

ABRAMOWICZ Szymon Chaim Sumer (1913-1944) pseud. Sumek. A communist, one of the leaders of the Jewish Fighting Organisation (ŻOB) in the Częstochowa ghetto. He was born on 23rd May 1913 in Częstochowa, the son of Ajzyk (1888 Kłobuck - 1942 Treblinka), a butcher, the owner of a butcher shop, and Ruchla née Makowska (1889-1943) who, with her fourteen-year-old daughter, Miriam, was in Warsaw, where both perished.

After graduating from the Jewish Gimnazjum in Częstochowa, he began working in his father's butcher shop. From 1932, he was a member of the Communist Union of Polish Youth (KZMP) and then a member of the Communist Party of Poland.

In 1933, he was arrested and, on 27th November, was sentenced District Court in Kielce to one year in prison. After his release, he continued being active in the communist movement. In 1936, he joined the District Committee of the KZMP in Częstochowa.

During the German occupation, he was forced to live in the Częstochowa ghetto, where he worked in workshops and in the furniture warehouse (*Möbellager*) at ul. Wilsona 20/22. In the summer of 1942, he was one of the leading promoters of armed resistance. As a representative of the communists, he was to take part in the inter-party conference on the establishment of the fighting organisation. However, this did not take place because, on 22nd September 1942, the liquidation operation and deportations to the extermination camp began.

During the operation, he began organising (with → Henryk Tencer, D. Warszawski and W. Celnik) a fighting group in the *Möbellager*. They managed to save many people from deportation and hide them. In November 1942, together with other workers, he found himself in the labour camp – the "Small Ghetto". When ŻOB was established in Częstochowa at the end of December 1942, he became deputy commander to → Mordechaj Zylberberg "Mojteka". As a member of the ŻOB command, he dealt with the maintenance of contact with other ghettos (including that in Warsaw). He received couriers from other ghettos and sent couriers from Częstochowa to other cities.

On 25th June 1943, on the eve of the liquidation of the "Small Ghetto", German police attacked the ŻOB weapons warehouse. A fight broke out during which most of the members of ŻOB died. Abramowicz managed to escape and reach a detachment of the J. Bem People's Guard of the Polish Workers' Party. He joined them. He died fighting German gendarmes, on 6th January 1944, in the village of Czechy, in Radomsko County.

Meirtchak, *Żydzi – żołnierze wojsk polskich*, p. 127; *Słownik działaczy polskiego ruchu robotniczego*, t. I (B. Moszkowicz), p. 38. – Orenstein, *Churban Czenstochow*, p. 44; Brener, *Widersztand*, p. 64, 113, 116; Nazarewicz, *Nad górną Wartą i Pilicą*, p. 94, 125.

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