

Institute of National Remembrance

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An official statement concerning the exhumation of General Władysław Sikorski's remains.

On the basis of the Institute of National Remembrance's prosecutorial provision from October 22, 2008 – an exhumation of General Władysław Sikorski's remains, which are buried in the Krakow's Wawel Cathedral, will be performed. The exhumation will be carried out on November 25, 2008, in the morning hours. Within' this effort, the following actions will be completed:

- The raising of the monolithic marble sarcophagus, which constitutes the burial place of General Władysław Sikorski, with accordance to the conditions described by the Conservator of the Wawel Hill Monuments (approximate duration of 8 hours).
- The extraction of the coffin with General Władysław Sikorski's corpse by the officers of the Polish Army and the moving of it, under a Police escort, to a place where the procedures described in the provision will take place. The proceedings concerned with the examination of General Władysław Sikorski's body will be carried out by the prof. Jan Sehn's Institute of Court Expertise from Kraków which will cooperate with the Faculty of Court Medicine and the Radiology Department of the Medical Center of the Jagielloński University in Kraków. All

proceedings will be finished by the next day (November 26). The remains will be placed in a new coffin and covered with a general's uniform made by the army unit subordinate to the Ministry of National Defense. The coffin with General Władysław Sikorski's remains will be placed back in the sarcophagus in St. Leonard's crypt, and will be accompanied by the Honorary Escort of the Polish Army and the appropriate liturgical setting.

- The ceremony will commence at around 4 pm under the Katyń Cross by the St. Idzi's church. The Holy Mass for the soul of the General will begin around 5 pm. In the days 25th and 26th of November the crypt will not be open to visitors.

Andrzej Arseniuk

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Spokesman of the Kraków's Archdiocese

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