

MICHAŁ SAWICKI

On 17 April 1946, the Municipal Court in Opatów, represented by Judge Al. Zalewski, with the participation of reporter J Kwiatkowski, interviewed the person named below as a witness. Having advised the witness of the criminal liability for making false declarations, of the wording of Article 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and of the significance of the oath, the judge swore the witness in accordance with Article 108 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, whereupon the witness testified as follows:

Name and surname	Michał Sawicki
Date of birth	1 September 1880
Parents' names	Jan and Agnieszka
Place of residence	Opatów [...]
Occupation	store owner
Religious affiliation	Roman Catholic
Criminal record	none
Relationship to the parties	none

It was around the summer of 1943, that Eugeniusz Płodowski, residing in Opatów, Stadionowa Street, accused my sister-in-law, Józefa Sawicka (current address unknown) of illegal livestock slaughter. As a result, a search was conducted by Ryszard Hospodar, a torturer of Polish and Jewish people, and two criminal police officers: Stanisław Słonka and Nowaczyk. The two conducted a search which ended in them taking her meat and products that came from the slaughter, and because she lived in the same house as I did, Słonka searched my place as well: the apartment, the attic, closets, and cellars. Having found no meat products, he took whatever he came across: clothes, linen, vodka, flour, and other things, including 5 kg of słonina [pork fat].

Józefa Sawicka saved herself by escaping because, as she said, Słonka and Hospodar threatened her with shooting, which I heard from Słonka himself as well. Słonka came almost every day at different times of the day and night in hopes of arresting her, but he never did because my sister-in-law had gone away, and to this day I don't know where she is. Second to Hospodar, Słonka had the worst reputation. He carried out executions of Poles and Jews; transported those arrested by the Germans to Auschwitz; beat and bullied the detainees; despoiled Poles and Jews; and went arm in arm with German criminals into the country to murder Polish partisans fighting for freedom.