



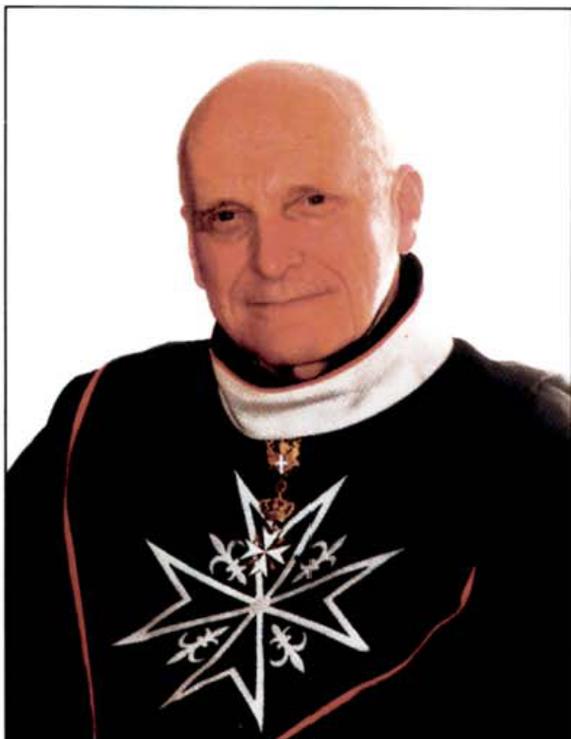
BIULETYN



ZWIĄZKU POLSKICH KAWALERÓW MALTAŃSKICH

SUWERENNEGO RYCERSKIEGO ZAKONU SZPITALNIKÓW ŚW. JANA JEROZOLIMSKIEGO,
ZWANEGO RODYJSKIM I MALTAŃSKIM

POMOCY MALTAŃSKIEJ



METROPOLITA KRAKOWSKI



Metropolitan Archbishop of Krakow

May the first page of the Bulletin carry a prayer.

I ask that God's Mercy be a source of wisdom, charity, skill and persistence for all members of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta and of Maltese Aid.

We will all be apostles of God's Mercy!

+ Franciszek Card. Macharski
Bailiff of Honor and Devotion

Kraków, October AD 1999

We welcome the first issue of the Bulletin of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, and of Maltese Aid.

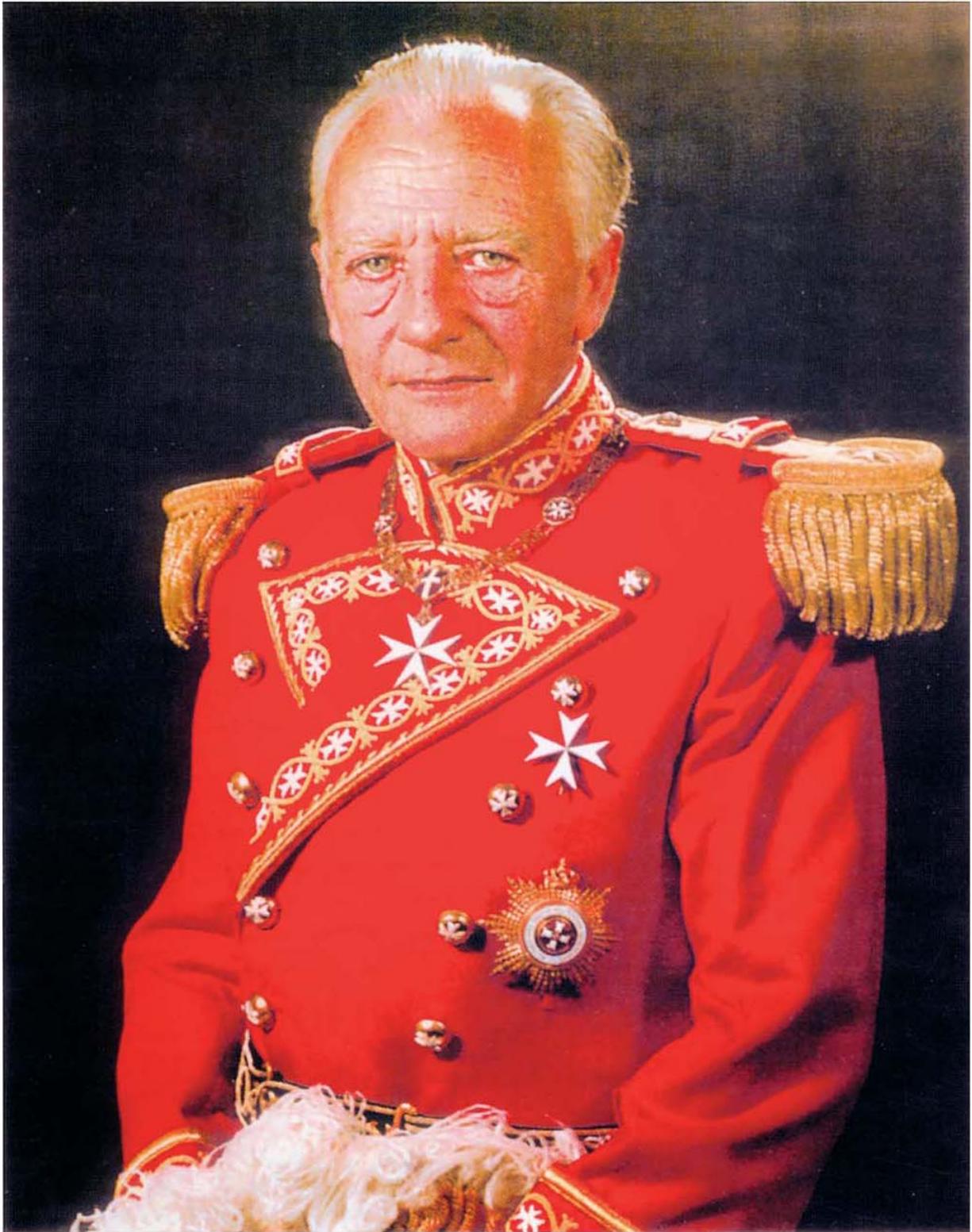
This first issue of the "Bulletin" appears days before the beginning of the third post-war Assembly of our Association. I hope that our Bulletin will win the trust and interest of our readers, and will make them familiar with the overall issues of the Order and its almost thousand-year presence in Poland.

I am particularly pleased that the pages of the Bulletin will also carry information about the activities of "Maltese Aid," whose magnificent work must be publicized.

I sincerely invite all the members of the Association and of Maltese Aid to cooperate with the Bulletin.

To the young editors – may God bless!

-/- Juliusz Ostrowski
President of ZPKM



Frà Andrew Bertie

BOARD OF THE POLISH ASSOCIATION OF KNIGHTS OF MALTA
OF THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERSUALEM
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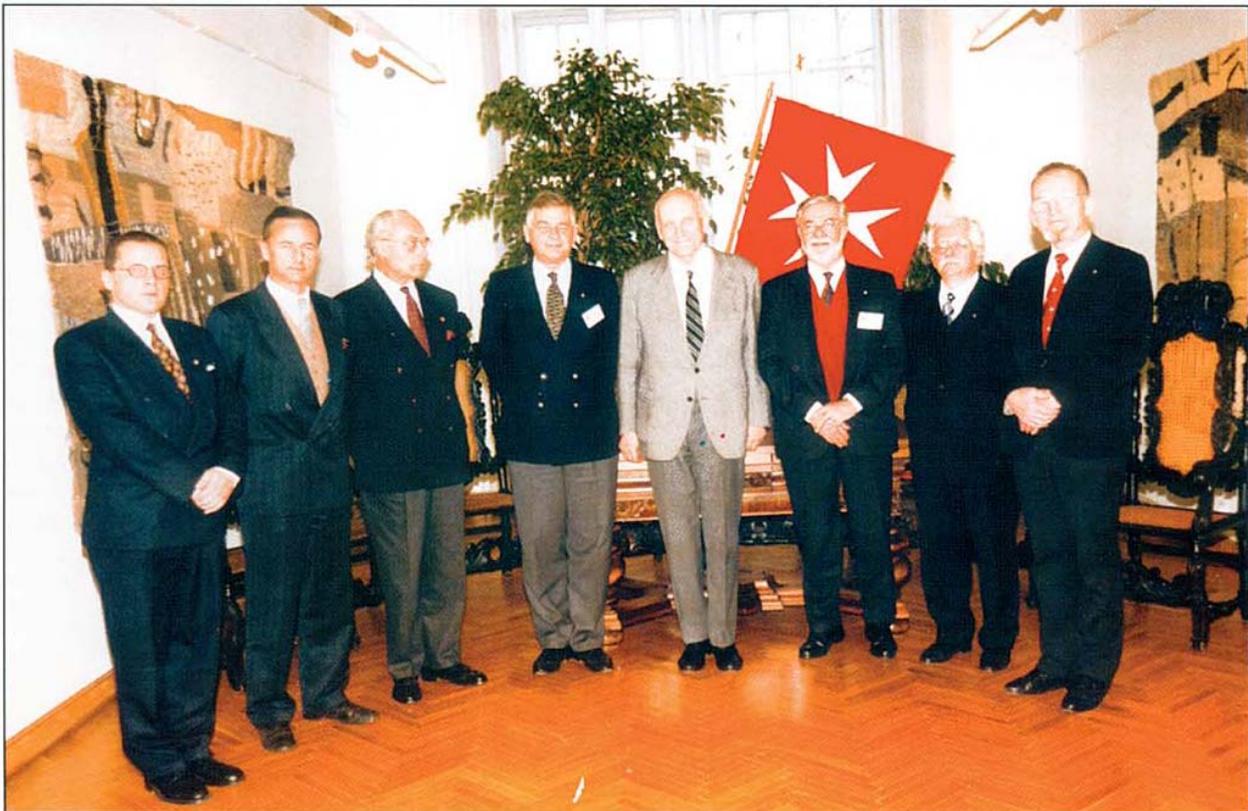
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From left: Maciej Heydel, Jacek Mycielski, Władysław Tarnowski, Witold Sulimirski, Juliusz Ostrowski, Andrzej Krzeczunowicz, Krzysztof Moczurad, Jacek Broel Plater.

Constitution

Jacek Broel Plater

An organization's constitution is the basic document shaping its character. It is a calling card allowing persons outside the organization to become acquainted with the goals and mission of the organization. But the constitution also has a significantly more important role – it shapes the life of the organization. It is formulated by the members as a reflection of their will. It cannot be too terse, but verbosity and excessive detail are also undesirable.

The Polish Association of Knights of Malta was called into being in the 1920's, after Poland's regaining of independence after over a century of partitions by her neighbors. Its constitution was also then established, and was approved in 1931 by a Bull of the Order of Malta. The Association operated but a short time in Poland. The Communist government delegalized it in 1948, and its works, such as the Maltese Hospital, were closed. Nevertheless, it established itself well in the consciousness of Polish society. It continued to exist abroad, thanks to the support of the Order and the indomitable spirit of the Polish confrères to whom the chivalric-nobilistic traditions of the organization were so dear. The Association withstood the test of time, despite the wide dispersal of its membership.

The rebirth of the Third Republic [post-Communist Poland after 1989 – translator's note] created conditions conducive to the return of the Association to Poland, as indicated by the Assembly in 1992 at the Royal Castle in Warsaw, and a High Mass celebrated in the Cathedral of St. John, attended by 120 confrères and dames. Charitable works were started at that time by the Foundation of St. John of Jerusalem – Maltese Aid. But the Association's return was not complete, because it was not yet legally registered. There were many reasons for that, but the most fundamental one was the outdated constitution – 70 years had elapsed since its passage! During that time, much had changed in our world. The perception of social issues had changed, and much in the Order had also changed – its Constitution and Codex were modified, under the influence of associations in countries without chivalric-nobilistic traditions. The need to modify the constitution of the Association was recognized by two successive Assemblies, but only in 1997 an Assembly called up a Constitutional Commission which prepared a new version of the constitution. Whether that version is appropriate will be determined at the Assembly in November 1999. An initial nihil obstat has been obtained from the Order of Malta. The constitution also passed a test in the Polish courts during the process of registering the organization. But the most stringent test is at the next Assembly.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Conf. Andrzej Rozmarynowicz, who worked on updating the constitution as the chair of the Constitutional Commission, and prior to that, for 5 years before the commission had been called up. Divine Providence has decreed that he will not participate in the next Assembly. Honor to his memory!

The Polish Association (ZPKM) in the years 1939-1992

Władysław Tarnowski

Several years before the outbreak of World War II, ZPKM took over the operation of hospitals formerly under the Silesian Association in Rychtal and Rybnik.

On September 7, 1939, the Association organized a hospital of 220 beds in the building of the Merchants' Society on Senatorska Street, under the direction of Stanisław Lipkowski. Two confrères heroically laid down their lives serving there. After occupying Warsaw, the Germans allowed this hospital to continue functioning, incorporating it into their own medical organizational structure. During the war, the hospital admitted about 15,500 patients, and also served as a medical facility for the underground Home Army.

At the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising (August 1, 1944), the hospital staff organized four field hospitals in the Old Town. After the dissolution of the Home Army, the hospital was transferred to the Polish Red Cross and moved to Częstochowa, where it operated until 1949.

After the war, the Communist authorities abolished the Polish Association. As a result of the hostilities, its members had scattered over the whole world. A group of them remained in Poland, but had no possibility of conducting activities. The largest number of members was in Great Britain. In 1948 a meeting was held in

London, at which it was decided to elect a board for the Association. The elected board, with Bailiff Count Emeryk Hutten-Czapski as President, was confirmed by the Grand Magistry. The President served in that post for 27 years. “The beginnings of the new activity were difficult,” he wrote in his farewell letter. “The dispersal of the confrères, great distances, lack of resources, everyday obligations of the majority of confrères did not leave much time for devoting to the Order’s activities.” It should be noted that many confrères were active in Polish social and charitable organizations in many countries all around the world.

Despite their dispersion, Polish knights played a significant role in the leadership of the Order. Bailiff Hutten-Czapski took an active part in conventions called by the Grand Magistry, and in updating the collection of the Order’s laws, known as the Codex of Rohan, holding the post of vice-president of the Editorial Commission. For a short time in 1955, he held the post of Grand Chancellor. Prince Olgierd Czartoryski was named the Order’s minister in Brazil, and Count Jerzy Potocki in Peru. Somewhat later, Prince Karol Radziwiłł was appointed ambassador to Argentina, and Henryk Sobański was named minister plenipotentiary.

Thanks to the assistance and good will of the Grand Magistry, the Association is to this day the owner of a Hospice in Rome, founded in 1960, and serving primarily students and scientists coming from Poland. Thanks to the great generosity of Confr. Count Andrzej Ciechanowiecki, in 1973 a Hospice was established in London, intended for housing seniors, and later also students. The role of the Board included maintaining liaison with dispersed members of the Association and extending assistance to those – both in Poland and abroad – who needed it.

After the resignation of Count Hutten-Czapski, his successor for 15 years was Bailiff Count Władysław Poniński, who selflessly fulfilled that role alongside his professional responsibilities. He too was highly regarded by the Grand Magistry, which continues to view our Association with favor and confidence.

The charitable activities of ZPKM were gradually increasing, but such activities reached a grand scale only in 1981. In some countries, our confrères organized the collection of funds and sending of medicines Poland, in others, assistance was asked from the local fraternal associations. Thanks to these activities, the needy in Poland received hundreds of tons of medicines, medical equipment, clothing and food.

The Foundation of St. John of Jerusalem “Maltese Aid” was founded on April 11, 1990; its primary goal was the distribution of gifts from abroad.

In 1990, Count Jan Badeni was elected President of the Association. He convened the first General Assembly in postwar Poland on October 17, 1992 – this symbolized the official return of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta to its native country.

The Poznań Commandery

Rafał L. Górski

Pages from the history of the Order of Malta, and especially of its history in Poland, will no doubt appear often in our Bulletin. In the current issue we wish to remind our readers, in brief summary, of the history of the longest-lasting Maltese outpost in Poland – the Poznań Commandery.

On May 6, 1170, Prince Mieszko the Elder and Bishop of Poznań Radwan founded a hospital and hospice for the poor and travelers near the church of St. Michael. We should note that the meaning of the Latin term *hospitale* is best given by its root word, *hospes*, meaning guest. So this was more a shelter for persons who were older or infirm, rather than a treatment center in the contemporary meaning of the term. Seventeen years later (in 1187), Knights of St. John were brought in to take care of the hospital. This facility was under the Grand Priory of Bohemia. Today it is hard to determine from whence these first knights came. Linguistic analysis of documents prepared by them suggests that they were French, but their names indicate German origins. It is also possible that they came from an older convent in Zagość, Małopolska Province. In any case, from the 15th C. the commanders of this outpost were exclusively Polish. The commander was *ex officio* a Canon of the Poznań Chapter. However, because he was not an ordained priest, a vicar would substitute for him in liturgical functions – this was a common custom at the time.

Unfortunately, the Commandery shared the fate of many religious foundations – it became more a source of income for persons in favor with the ruler, than a place serving the poor for the Glory of God. Some commanders were not even Knights of Malta. We should add, however, that Benedictine abbeys also experienced the unfortunate institution of so-called commandery abbots, meaning they were not monks, and their function was mainly to collect income. Such a practice in the Poznań Commandery was the cause of disputes between the Order and Polish kings. Finally, a compromise was reached in the 17th C.: the king would appoint deserving Knights of Malta as commanders, whose candidacies would be accepted by the Grand Magistry. Among the Commanders at Poznań was Bartłomiej Nowodworski, founder of a famous school in Kraków (now bearing his name).

The partitions [of Poland by Prussia, Austria and Russia, and loss of Polish independence in the late 18th C. – trans. note] put an end to the existence of the Commandery. The last commander, Andrzej Marcin Miaskowski, died in 1832, but the Prussian authorities had earlier confiscated the Commandery's property. In 1824 they even tried to demolish the church of St. John, but it was successfully defended by the pastor and his parishioners.

That was the end of the history of the Commandery, but it did not disappear without a trace. Traces remain in place names – the district of the city of Poznań where the church of St. John is located is called Komandoria or Malta, and nearby is the Maltese Lake. Later, during the 2nd Polish Republic [1919-1939], the pastor of this church was a chaplain in the Order of Malta. This continues to this day – the current pastor, Rev. Canon Kazimierz Królak, is a Conventual Chaplain ad honorem.

Just before WW II, the Polish Association of Knights of Malta allocated significant sums for the refurbishing of the church, and its care is one of the missions set the bylaws of the Foundation of St. John “Maltese Aid.” But the most important remaining Maltese facility is the oncological out-patient clinic at the parish. Probably during the several years of its existence, a greater number of our lords the sick found help there than in the 600 years of the existence of the Commandery.

Charitable Activities of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta (ZPKM) and Maltese Aid

Krzysztof Moczurad

On November 8 and 9, 1997, the second General Assembly in the postwar history of the Association was held in Kraków. A new Board was elected, and subsequently approved by the Grand Magistry by decree of December 4, 1997. The new Board began functioning in conditions very different from those faced by its predecessors – a majority, including the President, Chancellor, Hospitaller, Treasurer and one member of the Board – reside in Poland.

The activities of ZPKM and of Maltese Aid fall into two categories: strictly charity works, and specialized services giving assistance in specific situations, generally those in which human life and health are endangered. Charitable works, in turn, can be divided into permanent and short-term, such as those related to natural disasters.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Every year, ZPKM organizes a pilgrimage to Lourdes, in which typically about a dozen handicapped persons participate under the care of volunteers, both from the members of the Association and from Maltese Aid.

International Youth Camps. Also every year, we take part in International Youth Camps organized by various national associations for handicapped children and youths. In 1998, ten children and youths, under the care of a similar number of volunteers, took part in a camp in Kasterlee in Belgium. Similarly, in 1999 the camp was in Ligiano Sabiadoro in Italy.

Day Care Center of Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent a Paulo. For the past several years, the Day Care Center operated by Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent a Paulo in Kraków has been extending care to children needing familial warmth of which they are deprived in dysfunctional families. In 1997, the center was caring for 120 children of various ages, and this number grew with each subsequent year. Currently, there are 136

children there. The center functions thanks to the dedication of the sisters and financial assistance from ZPKM. The Association also provides direct material aid to children and their families, which are often in dire financial straits. At the center, under the care of the sisters, the children prepare for school lessons, learn foreign languages, and above all are educated in the Catholic faith. In the summer, two-week trips are organized to resorts. In addition, in 1997, 1998 and 1999, a group of children, under the care of one of the sisters, spent a fortnight in Lourdes, at a home operated by French Sisters of Mercy. At Easter, Christmas and at the beginning and end of the school year, the children and their families meet with members of the Association.

Assistance to flood victims. At the end of 1997, we continued our activities related to assisting persons affected by the flood disaster in Poland. Here, it is important to mention the swift reaction to this cataclysm by national associations of the Order of Malta, from virtually the whole of Europe. We received aid, both financial and material, from these associations: French, German, Irish, Spanish, Swiss, Dutch, Belgian, Hungarian. In addition, we received contributions from individuals, both members of the Order and others. The Kraków chapter of the Foundation of St. John also coordinated the assistance coming from the German Malteser Hilfsdienst.

Altogether, to the end of 1997 we received close to 600 tons of material aid in several dozen transports. A special transport of material goods intended especially for children, offered by the firm May Werke, was distributed to hospitals and care centers. We also assisted in distributing gifts for hospitals and flood victims offered in December 1997 by Malta Belgium International.

Thanks to financial assistance we received, we were able to reconstruct the boiler room, damaged by the flood, of the hospital in Szczyrzyc – costing the sum of 64,000 PLN. This prevented the closing of the hospital, so necessary for inhabitants of that region. On December 7, 1997, during the ceremony of handing over the rebuilt boiler room, a plaque was unveiled citing the contribution of ZPKM. In 1998, ZPKM donated 20,000 PLN for repairing the flood damage to the hospital.

In that same year, thanks to the significant sums received through the intercession of Malteser Hilfsdienst, we were able to extend assistance to 250 families around Łądek Zdrój, St. Joseph Parish in Opole, and to rebuild a kindergarten in Opole and the Center of Social Assistance in Łądek Zdrój.

Assistance abroad. Before Christmas of 1997, we organized a transport of gifts for Catholics residing in Ukraine. Foodstuffs were purchased with funds collected in Kraków and Myślenice after masses on two successive weekends. Clothing collected earlier was also included in the transport. Similar collections were taken in 1998, allowing the extending of assistance to flood victims in Ukraine. We intend to continue these activities in 2000. We also provided material assistance to the needy in Kazakhstan. This year we helped the Polish hospital in Albania established during the Kosovo war, and collected funds from ZPKM members for assisting refugees from Kosovo.

Material aid to the poor in Warsaw. In 1997-1998, over 2,500 families in Warsaw received material aid in the form of clothing, medicines and food.

Oncological Clinic in Poznań. The Oncological Out-Patient Clinic has been operating in Poznań for over six years, at the Parish of St. John of Jerusalem Beyond the Walls. Each year, several thousand women are seen. The clinic conducts diagnostic procedures (mammography, ultrasound), provides treatment and also performs some surgical procedures. Since its inception, the clinic has registered 31,000 patients. Its staff consists of over 60 volunteers – doctors, nurses and others.

“Guardian Angel Home” In Katowice, in a unit headed by Confr. Marcin Świerad, volunteers of Maltese Aid work in the Catholic Rehabilitational-Educational Center known as “Guardian Angel Home.” Here, young people with drug and narcotic dependencies can find assistance. It is open every day of the week. The staff is also being trained in first-aid procedures.

Maltese Medical Corps. The ever-growing activities of the Maltese Medical Corps deserve mention (details are in the article by Róża and Henryk Kubiak elsewhere in this issue). The medical service operates in 19 teams in various cities in Poland. Four new units were formed in 1998, one in western Poland and three in the north, joining those in Kraków, Katowice, Warsaw, Bielsko Biała, Bochnia, Chrzanów, Częstochowa, Krosno, Mszana Dolna, Myślenice, Skawina, Tarnów, Wieliczka and Białystok.

Youth activities. In 1988 we organized a recreational-training camp for children and youths from Wieliczka, from families in difficult material situations. The camp, in the scout center “Bene” in Gorce, was attended by 21 children and youths under the care of instructors of Maltese Aid. In the current year, we held the seventh annual camp in Ludźmierz near Nowy Targ, in which 17 children participated.

Maltese Ball. The Maltese Charitable Ball was held in September 1998 in Kraków, with proceeds intended for adaptation of the Center of Occupational Therapy for handicapped children and youth.

900th Anniversary of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Celebrations of the 900th anniversary of the founding of Order of St. John of Jerusalem began in December of 1998. On December 4 – 8, a group of 7 Knights and Dames of ZPKM (including the President, Honorary President and Hospitaller), along with accompanying persons, took part in celebrations which were an unforgettable experience. During the stay on Malta, a Polish representative was chosen to the Grand Chapter of the Order.

Anniversary celebrations continued with a pilgrimage to Rhodes, in which again a group of 7 members participated, led by the President. Thanks to these trips to Malta and Rhodes, we had an opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the great heritage of the Order, and to learn more fully of the role it played over many centuries.

“Knights of Malta” School in Zabór. In the town of Zabór near Zielona Góra, the special school at the sanatorium for children with psycho-emotional disorders was given the name of “Knights of Malta.” The President, Chancellor and Hospitaller of ZPKM took part in the ceremony of granting the name.

In conclusion, it must be mentioned that this year, ZPKM was gifted with two real properties in Kraków. From the City of Kraków we received a large parcel of land in a most attractive district, on which we intend to build a center of early diagnosis and therapy for children with disorders of the central nervous system, and a kindergarten for handicapped children. In addition, we received the use of a three-storey building intended for a multi-specialty out-patient clinic, which at present is being adapted for the needs of a medical facility. The entire cost of remodeling is being covered by the donor.

Activities of Maltese Medical Corps in Małopolska Province

Róża and Henryk Kubiak

At the end of 1980's – a turning point in Polish history – the Maltese Medical Corps (MMC) was something new, unknown. However, the Maltese Cross was often seen on the streets of Kraków, especially in the vicinity of the Metropolitan Curia, where since 1981 (martial law) Maltese vehicles came from Cologne, carrying then much-needed gifts of medicines, food, clothing – in all there were 250 such transports. That was our first contact with Maltese services (Malteser Hilfsdienst). The existing situation and urgent needs compelled us to immediately join, here in Kraków, in serving our fellow man in accordance with the Maltese motto, which was then still unknown to us, *Tuitio fidei et obsequium pauperum*.

Maltese Medical Corps was founded in Kraków in 1990, with the approval and under the care of H.Em. Francis Cardinal Macharski. At first, the activities of this small group (20 persons) developed independently of the activities of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta (ZPKM), but in 1991 the Corps, founded and led by the authors, came under the auspices of the Association. That same year saw the registration of the Foundation of St. John of Jerusalem, which legalized the operation of Maltese services in Poland. Confr. Jacek Broel Plater became head of the Kraków chapter of the Foundation. Since September of 1996, this post is held by the current Hospitaller of the ZPKM, Dr. Krzysztof Moczurad, MD.

In August of 1990, our doctors, nurses and paramedics approached, at first timidly, the German Maltese ambulances which had come, at the request of Card. Macharski, to provide medical services for the pedestrian pilgrimage from Kraków to Częstochowa. They did not then know that, a year later, they themselves would be called to action. That was in Częstochowa, on the occasion of the VI Worldwide Youth Day in the presence of Pope John Paul II. Maltese medical services, consisting of 230 persons from 6 countries, provided medical care during the encounter with the Holy Father. That number included 48 Poles – doctors, nurses, interpreters etc. Twenty persons had earlier been to Cologne for a two-week training course. They took part in a course of

first aid, and a training course for instructors. They returned to Poland as the first Maltese instructors. Among them were 6 persons from Bielsko-Biała, 6 from Nowy Targ and 8 from Kraków, active members of Maltese medical teams to this day: Piotr Brodzicki (now a physician), Lidia Knapik (nurse), Dr. Róża Kubiak (organizer of Maltese training), Ryszard Rudziński (physician) and Magdalena Stojakowska (now a physician). Training in pre-medical first aid is one of the main missions of Maltese Medical Corps. Such courses are conducted exclusively by Maltese instructors and based on a unified program outlined in the instructor's guide. To date, a total of 1,981 persons have been trained. Thirty courses were conducted in 1999: in Kraków, Andrychów, Bochnia, Chrzanów, Libiąż, Mszana Dolna, Myślenice, Pcim, Strumiany and Tarnów. In previous years, instructors from Kraków also conducted courses in Bielsko-Biała, Częstochowa, Katowice, Krosno, Nowa Ruda, Nowy Targ, Skawina and Wieliczka.

Because of the large demand for first-aid training, many instructors are needed, because all of them work professionally or attend studies, and can conduct courses only at times free from their daily activities. The four instructor courses conducted thus far have trained 87 Maltese instructors. Of that number, 46 actively participate in training activities of MMC. Many of the instructors hone their skills in the school of medical rescue at the Kraków Emergency Rescue Corps. Several of them learned their current profession there. This is made possible by the cordial relations between the management of the Rescue Corps and the leadership of MMC, as well as the high quality of our volunteers.

Cooperation between MMC and the Rescue Corps was solidified mainly during the pilgrimages of the Holy Father to his homeland in 1997 and 1999. The great contribution of MMC to ensuring medical safety of the pilgrims is indicated by the fact that in 1999, on the fields around Kraków, 408 of our volunteers were working, and of 25 ambulances, 10 were Maltese. In this type of large-scale actions we can count on our dependable and well-tested colleagues from the German Malteser Hilfsdienst (MHD). Since 1990, they support us with their ambulances and their experience in the annual August pedestrian pilgrimages to Częstochowa, from Kraków, Chrzanów, Myślenice, Skawina. On the 19th pilgrimage from Kraków (1999), nearly 5,000 persons were treated. The only ambulance in Kraków – a gift from MHD from Cologne in 1993 – serves all 13 teams in southern Poland connected with the Kraków activities. Our teams – doctors, nurses, paramedics – provide medical services not only to church celebrations, (in emergency cases they transport individual patients apart from organized group actions), but also sports events, concerts, congresses. One such event was the 18th International Congress of the Family in April 1994 in Warsaw. The Maltese Charity Ball in Kraków in 1998 was covered by 108 Maltese rescuers and an ambulance.

Despite the impression that MMC is involved only in organized actions of covering mass crowd events and training in first aid, in fact the members of MMC demonstrate a variety of initiatives, bringing assistance where assistance is required. Such “quiet,” undeclared, almost unnoticed activities include the daily and systematic aid to homeless people in shelters, to children deprived of parental care; seniors, the sick and lonely in retirement facilities or private homes, for example, at the parish of the Basilica of St. Mary in Kraków.

No doubt much more prominent and spectacular is the participation of our teams in international Maltese conventions or first-aid competitions. Among our international contacts, mention should be made of our very fruitful cooperation with the Maltese Ambulance Corps of Ireland, beginning in 1991 in Częstochowa, then 1993 in Kraków and 1995 in Katowice, and particularly in 1994 in Ireland. In 1993 and 1995, Irish instructors were in Poland, and in 1994 19 persons from Poland (from the Kraków teams, with one person from Katowice) were in Ireland as part of the European project “Tempus” coordinated by Dr. Rosita McHugh and Dr. Róża Kubiak. It was mainly an intensive Maltese training of a higher degree, preparation for conducting Maltese competitions, and acquainting us with work with Maltese youth, especially cadets (12-16 yrs.).

All of what was said above fundamentally relates to the second phrase of the motto of the Order of Malta: ...et obsequium pauperum – service to the poor (today we would say the needy). All of this charitable activity, with now several hundred mainly young people, not connected with medicine, would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, were it not for the participation of socially conscientious doctors who were with us since the beginning of our activities. They are the founders of the Maltese Medical Corps in Kraków: Bogumiła Giza, Ryszard Rudziński, Róża Karłowska, Dariusz Giza, Magdalena Stojakowska, Piotr Brodzicki (the head of the team in Chrzanów). The last three joined MMC while medical students, and continue their loyalty to the

Corps as physicians. Sometime later, the Kraków team was joined by Drs. Julian Dutka, Józef Wilk, Edward Rzepliela, and teams outside Kraków by Drs. Zbigniew Martyka (Tarnów) and Bogdan Kaczor.

And the first phrase of the Maltese motto, *Tuitio fidei*... – defense of the faith – where is it found in the above narrative? We find it within ourselves, in monthly Maltese masses, in homilies proclaimed by our priests: Msgr. Jan Dziasek, pastor of the parish of St. Hedwig Queen in Kraków (that is our home base); Rev. Adam Ogiegło, chaplain of the team in Chrzanów; Rev. Józef Walusiak, member of MMC since 1990, chaplain of the team in Bielsko-Biała and director of the Catholic Rehabilitation Center of Children and Youth with Dependencies (for many years, volunteers in Katowice have been caring for children with dependencies). Most recently, we receive enthusiastic support from two priests (alumni of our training courses): Rev. Józef Pasek (Strumiany) and Rev. Arkadiusz Stanowski (Nowa Huta), who are highly regarded by our members – virtually their contemporaries in age. And finally, “defense of the faith” is taught to us by Card. Macharski himself, who, whenever he sees people of Malta, never passes them by without greeting them with encouraging words, giving them new strength and zeal for continuing the joyful work in the ranks of Maltese service.

Kalendarium

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Nov. 8-9 1997

General Assembly of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta. Election of a new Board.

Holy Mass at Wawel Cathedral during the Assembly (Kraków 1997)

Dec. 12 1997

Confirmation by the Grand Magistry of the newly elected Board of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta.

Dec. 7 1997

Unveiling of plaque commemorating the contribution of ZPKM toward rebuilding the hospital in Szczyrzyc after the disaster of the flood.

Mar. 20-22 1998

6th European Conference of Hospitallers of the Order of Malta in Porto (Portugal)

European Conference of Hospitallers in Porto, Portugal

Apr. 30 – May 5 1998

Pilgrimage with handicapped to Lourdes

Jun. 6 1998

Bestowing of the name “Knights of Malta School” upon the special school in Zabór

Plaque in the “Knights of Malta” special school in Zabór

Jul. 26 1998

15th International Maltese Summer Camp for Handicapped Youth in Kasterlee (Belgium)

International Youth Camp in Kasterlee, Belgium

Kalendarium

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Sep. 25-27 1998

International Weekend and Maltese Grand Charity Ball in Kraków. Proceeds intended for the Occupational Therapy Center in Puszczyków near Poznań.

Maltese Charity Ball (Kraków 1998)

Dec. 4-9 1998

Celebration on Malta of the 900th anniversary of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem

Celebration of the anniversary of the Order in La Valetta, Malta (1998)

Mar. 11-13 1999

7th European Conference of Hospitallers in Paris

May 5 1999

Legal registration of the Polish Association of Knights of Malta of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta.

Jul. 24-13 1999

16th International Maltese Summer Camp for Handicapped Youth in Lugnano Sabbiadoro, Italy

Apr. 30 – May 5 1999

Pilgrimage with handicapped to Lourdes

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Oct. 9-10 1999

Celebrations of the 900th anniversary of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem on Rhodes

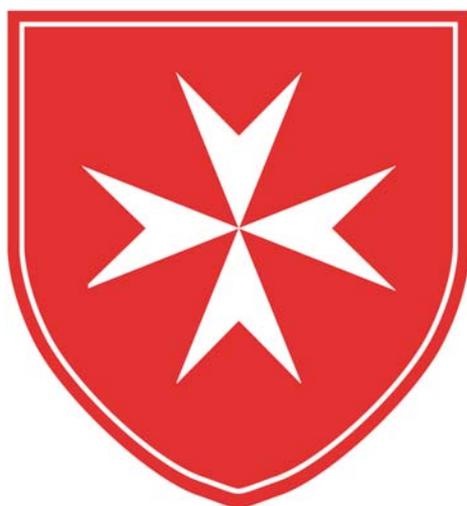
Anniversary celebration on Rhodes (1999)

Nov. 11 1999

Assembly of ZPKM

POMOC MALTAŃSKA

MALTESE AID



**WSPÓŁPRACUJCIE Z NAMI
DLA DOBRA POTRZEBUJĄCYCH!**

**WORK WITH US
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE NEEDY**