

GLANC Rywka (1917-1943) Zionist, organiser and leader of the *Chalutz* movement and a member of the Jewish Fighting Organisation (ŻOB). She was born on 17th April 1917 in Konin.

She joined the *Frajhajt* youth movement (an extension of the *Poalei Zion* Right party). She was brought up and raised in the Zionist-Socialist spirit. She left for *hachshara* and prepared for *aliyah* to Palestine. She had organisational skills and was dedicated to the movement. As such, she was prevented from leaving so that she could lead the *kibbutz* movement in Poland. For five years, she ran the *hachshara* points, the longest (until 1939) being the “Borocho” Łódź *kibbutz*.

At the beginning of the German occupation, for some time, she was secretary to the Łódź *Judenrat* president, Mordechaj Chaim Rumkowski. When she discovered his true character and the role he played, she left for Warsaw. She began working together with Cywia Lubetkin, Frumka Płotnicką and others.

She was one of the founders of the underground *Dror*. Due to her “Aryan appearance”, she was a courier, travelling around cities and towns, transporting illegal literature, promoting courage and organising the *Chalutz* movement. During her trips, she always managed to get out of dangerous situations due to her quick orientation ability. From the end of 1940 until the spring of 1941, she lived in the Lublin district. On 11th May 1941, from the training camp in Hrubieszów, she wrote a letter to Natan Szwalb in Geneva. Probably together with Frumka Płotnicka, she transported a group of thirty *chalutzim* to a *kibbutz* in Grabowiec.

She later returned to Warsaw from where she was sent to Częstochowa. This was at the request of the locals Workers’ Council (*Arbeter-rat*). She established a *kibbutz* in Częstochowa at ul. Berka Joselewicza 1. She also began working together with the *Arbeter-rat*. On 30th March 1942, she officially registered her stay, and that of the entire *Dror* group, at the second address of the *kibbutz* (at the corner of ul. Piłsudskiego and ul. Przemysłowa). The core of the group were young Zionists from Warsaw and the Lublin region.

During the deportations to the Treblinka death camp in September 1942, almost all of them were deported. From the transport, Glanc extracted → Bernard Kurland (or, according to another version, at his request, → President Leon Kopiński). In the “Small Ghetto”, Glanc recreated a group of *Chalutz* youth, which became the nucleus of one of the ŻOB combat units (the so-called *Kibbutz*). Glanc entered the ŻOB high command in Częstochowa. She enjoyed

the unquestionable authority here because of her determination and extraordinary courage.

On the day the “Small Ghetto” was liquidated, together with Marek Folman, the representative of the ŻOB Warsaw headquarters, and a group of fighters, she entered an underground side-tunnel, which was not attacked by the Germans, and escaped from the camp. They hid in an attic of building at Stary Rynek 17. On the morning of 26th June 1943, they tried to leave in small groups. The last group, led by Glanc, was surrounded by German policemen. All of the fighters died in the battle, when they ran out ammunition and grenades.

Her name is on the monument, in the Cześćochowa Jewish Cemetery, which is dedicated to the ŻOB fighters.

Die Verfolgung und Ermordung der europäischen Juden durch das nationalsozialistische Deutschland 1933–1945, vol. 4 *Polen September 1939 – Juli 1941*, by Klaus-Peter Friedrich, together with Andrea Löw, Munich 2011, pp. 610, 611; Cywia Lubetkin, *Zagłada i powstanie*, Warsaw 1999, pp. 22, 25, 174; *Czeństochower Landsmanszaft in Montreal*, pp. 201, 202. - APCz, MagCz 9065, Book No. 72.

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