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**Summary from Radio Kielce**

**Episode 33: 2 years 6 months 8 days – The Dajtrowski family, Rytwiany**

**09.11.2018**

### **Stories about Poles**

Anna Dajtrowska

Andrzej Dajtrowski

Leokadia Kawalec, née Dajtrowska— a daughter

Maria Węgierska, née Dajtrowska - a daughter

### **The people who stayed in the hiding**

Hinda Wolbromska

Szymon Wolbromski

Moshe (Morris) Hauer

Bella Hauer

Saul (Salek) Hauer

Jankiel (Jack) Hauer

Mania (Miriam) Hauer

Esther (Edzia) Hauer (Goldenberg)

### **The story told by**

Anna Garczyńska - Leokadia Dajtrowska-Kawalec's daughter, granddaughter of Anna and Andrzej Dajtrowski - Righteous Among the Nations

Anna and Andrzej Dajtrowski and their two daughters: Maria and Leokadia lived with on the farm in Rytwiany. Farming was their main source of income, however their older daughter Leokadia born in 1922 helped her parents financially. She did various odd jobs, for example she helped the Hausers -a Jewish family from Staszów. She offered them basic home chores during the Sabbath.

The situation of Jews during World War II began to deteriorate. That was fueled with the information about possible deportation from Staszów. This is when Moshe Hauer asked the Dajtrowskis for help. They began to prepare a hiding place at the Dajtrowskis farm together – an additional wall was built between the stable and the house. A hiding place, about 1 meter wide was thus created. There were 4 bunk-beds in it, covered with grain-sacks. The place might be entered from the attic.

At first Moshe Hauer's children and his wife went to the hideout. On 8 November 1942 Moshe joined his family. The Hauers' children: Edzia, Janek, Mania and Salek were 6, 8, 10 and 14 years old respectively.

One December of the same year, Leokadia Dajtrowska brought two more Jews. It was a young married couple from Staszów: Hinda and Szymon Wolbromscy. Leokadia met them hiding in a ditch. They had no luggage or warm clothes – as it turned out that they had lost everything in

the previous hiding place they were expelled from. "Mama decided to take them in" – recalls Anna Garczyńska, Leokadia's daughter. "Grandpa was yelling – "absolutely not! Our home is no Ghetto" ... However, grandma Ania decided that they were to stay in. Otherwise, they might have revealed the truth about other in the hiding. And the Wolbromscy were next to say with us – Anna Garczyńska recalls family stories. From now on, they all stayed together in a tight room between the walls.

The Dajtrowski farm was inspected by Germans and navy-blue-uniform policemen. The family learned about the first inspection well ahead. It was decided to make a temporary hiding place outside the farm, in the potato field. A pit was dug. Jews were hiding there during the inspection. The pit was planked and covered with soil. Potatoes were replanted in the soil layer. Those hiding and their descendants are most moved to this day when they recollect the 36 hours spend underground, without food or drink ...

Another inspections was carried out navy-blue uniform policeman who was sent to the Dajtrowski family. He stayed with them for two weeks. This required special attention, the people in the hiding were given food once a day only. It was delivered in a bottle on a rope. They were fed groats or potatoes.

After 2 years 6 months and 8 days the war was over and the Jews were able to leave the hiding place. Both Wolbromski and Hauer left Poland. Both families have maintained contact with the Dajtrowski family until today. They wrote letters to each other for years, now they call and e-mail and even visit each other.

Recently another child was born to the Wolbromski family. "I got the message that they named him Andrzej, to pay tribute to my grandfather" – Mrs Anna Garczyńska is moved when she quotes the message: "We have another grandson. It is owed to your family. We treat you as if you were our sister.""