

JÓZEF CEBULA

On 4 December 1947 in Radom, a member of the District Commission for the Investigation of German Crimes in Radom, deputy prosecutor T. Skulimowski, interviewed the person named below as a witness, without administering an oath. Having been advised of the criminal liability for making false declarations and of the provisions of Article 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure the witness testified as follows:

Name and surname	Józef Cebula
Age	53 years old
Parents' names	Adam and Katarzyna, <i>née</i> Oko
Place of residence	Podgóra, Kuczki commune, Radom district
Occupation	farmer
Religious affiliation	Roman Catholic
Criminal record	none
Relationship to the parties	none

At the end of November 1943, several vehicles filled with gendarmes and Gestapo men arrived in Podgóra from Radom. They proceeded to gather all of the village residents and ordered the men to bring shovels. They told people to form rows, and then 10 Polish men were escorted out of a vehicle. Their death sentence was read out. An interpreter was present and he translated everything for us. The interpreter explained that these 10 Poles had been sentenced to death in retaliation for the killing of a German soldier by some unknown persons. The condemned men had their hands tied behind their backs.

The execution took place in my field, in front of my barn. They were told to stand in front of the barn and a salvo from rifles was fired at them. The execution squad numbered 10 people.

I learnt the names of the victims from their relatives and from the announcement. These were the same names as the ones listed in the questionnaire. After the shots were fired and the condemned men collapsed, a Gestapo man with a death's head came up to them and proceeded to shoot each of them in the head with a handgun.

When the women present at the execution started screaming and lamenting, the Germans ordered them to go home and told the men with shovels to bury the corpses. The corpses were buried in four graves, and the ground was levelled to hide the traces of the graves. Before the execution the condemned men were very calm, it was evident that they were indifferent. After a year and a half in the ground, all of the corpses were moved to the cemetery in the forest near Pionki. I don't know the names of the Gestapo men or the gendarmes.

The report was read out.