

Institute of National Remembrance

<https://eng.ipn.gov.pl/en/news/7132,President-of-the-Institute-of-National-Remembrance-honoured-people-persecuted-by.html>

30.03.2026, 16:39

01.03.2021

President of the Institute of National Remembrance honoured people persecuted by the communist regime and their relatives

"What matters is whether we'll manage to pass the memory of the Accursed Soldiers to the youngest generation. The thousand-year heritage of the Republic of Poland, that the Accursed paid with their lives to protect, must be the heritage of these young people."

The IPN's head said these words on 28 February in Ciechanów in central Poland, where he went to commemorate the accursed soldiers from the region. Having laid a wreath at the dedicated plaque, he did the same at the building that used to house the local office of communist security services, in order to honour all victims of the regime - murdered, crippled, abused and humiliated there. Jarosław Szarek pointed out to the aspect of post-war years that is often overlooked by historians: the fates of civilians, relatives of the accursed soldiers were prosecuted and persecuted, very often unlawfully, and unrelated helpers, who suffered equally.

We remember about the soldiers, but we must also remember about the people whose names we won't find on the plaque. Their families, their loved ones who paid the price that was just as high.

Consequently, the IPN's President visited the villages of Pałuki where he honoured Bronisław and Zdzisław Kołakowski, father and son murdered for sheltering a unit of anti-communist partisans.

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