

THE POLISH REVIEW

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OCT. 18, 1944

"Warsaw." Poster by
Marek Zulawski.



After Warsaw's Tragic Fall

**President Wladyslaw Raczewicz Spoke to Poland
on October 3, 1944:**

"The thing which we expected for several days but to which it is difficult to reconcile ourselves, has happened—Warsaw, heroic Warsaw, fell on the 63rd day of a terrible unequal struggle waged against crushing superior enemy forces. She fell at the moment when the Allies have reached a decisive superiority over the foe and when the roar of gunfire on all the battlefields of Europe signals the approaching defeat of Germany.

"Nothing can modify the tragedy of this fact. Nothing too will change the conviction that a cruel and completely undeserved blow has fallen on us after so many years of bloody sufferings and efforts and in spite of the miracle of gallantry and the miracle of unity displayed by the whole nation.

"And still in the face of this disaster—the extent of which we can hardly assess—before you, heroic defenders of the capital, and before the whole world, I want to state, with full knowledge of the weight of my words, the great sacrifice of the capital cannot be in vain.

"In the glare of the ruins of the heroic city, everyone who wishes must perceive this great truth: that there is no price we would not be ready to pay for freedom and independence; that there is no toil which we would not be prepared to undertake for that cause and there is no might which would deter us from our purpose.

"Warsaw has fallen but the relentless fight of the Polish nation goes on. It will continue until the moment when the aims that we set ourselves on September 1, 1939, and which have been accepted by the whole civilized world, will be fully attained. The painful fall of Warsaw is at the same time the best proof of those highest moral values of a nation that make history.

"Heroic defenders of Warsaw, heroic people of the capital! As head of the State and highest superior of Poland's Armed Forces, I vouch before the whole world that you have fulfilled to the end your duty as soldiers and citizens, showing courage and readiness for sacrifice and endurance above all measure.

"I pay tribute to your dead and I send words of the highest appreciation and deep respect to those who have remained alive among commanders, soldiers and population. By your heroism and your will to endure in the most difficult circumstances, you have brought glory to Poland that had produced so many such citizens."

"The defense of Warsaw will remain forever a testimony to the invincible moral strength of the Polish nation and its unyielding will to independent life."

—Stanislaw M. Mikolajczyk, Prime Minister of Poland
London, October 3, 1944.

"A STORY OF AMAZING HEROISM..."

**Address to the House of Commons by COLONEL HAROLD MITCHELL,
Vice-Chairman of the Conservative Party**

THERE is one reason why I have intervened in this debate. It is a desire to say something of the part which our smaller allies are playing in this war and to make an appeal to this House not to overlook the claims of these peoples, when questions affecting the postwar settlement of Europe are discussed.

"We heard from Churchill an account of military events during the time that the Parliament was in recess, and what a thrilling story of successes that was! I was particularly interested in what he had to say about the contribution of the smaller nations. Other speakers have dealt with many aspects of the situation in which the United Nations now find themselves.

"Perhaps I may be allowed to say something, from personal observation, of what the Poles, Belgians and Dutch have done during the present month.

"I was glad to hear Churchill recall the reason for our entering the war. For some time there was danger of that reason being clouded by more recent developments. In my view, we cannot overemphasize the fact that we declared war on Germany as a result of her unprovoked aggression on Poland.

"Just before France fell in 1940, I made my first contact with the Polish forces in France. They were then being re-formed by General Sikorski, at whose suggestion a little later, I was appointed liaison-officer with the Polish troops, and since then I have been associated with them. I was present at the Polish army's first muster in Scotland in June, 1940, immediately after the fall of France, and I have been in close touch with its progress from that moment on.

"I have also had the opportunity of visiting Polish units in various parts of the Middle East.

"Soon after Parliament rose for the summer, at the request of General Marjan Kukiel, I spent some time with Polish troops in the Low Countries. For obvious reasons I cannot tell you exactly where they are now, or describe what they are doing, but I can say that they have been in some of the hardest fighting and have acquitted themselves with great courage and remarkable heroism. It has been no easy task, for they have been up against some of the toughest soldiers that the enemy has left—men fighting desperately for their lives. Only by superior skill and valor have these victories over the enemy been secured, and not always without loss.

"I joined the Poles at Ypres when they were just beginning that stage in their advance which was to take them right through Belgium into Holland. I accompanied them on this advance and I saw how they surmounted all obstacles in their path—and they were many, in these countries of rivers and canals. I also learned a great deal about what they had done from the Normandy beachhead onwards.

"One morning after a successful operation, I made a tour with General Maczek. The action took place just outside a village where Polish tanks had caught a retreating German column and completely destroyed it—an unforgettable scene of destruction.



**A commander and his tank, First Polish Armored Division
in Normandy, France.**

"General Maczek, delighted by the outcome of the fierce engagement a few hours before, remarked: 'This is my revenge for Poland.' He had commanded the Black Brigade which fought so well in 1939, until forced over the frontier into Hungary, from which its members made their way to France, and he had seen what the enemy had done to his own country.

"All his troops shared his spirit. They are out to avenge the wrong perpetrated by Hitler and the Nazis on their country. They are glad of the opportunity to fight with us, side by side with some of the finest units of the British Commonwealth. I should like to pay tribute to the excellent co-operation which exists between Poles and Canadians. These Poles are too busy fighting to have time for political controversy. They have only one aim—Hitler's defeat. For by that means they know they will be able to liberate their country from the tyrant's yoke.

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SIXTY-THREE DAYS OF GLORY

"WARSAW's fighting throughout August and September of 1944 is the only instance in the history of this war in which a great city has conducted such a long and isolated defense with her own means, without heavy equipment or considerable help from the outside against a superior enemy having at his disposal the whole destructive might of modern warfare." Polish Prime Minister Stanislaw M. Mikolajczyk stated in London after receiving the tragic news of Warsaw's fall.

The Polish Home Army, fighting in the ruins of what was once the beautiful, modern capital of Poland, was forced to capitulate at 8 p.m. on the 63rd day of the uprising, October 3, 1944.

General Tadeusz Bor-Komorowski decided to surrender only when all food and water supplies were exhausted, when medical supplies were no longer available for the thousands of wounded Poles in the cellars and on the barricades of Warsaw, and when starvation faced the army and the remaining civilians.

Estimates place the losses in Warsaw at 300,000, or about one-third of the capital's pre-war population. At least half of Warsaw's buildings were destroyed, and 35% more were damaged.

While at the time of the surrender, the exact location in Warsaw of General Bor-Komorowski's headquarters was a secret, he is known to have used a large house on Krasinski Square as headquarters for the major part of the nine weeks long battle.

What the Germans re-occupied on October 3 was no longer the Warsaw that had been the proud capital of a free and independent Poland. That Warsaw could never be taken by the German barbarians. The name Warsaw on October 3 meant a heap of rubble and a few dauntless, unconquerable

Poles that refused to give up so long as they still had a single shot left for their guns.

"Only ruins remain," reported General Bor-Komorowski one day before the surrender, "ruins and Poles fighting in them for the right to rebuild their city once this war is won. Then the ruins will disappear and only graves will remain as a symbol of our battle. A new city called Warsaw will arise to take the place of the old."

The Battle of Warsaw had entered its third month before the Poles capitulated. In the beginning there had been three main Polish strongholds: the center of the city with "Old City," Mokotow to the south, and Zoliborz on the north. Mokotow was retaken by the Germans on September 29, and Zoliborz fell on October 2. "Old City" or "Stare Miasto" had to be abandoned by the Poles earlier in September. The last stand of General Bor-Komorowski was made in the downtown section of Warsaw, or what was left of it after incessant German artillery barrages and scores of daily dive-bomber attacks.

During the last week of the battle, German units forced back from the banks of the Vistula by Soviet artillery helped reinforce the troops attacking the central part of the city, and hastened the downfall of the Home Army. Mokotow and Zoliborz fell only when no ammunition or food supplies whatsoever remained, but first the Poles there destroyed several German tanks and motorized cars.

The Germans chopped the last remaining Polish positions to pieces with flame-throwers, tanks, heavy artillery and hand grenades. Germans followed the Poles' example and dug tunnels through the cellars of Warsaw for communication purposes when Home Army snipers made the streets too hot for them.

Before the end of the battle, General Bor-Komorowski, in an order of the day, revealed certain hitherto unknown details about the organization of the Polish Home Army in Warsaw. Regular units of the Polish Armed Forces that fought the battle were called "The Warsaw Corps," which comprised three divisions: the Eighth Infantry Division called the "Romuald Traugutt," that fought in Zoliborz; the Tenth Infantry or "Maciej Rataj" Division that held Mokotow; and the Twenty-Eighth Infantry Division, the "Stefan Okrzeja" that fought in the downtown district.

Under the command of Lieutenant-General Bor-Komorowski was the Commander of the Warsaw Corps, Brigadier-General Antoni Chrusciel who used the pseudonyms of "Monter" and "Nurt." The deputy commander of the Warsaw Corps was Colonel Karol Ziemski whose pseudonym was "Wachnowski." Colonel Niedzielski or "Zywiciel" commanded the Eighth Infantry Division, Colonel Robicki or "Karol" the Tenth Infantry Division, and Colonel Edward Pfeifer, or "Radwan" led the Twenty-Eighth.

A description of life in Warsaw during the last week of the battle, made by the "Blyskawica" or "Lightning" Underground Radio Station, reveals why surrender became necessary:

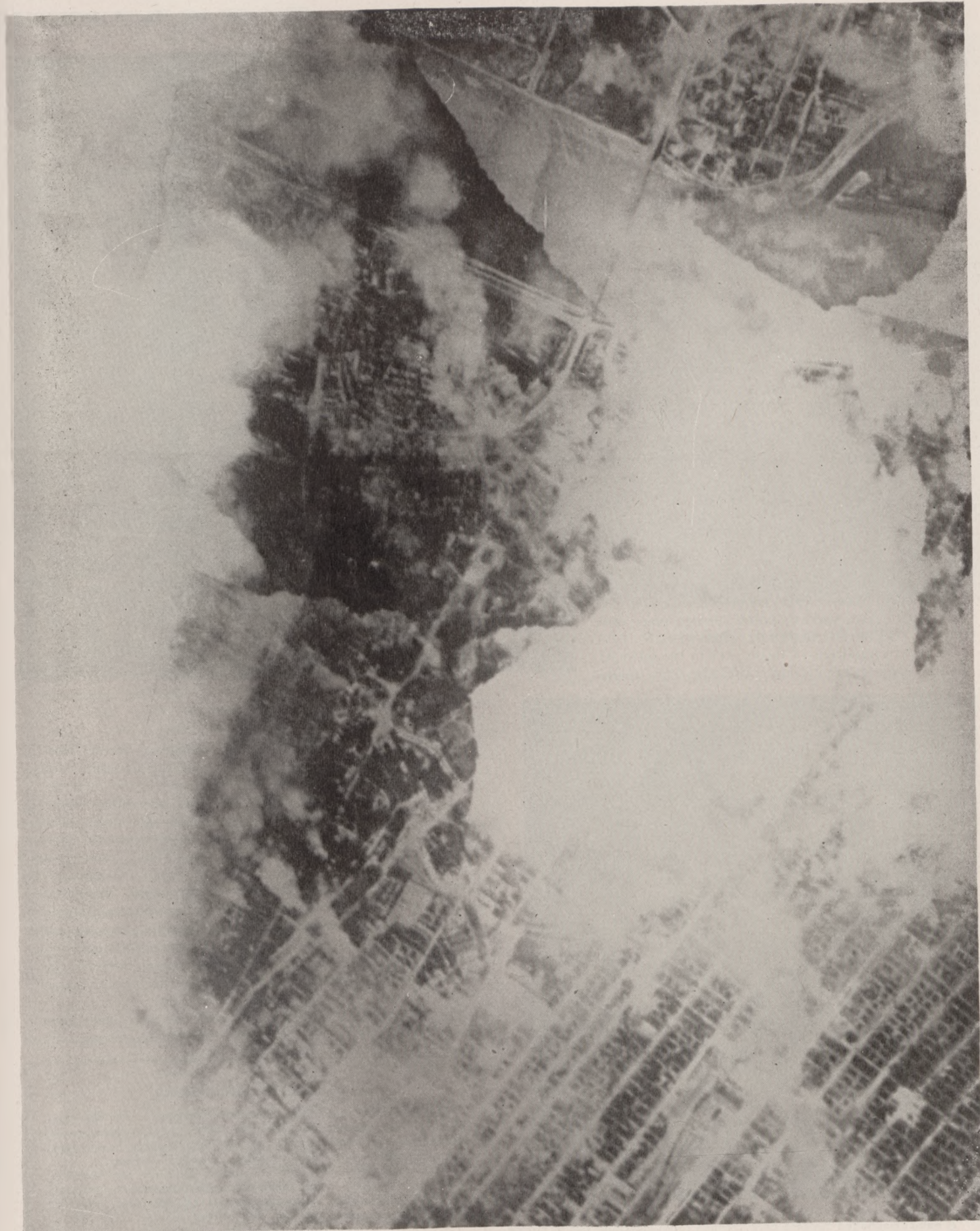
"Food stocks are nearly completely exhausted and the remaining wheat has been distributed. The people are even forced to eat dogs. The amount of food dropped from the air is not sufficient, while the daily supply of food from outside the city has been cut off.

"Warsaw is in ruins. 'Stare Miasto' is completely destroyed, burnt down. The center of the city is being methodically destroyed street by street by German artillery and the air force. Tens of thousands of people have literally lost all their belongings. Owing to the incessant shelling, even those people whose dwellings are still standing are forced to live in cellars, sharing them with those who are homeless.

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Graves of fallen heroes in Dombrowski Square, Warsaw. At left is the former headquarters of the Polish-American Chamber of Commerce.



This aerial picture, taken in August 1944, shows the center of Warsaw enveloped in the smoke of burning buildings.

How the Polish Underground Army in France Destroyed German Robot Bomb Bases

by A POLISH WAR CORRESPONDENT IN FRANCE

OUR guide is a young Polish farmer, member of the Polish Underground Army in France. Thousands of Polish farmers and workers live in Northern France, scattered on farms and in camps. The more enterprising among them who remained there during the German occupation, organized secret fighting groups. The main task confronting the Polish Underground Army in that part of France was to destroy German flying bomb ramps.

Driving through these villages today we looked for those ramps. We saw one situated in an orchard surrounded by cottages. Had we not been told so by our guide, we would never have guessed that those three small buildings in no way different from the other French houses in the neighborhood, contained infernal machines. In one of the buildings was a transformer—now destroyed—through which ran an electric cable supplying the flying bomb site with current, in the second building was an installation which directed the flying bombs when they were in the air and the third building was an installation to bring the bombs to their starting place and give them the initial push.

In the center near the buildings was a concrete platform 27 feet by 40 feet, sunk four meters deep into the ground. There was still some green paint on the platform—German camouflage—and turf arranged around the treble rail, running from platform to surface. Not far from it were shelters where German crews used to take cover immediately after the bombs were launched. Then there was a small shed used as bomb storage place and concrete shelters for material. That was all.

There are hundreds of those sites in the gardens of the farming population. We also saw many



British Official Photo

A damaged robot bomb runway.

sites built near schools and in the villages. At St. Eloi the Germans had built it right in front of the Church. Consequently no services could be held there.

Some of the Germans' shelters were accessible from the cellars of the church and sometimes those sacred places were used to store that infernal weapon. Such, however, are the rules of German barbarism. The young Polish Underground soldier who guided us knew their sites well. During the last phase of the struggle it was his job to observe them closely and to report on the activities of each site in his neighborhood.

Bombs used to be conveyed to their starting point on special six-wheeled platforms. The platform with the bomb, propelled by a special power, ran on rails about 165 feet long. Then the bomb took off. It was a modern catapult made by "Opel."

To destroy those ramps was the task of the Polish Underground Army in France. Its main task was to discover these

Sic Transit Gloria Mundi!

On September 1st, 1939, the cavalry brigade under the command of the then Colonel Maczek was in the Skawina district. During the next two days it engaged in extremely heavy fighting with tanks of the 2nd German Armored Division.

Five years later—the Polish Armored Division, the kernel of which is that very same cavalry brigade, found in a smashed German truck papers belonging to this 2nd Division, referring to the Polish campaign and left behind in the hasty retreat.

Poles in Belgium

When Polish tanks entered Belgium, they were met by a young Belgian girl who said that she belonged to the Belgian underground and wished to help them. She didn't look more than eighteen, but despite heavy enemy fire on the tanks she remained in the open, giving them the most detailed information about the positions of German machine-guns and mines. From 5 in the afternoon to late at night she stayed with our units, giving them invaluable help in their swift breaking of the enemy resistance. Later she was joined by two boys from the same unit, who showed the Poles the way to Roulers.

Next day, when enormous crowds had gathered in the central market-square, General Maczek made an appearance with the Mayor, whom the Germans had removed from office. Amidst frenzied cheering General Maczek took the mayor back to the town-hall, where they both appeared in the window. The General, seeing the girl who had helped them in the crowd, brought her to the window and told the people what she had done to liberate their town. For her courage she will receive a Polish military medal.

places first and then to inform the army authorities. In that neighborhood and along the coast of France, the Poles discovered altogether 162 sites. Every bit of information, however small, was sent to secret radio stations where Polish officers, specialists in these matters, sent them on. These detailed descriptions then enabled the RAF to bomb the sites.

Information concerning the results of RAF bombings were sent in the same way. The Gestapo hunted the Polish radio stations mercilessly. Wherever they suspected such a radio station they immediately sent special detachments equipped with goniometers that carefully went over every inch of the suspected piece of ground. They also set most perfidious traps for Polish officers who worked as radio operators. Work in these radio stations and the contacts which had to be established with the outer world demanded superhuman effort and bravery. A radio station could never operate in the same place for more than two days running.

Despite many victims, the Polish Underground Army in France had suffered both those killed and deported, the radio stations never for a single minute interrupted their service. All information used to arrive in good time and enabled the RAF effectively to deal with the German weapon. Apart from this secret agent work, the Polish Underground in France since July, 1944, carried out direct acts of sabotage against the ramps. All these installations were under constant German observation day and night. Nevertheless, the Polish units cut various cables fifteen times and stopped the electricity supply from reaching some dozen sites for several hours.

Although the German repair squads worked rapidly, they grew increasingly defenseless against such acts of repeated sabotage. No sooner had they repaired the damage in one place, than the so-called Polish devils got to work in another. The Poles refused to be defeated.

Another action of the Polish units was to damage German transports, because it then was easiest to harm the robots.



British Official Photo

Structure on which the robot-launching platform was built.

Although these transports were very closely guarded by the Germans, the Poles succeeded in many cases, especially when bombs were being distributed to various ramps from railway stations, to damage some of the precision instruments inside the robots.

When it no longer proved possible to use these methods, the Polish units used the famous "Warszawianka" weapon made of metal serving to puncture the motor tires. These weapons were thrown onto roads to damage passing German lorries. This weapon was sent to France from the Polish Underground Army in Poland. The advantage of this weapon was that whatever way it was thrown it always remained upright. The throwing of this weapon considerably delayed the transports travelling to the sites. To get at the very site the Polish Underground Army used their contacts established with those Poles who had been forced to join the German Army and were then fighting in northern France.

When Enemies Meet

A German staff officer captured on the Western Front jumped up and went over to Captain G., a well-known rider in Poland, now commanding a tank squadron in a Polish regiment in France.

The German smiled and said: "What a pleasant meeting. We rode together at the horse show in Zakopane. Do you remember me?" and he stretched out his hand in greeting.

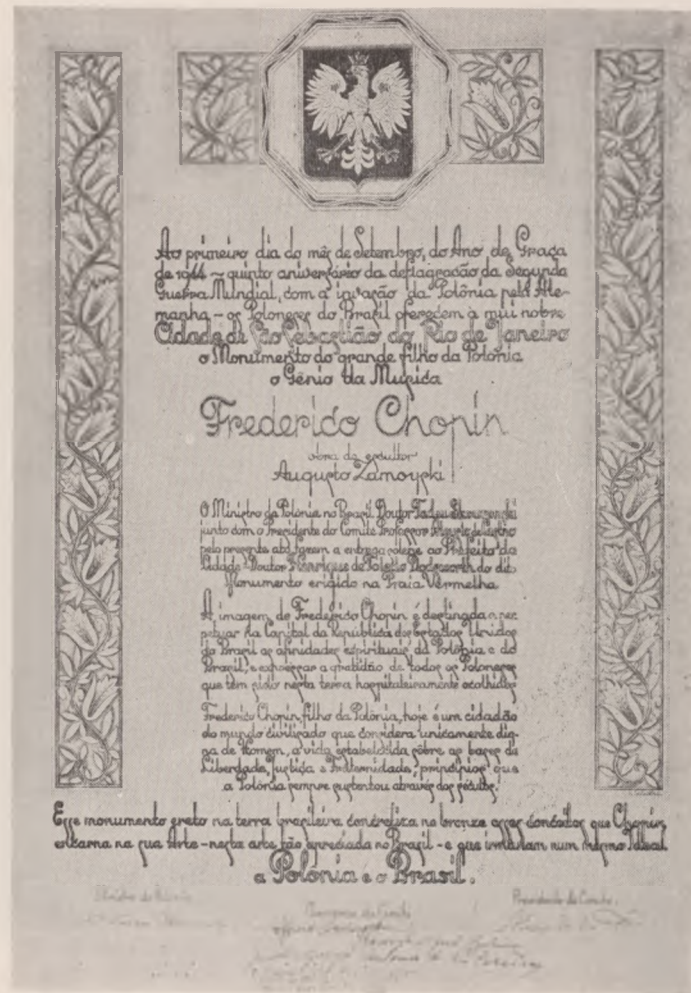
"I remember very well," said Captain G., "but you have forgotten one thing. You are my enemy and a prisoner of the Poles."



British Official Photo

A well-camouflaged building on a German robot-launching site in France.

ZAMOYSKI'S CHOPIN STATUE UNVEILED IN RIO DE JANEIRO



Facsimile of the act of erection of the Chopin statue in Rio de Janeiro.

ON September 1, 1944, five years after the German attack on Poland and two years after the Germans tore down the Chopin monument in Warsaw, a statue of Frederic Chopin by August Zamoyski was unveiled in Rio de Janeiro's beautiful Tiburcio Square. The statue was presented to the people of Brazil by the Poles in that country as an expression of gratitude for Brazilian hospitality toward Polish refugees. Its sculptor, one of Europe's foremost artists, donated his services so that the long projected gesture could come to pass. This symbol of Polish-Brazilian friendship stands on the "Red Coast" overlooking the sea while Rio's famed mountains serve as a backdrop. It is a fitting site for a Chopin memorial—this peaceful spot where the lapping of the waves and the twittering of birds evoke the mood of a Chopin nocturne.

The unveiling of the statue was part of the tribute to Poland exercises that took place in Brazil on September 1. Brazilian radio programs and newspapers



Carmela by August Zamoyski. Acquired by the city of Belle Horizonte, Brazil.

devoted much time and space to accounts of Polish heroism and sacrifices and pointed to the Chopin statue as evidence that Poland can never be wiped off the map.

The ceremony of unveiling the memorial was an inspiring one. The presence of government officials, scholars, diplomats, youth delegations and members of many societies helped make the occasion memorable. A guard of honor was formed by students of the Franco-Brazilian LaFayette Institute, the State Institute of Education, Volunteers for the Polish Army, and delegates of the Cadet Academy. In the speeches that followed the playing of the Polish and Brazilian national anthems, the analogy between Chopin's Poland and the Poland of today was repeatedly drawn.

Dr. Tadeusz Skowronski, Polish Minister to Brazil, addressed the large gathering of 3,000 that filled the square, as follows:

"Today, September 1, in addition to unveiling the statue of Chopin, we also observe the fifth anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War, unleashed by Germany's brutal aggression against Poland. These have been a sad five years of suffering and sacrifice for the freedom-loving peoples in the United Nations! Poland was the first of them to offer armed resistance to the German hordes and during these five years of war Poland has suffered the greatest sacrifices in the defense of Christian ideals, and the ideals of freedom and justice.

"The figure of Chopin, a true son of Poland and one of the greatest geniuses of Western culture, personifies most eloquently those eternal ideals to which Poland has always been unfalteringly faithful in all her history.

"History repeats itself . . . Yes, like the Warsaw of 1830, of which Chopin sang in his Great Polonaise, present-day Warsaw trembles with the thunder of cannon, the roar of machine gun fire, the noise of burning and crumbling buildings, and it re-

sounds with shouted commands.

"All the people of Warsaw—men, women and children—have already been fighting for a month, armed only with machine guns and bottles of gasoline against tanks and cannon, while heavy artillery and German planes belch fire into the city. They are fighting alone and heroically, isolated from the world. After five years of silence the Warsaw radio, defended by the Underground Army, has again been heard. Its theme song—the first bars of Chopin's *Polonaise*—has returned to the ether waves, sending to the world the most painful S.O.S. of all time.

"Warsaw is today a huge bloody stain on the map of Europe. Everything in it that was reminiscent of Chopin lies in ruins—the ancient Cathedral whose organ revealed to him the wonderful world of sound; theatres in which he gave his first concerts; the Church of the Holy Cross where the urn containing his heart was kept. All this no longer exists.

"Our enemies, who wished to destroy Polish culture, well know that Chopin is the expression of the Polish nation's indomitable will and strength. That is why they forbade his works to be played in Poland and having destroyed his monument in Warsaw, sent the metal as a birthday gift to Hitler to be used as scrap for cannon manufacture. But the spirit of Chopin, residing deep in the souls of his fellow countrymen, stood up against the cannon in an unequal and horrible struggle.

"The reign of violence and force is beginning to crumble. The armies of the United Nations, Polish troops among them, march under the Arc de Triomphe.

"I send greetings to Paris, the liberated

spiritual capital of the world, to Paris where Chopin lived his last years, where his art won world fame and sealed Polish - French amity for all time.

"In Brazil, Chopin is the most adored and best known of the sons of Poland. Admiration for Chopin has always been so great among Brazilians that as early as 1927 Professor Aloysio de Castro made the suggestion, taken up by many, 'to erect a monument to honor and preserve his memory on Brazilian soil.' These old vows are realized today.

"Here rises this statue in this Wonderful City, in this lovely corner of Guanabara Bay, amid the singing of nature, the sighing of the wind and the rhythm of the waves.

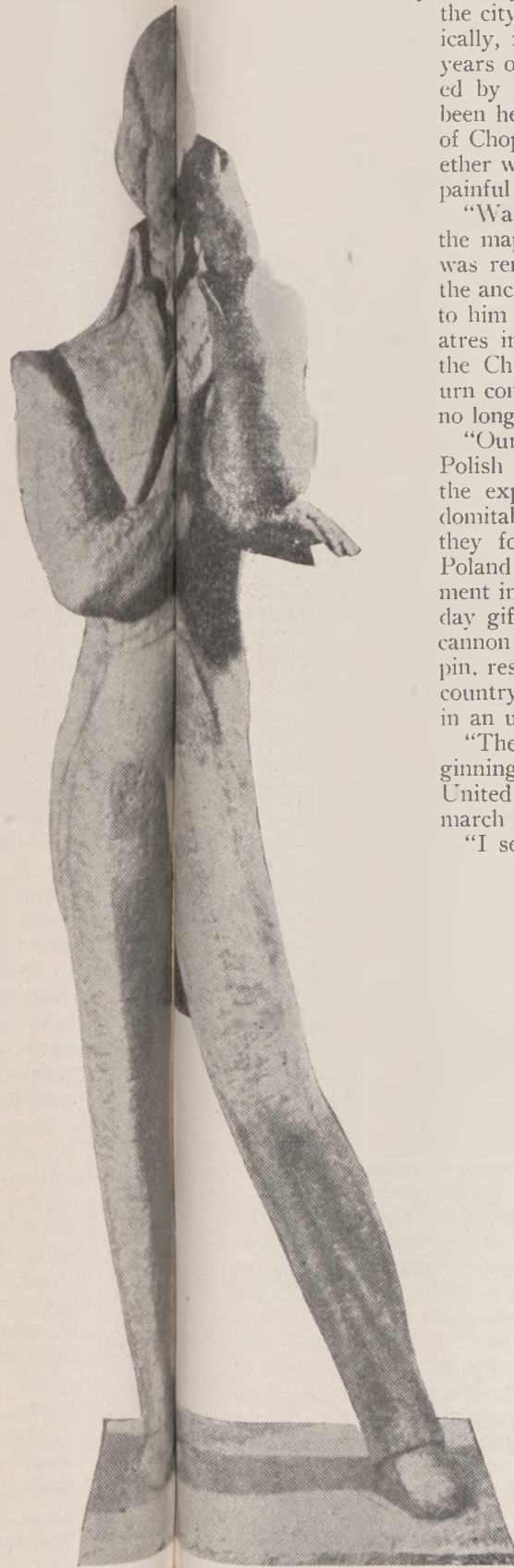
"Mr. Prefect! In the name of Poles in Brazil I have the honor of offering to the City of Rio de Janeiro the statue of Frederic Chopin in the beautiful conception of August Zamoyski.

"May this monument serve as a reminder to future generations of the gratitude of Poland's sons, so hospitably received in this blessed land of the Holy Cross! May this monument be a link in the spiritual ties allying Brazil and Poland!

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Head in stone by August Zamoyski.



Frederic Chopin by August Zamoyski.



Zamoyski's students at work in an improvised workshop during an excursion to Minas Gerais, a State abounding in the famed "Pedra Sabao" marble.

ZAMOYSKI'S CHOPIN STATUE UNVEILED IN RIO DE JANEIRO

(Continued from page 9)

"Brazilian soldiers are taking part in the great struggle in defense of civilization. At the present time, Brazilians and Poles are fighting shoulder to shoulder on the Italian front to preserve their common moral heritage so that Freedom might not perish from this earth!"

Professor Aloysio de Castro, member of the Academy of Literature and Brazil's greatest Chopinist, also addressed the throng:

"As chairman of the Committee that brought to reality the project of erecting a Chopin monument in Rio de Janeiro, it is my task to thank publicly the Poles in Brazil, who helped so generously in offering to the city this magnificent and meaningful work of art.

"We see their gesture not only as a desire to honor him who was born a century ago to immortalize the name of Poland by his music. In this gesture we also sense the desire to make permanent and eternal the identical feelings uniting in this hour of joint fighting, Poland and Brazil.

"Exactly two years ago, our common enemy destroyed Chopin's statue in Warsaw as if wishing to strike the whole Polish nation in its very heart. Today the Poles reply to this by erecting on the other side of the ocean, a new statue of Chopin in a country where Brazilians, listening to and understanding the music of Chopin, at the same time listen to and understand the noble soul of the Polish people, unchanging in rejoicing and in days of defeat.

"The entire world marvels at Poland, which again, after a century, fights heroically against the vile aggressor at home and beyond her boundaries, in France, in Italy, over England . . .

"Do not despair, women of Poland, who cry for help to the Holy Father from the dreadful ruins of Warsaw. A greater, more splendid Poland will rise again. You will see her, you Poles who are paying for her the price of your blood, refusing to yield to the fury of the violence of an enemy who

will be taken to account for his monstrous deeds, even those perpetrated in the last hour.

"For today, everything calls upon us—gathered around this statue—to rejoice. We see the rays of victory in the distance and from the depths of our Brazilian souls we cry: 'Glory to Poland!'

"The time has also come to felicitate the great artist who executed this statue. Just as a speaker gives force to his words by the power of his feelings, so the sculptor imparts to the human figure movement and the secret of expression.

In this work by August Zamoyski, full of love for the great composer, the figure of Chopin has not assumed the coldness of metal, nor does it stand before us like a silent shadow: the heart of Chopin beats warmly close to our hearts.

"As if enchanted by a mysterious revery, the great musician stands spellbound. What does he hear? Those very voices that he knew how to sing so splendidly, the voices of the world of harmony which he touched by the infinity of his genius. On the slopes of our mountains, in the torrid heat, in the dazzling sunlight or the gleam of the starlit tropical night, listening to the sublime singing of the waves that deposit the foam so near, on the red sand, Chopin may hear a new voice: the voice of universal love and good promised to us in the hour of peace, a voice that will not be silent for ever and ever in the changeless rhythm of days, a new and immortal song—the song of fraternity!"

* * *

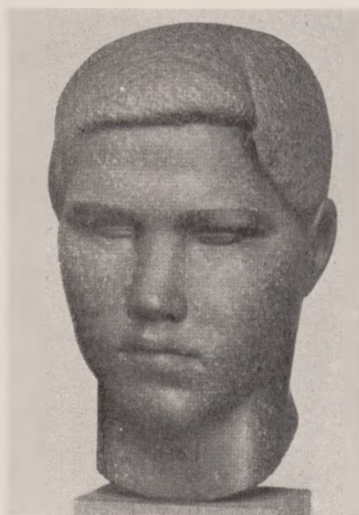
August Zamoyski, creator of the Chopin monument, was born in 1893. His early works were cubist in character. Toward 1920 he turned to monumental stylization influenced by Egyptian and primitive art. In 1927 he abandoned wood as a medium and began to carve in hard stone—granite, diorite and basalt.

Zamoyski's formative years were spent in Zakopane, the Polish resort in the Tatra Mountains. In 1922 he went to Paris and up to the outbreak of this war worked alternately in the French capital and in his native Poland. The German invasion caught him at his Jablonna home, near Lublin in Eastern Poland. Zamoyski escaped to France by way of Hungary and in 1940 following the French debacle made his way to Brazil, where he has remained to this day.

No sooner did this Polish sculptor arrive in Rio de Janeiro than he set about creating anew. Not content with this, he soon founded an Academy of Sculpture in Rio that has become famous for its originality and good work.

Introducing an individual approach to the teaching of sculpture, Zamoyski urges his students to study the old and new testaments so that they might more easily understand the Masters of the Middle Ages. He also insists upon an understanding of Shakespeare and other literary titans for a better appreciation of the impulses of the human soul. For, he feels that sculpture expresses not only the beauty of the human body but also humanity's strivings, sorrows, joys, struggles and hopes. So, this messenger of other, happier centuries, speaks to his pupils of Greek mythology, of the *Iliad*, of the influence of ancient religions upon the form, expression and plasticity of sculpture.

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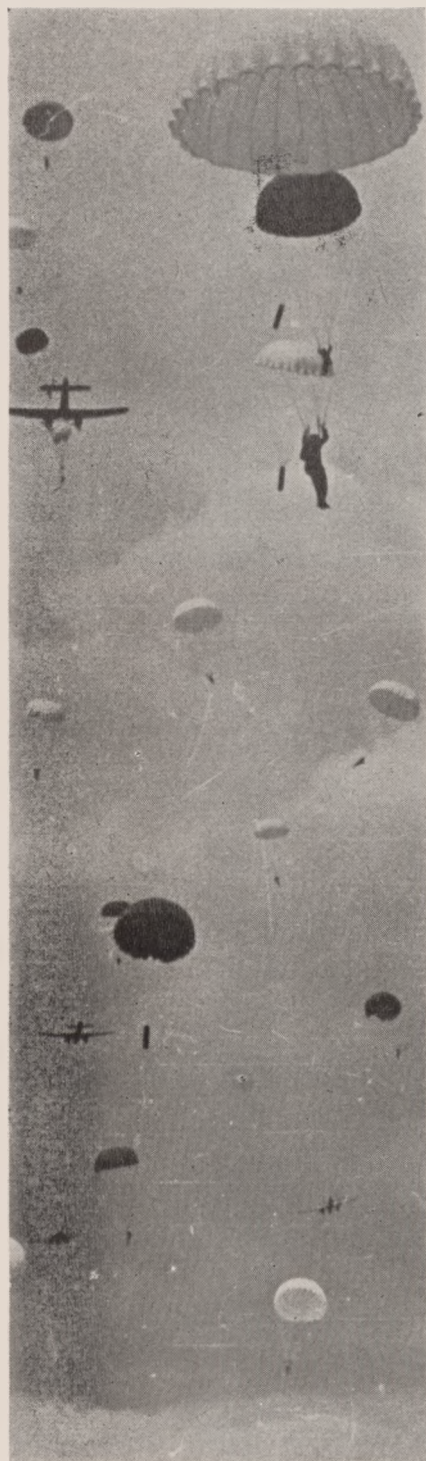
Wierka by August Zamoyski.



Sculpture by August Zamoyski.

With the Polish Paratroops at Arnhem, Holland

by EUGENIUSZ ROMISZEWSKI



Polish paratroopers.

WE were to start our operations on the nineteenth of September, but bad weather delayed the action. This delay of the start of operations that dragged from hour to hour, from day to day, made our men rather nervous. At last on the 21st of September, the weather conditions permitted us to start. The visibility wasn't too bad.

Our planes that crossed the Channel above the clouds did not meet any German opposition. When we got over enemy-occupied territory and the paratroopers began to come down, the enemy opened a heavy artillery and mortar fire. Our losses however were not high.

When the paratroopers had landed they immediately opened fire. One of our men, seeing that he was landing within the German lines, threw a hand-grenade on them, while still in the air. The enemy sustained losses in killed, wounded and prisoners. When the Germans realized the strength of our landing party, they withdrew, leaving behind arms and ammunition which became a welcomed addition to our fire-power.

After a short fight we occupied some villages and farms. The Dutch greeted us with

enthusiasm. They all wore orange-colored flowers—the symbol of Free Holland. Some soldiers in German uniform with full equipment approached us—they were Poles who had been forcibly conscripted into the Wehrmacht.

Under cover of night the Polish paratroopers approached the Rhine. They were to attempt a crossing. They met violent fire and having no means of breaking up the German resistance our units dug in on the south bank of the Rhine, establishing a liaison with the British units that had landed some days



In action.

earlier. Some Polish glider units were there with the British forces. But the river Rhine and the German fire separated us from each other. Some of the Polish and British officers however managed to cross the Rhine and return.

During the night artillery was active on both sides. So passed the first day of the fight of our large paratroop unit—first of this kind in the history of all wars.

On the second day of the Polish paratroopers' fight, one of the reconnaissance units of General Dempsey's army got through the retreating Germans and joined us. In the afternoon the Germans carried out the first big attack on our position. Their attack was supported by heavy mortar fire. Armored tanks were also sent into action, but were dispersed by our fire. Attacks went on till evening but we succeeded in repulsing them all and inflicting losses on the enemy.

We bore the brunt of the fire from German sharpshooters in ambush. However, our patrols captured many prisoners and arms—among the latter were Mauser rifles of Polish production of 1939. The British airmen and the British paratroopers who had been hidden by some Dutch people joined us too. The local population was helping us without giving any thought to the German terror.

The Germans burnt down farms near which they had found some of their soldiers killed in the action against us. In one case the Germans, during an attack on our positions,

(Please turn to page 15)



Attack!

Heroism of Polish-Jewish Soldiers on the Italian Front

IN the Polish Military Cemeteries of San Vittorio and Vanafro, in the sector held by the Kresowa Division, there rest side by side Polish soldiers of the Catholic, Orthodox, and Jewish faiths. Many examples of the courage and heroism and patriotism of these Polish-Jewish soldiers can be quoted and they are spoken about appreciatively by the Corps Commander and other commanding officers. Cadet-Officer Grynberg, commanding three soldiers, first went into attack on May 13, 1944. By a sudden assault, they captured a German pillbox on Phantom Hill, consolidated their position, and directed the fire toward the enemy. Officer Grynberg jumped off his position in order to direct a new assault, sighted the Germans shooting at them with a tommy-gun. He killed several Germans but perished himself. He is first on the company list to be decorated posthumously with the *Virtuti Militari*. Cadet Officer Jakob Liberman, twice wounded, did not permit the stretcher bearers to carry him away and continued to fight until he was wounded a third time, fatally. Cadet Officer K. was second-in-command of the platoon and after the platoon commander was killed, he took over the detachment, leading it to the attack. He fought heroically for ten hours, then was severely wounded by a German bullet which went through his leg. In the hospital, he did not seem to care about his wound and when asked whether he was in pain, was interested only in "his" platoon—still holding their position on Phantom Hill. Lance-corporal L. of the Engineers, refused to part with a Jewish prayer book and a picture of his wife, both of which gave him strength in battle. Some of the German prisoners taken by him did not want to show him their mine-fields. Then L. ordered them to march in front and instantly the Germans revealed the precise information he was seeking. In one of the hospitals, Private Abram G. from the Kresowa Division, who took part in the battle for Piedimonte, was laid up. During the attack he wiped out the entire garrison of a pillbox with hand-grenades. Later he himself was wounded and taken prisoner. When the German paratroopers learned he was Jewish they would not dress his wound nor give him food. He was a German prisoner for several hours and received food secretly from a German soldier from Silesia. When the Poles arrived the Silesian hid his gun and helmet underneath Abram's blanket and shouted toward the Polish soldiers: "I'm staying here with your



Polish soldiers of the Christian and Jewish faiths who fought at Monte Cassino, Monte Cairo and Piedimonte are buried in a common military cemetery in Italy.

wounded soldier!" Abram is now wondering why the General wants to know the details of the fight. He says: "I didn't do anything special. I was striking the Germans because you must beat the Jerries." There are seven Jews in a commando company, all young boys just graduated from training, who came from England as volunteers. In December they fought on the Garigliano and have now conquered San Angelo. Cadet Officer J. has several decorations, including the *Virtuti Militari*. Two others were decorated by General Sosnkowski with the Cross of Valor. A special page in the history of the fighting for Monte Cassino is reserved for Jewish Medical Officers. Many of them worked at advance dressing stations. Lieutenant Graber, a doctor, and president of "Makaby" fell there. The commander of the Advance Surgical Unit, Lieutenant M., a doctor, was wounded there while Captain K. and Lieutenant S., medical officers at the advance dressing station, did all they could to save the lives of the soldiers. Sergeant Elias Szapiro, 40, was an instructor in the Snipers' School; Private Pastor, brother of a well-known Polish woman swimmer, was his pupil. They both fell on the slopes of Monte Cassino. In the battles around Monte Cassino also fell Lance-Corporal Szloma Lipszyc, Private Chuna Szybel, 45, Private Zygmant Hersz, Private Marek Szapiro and 20 other Polish Jewish soldiers.

THE STRANGE STORY OF A WAR PRISONER

A Polish underground monthly, WESTERN LANDS OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC, reported this adventure of Polish war prisoners in a German concentration camp.

IN order to conserve scarce materials, the authorities of Gusen concentration camp had wooden barracks built for new prisoners. From afar the raw unfinished lumber looked strange in those grim surroundings. One day the Germans decided the barracks should be painted. These buildings had already been sprayed with carbolic acid and some other chemicals that counteract moisture. The work of painting was given to a "Mahlerkommando," of three Polish prisoners recruited as "painters" and a prison-guard, a German-American called Hugo—the worst drunkard in the camp but the kindest and merriest guard. They had the sort of sprayers gardeners use against plant pests.

While standing on a ladder near a window of the hospital barrack, one of these "painters" noticed a sick man ardently and incessantly praying by the sill. Opening the window slightly, the painter asked the patient what his trouble was.

"Well, comrade, something is wrong with both my legs—I feel that I'm near the end."

"Do you want to confess? I am a Catholic priest."

The sick man rallied. His emaciated face broke into a smile as he half stood and whispered:

"Comrade, I always prayed for an easy death, but I never supposed that even here in this camp the good Lord would hear my prayers and send me a priest just when I'm dying."

And thus began the strange confession of the prisoner. The priest listened to it through the window standing on his ladder, dressed in his paint-spattered prison overalls with his sprayer strapped to his back and the metal tubing in his hand. A thin stream of the brown paint played on the walls. The disguise was perfect. Should anyone come unexpectedly, he would not be caught short. He leaned slightly toward the window the better to hear the sick man. He listened attentively. Gaston and I stood at a little distance down the street, laying paving blocks, while still further Witas and the Reverend Dylik were breaking rocks with heavy hammers. But so clever was the pose that none of us knew what was going on until later. Fortunately the S.S. did not interrupt us.

The patient died that very evening, after the priest had heard his confession and given absolution. This priest was the Rev. Mizgalski, formerly of Poznan.

Polish Underground Publishes Home Song-Book

TO the Poles, singing has always been second nature. Poland's oldest hymn, *Mother of God*, dates back to the 13th century when it was chanted by Polish knights before they charged the enemy. Every religious holiday, every important historical event had its many songs associated with it. During the tragic period of partition in the 19th century, powerful and inspiring patriotic songs helped the Poles to keep their courage up and inspired young and old to fight for Polish independence. And even in the darkest days, Poles never ceased singing their beloved folk songs—those hundreds upon hundreds of beautiful melodies that influenced so deeply the creative genius of Frederic Chopin.

Free Poland regarded the songs that had stood her in such good stead with affection and gratitude. A veritable cult had grown around them, especially around those that bore traces of Polish blood shed in defense of country.

Then came 1939 and wanton German aggression. With typical thoroughness and unparalleled brutality the "Kultur" bearers launched their campaign to stamp out Polish culture. They thought they could destroy Poland as a nation if they closed her schools and churches, and forbade the use of the Polish language, the singing of Polish songs and the publication of Polish books. German stupidity could not foresee that the Poles would not accept the German decision as final. Though they have been paying a heavy price for their defiance, the Polish people have been striking back—in many ways. Sabotage, active resistance and refusal to cooperate with the Germans was but one way. Another, less spectacular perhaps, but requiring no less courage, was the underground activity of the entire population of Poland. Holding secret classes for the children, listening to foreign radio broadcasts, printing, distributing and reading Polish newspapers are all very unhealthy occupations in German-held Poland. But the soldiers of the Polish Underground—for

W zwycięstwo!

1. Ten Bóg, co Wis-łę pcha ku mo-rem, kie-
Wi-śło, nikt jał nie za-wró- ci, by
2. Na- ro- dy wol- ne, wa-żne pra- wa my
w wa-żnych bit-wach się bi-je- my, wy
3. O Ty, co Wis-łę pcha ku mo-rem, kie-
Wi-śło, nikt jał nie za-wró- ci, by

1. ru-je rył-ma-ma-na-żę krwi, wro-go- wie dar-mo kłę-ska-
cot-ng-ty w zrod-Ta gor, i nikt nas wma-rszu nie od-
2. o-śla-nia-my pier-się, są, dąb uspal- na nam się dąb-je
3. co kie-ru-jesz na-żę krwi, wro-go- wie dar-mo kłę-ska-
cot-ng-ty w zrod-Ta gor, i nikt nas wma-rszu nie od-

"On to Victory!" Leaflets like this were printed in underground shops and circulated among the people of Poland at the risk of their lives.

27 Europa
(-1940)

Uwczynie (nie za wolno)

1. Już czas pło-mien-ne wkła-dać zbro-je, sztan-da-ry przed sze-re-giem
nieś, już czas przed os-ta-tecz-nym bo-jem ska-lis-ty two-rzyć
2. z wa-mion brzeg. Niech strza-łów hu-kiem od-po-wia-da pod-
ziem-nych ar-mii na-szych chór. Niech zie-mia ca-ła drży w po-sa-dach
3. sa-dach pod-ziem-nych sa-mo-ło-tów wtr. My wiel-kie E-
u-ro-py lu-dy my ar-mia mi-lia-na-wych wle-ć
ga-my zbroy-ną pieś-nię cu-du w śło-tecz-ny za-pa-
wstrz. trzo-ny kęg, w śło-tecz-ny za-pa-trzo-ny kęg.

Już czas płomienne wkładać zbroje,
S.tandary przed szeregiem nieść,
J:z czas przed ostatecznym bojem
Skalisty tworzyć z ramion brzeg.
Niech strzałów hukiem odpowiada
Podziemnych armii naszych chór—
Niech ziemia cała drży w posadach
Pod srebrnych samolotów wtr.

Page from underground song book published in Warsaw before the August 1, 1944 uprising.

all Polish men, women and children who have been risking their lives daily *are* soldiers—have not faltered. Those executed or taken to concentration camps are replaced by other heroes, ready to die for the cause of Poland and freedom.

One of the outstanding achievements of the Polish Underground was the publication in July, 1943, of a 44-page book of Polish songs with words and music. The preface to this remarkable song-anthology is so indicative of Polish morale and determination, that we reprint it in its entirety:

"The enemy of the Polish nation has evaluated perfectly the importance of Polish folk and patriotic songs. Destroying in a barbaric manner every manifestation of Polish culture, he also forbade the singing and playing of Polish folk and patriotic melodies. Of course, we have not ceased to sing. For our songs have this strange quality about them that we feel the need of singing and listening to them not only in moments of joy and fair weather, but also in times of sorrow and stress. And who knows whether in these stormy days, in these times of mortal combat with a barbaric foe, our song is not more necessary to us than at other times?

"Every Polish song is dear and precious to us, but closest to our hearts today are our military songs. For today we are all soldiers! In our own way, we are all leading a soldier's life. So, with particular cordiality we snatch the melodies (Please turn to page 15)

"A STORY OF AMAZING HEROISM..."

(Continued from page 3)

"The morale of these Polish troops is good, very good indeed. I was deeply moved at one point. I saw a soldier sitting on the top of his tank, writing. For one moment I hesitated about interrupting him. He looked up and smiled. When I spoke to him he replied in English. His answers were remarkable for their knowledge of Britain, learned over the radio. When I asked him where he was writing to, he said: 'To Scotland.' I found that he had maintained steady correspondence with several families who had befriended him during his stay in that part of the United Kingdom.

"And here I want to make an appeal to the Government. All of us know that there are good reasons for withholding information which might be useful to the enemy. But is there any valid reason why something more full than anything that has so far been released should not be told of the exploits of the Poles since they were first landed in Normandy? I am sure that this would bring considerable cheer to their countrymen everywhere. It would encourage not only those who are fighting in Italy, but those of their people in exile and also those still in their own country resisting the Germans.

"It is a story of amazing heroism comparable to anything in their splendid history. I want to ask the Ministers concerned, whether they could not do something in this direction. It would be a fine gesture to a gallant ally. I cannot speak of what is happening in any other sector than that in which Polish troops are operating. But in those areas of Belgium and Holland which I recently visited, I found that the Poles and the people of liberated towns and villages get along very well together. It was an amazing experience to enter these places in both countries and to see what joy the Poles brought by their victory. I saw people in the doorways of their homes, damaged only an hour or so before in fighting, who threw flowers and fruit to these troops and cheered themselves hoarse.

"In one village of Flanders, I entered a shop to make a small purchase. The proprietor behind the counter said in French: 'We have had to billet our enemies, the Germans, over and over again. We are glad that they have been driven

out. Perhaps you will send us a Polish soldier. We would be delighted if you could arrange for us to give him a billet free.'

"Just one other incident: There had been a fierce struggle for a small town in Flanders all day, with bitter hand-to-hand street fighting. Finally, in the late afternoon, the Poles broke down German resistance and gained possession of the town. Just after they entered the town, I got into conversation with the owner of a small inn on the market-place. He said to me: 'I have waited four years for this day. When my windows were smashed by machine-gun fire this morning, I wept with joy, for I knew deliverance was near.'

"The Pole and the Belgian—the Pole and the Dutchman soon became friends. They appreciate that they are comrades in the same struggle. I could give you many examples of the way in which the Belgians and the Dutch were working against the Germans, before our forces arrived in their country. But there is no need to weary you with what I have heard.

"Let us give you one simple illustration. The Germans put stakes and posts in the fields in one place in Holland, in which they feared airborne landings. One farmer who watched these traps being laid by day, pulled out these stakes by night and then sold them back to the Germans, who solemnly replaced them. He did this three times and then the Germans abandoned the attempt. Men, women and children, in both of these countries, performed similar small acts which, in the aggregate, meant much to us. Again and again these people have risked their lives to help Allied forces.

"The point that I want to make is this: these people are acting as one with us, in an effort to defeat Hitler. They have suffered. They appreciate what we are doing for them now.

"After the fighting has ceased, they will still look to us for support. They are small nations, smaller than others engaged in this struggle. They want nothing but the assurance of the right to live peaceably with their neighbors, but they know that they cannot secure that right alone. They look to all great powers to keep their viewpoint in mind when the time for settlement comes." —London, September 29, 1944.

SIXTY-THREE DAYS OF GLORY

(Continued from page 4)

"There is no street traffic and people are going from one street to another through a labyrinth of underground passages that link cellars. There is no light and water mains have been completely destroyed. People lost their families and have no knowledge of the whereabouts of their relatives.

"We have reached the limit of our endurance. We are

facing the horrors of approaching winter without any possibility of repairing the damage. The only thing which it will still be possible to do is to build emergency huts where the homeless population will have to dwell.

We have a desperate feeling of loneliness and frustration. The losses amongst our fighting units are heavy, particularly among the staff personnel."

BOOKS ON POLAND

A comprehensive bibliography of publications on Poland in the English language has been published as a supplement to THE POLISH REVIEW. The list is arranged according to subject matter and includes the following headings: General Statistics—Population—Minorities; Geography—Travel—Photographs; History—Monographs—Until World War I; History—Monographs—Until World War II; The Polish Campaign, September 1939; German and Soviet Occupation of Poland; Polish Part in World War II; Un-

derground Movement in Poland; Political and Post-War Problems; Polish-German Problems; Polish-Soviet Problems; Economics—Social Life—Law; Education—Sciences—Arts; Polish Literature—Literary History—Bibliography; Fiction and Poetry (Translated); Fiction in English Relating to Poland; Polono-Americans; Dictionaries—Grammars; Periodicals; Miscellaneous.

This bibliography will be sent free of charge upon request.

To get your copy write to

THE POLISH REVIEW, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

POLISH UNDERGROUND PUBLISHES HOME SONG-BOOK

(Continued from page 13)

and words of our soldier songs, both old and new, militant and dreamy, serious and light-hearted. We hum these songs, teach them to those who do not yet know how to sing them—to our young people. To make this singing easier, to refresh our memories with these melodies and texts, we publish this modest song-book. It contains a number of old soldier songs and quite a few new ones, born during this war. We realize fully that this song-book is not complete: many old and new songs have not been included. Publication difficulties forced us to limit our selection of these songs to those that are—in our opinion—most characteristic and artistically most valuable. Hence, our book is a short catechism of Polish soldier songs unique in its kind.

"On the cover of our song-book we had the audacity to place the title of Stanislaw Moniuszko's great and important publication, *"The Home Song-book."* We wished to underline in this way that the spirit of our greatest song-writer will surely guide us in our soldierly singing. For the time being we shall sing—or rather hum—these songs only in our homes, in secret. But the hour is already near when we shall sing full voice in the squares and streets, in cities and villages: 'On true Poles! See, the foe is before us! Sound the charge and the day is won!'; 'Soldiers of Underground Poland, Onward to battle to fight!'; and 'Poland has not yet perished, while still we live.'"

Included among the 32 selections is the "Song of the Polish Underground," which has taken its place alongside the Polish

National Anthem. Here are the words of this anonymous work:

"Soldiers of Underground Poland,
Onward to battle, to fight,
Hark! Bells of Freedom are calling
To crush the foe's brutal might.

The day of revenge is approaching
For us who suffered so long,
To arms! Rise, brothers, obeying
The call of the soldiers' song!

Freedom for Poland is dawning,
Freedom for many a year,
Have faith and power to conquer,
Be without doubt, without fear.

The day of revenge is approaching
For us who suffered so long, etc.

Down with oppression and bondage!
The ruthless foe we defy,
Emblem of Freedom and Justice,
Our Polish Eagle will fly.

The day of revenge is approaching
For us who suffered so long, etc."

(Translated by Jadwiga Rynas)

ZAMOYSKI'S CHOPIN STATUE UNVEILED IN RIO DE JANEIRO

(Continued from page 10)

Zamoyski believes that a true sculptor should not consider his task finished when he makes a plaster model. Instead of entrusting the carving in marble to skilled artisans who merely automatically copy or enlarge the model, he should carve in the stone himself, imparting to the work of art the fine touch of his gifted hand. Hence, an artist-sculptor must be as thoroughly acquainted with marble and granite carving as were Praxiteles, Phidias and their contemporaries. In his quest for means to continue his creative work in his new environment, Zamoyski discovered the fine sculptural quality of Brazilian marble and granite.

Work in the Academy of Sculpture is collective and characterized by enthusiasm and *esprit de corps*. Beginners work at the smithy and in squaring the granite blocks, so that they will be acquainted with all steps in the art of sculpture: sketching, modeling and carving in stone. More advanced students help train the novices. All student artists must be familiar with each step in the process. Zamoyski is the chief worker on the efforts of his students, just as those who are sufficiently advanced work on sculptures begun by him. All work together, eight hours a day, in the one-room studio which overlooks the most beautiful bay of the Americas. The stu-

dents do all the cleaning themselves. Boys as well as girls must learn the art of the smithy thoroughly, so that they may forge their own carving tools, which cannot be purchased anywhere. A short rest period follows the forging, and later, an hour of drawing instruction is given in plaster casting and chiseling with the aid of compass and plumb-line alone. Pupils must enlarge models without benefit of compass. The studio, organized in agreement with the Brazilian Government, is open to all who wish instruction. Neither diplomas nor entrance examinations are required. After two months of work and study, Professor Zamoyski decides whether the student has shown enough promise to continue. The Academy charges no fee for its instruction.

From time to time excursions into the country are organized so that the young artists might become acquainted with beautiful examples of Brazilian art and so that they might take advantage of the rich marble deposits in which Brazil abounds. On such excursions the group builds a temporary workshop and plunges into work. Zamoyski hopes that some day the beautiful and time-defying Pedra Sabao marble will rank with the great marbles of Greece and Italy.

—GUSTAW KOTKOWSKI.

WITH THE POLISH PARATROOPS AT ARNHEM, HOLLAND

(Continued from page 11)

drove Dutch civilians—old men, women and children—before them. Our soldiers attacked the German flank so that the civilians were spared. The German soldiers were also practising another ruse: Some of them would pretend to surrender and approach us with hands up while others would be firing at us from ambush.

Late in the evening more units of General Dempsey's army joined us. The liaison between the groups of British and Polish forces on the north bank of the Rhine and our units was most difficult because the river was under heavy German

shell fire. In spite of this, thanks to the fully sacrificed efforts of the Polish paratrooper sappers, some of our units crossed to the north bank of the Rhine. During the crossing of the Rhine a 21-year old American volunteer, Lieutenant Richard Kresge Tice, of Allentown, Penna., was killed. Lieut. Tice had been rejected by the United States Army because of ear trouble. Although he did not know a word of Polish, Lieut. Tice volunteered in 1941 for the Polish Army training in Canada. His unit was sent overseas to England in March, 1943.

During this action at Arnhem, the Polish Paratroopers suffered 345 casualties, dead, wounded and captured.

Prime Minister Churchill Pays Tribute to Warsaw

**SPEAKS BEFORE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
ON OCTOBER 5, 1944**

"The final fall of Warsaw on October 3, 1944, after 63 days of fierce fighting against overwhelming odds under inconceivable conditions of hardships, comes at a time when Allied Armies everywhere are victorious.

"Warsaw's fall when the final defeat of Germany is in sight comes as a bitter blow to all Poles. Despite all the efforts of the Soviet Army, the strong German positions on the Vistula could not be taken and relief could not reach the beleaguered Poles in time.

"In the Battle of Warsaw, terrible damage has been inflicted on the noble city and its heroic population has undergone suffering and privation unsurpassed even among the miseries of this war.

"It is at such a moment that I want to pay tribute to the heroic Warsaw defenders and to express respect to all those who fell and suffered there. I am confident that the days of tribulation for the Polish nation are rapidly nearing a close.

"When the final Allied victory is achieved the Epic of Warsaw will not be forgotten. It will remain a deathless memory for Poland and for the friends of freedom all over the world."