

# Przegląd Zachodni

I N S T Y T U T Z A C H O D N I W P O Z N A N I U

Poznańskie jednostki wojskowe w kampanii  
wrześniowej

Poznań w pierwszych dniach wojny

Poznań w okresie zarządu wojskowego

Eksterminacja fizyczna ludności w Poznaniu  
(1939 - 1945)

Przemysł, transport i handel w okupowanym  
Poznaniu

Niemieckie szkoły dla dzieci polskich w Poznaniu

Stosunki Polska-NRF w drugim półroczu 1971

Przeglądy i komentarze

Oceny i omówienia

Z kroniki naukowej



1972

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D W U M I E S I Ę C Z N I K

# THE WESTERN REVIEW

## BIMONTHLY

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#### FROM THE SCIENTIFIC CHRONICLE

JAN DYNOWSKI

### POZNAŃ MILITARY UNITS IN THE SEPTEMBER CAMPAIGN

The article deals with defence preparations and the participation of Poznań military detachments in fights with the Germans in September 1939. It presents, in succession, the strategic plans for the defence of Wielkopolska (Greater Poland) and Pomorze (Pomerania), the organisation and tasks of the Army of Poznań with special regard to the 14th Infantry Division, mobilisation and how the forces were concentrated, the situation in Poznań the day before as well as at the very moment war broke out, the first contacts between Poznań units and the enemy and the course of military engagements on 1 - 2 September.

The article also gives a description of the retreat of the 14th Division in the direction of Warsaw but without any detailed presentation of the battle of the River Bzura. It also enumerates the loss of life sustained by the division at that time.

The aim of the article was to show that the actions of the Poznań military units had a substantial influence on the progress of the September campaign and that the provocative manoeuvre of the Army of Poznań considerably delayed the capture of Warsaw by the German.

STANISŁAW NAWROCKI

### POZNAŃ DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF THE WAR

The article covers the period 1 - 10 September 1939 and gives a comprehensive picture of the situation in Poznań up to the moment when the German military administration took control. It discusses the reactions of the public and the general conditions which they had to endure while the fighting lasted, the destruction of the town, the attitude of the German minority and acts of sabotage attempted by them, the evacuation of people and of offices, the situation after the retreat of the Polish army and the flight of the town authorities, the work of the new municipality and town council with particular regard to the role of the mayor, Caryl Ratajski, the activity of the Citizens' Guard and the social institutions, the capture of Poznań by Hitler's troops and, finally, the circumstances surrounding the takeover of power by the German military administration.

STANISŁAW NAWROCKI

### POZNAŃ UNDER THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION

Chronologically, this article is a continuation of the same author's article entitled, "Poznań during the first days of the war". It covers the period: 10th September to the end of October 1939. It consists of the following chapters whose titles at the same time form a list of the problems dealt with. They are: 1) The organisation of Poznań's military administration, 2) The organisation and tasks of

the civil administration; 3) The birth of the new Nazi municipality and its first steps; 4) The formation of the occupation status of the Polish population; 5) Economic difficulties during the period of the military administration.

JERZY MARCZEWSKI

#### THE PHYSICAL EXTERMINATION OF PEOPLE IN POZNAŃ 1939 - 1945

The paper gives an account of the more important places of execution in the district of Poznań and the surroundings as well as the forms and methods of physical extermination of the population. As far as the forms are concerned the paper distinguishes mass shootings, specially intense in the first months of the occupation, the activity of camps and prisons, the extermination of the mentally ill, the work of the judicial machinery of the "administration of justice" for the Poles. As regards places of extermination, out of the more important ones the following are discussed: the place of execution in the so-called Soldiers House, the Gestapo headquarters, the Gestapo "investigation" camps and work camps in the so-called Fort VII and Żabikowo, the central prison in Młyńska street, the work camps for the Jews and the crematorium which burnt the bodies of the murdered victims and was placed in the building of the "Reichsuniversität Posen". The paper describes the lamentable living conditions of the prisoners and the methods of extermination, the various kinds of torture employed by the executioners. Poznań as the seat of the local government of the so-called Warta Region was on the one hand the place of extermination for not only the inhabitants of Poznań but also for numerous groups of prisoners coming from outside the town; on the other hand there were prisoners who stayed in the Poznań camps and prisons temporarily and were then carried away to concentration camps and prisons mainly in the territory of Germany.

At the bottom of the occupiers' policy lay the aims that the Nazis had as regards Poland as well as Eastern Europe and which amounted to the project of removing a greater part of the population of these territories and colonizing the vacated areas with Germans.

CZESŁAW ŁUCZAK

#### INDUSTRY, TRANSPORT AND TRADE IN OCCUPIED POZNAŃ

The article deals with the realisation of Hitler's economic policies for the River Warta territory and particularly for Poznań i.e. the "germanisation" of industry, trade and transport and attempts to use these branches of the economy for the military aims of the Reich. It shows how Polish property was plundered, how Poles were served with expropriation orders and gives an account of the activities of the Haupttreuhandstelle Ost (HTO), the efforts of the German authorities to fully exploit the property they had seized, the difficulties they encountered with regard to this, the Polish labour situation, the results arising from Nazi management of the town's economy and finally the war damage in Poznań in the spheres of industry, trade and transport.

BARBARA BOJARSKA  
KAROL M. POSPIESZALSKI

### GERMAN SCHOOLS FOR POLISH CHILDREN IN POZNAŃ DURING THE NAZI OCCUPATION

Polish children were at that time taught in special German schools which realised the plan of Reichsführer SS Heinrich Himmler as expressed in his memo of 15. 5. 1940: "for the non German population of the East there may exist no schools at a higher level than that of the four-form primary school whose aims would be to teach simple counting up to five hundred, writing one's own name, to inculcate the principle that it is God's command to be obedient to the Germans, to be honest, diligent and well-behaved". The teaching programme followed these demands. Its text was published in the work of Karol Pospieszalski, "Hitler's occupation laws in Poland, the selection of documents", Part I, the "incorporated" territories, *Documenta Occupationis V*, Poznań 1952, s. 312 - 317.

On 31. 3. 1941 there were 5 such schools in Poznań. The total number of teachers was 88. There were 180 forms and 11100 pupils. The teachers did not have any pedagogical training. Usually the themselves had only had primary school education. The school classes were irregular because the buildings were occupied by the army. The classes were also frequently interrupted in order to set the pupils to work in the fields. In such conditions the teaching results were bound to be bad.

# PRZEGLĄD ZACHODNI

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