

A “WASP NEST”

(one of many – at Ogrodowa #23)

WARSAW UPRISING 1944

FATES OF PEOPLE, WHO LIVED THERE – reconstruction

 *They fought “Defiant and Invincible” – some fell!*



HONOR AND GLORY TO THEIR MEMORY!



Brief introduction: the house did not survive the Uprising, nor did some of its inhabitants – it was burned by the Germans. Same were (literally) the fates of some of the people – details below.

Families with common roots in Siedlce

Dobraczyński

Wajszczuk

Bieguński

Wiszniewski

and Other ...



SPIS TREŚCI

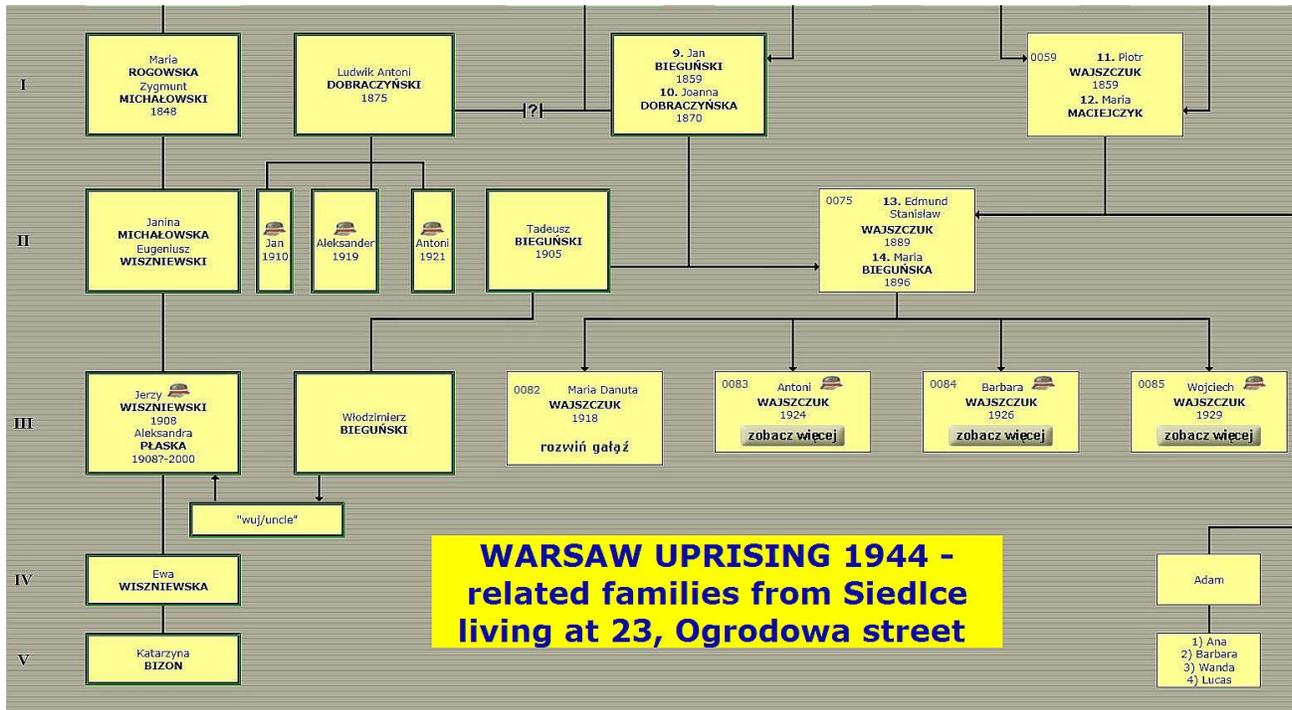
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One of the Warsaw's "WASP NESTS!" (WJW – 12/5/2019)

FATES OF RESIDENTS AT OGRODOWA 23 DURING THE UPRISING 1944 – reconstruction



They fought "Defiant and Invincible" – some fell! HONOR AND GLORY TO THEIR MEMORY!



Related Families from Siedlce (near Warsaw), whose members participated (and some perished fighting) in the Warsaw Uprising 1944. Fragment of a graphic display (above) comes from the Family Tree of the Wajszczuk Family - <http://www.wajszczuk.pl/>

"WASP NEST" – one of many – I remember from my childhood time spent with my Grandparents in Siedlce in their backyards and gardens, full of fruits and flowers and on bicycle excursions over the nearby meadows and their warnings – **"BEWARE OF THE WASPS!"**

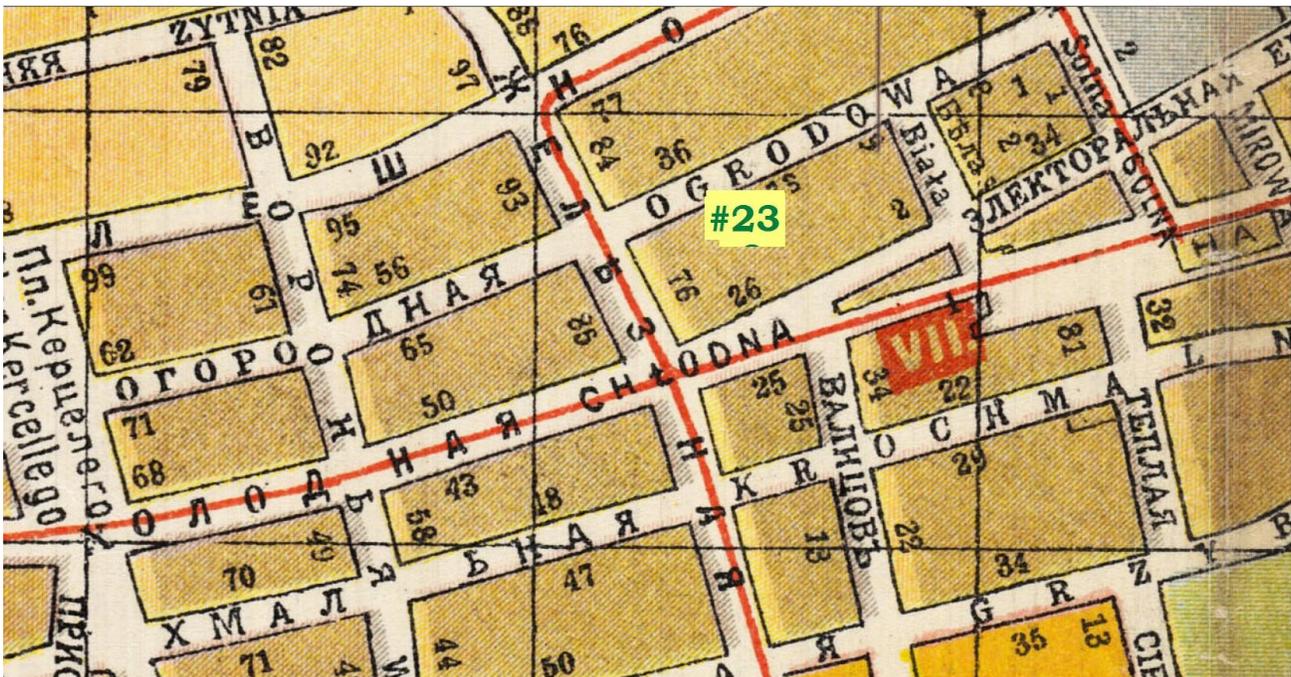
"Wasps do not attack spontaneously, if they do not get excited and threatened, but they may sting multiple times!" - <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/wasp;>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wasp>

This was therefore the first association, which came to my mind, when I was recalling the fates of members of several relatives of our Family from Siedlce, who lived in Warsaw during the last war – in a house at 23, Ogrodowa Street. In its dozen-or-so rented apartments lived about a score (60), possibly even more people... and at least a dozen-and-a-half of them were involved in conspiracy and the Underground Organizations and activities. It translates into 1/3 of all of its inhabitants. We were finding out about it gradually and much later while under the subsequent Soviet occupation.

According to the Soviet fashion and customs of those days – such building would and should had been called - "A HEROE-building"..., but it was NOT! For two reasons: one - It was destroyed (burned down) by the Germans during the Uprising with no trace later remaining, and two – the Insurgents living there and their Families were considered after the war to be "enemies of the people", because of their loyalty to the pre-war government in exile, and hostility to Communism, in general.



Northern section of Warsaw – OLD TOWN near the right upper corner, Ogródowa Street in center.



1905 – #23, Ogródowa street

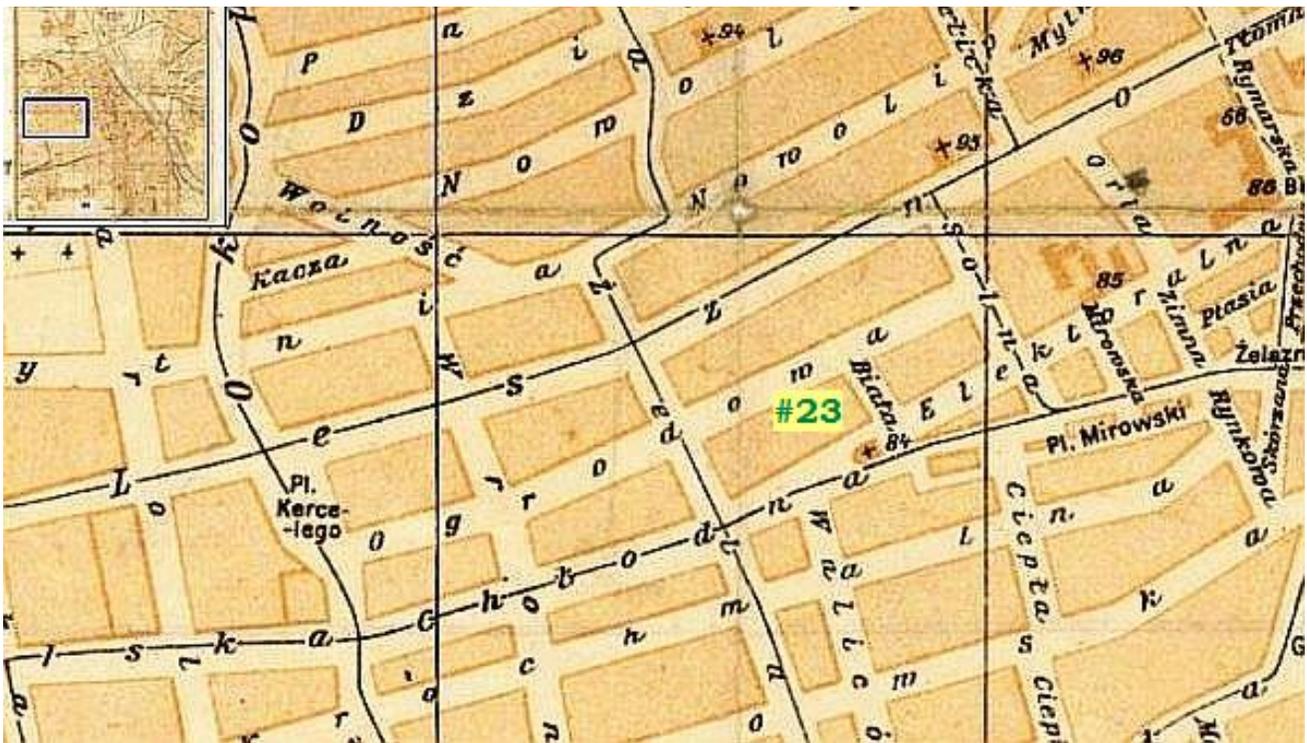
warszawska.info

Ul. Ogródowa 23

<http://www.warszawska.info/wola/ogrodowa-historia.html> (pol.)

- according to - Franciszek Maksymilian Sobieszcański (1814-1878) around the middle of the XIX c. - a street of industrial shops and handcraft, but also a street of entertainment and dance. (...)





South side



North side – Municipal Courts with German bunker

Antoni Dobraczynski about Ogródowa #23 - letter date October 23, 2015

SUMMARY and excerpts – information is organized, in points (WJW)

1. Across the street from Ogródowa #23 was **Ogródowa #26** (see picture below) – it was a very large building (6 or 7 stories), it had about 100 apartments, mostly inhabited by the Jews. It is still standing - http://www.warszawa1939.pl/indeksy_u.htm. This city block was well-off, poorer were located in the direction of Wola (west).

2. **Ogródowa #23** was on the south-side, half-way between **Żelazna** and **Biała** streets. The property was composed of 3 buildings:

a/ the main building facing the street, was 3-story with large cellars housing the carpenter's workshop. The street had trees and was illuminated with gas lamps. There was a centrally located gateway, with an attendant, closed at night. There were balconies on the first floor;

b/ a two-story annex, at the right angle (T-shape) to the main building with apartments for rent;

c/ old small **former “little” palace** of Prince Józef Poniatowski *, a one-story building with a garden – it served as a dormitory for female students of the Warsaw University (probably, there were no official “students” there during the war?). There were also stylish stables, which were used for storage. There was also a flower and vegetable garden (young people used this flower garden at night, during the police curfew hours, for their meetings). There was a deep well in the garden.

3. The whole property belonged to the “**(Archi)Konfraternia Literacka**” (an ancient charity and educational organization of prominent (and educated) citizens, founded at the Warsaw Arch-Cathedral in **1507** (1547?), with many famous and prominent honorary members (a King, a Pope) in its past <https://ekai.pl/wspolnoty/archikonfraternia-literacka>/https://pl.wikisource.org/wiki/Encyklopedia_staropolska/Archikonfraternia_literacka; **DOBACZYŃSKI - Father** was its Warsaw Secretary and Administrator). The organization included earlier the craftsmen and tradesman and more recently the “professional” people, **but Christians only.**

4. Among its (Ogrodowa #23) permanent ca. 60 residents were the families (some of them related) of Michałowski, Markiewicz, Kawiński, Statkiewicz, Kołucki, and also of Andrzej Madej – a custodian/church-keeper at the Św. Jan (St. John) Cathedral, who was also assisting in the activities of the Fraternity, and also the Nojgebał family – a famous doctor, https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ludwig_Adolf_Neugebauer.

Also, during several months, the commanding officer of “Wachlarz” lived there, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wachlarz> - Lt.Col. **Adam Remigiusz Grocholski** - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam_Remigiusz_Grocholski from **KEDYW** - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kedyw>

5. This street segment was included into the **Ghetto in 1941**. The inhabitants were allowed to **return in 1942** (in summer or early fall?). The **Dobraczyński - father** was restored to his previous function as its administrator (therefore, he was able to accommodate the new inhabitants and relatives)!

6. The **Dobraczyński** family occupied (before and after the expulsion) the apartment on the first floor, (above ground) facing the street. Below them, in an apartment on the ground floor (street level), originally lived the owner of the woodwork shop (building fancy, expensive, stylish furniture) who had his workshop in the “palace”.

7. After return in **1942**, this (woodwork shop owner) family was moved to the “palace”, to free their former apartment for the “newcomers”/family. (It was quite common, during the war, because of the war destruction or local expulsions - [in Warsaw, many apartments were also taken over by the German Army and Administration], or expulsions from Western Poland, [which was incorporated into the German Reich] that two or three families lived in one apartment and several people in one room).

8. The former woodworker’s apartment was given to the **Wajszczuk family**. One could enter directly from the gateway and there was also an internal back-entrance. The Wajszczuk family - **Mania and children** - Antoni, Basia and Wojtek **moved-in** in **1942**. **Danusia lived somewhere else.**

Tadeusz Bieguński and wife (Włodek’s father) moved into the same apartment somewhat later.

9. Also, a **small 2-room apartment** and kitchen was fashioned in the “palace” - **Jerzy Wiszniewski’s** family moved in there later.

10. “Wola Massacre” did not affect the inhabitants of Ogrodowa #23 – it reached from Wola only as far as the Kercelak Square (at Żelazna street). But, the Germans (and more precisely, the collaborating units) entered the neighborhood already on **August 5 and 6** and the expulsions, mass executions and other cruelties followed.

11. Dobraczyński family: father and mother (**Ludwik** Antoni and **Waleria**) →

on **Aug, 7** were expelled by Germans from their apartment → **Pruszków, Dulag 123**

12. Apparently, **some of the Ogrodowa** inhabitants managed to escape to **the Old Town**.

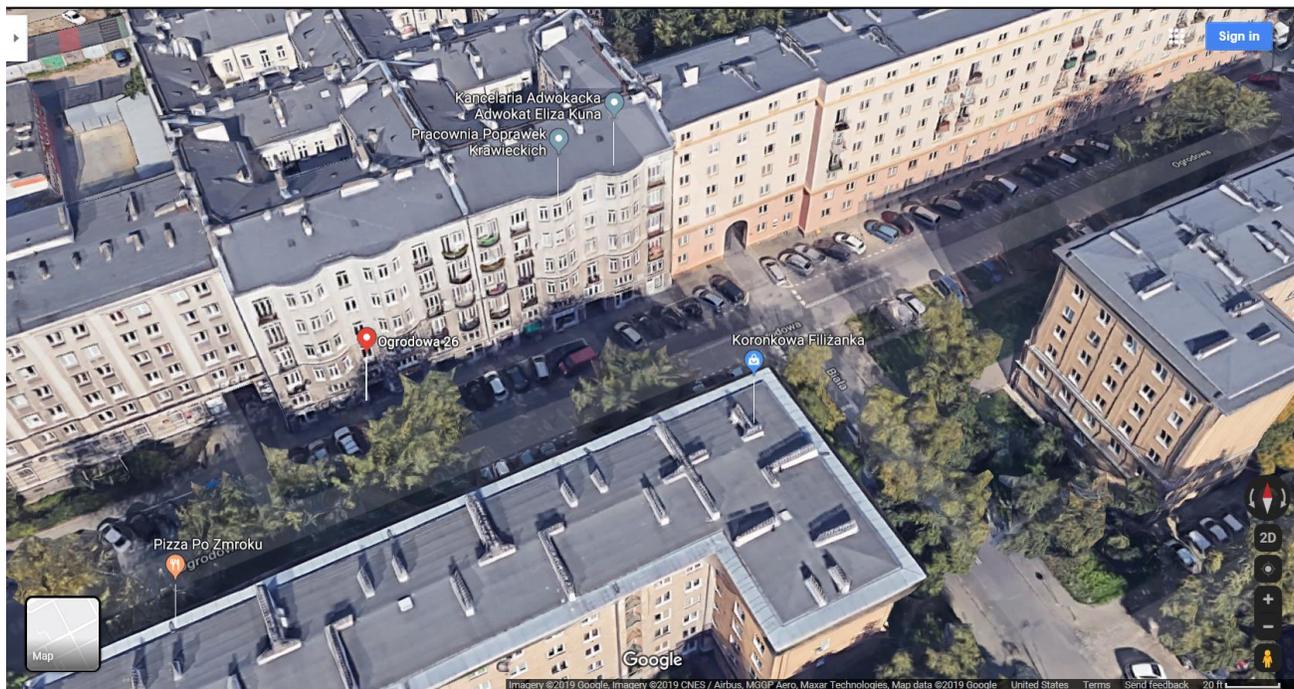
a/ **Tadeusz Bieguński** family → Długa #26, → **Miodowa #23** → **Pruszkow**;

b/ **Danuta D.** - Jan’s wife and two daughters → Old Town, hiding in church cellars → **Freta #4**;

c/ **Jerzy Wiszniewski’s**, wife Aleksandra and daughter Ewa → church, **Freta #4**;

d/ we still do not know, if, when and where to did **Mania W.** escape, in what direction? Where did she stay? We know that she was at Pruszkow! When did she arrive at the Pruszków camp? From where? Apparently, she lost contact with Danusia at the beginning of the Uprising - they found each other in Pruszków at the beginning of October? Was she also at Pruszków, with the Dobraczyńskis?

13. The house at Ogrodowa #23 was pillaged and burned a few days later, after their expulsion!



Aerial view of the reconstructed segment of the Ogrodowa Street in the region of former #23 property. Only one (restored) large building complex under the old #26 address survived the war, it is identified with a red dot – it was described as a “vis-à-vis” in Antoni Dobraczyński’s letter. The street has been widened after the war and all ruins of old buildings were removed and replaced in different arrangement than previously. One large building, in a different arrangement was build and includes the former #23 property – its old structure locations cannot be identified.

*** PONIATOWSKI FAMILY** - One piece of information in Antoni Dobraczyński letter was puzzling – a “**little palace of Prince Józef Poniatowski**” in the Ogrodowa 23 complex. Poniatowski was the name of a famous old Polish noble family – last Polish King at the time of the Partitioning of Poland in 1795 was Stanislaw August Poniatowski, who was elected in 1764. Other members of this family spread gradually all over Europe – one to Lithuania, others to Austria (Feldmarschall), Italy, France and Mexico.

King Stanislaw’s nephew was Prince Jozef Poniatowski, he lived most of the time in a separate smaller palace at the side of the main Royal Palace in Warsaw. He was later Marshall of France under Napoleon and a War Minister in the (temporary) Principality of Warsaw. He was never married, but greatly admired and always surrounded by women, During his temporary absence in Warsaw, one of them bore him a son on December 18, **1809**. Initially, she lived nearby in the Old Town, later moved in with the Prince Jozef, the event was kept secret, the baby was given a name **Józef Karol Maurycy Ponitycki**. He was later adopted by the sister of Prince Jozef Poniatowski and this way acquired the official last name **Poniatowski** (...)

An intensive search in the Internet provided interesting information: “**Józef Karol Maurycy Ponitycki – nieślubny syn księcia Józefa Poniatowskiego**” – (Illegitimate son of Prince Jozef Poniatowski) ARSENAŁ 6 MARCA 2014 - [HTTP://ARSENAL.ORG.PL/JOZEF-KAROL-MAURZYCY-PONITYCKI-NIESLUBNY-SYN-KSIECIA-JOZEFA-PONIATOWSKIEGO](http://arsenal.org.pl/JOZEF-KAROL-MAURZYCY-PONITYCKI-NIESLUBNY-SYN-KSIECIA-JOZEFA-PONIATOWSKIEGO).

(Apparently the same Jozef Karol Maurycy ..., son[!] of Ponitycki/Poniatowski, b. **1809**) ... after returning from France on June 12, 1931, (...) in Saxon Gardens in Warsaw (during a dancing party thrown for the local military unit (...I invited to a dance a young lady member of the Warsaw High Society, Miss Karolina S., who has just arrived in the Capital from Nieswiez. (...) So started their great love affair (...) **He frequently visited with her beloved in a manor at Ogrodowa Street**, (...) great plans for the future were born. (...) In September, after three idyllic months, he bade farewell to his “Little Princess” (as he tenderly called her). They never saw each other again! (...)

(I wonder, what happened next with this property before it got acquired by the Archikonfraternia?)

Literary Arch-Confraternity at the Warsaw Cathedral

„Archikonfraternia Literacka Niepokalanego Poczęcia NMP przy Bazylice Archikatedralnej św. Jana w Warszawie” - <http://akl.waw.pl/o-bractwie/>



It is the oldest church fraternity in the Masovia Province of Poland with a history going back over five hundred years. For centuries, it has been conducting its activity at the Warsaw Arch-Cathedral, where it was given a chapel at the head of the right nave, called a Literary Chapel, where can be found the relics of the Saint Zygmunt Feliński.

In 1673 the Pope Klemens X awarded the “Konfraternia” the title and privileges of an Arch-fraternity. The oldest known statute received the Konfraternia from the King Jan III Sobieski in 1676. Over the centuries, the kings, church prelates and secular notables belonged to this Archconfraternity.

As a church fraternity, this organization was first started in 1507.

Encyklopedia staropolska/Archikonfraternia literacka -

https://pl.wikisource.org/wiki/Encyklopedia_staropolska/Archikonfraternia_literacka

Literary Arch-confraternity. Church historians say that, when St. Paul, the Apostol during his trip to Rome converted in Messina many pagans, those new Christians, after learning that the Mother of God lives in the East, sent many trusted emissaries to pay tribute to her, who then the Most Holy Virgin rewarded with a letter containing her blessings - to commemorate this event, the Messinians initiated then a fraternity called *Maria Litterarum*. (...)

Archikonfraternia Literacka - https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archikonfraternia_Literacka

Archikonfraternia Literacka – (“[rzymskokatolickie arcybractwo](#) religijne”), a Roman-Catholic Archfraternity, functioning without interruptions in Warsaw (w [Warszawie](#)) since the 16th century, from the middle of the 17th century at the “[kolegiacie \(potem katedrze\) św. Jana](#)”. Initially, it concentrated on the church liturgical singing and accepted as members solely men who knew how to read – so called - *virii literati*^[5]. With time, it also initiated a caritative and social activities.

Activity - A historical fraternity – incorporating members of the burgher and noble class (stanu [mieszczańskiego](#) i [szlacheckiego](#)), also requiring the ability to read and write in polish and in latin. Those kind of people were called at that time using the latin term - *virii literati*^[5].



1.



2.

1. „Literary Chapel” in the Cathedral in 2017 -

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d1/Kaplica_Literacka_w_Warszawie_2017.jpg

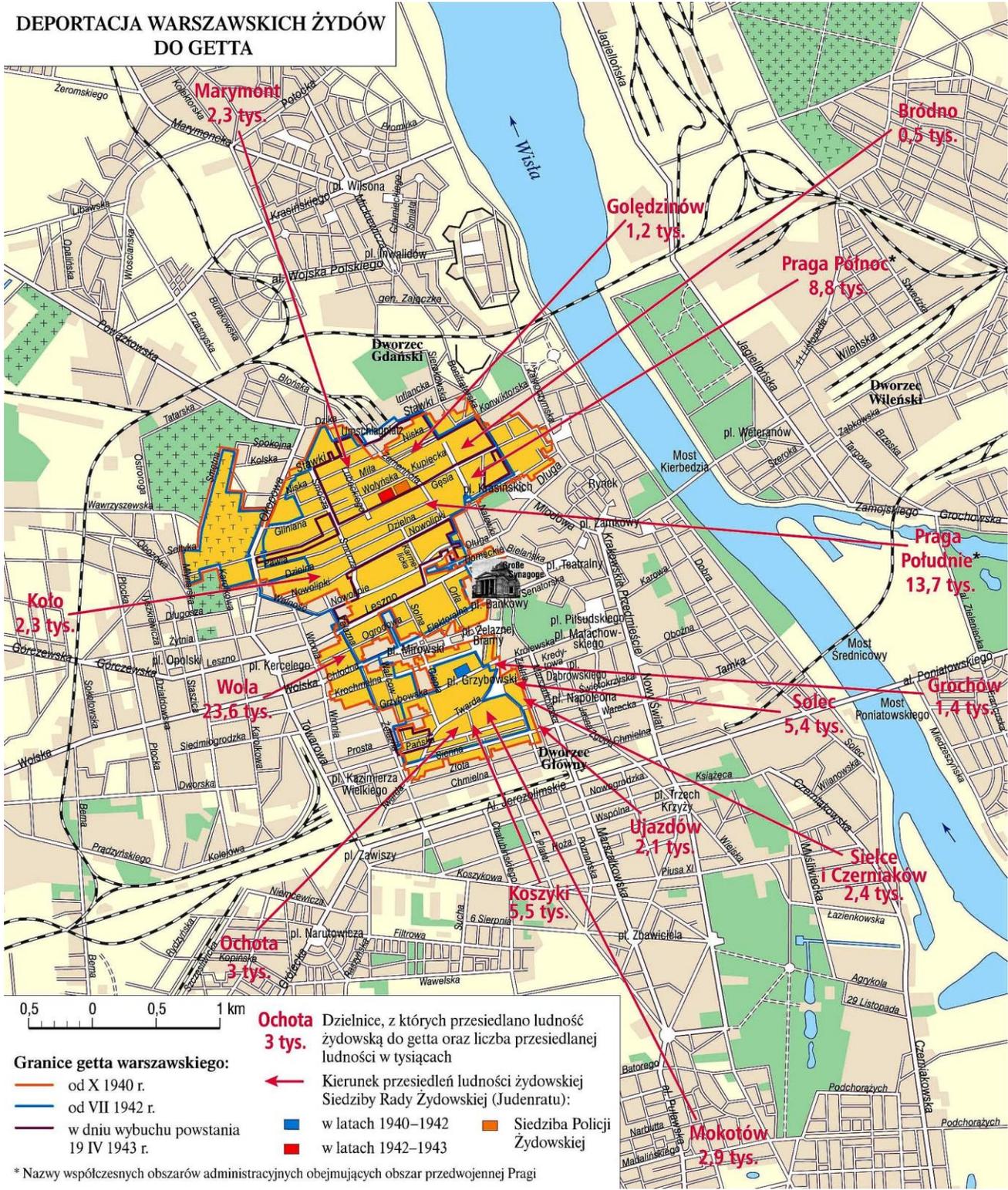
Archikonfraternia literacka Niepokalanego Poczęcia NMP.

http://www.katedra.mkw.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=4

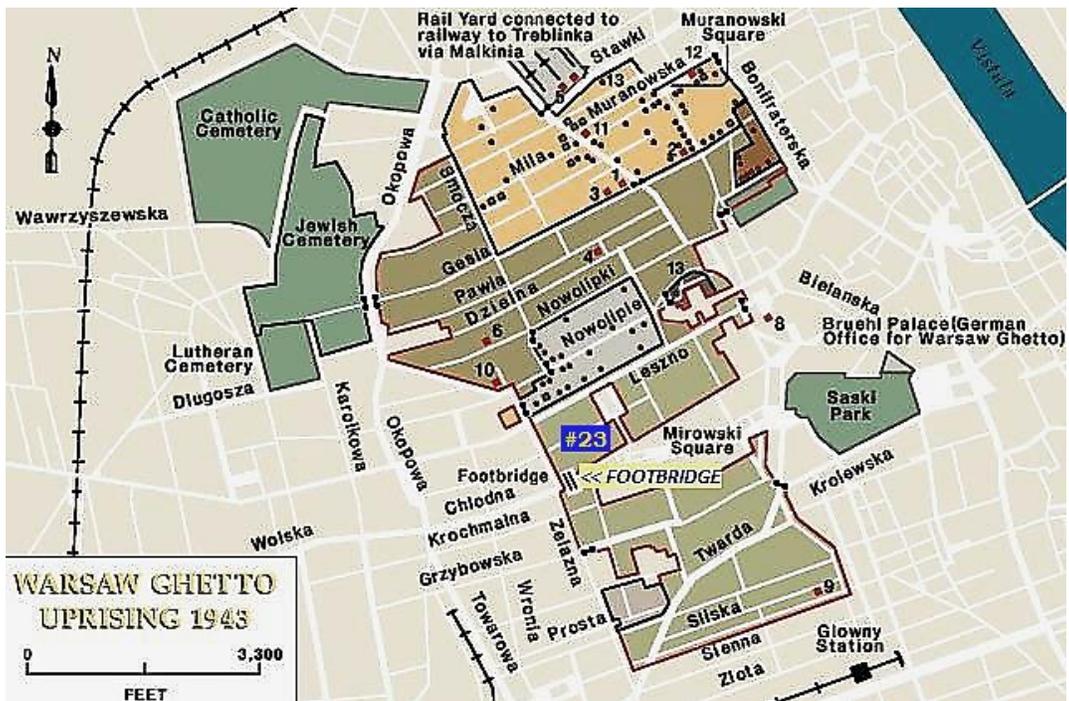
2. Members - “Confratres” with abp. Kazimierz Nycz at Christmas time audience in 2008.

Warsaw Ghetto - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Ghetto

DEPORTACJA WARSZAWSKICH ŻYDÓW DO GETTA



Map of Jewish Ghetto in Warsaw - resettling of Jewish population from different districts.



Localization of the property at Ogrodowa #23.

The **Warsaw Ghetto**^[5] (**German**: *Warschauer Ghetto*, officially *Jüdischer Wohnbezirk in Warschau*, "Jewish Residential District in Warsaw"; **Polish**: *getto warszawskie*) was the largest of all the **Jewish ghettos in German-occupied Europe** during **World War II**. It was established by the **German** authorities in November 1940; within the new **General Government** territory of **German-occupied Poland**. Over 400,000 Jews were imprisoned there,^[4] in an area of 3.4 km² (1.3 sq mi), with an average of 9.2 persons per room,^{[6][7]} barely subsisting on meager food rations.^[2] From the Warsaw Ghetto, Jews were deported to **Nazi concentration camps** and mass-killing centers. In the summer of 1942 at least 254,000 Ghetto residents were sent to the **Treblinka extermination camp** during **Großaktion Warschau** under the guise of "**resettlement** in the East" over the course of the summer.^[2]



15.VIII.1942 – this sector was excluded from the Ghetto. Former “Arian” residents were allowed to return to their properties and apartments.

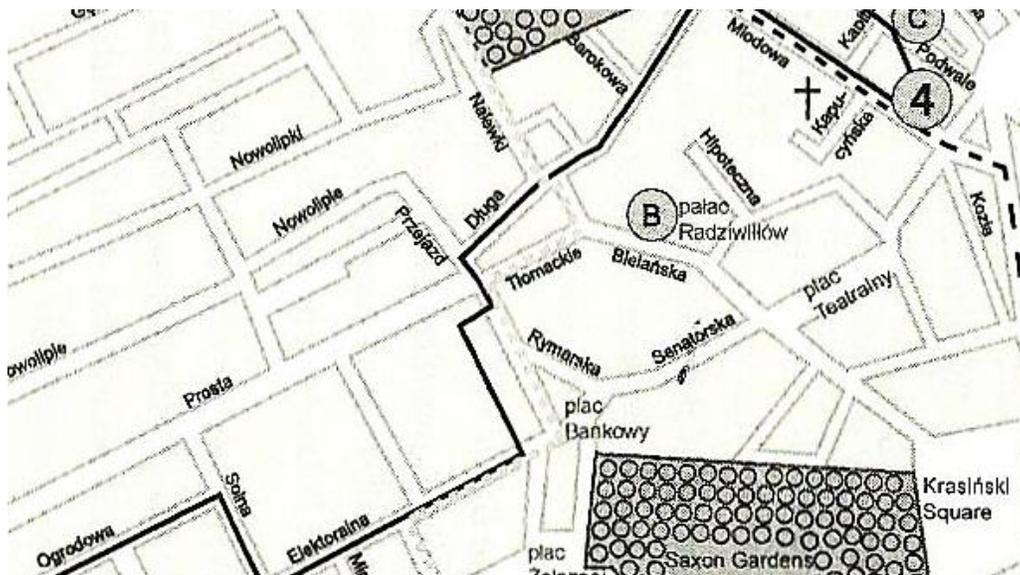
The ghetto was demolished by the Germans in May 1943 after the [Warsaw Ghetto Uprisings](#) which had temporarily halted the deportations. The total death toll among the Jewish inhabitants of the Ghetto is estimated to be at least 300,000 killed by bullet or gas,^[8] combined with 92,000 victims of rampant hunger and hunger-related diseases, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, and the casualties of the final destruction of the Ghetto.^{[2][9][10][11]}



Territories of the former Ghetto, which was levelled-off on Hitler's orders after the fall of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising – "[powstania w getcie warszawskim](#)". (View in the north-west direction).



Map 2016 – old streets (purple) do not exist, new connecting avenues were constructed.



Map fragment (before 1939) from Miron Białoszewski's book: "A memoir of the Warsaw Uprising".

Summary – about the inhabitants of Ogrodowa #23 – originally from Siedlce

Dobraczyński Family – parents - *Ludwik Antoni* and wife *Waleria*, sons: **Aleksander** and **Antoni**, (the oldest - **Jan** with wife Danuta and two daughters lived separately (where?). **Parents** stayed at home until they were expelled by the Germans on **August 7** - they were separated, both were taken to **Pruszkow**, father was sent to a labor camp in Germany, mother stayed in Pruszkow, → rail transport (when?), together with Aleksandra Wiszniewska, both released from the train and joined their families outside of Warsaw. All three sons joined the Uprising, in different AK units, survived → POW camps, two returned later home, one (Aleksander) stayed abroad.

Wajszczuk Family – mother **Maria** (father dr. Edmund died in 1943 in Krasnystaw) moved in to Ogrodowa 23 in summer/early fall of 1942 with 3 children: **Antoni**, **Barbara** and **Wojciech**, all 3 joined the AK, assigned to different units and later participated in the Uprising – all were killed at different times in different locations. They had no contact with the mother or with each other. The oldest daughter, **Danuta** also came to Warsaw from Krasnystaw, but lived separately (address is not known). **Maria**, most probably, remained at **Ogrodowa 23** (alone, no children), initially with the **Dobraczyński** parents and was possibly also taken to the Pruszków camp on **August 7(?)** and stayed there, until she reunited with Danusia/Danuta **sometime between October 3 and 5(?)**

Danuta studied pharmacy and worked in a Pharmacy store, was involved in supplying the insurgents with medications and surgical supplies, but had no formal military assignment. She, probably, had no contact with the mother since the beginning of the Uprising, was able to avoid the POW camp and they met again in Pruszków. They were both released (escaped?), initially stayed around, (or in Warsaw, after it was “liberated” on January 17, 1945 - the building at Ogrodowa 23 was burned down) - and then went to Siedlce, when it became possible to cross the Vistula (river).

It appears that **Antoni** and **Wojciech** were the earliest to leave Ogrodowa 23, to reach their assigned posts – they stayed for a few days at their assembly points, because of the delay in the initial plans to start the Uprising earlier – their commanders decided not to release them home, while waiting – for safety and security reasons).

Barbara (Basia) could have been delayed by a couple of days (?) – some nurses, apparently were being called in with a delay, or had difficulty with reaching their units, but she left home early enough to avoid being captured by the Germans. (So far, we were not able to find any records of her activities during the first few days of the Uprising, until her arrival in the Old Town (with Dr. “Morwa” team?) on August 7(?)).

Bieguński Family, Tadeusz and Zofia – moved into (and shared with the Wajszczuks) the same apartment at Ogrodowa 23 – probably soon after the Wajszczuk family arrived there (sharing apartments was quite common during the war, and especially after the destruction connected with subsequent “liberation” and new “occupation” – (see the separate page “komunalka” in the 30-ties in the Soviet Union!). The Bieguńskis moved into hiding early after the start of the Uprising, away from Wola (with friends or family), initially to Długa 26 (house was then destroyed by bombing) and later to Miodowa 23, where they stayed in cellars until the surrender of the Old Town on **September 2, 1944**. From there, they were expelled to the **Pruszkow** camp, Zofia stayed there for a while, but Tadeusz was sent to Germany as a forced labourer.

Wiszniewski Family, Jerzy, wife Aleksandra and daughter Ewa – were the last to move in to Ogrodowa 23, into a small apartment in the annex-palace. He joined the Uprising as an officer (later in charge of the combat hospital at Kilińskiego street, to which Basia was also attached). He was **wounded** during the “tank” explosion on August 13, recovered, but was later **killed** (buried in the

rubble during the hospital bombing on August 26) and his body was never found, His wife and daughter were in hiding from the beginning until the surrender of the Old Town, together with Jan Dobraczyński's wife and two daughters, in the church cellars at #4, Freta street. They were sent from the Old Town to **Pruszków** and then placed in the same transport out of Pruszkow (its destination?) with Zofia Bieguńska - they were let go (released along the way) by a transport guard.

OTHERS: Jewish sisters – two young escapees from the Ghetto were in hiding for a period of time (several months, years?) at Ogrodowa #23 - details are not known. Their true names were: **Haja** (Chaja?, +27.VIII.1944) and **Ester** (+2.IX.1944) **Borenstein** and the assumed names were **Halina** and **Irena Gąsiorowska**. Apparently they were daughters of: an accountant from Krasnystaw, or of a sawmill owner in Tarnów (?) They joined the Underground Organization (AK) and later became combat nurses in the same Scout unit, as Basia Wajszczukówna.

Madej Andrzej – an employee of the Literary Arch-confraternity and caretaker of its chapel at the Warsaw Cathedral, also living at Ogrodowa 23, was hiding during the Uprising in the Cathedral. We know, that along with the priest and the keeper of the Cathedral, he was trying to save some treasures from the burning and destroyed Cathedral. He was being assisted by nurses on duty at the barricades and by some soldiers and many civilians!

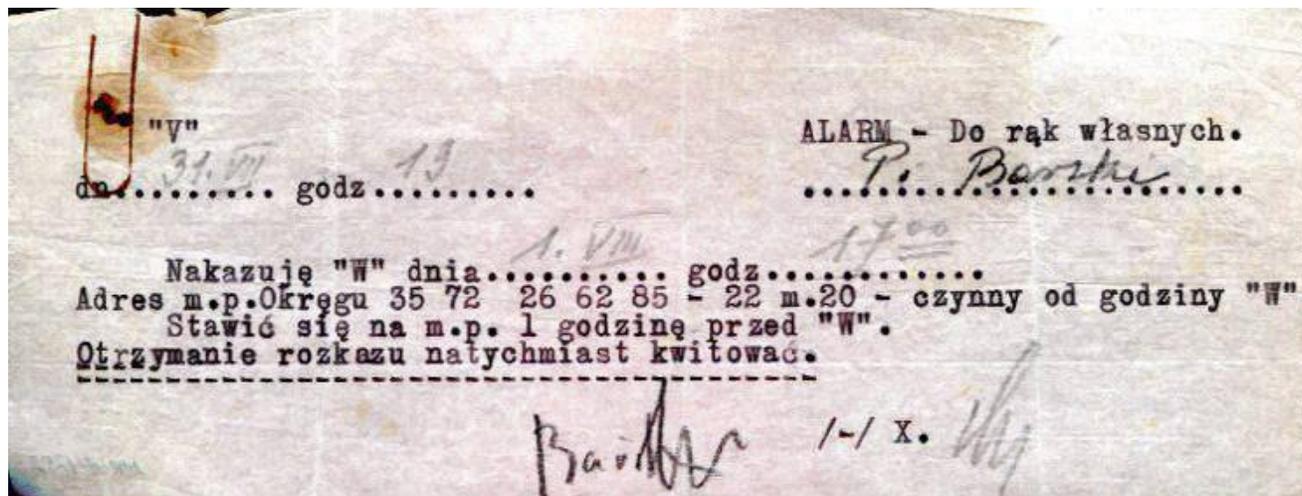
“**Miraculous Christ-on-Cross**” was transported by them under fire from the Cathedral to the Church cellars at Freta!

Lt. Col. Adam Remigiusz Grocholski, the commanding officer of “Wachlarz” - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wachlarz> lived there in hiding for several months (when?)

Bielański Staszek, „**Firlej**” from the „Gertruda” Company stayed somewhere there and had a weapon hiding place and „Molotov Cocktails” manufacture somewhere there. (A. Dobraczyński)

Impressive – one (relatively small) housing complex in the city and so much clandestine activity, involvement and sacrifice! And how much we do not know about... and will remain secret forever? What were the interactions between these people? Their daily lives? Fears, joys? And we know only about a few out of about 60 people normally living there. How many more were there during the war?

WARSAW UPRISING - 1944 – order to start!



WARSAW UPRISING - 1944 – order to start!

The Warsaw Uprising - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Uprising - (**Polish**: *Powstanie Warszawskie*; **German**: *Warschauer Aufstand*) was a major **World War II** operation, in the summer of 1944, by the **Polish underground resistance**, led by the **Home Army** (**Polish**: *Armia Krajowa*), to liberate **Warsaw** from German occupation. The uprising was timed to coincide with the retreat of the German forces from Poland ahead of the Soviet advance.^[13] While approaching the eastern suburbs of the city, the **Red Army** temporarily halted combat operations, enabling the Germans to regroup and defeat the Polish resistance and to **raze the city in reprisal**. The Uprising was fought for 63 days with little outside support. It was the single largest military effort taken by any European **resistance movement during World War II**.^[14]

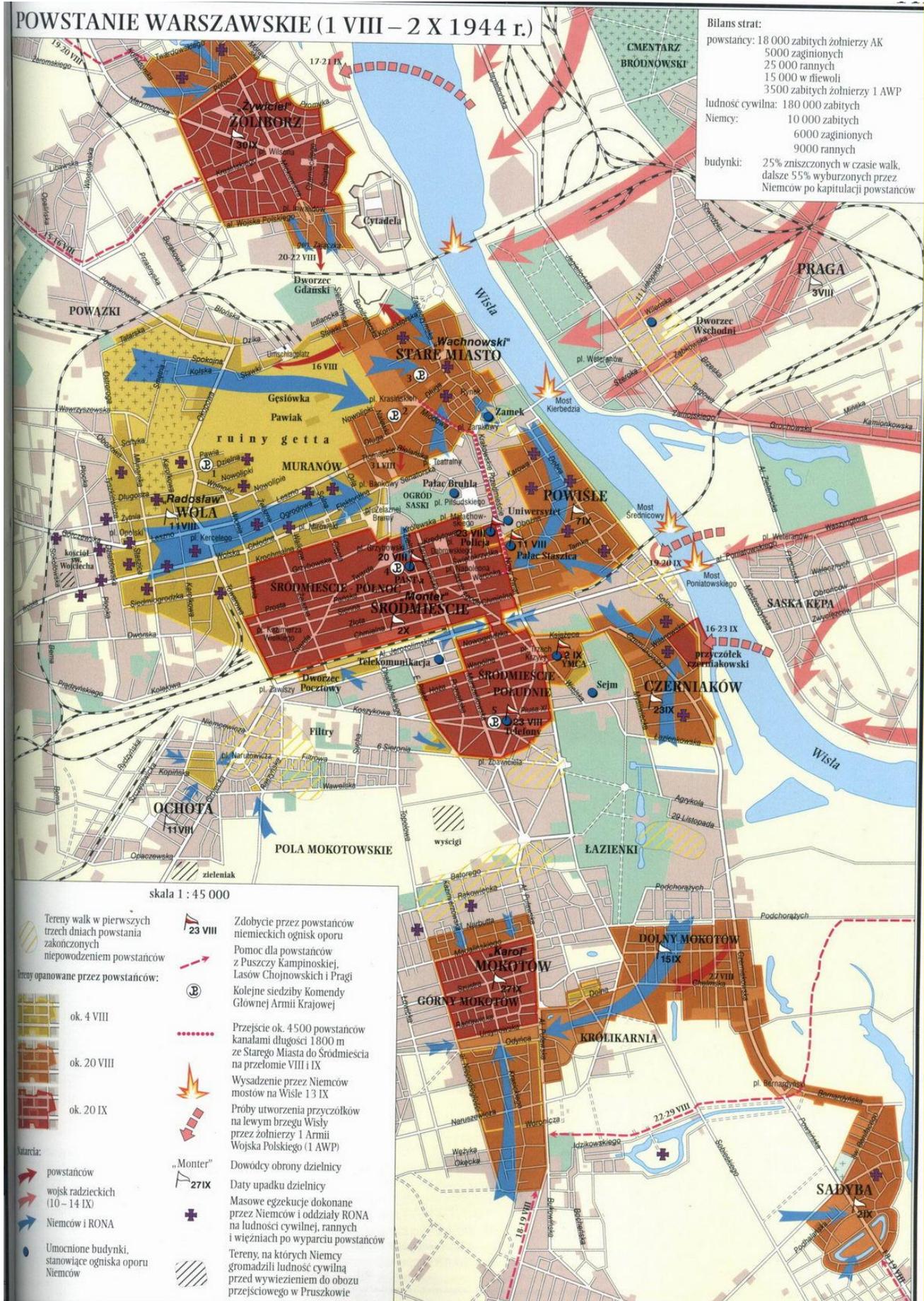
The Uprising began on 1 August 1944 as part of a nationwide **Operation Tempest**, launched at the time of the Soviet **Lublin–Brest Offensive**. The main Polish objectives were to drive the Germans out of Warsaw while helping the **Allies** defeat **Germany**. An additional, political goal of the **Polish Underground State** was to liberate Poland's capital and assert Polish sovereignty before the Soviet-backed **Polish Committee of National Liberation** could assume control. Other immediate causes included a threat of mass German round-ups of able-bodied Poles for "**evacuation**"; calls by **Radio Moscow's** Polish Service for uprising; and an emotional Polish desire for justice and revenge against the enemy after five years of German occupation.^{[15][16]}

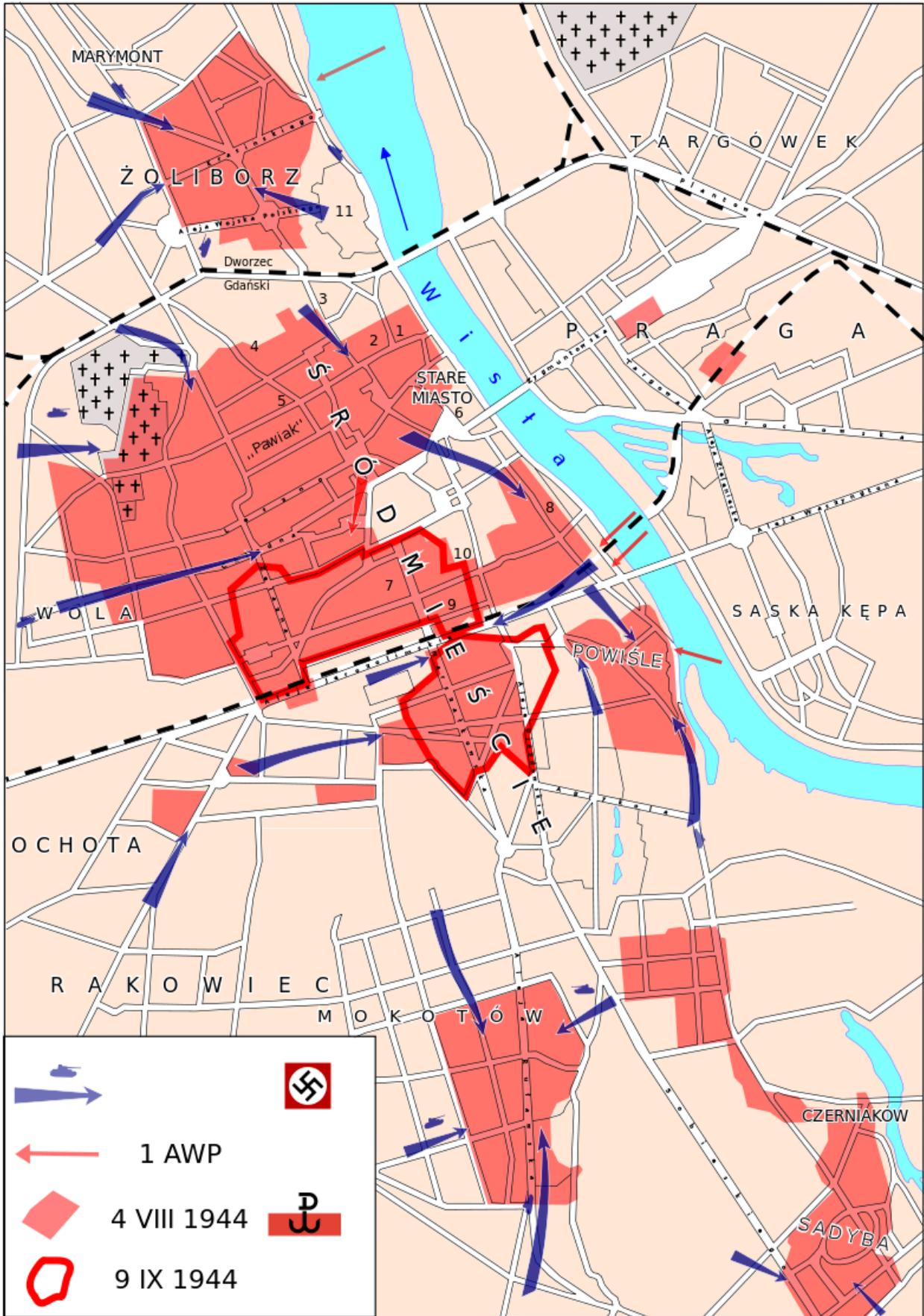
Initially, the Poles established control over most of central Warsaw, but the Soviets ignored Polish attempts to make radio contact with them and did not advance beyond the city limits. Intense street fighting between the Germans and Poles continued. By 14 September, the eastern bank of the **Vistula** River opposite the Polish resistance positions was taken over by the **Polish troops fighting under the Soviet command**; 1,200 men made it across the river, but they were not reinforced by the **Red Army**. This, and the lack of air support from the Soviet air base five-minutes flying time away, led to allegations that **Joseph Stalin** tactically halted his forces to let the operation fail and allow the Polish resistance to be crushed. **Arthur Koestler** called the Soviet attitude "one of the major infamies of this war which will rank for the future historian on the same ethical level with **Lidice**."^[17]

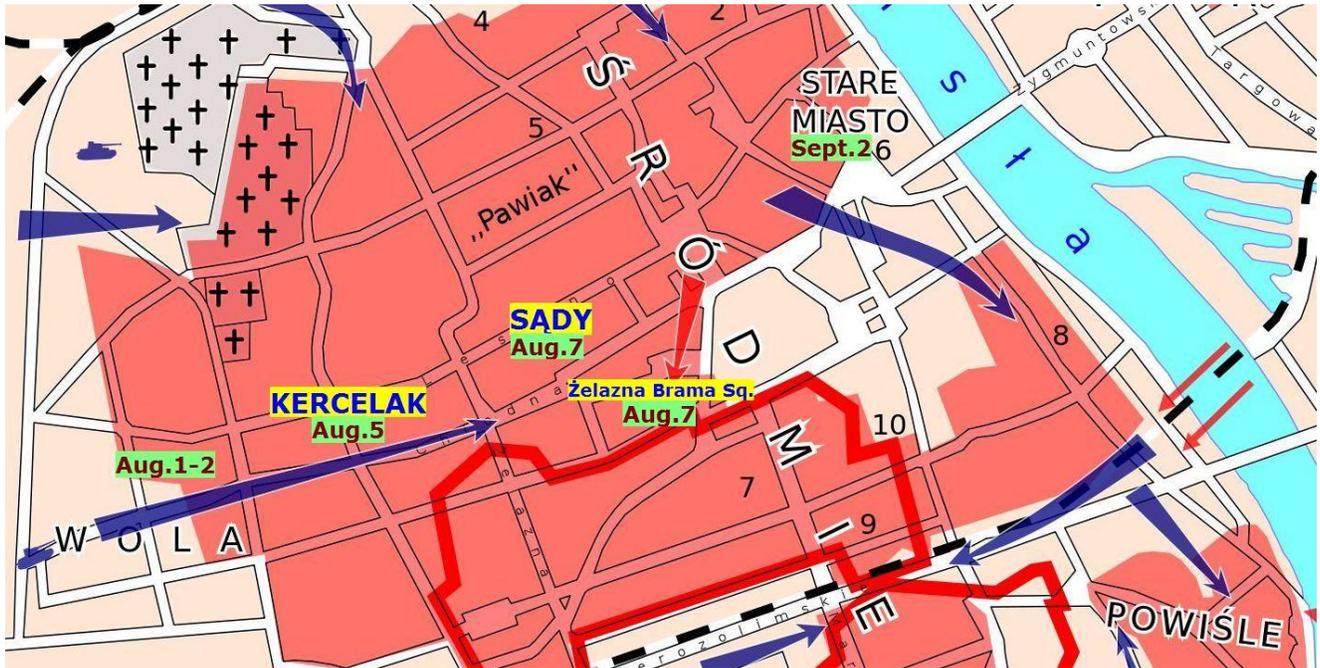
Winston Churchill pleaded with Stalin and **Franklin D. Roosevelt** to help Britain's Polish allies, to no avail.^[18] Then, without Soviet **air clearance**, Churchill sent over 200 low-level supply drops by the **Royal Air Force**, the **South African Air Force**, and the **Polish Air Force** under British High Command, in an operation known as the **Warsaw Airlift**. Later, after gaining Soviet air clearance, the **U.S. Army Air Force** sent one high-level mass airdrop as part of **Operation Frantic**.

Although the exact number of casualties is unknown, it is estimated that about 16,000 members of the Polish resistance were killed and about 6,000 badly wounded. In addition, between 150,000 and 200,000 Polish civilians died, mostly from mass executions. **Jews being harboured by Poles** were exposed by German house-to-house clearances and mass evictions of entire neighbourhoods. German casualties totalled over 2,000 to 17,000 soldiers killed and missing.^[11] During the **urban combat**, approximately 25% of Warsaw's buildings were destroyed. Following the surrender of Polish forces, German troops systematically levelled another 35% of the city block by block. Together with earlier damage suffered in the **1939 invasion of Poland** and the **Warsaw Ghetto Uprising** in 1943, over 85% of the city was destroyed by January 1945 when the course of the events in the **Eastern Front** forced the Germans to abandon the city.

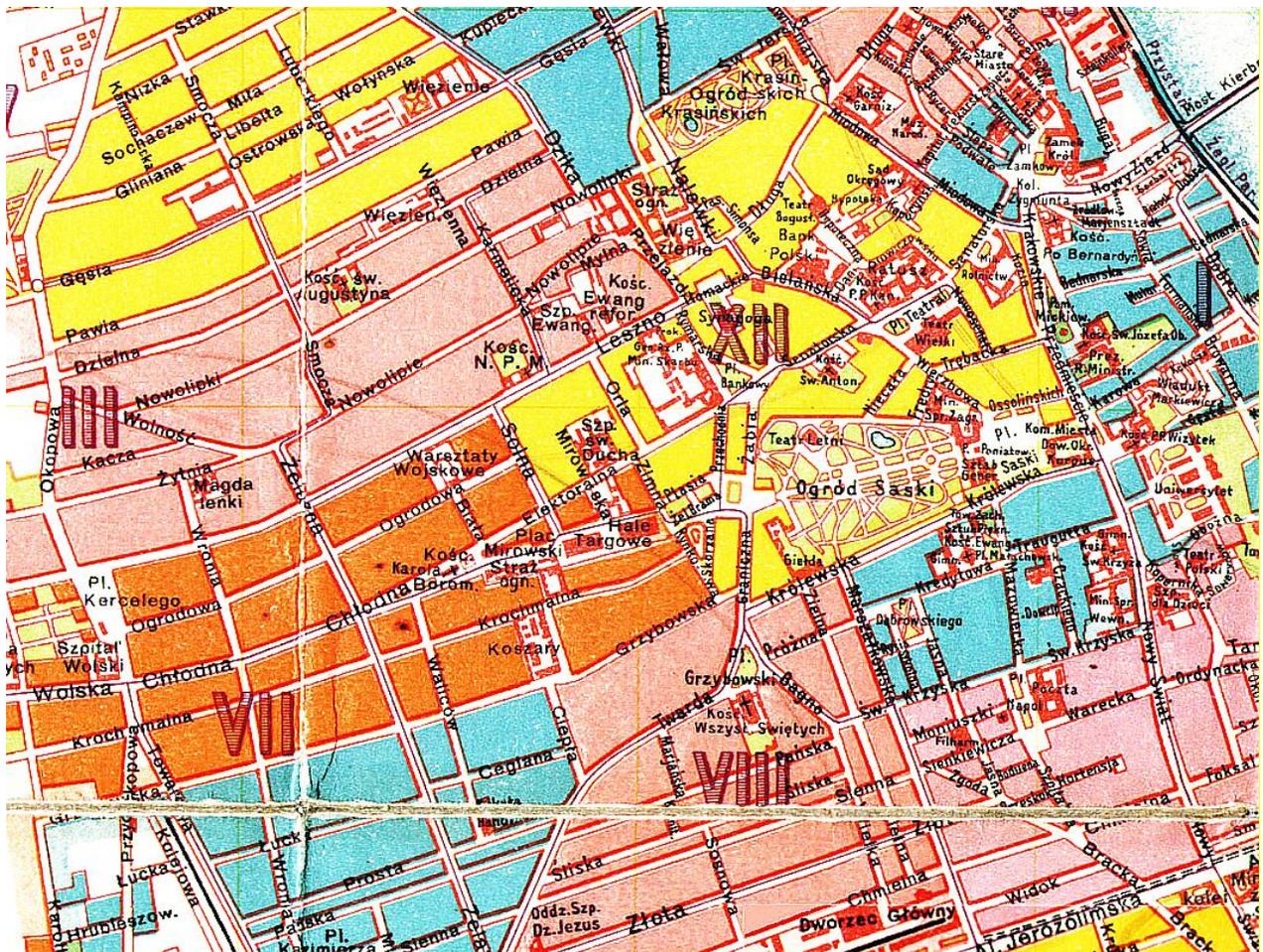
UPRISING 1944 – maps

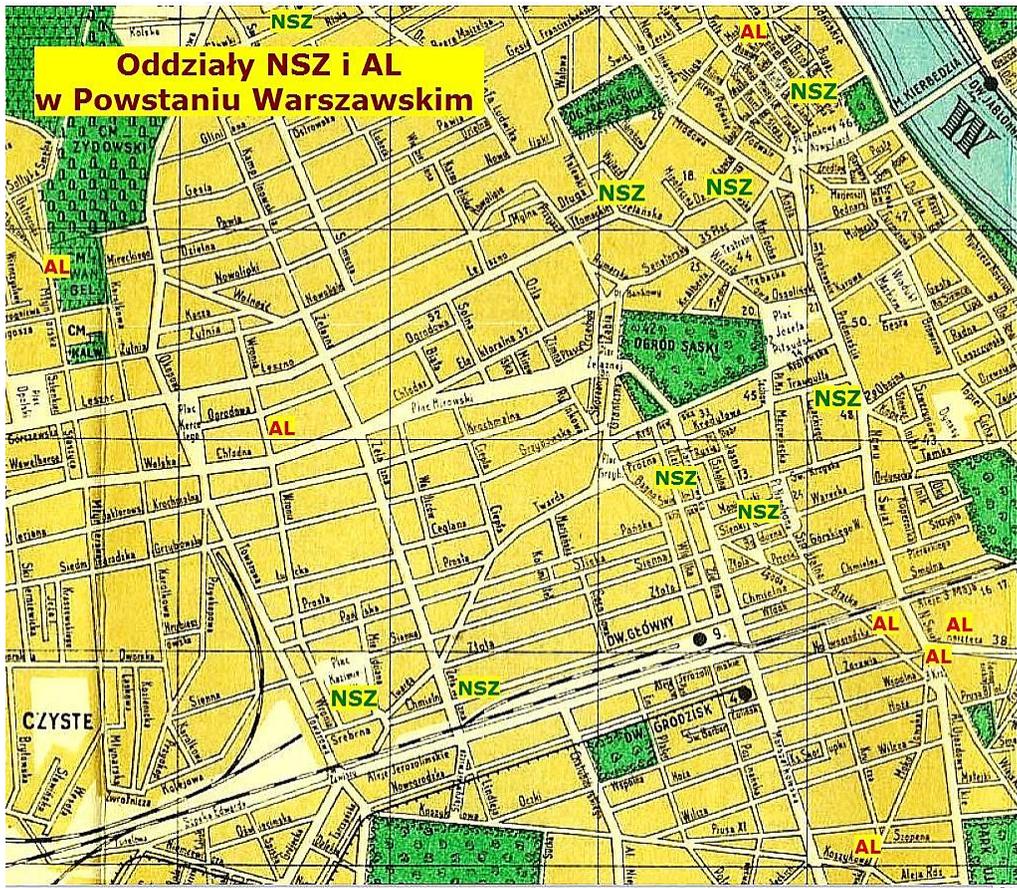






German advances during the first week

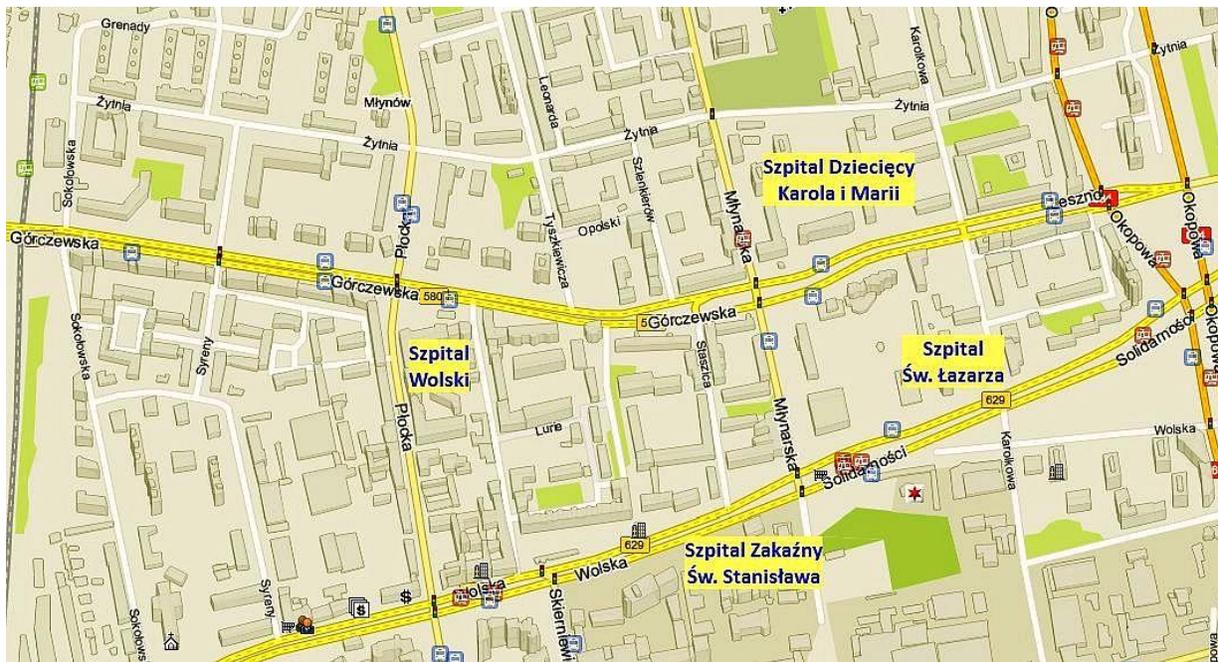
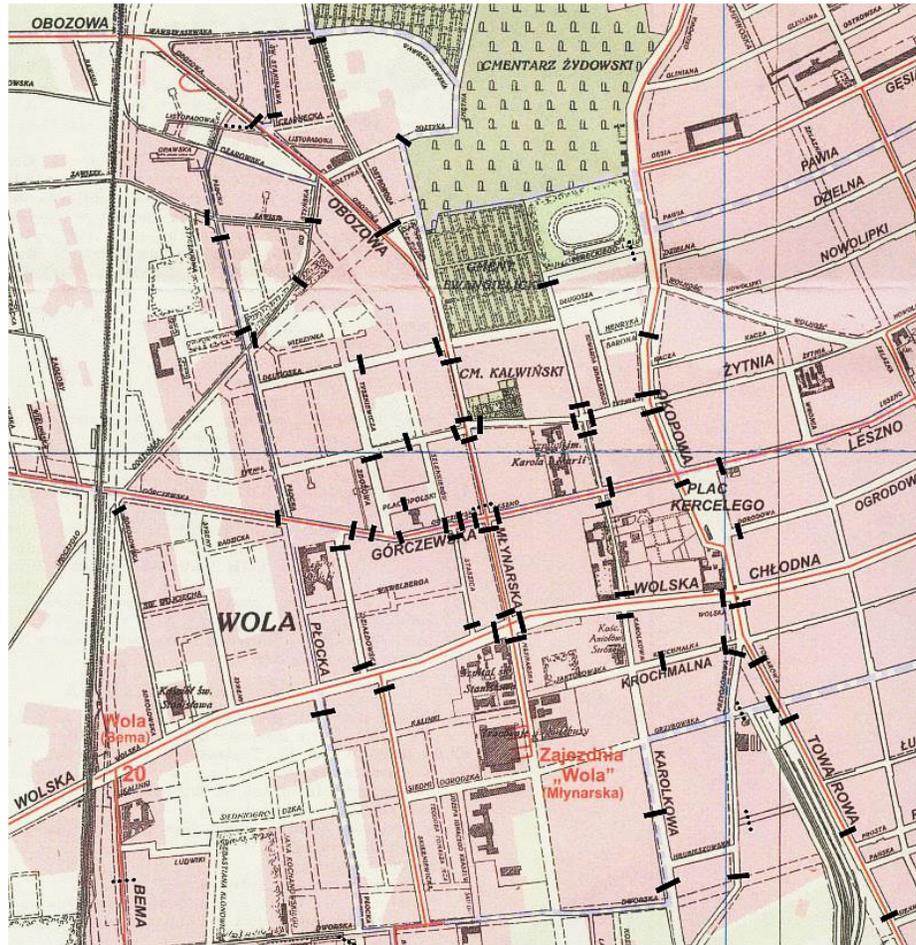




Other (smaller) military organizations, participating in Warsaw – independent NSZ and AL
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Armed_Forces; https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armia_Ludowa

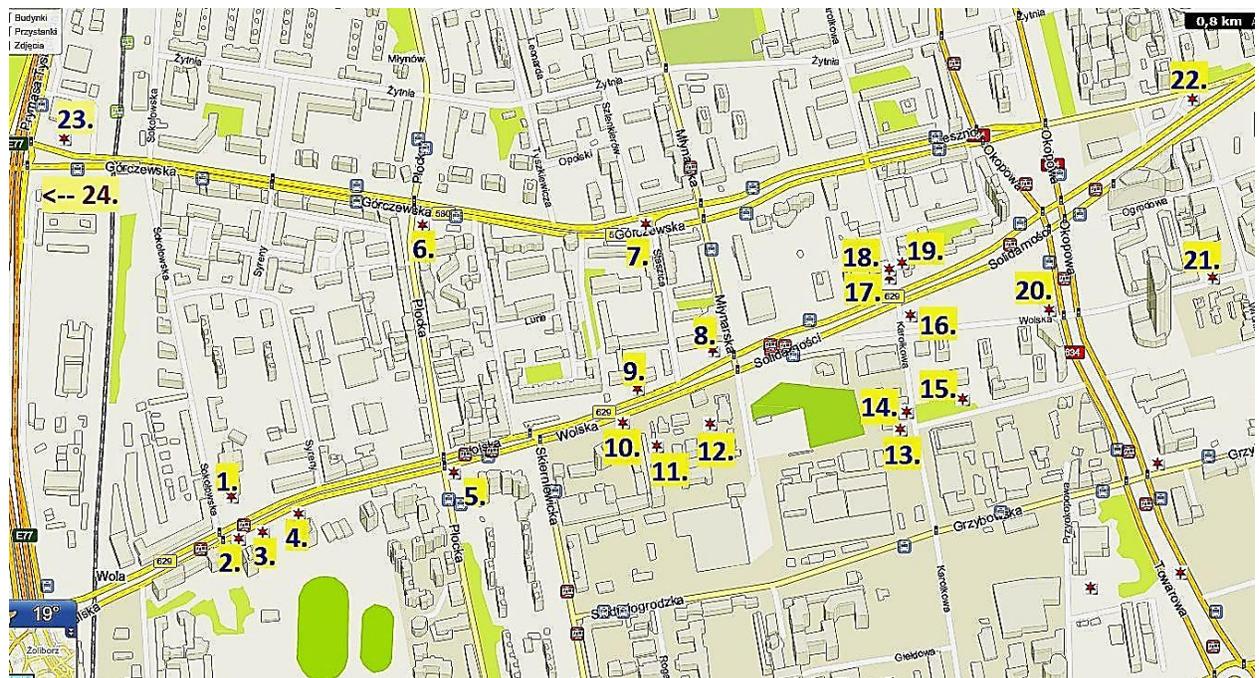
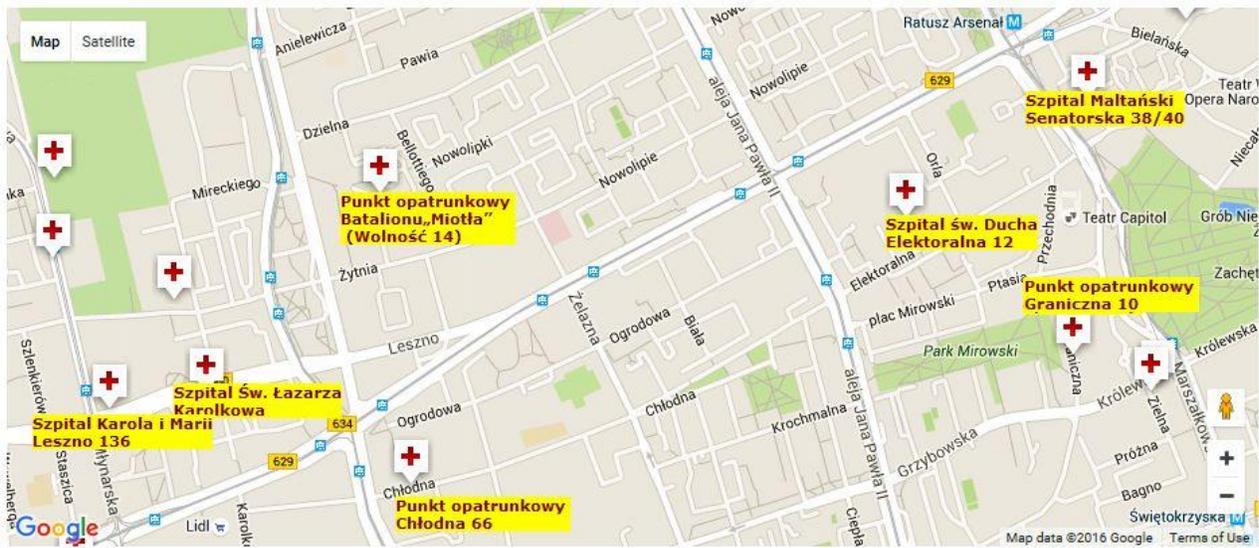


Barricades in WOLA district



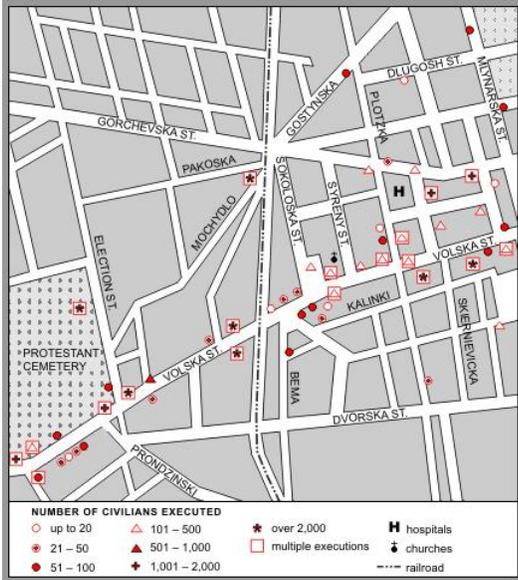
Uprising 1944 – medical and sanitary support of WOLA and “Gustaw” Battalion.

Localization of **hospitals in WOLA**, where Germans performed mass murders on patients, medical personnel, doctors, clergy and the wounded during the first days of Uprising – contemporary map.



Wola Massacre – early days of the Uprising – (locations visited by Ana Wajszczuk and father)

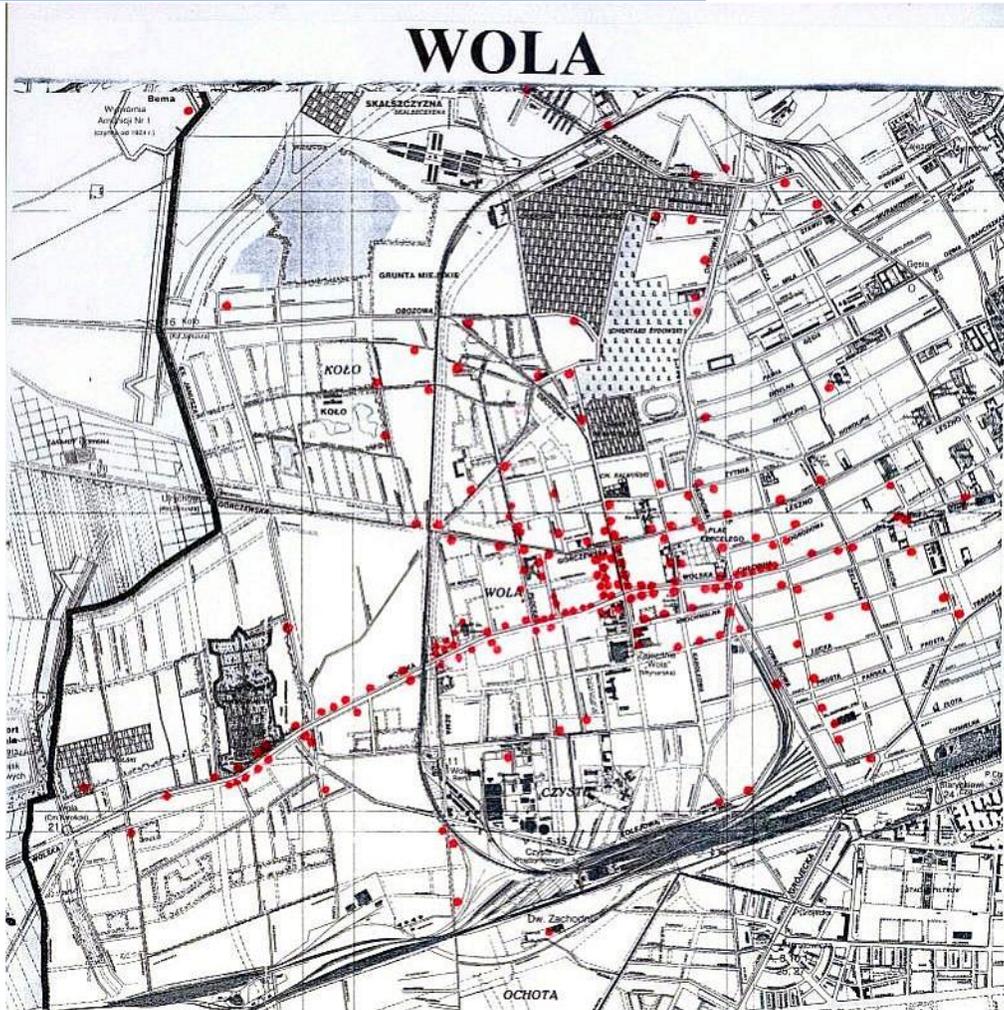
<http://www.wajszczuk.pl/opracowania/argentina.pdf>



On 5 August Reinefarth's three attack groups started their advance westward along [Wolska](#) and [Górczewska](#) streets toward the main East-West communication line of [Jerusalem Avenue](#). Their advance was halted, but the regiments began carrying out [Heinrich Himmler](#)'s orders: behind the lines, special SS, police and *Wehrmacht* groups went from house to house, shooting the inhabitants regardless of age or gender and burning their bodies.^[63] Estimates of civilians killed in Wola and Ochota range from 20,000 to 50,000,^[76] **40,000** by 8 August in Wola alone,^[77] or as high as **100,000**.^[78] The main perpetrators were [Oskar Dirlwanger](#) and [Bronislaw Kaminski](#), whose forces committed the cruelest atrocities.^{[79][80][81]}

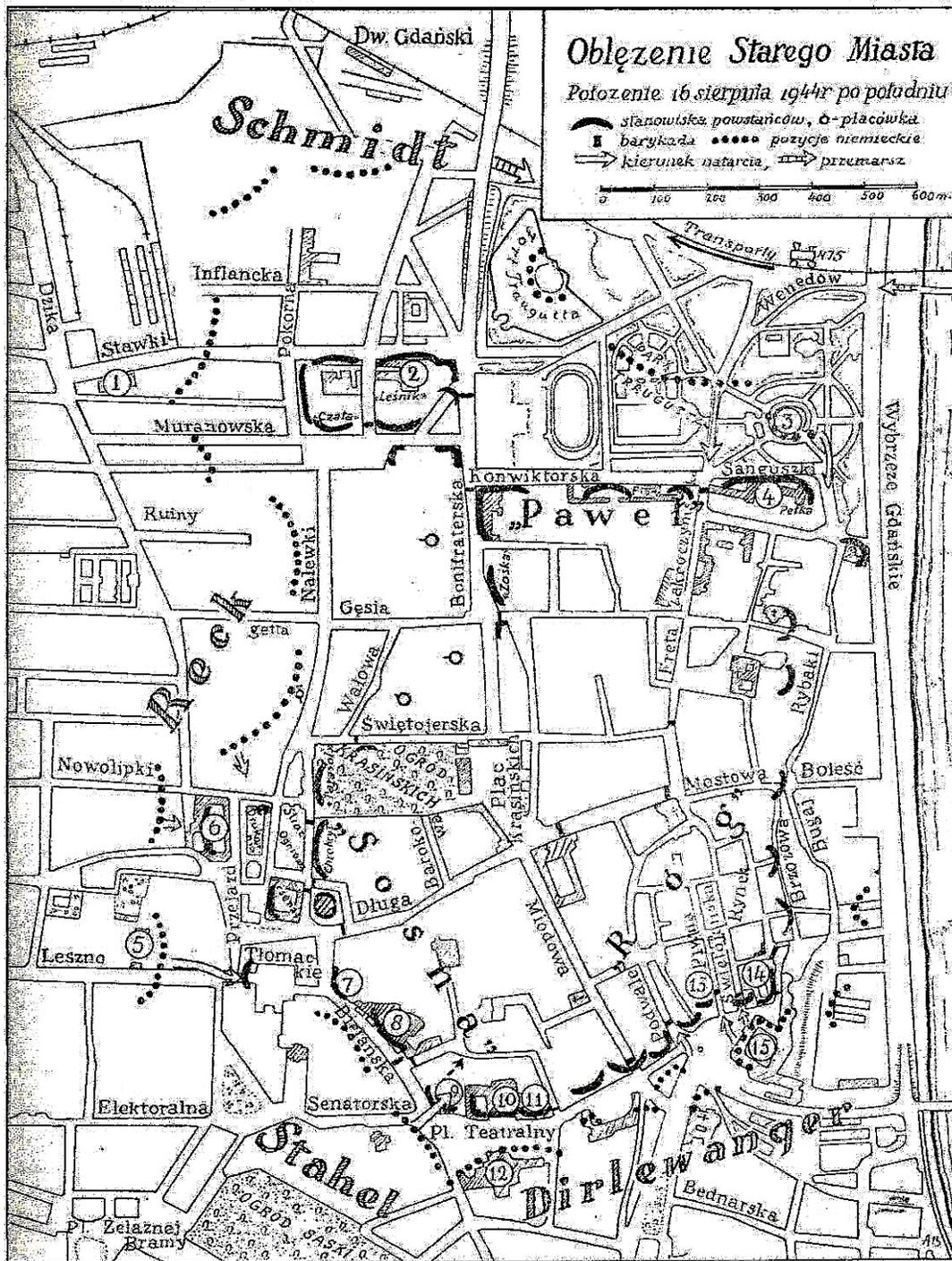
← German mass murders in WOLA district.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Uprising#Wola_massacre



Uprising – Old Town – positions of the opposing armies

Położenie walczących wojsk²² 16.VIII.1944

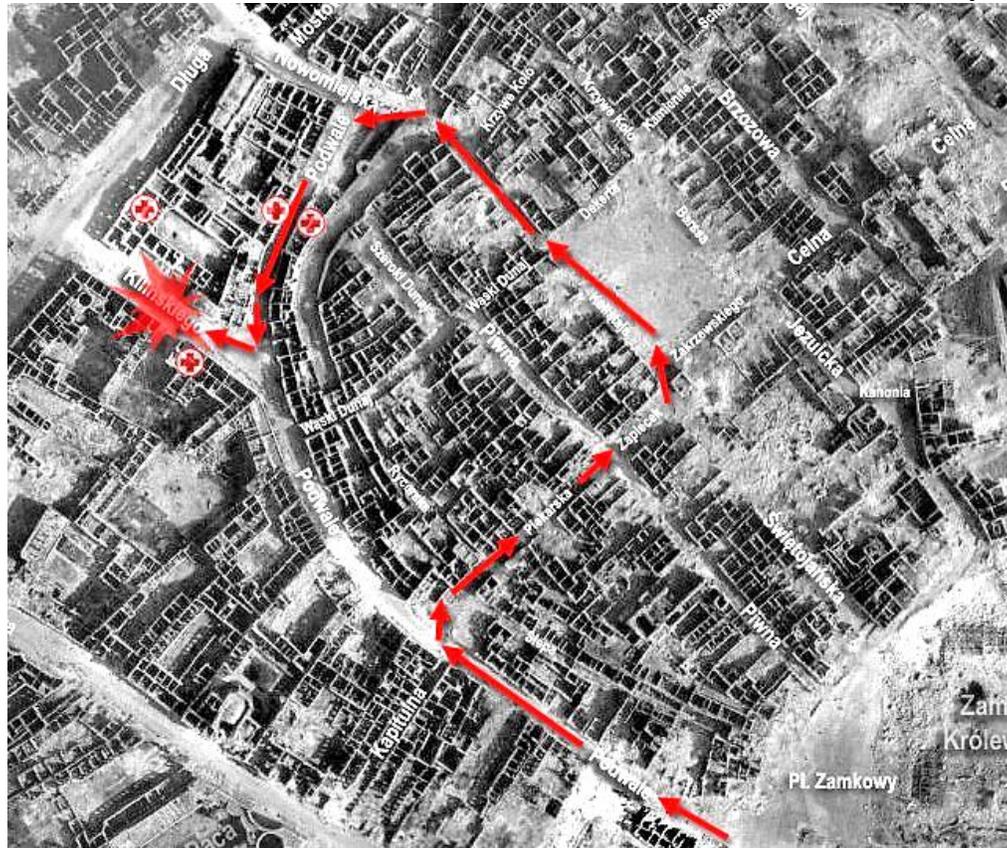


- 1- Szkoła na Stawkach, 2 – zajezdnia tramwajowa, 3- fort Legionów, 4 – PWPW, 5 – kościół kalwiński, 6 – Pałac Mostowskich, 7 – Pałac Radziwiłłów, 8 – Bank Polski, 9 – kościół Kanoniczek, 10 – Ratusz, 11 – Pałac Blanka, 12 – Teatr Wielki, 13 – kościół Św. Marcina, 14 – Katedra, 15 – Zamek Królewski

²²Zamieszczone mapy pochodzą z książki Adama Borkiewicza: Powstanie Warszawskie 1944 Zarys działań natury wojskowej, Instytut Wydawniczy PAX, 1964



Old Town defences – barricades from the direction of the Royal Castle



Route of the „tank-trap” in the Old Town – August 13, 1944

Barricades (B) in the Old Town, (H) – hospitals, (S) – sewer evac. canal entrance.



Barricades on the Śliska street? ... oxygen tanks. Narrow passages for communication.



Krzywe Koło at Rynek



Podwale at Castle Square



Długa and Kilińskiego

Related Families with their roots from Siedlce, who lived before the Uprising at ul. Ogródowa #23 in Warsaw – “WASP NEST”



Addresses before (*przed*) and during (*podczas*) the Uprising (*Powstanie*)

Warsaw addresses and fates of some members of the related Families - (Oct. 6, 2019)

1939..../....1940..../....1941..../....1942..../....1943..../....1944..../....1945..../....1946..../....1947..../

Ghetto set-up: ----- Ghetto reduced -- Ghetto Uprising ----- **UPRISING** -- Warsaw “liberated”
 VI-XI.1940 15.VIII.1942 (April 1943) 1.VIII.1944 17.I.1945* (*soon possible to cross Vistula → Siedlce)
 Old Town fell – 2.IX.1944
 Uprising ended – 2.X.1944

	Ogródowa 23 (AD), (Fall 1941 - 2 weeks)	→ Ogródowa 42 (~1 year)	→ Złota 52 (after 15.VIII.1942)	→ Expulsions 6-7.VIII.1944 House soon torched!	
					(+, #, &) - indicates residence address, info from: (AD) - Antoni Dobraczyński; (WB) - Włodzimierz Bieguński; (WL) "Wojtek" Leszczyłowski
Dobraczyński	+	+	+	+	
Ludwik ANTONI, Waleria					→ Pruszków (Aug.7?) → Ludwik → labor camp, Germany → Grochów → Waleria → Kraków → Grochów
Sons: Jan (married) ?	?	?	?	?	→ POW → Bergen-Belsen & other, ret. - V.19 45
Aleksander +	+	+	+	+	→ POW → Ożarów → ? → France
Antoni +	+	+	+	+	→ POW → Westfalia (Dorsten), return - XI.1949

Wiszniewski, Jerzy		?	+	+	→ POW → Westfalia (Dorsten), return - XI.1949 wife Aleksandra and daughter Ewa → Freta st. → Pruszków
Siedlce (#)					
Bieguński, Jan Stanisław (#)	→	→	→	→	
Sons: Tadeusz + wife (#)	(#)	(#)	(WB) → +	+	+ → Długa 26 (6 days) → Miodowa 23 (until 2.IX.1944) → church in Wola → Pruszków → Tadeusz: Sachsenhausen → Buchenwald → Siedlce? → wife → train → rodzina

Krasnystaw (&) →					
Wajszczuk, Maria, „Mania” (&)	(&)	(&)	→ + (after 15.VIII.1942) +	+	+ (→ where?) → Pruszków (when? early, from Ogródowa, or from Old Town?) ? (→ where?) → Pruszków - early Sept., with AK Insurgents! (picture)
Danuta	(&)	(&)	→ + (after 15.VIII.1942) ?	?	→ Pruszków - early Sept., with AK Insurgents! (picture)
Antoni	(&)	(&)	→ + (after 15.VIII.1942) +	+	+ → POW → Ożarów → ? → France
Barbara	(&)	(&)	→ + (after 15.VIII.1942) +	+	+ → POW → Westfalia (Dorsten), return - XI.1949
Wojciech	(&)	(&)	→ + (after 15.VIII.1942) +	+	+ → POW → Westfalia (Dorsten), return - XI.1949

Recent retirement, Internet, new computer and rapidly increasing abundance of information with an easy access – along with external encouragement (by my sons and close friends) and internal need to fill large gaps in the knowledge of history of the family, in particular during the last war – lead to deep involvement in this project (Family Tree – www.wajszczuk.pl). Time and means became available to visit places, talk to people, take photos and movies and learn and document the past – for the better future. Letter and e-mail exchanges became abundant, along with telephone communications and delivered an uninterrupted and steady flow of information.



1/ Dobraczyński Family: – parents (*Ludwik* Antoni and *Waleria* Markiewicz) – stayed in the apt. until **Aug. 7, 1944**, expelled by Germans → church in Wola → **Pruszków (Dulag 121)** → later – *Ludwik* Antoni → Germany, *Waleria* for resettling. In **1945** → W-wa/Praga (house at Ogródowa - destroyed. Visited by son **Antoni** last time at this address – during the night of Aug. 6/7.)
sons: **Jan** - moved back with wife (*Danuta* Kotowicz) to Ogródowa #23, → Uprising → POW; wife (and 2 daughters) → **Freta**, with the **Wiszniewski** wife (*Aleksandra*) and daughter (*Ewa*) **Aleksander**, from Ogródowa → Uprising → POW → France
Antoni, from Ogródowa → Uprising, saw parents last time at Ogródowa, night of **Aug. 6/7** (note - he denied that the Dobraczyński family was instrumental in arranging for **Wajszczuk** children joining the AK and the Uprising, he was surprised to meet *Basia* in the Old Town!)

Dobraczyński, Alexander - <https://polskifr.fr/polska-we-francji/stulatek-aleksander-dobraczynski-od-powstania-warszawskiego-do-ecole-superieure-national-des-arts-et-metiers/>

COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE FORMER PERMANENT INHABITANTS OF “Gniazdo Os” - Ogródowa #23 (Dobraczyński) AND THE NEW WARTIME FAMILY ARRIVALS-REFUGEES (Wajszczuk, Bieguński, Wiszniewski) AND OTHERS – (2003 – 2019)

Wajszczuk - Below are selected examples:

Excerpts from a book by **Bohdan Kiełbasa**: "Story of Żółkiewka and vicinity". Part I. (pp. 133, 134) – 2003, <http://www.wajszczuk.pl/polski/drzewo/tekst/0075edmund/publikacje.htm>

(...) Authorities of the settlement organized a committee to build a hospital, which initiated collection of funds and organization of the project. Together with the local authorities, the committee started construction of a wooden spacious hospital structure in Żółkiewka, which was

situated at the former Cmentarna street, currently renamed as Szkolna. Construction progressed fairly fast and already on July 18, 1921 the hospital was opened. Its first director was Dr. Okoński. (...)

During the big fire of Zoliewka burned also a small wooden house (of Dr Wajszczuk), Across the street from the Syndicate. After losing a roof over their head and earnings of the whole life the Wajszczuk family moved to Krasnystaw. He assume there a position of a County Physician and until his death in 1943, as a physician-in-chief was assisting the needy. (...)

Quotes from the electronic mail -

<http://www.wajszczuk.pl/english/drzewo/tekst/0075edmund/cytaty.htm>

Entries in the family tree guest book:

Nick: *Andrzej Wac-Włodarczyk*

IP: 62.233.189.50

Data: 01-03-2004 (20:53)

Dear Sir,

Your own web site greatly and positively impresses me. It is for the first time, that I have seen a site so professionally prepared – congratulations!!

(WJW comment – this is entirely to the credit (creativity, inventiveness and hard work) of the webmaster, Pawel Stefaniuk, who convinced me about the need to create such documentation – to honor our relatives and ancestors, who sacrificed so much ...!)

I live in Lublin and I was born in Żółkiewka, where Mr. Edmund Wajszczuk worked as a physician before the war.

I remember that my grandmother, Wiktoria Wac, especially, and also my mother, Zofia Włodarczyk, often mentioned this name with marks of great respect. My grandmother recalled that my father had been a friend of Mr. Wajszczuk's sons: Antoni and Wojciech. I found their first names in the family tree for, I must confess, I did not remember them. I can remember, though, that grandmother told us, that three of the Wajszczuks' children were killed in the Warsaw Uprising. Grandmother Wiktoria and my mother Zofia often spoke of this. My father, Kazimierz Wac, died in Żółkiewka in 1950, when he was 27 years old. I was only three years old then and I do not remember much. In any case, the

Content: Wajszczuk family was respected and deservedly esteemed in Żółkiewka. It is a pity that, in course of your family peregrinations, when you came to Żółkiewka – the journey must have been scarcely fruitful, for there are no photographs and no special notice. *(WJW – They were placed somewhat later!)* Last year we have founded the Society of Friends of Żółkiewka – I plan to mention your wonderful web site and maybe find out some more about doctor Edmund Wajszczuk's and his family's stay in our town. I would also like to use this occasion to inform you that last year a book written by a Jew from Żółkiewka, Chaim Zylberklang, "Z Żółkiewki do Izraela" ("From Żółkiewka to Israel") was issued in Lublin by Primooffset 20-407 Lublin, ul. Piłsudskiego 24a, tel.081/532-22-03. Tel./fax 081/532-22-04, ISBN 83-914474-1-3. Doctor Edmund Wajszczuk is also mentioned there, as a doctor in Żółkiewka.

I am happy that one of the "threads" of your family lives in Lublin, where I have also been living and working for the last forty years. If I could be of any help in finding out information about the Wajszczuk Family, I will do it with pleasure. In the time being, once again with congratulations regarding your web site and regards for the Wajszczuk Family, so respected by my ancestors, I send the heartiest greetings
Andrzej Wac-Włodarczyk

From April 19, 2004 r.

Dear Sirs,

It is difficult for me to find people who remember Dr Edmund Wajszczuk from the time when he was in Żółkiewka. I have only reached two women living in Lublin – professor Hanna Chrzastek-Spruch and Mrs. Genowefa Sawicka, my cousin from Żółkiewka, Jan Wac and, as I mentioned before, a citizen of Jewish nationality, Mr. Chaim Zylberklang. Each of these four people recall the great kindness and lack of selfishness of Dr Edmund Wajszczuk, telling me that it was not rare for the doctor to cure people without payment in the case of poor families. And all without exception stress the fact that there were many such poor families. Both ladies had been cured by the doctor as little girls. I met the above mentioned Mrs. Chrzastek-Spruch only now, surfing in the Internet. She was born in 1933 in Żółkiewka, where her father was the head of the local school and her mother a teacher. She is a professor of medicine and until last year, she was the head of the Paediatrics Chair in the Medical Academy of Lublin. Her husband, who died several years ago, was also well known in Lublin as a professor of medicine – an urologist. Mrs. Genowefa Sawicka, a close friend of my Mother, who died two years ago, lives in Lublin and is a wife and mother to doctors. My cousin Jan Wac from Żółkiewka remembers where Mr. and Mrs. Wajszczuk lived. He tells me that, unfortunately, their house burnt in a great fire of Żółkiewka in 1938. It was then, also, that Mr. and Mrs. Wajszczuk moved to Krasnystaw.

Mr. Zylberklang writes to me in his last letter, from 4.04.2004: "About the Wajszczuk Family? I would also like to have some contact with them. And describe my memories about this noble, good man, called Doctor Wajszczuk. He saved people, also without any money. Please give them my address. Let them write. And I shall write back. It would be also worthwhile to write a recollection of him (Dr Wajszczuk – AWW) in my second edition." (AWW – Mr. Zylberklang is finishing the correction work and supplementation of the second edition of his book about Żółkiewka and his own experiences). Because Mr. Chaim does not use the Internet, unfortunately, I allow myself, according to his own wish, to pass on his address (...)

I would also like to talk to Mr. Wieslaw Szkrzydło, the rector of UMCS university in Lublin for many years, who had lived in Żółkiewka for a short period before the war, together with his family. His father was a postmaster there. It is not excluded that he knows something about your Family. In the time being I send cordial greeting to you and your families.

Andrzej Wac-Włodarczyk

(Many more letters followed – translated by Kamila Wajszczuk).

WJW - Letter excerpts from from Włodzimierz Bieguński (his aunt – Maria Bieguńska was wife of my uncle dr. Edmund Wajszczuk):

07.XII.2005 (...) Yesterday I received a letter from my uncle (Aleksander - b. in 1910) from France. He mentioned that the aunt Mania arrived with the children to Warsaw because the uncle Edmund was under constant pressure from the Germans to sign the "volksliste" - (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volksliste>). According to them the name Wajszczuk derived from a German Weisstuck. The only possible argument could be that they were Catholics and not

Uniates – (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukrainian_Greek_Catholic_Church;
<https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/belarus/religion-uniates.htm>), while the name ending with **-uk** was typical for the Rus'ín (Ruthenian) origin
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruthenians>

09.XII.2005 (...) In my previous letter. I forgot to add that uncle Dpbraczynski wrote also that one week after the uncle Edmund's death, Gestapo appeared in his house – they must have discovered his collaboration with the Underground?.

12.XII.2005 (...) I do not know if there was any family relationship between the Wajszczuk and Wierzejski Families?. Aunt Mania (0075), and the Leszczyłowsky (0076), when they were coming to Siedlce from Ostrow Maz. always stayed with the aunt Janka Wierzejska. Aunt Mania lived with her after her return to Siedlce, and she died there. Her son-in-law died in May of this year.

17.I.2006 - I am sending you two interesting items – two entries from a pocket calendar notebook of my grandfather Jan Biegunski, regarding the uncle Edmund family. Grandfather, since his early youth had a habit of making detailed notes live, even of small daily purchases. It is a pity that only a few of them survived after the last war's turmoils.

The first one dated **19.6.1918** – „In the first days of June I sent, by courtesy of one Bolesław Dąbrowski (his father owns a house across the gate of the old cemetery) two letters, one to our daughter Maria Wajszczuk, another to And. Michalski. I gave 2 Rb. for mailing, should add kop. 40.”

My (WB) comment- this Dabrowki must have been a Wajszczuk family neighbour. Your grandfather's property was facing the Katedralna street and the back was facing the Cmentarna street, across the gate to the old cemetery. Danusia received as inheritance after the grandfather this parcel facing the Cmentarna street.

The second note dated **16.10.1918** – its text: "On October 12, 1918 arrived from Russia our daughter Mania with her husband Edmund Wajszczuk and a 7-months old daughter. They got married on 11 of June 1916 in a military front chapel in Erna w Lifflandia - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Livonia>. They were married by Fr. Łukasz, a military priest, as witnesses served Witold Łukaszewski(?), a landowner and industrialist from Białystok and Włodzimierz Jakowlewicz Rudanowski, a plenipotent at the 12 Army in Ryga. Our son-in-law. Edmund is a 5-th year student at the Krakow University. He served in Russia in the Hospital Organization of the Russian Cities Union as a physician and supervisor, and our daughter Maria as a nurse.”

17.I.2006 – I remember a story told by Danusia. A house doctor of the Count Potocki Family, (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Potocki>) who owned a property near Zolkiewka, was not there – a longer absence or similar. A secretary or butler reported to Dr. Edmund requesting an urgent medical assistance to one of the Potocki family members. The matter must have been serious since, as Danusia remembered, her father was returning there for a long time and even several times a day. The compensation matters have been arranged. The house doctor returned. Some time later, the cured Potocki payed a visit in their house with a small gift. This "small gift" happen to be a violin built by Stradivarius, (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stradivarius>) - supposedly an original!

Uncle Edmund, who supposedly was a virtuoso of violin playing, and had a perfect hearing, supposedly inherited from his father, who was also musically very talented (WJW - as were all other sons and many other members of the Wajszczuk Family from Trzebieszow) – was amazed and enchanted with the sound of this instrument.

Gremans, who lived in their apartment during the war, took away this violin.

18.I.2006 - Regarding the stay of Edmund's **family** in Russia, that is all that I know. Uncle Edmund studied medicine in Kraków (Austro-Hungry), only one - the 5th year - was remaining. Supposedly, this last year included only the "police sciences" – autopsies, for establishment of causes of death (murders), chemical analyses and so on. Subjects, which in everyday practice of medicine do not seem to be important. As an ignorant, I may be wrong?

In summer of 1914, he came for vacation to Siedlce and as a Tzar's subject, was mobilized to the Russian Army as a doctor. Aunt Mania attended in summer of 1914 Preparatory Courses to the Dental School (I am not 100% sure, if I name that school correctly, but probably – yes?) She became a voluntary military nurse, or perhaps she was drafted? Anyway, they both found themselves in the Russian Army. They knew each other from Siedlce and in Russia they got married in 1916. Danusia was born in a railroad car during their return to Poland. Jarosław mentioned in her birth certificate is not the one near Przemyśl in Poland, but Yaroslavl', deep in Russia!

Recollections from direct conversations, letters and e-mails from friends and neighbours in Żółkiewka and Krasnystaw (2003 – 2019) – about the siblings

1/ Dr Teresa Borkowska-Wójtowicz - Letter and fragments of reminiscences -

http://www.wajszczuk.v.pl/english/drzewo/tekst/0084barbara/0084barbara_wspomnienia_borkowska.htm

a/ Warsaw, December 31, 2004

Dear Doctor Wajszczuk, I want to thank you for your efforts in recreating the history of the Wajszczuk family in Krasnystaw. Wise, interesting, intelligent, good (people). Memory of Their Home remained with us until this day. In the evenings, Mrs. Wajszczuk read to us the "Hurricane" by Gasiorowski, or "Adventures of Beniowski", this exerted a great influence on us.

I re-read this letter many times. I made corrections, moved around the sections, trying to express best the atmosphere of the Wajszczuk Home. However, I cannot express with words, how much did the experiences shared with the Wajszczuk Family left in me. Because they encompass everything - the children's plays, quarrels, happiness, and later pain and tears.

Teresa Borkowska-Wójtowicz



1/ "Emilia Plater" Girl Scout Squad from Krasnystaw. Independence Day celebration. **Krasnystaw - 11 XI 1938**. The squad is led by Teresa Borkowska. Barbara is in the second row (indicated with a white cross).

2/ From left: Teresa Borkowska and Barbara Wajszczuk. **Krasnystaw - 4 V 1940**

Picture taken by Basia's brother - Antek 0083



b/ (and later in a letter dated Jan. 3, 2005): My memories of the Wajszczuk family start with the arrival of **Basia** Wajszczuk at the A. Mickiewicz Grammar School (*in Krasnystaw - WJW*), it was the year of 1936. (...) I and my two brothers, who were contemporaries of **Wojtek**. (1929 – 1944). (...) In the late fall (*of 1939*), we entered the seventh grade of Grammar School. (...) There were skates and

sleighs until the curfew hour - plenty of free time. **First sweethearts - Antek kissed my hand**, I did not wash it for quite a while. (...)

We had our responsibilities - cleaning, washing dishes - taking turns with **Danusia**. Danusia was very delicate, quiet. Internal warmth radiated from her. (...) Danusia looked very much like her ancestress, in a portrait which the doctor and Antek brought from Siedlce. There were two portraits, without frames, rolled up.

Antek became very secretive. He was disappearing for hours. He attended the (clandestine) officer cadet's course. **Wojtek** became friends with various boys. He was also disappearing from sight. Did not want to tell, where he was going and with whom. Once, we were all looking for him until the police curfew time. When he reappeared in the morning, we found out that he spent the night at a taylor's house, with who's limping son he became good friends. (...) Everybody was very worried about Wojtek. He could, inadvertently, by talking too much, bring a calamity - Germans - on the family, which was engaged in a conspiratorial activity.

2/ Halina Kozłowska (maiden name - Stawska)

Memoirs written for the sixtieth anniversary of death of the three participants of the Warsaw Uprising

http://www.wajszczuk.v.pl/english/drzewo/tekst/0084barbara/0084barbara_wspomnienia.htm

I got to know **Basia Wajszczuk** before the war, in primary school in Krasnystaw. My father, a civil servant, was moved there from Siedlce. In Krasnystaw, he worked in a tax office. (...) My closest friends were three girls: **Joasia Niewidziajto, Teresa Borkowska and Basia Wajszczuk**, whom I sat with in the same bench for some time. Basia was a simple, modest girl with long brown hair in plaits, green eyes and peach-coloured skin. Like all children, she was always dressed in a black school uniform with a black collar. (...) I got to know Basia's older sister, **Danusia**, a student of pharmaceuticals, her older brother **Antek**, a tall, dark-haired young man, and her younger brother **Wojtek**, a primary school student, who was a plump little boy. (...)

I became ill and my parents thought that my life had come to an end. (...) I remember that someone (my father?) carried me in his arms to a hospital room. (...) Doctor Wajszczuk visited me, he came several times a day (...) I had two diseases at a time: typhoid fever and spotted fever. (...) I was in a room on a high ground floor and one day I was astonished to see Basia Wajszczuk's head trying to reach as high as possible. I heard her cheerful voice. (...)

One day, when I was already back home, Mrs. Wajszczuk visited us. She (...) asked my mother if she would let me go with Basia to the country, to Żółkiewka. (...) I went there with **Antek** and **Basia**. (...) Basia washed my clothes and fed me, giving me all the best pieces of food. When I refused to eat, she declared that, if I would not eat it, she would throw it away, for she herself could not eat. I had no toothbrush, so she brushed my teeth with her own brush. We spent only a little time in Żółkiewka.

A Gestapo officer came to live with the Wajszczuk family, depriving them of part of their flat. The children, that is Antek, Basia and Wojtek, went to Warsaw to go to school there. The only high school in Krasnystaw had been closed and most of the teachers were taken away. There were more possibilities for studying in Warsaw. My mother sometimes went to visit her family and passed through Warsaw. The Wajszczuk brothers and sister invited her, received her in Warsaw, they greeted her and bid her farewell with tears in their eyes. **Mrs. Wajszczuk and Danusia went to visit**

the children, from Krasnystaw. Once, when they returned, they found the doctor dead, lying on the floor near the door. Maybe he tried to go out and search for help?

(WJW - This statement suggests that children (Antos, Basia and Wojtek) stayed in Warsaw all the time, [since the fall of 1942] and Mania and Danusia traveled back and forth between Warsaw and Krasnystaw?)

In July 1944, Polish and Soviet troops entered Krasnystaw. On the first of August, the Warsaw Uprising began. The church was open all day. The priest asked the people to pray for the participants of the uprising.

When Mrs. Wajszczuk went to Warsaw, (after the Uprising? From where?), the house where her children had lived did not exist anymore. Warsaw did not exist anymore. It was said that she searched everywhere for her children and she did not find anyone. She left notes asking for information; she looked for the slightest traces. It is said that when she got to know their fate, her hair turned grey within several hours. They all died, fighting for the freedom of Poland.

Chaim Zylberklang - Excerpts from his book: From Zolkiewka to Israel” (pp. 25 i 46) ©

<http://www.wajszczuk.v.pl/english/drzewo/tekst/0075edmund/publikacje.htm>.

Copyright by Julian Grzesik, Redakcja naukowa: Adam Kopciowski. Opracowanie graficzne, skład i druk PRIMOOFFSET 20-407 Lublin ul- Piłsudskiego 24a tel- 081/532-22-03, tel7fax 081/532-22-04, ISBN 83-914474-1-3 (...) Our health was taken care of by one doctor - dr Wajszczuk and a physician assistant, (felczer- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feldsher>) – a Jew, Chil Kawa. They were treating us from all kinds of illnesses – probably they were familiar with all of

them. Since there was no universal insurance, people were trying to heal themselves with home “folk medicines”. If they had no money to pay a physician and for medicines, sometimes they died without even knowing what illness killed them. How frequently with prayers in a synagogue they were seeking direct salvation from God and with submission accepted what were their destination.

*Picture published on p. 53 shows the author’s class in the local school. With help from Mr. Kielbasa it was possible to identify: Antoni Wajszczuk (1), - Adolf Jański (2) i Rudolf Brajerski (3) and Kazimierz Wac (4) - (father of prof. Andrzej Wac-Włodarczyk) and present at the meeting in Żółkiewka (see - *Spotkania2004**



http://www.wajszczuk.pl/spotkania/spotkania2004/zolkiewka_lublin_krasnystaw_e.htm)

Excerpts from the 2nd edition of recollections (in preparation). Wiesława i Alicja

Niewidziajło - <http://www.wajszczuk.pl/polski/drzewo/tekst/0075edmund/publikacje.htm>

(Photographs below were sent by **Alicja Niewidziajło** from Krakó

Grammar School in Krasnymstawie, class VI on excursion to the Krupe castle -

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zamek_w_Krupem_-_spring_1939



1/ (1)Alicja **Niewidziajło**, (2) Barbara Wajszczuk, (3) Halina Kozłowska

2/ (1)Barbara Wajszczuk, (2) Halina Kozłowska, (3) **Alicja Niewidziajło**

Our father **Michał Niewidziajło** together with his brother, as members of „The Eaglets of Lwów”, took part in the defense of Lwów and of the eastern borderlands of the Polish Republic (...) Until the war outbreak, they worked in the local schools. (...). In September 1939, as a reserve officer, he

was called for duty as a **Commanding Officer of the Krasnystaw County**. Subsequently, he was evacuated to the East with the Army and after the September defeat, returned home via Lwów.

In November 1939 was organized in Krasnystaw „Związek Walki Zbrojnej”, (Union for Armed Struggle), which in February 1942 was renamed Armia Krajowa. The first County Commanding Officer was **Michał Niewidziajło**, who was holding a rank of a captain. (...). On June 1940 he was arrested by the Germans (...). During July 3 and 4, 1940, together with 20 other persons arrested in Chełm, they were shot without a trial in Kumowa Dolina near Chełm. (...) Our mother was left alone with six children. (...)

Our orphaned family was visited by Dr. Edmund Wajszczuk and a “felczer”, a Jew, Jojna Mandeltort. Dr. Wajszczuk had a sick heart and in 1943, while alone, died in his apartment. All people, we know, who were his patients, remember him as a good doctor and, first of all, as a good man. I remember also well Basia Wajszczukówna, who attended the same class as my sister, while I was going to the same school. Unfortunately, she died in the Warsaw Uprising.

When in 1945, on my way to Szczecin, I was crossing on foot in Warsaw a wooden bridge over the Vistula river – among many similar, I saw a note asking for any information, how and where to find members of the Wajszczuk Family! (...)

Genowefa Sawicka –

<http://www.wajszczuk.pl/polski/drzewo/tekst/0075edmund/publikacje.htm>

In 1942, I married Stanisław Sawicki, who was born in the neighboring village Sobieska Wola. After finishing his medical school education in Lwów, until the Soviet invasion, he continued his medical training in Łuck, from where he came home.

As a physician of the 13th district of the „Peasant Battalions” - Bataliony Chłopskie (BCh), (**Stanislaw Sawicki**) belonged to - a separate from them and counting about 1800 soldiers –“Popular Security Guard”, where commanding officer for the Krasnystaw County, after Paweł Czuba, was Jan Gilas "Machatma". For these reasons, the church wedding purposely was not recorded in the parish books, so I could use my identity papers with my maiden name. This precaution facilitated for us survival at the time the Gestapo was hunting for my husband (...)(...) Varying were the fates of physicians in our county. After the fire in 1938, Dr. Wajszczuk moved out of Żółkiewka do Krasnystaw. He was replaced by Dr. Henryk Szlendak, who collaborated with the Underground. For security reasons, in 1942 his wife and children moved to Warsaw, where two sons and daughter died later in the Uprising. Her husband, who suffered of cardiac problems died in 1943 in their apartment in Krasnystaw. The war conflagration survived only his wife and their oldest daughter. Information from Krystyna Niewidziajło from Krasnystaw revealed that as a physician and a good man, he was also helping her family who were hiding four Jews, one of the women survived and lives in Szczecin. (...)

(10/23/2016) – selected E-mail summaries, comments, addenda and information.

(WB) – 30.III.2016 – My father (**Tadeusz**) moved in to **Ogrodowa 23 in 1942**.

“In 1943 his wife (**Zofia**) got sick (...) in Otwock. After the outbreak of the Uprising, we stayed at Ogrodowa for **6 days**, then we moved (**before the Germans arrived**) to **Długa 26**. After this house was bombed, we moved to **Miodowa 23**, where we stayed until the fall of the Old Town, **September 2, 1944**. (They were then led to a church in Wola and segregated – father, with other men was taken to Pruszkow, then sent to Germany to a labour camp, wife was probably taken to Pruszkow and **stayed there**, (how long?)

(WB) – 18.IV.2016 – **Zofia Biegunska** and **Aleksandra Wiszniewska** with her daughter Ewa (mother of Kasia Bizon) were loaded on a train from Pruszkow (when?), (when the train stopped momentarily later, they were released by the German train commander and joined their relatives living away from Warsaw – see postcard)

(WB) – 22.IV.2016 – **Antoni** – letter from **Andrzej Dławichowski** dated November 7, 1993 – at that time he was collecting materials for his book about Antos’s “Platoon 135”: „...I received some information from the Central PCK (Polish Red Cross) Archives. That is, **I found some traces of a search for Antoni Wajszczuk by his Mother Maria, Uncle Tadeusz Bieguński and Grandfather Dobraczyński** [name was not given]” – **it was Ludwik Antoni**.

.....

(Q - from Ana, Ans. - from WJW - 8/29/2016)

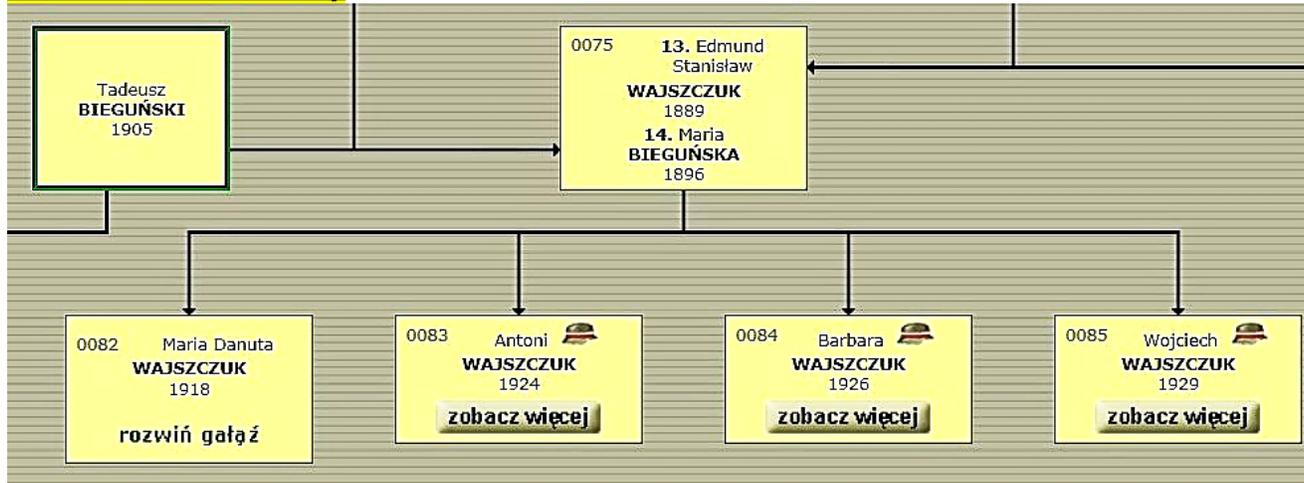
1 - You mentioned Mania and the siblings lived in the same apartment as the Biegunski’s. Is that correct? You mean, same apartment, with bedrooms? Or same building, different apartments? – **info from a letter from A.D. Mania moved into a front apartment emptied by other people, who moved to the Annex-palace. Biegunscy moved-in (a little later?) into the same apartment with Mania. Wiszniescy moved into an apartment in the Annex-palace.**

UNDERSTOOD! THANKS! I guess that Danuta, being the oldest, looked for a place of her own as they were too many people in just one apartment?

(AD) – 31.VIII.2016 – At the time of the outbreak of the Uprising my parents were at Ogrodowa. I left the house on **August 7**.

My parents said that they will stay at home, as long as possible. In reality, Germans arrived at the house, chased out and gathered all inhabitants in a church in Wola - they were allowed to take only as much, as they could carry (...) Then they were led on foot to Pruszkow, (...) Germans set the house on fire after robbing it. Mothers and children were hiding in the basements of a church at Freta street (Danuta Dobr. with daughters and Jerzy Wiszniewski’s wife with little Ewa (mother of Kasia Bizoń). (**He did not know, where Maria Wajszczuk was at that time!**)

2/ WAJSZCZUK Family



Wajszczuk Family: Maria (mother) – moved in - summer/fall 1942 – (15.VIII.1942 – this section was excluded from the Ghetto), stayed at Ogródowa (with Dobraczynski parents) until **August 7 (?)**, (possibly waiting for the news from children?), **OR** went earlier hiding somewhere in the Old Town (it is unlikely that she was captured and sent to Pruszkow that early – usual stays there were shorter, temporary. **It is most likely** that she was sent to **Pruszkow camp after the fall** of the Uprising in the Old Town on **September 2**, (if she was hiding there?). Another possibility was that she could have been hiding somewhere else (Zoliborz or Mokotow) and arrived at Pruszkow at the end of September, after the capitulation of those two districts, but this possibility is less likely, since communication and access to these areas was much more difficult than to the Old Town. **Hiding in August in the Old Town was most likely (?)** During that time, Maria had no contact with the children! **Maria** and **Danusia** met finally in the camp in Pruszkow, where Danusia told her about the fates of Antoni and Basia, but **NOT (?)**, about Wojtek (?) After the capitulation, **Maria** and **Danusia** were **released (?)**, (as civilians) from Pruszkow camp, **OR** escaped from the camp (?), or from the deportation train. They both lived then for a few months in Pruszkow (where?) – postcard dated **Jan. 2, 1945**, (“liberation” of Warsaw – Jan. 17, 1945); stayed briefly in Siedlce, after this became possible (bridge was rebuilt). In the meantime, Danusia finished pharmacy in Poznan, got married and together with husband bought a pharmacy store in Ostrow Maz. Mania moved in with them. Pharmacy was nationalized in 1951 and shortly afterwards, they all moved back to Siedlce.

Children: Danuta – lived separately while in Warsaw, she did not belong officially to any clandestine organization (A.Dobr.), but as a Pharmacy student, she was very active, initially organizing and accumulating, and later - distributing medical supplies to many insurgent hospitals. She was widely and well known for her role. (She had apparently frequent contacts with Lt. dr. Jerzy Wiszniewski, who was a superintendent of (Basia’s) field hospital at Kilinskiego 1/3.) Where did she stay? **She must have been still there, in the Old Town on August 26** (bombing of the hospital) - to learn about deaths of Basia and Jerzy, to be able to notify - (possibly also with the help of Antoni D.?) – Jerzy’s wife, who was hiding with their daughter in church cellars at Freta street. (**Antoni D.** was meeting occasionally with **Jerzy Wiszniewski** in the Old Town and both were visiting Basia in the hospital.) Danusia knew about the death of **two** of the siblings (Antoni and Basia), and told her mother, after she met her at the train station in Pruszkow. Apparently, Maria was **waiting for the train arriving in Pruszkow** and calling “Wajszczuk!. Wajszczuk!”. We do not know, when did Danusia learn about **Wojtek (?)**, and when did she tell her mother (?). Apparently, they both did not know initially anything for sure, living with hope, until a letter from Mr Bohdan Szermer (Pecice battle survivor) arrived on December 25, 1946 with bad news (Wojtek was

not identified initially at burial, nor on the monument ("Wojtek" - N/N) in Pecice, his full name was probably added later (?), after a visit at the PCK in Warsaw - early in 1947 (?) – as suggested by Mr. Szermer. We do not know, if and when Maria went there (?), alone or with Danusia (or assisted by Dobraczynski-father and Wlodek Biegunski's father (?)) – (they were with her in the PCK office during preparation for exhumation of Antos)! What were Wojtek's identification items at PCK (?) The death of Wojtek was finally confirmed during official announcements in the Polish Radio in the early 50-ties!



History and Today - The Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Warsaw (1926-1950) - <https://wf.wum.edu.pl/en/node/444>

Pre-war years and WWII (1926-1945)

The first independent Faculty of Pharmacy in the Republic of Poland was established on the 29th of January, 1926 as part of the University of Warsaw. That time four-year study course was provided. However, it should be highlighted that the pharmaceutical education in Warsaw has been carried out since the first half of nineteenth century on the chemical-pharmaceutical courses organized by the Faculty of Medicine. Until 1945, the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Warsaw was the only one in Poland independent academic center dedicated to education of pharmacists with the same status, rights and privileges as the faculties of other fields of science.

The outbreak of the Second World War on the 1st of September, 1939, interrupted the Faculty's scientific and educational activities. The secret teaching of pharmacy students began in various organizational forms, from individual sets up to the creation of the Secret Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Warsaw academic year 1941/42. The secret studies were continued until the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising on the 1st of August, 1944.

The post-war period (1945-1950)

After the Second World War, the education of pharmacy began at the turn of January and February 1945. During next few years the Faculty of Pharmacy was organized again despite the difficult post-war situation. At that time the Faculty of Pharmacy was still a part of the University of Warsaw.

Mania & Danusia meeting in Pruszków – when?

	„W”hour Ogrodowa 23 →	Germans arrive moved → OT /expulsion	Old Town (OT) surrender → Pruszków	End of Uprising → Pruszków
	Aug. 1	Aug. 6* / Aug. 7**	Sept. 2	Oct. 2
Arrived at Pruszków		M	D (a)	-
		-	M, D (b)	-
		M	-	D (c)
			M	D (d)
				M, D (e)

* diary of Tadeusz Bieguński (B) – (Włodek’s father & his wife) moved to the Old Town on Aug. 6. (Perhaps, Mania was also expelled on August 7? Nobody knows – strange, it suggests that she was moving “on her own”? Where to? When?)

** Information from Antoni Dobraczyński (AD) – old reports, diaries, recent answers to questions (94 y.o. now) saw his parents at Ogrodowa 23 for the last time early in the morning of **August 7** – did not mention/report seeing there Maria Wajszczuk at that time.

*** Very little information is available about Maria’s (m - mother) fate during the Uprising, except for a few details - that she was temporarily in the Pruszków camp - arrival and departure dates are not known. She met there with her daughter Danuta (at the railroad station) but the date of Danuta’s arrival at Pruszków is not known. Danuta was apparently (info from AD) very active, while in the Old Town during the Uprising, providing medications and surgical supplies to several insurgent hospitals there. No other details regarding her activities or dates are available, **except** - (this information was obtained previously from one of her sons), that she has left Warsaw after the fall of the Uprising, with a column of medics-insurgents, but recently – a possible mis-identification of her person in a photograph was discovered. Date of her arrival at the Pruszków camp remains unknown. Danuta’s address in Warsaw before the Uprising also remains unknown!

Several variants and possibilities of evacuation/expulsion dates and of Maria and Danuta’s meeting in Pruszków camp are shown above and discussed below:

(a) **possible**, but unlikely – Maria was captured on Aug. 7 from Ogrodowa 23, Danusia was in the Old Town; after its fall, she got “mixed in” with the civilians (many were shot “on the spot”) and arrived at Pruszkow on Sept. 2 (only if, indeed, Danusia’s identification in the picture from October was incorrect?)

(b) not likely - Maria was also hiding in the old Town (nobody knows?), they both arrived at Pruszków from the Old Town on the same date, but on different trains – Maria arrived earlier?

(c) least likely – Maria would not have been allowed to stay in the camp for that length of time?

(d) **most likely** – Maria was hiding somewhere (in the Old Town?) and was deported on September 2; Danusia was able to get (via the sewer canals?) to Śródmieście, stayed there (?) and was transported to Pruszków at the beginning of October?

(e) **less likely**, but possible – Maria was somewhere in Warsaw in Aug. and Sept, in early Oct. was deported to Pruszków (civilians – earlier) and Danusia a few days later – and they met in Pruszków?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

(Postcards?)



Lance-corporal Officer Cadet Antoni Wajszczuk - "Toni"



135 Platoon of the VII Concentration Group
"Ruczaj" of the Home Army (AK)*



Antoni Wajszczuk (083)
1924 - 1944

**Antoni, "Toni" died in fighting for the Cavalry
Department building of the Ministry of Military
Affairs at 24/26 Marszałkowska Street - on August
1 or 3, 1944.**

<http://www.wajszczuk.pl/english/drzewo/tekst/0083antoni.htm> (2003)

Museum of Warsaw Uprising – Antoni Wajszczuk "Toni" – (19.06.2016)

http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Antoni_Wajszczuk

<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/antoni-wajszczuk,47215.html>

Antoni Wajszczuk

Pseudonym - "Toni"

Date of birth - 1924-06-24

Date of death - **1944-08-03**

Wall of remembrance: column: 203 position: 65

function –

Rank – private

Place of birth - Sokołów Podlaski

Parents' names – Edmund, Maria Bieguńska

Education before 1944 – Pharmacy student

Underground activity 1939-1944 – member since 1942 roku: Armia Krajowa - VII zgrupowanie "Ruczaj" - 3 kompania - **pluton 135. (II drużyna, 2 sekcja)**

Address before the Warsaw Uprising - Warszawa ul. Ogrodowa 23

Detachment - Armia Krajowa - VII zgrupowanie "Ruczaj" - 3 kompania "Jastrząb" (d-ca: ppor. rez. art. Adam Jaworski) - **pluton 135**

Fighting path - Śródmieście Południe

Siblings in the Uprising – sister **Barbara ps. "Baśka"**, combat nurse in the "Gustaw" Battalion in the Old Town. Wounded 13.08.1944 at Kilińskiego street in explosion of a captured German heavy explosive transporter (Sd.Kfz. 301 Ausf. C - Schwere Ladungsträger B-IV Borgward), perished in bombardment of a hospital at Kilińskiego 1/3. The youngest sibling - **Wojciech** killed by Germans at Pęcice, August 2, 1944.

Place (circumstances) of death: August 3, 1944 at Marszałkowska 24/26 (building of the Ministry of Military Affairs).

Burial site - Cmentarz Wojskowy (Military Cemetery) na Powązkach (kw. A-27)

Sources - MPW, family archives

Antoni W. – Ogrodowa #23 → Uprising (early assembly point at Marszałkowska 19) → attacking across the street → died August 3 (shot (?), in burning building (?)) - exact circumstances are not known. (Dobraczynski – father and Wlodek's B. father were present with (assisted) Maria in her search in the PCK Office in Warsaw).

We know very little about Antoni's childhood and teen-age years, before the family moved to Zolkiewka and Krasnystaw – he was born in Wyrozeby (near Sokolow Podlaski). After moving to Warsaw, he probably attended some clandestine courses and was planning (or actually started?) studying Medicine (some sources mention Pharmacy?)

Publications - Andrzej Dławichowski (opr.) "135 Pluton AK VII Zgrupowania "Ruczaj" i jego kadeckie korzenie." Wydaw. Doroty Karaszewskiej, 1994; Wielka ilustrowana encyklopedia Powstania Warszawskiego. T. 6, Wykaz uczestników-żołnierzy powstania warszawskiego Kr-Ż / red. nauk. Piotr Rozwadowski. Wyd. "Bellona", Fundacja "Warszawa Walczy 1939-1945", 2004.

(p. 56) In the middle of 1942 were accepted into the platoon of "Lech": Maciej Górzechowski ps. "Alek", Bogdan Jaworski ps. "Pip", Jerzy Kielgrzynski ps. "**Antoś**" and Antoni Wajszczuk ps. "**Toni**". In September 1942, "Lubicz" inducted to the same platoon his schoolmate and friend Zdzisław Sliwiński ps. "Paweł", "**Witold**", who joined the section of "Michał".



<http://www.dobroni.pl/rekonstrukcje.swiatelko-dla-zolnierza-2015,18038>

A memorial plaque dedicated to the 135 Platoon of the AK VII Group "Ruczaj" can be found imbedded in the viaduct on Marszałkowska street over the Trasa Łazienkowska. It says:

"On August 1, 1944, the 135 Platoon of the VII Group „Ruczaj” of the AK (Home Army) attacked and captured the previously standing at this site building of the Cavalry Department of the Ministry of Military Affairs, occupied at that time by the German Army. Heavy fighting, which included the use of tanks lasted until the night of August 3 / 4. After a fire was set (by Germans), the insurgents were forced to withdraw. The 135 Platoon bravely fulfilled its mission. In fighting perished: 27 soldiers and 4 combat nurses."

Glossary: a/ sekcja → fireteam, section → b/ drużyna – squad → c/ pluton – platoon

Batalion “Ruczaj”, ← Pluton 135 ← drużyna ← sekcja

Boguslaw Cloth, „Jan” – I drużyna 1 sekcja, (section leader)

Zdzislaw Sliwinski, „Witold” - II drużyna 1 sekcja

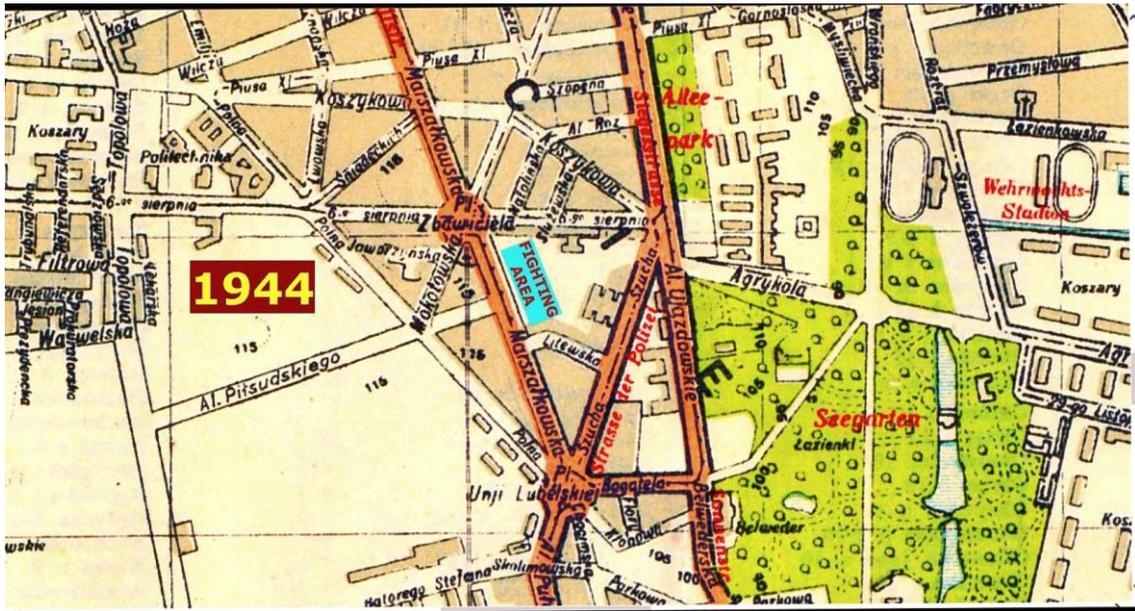
Antoni Wajszczuk, „Toni” (+) - II drużyna, 2 sekcja

=====

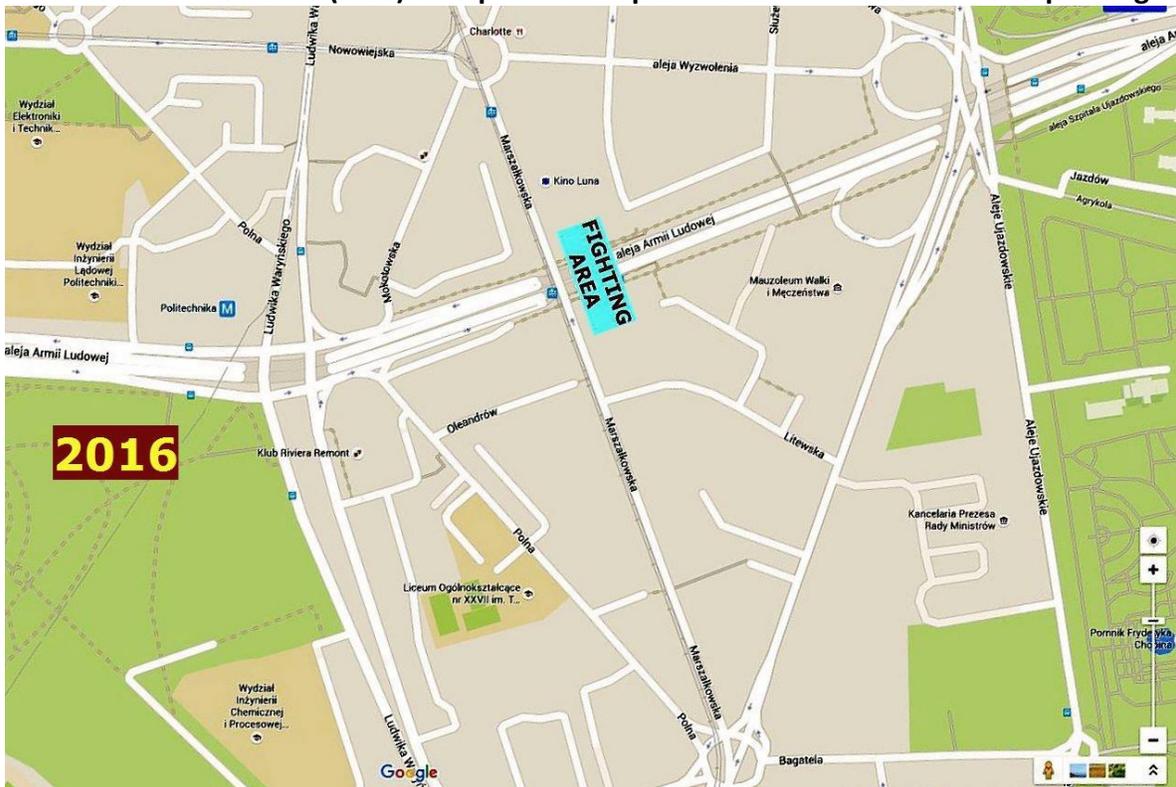
Batalion “Golski”, ← Pluton 183, ← patrol sanitarny “Foka” (N/N)

Maria Bogumiła Radajewska, “Ewa” (+)

Romana Radajewska, „Danusia”



Location of the battle (blue) on a pre-war map of Warsaw with German overprinting



The same area after reconstruction of Warsaw on a contemporary map.

Batalion Ruczaj – https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batalion_Ruczaj

Combat region of the „Ruczaj” battalion: [Mokotowska](#) – Piusa XI (now [Piękna](#)) – [Chopina](#) – [Koszykowa](#) – [Marszałkowska](#)^[1]. (...) Initially, more than 1500 soldiers, fighting losses - 250.

3rd Company – commanding - 2nd Lt. Res.- Adam Jaworski „**Jastrząb**”, second-in-command – Cadet-platoon leader. - Stanisław Brażewicz-Dosiółko „**Szczyt**”;

- **Pluton 135** – plut. pchor. **Tadeusz Rackiewicz „Bicz”**;

The Ruczaj Battalion was formed, during the Warsaw Uprising, from the VII-th Group (Zgrupowanie) of the II Region (Rejon) of the I Circuit (Obwód) “Śródmieście” (see attached map). Initially it had 1500 soldiers, lost 250 of them in fighting. Its tasks at the time of the “W” hour was to capture a few objects (buildings) located in the “police quarter” in an area centered around Al. Szucha and Al. Ujazdowskie. The commanding officer was (cavalry) captain (rotmistrz) Czesław Grudziński ps. „Ruczaj”, deputy commander – Lt. Stanisław Ornoch ps. „Babicz”.

135. platoon had 40 soldiers. Their weapons were (initially) – 1 light (hand-held) machine gun, 2 carbines, 3 pistols, 18 hand-granades. These (numbers) testify to the bravery of the young boys, who formed this platoon, since they had to capture their weapons while they were already fighting their enemy. After 3 days, the remnants of the platoon had to retreat from the burning building, to the other side of the Marszałkowska street. Only 19 people saved themselves, 14 of them were wounded. (This seems to be inaccurate, since the inscription on the plaque mentions 27 fallen, and adding to them the 19 saved would give a number of 46 – perhaps the fleeting [transitory] memory failed?) (*WJW – perhaps included on the plaque are also soldiers and nurses brought in at night of 2/3 September from another unit?*)

Dowódca II drużyny kpr. Remigiusz Poszepczyński ps. „Ketling” „Bodek”
Z-ca d-cy drużyny strz. Tadeusz Trębicki ps. „Lubicz”
Sekcyjny 1 sekcji strz. Zdzisław Śliwiński ps. „Witold”
strz. Bogdan Jaworski ps. „Pip”
strz. Andrzej Malowaniec ps. „Wróbel”
strz. Jerzy Tarnawski ps. „Gawron”
strz. Kazimierz Wawrzyńczak ps. „Rett”
Sekcyjny 2 sekcji strz. Wiesław Jastrzębski ps. „Adaś”
strz. Maciej Gorzechowski ps. „Alek”
strz. Jerzy Kielgrzyski ps. „Antoś”
strz. Henryk Nowak ps. „Heniusz”
strz. Antoni Wajszczuk ps. „Toni”
Sekcyjny 3 sekcji strz. Jan Dławichowski ps. „Michał”
strz. Marek Czošek ps. „Wojtek”
strz. Józef Trzeciński ps. „Jędrek”
strz. NN ps. „Janek”
strz. NN ps. „Kula”

Pluton 135.

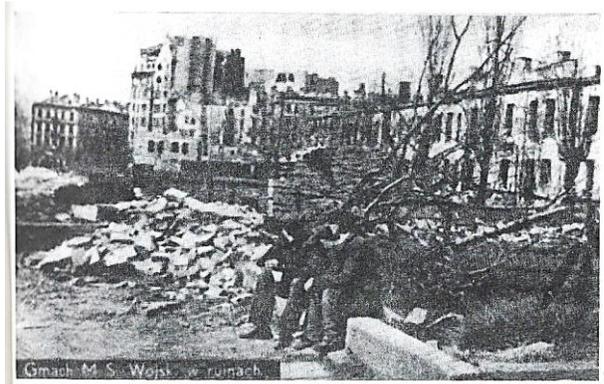
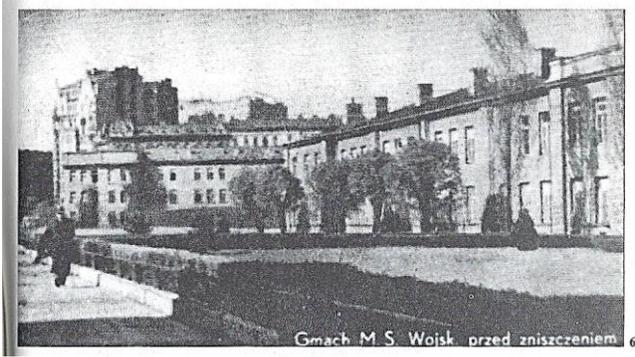
Dowódca:



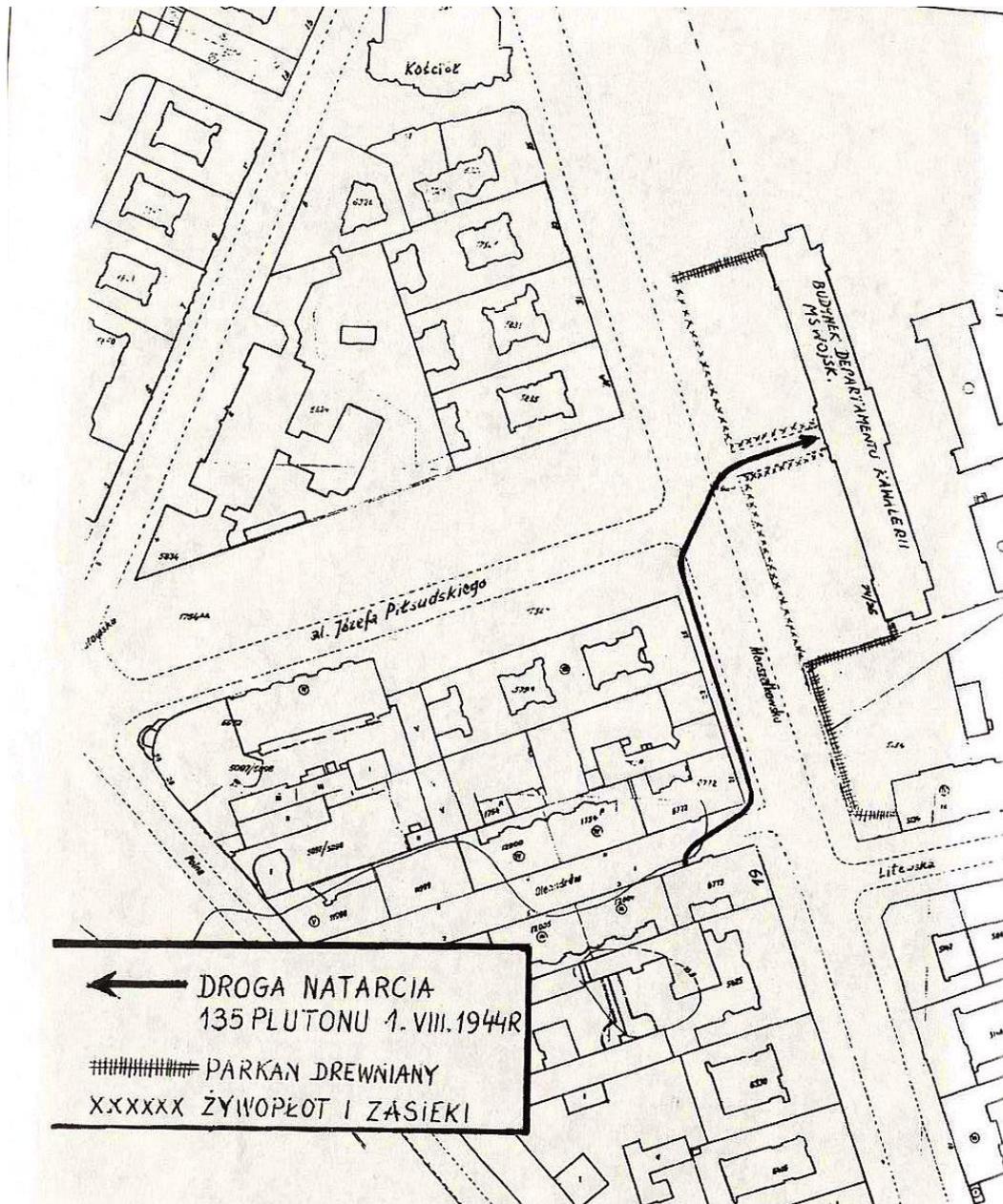
plut. pchor. Tadeusz Rackiewicz „Bicz”.

Stan liczebny plutonu na pozycjach wyjściowych do powstania: 40 żołnierzy oraz patrol sanitarny (5 sanitariuszek). Uzbrojenie: pistolet maszynowy, 2 karabiny, 3 pistolety, 18 granatów.

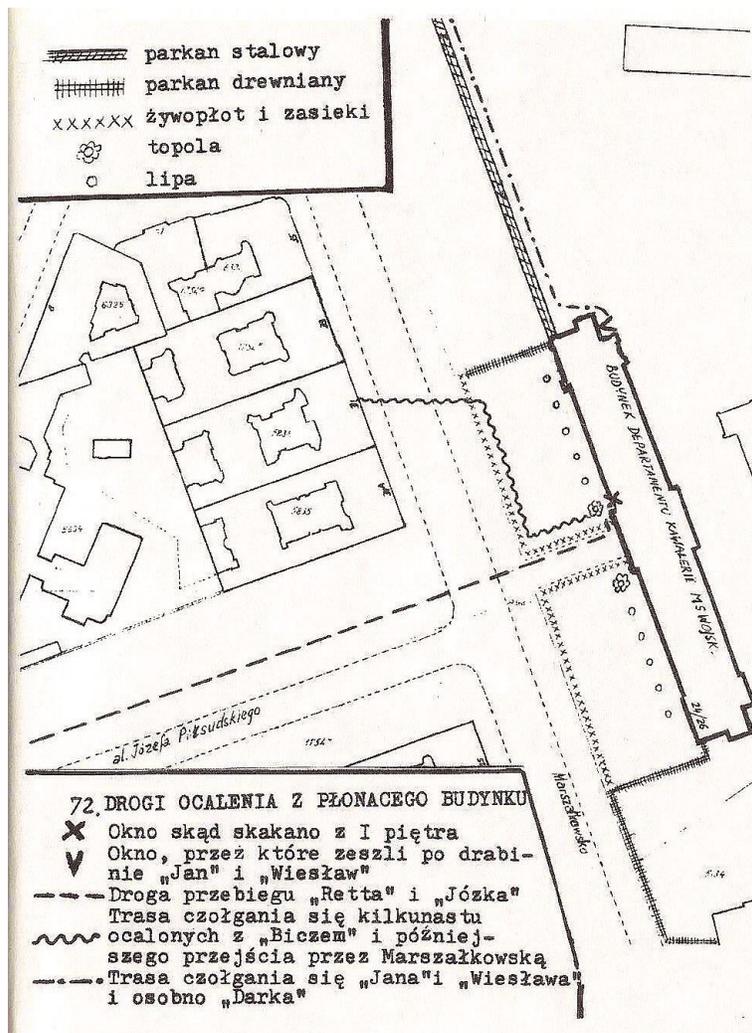
<http://www.dws-xip.pl/PW/formacje/pw2066c.html>



Ministry of the Military Affairs, before and after the Uprising



ATTACK!



RETREAT!



68



69

Left (p.68) – Corner house with double addresses: ul. Marszałkowska 19 and Oleandrów 1. The whole 1st floor above the stores it was „Witold’s” apartment – assembly point before the „W” hour.
Right (p.69) – House at ul. Marszałkowska 31, through its entrance gate at night of 3/4 VIII 1944 r. were transported severely wounded and retreated lightly wounded and healthy soldiers of 135 plt.

Tadeusz Rackiewicz - "Bicz" and his 135 platoon

Sequence of events – this summary is based on the following publications

- http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Tadeusz_Rackiewicz
- <http://www.info-pc.home.pl/whatfor/baza/ruczaj.htm>
- <http://www.dws-xip.pl/PW/formacje/pw2066c.html>
- <http://powstanie44.blogspot.com/2015/07/076-plut-pchor-rzut-batalion-ruczaj.html>
- http://beret-w-akcji2.salon24.pl/598907_wspomnienia-z-powstania-warszawskiego-czesc-104
- http://www.zrobotosam.com/PulsPol/Puls3/index.php?sekcja=1&arty_id=12275 - **Długa opowieść o Tadeuszu Rackiewicz**, (Long story about Tadeusz Rackiewicz). Ernestyna Skurjat-Kozek, November 29, 2012
- <https://www.google.com/#q=wspomnienia+135+pluton+ Batalionu+Ruczaj>;
http://ahm.1944.pl/Zdzislaw_Sliwinski/2 (3, 4)
- <http://www.zrobotosam.com/PulsPol/Puls/pdf/BoguslawCiuchPowstanieWarszawskie.pdf>

(SUMMARY of the story by Ernestyna Skurjat-Kozek). In September 1939, after the defeat, some of the cadets dispersed to avoid capture and started clandestine fighting activities. **Tadeusz Rackiewicz** returned finally to Warsaw, contacted the AK and, as a 1st lieutenant in the Army, started organizing his own platoon – he assumed a pseudonym **“Bicz”** (a whip). He gathered 40 young men, age 18-20. By 1944, he was commanding a well-organized and disciplined platoon – it was the famous **135 AK Platoon of the VII Group Ruczaj**.

Before the outbreak of the Uprising, and after receiving the initial order to attack the Gestapo building at Marszalkowska, corner of Litewska streets, Tadeusz’s soldiers gathered in an apartment of one of the platoon members, at the corner of Marszalkowska and Oleandry streets. From the windows, they could see the Gestapo building. They were ready to attack, but an order came to delay for a few days. Since it would have been too dangerous to disperse and then reassemble in full view of the Gestapo, they decided to stay put and to “camp” there - (the Gestapo building was full of heavily armed soldiers, having their living quarters in several individual rooms on the ground and first floors). After an earlier alarm, the **135** platoon remained in the apartment for a few days.

On August 1, **“Bicz”** decided to attack 10 minutes earlier than the official **“W”** (5 o’clock PM) hour, to take full advantage of a surprise attack. He sent ahead two soldiers in civilian clothes across the street, who threw the grenades at the entrance gate. **“Bicz”** himself ran after those two soldiers. (...) A German hiding on the roof of the building shot at him – he would have been hit in the chest, but while half-turned looking back, he was hit in the left shoulder. **“Bicz”** and the group continued running and entered the building throwing grenades into individual rooms and shooting. The German soldiers were running away and the building was captured in less than one hour (40 min.?).

They found there lots of weapons, ammunition and food. They could have defended themselves, but the help (*other groups supposed to attack simultaneously from the sides*) did not arrive! The Germans sent tanks, which were demolishing the ground and upper floors. (*On the third day, the Germans started fire on the ground floor – luckily, no flame throwers were used*), The AK soldiers moved from the ground to the higher floor. Later, when evacuation was unavoidable, **“Bicz”** ordered the soldiers to jump out of the windows of the first floor (above the ground) and to lay quiet pretending they were dead. With the dangling left arm, he also jumped down and broke his leg. The next two insurgents jumping after him, were caught in a blanket – they landed uneventfully. Tadeusz could then crawl using one arm and one leg.

(*The building was separated from the street by the 70 cm tall bushes and by barbed wires on both sides of them*). When a German tank arrived, its commander saw only the “dead” soldiers and they left. Later on, a girl arrived (*crawling from across the street*) with a wire cutter. The (healthy and wounded) “jumpers” were able to move away, First aid soldiers (*medics*) arrived with stretchers and evacuated not only the wounded, but also (on **“Bicz’s”** orders) the captured weapons.

The wounded were taken to the hospital. Tadeusz remembers :”the hospital was quite regular, elegant, with modern equipment, which did not work – there was no electricity”. There they were recovering for several weeks, until terrible bombing raids started, then they were moved to the cellars. While there, Tadeusz’s friendship with **Bogusław Cioth "Jan"**, a colleague from the same platoon became firm. (*They visited each other again several years later, while in Australia and California, respectively*).

Losses of the platoon were high: **20 - dead, 13 - wounded** (including the commander) - only seven survived without significant injuries – they all returned to fighting, in other units.

VIRTUTI MILITARI for Tadeusz Rackiewicz - "Bicz". (Wounded on August 1, .1944 r. at Marszałkowska, died in Australia [2014?]) - http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Tadeusz_Rackiewicz

For commanding the 135 Platoon in action to capture the building of the Cavalry Department (former MSW – Military Affairs Ministry) – at that time, the operational base of the Gestapo), **Tadeusz Rackiewicz "Bicz"** received the Virtuti Militari Cross (Krzyż VM). (He was awarded the distinction during the Uprising, Cross was delivered in 1912 in Sidney, Australia).

"Cadet, platoon leader, commanding the 135 Platoon of the "Ruczaj" Battalion, by the order nr 475 of the Commandant of the Armia Krajowa, dated 27.09.1944 r. was awarded **the Silver Cross of the Combat Order Virtuti Militari** [source: certificate from MON (Ministry of National Defense) dated 15.09.2011 r. nr DK-76/2011].

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Glossary: (sekcja – fireteam, section, drużyna – squad, pluton - platoon

(SUMMARY of a story by) Zdzisław Śliwiński – „Witold”, 1 sekcja, II drużyna

August 1, 1944. After the “first aid dressing packages” have been distributed, insurgents lined up on the staircase. First, dressed in civilian clothing, went two soldiers: **Andrzej Wichliński** pseudonym „**Wiesław**” and **Romankiewicz** pseudonim „**Dym**”. They had with them the home-made grenades „filipinki” (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filipinka>) and threw them at the entrance gate to the building under attack. “**Dym**” **died instantly**, either shot by the German guard or from a shrapnel. The subsequent attack was led by „**Zbyszek**” (name?) - he performed very well in spite of having been **shot in the right shoulder**. He was the only one armed with a hand (light) submachine gun. In spite of the wound, he entered the building and killed a few guards. The Germans, who were captured in the guardroom were placed in an adjacent room, under a bed. One of the colleagues from my section - **Andrzej Malowaniec „Wróbel”** –stayed behind to guard them.

The guard room was full of weapons and ammunition, so the insurgents became instantly well-armed. They were throwing grenades to raise panic among the Germans in their quarters, who fled by the back entrance. The whole large building was controlled in 40 minutes.

Our losses were small - “**Dym**” died initially, and also **Wiesio Jastrzębski, “Adaś” died** – shot, from the back, while running, by a German sentry at the Litewska street. (*WJW – The whole area, centered around the Al. Szucha, (between the Marszałkowska and 6 Sierpnia streets, Aleje Ujazdowskie, Plac Zbawiciela and Plac Unii Lubelskiej), was called a “Police Quarter”, it was inhabited by the Germans only and was heavily guarded by sentries, barbed wire barricades and concrete bunkers. **Two more soldiers also died**, while already in the building. (“**Witold**” did not remember their names and pseudonyms).*

Tadzio Trębicki „Lubicz” („Witold’s friend) **died instantly** within the first hour, shot in the head by a sniper. (Just before joining the action, when he was receiving his two first aid dressings, he smiled mysteriously and said: „I will not need them. You keep them”. He gave one to „Witold” and the other to a colleague on his right).

There were also **a few wounded**. Early on, when “Witold” already had a rifle and was running (according to his instructions) to the left down the corridor, he encountered a few Germans running to a side exit. There was a dense dust from the grenade explosions. A „duel” by rifles with a German followed – „**Witold**” was faster, but the falling German shot him in the right foot. This was his first wound!

Initially, the most severely wounded was “**Zbyszek**”, who lead the whole attack. Soon after, also **severely wounded** was a member of the 1st section, **Jurek Tarnawski**, „**Gawron**”, who was shot in the right lung from the upper floor window, while approaching the building. In the meantime “**Zbyszek**” run out to shoot again at the windows, he fell and now they both were laying outside.

Somewhat later, around 7 PM, a “Tiger” tank appeared and started shooting. First shell entered through the front door and hit the wall. Explosion severely **wounded a few of the colleagues**, who were in the main hall. They brought upstairs “**Wróbel**”. “**Witold**” climbed upstairs with the aid of his rifle, using it, as a crutch. “Wrobel” he **was wounded** in the abdomen and “**Witold**” (the writer) provided him with first aid. (*Note – the nurses were still trapped in the apartment across the street*).

After the first few hours „**Witold**” **was also shot** (probably also by a sniper) in the abdomen (also had injured liver – “he was convinced that those were his last few hours!”)

There were a **few other wounded** in the same room. There was also one wounded Wehrmacht soldier – a Polish draftee from Silesia, who was supposedly considering earlier joining the insurgents. He had a severe abdominal wound and died shortly thereafter. The insurgent, who shot him „**Rafał**” – **Sylwan Sieczkowski** was also **wounded** and in bed next to him.

The commander placed observers at the ends of the building, who were warning people inside about the movement, position and aiming of the tank, so they would hide. The tank remained active for several hours, several rooms were damaged and a **few more colleagues died**, one of them was **Jerzy Kielgrzyski**, „**Antoś**” from 1. drużyna. This situation lasted until the evening. Maintaining safety and guarding this huge building was difficult with only less than twenty defendants remaining functional.

August 2, 1944.

(...) In the morning, two tanks appeared – a „Tiger” and a „Panther”. (...) „**Witold**” did not see them, while wounded in bed with high fever - he learned about them from stories from his colleagues/mates. (...) Also on the second day an armored car maneuvered itself from the direction of Aleja Szucha and was shelling the windows of the building. The second night passed fairly quietly.

Note: There are very few details from this day’s activity. The writer was wounded, in bed, on upper floor, with high fever. Perhaps the reports below will add something?

August 3, 1944

In the afternoon the Germans set fire to the ground floor – luckily they did not use the flamethrowers. Heavy smoke penetrated to the upper floor. The insurgents had to jump out to the Marszałkowska street side. The other side was very dangerous. The evacuation and jumping had a very sad course. **Five insurgents, who jumped out near the main entrance, were cut down by a machine gun (perhaps, “Toni” was among them?)**, which was set up in a small potato field, located on Aleja Piłsudskiego, in front of the main entrance.

The next group, which included: 1/ platoon commander „**Bicz**”, 2/ „**Gawron**”, (one of the two, who were wounded earlier. lying outside the building, then transported at night inside upstairs, 3/ „**Zbyszek**” with a hand wound, and finally 4/ “**Witold**” (the writer). They jumped out from the (rear?) window, which was located further away and the smoke was then thicker – perhaps that saved them?

They were jumping out of the burning building, were shot at from a machine gun from the front, and another one from the corner of the Litewska street, and they were then crawling until they reached the barbed wire barricades, where they were protected only by the bushes. The tank continued maneuvering around and shooting into the first floor windows.

“**Gawron**”, from “Witold’s” section was lying closest to the door, but did not have enough strength to crawl any further, ... an “Ukrainian” came out, saw his wrist watch, took it, but did not kill him, then run away in a hurry.

One of the insurgents – “**Mirek**” - had a nervous break-down. He was earlier wounded twice, shot from the tank, his wounds were severe. He started calling the platoon leader to shoot him – when he refused, he cocked with his teeth his Parabellum pistol and **shot himself**.

Dusk arrived, light rain started, the flames were dying down. One of the insurgents got in touch with the inhabitants of the house across the street, who were watching from the top floor - the first attempts to reach them occurred about 12:00 or 1:00 AM **A teen-age girl – her pseudonym was probably “WOJTEK” arrived with a wire cutter**. Soon after, the medics arrived and started moving the wounded (*there were a few of them, how many?*) on stretchers to the other side of the street. Four soldiers moved on their own, they were not wounded. (...)

They were moved to the Red Cross field hospital, located at the (present) “Teatr Rozmaitosci” on the Mokotowska street.

(...) “**Witold’s**” section member “**Pip**” **Bohdan Jaworski** and **Dr “Tomczyk”** were taking care of him. A few days later peritonitis set in. There was no chance for surgery and drainage. Luckily, “**Witold**” family’s former housekeeper, Tatiana Bielska, a Belorussian, found him and was able to get daily some ice from a butcher’s shop. The peritonitis receded in about a week and ... he survived!

Sliwiński – Aug. 1 – “**Two more soldiers also died**, while already in the building.”

(The tank activity/shooting) - few more colleagues died,

Aug. 2 - (activities??? - the author wounded, had high fever, in bed upstairs)

Aug. 3 - “**Five insurgents, who jumped out near the main entrance, were cut down by a machine gun fire.**”

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(SUMMARY of a story by) **Boguslaw Cioth, „Jan”** – 1 sekcja, (section leader), I druzyina, <http://www.zrobotosam.com/PulsPol/Puls/pdf/BoguslawCiothPowstanieWarszawskie.pdf>

“We arrived at ul Oleandrów 1, corner of Marszałkowska to a private apartment on the 1st floor, 3 days earlier”. There were more than 40 people and 5 nurses. We were informed about the beginning in the late afternoon of **August 1**. We were supposed to capture the building of the former Ministry of Defense across the street. We had very few weapons. We knew each other mostly by pseudonyms. We were organized in sections, 6 people each - in the staircase, waiting to attack, my section was first”.

“**Bicz**” selected two people to run ahead and attack with grenades the guards at the entrance. Two trucks with German soldiers happened to pass by, but did not interfere. Then, the group crossed the street - **Zdzisław Sliwinski** “**Witold**” was running next to “**Jan**” (the writer). He encountered a German soldier, shot first, but also become **wounded in the leg**. They all were running down the

hall throwing grenades into the rooms, Germans were running away. They got a lot of weapons! Finally they felt armed!

The platoon leader “**Bicz**” got **wounded in his shoulder**. He also mentioned then that other detachments were supposed to attack from other directions (from Marszałkowska street and from Szucha Ave.). They built barricades at all entrances and staircases. “There is not enough of us to defend such a large building”. There were problems with snipers – **Zbigniew Lejman**, “**Darek**” barely escaped being shot in the head. **Brothers Kruk** were shot on the first day – “**Ryszard**” was **killed first**, his brother “**Romek**” was trying to avenge him, went to shoot from a window and **was killed instantly**.

On the 2nd day (Aug.2) - “**Bicz**” called for two volunteers to get in touch with the nurses, who stayed behind waiting across the street, the volunteers were supposed to go later to ul. Nowowiejska near Plac Zbawiciela (to seek aid?). The author, „**Jan**” volunteered, but his friend **Andrzej Wichlinski** refused. **Somebody else** (alias not remembered, name unknown?) volunteered – (he was probably a student at Wawelberg’s School of Engineering). During the night of Aug.2/3, they crawled to the exit and then run fast across the Marszałkowska street. By then, the nurses were gone from the apartment (*to the hospital on Polna street?*). Later, while already on Nowowiejska street, they encountered a group of insurgents – 5 of them volunteered to join them. Some nurses also volunteered, but they accepted only three of them.

On the 3rd day, there were numerous Germans attacking from the main hall, also penetrating to the first floor. “**Wiesiek**” and the yesterday’s “**volunteer**” joined in defending the barricade at the end of the hall. In the afternoon Germans set the building on fire. Evacuation order has been issued. A few were jumping out of the first floor window (was “**Toni**” there?), close to main entrance door, straight under the machine gun fire (one of them was the **last night’s “volunteer**” –seeing this, the author „**Jan**” and “**Wiesiek**” returned upstairs.

Few others (see above) were also jumping out of the windows on the other side of the building (away from the Marszałkowska street side). Suddenly... a shot - author „**Jan**” was hit by a **ricochet in the right knee**. It was 16:30. They moved to a room with window further away from the central door. “**Stach**”, **Kazik Szmaj** joined them and they went with “**Wiesiek**” to look for a ladder. They found a ladder. „**Jan**” and “**Wiesiek**” decided to wait until the evening and were hiding in one of the rooms, but “**Stach**” became very nervous, went away and **was not seen anymore!** Later, the Germans arrived upstairs, looked but considered them dead (motionless on the floor) and left them alone. Finally, it got dark, they moved to the window, pulled the ladder and carefully climbed out through the window. While jumping, they fell on the roof of a shed next to the wall and then started crawling very slowly under the bushes („**Jan**” had terrible pain in the wounded knee) towards the exit gate in the direction of the Plac Zbawiciela.

Suddenly, the shed exploded behind them illuminating the whole area. After waiting hidden for a few hours – it was slowly getting dark - they resumed crawling, **passed by some dead colleagues** close to this side entrance. They could not count or identify them! They rested temporarily next to one of them (*who?*), but were not able to identify him, while staying motionless, because they were close to the Germans with a machine gun. They still remained ca. 100 meters from the exit gate to the Plac Zbawiciela – “are we going to make it before the daybreak?” „**Jan**” crawled first, “**Wiesiek**” behind him – pain was terrible! It was 5 o’clock. They were finally at the gate, it was locked, but they were able to crawl under. „**Jan**” (wounded) told “**Wiesiek**” to run first, but he squeezed himself under Jan, lifted him up and started running across the Marszałkowska street in the direction of the church, hid Wiesiek in an outside niche, run to the gate on Nowowiejska street, grabbed a chair, returned and while running, pulled Jan sitting on it to safety!

Story by Romana Radajewska-Stobiecka, ps. „Danusia”, „Roma”:

<http://www.dobroni.pl/rekonstrukcje.swiatelko-dla-zolnierza-2015,18038>

(pluton 183 ? – „Golski” Battalion; first aid („sanitary”) patrol „Foka”, assignment – hospital at 24, Polna street

(...) Since August 1, 1944 (1.8.1944) our first aid („sanitary”) patrol consisted of: patrol leader “Foka”- NN, “Ewa” - Maria Radajewska, “Jola” - Krystyna Zygałło, “Lunia” - Wasilewska and I “Danusia” - Romana Radajewska. Our task was to attack at „W” hour the German „police district” along the Litewska street, together with other plutons of the **5th company**. We were stationed in a hospital set up in the ambulatory offices of the “Ubezpieczalnia Społeczna” (Social Assurance) at 24, Polna str. From there, we were running to recover the wounded in our vicinity. The wounded were then transported to the hospitals at 34, Polna or to the PCK (Red Cross) hospital.

During the night of August 2, two soldiers arrived from the 135 platoon of the “Ruczaj” battalion seeking help for the colleagues, who were wounded at the Cavalry Department of the Ministry of the Military Affairs at Marszałkowska 24/26. The following nurses volunteered: “Foka”, “Ewa” (my sister), myself (Romana) and two nurses from the hospital staff. - Barbara Grochowska and Halina Hackiewiczówna. Boys from the 135 platoon went away to continue with their mission (...) When they came back, they brought with them 5 other soldiers to aid their platoon. The patrol leader was worried about the safety of this rather large group crossing the Marszałkowska street, which was under German fire. As the youngest, I was ordered to stay behind – this saved my life!

All four nurses: “Foka”, “Ewa”, Barbara Grochowska and Halina Hackiewiczówna were **murdered** by the Germans on August 3, 1944. I found out about it in the afternoon of August 3. (for details, see below the biography of my sister Maria Bogumiła Radajewska).

Maria Bogumiła Radajewska, “Ewa”, „Myszka?” (1922 – 1944) - biography

http://akwielkopolska.pl/index/index/szzak/1,441,442,0,Wielkopolanki_w_Powstaniu_Warszawskim,Strona3,1.html

As a „born” girl-scout, she joined immediately the underground Scout movement, which she combined with further education. In 1940, she was sworn-in as a soldier of ZWZ-AK. She completed medical combat training. At the time of the out-brake of the Warsaw Uprising, she joined service as a combat nurse in a patrol led by “FOKA” – of the 183 platoon of the “Golski” Battalion.

She started already on her job on August 2, 1944. She was one of the five volunteers answering the request from the 135 platoon (see above). (...) Assisted by soldiers from of the 135 platoon, the nurse reached the Marszałkowska site, attended the wounded and administered the necessary injections.

Next day, the Germans stormed the building using heavy machine weapons and forced their way to the ground floor (parter) of the building. The commanding officer of the 135 platoon “Bicz” issued an order to retake from the Germans the ground floor, to force their way to the exit to Marszałkowska street. He ordered the nurses to evacuate the two severely wounded soldiers to a location half-way up the stairs, which was protected by a barricade. Unfortunately, Germans were already there.

“Foka”, Maria Radajewska ps. „Myszka”, „Ewa”, Barbara Grochowska and Halina Hackiewicz perished together with the severely wounded soldiers in the burning (hospital?) building.



Combat Nurse Barbara Wajszczukówna, "Basia", "Baśka"



Kompania "Harcerska" Batalionu
"Gustaw" Zgrupowania "Róg" Armii Krajowej



Barbara Wajszczuk (084)
1926 - 1944

Barbara ps. "Basia", "Baśka", uprzednio ciężko ranna 13 VIII 1944 po wybuchu czołgu-pułapki, zginęła w podziemiach zbombardowanego budynku szpitala przy ul. Kilińskiego 1/3 na Starym Mieście - **26 VIII 1944***

***Armia Krajowa (AK)/Home Army** - main and largest Underground Resistance fighting force during WWII, subordinate to the Polish Government-in-Exile in London.

Below is a paragraph from the book:

Hanna Michalska . Maria Stopień . Bożena Tazbir-Tomaszewska . Wanda Turkowska . Wacława Zastocka: SŁOWNIK uczestniczek walki o niepodległość Polski 1939-1945. Poległe i zmarłe w okresie okupacji niemieckiej. (Distionary of the (female) participants in the struggle for independance of Poland 1939-1945. Killed in action and deceased during German occupation). Publisher: Państwowy Instytut Wydawniczy Warszawa 1988 ISBN 83-06-01195-3.

WAJSZCZUKÓWNA BARBARA, "Basia", "Baśka" (1926-26 VIII 1944), born in Krasnystaw, daughter of Edmund, a physician and Maria nee Biegunski, residing in Warsaw during the occupation; Girl Scout in the "Azure" Squad of the Polish Scout Troops, underwent military nursing training; combat nurse in the "Scout" Company of the "Gustaw" Battalion, the "Rog" Concentration Group of the Home Army (AK) during Warsaw Uprising, severely wounded in the Old Town during explosion of a tank-trap, placed in the hospital at 3 J. Kilinski Street, died in the bombarded building; buried in the Powazki Military Cemetery, quarter A-25; her name is memorized on a plaque of the symbolic grave of the "Gustaw" Battalion, quarter B-24; her brother Antoni died on Zielna(?) Street, second brother Wojciech - near Pecice.

49:123, sygn. III/42/49. teczka "Powstanie Warszawskie",s. 23;156; 318,s. 454; 495, s. 89,128,132; 996; rel. Heleny Gliwic.

<http://www.wajszczuk.pl/english/drzewo/tekst/0084barbara.htm>;

<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/barbara-wajszczuk,47216.html>

Barbara W. - Ogrodowa #23 → Uprising (early assembly point – Chlodna 12 → Ogrodowa 11/17?, →, (left with other nurses at the same time as Antoni D.), → Old Town, Aug.7, → wounded – Aug. 13, → died in bombing – Aug. 26, 1944 (together with Jerzy Wiszniewski)

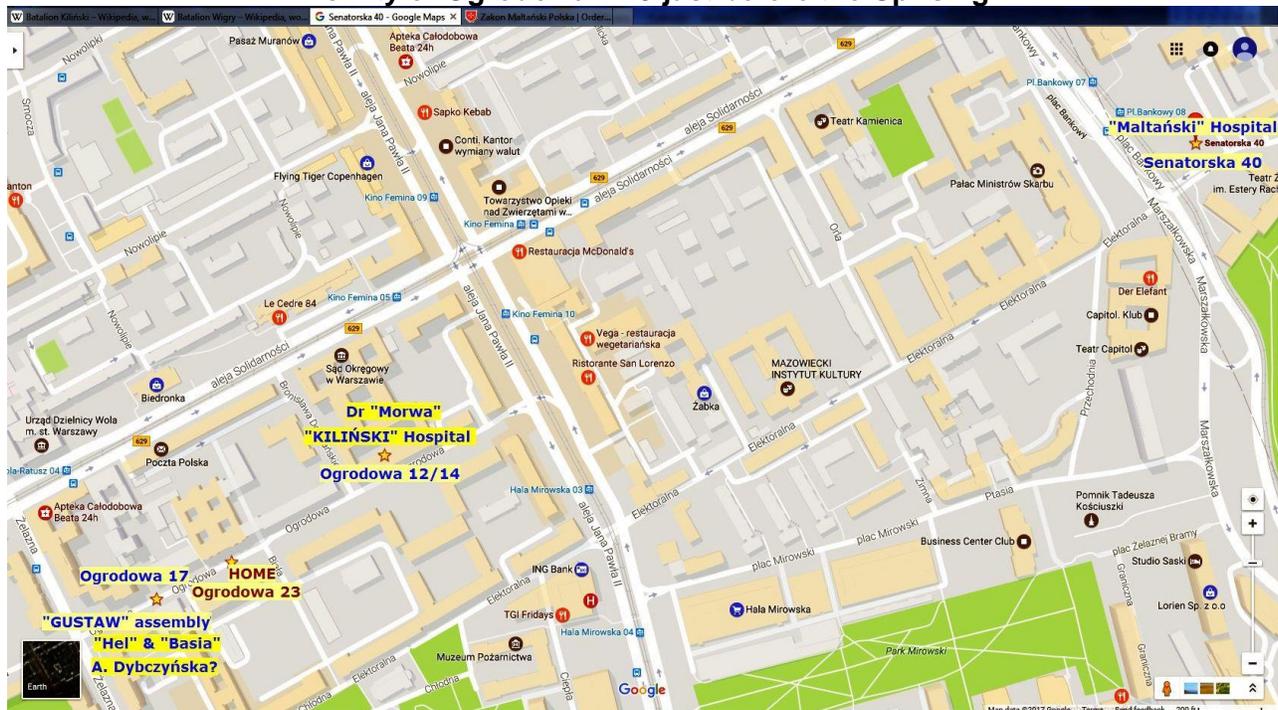
(**Wlodek B.** - remembered that long time ago a cousin from Siedlce (**Wierzejski**) told him that in April 1945, he accompanied **Mania** to Warsaw to the exhumation.of Basia (WJW - Danusia probably was not there at that time, she was probably already studying in Poznan and could not come to Warsaw?).



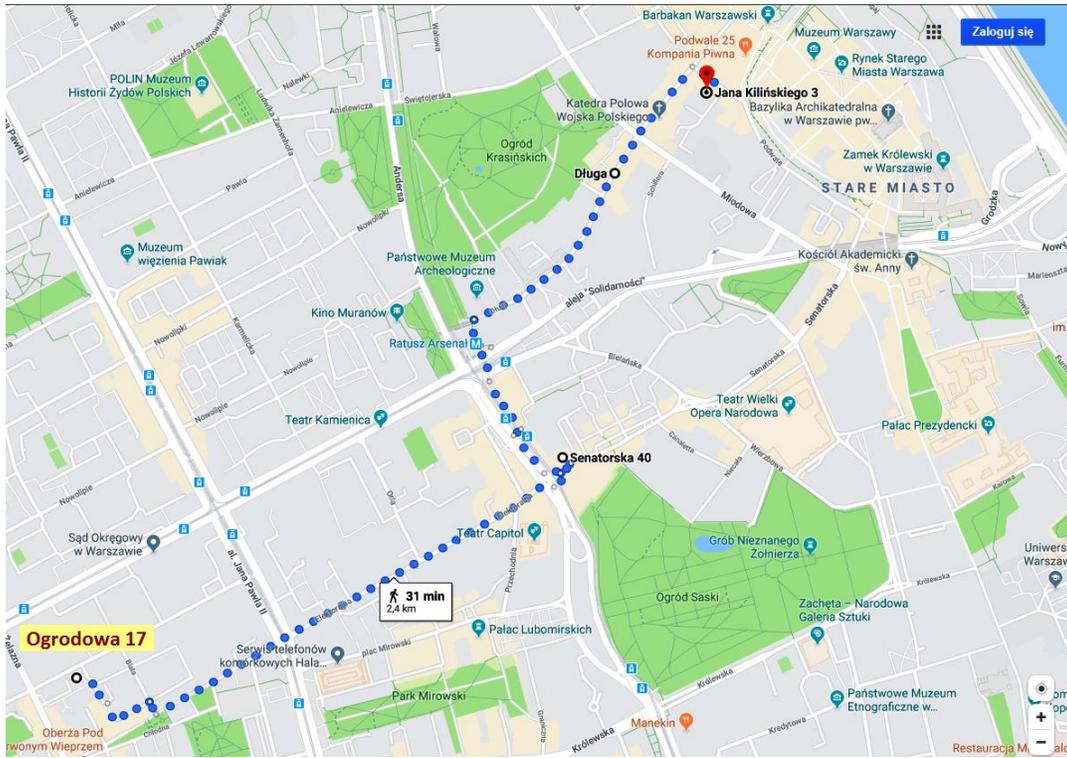
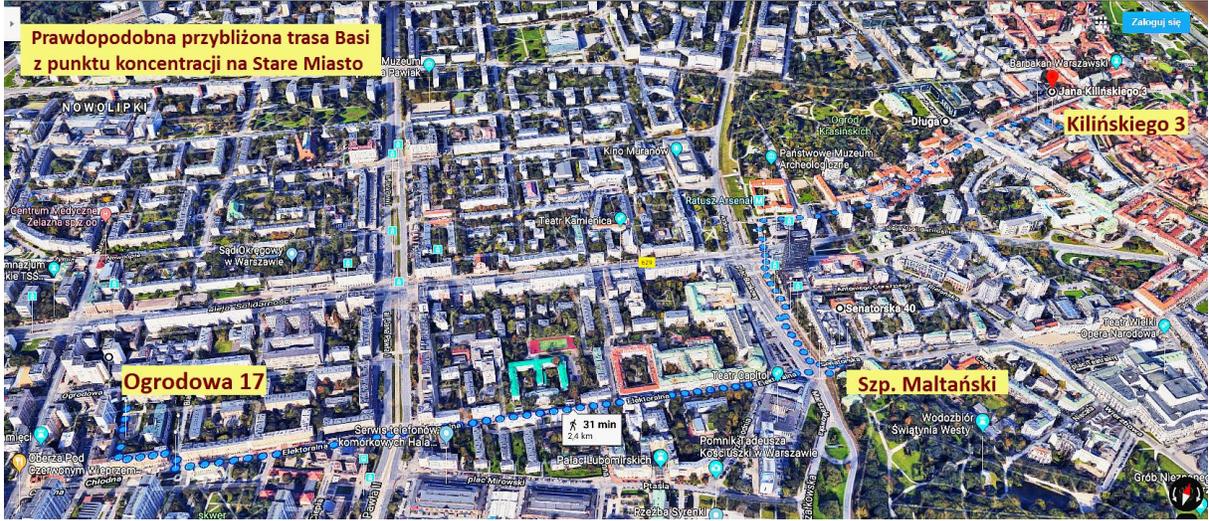
Medical and Sanitary support of the „Gustaw” Battalion and routes of early retreat from the WOLA DISTRICT to the OLD TOWN – “northern route”; Basia took a shorter “southern” route! (see below)

It is mentioned in some reports that the activity of some of these sanitary units was low – except of a more distant WOLA, where fighting was very intense - during the early days of the Uprising, because of difficulties of reaching (or, sometimes, even a few-day delays in arrival to) the assembly areas. Basia’s and “Gustaw’s” assembly point was only a few houses away from her house, but Antoni Dobraczynski said that she was there on time! We do not know about her early activities, before her departure to the Old Town on August 7, 1944. Perhaps she was active in dr. Morwa’s temporary field hospital of the “Kiliński Battalion” in “Sady” on Ogrodowa street?

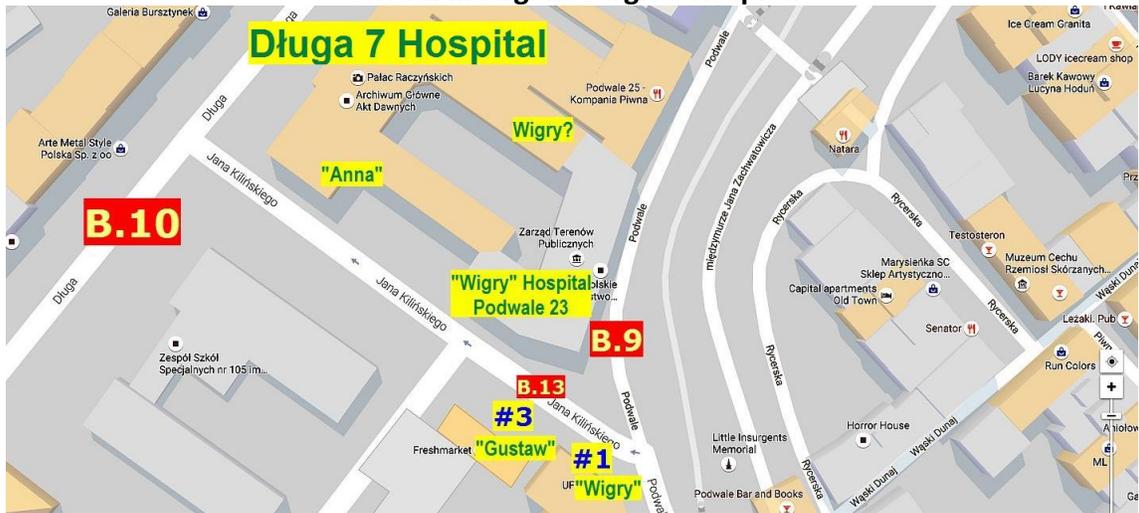
Vicinity of Ogrodowa # 23 just before the Uprising



Map – presumed route of Basia to the Old Town (via Maltański H. and Ghetto ruins)



Central Insurgent Surgical Hospital



SUMMARY – sources of information:

- 1/ “Basia”, “Baśka” W. – „NOW-AK "Gustaw", 4."Harcerska", platoon?, Kilińskiego #3
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/barbara-wajszczuk,47216.html>
- 2/ “Hel” - „NOW-AK "Gustaw", “Gertruda” → “Anna” company
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/antoni-dobraczynski,8216.html>
- 3/ „Ewa - Maria” – „NOW-AK „Gustaw”, „Harcerska” → 3rd platoon, Kilińskiego #3
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/ewa-orlikowska,32484.html>
- 4/ „Pająk” – „Wigry” – assignment: Assault Battalion → 2nd platoon, at Kilińskiego #1
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/barbara-piotrowska,34785.html>
- 5/ „Dr Morwa” - "Gustaw" – Field Hospital at ul. Kilińskiego #3
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/tadeusz-pogorski,35420.html>
- 6/ “Stefa”, Stefania Preder, “484”, - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/stefania-preder,36017.html>; <http://lekarzypowstania.pl/osoba/stefania-preder/> NEW (9/14/2016)
(Member of another group/patrol of scout nurses of “Gustaw” – at Kilińskiego #3?)
- 7/ Book pdf – Długa #7 Hospital – http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf

2/ Antoni Dobraczynski (“HEL”) – "Gustaw" battalion - "Gertruda", then → "Anna" company.
http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Antoni_Dobraczynski

Aug. 13, 1944 - About the “tank-trap” explosion - (...) A small tank was approaching... At that moment, **I was returning from a patrol** ...I did not get close to look at it .., I went to give a report. At the time of the explosion, I was in a gateway of our quarters at Kilińskiego 1/3, I fell down ... but nothing happened to me. (...) (After the explosion), my “Gertruda” Company did not exist anymore. I was moved to the “Anna” Company.

There were many wounded in the “Harcerska” Company: **Hanka Wagner** from „Anna”, with multiple shrapnel wounds (...), **Barbara Wajszczuk** with severe burns, **Irena and Halina Gąsiorowska /Ester and Haja Borenstein/**, and **Ala Dybczyńska**, who fell down from **the 3rd floor balcony** of the front building at Kilińskiego #1/3, she suffered only a few contusions, but died in September in Śródmieście, and many others. (...)

Aug. 26, 1944 – About the aerial bombardment - Bombs hit the front building of the house at Kilińskiego 1/3, which was full of the wounded.

When I returned this day to Kilińskiego Street (*from a trip to get supplies at PWPW*), I found only a huge pile of debris from the destroyed house. The attempts to recover the buried were not successful. Sometime later, I was shown the entrance to a staircase in the annex building, through which one could try to squeeze through to the rooms where our wounded were located. Only one of them showed any signs of life, and after prolonged efforts, we were able to pull her out from the piles of rubble. It was **Irena Gąsiorowska /Ester Borenstein/**. During the collapse of the house many died under rubble, of the wounded as well as of the medical personnel. From my family remained under the rubble: **Barbara Wajszczuk** and **Dr. Jerzy Wiszniewski**, who was a superintendent of the hospital and his pseudonym was Lt. Poleski. Also died – a nurse **Halina Gąsiorowska /Haja Borenstein/**, who together with her sister were hiding for several months in the house of the **Archikonfraternia Literacka**. (...)

(We read somewhere, but according to Antoni Dobraczynski – **“Nobody was hiding in the Fraternity Chapel at the St. John Cathedral – it was a site of heavy and prolonged fighting.”**)

3/ „Ewa - Maria” – „Służba Sanitarna Powstania”, NOW-AK “Gustaw” battalion, assigned → 3rd platoon – organizer and patrol leader of the First Aid Patrol of the „Harcerska” Company (ca. 140 soldiers), - Ewa Orlikowska-Krasnowolska - http://ahm.1944.pl/Ewa_Orlikowska-Krasnowolska
Grad. 1939 - Cecylia Plater-Zyberk HS, Warsaw, ul. Piękna 24, („Womens’ Military Readiness” training at HS)

- 1.VIII. – assembly point at Senatorska #36 (trapped by fighting at Niecała/Alberta #2)
 - 3.VIII. – arriving at Senatorska #28/30 → Old Town, Długa #7 (Med. Services HQ) (7 nurses), assigned to the 104 Syndicalist Comp., → Stawki #4 magazines, back → Świętojska #10
 - 5.VIII. - → original unit at “SADY” field hosp. (Cpt. “Gustaw” there, wounded on 3.VIII. at St. Zofia hosp./German barracks; Rheinfarth/Dirlewanger attack started, begin WOLA “Massacre”
 - 6.VIII. – Dirlewanger Brig. → Młynarska → Kercelak” → Chłodna → Elektoralna, direction of Żelazna Brama
 - 7.VIII. – Dirlewanger “clearing” Chłodna, Ogrodowa, Mirowski Square and Halls and Żelazna Brama Square, people running away
Emerg. Evac. of SADY hosp. (via Elektoralna) → Maltański hosp. → **arriving at Kilińskiego #3**, they found their original unit, remain there until the end
 - 10.VIII. - new “Gustaw” battalion hospital was created by Dr. “Morwa” at the “Sakramentki” convent, (*he brought with him ~10 nurses*) – they were with him since Aug.1 at SADY and at the Maltański Hosp. – (*was Basia one of them?*)
 - 11.VIII – “Sakramentki” church and convent (hospital) bombed, evacuated at night (August 11/12) → Kilińskiego #3
- 13.VIII** – (“Tank-trap” explosion, in PM); in AM → to the barricades (day and night, on Podwale, at the Castle Square) with the 3rd platoon
1. “Iza” - Ewa Marszałek-Bennet,
 2. „Anka”- Anka Szatkowska, and
 3. “Ewa-Maria” - Ewa Orlikowska-Krasnowolska
→ stayed at the quarters → they run, to see the tank and got wounded - Jewish sisters
 - 4/ Fajga[Haja]”/”Halina” (16 - and 19 - y.o.), - (both - tired after the night evacuation.)
 - 5/ Eстера”/”Irena”, Borenstein/Gąsiorowska – (both → leg wounds),
 - 6/ ”Janka”, “Jasia” Przemieniecka - (heart problems), → (severe leg wounds, 13. VIII., +26.VIII)
 - 7/ “Oleńka”, „Teresa mężatka”, Aleksandra Kossowska-Rowińska, (stayed inside with the wounded)
 - 8/ „Kozaczek”, Halina Śliwińska, Leader of the First Aid Patrol Group. “Her wounds were most severe, we found her after two days!”
 - 9/ **“Baśka” W.?** (not listed directly, see below: **“she was NOT from her group!”**)!
- (# 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9? – were wounded in the explosion)
10/ „Janka”, Janina Pawłowska, (wounded x 3, → evac. with civilians)

A. Nurses quarters – Kilińskiego #3 (EWA’s patrol, “Gustaw” - ground floor?)

B. Hospital - at Kilińskiego #3 – cellars (O.R. and wound dressing rooms), ground floor (kitchen and the wounded rooms, also in the Annex(es)? – in other small rooms, also in cellars at Kilińskiego #5.

Wounded nurses (5) were there (in the hospital) **until Aug. 26, on the ground floor, in the inside N-W corner of the main front building: Janka Przemieniecka, Irka [G], Hala [G], "our "Basia W." and Kozaczek; "Oleńka" and "Srocza" were taking care of them.**

C. "Anna" Company quarters (part of it) were on the first floor (above the ground)

=====

24.VIII. –artillery shelling - Andrzej Sarnecki, "Anna"s commander was killed there. (...“the nurses run up!” ...). Also killed there was “Siostra Lidia” (Sister Lidia - the Jewish [?] medic from Cracow).

(Note – it seems that “EWA” is sometimes confusing events from explosion and from bombing?)

26.VIII. – bombardment (2 bombs penetrated to the cellars and exploded – in the N-W inside corner of the building) – all 5 wounded nurses were buried under the rubble. (“Srocza” was taking care of them). Only one could be recovered (*Irena Gąsiorowska /Estera Borenstein/*) after 4 hours of digging. “Great many civilians were also killed in the cellars! Also some were killed upstairs”.

EWA - “And, also - one more died from the “Harcerska”, **but not from my group**, one more of the girls” – probably referring to **“BASIA W?”**

At the barricade were at that time: “EWA-Maria”, “IZA” and “ANKA” (Anka Szatkowska - daughter of Zofia Kossak (from “Żegota”), Zofia was earlier jailed in Pawiak and Auschwitz, but was released (through the effort of the Underground) and she also participated in the Uprising)

Only three persons, out of a total of eight, (who became buried in several locations, on different floors or in the wounded room) could be pulled out from under the rubble.

Recognized voices, heard initially from under the rubble – were those of **“Janka”** (*Przemieniecka*) and of Janusz Grajek, pseudonim „Wiesiołowski”.

(Also, supposedly - BASIA’S VOICE WAS HEARD ... ONLY ONCE? - BY WHOM???)

Left behind in the Old Town on Sept. 2, 1944 were – 1. “Irka” and 2. “Kozaczek” (Hala Sliwińska)

Exhumed April 45–“Oleńka” (healthy) probably died from a shrapnel in the head.

“Janka” (#6 above)

“Srocza” (healthy) – strand of unburned hair between two bricks

“Basia” W. (wounded) – identified by dental fillings

“Irka”, recovered after bombing, shot later by the Germans, Sept.2, 1944

“Thanks to the reports of the eyewitnesses, particularly of **Cpt. Władysław Sroczyński** from the Motorized Unit **“Młot”**, who was observing this whole event from the first floor balcony at the corner of Kilińskiego and Długa Streets, we can accurately recreate the situation at that time.” (See his sketch of the explosion and evacuation site) **WJW Note:** *His sketch, based on the observations from a more remote site, shows the “tank” location and explosion in front of the building #1, but the eyewitnesses from Kilińskiego #1 stated that “the tank” passed under their balcony and stopped in front of the next building”, which would be Kilińskiego #3. (It agrees with the severity of injuries at both locations!).*

Anex – p.89: Medical personnel, hospital at Kilińskiego #3

Personel Medyczny – szpital na ul. Kilińskiego 3 - http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf
(Oddział szpitala na ul. Długiej #7) – **korekty.27.X.2019**

(8/22 - nadany Krzyż Walecznych Ekspł. **13.VIII.** Pocisk **24.VIII.** Bomby **26.VIII.** Zginęli

Medycza / Medical Student:

Puchalska Lidia, „Lidia”, **(KW)** - **(+)**.

Pielegniarki / "hospital nurses":

1. Burakiewicz Anna, „Biba”, „Balbina” **(KW)**
2. Rachwald Maria, „Renata”, „Renia”
3. „Zofia” (NN)

Sanitariuszki : „combat nurses”:

1. Ciepieniak Jadwiga, „Iga”
2. Dybczyńska Alicja, „Ala”, **13.VIII.** → Mokotowska 46) → **17.IX.1944**
3. Gracz-Koszycka Marianna, „Burza” **(KW)**
4. Kaliwoda Jadwiga, „Japonka”
5. Kozerska Julia ps. „Jula”, **(KW)** (rana -13 IX, ul. Hoża, zmarła z ran w szpitalu „Sano” **2 X 1944**)
6. Kuszell Barbara ps. „Basia” **(KW)**
7. Kwiatkowska Irena, „Joanna”, **13 VIII.** (ciężko) – **PRZEŻYŁA - 2 IX 1944** – szpital, ul. Długa #7
8. Mieczkowska Krystyna, „87”, „Krystyna” **(KW)**
9. Pawłowska Janina, „870”, „Janka”, **(KW)** - **13 VIII.**, ranna 3-krotnie.
10. Piasecka Krystyna, „856”, „Krysta” **(KW)**
11. Polińska EISbieta, „Płomień”
12. Psarska Maria, „Mariola”
13. Rey Helena, „15”, „Jabłońska”
14. Rosochowicz Maria ps. „193”, „Basia”
15. **Rutkowska Aleksandra ps. „Ola”, „Teresa-mężatka”,** **26 VIII** **26.VIII**
vel Rostkowska-Kossowska
16. Sadkowska-Anna, „Hanka”, „Sosnowska”
17. Sękowska Danuta ps. „314”, „Danka”, pozostała na Starym Mieście - **1.IX.1944**
18. Siedlanowska Wanda ps. „244”, „Wanda”
19. **Soroczyńska Halina „Srocza”** **26 VIII**
20. Wnuk Alina ps. „Alina” **(KW)**
21. Zak Irmina, „Ognik”, **13 VIII** (ciężko ranna) → **Dulag 121**

Raport Dr. „Morwy” – kopia potwierdzona - **15.V.45**

„Personel medyczny – zgineli na Starym Mieście” – szpital na Kilińskiego #3

- (15) „Teresa” sanitariuszka, szpital polowy Bat. „Gustaw” w (pokoju z rannymi) **27(?),VIII.** nie odkopano.
(19) „Sroka”, Soroczyńska – jak powyżej, (w pokoju z rannymi) **27(?),VIII.** nie odkopano.
(9) „Janka” Przemieniecka - jak powyżej, (w pokoju z rannymi) **13 VIII** **27(?),VIII.** nie odkopano.
„Baśka W.” sanitariuszka, szpital polowy Bat. „Gustaw” **13 VIII** **27(?),VIII.** nie odkopano.
„Hala” - sanitariuszka, szpital polowy Bat. „Gustaw” **13 VIII** **27(?),VIII.** nie odkopano.
„Kozak” - sanitariuszka, szpital polowy Bat. „Gustaw” **13 VIII*** -pozost. na Stary Mieście - **1.IX.**
„Irka” - sanitariuszka, szpital polowy Bat. „Gustaw” **13 VIII** 27(?),VIII****, **wydobyta - 1.IX**

- Ciężko ranna z amputacją, złamaniami i licznymi ranami. Na Kilińskiego #3.
- ** Ciężkie rany z fragmentami kości; zasypana, odkopana po ~4 godzinach.

Lt. „Poleski”, administrator szpitala Kil. #3, **13 VIII**, wyzdrowiał → **27(?),VIII.**, nie odnaleziony

Andrzej Augustyński i żona, kwatermistrz bat.-13 VIII, przy bramie do Kil #3 - **nie odnalezieni**

(KW) - Cross of Valor; **Expl.**- tank explosion; **Pocisk** – art. Shell; **Bomby** – bombs; Zgineli – perished
Nie odkopano – not recovered; **Nie odnaleziono** – could not be found; **1.IX** – wounded, left in OT

Basia – events at Kilińskiego #1 & #3 – wounded in the “tank-trap” explosion

(14.IX.2016/3.X.2019/27.X.2019)

← -- **Explosion** – 13.VIII.1944 (nurses listed as wounded) -- → // ← ----- DIED ----- →

<u>Długa #7, list of nurses at hosp.</u> <u>wounded</u>	Dr. “Morwa” list ⁽¹⁾ (s – street; b-balcony, w – window) <u>died</u>	(bombing – 26.VIII.1944)	Kilińskiego #3 „EWA-Maria” list („Harcerska”, 2 nd platoon) (s – street; b-balcony)	//	Kilińskiego #1 „Pająk” list „Wigry”. 3 rd platoon (s – street; b-balcony)
“Ala” (Dybczyńska Alicja) (b3-3f) → fell to the ground, bruising only!	→ Mokotowska 46, 17.IX.1944		“Harcerska”	-	-
“Joanna” (Kwiatkowska Irena) (severe) → hosp	→ Długa 7, 2.IX.1944*				
“Hanka” (Sadkowska Anna), indoor, tempor. stunned	→ Kil. #3 [C] OK				
“Janka” (Gruszczyńska Janina),	→ Kil. #1 OK (27.VIII.1944)		(date “27” given by “Dr Morwa”-		
“Ognik” (Żak Irmina) (severe, lost Rt eye → hosp. p/”Krzy.Lat.”	→ Kil. #3 OK		probably error → ref. to the bombing		
(Aleksandra Kossowska-Rowińska) “Teresa” „Ola”	→ Kil. #3 [C]** 27.VIII.1944		of the Hospital at Długa #7?		
(Halina Soroczyńska) “Srocza”	→ Kil. #3 [C]** 27.VIII.1944				
(Barbara Wajszczukówna) “Baśka” W; (s) ← barr.?	→ Kil. #3 27.VIII.1944		(+) – „another girl”?		
(Halina Gąsiorowska) „Hala” (s) → Kil. #3	27.VIII.1944		(+) – also listed		
(Irena Gąsiorowska) „Irka” („Irena”?) (s) → Kil. #3 (recov.)***	2.IX.1944*		(+) – also listed		
Dr. „Morwa” – book ⁽¹⁾ - (several people on the balcony – all gone, balcony totally blown off!)					
(Wanda Bagniewska) „Wanda” (b3-1f) ← stepped back – OK (survived) → Londyn					
(Henryka Wieczorek) „Heniuta” (b3-1f) → fell to the ground, broken pelvis (survived) - (+2003 – USA)					
(Barbara Miszewska) „Basia”, „Lidka” (w3-2f), looking out & stepped back in the room – OK (+2004 – Warszawa)					
(Henryka Brzeska) „Henia”, (w3-2f), stepped to the window – “disappeared”, (“only a strand of blond hair was left”)					
(Janka Przemieniecka) „Janka” (s), „Jasia” +26.VIII.1944					
(Halina Śliwińska, Chief patrol leader) „Kozaczek” (s) (v.severe) *					
(Aleksandra Kossowska-Rowińska – „Oleńka”) „Ola”, „Teresa”, [C]**, +26.VIII.1944					
(Ewa Marszałek-Bennet) „Iza” (Barr.)****					
(Anna Szatkowska) „Anka” (Barr.)**** → Londyn					
(Ewa Orlikowska-Krasnowolska) „Ewa-Maria” (Barr.)****					
(Barbara Gancarczyk-Piotrowska) „Pająk” (b) – stunned [a]					
(Janina Gruszczyńska-Jasiak) „Janka” (b) – wounded					
(Maria Sielużycka-Czermińska) „Isia” (b) – wounded 8.26?					
(Hanna Kłopotowska-Pawłowska) „Szpak” (b?) – wounded?					
(Aleksandra Petrażycka) „Ola-Ola” (b) – wounded [a]					

*- left in the Old Town (severe wounds) on Sept. 2; ⁽¹⁾ Dr. Morwa” - http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf

** [C] taking care of the wounded; --- - body wounds and lacerations; --- - severe leg wounds

*** (recov.) found under the rubble after hospital bombing on August 26 (probably an error in “Dr. Morwa” reports – date given as August 27?)

**** (Barr.) ill platoon at the barricades at the time of explosion; [a] only balustrade of the balcony blown-off - stunned, knocked down by a “flying”

human torso, outer clothes mostly blown off.

s – in the street during explosion; b – on the balcony during explosion; w – in the window; b-1= Kil. #1 (1-f, 2-f or 3-f floor); b-3- Kil. #3

NOTE: At Kilińskiego #3 – the whole (concrete?) balcony(nies) was/were blown off and people standing on it – “disappeared” (never found)! Multiple, severe lacerations (with imbedded bone fragments) and torn off extremities occurred in people standing closer to the explosion, but predominantly leg injuries – in people standing further away? Basia had mostly burns(?) – (sitting on somebody’s shoulders)?

Some, on the 1st and 2nd? floor balconies, 2nd floor windows “disappeared”, girl on the 3rd floor balcony fell to the ground, was only bruised!

At Kilińskiego #1 – only the (concrete) balustrades were blown-off and some people fell to the ground, injuries were less severe; some were knocked down by the “flying” human torsos, stunned, but had no injuries.

Hospital at Długa #7 was staffed predominantly by nurses from “Wigry”, but volunteers from the Old Town, and “sanitariuszki” from Dr. “Morwa’s” team, and sanitariuszki from “Wigry” and “Gustaw” were occasionally helping them out.

Dr “Morwa” arrived at the Old Town on Aug.7 and brought with him a team of ~10 (combat) nurses, part of them went to the hospital, the other remained as “sanitariuszki” and were going in patrols to the barricades (occasionally also helping in the hospitals)
Dr. “Morwa” was commanding medical services at all locations listed here (except at Długa #7)

“Wigry” had small hospital at Kilińskiego #1 and across the street at Podwale #23? (corner of Kilińskiego street)

“Wigry” also had teams of sanitariuszki, who were going with soldiers to the barricades

“Gustaw” hospital was located at Kilińskiego #3 (and cellar rooms at #5), staffed by their “sanitariuszki” and nurses.

“Gustaw” also had their teams of sanitariuszki going to the barricades (how many?).

Barbara Wajszczuk(ówna) – “Basia”, “Baśka”

Although, thus far, we could not find any documents, a review of many available records is suggestive that she was a member of a team of “sanitariuszki”, who came to the Old Town with Dr. Morwa”. Also, so far, we could not establish, where was her initial assembly point and what were her activities before arriving to the Old Town, to Kilińskiego #3.

She was probably, from the beginning, a member of a team of sanitariuszki at the “Gustaw” battalion, as listed above by Dr. “Morwa” in his official “Report of losses in the Old Town” and in the book ⁽¹⁾ We could not find any mention of her name in the published stories, as recalled by other nurses, probably, because ... her time period of activity in the Old Town, before injury and hospitalization, was very short and other members of her team, either did not survive or did not return to Poland from the prisoner camps after the war.

She is only mentioned by her cousins, who found her and visited her, while in the hospital at Kilińskiego #3 (Antoni Dobraczyński “Hel” and Jerzy Wiszniewski, “Poleski”). She is included in the records of the Museum of the Warsaw Uprising and in official publications and Encyclopedias of the Uprising.

OTHER Combat nurses (sanitariuszki) - recollections

4/ Sanitariuszka „Pająk” – „Wigry” – Assault Battalion., assignment - 2 platoon, (15/9/2016)
at Kilińskiego #1 - **Barbara Gancarczyk-Piotrowska** [http://www.sppw1944.org/index.html?](http://www.sppw1944.org/index.html?http://www.sppw1944.org/relacje/relacja43.html)
<http://www.sppw1944.org/relacje/relacja43.html>

- 1.VIII. – assembly at Kilińskiego #1 (some girls at Kanonia, boys – at diff. locations)
- 2.VIII. – with „Janka” & „Isia”- sent home?, went → Em. Dress. Sta., Marianska #11
- 3.VIII. – („Isia”) → Plac Grzybowski, (with „Janka”) → ZUS hosp., Mariańska #1
- 4.VIII. – (I, J. and P.) – at ZUS hospital
- 5.VIII. – at ZUS hosp.
- 6.VIII. – at ZUS hosp. → Śródmieście? → Barricades? Unable to get there!
- 7.VIII. – (I. & P.) → Kilińskiego #1; (J.) → Maltański Hosp.
- 8.VIII. – with 2nd Platoon of the Assault Battalion → Stawki
- 9-11.VIII. – 2 pl., Assault Comp. + (I., J., P.) → ul Barokowa – Uprising Headquarters
- 12.VIII – severe bombardment at Barokowa HQ. → Długa #7; nurses → Kilińskiego #1, 2nd platoon of “Wigry” → defense of Cathedral (with their nurses)

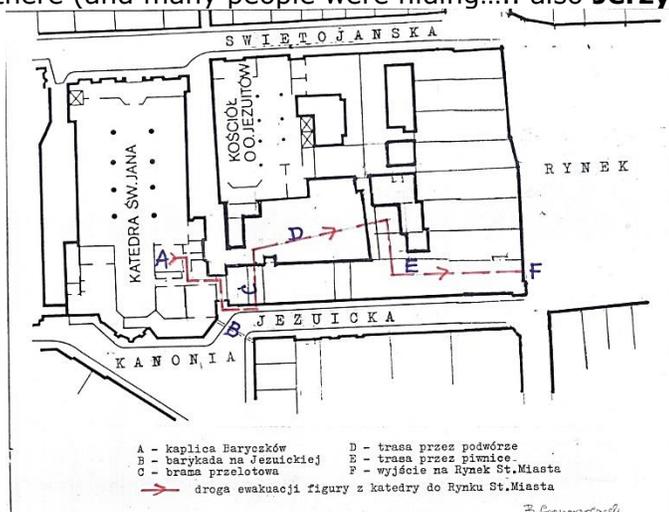
13 August – tank explosion: “we are in our quarters on 1st fl., at Kilińskiego #1. (...) They are turning into Kilińskiego in the direction of Długa.(...) **they are under our balcony** (...) **stopped by the next house-(#3)**. I can see everything well!”

...-> balcony (1st fl. – “we are on the balcony, crowded, I am the closest ..”, next to “Janka”, **EXPLOSION!**, I cannot breathe, unconscious- sec./min.?, **concrete balustrade... blown-off**”, unharmed, bloody, skirt shredded, on a human pile, a torso on the balcony, **inside** – blown out windows and doors with frames, intestines hanging from the indoor clothes lines.

Wounded – “Isia” (Maria Sielużycka-Czermińska) and “Szpak” (Hanna Kłopotowska-Pawlowska). **Cannot find** “Janka” (Janina Gruszczyńska-Jasiak) and “Ola-Ola” (Aleksandra Petrażycka).

Bodies are buried at Kilińskiego #1 backyard). At night Allied plane fell on Miodowa Street.

16.VIII – helping a priest at the Cathedral to save the Cross, with “Teresa” (Teresa Potulicka-Łatyńska) – Cross hidden in the Dominican church on Freta #10 (Sw. Jacka) – there was also a hospital there (and many people were hiding.... also **Jerzy Wiszniewski family?**).



Evacuation of the Cathedral

Aug. 16, 24-25 – with “Teresa” (Teresa Potulicka-Łatyńska) **Cathedral** or **Jezuicka** barricade

Aug. 18-19 – with “Basia Wasilewska” (Barbara Kopeczek) at the Cathedral → Długa #7 hosp.
“Pająk” - new quarters with “Basia” at Długa #7

Aug. 20 – with “Basia Wasilewska” – night duty at Długa #7 (see - description of the events)

Aug. 22 – with “Justyna” (Helena Suryn) i “Ewa” (Ewa Dziewulska-Siemińska) – transporting the wounded from **Jezuicka** to Długa #7 hospital.

Aug. 23 - severe bombardments.

Aug. 24-25 – with “Teresa” at **Jezuicka** barricade, with wounded → Długa #7 (no mention about bombing at Kilińskiego)

26.VIII. – sent for supplies to a pharmacy on Miodowa #3. In the evening, a Mass in cellars at Długa #7. (no mention about bombing at Kilińskiego!).

27.VIII – duty in pharmacy, – sent to Kanonia.

28.VIII. – surrender of the Cathedral.

2-3.IX. - with “**Janka**” helping in the evacuation of the wounded and personnel from the Old Town, but both **decided to stay there** - in spite of the orders to evacuate - with the severely wounded, at **Kilinskiego #1**, helping them to change, and dressing themselves in civilian clothing. Later, they moved the wounded from Kilińskiego #1 (“**Wigry**”) and Kilińskiego #3 (“**Gustaw**”) to the hospital at Długa #7. (They were lucky to avoid death [being shot] and left with the civilians for Pruszków camp).

Sept. 2 – with “**Janka**” helping with evacuation of the wounded from Kiliskiego #1 and #3;

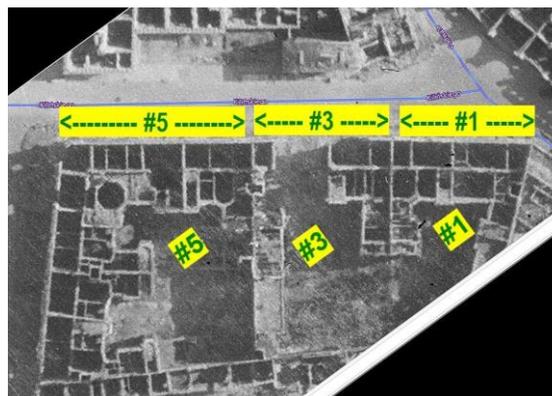
“**Pająk**” and “**Janka**” decided to stay in the Old Town with the severely wounded, in spite of the orders to evacuate! ... **They survived!**



Galeria Luxenburg, Senatorska/Niecała; Kilińskiego to Długa; Pasaż Simmonska, Nalewki/Długa



Ul. Kilińskiego: 1944 – przed Powstaniem



1944/1945?

5/ „Dr Morwa” – Tadeusz Pogórski

Insurgent Hospitals: „SĄDY → Maltański → Convent → Kilińskiego #3 → Śródmieście

Dr. “Morwa” prepared his official report “Summary of losses while in the Old Town”:
Cit, - „Długa #7” - http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf

http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Tadeusz_Pogorski

„On August 12, burned down the temporary hospital initiated by the Holy Sacrament („Sakramentki”) Nuns in their convent at the Town Square of the New Town. In this hospital was active from August 7, Dr, “Morwa (Tadeusz Pogórski. Because the burning convent building was no longer suitable for a hospital, he decided to move his institution to 1/3, Kiliński Street, in the vicinity of the quarters of the “Gustaw” Battalion, from which were coming the majority of his nurses. So, at night of August 12 and in the morning of the next day, a new battalion hospital was organized, which was designated as an auxiliary of the Central Surgical Hospital (located at Długa #7). Anyway,

Odpis

Bilans strat

1. ś.p. ppor. cand. med. Dar - bat. Kilińskiego, zgrupowanie A - zginął od bomby lotn. w 1 pokojowiu września przy ul. Marszałkowskiej 129 po przejściu ze Starego Miasta.
2. ś.p. por. Poleski, intendent szpitala polowego bat. 6 "Gustaw", zgrup. "Róg" ranny 13.VIII. od w. buch. czołgu niemieckiego, załadowanego trotylem. Zabity od bomby lotn. 27.VIII. w bramie domu Kilińskiego 3. Zwiłki jego łączy prawdopodobnie pod gruzami tego domu ewnt. pochowane na podwórzu.
3. ś.p. Andrzej Augustyński, kwatermistrz batalionu i szpitala / zam. Ogrodowa 44, Pierownik Tartaku przy ul. Ntucewiczów / i żona jego Janina /?/ oboje zginęli 13.VIII. przed bramą domu Kilińskiego 3 od wybuchu czołgu. Żadnego śladu po nich nie znaleźliśmy.
4. ś.p. Lidia Puchalska, cand. med. - Szpital w Sądach przy ul. Ogrodowej, szpital polowy zgrup. "Róg" u Sakramentek i Kilińskiego 3 /pochodząca z Krakowa./ Matka mieszkała na Krakowskim Przedm. przy Trębackiej /Zginęła od pocisku artyl. najcięższego kalibru w dniu 23.VIII. na terenie szpitala Kilińskiego 3. Pochowana na podwórzu tego domu przez ojca Tomasza R. i zespół personelu szpitala.
5. ś.p. "Jula", sanitariuszka szpitala polowego zgrup. "Róg" oraz szpit. wojkowego Hoża 8, zmarła od odłamka bomby lotn. w szpitalu Sano. VII Rannona na terenie szpit. pol. Hoża 8. Pochowana przez ojca i narzeczonego.
6. ś.p. "Teresa", sanit. szpit. pol. zgrup. "Róg". Zasypana gruzami domu Kilińskiego 3 wraz z salą chorych w dniu 27.VIII. Nie odgrzebano. / zwały gruzu na wys. 2-go piętra. /
7. ś.p. Sroczyńska "Sroka" - harcerka 15 lat, sanit. szpit. polowego zgrup. "Róg". Zginęła razem z poprzednią.
8. ś.p. "Baśka", sanit. bat. "Gustaw". Zginęła w warunkach jak wyżej. nie odgrzebano.
9. ś.p. "Janka" jak wyżej.
10. ś.p. "Hala" jak wyżej
11. ś.p. Władysław Kozera, harcerz, nauczyciel, sanit. szpitala Kilińskiego 3 i Hoża 8. Zginął od pocisku artyl. w czasie służby na ul. Koszykowej 45. Pochowany na podwórzu domu Sniadeckich 8. Data śmierci 17.IX. zegarek i dokumenty oddano szefowi komp. harcerskiej bat. "Gustaw".
12. "Kozak" - sanitariuszka bat. "Gustaw" - ranna 13.VIII. od wybuchu czołgu na ul. Kilińskiego 3.
 - 1 - oderwanie i amputacja lewego uda
 - 2 - otwarte złamanie prawego podudzia
 - 3 - bardzo ciężkie rany szarpane całego ciała z odłamkami metalu i kości ludzkich
 - 4 - ciężce i zapalenie płuc
 Jako nie m. dająca się do transportu po przejściu zapalenia płuc i w stadium rezolucji ciężca / forsowne leczenie surowicą dołędźwiową, pozostawiona 1.IX. pod opieką lekarzy cywilnych w szpitalu Kilińsk. 3. Dalszy los nieznan.
13. "Irka" - sanit. bat. "Gustaw", 13.VIII rany szarpane całego ciała odniesione wraz z "Kozakiem". Zasypana gruzem w dniu 27.VIII. wraz z salą chorych. Odkopana po Wilkunastu godzinach. W stanie b. ciężkim zostawiona wraz z poprzedniczką na Starym Mieście. Dalszy los nieznan.

Za zgodność:

Rej. 15.V.45 d. W.
Rej. 21.6.45 (M.M.)

/-/ dr. Tadeusz Morwa ppor. lekarz

kier. Szpit. 21.6.45 (M.M.)

Dokument 9. „Bilans strat”. Fragment raportu dr. Tadeusza Pogórskiego „Morwy” o ofiarach walk na Starym Mieście

The “sanitariuszki” (combat nurses) from “Gustaw” were occasionally aiding (and relieving) their colleagues from “Wigry” and the “Jan Boży” hospitals in their duties at Długa #7.

About Długa #7: <http://lekarzpowstania.pl/osoba/tadeusz-pogorski-ps-morwa/> “The sick (hospital ward) nurses and (combat) nurses (Sanitariuszki) were supplemented by mobilizing five (underground

resistance) messengers (liaisons)-combat nurses of the battalion: **Janka, Krysta, Krystyna, Basia** and **Julia** and girl-scouts: **Mariola, Oleńka, Sroka** (Hala Soroczyńska), **Danuta** and **Teresa** (Aleksandra Kosowska). But soon, those also were getting ill."

„But all of them, even when totally exhausted, fulfilled until the end their duties, dying at their post, as true soldiers”, On August 20, dies at her post from the artillery shell explosion a medic (medical student) **Lidia Puchalska**. On August 26, from the aerial bomb explosion died, together with the six wounded, **Sroka** and **Teresa** as well as **Lt. Poleski**, the hospital administrator.

Light wounds, from the explosion of the enemy „tank-trap” loaded with trotyl (TNT), were also suffered by five combat nurses

“Med. Personnel – died in the Old Town” – at the hospital at Kilińskiego #3

(15) “Teresa” - field hosp. “combat nurse” “Gustaw” Bat. (in the ward with patients) 27(?).VIII. - not recov.

(19) “Sroka” - Soroczynska – as above and see above (in the ward with patients) 27(?).VIII. - not recov.

(9) “Janka” Przemieniecka - as above and see above 13 VIII? 27(?).VIII. - not recov.

“Baśka W.” - “combat nurse”, field hosp. of “Gustaw” Bat 13 VIII 27(?).VIII. - not recov.

“Hala” - “combat nurse”, field hosp. of “Gustaw” Bat. 13 VIII 27(?).VIII. - not recov

“Kozak” - “combat nurse”, field hosp. of “Gustaw” Bat. 13 VIII*- **left in Old Town – shot 1.IX.**

“Irka” - “combat nurse”, field hosp. of “Gustaw” Bat. 13 VIII** 27(?).VIII**, **recov.! – shot 1.IX.1944**

- **Severe with amputation, fractures and multiple wounds; at Kilinskiego #3**

- ** **Severe lacerations with bone fragments; buried, but recovered after ~4 hours**

Lt. “Poleski”, Kil. #3, hosp. administrator, 13 VIII, recovered → 27(?).VIII., - not found?

Andrzej Augustyński & wife, batt. quartermaster, 13 VIII, at the entrance to Kil #3 – **not found!**

6/ (NEW) Stefania Preder - <http://lekarzpowstania.pl/osoba/stefania-preder/> - see membership in the platoons

(9/14/2016) **Stefania Preder**, “484”, “Stefa” - <http://lekarzpowstania.pl/osoba/stefania-preder/>

Member of another group/patrol of scout nurses of “Gustaw” – at Kilińskiego #3

End of July - Krysty (Piasecka), medical instructor– organizing a group of nurses

1. **Stefania Preder**, “Stefa”

2. **Oleńka** (Sulikowska Aleksandra, “Ewa”. “386”) – **patrol leader**,

<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/aleksandra-sulikowska,43083.html>

3. **Danka** (Sękowska) –

4. **Ola** (Jabłońska) -

5. **Rita** (Goetzen) -

6. **Janka** (Augustyńska) –

Aug.1 - assembly point, ul. Lwowska → Senatorska „Bursa”. “Harcerska company”.

Met Cpt „Gustaw”, evening → Ogródowa (their quarters for a few days at the Nuns’ School – going to the barricades with the boys)

7. **Basia (Miszevska)** joined them at Ogródowa

Aug. 6 → Starówka, **Kilińskiego # 3** (Quarters of Anna, Aniela and Gertruda companies + Harcerska (nurses and messengers) → barricades at Podwale near Castle Square, Senatorska

Aug. 7 **Ewa Orlikowska** and her group joined them, also “**Kozaczek**” (Halina Śliwińska), and later **another group** of girl scouts (nurses) → **BASIA W.?**

Aug. 10 – at night, **artillery shell** hit the (front?) wall on the 2nd floor - **Janusz Grajek** (Wiesiołowski) was wounded in both legs.

Aug 11 – with **Danka** → assigned to the hospital at the “**Sakramentki**” **Convent**. While there, they joined other nurses of “**Dr. Morwa**”, who were already there: “**Maryla**” (Maria Gracz), “**Biba**” (Anna Burakiewicz), „**Krysia**” (Krystyna Mieczkowska).

Aug.13 – in the room on 1st floor were: **Ola, Rita, Michał, Wojtek** and **Stefa** were sitting of the floor, the two wounded (Janusz and Janusz) - on the stretchers ... shouts were heard “captured tank”, “approaching our quarters and stopped”... “Healthy boys rushed to the windows”. ...lightning flash, deafening explosion, walls shook, shower of glass, wall plaster and bricks and complete darkness, dust made breathing difficult. After dust settled – **Ola**’s head was sticking out from under the torn-out door frame, she was unhurt, **Rita** with bloody face from shattered glass appeared from the adjoining room, with a low voice announced that two boys fell to the street from the window, **Michał** (Światopełk-Mirski) - perished, **Wojtek** – severely bruised. (...) The stretchers were empty – the wounded run away?

“Soon, several rooms were prepared at Kilińskiego #3, with mattresses and straw mattresses, wounded from our company were brought to our quarters. Among them were the scout-nurses (‘sanitariuszki’): **Janka** (Augustyńska), **Basia** (Miszewska), **Halinka** and her sister **Irka**. Some of the wounded (the nurses) were put in the rooms at the ground level and some in the cellars.

Bombardment a few days later caused one of the bombs to fall in the yard. “I was just crossing the yard, but managed to hide in a staircase – I was blown off the stairs.” The bomb fell close to the rooms in the annex and tore off a big part of the wall, all the way to the cellars. Luckily, nobody was hurt. Rubble covered windows of the ground level rooms. Somebody ordered to have **Janusz Grajek**, who was there, to be moved to a room together with the nurses, in the inside corner of the building, thought to be the safest location. Unfortunately, that was, where they all died on **August 26**. Under the rubble.

Aug. 16 or 17 – getting ready to go with Ola to her apartment at Świętojańska Street (in between the bombing raids) – suddenly a bomb fell next to the (front?) wall – part of it collapsed and covered entrance to the cellars with medical supplies. **Ola** was hurt in the leg by a falling door.

Aug. 26 – in the afternoon, “I went to the cellar to prepare some milk for **Janusz**. I was about ready to go upstairs, when I heard a loud explosion followed by darkness, dust made breathing difficult. I walked out blindly into the corridor and somebody grabbed my hand and said: ‘we are buried alive!’ (...) after a while I saw the outline of an open break in the wall. We reached slowly the stairs and walked out.”

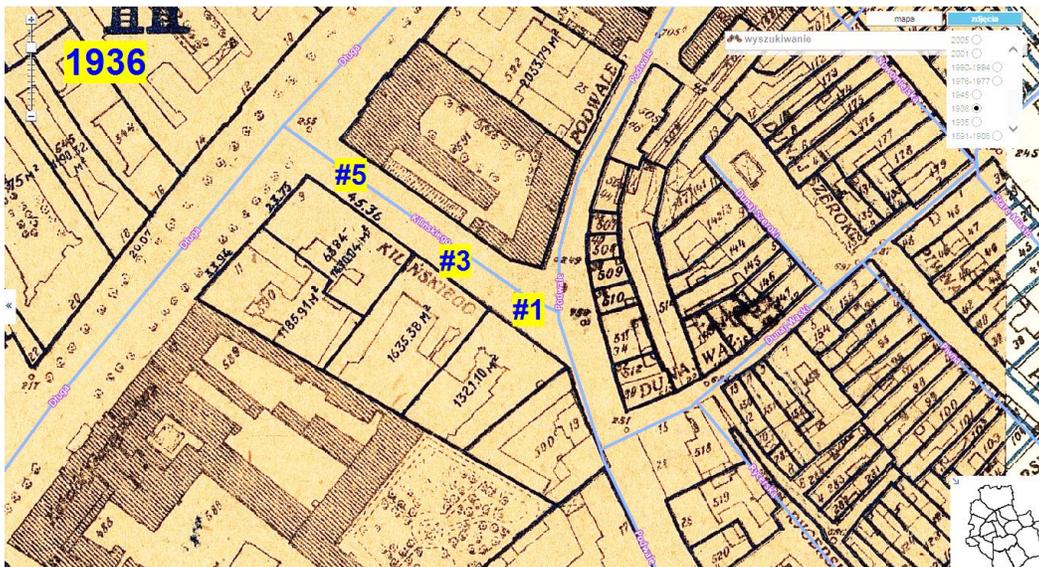
„The sight was terrible. High heaps of rubble replaced the building which stood there”

“A bomb dropped from a plane demolished a part of our 4-story building, all the way down, to the cellars. Many people were buried in the cellars. Also demolished was the room, where our girls and Janusz stayed. They all perished. One of the girls (“**Irka**”), who was closest to the entrance could be uncovered and she was pulled out with a great deal of difficulty. Moaning from under the rubble could be heard for a while. Attempts were made to dig down to reach them, but it was impossible to remove the 4-floor deep piles of rubble. Perished then and there the combat nurses (‘sanitariuszki’): **Basia** (**Wajszczukówna**), **Janka** (Przemieniecka), **Halinka - Srocza** (Halina Soroczyńska), **Teresa** (Aleksandra Kossowska), **Hala** Gąsiorowska and **Janusz Grajek** (Wiesiołowski) and a part of the 2nd platoon. Also there, under the rubble remained my “panterka” (camouflage print military jacket - http://www.info-pc.home.pl/whatfor/baza/tschjack_rozplamy_jesien.htm; <http://batalionparasol.pl/bron-i-mundury/> with all my documents and the Uprising I.D.”

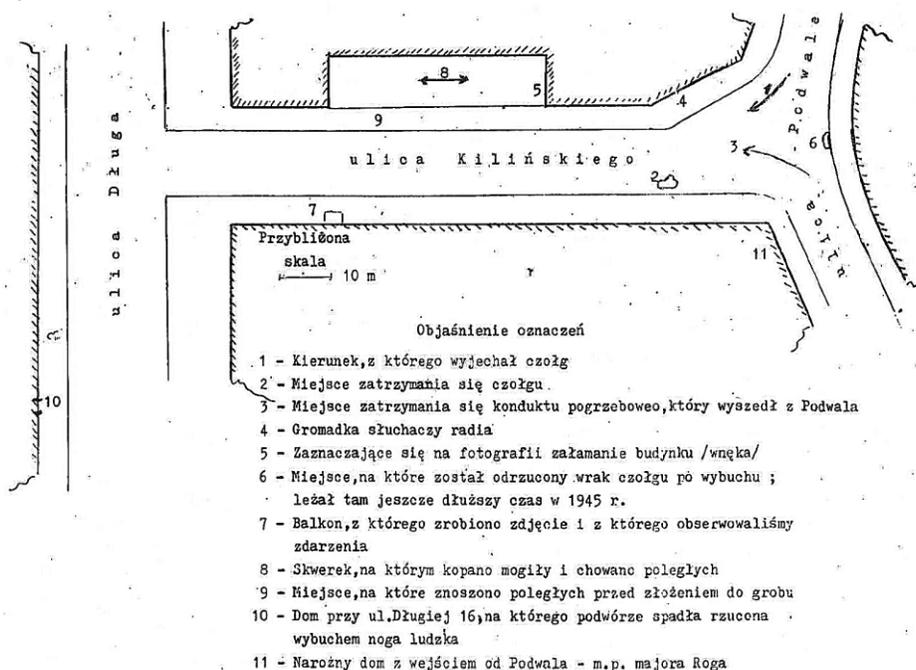
(They moved away from the Old Town together with the wounded. In the new location, on September 3, during severe shelling, she (**Stefania Preder**) was wounded in the head – recovered very slowly, but remained paralyzed and in an invalid chair, able only to use her right arm and hand, for the rest of her life. Died – September 8, 1998.). She was awarded: **Order of Polonia Restituta** and **Warsaw Rising Cross**.

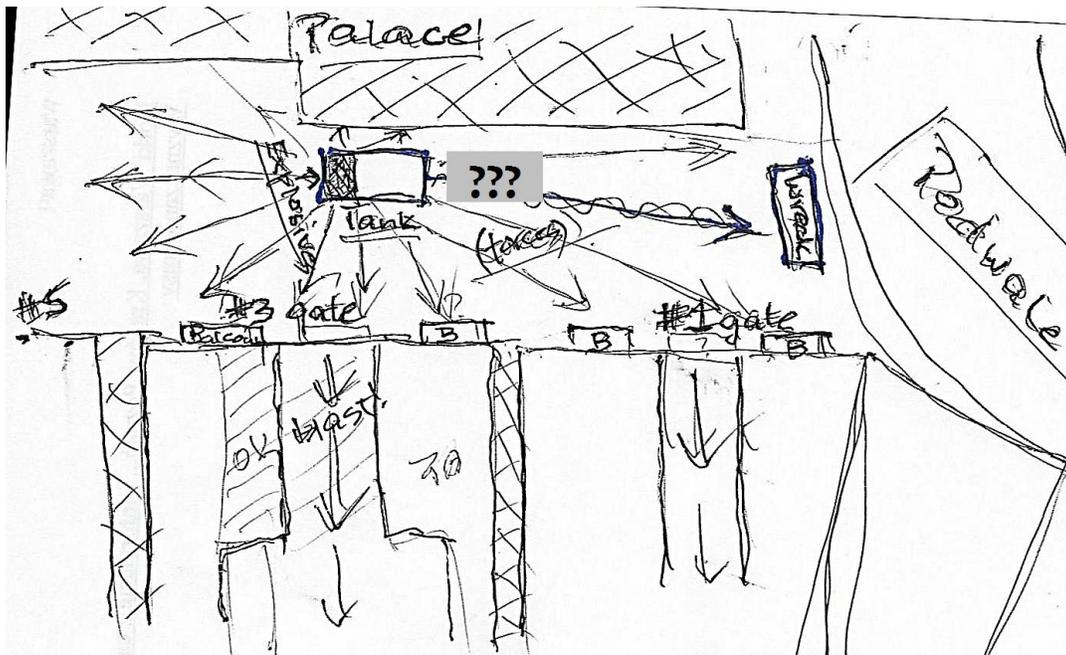
EXPLOSION AT KILIŃSKIEGO #1/3 - http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf

August 13, 1944 → Basia is wounded in the explosion of the „tank-trap”, which was captured by the Insurgents and brought into the vicinity of their headquarters. We do not know details, how did she found herself outside in the cheering crowd. Was she inside the building in her room resting or was she outside arriving from somewhere? She must have been, though, at some distance - several dozen meters from the site of explosion, since her injuries were rather minor, comparing with others, who were very close and“disappeared”, were killed or suffered very severe injuries. She was reported to have been seen running back, disoriented, into the building, in torn off clothes, bleeding and burned all over (“blackened”) and then was assisted to her bed. There are no more details available – there are minor variation in the description of her condition. During the following days, she seemed to be improving quite well and in good spirits, until ... the day of bombing on **August 26, when everybody in her room** and many in the remaining part of the building perished.



Ewa Orlikowska writes: „We went again for our assignment (**August 13**) at *the barricades*. It was our turn, of our patrol. We went to the Castle Square. It means – only our patrol, not everybody, because some were very exhausted, we went - the three of us, „Anka”, „Iza”, (now Ewa Bennet, then Marszałek), and I, „Ewa”...



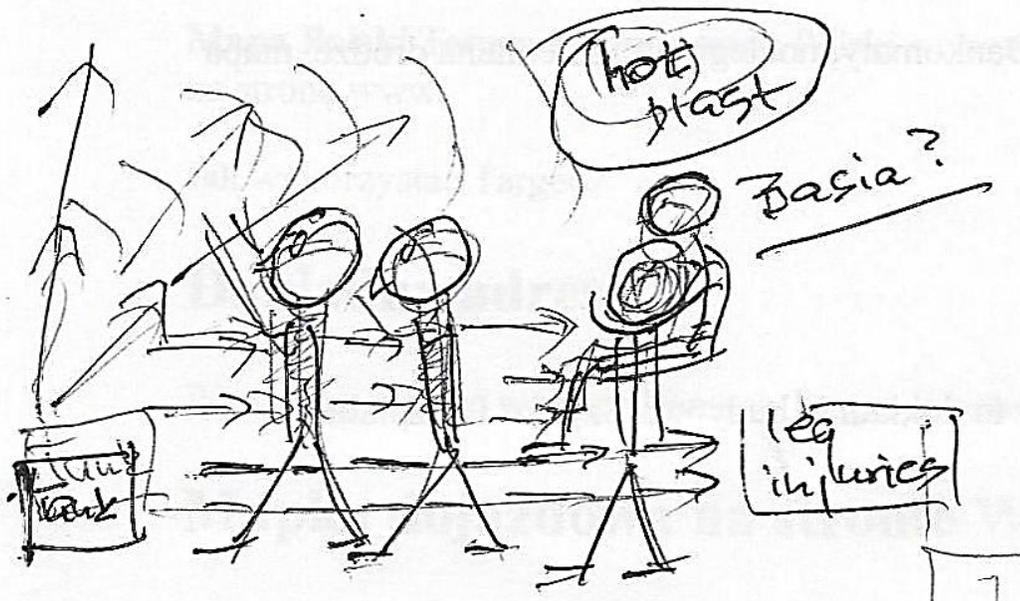


(WJW) Probable location of the “tank” and its shell before and after the explosion. (B) – balconies.

„DŁUGA 7 w Powstaniu Warszawskim” – „Długa #7 in Warsaw Uprising”-

http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf. (p.36) (...) „Tankietka” (...) „It stopped in front of the house at Podwale 23, which was a rear annex of the Raczyński Palace. Here was located an internal barricade, which had to be disassembled.”

(p. 37) (...) „Barricade was opened and the little tank moved ahead. It came to the corner of the Kiliński street and turned right. **It stopped in front of the houses #1 and #3, where the houses came together.** It stopped there, because there was a next internal barricade, not very high, probably it was not finished, because it was not considered to be very important. (...)

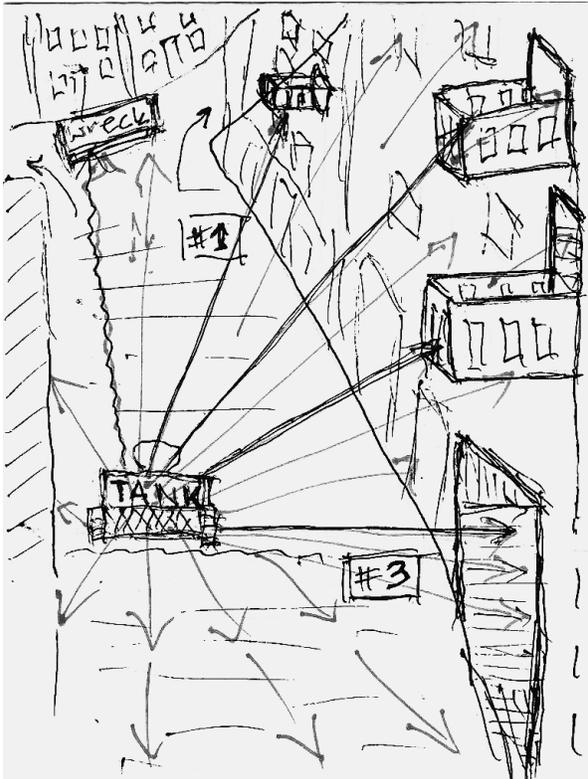


(WJW) Horizontal propagation of the wave fronts of energies of an explosion.

(pressure, temperature and sound – how different are their velocities?)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Explosion>; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK430914/>;

<http://holbert.faculty.asu.edu/eee460/cjc/TRABW.html>

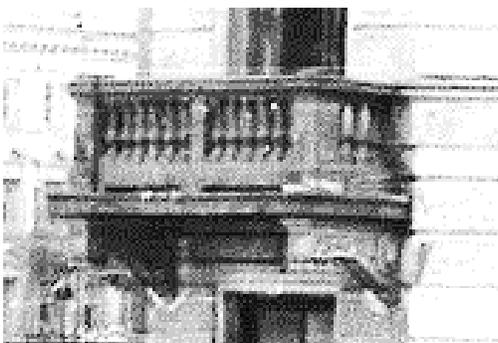


Vertical propagation of the energies of the explosion. (There were big differences in the degrees of destruction of balconies at #1 (only balustrades were blown off) and at #3 (where the whole platforms were gone) - on the right – house at Kilinskiego #3 after bombardment on August 26, 1944.

<https://www.1944.pl/szukaj-zdjec,strona,2.html/szukaj/historia+powstancze-biogramy+Wieslaw+Chrzanowski+2#3190>

<https://www.1944.pl/szukaj-zdjec,strona,2.html/szukaj/historia+powstancze-biogramy+Wieslaw+Chrzanowski+2#3190>

„DŁUGA 7 w Powstaniu Warszawskim” – http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf



Kilińskiego 3 – eksplozja -

*(p. 39) (...) „Brick fragments broke bottles with incendiary fluid, which were temporarily stored in the entrance gate in a pile of sand. Because fire could at any moments spread to the carelessly placed also nearby „sidolki”, (home-made handgranades), “Wiktor” rushed to move them deeper into the backyard. He remembers that a running girl hurriedly passed by him, all blacken from fire and bloodied. This was the combat nurse, **Barbara Wajszczuk.**”*

It called our (WJW) attention that almost all nurses who stayed at that time in the building and run outside to the street or walked out to the balconies, to see the „tanK”, suffered severe injuries to their legs (broken bones, damaging wounds, torn off extremities) on the other hand – Basia suffered only relatively minor wounds, burns and probably only minor superficial leg injuries. It can be assumed that she was rather far away from the blast, somehow her torso and legs were protected. Her injuries appeared to be heat- and debris related. **Unfortunately ... (see below)**

Where were they and what happened to them at Kilińskiego #1/3?

Lokalizacja osób i ich losy podczas wybuchu na ul. Kilińskiego #1/3

□ Kilińskiego #1 ← balkony - 13.VIII.1944 → Kilińskiego #3

III piętro



??? (magazyn?)

III piętro



„Ała” Dybczyńska Alicja – spadła na ulicę, „potluczona”! – +17.IX.1944

II piętro



„Isia” Sielużycka Maria - rana twarzy, później ranna w brzuch, (→ z *cyw.*), ucieka z transportu

„Szpak” Kłopotowska Hanna, Zastęp. Kom., ranna - twarz i uszkodzone oko, (→ *niewola*)

„Ola-Ola” Petrażycka Aleksandra, balkon --> pokój tyłem, kadłub ludzki w plecy, szkło, rany, (→ *ludn. cyw.*)

„Ola” Taube Aleksandra, patrolowa, ?, (→ *ludn. cyw.*)

II piętro



„Lidka” Miszewska Barbara – odeszła od okna → bez obrażeń, przeżyła, (→ z *cyw.*)

„Henia” Brzeska Henryka – podeszła do okna, → „znikła”, znaleziono część skalpu z pęczkiem blond włosów

I piętro - (bez balustrad)

- Po wybuchu -

I piętro - (cały balkon „zniknął”!)



← Betonowe balkony →
Wiele osób na balkonach –
część! - „znikły” - wszystkie!
Ile osób? Kto?



„Janka” Gruszczyńska-Jasiak Janina, ranna, nieprzyt., uszk. oko, przygn. przez torso, nogi-odl. - (→ *SM-cyw.*)

„Pajak” Gancarczyk-Piotrowska Barbara ogólny „szok”, wyzdrowiała - (→ *SM-cyw.*)

„Wanda” Bagniewska Wanda – cofnęła się do pokoju, bez obrażeń → przeżyła!

„Heniuś” Wieczorek Henryka – zdmuchnięta na ulicę, pęknięta miednica, wyzdrowiała, przeżyła (→ *jeniec*)

Wewnątrz budynku (#1)

„Joanna” Kwiatkowska Irena, ranna? (2.IX. → *cyw.*) ?

Wewnątrz budynku (#3)

„Hanka” Sadkowska Anna – ogłuszona, (C) (→ *cyw.*)

„Ognik” Żak Irmina – twarz, strac. oko, szpital (→ *cyw.*)

„Teresa”, „Ola” – Kossowska Aleksandra (C) +26.VIII.

„Srocza” – Soroczyńska Halina, przy rannych (C) +26.VIII.

(Ulica) – przy barykadach (B) z III plutonem

Ulica → szpital (Osoby wymienione we wspomnieniach)

„Iza” – Marszałek Ewa (B)

„Baśka” Wajszczuk Barbara – rozległe (?) oparzenia, 13.VIII./+26.VIII. powierzchowne(?) rany ciała i nóg (odłamki?), mogła chodzić!

„Anka” – Szatkowska (Kossak) Anna (B)

„Hala” „Gąsiorowska” – ciężkie obrażenia nóg 13.VIII./+26.VIII.

„Ewa-Maria” – Orlikowska Ewa (B)

„Irena” „Gąsiorowska” – b. ciężkie obrażenia nóg-13.VIII./26.VIII./+2.IX.

„Jasia” „Janka” Przemieniecka Janina – c. ranna, nogi-13.VIII./+26.VIII.

„Kozaczek” Śliwińska Halina– Szefowa patrolowych, c. ranna - 13.VIII., oderw./amput. l. uda, otw. złam. Pr. podudzia, tężec, liczne infek. rany → +2.IX.

„Janka” Pawłowska Janina, ranna x3, brak szczegółów, (→ *ludn. cyw.*)

Powyżej – są to tylko osoby wymienione w dostępnych i przejranych przez nas wspomnieniach.

(C) – z rannymi lub w wewnętrznych pomieszczeniach na ul. Kilińskiego #3;

(z *cyw.*), (lud. *cyw.*) – po Powstaniu, wyszła z Warszawy z ludnością cywilną, (c. *ranna*) – ciężko ranna, odl. – odłamki, (→ *SM-cyw.*) – nie wyszła z wojskiem, pozostała z rannymi na Starym Mieście, później wyszła z ludnością cywilną.

13.VIII - wybuch tankietki; 26.VIII. – bombardowanie; 2.IX. 1944 – zastrzelona w szpitalu na Starym Mieście

(There were big differences in the degrees of destruction of balconies at #1 (only balustrades were blown off) and at #3 (where the whole platforms were gone.)

Houses at Kilińskiego #1, #3 and #5

Before September 1939 - see massive concrete balconies at the 1st floor levels



#1 Warszawa1939.pl



#3 Warszawa1939.pl



#5 Warszawa1939.pl

1944 – before the Uprising



1945



House at Kilinskiego #3 – damages

„Stefa” - <https://lekarzpowstania.pl/osoba/stefania-preder/> -

August 10 at night – artillery shell hit the front wall of the **2nd floor** (above the ground) – we slept on the 1st floor. **Janusz Grajek** was severely wounded in both feet with the shell fragments (→ amputation of one foot).

August 13 – front wall was damaged (weakened?) by explosion of the „**tank-trap**”.

Starting on **August 15** – daily bombing raids, round-the-clock shelling from heavy artillery (“szafy”).

August 16 or **17** – ... air alarm, with **Ola**, „we entered an entryway (*from the yard side*) (...) The bomb fell next to the wall of the house, debris covered up the cellars and probably then we lost access to our pharmacy (medications) ... Also, a falling door immobilized temporarily **Ola’s** leg.

Date? Explosion of a bomb in a corner of the backyard, next to the rooms with the wounded. (...) our building was not damaged (...) mounds of dirt covered the ground level windows. The bomb fell next to the back of a building belonging to the other house, tore a chunk of its wall reaching the cellars. It seems that those cellars contained only some stored goods – perhaps food? After these events, somebody ordered to transfer **Janusz Grajek**, who rested in that half-covered room, to another room, where the girls were recovering. It was probably assumed that it was a safest location – at the ground level of an inside corner of a 4 –story apartment building.

August 24 – an artillery shell hit the **1st floor** front wall facing the street. **Andrzej Sarnecki**, „**Anna**” commander and „**Sister Lidia**” (a Jewess?), medical student from Kraków were killed



Artillery shelling (24.VIII.1944) – 1st floor at Kilińskiego #3, (probably western part of the building or over the gateway). Extensive damage of the 1st floor rooms, where Insurgents had their quarters.



<https://www.1944.pl/szukaj-zdjec,strona,2.html/szukaj/historia+powstancze-biogramy+Wieslaw+Chrzanowski+2#3190>

August 25 – Scout Master Tolo (Witold Sawicki) arranged in the evening in the corner room, where the wounded nurses and Janusz Grajek were recovering, a „**Scouting-bonfire with Storytelling**” (ognisko-gawęda), some scouting youths gathered. (...) as usual in the evenings and night – Germans continued harassing the insurgent quarters with the “szafy”. Some were striking the upper floors of our and nearby houses, some continued further with a grinding noise.

August 26 – Unfortunately, it became fatal for Janusz and the girls. They **all died** under the rubble. „In the afternoon of August 26, I went to the cellars to prepare milk for Janusz. I was about ready to go back upstairs, when I was deafened by tremendous bang and it became dark. Dust irritated the nostrils. I went out blindly to the cellar corridor. Someone grabbed my hand and with a shaking voice said that we are buried and probably there is no exit. I recognized the voice – it was **Stefan**. With my previous experience with several similar situations I said quietly: - let’s stand in place and wait, until the dust settles. – After a prolonged period, the outlines of a hole punched out in the wall of the cellar for communication started appearing. We reached slowly the stairs and came out”.

„A terrible view appeared in front of our eyes. Stacked rubble instead of a standing building. A bomb dropped from a plane collapsed part of our 4-story building, reaching the cellars. Many people were buried in those cellars. The room where the girls and Janusz were staying was also destroyed. They all perished. One of the girls (**Irena Gąsiorowska**), who was located closest to the exit, was uncovered and extracted with a great deal of difficulty. Moanings from under the rubble could be heard for some time. Rescue attempts were continued for several hours, but it was impossible to remove manually four levels of rubble. **At that time perished there Combat Nurses: Basia (Wajszczukówna), Janka (Przemieniecka), Halinka Srocza (Halina Soroczyńska), Teresa (Aleksandra Kossowska), Hala Gąsiorowska and Janusz Grajek (Wiesiołowski), as well as part of the II pluton.**

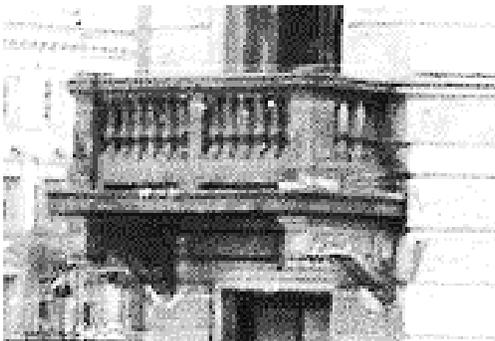
August 31 - Stefa moved with the wounded via sewer canals to Śródmieście, visited her family on a 2-day pass, then returned to her quarters at ul. Świętokrzyska, corner with Czackiego, stopped-by on her way back to collect **Oleńka** on ul. Okólnik. Oleńka did not return to the Company.

August 3 – “strong shelling and bombardment. I got a **severe head wound.**” (After many surgeries, - she was only able – in 1945 - „to move only with the invalide chair, and later with a wheelchair.”

26 sierpnia 1944 → Basia perished in a collapse of the western part of the front building after detonation of two large aerial bombs which stroke obliquely this part of the building, penetrated all floors and exploded in the cellars. The house was significantly weakened by previous explosions – (see above). Piles of debris reached the second floor. Immediate rescue action resulted in recovery of only one person from the rubble. (Dr. Morwa in his report gives a date of August 27 – is this an error or the date of the report?). In the same bombing attack perished also **Dr Jerzy Wiszniewski**, but the exact location (in the building entance gate or crossing via cellars in the direction of a church at Freta #10, where his family was hiding?) is not known.

After the fall of “Starówka” (Old Town), German torched all buildings at Kilińskiego street, after douzing them with gasoline. In some locations, such as the gate passages, yards, individual rooms, partially burned bodies were found later – in the compact ruins, only bone fragments, metal ornaments, buttons or similar items remained.

Kilińskiego # 3 – levels and space utilization.



Typically – in the apartment buildings at Kilińskiego #1, #3 and #5, on the ground level and facing the street were various shops. Buildings had deep cellars (how many levels?), apartments were located on higher floors. Some stores had also living spaces in the back.

The nurses, who got wounded during the tank explosion were placed there - in the north-western inside corner of the front building at Kilińskiego 3#. Apartments on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor (above the ground) had balconies on both sides

of the centrally located entrance gates. **Balconies** on the 1st floors and their **ballustrades** facing the street were constructed of concrete (most probably in all buildings), balconies on higher floors probably had a less sturdy construction? Annexes also had cellars, apartments were on all floors and some had balconies. According to same reports, the bombs (on 26.VIII.) penetrated all levels reaching cellars, where they exploded.

-I/ cellars – operating rooms, post-op. and wound dressing rooms – some rooms in the annexes were also for the wounded or served as storage;

0/ ground level – entrance, kitchen (previously shops) – converted for nurses' quarters, and some for nurses wounded during the explosion.

I/ and II/ floor – living quarters for combat nurses, hospital nurses and soldiers;

III/ and IV floor – initially, as above, and later abandoned because of increasing danger and damages resulting from continuous artillery shelling.

Explosion (13.VIII.1944) – (concrete) balconies at #3, on 1st floor were **ALL GONE** – (in spite being stronger?) (concrete) balconies at #1, on 1st floor lost (only?) ballustrades.

Typically those types of balconies were build on a support from steel beams embedded deeply into the dividing weight-bearing walls, → (we do not know, if the walls developed any cracks or fractures following the explosion of the tank?). Also, pictures from the Uprising Museum collection demonstrate a large segment of the front wall missing at the **1st floor** level at Kilińskiego #3, after artillery shelling and direct hit on August 24. Through this hole one can see the barred windows of the Raczyński Palace Annex across the street. This building was also hit earlier by artillery at the **2nd floor** level on August 10. 1944 and several bombs exploded earlier in the backyard – likely weakening its structure.



Fragment ściany domu przy ul. Kilińskiego 3 w Warszawie z napisem informującym, że w tym miejscu w szpitalu powstańczym batalionu AK „Gustaw” zginęły pod gruzami ranne sanitariuszki

Inscription with tar on a remaining fragment of the wall at Kilińskiego #3 in 1945 includes names of Scout-Nurses, who perished in the hospital in this location during bombing on August 26, 1944.

Central Hospital at Długa #7

Summary of the medical personnel losses of the "Gustaw" Battalion at the Hospitals at Długa #7 and Kilińskiego #1 and #3 – prepared by dr. Tadeusz Podgorski "Morwa". 2nd Lt. - physician

7/ Medical personnel - hospital at ul. Kilińskiego 3 - - Cross of Valour (Poland)

http://dluga7.pl/pdf/dluga7_pdf_cz1.pdf (branch of Długa #7 hospital); "KW" – Krzyż Walecznych [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross_of_Valour_\(Poland\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross_of_Valour_(Poland))

(8/22 awarded the "KW") Expl. 13.VIII. Shell-24.VIII. Bomb. 26.VI Died
(Kilinskiego #3)

Medyczka / Medical Student:

Puchalska Lidia, „Lidia”, (KW) - +(died)

Pielegniarki / "hospital nurses":

1. Burakiewicz Anna, „Biba”, „Balbina” (KW)
2. Rachwald Maria, „Renata”, „Renia”
3. „Zofia” (NN)

Sanitariuszki : „combat nurses”:

1. Ciepieniak Jadwiga, „Iga”
2. Dybczyńska Alicja, „Ala”, 13.VIII. → Mokotowska 46) →
!7.IX.1944
3. Gracz-Koszycka Marianna, „Burza” (KW)
4. Kaliwoda Jadwiga, „Japonka”
5. Kozerska Julia ps. „Jula”, (KW) (wounded -13 IX, Hoża, died of wounds „Sano” Hosp. 2 X 1944)
6. Kuzell Barbara ps. „Basia” (KW)
7. Kwiatkowska Irena, „Joanna”, 13 VIII, (severe) – SURVIVED - 2 IX 1944 – Hosp. at Długa #7
8. Mieczkowska Krystyna, „87”, „Krystyna” (KW)
9. Pawłowska Janina, „870”, „Janka”, (KW) - 13 VIII?, wounded 3 times!
10. Piasecka Krystyna, „856”, „Krysta” (KW)
11. Polińska ElŜbieta, „Płomień”
12. Psarska Maria, „Mariola”
13. Rey Helena, „15”, „Jabłońska”
14. Rosochowicz Maria ps. „193”, „Basia”
15. Rutkowska Aleksandra ps. „Ola”, „Teresa-mężatka”, 26 VIII
vel Rostkowska-Kossowska
16. Sadkowska-Anna, „Hanka”, „Sosnowska”
17. Sękowska Danuta ps. „314”, „Danka”, left in the Old Town – 1.IX.1944
18. Siedlanowska Wanda ps. „244”, „Wanda”
19. Soroczyńska Halina „Srocza” 26 VIII
20. Wnuk Alina ps. „Alina” (KW)
21. Źak Irmina, „Ognik”, 13 VIII (severe) ???

nie odkopana – could not be recovered

wydobyta – recovered from under the rubble

nie odnalezieni – could not be found

The only soldier ever to receive more than 4 Crosses of Valour was Stefan Grot-Rowecki, commander of the Polish Home Army during World War II, who had reached his quota of 4 crosses during World War I and the Polish-Soviet War, yet was awarded 4 more crosses on 1 May 1943. See: Łukasz Leszczyński (2005). "gen. dyw. Stefan Grot-Rowecki". Łukasz Leszczyński (in Polish). Retrieved 11 June 2007.

Orders awarded to the Insurgents

Virtuti Militari



1792

Cross of Valour



1920

Polonia Restituta



1970

Warsaw Rising Cross



1982

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_Virtuti_Militari

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross_of_Valour_\(Poland\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross_of_Valour_(Poland))

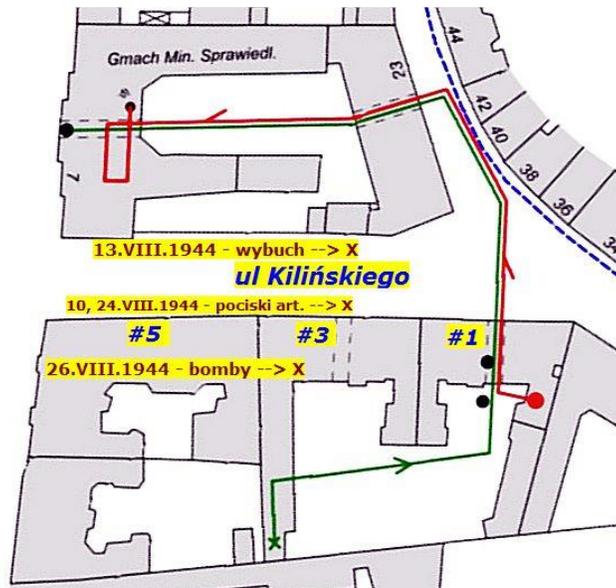
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_of_Polonia_Restituta;

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warszawski_Krzy%C5%BC_Powsta%C5%84czy



Wola - **1.VIII.1944** ? ← „WASP NEST”- Ogrodowa 23 → Old Town - **6/7.VIII.1944**
 (Germans there – **Aug.6/7**); also evacuation via the “north route”.

Surrender of the Old Town – **2.IX.1944** – evacuation of the remaining wounded



SUMMARIES

Assembly point (1) – ul. Ogrodowa 17, Patrol Leader – „Kozaczek”?
(Information about the personnel is probably incomplete?)



FRIENDS:

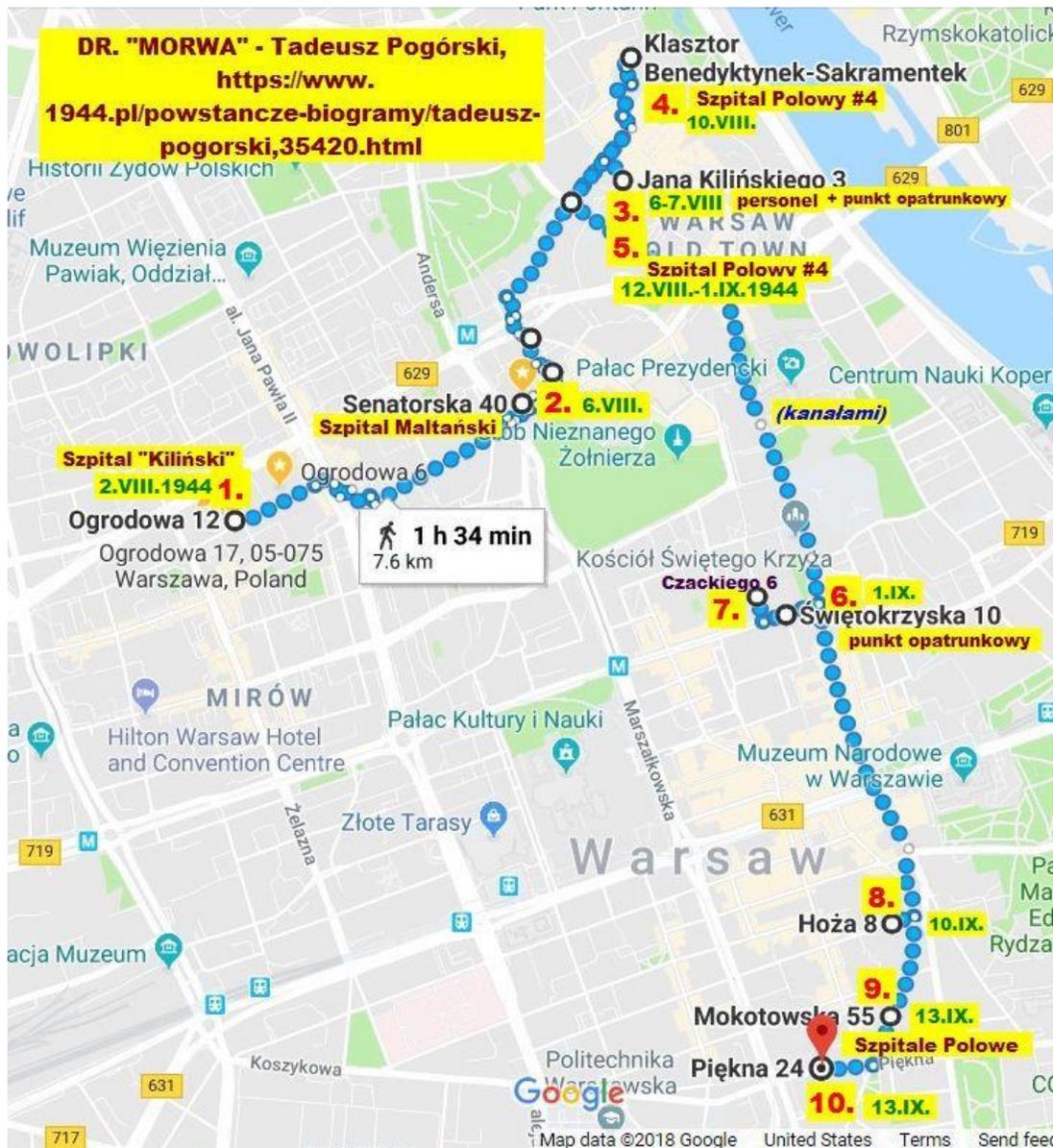
Selected explanations:

- (a) – wounded on 13.VIII.44 (tank explosion)
- (b) – perished during bombardment on 26.VIII.44
- (c) – not evacuated, shot by Germans on 2.IX.44
- (d) – remained with the wounded in hospital

Basia – died in Old Town at Kilińskiego 3 on 26.VIII.44

Ala – escaped via sewers, died at Mokotowska 46 on 17.IX.44

Szpital... - hospital



<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/tadeusz-pogorski,35420.html> - Wola - Stare Miasto - sewers - Śródmieście Północ - Śródmieście Południe. 2.VIII.1944 r. on ul. Ogrodowa 12/14, in Sąd Grodzki building, (until the end of July – a German military hospital) organized a first aid station of the „Kiliński” Battalion and, as a surgeon took a command. They performed all kinds of surgery except opening the abdomen or intra-cranial. On 5.VIII.1944 r. the Main Wound Dressing Station was evacuated to this station from ul. Elekoralna 16 after bombing, Next day dr. Morwa received an order to evacuate the wounded to the Maltański Hospital at ul. Senatorska. (...) After discussing with Col. Dr. "Feliks" (Leon Strehl) and Cpt. "Gustaw" (Ludwik Gawrych) they decided that the personnel, after resting at the Maltański Hospital, will move on their own to the Old Town, taking with them some of the wounded and wound dressing material and organize there a field hospital, based on the medical personnel of the "Gustaw" Battalion - its wounded commander remained in the care of dr "Morwa" Pogórski. This plan was only partially realized, since in the meantime, Germans occupied Maltański Hospital and only Cpt. "Gustaw" was evacuated by his own sanitary patrol to the First Aid Station at ul. Kilińskiego. Dr. "Morwa"- Pogórski placed "his" personel in different areas of the Maltański, checking in the meantime their blood groups, so they could become blood donors for the wounded. With his medical personnel, he was able to reach the Old Town. (...)

Assembly point (2) – ul. Senatorska 28/30, „BURSA” RGO, Patrol Leader – “Ewa-Maria”(?)

Ewa Orlikowska-Krasnowolska „Ewa-Maria” was the Head of all First Aid Patrols (?) of the Scout Company of the „Gustaw” Battalion of NOW-AK.

Little info about personel (there were 7 of them?). Detailed information about their “travels”.

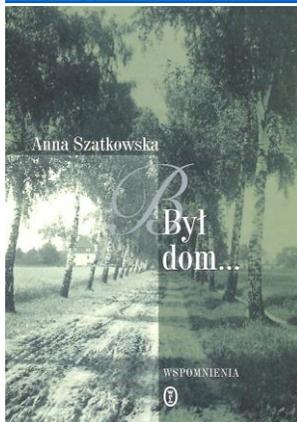
The First Aid Patrol Sanitarny z początkowym miejscem zbiórki na ul. Niecałej 2 dotarł tam dopiero 3.VIII z powodu lokalnych walk, w międzyczasie grupa przemieściła się na Wolę(?), a stamtąd, w czasie walk na Woli, na Stare Miasto. (...) Gdy sanitariuszki dotarły wreszcie na Senatorską, zostały skierowane na Stare Miasto. Uczestniczyły w pobieraniu zaopatrzenia ze zdobytych magazynów SS na Stawkach, a później zostały skierowane do szpitala w „Sądach” i Maltańskiego. W międzyczasie odnalazły swoje zgrupowanie już na Starym Mieście – przenieśli się na kwatery na ul. Kilińskiego i uczestniczyły w pracach szpitali na Długiej i na Kilińskiego. Po upadku Powstania, przeszły z rannymi kanałami do Śródmieścia Północnego.



(On August 13) - “Mosts severely wounded – we found her after 2 days – was „Kozaczek”, Halina Śliwińska, Head of the rescue emergency patrols, who earlier conducted together with me and with Basia (Miszevska?) reorganisation of the health services. (...) Terribly burned – not wounded – was a recently deceased colleague, Zbyszek. He was trying to disperse and throw further away the incendiary/self-explosive bottles, which of course, exploded anyway. He was terribly burned - hands and face, mainly hands. He had little wire cages over his fingers, over a raw flesh, which could not be touched. This was a live flesh, living wounds. Whole face covered with yellow Xenofom”.

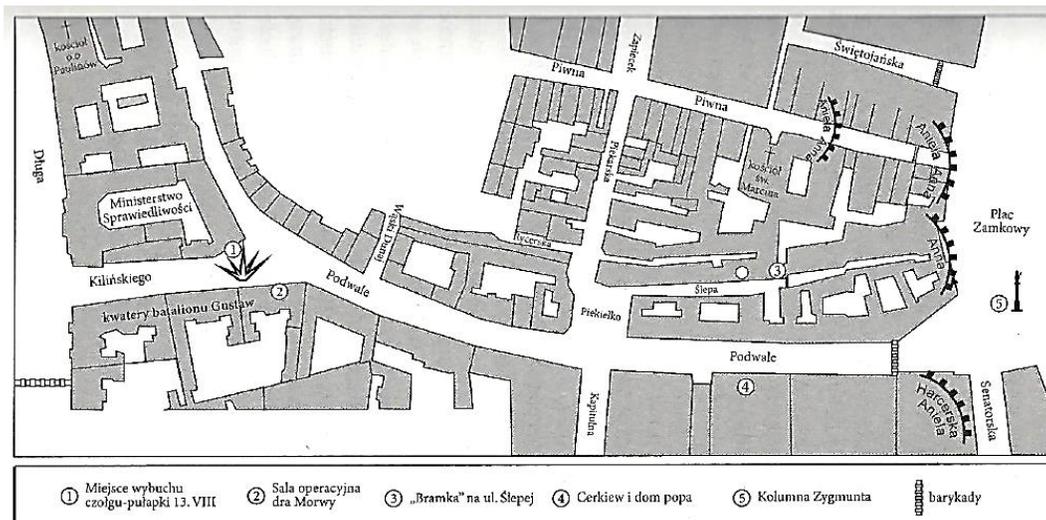
THERE WAS A HOUSE / (BYŁ DOM), Anna Szatkowska – (book in polish)

<https://www.wydawnictwoliterackie.pl/ksiazka/2021/Byl-dom-Wspomnienia---Anna-Szatkowska>



This book describes the fates of several generations of a family - very well known in Poland – the author's mother was a famous writer and some members were prominent painters, reminding with their art the history of Poland in times of her might and glory as well as of oppression, wars and partitioning.

She participated also, as a teenager, along with other members of her family in the Warsaw Uprising and a chapter of the book is based on her daily records of the events which were written together with her patrol leader a few weeks after the end of war. In addition to the great pleasure of just reading this book, it provided a few interesting details regarding the young scout nurses and soldiers and their daily life during the Uprising.



p. 145 – *Spring/summer (?) 1944 - Anna Szatkowska formally joins the Scout Company of the „Gustaw” Battalion as Anna Sokołowska, “Anka”.*

p. 150 – *In Sanitary Patrol of Ewa Orlikowska – 5 girls [Ewa, Teresa M., Janka, Iza, Anka] + 2 [Hela, Tereska could not get there on time?]. Ewa and patrol were attached to the 3. Platoon. Gąsiorowski (2) sisters (Irka na Halina) joined them in Galeria Luxenburga on 3.VIII.1944.*

p. 150 - *Janka – [wounded] and Teresa M. - [different assignment], left in the middle of August.*

p. 151 – *August 1, 1944, Uprising starts, delay in leaving their quarters because of local fighting. (→ they finally reached the Old Town on 6.VIII. in the evening).*

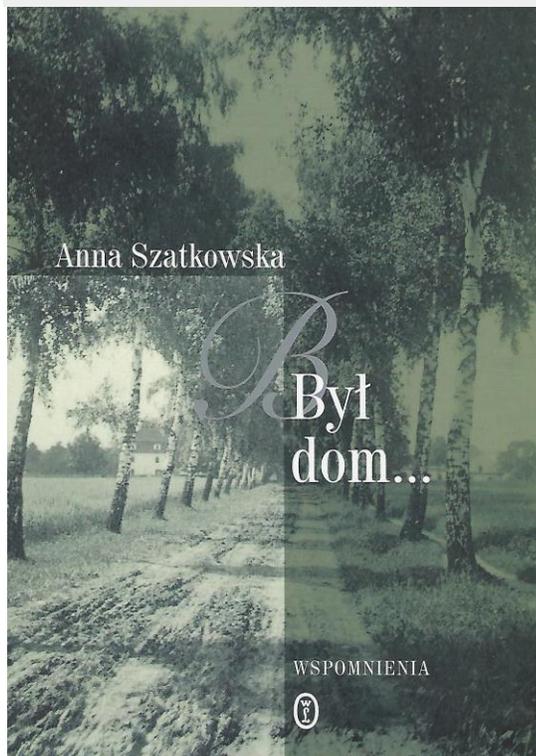
p. 161 – *Organization - 3 „barricade” patrols, 5 girls in each, Ewa’s patrol with the 3. Platoon.*

p. 165 - *Since 8. VIII. – on barricades (12 – 24 hours shifts) at Miodowa and Podwale. With carbines against tanks. Delivering ammunitions!*

p. 176 - *13 August – explosion. Big personnel losses and damage to the front and some inside walls at Kilińskiego #3*

p. 179 - 180 – *Search for wounded, blown away and lost.*

p. 182 – *After the explosion – only 3 of them were left for duty at the barricades. (see below)*



Wydawnictwo Literackie

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Niewątpliwym dodatkowym atutem wspomnień jest przejmująca, zarejestrowana dzień po dniu, szczegółowa relacja z Powstania Warszawskiego. W obrębie książki znalazły się bowiem obszerne fragmenty dziennika spisywanego kilka tygodni po upadku Powstania.

Książka „Był dom...” stanowi dla mnie jednak swoiste objawienie. Sztukę prostego, sugestywnego opowiadania o dramatycznych faktach przeżywanej historii II wojny światowej i jej następstw posiadała bowiem Anna w stopniu

znakomitym. Okazała się kolejną utalentowaną przedstawicielką rodu Kossaków.

Zawdzięczamy jej pasjonujący w swej szczerości i jasności obraz, świadectwo życia Zofii Kossak i jej najbliższych w dobie wielkiej próby serc i sumień, w Polsce ciemnionej i walczącej, wśród wielu ludzi, których już nie ma między nami.

Władysław Bartoszewski

str. 145

str. 150

Ciocia Anulka dotrzymała obietnicy i umówiła mnie na spotkanie z Ewą Orlikowską, studentką polonistyki, dowodzącą utworzonym przez siebie patrolom sanitarnym, gotowym do udziału w spodziewanym powstaniu. Zasiadliśmy w kawiarence przy okupacyjnej „kawie” i po dłuższej rozmowie Ewa przyjęła mnie do swego patrolu, pomimo że miałam tylko szesnaście lat (zamiast wymaganych siedemnastu), i wpisała mnie oficjalnie na listę członków, dodając mi jeden rok... Patrol ten należał do kompanii harcerek batalionu „Gustaw” i składał się z sześciu dziewcząt starszych ode mnie. Byłam szczęśliwa, że nie pozostanę beczynnie na marginesie oczekiwanych ważnych wydarzeń. Nazajutrz spotkałam się z całym patrolom i spędziłyśmy długie godziny na ostatnich ćwiczeniach bandażowania i noszenia rannych oraz na przygotowaniu materiałów opatrunkowych.

Tak więc Anna Sokołowska, pseudonim „Anka”, została sanitariuszką, członkiem patrolu „Ewa Maria” przy kompanii „Harcerek” w batalionie „Gustaw”.

Kto należał do naszego patrolu? Naturalnie, Ewa Orlikowska, patrolowa, lat 22, następnie według wieku: Teresa, zamężna, lat 23, Janka — 22 lata, „Iza” — 18 lat, i ja. „Anka” — 16 lat. Dwie pozostałe, Hela i Tereska — siostra „Izy”, nie zdążyły dotrzeć do nas przed godziną „W”, gdy strzelanina już się zaczęła.

Ewa czuła się w każdej chwili odpowiedzialna za swoje dziewczęta i jej fizjonomia zdradzała charakter przywódcy. Ciemne włosy zaczesane do tyłu, okrągła, uśmiechnięta twarz, życzliwe spojrzenie i przychylny stosunek do świata i ludzi — wszystko to wzbudzało zaufanie i sympatię. Lecz gdy trzeba było wymagać i utrzymać porządek, Ewa okazywała swój autorytet spokojnym, zdecydowanym tonem, nie pozbawionym humoru. Potrafiła natomiast ostro bronić praw naszego patrolu. Miałyśmy do niej zaufanie, a jej serdeczny stosunek dodawał nam otuchy w trudnych chwilach.

Patrol Ewy Orlikowskiej – 5 [Ewa, Teresa M., Janka, Iza, Anka] + 2 [Hela, Tereska dotarły później?] Przyłączone do 3 plutonu). Siostry Gąsiorowskie (2) dołączyły w Galerii Luxenburga 3.VIII.1944.

str. 150

Janka, wesoła i zawsze chętna do działania, oraz „Teresa-Mężatka”, spokojna i zrównoważona, w połowie sierpnia opuściły nasz patrol: Janka z powodu ran, Teresa dla innej funkcji.

„Iza” (Ewa Marszałek), czyściutka i zadbana, nawet w najgorszych warunkach była, jak dobra koleżanka, wrażliwa na nasze problemy i starała się utrzymać w patrolu humor i optymizm. Ponadto była towarzyska i rozmowna, co wszyscy docenialiśmy. Dwa jasne warkocze, upięte w koronę, i wymykająca się spod niej równa grzywka na czole upodobały „Izę” do zbyt szybko wyrosniętej uczennicy.

A ja, „Anka”, wyróżniałam się długością rąk i nóg. Włosy plotłam w jeden lub dwa warkocze, a w zachowaniu starałam się dorównać starszym koleżankom, które mi imponowały pod wieloma względami.

Janka – [ranna] i Teresa M. [inna funkcja] odeszły w połowie sierpnia.

str.151

Lecz już o 16.30 słyszymy pierwsze strzały gdzieś w okolicy i Ewa postanawia wyruszyć niezwłocznie na punkt zborny kompanii „Harcerskiej” na Senatorskiej.

Niestety, nie możemy nawet wyjść z kamienicy: niemieckie czołgi i samochody pancerne stoją tuż obok, na rogu ulicy! Teraz strzelanina rozpętuje się na dobre: trzask karabinów maszynowych, wybuchy granatów, pojedyncze strzały...

Zaczyna padać ulewny deszcz. Nadchodzi wieczór i w zmroku, ponad dachami, ukazują się pierwsze pożary... Jesteśmy zniecierpliwione i złe na los: „Tam nasi walczą bez nas! To niesprawiedliwie!”

Mama Ewy przygotowuje garnek zupy, wyciągamy nasze zapasy i na zmianę obserwujemy ulicę, leżąc na brzuchu przed oknem, sięgającym aż do podłogi. Noc — śpimy na czym się da.

→ **Na Stare Miasto dotarły 6.VIII. wieczorem.**

p. 165 (8.VIII). Barykady - Miodowa i Podwale

Oddawszy rannego w ręce lekarza, wracamy biegiem, bo walka idzie już na całego. Pod osłoną czołgów żołnierze atakują, są wyposażeni w odpowiednią broń. Nasi mają do dyspozycji kilka karabinów, tyleż „filipinek” i butelek z benzyną... Nie ma szans na obronę stanowiska i chłopcy otrzymują rozkaz wycofania się za barykadę. Pociski czołgów rozwalają mury; sytuacja staje się groźna; jeden z chłopców jest kontuzjowany i trzeba się nim zająć. Nagle rozlega się parę strzałów z karabinu: jeden Niemiec pada, inni cofają się pośpiesznie (może obawiają się zasadzki?... Tygrysy zawracają! Uratowali nas dwaj chłopcy, którzy — skryci za szczątkiem muru — czekali na stosowny moment, by wypalić swe ostatnie naboje.

Choć niebezpieczeństwo chwilowo zażegnane, plutonowy wysyła „Izę” i mnie na Kilińskiego po amunicję

Z karabinami i butelkami na czołgi. Po amunicję!

str. 151

Wtorek, 1 sierpnia. Dostawszy rozkaz, pośpieszyłam w stronę Koszykowej zaalarmować Teresę, po czym wróciłam na Radną, porwałam moją torbę i plecak, pożegnałam się z Babcią i z Mamą i wybiegłam do powstania!...

Godzina 16.00, pierwszy szok: pędząc na zbiórkę, zdeżram się gwałtownie na rogu Krakowskiego Przedmieścia i ulicy Traugutta z „Marią”, jedną ze znanych mi łączniczek. Nasze guzy na czole puchną w mgnieniu oka, rozcieramy je ze śmiechem, życząc sobie wzajemnie powodzenia i każda biegnie w swoją stronę. Blisko Teatru Wielkiego, na ulicy Króla Alberta 2, w mieszkaniu Ewy i jej mamy zastaję patrol gotowy do czynu, ale bez Heli i Tereski — może jeszcze dotrą przed godziną „W”... Brat Ewy właśnie opuszcza dom i szybko zmierza do swego oddziału.

str.161- Stare Miasto

Od 12 sierpnia w piwnicy funkcjonuje sala operacyjna i tam działa niestrudzony dr „Morwa” z grupą zawodowych pielęgniarek. Brak jednak personelu pomocniczego do najprostszych usług.

Podobny problem powstał w kuchni: nie ma dostatecznej ilości pomocników i naczyń kuchennych (pomimo naszych pięciu kotłów!). Po naradzie patrolowych zapada decyzja, by stworzyć trzy patrole „barykadowe” złożone z pięciu dziewcząt, a pozostałe członkinie — zależnie od ich chęci i kwalifikacji — rozdzielić pomiędzy szpitalem i kuchnią.

3 patrole „barykadowe” po 5 sanitariuszek.

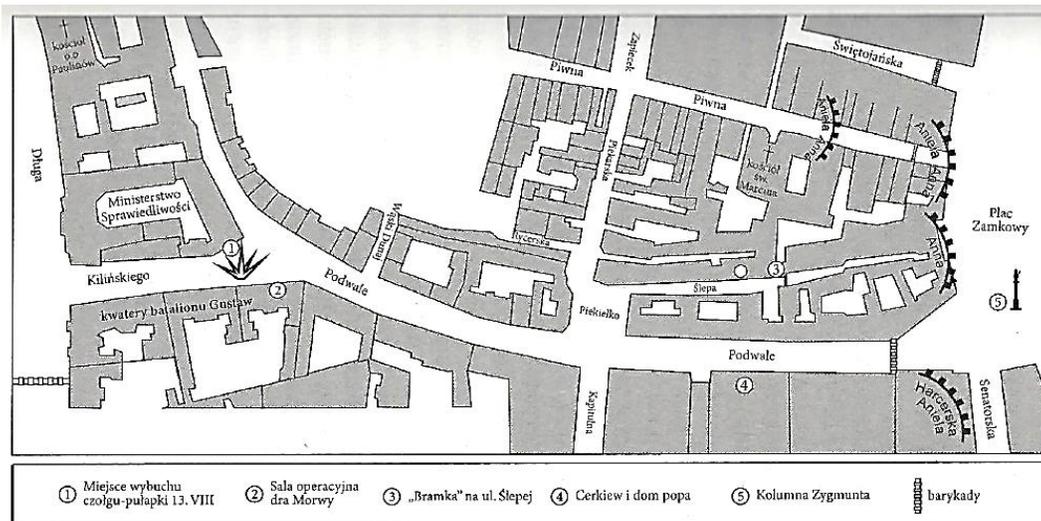
str. 182

Na skutek tych wypadków „Ewa Maria” znalazła się w bardzo ograniczonym składzie: zostało nas trzy, Ewa, „Iza” i ja, jako patrol służący na barykadzie. Teresa jest bardziej niż kiedykolwiek potrzebna przy rannych. W drugim patrolu sytuacja jest podobna. „Harcerska” straciła część swego stanu: drugi pluton, który był na odpoczyнку w ten feralny dzień, przestał istnieć, a jego niedobitki zostały wcielone do plutonów pierwszego i trzeciego.

Od tego dnia spędzamy dużo czasu na pozycji przy barykadzie, tym bardziej że nasza kwatery na Kilińskiego jest zniszczona i nie bardzo wiemy, gdzie się podziać w wolne chwile. I tak zresztą już od kilku dni nie miałyśmy okazji zdjąć ubrania i umyć się...

Krótkie wolne godziny spędzamy z naszymi rannymi towarzyszkami, oddając im różne drobne usługi: przynosimy wodę, myjemy, karmimy lub przygotowujemy coś do picia. A to ostatnie nie jest tak proste, jakby się wydawało, bo zdobycie wody to rzeczywiście, duży problem.

Po eksplozji – zostało ich 3, zobacz poniżej.



p.176

Wreszcie nadbiega ojciec Tomasz, by sprawdzić, kto jest na pozycji, i zliczyć obecnych. I opowiada nam, co zaszło: „nasz” czołg, objechawszy tryumfalnie sąsiednie ulice, stanął na Kilińskiego, wzbudzając zrozumiały ogólny entuzjazm. Tłum ludzi zgromadził się, by podziwiać naszą „zdobycę”: dzieci, młodzież, nasi koledzy i koleżanki odpoczywający na kwaterach i mnóstwo osób cywilnych. Nagle nastąpiła potężna eksplozja: czołg-pułapka wybuchł, siejąc ogień, zamieniając radosny tłum w ogromny kłęb strzępów ludzkich, gruzu, belek, żelastwa. Rozpaczliwe krzyki nieszczęsnych ofiar, wołanie o pomoc, wycie z bólu... ludzie poparzeni, czarni, oślepieni, nie do rozpoznania, usiłują wydostać się z tej masy i uciec w boczne uliczki. Ci, co ocaleli, rzucają się na pomoc rannym i przenoszą ich w spokojne miejsce, byle gdzie...

13 sierpnia – eksplozja

str.179

Poniedziałek, 14 sierpnia. Rano wracamy na Kilińskiego w wielkiej obawie o nasze dziewczęta i o sytuację, jaką tam zastaniemy. Już w połowie drogi natykamy się na ślady wybuchu. Mimo opowiadań ojca Tomasza i porucznika „Kostki”, nie spodziewaliśmy się tak wielkiego zniszczenia. Wszędzie grupy ludzi starannie przeszukują ruiny, by odnaleźć ślad swych bliskich. Lecz trafiają tylko na poszarpane resztki, niemożliwe do rozpoznania. Ostry swąd gryzie i dusi. Fasada kamienicy naszych kwater jest zdewastowana, drzwi i okna wyrwane.

Wnętrze budynku to jeden wielki szpital. Ranni i poparzeni leżą wszędzie gdzie się da: w korytarzach, na schodach, w piwnicach — ledwo można przejść. Leżą na gazetach i na workach, bo nie ma już ani materacy, ani koców. Ich twarze są spuchnięte, czarne od spalenizny, posypane żółtym proszkiem dezynfekcyjnym. Nie da się ich rozpoznać, ale czasem ktoś szeptem wymawia nasze imiona...

Szukamy gorączkowo naszych dziewcząt i nareszcie odnajdujemy je w narożnym pokoju na parterze: Janka poparzona i ranna w twarz i w nogi, Irka lekko poparzona, ale ciężko ranna w nogi. Po wybuchu czołgała się godzinami po ruinach, bezskutecznie, w nadziei, że odnaj-

Frontowa ściana Kilińskiego 1/3 jest bardzo zniszczona, a niektóre mury wewnętrzne zburzone. Resztki ludzkie zwisają z połamanych belek; pełno ich na ulicy, na dachu, wszędzie... Wybuch wyżłobił w jezdni parometry krater; jedna gąsienica czołgu przeleciała nad dachami aż na Wąski Dunaj. Powietrze cuchnie benzyną, materiałem wybuchowym, spalonymi ciałami. W tym apokaliptycznym krajobrazie mieszkańcy usiłują odnaleźć swoich. W oddziałach batalionu straty są ogromne, ale nikt nie zna jeszcze szczegółów. Ojciec Tomasz, wstrząśnięty, śpiesznie odchodzi, by zająć się ofiarami.

Nieco później porucznik „Kostka”, dowódca naszej kompanii, przynosi nam trochę chleba. Wśród całego zamieszania i katastrofy nie zapomniał, że jeszcze nic nie

Straty, uszkodzenia domu na Kilińskiego #1/3

str. 180

dzie swoją siostrę. Błaga nas, byśmy poszły jej szukać. Teresa ocalała dzięki temu, że w momencie eksplozji zajmowała się rannymi w piwnicach.

Na prośbę Irki krążymy od szpitala do szpitala, przechodząc wolno wzdłuż rzędów poranionych ludzi, usiłując rozpoznać znajome twarze pod oparzeniami i opatrunkami. Nieznajomi nas wzywają, pytają o kogoś, o coś — lecz nie mamy na to odpowiedzi. Wreszcie, w jednym z zaimprovizowanych szpitali, znajdujemy Halinę, zrozpaczoną, przekonaną, że siostra nie żyje. Jej rany nie są tak poważne jak Irki, więc zabieramy ją na Kilińskiego, do pokoju, gdzie będą leżały obok siebie.

Na koniec idziemy na piętro, do lokalu, który służył nam za kwaterę, by zabrać resztę materiałów opatrunkowych i może coś z rzeczy osobistych. Pokój jest zdewastowany, pełen gruzu, połamanych desek, mebli, rozbitych przedmiotów, strzępów tkanin... Usuwając na bok gruz, by móc przejść, spostrzegamy nagle rękę, drobną i delikatną, potem łokieć i ramię... szare, grubo pokryte kurzem, tym szaroróżowym, duszącym kurzem, który wznoszą walące się mury. Nieco dalej kawałek skóry z pasmem długich jasnych włosów. Na resztkach ramy okiennej zwisają wnętrzności...

Assembly point/PATROL (3)? – Scout Company, „Gustaw” Battalion (23.10.2019) (Most complete information about personnel)

(Stefania Preder - <http://lekarzpowstania.pl/osoba/stefania-preder/>)

„Maria”?, „483”, „Babcia” (Jabłońska Aleksandra Maria – Ola, patrolowa?, ranna 21.08.1944;
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/aleksandra-jablonska,12220.html> - niewola

„Ewa”, „386” (Sulikowska Aleksandra - Oleńka), patrol leader?, left w/civilians

<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/aleksandra-sulikowska,43083.html>

„Danka”, „314” (Sękowska Danuta) – łączniczka, <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/danuta-sekowska,39751.html>, Punkt opatrunkowy ul. Kilińskiego 3, z ludnością cywilną.

„Rita”, „242” (Goetzen Małgorzata), <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/malgorzata-goetzen,14394.html>, ranna - odłamki szkła 13.VIII.1944, niewola

„Janina” (Augustyńska Janka) <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/janina-augustynska,1521.html> - poległa 13.08.1944 wraz z mężem na ul. Kilińskiego

„Stefa”, „484” (Preder Stefania) - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/stefania-preder,36017.html>.

Ciężko ranna 3.09.1944 r. na ul. Czackiego. Wyjechała z Warszawy z rannymi.

„Lidka” (Miszeńska Basia) – dołączyła na Ogrodowej 17 - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/barbara-miszeńska,31708.html>, ranna? Wyszła z cywilami?



(Stefania Preder - <http://lekarzepowstania.pl/osoba/stefania-preder/>)

1 sierpnia, koncentracja - 17:00 → Bursa **RGO**, **ul. Senatorska 28/30**, (→ kompania Harcerska, Bat. Gustaw) dorożką z torbami sanitarnymi, nosze ze szpitala na Kopernika. Wręczono opaski „W.P.” z orłem. *Wieczorem* → **ul. Ogrodowa 17**.

„**Krysta**”, „**896**” (Piasecka Krystyna), **instruktorka sanitarna** - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/krystyna-piasecka,34186.html> Armia Krajowa - Grupa "Północ" - zgrupowanie "Róg" - batalion "Gustaw" - sanitariat - szpital polowy ul. Kilińskiego 3; w Śródmieściu 3. batalion pancerny "Golski" - 4. kompania "Odwet"; Stare Miasto - kanały - Śródmieście Północ - Śródmieście Południe; **Ranna 26.08.1944** r. **Niewola** niemiecka.

→ „**Ewa**”, „**386**” (Sulikowska Aleksandra - Oleńka) i u niej będziecie dyżurować, ul. Okólnik”;

→ „**Danka**”, „**314**” Sękowska Danuta – **łączniczka** → **odprawa** na ul. Lwowskiej;

=====
Sanitariuszki – obecne 1 sierpnia:

1/ „Maria”?, „**483**”, „**Babcia**” - **Jabłońska** Aleksandra (Ola?) Maria – **patrolowa?**, -

<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/aleksandra-jablonska,12220.html> Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa, Armia Krajowa - Grupa "Północ" - zgrupowanie "Róg" - batalion "Gustaw" - kompania "Harcerska". Stare Miasto - kanały – Śródmieście; **Ranna 21.08.1944**;

Odnaczona Warszawskim Krzyżem Powstańczym oraz uhonorowana medalem "Godnemu Chwały" przyznawanym szczególnie zasłużonym żołnierzom Powstańczych Służb Sanitarnych za ich męstwo i poświęcenie. Awansowana po wojnie do stopnia porucznika WP. **Niewola** niemiecka

2/ „Ewa”, „386” - Sulikowska Oleńka, **patrolowa?** - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/aleksandra-sulikowska,43083.html>, - Armia Krajowa - Grupa "Północ" - zgrupowanie "Róg"

- batalion NOW-AK "Gustaw" - 4. kompania "Harcerska" - sanitariat. Stare Miasto do 2.09.1944 r. - wyszła z ludnością **cywilną**.

3/ „Danka”, „314” - Sękowska Danuta – (łączniczka) - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/danuta-sekowska,39751.html>. "Bakcyl" (Sanitariat Okręgu Warszawskiego Armii Krajowej) - Grupa "Północ" - batalion "Gustaw" - Punkt opatrunkowy ul. Kilińskiego 3; Stare Miasto do 2.09.1944r. - kanały - Śródmieście Północ; Wyszła z Warszawy z ludnością **cywilną**.

4/ „Rita”, „242” - Goetzen Małgorzata, <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/malgorzata-goetzen,14394.html> Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa (NOW), Armia Krajowa - Grupa "Północ" - zgrupowanie "Róg" - batalion "Gustaw" - kompania "Harcerska"; Stare Miasto - kanały - Śródmieście Północ; Wymieniana w relacji siostry Marii (patrz: Maria Goetzen-Pirim "Maja") dla Archiwum Historii Mówionej (poniżej). **Ranna 13.VIII.1944** - odłamki szkła. **Niewola** niemiecka

Jej siostra **Maria Goetzen-Pirim "Maja"** <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/maria-goetzen,14395.html> była w tym samym oddziale. (jako łączniczka).

5/ „Janina” - Augustyńska Janka - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/janina-augustynska,1521.html>.; Zam. ul. Ogrodowa... Armia Krajowa - Grupa "Północ" - zgrupowanie "Róg"

- batalion "Gustaw" - kompania "Harcerska", sanitariat. (**Brat Stefan** był zastępcą dowódcy kompanii "Gertruda", poległ **1.08.1944** na Woli). Poległa z **mężem Jędrzejem 13.08.1944** na ul. Kilińskiego;

6/ „Stefa”, „484” - Preder Stefania - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/stefania-preder,36017.html> W konspiracji od marca 1944 r. - Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa / Armia

Krajowa - batalion NOW-AK "Gustaw" - 4. kompania "Harcerska"; Stare Miasto - kanały - Śródmieście Północ; Ciężko ranna **3.09.1944** r. na ul. Czackiego. Wyjechała z Warszawy z **rannymi**.

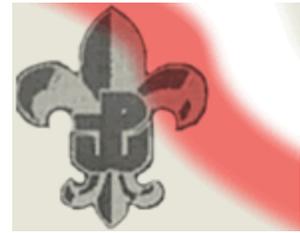
7/ „Lidka” - Miszewska Basia – dołączyła na Ogrodowej 17 - <https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/barbara-miszewska,31708.html>. Armia Krajowa - Grupa "Północ" - zgrupowanie "Róg" - batalion NOW-AK "Gustaw" - 4. kompania "Harcerska"; Wola - Stare Miasto - kanały - Śródmieście Północ; ranna? Wyszła z cywilami?

Medical personnel – wounded or killed during the Uprising, (summary based on recollections)

Personel medyczny - ranni lub zginęli podczas Powstania (zestawienie ze „Wspomnień”)



Scout Wojciech Wajszczuk "Wojtek"



Combat School of "Szare Szeregi" * IV District of
the Home Army ** - OCHOTA Warsaw Region



Wojciech Wajszczuk (085)
1929 - 1944

Wojciech - "Wojtek" participated in the Uprising in the Ochota District of Warsaw. On August 2, 1944, while the military units from Ochota were trying to break through to the Sekocin forests, he was captured by the Germans and executed in a group of 60 people near Pecice.

* **"Szare Szeregi" - "Grey Ranks"** - Clandestine Underground Resistance Scouting Organization, aiding the military organizations in fighting the occupant (transporting weapons, messages, preparing for active combat, sanitary/nursing and other duties).

** **AK - Armia Krajowa - Home Army** - main and largest Underground Resistance fighting force during WWII, subordinate to the Polish Government-in-Exile in London.

WOJCIECH WAJSZCZUK - Warsaw Uprising Muzeum – biograms -

http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Wojciech_Wajszczuk



Pseudonym - "Wojtek"

Date of birth - 1929-02-09

Date of death - 1944-08-02

Wall-of-remembrance: column/position - 203 67

Place of birth - Krasnystaw

Parents' names - Edmund - Maria nee Bieguńska

Address before Warsaw Uprising – Warszawa, ul. Ogrodowa 23

Detachment - IV Obwód "Grzymała" (Ochota) Warszawskiego Okręgu Armii Krajowej - 1. Rejon -

platoon 400 * (sanitary), see - http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Michal_Dowbor

Battle route - Pęcice

Place of death - Pęcice – captured by the Germans during an attempt of the Ochota detachments at breaking through the German lines on their way to the Sękocin forests, executed on August 2, 1944 in a group of ca. 60 people,

Siblings fighting in the Uprising - Brother **Antoni ps. "Toni"** was a soldier in VII Zgrupowanie "Ruczaj". Fell on 3. August. 1944. Sister **Barbara ps. "Baśka"** was a combat nurse in battalion "Gustaw" in the Old Town. Wounded on August 13, 1944 r. at Kiliński steet during explosion of a captured German "heavy explosive transporter" (Sd.Kfz. 301 Ausf. C - Schwere Ladungsträger B-IV Borgward), died during aerial bombardment of the hospital at ul. Kilińskiego 1/3.

Publications - Józef Kazimierz Wroniszewski: "IV Obwód Armii Krajowej - Ochota, Okręg Warszawa" (included there in a list of the executed soldiers of the IV Obwód, identified (*initially – by his pseudonym only!*) during exhumation in April 1946 – as **N/N – strz. „Wojtek”**. Publ.. "LAM" 1997 r.; "Wielka ilustrowana encyklopedia Powstania Warszawskiego. T. 6, Wykaz uczestników-żołnierzy

powstania warszawskiego Kr-Ż / red. nauk. Piotr Rozwadowski. Wyd. "Bellona", Fundacja " Warszawa Walczy 1939-1945", 2004.

Remarks – Other assignment: 2. pluton 3. kompanii batalionu Szarych Szeregów "**Zośka**", info:- family archives, not confirmed by the MPW (Museum of the Warsaw Uprising)

Wojciech W. – Ogrodowa → Niemcewicza 7/9 → Pecice. Died – Aug. 2

(not identified, probably until after a visit by his mother in the PCK office in Warsaw, as suggested in December 25, 1946 letter from Bohdan Szermer?)

1/ We know relatively little about his early years, except for reminiscences from his friends and neighbours from Żółkiewka and Krasnystaw. They said that during his early teenage years, while still in Krasnystaw and before moving with his siblings and mother in 1942 to Warsaw, he became "kind of secretive" and occasionally "disappearing for hours". We cannot be sure, if this was only connected with his age – he was ~13 year old at that time, getting independent, or he was getting involved in the clandestine scouting activities of the "**Grey Ranks**".

2/ He became most likely involved in the clandestine scouting activity shortly after arriving in Warsaw, during the fall of 1942 - with the **16 WDH "Drużyna"** – "Warsaw Scout Troop #16" (*we will continue search for more information*), which was attached to the Stanislaw Staszic Gymnasium and Lyceum.

3/ His initial assignment – as listed in his biogram at the Museum of the Warsaw Uprising was: "IV Obwód "Grzymała" (Ochota) Warszawskiego Okręgu Armii Krajowej - **1. Rejon - pluton 400 *** (which was also listed as sanitary/medical), in another biogram –

see - http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Michal_Dowbor).

He is also sometimes listed as a member of the "**Ochota Platoon**".

4/ While studying various other publications and individual recollections, it appears that a significant reorganization was underway during the summer months of 1944, which was aimed at unifying and consolidating the various scouting groups, which were scattered in various locations and structures – into a single Scout Unit under the name "**Zośka**" **Battalion**. Its concentration area was in the Wola district. Final decisions were made a couple of days prior to the outbreak of the Uprising and the actual procedure could not be completed and the troupe movement could not be accomplished. The unit remained in its "alarm location" in Ochota, and then it was forced to leave this location during the night of August 1/2, in the direction of Pęcice and Sękocin Forests. Prior to leaving Ochota, the soldiers were issued armbands: **Platoon "438"**, which, probably, was NOT a new number assigned to this Scout Platoon? NOTE: The same number was issued to their replacement platoon?

5/ **WOJCIECH HASS** - http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Wojciech_Hass - **At the turn of July and August 1944, their platoon was supposed to reinforce a new 3rd Company of Lt. "Giewont" in the Kedyw KG AK - "Zośka" Battalion.** The outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising prevented completion of this reorganization. (The new assignment was supposed to be: "IV Obwód "Grzymała" (Ochota) Warszawskiego Okręgu Armii Krajowej - 2. Rejon - 438. pluton (harcerski) osłony sztabu Komendy Obwodu".

6/ **BOHDAN SZERMER** - Warsaw Uprising Muzeum – biograms –



http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Bohdan_Szermer

"438. pluton (harcerski) osłony Sztabu Komendy Obwodu - dowódca plut. pchor. "Bogusław" (Iwo Rygiel). Na przełomie lipca i sierpnia 1944 r. pluton miał zasilić nową, **3. kompanię por. "Giewonta"** w batalionie Kedywu KG AK "Zośka". Wybuch Powstania Warszawskiego uniemożliwił przeprowadzenie tej reorganizacji."

PECICE BATTLE

AK - Organization: squad/section → platoon → company → battalion → regiment/brigade

Pęcice - <http://www.sppw1944.org/index.html?http://www.sppw1944.org/pamiec/pecice.html>

NOTE: This table is based on the description of this battle! (also - see text below)

General Marching Order:

<-- **Spearhead unit** <-- **avant-guard unit** <-- **main body** (soldiers & civilians) <-- **rear guard**

At Pęcice: (404 + 406, ~50s.) (438, >100s.) (~500 s. and c.)

(unit-# & ~count=s-soldiers, c.-civilians)

(**avant-guard units** – Scouting platoons*: 1/ "Bogusław", 2/ Staff Commander's Guard, 3/ Signals)

1/	1 st sq. - (Glinka?), - of II (438) platoon**, - of the Scout Battalion "ZOŚKA"	
	2 nd sq. – Hass ***	" (Wojtek W.)
	3 rd sq. – Szermer ****	" → 17 or 18/35 perished

* Three Scout platoons from Ochota - recently incorporated into the Scout Battalion GS "Zośka"
1/ platoon of the Officer Cadet Iwo Rygiel - "Bogusław", 2/ AK District Staff Commander's Guard platoon 3/ Signals platoon.

** Also called earlier - Platoon "Ochota", commander – Iwo Rygiel "Gustaw Batt.?", died at Pęcice

*** 2. Squad leader – Wojciech Hass "Bocian", died at Pęcice

**** 3. Squad leader – Bohdan Szermer „Lwowicz”.

Wojciech Hass "Bocian" - http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Wojciech_Hass

Rank – Cpl. Officer Cadet

Participation in conspiration - 1939-1944 - Szare Szeregi - "new Battle groups" - Blok "Prochownia" (Ochota) - IV Obwód "Grzymała" (Ochota) Warszawskiego Okręgu Armii Krajowej - **438. pluton (harcerski)** osłony Sztabu Komendy Obwodu - dowódca plut. pchor. "Bogusław" (Iwo Rygiel). At the turn of July and August 1944, this platoon was supposed to reinforce the new, 3. Company of Lt. "Giewont" in the Kedyw battalion "Zośka" of the General Command (KG) of the AK. Outbrake of the Warsaw Uprising prevented completion of this reorganization.

Search for Wojtek – (and his fates in the battle)

http://parafiapecice.michalowice.pl/czytelnia/2014-10nmo/miejsca_pamieci.pdf (polish)

Exhumation at Pęcice in April 1946, only 67 bodies (out of 89) were identified;

Construction of the **Monument completed in August 1946** - all were buried in the same location

Wojtek is listed on the monument as "NN – strz.Wojtek" (rifleman "Wojtek") – **still not identified!**

Letter from **Bohdan Szermer** to Maria Wajszcukowa – 25.XII.1946, regarding "Wojtek" – suggests PCK search

Bohdan Szermer's letter to Maria Wajszcuk
(Włodek Bieguński's transcription from the handwritten original)

Gdańsk 25.XII.46

Dear Madam / Szanowna Pani / „Estimada Senora”!

I received your postcard on the 19th of this month, but finally only today, I found some time to answer. I would like to stress at the beginning, that I am able to provide you with the information about only one of

your sons, which is Wojtek. Unfortunately, I do not have any information about your other Children, and I even did not know until getting this card from You, Dear Lady, that Wojtek had siblings.

Regarding Wojtek, unfortunately, according to the highest probability, he perished at Pecice near Pruszkow on 2.VIII.(1944).

I cannot give you a hundred-percent assurance, but I do not want to raise any hopes, since they really do not exist.

In order to provide You, Dear Lady, with the most accurate information, I will mention all details:

Your son belonged to the II platoon of the 3rd company of the "Zoska" battalion. As far as I know, he started working in our platoon shortly before the Uprising. I saw him for the first time at the time of the (call for) uprising preparedness. i.e. between 26.VII and 1.VIII.44 (I do not remember the exact date). I remembered Him, because the second-in-command of the platoon and my Friend, Ś+P Wojtek (Hass or Wars?) told me: "This is Tucik's cousin". (Tucik – Antoni Dobraczynski).

However, because your son was assigned to the 2nd squad and I was commanding the 1st, I had nothing to do with Him.

Our platoon, because of inadequate armament, was designated as a reserve and did not participate in fighting during the first day. Also, for some reasons, which were unclear to me, we were not pulled to Wola, where our battalion was undergoing concentration, but we were left in our alarm location in Ochota. Therefore, when the crew from Ochota was retreating during the night of 1st/2nd August, we had to leave Ochota together with them. We encountered the Germans near Pecice. Because of the fatal for us development of the action events, our platoon found itself in the most shot-at location and was completely destroyed. Out of 34 people, only 12 saved themselves – by different ways and means. We did not know anything about the others. Only after the Uprising ended, while collecting the information and compiling it – we found out only that 2 were definitely killed during the fight, a few were wounded, and 6 were among a several-dozen people group of the captured. There was no exact information about the fate of the captured, however there were all kinds of data indicating that they were shot.

Only the exhumation, conducted at the end of April of this year revealed that the majority of people about whom we did not have any information, perished. In the common grave, there were found the bodies of those, who fell during the fight, as well as of those who were captured and shot on the same day. From among 91 bodies, we have found 20 or 21 from our platoon. 14 of Them were identified – they were those who could be identified by the families or friends, based on the clothing details or small personal items found in the pockets, since their documents generally could not be found. The remaining 6 or 7 had with them the armbands with the platoon number: 438. They were not identified, since we did not know addresses of Their Families, and frequently (we did not know) their names (as in the case of Your Son).

Because the great majority of the families agreed on leaving the fallen in Pecice, and local authorities and the owners of the property did not object – after collecting the artifacts, which were found with the bodies and of the excised segments of their clothing, for a so-called "deposit" with the Red Cross (PCK) – all were buried in the same location, in a properly enlarged grave.

The only way for You to definitely find out, is to visit the Department of Graves at the PCK in Warsaw and to screen the deposits from Pecice. Please, pay particular attention to those, in which the Nr. 438 armbands were found (although Your Son could have thrown it away in the last moment or it was taken away from Him). This is the end of information, which I am able and privileged to share with You, Dear Lady!

Of a totally informative character will be for You the information, that Wojtek, as far as I knew, used his first name as a pseudonym. I would be very grateful, if you were so kind to inform me about the results of

Your search at the PCK, since I need this kind of information to be able to prepare the history of the platoon – from my side, I promise that, if I receive any sort of supplemental information - I will share it with You immediately. It is not totally impossible that I might find out something new, but it is rather unlikely.

I include my words of respect
and sincere sympathy
Bohdan Szermer

P.S.

If you would be able to find somewhere the “Gazeta Ludowa” (Popular Gazette), dated August 2, 1945 – there You will find more exact description of the engagement at Pecice

Włodek’s added remarks:

1/ At the bottom of the page - a hand written note, in different handwriting:

Niemcewicz 9 m. 137 (by Mania? Somebody’s – Rygiel family (?) address)

2/ on the letter page, numerous spots and smudgings, (blurrings), most probably from the falling tears.

A tale about Columbuses from Piaseczno - (an interview with Bohdan Szermer)

(written - Friday, Aug. 01 2014 by Małgorzata Szturomska and Piotr Mrówczyński)

http://www.piaseczno4u.pl/ludzie-i-miejsca/item/42565-obrazek-rysowany-pi%C3%B3rkiem#.Vx_AaHn2a70



www.piaseczno4u.pl **WJW** – english summary (*my comments - May 10, 2016*)

[Wojtek - koncentracja at Niemcewicz 7/9](#)

Part – I (excerpts and summary)

“Although, originally, we were a Scouting „Gray Rank” formation, our platoon’s initial assignment was to the Ochota AK structures – therefore our “alarm readiness” location was in the Ochota district. (*WJW - Also, for this reason, at that time they were named the Ochota Platoon?*). In June

and July (1944) planning was underway to have us transfer to the Scout Battalion “Zośka” – its concentration area was in the Wola district. The outbreak of the Uprising did not allow the transfer to become formally completed. One of the conditions was to have the vacancy (*after our platoon*) replaced with another properly trained platoon. This was accomplished in mid-July. Final decision about our transfer was made, I think, 2 days before the Uprising – at that time we were already in the “state of alarm” (*readiness*), which was announced 6 days before the selected date – and we stayed at the previously selected location in Ochota.

We had a small amount of weapons, some of it was borrowed from “Zośka” – but when it was decided that we (i.e. – Nr. 2. and Nr 3. Platoons) were going to be the reserve platoons – (and our 3rd Company [of Lt. “Giewont”] had enough weapons for only one platoon) - Platoon Nr. 1 was selected. We had to return our weapons!

Since it was felt that it was too late to risk a move to Wola, and many people from the outlying suburbs were not familiar enough with Warsaw, it was finally decided that we remain in Ochota and join (*in person*) “Zośka” later. Nobody anticipated that we will be withdrawing during the night of August 1/2. This way we lost the contact with, and could not join with “Zośka”.

Part – II - <http://www.piaseczno4u.pl/ludzie-i-miejsca/item/42767-obrazek-ryrowany-pi%C3%B3rkciem-cz%C4%99%C5%9B%C4%87-2#.VyBLCnn2a71>

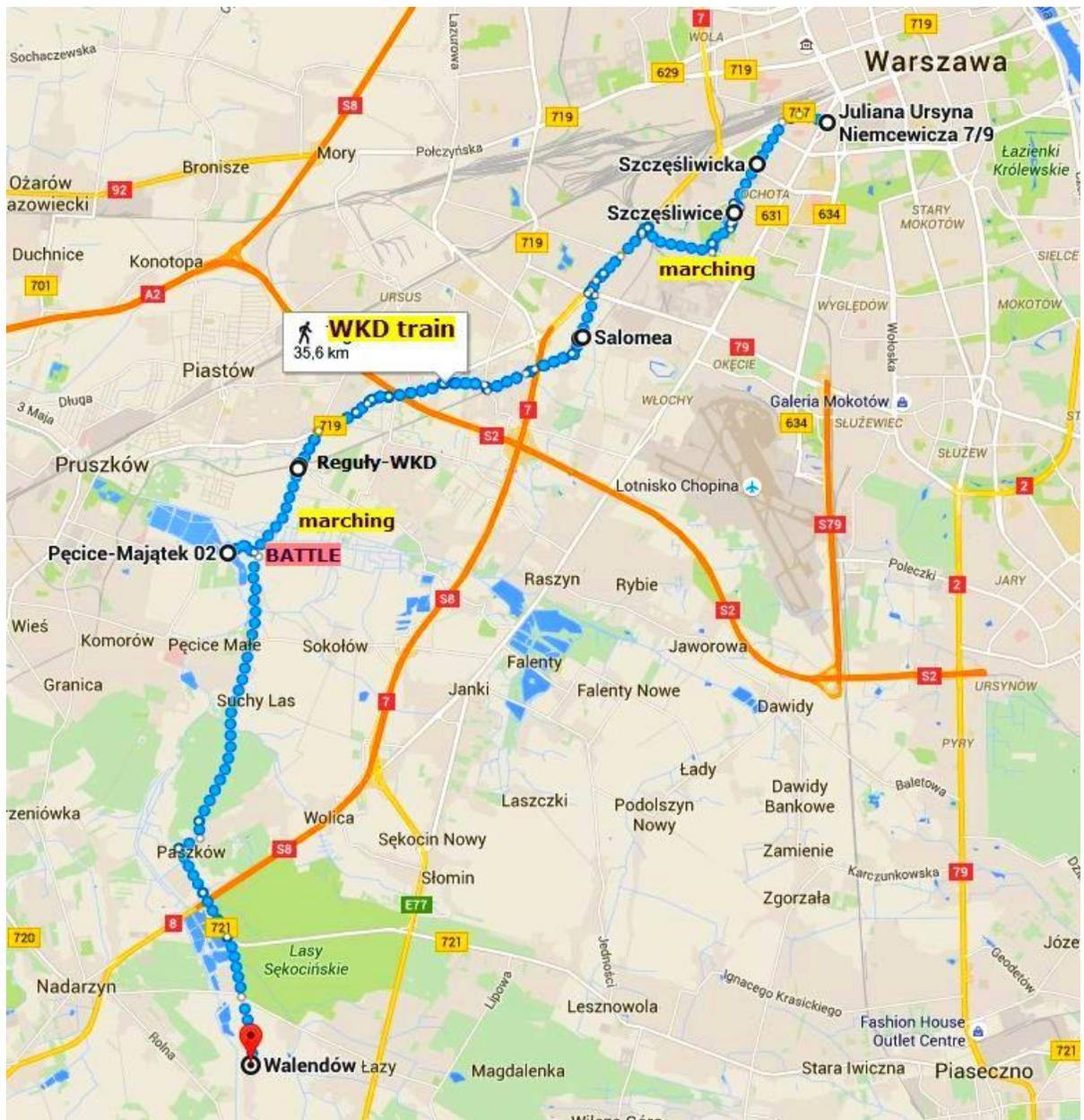
In fact, we could have stayed in Ochota, although we were not registered there any more. But, since there was a decision made that Ochota (units) are withdrawing, a colleague officer cadet, a leader of the platoon which replaced us, notified us expressly: “Listen, Ochota is retreating. Join them”. We went down through the courtyards to the cellars and, together with the whole column led by Col. “Grzymała”, we entered the Tarczyńska street. (...)

The first skirmish with the Germans occurred at the crossing of the EKD (*train track*) and Radom railroad. After our spearhead unit liquidated one “Bahnschutz” (*Railroad Police*) and a couple of German soldiers, the column moved on. Then, the early dusk was already starting, we noticed a (*local electric*) train approaching, quite empty, two or three cars. It was stopped. After the driver found out, what was going on – they could hear the cannonade from Warsaw. “Give us a lift”, and they did, they had to return two or three times. We were in the second tour to Reguły, where we got off. (...) From there was a road leading to Pęcice (...). When we were approaching Pęcice, we did not know what to expect – just in case, the platoons were scattered. Most of the units walked along the right edge of the road to Pęcice, which led to the manor, and we (two or three platoons – our [#3], “Grey Rank” #2 [*Wojtek’s*], and probably one more?) moved along the left side of the road, towards the left side edge of the park. (...) [*WJW - Later, there was the heaviest machine gun fire!*] (...) The spearhead unit got some weapons earlier, after attacking the German lorries, which drove up there. (Since we were on the left side of the road, my unit [platoon #3] was a little behind.

Q: “Your weapon?”; A.: “I had a ‘sidolówka’”

(see below – <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidol%C3%B3wka>).

(...) “we were lucky to reach the park, crawling in a trench, but some died on the approach” – *WJW -see map above* (...) When we were able to re-assemble after bypassing the manor and the Utrata river, there were only four of us from our platoon (...) (A few more were found later, but out of 35 - 17 or 18 perished) (...)

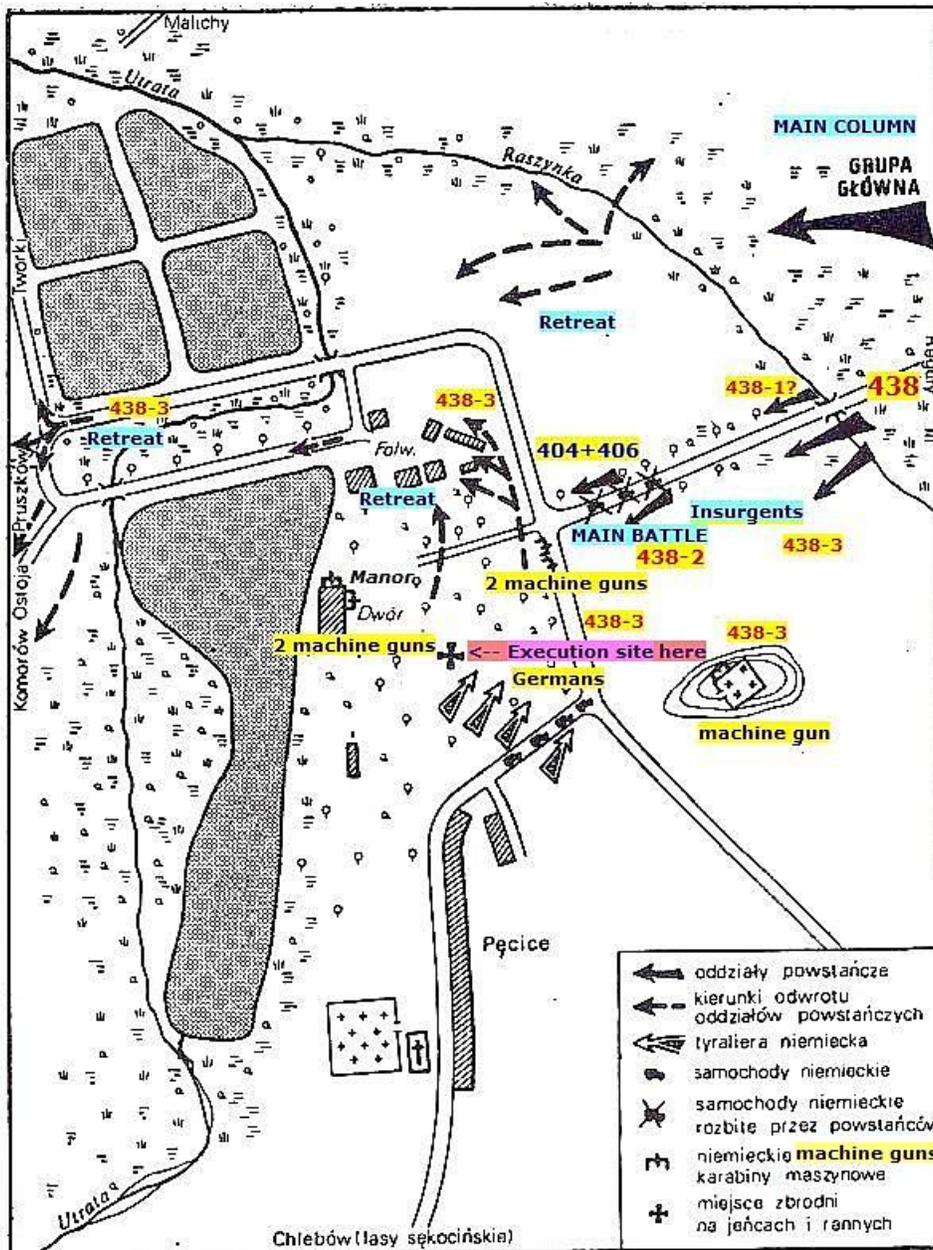


Pełce - <http://www.sppw1944.org/index.html?http://www.sppw1944.org/pamiec/pecice.html>

SUMMARY (WJW): About 2:00 AM on August 2, 1944, on a cloudy rainy night a group of ca. 700 civilians and poorly armed insurgents left the Niemcewicz 7/9 assembly point. They were moving down the Niemcewicz and Szczęśliwicka street towards Reguły.

First went the 50 strong spearhead unit, composed of soldiers from the 404 and 406 platoons, commanded by 2nd Lt. Tadeusz Kotecki "Brzask"(...), followed by an over 100 strong avant-guard unit commanded by Cpt. Lucjan Dybaczewski "Korwin". Next was the main marching column of about 500 practically unarmed insurgents and civilians with Lt Col. Sokołowski. Included were a few dozen women from the medical service. They left the city without much difficulty, reached Szczęśliwice (where they captured a submachine gun during an encounter with German police) and continued in the direction of Salomea, where they were joined by soldiers of the "Odwet" battalion, under the command of Lt. Witold Daab "Stefan" – who received late the information about the concentration and departure of the reserve units.

Map was modified and updated with information from the text below:



From Salomea they were able to travel the next 5 km to Reguły by train of the EKD, The train made three trips. When the whole group was assembled (*in Reguły*), the civilians were released and advised to disperse, while the severely wounded were left behind under the care of Jerzy Zapasiewicz "Uczony" (...) thus the group was reduced by about 100 people.

This reduced group started moving towards Pęcice and reached the road fork: to the village of Pęcice, and to Pruszków. In front of the fork was the manor of Pęcice, surrounded by a park, to the right was a grange, and to the left the village; a several dozen soldier strong detachment of the German 19th Armored Division with a radio station was located in the manor. Some Wehrmacht soldiers were stationed in the village (...)

When the insurgents were walking along the dike and were ca. 200 meters from the park, three German cars appeared on the tree-lined road, which was running from the village along the park edge. The Germans were dispersed, a few were killed and a few run away. The sound of fighting

alarmed the Germans. While the Insurgents' spearhead was busy looking for weapons, the Germans took defensive positions along the edge of the park, with at least two machine guns. The Wehrmacht soldiers organized a tyraliere line and sent a car with heavy machine gun to the hill nearby. (...) Insurgents organized a frontal attack, conducted by the spearhead and avant-guard units – among them were the three Scout Platoons from Ochota, recently incorporated into the Scout Battalion of the GS (Grupy Szturmowe - Assault Groups) – “Zośka”: 1/ Platoon of the officer cadet Iwo Rygiel's “Bogusław”, 2/ The Guard Platoon of the AK District Commander and 3/ Signals Platoon. Soldiers of the left flank were able to destroy the German machine gun site on the hill. A short but very bloody battle between the insurgents and the Germans followed at the approach to, and in the park. A while later, cars with soldiers started arriving from the direction of the village and infantry entered the battle. After reaching the edge of the park, the Insurgents encountered a German defense line (tyraliere). Attack on the manor collapsed. The German attack line stopped for a while treated with grenades by the squad of officer cadet Bohdan Szermer “Lwowicz”, but many scouts perished in the strong German fire. Along the attack path fell dead - 31 insurgents, most of them very young scouts, along with 30 others wounded.

(An idea cannot be excluded that Wojtek was also shot there? WOUNDED? DIED?)

After unsuccessful attack on the manor house, the avant-guard units started to withdraw in the northern direction, to be able to cross a small bridge between the lake and fish ponds, and subsequently turn south towards the Sękocin Forests.

The main group, which followed about 600 meters behind the avant-guard, after hearing the firing, changed direction to the north (...) bypassing the German positions (...) north of the manor - across a small bridge on the Utrata river and a dike between the ponds. Another part of this group was withdrawn north, in the direction of Malichy.

Groups, which penetrated in the northern direction, consisting of about 300 soldiers (including some lightly wounded), were led by Lt. Col. Sokołowski to the Chlebowskie Forests (...)

Fates of the insurgents left on the battlefield (some wounded and some hiding) turned tragic. Strong and densely-spaced search party collected more than 80 insurgents. Investigation conducted by the SS-men, including beating and cruelties, lasted the whole day. Around 6 PM, Germans executed 60 captured prisoners (POWs), including many wounded and 5 women. Seven prisoners were spared, in consequence of an intervention by a wounded German officer. Another ca. 20 persons, mostly women were released by a Wehrmacht junior officer (a Silesian - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silesians>), most likely on his own responsibility and without the knowledge of the SS-men). A FEW PEOPLE WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE.

Germans forced the local inhabitants to dig in the park a grave pit of 3 by 4 meters and 2 meters deep. They ordered them to collect the dead-in-fight, the executed and to throw them in this pit. This common grave was then covered with dirt. 91 people fell in fight or were murdered at Pęcice. Most of the victims belonged to the Scout platoons from the “Zośka” Battalion and from the platoons of the IV district. Forty victims were less than 20 year old, the youngest was 14 year old. In April 1946, 89 bodies were exhumated, (two were found a few days later, after the battle), and buried at the local cemetery). 51 bodies were identified during the exhumation, 21 at a later date and 19 were never identified.

Piaseczno (town) - kawiarenka historyczna (“History caffè”), August 1, 2015

<https://www.facebook.com/piasecznokawiarenkahistoryczna/posts/836028663160417:0;>

(Author – „I am quoting, without any commentary, an account by Tadeusz Zieliński.”) –

Tadeusz Zielinski - („Czarny”, „Kogut” - [http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Tadeusz Zielinski 7](http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Tadeusz_Zielinski_7))

438. pluton (harcerski) osłony Sztabu Komendy Obwodu - dowódca plut. pchor. "Bogusław" (Iwo Rygiel).

(WJW - small excerpts)

(...) - ... on July 29, (some of us) were temporarily released from our assembly location (“koszary”) at Filtrowa 62. On August 1, final mobilization followed (...). Around 1 or 2 PM, a platoon commander arrived, via the backyard of a house, which he entered from the Niemcewicza st., announcing that there is (exists) already a final order about transferring our platoon to the “Zoska” Battalion. We received from “Boguslaw”, the platoon commander, armbands of the “Zoska” Battalion. At 2 PM a meeting took place, of the platoon commander with the squad leaders, behind the closed doors, I was placed as a sentry at the door. I could not avoid hearing their conversation, that we will be left here and that we will not be transferred to join the concentration of the “Zoska” Battalion, which will take place in Wola at the Kamler Factory, we are being left in reserve. After 2PM the liaison girls arrived and took our weapons, we became unarmed and our weapons were transported (*by them*) to the “Zoska” Battalion quarters.

(...) around 1 AM, an officer cadet “Janusz” from the (*new - our replacement**) 438 platoon bursts in and yells: “What are you still doing here? “Grzymala” is withdrawing and you have been assigned to his “Guarding Platoon” – leave immediately!” (...) We were retreating along the track of the WKD narrow gauge railroad. First skirmish with a German post occurred in Szczęśliwice. Germans were killed and we captured some weapons. We continued walking along the track ..., we saw a train and we stopped it. (...) We arrive at the Reguły station, disembark the train, it returned w few times for the remaining people. (...) we start walking along a stone paved road towards the Pęcice manor. We are walking along the left side of the road, (*which is somewhat elevated above the wet meadows*), the spearhead units - along the right side it. The spearhead unit becomes engaged in a fight with the Germans in 3 cars. (...) (*In addition to the machine guns in front of us*), we are being also shot at from the plane above and an armored car or a tank from the back. (...)

“Boguslaw” is killed, second in command of the platoon, Wojciech Hass “Bocian” is killed, “Grzywa” is killed, only two squad leaders remain alive. (...) We are retreating in between the ponds. Morning, rain, clouds – defeated, we catch up with the spearhead unit, which was well armed. We had no weapons, I had only a “sidolówka”*. We are approaching the convent in Walendów. The nuns fed us with noodles in milk and honey. (...)

Searching in Wikipedia for Iwo RYGIEL

FALLEN AT PECICE – history of their identification:

a/ In total, 91 Insurgents died in the Pecice battle, 89 were buried in a common grave, 2 (were found later and) were buried in the parish cemetery (later, their bodies were transferred to Warsaw).

b/ In April of 1946 the exhumation was performed ..., 67 bodies were identified.

c/ Construction of the monument-burial-mausoleum was completed in August 1946.

d/ Letter from Mr. Bohdan Szermer was dated 25.XII.1946 – it means that at that time Wojtek’s body was still not identified!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lkYDXUuzLQ>

List of the Fallen in the Warsaw Uprising - ZOŚKA Battalion -

http://www.info-pc.home.pl/whatfor/baza/zoska_lista_pol.htm#pcm (early - date?)



pluton "Ochota"*

phm. plut. pchor. **Bogusław**
 kpr. pchor. **Bocian**
 kpr. pchor. **Boruta**
 strz. **Baśka**
 strz. **Benito**
 strz. **Grom**
 strz. **Gryf**
 kpr. pchor. **Jowisz**
 strz. **Karp**
 strz. **Kozak**
 strz. **Lechita**
 kpr. pchor. **Leon**
 strz. **Mruczek**
 kpr. pchor. **Rybowicz**
 strz. **Tomek**
 strz. **Wichrowski**
 strz. **Witold**
 strz. **Wojtek**

harcerze z Chorągwi Warszawskiej

Iwo Rygiel, 23 l. d-ca plut. † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Wojciech Haas, z-ca d-cy plutonu, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Janusz Paderewski, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Stanisław Rzeszczyk, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Wiesław Skudlarski, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Marian Czujkowski (?), 19 l. † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Tadeusz Dudek, 16 l. † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Ryszard Dudek, 19 l. † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Janusz Zwoliński, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Bogusław Polkowski, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Lech Jodłowski, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 ... † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Janusz Wojewódzki, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Jerzy Rowiński, d-ca druż. † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Piotr Karczewski, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Stanisław Mozer, 21 l. † 2 VIII Pęcice
 Kazimierz Bąbrowski, † 2 VIII Pęcice
 ... † 2 VIII Pęcice

At Pęcice - „Ochota” platoon* (August 1946?) –

at the very bottom: **strz. Wojtek, ... + 2 VIII 1944** - (full name still not identified!)

*(author's "whatfor" comments): „Ochota” Platoon from the Warsaw Scout „Banner” never really joined (became part) of the “Zośka” Battalion – erroneous information about its joining this battalion is given in “The Reminiscences of the Soldiers from the Zośka Battalion”. Plans to incorporate this group into „Zośka” were not carried out ⁽⁺⁾, since this platoon was destroyed on August 2, 1944 in a fight at Pęcice.

(+) – (WJW comments) - but a formal order has been issued? – what does the law and military regulations say? Apparently this issue is important for some Insurgents’ families!

Powązki Military Cemetery - See bottom row, center – **N/N - strz. Wojtek**



Zuska - Praca własna, CC BY 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2621236> (Date?)

List of the Fallen at Pecice (Copyright 2004-2016)

(NOTE: The name sequence on this partial list is arranged by age!)

1. Zbigniew Chrzanowski "Wilk" lat 14
 2. Michał Aleksander Dowbor "Zbyszek" lat 15
 3. Zbigniew Matecki lat 15
 - 4. Wojciech Wajszczuk lat 15**
 5. Waclaw Janusz Zawadzki lat 15
- (...)

PEĆICE MONUMENT



Left wing of the monument



Right wing of the monument



Wojtek's name appears on the monument in the right lower corner – very late (when?) and „out-of-alphabetical” and not-in-“age” order – thus, suggesting that it was added at a much later date!

4/20/2016 - ANA's e-mail: (...) (Anka from Siedlce said) that **Wojtek was taken prisoner - he had "some documents" with him - and was executed later.** But maybe she was confused? Anyway that interview was a mess... : Alina chatting in Polish, Kuba translating into English, Dad translating into Spanish! I guess some information for sure was missed or confused.

Waldemar's answer: Based on our new information – exhumation, burial and monument erection occurred in April-June 1946; Mr. Szermer's letter to Mania was dated in December 1946 – it means, that at that time she did not know anything about Wojtek and ... that earlier the exhumation crew people did not have his last name, did not have her address and were not able to contact her or fully identify him (so she could not have been present there?! While removing the unidentified bodies from the temporary mass grave, and before putting them in a permanent burial place (with the permission of the families) – they were taking photographs?, samples of clothes, contents of their pocket, buttons, hairpins – anything that could help to identify later these people by their families and friends and they were depositing these items with the Red Cross Office in Warsaw!

Mr Szermer was advising Mania to go there! I wonder, if she identified him this way? (Perhaps, we will be able to learn more about it now, that we have fresh leads?)

(WJW – my summary and comments - May 3 - 11, 2016 –

No direct confirmation could be found for some of the cited “facts” or speculations, as described above, (for instance - “executed” vs. “died with weapons in his hands”)!

THE FACTS ARE:

1/ Wojtek was a member of the avant-guard unit - Scout platoon # 438 (= earlier classification from Ochota District (?)) Only the Spearhead units (Platoons # 404 and # 406) and 1st squad of the # 438 avant-guard platoon were well armed, the other two

units (#2 and #3 squads) practically did not have any weapons, except some home-made grenades ("Sidolowka"). <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidol%C3%B3wka>;

2/ The spearhead unit captured some weapons on the way - light machine gun and some other - during a skirmish with German police in Szczęśliwice and later during the attack on German cars on a dike at Pęcice.

3/ While they were walking along the dike at Pęcice, the well-armed spearhead platoons (# 404 and # 406) and SQUAD #1 (?) of 438 – (well armed) were walking along the right side of the dike (less enemy fire and no machine guns), while the Squads #2 and #3 of 438 were walking along the left side of the road/dike (there were several German machine guns, along the edge of the park and also on the hill to the left, as well as German infantry line). The # 2 and # 3 squads were caught in a heavy cross fire. Mr Szermer reported that "they attacked the Germans with grenades" ... 17 or 18 of 35 soldiers of his platoon got killed there (see map).

4/ It is most likely that Wojtek was killed there (and buried together with those, who were later captured and shot?). Whether he had any weapons on him (except, perhaps, the grenades) – WE DO NOT KNOW! He, certainly was very close to the line of attack and fighting! And was ready to fight!? Perhaps, he was trying to eliminate the machine gun with his primitive home-made grenade?

5/ He was not identified during the early exhumation in 1946 - (NN -"Wojtek") – therefore Mania and Danusia were not there! The identification was probably accomplished after inspection of the "deposits" at the Red Cross. Afterwards the full name was added on the monuments and in the files. (The family could have been still hoping for his return [from a Soviet camp?] – until final message was heard on the Radio in the 50-ties)?

6/ It also appears, from studying the individual reports and reminiscences, that the initial platoon numbers of the Scout platoons from Ochota, (of the 400 series), which are used in their official identification in the Museum biograms and in the literature (for instance 404 and 406 for the spearhead units at Pęcice and 438 for the Scout avant-guard platoon) – still belong to the old "Ochota nomenclature" and structures, although, on occasion, these platoons are listed as destined to be incorporated into the newly formed **3. Company of Lt. "Giewont" in the Kedyw Battalion "Zośka" of the KG AK.**

Apparently the decision was made just before the beginning of the Uprising and appropriate administrative changes could not be carried out in practice (see Wojciech Hass' biogram above). Therefore Insurgent Scouts/Soldiers of the Ochota avant-guard platoon/unit (later fighting at Pęcice) were issued the armbands with an (old?) Ochota number "438", at the time of their departure from Ochota.

About Wojtek - NOT CONFIRMED, BUT VERY LIKELY

1/ Wojtek is listed initially in the Uprising Museum Biography page, as a member of the **400 "Sanitary" platoon** - http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Wojciech_Wajszczuk

2/ Because of his young age, Wojtek must have been initially a member of his age group **"Zawiszacy"** and later - "advanced on the job" (to a "Combat School"?)

3/ 400 sanitary platoon derived from the clandestine **16th Warsaw Scout Troop (16 WDH)**, patron – Zawisza Czarny – “Zawisza, the Black”) - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zawisza_Czarny;
http://www.16wdh.pl/Content/Dokumenty/Historia-90-lat/h1939_1945.htm;
http://www.1944.pl/historia/powstancze-biogramy/Michal_Dowbor

4/ 16 WDH originated from the **14th S. Staszic Gymnasium and Lyceum**, at Nowowiejska street in Ochota, Warsaw - (Wojtek was probably attending there the clandestine high school education classes(?), since 1942(?).

Wojtek, probably joined there the clandestine 16 WDH(?) – without the knowledge or involvement of the family or friends (in particular – of the Dobraczyńskis: “since in conspiracy, knowing too much endangered everybody”!)

<http://www.gim.staszic.waw.pl/?q=node/44>; <http://www.gim.staszic.waw.pl/?q=node/70>;

Address: Gimnazjum nr 13 (now, changed #), patron - Stanisław Staszic, ul. Nowowiejska 37a, 02-010 Warszawa.

5/ (Another/different?) **patrol unit of BS** (Assault Groups) from the 16 WDH was attached to the Command Staff of the Ochota District – “this patrol unit was destroyed at Pecice” -

http://www.16wdh.pl/Content/Dokumenty/Historia-90-lat/h1939_1945.htm

Remains to be checked – regarding Wojtek’s (and others’) scouting involvement:

a/ with Mr. Bohdan Kielbasa in Zolkiewka and Mr. Zbigniew Atras in Krasnystaw

b/ with Kamila W. – scouting instructor, scouting historian in Warsaw

c/ with the PCK (Red Cross) archives in Warsaw



XLIII Bicycle Rally (annual) - to honor their memory –

http://ktpzg.pttk.pl/imprezy/Rajd_Pecice_2009.php;

http://ktpzg.pttk.pl/imprezy/Rajd_Pecice_2009.php (english)

***SIDOLÓWKA** – <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sidol%C3%B3wka>;

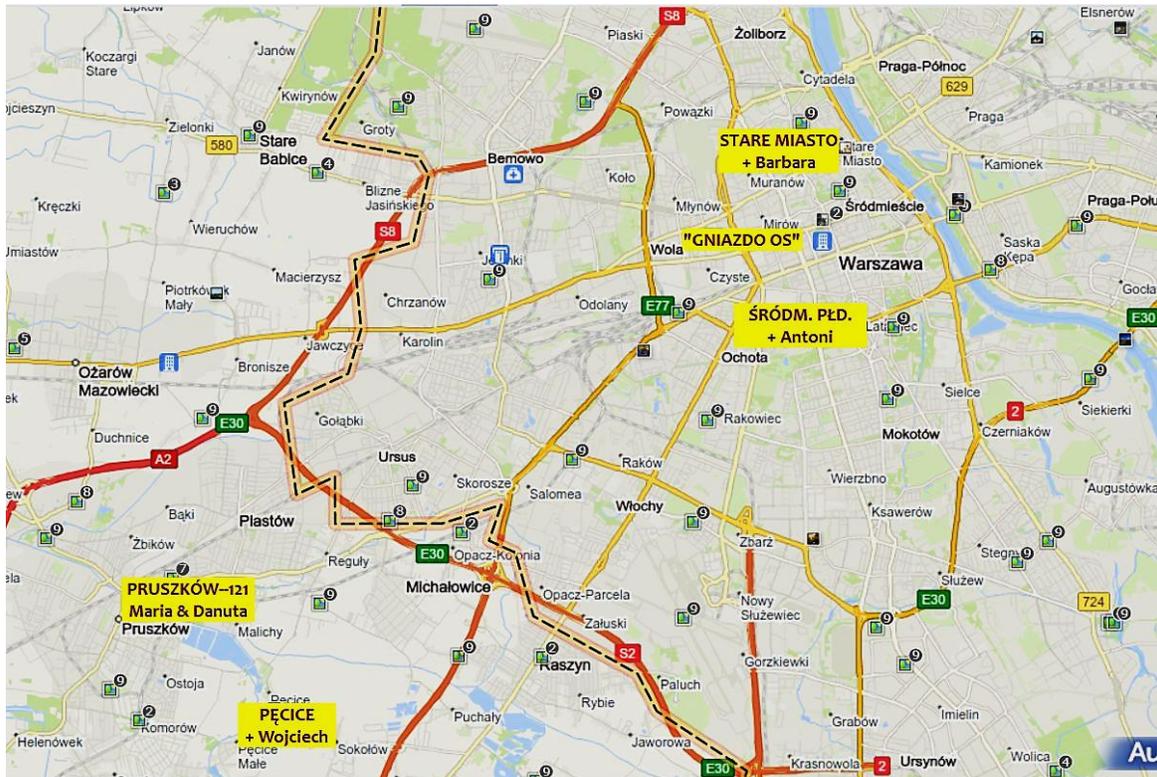
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MWP_Sidolowka_satchel_molotov.JPG



Various types of **Sidolówka** grenades, along with a single **Molotov cocktail** (note that the name used here is an **anachronism**) and two hand-made satchel charges; all of these were made prior to or during the **Warsaw Uprising**

They all were young, brave, patriotic and enthusiastic – they knew, where they were starting..., but they had no way of knowing, where they will end up! (WJW)

(What is the difference between "end up" and "end"? The verb "end" is a synonym of the verb "finish." The verb "end" is used more often as an intransitive verb. "The party ended" sounds more natural than "The party finished." The phrasal verb "end up" communicates, not termination, but an eventual circumstance - <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-end-up-and-end>)



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AUTHOR(S): Jerzy Jabrzemski – "SCOUTS OF THE "GRAY RANKS"

Published recently in England? In Polish only? - I am (with Pawel's help) looking for this book.

1. A LETTER FROM THE 'GREY RANKS' TO THE BRITISH SCOUT ASSOCIATION

[A letter from 'Pasieka' (Polish Scout Association HQ.) from January of 1944 carried by the courier Jerzy Lerski 'Jur', who left Warsaw during the final days of January 1944 and reached London in April 1944. The letter was summarized for representatives of the British Scout Association on the 16th of May 1944.]

Polish Scout Association HQ transmitted the following assessment of the world scouting movement's situation by way of the Grey Ranks' Chief Scout, with whom 'Jur' had three successive meetings:

1. The 'Grey Ranks' (*Szare Szeregi*—Poland's underground scout association) are conscious of their brotherly scouting ties with the world scouting movement. They believe that the scout associations of different countries form a family brought up on similar scouting principles. All national associations are responsible for the entire international scouting movement.
2. The Movement emphasises that the educational ideal forming the basis of the Polish association's activities derives from the law and oath formulated by Baden-Powell. The moral principles of scout training have come into especially sharp focus in the conditions of underground resistance work carried out by the Movement in Poland for almost five years now.
3. The Polish Scout Association in great concern draws attention to the impending crisis of trust towards the Anglo-Saxon West. The young people of the conquered countries of East-Central Europe, and especially Poland, repose their hopes in Great Britain and the United States. These young people believed in both the truth and honesty of their statements. They believed that the principles of the 'Atlantic Charter', as well as President Roosevelt's policy of the 'four freedoms', are universal, yet also essential guidelines for the present war's aims. The statement concerning the defence of Christian principles of democracy in national and international life, mutual respect and the application of national laws and international justice are the same principles, in whose defence Poland began her solitary struggle against oppression and tyranny on the 1st of September 1939 and continues to do so still, together with the Allies. The recent signs of undoubted opportunism in world politics fill Poland's young people with dread. The Polish Scout Association asks, therefore, its brothers and sisters, boy scouts and girl guides, whether they are aware of the existence of the dangerous extremes of cynicism. The Western World will thus no longer have the right, nor the ability to educate its future generations in these principles, which have hitherto been the basis of the education of young people. For if we recognise the right of oppression, if tactics and games, opportunism and a lack of moral courage are to defeat truth and justice, it will be impossible to base the future of education on the principles of Christian faith, Western European law and a universal sense of right and justice.
4. The Polish underground scout association, suffering great and bloody sacrifices on a daily basis, inquires whether indeed the great moral capital, earned by fighting for the principles which were the basis of scout training, is to be squandered once and for all.

You must understand that people are prepared to endure the greatest torture, they are prepared to die in battle, but they do not want to die in vain: they do not want to believe and will not believe that the struggle they have been conducting has been pointless; that its conclusion is to be the surrender of all that they were brought up in, have come to love and for which so many have already laid down their lives.

Our generation, the generation of struggle and reared on the scouting principles of service to God, Country and one's neighbour, is conscious that if the future of the world is to be decided by the strength and tyranny of some and the concomitant weakness and fearfulness of others, then our generation may well be the last which is prepared to fight and die in defence of those principles which form the basis of scout training. Cynical egoism and opportunism will put an end to the scouting movement and life will lose all meaning.

5. The Scout Association in Poland has learnt of the British scouting associations' preparations to bring post-war relief to the young people of the occupied countries. These preparations are very important and are proof of the international brotherhood of scouting.

The Polish Scout Association believes that, despite the great significance of material assistance, its significance is secondary. Speak not and think not of 'poor Poland' needing material assistance. We want neither your pity nor your generosity. We are on the front line and a front-line soldier has no inferiority complex, needs no admiration, needs no pity. He simply wants his effort, his work and his struggle to be understood and not to have been in vain. He wants proof that you understand what the Polish Underground Scout Association is fighting for.

Hence the Scout Association in Poland calls on you to inform the young people of Britain, and above all those in the scouting movement, of our steadfast struggle and of the hopes of Poland's young people. Our Underground Association sends you the book *Kamienie na szaniec* [Stones on the Rampart], published in Warsaw in the summer of 1943 with the request that it be translated into English and distributed amongst the young people of Britain. The Chief Scout of the 'Grey Ranks' asks the British scouting authorities to take this publication under its patronage and to write a foreword to it."

Translation of Polish original from " HARCERZE SZARYCH SZEREGÓW" by JERZY JABRZEMSKI to be published in June 2010 by SPP-PUMST (Studium Polski Podziemnej—SPP or The Polish Underground Movement (1939-1945) Study Trust—PUMST), London

I have attached the cover 🙌

The scouting badges are from the SPP-PUMST collection but are unfortunately not reproduced in the book but it does contain many other *Szare Szeregi* photographs in B&W. As always the proceeds go to funding the work of SPP-PUMST so they are most welcome of the supporting sales 🙌

Gray Ranks - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gray_Ranks

"**Gray Ranks**" ([Polish: *Szare Szeregi*](#)) was a [codename](#) for the underground paramilitary [Polish Scouting Association](#) ([Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego](#)) during [World War II](#).



The wartime organisation was created on 27 September 1939, actively resisted and fought German occupation in [Warsaw](#) until 18 January 1945, and contributed to the resistance operations of the [Polish Underground State](#). Some of its members (*Grupy Szturmowe* — Assault Groups) were among the [Home Army](#)'s best-trained troops.

Though formally independent, the Gray Ranks worked closely with the [Government Delegation for Poland](#) and Home Army Headquarters. The Gray Ranks had [their own headquarters](#) ([pl](#)) known under the cryptonym *Pasieka* ("[bee yard](#)") staffed by the [Chief Scout of Gray Ranks](#) plus three to five deputies in the rank of *Harcistrz* ([Scoutmaster](#)).(...)

The codename *Szare Szeregi* was adopted in 1940. It was first used by underground scouting in [Poznań](#). The name was coined after an early action of the Polish Scouting Association, in which boy scouts distributed [propaganda leaflets](#) among Germans from [Lithuania](#), [Latvia](#) and [Estonia](#) who had settled in the homes of Poles expelled to the [General Government](#). **To create confusion, the leaflets had been signed SS — later expanded to *Szare Szeregi***, a name that came to be adopted by the entire organization.

Older Scouts carried out sabotage, armed resistance, and assassinations. The Girl Guides formed auxiliary units working as nurses, liaisons and munition carriers. Younger Scouts were involved in so-called [minor sabotage](#) under the auspice of the [Wawer](#) organization, which included dropping [leaflets](#) or painting the [kotwica](#) sign on the walls. During [Operation Tempest](#), and especially during the [Warsaw Uprising](#), the Scouts participated in the fighting, and several *Szare Szeregi* units were some of the most effective in combat. The Gray Ranks also included the [White Couriers](#), who between late fall 1939 and mid-1940 helped smuggle many persons out of Soviet-occupied southeastern Poland into [Hungary](#).

In 1940, the Soviet Union executed most of the Boy Scouts held at Ostashkov prison.

In addition to the [Scouting](#) moral code, the Gray Ranks also followed a basic three-step path of action. The program was nicknamed "*Dziś - jutro - pojutrze*" ("Today - tomorrow - the day after"):

- "Today" — struggle for Poland's independence
- "Tomorrow" — prepare for an all-national uprising and the liberation of Poland
- "The Day After" — prepare to rebuild Poland after the war

(...) Structure

- "banner" (*chorągiew*) — *ul* ("beehive")
- "district" (*hufiec*) — *rój* ("swarm")
- "troop" (*drużyna*) — *rodzina* ("family")
- "squad" (*zastęp*) — *pszczóły* ("bees")

The [headquarters of the Gray Ranks](#) (pl) were code-named "[Bee Yard](#)" (*Pasieka*), headed by the commander ([Naczelnik](#))

(NEW, ADDED) - Ranks by age - As of 1 May 1944, the Gray Ranks numbered 8,359 members. Initially only older scouts (Senior Scouts, Senior Guides, Rovers and Rangers), aged 17 and up, were admitted. Soon, however, younger children were admitted, and in 1942 a new structure was adopted, based largely on the prewar structure of the [Polish Scouting Association](#).

[Zawisza](#) - Troops organised for children between 12 and 14 years of age were code-named [Zawisza](#), after [Zawisza Czarny](#), a [medieval Polish](#) knight and diplomat. The troops did not take part in active resistance. Instead, the children were prepared for auxiliary service for the upcoming [all-national uprising](#) and taught in [secret schools](#) for their future duties in liberated Poland. Among the best-known auxiliary troops formed by the *Zawiszacy* was the [Scouting Postal Service](#) organised during the [Warsaw Uprising](#).

Combat Schools - The Combat Schools (*Bojowe Szkoły*) comprised youngsters aged 15 to 17. They took part in "[small-sabotage](#)" operations. These included propaganda operations directed at the Poles, German civilians and German military units.

Assault groups - The Assault Groups (*Grupy Szturmowe*), comprising youngsters aged 17 and up, were directly subordinate to the [Home Army's KeDyw](#) (Directorate of Diversion). The groups trained at secret [NCO](#) schools and officer schools for commanders of motorised and engineering units. Most members also studied at [underground universities](#), to gain knowledge necessary to reconstruct Poland after the war. The best-known NCO schools included Warsaw's [Agricola](#).

The assault groups took part in "major sabotage", including armed struggle against the occupiers. The assault groups formed the backbone of the Home Army's special troops. They liberated prisoners from German prisons and transports, blew up railroad bridges, carried out executions ordered by [special courts](#), and fought pitched battles against German forces.

The assault groups in Warsaw were organised into several battalions, including the famous "*Baszta*", "*Zośka*", "*Parasol*" and "*Wigry*", which later took part in the [Warsaw Uprising](#) and were among the most notable and successful units on the Polish side. Other units, mainly in the [Radom-Kielce](#) area, joined the [partisan](#) units operating in the forests of the [Świętokrzyskie Mountains](#).



[Battalion Zośka](#) - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battalion_Zo%C5%9Bka

Batalion Zośka (pronounced *Zoshka*; Sophie in Polish) was a [Scouting battalion](#) of the [Polish resistance movement](#) organisation - Home Army ([Armia Krajowa](#) or "AK") during [World War II](#). It mainly consisted of members of the [Szare Szeregi](#) paramilitary Boy Scouts.^[1] It was formed in late August 1943. A part of the [Radosław Group](#), the battalion played a major role in the [Warsaw Uprising](#) of 1944.^[2]

Zośka was named after [Tadeusz Zawadzki](#), who used the name as his pseudonym during the AK's early days. He was killed during a partisan action. Other famous Home Army battalions were: [Miotła](#), [Czata](#), [Pięść](#), and [Batalion Parasol](#). **Between 1944 and 1956, all of the former members of Batalion Zośka were incarcerated in the Soviet NKVD prisons.**^[4]

Notable Battalion fighters: [Krzysztof Kamil Baczyński](#), [Roger Barlet](#), [Ryszard Białous](#) and many others (...)

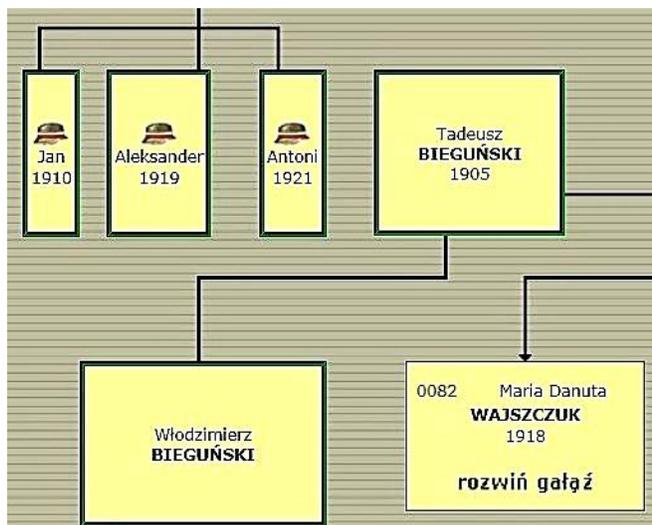
Tadeusz Kondracki, The Warsaw Uprising

<http://www.polishresistance-ak.org/4%20Article.htm>

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Si%C5%82y_polskie_w_powstaniu_warszawskim#Uzbrojenie

Amunicji wystarczyło na 2–3 dni walki. Teoretycznie broni starczyło, aby wyposażyc 70 plutonów o łącznej liczebności 3500 żołnierzy – tj. 10% stanu bojowego Okręgu Warszawskiego AK, zmobilizowanego faktycznie w godzinę „W” (36 500 żołnierzy)^[25].

3/ Bieguński family (Zofia and Tadeusz - Wlodek's parents) – moved in, summer/fall 1942,



August 6, 1944 alarmed by news about Wola slaughter → Old Town, initially to 26, Długa street, after house destruction → 23 Miodowa street, where they stayed until surrender of the Old Town.

Deported to Pruszkow, separated.

Tadeusz → forced labour transport to Germany, returned sick?

Zofia → rail transport to unknown destination, (together with Aleksandra Wiszniewska and her daughter), women and children released by a senior guard, a Silesian? (apparently, without orders from the superiors?) Both went in separate directions to

family/friends. Zofia send later a **postcard** to Aleksandra on **Jan. 3. 1945**, mentioning that Maria Wajszczukowa and Danusia live together in Pruszkow and that **Maria does not know yet, that she has only one daughter left?** (Does that mean that they knew already that Wojtek was dead? From whom? Did Danusia already know?)

Fragment of a diary by Tadeusz Bieguński (BG013) * - Warsaw Uprising 1944

(...) One week later the Uprising started. During the first 6 days we stayed on the Ogrodowa street. Then we moved to Długa 26 and, after the artillery shelling and air bombardment, this house was destroyed and we moved to a house on Miodowa 23 – where we stayed in the cellars until the fall of the Old Town (“Starówka”). Our stay in these cellars during the time period +- from 11-12 August to September 2 is really impossible to describe, because of our shocking (*traumatic*) experiences (*events*). Air bombing from dawn to dusk, with falling down ceilings and frequently, we had to carry out the wounded or killed, or dig out people covered with rubble - or we are being carried out, blinded with the thick fog of plaster dust. After such recovery, it was difficult to recognize even one’s relatives. During this period, between August 11 and 30, there was no light or water. One day, I ventured to a site of the City Movie Theatre, where a water well was located, (it was still functioning for the next few days). This “trip”, of about 150 -200 steps, has already cost many human lives. Exploding artillery shells – and even worse, squeezing through the collapsed entrance ways (*entrance gate, gateway = entrance gate + corridor with side-entrances to the staircases or apartments*) of the collapsed (*destroyed*) houses posed a risk of falling down, at any moment, of the still standing walls and burying the victim under. With every step - when anybody at any time left the cellar to get something, such as water or food - most often he did not come back (*return*), either buried under the collapsing walls, (as it happened to my neighbor, who was killed at the nearby gateway, when he went to get some water), or blown-up by the mortar shells, which were exploding even in the supposedly safe places. During the whole time, while at the Miodowa 23 during the Uprising, we had no food – nothing warm, from time to time a piece of dry bread (*suchar-biscuit*) or rarely something cooked, such as old (*stale*) groats (*kasza*), every 2 – 3 days. But alcoholic beverages were aplenty (*abundant*) in the cellars, and they were refined, such as cognacs, liqueurs, vodkas, foreign-made wines and old meads – they were brought in by the sack-full by a young man (a 16-17 year old, wearing a military cap and claiming to be a soldier in the Uprising). He was a relative of one of the persons hiding together with us in the cellar. He was returning every few days with heavily loaded sacks of supplies (*reserves*) gathered from the broken-in storage spaces and cellars of rich firms (*establishments*), such as Langner, Fukier and similar, and next – various expensive items from

the City Pawnshop ("*Lombard*"), such as furs, jewelry etc., he even did not stay away from such items, as soft and dry leather. He was collecting those things, storing them somewhere and hoping that they become useful in the future.

Because of the constant bombing of houses in the neighbourhood and their destruction, concentration (*crowding*) of people reached such level that there was no space left to lie down to sleep.

While continuously hungry, suffering from complete lack of water, sleeplessness, tiredness and nervous exhaustion, due to constant bombardment and endless collapsing of the walls, one after another – after each collapse, we had to look for a new space, where one could lie down to rest, but unfortunately it was impossible to find such place.

September 2 was a critical day. The Insurgents run away through the sewers, leaving the civilians to the mercy of enraged "Kalmyks" (***) and other unruly (*violent, undisciplined*) mercenaries, who threw grenades through the cellar windows to induce people to get out – then, after noticing any kind of ring or a wedding band, they were removing them forcefully and, when too tight to be pulled off, they were braking or cutting off fingers to be able to remove them.

Under those circumstances, they rounded up everybody together, men, women and children, and then in columns of 5 people to a row, and after initial multiple searches, the people were driven on foot to a church in Wola. While there, the people were segregated – women, including my wife, were led inside the church, which was then locked up and a guard was posted. Men were formed in a column, 5 persons across, and they were driven on foot to the station Warsaw-West and then taken (*by rail*) to Pruszków

From this moment on, I will start writing the second part of my diary, which will be, as mentioned before in the introduction, a trail marked ("*besprinkled*") with blood and sweat of the condemned, driven for annihilation. In Pruszków, we were led to the factory halls next to the railroad tracks. I found out that a doctor is on duty in one of the halls and he can release the sick people – therefore I took place in line, hoping that as an invalid, I could be released. Unfortunately, after a few hours of waiting, and the doctor has not arrived yet, suddenly some Germans bursted in, arranged everybody in columns and led to a waiting long cargo train. In the meantime, I found out from an acquaintance that he saw my wife one hour earlier in another factory hall. Unfortunately, I could not go to find her, since I was taken to the cargo train. After a short while, the Germans came, started counting and after counting 80 persons – men, women and youths, each such group was loaded in a boxcar, which was then bolted. During the loading, I observed dramatic scenes – for instance I saw my schoolmate, at that time a lawyer, JÓrek Antoni - he stood with his wife and their 5-6 year old daughter – the child was torn away from them – the incident was accompanied with outbursts of terrible crying - the child was led away somewhere and the parents were pushed onto the boxcar.

After about one-hour wait, the door of my boxcar was open, everybody was given one kilogram of bread, door was bolted again and, after a short while, the train started rolling.

After a few hours of travel, a few young men ripped out the bars and barbed wire from the windows of the box car and tried to jump off the speeding train. Under cover of the evening and night darkness, they jumped from the windows which were located high in the boxcars designed for animal transport and each jump was followed by a hail of bullets from the machine guns of the escorting Germans, who were positioned, every few cars, on roofs, in break booths and on steps of the cars. It was hard to tell, what the fate of the jumpers was. When I observed these jumps through

a gap in the wall, I only saw them falling, while still on the tracks or sliding from the embankment. Seeing this, I did not want to risk breaking arms or legs while falling from the considerable height of the window, or falling under the hail of German bullets. The possibility of jumping ended later in the evening, when we noticed through the crevices in the walls that we have crossed Zbąszyń, which was our former border and we were in German territory. Next, we were going in the direction of Frankfurt on Odra (*river*) and next - towards Berlin. The boxcar doors were never opened during our trip, which lasted 3 days (...)

(*) - <http://www.wajszczuk.v.pl/polski/drzewo/BG005marcin.htm#BG013>

(**) The name “**Kalmyk/Kalmuk**” was used, generally in Poland during the war and, in particular, during the Warsaw Uprising, to describe all Soviet soldiers or soldiers collaborating with the Germans, who were of Asiatic origin or had Asiatic features – it does not mean that they were authentic “Kalmyks” (they were usually on a primitive side and frequently quite cruel).

See - <https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalmukia>;
<https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ka%C5%82mucja>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalmykia>

From Ogrodowa 23 to Pruszków camp (Dulag 121) – (Jan. 2017)

Ogrodowa 23 →	„W”hour moved→OT	Germans arrive →OT /expulsion	Old Town (OT) surrender→	Pruszków	End of Uprising →	Pruszków	
	Aug. 1	Aug. 6* / Aug. 7**	Sept. 2		Oct. 2		
Bieguński (fam.)*	+	+	(or before?)	+	→+	- (released from train)	
Dobraczyński (Jan fam.)	+	+		+	→+	- ?	
Wiszniewski (fam.)	+	+	(or before?)	+	→+	- (released from train)	
Dobraczyński (parents)	+	+	→ Pruszków (P)	?	?		
Wajszczuk, Maria (M)***	+	+	(?) + (?)→P	+	(?)→P	(released, escaped?)	
Wajszczuk, Danuta (D)	?	?	→OT ?	+	(?)→P	+	(?)→P
<hr/>							
	Arrived at Pruszkow	M	D (a)			-	
		-	M, D (b)			-	
		M	-			D (c)	
			M			D (d)	
						M, D (e)	

* diary of Tadeusz Bieguński (B) – (Włodek’s father & his wife) moved to the Old Town on Aug. 6.

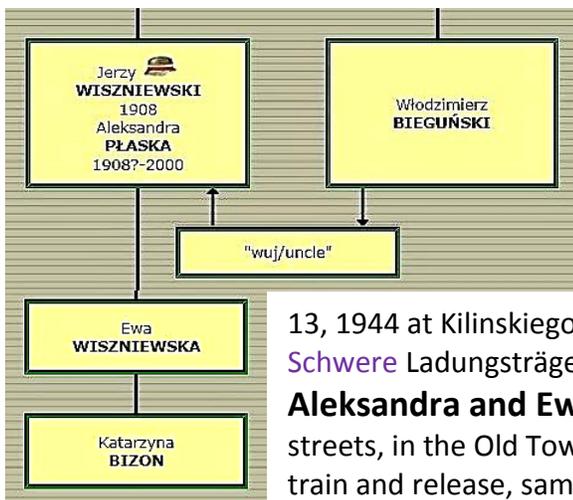
** Information from Antoni Dobraczyński (AD) – old reports, diaries, recent answers to questions (94 y.o. now) saw his parents for the last time at Ogrodowa 23 early in the morning of **August 7** – did not mention seeing Maria W. there at that time.

*** Very little information is available about Maria’s (m - mother) fate during the Uprising, except a few details that she was temporarily in the Pruszkow camp - arrival and departure dates are not known. She met there with daughter Danuta (at the railroad station) but the date of Danuta’s arrival at Pruszkow is not known. Danuta was apparently (info from AD) very active, while in the Old Town during the Uprising providing medications and surgical supplies to several insurgent hospitals there. No other details regarding her activities and dates are available, Date of her arrival in thr Pruszkow camp remains unknown. Danuta’s address in Warsaw before the Uprising remains also unknown!

Several variants and possibilities of dates of Maria's and Danuta meeting in Pruszkow camp are shown above:

- (a) **possible**, but less likely – Maria was captured on Aug. 7 from Ogrodowa, Danusia was in the Old Town, got “mixed in” with the civilians (many were shot “on the spot”) and arrived in Pruszkow on Sept. 2 (only if, indeed, Danusia's identification in the picture from October was incorrect?)
- (b) not likely - Maria was also hiding in the old Town, both arrived in Pruszkow from the Old Town on the same date, but on different trains - Maria earlier?
- (c) least likely – Maria would not have been allowed to stay in the camp for that length of time?
- (d) **most likely** – Maria was hiding somewhere (in the Old Town?) and was deported on September 2; Danusia was able to get (via the sewer canals?) to Srodmiescie and stayed there (?) and was transported to Pruszkow at the beginning of October?
- (e) **less likely**, but possible – Maria was somewhere in Warsaw in Aug. and Sept, in early Oct. was deported to Pruszkow (civilians – earlier) and Danusia a few days later – and they met in Pruszkow?

4/ Wiszniewski family: Lt., Dr. Jerzy, wife Aleksandra and daughter Ewa –



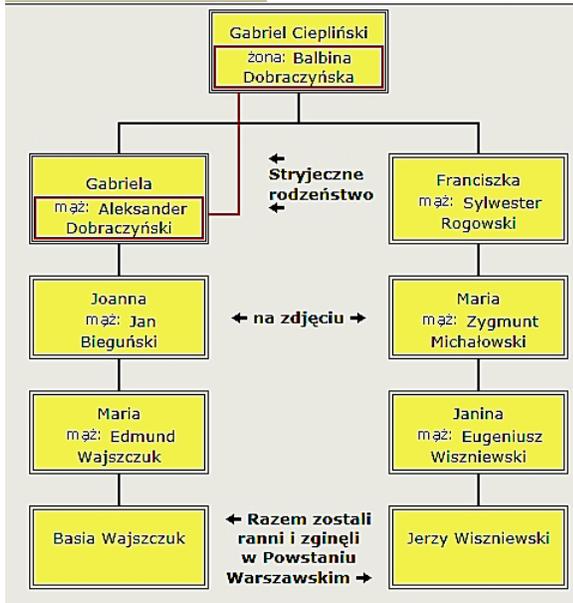
Dr. Jerzy Wiszniewski, "Poleski" -

<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/jerzy-wiszniewski,48792.html> - Hospital manager, first lieutenant, signals reserve.

Zolkiewski High School graduate in Siedlce, studied biological sciences at the Warsaw University. After graduation completed military training at the Junior Officers School of Signals. Wounded on August

13, 1944 at Kilinskiego str. during explosion of the **Sd.Kfz. 301 Ausf. C - Schwere** Ladungsträger B-IV Borgward.

Aleksandra and Ewa – from Ogrodowa 23 → cellars of a church at Freta streets, in the Old Town until the surrender, (Sept. 2, 1944) → Pruszkow → train and release, same as Zofia Biegunska.



Dr. Jerzy Wiszniewski, a biologist at the Research Station in Pińsk, officer, in 1939 escaped the Soviets, in 1942/3 (?) moved in with his wife and daughter Ewa into one of the apartments at Ogrodowa 23. A prominent family from Siedlce, distant relative of the Biegunski, Dobraczynski and Wajszczuk families. Knew all people listed above. In the Uprising – assigned as a superintendent to the Insurgent Hospital at Kilinskiego 1/3. Wounded on August 13 (also tank-trap), recovered and returned to duties. Was visiting Basia on a few occasions, while in the hospital together with Antoni D. He was buried under the rubble at Kilinskiego # 3 during bombing on August 26, (he was last seen in the gateway of the building), his body was never found. His friend, a doctor was also buried under the rubble, but was

recovered. He saw a hand sticking from under the rubble with a wedding ring on it, removed the ring, gave it to Antoni D., who then delivered it to the family and subsequently, a few days later, it was shown to Jerzy's wife. She stated that this **WAS NOT** his wedding ring! Because of his hospital administrative function, he was supposedly in constant contact with Danusia during the Uprising.

5/ Andrzej Madej - a churchkeeper/sexton and Literary Arch-fraternity employee, (a permanent resident at Ogrodowa 23, hiding in the Cathedral during the Uprising), he was later saving from fire the art treasures of St. John Cathedral.

Other Insurgency participants lived also (temporarily) at Ogrodowa 23:

6/ Lt-Col. Remigiusz Grocholski – (temporarily) –
<https://www.1944.pl/powstancze-biogramy/remigiusz-grocholski,15432.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam_Remigiusz_Grocholski

7/ Two Jewish sisters - (Chaja/Halina [+26.08.44) and Estera/Irena Borenstein/Gąsiorowska [+02.09.44], (escaped, probably, from the Tarnów Ghetto), temporarily hiding at Ogrodowa 23, later moved somewhere else for security reasons. (Their apartment there was taken over by the Wiszniewskis). On August 3, passing via the Luxemburg Gallery and unable to join their unit - encountered Ewa Orlikowska's patrol there, introduced themselves as "girl scouts from Mokotów", later combat nurses in the same Scout (Harcerski) platoon, as Basia.

8/ Staszek Bielański, „Firlej”. (info - 19.I.2017, Antoni Dobraczynski – D-59, Komp. „Gertruda”).

(...) The purchased weapons were concealed at **Staszek Bielański**, who lived at Ogrosowa #23 in an efficiency apartment in the Annex building. For this purpose, a special hiding compartment was built in the floor, which was accessible only after removing a few wood bars at the wall under the sink in a little entrance hll. Janusz stored there a few pistols and whatever else he could buy. One had to pay about 3-4 thousand zloties for a Mauser carbine and bring it home well wrapped.

(...) when the news came from Siedlce that the boys snatched a train a machine gun (Driza 34) and wanted to sell it, I rushed to **Kroś**. No decision was made, so I went empty handed to Siedlce and from there on a bike, to an unknown to me settlement. They asked for 40 thousand zloties – it was a lot and one had to pay right away and take it away immediately. I was not prepared and again went back empty handed. Kroś thought that it was very expensive and there was no chance to get such a large sum of money. On the other hand "**Koszta**" was ready to make a purchase. (...)

In the middle of June, weapons were taken away from the hiding place – there were left only a few Hungarian grenades, which Staszek bought with his own money. Intense search started for weapons which were hidden and buried at Ogrodowa. We dug and turned over the whole garden, where some heavy anti-aircraft machine guns (CKM) were buried in 1939. This information was provided to us by an officer, who was directing the hiding action in 1939. Nothing of that, they were most probably dug out already long ago and served some other formations (...)

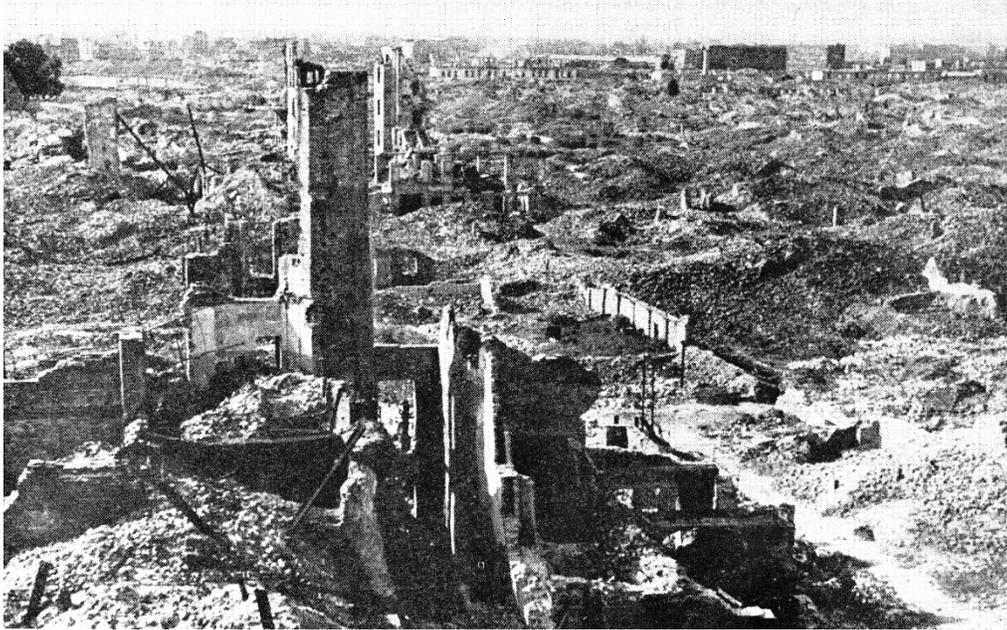
Second alarm/concentration on August 1, 1944 at Ogrodowa #17.

To Ogrodowa #23, to Staszek Bielanski's apartment moved in a Scout group led by Witek and started filling up bottles with gasoline and wrapping them in a sticky self-incendiary powder in paper wrapping.

*(This report by A.D. contains also a (controversial?) description of an **earlier explosion, on 12.VIII.1944**, of another miniature "tank", (set on fire near the barricade closing the entrance to Miodowa street, which was still burning after changing the barricade sentry there – along with the description of injuries suffered by him during this explosion.)*

Warszawa/Warsaw – Destruction and reconstruction

Destruction



Destruction of the Ghetto area during and after the Jewish Uprising of April 1943 and of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944, before „liberation“ on January 17, 1945.



Old Town in 1945

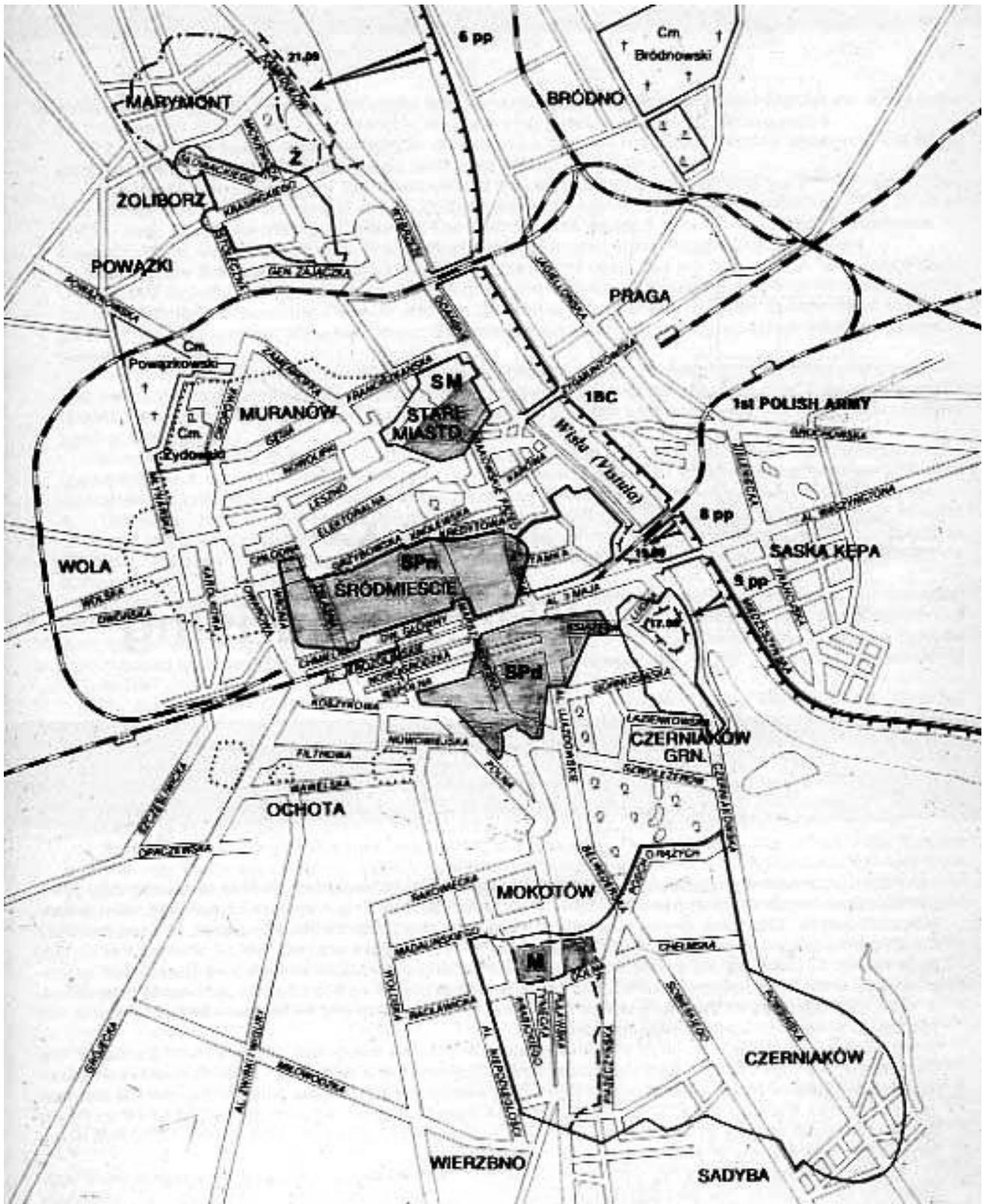
Reconstruction



Removal of debris from Freta Street



Old Town reconstruction in Warsaw



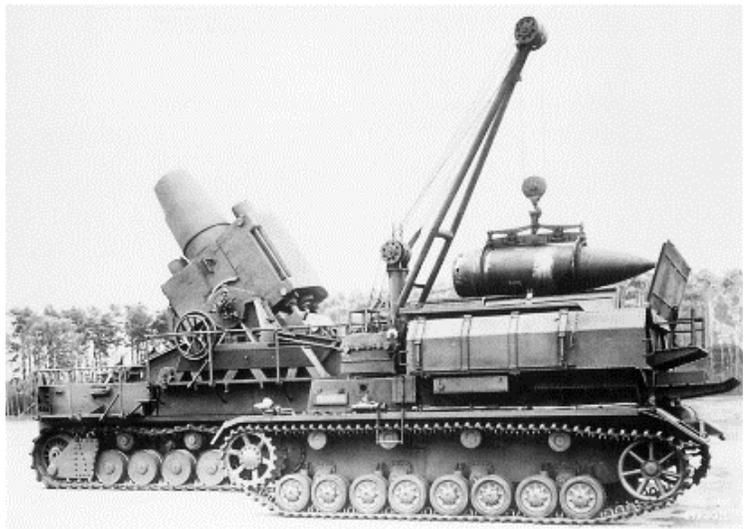
Circular railroad line around central part of Warsaw. It was used by an armored train to shell from heavy guns the Old Town and City Center – mostly from the north and west.

Heavy weapons used by Germans in Warsaw Uprising 1944



1/ Schwerer Ladungsträger **Borgward B IV SdKfz 301**, model with one driver

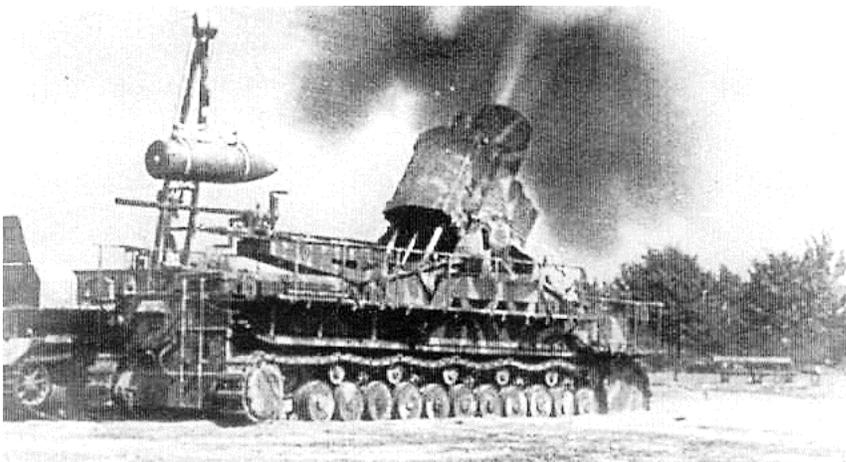
<http://www.sppw1944.org/index.html><http://www.sppw1944.org/powstanie/czolgi.html>



2/ **Goliath** –remote control or on cable

3/ **Karl-Gerät** – Self-propelled heavy mortar/Howitzer

http://elfnet.hu/images/haditechnika/kulonlegesonjarolovegek/karlgerat/karlgerat_munitionsschlepper.jpg



4/ **Howitzer 'Ziu'** bombarding Polish positions in Warsaw Sowiński Park.

5/ Unexploded shell from **Karl-Gerät**, basement of the Prudential, Warszawa, August 30 1944 – explosive material was used to make handgranades; http://ww2db.com/image.php?image_id=8657



6/ Stuka Junkers Ju 87 diving bomber - http://ww2db.com/battle_spec.php?battle_id=150

7/ <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-RbR->

ij72XGs/TjiuxveLil/AAAAAAACVI/nGnWNgD8ZWg/s400/German+assault+gun.jpg

German Stug III Ausf G self-propelled gun – near Sanguszko Street

”**Szafa**” or „**krowa**” - <http://blogbiszopa.pl/2011/11/szafa-czyli-krowa/>



(8–11) German multi-barrel (6), rocket-propelled, electrically ignited, Howitzer/**mortar** – stationary and mobile.



http://www.info-pc.home.pl/whatfor/baza/sdkfz_251_ausf_C.htm; <http://busz.cba.pl/info/?p=203>



<http://f.1944.pl/FT/6/e/0/6e038346f2e6d64584eab268b1b0b400-401c0-fit-405-295.jpg> –
12/ „Krowa" (cow) or "szafa" (wardrobe) – on Krasinski Square. In the background on right, destroyed buildings at Nowiniarska 6 i 8. (Zbigniew Grochowski MPW-IP/2708 czerwiec 1945 }

<http://worldwartwo.filmspector.com/2014/03/warsaw-uprising.html> -

13/ - Wurfrahmen 40 rocket launcher shelling the Insurgents, August 1944.



14/ Sturmtiger - <http://blogbiszopa.pl/2011/11/szafa-czyli-krowa/>

15/ Ignating the buildings with **flame throwers** after the fall of the Uprising. Next, the ruins were blown up with dynamite. <http://bowshrine.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Warsaw-Uprising-Photos-65.jpg>;



16/ Armoured train -

<http://www.sppw1944.org/index.html?http://www.sppw1944.org/powstanie/artyleria.htm>

Insurgents' weapons

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Si%C5%82y_polskie_w_powstaniu_warszawskim#Uzbrojenie

Brak odpowiedniej ilości broni i amunicji był największą słabością polskich oddziałów^[21]. Żołnierzom AK brakowało w szczególności efektywnej broni przeciwpancernej, której rolę pełnić musiały w tej sytuacji [butelki zapalające](#) („koktajle Mołotowa”), granaty przeciwpancerne lub nieliczne granatniki przeciwpancerne. Niedostatecznie uzbrojone były również oddziały wystawione przez pozostałe organizacje konspiracyjne^[22].



Bren (Eng.)



Sten (Eng.)



MP-40, 1943 (Ger.), [Parabellum](#), *Schmeisser* PIAT (Eng., anti-tank.)

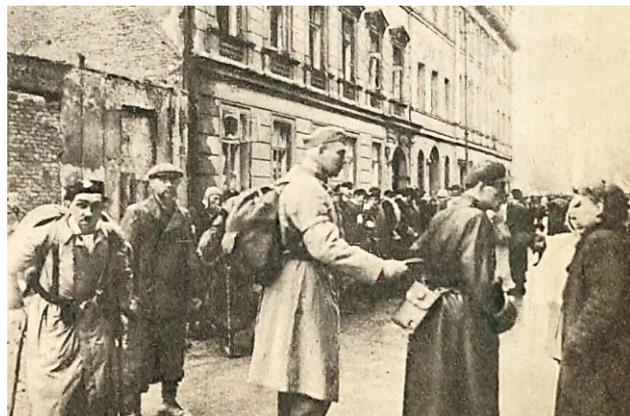
... weapons produced by the Home Army (AK), among them: the submachine guns [Błyskawica](#), flame throwers [model K](#), home made granades – „[sidolówki](#)” i „[filipinki](#)”, incendiary bottles; ... weapons hidden by the Polish Army in september 1939 (oddziały [Wojska Polskiego](#)) – (pistolety [Vis](#), karabiny [wz. 98 i 98a](#), karabinki [wz. 29](#), ręczne karabiny maszynowe [Browning wz. 1928](#)); [Butelka zapalająca](#) ([pot. koktajl Mołotowa](#)) – kind of incendiary granade ([granatu zapalającego](#)), but, also dangerous for the person throwing it. (...)



Uprising - surrender



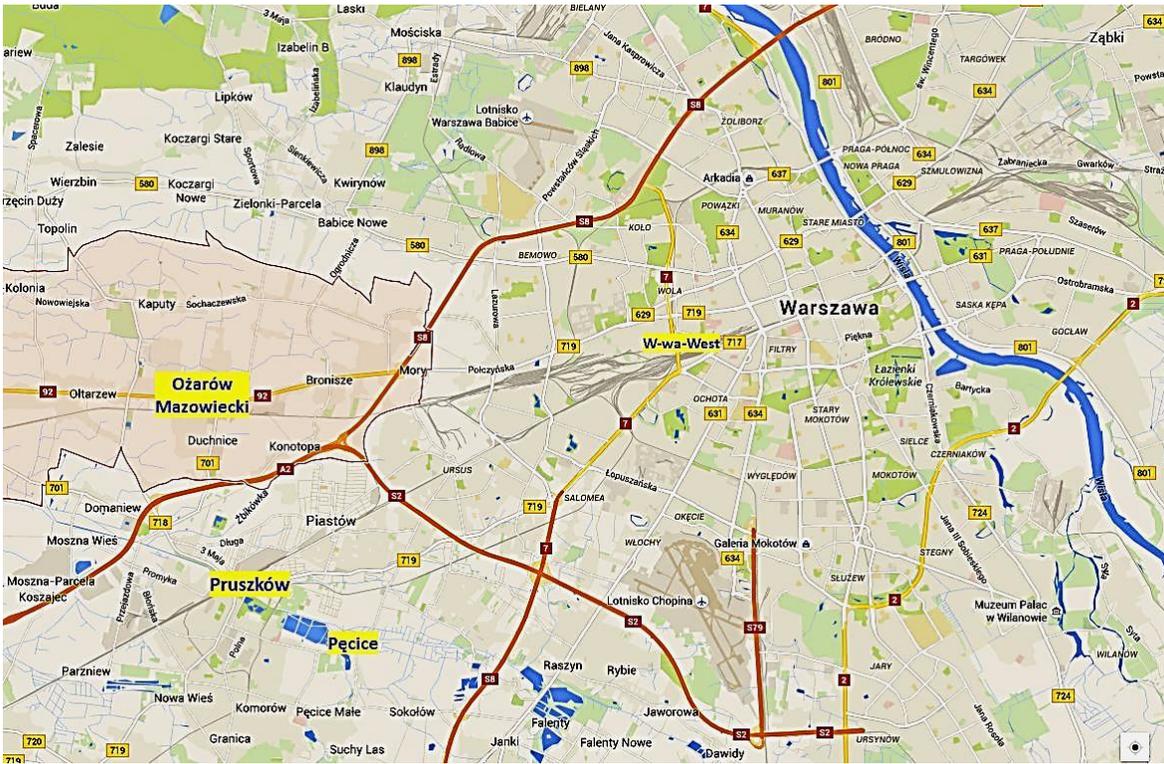
Civilians leaving town.



Insurgents preparing themselves for captivity.

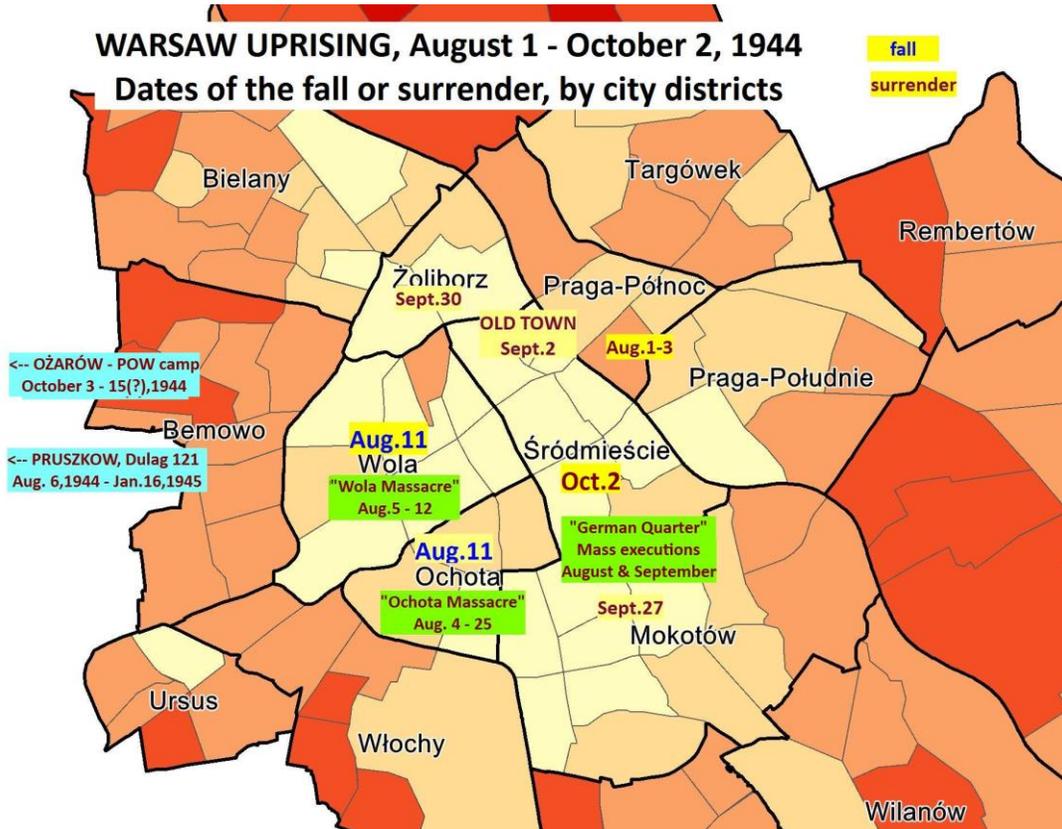
(*fot. [Powstanie Warszawskie w ilustracji – Wydanie Specjalne Warszawskiego Tygodnika Ilustrowanego „Stolica”, w zbiorach Mazowieckiej Biblioteki cyfrowej, domena publiczna](#)*

Starting from October 4, 1944, the Insurgents were leaving Warsaw. (...) Soldiers of the “Assist Battalion” gathered on October 4, 1944 at the Politechnika Square. There took place the last Polish military parade (...)



Directions of evacuation to the transit camps: civilians → Pruszków, Insurgents → Ożarów

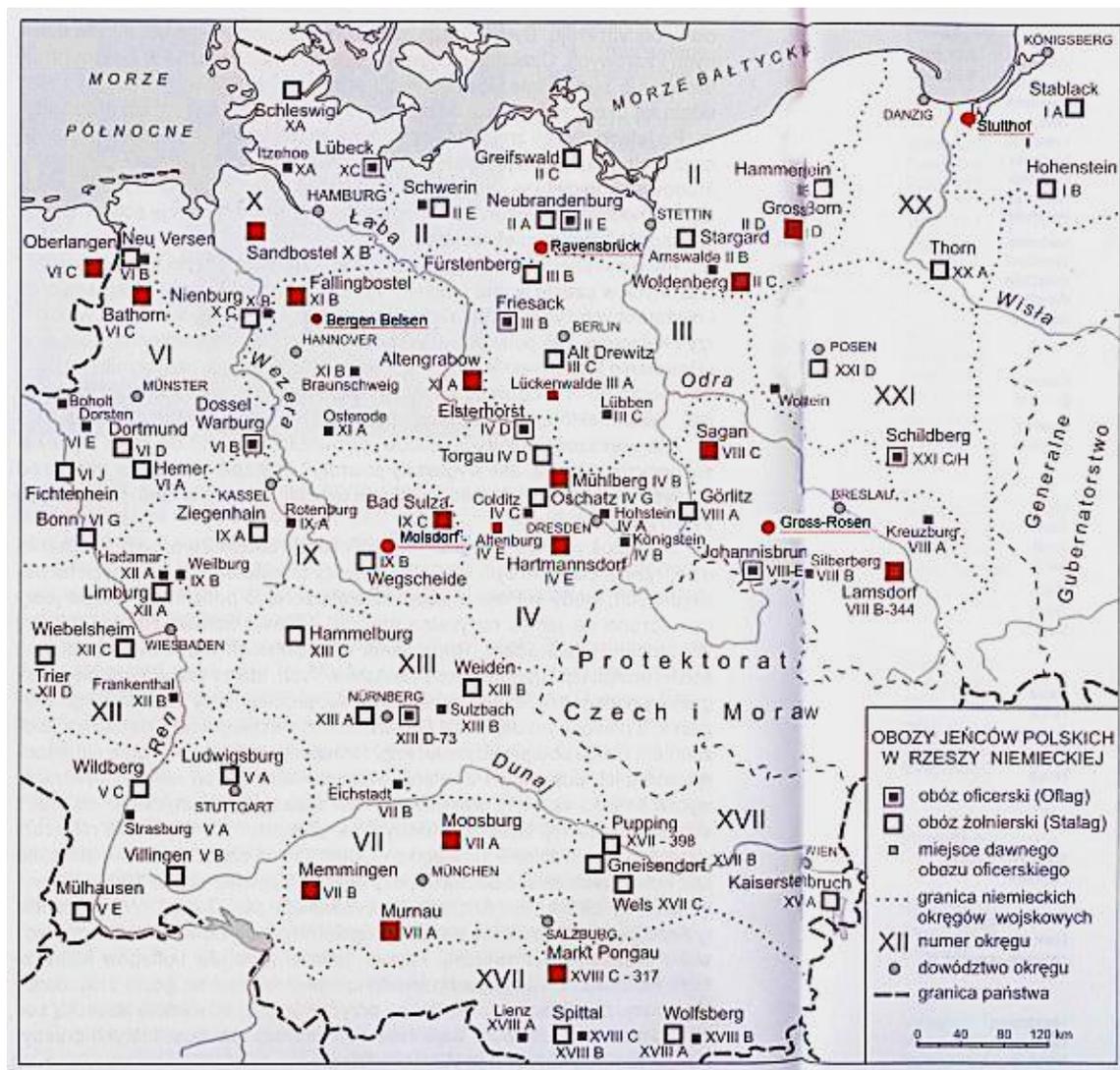
Surrender - soldiers; civilian massacres



WARSAW UPRISING – Dates of mass **executions of civilian population** and of the end (**fall**) of the Uprising or **surrender** of the Insurgents in different districts of Warsaw. Directions and dates of **expulsion/evacuation** of soldiers and civilians.

Soldiers - Transit and POW camps





Obozy jenieckie (POW camps):

Skierniewice – Dulag 142, Aug. 6, 1944 – Jan. 16.1945 (czynny 6.VIII.1944 – 26.I.1945)

Ożarów – open on 3.X.1944 (otwarty 3.X.1944)

A total of 38 transit camps were identified in the vic. of Warsaw. (razem - 38 obozów tranzytowych w okolicach Warszawy)

Misc. / Różne

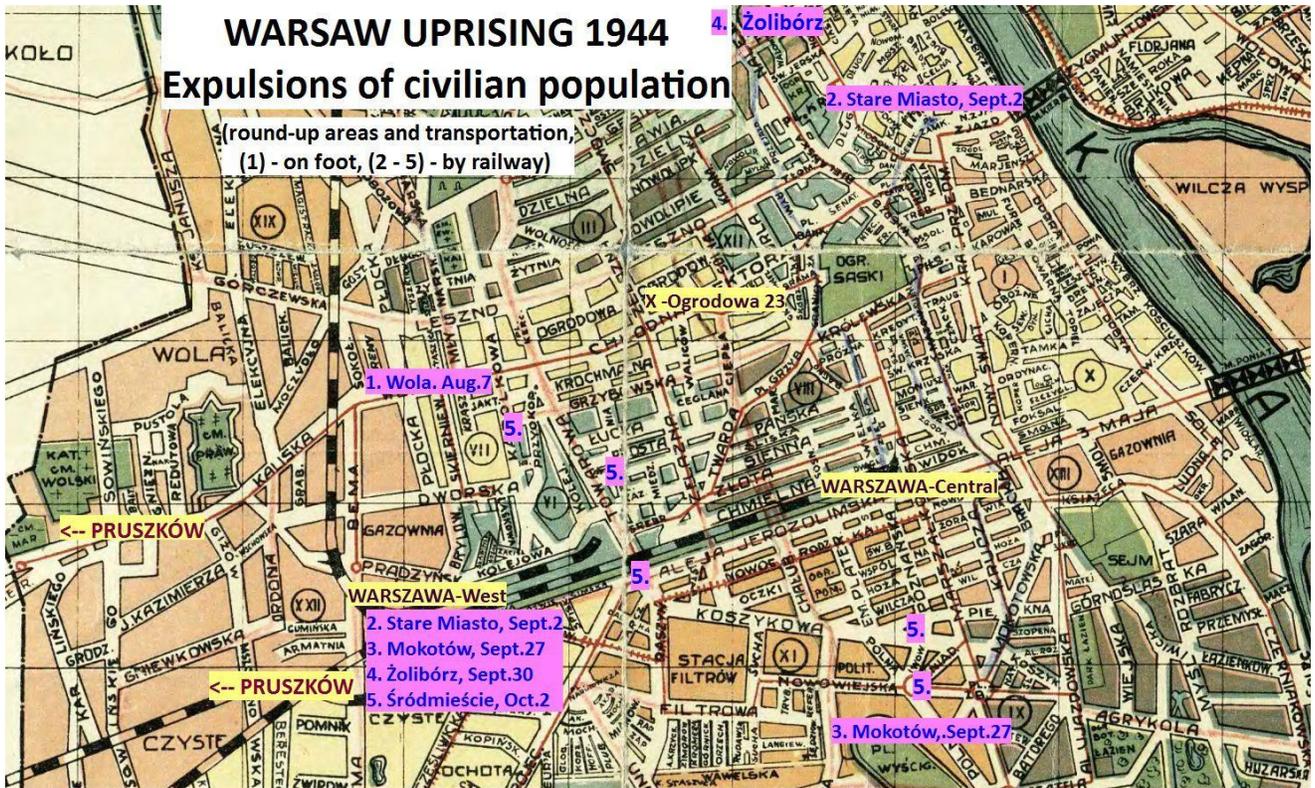
13.IX.1944 – Soviet troops reach the outskirts of Praga – the Germans blow up all four bridges over the Vistula in Warsaw. (Sovietci na obrzeżach Pragi, Niemcy wysadzili wszystkie [4] mosty na Wiśle)

15.IX.1944 – The Russians give the Allies permission to use their airfields, but a drop of supplies from Britain is delayed until September 18, because of the bad weather. (Rosjanie zezwolili Aliantom używać swoje lotniska, ale zrzuty zaopatrzenia z Anglii zostały opóźnione do 18 września ze względu na złą pogodę).

Towards the end of September – the Warsaw Insurgents were recognized officially by the Germans and guaranteed the combatants-POW rights (but there were still several incidents of killing the insurgents, the wounded and the civilians). (Pod koniec września 1944 Warszawscy Powstańcy zostali uznani oficjalnie przez Niemców za, i otrzymali gwarancje praw kombatantów – jeńców wojennych (mimo tego zdarzały się jeszcze liczne przypadki zabijania Powstańców, rannych i cywilów – głównie przez SS!).

30.IX.1944 – BBC informed that Gen. Bór was promoted to a Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Armed Forces in the West. (BBC poinformowało, że Gen. Bór otrzymał awans na Naczelnego Dowódcę (Wodza) Polskich Sił Zbrojnych na Zachodzie).

Expulsions/Leaving Town – civilians



Evacuation of the civilian population to Pruszków → (Dulag 121) from the concentration areas in Warsaw - !1) – on foot and (2 - 5) by train



Dulag 121 - Dulag 121 Pruszków– (abbreviation of the German Durchgangslager 121) – a transit camp established by the Germans in Pruszków for the population of Warsaw and surrounding areas during 1944's Warsaw Uprising and its aftermath - https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dulag_121_Pruszk%C3%B3w



Waiting for train to Dulag 121

(...) The camp was opened on August 6, 1944 on the site of a former Railroad Repair facility in Pruszków ([Zakładów Naprawczych Taboru Kolejowego w Pruszkowie](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zakładów_Naprawczych_Taboru_Kolejowego_w_Pruszkowie)). It functioned until the middle of December 1944, and then, in a residual form, until January 16, 1945 (arrival of the Red Army). From 390 000 to 410 000 people passed through the Dulag 121, tens of thousand from among them, after a short stay in the camp were sent out to the forced labour camps ([roboty przymusowe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/roboty_przymusowe), [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forced_labour_under_German_rule_during_World_War II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forced_labour_under_German_rule_during_World_War_II)) inside the Reich (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi_Germany), or sent to the concentration camps – (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi_concentration_camps).



Warsaw passed (walked by/through) here!

To rescue from oblivion / Ocalic od zapomnienia

Pictures from gatherings (meetings) in Żółkiewka and Krasnystaw –

http://www.wajszczuk.pl/spotkania/spotkania2004/zolkiewka_lublin_krasnystaw.htm;

<https://lyricstranslate.com/pl/ocali%C4%87-od-zapomnienia-rescue-oblivion.html>

2004 – gathering in Żółkiewka



Participants remember the Wajszczuk Family; Adolf Jański and Rudolf Brajerski, contemporaries of Antoś and Wojtek in conversation with Waldemar Wajszczuk.

2015 – Wajszczuk Family from Argentyna in Żółkiewka



Behind the table from left - 3rd and 2nd – Adan, his daughter Ana from Buenos Aires and next – Teresa, „Lilka” Jaroszyńska (Wajszczuk) z Lublina.

Pictures, from left – Warsaw Insurgents 1944 – Wojtek, Basia and Antoś, three of four children of dr. Edmund Wajszczuk an his wife Maria (Bieguńska), who died in the Uprising.

1.VIII.2015 – Krasnystaw, unveiling the memory board honoring the Insurgents from Krasnystaw.





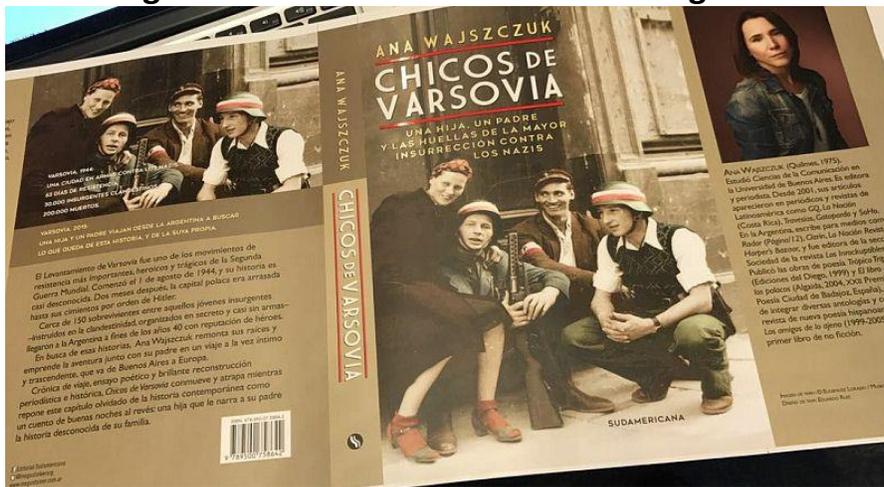
Lilka, Adan and Ana at the memory board



In the back of the old Wajszczuk residence.

Following years were very productive and successful for Ana:

2017 – Published in Argentina a book about Warsaw Rising 1944 and Family.



2018 - She gave birth to a daughter



APPEAL:

TO THE CRITICS OF THE WARSAW UPRISING!

(WJW - 12/3/2019)

Before you say one more bad word accusing the leadership of the AK for issuing an order to start the Uprising – remember:

1/ Hitler and his chief aides issued an order - to defend the “Festung Warschau”! Annihilate Poles and their capital, if they resist!

100,000 Polish men were to report to build the defenses.

Nobody showed up! Look up what the Germans were doing for not carrying out an order in a war zone during the war (An example could be a later fate of WOLA during the Uprising).

2/ Our “friends and liberators” were approaching fast (and the older generation knew well since 1920 and from the Poles who were left behind on the wrong side of the border - and the younger generation was learning fast from 1939 – 1941 and after 1944, in the Soviet occupation zones what these “freedoms” and life there in general meant.

3/ Look up, the treatment that the Soviets (and Polish communists) gave to the Underground military and civilian leaders, as well as just the plain low-rank members (see – Polish Scouts). The Polish “desaparecidos” and those sent “to hunt for the white bears” in Siberia could be counted in millions - not in thousands!!! *

4/ Look up the fate of the city of Breslau (now Wroclaw) during German preparation for defense in 1945 – the Germans themselves destroyed large section of the city in preparation for defense (military airport and other military installations) and resettled (at a great cost (tens of thousands) in German human lives)

The post-communist, liberal, socialist and globalist propaganda is still alive and strong!
(And seems to be doing quite well with the support and aid from the “uninformed”!)

* Useful information for the Polish descendants abroad and for some of the young generation in Poland.

In 1940, the Soviet Union executed most of the Boy Scouts held at Ostashkov prison.

Between 1944 and 1956, all of the former members of Batalion Zośka were incarcerated in the Soviet NKVD prisons.^[4]

NEW WARSAW



Bundesarchiv, Bild 1011-001-0256-17
Foto: Pieper, Alfons | 1939 September - Oktober



alamy stock photo

PFILLEN
www.alamy.com

