



JAN PASTERSKI

On 3 April 1948, in Ciechanów, Judge W. Fronczak heard the person named below as a witness. Having been advised of the criminal liability for making false declarations, the witness testified as follows:

Name and surname	Jan Pasterski
Date of birth	23 June 1925
Names of parents	Adam and Stanisława, from Słupskie[...]
Place of residence	Ciechanów, Nadrzeczna Street 28
Occupation	soldier in active military service
Religious affiliation	Roman Catholic
Criminal record	none

Before the outbreak of the Uprising I had worked for citizen Edmund Gadomski, who had leased a garden by the church from the parish priest of St. Anthony's church.

During the first days of the Uprising I took part in building barricades in the vicinity of the Saxon Garden. When the Germans took over that area, I hid with three people whose surnames I don't know in the attic of the church. When the altar and the church organs were set on fire with incendiary grenades, we sought shelter above the chapel, where we stayed until the end of October 1944.

Due to the fact that I was hiding in the attic, I did not see any executions downstairs. Once I saw through a hole in the roof how the soldiers stopped a woman with a bundle under her arm. Having snatched her bundle, they ripped it open with a bayonet and scattered its contents. When the woman wanted to pick up her things, they kicked her several times and marched her onwards.



Once, when I went downstairs, I noticed the burnt corpses of three women and one man in the basements of the church.

I don't know the surnames of the commanders or the names of the units operating in the vicinity of the church, but I can state that these were "Ukrainian" SS units, as I heard them speak. When the church was burnt down, a gendarmerie unit was quartered in it, and they were making sorties to clear the city of the civilian populace.

Staying at the attic, we smelled the stench of burning bodies, but I don't know where the burning took place.

There was a statue of St. Anthony in the garden by the church, and the Germans knocked it down, putting a rubbish bin on the saint's head.

One of the men who stayed with me in the attic had survived an execution in the Saxon Garden. I know that he lives in Włochy and I could find out his address, but I would need some time.

In the catacombs of the church I also saw old graves destroyed and bones scattered around the floor.

Fighting was not taking place in the church itself or in the adjoining passages. However, the German units often came there with incendiary grenades to set the church on fire. We were putting out fires for several days, as there were a few women in the vicinity who fetched water for us. When they took the women away and found out that the fire was dying, the Germans opened fire on us, forcing us to hide above the chapel.

The report was read out.