

WACŁAW JAKUCUK

On 20 February 1946 in Warsaw associate judge Antoni Krzętowski, delegated to the Warszawa-Miasto Branch of the Commission for the Investigation of German Crimes, interviewed the person named below as a witness, without taking an oath. The witness was advised of the obligation to speak the truth and of the criminal liability for making false declarations, and testified as follows:

Name and surname Wacław Jakucuk

Parents' names Kazimierz and Anna

Date of birth 24 April 1894

Place of residence Warsaw, Okrężna Street 78, flat 1

Occupation major of the Militia

Religion Roman Catholic

Criminal record none

In September 1939, when I was serving as an officer, I was taken prisoner by the Germans, from which I returned home only on 28 October 1945. Following my return, I learned of the tragic fate that befell my son Janusz and daughter Halina. Namely, on 19 April 1944 they were arrested by the Gestapo in their apartment at Okrężna Street 78.

Janina Róg, a friend of my son from the Higher Trade School, who at the time was in our apartment, was also arrested. And it is from her that I learned certain details concerning the fate of my children. She told me that they were taken together to the Gestapo offices at aleja Szucha, where she was separated from my children. The Germans were very knowledgeable about my son's activities. They knew that he was the commander of a Home Army platoon, saying so in the presence of Janina Róg when my son was being arrested,



and hitting him for this reason. A close confidant must have leaked the information, for all of the boys belonging to the platoon that he commanded were caught and arrested at the same time as my son. No one has heard from any of them since, and the same holds true for my children, ever since they were handed over to the Gestapo at aleja Szucha.

Janina Róg, in turn, was released from the Gestapo on the day following her detainment, at 9.00. She was treated gently, without any physical abuse, and her explanations – in fact true – that she had nothing in common with my son's political activities and had come to the apartment only to study with him for the exams at the Higher Trade School, were fully accepted.

I made various efforts to learn anything about my children's whereabouts, and even received some information, but this was very rudimentary. It comes down to the question of whether they had been at Pawiak prison or not. In the majority of cases the people from whom I obtained this information stated that my children had not been held at Pawiak. To be precise, this information was gathered by my wife, for I was still detained in the camp. The informers were people who did this for a living, for remuneration, and thus – I think – not particularly trustworthy. I don't know their addresses or surnames.

Positive information concerning my children was given to my wife by colonel Błocki Stefan (residing in Kraków, Helclów Street 21), who stated that both were held at Pawiak right up until the Warsaw Uprising. Colonel Błocki and I were held in the same prisoner-of-war camp, Oflag VI E in Dorsten, from which he was released in 1941, and after returning home he worked in a German institution of some kind. At my wife's request, he promised to take up the case of our children. He notified her that the case was developing promisingly and, indeed, that they were to be released, but I cannot say how much truth there was in his communications.

I would like to clarify that I became a German prisoner of war not in September 1939, but later on, in 1941, for I initially crossed the Romanian border and was interned there.

The report was read out.