

The original documents are located in Box 12, “7/29/75 - Dinner Toast, Warsaw, Poland” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

DINNER TOAST

WARSAW, POLAND

JULY 29, 1975

OSWIECIM INSCRIPTION

THIS MONUMENT AND THE MEMORY OF THOSE IT HONORS
INSPIRE US FURTHER TO THE DEDICATED PURSUIT OF PEACE,
COOPERATION AND SECURITY FOR ALL PEOPLES.

GERALD R. FORD
PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
JULY 29, 1975

*Ad. J. Council of State
+ Prime Ministers*

MR. FIRST SECRETARY, MRS. GIEREK (GEH-REK),

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

IT IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE AND PLEASURE FOR MRS.

FORD AND ME TO TENDER THIS DINNER IN WARSAW AND TO BE

WITH YOU AND MRS. GIEREK, AND ALL OF OUR OTHER GUESTS.

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WE HAVE ENJOYED RENEWING OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH YOU, MR. FIRST
SECRETARY, AND WITH MRS. GIEREK.

MR. FIRST SECRETARY, THE UNITED STATES HAS ENTERED

ITS 200TH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

POLISH-AMERICAN TIES ARE

EVEN OLDER
~~CENTURIES OLD.~~

IN THE LATE 1500'S, TWO CENTURIES BEFORE TADEUSZ KOSCIUSZKO
(TAH-DAY'-OOSH KOSH-CHOOSH'-KO) ARRIVED TO OFFER HIS SERVICES
TO GEORGE WASHINGTON IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, A POLISH
POET EVOKED AN ELOQUENT VISION OF THE NEW WORLD:

"HAPPY ISLES -- HEROIC LAND OF BLISS

KNOWN TO OUR COUNTRY LONG ERE THIS."

THUS, EVEN BEFORE OUR TWO PEOPLES WERE UNITED BY THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN LIBERTY, A POLISH-AMERICAN AFFINITY EXISTED.

DURING THE TWO HUNDRED YEAR HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES,
MILLIONS OF YOUR COUNTRYMEN ^{HAVE} ~~C~~AME TO OUR SHORES TO ADD POLISH
^
ENERGY AND POLISH GENIUS TO THE MAINSTREAM OF AMERICAN LIFE.

AS IN WASHINGTON LAST OCTOBER, MR. FIRST SECRETARY,

WE HAVE TODAY HAD VERY WORTHWHILE DISCUSSIONS.

IN WASHINGTON, I SAID THAT WE WANT TO EXPAND OUR

RELATIONSHIP INTO A BROADER EFFORT TO IMPROVE WORLD RELATIONS.

IT IS, THEREFORE, FITTING THAT WE WILL MEET AGAIN IN HELSINKI
VERY SOON AS PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE.

WHAT WE DO AT HELSINKI SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO ^{AN}~~THE~~
IMPROVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.~~WHICH WE DISCUSSED IN~~
~~WASHINGTON.~~

FURTHER

TIES AND COOPERATION

THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS CAN POINT THE WAY FOR MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, JUST AS OUR DETERMINATION TO IMPROVE OUR RELATIONS HELPS TO ACHIEVE A FURTHER RELAXATION OF TENSIONS IN EUROPE AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

YOU AND TO,

MR. FIRST SECRETARY, I RAISE MY GLASS TO THE POLISH

PEOPLE WHO HAVE SACRIFICED SO MUCH IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR A

BETTER WORLD.

END OF TEXT