

Niech żyje
Wolna i Niepodległa,
jednością
i duchem silna nasza
najdroższa Ojczyzna!



Archiwum
Akt
Nowych

niepodległa

POLSKA
STULECIE ODZYSKANIA
NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI



STOWARZYSZENIE
„WSPÓLNOTA POLSKA”

HONORARY PATRON: **RYSZARD CZARNECKI**, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



WOMEN IN STRUGGLE FOR A FREE POLAND



DEVELOPMENT OF THIS EXHIBITION BY: POLISH WOMEN'S LEAGUE CENTRAL ARCHIVES OF MODERN RECORDS

EDITED BY: PH. D. TADEUSZ KRAWCZAK, AGNIESZKA WOPINSKA, KATARZYNA WYSOCZYNSKA, PATRYCJA KRASON,
ANNA NOWAKOWSKA-WIERZCHOS, ANNA WASILEWSKA

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: BARTOSZ JAKSENDER

DOCUMENTS AND OBJECTS FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF: CENTRAL ARCHIVES OF MODERN RECORDS IN WARSAW, STATE ARCHIVE IN POZNAN, NATIONAL DIGITAL ARCHIVES, MILITARY HISTORICAL BUREAU, HISTORY OF WOMEN'S STRUGGLE FOR POLAND'S INDEPENDENCE COMMISSION AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF TADEUSZ KRAWCZAK, JACEK DEHNEL

MADE POSSIBLE IN PART BY FUNDING FROM THE MULTI-ANNUAL NIEPODLEGŁA PROGRAM 2017–2021 AS PART OF THE "NIEPODLEGŁA" FUNDING PROGRAM

KOBIETY W WALCE O NIEPODLEGŁOŚĆ POLSKI



Archiwum
Akt
Nowych

niepodległa

POLSKA
STULECIE ODZYSKANIA
NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI



STOWARZYSZENIE
„WSPÓLNOTA POLSKA”

PATRONAT HONOROWY PANA POSŁA RYSZARDA CZARNECKIEGO - B. WICEPRZEWODNICZĄCEGO PARLAMENTU EUROPEJSKIEGO

UDZIAŁ KOBIET W WALKACH O NIEPODLEGŁOŚĆ POLSKI



Historia Polski to również historia mądrych, silnych i niezwykłych zwyczajnych polskich kobiet, które żyły i działały w trudnych czasach, zarówno wojny jak i pokoju.

Liga Kobiet Pogotowia Wojennego powstała w 1913 r. w Warszawie, z inicjatywy Izabeli Moszczeńskiej-Rzepeckiej, która posiadając najrozleglejsze kontakty polityczne, w tym z samym Józefem Piłsudskim, została jej pierwszym Prezesem. Natomiast Liga Kobiet Galicji i Śląska Cieszyńskiego powstała w 1915 r. w Krakowie, a jej Przewodniczącą w 1916 r. została Zofia Moraczewska. Konfliktogenne podziały wśród inteligencji na zwolenników ideologii socjalistycznej i narodowej na początku XX wieku, dla kobiet miały drugorzędne znaczenie.

LKPW była przede wszystkim organizacją niepodległościową, której głównym celem było współdziałanie i czynna pomoc kobiet polskich w walce o niepodległość. Obydwie organizacje (16 tys. członkiń), działające na terenie różnych zaborów, ściśle ze sobą współpracowały. Dzięki zdolnościom organizacyjnym kobiet podczas wojny, dzięki współpracy z mężczyznami a także siłę kobiecej opinii publicznej oraz własnej postawie, w listopadzie 1918 roku Polki otrzymały bierne i czynne prawo wyborcze. W grudniu 1918 r. nastąpiło zjednoczenie obu Lig pod nazwą Liga Kobiet z Marią Dulebлянką na czele. Zofia Moraczewska została wybrana posłanką na Sejm II RP w 1919 roku.

Po odzyskaniu niepodległości, Ligówki opiekowały się sierotami wojennymi, budowały dla nich domy, sanatoria dziecięce, w tym sanatorium w Rabce, ochronki dla dzieci (m.in. w Ludwinowie). Promowały pracę zawodową kobiet, uczyły zasad higieny, uczestniczyły w kampaniach prozdrowotnych w tym zwalczających alkoholizm i nowotwory. Jesteśmy świadome jak wiele naszym prababkom zawdzięczamy. Współczesna Liga Kobiet Polskich kontynuuje ich dzieło, pomaga osobom słabszym oraz łączy pokolenia w działaniu na rzecz rodziny i dobra wspólnego, jakim jest niepodległa Ojczyzna.

Aldona Michalak
Przewodnicząca Ligi Kobiet Polskich
Poseł na Sejm IV kadencji

The history of Poland is at the same time the history of wise, strong and extraordinary ordinary women, who lived and were active in difficult times either of war or peace.

The Women's League of War Emergency (WLWE) was founded by Izabela Moszczenska-Rzepecka in 1913 in Warsaw. She had broad political connections which included Jozef Pisludski, head of state and commander in chief. She became the first president of the League. A few years later, in 1915, the Women's League of Galicia and Cieszyn Silesia (WLGCS) was founded in Krakow and Zofia Moraczewska took the lead as it's first president.

In general women did not consider the intellectual differences between the followers of socialist ideology vs. the national ideology as of primary importance, although these conflicted the Polish intelligentsia at the beginning of the 20th Century. WLWE was in first place an organization struggling for a free Poland. The main goal was to co-operate with all women campaigning for independence and help them in their fight. Even though the two Leagues (ca 16 k members) operated in two different partitions of Poland: the Russian Partition and the Austrian Partition, they cooperated closely. It is due to women's organizational skills and attitude during WWI, due to their co-operation with men seconded by strong female public opinion, that Polish women received full passive and active voting rights, in November 1918. In December 1918 both Leagues joined as one under the name of Women's League and Maria Dulebianka took the lead. In 1919, Zofia Moraczewska (WLGCS) was elected member of parliament of the Second Republic of Poland.

After Poland regained its independence in November 1918, the Women's League members took care of war orphans building shelter homes for them as well as sanitariums (e.g. in Rabka) and nurseries (e.g. in Ludwinow) for children. They supported women's professional workforce, promoted rules of hygiene and took part in social health campaigns against alcohol abuse and cancer. We are so aware of how much we owe to our great grandmothers. The contemporary Polish Women's League is carrying on their work supporting the weak and those in need, uniting generations in supporting the family and the common good whose name is free Poland.

Aldona Michalak
President of Polish Women's League
Member of Parliament of the IV Term

No doubts, there would be no free Poland without women.

If any man bridges up at this statement let me remind you about some heroines like Emilia Plater or the Women's League in Lvov (at this very moment I am looking at the photos of our brave fellow countrywomen in the soldiers' coats carrying rifles in 1918). But most of all let me recall the words of Tsar Nikolai I Emperor of Russia, who during the November Uprising in 1831 wrote to one of his generals stationed in Poland: "I fear the women! This satanic nation always acts through them."

During the subsequent insurgency known as January Uprising of 1863, Nikolai Berg, a Russian journalist, expressed the concerns of the tsardom as follows: "A Polish woman is a permanent, implacable and unhealed conspirator."

It is worthy to do homage to the great Polish women who promoted their Homeland which at that time was wiped out from the map of Europe. Two of the most prominent of them were: the scientist – Maria Skłodowska-Curie, the first female to receive twice the Nobel Prize in Physics (1903) and Chemistry (1911), and the artist Halina Modrzejewska AKA Modejska who seduced the American audiences and critics with her performances of Shakespearean repertoire. Though, we also need to pay tribute to hundreds of thousands of nameless teachers, campaigners for independence, physicians and mothers who had to take care of the family, when their husbands were at war, in prison or in exile.

I am looking at the old photograph from the Polish Women's League Congress in 1916 with Maria Pilsudska and Zofia Moraczewska. This tradition deserves continuation, especially in Poland, which as one of the first countries in Europe, granted the full voting rights to women, 27 years before France ever did.

Ryszard Czarnecki
Member of European Parliament, former Vice President
of European Parliament



Bez kobiet nie byłoby niepodległości Polski. Jeżeli jakiś mężczyzna by się w tym momencie obruszył, wskazałbym nie tylko bohaterką Emilię Plater czy choćby Legię Kobiecą we Lwowie (właśnie oglądam zdjęcie naszych rodaczek w żołnierskich płaszczach i z karabinami z 1918 roku), ale przede wszystkim słowa cara Rosji Mikołaja, który po Powstaniu Listopadowym w korespondencji z stacjonującym w Polsce generałem Paskiewiczem, pisał „Lękam się kobiet! Ten szatański naród zawsze działał przez nie”. Przy kolejnym powstaniu – Styczniowym – Rosjanin Mikołaj Berg oddawał nastroje caratu, pisząc: „Kobieta polska jest wiecznym, nieubлагanym i niewyleczonym spiskowcem”.

Warto kłaniać się wielkim Polkom promującym Ojczyznę – której nie było na mapie – na cały świat: czy w sferze nauki, jak pierwsza kobieta, która była laureatką Nagrody Nobla i pierwszym naukowcem, który otrzymał ją dwa razy – Maria Skłodowska-Curie, czy też – w sferze kultury – Halina Modrzejewska – Modjeska, która kunsztem aktorskim rzuciła do swych kolan całą Amerykę. Ale jednocześnie trzeba oddać hołd setkom tysięcy anonimowych nauczycielek, społecznic, lekarzek czy po prostu matek, które musiały zadbać o dom, gdy mąż był na wojnie, w więzieniu czy na zesłaniu.

Patrzę na archiwalną fotografię ze Zjazdu Ligi Kobiet Polskich z 1916 roku z Marią Piłsudską i Zofią Moraczewską. To tradycja godna kontynuacji. Zwłaszcza w naszym kraju, który prawa wyborcze przyznał kobietom, jako jeden z pierwszych w Europie – skądinąd 27 lat przed Francją.

Ryszard Czarnecki
Eurodeputowany, b. Wiceprzewodniczący
Parlamentu Europejskiego

Burzliwe dzieje Rzeczypospolitej często zmuszały Polki do stawiania do walki u boku ojców, braci i mężów. Kobiety brały liczny udział w zrywach narodowych – Konfederacji Barskiej (1768–1772), Insurekcji Kościuszkowskiej (1794), Powstaniu Listopadowym (1830–1831) czy Powstaniu Styczniowym (1863–1865) pełniąc służbę samarytańską i pomocniczą. Były jednak i takie, które ukrywając się w męskich mundurach stanęły do walki z bronią.

Na początku XX wieku Polki dalej angażowały się w działalność polityczną, spiskową i społeczną. Były aktywne w Związku Młodzieży Polskiej „Zet”, w szeregach Tajnej Armii Polskiej, ruchu Zarzewiacckim, w Związku Skautek Polskich, w sekcjach żeńskich Polskich Drużyn Strzeleckich i Związku Strzeleckiego. Aktywnie uczestniczyły w pracach Drużyn Bartosзовych, Połowych Drużyn Sokolich, Lidze Kobiet Pogotowia Wojennego oraz Lidze Kobiet Galicji i Śląska Cieszyńskiego, które w grudniu 1918 r. połączyły się w Ligę Kobiet Polskich. Podczas Wielkiej Wojny oraz walk o granice kobiety pełniły służbę wojskową w Legionach Polskich, Polskiej Organizacji Wojskowej, polskich formacjach wojskowych na Wschodzie, Armii Polskiej we Francji, oddziałach Lotnych Wojsk Polskich i Ochotniczej Legii Kobiet. Po odzyskaniu przez Polskę niepodległości były uczestniczki walk o niepodległość doprowadziły do powstania Przystosobienia Wojskowego Kobiet (1922–1939), którego komendantką została por. Maria Wittekówna (1899–1997). PWK miało przygotować Polki do służby w formacjach ochotniczych na wypadek wojny. Najważniejszym osiągnięciem ruchu PWK był zapis o prawie do pełnienia służby wojskowej przez kobiety w uchwalonej 9 kwietnia 1938 r. przez Sejm RP ustawie o powszechnym obowiązku wojskowym.

Po wybuchu II wojny światowej członkinie PWK masowo wstępowały do konspiracji, współtworzyły struktury cywilne i wojskowe Polskiego Państwa Podziemnego. W Komendzie Głównej ZWZ–AK funkcjonował referat Wojskowej Służby Kobiet, na czele z plk Marią Wittekówną. Kobiety działały w różnych tajnych organizacjach wojskowych: w Armii Krajowej, Narodowej Organizacji Wojskowej, Narodowych Siłach Zbrojnych, Batalionach Chłopskich i konspiracyjnym harcerstwie. Podczas Powstania Warszawskiego kobiety pełniły funkcje sanitariuszek, łączniczek i przewodniczek kanałowych, a także brały udział w akcjach dywersyjno – sabotażowych. Po upadku zrywu tysiące kobiet żołnierzy poszło do niewoli powołując się na prawa jeńców wojennych.

W ramach Polskich Sił Zbrojnych odtworzonych poza okupowanym krajem działała Pomocnicza Służba Kobiet, której Komendantką była plk Władysława Piechowska (1900–1987). PSK w 1944 roku została podzielona na służby pomocnicze poszczególnych rodzajów sił zbrojnych: Pomocniczą Wojskową Służbę Kobiet, Pomocniczą Lotniczą Służbę Kobiet i Pomocniczą Morską Służbę Kobiet. Kilka z nich służyło w brytyjskiej Pomocniczej Służbie Rozprawdzania Samolotów, zajmującej się dostawami samolotów z lotnisk fabrycznych do jednostek bojowych. Wiele kobiet brało także udział w walkach o Warszawę, Wał Pomorski, Kolobrzeg i Berlin w szeregach 1 i 2 Armii Wojska Polskiego.

W okresie powojennym środowiska kobiet podejmowały liczne inicjatywy upamiętniające ich wkład w walki o niepodległość Polski. Staraniami plk Marii Wittekówny w 1969 r. powstała Komisja Historii Kobiet w Walce o Niepodległość Polski. Komisja zajęła się gromadzeniem, selekcją, archiwizowaniem, a przede wszystkim opracowywaniem napływających wspomnień i życiorysów. Za szczególnie aktywny udział na rzecz upamiętniania historii polskiego Narodu Komisja otrzymała w 2003 r. nagrodę IPN im. Grzegorza Jakubowskiego oraz honorowy tytuł Kustosza Pamięci Narodowej.

Archiwum Akt Nowych

THE CONTRIBUTION OF WOMEN IN THE STRUGGLE FOR A FREE POLAND

The turbulent history of Poland often forced women to stand up and fight side by side their fathers, brothers, and husbands. Polish women participated greatly in numerous national heroic spurts. They gave all they could in Samaritan efforts and Auxilliary Services. They participated in the Bar Confederation (1768–1772) against Catherine II of Russia to fight and defend Polish independence. The women fought beside their men in the Kosciuszko Insurrection on March 24, 1794. It was the first of many Polish National Uprisings against neighboring powers trying to invade and dominate. In 1795 Poland disappeared from the map of Europe because its territory had been split between the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the German Empire and the Russian Empire. In November Uprising (1830–31) the Poles tried to unsuccessfully overthrow the Russian rule. The January Uprising (1863–1865) found the Polish again fighting against the Russian oppression. Women participated in both uprisings. Some, disguised as men, took arms and fought in battles.

At the beginning of the 20th Century, Polish women continued to get involved in the political and social activity. Many of them conspired against the three occupying empires. They played an active role in the Polish Youth Association "Zet", Secret Polish Army, the Zarzewie movement for independence, Polish Union of Women Scouts, in female detachments of Polish Rifle Squads and Riflemen's Association. Women participated in the works of Bartosz Brigades, Field Falcon Squads, Women's League of War Emergency and Women's League of Galicia and Cieszyn Silesia which joined their forces and created the Polish Women's League (in 1918). While Poland did not exist geographically as an independent state when WWI broke out it was the site of much fighting and a lot of human and material losses. During the Great War (WWI) and battle for the borders women served in the army: in the Polish Legions, Polish Military Organization, Polish military formations on the East, Polish Army in France, diversionary squads and Women's Voluntary Legion. Once Poland regained its independence in 1918, the former participants of the struggle for freedom prompted to found the Women's Military Training (1922–1939). Lieutenant Maria Wittek (1899–1997) took the lead of WMT as Commander-in-Chief. WMT mission was to prepare the Polish women to serve in the voluntary military formations in case of war. The most important achievement of WMT was imposing of a provision in the Legal Act from April 9th, 1938 about Mandatory Military Service which ensured women the right to a voluntary military service.

The young Nation of Poland had only been an independent country for 18 years when WWII broke in 1939. Members of Women's Military Training joined the underground movement and participated in forming the civilian and military structures of the Polish Underground State. Colonel Maria Wittek took the lead of WMT Department at the National Headquarters of Home Army. Women operated in different underground military organizations like the Home Army, the National Military Organization, the National Armed Forces, the Peasants' Battalions and scouts.

During the Warsaw Uprising (August 1–October 2, 1944) when the Poles tried to oust the German army and seize control of the capital before it was occupied by the advancing Soviet army, 30% of the insurgents were women. They served as nurses, orderlies, liaisons, guides in the sewage and flood canals. The women also took part in the acts of sabotage and diversion. After the fall of the Uprising thousands of women-soldiers became prisoners of war. In the meantime, in the Polish Armed Forces, which had been recreated outside the Nazi-occupied country, operated a female military formation called Auxilliary Women's Service (AWS). Colonel Władysław Piechowska (1900–1987) was commander-in-chief. In 1944 the AWS had split into various auxiliary formations to fit different branches of the armed forces. The following forces were set up: Auxiliary Military Women's Service, Auxiliary Airforce Women's Service and Auxiliary Navy Women's Service. Some Polish women served in the British Air Transport Auxiliary. ATA was a civilian service that had been tasked with the delivery of aircraft from factories to the squadrons of the RAF and Royal Navy and the delivery of supplies. Many women soldiers of the 1st and the 2nd Polish Army took part in the fights for Warsaw (January 16–17, 1945), the battle of the Pomeranian Wall, Kolobrzeg and Berlin. After WWII the women's communities launched numerous initiatives to commemorate their contribution in the struggle for a free Poland. Colonel Maria Wittek managed to create the Women's Struggle for Poland's Independence Commission in 1969. The Commission began collecting, selecting and archiving but most importantly editing the incoming memoirs and dossiers. For its extraordinary contribution in commemorating the history of the Polish nation, the Commission was awarded an honorary title "Custodian of National Memory" by the Institute of National Remembrance, in 2003.

Archives of Modern Records and Joanna Sikorski

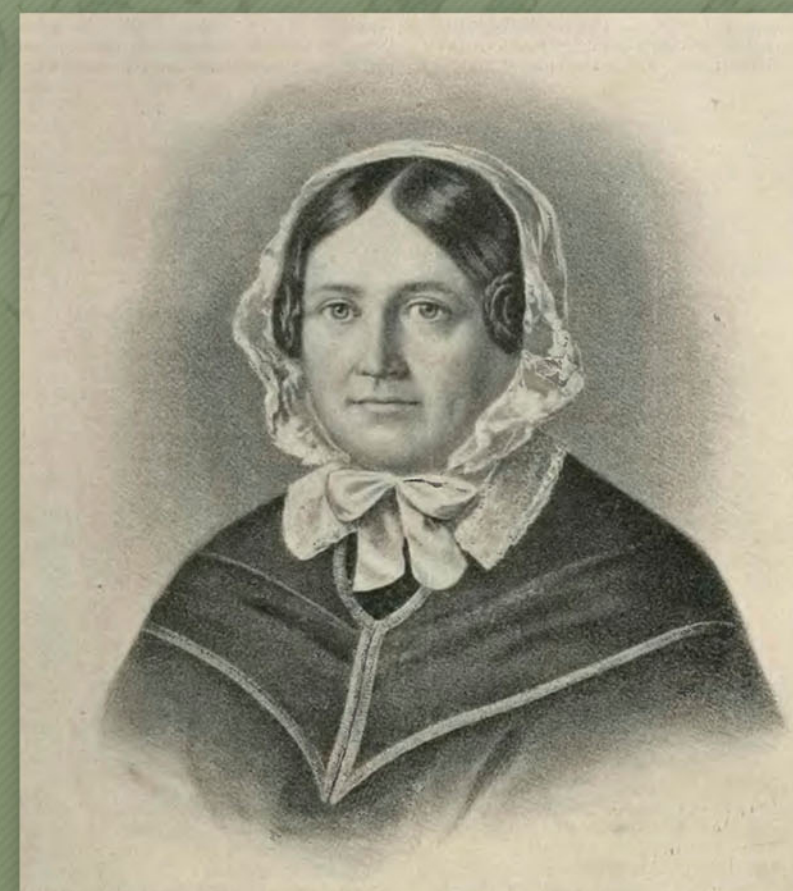
FROM TREMBOWLA TO SPRINGTIDE OF NATIONS



■ Zofja Chrzanowska defending Trembowla, during Polish-Ottoman War, 1675.



■ Joanna Zubrowa. Sergeant of the Warsaw Duchy Army, fighting during Napoleonic Wars. The first Lady to receive Virtuti Militari, the highest Polish military decoration, 1809.



■ Ewa Felinska. Mother of Zygmunt Szczesny – Metropolitan Archbishop of Warsaw. She was sentenced to deportation in Berezowa on River Ob, Siberia, as a conspirator for independence (Stowarzyszenie Ludu Polskiego Szymona Konarskiego), 1839-1841.



■ Emilia Plater in a skirmish at Szawle, 1831.



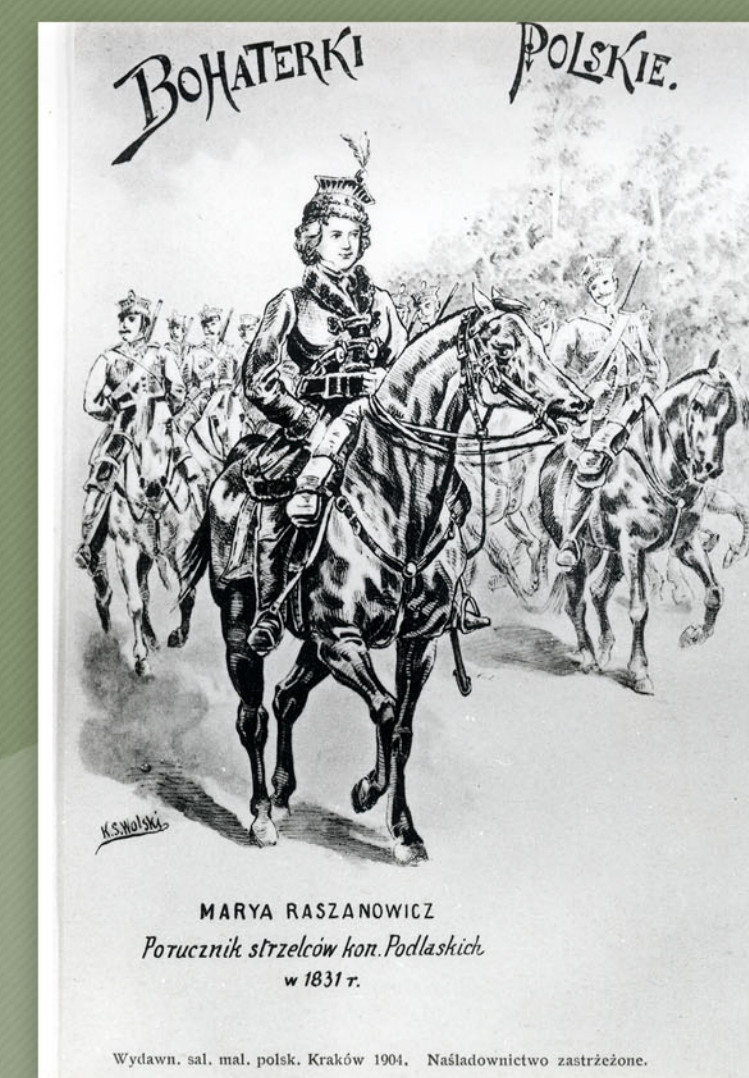
■ Emilia Plater, captain of Polish Army, commander of Wilkomira riflemen during November Uprising, 1831.



■ Peasant woman from Kaluszyn transporting arms for November Uprising insurgents, 1831.



■ Antonina Tomaszewska. Second lieutenant of Ukrainian Legion during November Uprising, 1831.



■ Maria Raszanowicz. Lieutenant of Podlachia mounted riflemen, 1831.



■ Zofia Kossakowska. Protectress of Bar Confederates, 1768-1772.



■ Emilia Szczaniecka on the battlefield, 1831.

FROM JANUARY UPRISING 1863 TO THE GREAT WAR, 1918



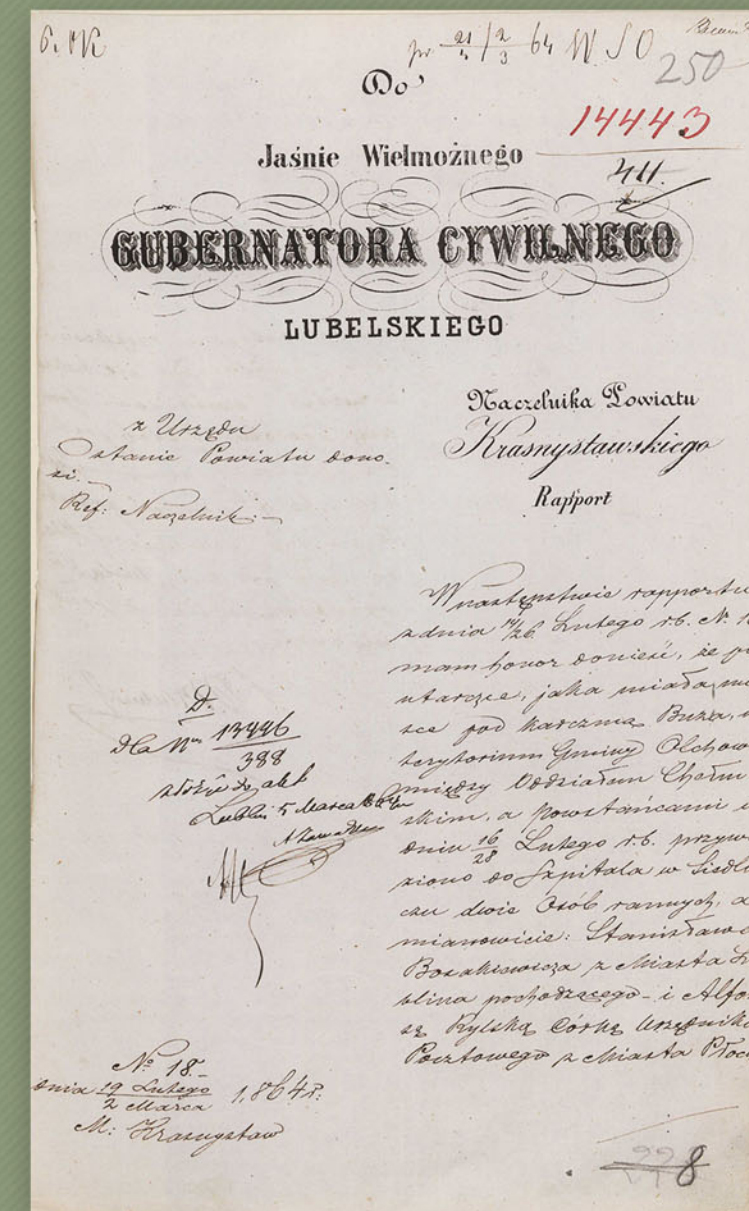
Emilia Jeska (nee Szwarc), 1841-1911.



Emilia Regina (nee Szwarc, 1819-1905) Heurich with daughters. Co-worker of City Committee and National Committee in 1863. In her apartment, situated in the heart of Warsaw, was the secret meeting place for the masterminds of the January Uprising, "Ruch" printing house were hidden there too.



A woman wearing mourning clothes to show her support for Polish independence.



A report of the Krasnystaw country warden about capturing a group of insurgents with was a disguised woman, Alfonsa Rylska, daughter of a public official from Plock, March 1864.



January Uprising veterans with Marshall Jozef Pilsudski.



Martyrdom of Uniate Church followers, from Podlachia and Chelmn Region, at the hands of the Russians, 1866-1915.



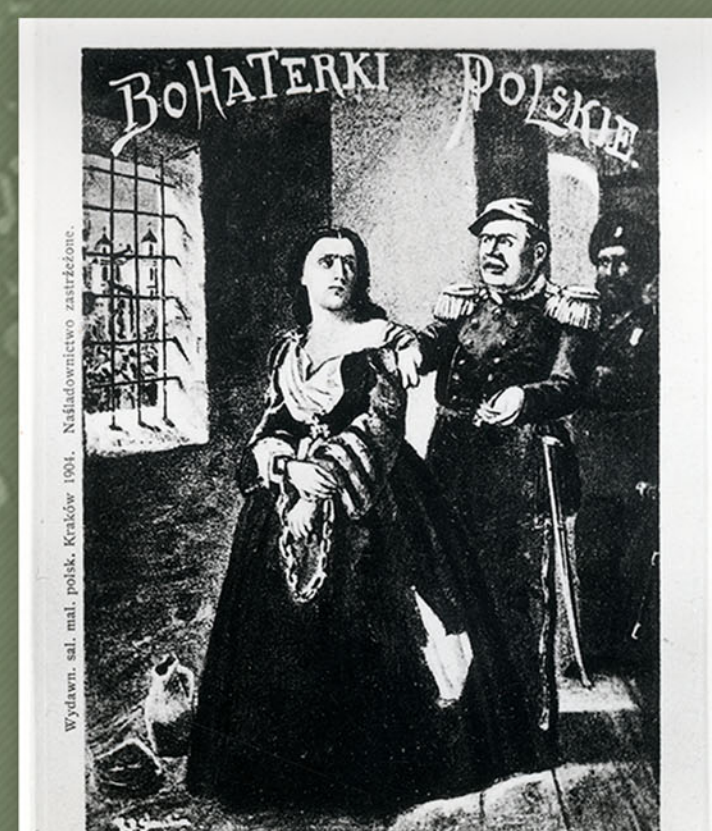
Zofia Romanowiczówna (1842-1936) Insurrectionist of January Uprising, she procured bullets, garments and wound dressings. She organized retreat for political refugees and acted as courier. She campaigned for Poland's independence, she was a teacher, member of women's organizations and socio-educational activist. During WWI she was forefront of Women's League in Lvov.



Postcard, Returning wave (stamp, 1905-1907).



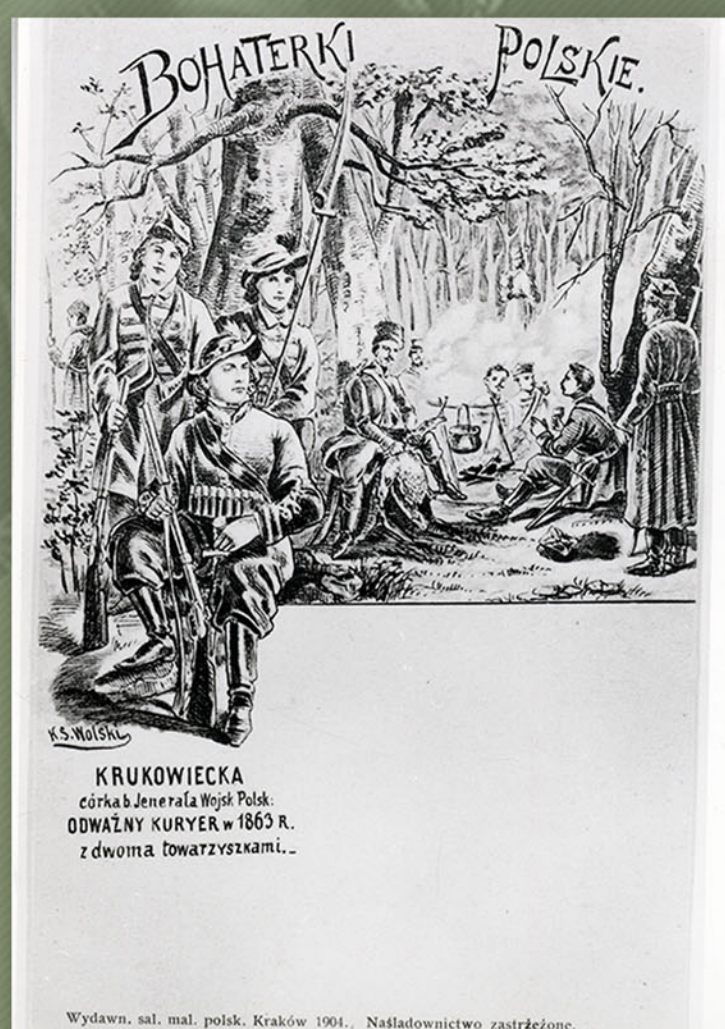
Wojciech Kossak, Reminiscence of Childhood – Charge of the Circassians down Warsaw Krakowskie Przedmiescie Street, (oil, 1912).



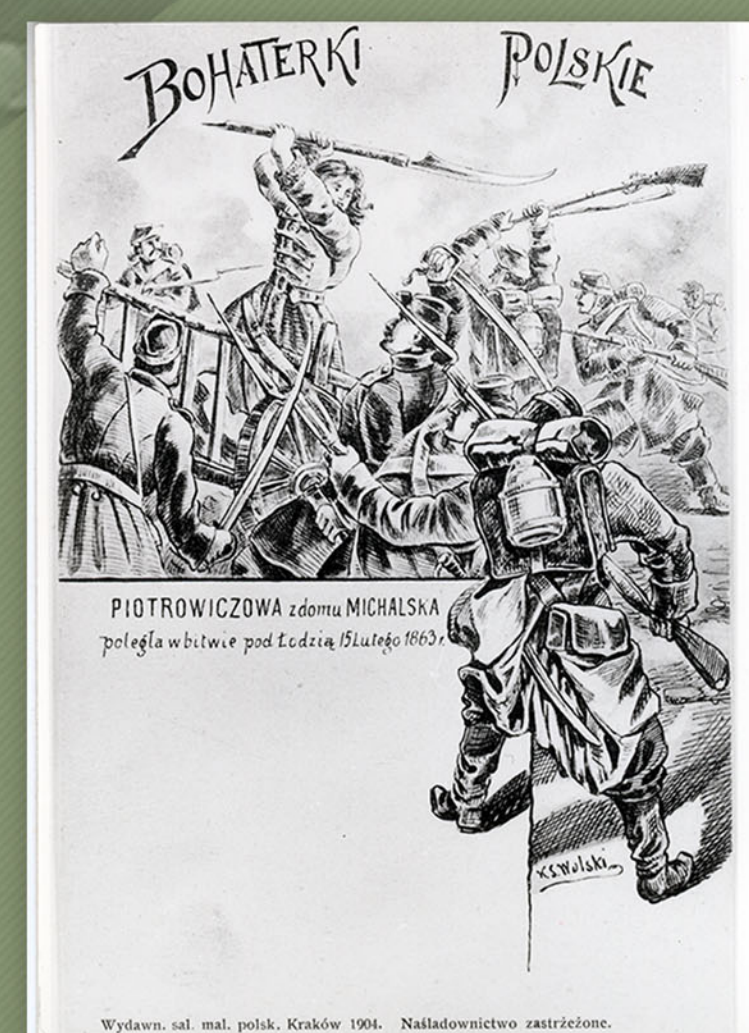
APOLONIA z DALEWSKICH SIERAKOWSKA w WIEZIEWIU która Murawiew zmusza do patrzenia na sniucie swego męża Zygmuntka 22/V 1863 r. ...

Apolonia (nee Dalewska) Sierakowska, wife of Zygmunt Erazm Sierakowski the leader of January Uprising in Lithuania, coat-of-arms Dolega.

Krukowiecka – daughter of former general of Polish Army, a brave messenger during January Uprising, 1863.



Wydawn. ul. mal. polsk. Kraków 1901. Naktadownictwo zastriżone.



Maria Piotrowiczowa, fallen at the battle of Lodz, February 15, 1863.



Henryka Pustowojtowa, aide-de-camp of Gen. Marian Langiewicz during January Uprising, 1863.

Leaders of Polish Socialist Party, Berno, Swizerland, 1904. From the left: Ignacy Moscicki, unknown, Maria (nee Koplewska) Pilsudska, Jozef Pilsudski, Jadwiga Kunicka "Chimera".



Girls students from Wrzesnia, who in 1901 refused to study religion in the German language; in their refusal they followed the example of Bronislawa Smidowiczówna (1st upper row, 4th from the left).



253

**NACZELNY
KOMITET NARODOWY**



NARADA
ODDZIAŁÓW
LIGI KOBIEC
W
KRAKOWIE

19.VI. 1915

259
Legitymacya
dla J.W. Pani Krolchicz
przedstawiajacej Ligę kobiet
w Krakowie
uprawniona do udziału w ra-
dniczych oddziałach Lig kobiet w
Krakowie dnia 19. czerwca 1915
Kucharska Dyp. Org. Szansa KKK. Siostr. Dyp. Org.
Smutkiewiczowa Jolanta Dyllany

L. 0

[illegible]

3

28

Do

Światowej C.A. Dyrekcji Policji

w K r a k o w i e .

Wzrosty Szeregu Ligii Kobiet H.E.H. w Kra-
kowie zmniejsza oile do Światowej C.A. Dyre-
kcji Policji w Amsterdame o przepiękie do
wiadomości i pozwolenie na utworzenie
Stowarzyszenia pod nazwą "Liga Kobiet
Polskich" z załączonym w piśmie opem-
niarozach statutom.

34



Nabożeństwo żałobne
za poległych w obecnych zapasach
LEGIONISTÓW
odbędzie się we wtorek dnia 8-go sierpnia 1916
o godz. 9. rano w kościele paraf. w Wadowicach.

Wydrukowano w drukarni „Pracy” w Krakowie

[illegible]

12

USTAWA
LIGI KOBIEŃ
Pogotowia Wojennego

BIBLIOTEKA
ZOFII I JERZYZA MIERCZEWSKICH
Broszury Nr 128 1/2



WARSZAWA — 1917.
NAKŁADEM „LIGI KOBIEŃ”.

15

USTAWA

LIGI KOBIEȚ POGOTOWIA WOJENNEGO.

—

Cel i charakter organizacyi.

1. Liga KobiȚ Pogotowia Wojennego jest organizacyą, mającą na celu współdziałanie i czynną pomoc kobiet polskich w ożrej i politycznej walce o Niepodległość Polski.

2. Liga KobiȚ P. W. obowiązana jest wchodzić w porozumienie z grupami i instytucyami, służącymi tym samym celom, lecz nie podlega zwierzchnictwu żadnej z nich.

3. Liga KobiȚ P. W., będąc organizacyą bezpartyjną, przyjmuje członków bez różnicy przekonań partyjnych, społecznych i religijnych. Członkowie są obowiązani do wzajemnego szanowania swych przekonań, a wszelkie spory partyjne są z zebrań Ligi wykluczone. Jedyny obowiązujący członków Ligi wspólny polityczny program stanowi dążenie do niepodległości Ojczyzny i przekonanie o potrzebie walki ożrej dla jej ożsiągnięcia.

4. Dla zapewnienia samolitości i bezpartyjności Ligi przyjmuje się zasady następujące:

19

4

a) Żadne Kolo, ani jego zarząd, żadna sekcja jakiegokolwiek Koła, a tem mniej Zarząd Naczelny, nie mogą wchodzić jako takie w skład innej organizacji, a zatem w czynnościach swych podlegać innej ustawie i innemu zarządowi.

b) Porozumieniem i współpracyownictwem z instytucjami i grupami, stojącymi na czele Ligi, dokonywa się tylko przez członków Zarządu, Komitetu Okręgowego, przewodniczącą lub specjalnie na daną okoliczność mandatem obdarzonego delegatki, zatem czynnik przy Lidą odpowiedzialne i jej Ustawą związane.

Z a d a n i a :

1. Opieka nad wojskiem polskim:

a) zbieranie pieniędzy na walkę o Niepodległość i na cele z tą walką związane;

b) dostarczanie Legionom Polskim (ew. Wojsku Polskiemu) żywności, pomocy sanitarnej i w ogóle rozciąganie opieki nad potrzebami żołnierzy polskich przez otwieranie gospód, schronisk itp.;

c) krzepienie ducha walczących przez budowanie w nich wiary w zwycięstwo i solidarność narodu z ich czynem heroicznym;

2) Opieka nad rodzinami legionistów i wszystkich bojowników o Niepodległość;

3) Szerzenie ideologii niepodległościowej i moralne popieranie akcji zbrojnej przez:

[illegible]

(sejście poufne).

OKOLNIK. 69.

Wobec sytuacji politycznej, w jakiej znajduje się obecnie Polski Korpus Posiłkowy, N.Z.L.K.P.W. poleca Kołom, by nie odmawiały swojej pomocy uciekinierom z P.K.P. zarówno, jak i uciekinierom z obozów dla internowanych w Królestwie. - Co do pomocy dla internowanych na Węgrzech szekową akcją podjął już w tym celu ~~Korpus~~ L.K.P.W. w Galicji narówni z całym społeczeństwem w Galicji, wobec czego Koła w Królestwie mają obowiązek i powinny nie zapominać nadal o internowanych w Łomży i twierdzącach niemieckich.

Prezydjum N.Z.L.K.P.W.

103

BIURO
NACZELNEGO ZARZĄDU
LIGI KOBIEC
P. W.

Warszawie, dn. 4. grudnia 1916 r.

Kopier
L. 81

Do
PRZEWODNICZĄCEJ RADY MIĘSKIEJ
St. m. Warszawy.

Mniejszym mamy zaszczyt zakomunikować Przewodniczącej Radzie m. stoł. Warszawy, że Liga Kobiet Pogotowia Wojennego wraz z wkroczeniem Legionów do Warszawy otwierała herbaciarnię dla Legionistów - przy ul. Hożej Nr. 64. m. l.

Zwidywszy, że herbaciarnia ta już dziś cieszy się dużą frekwencją, zwidywszy, że szeregowiec otrzymuje kofeinę Mk. 2. Bofen. na przeciąg 10 dni, że wobec tego pragnęlibyśmy napoje i poczęstki wydawać w herbaciarni niżej ceny kosztu, mamy zaszczyt prosić Przewodniczącą Radę m. stoł. Warszawy o przyznanie Lidze Kobiet subwydajów w sumie Rb. 200. miesięcznie na prowadzenie herbaciarni dla Legionistów.

Z wykładu szacunkiem
za ZARZĄD LIGI KOBIEC POGOTOWIA WOJENNEGO
vice-przewodnicząca:

sekretarka:

Nota 64. m. l.

■ Letter from the Board of Women's League of War Emergency to Warsaw City Council about opening a tearoom for the legionnaires at 64 Hoza Str, December 4, 1916.

zawiązała się w czasach, ideały strzeleckie, zaś prowadziła wiara w walke nieustępli-

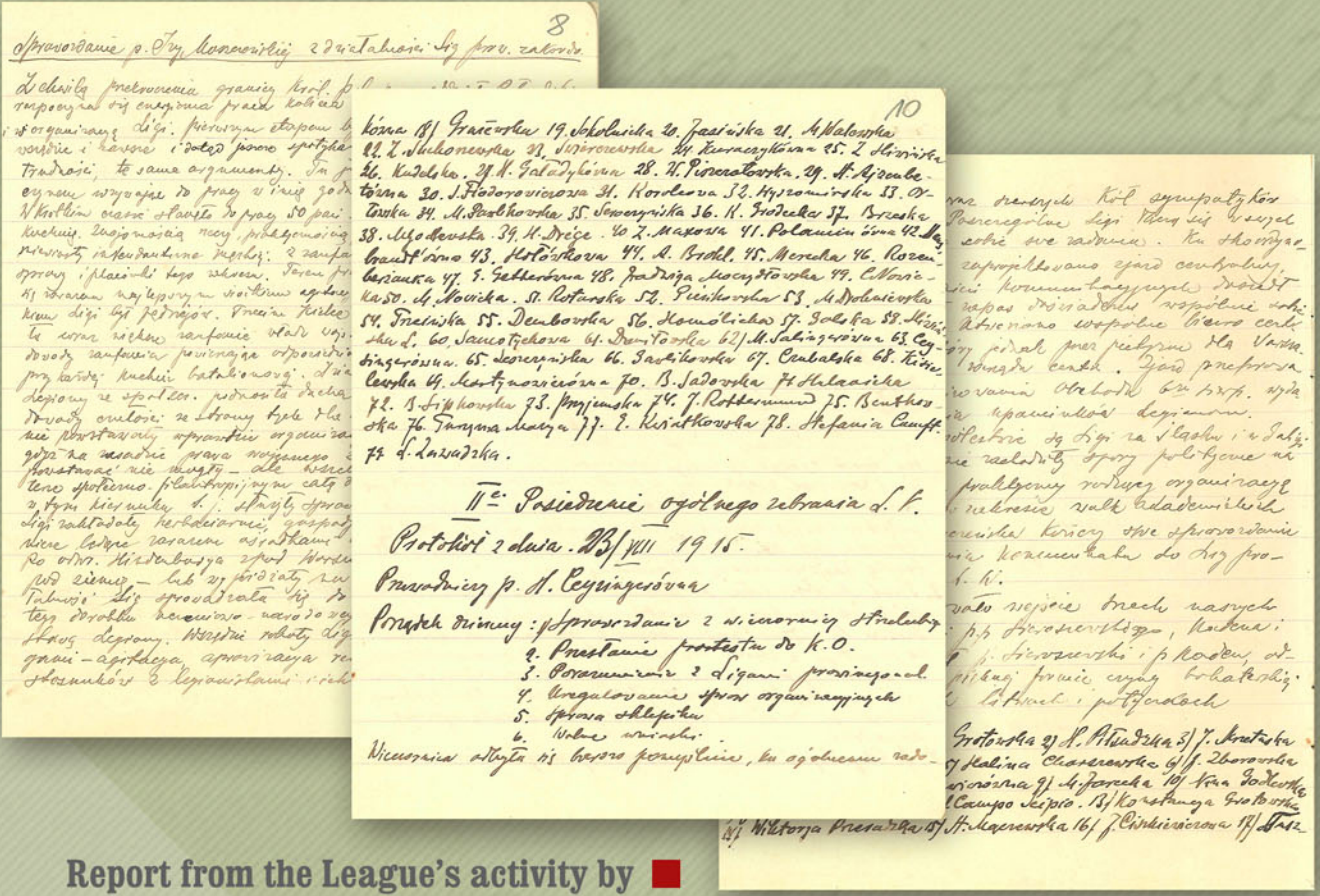
CREATRESSES OF POLISH WOMEN'S LEAGUE



Teresa Ciszewiczowa (1847-1921), one of the first Polish female physicians. She fought in the 1861 January Uprising; she was activist of the Crown and Lithuania Circle and co-founder of the Women's League of War Emergency.



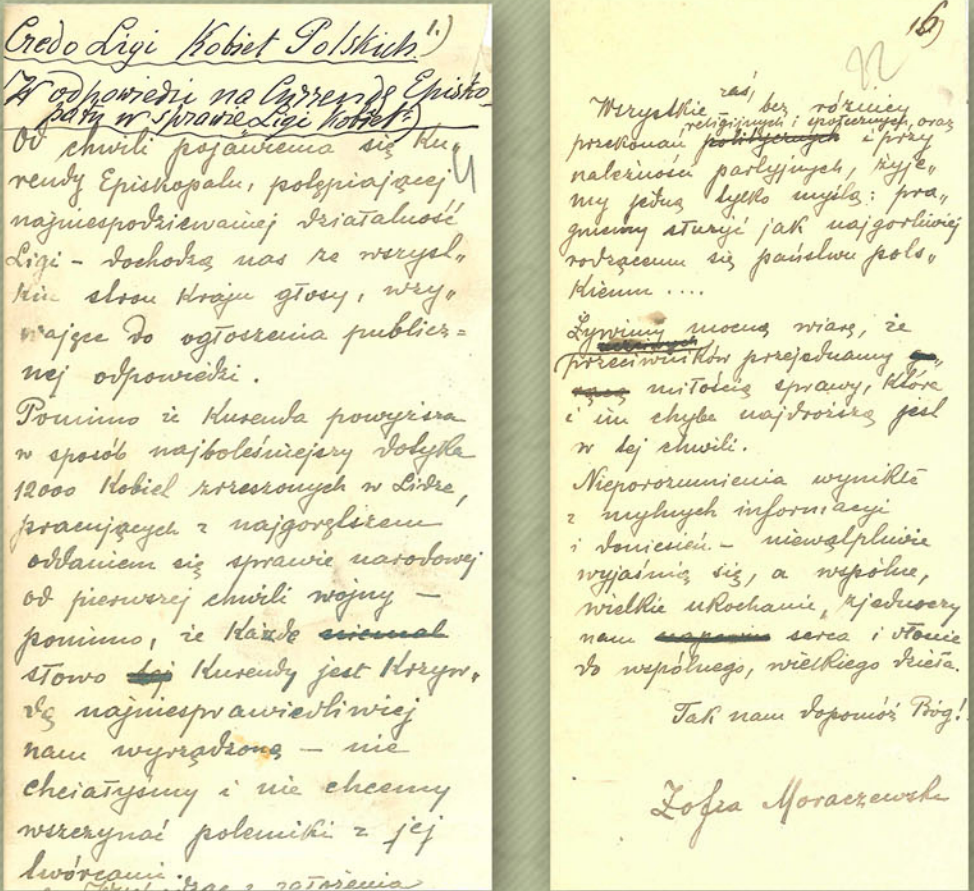
Izabela Moszczenska-Rzepecka (1864-1941), initiator and first president of Women's League of War Emergency; she was a socio-educational activist and campaigner for Poland's independence.



Report from the League's activity by Izabela Moszczenska.



Zofia Moraczewska (1873-1958), president of Silesia and Galicia Women's League and member of Polish Women's League; she was an educational activist and campaigner for Poland's independence. She was elected member of the Parliament of the Second Republic of Poland; she was married to Jędrzej Moraczewski.



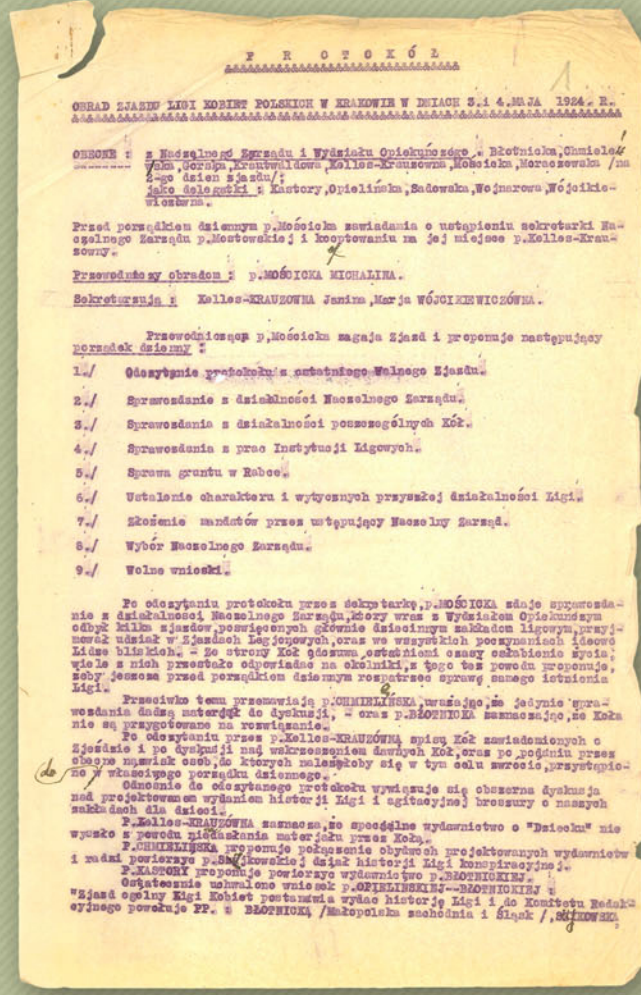
Polish Women's League statement of belief by Zofia Moraczewska.



Maria Dulebianka (1861-1919), an artist painter and feminist; she was social activist and foundress of Women's Union for Equal Rights, in Lvov. In 1918 she was elected President of Polish Women's League.



Zofia Daszyska-Golinska (1860-1934), Polish economist and Profesor of Free Polish University; she was elected Senator of the Second Republic of Poland; she was a social activist, member of Women's League of War Emergency and Progressive Women's Political Club.

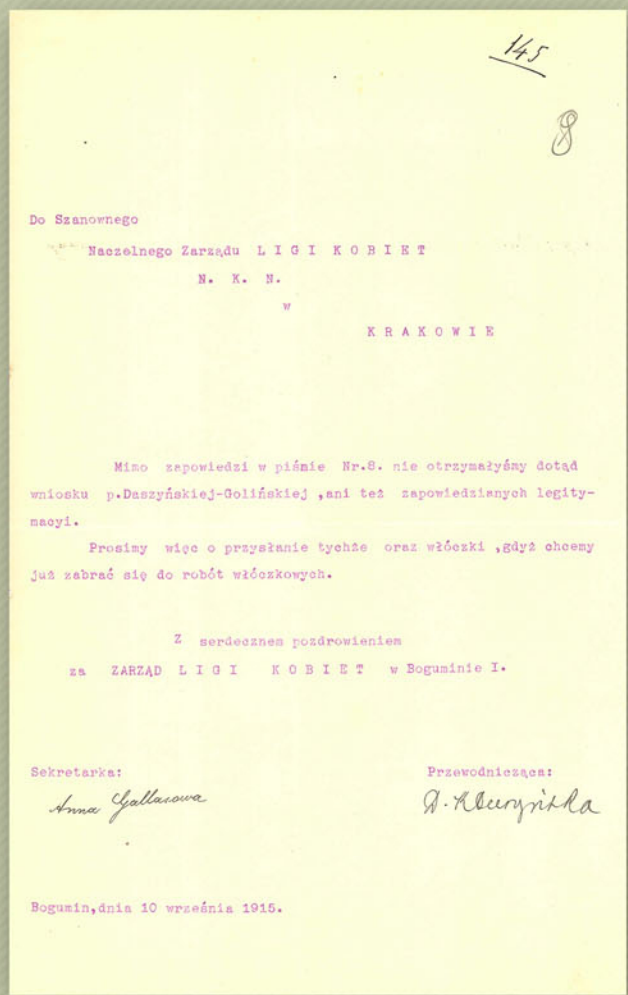


Minutes (statement of proceedings) of Polish Women's League Congress in Krakow, chaired by Michalina Moscicka, May 3-4, 1924.



Michalina Moscicka (1871-1932), social activist and campaigner for Poland's independence; she was member of Women's Union for Equal Rights and President of Polish Women's League. She was patron of International Congress for Fighting off Women Trafficking. Wife of Prof. Ignacy Moscicki, President of the Second Republic of Poland.

Letter from Dorota Kluszyńska, head of Polish Women's League in Bogumino, dated September 10th, 1915, to the Board of the National Committee of Women's League in Krakow.

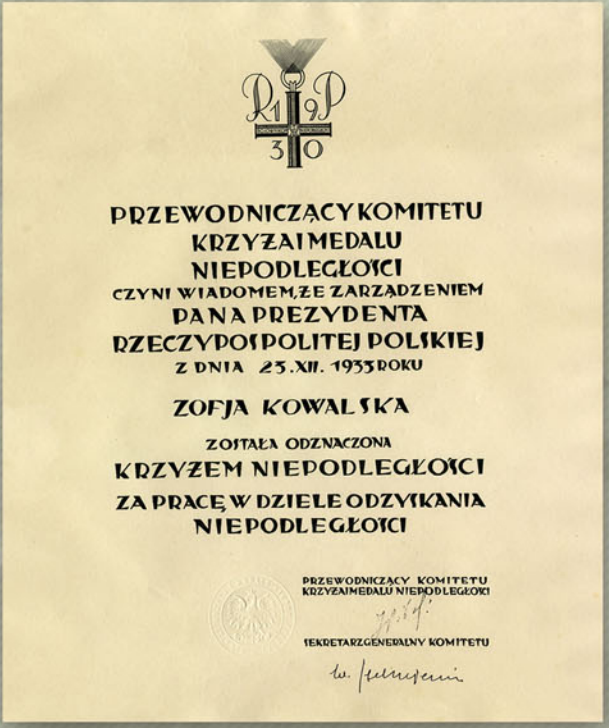


Dorota Kluszyńska (1876-1952), Polish Women's League and Polish Socialist Party activist; she was a campaigner for Poland's independence; she was elected Senator of the Second Republic of Poland and commentator of "Women's Voice" periodical.

RIFLEMEN'S TEAMS AND ASSOCIATIONS, SCOUTING, POLISH LEGIONS, POLISH MILITARY ORGANIZATION



Zofia Kowalska, ID-card and Independence Cross diploma.



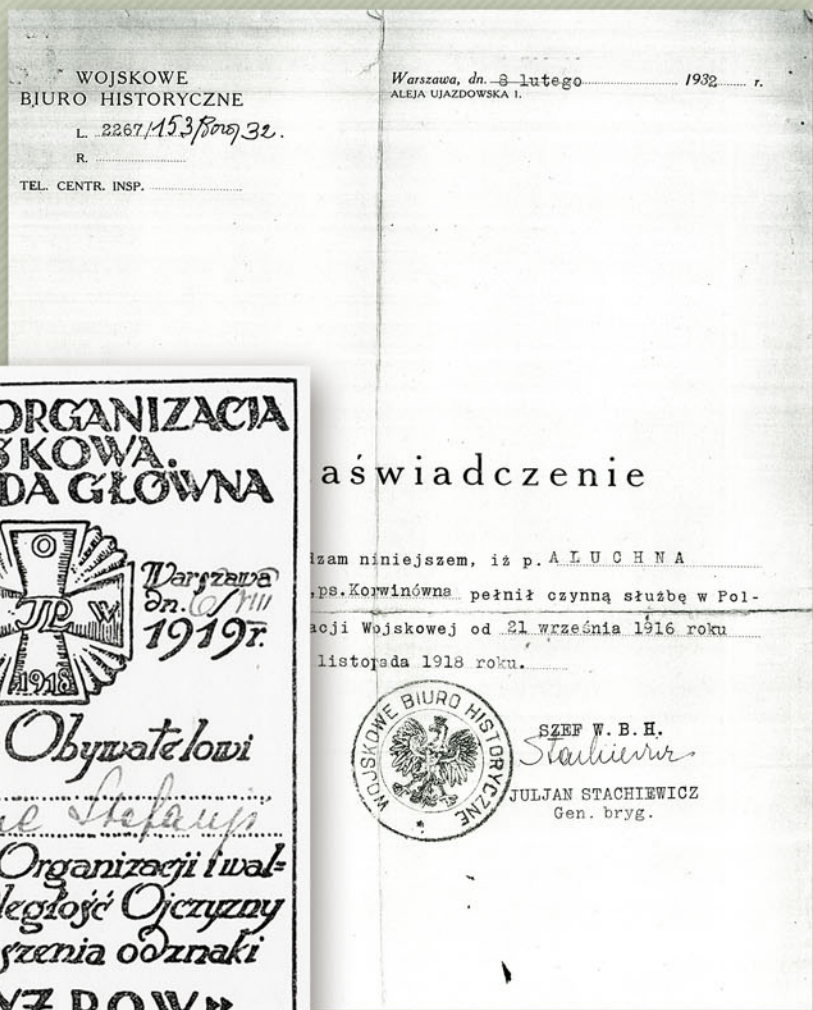
Wladyslawa Macieszyna (1888-1967), intelligence courier of Legions 1st Regiment. She organized female riflemen teams and was elected senator of the Second Republic of Poland; during WWII she was a special courier of the underground movement.



Stefania Kudelska (1890-1944), member of Polish Military Organization (PMO). She was elected Member of the Polish Parliament and senator of the Second Republic of Poland; she co-founded Women's Military Training.



Organizational convention of the Union of Polish Female Legionnaires, 1929.



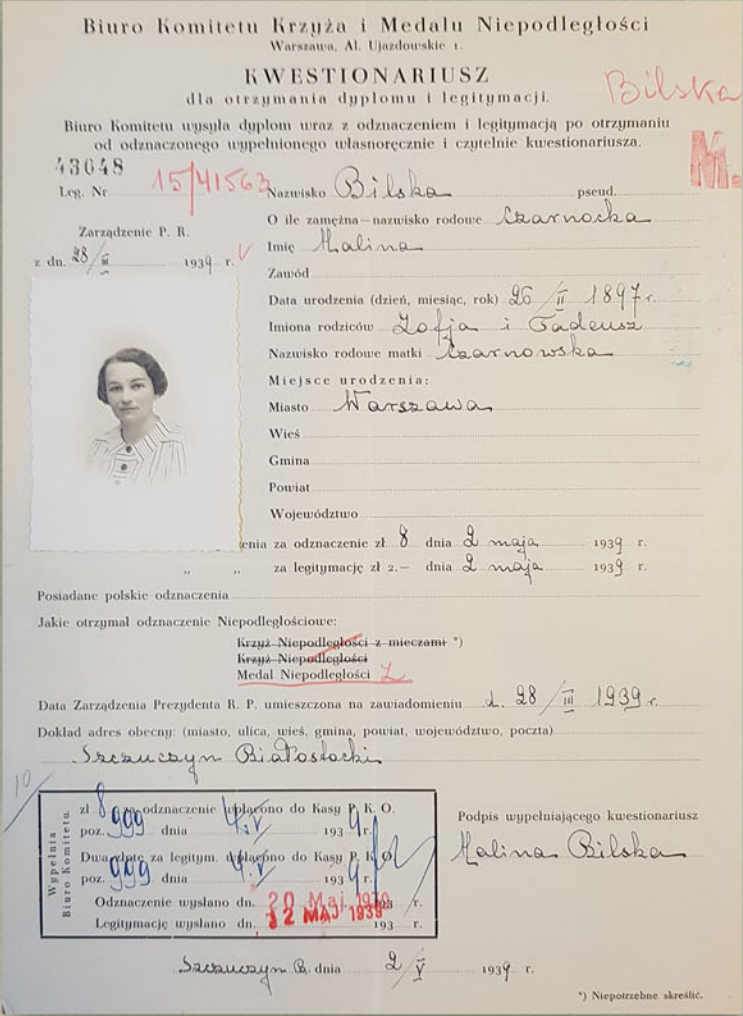
Stefania Aluchny's Certificate of Active Duty of Polish Military Organization (PMO).



Women's Riflemen Team ID-card of Anna Dobrowolska.



Halina Bilka, Warsaw University of Agriculture graduate, activist of Polish Military Organization (PMO) in Moscow and Kiev, Russia. After WWII she worked for The Polish Underground Movement Study Trust in London.



Organizational convention of the Union of Polish Female Legionnaires, 1929.



Ewa Krajewska-Tomaszewska, member of Riflemen Association. She was the mastermind and later manager of tearoom for legionnaires.

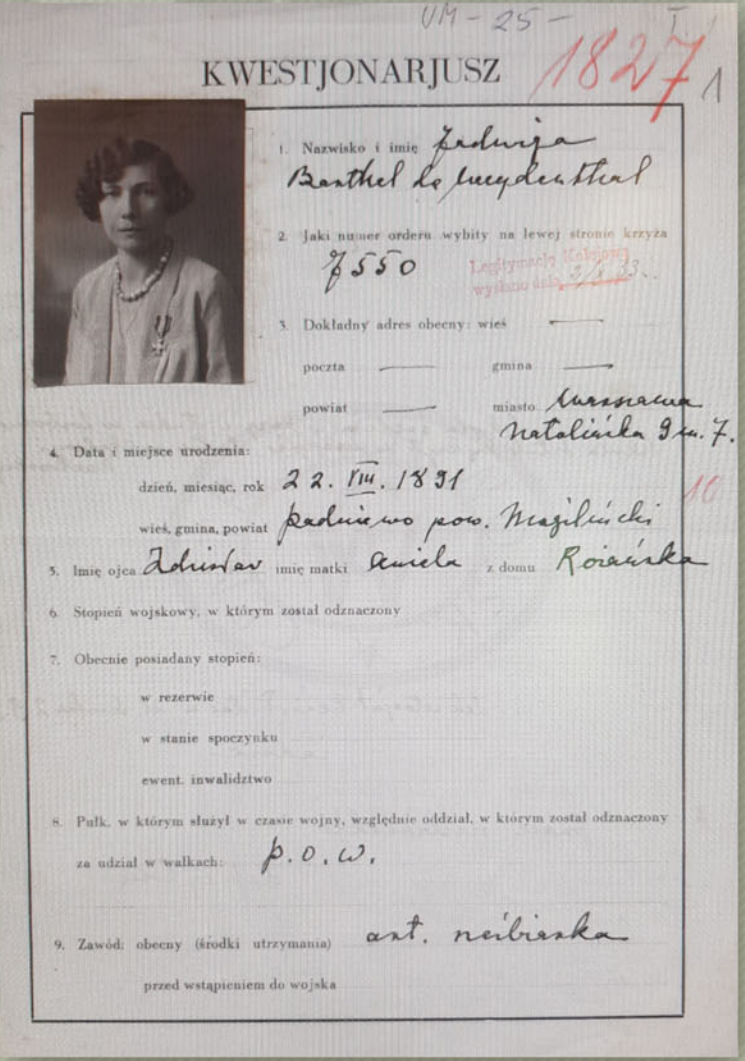


Janina Krajewska, member of Riflemen Association in Lvov, co-worker of Polish Legions in Krakow.

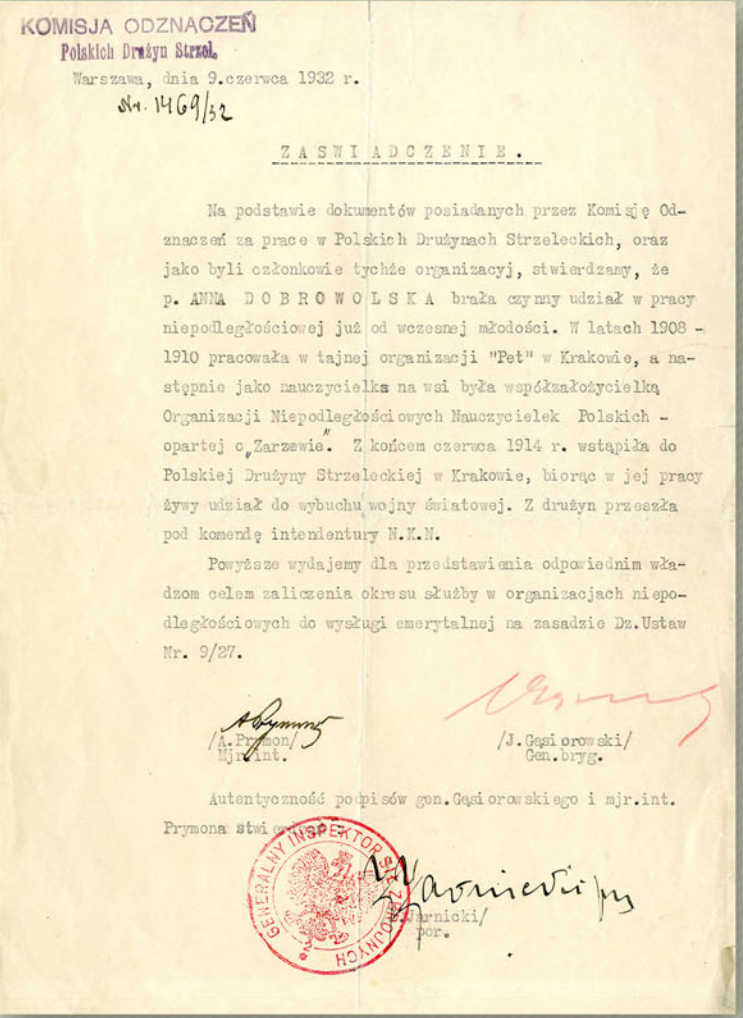


Maria Irska, girl scouts patrol, Sambor, 1912.

Jadwiga Barthel de Weydenthal (1884-1961), artist sculptress; she was a PMO soldier and during the inter-war period president of PMO Women's Society.



Anna Dobrowolska certificate of Active Membership of Polish Riflemen Teams.



Members of Polish Military Organization in Pultusk, 1916-1918.



Zofia Zawiszanka - Kernowa (1889-1971), member of Polish Legions intelligence, Polish Military Organization (PMO), reconnoiter of Riflemen Teams. She provided information to Jozef Pilsudski's patrols about Russian troops movements.



Women's PMO detachment, platoons 3 and 4.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY LEGION



Do Rządu Polskiego!

Polska bezbronna otoczona jest wrogiem!
Polskę zjednoczoną i niepodległą szarpią ze wszystkich stron, a nikt nie staje na Straż jej wolności i jej granic.

Lwów krwιά spływa. Dzieci i kobiety walczą o wolność rodzinnego miasta. Kresy nasze, męczeńskie Wilno bez obrony. Biała się pali. Armia niemiecka, wracając ze wschodu pali i rabuje Podlasie. A my bezbronne czekamy, choć ze wsi tysiączne zastępy młodzieży chłopskiej do szeregów się garnie, a ojcowie domagają się poboru. Niech Rząd Polski, niech naczelny Komendant wyda rozkaz rekrutacji.

I oto w oczach naszych rozkwitają nam Polskę.
Czy mamy na to czekać beczynnie i bezsilnie!

Jeśli natychmiast nie wydacie rozkazu, nie powołacie całego narodu pod broń, nie ruszycie na odsiecz nieszczęsnego Lwowa i ku obronie granic Polski my, kobiety Polki, my, co od początku wojny nie załowyliśmy krwi naszych najbliższych, naszych synów i mężów, weźmiemy rodaków naszych, by wbrew wam tworzyli wojsko ochotnicze i pod komendą prawdziwych patriotów szli, walcząc o całość i wolność Ojczyzny.

Kiedy Polska ginie, kiedy ojczyzno bronić trzeba, sumienie wydaje najświętsze nakazy.

Polskę ratować trzeba z wami lub przeciw wam.

KOBIETY POLKI.



Women's Voluntary Legion badge - the eagle.

Proclamation of Polish Women to Polish government, calling for a recruitment notice to Polish army.



Female legionaries from Women's Voluntary Legion, Lvov, 1918-1920.



A story about Women's Voluntary Legion published July 4th, 1920, in the periodical "Goniec Czesztochowski".



Female legionaries from Women's Voluntary Legion, Vilnius, 1919-1921.



Aleksandra Zagorska (1884-1965), lieutenant colonel of Polish Army and member of Polish Socialist Party (intelligence, explosives); she was soldier of Legions and organizer of Women's Voluntary Legion; she was the independence movement activist.



Wanda Gertz (1896-1958), an instructor of Women's Military Training. During WWI she joined the 1st Brigade of the Polish Legion, dressed as a man she assumed the name "Kazimierz Zuchowicz". She organized female detachment of Polish Military Organization in Warsaw. During Polish-Soviet War(1919-1920) she served as Deputy Head of 2nd Women's Voluntary Legion by Lithuania-Bielorussian Front Command. During WWII she was mastermind and head of underground Home Army detachment "Dysk".

BATTLE FOR THE BOARDERS



■ The Lvov Eaglets, Defense of the Cemetery, oil painting by Wojciech Kossak, 1926.



■ 3rd Silesian Uprising, the ambulance train #3.



■ The city of Lvov decorated with the Poland's highest military decoration: Virtuti Militari.



■ Medical orderlies of Polish Riflemen Brigade.

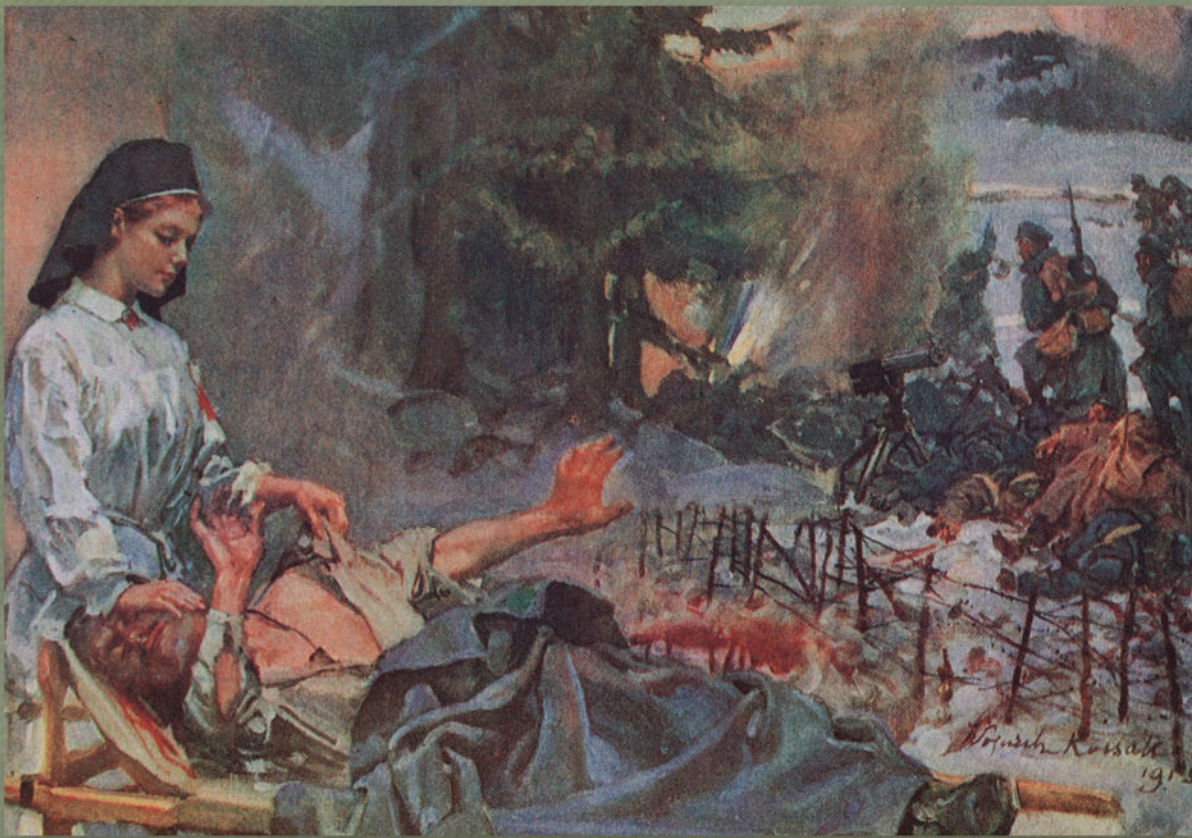


■ Nurses working during the defense of Lvov, 1918.



■ Girl scouts from Falcon Society, Kruszwica, fighting in the Greater Poland Uprising 1918-1919.

■ Professor Stanislaw Ligon, Lieutenant Fikus and insurgents of Greater Poland Uprising seek shelter against German border guards at a forest lodge.



■ Ladies helping at the hospital located on university campus during the defense of Lvov, 1918.



Nie ma już takich smutnych podróży lasów,
Gdzie rytm basalistów śmagał cię walcami.
Kamikadze, plechno. Krzyczy cię są o czasie
Z ciekłą pękniętą nową kamelacją...

Reżys. Czerwiec 1969 r.



A black and white portrait of a woman in a military uniform, likely a nurse. She is wearing a dark jacket with a white collar and a name tag that reads "Nurse". She has several medals and ribbons on her chest, including a large cross-shaped medal and a circular medal. Her hair is styled in a bun. The background is plain and light-colored.



A black and white photograph showing a large crowd of people, including men in military uniforms and women in civilian attire, gathered outdoors. A woman in a light-colored coat and hat is in the foreground, holding a long pole or stick. The background shows a city street with buildings.

Uprzejmie proszę o wyrażenie zgody na umieszczenie w P.W.S. na załączniku w tabeli 13a, 13b, 13c.			
Nazwa	termin zakoń- czenia	wym. liczący	charakter
Centrum Organizacji ZD	ośm. Polska	45,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	"	"	"
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	60,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	160,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	200,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	"	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	2,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	"	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	100	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	200	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	50,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	5,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	50,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	1,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	100,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	600	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	35,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	12,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	35,000	spokreśne
Centrum ds. Współpracy, Warszawa	ośm. Polska	3,000	spokreśne

[illegible]

PIĘCIOLECIE

PRZYSPOSOBIENIA WOJSKOWEGO

Kobiet

1922 1923 1924 1925 1926

SOBYHA ZABÓRZANY DELATYN ZALESZCZYKI JEJURU
TYRKOWICE ORZEWÓ

№ 445

CEGIELKA NA SZCZEPIONISKO NARCZYSKIE OPŁ. DO OK W ISTEKNEJ

OFIARODAWCA:

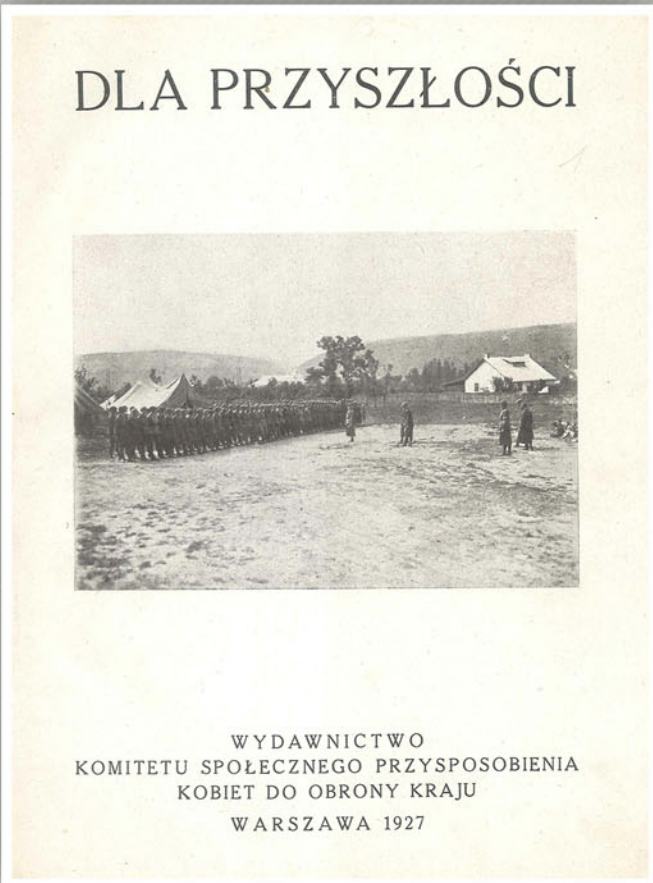
[illegible][illegible]

A black and white photograph showing a group of soldiers in uniform marching in a line on a dirt path. They are wearing hats and carrying gear. A line of trees is in the background.

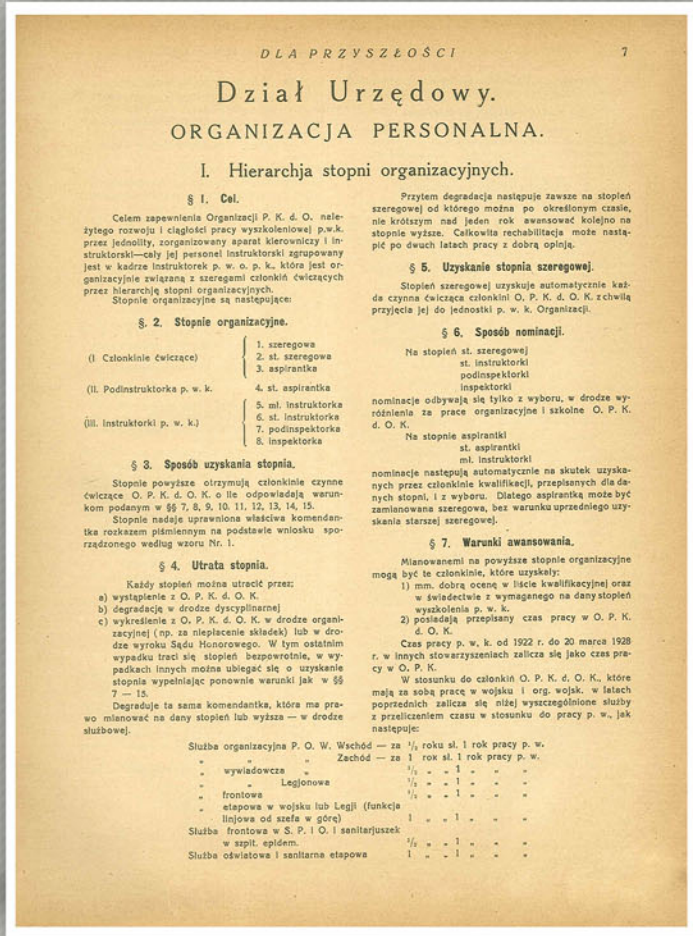
The 3rd May Constitution Day Parade, 1928.



WOMEN'S MILITARY TRAINING (WMT)



"For The Future" published by the Social Committee of Women's Military Training for Country Defense, Warsaw, 1927



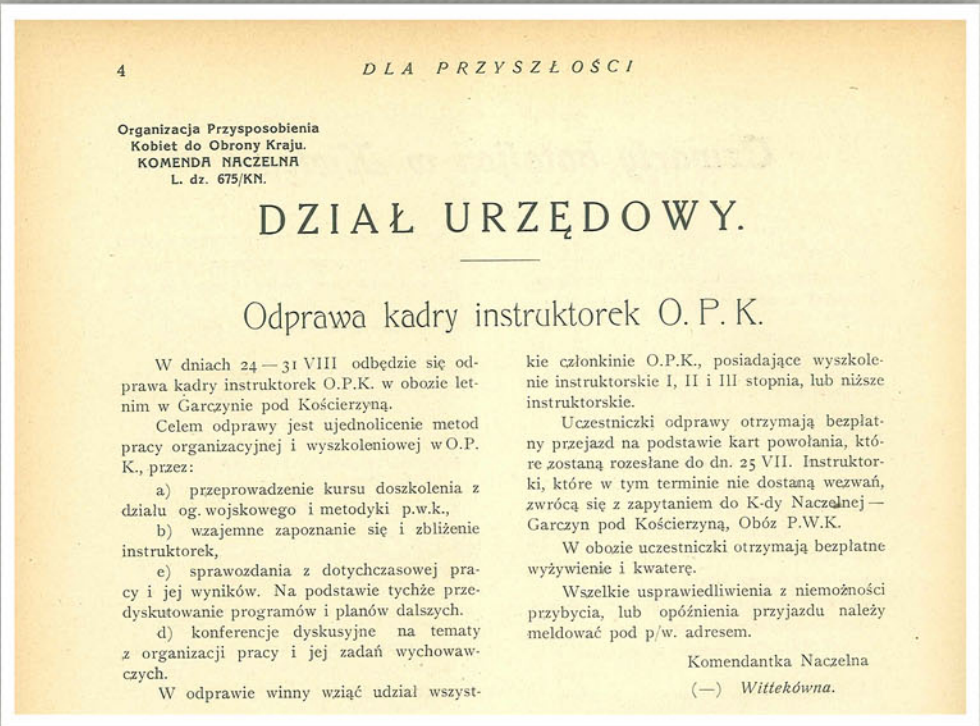
Structure of the Women's Military Training for Country Defense organization.



Volunteers of the Women's Military Training summer camp at Koszewniki, 1934. The camp commander was Inspector Wanda Gertz.



Anti-aircraft and anti-gas attack defense drill during summer camp at Delatyn, 1924.



Briefing documents for instructors of the WMT.



WMT camp at Delatyn, 1924.



4th Advanced Training Course for WMT Instructors. In the first row from the left: Janina Dymecka, Władysława Piechowska, Michałina Zygisławowa. In the second row: Elżbieta Zawacka, Stanisława Karnasiewicz, Natalia Zukowska, Halina Korniak, Aniela Gorczyżkiewicz, Wanda Jamiolkowska, Antonina Bartoszewska, August 1938.



Site preparation. From the left: Halina Piwowska, Maria Wittek and head of the Task Force in Grodno.



WMT members in uniforms at Main Command camp in Koszewniki, July 5, 1931.



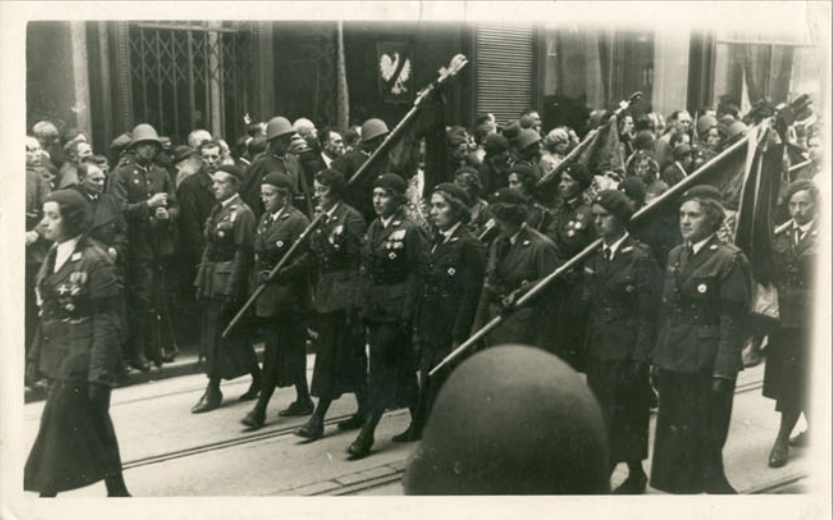
WMT summer camp at Garczyn, 1930. In the photo Commander-in-Chief Maria Wittek and inspector Halszka Wasilewska with the girls.



Fencing. WMT inspector Stefania Kudelska and Ms. Danielewiczowa at Delatyn, 1924.



WMT course at the Mineswipers' Training Center, Modlin.



WMT training camp with firefighters at Garczyn, 1933.



Riflery, Lublin Region WMT, camp at Borowo near Kartuzy, 1935.



Recess. Instructor Stefania Kudelska.



WMT instructors skiing.



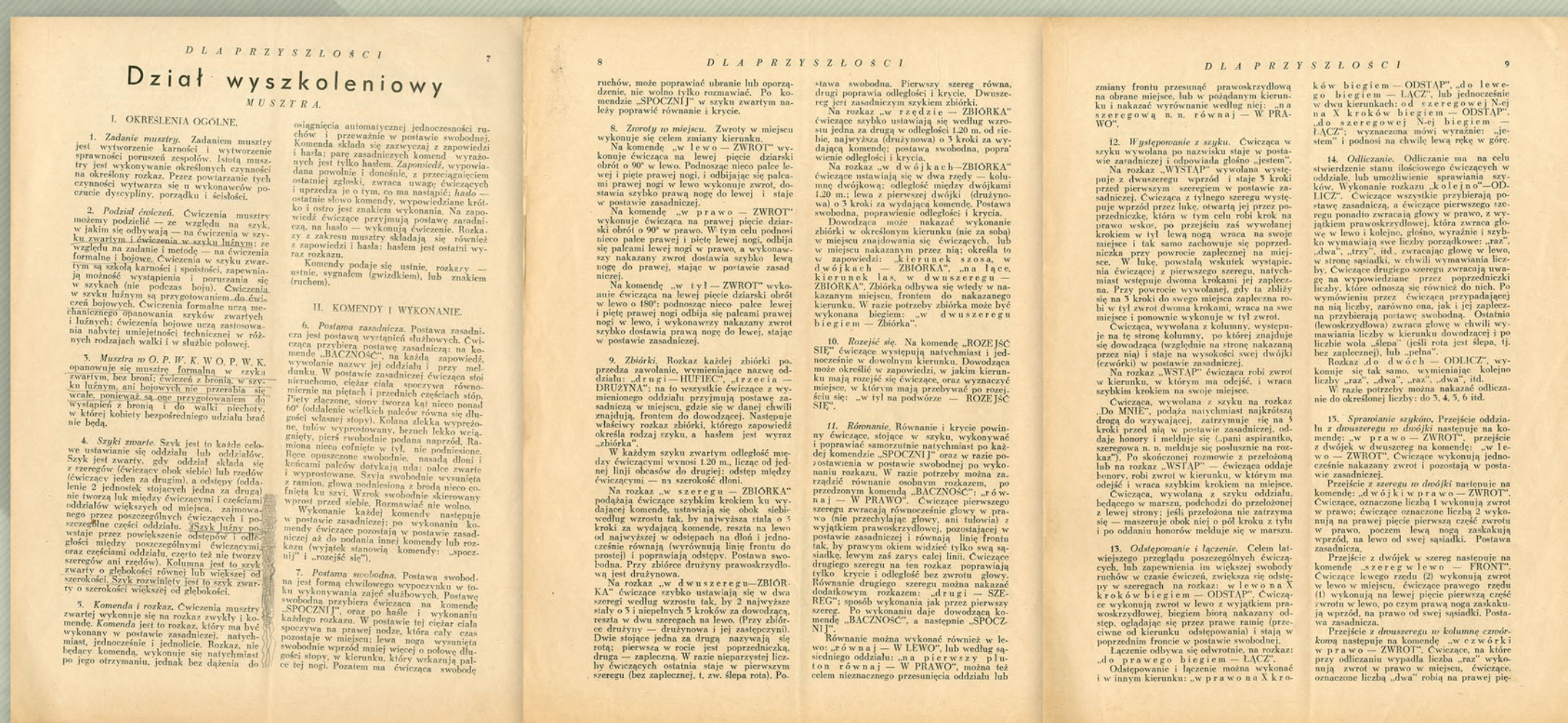
WMT instructors skiing.

Dress parade of the WMT Warsaw Section, about 1939.

WOMEN'S MILITARY TRAINING (WMT)



Wooden board commemorating Women's Military Training camp in Sieraków, 1934.



Drill instruction, periodical "For the Future" #2, 1937.



Riflery military training camp at Wolka Profacka near Pulawy, July 1929.



Holy mass at military training camp for women at Istebna, August 14, 1932.



WMT summer camp at Koscielierzyna, July 1930.



WMT summer camp at Istebna, August 14, 1932.



WMT summer camp.



WMT briefing at Istebna, August 27, 1932.



WMT summer camp at Koscielierzyna, July 1930.



WMT members laying out tents at a summer camp.



Getting physically fit at a WMT summer camp.



Members of WMT summer camp.

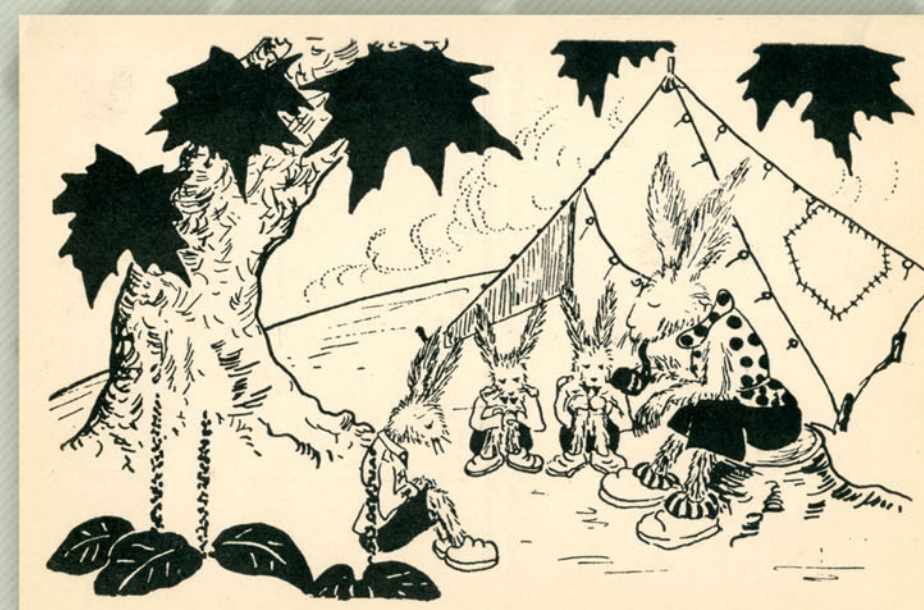
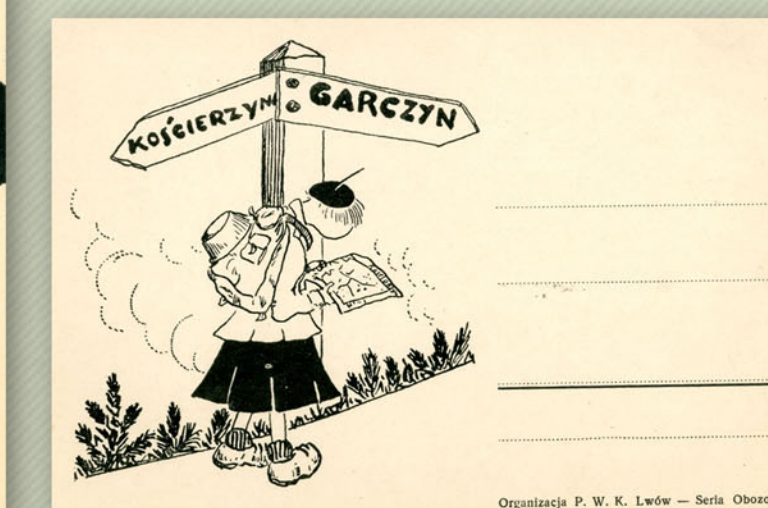


WMT camp at Koszewniki near Grodno, July 1931. Standing in the middle is Maria Wittek, Commandant-in-Chief of WMT.



WMT camp with girls from female Catholic organizations.

WOMEN'S MILITARY TRAINING (WMT)



■ All occasion cards with drawings of Zofia Grzegorzewska, published by Women's Military Training Organization for Country Defense.

WOMEN'S MILITARY TRAINING (WMT)



Archiwum
Akt
Nowych

niepodległa

POLSKA
STULECIE DOZYSKANIA
NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI



TOTALIZATOR
SPORTOWY

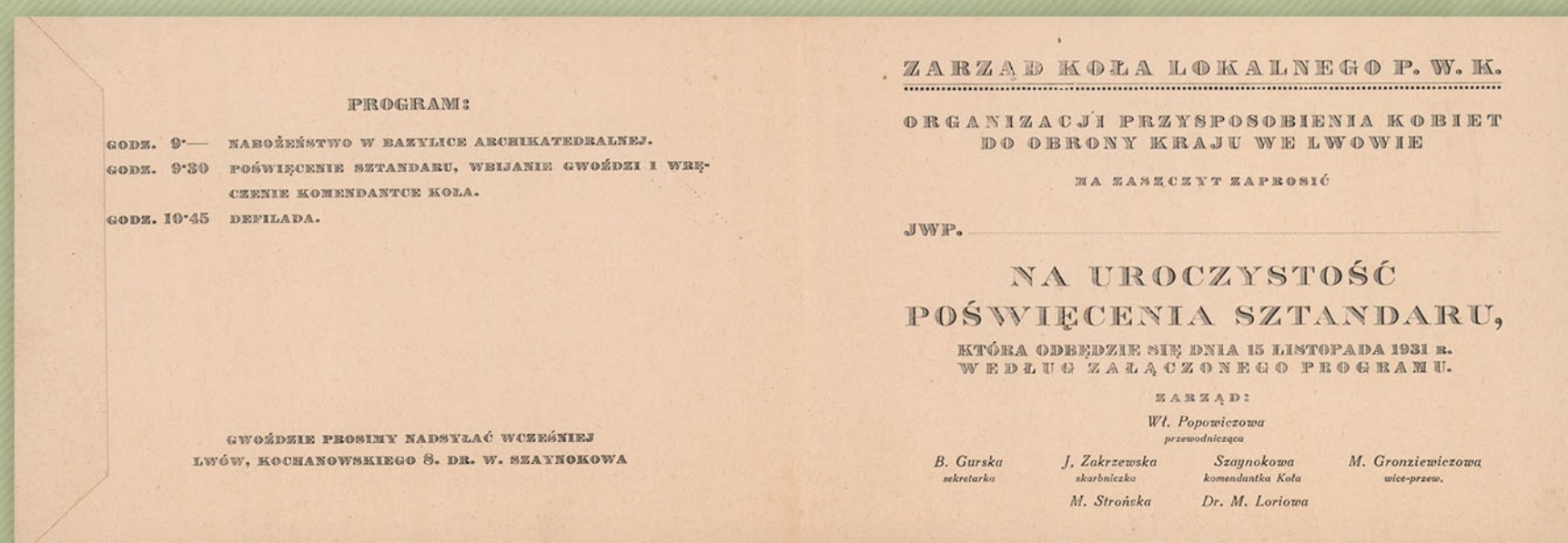
STOWARZYSZENIE
„WSPÓLNOTA POLSKA”



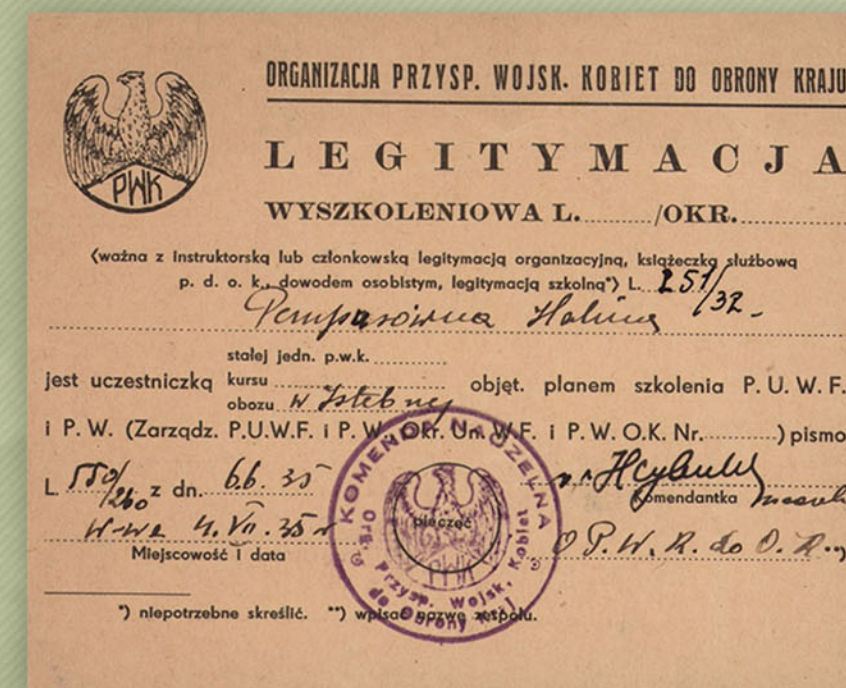
WMT Easter card



WMT members at Brzesko on River Bug, 1931.



An invitation for the ceremony of WMT Lvov Unit flag consecration of November 15, 1931.



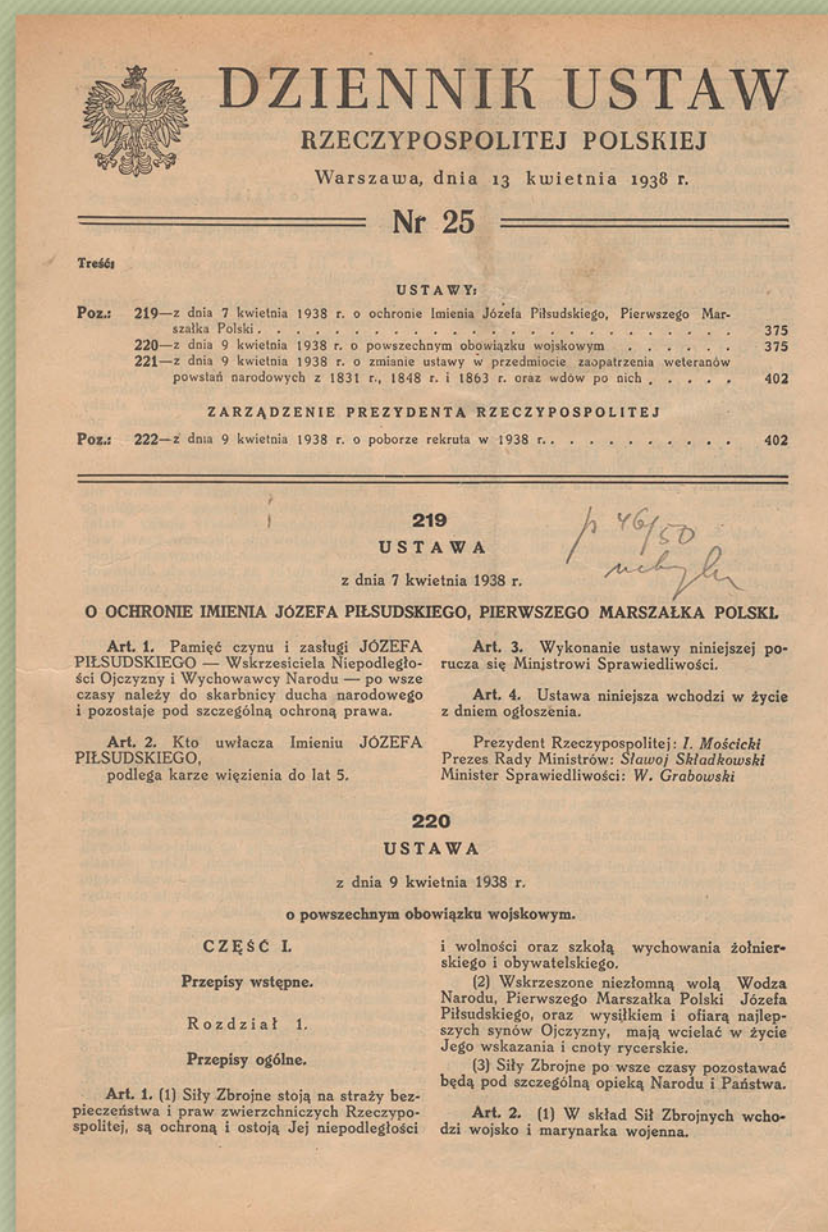
WMT ID of Halina Pompasowna, Warsaw, July 4, 1935.



Strong, Taut and Ready, WMT bulletin #1&2, 1939.



Inspection of the WMT unit "Kresowianka" at Stanislawow. "For the Future" a periodical, #10 & 11, 1931.



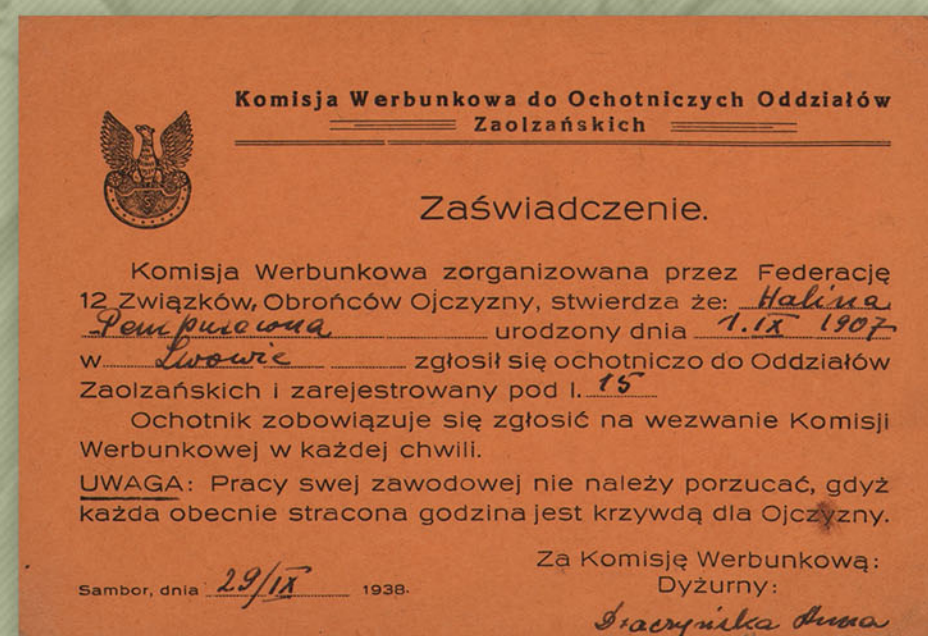
Legal Act from April 9th 1938 about Mandatory Military Service which ensured women the right to a voluntary military service.



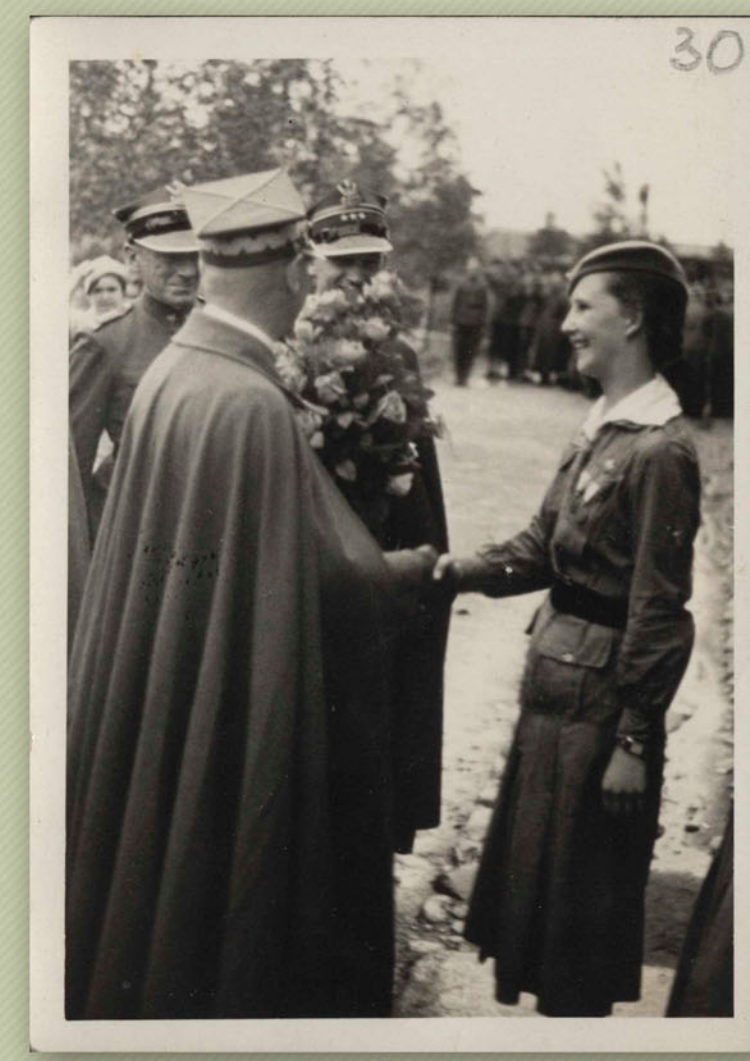
Alicja Dobrzycka, WMT inspector in Vilnius. During WWII she was liaison officer between Wilhelm Tupikowski "Wilhelm", Commander of 7th Vilnius Brigade and General Aleksander "Wilk" Krzyzanowski.



WMT speakers' training, Warsaw, February 16-26, 1936.



Certificate issued to Halina Pompasowna by Recruitment Commission, for enlisting in Voluntary Zaozle Troops, Sambor, September 29, 1938.



Alicja Dobrzycka reporting to Marshal Edward Smigly-Rydz, Commander-in-Chief of Poland's Armed Forces in Vilnius, August 27, 1939.

WOMEN'S MILITARY SERVICE IN CONSPIRACY (WWII)



■ Wanda Modlibowska (1909-2001). Polish sport and glider pilot. In September 1939 she was liaison pilot in the Headquarters Squadron in Warsaw. She was the first envoy of Polish Government sent to occupied Poland in 1940.



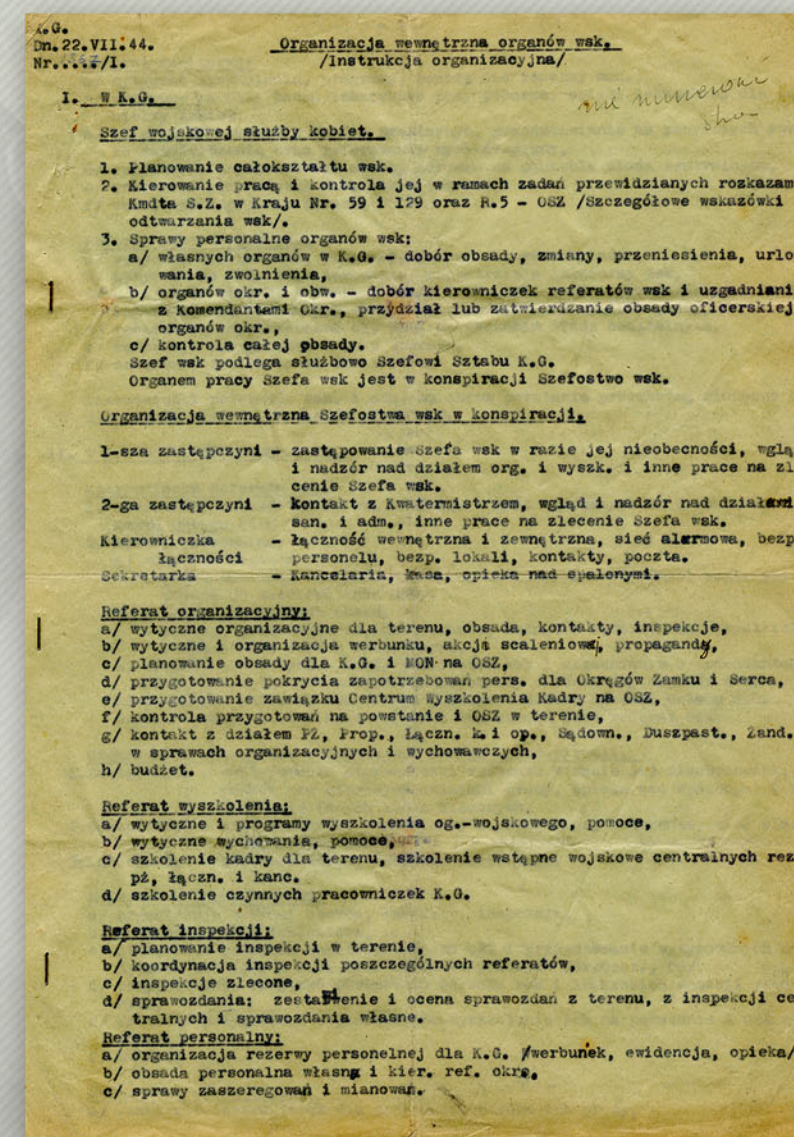
■ Emilia Malessa (1909-1949), captain of the Home Army. She organized and directed international communication cells within the 5th Department of Home Army. This Department was responsible for communication between the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief and Polish centers in many countries. She took part in the Warsaw Uprising in 1944. Lady of Virtuti Militari decoration.



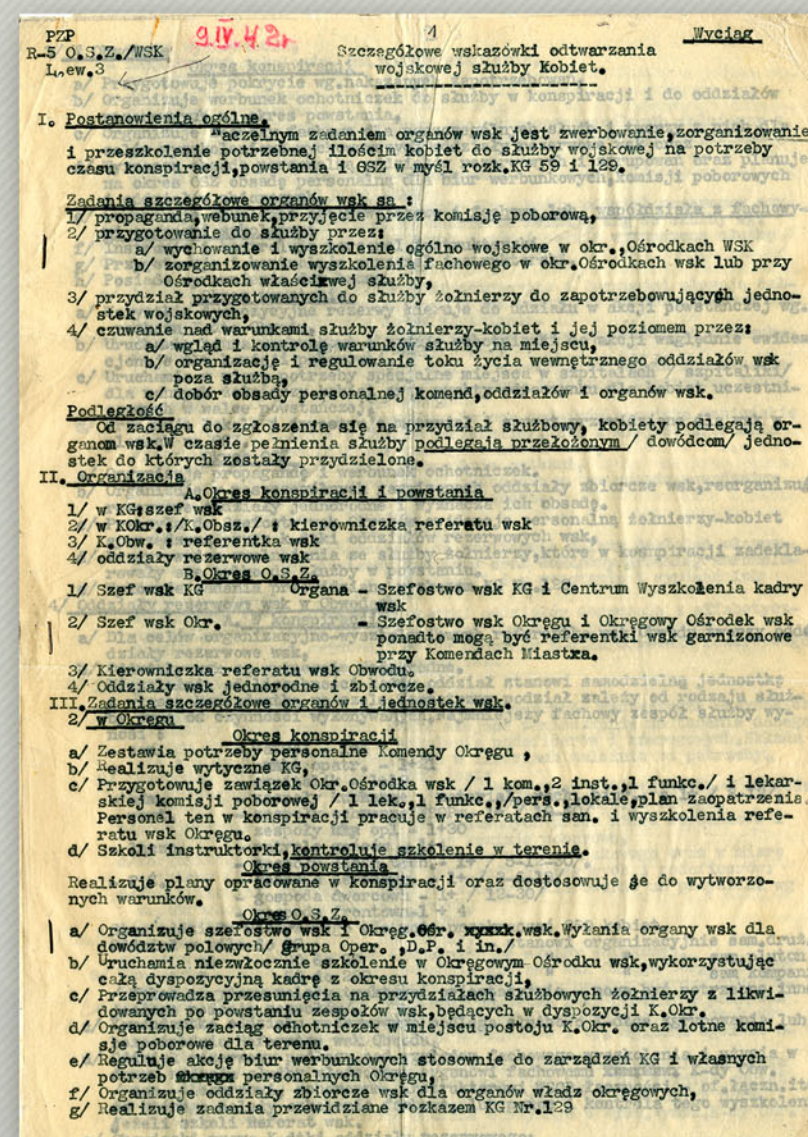
■ Zofia Franio (1899-1978), WMT instructor. As member of the Home Army (since 1939) she organized Women's Diversion and Sabotage Patrols. After WWII she was a member of the anti-communist organization, Freedom and Independence, serving as Chief of Communication, January-November 1946.



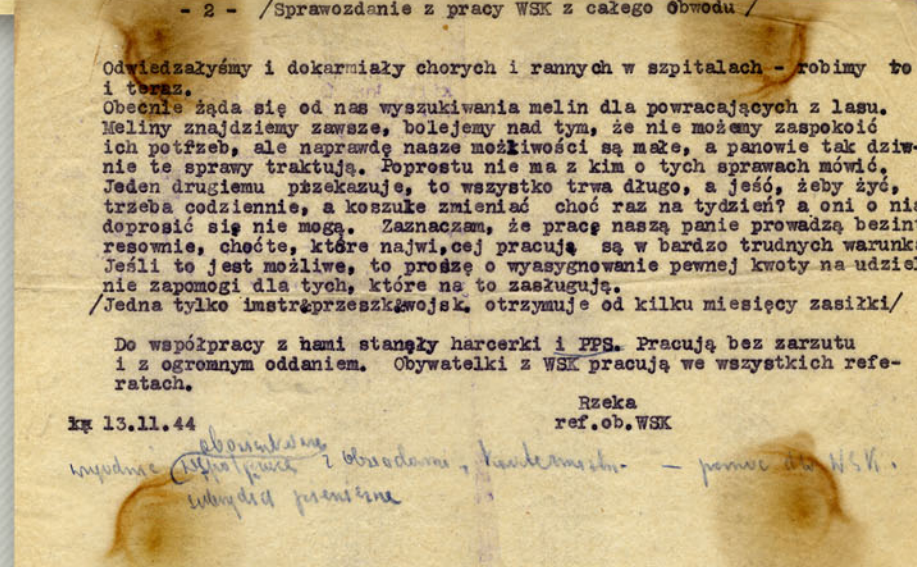
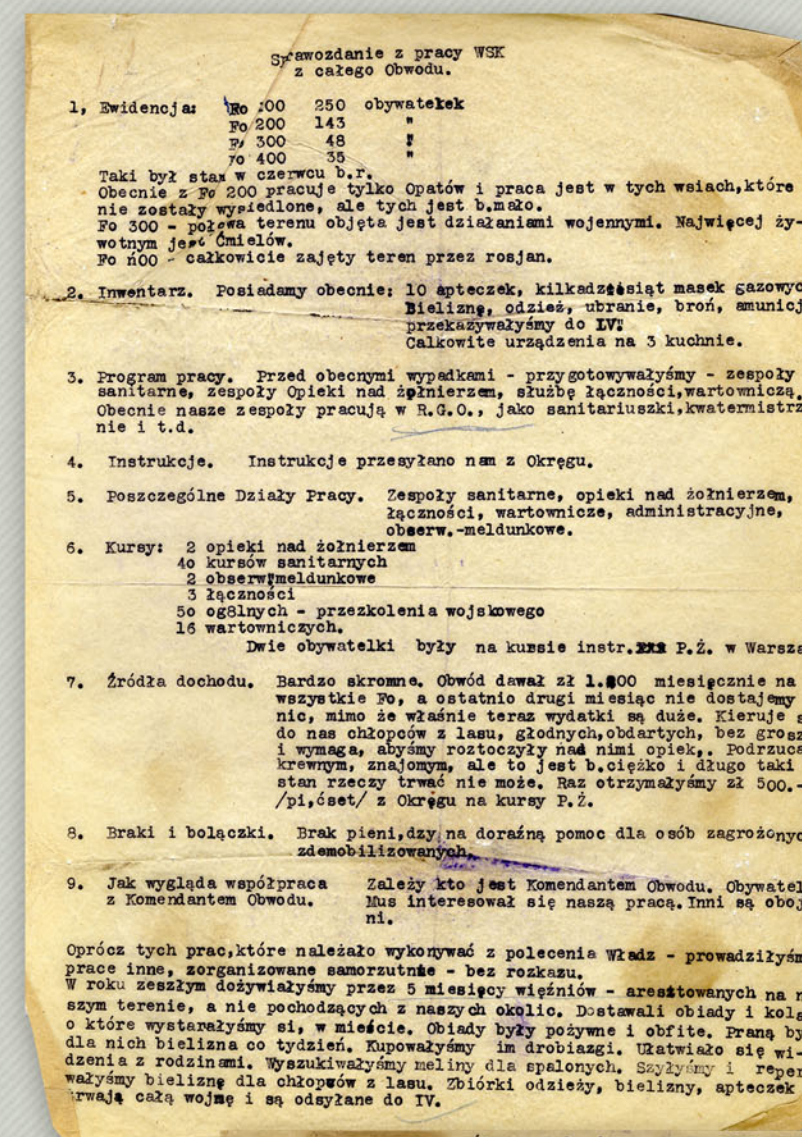
■ Elzbieta Zawacka (1909-2009). Courier of the 5th Department of Home Army. The only woman amongst "Silent Unseen" elite special-operations paratroops created in Great Britain to operate in occupied Poland. After WWII, member of anti-communist organization Freedom and Independence. The second Polish woman promoted to Brigadier General, Lady of the Order of White Eagle.



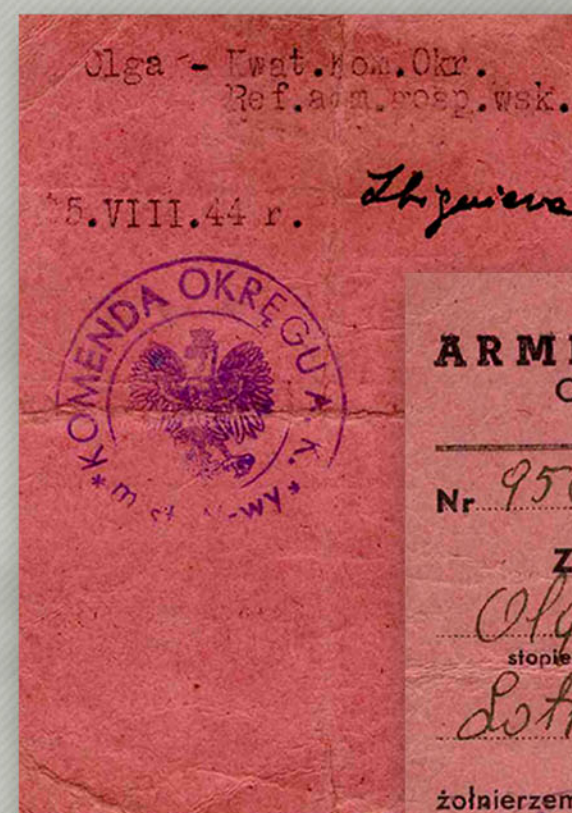
■ Instructions concerning the organization of underground Women's Military Service (WMS) units, July 22, 1944.



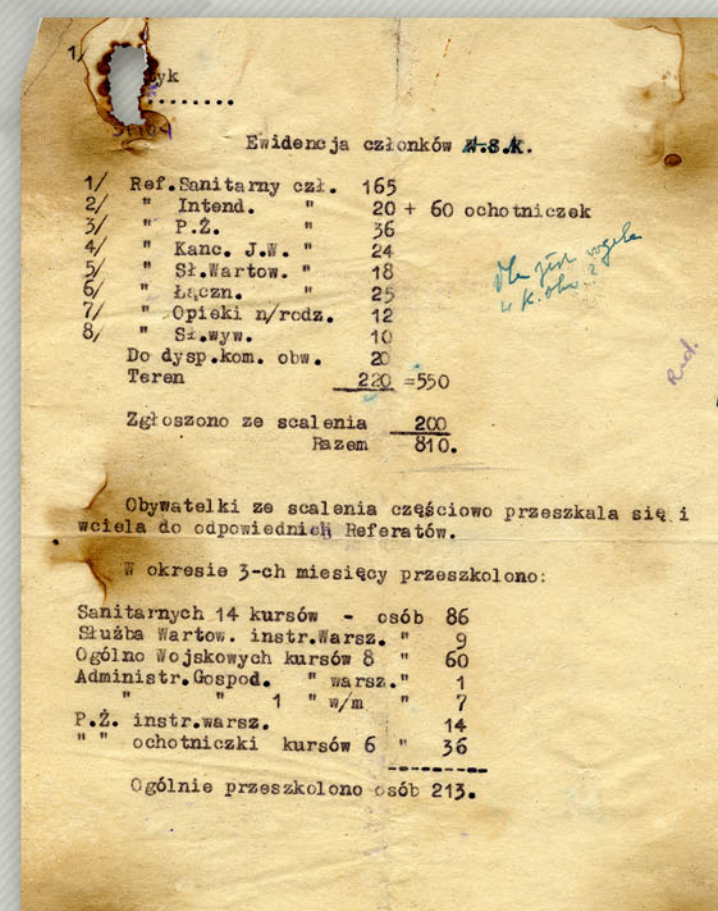
■ Detailed instructions concerning the reconstruction of Women's Military Service (WMS).



■ Report from WMS activity in the district of Radom, November 13, 1944. WMS was a part of Home Army.

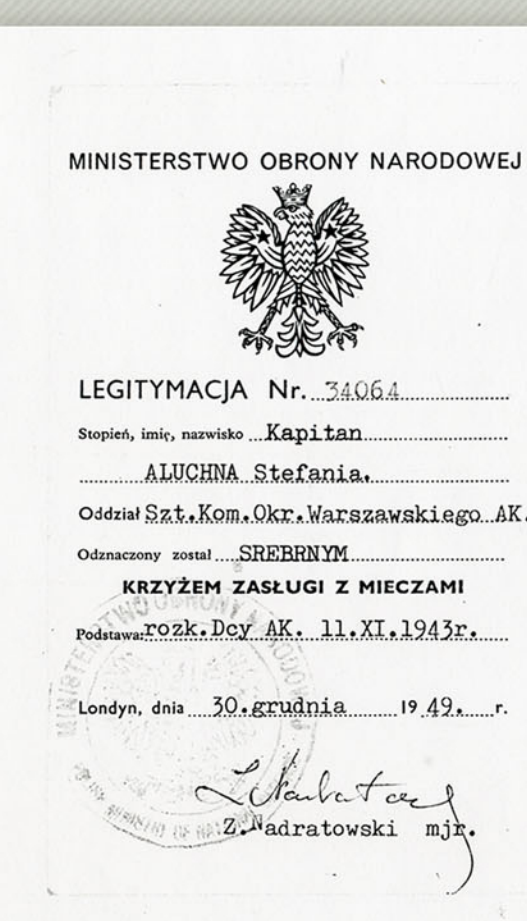


■ Id of Home Army for Zofia Lothweison.



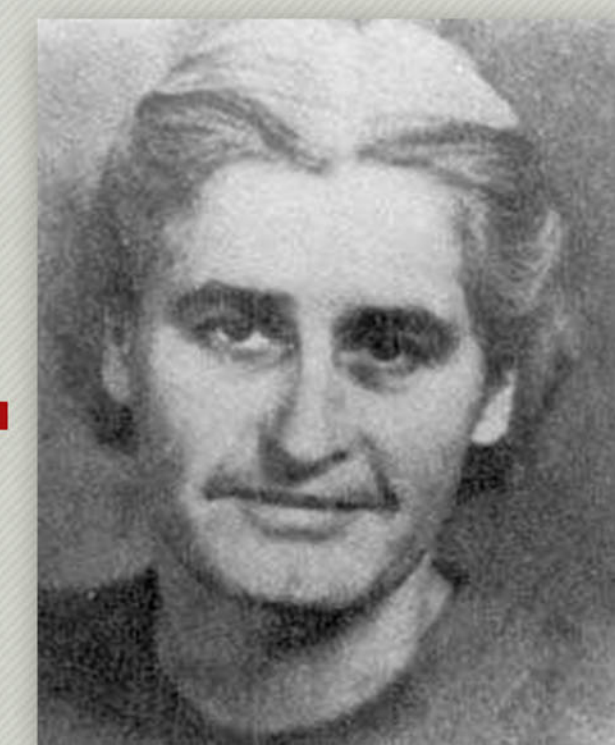
■ List of WMS members by Home Army of Kielce district.

■ WMS secret training under the label of knitting course, Chojnata near Mszczonow, May 22nd-29th 1943. Instructors: Sabina Topolska (on the right, with bead necklace) and Stanisława Walczak (Rowinska, after 1947).



■ ID of military award Cross of Merit with Swords for Stefania Aluchny.

■ ID of military award Home Army Cross for Stefania Aluchny.



■ Janina Karasiowna (1903-1948). She organized the documents management office and communication office for the High Command of Polish Victory Service. Later she was head of 5th Department of Home Army.



■ Krystyna Krahelska (1914-1944). Liaison officer and courier for special tasks at Nowogrod district. She traveled to partisan squads where she trained girls for medical orderlies. She also smuggled arms.

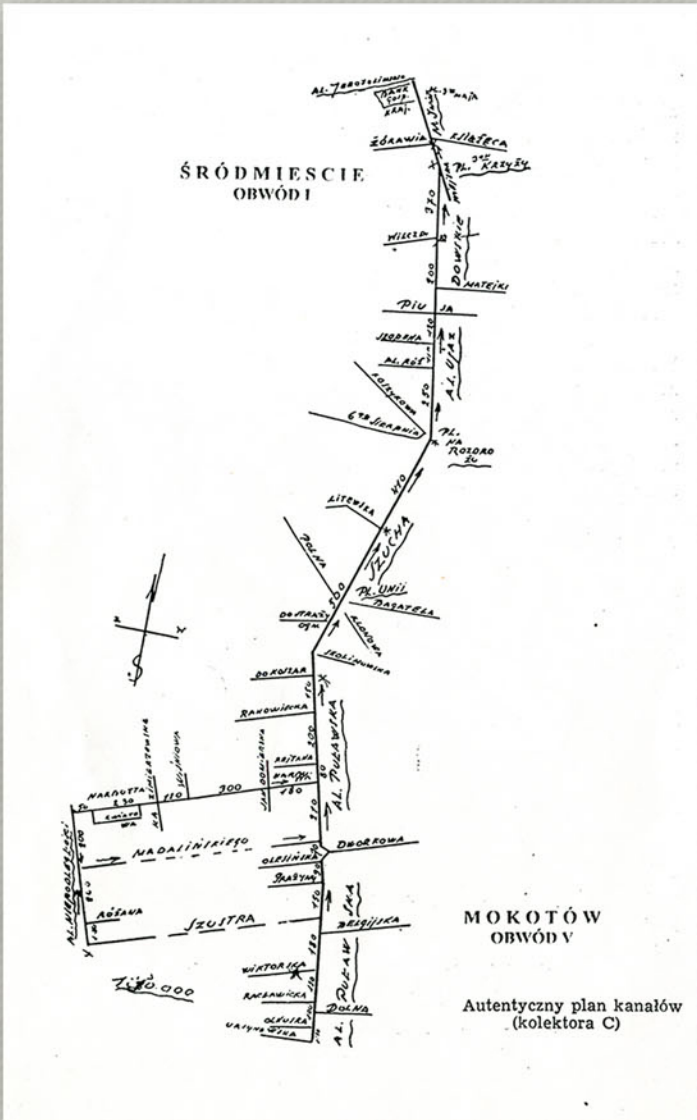


■ Władysława Piechowska (1900-1987). activist of Polish Military Organization; the first inspector of Women's Auxiliary Service. Commander-in-Chief of Women's Auxiliary Service in the army of general Wladyslaw Anders.

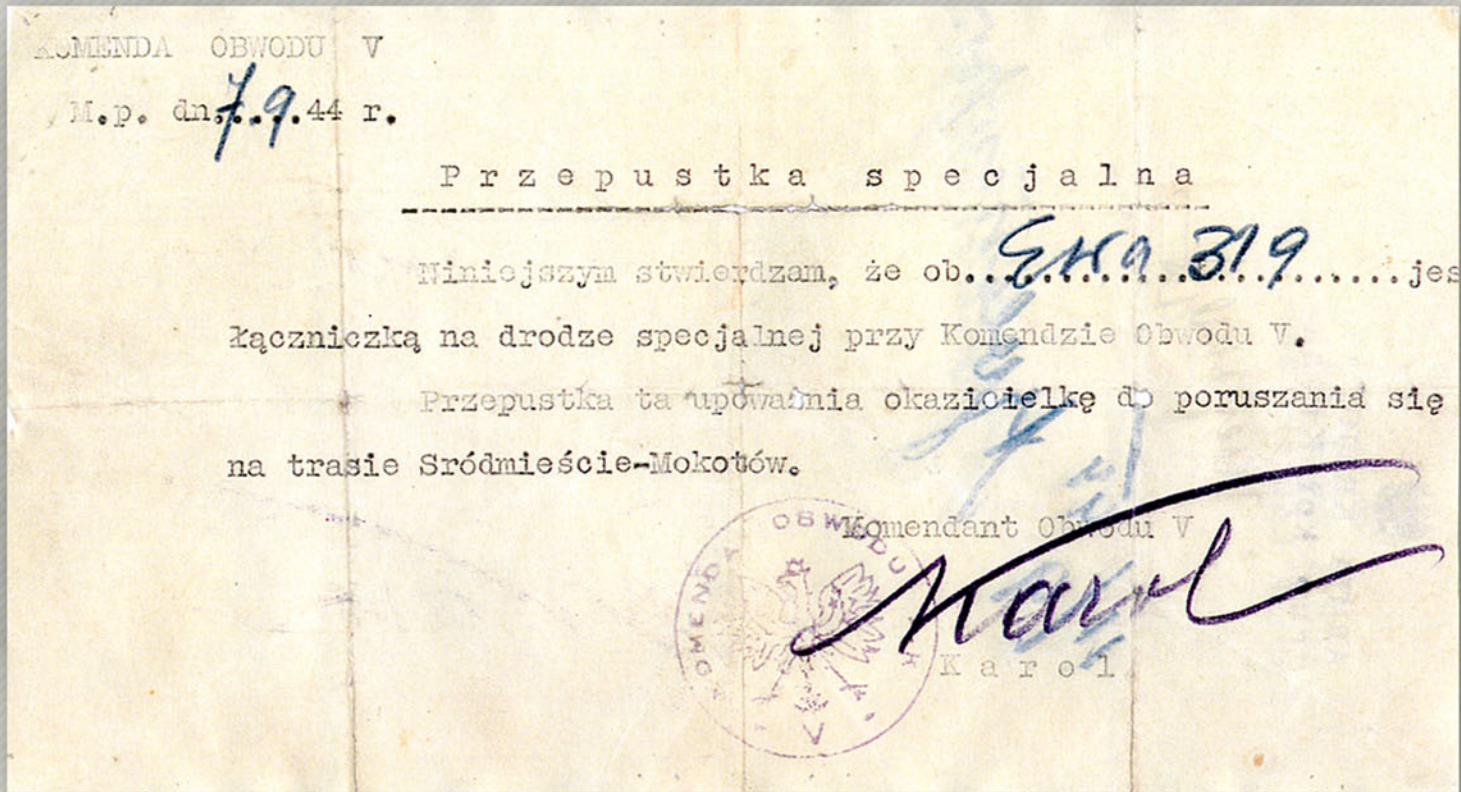
WOMEN'S MILITARY SERVICE IN CONSPIRACY (WWII)



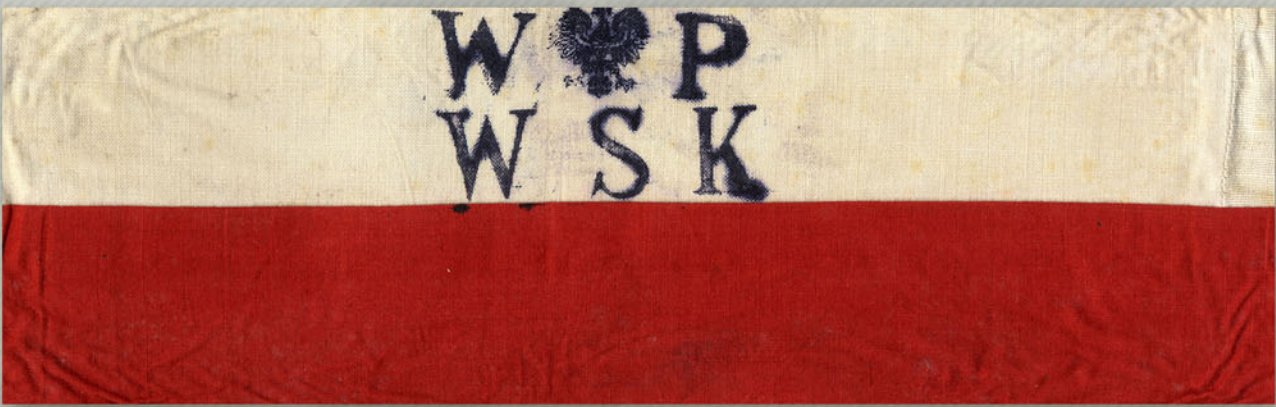
■ Nurses from medical post of Warsaw Uprising, at 14 Al. Krakowska. All were killed August 2, 1944 at Okęcie, Warsaw.



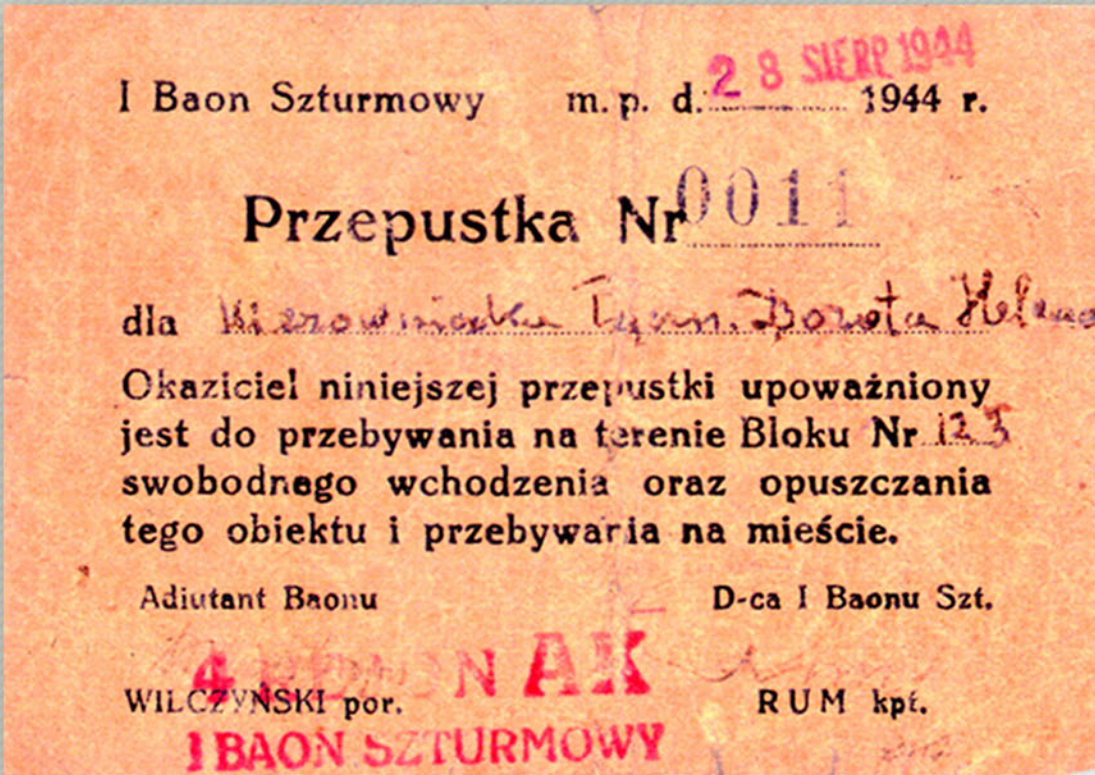
■ Map of sewage and flood canals in Downtown Warsaw, Home Army 1st Circuit for Downtown and 5th Circuit for Mokotów.



■ Pass to the city sewers and flood canals for Ewa Grochowska-Jeglinska, messenger of regiment, "Baszta" 1944.



■ An arm band of Women's Military Service used during the Warsaw Uprising.



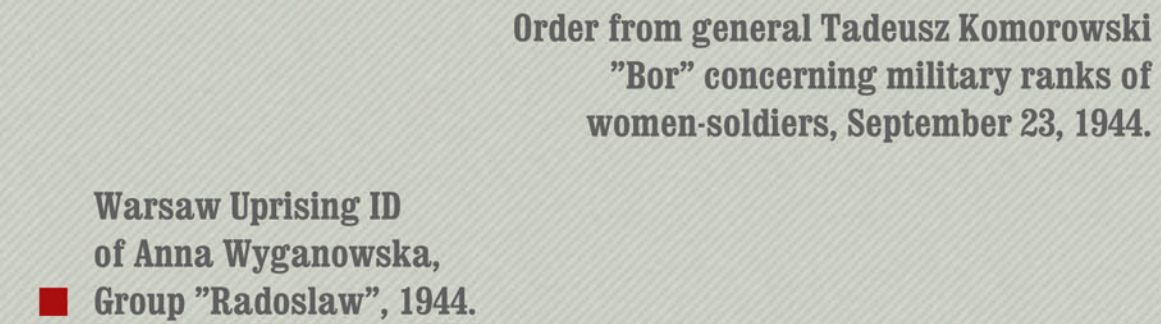
■ Warsaw Uprising pass issued for Dorota Helena, head of communication of the 1st Battalion Assault Force "Rum", August 2, 1944.



■ Nurses from 7th Company "Iskra" Battalion "Kilinski", August 15, 1944.



■ Ewa Grochowska-Jeglinska during the last drill of the Home Army before the Warsaw Uprising in Mokotów, July 28, 1944.



■ The women of Warsaw Uprising, 1944.



■ Nurses and messengers from 207 Platoon, Group "Zaglowiec" in Warsaw Uprising, 1944.



■ Vantage point at Czerniakow, Social Insurance Company building. In the photo: "Marychna" and "Isia" from Group "Krysa".



■ Maria Mirecka (later Lorys), WMT instructor, member of National Party, she guided other women to join the resistance forces NMO, 1942.



■ The women-insurgents from Warsaw's downtown leave the city as prisoners of war.

ON THE FRONTS OF WORLD WAR II



■ Women's Auxiliary Service, the ceremony of swearing in volunteers, Guzar, Central Asia, June, 1942.



■ Women's Auxiliary Service, the ceremony of swearing in volunteers at the Flag, Guzar, Central Asia, June, 1942.



■ Bronislawa Wyslouch, Commander of Women's Auxiliary Service.



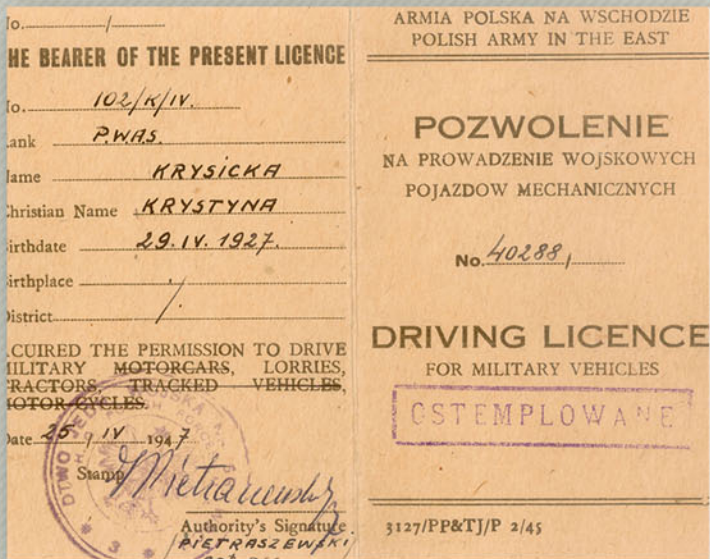
■ Women's Auxiliary Service, volunteers with the Army of Gen. Wladyslaw Anders (Polish Armed Forced on the East).



■ Sew-on-patches of Krystyna Smolinska, a volunteer from the School of Younger Volunteers at Nazareth, Palestine.



A copy of the permit #40288/654 to drive military vehicles issued by Polish Armed Forced on the East.



■ A poster titled "The History of Polish II Corps" (AKA Army of Gen. Wladyslaw Anders, Polish Armed Forces on the East).



■ Dress parade of girls from the School of Younger Volunteers, Nazareth, Palestine, 1946.



■ Gen. Wladyslaw Anders visiting the School of Younger Volunteers, Nazareth, Palestine, 1946.



■ Women's Auxiliary Service volunteers, Sealand, England, 1946.



■ Jadwiga Pilsudska (1920-2014), daughter of Marshal Jozef Pilsudski; pilot of the Polish Air Force; member of Women's Air Force Auxiliary Service. She was the third Polish woman to join the British Air Transport Auxiliary which was part of the Royal Air Force. Altogether over 100 Polish women served in this formation.



■ Women's Auxiliary Service troops, Sealand, England, May 3rd, 1946.



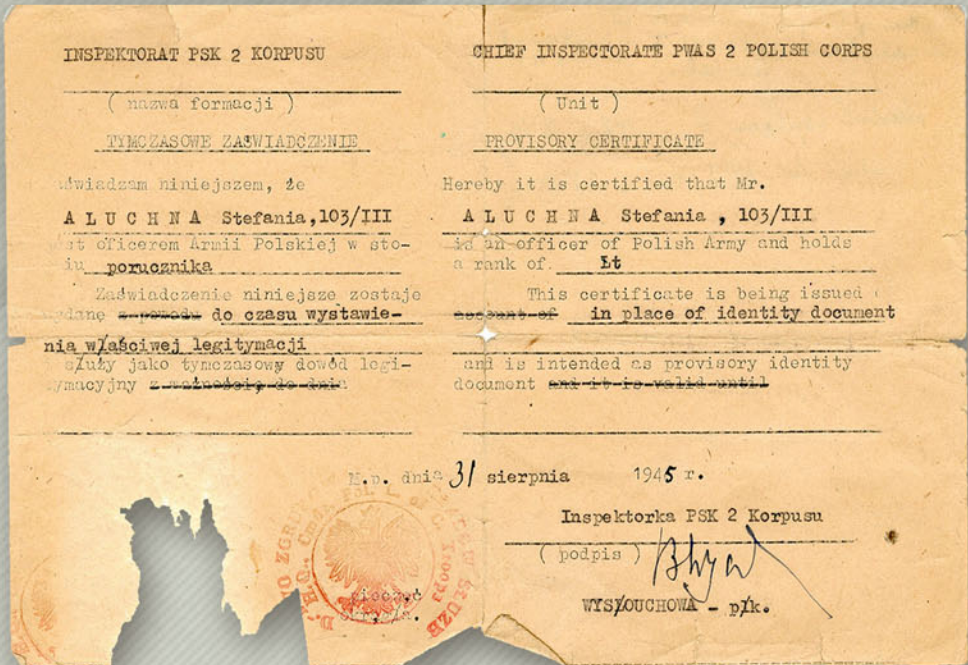
■ Women's Auxiliary Service volunteers, Sealand, England, 1946.



■ Certificate from the Headquarters of 1st Armored Division issued to Zofia Lothwieson concerning her service in the 2nd Battalion of Women's Military Auxiliary Service.



■ Women's Auxiliary Service volunteers, Sealand, England, 1946.



■ Temporary certificate issued to Stefania Aluchny by Women's Auxiliary Service.

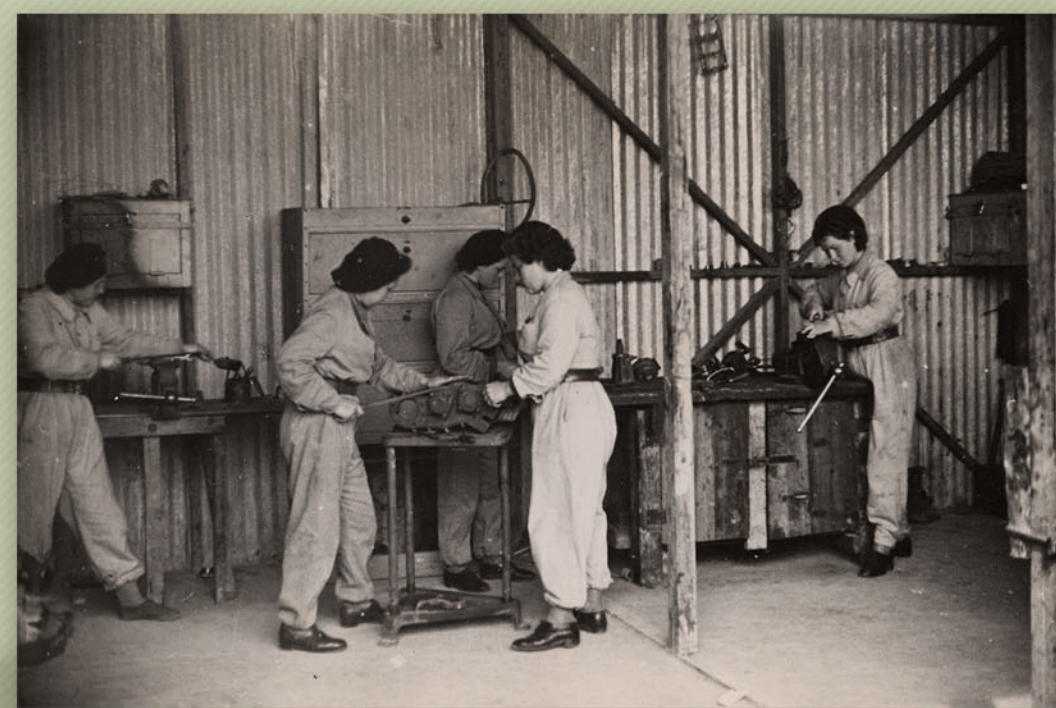


■ Anna Leska-Daab (1910-1998). The first Polish woman to join the British Air Transport Auxiliary RAF. She was a pilot who was also qualified to fly gliders plane and balloons. During WWII she escaped by plane from an airfield occupied by the Germans.



■ Women's Auxiliary Service members at Loretto, Italy, August 1945.

ON THE FRONTS OF WORLD WAR II



■ Workshops in the Transportation Training Center, Gedeza, Palestine, 1943.



■ Practical classes in the Transportation Training Center, Gedeza, Palestine, 1943.



■ Girls washing their cars, 316th Company of Transportation, 1946.



■ Transportation Training Center, morning prayers, Gedeza, Palestine, 1943.



■ Lady bikers, Palestine.



■ Women's Auxiliary Service volunteers from 318th Company of Transportation.



■ Oath of 316th Company of Transportation, April 14, 1943.



■ A training to prepare women for service in a transportation company.



■ Transportation Training Center, military drill, Gedeza, Palestine, 1943.



■ Volunteers from 316 Company of Transportation after dress parade on United Nations Day, Palestine, June 14th, 1943.



ON THE FRONTS OF WORLD WAR II



■ Folk dances in Gadera, Palestine, March 1943.



■ Volunteers from Communication Company during their drill at the shooting range.



■ Field Mass.



■ Cemetery at Monte Cassino in Italy, 1946.



■ General Zygmunt Bohusz-Szyszko decorates women with the Cross of Merit during the Women's Transportation Service Day in Italy, May, 1946.



■ A show for soldiers fighting at Monte Cassino, Italy.



■ Girls from 316th Company of Transportation, 1946.



■ Camp in Teheran in Iran, May, 1942.



■ An excursion to Assisi, Italy, 1946.



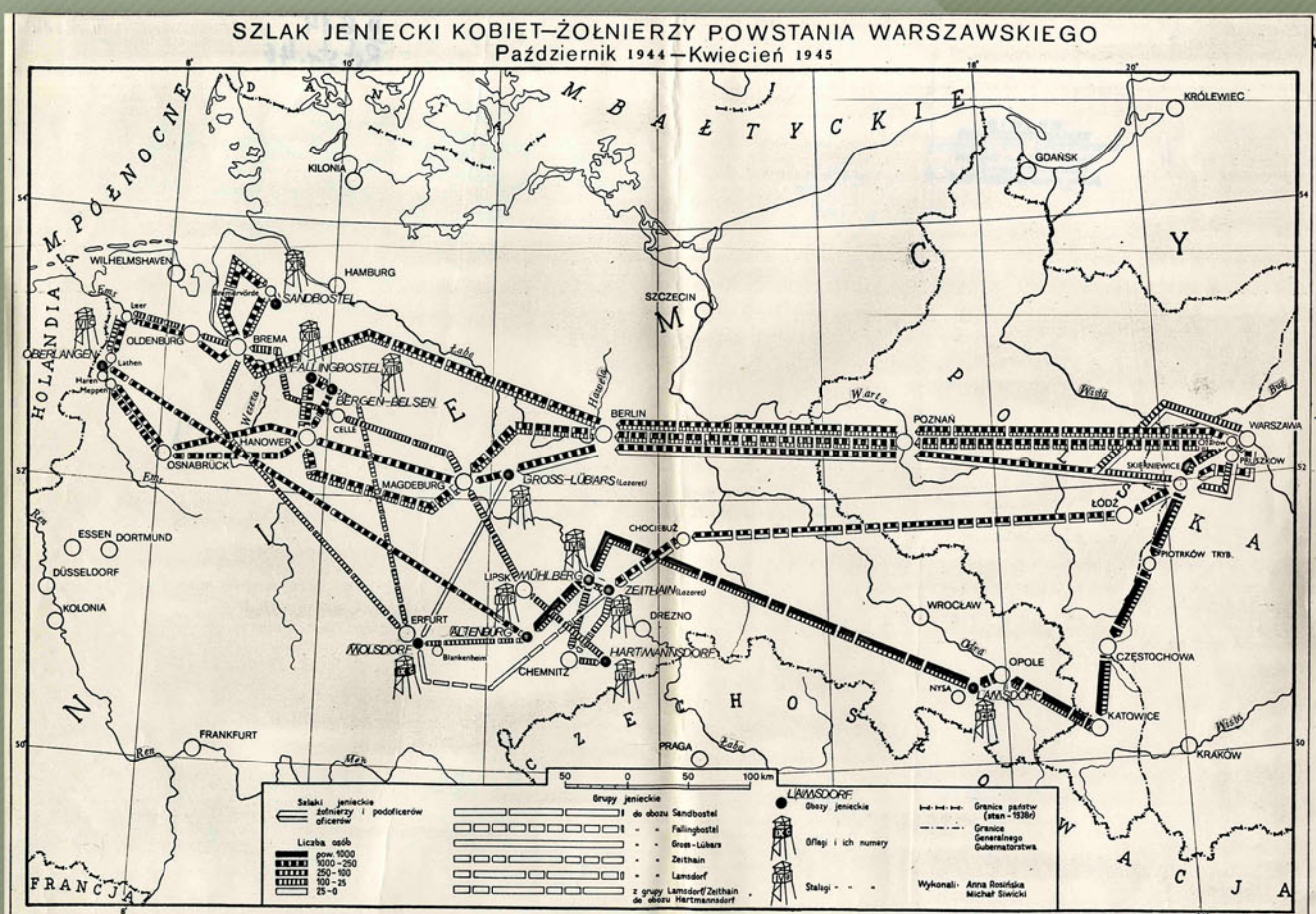
■ Women's Military Service volunteers and cadets in Gadera, Palestine, January 10, 1943.



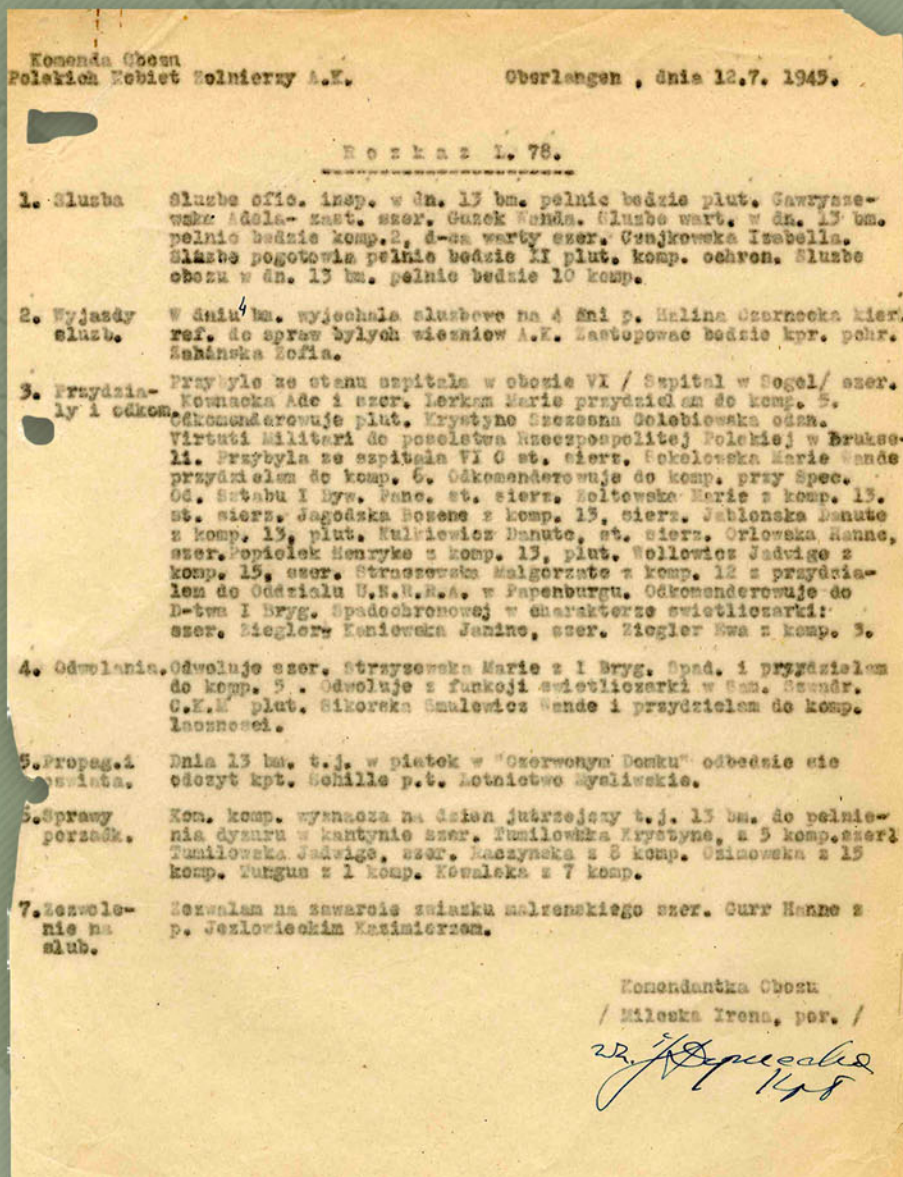
WOMEN'S PRISON CAMPS



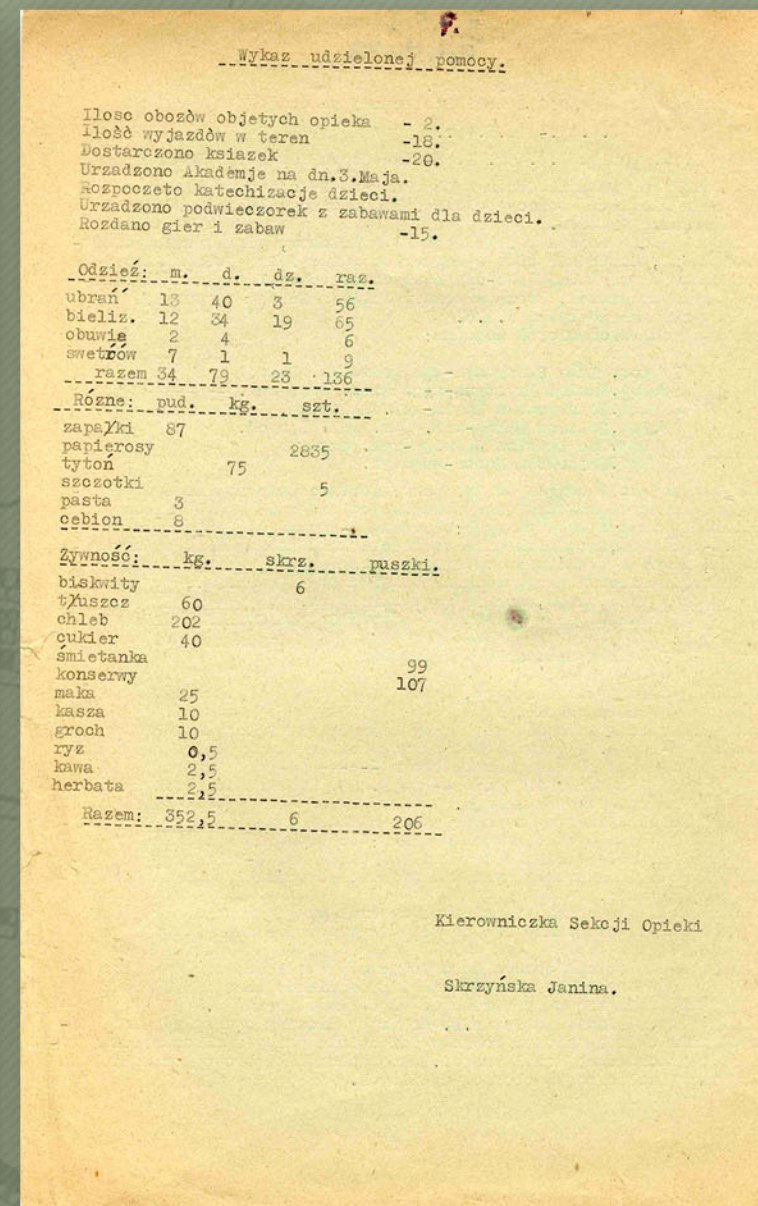
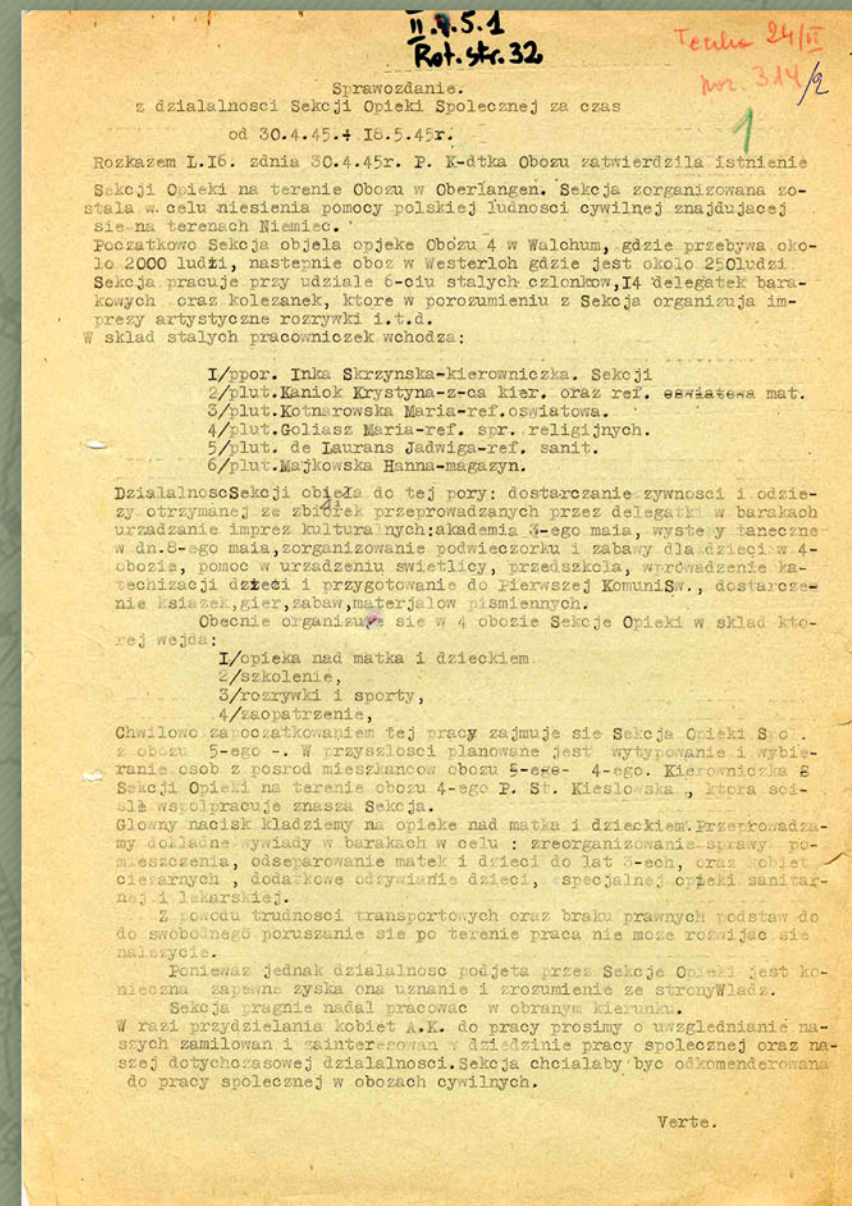
■ Stalag VI-C Oberlangen.



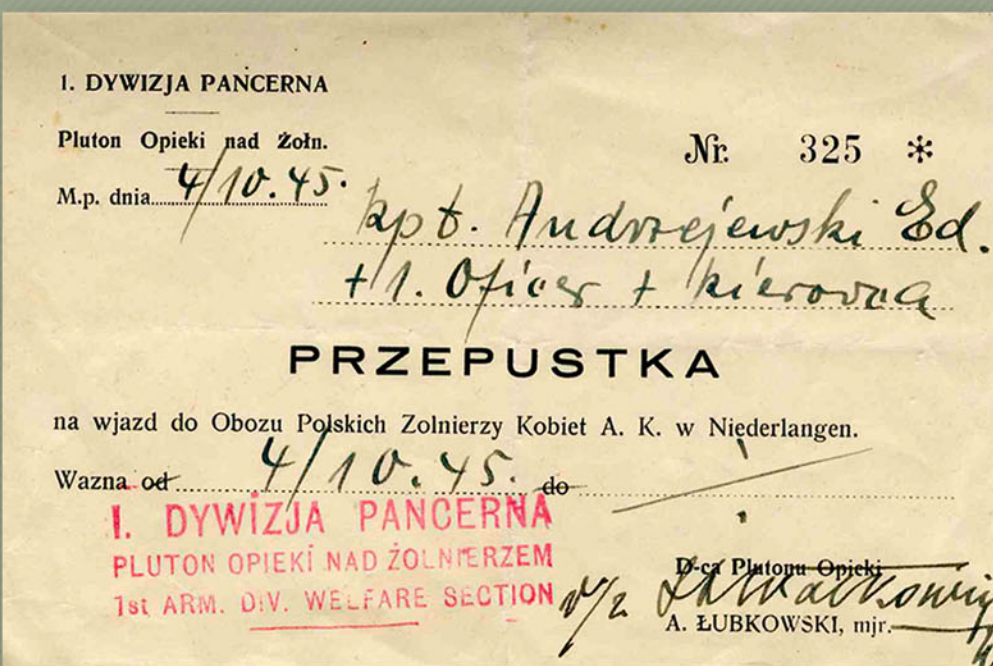
■ Map of the forced march and transportation of women soldiers of Warsaw Uprising to prison camps in Germany.



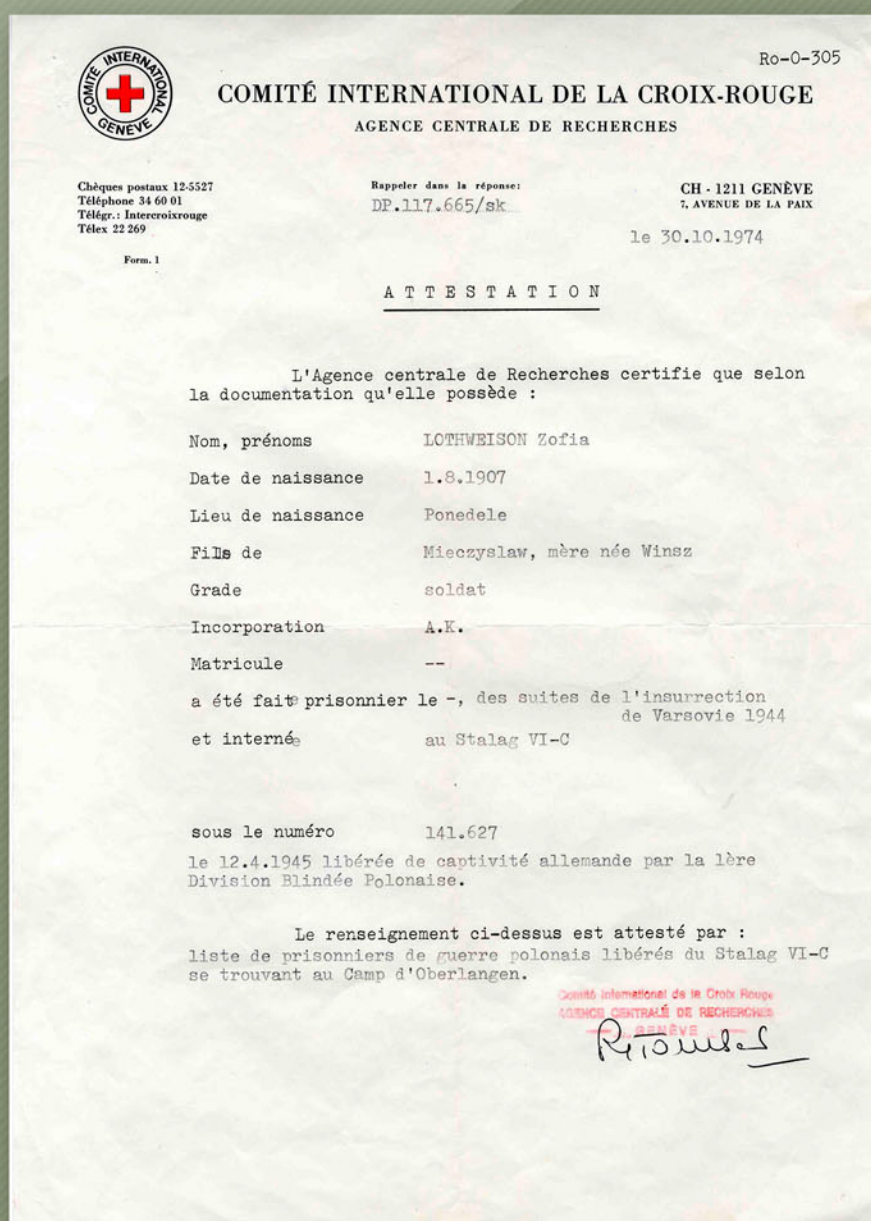
■ Order #L.78 from Irena Milejska, prisoner of war at the German camp in Oberlagen (Germany), to women-soldiers of Home Army, July 12, 1945.



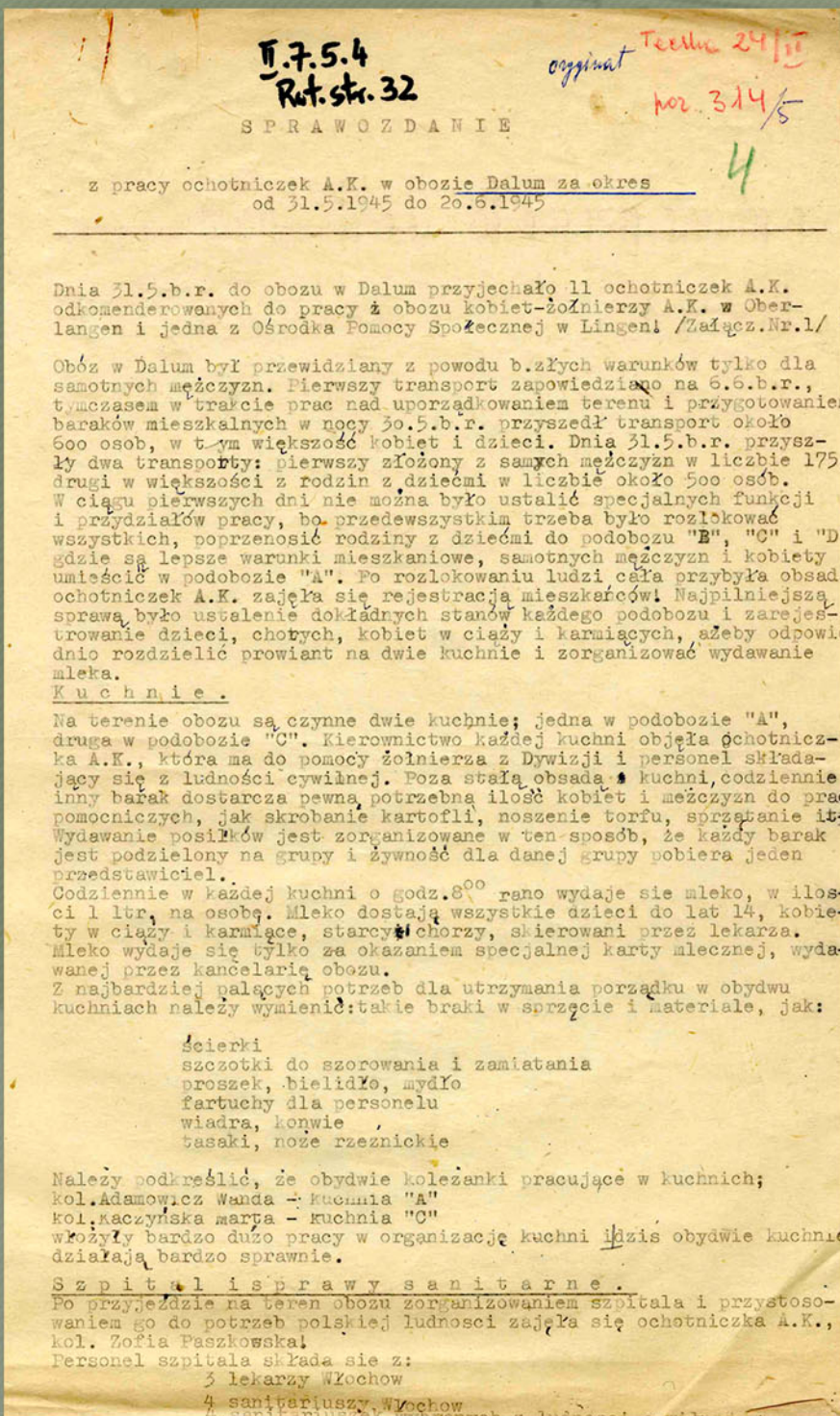
■ Report of Social Care Organization concerning assistance to prisoners of Oberlagen camp, April 30 - May 18, 1945.



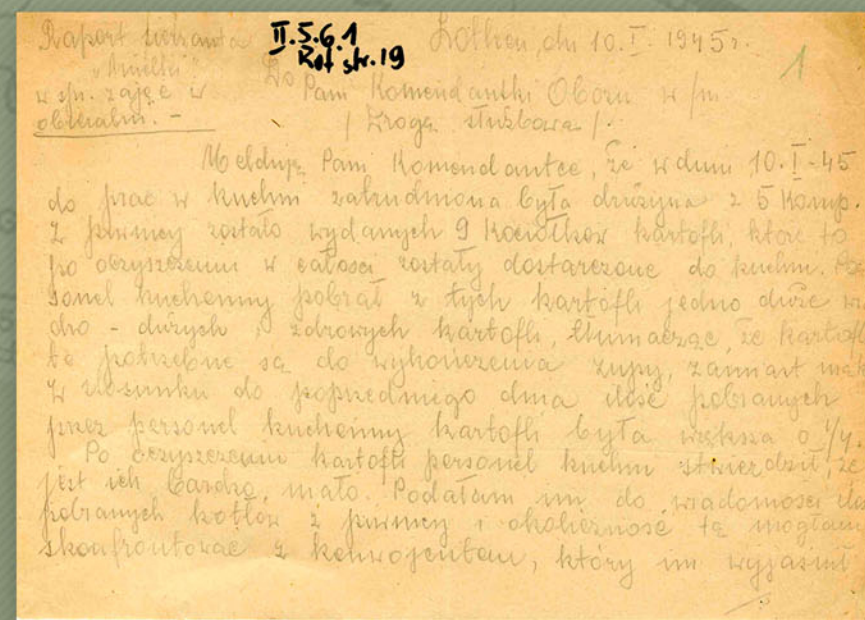
■ Pass issued for Captain Edward Andrzejewski to enter the Polish Women-Soldiers of Home Army camp at Niederlangen, Germany, October, 1945.



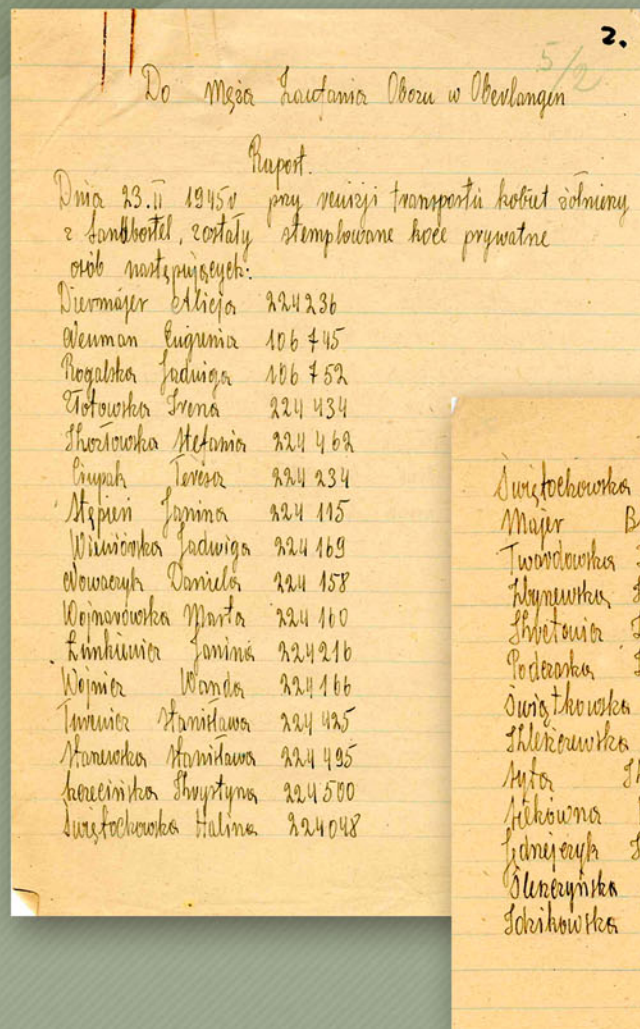
■ A certificate issued to Zofia Lothweison by International Red Cross in Geneva (Switzerland) concerning her detainment at the prison camp in Oberlagen (Germany), on October 30, 1974.



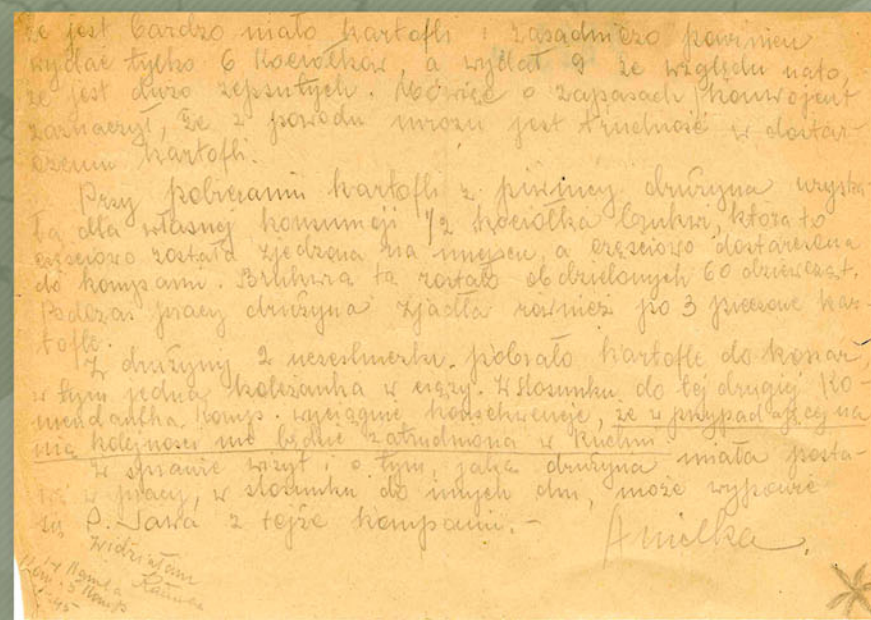
■ Report from works done by the Home Army volunteers at the German concentration camp in Dalum, Germany from May 31 - June 20, 1945.



■ Report of Sergeant "Anielka" concerning activities in the camp, January 10, 1945.



■ Report about women soldiers transferred to Oberlagen prison camp from Sandbostel prison camp in Germany, February 23, 1945.



■ Hanna Piechowska - Ciechomska (1924-2018) was an instructor of Home Army Women's Military Service. She was a former prisoner of German concentration camps in Auschwitz Birkenau and Bergen-Belsen. She was also member of General Maria Wittek Memorial.

■ Mail from prison camp in Pruszkow near Warsaw, Poland on December 21, 1944.

WOMEN'S PRISON CAMPS



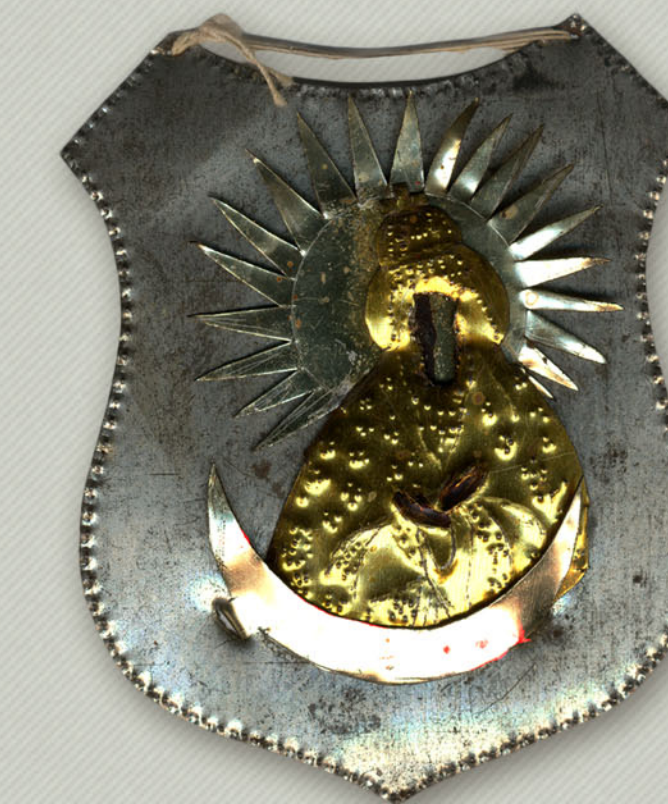
General Tadeusz Komorowski "Bor", Supreme Commander of the Polish Armed Forces and General Klemens Rudnicki visiting the women's German prison camp in Niederlangen, Germany, June 24, 1945.



Everyday life of women-soldiers at a German prison camp in Oberlangen, Germany.



WOMEN'S PRISON CAMPS



■ Pieces of artwork crafted in Stalag VI-C, Oberlangen, Germany.



GENERAL MARIA WITTEK (1899-1997) – FIRST POLISH FEMALE GENERAL



Archiwum
Akt
Nowych



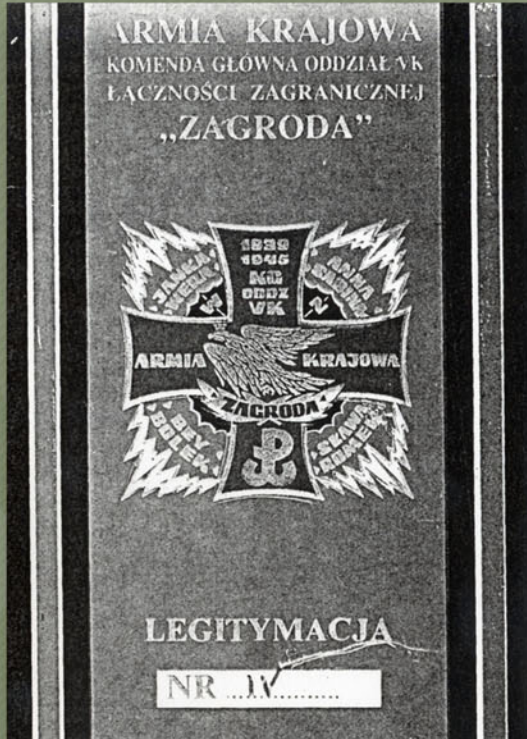
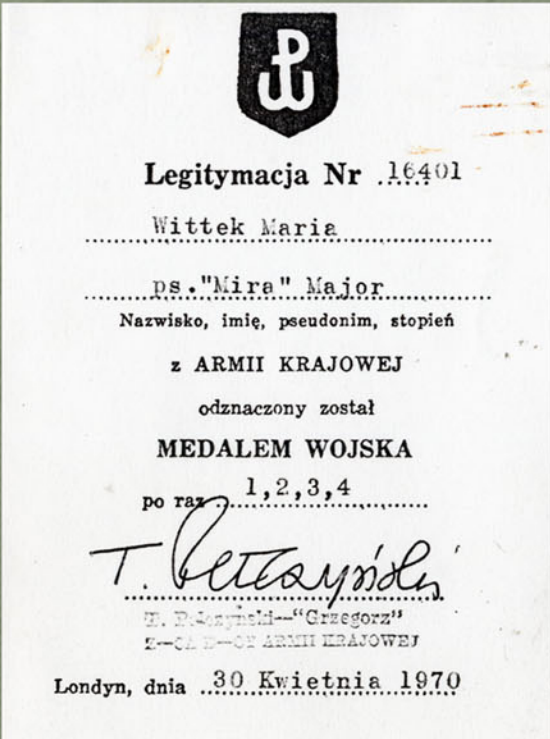
POLSKA
STULECIE ODZYSKANIA
NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI



STOWARZYSZENIE
„WSPÓLNOTA POLSKA”



Certificates of medals and decorations of Maria Wittek.



KARTA EWIDENCYJNA.

1	Oddział macierzysty:	
2	Nazwisko i imię, Stopień:	Wittek Maria Porucznik
3	Data, miesiąc i rok (zaznaczyć miesiąc wstępu):	16 lipiec 1919
4	Miejscowość, Kraj:	Polka Polska
5	Wzrost:	160 cm
6	Waga ciała:	50 kg
7	Barwa włosów:	brązowa
8	Barwa oczu:	niebieskie
9	Barwa skóry:	biała
10	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
11	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
12	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
13	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
14	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
15	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
16	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
17	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
18	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
19	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
20	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
21	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia
22	Wykształcenie:	szkoła średnia

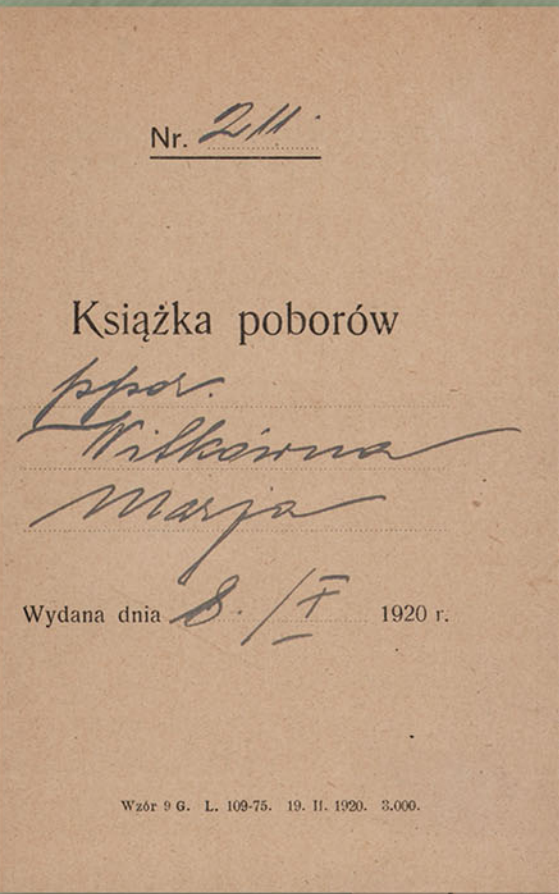
II. PRZEBIEG SŁUŻBY WOJSKOWEJ PRZED 1919 R.

Od	Do	Oddział:	Funkcja:	Od	Do	Oddział:	Funkcja:
16	17	16 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
17	18	18 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
18	19	19 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
19	20	20 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
20	21	21 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
21	22	22 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
22	23	23 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
23	24	24 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
24	25	25 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
25	26	26 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
26	27	27 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
27	28	28 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
28	29	29 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
29	30	30 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				
30	31	31 lipiec 1919	Porucznik				

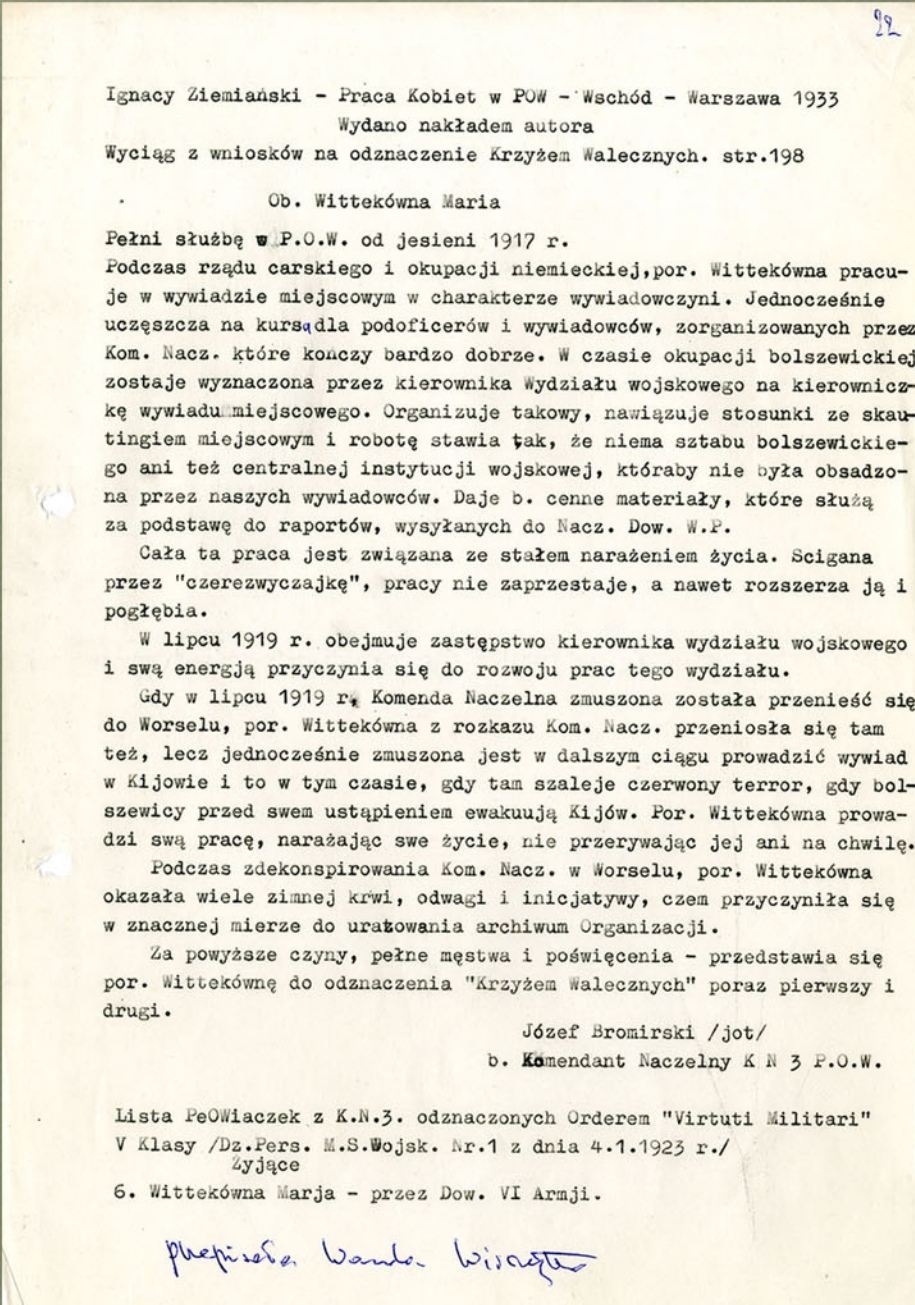
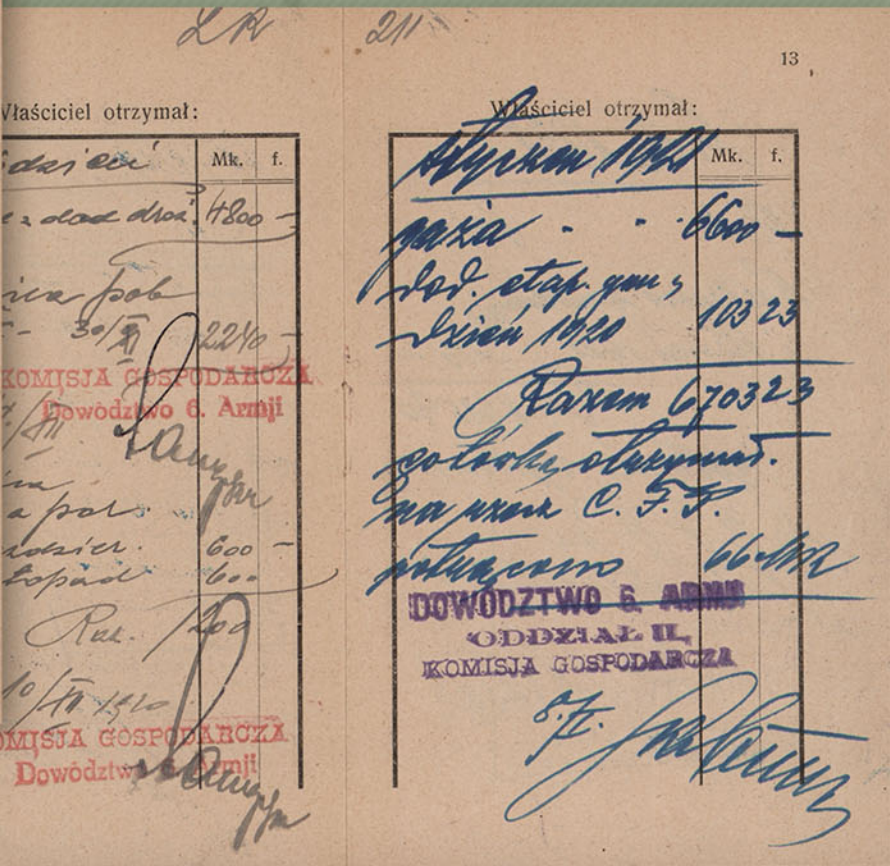
Maria Wittek military personal data.

Maria Wittek, ca 1919.

Commander of the KN-3 Department of Polish Military Organization in Kiev, Russia. She fought in the Polish-Bolshevik War in 1920. Superior commander of the Women's Military Service during Second Republic of Poland. Head of Home Army Women's Military Service during WWII. She initiated the effort of saving documents of women's participation in the struggle for an independent Poland. After 1945, she was an active member of the post-war anti-communist underground movement. Co-founder of World Association of Home Army Soldiers.



Second Lieutenant Maria Wittek paystubs, 1920.



Maria Wittek wearing her Cross of Independence decoration.

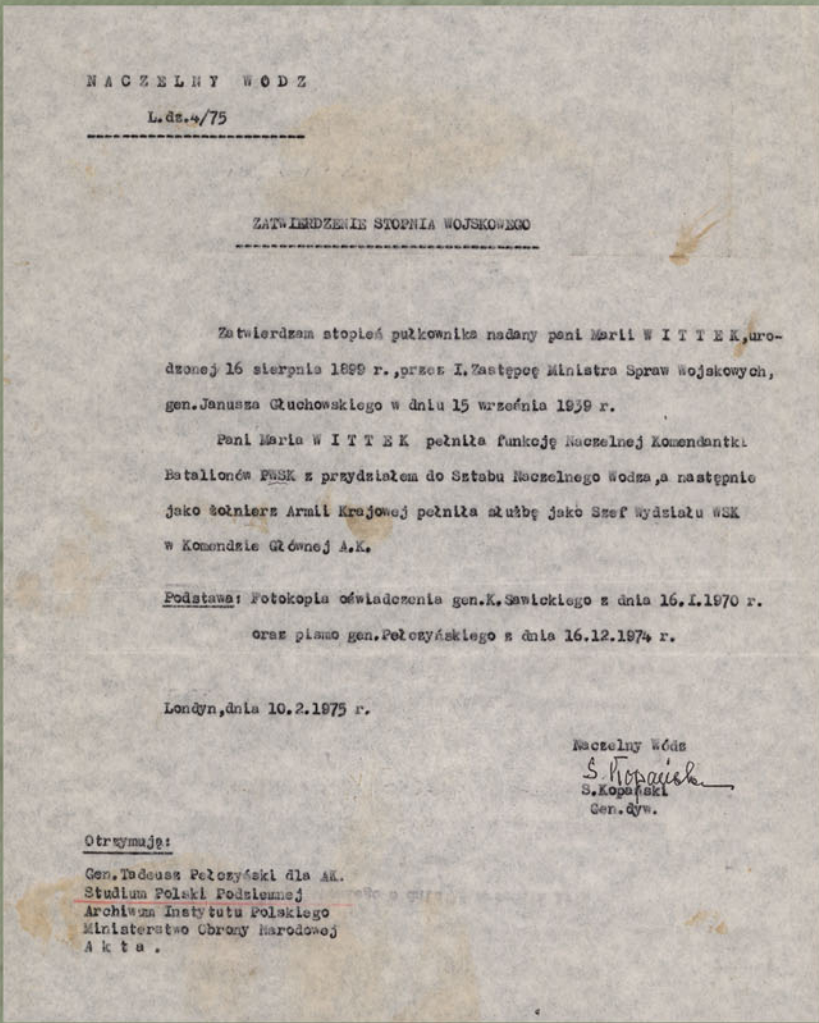


Maria Wittek Employee's ID as "RUCH" chain news vendor, Warsaw, April 23, 1957.

Maria Wittek as commander of Women's Military Service.



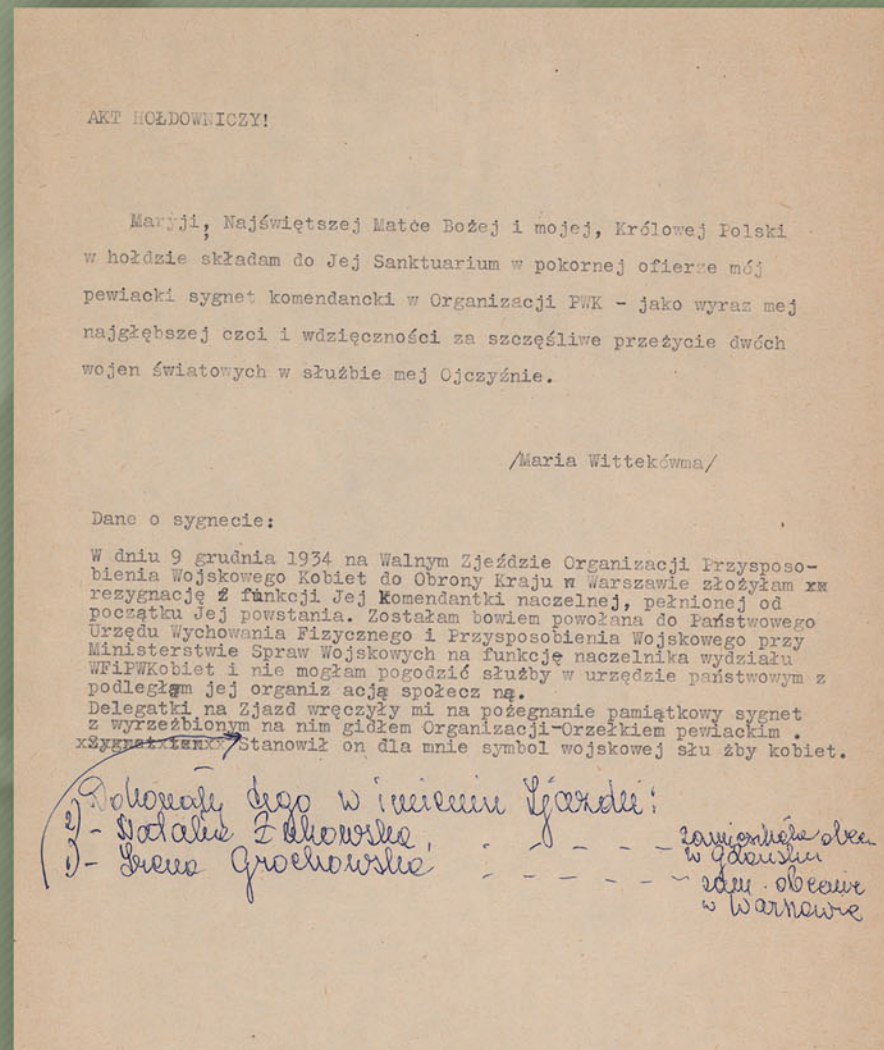
Gen. Stanisław Kopanski, General Inspector of Polish Armed Forces in Exile, promotes Maria Wittek to the rank of colonel in London, Great Britain, February 10, 1975.



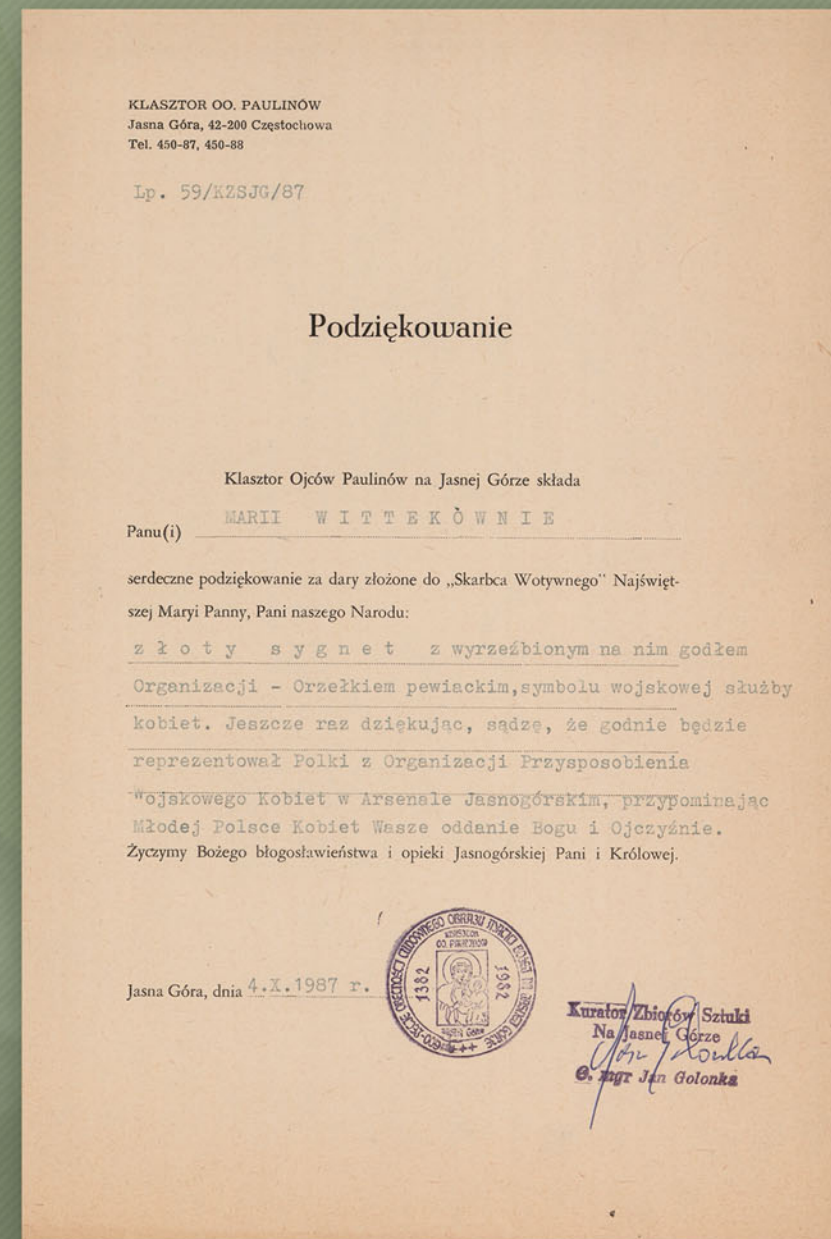
GENERAL MARIA WITTEK (1899-1997) – FIRST POLISH FEMALE GENERAL



■ Maria Wittek meeting pope John Paul II in the Vatican, April 5, 1984.



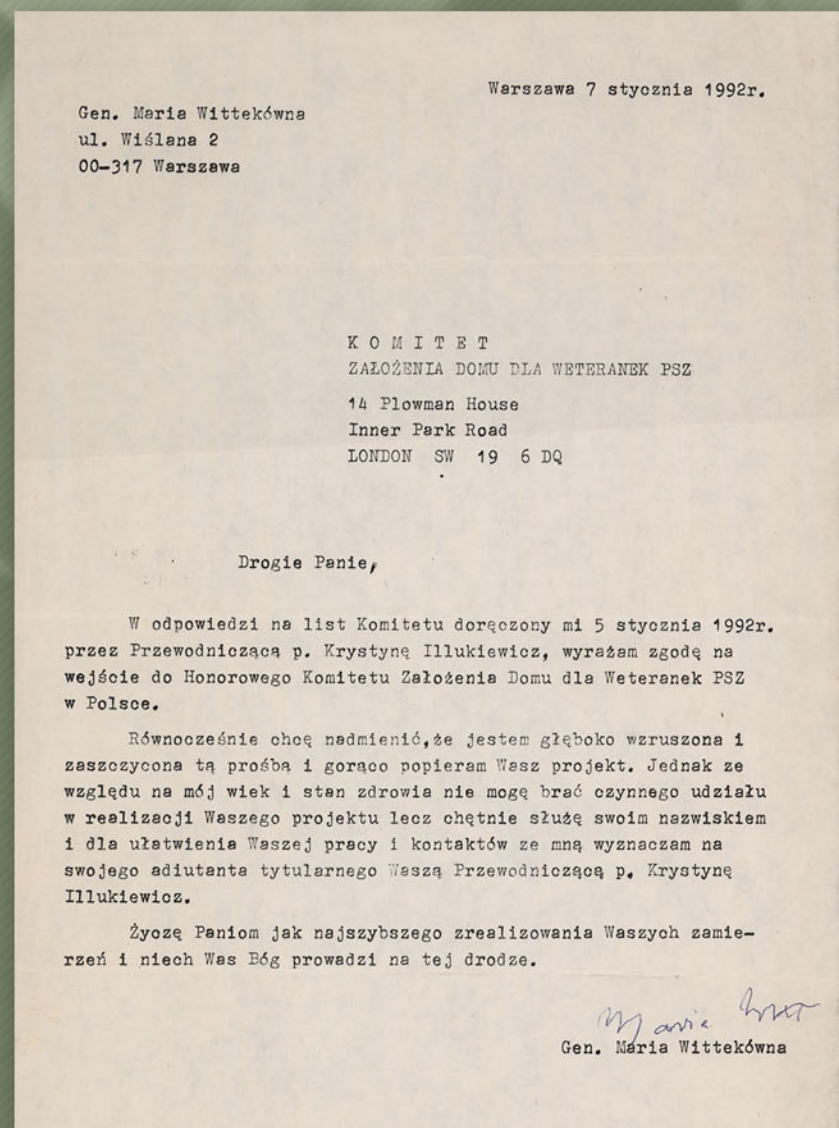
■ Maria Wittek Homage to Virgin Mary Queen of Poland, 1987.



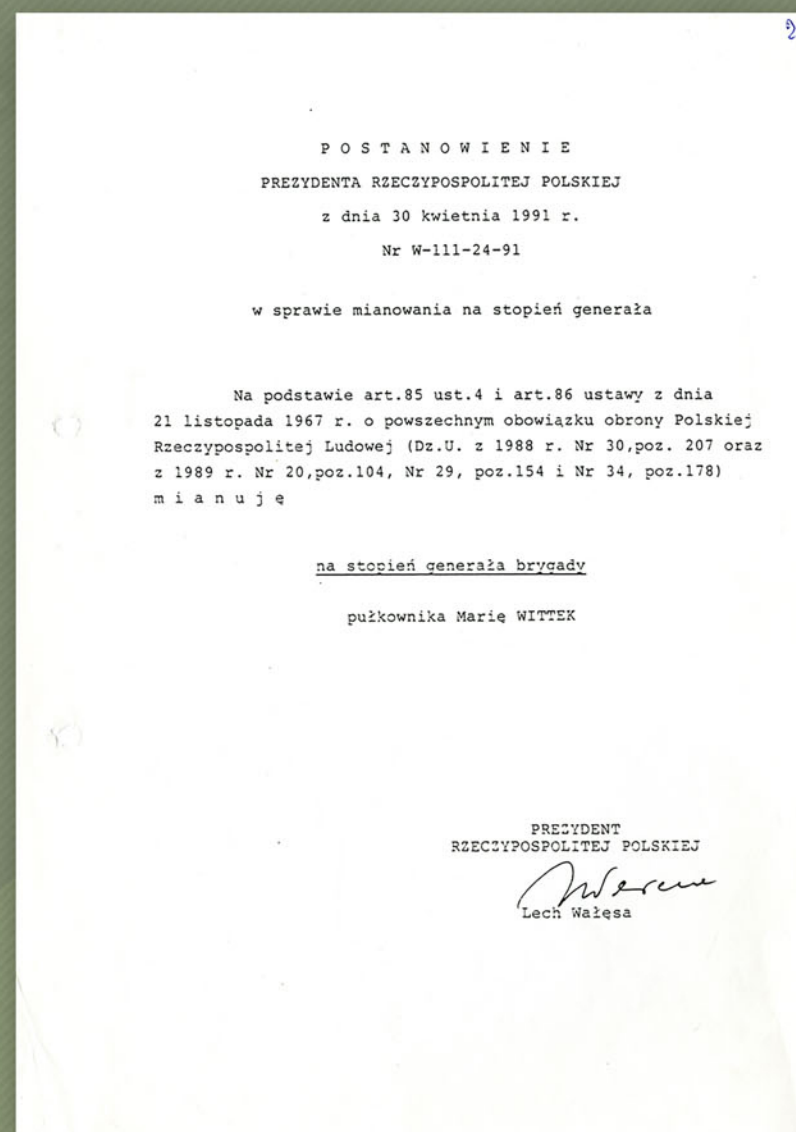
■ Father Jan Golonka's letter of appreciation to Maria Wittek for her donation of the golden signet ring with the WMT eagle, to the Treasury of Jasna Góra, October 4, 1987. Father Jan Golonka was a Curator of Votive Collections at Our Lady of Czestochowa.



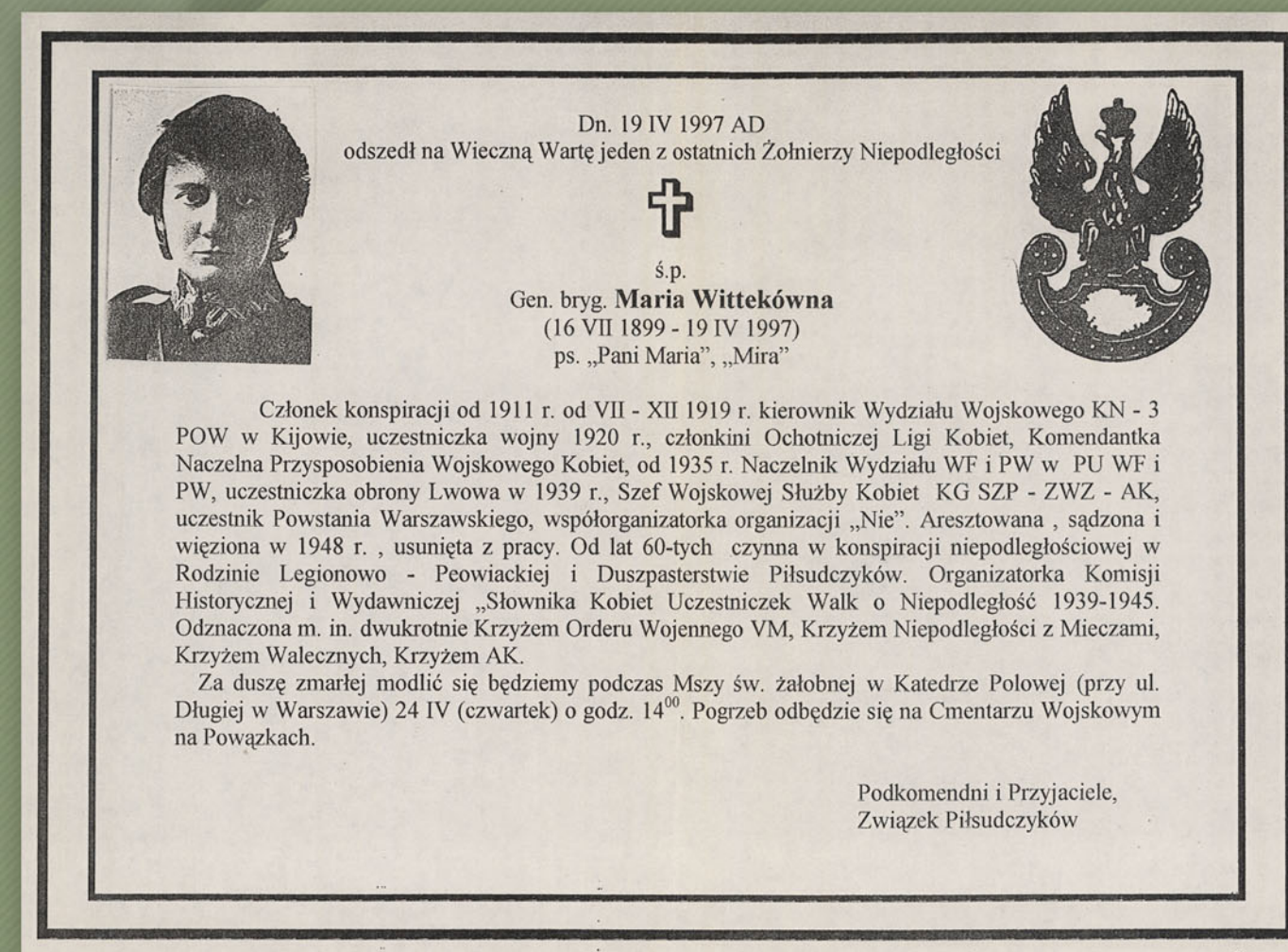
■ Maria Wittek during the ceremony of receiving nomination to Brigadier General, Warsaw, May 3, 1991. In the photo: Bronislaw Komorowski, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, gen. Leon Komornicki, commander of Warsaw Military District.



■ Maria Wittek's consent to participate in the Honorary Committee for Founding Women's Veterans Home. Warszawa, January 1, 1992 r.



■ The Provision of President of the Republic of Poland, Lech Walesa, about promoting colonel Maria Wittek to the rank of Brigadier General, April 30, 1991.



■ Death notice from subordinates and friends of Pilsudski Society, 1997.



■ Tomb of Gen. Maria Wittek at Powazki Military Cemetary, Warsaw.



■ A tablet on a house in Warsaw, where Maria Wittek lived in the years 1929-1975, in Warsaw, August 16, 1999.

HISTORY OF WOMEN'S STRUGGLE FOR POLAND'S INDEPENDENCE COMMISSION



■ Women Veterans' Reunion and Session devoted to Polish women's service at the fronts of WWII. From the left: unknown, Gen. Elzbieta Zawacka and Bozenna Tazbir-Tomaszewska, President of History of Women's Struggle for Poland's Independence Commission in Torun, 1994.



■ Charges of Gen. Maria Wittek. Standing from the left: Grazyna Lipinska - the first president of History of Women's Struggle for Independence Commission, unknown, Bozenna Tazbir-Tomaszewska, Stefania Zelazowska, Zofia Szagonowa, Elzbieta Ostrowska, Halka Ratynbka, Gen. Maria Wittek, Halina Szewczykowa, Helena Kwiatkowska and Janka Szwedek in Warsaw, May 3, 1991.

SŁOWNIK uczestniczek walki o niepodległość Polski 1939-1945 Poległe i zmarłe w okresie okupacji niemieckiej

Państwowy Instytut Wydawniczy

■ Reference book about women's struggling for Poland's independence 1939-1945. The women listed died at the time or in battle during the German occupation. Warsaw, 1988.

Women's History Commission headquarters located at the premises of Polish Historical Society, Old Town Marketplace, Warsaw .



■ Halina Szewczykowa, President of History of Women's Struggle for Poland's Independence Commission, working on catalogs of indexed items, Warsaw, 2002.



■ Women's History Commission headquarters located at the premises of Warsaw City Archives, Krzywe Kolo Str.

■ One of Women's History Commission locations: the prison cell of Maria Pilsudska in the Tenth Pavilion of Warsaw Citadel.

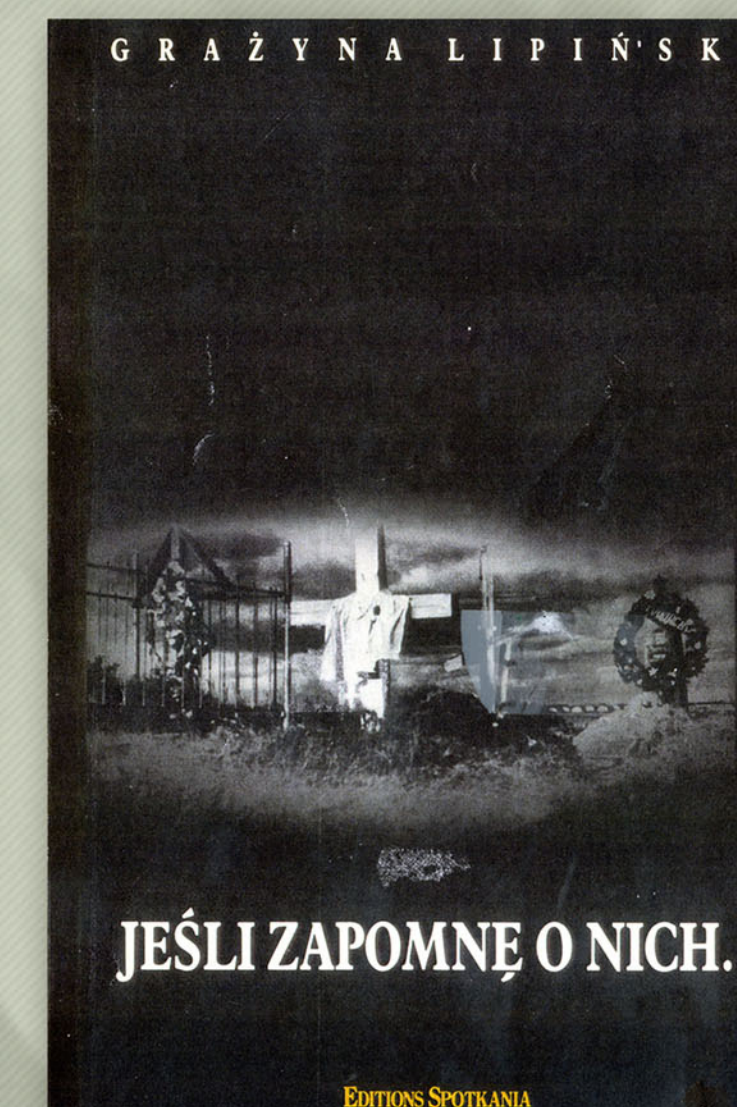


History of Women's Struggle for Poland's Independence Commission awarded with a honorary title "Custodian of National Memory". Prof. Leona Kieres, President of Institute of National Remembrance, hands the statuette in 2003.

■ Members of the Women's History Commission at work on the second volume of the reference book about women struggling for Poland's independence. From the right: Bozenna Kozakowa, Halina Szewczykowa, Lidia Wolska, Maria Jarnuszkiewicz in Warsaw, 2002.



■ Present location of Women's History Commission at the premises of Central Archives of Modern Records in Warsaw, 1 Hankiewicza Str.



■ "If I would ever forget about them", Warsaw, 1990; a book by Grażyna Lipińska, the first President of History of Women's Struggle for Poland's Independence Commission.

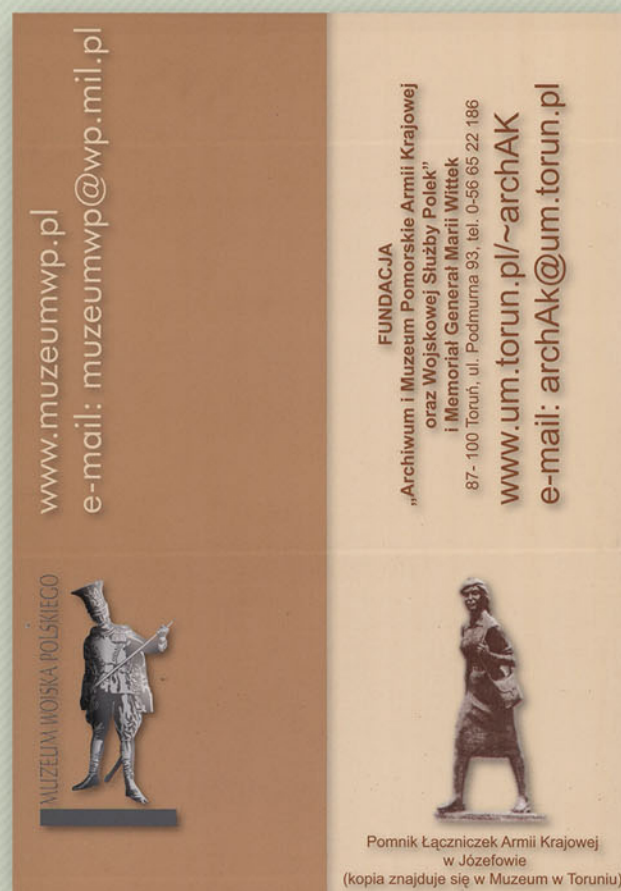
■ Father Jan Golonka receives Women's Military Service flag pole topper, the eagle, and the signet ring of Commander Colonel Maria Wittek.



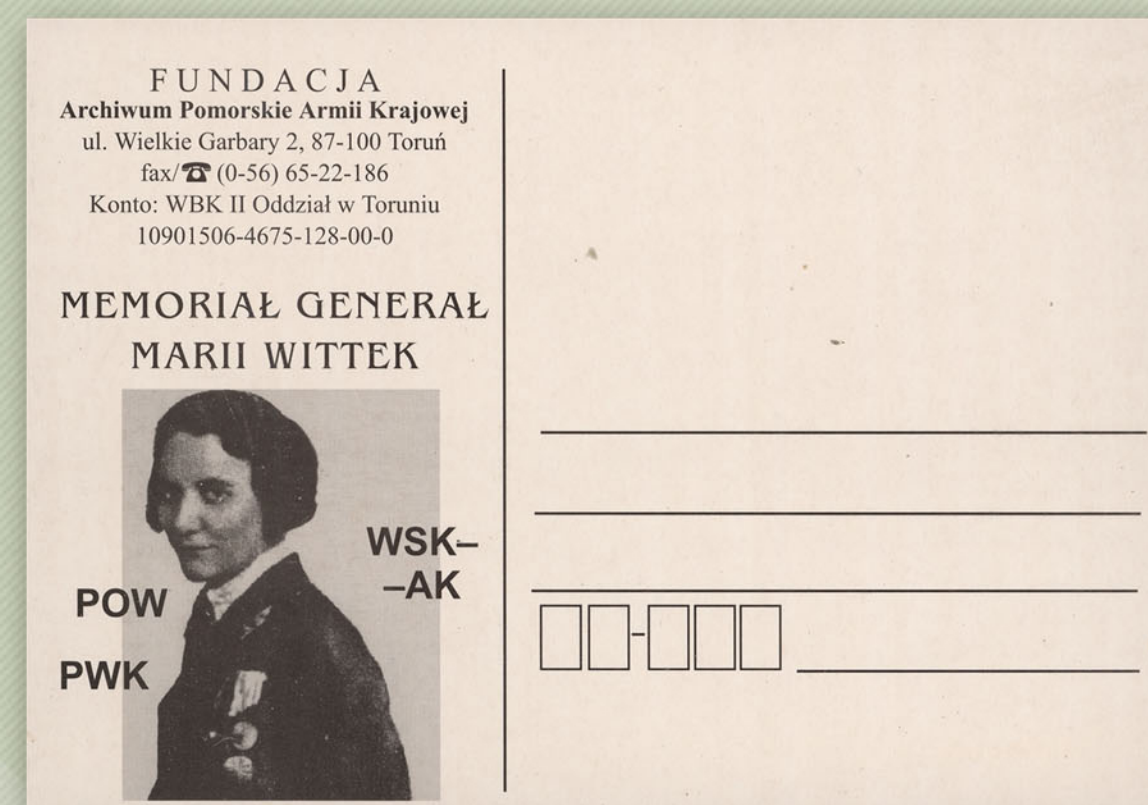
HISTORY OF WOMEN'S STRUGGLE FOR POLAND'S INDEPENDENCE COMMISSION



POLSKA
STULECIE DOZYSKANIA
NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI



■ An invitation for the unveiling of the statue of Brigade General Maria Wittek at Polish Army Museum, April 19, 2007.

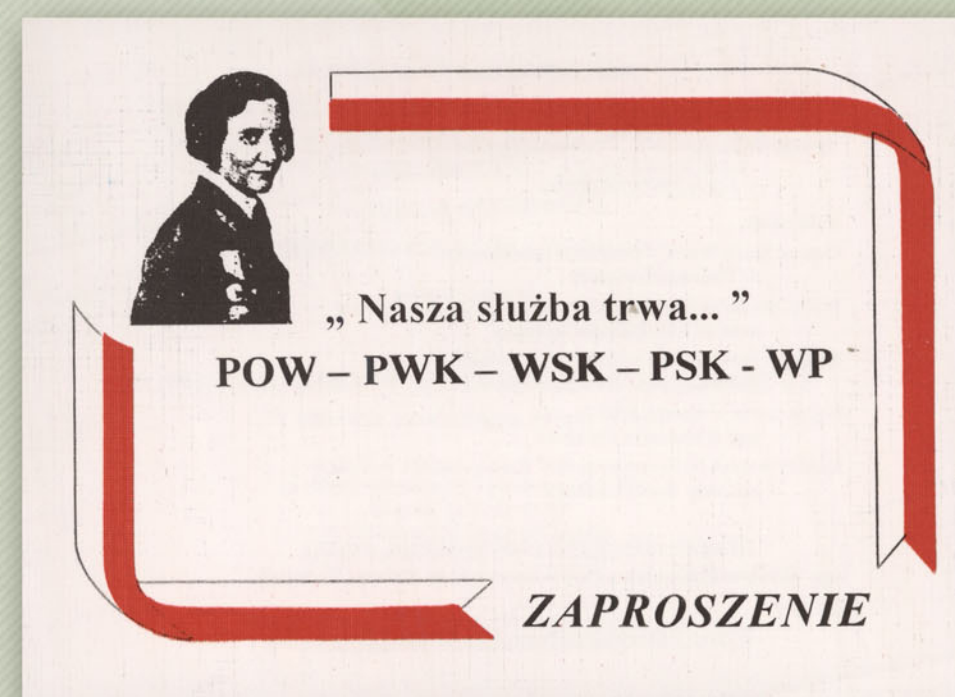


■ Postcard "In memory of Brigade General Maria Wittek" published by Home Army Archives of Pomerania.

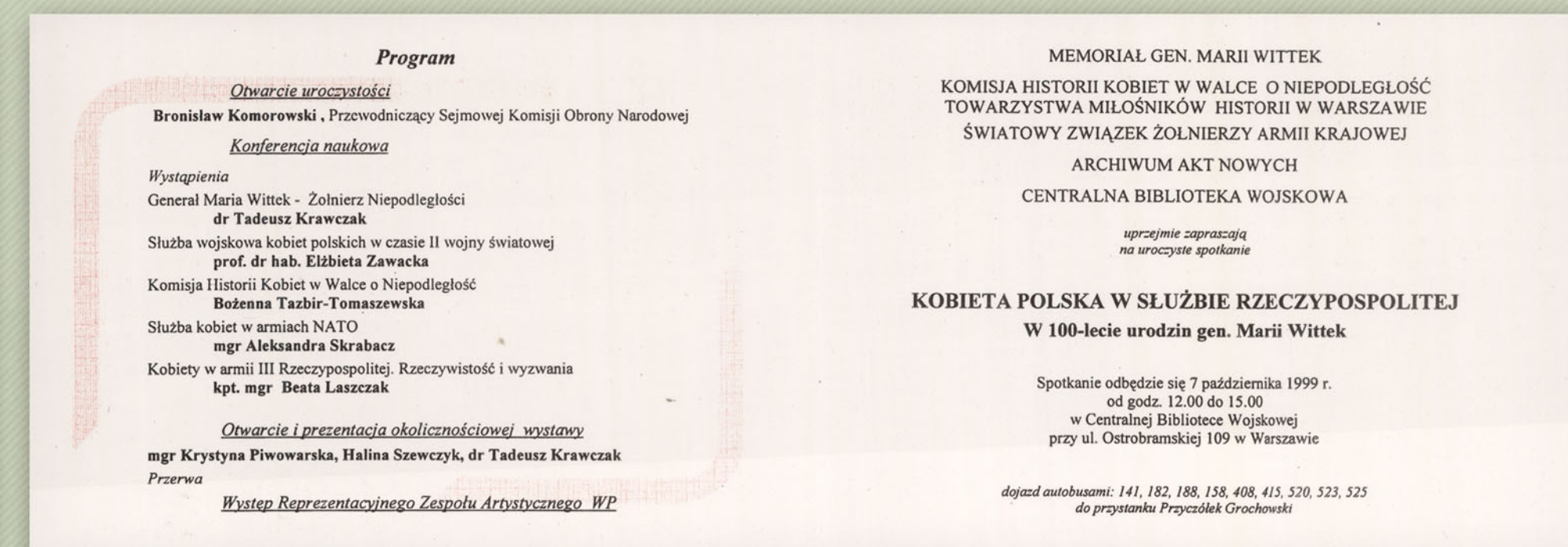
100 year anniversary celebrations of Brigade General Maria Wittek. From the left: Halina Szewczyk, unknown, Father Eustachy Rakoczy, Dr Tadeusz Krawczak, Bożena Tazbir-Tomaszewska.



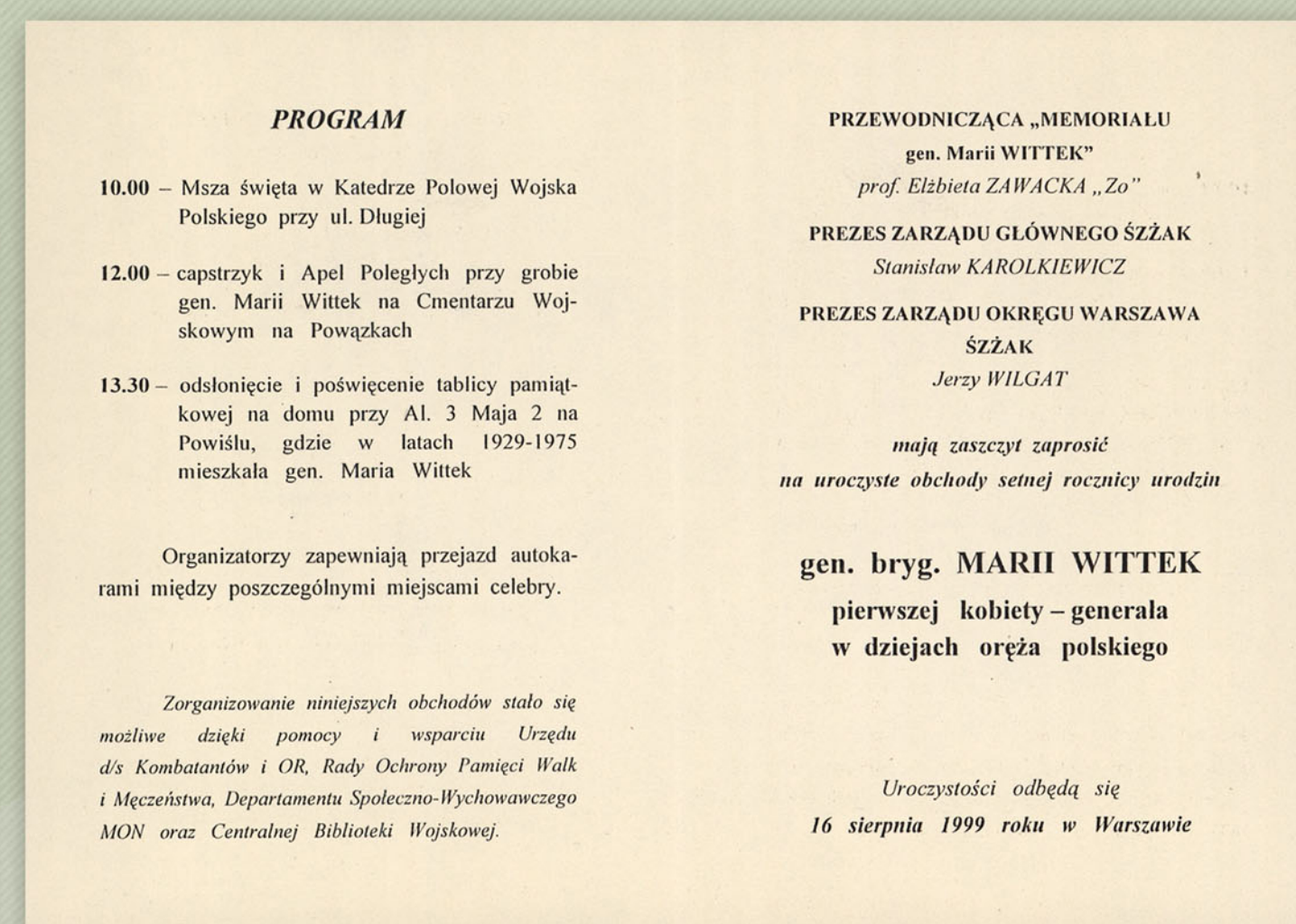
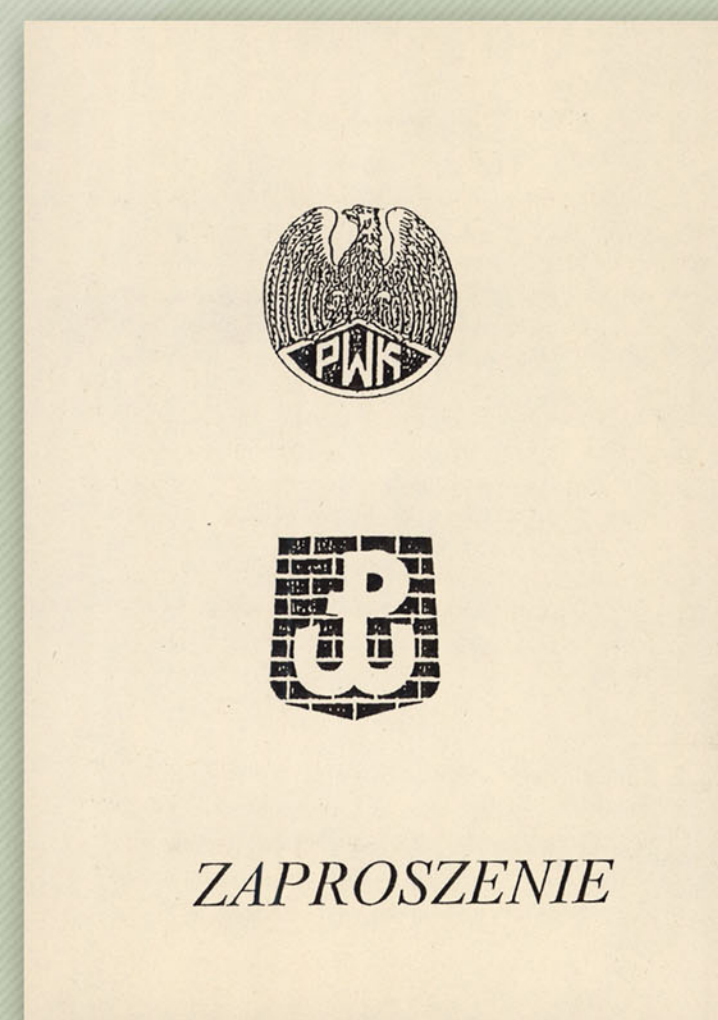
■ Maria Wittek meets her subordinate, Wanda Pilsudska, at The Polish Underground Movement Study Trust, London.



■ An invitation to a meeting devoted the 100 years anniversary celebrations of Brigade General Maria Wittek in Warsaw, October 7, 1999.



■ Col. Maria Wittek visits The Polish Underground Movement Study Trust, London.

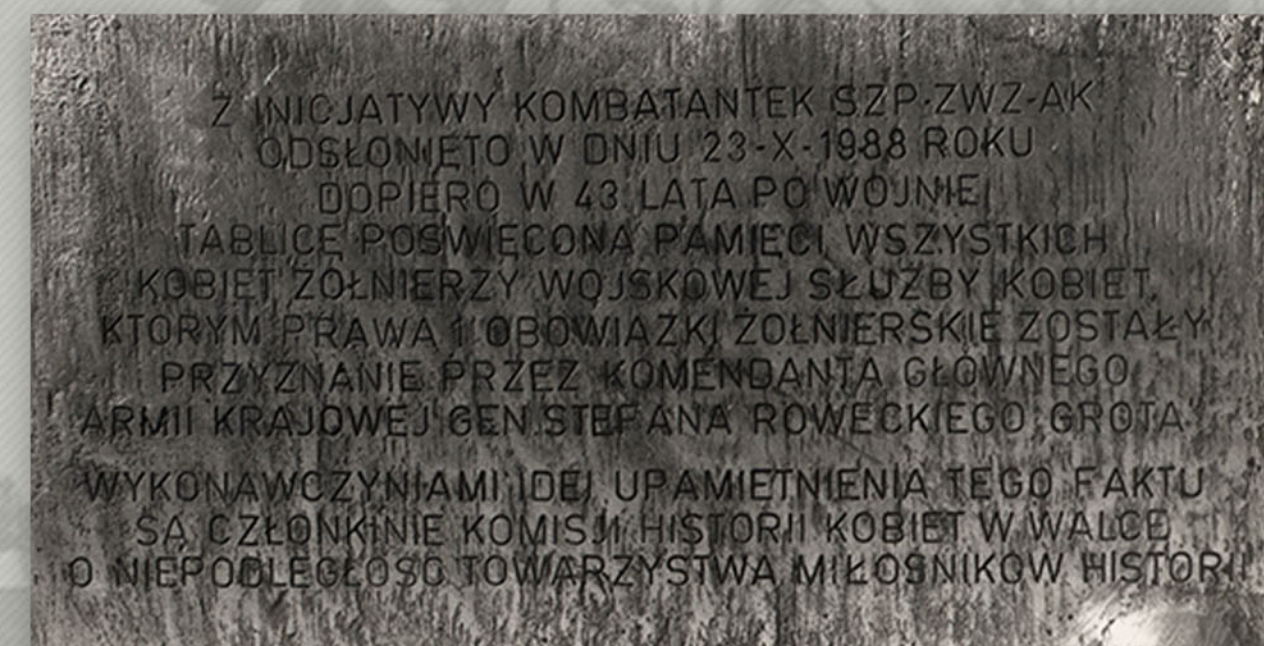


■ An invitation to the 100 birthday anniversary of Brigade General Maria Wittek, first women general in the history of Polish army. Warsaw, August 16, 1999.



■ Maria Wittek in London meeting her former subordinates.

IN MEMORY OF WOMEN-SOLDIERS FIGHTING FOR POLAND



■ Statue of Gen. Maria Wittek unveiled at the premises of Polish Army Museum in Warsaw, April 19, 2007.