

MARTA BOCHENEK

Katowice, 6 April 1946. Judge W. Medlewski interviewed the person named below as an unsworn witness. Having advised the witness of the criminal liability for making false declarations, the contents of Art. 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and of the significance of the oath, the judge swore the witness in accordance with Art. 109.

The witness testified as follows:

Name and surname Marta Bochenek *née* Jaworska

Date of birth 19 September 1892

Names of parents Konstanty and Hanna *née* Warkiewicz

Place of residence Katowice, Żwirki i Wigury Street 1/3

Occupation office clerk

Religious affiliation Roman Catholic

Criminal record none

I had lived in Silesia since 1920, and in Katowice since 1922. I lived there until the outbreak of the war. My husband [...] Bochenek, took part in the Silesian uprising, and died in 1938. When the war broke out, I left Katowice with my only son Jerzy, heading in the direction of Lwów. I started the journey with my son, we were reunited at my mother-in-law's in [...].

With regard to my and my husband's political activity during the plebiscite and the Silesian Uprisings, I had to leave Silesia with my son, especially as my flat was already taken by the Germans, and the Gestapo was already asking about my son, who, as a high-school student, had taken part in anti-German actions, e.g. had torn down the German white [...] etc.



I moved to Warsaw at the beginning of 1940. My son Jerzy started working as a student at Roman Dąbrowski's garage at [Markiewicza?] Street 11 in Praga. After two years, he completed his education and passed a chauffeur exam.

I had a flat in Praga at Markiewicza Street 9, flat 11. I know that my son Jerzy worked for a Polish underground organization fighting the Germans. I do not know which organization he belonged to, but I suppose it was the Home Army or the People's Army. Young people would come to my flat. I did not know their surnames, since they used only names such as "Lolek," "Adam," "Lucjan." I knew that they divided underground bulletins among [themselves], like *Biuletyny*, *Żołnież Polski* etc. Weapons were kept in my flat, for example new Luft handguns and ammunition. One time, on 1 December 1943, I myself took away a suitcase containing several handguns. Personally, I did not belong to or work for any organization because I was busy procuring means of subsistence, I only helped my son's friends hiding in my flat from time to time. In the summer of 1943, [my son] quit his chauffeur job at Dr. [Jakień's?] at the behest of the organization, which appointed him military instructor; he fulfilled these duties until the moment of his arrest on 3 December at midnight. If I am not mistaken, it was on the night from 3 to 4 of December.

A number of military gendarmes and civilians arrived. I was immediately removed from the flat and not allowed to say goodbye to my son. The Germans carried out a search and arrested him. When I came back to the flat after around 20 minutes, I found that the Germans had taken my son's underwear and clothes, some of my underwear, and his friend's suitcase.

I don't know what the direct reason of the arrest was. On 10 December 1943, a week after the arrest, notices appeared around the city announcing a list of new hostages; my son, Jerzy Bochenek, was listed under number 46. On 15 December, notices were put up informing that there had been an execution of Poles, and the surname of my son Jerzy was listed under number 11.

I do not know the surnames of the Germans who conducted the [arrest?] and the execution. Nor do I know how my son was executed. On 15 December 1943, there were executions on Teatralny Square and on Leszno Street.

My son was born on 29 October 1922 in Katowice, [his religious affiliation was] Roman Catholic, he graduated from Kopernik Middle School, after which he attended high school.



After the arrest, my son was put in the Pawiak.

Concerning Sabina Rudnicka, I can only say that she used to live in Praga at Markiewicza Street 9, flat 6, and sometimes helped me with household chores; she was around 28 years old, her husband was in German captivity. Sabina Rudnicka was arrested in a railway round-up in Warsaw and sent to Majdanek camp, whence she was directed to the Pawiak and then sent to Ravensbrück concentration camp. She was arrested just as Majdanek concentration camp was being created, I do not recall the date of the arrest. Rudnicka, having returned from Germany in the summer of 1945, died of tuberculosis, orphaning two children. Her mother, Marta Głuwalowa, residing in Praga at Markiewicza Street 9, flat 6, can fill in the data concerning her daughter.

I have no other knowledge concerning this case.

I give Roman Dąbrowski and Marta Głuwalowa, residents of Markiewicza Street 9, as well as all the other residents of that house, as witnesses of the arrest of my son and of his name appearing on the list of those taken hostage and executed.

The report was read out.