



WHITE EAGLE



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RARE 18TH-CENTURY MAP OF POLAND DONATED TO THE FOUNDATION

Shown above is a black and white enlargement of a miniature map of Poland published by Bowen and Gibson in London in 1774. This map was recently donated to the Polish Nobility Association Foundation by Ms. Irena Uderska, the Foundation's representative for the United Kingdom and a member of the *White Eagle* Editorial Board. The original map is 9.3 cm x 6 cm and is a cop-

perplate engraving which was later hand-colored. It shows Poland, its cities, and surrounding provinces, together with some factual information in the text.

The importance of the map is that it was printed just before the first partition of Poland, and therefore shows Poland just before the tragic sequence of events that resulted in its temporary disappearance from the map of Europe. 🇵🇱

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As the leaves of autumn fall we are reminded that we are fast approaching the end of another year; and a very eventful year it has been for the Foundation. We as an organization have set out on a new road to re-evaluate and redefine ourselves as a Polish cultural organization. We have embarked on an effort to more precisely clarify what our objectives and purposes are and through this process update and modernize our approach in serving our members' needs. The many changes that have been discussed and approved by the Executive Committee will take careful planning and much time and effort, but I am confident that our work will be rewarded in the long term by a revitalized Foundation and a renewed commitment by all of its members to contribute to its goals and objectives.

It is an often repeated truism that no organization can succeed and progress without the support of its members, and as we look back where we have traveled and where we are going as an organization, it becomes critical that all members of the Foundation pledge themselves to a renewed support of its work. As this jour-

nal is being sent out to all the members of the Foundation we, therefore, ask all of its members to renew their membership once more by making a monetary contribution to its work. The Foundation can only function and prosper through your efforts, assistance and support. We have many things planned for this coming year, which we hope will be successful in strengthening the Foundation, broadening its involvement in Polonia, and expanding its activities, influence, membership, and contributions to a better understanding and appreciation of Poland's history and culture. As members of the Foundation we ask you all to participate in this exciting new initiative.

Finally I would like to address the primary objective for the Foundation for this coming year. The Executive Committee during its annual meeting stated that one of the major points of emphasis for the Foundation should be to increase its visibility, not only within Polonia but among the general populations of the nations within which the P.N.A.F. has members. Among the ways suggested to achieve this end is to encourage Founda-

tion members to participate in regional Polish cultural events as representatives of the Foundation and publicize the work and goals of the Foundation through such participation.

Among such events are formal Polish Balls, which are held throughout the United States and countries throughout the world in many major cities. These events, sponsored by many Polish groups, highlight the finest aspects of high Polish culture. Members of the Foundation should, therefore, become actively involved in such events and publicize the fact that they are acting as representatives of the Foundation.

Polish ethnic events and fairs also offer an opportunity for the Foundation to become sponsors and active participants through which information about the history and culture of the Polish nobility can be shared with the general public. In addition, Polish historic reenactment, which has become increasingly popular over the

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last few years, is an especially effective way for members of the Foundation to show their presence and provide an opportunity to demonstrate in a graphic fashion the culture and history of the Polish nobility.


Our own Rik (Suligowski) Fox is an excellent example of this type of activity. This form of living history is enthusiastically supported by the Foundation, and any members interested in this type of activity should contact regional groups who are involved in appearing in many ethnic and renaissance faires throughout the United States and Europe. Those on the

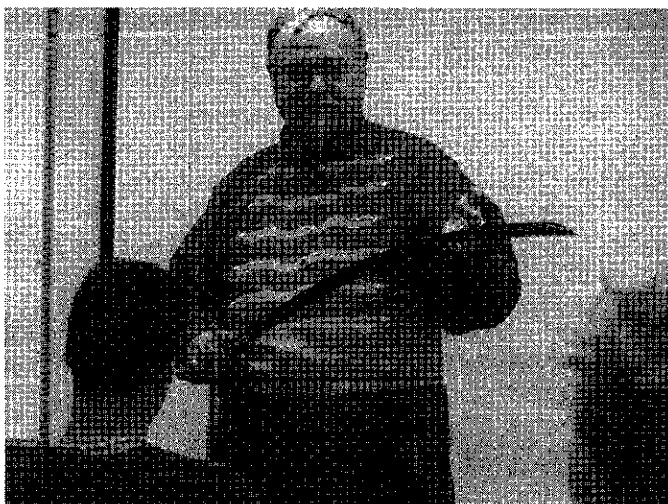
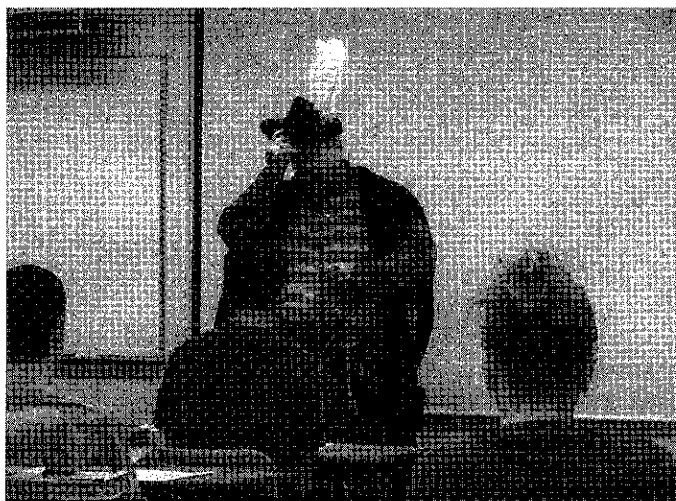
West Coast of the United States should contact *Pan Rik Fox* (see page 11), and those living in the Midwest and East can contact several such groups on the Internet.

In addition, if you live in a country which has a Polish community and does not have such Polish historic reenactment group, you might consider organizing such a group under the auspices of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation. In fact we would very much like to hear from any members who might be thinking of attempting to organize such groups.


Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński 

P.N.A.F. President Goes to Class

The photos below show Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński recently in the history class of a local high school giving a presentation on the culture and history of the Polish nobility while dressed in his 17th-century Polish magnates' attire. He is shown explaining the dress and weaponry of the typical Polish magnate circa 17th-18th centuries. 



Dues and Donations

Gary and Debra Dembowski Douglas, CA	\$150
Patricia Geniusz Stanley, CA	\$25
Dr. Jean Glidden-Cheger, FL	\$72
Judge Theodore Jakubowski, TX	\$100
Leon A. Lucas, OH	\$97
Leonard Miedzianowski, Canada	\$40
Joan F. Miller, IL	\$35
Joseph A. Topolski, MD	\$50
Irena Uderska, England	\$200 

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Polish Royal Orders of Knighthood

Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński, P.N.A.F. President

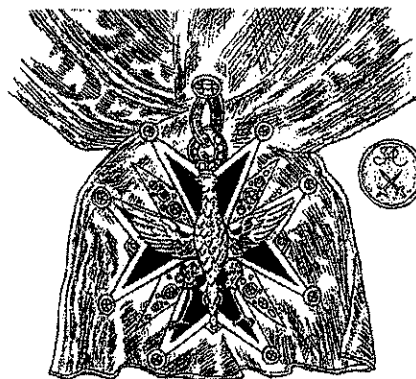
Polish royal orders of knighthood did not become established on a permanent and acceptable basis until the 18th century with the ascension to the Polish throne of the Electors of Saxony. These Saxon monarchs brought to Poland many western court customs and attitudes at a time when the power of the gentry had been replaced by the dominance of the great magnates. Among the things these Saxon monarchs introduced were orders of knighthood. With the gentry politically and economically impotent, the great magnates and middle aristocracy promoted the orders as symbols of their growing socio-political prominence. The institution of orders of knighthood was accepted by many as a patriotic gesture to unify the Commonwealth against foreign invaders.

The first enduring Polish order of knighthood was born in the turmoil of war and was the result of political expediency. In 1704 the Swedish King, Charles XII, invaded Poland, de-throned King August II, and elevated the Voivode of Poznań, Stanislaus Leszczyński, to the throne. The exiled August II created a Polish order of knighthood to tie his faithful followers close to himself and to draw to his support magnates and nobles who had not yet taken sides. It was christened the Order of the White Eagle.

During a meeting with Czar Peter I in Tykocin in 1705, August II bestowed the first badges of this new order of knighthood. The decoration consisted of a red enameled medallion bearing the device of the White Eagle and the motto, *Pro Fide, Rege et Lege* (For the faith, the king and the law). On the reverse side the medallion bore the monogram *AR*, which stood for *August Rex* – August King. The motto clearly alluded to the political situation then existing in Poland. It suggested that members of the Order were on the side of the true faith against Protestant Swedes and their followers, and in support of the true king, August II, chosen in accordance with the traditional Polish rule of free election.¹

In 1709, as a consequence of the defeat of the Swedish forces in the Battle of Poltava, King August changed the design of the medal to its proper form, which resembled the French Order of the Holy Spirit. The new decoration consisted of a red enameled eight-pointed Maltese cross with white edges and diamonds set on the points. Superimposed on the center of the cross was a large Polish eagle with wings spread. Flames radiated from the arms of the cross. Those flames were also set with diamonds. Knights wore the cross of the Order around the neck on a white ribbon with red borders.² A chain of the Order was worn on formal occasions.

In 1713 August III changed the design again. The decoration of the Order was now attached to a three-inch sky blue



The 1713 Order of the White Eagle

moiré ribbon which was worn from the left shoulder to the right hip with the ends of the ribbon tied in a knot. The cross of the Order was fastened to the knot. A large embroidered gold star with a silver cross in the center was worn on the left side of the breast. The words *Pro Fide, Rege et Lege* were inscribed on the arms of the cross. From between the arms of the cross radiated gold flames set with diamonds. The king's breast star was differed in that the inscription on the cross bore the word *grege* (people or nation) rather than *rege* (king).³

On the reverse side of the decoration the monogram *AR* was changed to that of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The gems were removed from the cross and star; similar changes were also made on the design of the chain.

The knights of the Order wore purple in either cloth or velvet along with white trousers. While in church, members wore black capes; the king wore a purple cape.⁴

The Order did not originally have a formal constitution or written statutes. They followed rules dictated by custom and tradition. In 1713, however, a set of statutes was drafted. These statutes along with previous custom established that the Order was to consist of 72 knights, including the king.⁵ To be eligible for admittance one had to be a practicing Catholic, at least 35 years of age, and prove unblemished noble status in three family quarters.⁶ The king nominated candidates. It was the general chapter meeting of all the knights, however, that ultimately decided who was accepted into its ranks.⁷

The officers of the Order were the Commander, Chancellor, Marshal, Treasurer, Secretary and Herald of Arms. The Chancellor had the overall responsibility for the operation and supervision of the Order.⁸

The obligations of a knight of the Order included praying for the souls of their deceased companions, helping the poor, and gathering funds for the release of prisoners. They must always be willing to help in the defense of the faith, the king,

¹ Henry Sadowski. *Orderzy i oznaki zaszczytne w Polsce*. Warszawa: 1904, p. 61.

² *Loc. cit.*

³ *Ibid.*, p. 62.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 66.

⁵ *Loc. Cit.*

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 68.

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 68 - 69.

⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 69 - 70.

and freedom. Every knight was required to adopt a young Polish noble, referred to as "children of the Order." The knight was to provide proper upbringing and lodging throughout the life of the young knight.⁹

The investiture of new knights was to take place in the evening of a day during which a general chapter of the Order was held. Following dinner and vespers, the novices were escorted into church by two young knights. They wore ceremonial garb and were preceded by a herald. They were led to the front of the church before the royal throne, where they knelt before the king. The Chancellor then presented the Bible to each novice who, in turn, placed both hands on the Holy Book. The secretary of the Order read the oath and the novice signed a copy of the oath. It was given to the secretary, who would later place it in the archives of the Order. The Under-Secretary then handed the decoration to the king, who placed it on the novice with these words:

*"Receive the collar of the Order, to which, as the Grand Master, we accept you for the Glory of God, King and Country, in the name of God the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit."*¹⁰

The new knight, in accepting the decoration replied; *"Illustrious Lord! I thank you for the honor, which you were wont to bestow upon me. I will die first, before I would be unworthy of it."*¹¹

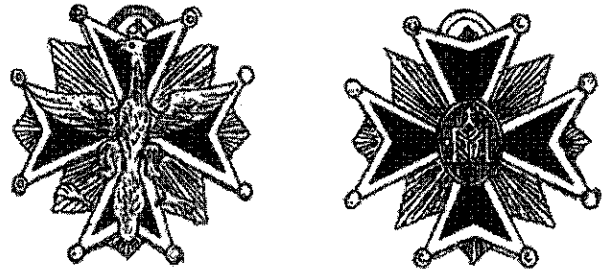
Even though the Order was promoted as a great historic national order, during the reign of August II, and partly during the reign of his son August III, it became more of a dynastic order of the Saxon royal house. It was given to foreign allies, and trusted and deserving supporters of the Wettin Dynasty such as Czar Peter the Great and King Frederick II of Prussia. Poles who received the Order were faithful followers of the Saxon kings, as well as those who could pay large sums of money for it.

Andrew Kitowicz, a diarist during the reign of August III, wrote that during the reign of this monarch, the king's minister, Count Bruhl, sold the Order to raise money for state purposes. It originally cost more than ten thousand ducats, but as it was increasingly granted and its desirability fluctuated, the initiation fee dropped to below a thousand ducats. The Order, however, was still used to bestow political favors due to royal grace. It restricted membership to senators, ministers, royal officers, and the Great Lithuanian princes. Those not in these groups could not acquire the Order, even though they might be willing to buy it at great expense. It was given free to persons in the royal court and those deserving individuals applying to the king's chief minister.¹²

During the Saxon dynasty, the Order of the White Eagle was usually bestowed on the king's name day, with the ceremony usually held either in Warsaw or Dresden or in one of the royal castles in the vicinity of Dresden. The investiture

ceremonies were also occasions for grand banquets and heavy drinking, including continual toasts and the firing of hand-guns.¹³

The Order changed from a dynastic Order to a truly national order of the kingdom during the reign of the last Polish king, Stanislaus August Poniatowski. The most important reflection of this change was that starting in 1770 persons awarded this Order were listed in the Chancellor's book and received a patent from the king's Chancellor.



Order of the White Eagle (King Stanislaus Augustus)

The heightened desire for orders among Polish nobles and a worsening internal and external political situation brought about the creation of the second prestigious royal Polish Order of Knighthood, the Order of Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr. It was established by the last king of Poland, Stanislaus August Poniatowski, on May 7, 1765, several months after he mounted the throne.¹⁴ It was instituted during a period of increasing internal division and growing external pressure from rapacious and equally hostile neighbors. Hence, the new monarch sought to promote national unity by bestowing this order for the recognition of conspicuous public demonstrations of civic virtue and meritorious service to the Crown and Republic.¹⁵ The statutes of the Order stated "that the virtue of the holy and deserving people of the fatherland would first find a just outlook, and then their services with some public grace and royal honor be hereby decorated."¹⁶

The badge of the Order was originally a red enameled octangular cross superimposed on a Polish white eagle which had a white plaque in its center. On the plaque appeared a image of St. Stanislaus in full robes with the intertwined SS at the side. The reverse side was white with the initials SAR (*Stanislaus August Rex*). Later, the design was changed to a red octangular cross with white enameled edges. The white Polish eagle was placed between the arms of the cross, and the image of St. Stanislaus was at its center.¹⁷ The decoration was attached to a red ribbon with white edges. The ribbon was worn in conjunction with a breast star placed on the left side of the chest. The star was silver with eight clusters of rays. In the center, the monogram SAR was surrounded by a silver ribbon inscribed with the motto, *praemiando incitat* (being honored encourages) and a green laurel wreath.¹⁸

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 71.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 69.

¹¹ *Loc. Cit.*

¹² *Ibid.*, p. 323.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 325.

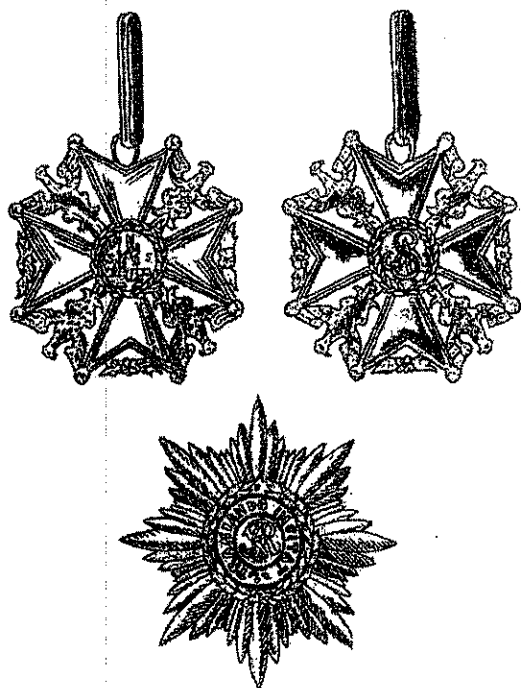
¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 326.

¹⁵ Hurley Christopher, *Russian Orders, Decorations and medals Under the Monarchy*, London: 1934, p. 45.

¹⁶ Edward Potkowski, *Rycerze w Habitach*, Warszawa: 1974, p. 366.

¹⁷ Christopher, *Russian Orders*, p. 45

¹⁸ Potkowski, *Rycerze w Habitach*, p. 326.



The obverse and reverse sides of the decoration for the Order of St. Stanislaus, as well as the breast star for this Order.

The decoration of the Order of St. Stanislaus was not always of one style, for manufacturers did not strictly follow royal decrees but made crosses according to their own drawings. In addition, the earliest form of the decoration used polished red glass in the arms of the cross instead of enamel.¹⁹

The uniform of the Order of St. Stanislaus consisted of traditional Polish apparel, red in color, embroidered with golden flowers and a white overcoat with a solid border of gold around the belt. Those who did not wear traditional Polish apparel wore a white outer vestment with a gold border and a red vest with golden flowers. According to statutes all knights were obliged to wear the garb of the Order on the feast day of St. Stanislaus, elections, coronation, royal birthdays, and on those days when they found themselves at the king's side.²⁰

The first investiture for knights of the Order took place on May 8, 1765 at the Church of the Holy Cross in Warsaw, which had become the chapter church of the Order. The king at that time invested 35 knights, including his own brother, Prince Michał Poniąkowski, the Abbot of Czerwińsk, who was made almsgiver and Secretary of the Order. Also included among these first knights were some of the most prominent and powerful magnates of the Commonwealth, including Prince Czartoryski, Voivode of Russia, and Prince Saphieha, Voivode and Field Marshal of Lithuania.

During this investiture, King Stanislaus Augustus was seated on a throne under an elaborate canopy. Near the throne was a table with a rich covering on which were placed the decorations of the Order for the new knights. Mass was said first, then those nominated were called before the king and read the



*Collar of the Order of the White Eagle
(King Stanislaus Augustus)*

obligations of the knight of the Order. This was followed by the knights declaring "I swear with the words of a knight to uphold these points just read." They would next kneel on their knee before the king, who placed the cross of the Order on each, touching their shoulder with the sword and kissing their cheek. The knights in their turn would kiss the king's hand and back away from the throne.²¹

In subsequent years the ceremony was codified to eliminate much of the pomp and ritual. The king eventually distributed the decorations of the Order as the need merited, with the investiture ceremony taking place in the Grand Hall of the Royal Palace. Later even this formality was eliminated. New knights then received the decoration from the hands of the king without any ceremony. In some cases it was sent to them through the mail accompanied with a courteous letter.

The knightly obligations of the members of the Order of St. Stanislaus included the admonition to be faithful and sincere to the king and republic until death, to help the poor according to his means and to assist the opposed, to contribute twenty-five ducats annually to the almsgiver of the Order, four ducats to the hospital of the Child Jesus, two ducats for the chancery and one ducat toward mass of the salvation of the brothers of the Order on the Octave of All Saints, and finally to pray for the soul of departed members of the Order.²²

The exclusivity of the Order was expressed in the statutes of the Order by limiting the number of knights to one hundred, not including the king and members of the Order who also belonged to the Order of the White Eagle. All Poles and Lithuanians to receive the Order had to prove noble origin through four generations on both the paternal and maternal line.²³ Members of the Order of St. Stanislaus included prominent foreigners; however, it was mainly given to Poles. Although the statutes limited membership to one hundred, this number was rapidly surpassed. In 1791 the Order's official directory listed 963 living knights. King Stanislaus August bestowed the Order not only to magnates, but equally to the middle level nobility. For the king it was an efficient way of acquiring pow-

¹⁹ Sadowski, *Ordery i Oznaki Zaszczytne w Polsce*, p. 97.

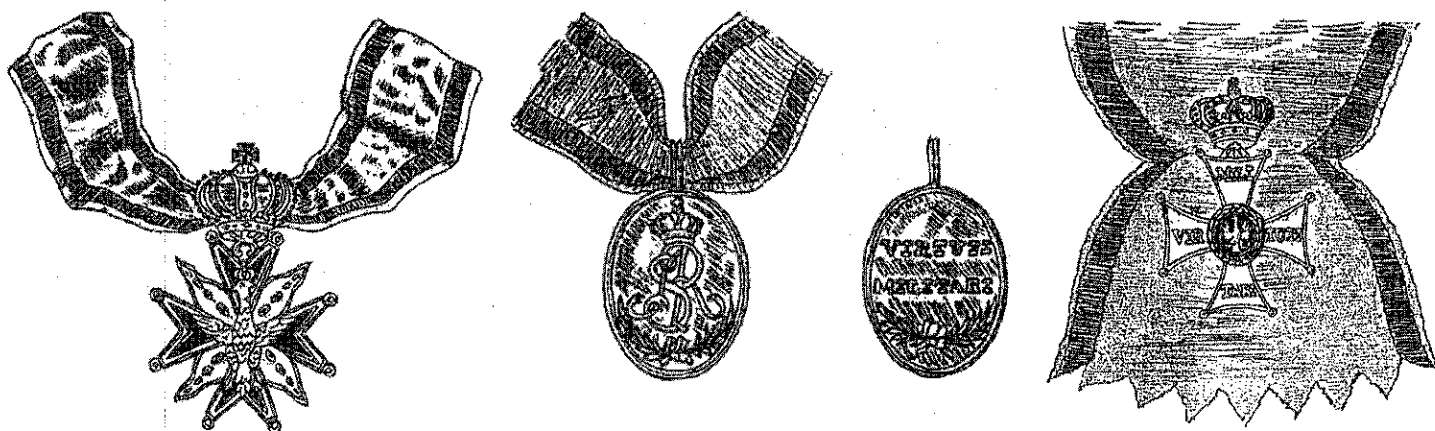
²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 101.

²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 100.

²² Christopher, *Russian Orders*, p. 99.

²³ *Loc. Cit.*

²⁴ *Loc. Cit.*



Left: Neck decoration of the Order of the White Eagle; center: early version of the Order of Virtuti Militari (1792); at right, Cordon of the Order of Virtuti Militari (1st Class)

erful supporters, gaining popularity among the nobility and securing the support of provincial councils.²⁴ Gone were the days of opposition and unwillingness of the nobility to obtain orders such as that of Saint Stanislaus; membership became a passion that consumed the entire body of the nobility by the end of the 18th century. The Order assured recognition with the circle of provincial nobility, opened doors to positions, and guaranteed public admiration. Correspondence to the chancery of Stanislaus August was flooded with pleas for the Order. Anthony Ostrog asked for the Order because he was godfather of the king's son. Platerowa Sosnowska sought the "ribbon" for her nephew to help him get married, and Worcelłowa sought the Order for her husband to repay him for his goodness in taking her to Warsaw for several weeks.²⁵

The badge of the Order became such a treasured part of one's possessions that it, along with one's coat of arms, were the main items of mourning decorations displayed at funerals.

The last of the great Polish royal Orders, The Order of Virtuti Militari (The Order of Military Virtue), was founded during the last tragic years of the Commonwealth, when the Polish army was fighting Russian troops in defense of the May 3rd Constitution.²⁶

The creation of this Order was suggested to the king by his nephew Prince Joseph Poniatowski. Prince Joseph advised initiating an Order for military service comparable to the Austrian Military Order established in 1757 by Maria Teresa.²⁷

The decoration for this newly established Order took the form of an oval medal. On one side under a crown was the royal monogram *S.A.R.* (*Stanislaus Augustus Rex* – Stanislaus August King) and beneath it two laurel branches tied with a ribbon. On the reverse side was the Latin inscription *Virtuti Militari* (For Military Service) and on the bottom two similar branches. The medals were worn on the left side of the chest.

The king presented this decoration for the first after the victory over the Russian army at Zieleńce on June 18, 1792. Twenty gold and forty silver medals were sent to the camp

of the Ukrainian army, which was under the command of Prince Joseph Poniatowski.²⁸ The twenty gold medals were distributed on June 25th to the most important officers who had distinguished themselves in the latest battle of the current campaign. Among those receiving the decoration were Prince Poniatowski, Major Kościuszko, Vice-Brigadier Prince Sangusko, and Brigadier Mokronowski. The silver medals were given to under-officers and common soldiers who were considered deserving by their commanding officers.

On June 25, King Stanislaus August signed a certificate which specified that a cross rather than an oval be used for the decoration of this Order. The obverse side was enameled black with the inscription *Virtuti Militari* inscribed on the branched of the cross, and a white eagle on a gold background in the center. The reverse side was not enameled. It bore the arms of Lithuania in the center encircled with a green laurel wreath and bearing the ciphers *S* (*Stanislaus*) *A* (*August*) *R* (*Rex*) *P* (*Poloniae*). This cross was to be suspended from a blue ribbon with black edges and was to be worn on the left side of the chest.²⁹

The manufacture of the decoration utilizing the new design was begun without waiting for the publication of a formal decree. When those soldiers who had received the original oval medals returned to Warsaw, they changed decorations by purchasing the new variation. In addition, they received royal letters commending them for their service and authorizing the bearer to display the decoration.

The original statutes of the Order divided it into five classes. 1st Class or Grand Cross was restricted to five members, 2nd Class or Commander's Cross was limited to fifty members, 3rd Class or Knights Cross was limited to one hundred members. Members of the Knights Grand Cross were to wear a large cross of the Order suspended on the hip from a wide cordon of blue ribbon with black edges. The Commander's Cross was worn about the neck suspended from the characteristic ribbon, and the Knight's Cross was worn with the distinctive ribbon through the loop of the buttonhole of one's uniform. The gold and silver medals were simply worn pinned to the left side of the chest.

The statutes attached a certain monetary compensation or reward for each class of knighthood. Knights Grand Cross were to receive 20,000 gold ducats per year, and Knights Commanders 2,000 gold ducats. Knights received 1,000 gold ducats. On

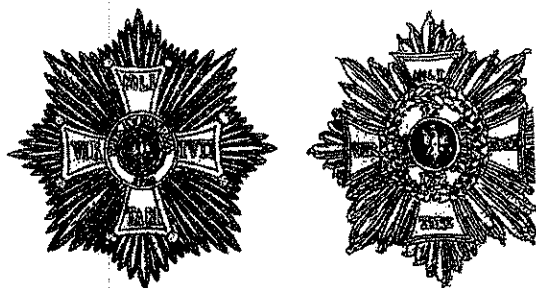
²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 328.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 329.

²⁷ Sadowski, *Ordery i Oznaki...*, p. 137.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 138.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 139.



Breast Stars of the Order of Virtuti Militari (1st Class)

the death of a member of the Order half of these payments were passed on to the widows.

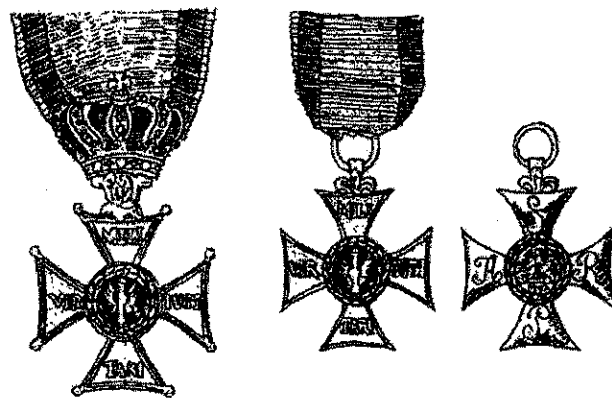
Those honored with a gold medal were to receive twice their pay while in service of the army, and those receiving the silver medal were to receive half of their original pay. Enlisted recipients of the Order were exempt from corporal arrest and punishment and were given the right to frequent officers' lounges and clubs.³⁰ The cost of making the crosses and ribbons was to be borne by the Department of the Army.

Specific standards of performance were stipulated for receiving the decoration. The Grand Cross was only bestowed on commanding officers who had achieved a smashing victory or captured an armed camp. The Commander's Cross was given to officers responsible for important advances in battle or for substantial opposition to overwhelming enemy forces. The Knight's Cross was given to officers for a very outstanding act in battle, while the gold and silver medals were given to under-officers (noncommissioned officers) and common soldiers for acts of bravery.

King Stanislaus August, while he drafted the statutes of the Order, never made them public. His reluctance or indecision was based on a fear that public introduction of the Order would anger the disgruntled republicans who opposed the government. He thought they might consider this another attack on the freedom of the nobility. This king was also concerned that Empress Catherine might view the new Order as a move to encourage Polish soldiers to resist the Russian Army. It was, therefore, the king's intent to complete his plans for the new Order in secret and present its possible enemies with an accomplished fact.

The rise of the Targowica Confederacy on July 24 destroyed all of the king's plans for the Order. This Confederacy was an association of nobles and magnates who opposed the new Constitutional government and supported Russian intervention against the government, hence inviting Russian domination. Because of the pro-Russian stand of the Confederacy, led by Prince Szczesny Potocki, the Order, which was being awarded to Polish soldiers for fighting the Russian Army, was considered a display of traitorous sentiments. As a consequence, Prince Potocki decreed that the Order was not to be recognized and was not to be worn by Polish troops. The Army protested but were unable to overcome Potocki's opposition, and the Order as a consequence was suppressed. The victory of the Confederacy and the defeat of Polish forces by Russian troops finally sealed the fate of the Order.³¹

During the Napoleonic period and the appearance of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, the Order was reestablished but was



At left Knight's Commander, Order of Virtuti Militari (2nd Class); at right Knight's Cross, Order of Virtuti Militari (3rd Class)

modified on the basis of the French Legion of Honor. The basic design of the decoration remained similar to the original but was changed slightly.³² It was reconstituted with its original five classes. The first class, Knight Grand Cross or Great Ribbon, was held only by Prince Joseph Poniatowski, Commander and Chief of the Army of the Duchy; French Marshal Davout, Minister of War of the Duchy; and Frederic August, monarch and Grand Master of the Order. The decoration consisted of a black enameled cross with the words *Virtuti Militari* in gold distributed evenly on the arms of the cross. In the center of the cross was a gold plaque bearing a white enameled Polish Eagle. The reverse side was inscribed "*Rex et Patria*" (King and Fatherland). This cross was suspended from a broad blue sash with black edges. A breast star with the black enameled cross of the Order superimposed on a sunburst was also worn.

The Second Class, called the Commander's Cross, was awarded to division generals, among them Joseph Zajaczek, John Henry Dąbrowski, Joseph Chłopicki, and Charles Kniaziewicz. The decoration consisted of the black enameled cross of the Order suspended from a blue and black neck ribbon. The Third Class, the Knight's Cross, consisted of a black enameled cross of the Order with the same type ribbon worn on the breast. It was given to brigadier generals, colonels and majors. The Fourth and Fifth Classes were gold-and-silver crosses with the words "*Virtuti Militia*" in black on the gold cross and engraved on the silver cross. The Fourth and Fifth Classes were awarded to officers, sub-officers and private soldiers.³³

With the disappearance of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw and the rise of the Congress Kingdom in 1815 under Russian domination, Czar Alexander I, now claiming the title of King of Poland, converted the Polish royal orders, the Order of the White Eagle, the Order of St. Stanislaus, and the Order of Virtuti Militari, into Russian royal Orders.³⁴ So ended the Polish royal orders until the Order of the White Eagle and the Order of Virtuti Militia were reconstituted as orders of merit in a reborn Polish Republic after World War I. 🇵🇱

³⁰ Potkowski, *Rycerze w Habitach*, p. 330.

³¹ Sadowski, *Ordery i Oznaki Zaszczytne w Polsce*, p. 131.

³² Potkowski, *Rycerze w Habitach*, p. 332.

³³ *Loc. Cit.*

³⁴ *Ibid.*, p.333.

What is Nobility and Chivalry?

by © Hrabia Wiesław G. Helon-Zieliński de Doliwa, KCSG, OMRI, CSSStS-JC, PNA, JP
Australian Representative of the Polish Nobility Association

The Precepts of Chivalric Etiquette

Nobility and chivalry are an indivisible unity of pious selfless spirit, honorable knightly virtues and gracious moral principles; the doctrine of both underpinned by the profound precepts of chivalric etiquette.

"Chivalric etiquette is a code of principles addressing acceptable social protocols and the conduct and behavior of nobles, knights and dames." (1)

"Chivalry – born from the medieval knightly code of moral, ethical and spiritual conduct – is an anthology of desirable virtues characterized by the principles of courteous, polite and well-mannered behavior, especially that of a man towards women." (2)

A noble is one who has a dignified heart and an excellence of mind – a reverent soul exalted in character, demeanor and presence: one who undertakes an act of bona fide charity or heartfelt goodwill without want of favor, recognition, or reward; one who selflessly offers and renders assistance without pretence, out of unconditional generosity – for the love of mankind, without want of affection, praise or reverence.



The Pure Knight

"Remembering that all men and women are born free and equal the pure knight binds himself by oath to uphold the dignity and rights of all men and women regardless of: race, sex, rank, religion, or beliefs." (2)

"A pure knight should uphold and abide by the virtues of chivalry and live one's life so that it is worthy of esteem, respect and honour by all persons." (2)

The Virtues and Principles of True Chivalry

Courage: When undertaking any task, a pure knight should display courage and act without fear of danger or the unknown.

Courtesy: At all times a pure knight should be attentive, courteous, polite, respectful and well-mannered, especially towards women.

Courtliness: The pure knight should act in a civilized and dignified manner at all times, show respect for one's host and be gracious and hospitable.

Duty: A pure knight should act as obliged, obey superiors and live according to the code of chivalry.

Fair Play: A pure knight should never cheat, approach a foe from behind, deceive, or put an opponent at a disadvantage.

Fidelity: A pure knight should always remain faithful and never betray the trust or confidence given to him.

Gallantry: A pure knight should protect the innocent and the dignity and rights of the oppressed and those unable to defend themselves.

Generosity: With goodwill and kindness a pure knight should be ready to help and render assistance to the less-fortunate, needy, weak and sick.

Honour: Abiding by the virtues of chivalry, a pure knight should exhibit self-control and live by example to the young.

Honesty: A pure knight should be honest when entering into any dealings, agreements and arrangements. A pure knight's word is his bond.

Humility: Never should a pure knight seek worship unto himself or undertake any task for want of favor or reward.

Justice: Remembering that all men and women are born free and equal, a pure knight should administer justice honestly and consistently without distinction of: race, sex, rank, religion or beliefs.

Loyalty: A pure knight should always remain loyal and faithful to God, Sovereign, Country, and the virtues of chivalry and should not speak ill of any man or be disrespectful to one's leader.

Nobility: Having high moral principles, a pure knight should obey all laws and rules, show respect for authority, exhibit self-control and hold in reverence the dignity of all.

Politeness: A pure knight should always be attentive, exhibit good manners and self-control, and respect that all persons have differing views and are entitled to express their opinions without pre-judgment, interjection or interruption.

Respect: At all times a pure knight should show respect for life and its sanctity, authority, obey the law and should not slander one's leader.

Truth: Knowing right from wrong, and good from evil, a pure knight should always be honest and speak the truth without fear, or want of favor or reward.

Valor: A pure knight shows great courage in the face of adversity, danger and the unknown.

Sources:

[1]. Helon-Zieliński de Doliwa, Count Wiesław G. Chivalry and Etiquette. The Order of Saint Stanislas Grand Priory of Australia Official Website <http://www.saintstanislas.com/etiquette.html>, 2005.

[2]. Helon-Zieliński de Doliwa, Count Wiesław G. The Knight's Code of Chivalry. The Order of Saint Stanislas Grand Priory of Australia Official Website <http://www.saintstanislas.com/chivalry.html>, 2005. ☞

Bio of PNAF's new Australian Representative:**Hrabia Wiesław George Helon-Zieliński de Doliwa, KCSG, OMRI, CSSStS-JC, PNA, JP.**

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e-mail: ghelon@yahoo.com.au

Blazon of Armorial Bearings [Własny, Doliwa Odmian]: Quarterly. A cross *Argent*, charged with three roses of four petals, in pale, *Gules*, seeded and barbed proper. 1st and 4th *Gules*, an eagle's head erased *Argent*, crowned *Or*. 2nd *Azure*, a lion's head erased *Or*, langued *Gules*. 3rd *Azure*, a kangaroo's head erased *Or*. Above the escutcheon is placed his Count's coronet, and thereupon a helmet befitting his degree, with a mantling *Gules*, doubled *Argent*. On a Knight's coronet proper, is set for crest, between two wings conjoined, alternately *Gules* and *Argent*, a rose of four petals *Gules*, seeded and barbed proper. Below the shield is pendent from its proper ribbon a badge of the Order of St Stanislas. Supporters: dexter, an eagle *Argent*, armed *Or*; sinister, a lion *Or*, armed *Gules*. And on an escrol below this motto: AVORUM HONORI - 'For the Honour of Our Ancestors'. The achievement is placed within a Count's robe of estate *Purple*, doubled *Ermine*.

Hrabia Wiesław George Helon-Zieliński de Doliwa, KCSG, OMRI, CSSStS-JC, PNA, JP; born 23 November 1965, Bridgnorth, England – hereditary Pontifical Count and nobleman of the Polish Kingdom and Commonwealth of Poland-Lithuania, historian, author, ethnographer, genealogist, lecturer and writer, Justice of the Peace for the State of Queensland, Australia.

Founder of the Pallister-Hall Foundation (Aust.) charity in March 2002, Public Liaison and Information Officer, as well as Webmaster.

The Pallister-Hall Foundation (Aust.) is a non-profitable charitable organization dedicated to the care, health, well-being, welfare, support, encouragement and education of the public, Pallister-Hall Syndrome [PHS] patients, their families, carers and medical providers through the provision of information, materials and resources, and to the furtherance of research into Pallister-Hall Syndrome [PHS] worldwide.

Knight Commander [KCSG], Pontifical Order of Saint Gregory the Great; Cavaliere [OMRI], Order Merit Italian Republic; Knight Commander with Star and holder of Justice Cross [CSSStS-JC] of the Order of Saint Stanislas, Webmaster and Website Sponsor [<http://www.saintstanislas.com>]; Accorded Public Vote of Thanks from Mayor and Councilors of the Burnett Shire Council, Queensland for voluntary service on Council's Advisory and Sub-Committees; Awarded Queenslanders for Constitutional Monarchy Association (Inc.) Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service to Crown, Flag and Australia; Awarded Certificate of Nomination Australia Day 1999 Awards in Recognition of being Nominated for the Burnett Shire Cultural Award (Senior) for 1999; Endorsed as a "Monarchist" Candidate for the Election of Delegates to the People's Constitutional Con-

vention on an Australia Republic; Listed in the first edition of the *Who's Who of Australian Writers* [1991], Second Edition [1995]; Listed in the first edition of the *Who's Who of Australian Children's Writers* [1992], Second Edition [1996]; Special Mention in the Commonwealth of Australia House of Representatives House Hansard, 6 December 1994, p.4068; Received Tribal Name 'Buralnyarla' in recognition of the work undertaken and completed for, and on behalf of the Gooreng Gooreng Aboriginal Peoples of South-East Queensland [29 October 1994]; Independent Candidate for Seat of Ballarat, General Federal Election [1990].

Founded the Polish Genealogical Society of Australia in April 1993 and was President until its closure in 1997 and Australian Representative of the Polish Conservative-Monarchist Club [Klub Zachowawczo-Monarchistyczny] Poland [KZ-M] from June 1993 to late 1998.

Life Member of the Queenslanders for Constitutional Monarchy Association Inc. [QCM], The Monarchist League in Australia and the Genealogical Society of Victoria [GSV].

First book published in 1984. Since that year to AD2005, numerous articles and 12 further books have been written, compiled and published in Australia, the United States of America and in Poland; most notably being: *Aboriginal Australia* [Australia, 1998], *First Names of the Polish Commonwealth: Origins & Meanings with William F. Hoffman*, Polish Genealogical Society of America [United States of America, 1998], *The English-Gooreng/Gooreng-English Dictionary* [Australia, 1994], *Index to the Newsletters, Journals and Bulletins of the Polish Genealogical Society of America 1979-1993 with Rosemary A. Chorzempa* [United States of America, 1994], *Destination Australia: Extracts from the Wuertemberg Emigration Index* [Australia, 1994], *Polish-German Place Name Changes* [Australia, 1994] and *By Another Name: A Four Language Guide to Christian Names and Their Foreign Equivalents – English, German, Latin, Polish* [Australia, 1993].

[Albeit with some historical gaps, the ancient lineage of the family Helon can be traced back directly to the parents of mankind, Adam and Eve. Helon, the son of Zebulon, the 10th son of the sons of Jacob (see Genesis), was the 24th direct generation from Adam and Eve. The historians Flavius Josephus and Herodotus wrote much about the existence and descent of the family Helon. Helon was a Prince of the Tribe of Zebulon (see the book of Numbers) and Helon was one of the Royal Scythian Tribes (Heloni/Geloni) that once conquered eastern Europe. Today just north of Poltava in Ukraine can be found the ancient walled city of Helon, and a brand of beer is still brewed there bearing the name. Chinggis [Genghis] Khan's mother was a Helon, too!] ☺



Rik (Suligowski) Fox Joins the *White Eagle* Editorial Board

Rik Fox, the son of the Heraldic Chancellor of the P.N.A.F., Leonard Suligowski, has graciously accepted the appointment to the *White Eagle*'s Editorial Board. Pan Fox is best known as the first Polish-American of noble ancestry to portray the legendary Winged Husaria Cavalry units in the United States. Through this initiative he was largely responsible for "spearheading" the now growing movement in study of 16th- and 17th-century Polish military and husaria in the United States today.

Like his father, Pan Fox is a member of the distinguished Sulima clan, whose shield was carried into battle by "Zawisza Czarny" (Zawisza the Black), the "Polish Black Knight," one of the most famous knights in Polish history, who fought in the Battle of Grunwald in 1410.

Pan Fox is the founder of the Living History group "Suligowski's Regiment of the Polish Commonwealth," which has been officially recognized by such groups as the Polish Consulate in Los Angeles, the Polish American Congress, and the Polish National Alliance. In his uniform of the Polish Winged Husaria he has attended numerous Renaissance festival events and parades, most prominently in New York City's 2002 Pulaski Day Parade.

Pan Fox has also been written about in numerous syndicated Polish and Polish-American newspapers, including the



Rik Fox in his portrayal of a Winged Hussar. You can contact Mr. Fox at wngdhussr@yahoo.com or by phone at (818)505-8455.

Glos (The Voice), News of Polonia, Polish-American Journal, Polish American World, The White Eagle Newsletter, Chicago's Polonia Today, the Los Angeles Daily News and the Long Beach Press Telegram.

Among his contributions are delivering the opening ceremony speech at the 2004 "Polish American Cultural Network Conference"; appearing on live morning news explaining the Polish Husaria Cavalry; and fighting the Los Angeles Television station KTLA for its refusal to apologize for allowing a Polish slur to air on a live morning news broadcast.

Pan Fox has been recognized by various Polish cultural groups. He was awarded the Polish Royal Order of Piast and the Royal Order of Jagiello by the Polish Nobility Association Foundation, acknowledged by the Order of St. Stanislaus, and elected Vice President of the "American Agenda" for the South California Chapter of the Polish American Congress.

The Polish Nobility Association Foundation is happy to have Rik (Suligowski) Fox join the Editorial Board of the *White Eagle*. In this capacity he will advise the Foundation and the Board on all matters related to Polish historic reenactment activities and events, as well as matters related to 17th- and 18th-century Polish military history and culture. ☞

P.N.A.F. Member Leonard Sulima-Miedzianowski (Stage Name "Nemo Turner") Recognized as a "Global Citizen"

MONTREAL - Stage magician Nemo Turner was presented a "Global Citizen" Certificate at the headquarters of the United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC) in Ottawa on Thursday, November 17th. The Director-General Ms. Kathryn White read the following citation at the presentation: "Awarded to Nemo Turner - For your valuable contribution to the building of a more peaceful and equitable global community we all share."

UNAC, in partnership with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is marking the UN's 60th Anniversary by celebrating the charitable work of Canadians with this award. In the past 15 years alone, the UN has brought about the end to more civil wars through negotiation and diplomacy than any organization in the previous 200 years. It has brought hope and care to billions of the world's citizens.

Nemo is also celebrating 35 years as a performing artist this year and a Testimonial Dinner was recently held in his

honor for his volunteerism by the Laurentian Branch of The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada.

Turner has been actively involved in service clubs such as Rotary and the Jaycees, and has also done numerous magic shows for children's hospitals, senior citizens' homes, fundraisers, telethons and other good causes in Canada and internationally. Earlier this year, he received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal from Canadian Minister the Hon. Lucienne Robillard, the Bronze Medallion from the American Red Cross, the Special Member Order from the Japanese Red Cross and the Medal of Distinction from the Order of Kentucky Colonels. He is also a Nobel Peace Prize Nominee.

In previous years, Nemo Turner was honoured for his community work with the Canada 125 Medal and the Order of St. John from the Governor-General of Canada, and a papal knighthood from the Vatican called the Order of the Holy Sepulchre. ☞

THE STORY OF TWO POLISH NOBLES: VICTIMS OF SOVIET BETRYAL

by Stanislas Yassukovich (Jasiukowicz)

[The following is an article written by a member of P.N.A.F. living in Bonnieux, France. The biographical information contained in the article gives us an invaluable brief glimpse of what happened to various members of the Polish nobility during and after World War II, especially their treatment by Poland's Russian oppressors].

The veil of obfuscation and sheer misinformation which the Soviet Government drew over its relations with Poland during the Second World War took many years to be dispersed. But "*perestroika*" did finally reveal the facts surrounding the fate of several Polish martyrs who suffered in the immediate postwar period, when betrayals were the norm. Amongst these figure prominently General Leopold Okulicki and two Cabinet Ministers, Jankowski and Jasiukowicz, the last a kinsman of mine and the subject of this brief biographical note.

Dr. Stanisław Jasiukowicz (*herb Jasieńczyk*) came from a family which had benefited from a land grant made by Sigismund III in 1604 – the estate of Dyrwanisz in the Province of Vilno. By the time of Jasiukowicz's birth in 1882, his branch of the family owned the village and estate of Chodów, near Kutno. In the years leading up to the war, Stanisław Jasiukowicz had made his mark as an outstanding political leader and economist. A long serving deputy to the Sejm, he served as Chairman of the National Party and was known for his contribution to the process of agrarian reform and economic development which characterized the interwar years of Polish independence.

After the occupation of Poland, his property having been confiscated by the Germans, he settled in Warsaw and devoted himself to the conspiratorial activities of the Polish National Party. Arrested in 1942, he was incarcerated in the Pawiak prison. Released in 1943, he was named deputy to the Vice Premier and Delegate to the Polish Government in exile in London. In Warsaw during the Rising, he worked closely with General Bor-Komorowski, organizing the relief of the civilian population. When the Warsaw rising collapsed, he moved to Kraków, where several leaders of the Delegate's Council to the London Government were gathered. As is well known, the "liberating" Soviets disbanded the Home Army, and thousands of soldiers, mostly from the Eastern regions of Vilno and Volyn, were disarmed, shipped to Russia and, in most cases, never heard of again.

Nevertheless, the leaders of Fighting Poland (naively, we would say now) came out into the open and tried to cooperate with the Soviets in the final defeat of Germany. In March 1945, General Okulicki, who had taken over command of the Home Army from General Bor-Komorowski, and Delegate Stanisław Jankowski were invited to a conference with the Soviet General Ivanov, under written guarantees of safety. Jasiukowicz and several other members of the Delegate's Council were also invited. They were all under the impression they were going to discuss measures to assure final victory and the formation of a postwar civilian government.

Okulicki and Jankowski, together with Pużak, Chairman of the National Unity Council, were the first to travel. On

arrival at Pruszków, where the meeting was to take place, the three were immediately deported to Moscow and thrown into the Lubianka Prison. Initial discussions with General Ivanov had established that, after a meeting with Marshal Zhukov at Pruszków, the delegates from the National Unity Council, the Home Council of Ministers and representatives of other political parties would travel to London for discussions with the Government in Exile. The twelve-strong delegation, led by Minister Dr. Stanisław Jasiukowicz, arrived in Pruszków only to be told that Marshal Zhukov could not attend but that he would meet them at his own headquarters near Poznań, and an aeroplane was waiting to take them there. Again, with a lack of suspicion we can only wonder at, on 29 March 1945, they all boarded the plane at Okęcie Airport, were flown straight to Moscow, and incarcerated in the Lubianka.

In Moscow, preparations for a show trial began. In answer to British protests, Stalin wrote to the *Times* correspondent in Moscow "...these Poles have never been invited by the Soviet authorities for any discussions. They have been arrested as saboteurs, with the well known saboteur Okulicki at their head. The arrest was carried out in consultation with the Polish Government in Lublin." The trial took place in Moscow in June of 1945, well attended by foreign diplomats and correspondents. The accused, having been well "prepared" in the Lubianka, all pleaded guilty with minor reservations and the sentences were remarkably light, given the gravity of the charges. Okulicki was jailed for 10 years, Jankowski for 8 years and Jasiukowicz for 5 years. The rest were sentenced to shorter periods or discharged entirely. But this was part of the propaganda exercise. Gen. Okulicki and Minister Jankowski died in prison soon after the trial. Jasiukowicz vanished without a trace. The rest of the accused returned to Poland after serving their sentences.

Dr. Jasiukowicz's widow, née Maria Byszewska, lived afterward in London under an assumed name, Maria Stepniewska, and was unable to ascertain the true fate of her husband. His son Andrew Jasiukowicz emigrated to South Africa and served for many years as Delegate for South Africa to the Polish Government in Exile in London.

The story of Dr. Stanisław Jasiukowicz began to emerge in 1984 when an article appeared in an underground newspaper published by "Solidarity" in Kutno. A few years later, in the midst of the *Perestroika* initiative in Russia, Dr. Jasiukowicz's daughter Hanka Szlenkier, living in France with her husband, an engineer on the Airbus project, received a call from the political attaché at the Russian Embassy in Paris. He explained that he was now in a position to inform her of the fate of her father, as certain documents had now been released in Moscow as part of the new policy. He regretted to inform

her that Dr. Jasiukowicz had been executed some few months after the trial in June 1945 (at which he had been sentenced to 5 years imprisonment.) There was no explanation as to why.

A small and ancient wooden church is situated in the park at the Chodów estate, so typical of many such wooden churches in Poland, that have somehow survived the many

wars and pillages. Near it is a mausoleum, containing the remains of many members of the Jasiukowicz family (including even my grandfather, who came from a Russified branch and was Orthodox). In the church is a marble plaque placed there by the Kutno branch of Solidarity honoring Dr. Stanisław Jasiukowicz as a great patriot. ☙

Summary of the Minutes of the August 14, 2005 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation

At 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 14, 2005 the Executive Committee of the Polish Nobility Association Foundation met to address issues facing the Foundation for the coming year and review the status of the Foundation for the previous. In attendance were Dr. Roger Chyliński-Połubiński, Chairman of the Board; Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński, President of the Foundation; and Tom Hollowak, Website Director of the Foundation. Chev. Leonard Suligowski, Heraldic Chancellor of the Foundation, was excused from attendance.

Dr. Chyliński-Połubiński reported that the Foundation was in good financial shape and recommended that a larger amount of the Foundation's assets be invested to increase revenues. This was supported by those present. The main emphasis of the meeting was to set the major goal for the Foundation for the coming year and to review the entire nature of the Foundation, its activities, and its publications. The primary goal of the Foundation approved by the Committee was to increase the visibility of the Foundation, which, it was felt, would improve its prestige, influence, and credibility. A list of ideas to achieve this goal were discussed and approved.

It was also generally agreed that if the Foundation was to increase its visibility, it needed to update and modernize its publications and the documents it issues, to insure that they accurately reflect what the Foundation is doing but also to redefine the services the Foundation provides. To insure the Foundation's credibility it was also agreed that the Foundation should not make claims or issue documents that attest to individual's prerogatives that the Foundation did not have the expertise to provide. In light of these discussions it was agreed to redo the wording in most of the certificates the Foundation issued to individuals related to name searches as well as the diploma of the Order of Piast. It was also agreed to review and update the entire constitution of the Foundation, change the Foundation's website, update the publication *Nobility of the Polish Commonwealth*, and develop an information pamphlet that provides more accurate and extensive information about the Foundation. It was understood that all of these initiatives would take some time to achieve and implement, but because of their importance it was felt that the Foundation needed to proceed with this program.

The Foundation's ongoing project to purchase a palace or castle in Poland was also discussed. Dr. Chyliński-Połubiński stated that it was probable that the window of opportunity for purchasing this type of property previously envisioned by the Foundation was gone. The price of such properties had increased dramatically and the availability of this particular type

of property had also shrunk. As a consequence, it was agreed to shift the emphasis on the type of property the Foundation would pursue. In the future the Foundation would concentrate on smaller rural manor houses rather than on large buildings such as castles or palaces. Such properties could be purchased at more reasonable prices and the cost of restoring them would also be more realistic.

The membership of the Foundation was discussed next. Dr. Chyliński-Połubiński stated that the Foundation had 107 dues-paying members, but it was hoped that the greater emphasis on public relations and the long term increased visibility of the Foundation, along with the other changes aimed at updating the organization, would gradually lead to an increase in membership.

The final topic to be discussed was the revision of the booklet *Nobility of the Polish Commonwealth*. Dr. Holewiński reported that there were things in the publication that needed to be updated to more accurately reflect the Foundation as it exists today. In addition, he expressed his view that while the basic organization of the booklet was fine, by expanding the content of the material the overall quality of the publication could be greatly enhanced. It was therefore agreed that Dr. Holewiński would work up a draft of a second edition of this publication and submit the draft to the Committee for final approval. Since the Foundation still had a large number of the original covers for this publication available, the eventual printing of a second edition could be done at considerably less cost than that for the first edition. In addition, Dr. Holewiński stated that he would pick up the associated cost for the printing, assembling, and stapling of this second edition.

Since there were no further matters to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. ☙

Solicitation of Articles

As part of the initiative to improve and expand the *White Eagle*, the Foundation is asking all of its members to submit scholarly articles related to the culture and history of the Polish nobility throughout Poland's history. Such articles may deal with a wide variety of topics of the culture of Polish nobility, from their clothing at various historic periods to their residences, values, forms of entertainment, or short biographical sketches of prominent nobles. Please submit any such articles to Dr. Felix W. v. L-Holewiński, felixwholewinski@msn.com.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS, NOTES, AND CORRESPONDENCE

Irena Uderska, Associate Editor and London Correspondent

Vatican – The Nobility were able to field a candidate in the recent Papal elections, namely, Count Christopher Schoenborn, aka the Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna. Count Christopher is a member of the Bohemian branch of the Schoenborn family. Nineteen of his ancestors were priests, Bishops or Archbishops.

France – French opposition to the draft European constitution in the forthcoming referendum is being led by Philippe de Villiers, an aristocrat from the Vendée who is a devout Roman Catholic and a staunch nationalist. He is the most eurosceptic leader on the Right.

UK – An exhibition has been opened at Coughton Court to mark the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, now described as England's 9/11. Coughton Court is the estate of the Throckmorton family, who are descended from the plot's mastermind Robert Catesby. The estate has been the family seat since 1409 and now run by Clare Throckmorton.

Poland – According to a Polish radio report the Branicki family are now claiming compensation for the confiscation of their hereditary estate Wilanów by the communists. Wilanów is to Warsaw what Versailles is to Paris.

UK – Burke's Peerage and Gentry are publishing *World Orders of Knighthood and Merit*. The editor is Guy Stair Sainty and the deputy editor is Rafał Heydel-Mankoo. Dr. Zdzisław Wesółowski is helping provide photographs for the Polish section.

UK – On 20 April 2005 at Burlington House, London, Rafał Heydel-Mankoo gave an inspired lecture on "The Polish Orders of Chivalry" to a large and enthusiastic audience. The talk was part of a regular series of lectures hosted by the Heraldry Society.

Savoy/Greece – The engagement has been announced between HRH Prince Aimone of Savoy-Aosta, son of HRH the Duke of Aosta, and HRH Princess Olga, daughter of HRH Prince Michael and HRH Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark.

UK – Prince and Princess Michael of Kent are selling Nether Lypiatt Manor, their country home in Gloucestershire.

Italy – The Torlonia Princes are selling their collection of ancient Roman statues to the city of Rome for 100 million pounds.

Kenya – The Hon. Thomas Cholmondeley, son and heir of Lord Delamere, has been cleared of murdering a game warden on his family estate.

UK – 27-year-old Anthony Ashley-Cooper, 11th Earl of Shaftesbury, died of a heart attack in New York six weeks after the body of his murdered father, the 10th Earl, was found in the French Alps.

Two Sicilies – HRH the Duchess of Castro née Chantal de Chevron-Vilette died 24 May 2005. Her husband, HRH the Duke of Castro, was born in Poland 28 May 1926 – his mother was Countess Karolina Zamoyska, the daughter of Count Andrew Zamoyski and Princess Donna Maria Karolina de Bourbon-Two Sicilies.

South Africa – Queen Modjadji VI, the Rain Queen of the Balobedu, has died aged 27 in June 2005. She was the sixth Queen in a line of Matriarchal Monarchs and inherited the throne in 2001 from her grandmother Queen Modjadji V. The first Queen Modjadji reigned 1800-1854. The Rain Queens, who have the mystical powers to control the rains and rivers, were immortalized by Rider Haggard in his novel *She*.

UK – Happily there is still a remnant of hereditary peers in the House of Lords. Under this arrangement whenever a hereditary dies the remaining hereditaries vote for a replacement from the ranks of peers who were dispossessed of their right to sit in the Lords. Consequently two of these by-elections took place earlier this year following the deaths of Lord Burnham and Lord Aberdare. Lord de Mauley was elected to fill Lord Burnham's place and Viscount Eccles was elected to fill the "deputy speaker" seat created by the death of Lord Aberdare. Both these peers will sit on the Conservative benches.

Furthermore, following the death of Baroness Strange, the 29 Crossbencher hereditary peers voted for a replacement. Of the 26 candidates who presented themselves, the two finalists were the Earl of Effingham, who had 8 votes, and Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, who had 11 votes. Thus Baroness Strange's place was taken by Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, the son of the great World War II Field Marshal.

The interests of the hereditary peers, both in and out of Parliament, are represented by the Hereditary Peerage Association.

The well-known journalist and political commentator Richard D. North has written an excellent and timely article entitled "The Case As Yet Unheard: A Defence of the Hereditary Peerage."

UK – The death took place August 2005 of Baron Sergei von Bennigsen, a founder member and Grand Chancellor of the Order of the Orthodox Hospitallers. The Most Sacred Order of the Orthodox Hospitallers was founded in 1972 by His Beatitude Makarios the Cypriot Archbishop and Ethnarch, who was also the first President of the Republic of Cyprus (1960-1977) – he decided that the Grandmastership of the Order should always be vested in the Archbishop of, and

Ethnarch in, Cyprus, and that the office of Temporal Protector should be vested in the President of the Republic of Cyprus. Membership is restricted to those of Orthodox faith.

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Polynesia – The tiny islands of Wallis and Futuna, which are classified as French overseas territories, have been torn apart over a tribal feud in which Tomasi Kulimoetoke, who has been King of Wallis for 46 years, is being challenged by a rival claimant to his crown.

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UK – The death took place 3 October 2005 of Bob Houston, the rock-journalist editor of *Royalty*. Bob Houston had worked for *Melody Maker*. He had also been a sports writer for *The Independent* and *The Observer* as well as editor of a Trade Union paper *The Miner*. His greatest success was the launch of *Royalty* in the 1980s. Paradoxically Bob Houston was both the left-wing Glaswegian son of a steelworker and an ardent Royalist.

*

France – The Count of Paris has announced his intention to stand as a candidate in the 2007 French Presidential election. As part of his campaign he has revived the newsletter *La Gazette de la Maison Royale de la France*.

Meanwhile another French Presidential candidate is using the pseudonym of Queen Catherine de Medici and has published his/her manifesto in a 270-page book entitled *J'arrive – Il Est Plus Tard Que Vous Ne Le Pense (I'm Coming – It Is Later Than You Think)*.

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Poland – Psary, the ancestral palace of Count Rey in the Western Ukraine, has been put up for sale for 420,000 euros.

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Spain – The death took place 5 October 2005 of the Spanish aristocrat and scion of the sherry family Alvaro Domecq y Diez. The Monarchist newspaper *ABC* described him as “the last gentleman.” Don Alvaro fought as a pilot in General Franco’s air force during the Spanish Civil War and also revived the glorious art of bullfighting on horseback (*rejoneo*) which “is still largely the preserve of the landed class from Andalusia.” His book *El Toro Bravo* is a classic.

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Polynesia – The engagement has been announced between the King of Tonga’s granddaughter, Titilupe Fanetupouvava’u Tuita, and Papalii Malietau Sapatu-moto-pa Laupepa Malietoa, the grandson of Samoa’s Head of State, Malietoa Tanumafili II.

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Sweden – The wedding of Prince Manuel of Bavaria and Princess Anna zu Sayn-Wittgenstein-Berleberg took place 6 August 2005 in Sweden at the country estate of the bride’s maternal grandparents, Count and Countess Wachtmeister of Johannishus. Among the guests were King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia and their three children. The bridegroom’s father, Prince Leopold of Bavaria, is godfather to Prince Carl Philip of Sweden.

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Italy – The wedding of Count Rodolphe de Causans and Princess Anna Cecilia de Bourbon-Two Sicilies took place in

Turin September 2005. As the bride’s maternal grandfather was the legendary Prince Amedeo of Savoy, 3rd Duke d’Aosta, the reception was held at the Chateau de Racconigi, a former residence of the Kings of Italy. The bride’s father, Prince Casimir, is the son of Prince Gabriel de Bourbon-Two Sicilies and his second wife née Princess Cecilia Lubomirska. Prince Casimir was born in Warsaw.

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Italy – The wedding of Prince Aimone of Savoy, son of the 5th Duke d’Aosta, and Princess Olga, daughter of Prince and Princess Michael of Greece, will take place Spring 2006.

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Belgium – A third child and second son, Prince Emmanuel, was born 4 October 2005 to Crown Prince Philippe and Crown Princess Mathilde. The infant Prince is fourth in line to the Belgian throne.

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Belgium – The death took place 21 August 2005 of Antoine, 14th Prince de Ligne. He was married to Princess Alix of Luxemburg, daughter of the Grand Duchess Charlotte. Prince Antoine was famed for having taken part in the 1958 King Baudouin Antarctic Expedition, in which he nearly lost his life.

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UK – The death took place 15 September 2005 of John de Courcy, 35th Baron Kingsale. The Lords Kingsale are the premier Barons of Ireland and have the right to keep their hats on in the presence of the Sovereign. An amiable eccentric, suffering like so many of the nobility from penury, Lord Kingsale worked, among other things, as a bingo caller, film extra, and plumber. At one time he even ran a dating agency in Brisbane. He is succeeded by his cousin, Nevinston Mark de Courcy.

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UK – Brian Friel’s play *Aristocrats* opened at the National Theatre, London, on 12 July 2005. This Chekhovian drama features a family of Catholic aristocrats living in Ireland in a big decaying house whose upkeep, following the death of their father, they can no longer afford.

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Holland – The chief Judge at the murder trial following the vicious stabbing of the film maker Theo van Gogh was Baron Udo Willem Bentinck.

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Japan – Some Monarchists, rather than allowing female succession, favor the adoption, as heir to the throne, of a son from one of the junior branches of the Imperial Family. This is in keeping with traditional Japanese thinking that holds that Imperial blood is transmitted only through the male line. Among the possible candidates is the 29-year-old writer Tsuneyasu Takeda.

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Japan – The Russian director Alexander Sokurov’s latest film, *The Sun*, focuses on the life of Emperor Hirohito at the time of Japan’s defeat in World War II.

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Germany – The death took place 25 August 2005 of the Dowager Princess Margareta zu Sayn-Wittgenstein Berleberg. She was born in Sweden in 1909, the daughter of Duke

Charles Fouche d'Otrante and Countess Madeleine Douglas. She was the widow of the 5th Prince zu Sayn-Wittgenstein-Berleberg, who was reported missing in action in Russia in 1944 and who was declared legally dead in 1969.

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Mechelen, Belgium – The grand Magistry Meeting of the Order of St. Stanislas will take place in Mechelen, Belgium from December 15 through 18. 🇺🇸

PNAF PRESIDENT ATTENDS ST. LAZARUS INVESTITURE IN LONDON WITH GUEST IRENA UDESKA

Dr. Felix W. v. L. Holewiński, President of the P.N.A.F., and his guest Irena Uderska, P.N.A.F. representative in England and member of the *White Eagle* editorial board, attended the investiture and promotion ceremonies of the Grand Priory of England and Wales of the Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem in London on Saturday, October 7, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. Dr. Holewiński, who is a Knight Commander of this Order and Vice Chancellor of the American Delegation of the Grand Priory of England and Wales, was part of a larger American contingent which participated in the ceremonies. The event was held in the magnificent guard's chapel at Wellington Barracks (see photograph below), the residence of the Irish and Scots Guards that guard Buckingham Palace. October was the Irish Guards' turn to be on duty for the daily changing of the guard at the Palace, hence, during the investiture ceremony the band of the Scots Guard, under the direction of Lt. Col. R. J. Owen, provided the music.

During the ceremonies the officers of the Grand Priory lead by the Grand Prior, the Rt. Hon. the Earl Ferrers and the Bailiff, Sir Anthony Reardon-Smith, Bt., were in attendance. The Grand Priory of England and Wales is one of the largest jurisdictions in the Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem, which is under the Grand Mastership of HRH Prince Charles-Philippe d'Orlean, Duc d'Anjou, and under the protection of his uncle, the Count of Paris, the Orleanist pretender to the French



throne. The Grand Priory includes among its members some of the most prominent members of the British peerage, gentry and church hierarchy including the Duke of Westminster, a former Grand Prior, the Duke of Richmond and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

After this investiture ceremonies an elegant champagne brunch was held in the officer's mess of the barracks. Following this some members of the group, including Dr. Holewiński, took the opportunity to visit the impressive Guard's museum located on the grounds of the barracks.

[Photographs courtesy of Dr. Holewiński. Above, Dr. Holewiński outside the officers' mess at Wellington Barracks. At left, the Guard's Chapel at Wellington Barracks, where the Investiture of St. Lazarus was held.] 🇺🇸