

This letter was published after the President's Obama mishap
during the post humanly decoration of Prof. Jan Karski (spring 2013).

By Prof. Pogonowski
Born Sept. 3, 1921
Lwów, Poland

in Dec 1939 left Warsaw. Dec 30, 1939 arrested by Ukrainians serving
the Gestapo in Dukla, then transferred to Barwinek, Krosno, Jaslo, Tarnów, Oswiecim,
arrived in Oranienburg-Sachsenhausen on Aug. 10, 1940.

April 19, 1945 started on the Death March of Brandenburg from Sachsenhausen;
escaped gunfire of SS-guards and arrived to Schwerin and freedom on May 2, 1945.)

To President Barack Obama
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for decorating a personal friend of mine, Jan Kozielowski-Karski with
the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I am 90 years old Polish-Catholic veteran of five-
year imprisonment in the German Concentration Camp in Oranienburg-Sachsenhausen
near Berlin. After the war I met professor Jan Karski in Caracas Venezuela and later
I was several times his guest in Washington. I wrote about Dr. Karski in my book
"Jews in Poland" (Hippocrene Books. Inc. New York 1993).

I am writing this letter in Florida where, a large and growing Polish community is slowly
catching up with Pennsylvania, Illinois and Wisconsin. Polish Americans believe that
the medal is well deserved by Dr. Karski.

Your unfortunate description of German-Nazi death camp in Poland as a "Polish death
camp" is offending to Polish Americans aware that Poles did not collaborate with
the Nazis in running the country, much less in the Holocaust.

The use of the phrase "Polish Death Camp" is insulting and shameful.

Dear President Obama, I have also noticed that you are the first post-war president
of the United States, who during the observation of the D-Day in France, failed
to mention the very important contribution of the Polish Armored Division at Falaise,
France, during the battle for Normandy in 1944.

Polish Americans are also surprised by the fact that your Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary
Clinton, officially and repeatedly insists that Polish victims of war pay Jewish victims
of war for damages inflicted on the Jews by the Nazi-Germans and the Soviets.

I want to bring to your attention that recently the names of Polish-American generals,
heroes of the War for American Independence, Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus
Kosciuszko were recently removed from American history high school text books.
I hope you will consider intervening and correcting this situation.

Respectfully yours,

Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski
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