

## **ELEONARDO MIGDALSKI**

30 March 1946, Warsaw. Investigating Judge Halina Wereńko, assigned to sit on the Commission for the Investigation of German Crimes, interviewed the person named below as a witness. After advising the witness of the criminal liability for making false statements and of the significance of the oath, the judge swore the witness. The witness gave the following testimony:

Name and Surname Eleonardo Migdalski

Parents' names Aleksander Konstanty and Józefa, née Kuśmierska

Date of birth 14 July 1883 in Warsaw

Occupation employee of the power plant at the City Trams in Warsaw

**Education** metal turner by profession, completed two grades of craft

school Place of Residence Międzyszyńska Street 64 Flat 2

Religious affiliation Roman Catholic

Criminal Record None

Both before and during the Warsaw Uprising I worked at the City Tram power plant located on the corner of Przykopowa and Grzybowska Streets in Warsaw (I still work there). I lived on Grzybowska Street 66.

On 15 August 1944 between 9 and 10 a.m., three Germans in green uniforms stormed into our house. They called for everyone to leave the house immediately. There were more than ninety apartments in the house. A group of the house residents, including myself and my daughters, were ordered to go to Grzybowska Street, to the garage located on the corner of Towarowa and Przyokopowa Streets. On Grzybowska Street, near number 75, I fell on the ground. I felt myself burning. My head, my arms and my clothes were on fire. Someone pulled



me away, extinguished the fire and, tucking his arm under mine, helped me walk. On the way a "Ukrainian" robbed me of my watch. We reached the garage, from which my daughters took me to St. Stanislaus' Hospital, where I stayed until November 1944.

I was in a lot of pain because of the burns to my head and my hands. I still have scars on my head (the witness shows his head, ears and his body, all of which are covered in red scars. There is no hair over the right ear and a few centimeters above the back of the neck). Because of the burns my hands are deformed. The fingers in my left hand do not bend at all and the small finger is stiff.

(The witness shows both hands. Their skin color is that of a pink scar and he cannot bend his fingers in his left hand to touch the palm. The small finger is stiff).

I do not know why I began to burn. It may have been a grenade or an incendiary shell that set me on fire. I saw no tank near the spot where I fell. But there were lots of cars standing in the middle of the road. Where I fell, by the house at no. 75, there was a marmalade factory closed off with a stockpile that was not on fire. I don't know what kind of a shell, if it was a shell, set me ablaze.

While I was staying at St. Stanislaus' Hospital (the hospital is now located in Grochów) several other men with burns were brought there. Krzeczkowski, who also worked at the Tram power plant, was there with me. Having been taken to Kraków on 1 November 1944, he is believed to have died soon after. While still in the hospital, he told me that the Germans took the power plant's workers from the factory at Przyokopowa 38, where they were just working, to the grounds of the "Franaszek" factory and executed them. I cannot remember if Krzeczkowski told me when exactly this happened. Among those killed were: Czesław Krupa, chief Wagner, Stanisław Lewandowski, foreman Józef Zienkiewicz and many others. As far as I know, Krzeczkowski was the only one who survived the execution. He lay beneath the dead bodies and fled at night to the hospital. He was injured.

The report was read out.