ROTAUB Adam Józef (1912-1982), academic teacher, historian, [political] party activist, city councillor. He was born on 18th July 1912 in Koło, the son of Luzer and Perla.

In 1923, Rotaub graduated from the R. Traugutt No.1 State Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. He then began work in a factory in Gnasyn. During the German occupation, he lived inside the Częstochowa ghetto. In 1942, he was moved into the “Small Ghetto”. From that same year, he was in charge of the fire brigade in HASAG Pelcery. (Members of the brigade also performed police activities there.)

After 1945, he continued to work in that same factory in Gnasyn, as commander of the industrial guard. While still working, he graduated from the Administration and Commerce College in Częstochowa and the Main School of Planning and Statistics in Warsaw. He was professionally linked to the Higher School of Economics (WSE) in Częstochowa. From 1951, he taught classes at the School of Engineering (from 1955, the Częstochowa Polytechnic), as head of the Department of Basic of Marxism-Leninism.

In 1964, in the WSE in Katowice, he gained his doctorate, his thesis being entitled “The Textile Industry in Częstochowa and its Workers, at the Turn of the 20th Century”.

In 1970, he was appointed an associate professor. He headed the Department of Economics and Production Organisation, as well as the Metallurgy Department’s Evening Vocational Study [Program]. He later became director of the Institute of Economic Social Sciencep.

From 1945, Rotaub belonged to the PPS and then, later, the Polish United Workers’ Party (PZPR). He performed a number of functions in the party’s Universities Committee. He was a member of the executive and plenary of the Municipal Committee and a member of the academic committee of the Provincial Committee of the PZPR. He was a member of the Częstochowa Municipal State Council.

In 1964-1969, he was a board member of the Society for the Support of Regional Culture. He took part in the work of the Śląsk Scientific Institute and the Main Technical Organisation in Częstochowa. He was a member of the Polish Economics Society and the Academic Society of Organisation and Management. He published a number of academic works devoted to the workers’ movement and socio-economic relations in the Częstochowa region.
He died on 3rd January 1982 in Częstochowa and was buried in the Kule Cemetery (section 8, row XIV, grave 6).

His awards included the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta, the Gold Cross of Merit and the gold badge of “Meritorious Service to the Development of the Katowice Province”.

His wife was Krystyna Jankowska (circa 1925 - 1995). They had a son Ryszard (1955), a graduate of the Śląsk University, a journalist.


Juliusz Sętowski