



JAN KRUK

In Serbinów on this day, 8 January 1948, at 11.20 a.m., I, Władysław Fituch from the Criminal Investigation Section of the District Citizens' Militia Station in Kielce, acting on the basis of the following: Article 20 of the provisions introducing the Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 257 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, due to the unavailability of a judge in the township, in consequence whereof any delay could result in the disappearance of traces or evidence of a crime, which traces or evidence would cease to exist before the arrival of a judge, observing the formal requirements set forward in Articles 235–240, 258 and 259 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, with the participation of reporter Władysław Sieczka, whom I informed of his 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. The witness, having been advised of the importance of the oath, swore the requisite oath, and was also notified of the right to refuse testimony for the reasons set forward in Article 104 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and of the criminal liability for making false declarations, this pursuant to the provisions of Article 140 of the Penal Code, thereupon stating:

Name and surname	Jan Kruk
Parents' names	Franciszek and Ewa, née Dąbrowska
Date and place of birth	9 March 1904, Serbinów, commune of Mniów, district of Kielce
Religion	Roman Catholic
Occupation	farmer
Place of residence	Serbinów, commune of Mniów, district of Kielce
Relationship to the parties	the son of Ewa Kruk

As regards the present case, I am aware of the following facts: On 26 May 1943 my mother, Ewa Kruk, was burned alive together with my children; this fate also befell other residents of

our village. The victims perished in the house of my brother, Władysław Kruk. The German gendarmes forced them into the building and then threw in a few grenades through the window, whereupon the house caught fire. The Germans started the engines of two of their trucks in order to drown out the terrible screams of the burning people. The victims had been accused of belonging to a secret underground organization. The execution was carried out by German gendarmes – Gestapo men – from Kielce. The bodies were buried a few days later at the exact location where the people had perished. After the liberation, the corpses were exhumed and taken to the parish cemetery in Mniów.

On the same day, Maria Adach and her daughter, Irena Adach, from the village of Podchyby, commune of Mniów, were burned alive in their house. They were accused of being members of a clandestine underground organization and of carrying food to Polish partisans hiding in the forest. The execution was carried out by German gendarmes – Gestapo men – from Kielce. Their bodies were buried on the spot, while after the liberation they were transferred to the parish cemetery in Mniów.

The Gestapo men stole all my clothes, jewelry and livestock. I was not a member of any organization, however I was so accused by Wincenty Marczewski from Zaborowice, commune of Smyków, district of Końskie, who was a German informer and remained in close contact with Władysław Kotwica and his wife in Serbinów. The perpetrators are by now dead, for they were executed by Polish partisans shortly after the incident. I was an eyewitness to the performance of their death sentences. They admitted their guilt before being killed, while Marczewski said that he received 50 [...] of sugar and 800 zlotys in cash.

The above may be corroborated by Antoni Żyła, son of Antoni, resident in Serbinów. I have recounted all that I know and signed the present document after it was read out.