

ZŁOMEK, Józef
Polish Witnesses to the Holocaust Project
Polish
RG-50.488*0192

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Józef Złomek tells about his experiences as a volunteer in the Polish army during World War II. He talks about the accident he had while being in the Polish army, his staying in the hospital, and his homecoming. He shares his views of Jewish life in Raszków and describes the life of the Jewish families **Szabszewski** and **Goldman [Goldmann]**. He was present when the **Goldmans** were killed by the German police and also knows of other executions of Jewish people in Raszków, which, however, he did not witness himself.

[01:] 00:00:56 – [01:] 05:53:59

Józef Złomek was born in Raszków in 1917; talks about being a volunteer for the Polish army but had an accident and was forced to go to the hospital; discusses his being taken from Częstochowa to Łódź where he stayed for another two months, comments on all injured people being transferred to a place in the east (present-day Russia); remembers two doctors who took care of the injured; talks about his being diagnosed as able to fight and being sent to Włodziwierz to fight the Germans; comments on the number of dead; discusses the fact of the Germans having already tanks and the Polish troops only horses; talks about the Polish and the Russian army leaders signing an agreement which allowed the Poles to go home; comments on his walking home and arriving there after three weeks.

[01:] 05:54:00 – [01:] 07:07:06

He explains that there were four Jewish families living in Raszków: one family was dealing with cows, another one, the **Szabszewski** family, owned a small store, the third one consisted of two brothers who lived next to each other, and the fourth one were the **Goldmans**.

[01:] 07:07:07 – [01:] 11:40:09

He tells that everyone was afraid of the Germans and how the villagers escaped or went into hiding; discusses some local people moving to Kielce and only the Jews staying in the village; comments on the **Goldmans** staying in the house next to his parents' house; discusses the **Goldmans** being a couple without children; remembers that Mr. **Goldman** was a tailor; remembers witnessing the **Goldmans** being taken out by two Germans and shot; recalls witnessing the killing of the **Goldmans** on his way to buy some milk and

sugar; talks about the Germans shooting Mr. **Goldman** first and leaving on their motorbikes; remembers being afraid of being killed too; discusses approaching the dead bodies to take a look at them; comments on the local governor telling the villagers to bury the **Goldmans** in the ditch next to the road.

[01:] 11:40:10 – [01:] 14:22:22

He comments on the Germans coming back for the other Jewish couples and shooting them in a nearby field; discusses the Germans having an excellent spy network that helped them find the **Goldmans**; talks about the Gestapo having one of its headquarters in Szczekocin, which is 12 kilometers outside Raszków; comments on Jan **Ścionka** [**Ściąka**] who was the owner of the house in which the **Goldmans** lived; discusses **Ścionka's** house, which consisted of three flats, a kitchen, and a room behind the wall where the **Goldmans** were living.

[[01:] 14:22:23 – [01:] 19:55:15

He comments on the **Szabszewski** brothers who lived next to each other; gives the names of the brothers as **Judek** [**Judka**] and **Freum** [**Froyim**]; discusses the Germans looking for two Polish men to dig pits; comments on the Jewish brothers waiting and looking at their own graves, while Polish men were working; talks about **Judek** and his wife and **Freum** being shot and buried; comments on the Germans going to the village next to Raszków where **Freum's** wife was at that time; discusses the Germans trying to catch Jews and Polish people and to bring them to one of their camps; remembers an incident in which a Jewish woman tried to escape together with her child and was caught and killed in the fields by the Germans; remembers that a Polish partisan unit was keeping three people locked in **Konarski's** barn for six days; comments on the origin of these people as possibly Polish, German, or Jewish; discusses these prisoners being shot and buried in the nearby forest.

[01:] 19:55:16 – [01:] 24:03:59

He talks about the presence of the collaborationist police Navy-Blue Police, “Granatowa policja,” in Raszków; talks about the presence of Jews in Raszków before the war; comments on the attitude towards the Jewish population before 1942; remembers the members of a Polish partisan unit meeting at night and stealing his good horses once and giving him two horses for field work instead.

[01:] 24:04:00 – [01:] 28:42:00

He comments on Jews hiding in the nearby forests of Raszków and their having underground hiding places in which they were staying; discusses the Germans finding them; gives the names of two members of the Navy-Blue Police whom he knew as **Machniak** and **Broda**; comments on their involvement in the deportation and the killing of Jews; says that he heard that when the war was over, Jews from Szczekocin came, took the mortal remains of the **Goldmans** and brought them to another place; mentions that

some bones were found at the place where the Jewish woman and the child were shot, and that their mortal remains must still be there; speculates about the three people who were locked in the barn and then shot; assumes that they were members of a Polish partisan unit and shot by Germans.