

TERESA GROCHOWSKA

On 9 December 1968 in Białystok Waldemar Monkiewicz, assistant prosecutor for the District Prosecutor's Office, delegated to the District Commission for the Investigation of Hitlerite Crimes in Białystok by the Prosecutor General of the Polish People's Republic, proceeding in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of the decree of 10 November 1945 (Journal of Laws No. 57, Item 293) and Article 129 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, interviewed the person named below as an unsworn witness. Having been advised of the criminal liability for making false statements, she testified as follows:

Name and surname	Teresa Grochowska
Date and place of birth	10 November 1939, Waniewo
Parents' names	Stanisław and Władysława
Place of residence	Łapy, Nowotki Street 76a, apt. 10
Occupation	housewife
Criminal record	none
Relationship to the parties	daughter of the Krysiewicz couple murdered by the Germans

During the Hitlerite occupation I was living with my parents and siblings in a settlement outside the village of Waniewo. I was a child back then and don't remember these events clearly. I also can't give an exact date, only from what I was told by adults I know that it was in the autumn of 1943.

One night, German gendarmes encircled my parents' homestead and barged inside while everyone was asleep. The Germans woke up my mother and asked where my father was. Then they took away my father, without allowing him to get dressed, and led him outside. They threw us out of the house and set fire to the homestead buildings. I remember that

the gendarmes shot our father in front of the children and took away our mother. Myself and the rest of the children were taken in by neighbors at first, [who] later handed [us] over to distant relatives.

At our homestead some people were being sheltered. I later heard that my parents were hiding Jews. I remember the burning of the buildings where the Jews were hidden. The buildings belonging to my parents were burned to the ground. They included a house, a barn and pigpens. I do not know their market value today.

My mother never returned after being taken by the gendarmes. I heard that she was tortured and then murdered by the gendarmes in Tykocin.

After my parents' death we were raised by strangers.