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Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Krakow, Poland)

THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF REMARKS TO BE DELIVERED
BY THE PRESIDENT
AT MARKET SQUARE

KRAKOW, POLAND

Mr. Mayor, Mr. First Secretary, Ladies and Gentlemen of Krakow. After the wonderful warmth of the reception you have just given me, I know why the millions of Americans of Polish extraction are so proud of their heritage.

This ancient square is surely one of the most beautiful in the world. It is filled with some of the finest creations of Polish architects and artists and with the memory of so many great moments in Polish history. Americans honor the memory of General Kosciuszko as a hero of America's war for independence and liberty.

I am standing only a few feet from the plaque marking the spot where he took his famous oath to fight to regain the independence of Poland and the freedom of all Poles. I am proud to be here with you at this place so rich in Polish history and so closely associated with a Polish hero of our struggle for independence.

I have come to Krakow to see both the monuments of your great past and your modern achievements. I congratulate you on your creativity. In this city, the ties of kinship and of friendship are strong between our countries. We welcome the rapid increase in trade between us and the growing number of travellers in both directions.

In my meetings with First Secretary Gierek during this visit to Poland, we have reviewed with satisfaction the progress and improvements in United States-Polish relations in recent years. We have fully agreed on the desirability of furthering this progress for the mutual benefit of the American and Polish peoples in the coming decades.

Your welcome today -- and all the heartwarming Polish hospitality -- are symbolic of the rapport and affection between our peoples.

I have faith in a future that will see our relations continue to improve and grow.

Long live Poland.

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