

## MONKEY-WRENCHING THE OCCUPATION

For Sunday, July 2, 1944, this is Radio Lightning, voice of a free Poland. We are broadcasting from Warsaw, always one step ahead of the Gestapo. The following two persons have been sentenced to death by the Home Army Special Court: Commandant August Kretschmann of the Gesiówka concentration camp and Igo Sym, an actor who sold out his country for money. Radio Lightning thought better of you, Igo.

We have learned that some enterprising young patriot has managed to distribute forged German newspapers promising swift and certain death at the hands of the Home Army. We have no idea who the perpetrators are, but we salute your zeal. Soon may the day come.

This is Radio Lightning, the voice of the defiant Polish people.

1

**Old Town:** The waterfront. Royal castle. Saxon Garden. The State Mint. Grzybowski square. St. Lazarus hospital. Church of the Holy Cross. Srednikowy bridge. The ruins of the Powarkowska and Leszno street ghettos, destroyed

## THE NAZIS BEGIN TO GET NERVOUS

This is Radio Lightning for Thursday, July 27th, 1944. News flash from Radio Lightning! Four days ago Home Army forces in Lwów began an armed rising in cooperation with our Soviet allies. I have the pleasure to report that today Lwów is liberated. Radio Moscow continues to agitate for a general Uprising in Poland. The Home Army wisely bides its time - people of Poland, the Commander-in-Chief urges patience. You will not need to wait long.

Of note this week - the rash of German flags torn down and stamped in the dirt. Also noted - lamp posts on the Poniatowski bridge boasting brand new "For Hanging Germans" labels. Soon may it come true.

For free Poland, this is Radio Lightning.

2

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# THE SITUATION

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## THE UPRISING BEGINS!

News flash from Radio Lightning! A message from the Commander-in-Chief, handed to me by a Home Army courier: Soldiers of Warsaw! Today, Tuesday, August first 1944, I have issued the order to begin open battle against Poland's age-old enemy, the German invader. Today you will carry your arms in the open in order to free your country.

Friends and patriots, it is W-Hour! All soldiers report to your rallying points! Late-breaking updates - Battalion KB has been disbanded due to lack of weapons. Attack group Hal is to report to their alternate rally point. Units in the Golski sector are to back up Sosna per original instructions.

Radio Lightning will keep you informed throughout the day - listeners, stay tuned.

# 3

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## DESPERATE STREET FIGHTING

This is Radio Lightning, broadcasting on Wednesday, August second from liberated Warsaw. The news: Despite lack of weapons, Polish forces continue to gain ground. In some places we have broken into German strongholds and captured much-needed arms and ammunition. The fighting is ferocious but spirits are high, and much of Warsaw is liberated at this hour. Grey Ranks couriers have even revived the postal service.

Moscow claims in a broadcast that only Polish Communists are fighting in Warsaw. This is not true. There are no troops of the People's Army engaged in any action in Warsaw. This from the Home Army: Surviving troops of battalion Czata 49 are to report to Group Radoslaw headquarters.

Stay tuned to Radio Lightning, broadcasting from liberated Warsaw.

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## THE HIGH WATER MARK OF THE UPRISING

News updates for Friday, August fourth, 1944 from Radio Lightning, free Warsaw: Barricades have been erected throughout the city. Behind each wait determined troops of the Home Army with petrol bottles, which have caused the destruction of many German tanks so far.

The Germans continue their terror tactics. On Krolewska Street many houses have been burned. In one house a score of retired Polish professors were killed by the SS. Despite these horrors the morale of Home Army is high. The watch-word: death to the Germans. The Grey Ranks are doing work that is beyond all praise. Many young boys and girls have given their lives. They are keeping up the international tradition of the Scouts and Guides.

This is Radio Lightning.

5

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## GERMAN TANKS AGAINST HOME-MADE RIFLES

Radio Lightning war news for Monday, August seventh. A message from the Commander-in-Chief, follows: Poles! The armed struggle for the liberation of the capital has begun. Three days of battle have brought us great successes. The Home Army has conquered the most of Warsaw and set free in every Polish heart enthusiasm for the struggle and faith in its success. Long Live Independent Poland!

The German forces have brutally murdered wounded men and women who were lying in St. Lazarus Hospital in Wolska Street, and Karol and Maria Hospital in Przejazd Street. To our listeners in liberated Europe and across the English Channel - please send us weapons and ammunition as soon as possible.

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## OLD TOWN MUST HOLD

Radio Lightning, August 14th, 1944. We have received news that the Germans have enveloped and destroyed the Soviet 3rd Tank Corps at Wolomin, 15 kilometers from Warsaw.

A special plea to our friends abroad: Airdrops are badly needed in the center of the city. The Prudential building on Napoleon Square, the highest building in Warsaw, is completely burnt out. Warsaw is in ruins. In many places one cannot walk on the pavement without treading on fresh graves. Soldiers fighting to defend our barricades are dirty, hungry, and ragged. There are very few who have not received some wound. The morale of the soldiers is deteriorating.

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## OLD TOWN FALLS AND THE SEWERS BECOME A HIGHWAY

Today is Saturday, September second, and this is Radio Lightning's final broadcast. A message to Sir Archibald Sinclair, Minister for Air: Sir, in view of the extraordinary conditions we face, I take the liberty of addressing this radiogram direct to you. Sir, the situation here in Warsaw is critical. In a few days' time we shall be completely out of ammunition. Losses are colossal.

Yesterday I spoke to the survivors of a family who had been buried in ruins three times. Three of them were wounded and none of them had had any food for three days. Two of the family had been killed. The one question on all people's lips is: "My God, when will it end?"

Please help us. Radio Lightning signing off.

8

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# THE SOVIETS REACH THE VISTULA AND STOP COLD

*A Home Army status report taken from the hand of a dead Grey Ranks courier:*

10 September 1944. Food situation critical. Only water is from freshly dug wells. Epidemics are beginning to appear. Many wounded, and many killed. Varsovians living in ruins. Old Town completely destroyed. I personally today had first wash after six days and am considered lucky. Bread practically unheard of. Hospitals are in what were coal cellars a few weeks ago. Conditions are terrible. City Center still in Polish hands. Many streets systematically destroyed house by house.

Signs of the Russians across the Vistula - my God, why don't they come?

9

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## CAPITULATION

Soldiers of Fighting Warsaw! Today, October third, I have decided to call a halt to the fighting. I hereby ask of all soldiers to obey in good order all commands that will be issued as a consequence of our decision to stop fighting.

The civilian population is to obey all evacuation orders issued by me, the commanding officer of the city and the civilian administration. With faith in the final victory of our just cause, believing in our beloved, great and happy country, we will continue to be the soldiers and citizens of Free Poland, pledging allegiance to the flag of the Republic.

- Bór, Commander-in-Chief, Home Army

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