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## THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Polish citizen, now residing in the US with his US father-in-law. From 1938 to 1939,he was the Polish assistant commercial attache stationed in Chicago. He married a US citizen in early 1939 and on his wedding trip to Poland in August, 1939, war broke out. He was wounded serving as an officer in the Polish Army during the initial German advance, retiring within the Polish lines. During the entire German occupation,he served underground as Chief of the Propaganda Section of an administrative region West of Warsaw of the Polish Home Army, directed by the free Polish Government in London. Following the Soviet "liberation" of Poland he was arrested in February, 1945, by the Soviet NKVD, sentenced to slave labor in the Ural Mountains as a "Home Army bandit", remaining in various camps there until his release, along with 2,000 other Poles, in November, 1947. While in the slave labor camps he lost the complete sight of one eye and the partial use of the other. He arrived in the US 9 Sep 48, having been preceded by his wife and son in January, 1946.

- 1. The Aktiv was an organization whose membership was recruited from prisoners in the Soviet labor camps. The membership consisted of men, who for the sake of an extra bowl of soup, to curry favor with the camp administration, or for other opportunist reasons were willing to embrace the Soviet ideology.
- 2. As an officer in the former Polish Home Army, considerable pressure was brought to bear on me to join the Aktiv organization. The camp administration did everything in its power to needle those who would not fall for the obvious recruiting methods of the Aktiv. Our "educators" were nettled by the fact that my friends and I exerted influence over the most worthwhile Polish elements in the camp who remained true to their principles throughout their entire stay in the Urals. Almost without exception, they were Home Army soldiers. Not one of them joined the Aktiv, although . they were good and hungry. The camp administration also told us that members of '' the Aktiv had the best chance of getting back to Poland.
- 3. Although we had previously heard of institutions similar to the Aktiv among the German prisoners of war in Soviet camps, the first opportunity that it came to the attention of us Poles was at Hudakova in the Vergoshine region. The camp authorities had very little success with the Poles. Up to the very end of my stay in Hudakova, only the German Aktiv was really functioning. It consisted almost exclusively of young Germans from the old Hitlerjugend. The Aktivists wore an insignia with their maticral colors on their left shoulder, white, red and black for the Germans, and white and red for the Poles. A practical advantage of this insignia was the ready access to the kitchen and the release from heavier duties that its wearer enjoyed. The Aktiv had a so-called library which was nothing more than a collection of Soviet propaganda pamphlets.

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