

# CUM TACENT, CLAMANT

WHEN THEY ARE SILENT, THEY SHOUT



INSTITUTE OF  
NATIONAL  
REMEMBRANCE

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# CUM TACENT, CLAMANT WHEN THEY ARE SILENT, THEY SHOUT

THE EXHIBITION IS DEVOTED TO  
THE SEARCHES FOR THE REMAINS OF  
VICTIMS OF THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM  
MURDERED IN 1944–1956

The searches were carried out between 2012 and 2014  
by the Institute of National Remembrance  
and the Council for the Protection of Struggle  
and Martyrdom Sites in cemetery section “Ł”  
of the Powązki Military Cemetery in Warsaw





## CEMETERY SECTION “Ł”

Between 1948 and 1956, in cemetery section “Ł” – the so-called “Meadow” of the Powązki Military Cemetery in Warsaw, the communist security services buried the remains of nearly 300 prisoners whom they considered particularly dangerous for the state. Their names were deliberately not recorded in the main register of the cemetery.

Initially, the bodies of the executed persons were transported from the prison in a one-horse cart. After some time, however, the cart was replaced by a truck with a tarpaulin cover. Dead bodies were thrown into dug-out pits and then hurriedly filled with soil and levelled. In the mid 1950s, the section used for prison burials and the adjacent sections of the cemetery were covered with a layer of soil and rubble. As officially claimed, this was done in order to remove level differences between the higher-lying Military Cemetery and the lower-lying Powązki Municipal Cemetery.

In very few cases, family members of victims managed to obtain some information from gravediggers, who showed them the approximate location of the secret burials of prisoners from Mokotów Prison. These burials usually took place at night or in the early hours of the morning.

The levelling operation carried out in the mid-fifties in cemetery section “Ł” and in the adjacent sections removed any traces of the burials of prisoners.

Soon after the introduction of the martial law in Poland, cemetery section “Ł” was again made available for use for burial purposes. Between 1982 and 1984, nearly 200 new graves were placed in the former burial grounds for victims of the

Stalinist era. Most of these graves are occupied by high-ranking communists.

Between 2012 and 2014, archaeological excavations were carried out in cemetery section “Ł”, commissioned by the Institute of National Remembrance and the Council for the Protection of Struggle and Martyrdom Sites. As a result, the remains of 198 persons were exhumed. They probably included the remains of two women. 75 percent of the bodies showed signs of Katyn-like execution methods – with one or more shots in the back of the head, fired from a handgun.

Archaeologists found and identified bodies of outstanding officers of the Home Army and of the National Armed Forces, including: major Hieronim Dekutowski, nom de guerre “Zapora”, colonel Stanisław Kasznica, nom de guerre “Przepona”, major Bolesław Kontrym, nom de guerre “Żmudzin”, lieutenant colonel Antoni Olechnowicz, nom de guerre “Pohorecki”, major Zygmunt Szendzielarz, nom de guerre “Łupaszko”, and officers of the Polish Army: commander Stanisław Mieszkowski, colonel Aleksander Kita and colonel Marian Orlik.

To complete the excavations in the “Meadow”, the third and last stage of exhumations should be carried out to excavate the remains of over 90 victims of the communist regime which remain underneath more contemporary graves. The remains which have not been found yet include those of General Emil Fieldorf, nom de guerre “Nil”, cavalry captain Witold Pilecki, nom de guerre “Witold”, lieutenant colonel Łukasz Ciepliński, nom de guerre “Pług”, and many, many others...

KRZYSZTOF SZWAGRZYK





After the World War II, Poland actually found itself under occupation of the USSR. The Soviets were carrying out a plan designed to gain political, military, economic and ideological control over the Republic of Poland. Assisted by loyal Polish communists and taking advantage of the generally enthusiastic response of the society to the defeat of Germany and its eagerness to rebuild the war-ravaged country, the Soviets tried to create a semblance of an independent Polish state with a sham multi-party system and economic freedom. However, in the new communist Poland there was no room for many categories of anti-communist enemies, including those representing the structures of the Second Polish Republic or the Polish Underground State.

From the first days, the Soviets and their communist supporters persecuted soldiers of the underground movement who had fought for independence, including soldiers of: the Home Army, National Armed Forces and Peasant Battalions, the Armed Forces Delegation for Poland, Freedom and Independence, National Military Union, Underground Polish Army, Home Army Resistance Movement, activists of civilian structures – Government Delegation for Poland and members of other political formations who were legitimate representatives of the Polish society: National Party, Polish Socialist Party – Freedom, Equality, Independence, Labour Party and the People’s Party.

The activists of the only legal opposition party after the war – Polish People’s Party – fell victim to repressions, too. Other enemies included soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces in the West who decided to return to Poland after having been encouraged to do so by the communists. They were treated as potential spies and, most

of all, as dangerous individuals due to their adherence to the traditions of Independent Poland, which was so dangerous for the new authorities.

Carrying out their plan to turn Poland into a captive nation, the Soviets and their Polish communist allies used a full range of repressive measures: from deportations and arrests on a mass scale to assassinations and judicial crimes. The latter in particular constituted a real travesty of law, considering the merits of most of the convicted persons in the struggle for independent Poland. They had more to do with farcical propaganda than with fair court proceedings. Due to the unyielding attitude of the accused, some of these “proceedings” took the form of the so-called “toilet bucket trials” (this name comes from the toilet bucket on which prisoners were made to sit) and were held in prison cells, with no proper legal representation and without any chance for justice.

People sentenced to death who were not pardoned by the president of the communist Poland Bolesław Bierut (an NKVD agent) or covered by an amnesty, were murdered “in the name of the law”. Prisoners tried by common “courts” were hanged (e.g. general August Emil Fieldorf). The military tribunals, on the other hand, usually executed their victims using the “Katyn” method – with a shot in the back of the head.

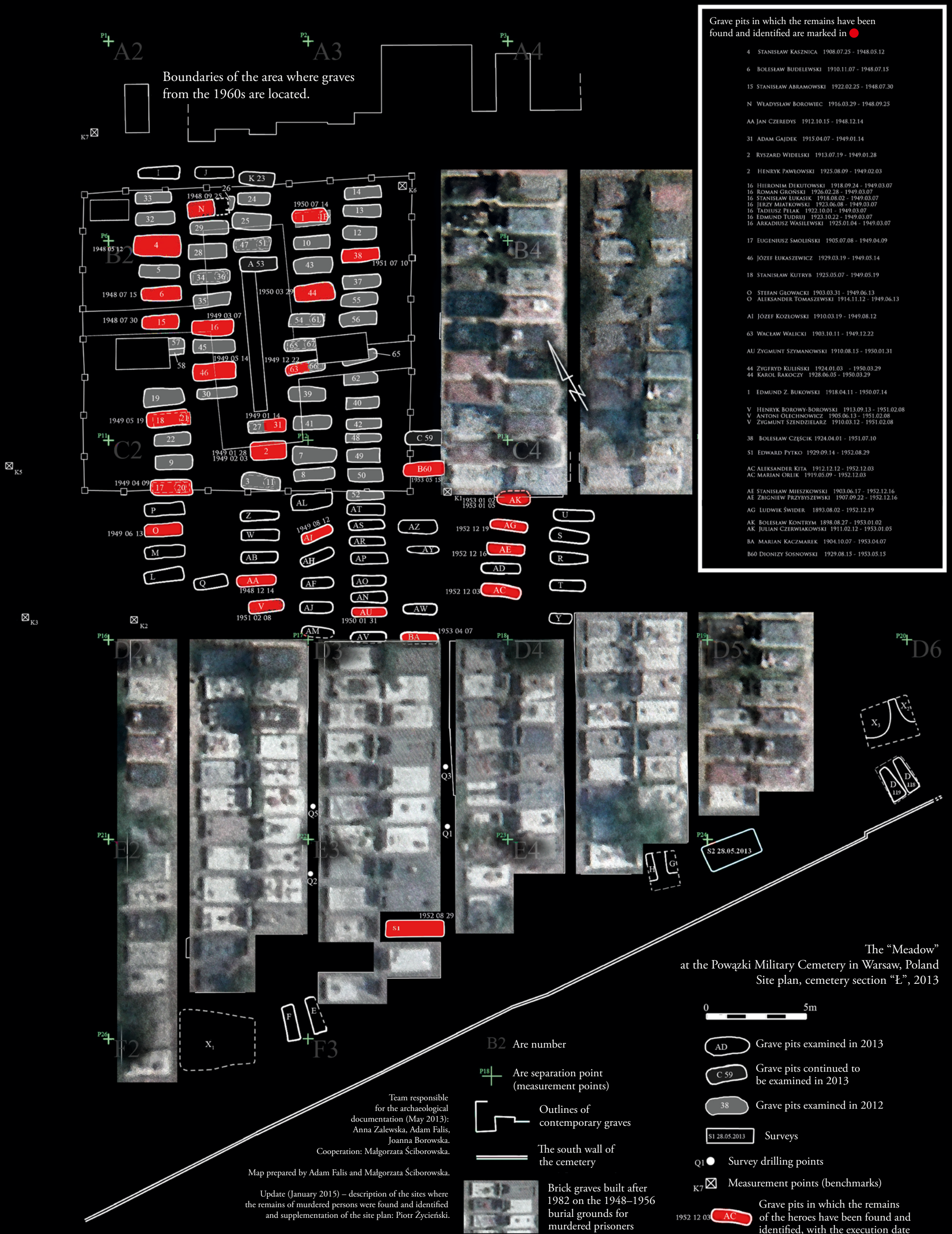
Families of victims were seldom informed about these executions and the bodies of victims were secretly buried. One of such execution sites was the central prison of the Ministry of Public Security in Rakowiecka Street in Mokotów in Warsaw. Since the spring of 1948, the people murdered there were secretly buried in cemetery section “Ł” of the Powązki Military Cemetery in Warsaw.

PIOTR ŻYCIENSKI



# CEMETERY SECTION "Ł"

## AT THE POWĄZKI MILITARY CEMETERY IN WARSAW





THE HEROES OF INDEPENDENT POLAND, MURDERED BY THE  
SOVIET COLLABORATORS, WHOSE BODIES WERE SECRETLY BURIED  
IN CEMETERY SECTION "Ł" OF THE POWĄZKI MILITARY CEMETERY

**Bold** denotes identified remains

b

<b>Stanisław</b>	<b>Abramowski</b>	1922-02-25 – 1948-07-30	Mieczysław	Gagorowski	1910-12-24 – 1952-10-24	Piotr	Macuk	1909-11-26 – 1949-08-12	Zygmunt	Sokołowski	1908-04-20 – 1953-08-29
Bernard	Adamecki	1897-07-12 – 1952-08-07	<b>Stefan</b>	<b>Głowacki</b>	1903-03-31 – 1949-06-13	Stefan	Majewski	1910-07-27 – 1951-01-18	<b>Dionizy</b>	<b>Sosnowski</b>	1929-08-15 – 1953-05-15
Józef	Bahyrycz	1925-06-29 – 1952-03-05	Tadeusz	Głuchowski	1923-10-22 – 1952-03-24	Władysław	Majewski	1924-10-20 – 1950-09-22	Jerzy	Staniewicz	1903-08-06 – 1952-12-12
Zdzisław	Barbasiewicz	1909-09-21 – 1952-01-10	Henryk	Gosik	1923-11-23 – 1951-09-20	Władysław	Manikowski	1902-05-13 – 1952-08-07	Władysław	Stępnowski	1902-02-10 – 1950-01-13
Józef	Batory	1914-02-20 – 1951-03-01	Stefan	Górski	1922-04-27 – 1948-09-25	Józef	Marcinkowski	1900-02-14 – 1952-04-02	Janusz	Stoiński	1917-06-16 – 1948-04-17
Stanisław	Bączek	1928-07-03 – 1949-05-14	Paweł	Grieger	1918-09-14 – 1952-03-05	Edward	Markosik	1930-01-24 – 1949-05-14	Feliks	Stroiński	1899-11-20 – 1948-12-28
Feliks	Bąk	1926-06-04 – 1948-08-30	<b>Roman</b>	<b>Groński</b>	1926-02-28 – 1949-03-07	Włodzimierz	Mączyński	1923-03-20 – 1951-12-05	Wiktor	Stryjewski	1916-09-01 – 1951-01-18
Tadeusz	Bejt	1923-05-20 – 1949-02-11	Józef	Gumowski	1916-03-15 – 1952-10-23	August	Menczak	1894-03-31 – 1952-08-07	<b>Zygmunt</b>	<b>Szendzielarz</b>	1910-03-12 – 1951-02-08
Zbigniew	Bernatowicz	1924-02-14 – 1949-01-27	Henryk	Gut	1927-10-17 – 1949-05-14	<b>Jerzy</b>	<b>Miatkowski</b>	1923-06-08 – 1949-03-07	<b>Zygmunt</b>	<b>Szymanowski</b>	1910-08-15 – 1950-01-31
Jan	Bielski	1924-04-27 – 1952-01-25	Napoleon	Idzikowski	1924-08-11 – 1955-09-23	Marian	Michalski	1925-03-11 – 1953-08-22	Bolesław	Szyszek	1914-11-17 – 1949-08-12
Witold	Bikulicz	1927-01-09 – 1952-03-05	Emil	Jabłoński	1895-07-12 – 1949-03-28	Wacław	Michalski	1923-11-05 – 1950-03-29	Szczepan	Ścibior	1903-12-13 – 1952-08-07
Antoni	Błaszczński	1903-07-22 – 1951-08-31	Zbigniew	Jeziernski	1925-07-27 – 1949-08-27	Feliks	Michałowski	1907-05-29 – 1953-05-26	Leszek	Śliwiński	1926-09-06 – 1953-05-13
Franciszek	Błażej	1907-10-27 – 1951-03-01	Jerzy	Jętkiewicz	1925-09-22 – 1953-03-30	Stanisław	Michowski	1900-11-05 – 1952-08-07	Władysław	Śliwiński	1921-04-03 – 1951-02-15
Józef	Boguszewski	1916-12-02 – 1951-12-01	Bonifacy	Józwiński	1915-05-14 – 1949-05-28	<b>Stanisław</b>	<b>Mieszkowski</b>	1903-06-17 – 1952-12-16	<b>Ludwik</b>	<b>Świder</b>	1893-08-02 – 1952-12-19
<b>Władysław</b>	<b>Borowiec</b>	1916-03-29 – 1948-09-25	Józef	Jungrav	1897-03-25 – 1952-08-07	Stanisław	Mierzwiński	1922-01-05 – 1949-02-18	<b>Aleksander</b>	<b>Tomaszewski</b>	1949-06-13 – 1914-11-12
<b>Henryk</b>	<b>Borowski</b>	1913-09-13 – 1951-02-08	<b>Marian</b>	<b>Kaczmarek</b>	1904-10-07 – 1953-04-07	Lucjan	Minkiewicz	1918-12-13 – 1951-02-08	Stefan	Tomaszewski	1897-09-02 – 1952-07-01
Stefan	Bronarski	1916-08-17 – 1951-01-18	Jan	Kaim	1917-09-17 – 1949-08-18	Adam	Mirecki	1909-01-04 – 1952-10-24	<b>Edmund</b>	<b>Tudruj</b>	1923-10-22 – 1949-03-07
Jerzy	Broński	1906-08-30 – 1948-12-14	Augustyn	Kania	1919-08-22 – 1954-02-09	Wincenty	Morawski	1931-01-22 – 1951-04-16	<b>Wacław</b>	<b>Walicki</b>	1903-10-11 – 1949-12-22
<b>Bolesław</b>	<b>Budelewski</b>	1910-11-07 – 1948-07-15	Czesław	Kania	1909-03-19 – 1949-08-12	Lech	Neyman	1908-02-07 – 1948-05-12	<b>Arkadiusz</b>	<b>Wasilewski</b>	1925-01-04 – 1949-03-07
<b>Edmund</b>	<b>Bukowski</b>	1918-04-11 – 1950-07-14	<b>Stanisław</b>	<b>Kasznica</b>	1908-07-25 – 1948-05-12	Stanisław	Nienalowski	1903-03-08 – 1948-06-09	Bolesław	Wasiutyński	1898-04-29 – 1951-08-31
Karol	Chmiel	1911-04-17 – 1951-03-01	Mieczysław	Kawalec	1916-07-05 – 1951-03-01	Mieczysław	Oborski	1900-02-02 – 1953-02-06	<b>Ryszard</b>	<b>Widelski</b>	1913-07-19 – 1949-01-28
Czesław	Chrzanowski	1924-02-14 – 1948-07-30	<b>Aleksander</b>	<b>Kita</b>	1912-12-12 – 1952-12-03	Zygmunt	Ojrzyński	1909-10-11 – 1953-01-02	Jerzy	Wierzbicki	1925-11-08 – 1951-01-18
Eugeniusz	Chudowolski	1925-03-20 – 1951-10-24	Tadeusz	Klukowski	1931-05-15 – 1953-06-16	Stanisław	Okniński	1923-11-08 – 1952-06-07	Zygmunt	Wilczyński	1910-03-30 – 1950-10-26
Łukasz	Ciepliński	1913-11-26 – 1951-03-01	Jan	Kmiołek	1919-08-22 – 1952-08-07	<b>Antoni</b>	<b>Olechnowicz</b>	1905-06-13 – 1951-02-08	Andrzej	Wlekiński	1922-12-17 – 1948-09-25
Tadeusz	Cieśla	1919-07-31 – 1952-07-09	Jan	Koj	1925-05-15 – 1952-03-05	<b>Marian</b>	<b>Orlik</b>	1919-05-09 – 1952-12-03	Jan	Wrona	1918-05-09 – 1952-03-24
Ryszard	Cieślak	1926-05-16 – 1953-05-13	Bronisław	Kołąkowski	1889-10-10 – 1950-08-03	Seweryn	Oryl	1921-02-10 – 1950-03-29	Wacław	Wrzesiński	1924-10-16 – 1948-10-01
Andrzej	Czaykowski	1912-02-07 – 1953-10-10	Zdzisław	Kołąkowski	1925-06-28 – 1950-08-03	Kazimierz	Pawluczak	1929-02-04 – 1948-05-25	Aleksander	Wzorek	1921-02-23 – 1951-11-19
<b>Jan</b>	<b>Czeredys</b>	1912-10-15 – 1948-12-14	Bogdan	Komorowski	1926-11-29 – 1954-07-05	<b>Henryk</b>	<b>Pawłowski</b>	1925-08-09 – 1949-02-03	Zdzisław	Zakrzewski	1918-06-01 – 1951-09-20
<b>Julian</b>	<b>Czerwiakowski</b>	1911-02-12 – 1953-01-05	<b>Bolesław</b>	<b>Kontrym</b>	1898-08-27 – 1953-01-02	<b>Tadeusz</b>	<b>Pelak</b>	1922-10-01 – 1949-03-07	Benno	Zerbst	1913-11-15 – 1953-08-21
<b>Bolesław</b>	<b>Częścik</b>	1924-04-01 – 1951-07-10	Stanisław	Kończyński	1914-01-06 – 1950-03-29	Bogusław	Pietrkiewicz	1932-02-16 – 1953-05-13	Stanisław	Żabicki	1925-11-28 – 1951-08-31
<b>Hieronim</b>	<b>Dekutowski</b>	1918-09-24 – 1949-03-07	Wacław	Korwel	1914-07-02 – 1952-03-24	Stefan	Pietrusiński	1929-09-02 – 1953-04-15	Helena	Żurowska	1906-06-24 – 1949-09-21
Stanisław	Derkus	1925-05-01 – 1951-09-20	Tadeusz	Kościótek	1932-05-04 – 1953-03-30	Witold	Pilecki	1901-05-13 – 1948-05-25	...	...	...
Ignacy	Długołęcki	1928-08-30 – 1949-03-05	Janusz	Kotowski	1924-08-26 – 1948-04-17	Tadeusz	Przybylski	1920-05-10 – 1951-12-01			
Stefan	Długołęcki	1906-07-22 – 1948-12-14	Tadeusz	Kowalczuk	1921-12-20 – 1953-05-13	Jan	Przybyłowski	1917-11-27 – 1951-01-18			
Edward	Długosz	1918-09-25 – 1952-03-24	Stanisław	Kowalczyk	1925-05-06 – 1952-08-07	<b>Zbigniew</b>	<b>Przybyszewski</b>	1907-09-22 – 1952-12-16			
Adam	Doboszyński	1904-05-11 – 1949-08-29	<b>Józef</b>	<b>Kozłowski</b>	1910-03-19 – 1949-08-12	<b>Edward</b>	<b>Pytko</b>	1929-09-14 – 1952-08-29			
Grzegorz	Doliwa-	1898-06-09 – 1952-01-12	Ryszard	Kozubski	1929-03-31 – 1952-03-24	<b>Karol</b>	<b>Rakoczy</b>	1928-06-05 – 1950-03-29			
	Dobrowolski		Franciszek	Krawczykowski	1906-09-29 – 1952-07-01	Ignacy	Ramotowski	1922-06-20 – 1949-11-18	Kazimierz	Błazejowski	1920-07-23 – 1950-08-14
Tadeusz	Domżański	1926-02-10 – 1948-08-31	Wiktor	Kuczyński	1903-12-21 – 1950-02-14	Aleksander	Rode	1907-12-10 – 1953-05-26	Bronisław	Chajęcki	1902-12-15 – 1953-01-20
Władysław	Dubielak	1924-08-20 – 1955-10-27	<b>Zygfryd</b>	<b>Kuliński</b>	1924-01-03 – 1950-03-29	Zbigniew	Romer	1917-02-21 – 1952-07-11	Zbigniew	Ejme	1912-05-03 – 1953-01-05
Czesław	Duma	1925-10-14 – 1949-02-11	<b>Stanisław</b>	<b>Kutryb</b>	1925-05-07 – 1949-05-19	Edmund	Rosachacki	1920-09-27 – 1952-10-23	Telesfor	Grewling	1932-07-24 – 1952-09-27
Józef	Dyjak	1925-08-08 – 1948-05-12	Jan	Kuzko	1929-11-21 – 1953-04-23	Wincenty	Rosochacki	1924-05-01 – 1949-08-04	Gerard	Gurzan	1925-12-11 – 1949-11-02
Edward	Dziewa	1920-09-17 – 1951-10-24	Władysław	Kwiatkowski	1921-06-30 – 1951-09-20	Roman	Rypson	1899-02-16 – 1953-04-28	Władysław	Minakowski	1902-05-13 – 1952-08-07
Tadeusz	Dzionsko	1928-10-27 – 1952-01-13	Adam	Lazarowicz	1907-10-14 – 1951-03-01	Stanisław	Rząba	1927-03-12 – 1949-05-14	Lech	Rajchel	1929-03-09 – 1954-03-04
Zdzisław	Ejchler	1908-06-29 – 1948-09-25	Tadeusz	Leśnikowski	1916-12-16 – 1950-05-05	Józef	Rzepka	1913-12-12 – 1951-03-01	Jerzy	Świstow	1928-06-21 – 1950-11-15
Eugeniusz	Falkus	1931-12-06 – 1952-03-24	Jerzy	Lewszecki	1913-11-22 – 1955-08-02	Karol	Sęk	1893-10-21 – 1952-06-07	Kazimierz	Tuszyński	1924-12-29 – 1950-05-17
August Emil	Fieldorf	1895-03-20 – 1953-02-24	Władysław	Lisiecki	1919-01-05 – 1952-10-24	Antoni	Siwec	1907-05-28 – 1952-06-17	Jerzy	Wojdalski	1927-02-24 – 1950-05-17
Gracjan	Fróg	1911-12-08 – 1951-05-11	<b>Stanisław</b>	<b>Łukasik</b>	1918-08-02 – 1949-03-07	Stanisław	Skalski	1923-09-23 – 1950-09-19	Józef	Wołyniec	1917-06-26 – 1949-07-01
<b>Adam</b>	<b>Gajdek</b>	1915-04-07 – 1949-01-14	<b>Józef</b>	<b>Łukaszewicz</b>	1929-03-19 – 1949-05-14	Stefan	Skrzyszowski	1911-12-27 – 1953-05-15	Czesław	Ziamba	1924-09-14 – 1948-07-15
Czesław	Gałązka	1924-07-24 – 1949-05-14	Zefiryn	Machalla	1915-08-01 – 1952-01-10	<b>Eugeniusz</b>	<b>Smoliński</b>	1905-07-08 – 1949-04-09	Lucjan	Żółtowski	1926-02-09 – 1950-04-13

The list below contains names of people not included in the exhibition, whose bodies has been also secretly buried. The search for their remains continues.



# EDMUND ZBIGNIEW BUKOWSKI

(1918–1950)

NOM DE GUERRE “ZBYSZEK”, LIEUTENANT OF THE HOME ARMY.  
RECIPIENT OF MANY DISTINCTIONS, INCLUDING THE CROSS OF VALOUR



Edmund Zbigniew Bukowski was born and grew up in the Vilnius region, where he completed an elementary school and a gymnasium run by Jesuits. Then, he commenced law studies at the Stefan Batory University in Vilnius. Since 1939, he served as a soldier of the Polish Underground State in the structures of: Service for Poland's Victory / Union of Armed Struggle / Home Army. He was active in the communication service of the Vilnius District of the Home Army. He made several trips to Warsaw to deliver radio equipment and tables with codes. He took a training course for radio operators. He was involved in the Operation “Ostra Brama” (“Gate of Dawn”), which was aimed to liberate Vilnius from the German occupation.

Edmund Zbigniew Bukowski was arrested twice – in 1942, by Sauguma – the Lithuanian security police that remained under the Gestapo supervision, and in August 1944, by the NKVD. The second arrest took place when he was sending a telegram to the Main Headquarters of the Home Army. After he was arrested for the first time, a ransom payment was made to obtain his release. When he was arrested for the second time, he managed to escape despite having been wounded.

After his escape, he was sent to Warsaw with a report on the progress of the Operation “Ostra Brama” and the Soviet attitudes towards the Home Army. He arrived in the district of Praga in Warsaw when the uprising was just about to end. There, he established a communication unit linking the Vilnius District with the Main Headquarters of the Home Army. In June 1945, he became the head of a communication unit at the Headquarters of the Vilnius District, relocated to central Poland.

He maintained communication with the headquarters of the Commander in Chief in London. He travelled many times in nearly the whole of Europe to deliver information, orders and money for further pro-independence activities.

After 1946, he also ran a legalization cell, where he produced false documents for himself and other members of the Headquarters. In 1947 and 1948, as a member of the Home Army headquarters of the Vilnius District, he helped to organize its intelligence network. He was arrested on 28 June 1948. Bukowski behaved in a very brave manner despite being subjected to during ruthless interrogations.

The two-day “court trial” carried out in prison ended on the Independence Day – 11 November 1949. Three days later, the District Military Court in Warsaw passed a death sentence.

Edmund Bukowski was murdered in the prison in Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw on 13 April 1950.

His remains were discovered in cemetery section “Ł” of the Powązki Military Cemetery in Warsaw in the summer of 2012. His body was the first to have been found and identified out of all the victims' bodies hidden in that area.

# HIERONIM DEKUTOWSKI (1918–1949)

NOMS DE GUERRE “ZAPORA”, “REŻU”, “STARY”, A MEMBER OF THE ELITE FORCES “CICHOCIEMNI” (THE SILENT UNSEEN), OFFICER OF THE HOME ARMY, MAJOR OF THE ARMED FORCES DELEGATION FOR POLAND AND OF THE ASSOCIATION “FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE”, DECORATED WITH THE CROSS OF VALOUR (1945).

He was born in Tarnobrzeg. He passed his matriculation exam before the outbreak of the Second World War. A volunteer in the 1939 Defensive War. He got to France and defended French borders in the 2nd Division of Infantry Rifles. After the capitulation of France, he was evacuated to Great Britain, where he was transferred to a tank platoon of the 3rd Battalion of the 1st Rifle Brigade.

In early March of 1943, he was sworn as a member of the “Cichociemni”, noms de guerre “Zapora” and “Odra”. In September, he was dropped on a parachute in Poland. On 30 October, the Commander in Chief promoted him to the rank of a second lieutenant of the reserves. He commanded the 4th company of the 9th Infantry Regiment of the Home Army Inspectorate “Zamość”. In recognition of his achievements, colonel Kazimierz Tumidajski “Marcina” (the commander of the Lublin District of the Home Army) promoted him to the rank of commander of Kedyw of the Lublin – Puławy Inspectorate. He commanded a Kedyw squad and then the 1st Company of the 8th infantry regiment of the Home Army Legions. Between January and July 1944, he carried out several dozen military operations in that District. During the “Tempest” Operation, he protected the headquarters of the Lublin District of the Home Army. In August, he wanted to help the fighting Warsaw but he did not manage to get there.

At the beginning of 1945, when the Headquarters of the Lublin District of the Home Army decided to relocate all soldiers who were threatened with arrest, he commenced retaliatory operations against the NKVD and the establishments of the communist regime. Half a year later, he was promoted to the rank of major by the commanding officers of the Armed Forces Delegation for Poland. All forest divisions of the Lublin Inspectorate of the Armed Forces Delegation for Poland were now transferred under his command.

He demobilized the divisions under his authority, having been ordered to do so by the commanding officers. After two unsuccessful attempts to escape to the West, he engaged in combat again. In the autumn of 1945, he commanded forest divisions of the Lublin “Freedom and Independence” Inspectorate. There, he was responsible for subversive operations and he organized attacks on repressive authorities of the communist regime in the Lublin Province. With time, his activities spread to the Rzeszów and Kielce Provinces.



Following the amnesty announced by the communists in February 1947, he gave up fighting and stopped hiding in June. Threatened with arrest, he once again tried to escape from Poland. On 16 September 1945, he was caught by functionaries of the Voivodeship Public Security Office in Katowice. He was tortured and beaten during interrogations at the central prison of the Ministry of Public Security in Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw.

On 15 November 1948, the District Military Court in Warsaw sentenced him to seven death penalties. Before his sentence was executed, he made one more unsuccessful attempt to escape from his prison cell.

He was murdered in the prison in Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw on 7 March 1949, together with six of his soldiers.

The remains of Hieronim Dekutowski were found in cemetery section “Ł” of the Powązki Military Cemetery in Warsaw in the summer of 2012.

Other remains discovered in his grave before March 2014 were identified as those of: captain Stanisław Łukasik, nom de guerre “Ryś”, lieutenant Roman Groński, nom de guerre “Żbik”, lieutenant Tadeusz Pelak, nom de guerre “Junak”, lieutenant Arkadiusz Wasilewski, nom de guerre “Biały”, second lieutenant Jerzy Miatkowski, nom de guerre “Zawada” and second lieutenant Edmund Tudruj, nom de guerre “Mundek”. The eighth person from that mass grave has never been identified.



## STANISŁAW JÓZEF KASZNICA (1908–1948)

NOMS DE GUERRE “MASZKOWSKI”, “PRZEPONA”, “WAŚAL”, “WAŚOWSKI”, “STANISŁAW”, “STANISŁAW PIOTROWSKI”, SECOND LIEUTENANT OF THE POLISH ARMY, SECOND LIEUTENANT AND COMMANDER OF THE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES, RECIPIENT OF THE WAR ORDER OF VIRTUTI MILITARI OF THE FIFTH CLASS (1939) AND TWO CROSSES OF VALOUR (1939).

Stanisław Józef Kasznica was born in Lvov on 25 July 1908. His father was a professor of the University of Poznań. He went to the K. Marcinkowski Gymnasium in Poznań (1926). He studied law at the University of Poznań (graduating with a master's degree in 1933) and passed the bar exam. An activist of the students' mutual aid organization “Brotherly Help” and a participant of the Academic Corporation “Helionia.” Since 1934, an activist of the National Radical Camp, member of the Polish Organization – a secret management structure of the National Radical Camp.

After graduating from the Academy for Artillery Officers of the Reserve Forces in Włodzimierz Wołyński, he served in the 7th Wielkopolski Squadron of Horse Artillery (promoted to the rank of second lieutenant of the reserve).

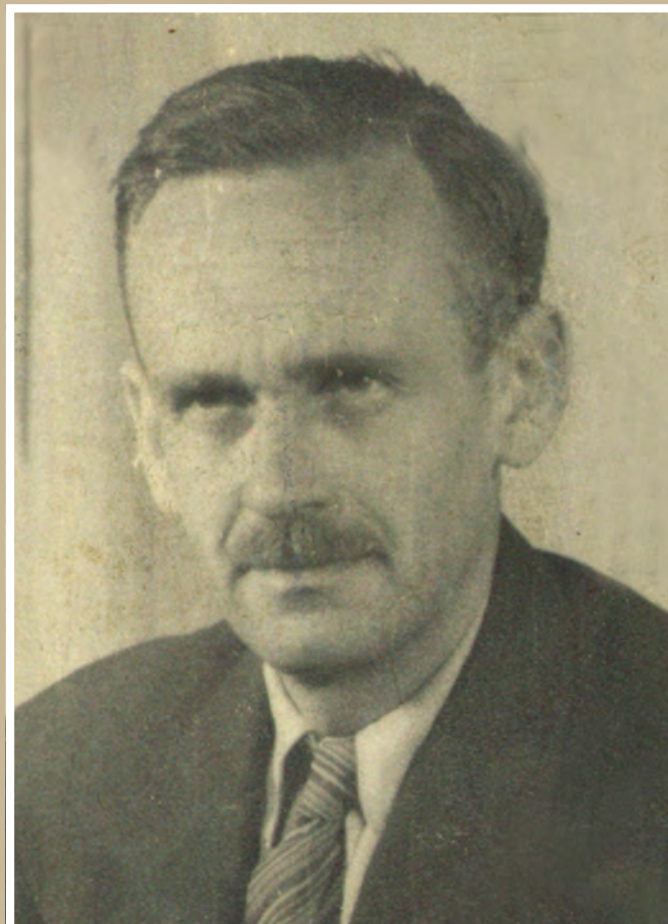
He took part in the 1939 Defensive War as a reconnaissance officer and then as the commander of the 7th Squadron of Horse Artillery in the Poznań Army Group under the command of General Tadeusz Kutrzeba. He became involved in the underground independence movement as a member of the “Szaniec Group” – a group derived from the pre-war “ABC” of the National Radical Camp. At the turn of 1939 and 1940, he joined the Civilian Commissariat, a staff recruitment organization of the national camp whose aim was to prepare administrative structures for liberated Poland. Following the establishment of the National Armed Forces, he served as the head of the General Administration within the structures of the National Civil Service. In July 1943, he joined the Interim National Political Council. Since July 1944, he served as deputy chief of the 1st (organizational) division of main headquarters of the National Armed Forces-Polish Organization (a part of the National Armed Forces not integrated with the Home Army).

In the first days of the Warsaw Uprising, he was involved in combat operations in the district of Ochota. Between September 1944 and April 1945, he was the commander of the Częstochowa District of the National Armed Forces and between January and September 1945 he was the commander of the “West” Inspectorate of the National Armed Forces-Polish Organization (which incorporated the Poznań District of the National Armed Forces).

In March 1945, he temporarily served as deputy commander and then as acting deputy commander of the Western District of the “Nie” Resistance Organization. Since June 1945, he was the head of the intelligence services of the Polish Organization and in August 1945 he took up the post of acting chief commander of the National Armed Forces-Polish Organization (NSZ-OP). At the turn of 1945 and 1946, Stanisław Kasznica and some staff members of the National Armed Forces-Polish Organization joined the National Military Union. On 15 February 1947, he was arrested in Zakopane by functionaries of the 3rd Department of the Ministry of Public Security. On 2 March 1948, the District Military Court in Warsaw sentenced him to death.

He was murdered together with Józef Dyjak and Lech Neyman in the prison in Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw on 12 May 1948.

The remains of Stanisław Kasznica were found in cemetery section “Ł” of the Powązki Military Cemetery in Warsaw in the summer of 2012.



## HELENA (HALINA) ŻUROWSKA

(1905–1949)

NOMS DE GUERRE “BARBARA”, “BAŚKA”, “HELENA”, “HENIEK”, “LELIWA”, “ŁABĘDŹ”, ALSO USED A FALSE NAME OF ANNA HELENA JAROSZEWICZ, AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER, LIEUTENANT OF THE HOME ARMY, RECIPIENT OF TWO CROSSES OF VALOUR.

She came from a well-known family of landowners. She had two elder sisters and a brother. She attended the Gymnasium of the Sisters of Nazareth in Lvov, where she passed her matriculation exam in 1923. In 1928, she graduated with a degree of agricultural engineer from the Lvov University of Technology. Since 1932, she ran an estate of 460 ha in Boniowice near Dobromil.

Evicted from the estate by the Soviets in 1939, she made a journey across the mountains to Hungary, where she was sworn as a courier of the “Romek” military base in Budapest. She organized and operated the “Las” route there (Budapest–Ungwar–Żubracze–Sanok). In June 1940, she was transferred to work for the Union of Armed Struggle in Poland, where she served as deputy head of the “South” unit operating a courier service in Krakow. When the underground movement in Krakow was destroyed by the Germans in the spring of 1941, she became a courier of the main headquarters of the Union of Armed Struggle, where she helped to maintain communication with the eastern districts. In 1942 and 1943, she was the head of a communication unit of the Lvov District of the Secret Military Organization. When the Secret Military Organization merged with the Home Army in March 1943, she started to work as a courier for the main headquarters of a Home Army Kedyw unit. There, she was involved in the production of explosives.

During the Warsaw Uprising, she served as a courier in the “Iwo” Battalion and the “Radosław” Group and she performed carried out reconnaissance missions in the sewers. In the middle of September she was wounded in the arm. At the end of the Uprising, she was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. After having been liberated from a camp for prisoners of war, she volunteered to continue her service and suggested that she might return to Poland as a courier. Her superior provided her with the following reference letter:

*A very conscientious, courageous and devoted worker. She has proved to be a perfect officer. Very intelligent. Difficult to manage due to her individuality. A human being of the highest integrity. Uncompromising adherence to ideology. Absolutely honest. Can be relied on in difficult times.*

Between October and December 1945, she stayed in Poland, getting in touch with members of the wartime underground movement, but the actual purpose of her stay is unknown. In 1946, she joined the communication unit of the Ministry of the Internal Affairs of the Polish Government-in-exile in the British occupied zone. In July 1947, she managed to get to Szczecin, where she was in order to inspect the organization established by local conspirators from the delegation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and provide them with some money. On 27 July 1948, she left Germany and went first to Czechoslovakia and then to Poland to organize new communication structures after the former structures had been destroyed by the branch security services of the Ministry of Public Security. Unfortunately, she entered into contacts with agents provocateurs involved in the operational game under the cryptonym “Cezary”, organized by the Ministry of Public Security (the agents pretended to be representing the so-called 5th headquarters of the “Freedom and Independence” organization). Although she strictly obeyed all



conspiratorial rules and tried very hard to escape the spies who were following her 24 hours a day, she failed to find a hiding place and was arrested in Gdańsk on 29 September 1948, together with her nephew Krzysztof Drohojowski. Both during the interrogation and the trial, she consistently rejected the allegations imposed by the investigator, contradicted the “evidence” submitted by the investigators and witnesses, annulled her own testimony as having been imposed on her and kept pointing to procedural defects. She protected the people who had helped her and claimed to have contacted them only because they were friends or relatives. After a ruthless interrogation at the Ministry of Public Security, she was sentenced to death on 8 August 1949, in a “trial” with no right to any official legal assistance. Testimonies of witnesses were only read out, because they had already been executed in similar “trials”. The only witness who survived Helena Żurowska’s trial was Maria Kolska (1911–1953). She was sentenced to life in prison, but about four years later she died in a prison in Inowrocław, after having been denied medical assistance.

Helena Żurowska was murdered on 21 September 1949 in the prison in Rakowiecka Street in Warsaw.

Only four photographs of Helena Żurowska have been preserved – one from her childhood, showing Helena with her mother and sisters (now they are in possession of distant relatives) and three held in the archive of the Institute of National Remembrance.

Compiled by WOJCIECH FRAZIK



