



Embassy
of the Republic of Poland
in Washington

Washington, November 4, 2013

Mr. Kristopher Gąsior
P.O. Box 8327
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Dear Mr. Gąsior,

As you know, Poland suffered like no other country during WWII. Millions of lives were lost. Postwar Poland's landscape was dominated by devastated cities, burnt libraries and archives, looted art collections. The citizens of Poland's capital – Warsaw - among them your mother, saw the utter destruction of their beloved city. Therefore, it is so important to save and preserve every piece of memory, every object related to the heroic fight of Polish soldiers against Nazi and Soviet invaders in 1939. I therefore write to express my sincere appreciation to you for conveying the wz.38 "Maroszek" rifle back to Poland, a rare weapon which was designed to defend Polish soil.

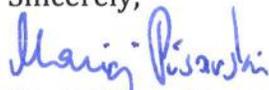
I strongly share your view that this gun deserves to be placed in a museum in Poland so that Polish citizens as well as countless foreign visitors can learn about its importance in Poland's history. I am happy to inform you that the Museum of Polish History, which has decided to obtain the rifle, has also agreed to transfer it as a permanent loan to the Museum of Warsaw Rising. Thank you very much for locating the rifle, and preserving it in a good condition. Thanks to your passion and commitment, next generations will be able to

admire the rifle, which constitutes a unique achievement of Polish prewar engineering and an object of great cultural and scientific significance. I fully share your conviction that any attempt to deactivate the rifle and thus to diminish its historic value should not take place and I can guarantee that it will not take place.

A wartime history of the wz. 38 "Maroszek" rifle of the serial number 1019 still remains unknown. We do not have information about what happened to this particular rifle during World War II and we acknowledge that you purchased it in utmost good faith. The most important is though, that the history of this rare object has found its happy ending and that the Museum of the Warsaw Rising will be its new home.

Once again, thank you very much for your valuable contribution to preserving Polish historical memory and to honoring Polish heroes and freedom fighters by saving and preserving this unique rifle.

Sincerely,



Maciej Pisarski

Chargé d'affaires