



POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

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April 20, 2015

Mr. James B. Comey, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Director Comey,

The Polish American Congress, and the Polish American community it represents, were appalled by your recent comment at the Holocaust Museum Annual Dinner in which you presented Poland as a Nazi collaborator with full complicity in the horrors that Nazi Germany imposed on Poland and surrounding countries during World War II. We consider your words to be strongly offensive to Poland and all people of Polish descent both in the United States as well as those living throughout the world.

Your remarks were not only grossly inaccurate but also hurtful. Poland never collaborated with the Nazi German occupiers. On the contrary, Polish citizens operated the largest opposition underground of any occupied country. Furthermore, the Holocaust Museum itself holds an exhibit on the "Righteous Among the Nations" – individuals of all nations recognized by Yad Vashem for helping Jews during World War II. You may notice there that Poles constitute by far the largest group of all, and that despite the fact that in Poland, and only in Poland, helping Jews was punished by death not only for the person who directly helped, but also *for their entire family: spouse, children, parents, even extended family*. Your remarks were an insult to all of them, and countless others who fought against Nazi oppression.

We are saddened that an individual of your stature has just created so much damage to the good image of Poland, its people worldwide, as well as to historical accuracy of Poland's role in World War II.

We truly hope that you own up to your mistake and will offer a public apology, published in the Washington Post, addressed to the Polish American community and to the Republic of Poland for your recent, grossly offensive and inaccurate choice of words.

Sincerely,


Frank J. Spula,
President