

Piotr Maciejewski

THE DIPLOMATIC CEREMONY AT THE ENGLAND COURT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH POLISH REPUBLIC IN 17TH CENTURY

The article is an attempt to depict the ceremony which existed within the courtly-diplomatic relationships between Poland and England in the times of Elisabeth I, James I and Charles I, and to show its role.

The paper is based on such sources as the accounts of legations to England by Paweł Działyński (1597), Jerzy Ossoliński (1621) and Jan Zawadzki (1633). Some inside information was taken from the accounts of private travel of Jakub Sobieski (1609).

The ceremony at the English court, similarly as in other capital cities visited by our diplomats, was not only essential for the international relationships and enabled contacts between countries in general, but it also ensured achieving the most important thing in politics – the compromise. Besides that, it served harmonious coexistence and secured comfort in any actions. There was on condition for that of course: both sides should properly receive the signals given (e.g. gestures, greetings, speeches, toasting, feasts, gifts and tokens, etc.). The only visible difference between the two sides would be the outside difference e.g. in clothing.

The above can be proved by the fact that Polish diplomats, equipped with instructions, letters from the country and the knowledge gained, could easily manage the relationships with the royalty and high range English diplomats. Polish diplomats didn't find it difficult to adjust to the local customs (with the exception of the unprecedented case of Działyński).

Magdalena Marczuk

THE BACKGROUND OF JOHN ADAMS' POLITICAL AND CIVIL EDUCATION (1755–1776)

The article is devoted to one of the Founding Fathers, the second president of the United States, John Adams. In the historical sources he is shown as an experienced politician. Becoming one of the most important persons in the USA, for a man born on the farm, with no fortune and proper connections was a long and difficult process.

Adams is a classic example of the American self-made man, a personification of Enlightenment ideals. He was active and pragmatic in his life and career, he knew how to control his fate in order to achieve his goals. Additionally, his personality and philosophy of life was shaped and influenced by many factors: family, people he met, his education or events taking place in Massachusetts that caused him to get engaged in politics. His parents made it possible for him to acquire formal education at Harvard University. Afterwards he chose a law as his profession. Being a lawyer enabled him to be an active participant of the life of the local community. He always sought company of people he could learn from.

For Adams' work was not only a means of self-education, the way to satisfy his ambition and to develop professionally but also an attempt at gaining trust of the community. He became famous after participating in a few controversial trials as a defense attorney. The events of the 1770s in Massachusetts involved him into public life and transferred a lawyer into an active politician. A strong believer in Puritan ideals, he saw his mission to be acting for the well-being of the emerging

American society. Undoubtedly, John Adams entered the political arena to create American history.

The article was based mainly on John Adams' diary which provides a comprehensive picture of the author's personality and the reality in which he lived.

Jacek Goclon

SETTING UP THE STRUCTURES OF THE FUTURE POLISH STATE ON THE TERRITORY OF SECOND AND THIRD PRUSSIAN PARTITION 1806–1807

The years 1806–1807 were times of change in the history of the Polish nation. Military campaigns, that took place on the Polish ground were of much importance for the fortunes of Polish statehood. In 1806 Napoleon's military forces entered central Europe and shortly afterwards destroyed the whole political establishment from 1795. Eleven years after the fall of the Commonwealth the issue of Polish independence known as “The Polish Question” remained very much alive. The Great Army was considerably weak and far away from the borders of France. Moreover, The Great Army needed to have newly occupied territories under its rule and to maintain Paris' hegemony in these regions of Europe, and to strengthen it using Polish armed forces. The approval of the Polish society was one of the most important factor that was responsible for the negotiations concerning the rebirth of the Polish independent State.

In the Polish social common consciousness there is an opinion that the rebirth of Polish statehood created by Napoleon in the shape of the Duchy of Warsaw was started on 22 July 1807. On that day the creation of a new state was proclaimed. Nevertheless, the date of the creation of the new state is quite debatable. In June 1807 the founding stone of the nation was the creation of the structures of the Polish state.

The breakthrough was in the autumn of 1806 when, during his victorious war campaign, Bonaparte defeated the Prussian Army, and on 27 October he entered Berlin. Then it was agreed upon that the rebirth of the Polish state was possible with the help of the powerful Napoleonic France. The pro-French attitude of Polish society was the result of its experience with the Russians' and the Prussians' solutions for “the Polish Question” that brought only disappointment. It is to be noted that in the contemporary history of Europe the changes made during the dictatorship rule of Napoleon were visible in a broader scope. The triumphal march of the invincible Great Army led by “the God of war” in the region of Central and Eastern Europe was the fact that made Poles believe in regaining of Poland's independence. Towering genius of Corsican conquered entirely Europe. People admired him and praised him as saviour of the patria and this opinion is undoubtedly true.

It is worth highlighting the fact that with the fall of the Commonwealth the Polish administration was almost completely destroyed and after 12 years of state's non-existence there was a beginning of reconstruction the Polish administration's structure on the basis of the remnants of the Prussian administration. National institutions introduced in the period of the Governing Commission (brought into being by Napoleon on 14 January 1807 and functioning as the chief governing body and having executive rights) became one of the essential elements in creating the Duchy of Warsaw. There were some changes after the introduction of the constitution of the Duchy of Warsaw, whose purpose was to modify the structures that had been previously created in the years of the Commission (dissolved on 5

October 1807). Since then the state structure which had been created survived not only the times of the Duchy of Warsaw but also to some extent functioned till the years of the Polish Kingdom, namely between 1815–1831. The modification of “Poland invaded by the Prussian king” (as the area under the power of the Commission was commonly called till July 1807) into the Duchy of Warsaw enabled Poles to maintain their national feeling with its own parliament, army, judiciary system, public administration, education and Polish as an official language throughout the life of two Polish generations.

Inga Leśniewska

AROUND THE MYTH OF MICHAŁ DRZYMAŁA

The myth of Michał Drzymała is one of those, which were created on the turn of 19th century, to reinvigorate Poles during the time when Poland was partitioned. Prussian policy concentrated on divest of Polish national character was such a threat, that it had to be answered. Ethos of peasant hero, who defended his land, understood as homeland, regardless of consequences seemed to be the best way to strength national identity among peasants. However, the chance to adopt this myth in common consciousness was possible, when he was described as seemingly ordinary, nevertheless clever man. In order to obtain such an ideal and suggestive personage, some facts, that did not match the picture of Michał Drzymała – Polish hero, had to be hidden from the public.

Basic components of any myth are a symbol and an essence. In that case the symbol is the wagon, but it can be understood only with the essence, created by the Michał Drzymała’s story. Furthermore it does not mean that there is a myth. Without publicity and dynamic propaganda campaign first in the press, than in literature, the myth would not exists. In spite of this it did not become timeless archetype, because it was short of some features to build widespread status in the common sense.

Magdalena Wasiewicz

FROM THE ACTIVITY OF THE US AMBASSADOR TO SOVIET UNION, WALTER BEDELL SMITH DURING THE FIRST BERLIN CRISIS (1948–1949)

The article presents the activity US Ambassador to Soviet Union W. B. Smith during the First Berlin Crisis, which was one of the reasons why the Cold War began.

On June 24, 1948 Soviet forces implemented a blockade of Berlin halting all railroad traffic, the major means of transporting food and fuel into the city. The blockade was a response to the Western currency reform announced on June 22, the decisions taken at the London conference earlier in the month that established the foundation for West Germany; and the Soviet desire to drive the three Western powers out of Berlin. At the end of June the United States announced that an expanded airlift would begin to carry food and supplies into Berlin.

The negotiations held by Allies in Berlin did not lead to the solution to the dangerous situation. They were moved to Moscow, when the ambassadors of the US, France and the representative of United Kingdom were to talk to USSR leaders.

The representatives of the West were to make Stalin abolish the blockade getting a give-and-take in return.

During the first meeting the ambassadors with Joseph Stalin and Foreign Minister Molotov (August 3), Smith told that the three Western powers were in Berlin by right, and they intended to remain there. He said the Western Big Three were eager to resolve differences with the Soviet Union, but no negotiations could take place while the blockade remained in effect. The next meeting with Molotov Ambassador Smith consistently emphasized two points, Firstly that the Western powers were in Berlin by right and not at the sufferance of the Soviet Union, and secondly that the decision taken at the London conference would not be suspended or delayed.

Ambassador Smith, along with the British and French ambassadors, met Joseph Stalin again to discuss Berlin issues (August 23). A tentative agreement between the two sides was reached regarding the currency issue, but the arrangements for its implementation were to be worked out by the military governors in Berlin. In September the four military governors in Berlin announced they could not reach an agreement based on the Moscow directive.

In the end of September France, the United Kingdom, and the United States sent identical letters to the secretary general of the United Nations informing him that the Berlin situation constituted a threat to world peace as defined in Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The Western powers requested that the Berlin issue be taken up by the Security Council as quickly as possible.

The negotiation in Moscow in which Walter Bedell Smith participated ended unsuccessfully and the blockade of Berlin was not suspended by Russians until 1949.

Jakub Sołtysiak

THE ACTIVITY OF THE ONUC TROOPS IN THE FACE OF CATHANGA SECESSION (AUGUST 1960 – JANUARY 1963)

The problem of the secession of Cathanga was the main part of the whole Congo's crisis. Despite the efforts of the self-appointed president of the provincial government – Moïse Cizombe, his separatist movement never gained official international recognition.

UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld managed to deploy UN Military Forces to Cathanga by means of diplomatic and peaceful methods, exclusively (12 August 1960). After the murder of the Congolese prime minister Patrice Lumumba, the Security Council in February 1961 called for removal from the Congo of all foreign military, paramilitary and advisory personnel not under the UN Command. After the adoption of the resolution UN soldiers began to launch military operations against the Cathanga secessionist. Initially, Cathangese forces allied with mercenaries inflicted a defeat on UN Military Forces, and the United Nations was forced to negotiate terms at a disadvantage. Dag Hammarskjöld was killed in an airplane crash during these negotiations (17 September 1961).

After reinforcements had arrived, the UN soldiers launched another offensive, with air support, which destroyed the Cathangese secessionist movement (December 1962 – January 1963). The UN Military Forces in Congo achieved definite aims; it had preserved the territorial integrity of the Congo and had removed all mercenaries from Cathanga. Nevertheless the minor principle of impartiality was broken when UN soldiers used armed forces to put on concrete political solution in the minor war.

Kayode Kalejaiye

**THE DRAFT OF THE HISTORY OF THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT
IN NIGERIA (1966–1999)**

I have duelly analysed the role and impart of consequetive Nigerian governments on various aspects of trade-unionism and industrial relations in Nigeria from the year 1966 to the year 1998. I have therefore critically assessed the impact which these various governments have had on the Nigerian trade union movement during the 32 years of its existence. My analysis shows a definite and uncompromising policy of intervention and deep involvement in the affairs of Nigerian unions by mostly the various military governments which dominated Nigeria during the period analysed contary to what was the practice during the erstwhile civilian administration. For example on the negative side the ban on strikes from the year 1966–1979, but on the positive side however, several instances can be repeated from this publication where the military governments legislations and administrations were positively oriented toward the improvement of the trade unions, for example Decree (No. 36) of 1973, which gave effect to the Industrial Arbitration Tribunals award other examples are the trade union Decree of 1973 which compelled employers to accord recognition to any duly registered union and made illegal the use of funds in partisan parties also the trade disputes decree of 1976, which setup the National Industrial Court as the last institution in the apparatus for the settlement of trade disputes. But as noted the military never gave democracy any chance in Nigeria as noted they dominated in all affairs of the government by force to the day they finally left the Nigerian political stage in the year 1998.

I duelly hope the present civilian government of Nigeria will make it it's objective to correct all the wrongdoings of the military and lay a solid foundation for the Nigerian trade union movement.