

**Proclamation 3720****COMMEMORATION OF POLAND'S NATIONAL AND CHRISTIAN  
MILLENNIUM****By the President of the United States of America****A Proclamation**

May 3 marks an important anniversary for freedom-loving people the world over. It was on this date, 175 years ago, that the patriots of Poland adopted a Constitution that stirred the hopes of the Polish people.

But this year, May 3 takes on a significance that is truly unique. It marks the 1000th anniversary of Polish Christianity and Polish nationhood.

Ten centuries ago today, Poland became a part of the community of Western nations. Ten centuries ago today, Poland entered the mainstream of Western thought and Western culture.

It was this tradition that gave birth to the Polish Constitution of 1791. The Christian expression of the dignity of man found its ultimate expression in the cause of freedom and national independence.

It was no accident that this great political document came into being just four years after the American Constitution—or that the two were so similar in content and spirit. The same spark of freedom that flared into the American Revolution also burned in the hearts of the Polish people. Our Revolution was theirs, and to these shores, to help in our struggle, came two great champions of liberty: Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Kazimierz Pulaski.

The rest is history: a triumph for America—for the most part tragedy for Poland. Today, after nearly two centuries of struggle, of invasion, of foreign domination, of partition—and always of bravery—love for national independence and for the basic rights of man still lies deep in the hearts of the Polish people.

The spark of freedom has never been extinguished.

And through it all, the historic ties between our two great nations have remained as a symbol of friendship and hope. Today, on this anniversary, we reaffirm that friendship and pledge ourselves to that hope.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim this day, May 3, 1966, as Poland's National and Christian Millennium Day on which we spiritually unite ourselves with the people of Poland and those gathered today at Jasna Gora and wherever they might be observing this historical event. I invite the American people to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities and particularly to join with Americans of Polish heritage in their continued celebrations throughout this memorable year, both in America and in Poland.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this third day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninetieth.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON,  
*The White House,*  
*Washington, D.C.*

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,  
*Secretary of State.*

### Proclamation 3721

#### DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR FIREFIGHTERS

By the President of the United States of America

May 4, 1966

#### A Proclamation

The firefighter has been a part of the American scene since earliest Colonial days.

From the bucket brigades of Colonial America we have progressed to the modern fire departments and modern firefighting equipment of today.

But fire hazards have more than kept pace with our advanced technology and social progress. The American fireman today must meet the challenge of fires caused by numerous new chemicals, explosives, combustible fibers, and other dangerous materials. He must be prepared to fight fires in crowded cities and giant buildings, as well as in remote rural communities. Those duties are often performed at great personal risk and sacrifice.

Furthermore, the services of firemen are among the first to be sought in other emergency situations. Whether to rescue a stranded child, or to give aid and comfort to victims of a flood, hurricane, or other disaster, the American fireman stands ready to serve his community night and day.

To afford the people of this Nation a special opportunity to express their heartfelt gratitude for the incalculable contributions which our firemen so generously bestow upon us, the Congress by a joint resolution approved May 4, 1966, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating May 4, 1966, as a Day of Recognition of the personal sacrifices and devotion to duty of firefighters in the United States of America.

Ante, p. 134.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, May 4, 1966, as a Day of Recognition for Firefighters.

I invite State and local governments, patriotic, civic, and educational organizations, and the people of the United States generally, to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of our firemen—both career and volunteer—who, by faithful and dedicated service to their communities, are safeguarding the lives and property of their fellow Americans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.