


**The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “Thaddeus Kosciuszko Day Message, 1976” of the Eliska Hasek Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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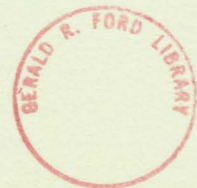
Thaddeus Kosciuszko Day, 1976

Mrs. Ford and I send our warmest greetings to all our fellow Americans of Polish ancestry as you celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Thaddeus Kosciuszko.

Attracted by the ideals of the American colonists in their quest for independence, this gallant Polish-born patriot arrived in Philadelphia in 1776 and was engaged by the Philadelphia Defense Committee to assist in the fortification of the Delaware River. Commissioned as a Colonel in the Continental Army, he became associated with several major campaigns of the Revolution. He designed the military defenses at West Point, and his name has proudly been linked with the earliest beginnings of our U.S. Military Academy.

Two hundred years later, a grateful nation remembers and salutes his valor, vision and determination as a champion of freedom and of the rights of man.

*Gerald R. Ford*



2/6/76

Mr. Parker:

50 copies of the attached message  
to be delivered to Eliska Hasek first thing  
Monday morning. Many thanks.



C. Finley  
Mr. Linder's Office