time procure their freedom.

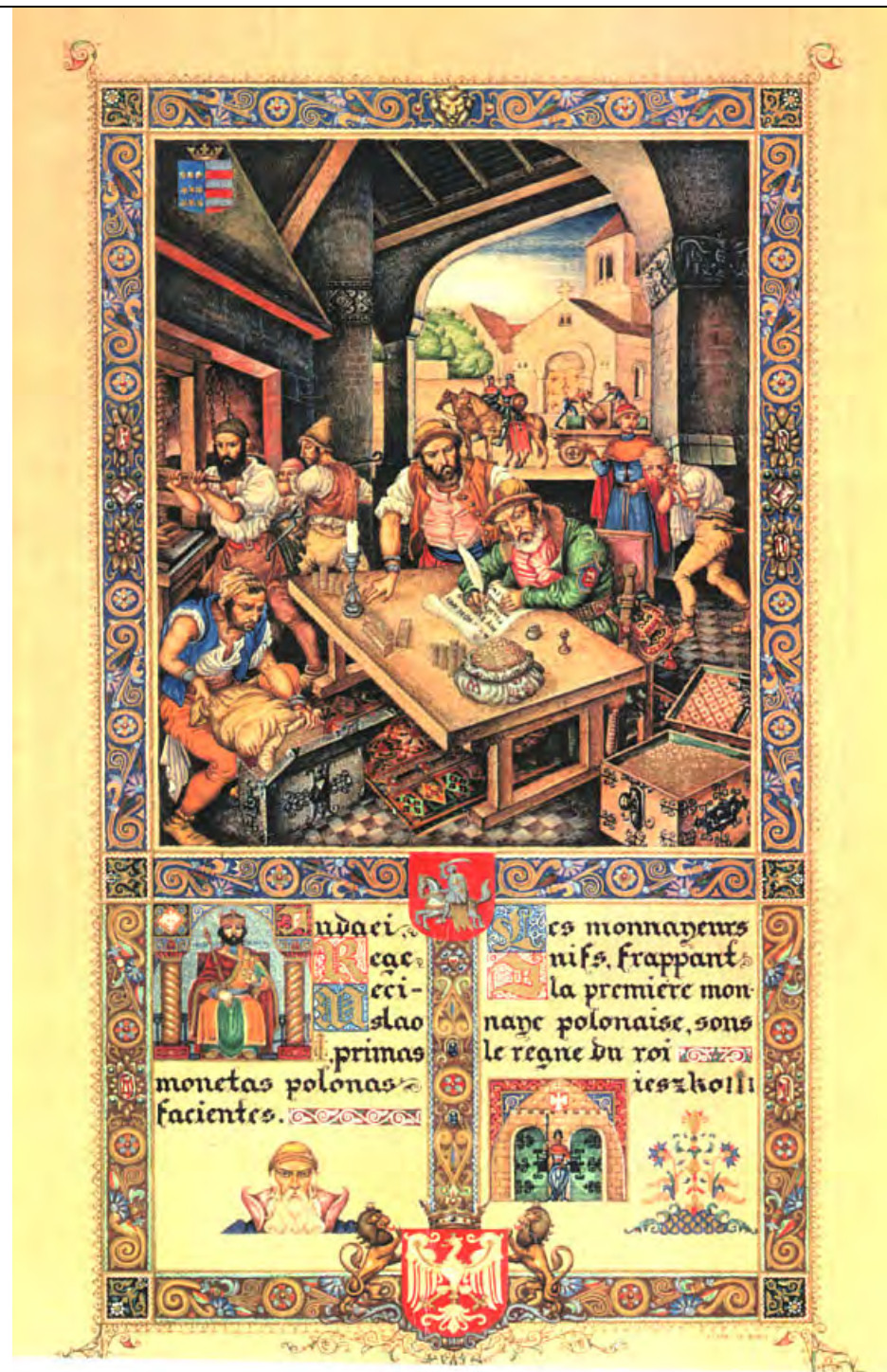
HUMANUS.



READ FROM THE IMAGE



Bolesław Chrobry and Svetopelk at Kiev, in a legendary (if ahistorical) moment of hitting the Golden Gate with the Szczerbiec sword. Painting by Jan Matejko.



Calisia Statue Privileges for Jews 1264 in Polonia -STATUT KALISKI DLA ŻYDÓW Z 1264 ROKU illustrated by Artur Szyk



"Miracle On The Vistula River" - Jerzy Kossak



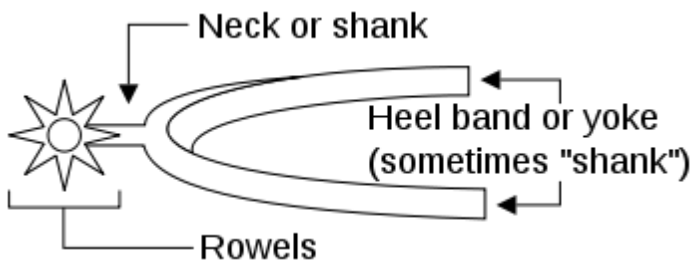
17 VIII 1920 Battle of Zadwórze - the "Polish Thermopylae" painting Stanisław Kaczor-Batowski

GRANDPARENTS’ DRAWER

The spur



The spur was used by the Celts during the La Tène period (which began in the fifth century BC), and is also mentioned by Xenophon (circa 430 - 354 BC.)[2][3] Iron or bronze spurs were also used throughout the Roman Empire.[4]



Western-style cowboy spurs with rowels, chap guards and buttons for the spur straps
The parts of a

spur include:

- The "yoke", "branch", or "heel band", which wraps around the heel of the boot.
- The "shank" or "neck", which extends from the back of the yoke and is the area that touches the horse.
- The rowel, seen on some spurs, a revolving wheel or disk with radiating "points" at the end attached to the shank.
- Spur straps on an English "Prince of Wales" spur
- Spurs are usually held on by a leather or leather-like spur strap that goes over the arch of the foot and under the sole in front of the boot heel. Some western designs have a leather strap that goes only over the top, with a



heel chain or a rubber "tiedown" instead of a strap under the boot. Also, some styles have no straps, where the heel band is simply very tight and slips on wedged between the sole and heel of the boot. Some spur designs have a slot for running the spur strap through, others have "buttons", sometimes on the heel band itself and sometimes attached to the heel band by hinges that allow a strap with buttonholes to be attached. When used in military ranks, senior officers, and officers of all ranks in cavalry and other formerly mounted units of some armies, wear a form of spur in certain orders of dress which is known as the box spur, having no spur strap, but a long metal prong opposite the neck, extending between the arms of the heel band, which is inserted into a specially fitted recess or "box" in the base of the boot heel. Due to the prong, such spurs can only be worn with appropriately equipped boots. This construction is shown in the photos of the swan neck and Waterford spurs below. Spurs seen in western riding may also have small curved-up hooks on the shank in front of the rowel, called "chap guards", that were originally used to prevent the rider's chaps from interfering with the rowels of the spur. The shank angle from the yoke can vary from "full" to "one half" to "one quarter" to "straight". Some cowboys also added small metal pajados, also known as jingo bobs or jingle bobs, near the rowel, to create a jingling sound whenever the foot moved. Rowels can vary in size and number of points. In the history of veterinary science, the word "rowel" described a small disk of leather or other material that was used as a seton stitch.

Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spur>

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE & VACATION

Kudowa Zdrój, Poland

Kudowa Zdrój is a health resort situated in the Sudety Mountains. It is one of the oldest resorts not only in Polonia but also in Europe with the tradition of health and sanatorium dating from the 17th century. We offer a great number of permanent and seasonal tourist attractions for you in this wonderful place. Its location in a valley surrounded by forests provide natural therapeutic values.



The neighbourhood of the Stołowe Mountains, picturesque bicycle and tourist routes, unique museums, cultural facilities, modern sport facilities and location by the border with the Czech Republic make Kudowa Zdrój attractive for both health resort visitors and tourists.



Source: <https://www.kudowa.pl/en/>

TRADITIONAL COMPANIONS



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Our candidates are different in many ways. Over half of our candidates have higher degrees, and many additional have vocational and technical degrees. Many have a significant amount of experience working in this profession.

For complete list of candidates please visit: www.iconnel.com



Candidate ID 4170


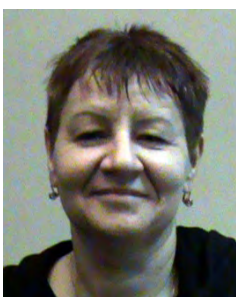


Job Experience: Has worked since 2007 for 2 clients.
English Fluency: 100%
Licenses: None, was a pediatric nurse (RN) in Polonia
Availability: Available hourly night shifts 7 days/week.
Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping
Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene
Experience working with clients suffering from: Anxiety, phobias, dimensia, depression, Alzheimers, coma, communication impedements, incontinence
Experience with illnesses such as: Parkinsons, cancer, diabetes, congestive heart failure, kidney failure, emphysema, respiratory condition, high blood pressure, arthritis, aneurysm, stroke
Working Knowledge of: Oxygen tank, oxygen concentrator, cast, hoyer lift, sliding board, hospital bed, shower chair, feeding tube, commode, urinal, catheter, bed pan, diaper, sugar level monitoring device, insulin injection device
Can prepare: Regular, thickened liquids, blended, diabetic, low protein, low salt, low carbohydrates, lactose intolerance, raw foods, microbotic, vegetarian, allergic.



Candidate 5063

Job Experience: Over 14 years experience working with elderly people.
English Fluency: 100%
Licenses: Driver's License
Availability: Available live-out 5 days, any hours, and weekend live-in replacements
Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping
Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, wheelchair
Experience working with clients suffering from: Dimensia, depression, confusion, coma, hard of hearing, incontinence
Experience with illnesses such as: Respiratory condition, arthritis, stroke
Working Knowledge of: Sliding board, hospital bed, shower chair, feeding tube, commode, bed pan, diaper
Can prepare: Regular, thickened liquids, low salt

<div></div> <div><p>Candidate ID 5173</p><p>Job Experience: 4 years experience taking care of his mother.</p><p>English Fluency: 100%</p><p>Licenses: Driver's License</p><p>Availability: Available live-in 5</p><p>Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping, other</p><p>Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, walker, cane, bed bound, wheelchair, paralyzed, hygiene</p><p>Experience working with clients suffering from: Anxiety, depression, Alzheimers, confusion, phobias, dementia, coma, communication impediments, incontinence</p><p>Working Knowledge of: hospital bed, shower chair, urinal, diaper</p><p>Can prepare: Regular meals.</p></div>	<div></div> <div><p>Candidate ID 3057</p><p>Job Experience: Assisted 2 clients since 2005.</p><p>English Fluency: 90%</p><p>Licenses: None</p><p>Availability: Available live-in, 5 days/week.</p><p>Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping</p><p>Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, wheelchair, hygiene</p><p>Experience working with clients suffering from: Dimensia, depression, confusion, Alzheimers, communication impedements, incontinence</p><p>Experience with illnesses such as: Parksinsons, cancer, diabetes, congestive heart failure, kidney failure, respiratory condition, high blood pressure, arthritis, aneurysm, stroke</p><p>Working Knowledge of: Recliner chair, oxygen tank, oxygen concentrator, hospital bed, shower chair, commode, urinal, catheter, bed pan, diaper, sugar level monitoring device</p><p>Can prepare: Regular, thickened liquids, blended, diabetic, low protein, low salt, low carbohydrates, lactose intolerance, raw foods, microbiotic, vegetarian, kosher, allergic</p></div>
<div></div> <div><p>Candidate ID 5167</p><p>Job Experience: 5 years experience</p><p>English Fluency: 100%</p><p>Availability: Available live-out 5 days / week, 7am - 3pm</p><p>Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, housekeeping</p><p>Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene</p><p>Experience working with clients suffering from Anxiety, dementia, depression, Alzheimers, coma, communication impediments, incontinence</p><p>Experience with illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, kidney failure, emphysema, high blood pressure, arthritis</p><p>Working Knowledge of Recliner chair, hospital bed, shower chair, commode, urinal, bedpan, diaper, sugar level monitoring device</p><p>Can prepare: Regular, blended, diabetic, low protein, low salt, low carbohydrates, lactose intolerance</p></div>	<div></div> <div><p>Candidate ID 4731</p><p>Job Experience: Over 15 years of experience</p><p>English Fluency: 100%</p><p>Licenses: Driver's License</p><p>Availability: Available live-in 7 days</p><p>Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping</p><p>Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, wheelchair, hygiene</p><p>Experience working with clients suffering from: Anxiety, phobias, dimensia, depression, confusion, Alzheimers, coma, communication impedements, incontinence</p><p>Experience with illnesses such as: Parksinsons, cancer, diabetes, congestive heart failure, kidney failure, emphysema, respiratory condition, high blood pressure, arthritis, stroke</p><p>Working Knowledge of: Recliner chair, oxygen tank, oxygen concentrator, cast, hoyer lift, sliding board, hospital bed, shower chair, feeding tube, commode, urinal, catheter, bed pan, diaper, sugar level monitoring device, insulin injection device</p><p>Can prepare: Regular, thickened liquids, blended, diabetic, low protein, low salt, low carbohydrates, lactose intolerance, raw foods, microbiotic, vegetarian, kosher, allergic</p></div>
<div></div> <div><p>Candidate 5168</p><p>Job Experience: Took care of 4 long term clients since 1980.</p><p>English Fluency: 100%</p><p>Licenses: none</p><p>Availability: Available live-in or live-out 6 days/week.</p><p>Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping</p><p>Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene</p><p>Experience working with clients suffering from Phobias, dementia, confusion, Alzheimers, communication impediments</p><p>Experience with illnesses such as: Parksinsons, cancer, congestive heart failure, emphysema, high blood pressure, arthritis</p><p>Working Knowledge of: Recliner chair, shower chair, commode, urinal, catheter, bed pan</p></div>	<div></div> <div><p>Candidate 2146</p><p>Job Experience: Took care of over 13 clients since 1999.</p><p>English Fluency: 100%</p><p>Licenses: Driver's License, NY Home health aide license (inactive)</p><p>Availability: Available live-in 7 days</p><p>Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping</p><p>Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene, night time help</p><p>Experience working with clients suffering from: Anxiety, dementia, depression, confusion, Alzheimers, communication impediments, incontinence</p><p>Experience with illnesses such as: Cancer, diabetes, respiratory condition, high blood pressure, arthritis, stroke</p></div>

Can prepare: Regular, blended, diabetic, low salt		Working Knowledge of: Recliner chair, oxygen tank, oxygen concentrator, Hoyer lift, hospital bed, shower chair, feeding tube, commode, urinal, bed pan, diaper, sugar level monitoring device Can prepare: Regular, thickened liquids, blended, diabetic	
	Candidate 5142 Job Experience: Took care of 4 clients since 1990. English Fluency: 100% Licenses: Driver's License Availability: Available as a live-in, 7 days/week. Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene Experience working with clients suffering from: Anxiety, phobias, dimensia, depression, confusion, Alzheimers, communication impedements, incontinence Experience with illnesses such as: Congestive heart failure, respiratory condition, high blood pressure, arthritis, stroke Working Knowledge of: Hoyer lift, hospital bed, catheter, diaper, sugar level monitoring device, insulin injection device Can prepare: Regularlow salt, kosher		Candidate 4914 Job Experience: 10 years experience working with elderly people. English Fluency: 80% Licenses: Driver's License Availability: Available live-out 7 days 8am - 8pm. Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene Experience working with clients suffering from: Incontinence Experience with illnesses such as: Arthritis Working Knowledge of: Hospital bed, shower chair, feeding tube, bed pan, diaper
	Candidate 3898 Job Experience: She has 9 years experience working with elderly people. Worked as a caregiver and Home Health Aide Care partner since 2007. English Fluency: 100% Licenses: None Availability: Available live-in 7 days Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, personal hygiene, eating, walker, cane, bed bound, hygiene, working with paralyzed people Experience working with clients suffering from: Anxiety, phobias, dimensia, depression, confused, Alzheimers, coma, communication impedements, incontinence Experience with illnesses such as: Parkinsons, cancer, diabetic, congestive heart failure, kidney failure, emphysema, respiratory condition, high blood pressure, arthritis, aneurysm, stroke Working Knowledge of: Feeding tube, commode, urinal, diaper Can prepare: Regular diets		Candidate 5160 Job Experience: Took care of over 3 clients since 2015 English Fluency: 80% Licenses: Driver's License Availability: Available live-in. Chores: Laundry, shopping, cleaning, ironing, cooking, housekeeping Assistance: Keeping Company, Going for walk, dressing, personal hygiene, eating, cane, walker, bed bound, wheelchair, hygiene Experience working with clients suffering from dementia, Alzheimers, communication impedements, incontinence Experience with illnesses such as: Diabetes, stroke, cancer Working Knowledge of: Recliner chair, cast, hospital bed, shower chair, feeding tube, commode, urinal, diaper, sugar level monitoring device Can prepare: Regular, thickened liquids, blended, diabetic, low protein, low salt, low carbohydrates, lactose intolerance, raw foods, vegetarian, kosher, allergic


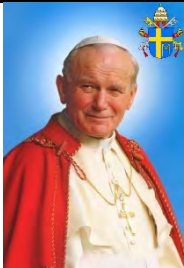



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ORGANIZATIONS	

	<div><div><div>ICONNEL®</div><div>Welcome to ICONNEL® , the First Web based Placement Service. Placing Compassionate, Responsible, Mature Private Duty Domestic Employees for our Seniors and their Families on 24 Hour Live-in or Hourly Basis since 1992. For complete list of candidates please visit: www.iconnel.com</div></div><div><div>BENEFITS FROM HIRING THROUGH US</div><div>Subscribing to our service gives you access privileges to several dedicated and pre-screened candidates who are available to help you immediately. We have live-in domestic workers who can relocate anywhere in the United States. Our candidates are different in many ways. Over half of our candidates have higher degrees, and many additional have vocational and technical degrees. Many have a significant amount of experience working in this profession. Of all incoming placement applicants to our agency, only 1% meet our strict ICONNEL standards. Our role is to help you to find the best person for the job, minimize aggravation, save money, and most importantly, save time. ICONNEL follows the personalist norm described by Karol Wojtyla (St. John Paul II) in his book Love and Responsibility: This norm, in its negative aspect, states that the person is the kind of good which does not admit of use and cannot be treated as an object of use and as such the means to an end. In its positive form the personalistic norm confirms this: the person is a good towards which the only proper and adequate attitude is love.</div></div><div><div>246 WEST 38TH STREET. PIĘTRO #10., NY, NY 10018. TEL: 646-415-8818</div></div></div>
	<div><div>St. John Paul Catholic Club in Manhattan</div><div>invites you to meetings on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11.30am in Polish, 12.00 Holy Mass in Polish, 13.00 Lecture followed by coffee hour. On the 4th Sunday of each month, confession is at 3.30 pm, Holy Mass is at 16.00, meeting at 17.00 We embrace with the prayer of our guests, hosts and those who graced our meeting with gifts. Church of Saint. Stanislaw B. and M. - 101 E 7 Street, Manhattan between 1 Av and Av A. Subways: "6" to Astor Pl, "F" to 2 Ave or "L" to 1 Ave.</div></div>
	<div><div>Placówka SWAP Nr 21/201, New York, NY Zaprasza w swoje szeregi!</div><div>Commandor's cell phone: (347) 772-0757 Veterans Association of the Polish Army in America (SWAP) - the world's oldest independent, self-help organization of former Polish soldiers operating continuously since 1921. The headquarters is located in New York in Manhattan in the 2nd SWAP District of "Polish Veteran's House" at 119 East 15th Street. There is also an organizational archive and the Museum of the Polish Arms Tradition established in 1996.</div></div>
	<div><div>The PNA is the Polish National Alliance</div><div>Throughout its history, the Polish National Alliance has been a staunch promoter of Polonia's independence, lost from 1795 to 1918. In World War I (1914-1918), the PNA worked closely with many other organizations to achieve this goal, which was realized at the very end of that conflict. In World War II (1939-1945), the PNA again worked actively for Polonia's independence. When this goal was not fully realized, due to the country's occupation by the Soviet Union against its people's will, the PNA and its members worked hard to persuade the leaders of the United States government of the justice of Polonia's restoration to freedom. Since 1880, when the PNA began providing insurance protection for Americans of Polish origins and ancestry, their families, friends and neighbors, nearly two million men, women and children across our land have benefited from belonging to our great PNA family -- both by owning quality life insurance and by taking advantage of our many excellent fraternal programs. The Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America, popularly known today as the PNA or the Alliance, is the largest of all ethnically-based fraternal insurance benefit societies in this country. On December 31, 1996 the PNA counted 230,359 life insurance and 6,873 annuity holders in its ranks. Its members held a total of \$721,660,990 of insurance with the PNA. The PNA is licensed to do business in 37 states and the District of Columbia. The total assets of the Polish National Alliance are \$304,805,343. What is more, today the PNA is a fraternal insurance benefit society that is not just for Americans of Polish heritage. It is open to everyone. Join Polish National Alliance Lodge #30 in Manhattan, NYC Tel: 646-791-4743 lub E-Mail: pna30nyc@gmail.com</div></div>
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	<div><div>Bakery Rzeszowska</div><div>948 Manhattan Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11222, Phone: (718) 383-8142 Business Hours: Mon-Sun 8:00 am - 19:00 pm</div></div>




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	Syrena Bakery 207 Norman Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11222, Phone: (718) 349-0560, Business Hours: Mon-Fri 5:30 am - 8:00 pm, Sat 5:30 am - 7:00 pm
STORES	
	Kinnelon Jewlery, Inc, Jewlery for every occasion. 25 Kinnelon Rd., Kinnelon Mall, Kinnelon, NJ 07405, Tel: (973) 492-0160, Business Hours: Monday-Friday: 10.00-20.00, Saturdays: 10.00-17.00
	Quo VadisGift Shop Prezenty z Polski, 106 Broad St, New Britain, CT 06053., Phone: (860) 832-9420 Store Hours: Monday-Saturday: 8 am - 7pm, Sunday: 10 am - 3pm
	Tusia, LLC / Ziólko Cosmetics, teas and herbs from Polonia. 11 Botany Village SQ, 217 Dayton Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07011, (973) 393-0704 Business hours: Monday-Saturday: 9.00-20.00, Sundays: 9.00-16.00
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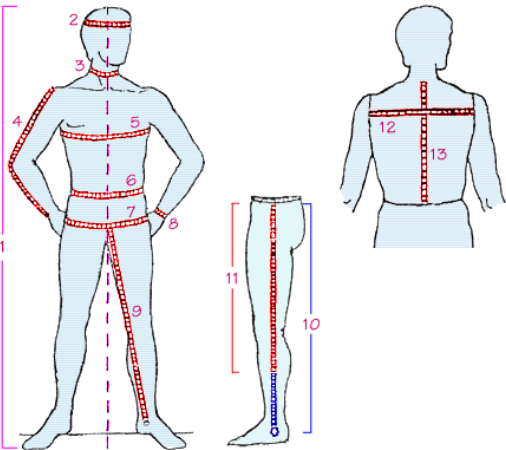
Kontusz-Providence Uniforms.

At the Congress in 1776, **Kontusz-Providence Uniforms** were enacted for deputies, the color of their outfits, which was left to the discretion and choice of the provinces. At the parliament in 1778, the deputies arrived in the colors of provinces, which were as follows: For the above nobility uniforms as belonging to the knighthood, she gave herself one or two gold or silver. However, the parliamentary resolution of 1780 found this to be inaccurate, to the signs of military rankings, and to abolish the use of voivodeship uniforms.

Source: http://pl.wikisource.org/wiki/Dyskusja_indeksu:S%C5%82ownik_rzeczy_staro%C5%BCytnych



When ordering, please specify: colors of a stole according to taste or according to the province of origin, cut of the front: with or without a collar, with or without collar, with or without pockets and dimensions of the customer as shown in the picture.



Województwo (Prowidence)	Kontusz (Jacket)	Wylogi (Lining)	Żupan (Robe)
Poznańskie i Kaliskie	light sapphire	crimson	white
Gnieźnieńskie, Sieradzkie i Łęczyckie	crimson	navy blue	white
Brzesko-kujawskie	crimson	dark blue	dark blue
Ziemia Dobrzyńska	crimson	blue	white
Płockie	light-sapphire	scarlet	straw
Mazowieckie	dark-sapphire i buttons with letters X.M.	straw	straw
Rawskie	scarlet i buttons z lit. R.	black	white
Krakowskie	Kontusz-dark blue, collar crimson	none	crimson
Sandomierskie	light-blue	scarlet	white
Kijowskie	turquoise	black	dark blue
Ziemia Chełmska	green	black	straw
Wołyńskie	green with scarlet collar	cuffs scarlet	white
Podolskie	may green (pol. papuzi)	black	white
Lubelskie	scarlet	green	white
Podlaskie	sapphire	crimson	white
Braclawskie	light sapphire	scarlet	white
Czernichowskie	crimson	black	white
Wileńskie	dark blue	crimson	
Powiat Oszmiański	green	green	green
Powiat Wilkomierski	sapphire		sapphire
Trockie	scarlet	green	white
Powiat Upicki	crimson	dark blue	straw



Księstwo Żmudzkie	scarlet	bluee	white
Smoleńskie	crimson	dark blue	dark blue
Powiat Starodubowski	sapphire	straw	straw
Połockie	light-sapphire	scarlet	straw
Nowogródzkie	scarlet	black	black
Powiat Słonimski	crimson	sapphire	sapphire
Wołkowyski	crimson	dark blue	granatowy
Orszański z woj. Witebskiego	green	white	white
Brzesko-litewskie	sapphire	crimson	white
Mścisławskie	granatowy	blue	straw
Mińskie	crimson	dark blue	dark blue
Rzeczycki	crimson	white	white
Księstwo Inflanckie	blue	black velvet	white



Pictures: National Museum in Krakow.
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LETTERS TO AND FROM ZASCIANEK

Please contact us if you wish to participate in creating this magazine or subscribing to it. Thank you for all your input.

CHILDHOOD FRIEND



To commemorate the magazine: "Children's Friend: a weekly with drawings, devoted to learning and playing children by F. Ksawery Beldowski."

Evening - (In words of one syllable) - Thomas Miller

The day is past, the sun is set, And the white stars are in the sky; While the long grass with dew is wet, And through the air the bats now fly.	Yet of the dark I have no fear, But feel as safe as when 'tis light; For I know God is with me there, And He will guard me through the night.	For He who rules the stars and sea, Who makes the grass and trees to grow. Will look on a poor child like me, When on my knees I to Him bow.
The lambs have now lain down to sleep, The birds have long since sought their nests; The air is still; and dark, and deep On the hill side the old wood rests.	For God is by me when I pray, And when I close mine eyes to sleep, I know that He will with me stay, And will all night watch by me keep.	He holds all things in His right hand, The rich, the poor, the great, the small; When we sleep, or sit, or stand, He is with us, for He loves us all.

Little Things - Julia A. Carney

Little drops of water, Little drains of sand, Make the mighty ocean And the beauteous land.	Make the mighty ages Of eternity.	Little deeds of kindness, Little words of love, Make our earth an Eden, Like the heaven above.
And the little moments, Humble though they be,	So our little errors Lead the soul away, From the paths of virtue Into sin to stray.	

A Light Exists in Spring - Emily Dickinson

A Light exists in Spring Not present on the Year At any other period -- When March is scarcely here	But Human Nature feels.	Or Noons report away Without the Formula of sound It passes and we stay --
A Color stands abroad On Solitary Fields That Science cannot overtake	It waits upon the Lawn, It shows the furthest Tree Upon the furthest Slope you know It almost speaks to you.	A quality of loss Affecting our Content As Trade had suddenly encroached Upon a Sacrament.
	Then as Horizons step	

An Alphabet - Edward Lear

A	Wishy	Out of sighty-	Q	Winy
A was once an apple pie,	Squishy	Little Kite!	Q was once a little quail,	Twiny
Pidy	Fishy		Quaily	Viny
Widy	In a Dishy	L	Faily	Twisty-twiny
Tidy	Little Fish!	L was once a little lark,	Daily	Little Vine!
Pidy		Larky!	Quaily	
Nice insidy	G	Marky!	Stumpy-taily	W
Apple Pie!	G was once a little goose,	Harky!	Little Quail!	W was once a whale,
	Goosy	Larky!		Whaly
B	Moosy	In the Parky,	R	Scaly
B was once a little bear,	Boosy	Little Lark!	R was once a little rose,	Shaly
Beary!	Goosey		Rosy	Whaly
Wary!	Waddly-woosy	M	Posy	Tumbly-taily
Hairy!	Little Goose!	M was once a little mouse,	Nosy	Mighty Whale!
Beary!		Mousey	Rosy	
Taky cary!	H	Bousey	Bows-y - grows-y	X
Little Bear!	H was once a little hen,	Sousy	Little Rose!	X was once a great king
	Henny	Mousy		Xerxes,
C	Chenny	In the Housy	S	Xerxy
C was once a little cake,	Tenny	Little Mouse!	S was once a little shrimp,	Perxy
Caky	Henny		Shrimpy	Turxy
Baky	Eggsy-any	N	Nimpy	Xerxy
Maky	Little Hen?	N was once a little needle,	Flimpy	Linxy Lurxy
Caky		Needly	Shrimpy	Great King Xerxes!
Taky Caky,	I	Tweedly	Jumpy-jimpy	
Little Cake!	I was once a bottle of ink,	Threedly	Little Shrimp!	Y
	Inky	Needly		Y was once a little yew,
D	Dinky	Wisky-wheedly	T	Yewdy
D was once a little doll,	Thinky	Little Needle!	T was once a little thrush,	Fewdy
Dolly	Inky		Thrushy!	Crudy
Molly	Black Minky	O	Hushy!	Yewdy
Polly	Bottle of Ink!	O was once a little owl,	Bushy!	Growdy, grewdy,
Nolly		Owly	Thrushy!	Little Yew!
Nursy Dolly	J	Prowly	Flitty-Flushy	
Little Doll!	J was once a jar of jam,	Howly	Little Thrush!	Z
	Jammy	Owly		Z was once a piece of zinc,
E	Mammy	Brownly fowly	U	Tinky
E was once a little eel,	Clammy	Little Owl!	U was once a little urn,	Winky
Eely,	Jammy		Urny	Blinky
Weely	Sweetly-Swammy	P	Burny	Tinky
Peely	Jar of Jam!	P was once a little pump,	Turny	Tinkly Minky
Eely		Pumpy	Urny	Piece of Zinc!
Twirly, Tweedy	K	Slumpy	Bubbly-burny	
Little Eel!	K was once a little kite,	Flumpy	Little Urn!	Source:
	Kity	Pumpy		http://storyit.com/Classics/JustPoems/
F	Whity	Dumpy, Thumpy	V	
F was once a little fish,	Flighty	Little Pump!	V was once a little vine,	
Fishy	Kity		Viny	

„ZAŚCIANEK” POLISH MANOR HOUSE MAGAZINE

Note from the Editor: PRAISED BE TO JESUS CHRIST!
Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to Zaścianek Polish Manor House. I’d like to refer to my notes as I try to convey this solemn editorial so that I do not miss anything.
"Polonia has not died yet, when we live, what foreign power extorted from us, we will reclaim with the sword..."

Doesn’t this earlier version of the lyric of the Polish National Anthem that I quoted represent a more dramatic and truthfully accurate depiction of what happened to us? This is yet another example of how words have been mysteriously replaced. It is time for we, the Polish people to start writing our own history and not allow aggressors to spread their propaganda in place of our history. It is time for us to start naming and interpreting historical events

We must particularly appreciate all generations of historians and history enthusiasts who, despite partisan conditions of their time, have continued to share their knowledge about our homeland. This partisan teaching of Polish Culture and history has continued for over 300 years from the moment being Polish became illegal, and through the time when being Polish was a crime. The monthly "ZASCIANEK" magazine is an ANTHOLOGY of timeless and true quotes from manuscripts and other works lost during the eradication and extermination of Polonia describing church and national holidays, the most important anniversaries, saints and heroes for a given month. Ready and timeless materials for teaching Polish literature and history will make it easier for many future generations of parents and teachers of Polish Culture to do their job. It is no wonder that many museums in the world exhibit goods stolen from Polish homes and Zaścianek Manor homes. It is necessary for us to defend public false flag propaganda by understanding the truth of our cultural empire as the "Brightest" Republic or in Latin, -Respublica Serenissima, meaning "The Most Serene Republic" - the home of all Polish of all nationalities and religions. Such a great culture whom our ancestors created. Despite the 300 years of the planned extermination of anything resembling Polish, our culture still endures and produces wonderful fruits and ennobles other nations too! Just as we have recovered the memory of

God Bless You!
Zaścianek.



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