World War II: Polish Veterans' Testimonies

A unique opportunity to learn from four distinguished guests who will share their remarkable journeys of courage and survival:

Ms. Danuta Inglot, Ms. Krystyna Zielonka, Mr. Wieslaw Chodorowski and Mr. Jan Krawiec

Ms. Inglot lived in a six-story apartment building, which the German Stormtroopers, the SS, surrendered on the first day of the Warsaw Uprising. The SS ordered all inhabitants out, executed them, and set the building on fire. Ms. Inglot and her mother survived by hiding in the cellars for the next 28 days. Arrested by the Gestapo, they were held for a month in a notorious Gestapo prison and eventually shipped to Germany to forced labor camps.

Ms. Zielonka joined the Polish Scouting Underground in 1943 and was trained as a courier and first aid nurse. Assigned to a platoon formed at the Center for the Deaf and Dumb in central Warsaw, she provided first aid to the wounded during the Warsaw Uprising of 1944. She also helped move more seriously wounded to a nearby hospital. After the surrender, she was taken as a Prisoner of War and shipped to a P.O.W. camp in Germany.

Mr. Chodorowski was 10 at the beginning of World War II. He spent the first years of war in orphanages where he joined the Polish resistance movement (Home Army) and attended underground schools. Mr. Chodorowski fought as a courier/soldier in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944, and spent seven months in P.O.W. camps in Germany following the Uprising’s defeat.

Mr. Krawiec was 20 and a Polish Army soldier at the outset of World War II. After Poland’s defeat by Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union in September 1939, he joined the Polish resistance movement and worked for the underground press. He was captured and tortured by the Gestapo in May 1943, and later became a prisoner at Auschwitz-Birkenau (camp serial number 153156), and eventually at Buchenwald. Mr. Krawiec was freed by the American troops in April 1945.

Thursday, November 21

10:00-11:15 a.m. and 11:30-12:45 p.m.

Mullady Theatre

Discussion to follow

Sponsored by the Department of History and the Polish Studies Program

In 2010 the Polish Resistance (AK) Foundation founded a scholarship for Loyola students majoring in history. For more information about this scholarship, including application process and deadlines, please visit:
http://www.luc.edu/history/Polish_History_Schol.shtml