

ZORSKI (ŻORSKI) Jan (1893-1926), pseudonym "Jerzy. Political and independence activist, administrator. He was born on 22nd September 1893 in Aniołów (now within the city of Częstochowa), the son of → Henryk Dawid and Ernestyna Estera Elina née Nirenberg the brother of → Gustaw. Following his father's death, he was cared for by → Fabian Zorski.

Zorski attended the government Boys Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. In 1905, he took part in a student strike. From 1906, he studied at the No.1 Polish Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. From that year, he was active in the Society for Spreading Knowledge. In 1905-1906, he belonged to the youth organisation of the Bund. In August 1909, he joined the PPS-Revolutionary Faction (FR). In May 1910, he completed the "Combat School" course (the third one) run by the PPS-FR and the Open Combat Union in Kraków.

After returning to Częstochowa, together with Marian Skrzynecki, he was a district official for the local PPS-FR. He belonged to the sixth Combat Organisation of the PPS-FR (the "intelligentsia"), organised by the instructor Antoni Sukiennik. In December 1910, fearing arrest by the Russians, he fled to Kraków. There, he graduated from the Real Academy and, in February 1914, he matriculated, supplemented by passing examinations in Latin, Greek and introductory philosophy at the King Jan Sobieski III Gimnazjum in Kraków. In the 1914/1915 academic year, he studied at the University of Vienna.

He lived in Częstochowa in 1914-1916, during which time he was a member of the illiteracy courses board of the Crafts School for Jews. In the academic year 1917/1918, he was a student in the Philosophy Faculty of the Jagiellonian University. He later studied architecture in Graz.

Prior to 1918, he began working in the SDKPiL (Social Democracy of the Kingdom of Poland and Lithuania). In November 1918, representing that party, he joined the Częstochowa Workers' Council. He was also active in the Workers' Council in Zagłębie Dąbrowskie. In December of that year, in Warsaw, he was a delegate to the unification process between the PPS-Left and the SDKPiL. He was later active in the KPRP (Communist Workers' Party of Poland). From 1922, he worked in the Health Fund in Łódź.

On 17th August 1926, he committed suicide in Vienna – according to another version, he died as the result of a long illness.

Corpus studiosorum T–Ż, p. 907. – L. Mastalski, *7 Dywizja Piechoty w latach 1918–1939*, Częstochowa 2012, p. 98; Sętowski, *Czyn zbrojny*, pp. 231–232 (biography). – Prüffer, *Szkolnictwo w Częstochowie*, p. 26. – “Dziennik Częstochowski” 1906, No. 223, p. 2; “Nowy Express Częstochowski” 1926, No. 148, p. 3. – APCz, Zespół nr 72, birth record No. 300 (Jan Zorski), Records of G. Kościński Gimnazjum 10, 11, 12.

Juliusz Sętowski