

**IMICH** Aleksander (1903–2014), chemist. He was born on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1903 in Częstochowa, the son of → Józef Rubin and Ludwika Laja née Kwasner.

In 1918, while still a high school student, he joined the Polish Army. During the Polish-Bolshevik War, in 1919-1921, he was a military truck driver.

After graduating from the H. Sienkiewicz No.1 State Gimnazjum in Częstochowa, in 1921, he undertook studies in zoology at the Jagiellonian University. He later moved to chemistry and, in 1929, he received his doctorate in chemistry. He was interested in parapsychological phenomena. In 1932, he published an article in the German magazine *“Zeitschrift für Parapsychologie”* [“Journal of Parapsychology”].

During the war with Germany, in September 1939, with his wife Wela, he escaped to Soviet-occupied Białystok. There, he worked as a chemist. After refusing to accept Soviet citizenship, he was arrested (along with his wife) and was deported to a labour camp on the White Sea. Upon his release in 1941, he went to Samarkand (Uzbekistan) and, in 1946, he arrived back in Poland.

In 1951 (or 1952), he left for the United States, where he worked as a consultant chemist. He also conducted research into paranormal phenomena and published a book entitled *“Incredible Tales of the Paranormal”*. In 1999, he established the Anomalous Phenomena Research Centre. With great effort, he obtained funding for projects carried out by this institution.

He lived in New York and died on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

Imich married twice:

- His first wife (whom he divorced) was Gustawa née Landau (1904-),
- His second wife was Wela (-1986), painter, psychotherapist, who ran her practice in Manhattan, New York.

*Sienkiewiczacy*, p. 230. – APCz, Records of the City of Częstochowa 27/5, vol. I, k. 3117. – Materials in the ODDC collections.

**Juliusz Sętowski**