

Warsaw, 29 March 2019

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**The Honorable Georgette Mosbacher
Ambassador of the United States
US Embassy in Warsaw
Aleje Ujazdowskie 29/31
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Dear Madam Ambassador:

In consequence of the twentieth anniversary of Poland's accession to NATO we permit ourselves to present to you the article *Development of the modern biological defence system of the Polish Armed Forces according to NATO requirements*, published in the Military Physician quarterly periodical.

In this article we discuss the wide compass of the contribution made by the USA to the creation of this system. This applies not only to the breadth of the scientific collaboration between the Polish Military Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology and centers of scientific excellence of the US Army, but also to the prodigious engagement of the Embassy's diplomatic staff, and particularly to the leaders and staff of the Office of Defense Cooperation: the Chief of Office at the time, Col Peter J. Podbielski, his second-in-command Betty J. Dent, Maj David Paynter, Dr. R. Olesinski and Chief of Office Col S. Prusinski.

Without their commitment and friendship it would not have been possible to appoint the first Biological Safety Level 3 laboratory in Poland with full equipment or bring it into operation. This laboratory, in the Biological Threats Identification and Countermeasures Center in Puławy, was a foundation in the instigation of the defense system against biological weapons and an essential for the participation of our deployable laboratory in the coalition missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have the highest appreciation for the attention which Ambassadors Christopher R. Hill and Victor H. Ashe paid to this matter and which Ambassador Ashe showed in his visit to our center in 2005.

The purpose of this article is to recall and preserve the memory of that marvelous stage of the cooperation between the USA and Poland which started in 1994 and coincided with the challenging period of Poland's adaptation of its armed forces to NATO demands.

Madam Ambassador, in gratitude for these acts of friendship, we wish you material achievements to complement those which have foregone, as a continuation and expansion of the partnership between our countries. May they be borne not only of our common strategic goals but also of the deep, longstanding and oft-proven friendship between our nations.

Respectfully yours,

