

ZOFIA CZOSNOWSKA

Warsaw, 10 December 1947. The member of the District Commission for the Investigation of German Crimes, Judge Halina Wereńko, interviewed the person specified below as an unsworn witness. Having been advised of the criminal liability for making false declarations, the witness testifies as follows:

Name and surname Zofia Czosnowska

Marital status widow

Names of parents Kazimierz and Kazimiera née Białobrzeska

Date of birth 2 October 1904, in Warsaw

Place of residence Piastów, Siemiradzkiego Street 8, at Chojnackis,

Warszawa, Uniwersytecka Street 1

Religious affiliation Roman Catholic

State and national affiliation Polish

Education high school

Occupation official in the Ministry of Transport

The outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising caught me in my flat on Wawelska Street 60 in Warsaw. Since 1 August 1944 a unit of insurgents, who had organized a point of resistance against the Germans with help from the residents, had stayed in our house [and] the neighboring one on Mianowskiego Street 17. From 3 August, the Germans had begun strong attacks. The shooting was heavy, especially from the side of Wawelska Street and Uniwersytecka Street. The resistance lasted until 11 August. In the last days, part of the crew left through the sewers.



I did not see when that happened, because I was busy with my wounded husband and my mother, while quenching the fire.

On 11 August, around 7.00 p.m., "Ukrainian" soldiers, speaking in Ukrainian, came into the basement calling for us to leave the house. Already in the basement, the soldiers began robbing the people, taking jewelry and more valuable things. I delayed leaving because of my wounded husband. Only when grenades starting falling though the windows from the yard into the neighboring sections of the basement, together with my son I led my husband into the yard. In the section of the basement where I had stayed, around seven heavily wounded people, and Lewak with an ill son, remained. They were wounded in action or while putting out the fires. In the yard, I joined the group of the residents with my husband. After a moment, a soldier separated my husband from the group, putting him in the group of those wounded previously. I have not seen my husband since.

After taking my husband, the soldiers beat me very heavily, knocking four teeth out (two each form both sides of the jaw), causing a fracture in two ribs and the avulsion of a kidney.

I am committing myself to presenting a medical testimonial stating the above-mentioned damages to the body. I was examined by a doctor from the American mission.

After the beating, I lost consciousness, I don't remember the moment of going out onto the street and later. After regaining consciousness, I saw that my son was not there with me. I was led with the group into Zieleniak, and from there through the transit camp in Pruszków I was sent to a concentration camp in Ravensbrück, and later to Buchenwald.

After returning to the country, in Cracow, Emilia Michalska (currently residing on Łodź, on Piotrkowska Street nr ...) told me that she saw how the "Ukrainians" had murdered my husband, Stanisław Czosnowski, and a few other wounded men from Wawelska Street 60 on the corner of Wawelska Street and Pługa Street. I also heard a rumor (from people who had not seen it themselves) that my mother, Kazimiera Golian, around 70 years old, had been murdered by the "Ukrainians" at the moment she was passing through the yard in the direction of the street, because she was moving slowly.

My son Roman, 12 years old, was seen on 14 August 1944 in the camp in Pruszków; currently, despite searches, I do not have any news about him.

At this the report was concluded and read out.