

Historic Reflections Continued • April / May



April 20, 1920 - Vilna Offensive

The Vilna offensive was a campaign of the Polish-Soviet War of 1919-1921. The Polish army launched an offensive on April 16, 1919 to take Vilnius (Polish: Wilno) from the Red Army. After three

days of street fighting from April 19-21, the city was captured by Polish forces causing the Red Army to retreat.

April 21, 1978 - Krystyna Chojnowska-Liskiewicz

Krystyna Chojnowska-Liskiewicz of Poland became the first woman to sail around the world alone in a 31-foot vessel. The trip took 401 days and covered 31,166 nautical miles. On April 21, 1978, Krystyna Chojnowska-Liskiewicz completed her solo trip and gained her title "The First Lady of the Oceans".



April 22, 1915 - Founding

The Polish Museum of America's Library was founded on April 22, 1915 in Chicago, Illinois, by the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. The Library collects books and information on the history of Polonia in America and on the history of Poland.

April 23, 1989 - Mother Frances Siedliska (Beatified)

Mother Frances Siedliska was the foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth in 1875. The Sisters serve in education, health care and social services in Poland, France, England and the United States. Mother Frances Siedliska was beatified on April 23, 1989, by Pope John Paul II.



April 24, 1908 - Józef Goslawski (Born)

Józef Goslawski was an author of numerous monuments and portrait sculptures, sculpture caricatures, medals, coins, renovations and drawings. His early works, generally not conserved, show some influence of cubism (self-portrait, portrait of Witold Chomicz), Szukalski's ideas (sculpture caricature of Henryk Uziemblo), as well as forms similar to ideas of the Polish Applied Art Society (design of the St. Franciscus altar).

April 25, 1333 - King Casimir the Great (Coronation)

Poland's King Casimir the Great reigned between 1333 and 1370. In 1364, Casimir the Great, known by his Polish name, Kazimierz Wielki, established Poland's first university in Krakow, which became Jagiellonian University.



April 26, 1919 - Napoleon Cybulski (Died)

In 1895, Napoleon Cybulski discovered Adrenaline, a hormone which regulates brain and muscle activity.

April 27, 1941 - Marian Batko (Polish Teachers' Day)

On April 27, Polish Teachers' Day of Remembrance and Peace, about a thousand Polish teachers and students paid homage to the victims of the Auschwitz Nazi camp. The date coincides with the anniversary of the martyr-death in Auschwitz of the teacher Marian Batko, who gave his life for a 16-year-old fellow prisoner.



April 28, 1943 - Nicholas Minue (Died)

Nicholas Minue (birth unknown - died April 28, 1943) received the Medal of Honor for military service on behalf of the United States of America in World War II. He received this recognition for charging a group of German soldiers that had a machine-gun position near Medjez El Bab, Tunisia. He died during the charge. Born in Sedden, Poland, he enlisted in the

United States Army in Carteret, NJ. He served in Company A, 6th Armored Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division.

April 29, 1926 - Paul Baran (Born)

Paul Baran was one of the early developers of the Internet, ATM technology, and DSL modem technology. He was born in Poland in 1926 and his family emigrated to Boston in 1928. Mr. Baran has connections to Philadelphia through Drexel University where he did his undergraduate work.



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