

125th Anniversary of Orthodoxy in Chicago - BISHOP LONGIN CALLS ON FAITHFUL TO ATTEND

CHICAGO, IL - In connection with the upcoming celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Orthodoxy in Chicago, His Grace Bishop Longin, ruling hierarch of the Diocese of New Gracanica and Midwestern America issued the following statement:

"On Saturday, September 30th, Orthodox Christians from throughout the Chicago metropolitan area will gather at the Lane Tech High School Auditorium for a Pan-Orthodox Divine Liturgy to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Orthodox Christianity in our City.

"In this period of time, our city and parishes have been blessed by the labors of St. Mardarije of Libertyville, St. Sebastian of Jackson, St. Nikolaj of Zhicha, St. John Kochurov, and countless others known and unknown.

"There is no more fitting way to honor our shared legacy and show our unity as Orthodox Christians than



by participating in this historic Liturgical Synaxis and partaking of the Holy and Divinely-instituted Eucharist with our Orthodox brothers and sisters. We therefore call upon the clergy, faithful, Sunday schools, folklore groups, and all other ministries of our Diocese to join us at this great Pan-Orthodox celebration."

LITERARY CORNER

Mira N. Mataric

MY PARENTS' EYES

Eyes are windows to the soul.
Why haven't I looked into them
for my last good bye with my parents?

To thank them for the life
of love, dedication, and self-giving
preparing me for a long string of days
without them.

Dad talked of Spartans' discipline
Mom resolved everything
with showers of love.
I still live on those resources
eternally grateful
mantled in their abundant care.

But I miss their physical presence
the sonorous voice of my mother's singing
gregarious laugh of my father.
Their eyes I see and understand now
guiding me through my own aging
for closing the circle
to return to the glory
we all came from.

Pasadena, 2006

Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan on General Draza Mihailovic

by Milos Rastovic

General Draza Mihailovic (1893 – 1946) was the first guerrilla fighter against Nazi occupation in the former Yugoslavia during World War II.

In 1941 at the beginning of the war, he organized the resistance movement under the name Chetniks. One of the most famous military operations he led with his troops was the Halyard Mission. In August 1944 American airmen were returning from a bombing mission in Eastern Europe and were shot down in enemy-occupied territory in Serbia. Serbian villagers endangered their own lives and hid American airmen from the Germans. General Mihailovic with his troops organized and managed the operation of rescuing about 600 allied soldiers including more than 500 American airmen. This successful military operation saved soldiers' lives and returned them to their homeland.

In 1948, U S President Harry Truman awarded the Legion of Merit Chief of Commander to General Mihailovic posthumously for his fight against Nazi Germany and for rescuing more than 500 American pilots. According to David Martin, author of the *Mystery of the 500 Rescued Airmen*, this medal was kept a secret until 1967 when Congressmen Edward J. Derwinski of Illinois made public Truman's statement. Since that time, American presidents Richard M. Nixon and Ronald Reagan credited Mihailovic for his endeavor:

Richard M. Nixon, 37th President of the United States (1969 – 1974):

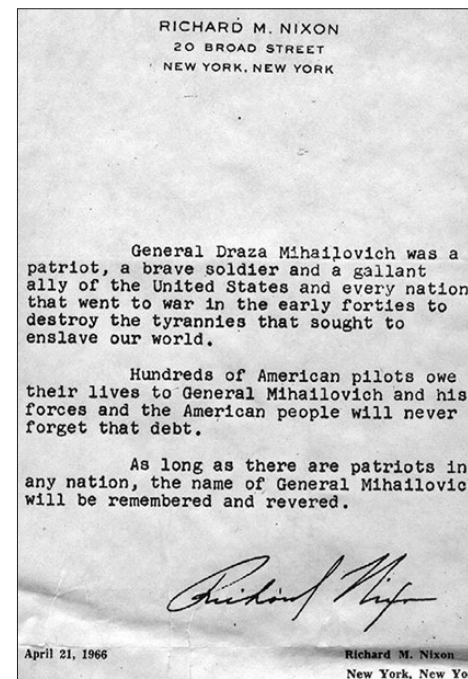
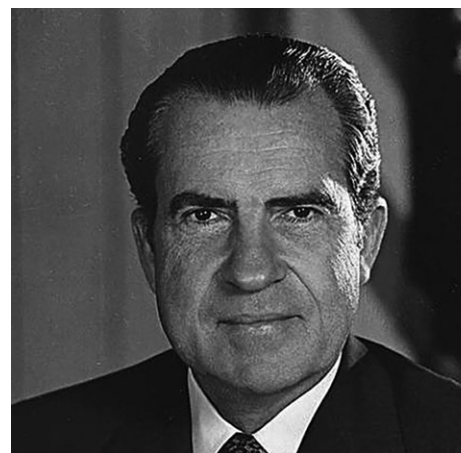
"General Draza Mihailovic was a patriot, a brave soldier and a gallant ally of the United States and every nation that went to war in the early forties to destroy the tyrannies that sought to enslave our world.

Hundreds of American pilots owe their lives to General Mihailovic and his forces and the American people will never forget that debt.

As long as there are patriots in any nation, the name of General Draza Mihailovic will be remembered and revered" (April 21, 1966).

Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States (1981 – 1989):

"The ultimate tragedy of Draza Mihailovic cannot erase the memory of his heroic and often lonely struggle against the twin tyrannies that afflicted his people, Nazism and Communism. He knew that totalitarianism, whatever name it might take, is the death of freedom. He thus became a symbol of resistance to all those across the world who have had to fight a similar heroic and lonely struggle against totalitarianism. Mihailovic belonged to Yugoslavia; his spirit now belongs to all those who are willing to fight for freedom" (September 8, 1979).



Clockwise starting with top left photo

President Richard Nixon

President Ronald Reagan

Richard Nixon Letter
about General Draza Mihailovic

General Draza Mihailovic