

## **Citizen's Militia in the Poznań Voivodeship 1945-1948**

Before the Second World War, the Polish Police was responsibly for security in whole country. 1944, during this war, was a year when the Polish Committee of National Liberation took power in Poland with help of Soviet Union. Communists dissolved Police and they organized a new institution – Citizen's Militia.

Militiamen had this same role as policemen but it was also some differences. Although it was officially an apolitical organization in reality militiamen had to do everything to serve new government. It means, that Citizen's Militia must fought against the communist oppositions. It also means, that in this institution couldn't serve any man, who didn't believe in communism.

The Greater Poland (Poznań Voivodeship) was recaptured by the Soviet Union's and Polish troops between January and February in 1945 year. Because of it militia was organized in this area few months later than in the east.

In the end of 1945 year Citizen's Militia was organized in whole Poland. The story of this formation is very difficult. Part of militiamenn died during fights against soldiers or criminals. On the other hand they also served communist's government. For this reason this group had to fight also against Poles, for example anticommunist's partisans. Second date, 1948 year, is the moment when communists took whole power in Poland after referendum (1946 year), parliamentary elections (1947 year) and after organized Polish United Worker's Party (1948 year).

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