

## **STEFAN MIERNIK**

In Suchedniów on this day, 14 July 1948, at 9.45 a.m., I, Marian Szot from the Citizens' Militia Station in Suchedniów, acting on the basis of Article 20 of the provisions introducing the Code of Criminal Procedure, on the instruction of citizen Deputy Prosecutor from the Region of the Prosecutor's Office of the District Court in Kielce, this dated 23 March 1948, file number **ŁN 71/48**, issued on the basis of Article 20 of the provisions introducing the Code of Criminal Procedure, observing the formal requirements set forward in Articles 235-240, 258 and 259 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, with the participation of reporter Alojzy Kocela, whom I have informed of the obligation to attest to the conformity of the report with the actual course of the procedure by his own signature, have heard the person named below as a witness. Having been advised of the right to refuse to testify for the reasons set forward in Article 104 of the CCP and of the criminal liability for making false declarations, pursuant to Article 140 of the Penal Code, the witness testified as follows:

Name and surname	Stefan Miernik
Parents' names	Ignacy and Teofila, <i>née</i> Borecka
Date and place of birth	15 August 1906 in Suchedniów
Religious affiliation	Roman Catholic
Occupation	locksmith
Place of residence	Suchedniów, Suchedniów commune
Relationship to the parties	none

With regard to the matter at hand I can provide the following information: On 6 July 1944, Gestapo men from Skarżysko-Kamienna brought in their cars 33 people whom they had detained in Skarżysko (captured on the streets and at the railway station, the people were



from Kielce, Zagnańsk and Skarżysko). Bound and gagged, the 33 people were brought to Suchedniów. Near the railway station, divided into three groups of 11, they were escorted out of the cars, lined up in a row and executed. After the execution, the Germans rounded up civilians from Kleszczyn and Suchedniów and allowed them to bury the dead. The victims were to be buried on the same spot where they were killed. I don't know the names of the people who were murdered. Nor do I know the names of the perpetrators. I also don't know what they were killed for because they weren't locals.

Their bodies remained on the same site until the liberation, that is, until April 1945. In 1945 they were removed and exhumed by doctor Poziomski from Suchedniów. Only a few of them have been identified. The clothes of each victim were described, but who they were and where they were from hasn't so far been established. In 1945 the bodies of four victims were taken by their families while the rest were buried in the local cemetery in Suchedniów.

I wish to note that the list of the four known victims is to be found in the PPS committee (PPS – Polish Socialist Party).

At this the report was read out and signed.