

IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI

*Champion of Liberty*

STAMP CEREMONY



OCTOBER 8, 1960



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## *Participants in the Ceremony*

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The Honorable Arthur E. Summerfield  
*The Postmaster General*

The Honorable Charles Rozmarek  
*President, Polish American Congress*

The Honorable Livingston T. Merchant  
*The Under Secretary of State*

Inter-Departmental Auditorium  
Constitution Avenue between Twelfth and  
Fourteenth Streets, NW.  
Washington, D.C.

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PROGRAM

DEDICATION OF THE "CHAMPION OF LIBERTY"  
STAMP COMMEMORATING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE BIRTH OF IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI  
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL AUDITORIUM  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
OCTOBER 8, 1960

Opening Remarks:

The Honorable L. Rohe Walter  
Special Assistant to the Postmaster General

Invocation:

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter P. Niebrzydowski

National Anthems

Paderewski Choral Society of Philadelphia

Selections:

Piosnka Dudarza - The Bagpipers Song -  
I. J. Paderewski

Noc Listopadowa - A Night in November - J. Witzcark

Addresses by:

The Honorable Arthur E. Summerfield  
The Postmaster General

The Honorable Charles Rozmarek  
President, Polish American Congress

The Honorable Livingston T. Merchant  
The Under Secretary of State

Presentation of Paderewski Stamp Albums:

The Honorable Leo G. Knoll  
Deputy General Counsel  
Post Office Department

The Honorable Arthur E. Summerfield  
The Postmaster General

Paderewski Choral Society of Philadelphia

Selections:

God Bless America - I. Berlin  
Boze Cos Polske with the Assembly

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"Today we issue stamps dedicated to Ignacy Jan Paderewski, statesman and life-long champion of the individual rights of man and nation.

"Paderewski knew war, revolution, and tyranny even as an infant. As the merest child of three, he saw his father cruelly thrust into prison by the Russian oppressors in revenge for his courage in aiding the Polish patriots who fought to throw off the yoke of their eastern conqueror.

"One must believe that this horror-stricken little boy had burned in his heart a sight which laid the basis for his determination in the protection of his native land.

"In this faith in his beloved Poland, he persevered to the last hours of his life—never faltering—just as he persevered in seeking perfection in his musical skills, his poetry, and his role as a composer.

"But his guide throughout his life was love for man. If freedom and independence demanded war and revolution, he did not waver. But his genius was in building and creating, rather than in violence and destruction.

"His memory as a patriot, statesman, and great artist will forever be enshrined in the hearts of all Americans and the freedom-loving people of Poland.

"These stamps commemorating Ignacy Jan Paderewski as a 'Champion of Liberty' will not only portray the strong friendship of the peoples of the United States and Poland but also their common love for freedom."

*Arthur E. Summerfield*

Arthur E. Summerfield  
The Postmaster General



**A** LIKENESS of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, from a painting by Tade Styka based on a photograph by Taylor and Dull of New York, is featured on the 4- and 8-cent "Champion of Liberty" stamps released today at Washington, D.C.

These stamps were initially announced by the Postmaster General on May 2, 1960—the eve of the day when the people of Poland and millions of Americans of Polish ancestry commemorate the adoption of the Polish Constitution of 1791. As Mr. Summerfield noted then, "Poland's Constitution of that date was patterned after our own American Constitution, and is considered one of the outstanding documents of the free world."

The Paderewski "Champion of Liberty" stamps are based on a photograph of a stamp design, a drawing of a medallion and a drawing of a ribbon, spray of leaves and torch, which were furnished by the Post Office Department. The design is in the "Famous American" size, and is based on the 8-cent Magsaysay "Champion of Liberty" stamp of 1957 with modifications.

The visual plan for these stamps was developed by Arnold J. Copeland, a member of the Post Office Department's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. Two other Committee members, William H. Buckley and Ervine Metz, collaborated on its design.

The Post Office Department has ordered 120 million of the 4-cent stamps, for use on domestic first-class letters, and 40 million of the 8-cent stamps, for use on international surface letters. After First-day sale today in Washington, D.C., the stamps will be available in more than 36,000 post offices of the United States.

October 8th was chosen as the date of dedication because it is at a time when all Americans commemorate the death of Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski who died on October 11, 1779, after being mortally wounded during the American Revolution at the siege of Savannah, Georgia, on October 9, 1779.

