

(March 5, 2007) Congressman Lipinski's Statement Honoring the Contributions of Casimir Pulaski

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Washington, DC - Today, Congressman Lipinski submitted the following statement on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Today, we salute and honor the life of Casimir Pulaski. Casimir Pulaski was born in Poland and gained extensive military experience there before moving to the United States in 1777. At that time, the U.S. was in the midst of the Revolutionary War, and George Washington's army was in need of experienced commanders. Casimir Pulaski bravely volunteered to serve with the American troops, famously stating, "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it." Casimir Pulaski soon distinguished himself in battles at Brandywine and Charleston, before being fatally wounded during the Battle of Savannah. However, his military legacy lives on, as he is still known as the "Father of the American Cavalry."

As Illinois celebrates Casimir Pulaski Day today, it is my honor to join in recognizing the life and achievements of that great patriot. In Congress, I am working with many of my colleagues to pass legislation that would make Casimir Pulaski a citizen posthumously. I believe this is a fitting tribute for a man who did so much to win the independence, rights and liberties that Americans enjoy today.