

# Clandestine education in the occupied Pomerania Province Bydgoszcz

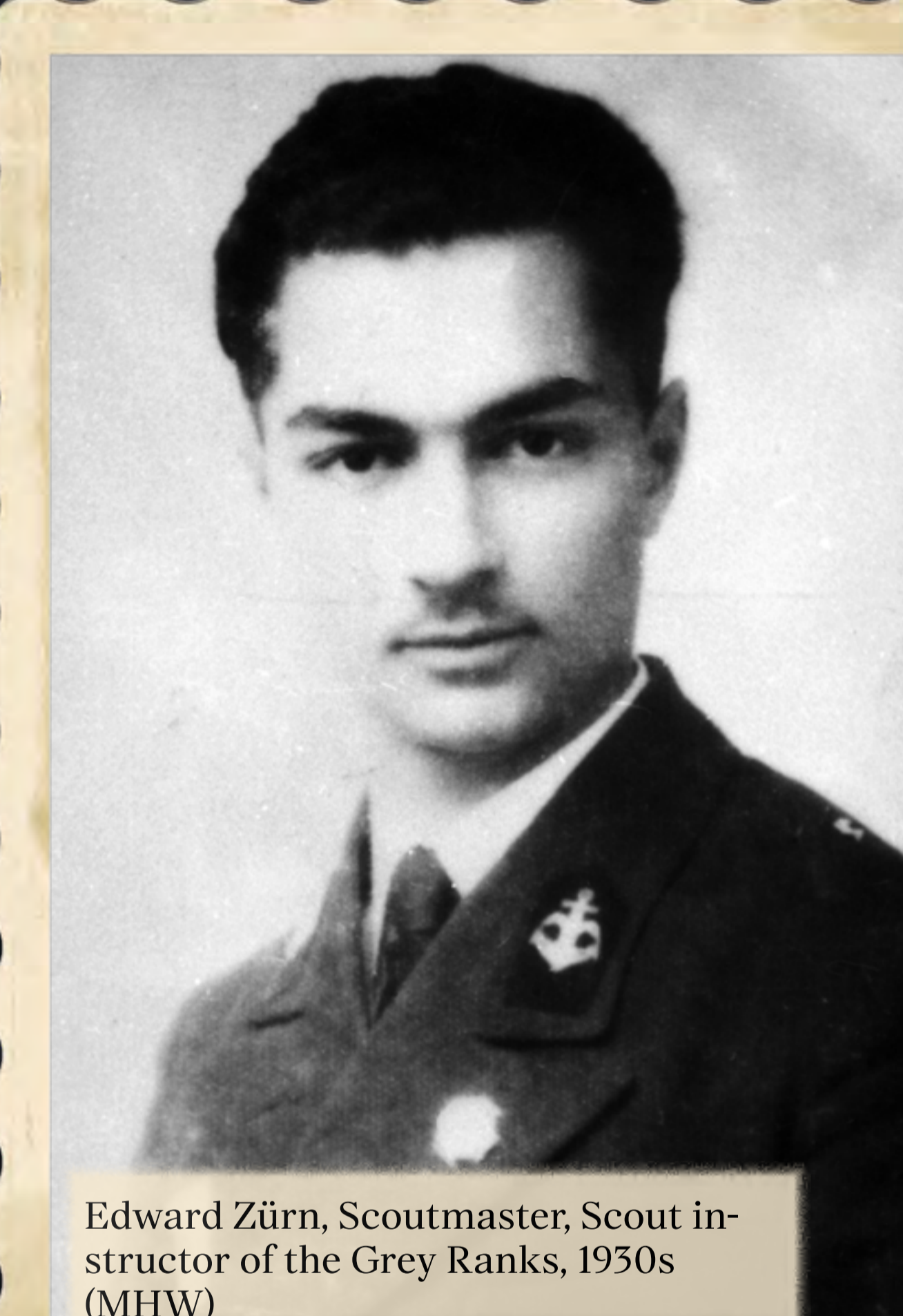
Bydgoszcz, Nicolaus Copernicus Municipal Secondary School, 1931 (NAC)



In Bydgoszcz, the Scout organization Szare Szeregi played a significant role in organizing clandestine education. In January 1944, six Scout troops were active there. The following Girl Scouts were particularly active in organizing clandestine education: Maria Biegunówna, Maria Brzeska, Elżbieta Jaworska, Kazimiera Rogińska, Zofia Mróz, Zofia Stefaniak, and Kazimiera Jaworska.

The Girl Scouts, maintaining contact with each other during the occupation, organized classes in reading and writing in Polish and in Polish history. In this way, they opposed the Germanization of cub scouts and younger scouts, who were subjected to compulsory education under the German educational system.

Between 1943 and 1944, activists Edward Zürn and Ferdynand Ziętek, members of Szare Szeregi, maintained contact with the Bydgoszcz Girl Scouts, delivering Polish primers, textbooks, and literature to Bydgoszcz.



Edward Zürn, Scoutmaster, Scout instructor of the Grey Ranks, 1930s (MHW)

Bydgoszcz, Gdańska Street, column of hostages at the wall of the Hotel Pod Orłem, 1939 (NAC)

