“Aryan Papers”

Jew, in the “Small Ghetto”, possessed no documents. They had two marks - a number on their breast and a Star of David armband on their right arm.

The German and Polish populace had documents, identity cards and work certificates from the firms where they worked, which were issued by the Employment Bureau. Those Jews, who had a Christian (Aryan) appearance and wished to leave the “Small Ghetto”, first of all, needed to obtain an Aryan document (Kennkarte\(^1\)).

Those, who provided these ID cards were Polish clerks, who falsified the documents. There was a great number of Jews on the “Aryan side”, who held positions in Polish firms and even in Town Hall and were taken to be 100% Poles thanks to these ID cards - [both] real cards and the so-called “lipes”\(^2\) (fake cards). The authentic cards were made out in the name of a deceased person, and the formalities were carried out in the completely, normal manner. There were copies of these ID cards in Town Hall and the Gestapo. The “lipes”, on the other hand, were produced with blanks stolen from the printing press - the signatures and stamps were forged. One of those, who provided the ID cards for the Częstochowa “Small Ghetto” was Henryk Kozłowski.

Henryk Kozłowski was, in fact, a Jew. His real name was Hersz Goldsztajn. He was on the “Aryan side” with an “authentic” ID card and, for two and a half months, lived in Częstochowa’s “Aryan side”, at ul. Złota 4 with his wife and two children. His brother also lived in Zawodzie at ul. Ślepa 5. When his place of residence in Częstochowa became unsafe, he moved to Wesoła, then to Rembertów, near Warsaw, where he became acquainted with a functionary who produced the ID cards and he - Henryk Kozłowski/Hersz Goldsztajn - took the documents to the people concerned. The rendezvous points with Henryk Kozłowski/Hersz Goldsztajn were the Möbellager and Enro. That is where the transactions of ordering and receiving the produced documents (ID cards) took place. Henryk Kozłowski’s connection to Enro was a result of the following fact:

On the Aryan side of Anin, next to Warsaw, there lived a Jewish family which consisted of three individuals - a couple (he was a doctor) with a child. They were there on “Aryan papers” and worked in the Warsaw Town Hall. The wife was the sister of Proskurowski, who worked in the office at Enro. She wanted to rescue her brother and his family from the Częstochowa “Small Ghetto” and from the unpaid forced labour of Hitler’s tyrannical regime. She made the acquaintance of Henryk Kozłowski and sent him to her brother in the Enro factory, in order that he should make him an ID card in order to bring him over to Anin. As a result of this episode, a large number of Jews ordered ID cards from Kozłowski (meaning Goldsztajn, who was passing himself off as an Aryan and living in the “Aryan side”), in the hope that this would save them in tragic moments.

\(^1\) [TN: Ger., “ID card.”]
\(^2\) [TN: Apparently from the Polish word “lipa”, which can be used to mean “bash” or “shoddy.”]
Henryk Kozłowski’s landlady did not know that he was Jewish. She - and also all the Poles in that vicinity - contended that he was an officer of the Polish army and that it was best for him not to come into contact with the German authorities.

Janina Gutowska, Henryk Kozłowski’s landlady, knowing that he was travelling to Częstochowa, asked him to deliver a letter to her relative, Proboszcz [parish priest] Godziszewski. As it turned out, Proboszcz Godziszewski and his friend Proboszcz Wróblewski were hiding some two hundred Jewish children and adults in various cloisters. Proboszcz Godziszewski wrote back a letter, as a result of which the two Szajn brothers were given lodgings in that village of Wesola, next to Rembertów, near Warsaw. They had “proper” ID cards and, thanks to the connections with the counsellor-at-law Czerwiakowski, they both worked in the Warsaw Town Hall. Jan Czerwiakowski was the son-in-law of Janina Gutowska, the landlady of Henryk Kozłowski/Hersz Goldsztajn. Janina Gutowska was the one who gave them lodgings in Wesola and found them employment through her son-in-law. Over time, her sister’s daughter, Jarosińska [surname], fell in love with one of the Szajn brothers.

The Jarosiński family was one of the most illustrious in Poland. Jarosińska’s son-in-law was the famous Professor [Kazimierz Władysław] Bartel3, the former Prime Minister of Poland. They decided to get married. This was not such a straightforward thing. All the documents needed to be presented to the church and it was necessary to know the Catholic ritual - these were colossal obstacles. They wrote about it to Proboszcz Godziszewski and he personally travelled to them. The wedding was held in the private home of the counsellor-at-law Jan Czerwiakowski in Warsaw, on ul. Mokotowska, where Proboszcz Godziszewski conducted the religious Catholic ceremony. At the wedding, a friend of the lawyer Czerwiakowski fell in love with the other Szajn brother. Shortly afterwards, Proboszcz Godziszewski was, once more, invited to the second wedding in the home of the counsellor-at-law Jan Czerwiakowski.

During the epoch of Hitler’s occupation, the Jews suffered and fought in the forests as partisans, in the ghettos in the underground movement and on the “Aryan side” with ID cards – as twentieth century Marranos.

A large number of ID cards were made for the “Small Ghetto”. A small number of people were saved thanks to these documents. Others were caught because of them - for instance, in the Möbellager, Miss Rozenzaft was shot because they found an ID card on her. Others did not manage to make any use of the ID cards.

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3 [TN: Upon consulting Prof Dariusz Stola, he has informed us that Bartel was married to Ms Rutkowska and not Jarosińska.]