

I send greetings to all those gathered to celebrate the life and work of President Ronald Reagan.

President Reagan had a gift for inspiring hope in people facing difficult circumstances. He helped restore a sense of optimism in America during a period of economic and global challenges, and did the same for the Polish people through his unflinching support for the Solidarity movement.

The location of this monument is a fitting reminder of the close ties between the American and Polish people, and a tribute to the strong support the United States gave Poland during its long struggle to free itself from communist rule. Poland's transformation into a prosperous democratic nation, a committed NATO ally, and a leading member of the European Union is an inspiration to the world. The United States values its long friendship with Poland and looks forward to continued cooperation as our nations work together to confront the challenges of the 21st century.

As you celebrate this special occasion, I wish you all the best.

Barack Obama