GLIKSMAN (after 1942, Gilam) Josef Józef (1913-2000), Zionist activist, engineer. He was born on 14th October 1913 in Częstochowa, the son of Abraham and Miriam née Klajner.

For some time, Gliksman studied in a cheder and in a private school. He then attended the Jewish Gimnazium. There, he made wide contact with Jewish youth, amongst whom he fostered Zionist ideas. He was one of the organisers and, later, headed Betar, a Zionist youth organisation. In 1933, he matriculated from the Częstochowa Jewish Gimnazium and left to study in Italy, attending universities in Genoa and Milan. In 1939, he graduated with a doctorate in engineering.

He returned briefly to Częstochowa and then left, as part of an illegal emigration (aliyah), for Palestine. He played a significant role on the liner “Parita”, which blundered around the Mediterranean Sea for seven weeks. The Olim arrested the captain and sailors (who had refused to sail into Tel Aviv), and organised a committee to take control of the ship. Gliksman took charge of the engine room. On 22nd August 1939, the liner entered Tel Aviv, flying blue and white flags.

In 1939-1942, Gliksman worked in Syria and Lebanon. He later lived in Tel Aviv, where he worked as a construction engineer. He died on 14th December 2000 in Kfar Saba (Israel) and was buried in Ramat Hasharon.

His wife was Frida (born in Vienna), also an illegal immigrant. They had a son, Gabriel.

Czenstochower Yidn, p. XIX. - Materials (extract from birth record) in the ODDC collection.

Wiesław Paszkowski

1 [TN: Hebrew for those undertaking “Aliyah”]