

HERTZ Alfred Gabriel (1898–1942), participant in the war with the Bolsheviks, doctor. He was born on 13th March 1898 in Częstochowa, the son of → Stanisław Szlama and Estera née Zaks.

He received his initial education in the family home. In 1906, he enrolled in the newly created No.1 Polish Gimnazjum in Częstochowa, which he attended for two years. In 1908, he moved to the Łódź Merchants' Commerce School. In the 1914/1915 school year, he studied privately. In 1915, he entered the 8th grade at the TOS (Society for the Care of Schools) Boys' Gimnazjum in Częstochowa (from 16th November, known as the H. Sienkiewicz TOS Boys Gimnazjum. He matriculated there on 20th June 1916. In the autumn of 1916, he entered the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Warsaw. During his studies, he was a member of the Fraternal Aid Society.

On 14th November 1918, as a volunteer, he joined the Polish Army. Initially, he served in the 8th Sapper Battalion in Kraków. In March 1919, he was assigned to the sanitary service at the Regional Hospital in Kraków. Then, for a few months, he served on the No. 3 sanitary train. Then, in October 1919, he was appointed as an officer cadet. In January 1920, he was sent on Sanitary Officer's Courses in Warsaw, after the completion of which he was assigned to the Assembly Station for the Sick and Injured in Białystok. (It was later the Station for the Sick and Injured for the 1st Army.) During the Bolshevik offensive, by order of the 1st Army Command, he was assigned to the 201st Cavalry Regiment (serving there until he demobilised in March 1921). He took part in the defence of Warsaw and then, during the counter-offensive, he fought in, among other places, the Battle of Płońsk. Together with his regiment, he was later transferred to the Wołyn front, where he took part in the Battle of Korosteń. (For his bravery, he was awarded the Cross of Valour).

After being released from the army, he returned to his studies. He gained his medical degree on 16th February 1924. Shortly after, he briefly practised in Częstochowa, then settled in Tomaszów Mazowiecki. (He lived at ul. Tkacka 4). There, he practised privately, treating internal illnesses and children's diseases. In later years, he was a Social Insurance Company (US) doctor.

In the event of mobilisation, he held the rank of Second Lieutenant (effective 1st July 1925) and was assigned to the support staff of the 4th District Hospital.

Following the outbreak of war in 1939, he remained in Tomaszów, working with the Society for the Protection of the Health of the Jewish Population TOZ and

was a member of the Council of Elders (*Judenrat*). On 8th May 1942, he was murdered by the German criminal police, during the “reserve officer operation”. His name is mentioned on a commemorative plaque of US staff in Tomaszów Mazowiecki. In 1948, it was moved to the Tomaszów Mazowiecki Municipal Hospital building.

He was married to Eugenia Frankfurt (16th August 1899 Tomaszów Mazowiecki-), the daughter of Icek and Dwojra née Tempel. They had no children.

Gliński, *Słownik lekarzy i farmaceutów*, vol. III, p. 103 (also a photo); *Sienkiewiczacy*, p. 229 (here, mistakenly called Adolf); K.T. Witczak, *Słownik biograficzny Żydów tomaszowskich*, Łódź–Tomaszów Mazowiecki 2010, pp. 116–117. – *Rocznik oficerski rezerw 1934*, pp. 225, 757; *Urzędowy spis lekarzy 1939*, p. 78 (doctors). – APCz, Gimnazjum Kościńskiego 6, p. 6.

Paweł Michalski