

POLITICAL PARTIES, SCOUTING ORG., CONSPIRACY, UPRISING 1944

„Sanacja” / “Sanation” **ZHP** → ZWZ / AK „Szare Szeregi” „Zośka”, „Parasol”
(1926–1939) (1918) (1939/1942) „Gray Ranks” (battalions)
Aim – „moral healing”

Stronnictwo Narodowe NOW–AK (1941), „**Hufce Polskie**” „Gustaw”, „Wigry”
National Party (1928–1947); OWZJ (1939–1942) → NSZ (1942–1947)
Aim - building a **Catholic** NSZ (1942/3) → (1944) NSZ-AK + NSZ-ZJ → NZW (1944-1956)
State of the Polish Nation
 (“Harcerstwo Polskie” → “Hufce Polskie” - 27.X.1939)

CONTENT

Sanacja / Sanation

Polish Scouting and Guiding Association /

Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego – (ZHP)

Armed Resistance / Związek Walki Zbrojnej (ZWZ) →

→ HOME ARMY / “Armia “Krajowa” – (AK)

Polish Scouting and Guiding Association / Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego (ZHP) →

→ Gray Ranks / “Szare Szeregi”

“Zośka” Battalion

“Parasol” Battalion

National Party / Stronnictwo Narodowe (SN)

Military Organization Lizard Union / Związek Jaszczurczy (OW-ZJ)

National Armed Forces / Narodowe Siły Zbrojne (NSZ)

Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa - National Military Organization (NOW)

Polish Scout Troops / Polskie Harcerstwo Narodowe → „Hufce Polskie”

→ NSZ – AK

“Gustaw” Battalion,

“Wigry” Battalion

NSZ-AK + NSZ-ZJ = National Military Union (NZW)

After 1945, Cursed soldiers / Żołnierze wyklęci – hunted by the communists

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cursed_soldiers - The best-known Polish anti-communist resistance organisations operating in Stalinist Poland included [Freedom and Independence](#) (Wolność i Niezawisłość, WIN), [National Armed Forces](#) (Narodowe Siły Zbrojne, NSZ), [National Military Union](#) (Narodowe Zjednoczenie Wojskowe, NZW), [Konspiracyjne Wojsko Polskie](#) (Underground Polish Army, KWP), [Ruch Oporu Armii Krajowej](#) (Home Army Resistance, ROAK), [Armia Krajowa Obywatelska](#) (Citizens' Home Army, AKO), [NIE](#) (NO, short for *Niepodległość*), [Armed Forces Delegation for Poland](#) (Delegatura Sił Zbrojnych na Kraj), and [Wolność i Sprawiedliwość](#) (Freedom and Justice, WiS).^[8]

1947 Polish legislative election -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1947_Polish_legislative_election - The results were **blatantly falsified**;

Sanation - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanation>

Sanation ([Polish](#): *Sanacja*, pronounced [saˈnatsja]) was a [Polish political movement](#) that was created in the [interwar period](#), prior to [Józef Piłsudski's May 1926 Coup d'État](#), and came to power in the wake of that [coup](#). In 1928 its political activists would go on to form the [Nonpartisan Bloc for Cooperation with the Government](#) (BBWR).

The Sanation movement took its name from Piłsudski's aspirations for a moral "[sanation](#)" (healing) of the Polish [body politic](#).^[1] The movement functioned integrally until his death in 1935. Following Piłsudski's death, Sanation split into several competing factions, including "the Castle" (President [Ignacy Mościcki](#) and his partisans).^[2]

Sanation, which advocated [authoritarian rule](#), rested on a circle of Piłsudski's close associates, including [Walery Sławek](#), [Aleksander Prystor](#), [Kazimierz Świtalski](#), [Janusz Jędrzejewicz](#), [Adam Koc](#), [Józef Beck](#), [Tadeusz Hołówko](#), [Bogusław Miedziński](#) and [Edward Rydz-Śmigły](#).^[2] **It preached the primacy of the [national interest](#) in governance, and contended against the system of [parliamentary democracy](#).**^[2]

Named after the [Latin](#) word for "healing" ("[sanatio](#)"),^[3] the Sanation movement mainly comprised former military officers who were disgusted with the [perceived corruption](#) in Polish politics.

Sanation was a coalition of rightists, leftists and centrists whose main focus was the elimination of corruption and the reduction of inflation.

Sanation appeared prior to the [May 1926 Coup d'État](#) and lasted until [World War II](#) but was never formalized. **Piłsudski**, though he had been the former leader of the [Polish Socialist Party](#), **had grown to disapprove of [political parties](#), which he saw as promoting their own interests rather than supporting the state and the people.** (...)

HOME ARMY (“Armia “Krajowa” - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Home_Army

The **Home Army** ([Polish](#): *Armia Krajowa*, abbreviated **AK**; Polish pronunciation: [ˈarmja kraˈjɔva]) was the dominant [resistance movement](#) in [German-occupied Poland](#) during [World War II](#). The Home Army was formed in February 1942 from the earlier [Armed Resistance](#) (*Związek Walki Zbrojnej*) established in the aftermath of the German and Soviet invasions in September 1939. Over the next two years, the Home Army absorbed most of the other [Polish underground forces](#). Its allegiance was to the [Polish government-in-exile](#) in [London](#), and it constituted the armed wing of what came to be known as the [Polish Underground State](#).

The Home Army sabotaged German transports bound for the [Eastern Front](#) in the Soviet Union, destroying German supplies and tying down substantial German forces. It also fought pitched battles against the Germans, particularly in 1943 and in [Operation Tempest](#) from January 1944. The Home Army's most widely known operation was the [Warsaw Uprising](#) of August–October 1944. The Home Army also defended Polish civilians against [atrocities](#) by Germany's Ukrainian and Lithuanian

Estimates of the Home Army's 1944 strength range between 200,000 and 600,000. The latter number made the Home Army not only Poland's largest underground resistance movement but, along with [Soviet partisans](#), one of Europe's two largest World War II underground movements.^[a]

As [Polish–Soviet relations](#) deteriorated, conflict grew between the Home Army and Soviet forces. The Home Army's allegiance to the Polish government-in-exile caused the Soviet government to consider the Home Army to be an impediment to the introduction of a [communism](#)-friendly government in Poland, which hindered cooperation and in some cases led to outright conflict. On 19

January 1945, after the [Red Army](#) had cleared most Polish territory of German forces, the Home Army was disbanded.

After the war, particularly in the 1950s and 1960s, communist government propaganda portrayed the Home Army as an oppressive and reactionary force. Thousands of ex-Home Army personnel were deported to [gulags](#) and Soviet prisons, while other ex-members, including a number of senior commanders, were executed. After the [fall of communism](#) in [Central](#) and [Eastern Europe](#), the reputation of the Home Army among the populace was restored.^{[1][2]}

Women - Home Army ranks included a number of female operatives.^[19] Most women worked in the communications branch, where many held leadership roles or served as couriers.^[20] Approximately a seventh to a tenth of the Home Army insurgents were female.^{[21][20][22]} (...) Many women participated in the Warsaw Uprising, particularly as medics or scouts;^{[27][28][21]} they were estimated to form about 75% of the insurgent medical personnel.^[22] By the end of the uprising, there were about 5,000 female casualties among the insurgents, with over 2,000 female soldiers taken captive; the latter number reported in contemporary press caused a "European sensation".^[20]

Polish Scouting and Guiding Association -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_Scouting_and_Guiding_Association



The **Polish Scouting and Guiding Association** (**Polish**: *Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego*, ZHP) is the coeducational [Polish Scouting](#) organization recognized by the [World Organization of the Scout Movement](#) and the [World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts](#). It was founded in 1918 and currently is the largest Scouting organization in Poland (138,112 members in 2012).^{[1][2]} The first **ZHP** was founded in 1916, the current one is the fourth organization with this name. It is a [public benefit organization](#) as defined by [Polish law](#).



Soon after the merger in 1918, the ZHP members fought in all the conflicts Poland was engaged in around this time: [Great Poland Uprising](#), [Polish-Bolshevik War](#), [Silesian Uprisings](#), and Polish-Ukrainian War, much like their predecessors during the [Siege of Mafeking](#).

All of the units joined together in 1918 and formed the ZHP, one of the founding members of the [World Organization of the Scout Movement](#).

Although many units retained their own traditions, a common law, common symbols, and a common oath were introduced. The primary difference between most Scouting organizations and the Polish *Harcerstwo* was described by Andrzej Małkowski:

Harcerstwo is [Scouting](#) plus independence.

Before 1939 the ZHP was one of the largest social and educational associations in Poland with over 200,000 members. Among the "sponsors" of Polish *Harcerstwo* were all the presidents of Poland and several high-ranking officers, including general [Józef Haller](#). (...)

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 *Harc mistrz* ([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](#).

Assault groups - 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 1945 the ZHP restored its former name and returned to public existence. However, the communist authorities of Poland pressured the organization to become a member of the [Pioneer Movement](#) and eventually it was banned in 1949. The only existing part of pre-war ZHP during the year of the Communist regime was the **ZHP pgK**.^[1]

Battalion Zośka - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battalion_Zo%C5%9Bka



Battalion 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

Liberation of the concentration camp "Gęsiówka"

Zośka fighters liberated prisoners of the concentration camp [Gęsiówka](#) in the August 1944. The 383 able-bodied prisoners (including 348 Jews),^[1] both men and women who were left in Gęsiówka to assist with the destruction of the evidence of mass murder, were rescued from certain death. Most of these survivors joined the Zośka unit and fought in the Warsaw uprising.^[2]

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]



Batalion Parasol - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battalion_Parasol

Batalion Parasol (Polish: *Batalion Parasol*) was a [Scouting battalion](#) of the [Armia Krajowa](#), the primary [Polish resistance movement in World War II](#). It consisted primarily of members of the [Gray Ranks](#). The battalion distinguished itself in numerous underground operations and took part in the [Warsaw Uprising](#) of 1944, as an element of the [Radosław Group](#).

It was first organized as "Agat" ("Anti-Gestapo") unit by [Adam Borys](#) "Pług", a [Cichociemni](#) elite soldier parachuted from England in the fall of 1943. Due to arrest of [Tadeusz Kostrzewski](#) "Niemira" on 2 January 1944 it changed its name to "Pegaz" ("Przeciw Gestapo – Against the [Gestapo](#)"), and after another arrest it was reorganized as "Parasol" (*umbrella*) battalion. The last name referred to a parachute, as the unit was intended to join [Polish 1st Independent Parachute Brigade](#) in free Poland.

The battalion is renowned for its numerous military actions in 1943–1944. It organized assassination missions, targeting key Gestapo officers and high-ranking [Nazi Germany](#) officials who were responsible for extreme terror in the [Warsaw District](#). One such mission was successfully carried out under the code name [Operation Kutschera](#), which resulted in assassination of the [SS and Police Leader Franz Kutschera](#), who was shot in the center of [Warsaw](#) (in front of the SS [Headquarters](#)) in February 1944.^[1]

[Józef Szczepański](#), a poet, was among the commanders of this unit. The poet [Krzysztof Kamil Baczyński](#) fought in its ranks and was killed in action by a German sniper in the first few days of the Warsaw Uprising.

Heir to the tradition of the battalion is [JW Komandosów](#) and its [detachment](#) Zespół Bojowy C.

National Party (Poland) -

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

The **National Party** (Polish: *Stronnictwo Narodowe*, SN) was a [Polish nationalist^{\[1\]} political party](#) formed on 7 October 1928 after the transformation of [Popular National Union](#). It gathered together most of the political forces of Poland's [National Democracy right-wing political camp](#). SN was one of the [main opponents of the *Sanacja* government](#). Shortly before [World War II](#) the party had 200,000 members, being the largest opposition party of that time.^[2]

In the 1930s the two main factions competed within the party, the "old generation" and "young generation", divided by the age and political programmes. The old generation supported the parliamentary means of political competition, while the activist young generation advocated the extra-parliamentary means of political struggle. In 1935 the young activists took over the leadership of the party. In 1934 a significant part of the young faction split off from the SN, forming the [National-](#)



Radical Camp. During [World War II](#), many SN activists joined the [National Armed Forces](#) and [National Military Organization](#) resistance organizations.

Policies - The main goal of the party was the construction of a **Catholic Polish State**, through combining the principles of [Catholicism](#) and [Nationalism](#). The party advocated a hierarchical organisation of society and the transformation of the political system by increasing the role of the Polish National elite within the country. The SN organised numerous rallies and demonstrations against the policies of the [Sanacja](#) government. (...) Most of its members eventually entered the [League of Polish Families](#) (LPR) and dissolved the National Party in 2001.



Territorial structure and organization of the NSZ

National Armed Forces - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Armed_Forces - (NSZ; *Polish*: Narodowe Siły Zbrojne) was a Polish right-wing underground military organization of the [National Democracy](#) operating from 1942. During [World War II](#), NSZ troops fought against [Nazi Germany](#) and [communist partisans](#). There were also cases of fights with the [Home Army](#).^[1] (...)

At the end of the war, **(after arrival of the Red Army to Poland)**, many units and structures of this organization are known to have cooperated with the Nazis and [Gestapo](#) (as in the case of the [Holy Cross Mountains Brigade](#) and [Hubert Jura](#))^{[2][3][1][4]} and engaged in [antisemitism](#).^{[5][6][7]} (*see more explanations below*).

Most NSZ units did not submit to the [Polish government-in-exile](#) and conducted fratricidal fights with other Polish partisan units.^[8] From 1944 to 1946, the NSZ fought as part of the anti-communist resistance, including after the postwar [Polish People's Republic](#) was established. Some of the NSZ were responsible for the [1946 pacification of villages](#) in northeast Poland, in which ethnic Belarusian Polish citizens were attacked; 79 were killed. The National Armed Forces were officially dissolved in 1947.

History - The NSZ was created on September 20, 1942, as a result of the merger of the [Military Organization Lizard Union](#) (*Organizacja Wojskowa Zwiqzek Jaszczurczy*) and part of the [National Military Organization](#) (*Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa*). At its maximum strength in 1943–44, the NSZ reached between 70,000 and 75,000 members, making it the third-largest organization of the [Polish resistance](#) (after the [Home Army](#) (AK) and the [Bataliony Chlopskie](#)).^[9] NSZ units participated in the [Warsaw Uprising](#).

In March 1944 the NSZ split, with the more moderate faction coming under the command of the AK. The other part became known as the NSZ-ZJ (the Lizard Union). This branch of the NSZ conducted operations against Polish [communist activists](#), [partisans](#) and secret police, the [Soviet partisans](#), [NKVD](#) and [SMERSH](#), and their own (NSZ) former leaders.^[10]

Political stance - The NSZ's program included the fight for Polish independence against [Nazi Germany](#) as well as against the [Soviet Union](#). Its goal was to keep the [Second Polish Republic's prewar eastern territories and borders](#), while regaining additional [former German territories to the west](#), which they deemed "ancient Slavic lands".

During the war, the NSZ fought the Polish communists, including their military organizations such as the [Gwardia Ludowa](#) (GL) and the [Armia Ludowa](#) (AL).^[12] After the war, former NSZ members were persecuted by the newly installed communist government of the [Polish People's Republic](#). Reportedly, communist partisans engaged in planting false evidence, such as documents and forged receipts at the sites of their own robberies, in order to blame the NSZ.^[13] It was a method of political warfare practiced against the NSZ also by the [Ministry of Public Security of Poland](#) and [Milicja Obywatelska](#) (MO) right after the war, as revealed by communist Poland's court documents.^[13]

National Armed Forces and Jews - The National Armed Forces (though not uniformly^[12]) did not accept Jews in their ranks, and expressed explicit anti-semitic sentiment.^[14] (...) From November 1944 to mid-1947, during the period of [armed anti-communist insurgency](#) against the Soviet takeover of Poland, **many Jews who were part of communist groups were killed by the National Armed Forces.**^[16] In Warsaw, the National Armed Forces killed Jerzy Makowiecki and Ludwik Widerszal, two Polish [Home Army](#) officers of Jewish origin.^{[14][17]} Polish historian [Alina Cała](#) said that the doctrine of the National Armed Forces was primarily the elimination of what they considered to be Communist bands.^{[18][19]} According to sociologist [Tadeusz Piotrowski](#), these attacks later "became more focused on individual Jews who were placed in highly visible positions of authority in the PRL [People's Republic of Poland]".^[20] (...)

In January 1945, the National Armed Forces [Holy Cross Mountains Brigade](#) (*Brygada Świętokrzyska*) retreated before the advancing [Red Army](#) and, **after negotiating a ceasefire with the Germans, moved into the Nazi-controlled Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia**. It resumed operations against the Nazis on 5 May 1945 in [Bohemia](#), where the brigade liberated prisoners from a concentration camp in [Holýšov](#), including 280 Jewish women prisoners slated for death.^[24]

Military Organization Lizard Union -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_Organization_Lizard_Union

Organizacja Wojskowa Związek Jaszczurczy (*Military Organization Lizard Union*, short form: *Związek Jaszczurczy*, abbreviated *OW ZJ*) was an organization of [Polish resistance in World War II](#). Created in 1939 and transformed into [National Armed Forces](#) (*Narodowe Siły Zbrojne, NSZ*) in 1942, it represented the [far-right](#) of the Polish political spectrum (related to the [National Radical Camp](#) (*Obóz Narodowo-Radykalny, ONR*) political party) and thus refused to recognize the internationally recognized [Polish Underground State](#) (although there was some uneasy tactical cooperation for practical reasons). It also refused to recognize the Soviet-aligned [Polish Committee of National Liberation](#) and continued to try and resist the new Polish Communist regime following the war.

History - The organisation was created in October 1939 by [Group Szaniec](#),^[1] itself originating from the [far right ONR-ABC](#), a faction of the [National Radical Camp](#) (*Obóz Narodowo-Radykalny*,

ONR-ABC was not supportive of the mainstream [Polish Underground State](#) related to the [Polish government in exile](#), and thus OW ZJ became an alternate Polish military, a counterweight to the [ZWZ-AK](#) of the Underground State.^[1] Perhaps ironically, the OW ZJ and its nemesis, the communist [NKVD](#)-controlled [Gwardia Ludowa/Armia Ludowa](#), were the two major factions of Polish resistance that did not recognize the mainstream [ZWZ-AK](#).^[2] *ONR*). On a structural level it was subordinated to [Organizacja Polska](#), a military department of *ONR*.



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The Związek Jaszczurczy conducted intelligence and sabotage operations within territory of Nazi occupied Poland as well as in and around Berlin, Brandenburg area, München, Silesia, Bavaria, Westfalen, Ruhr Basin, Hamburg, Bremen, western and eastern Pomerania area including Krolewicz, and Gdańsk. The eradication of the Związek Jaszczurczy became of such importance to the Nazis, that already at the end of 1940, the [Gestapo](#) created dedicated unit, known as the SS-Sonderkommando ZJ [ger. Special Unit ZJ], in order to stop its sabotage and intelligence activities. In December 1941 the first wave of arrests of the NSZ / Związek Jaszczurczy's agents began. At the end of 1943 alone, 80 individuals were arrested. The Military Tribunal of Nazi Germany, German military laws, more rigorously expanded during war, dealt with those arrested mercilessly. From among dozens of arrested, only 3 individuals (among them one German national) were found not guilty. The others were sentenced to lengthy imprisonment, and half of them were sentenced to death. The names of the ZJ agents of the Intelligence Unit “West” sentenced to death and executed by the Nazis by [beheading](#) at the [Moabit prison](#) in Berlin, are immortalized on a commemorative plaque at the [St. Brigida's Basilica](#) in [Gdańsk](#), Poland.

In September 1942 OW ZJ merged with part of [National Military Organization](#) (*Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa*, the rest of which merged with [ZWZ-AK](#)) and formed the [National Armed Forces](#) (*Narodowe Siły Zbrojne*).^[1] The OW ZJ faction would also be opposed when the NSZ decided to cooperate with AK in 1944, and the so-called NSZ-ZJ faction would break off the main NSZ and

refuse most cooperation with AK. Members of the OW ZJ, and later, NZS, considered [Soviet Union](#) to be enemy of the Polish people just as [Nazi Germany](#) was and thus were opposed to the Soviet communist regime which became established in Poland after World War II. For political expediency reasons, the communist regime branded them [enemies of the state](#) and the communist propaganda apparatus consistently referred to them as Fascists and Nazis (see [cursed soldiers](#)).

Contributions to the Allied cause - OW ZJ did not carry out many combat operations (in any case these were uncommon until 1942-1944), but instead **had a well-developed intelligence network.**^[4] It also engaged in [psychological warfare](#), and carried out various [propaganda](#) operations.

Among many accomplishments of the ZJ Intelligence Unit “West” which played a significant role in the outcome of the II World War were obtaining information about [Nazi aggression on Greece](#), obtaining a date of an attack by the [Afrika Korps directed towards Alexandria](#), establishing the location of the Nazi battleship “[Tirpitz](#)”, establishing the locations of the ultra-secret Nazi [V-2](#) rocket manufacturing facility in [Peenemünde](#), and establishing the location of the test-site of German V rockets along with their precise drawings and dimensions.

The ZJ also managed to infiltrate its agent, [Edmund Konieczny](#), into the [Deutsche Werke Kiel](#) repair shipyard in [Gdynia](#) in order to ascertain the number and types of vessels being repaired there, and the extent of their battle damage – this allowed them, in turn, to locate the [German battleship Gneisenau](#) which escaped the British Navy seeking to destroy it in the [Norwegian fjords](#) .

ZJ is credited with the destruction of a Nazi experimental submarine in Gdańsk.^[citation needed]

National Military Organization – NOW -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Military_Organization

Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa (National Military Organization, NOW) was one of the [Polish resistance movements](#) in [World War II](#). Created in October 1939, it did not merge with the [Service for Poland's Victory](#) (SZP)/[Union of Armed Struggle](#) (ZWZ); later [Home Army](#) (AK). Nevertheless, it recognized the [Polish government in exile](#), which was located in [London](#). The National Military Organization was politically related to the [National Party](#) (SN). **In 1942/1943 it split into two parts; one merged with the Home Army, while another formed the [National Armed Forces](#) (NSZ). After the [Warsaw Uprising](#), most of NOW members formed the [National Military Union](#) (NZW).**

History- On October 13, 1939, a few days after the end of the joint German and Soviet [Invasion of Poland](#), a conspirational meeting of leaders of the National Party took place in [Warsaw](#). During the meeting, a military organization called the National Army was created. Later on, it changed the name into Military Organization of the National Party (Organizacja Wojskowa Stronnictwa Narodowego), then it was called National Armed Units (Narodowe Oddziały Wojskowe), to finally be named **Narodowa Organizacja Wojskowa** (since July 1, 1941).

The NOW was politically, financially and personally overseen by Military Department of the **National Party**. At the same time, it had a widespread autonomy concerning its structure, intelligence, and training. Its first planned commandant was General [Marian Januszajtis-Zegota](#), but he was arrested by the [NKVD](#) in [Lwów](#), on October 27, 1939. Under the circumstances, the NOW was commanded by Colonel Aleksander Demidowicz-Demidecki. In December 1939, Demidecki left occupied Poland, and was replaced by Colonel Boleslaw Kozubowski.

(...) In the spring 1942, several units of the NOW, mainly from Warsaw and [Radom](#), **decided to become part of the Home Army**, and in May 1942, Stefan Sacha contacted General [Stefan Rowecki](#), discussing with him merger of the two organizations. As a result, on August 23, 1942 an

agreement was signed, and in November 1942, the merger was completed. **Several NOW members, headed by August Michalowski, disagreed with it.** The organization split into two parts - one was united with the Home Army, while another continued independent activities. The new NOW was headed by Colonel Ignacy Oziewicz, and was divided into five districts: Radom, [Kielce](#), [Częstochowa](#), [Podlasie](#), [Lublin](#) and [Łódź](#). In 1942, the new NOW merged with [Military Organization Lizard Union](#), creating the [National Armed Forces](#) (Narodowe Sily Zbrojne, NSZ). (...) There were several [sabotage](#) actions, and in order to rescue Jews, the NOW cooperated with other organizations. Some 1500 NOW soldiers fought in the [Warsaw Uprising](#).

(National) Polish Scouting / Narodowe Harcerstwo Polskie -

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



Polish Scouting, or National Scouting, (better known under its conspiracy code name "**Hufce Polskie**" („**Scout Troops of Poland**”)) were organized by a Scoutmaster [hm. RP Stanisław Sedlaczek](#), [instruktor ZHP](#), who was connected with a catholic-national camp. (...) His national-catholic ideas were a cause of his losing influence in 1932 on the shaping of the scouting (ZHP) organization, and its consequence was creation in Warsaw of a “Senior Scout Circle of St. George” ([Kregu Starszoharcerskiego św. Jerzego](#)), which pulled together scouting instructors with national-catholic feelings, similar to his. (...)

The outbreak of war unified for a short time the national and „sanation” scouting antagonists and a „**Scout Emergency Service**” was set up jointly in Warsaw. Since the leadership of the „Gray Ranks” was composed mostly of the scouts with leftist or “sanation” ideology ([Aleksander Kamiński](#)), not even one representative of the catholic-national faction was elected. Under those circumstances, on the initiative of [Stanisława Sedlaczka](#) on October 27, 1939 in Warsaw a new organization - „**Polish Scouting**” or “**Scout Troops of Poland**” was created.

(... in 1943 it assumed a clandestine code name "**Hufce Polskie**" (HP). (...) Unification talks between the „**Polish Scouting**” and „**Gray Ranks**”, took place from 1942 to 1944, however they were not successful.

„Scout Troops of Poland” / “Hufce Polskie” in the Warsaw Uprising -

https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harcerstwo_Polskie#Hufce_Polskie_w_powstaniu_warszawskim


“Hufce Polskie” experienced their highest losses during the Warsaw Uprising - (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Uprising). The following military units were formed: a Scout Company, a Scout Signal Platoon and a Sanitary Platoon of Girl-scouts, which were incorporated into the “Gustaw” Battalion. They were fighting in the defense of Wola, Old Town and City Center ([Woli](#), [Starego Miasta](#) i [Śródmieścia](#)). It is difficult to estimate all losses by “Hufce Polskie” in the Uprising. The scout unit losses of the “Gustaw” Battalion alone amounted to 66 fallen, which was 45% of their initial membership.

<http://www.harcerstwpolskie.pl/hp> - **The scouts were free to decide, which organization they wanted to join. In reality, they joined units where their friends or scout superiors served.**

Home Army (AK) Battalion “Gustaw” - <http://armiakrajowa.org.pl/tabliczki/61.html>

Home Army Battalion “Gustaw” The battalion’s core came from the **National Military Organisation (NOW)**. In November 1942, this organization was incorporated into the Home Army as the “Stolica” Group. The Group consisted of four battalions including “Gustaw”, which was assigned to the City Centre District and commanded by Captain Ludwik Gawrych codename “Gustaw”.





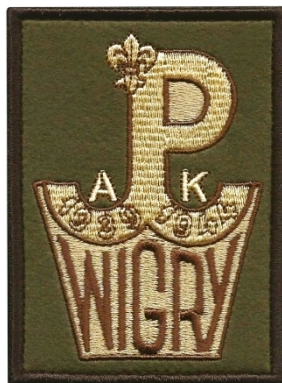
On the eve of the Rising, the battalion consisted of four companies but it was expanded by additional four companies and a special unit “Juliusz”.



The battalion fought as part of District I in the Old Town. Two of its companies (“Grażyna” and “Genowefa”) were cut off in the City Centre North and formed “Harnaś” Battalion. On 7 August, “Gustaw” Battalion was incorporated into Group North. On 13 August, 67 soldiers from two of its companies died in an explosion of Sdkfz301 Borgward IV explosive carrier, a German remote-controlled demolition vehicle, which was captured by insurgents. Following the battalion’s withdrawal from the Old Town, it joined forces with “Harnaś” Battalion and fought in the sector of Mazowiecka, Świętokrzyska, Napoleon Square, and Górskiego Streets. On 6 September, the battalion’s surviving units were combined into a single company which was incorporated into “Bartkiewicz” Group.

Total losses of both battalions – “Gustaw” and “Harnaś” – reached more than 300 killed in action.

Battalion „Wigry” - https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batalion_%E2%80%9EWigry_%E2%80%9D (pol., excerpts translated)



(...) Causes for the creation of a separate scout organizations should be looked for in the pre-war conflicts between the ruling Pilsudski’s “Sanation” and the National Democracy (ND) backed groups and - what follows – slightly different visions of scouting of these two separate political camps, which were in competition with each other.

Some of the scout instructors from the Warsaw Banner did not agree with the mode of bringing up of the youth promoted by the scout leadership. This group started organizing camps for the cadre in the Suwałki region on the lake **Wigry**. Thus, it was strengthening and bringing closer together the cadre, which preferred apolitical scouting (...). In consequence of additional incidents and increasing conflict, in the spring of 1939 a group of a few

“Wigry” followers under the leadership of Władysław Ludwiga were expelled from the ZHP.

Protesting this kind of action of the leadership of the organization and in solidarity with the expelled scoutmasters, ca. 100 scouting instructors left the Warsaw Banner. On the eve of the war, Warsaw scouting was left without a cadre. (...)

The clandestine organization „Wigry” was initiated on September 30, 1939, with the initiative of scoutmasters: [Władysława Ludwiga](#) „Kamila”, [Witolda Sosnowskiego](#) „Witolda”, [Czesława Tomasika](#) „Czesława”, [Eugeniusza Konopackiego](#) „Trzaski” and [Romana Kaczorowskiego](#) „Prokopa”. According to their concept, „Wigry” were supposed to become a cadre military organization, and in case of a war out-brake – to form a military battalion. Before the spring of 1940, it was possible to recruit ca. 100 senior scouting instructors and functionaries. The plans were fulfilled in 1943, when “Wigry” had 250 members, who were organized in two companies. (...)

(...) During the whole period of the clandestine activity, this organization acted in parallel to other scout organizations, such as “Gray Ranks”, (“Szare “Szeregi”), “Hufce Polskie”, (“Scout Troops of Poland”) and girl scout organization “[Bądź Gotów](#)”, („Be Ready). The “Wigry” scouts organized a clandestine Agricola Cadet School. (...) **On November 1, 1943, „Wigry” united with the “Gray Ranks”.**

Bataliony Chłopskie - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bataliony_Ch%C5%82opskie

Bataliony Chłopskie (BCh, [Polish Peasants' Battalions](#)) was a [Polish](#) World War II [resistance movement](#), [guerrilla](#) and [partisan](#) organisation. The organisation was created in mid-1940 by the agrarian political party [People's Party](#) and by 1944 was partially integrated with the [Armia Krajowa](#) (Home Army). At its height, in summer 1944 the organisation had 160,000 members.^[1]

Cursed soldiers - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cursed_soldiers

The "**cursed soldiers**"^[3] also known as "**doomed soldiers**",^[4] "**accursed soldiers**" or "**damned soldiers**"; **Polish**: *Żołnierze wyklęci*) or "**indomitable soldiers**"^[5] (**Polish**: *Żołnierze niezłomni*) is a term applied to a variety of **anti-Soviet** and **anti-communist Polish resistance movements** formed in the later stages of **World War II** and **its aftermath** by members of the **Polish Underground State**. The clandestine organisations continued their armed struggle against the **communist regime** of Poland well into the 1950s. The **guerrilla warfare** included an array of military attacks launched against the regime's **prisons** and state **security offices**, detention facilities for political prisoners, and concentration camps that were set up across the country. Most of the Polish anti-communist groups ceased to exist in the late 1950s, as they were hunted down by agents of the **Ministry of Public Security** and Soviet **NKVD**.^[6] The last known "cursed soldier", **Józef Franczak**, was killed in an ambush in 1963.^{[7][8]}

The best-known Polish anti-communist resistance organisations operating in Stalinist Poland included **Freedom and Independence** (Wolność i Niezawisłość, WIN), **National Armed Forces** (Narodowe Siły Zbrojne, NSZ), **National Military Union** (Narodowe Zjednoczenie Wojskowe, NZW), **Konspiracyjne Wojsko Polskie** (Underground Polish Army, KWP), **Ruch Oporu Armii Krajowej** (Home Army Resistance, ROAK), **Armia Krajowa Obywatelska** (Citizens' Home Army, AKO), **NIE** (NO, short for *Niepodległość*), **Armed Forces Delegation for Poland** (Delegatura Sił Zbrojnych na Kraj), and **Wolność i Sprawiedliwość** (Freedom and Justice, WiS).^[8]

Similar **Eastern European anti-communist insurgencies** went on in neighbouring countries.

The operations and history of the "cursed soldiers" have been controversial.^[9]

Religion in Scouting - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_Scouting - **Religion in Scouting** and **Guiding** is an aspect of the **Scout method** that has been practiced differently and given different interpretations over the years.

In contrast to the **Christian**-only **Boys' Brigade**, which started two decades earlier, **Robert Baden-Powell** founded the Scout movement as a youth organization (with boys as 'Scouts' and girls as 'Guides'), which was independent of any single **faith** or religion, yet still held that **spirituality and a belief in a higher power** were key to the **development** of young people.^[1]

Scouting organizations are free to interpret the method as laid down by the founder. As the modern world has become more **secular** and as many societies have become more religiously **diverse**, this has caused misunderstandings and controversies in some of the national member organizations.

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1947 Polish legislative election -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1947_Polish_legislative_election

Parliamentary elections were held in [Poland](#) on 19 January 1947,^[1] the first since [World War II](#). According to the official results, the [Democratic Bloc](#) (*Blok Demokratyczny*), dominated by the [communist Polish Workers Party](#) (PPR) and also including the [Polish Socialist Party](#) (PPS), People's Party (SL), [Democratic Party](#) (SD) and non-partisan candidates, gained 80.1% of the vote and 394 of the 444 seats in the [Legislative Sejm](#). The largest opposition party, the [Polish People's Party](#), was officially credited with 28 seats. However, the elections were characterized by violence;^[2] [anti-communist](#) opposition candidates and activists were persecuted by the [Volunteer Reserve Militia](#) (ORMO).^[3] The results were [blatantly falsified](#); the opposition claimed that it would have won in a landslide had the election been conducted in a fair manner.^{[4][2][5]} :

The election gave the Soviets and the communist-dominated Polish [satellite government](#)^[6] enough legitimacy to claim that Poland was 'free and democratic', thus allowing Poland to sign the [charter of the United Nations](#).^[7]



Bolesław Bierut (1892-1956),
The official portrait photo of
and gensek of [en:PZPR](#) (Polish
made in millions copies
office, school, and other public
Poland, reproduced in press and



Stanisław Mikołajczyk, Prime Minister of Poland in Exile (1943-1944), Deputy of Prime Minister of Provisional Government of National Unity in Poland 1945-1947

Conduct - Opposition candidates and activists were persecuted until election day; only the PPR and its allies were allowed to campaign unhindered. The publicized results were falsified,^[4] with the official results known to selected government officials long before the actual elections took place and any votes were counted.^[16]

The real results were not known to anyone. In areas where the government had sufficient control, some of the [ballot boxes](#) were simply destroyed without being counted,^[13] or exchanged with boxes filled with prepared votes.^[14] Where possible, government officials simply filled in the numbers in the relevant documents as per instructions from Soviet and PPR officials without bothering to count the real votes.^[14]

A [Time Magazine](#) article covering the elections noted in its lead paragraph: "In a spirit of partisan exuberance tempered with terror, Poland approached its first nationwide popular election, ten days hence. By last week most of the combined opposition (Socialist and Polish Peasant Party) candidates had been jailed, and their supporters more or less completely cowed by the secret police, by striking their names from voting lists and by arrest. The Communist-dominated Government ventured to predict an "overwhelming" victory."^[17] Historian Piotr Wrobel wrote that this election saw "the highest level of repression and terror" that was ever seen during the four decades of Communist rule in Poland.^[2]
