

**Dedication of the Bust of
Louis (Lajos) Kossuth**

**Rotunda of the United States Capitol
Washington, D.C.**

March 15, 1990

PROGRAM

Choral Prelude

Bela Bartok Men's Choir, Garfield, New Jersey

Presentation of Colors

Joint Armed Forces Color Guard

Singing of the U.S. and Hungarian National Anthems

Choirs and audience, conducted by Cecilia Bros

Invocation

Dr. James D. Ford, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives

Welcome

Tom Lantos -- Master of Ceremonies

Distinguished Guests

Thomas Foley -- Speaker of the House of Representatives

Robert Dole -- Minority Leader of the Senate

Richard Gephardt -- Majority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

William Broomfield -- Ranking Minority Member,
Committee on Foreign Affairs

Lawrence Eagleburger -- Deputy Secretary of State

Presentation of Bust

Rev. Tibor Domotor -- The American Hungarian Federation

Unveiling

Csaba Kur -- Sculptor

Annette Lantos

Acceptance of the Bust

Frank Annunzio -- Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library

George M. White -- Architect of the Capitol

Music

Musica Hungarica

Remarks

Matyas Szuros, acting President of the Republic of Hungary

Introduced by Dr. Peter Varkonyi -- Hungarian
Ambassador to the U.S.

Rev. Laszlo Tokes, human rights leader

Introduced by Laszlo Hamos, Hungarian Human Rights
Foundation

Music

Bela Bartok Men's Choir

Benediction

Reverend Imre Bertalan

Choral Postlude

Musica Hungarica

Immediately following the ceremony there will be a reception in Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol. Sponsors of this reception are the Congressional Human Rights Foundation, the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America, and the William Penn Association.

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Oh, say can you see
by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed
at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched
were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets red glare,
the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night
that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled
banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free,
and the home of the brave?



HIMNUSZ

Isten, áldd meg a magyart
Jó kedvvel, bőséggel,
Nyújts feléje védő kart,
Ha küzd ellenséggel;
Balsors akit régen tét,
Hozz reá vig esztendőt,
Megbűnhődte már e nép
A multat s jövőndöt.

Louis (Lajos) Kossuth

Louis (Lajos) Kossuth (1802-1894), the undisputed leader of the democratic Hungarian Revolution of 1848-49, was elected Governor of Hungary in April 1849. His political activity before and during the Revolution was inspired by the principles of American democracy.

After Russian troops crushed the Hungarian revolt in the summer of 1849, Kossuth was forced into exile in Turkey. With the assistance of the American government, he came to the United States, where he remained from December 4, 1851, until July 14, 1852.

Kossuth was received by the President of the United States, spoke to both Houses of Congress, and delivered more than 300 speeches to thousands of people in every state of the Union. It was estimated that more than half of the entire American population at that time heard him speak. Streets were named after him, and towns and counties along the expanding Western frontier were given his name. Journalist Horace Greeley expressed the feelings of Americans at that time, when he said, "Among the orators, patriots, statesmen, exiles, he has, living or dead, no superior."

After this triumphal tour of the United States, Kossuth returned to Europe to continue his struggle for a free and democratic Hungary. He was never able to return to his native land, because he refused to accept Austrian domination. In 1894 he died in exile in Italy. He is still revered as the "Father of the Hungarian nation" and the symbol of Hungarian independence and democracy.

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

CEREMONY TO UNVEIL BUST OF LOUIS KOSSUTH

MARCH 15, 1990

THIS IS A SPECIAL MOMENT, IN A REMARKABLE
PERIOD OF MODERN HISTORY. 

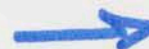
(PHONETIC:

First name: Louis, the anglicized
name he took when he came to the
U.S.

Second name: COE-shoot -- as in
:shoot JoAnne Coe)

TODAY, NEARLY A CENTURY AND A HALF AFTER HIS
"COE-SHOOT"
DEATH, WE REMEMBER LOUIS KOSSUTH; AND WE
CELEBRATE THE POWER OF THE DEMOCRATIC IDEA, TO
WHICH HE DEDICATED HIS LIFE.

I HAVE BEEN AROUND AWHILE -- I'VE FOUGHT IN A
WAR, FOUGHT BACK FROM PERSONAL HARDSHIP, AND
SPENT MORE THAN 30 YEARS IN PUBLIC LIFE. YOU GET TO
THE POINT WHERE YOU THINK: I'VE SEEN IT ALL.



THE LAST FOUR OR FIVE MONTHS HAVE REMINDED
ME ANEW OF THE TRUTH OF A LINE FROM SHAKESPEARE
"COE-SHOOT"
THAT WAS A FAVORITE OF KOSSUTH: "THERE ARE MORE
THINGS IN HEAVEN AND EARTH THAN ARE DREAMED OF
IN OUR PHILOSOPHY."




I HAPPENED TO BE IN POLAND LAST YEAR, ON THE
DAY PRIME MINISTER MAZOWIECKI TOOK OFFICE. I
ATTENDED A SOLIDARITY PARTY CAUCUS. IT REMINDED
ME OF THE STORIES WE HAVE ALL READ, OF THOSE DAYS
IN PHILADELPHIA 200 YEARS AGO -- WHEN OUR
FOUNDING FATHERS LAID THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR
REPUBLIC.

AND I AM STRUCK TODAY BY THIS THOUGHT: LOUIS
"COE-SHOOT"
KOSSUTH WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY MUCH AT HOME IN
PHILADELPHIA OF THE LATE 19TH CENTURY, OR IN
WARSAW OF THE LATE 1980'S.



HE WOULD BE VERY MUCH AT HOME TODAY IN
BUDAPEST; IN BUCHAREST, AND IN BERLIN. HE WOULD
BE VERY MUCH AT HOME IN MANAGUA AND IN PRETORIA;
AND, INDEED, WHEREVER FREEDOM IS THE GOAL, AND
THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM IS THE ISSUE.

AND SO I BELIEVE THAT LOUIS KOSSUTH -- THE MAN
AND THE SPIRIT, REPRESENTED IN THIS BUST -- WILL BE
VERY MUCH AT HOME HERE, TOO. LOUIS KOSSUTH WAS
ALL ABOUT FREEDOM. THIS BUILDING, THIS CONGRESS,
AND ALL OF US PRIVILEGED TO WORK HERE -- THAT'S
WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT, TOO.



SO I AM PROUD TO BE HERE TODAY, TO JOIN IN THIS
DEDICATION OF A STATUE -- AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY,
THIS REDEDICATION TO THE IDEAL OF FREEDOM.

FROM THIS SPOT, LOUIS KOSSUTH WILL CONTINUE
TO INSPIRE US ALL -- AS FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY HE
HAS INSPIRED ALL THOSE DEDICATED TO FREEDOM.

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**CEREMONY IN U.S. CAPITOL TO HONOR HUNGARIAN HERO LOUIS KOSSUTH --
Hungarian President, Romanian Rights Leader, Congressional Leaders to Pay Tribute**

Louis (Lajos) Kossuth -- "the father of Hungarian democracy" and leader of the Hungarian revolution of 1848-1849 -- will be honored at a ceremony in the U.S. Capitol at which a bust of the 19th century leader will be unveiled for permanent placement in the Capitol. The ceremony will take place on March 15, 1990, at 4:00 p.m. in the Great Rotunda of the Capitol. This will be only the seventh non-American to be honored by having his bust placed in the Capitol. Legislation was required to permit the unveiling ceremony to take place in the Capitol Rotunda.

Congressional leaders who will participate in the ceremony include Speaker of the House of Representatives, Thomas S. Foley (D-Washington), Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kansas), and House Minority Leader Robert Michel (R-Illinois). Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleberger will represent the Administration.

The President of the Republic of Hungary, Matyas Szuros, will represent the Government of Hungary at the event. Also participating in the ceremony will be the Rev. Laszlo Tokes, the ethnic-Hungarian human rights leader who played a key role in the recent Romanian revolution and now serves as a member of the Interim Romanian government.

"The date of the ceremony is particularly appropriate," said Congressman Tom Lantos (D-California), the principal sponsor of the event. "March 15th is the anniversary of the beginning of the historic struggle for Hungarian democracy and national independence in 1848, which was led by Kossuth, and it is the traditional Hungarian national holiday."

"It is most fitting that we honor Kossuth at this historic time as Hungary is moving towards real democracy and as it prepares to hold its first democratic elections in over four decades," said Congressman Lantos. "This ceremony is a celebration of Central Europe's century-and-a-half struggle for democracy -- from Kossuth to Tokes. Kossuth's ideas and example have inspired freedom-loving and progressive people everywhere."

Kossuth came to the United States in 1851, shortly after the Hungarian Revolution was overthrown by Russian troops. The Hungarian leader was given a hero's welcome in New York City, spoke to special sessions of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and toured all parts of the country. It is estimated that over half of all Americans at that time heard him speak in person, and streets, towns, and counties were named in his honor throughout the nation.

Congress approved placement in the U.S. Capitol of the Kossuth bust, which was sculpted by Hungarian-American artist Csaba-Kur, who also created the bust of Hungarian composer Bela Bartok which is in the Kennedy Center.

Louis (Lajos) Kossuth

In 1851-52, Louis Kossuth was the best known name in the United States. Horace Greeley expressed the feelings of all Americans about the great Hungarian freedom fighter and statesman when he said, "Among the orators, patriots, statesmen, exiles, he has, living or dead, no superior."

Louis Kossuth (1804-1894) was imbued with the spirit of American democracy while a student of the Hungarian Academy of Sarospatak. It was there that he dedicated himself to the principles of George Washington. In his political activity leading to the Hungarian Revolution of 1848, Kossuth expressed his desire to follow the American model in creating a free and democratic Hungary.

In the fall of 1848, he became the undisputed leader of the Hungarian Revolution and the following April was elected Governor of Hungary. After the the Russians crushed the Hungarian revolt in the summer of 1849, Kossuth was forced into exile in Turkey. With the assistance of the United States government, he came to the United States, where he remained from December 4, 1851, until July 14, 1852.

Kossuth was received by the President of the United States, spoke to both Houses of Congress, and delivered more than 300 speeches to thousands of people in every state of the Union. It was estimated that more than half of the entire population of the United States at that time heard him speak. Hundreds of streets were named after him throughout the country. Towns and counties along the expanding Western frontier were given the name of Kossuth.

After this triumphal tour of the United States, Kossuth returned to Europe to continue his struggle for a free and

democratic Hungary. He was never able to return to his native land, because he refused to accept Austrian domination, even after the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867. In 1894 he died in political exile in Italy. He is still revered as the "Father of the Hungarian nation" and the symbol of Hungarian independence and democracy.

Statements by Kossuth

"All for the people, and all by the people. Nothing about the people without the people. That is democracy."

—To the Ohio State Legislature, February 6, 1852

"What little English I know, I learned from Shakespeare, and I learned from him that 'there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in our philosophy.' Who knows what the future may bring forth? I trust in God that all nations will become free, and that they will be united for the internal interests of humanity, and in that galaxy of freedom I know what place the United States will have."

—Salem, Massachusetts, May 6, 1852

"I would pledge life, honor and everything dear to man's heart that either America must take her becoming part in the political regeneration of Europe, or she herself must yield to the pernicious influence of European politics. There never was yet a more fatal mistake, than it would be to believe that by not caring about the political condition of Europe, America may remain unaffected by the condition of Europe Yes, either America will regenerate the condition of the old world, or it will be degenerated by the condition of the old world."

—Concord, Massachusetts, May 11, 1852