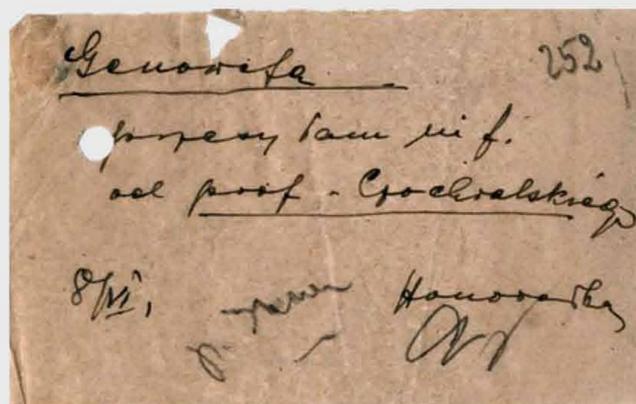
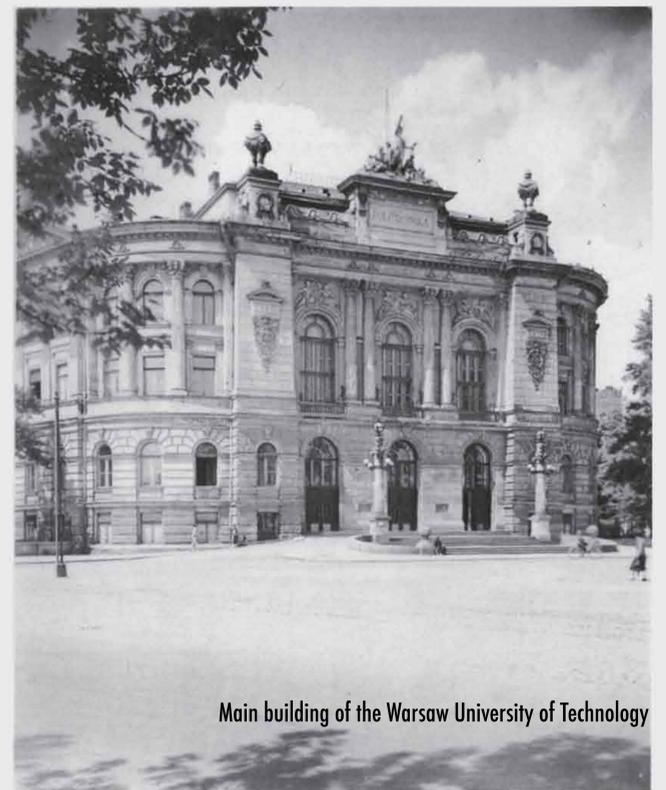


Activity during the Nazi occupation



Home Army report from "Honoratka" to "Genowefa"



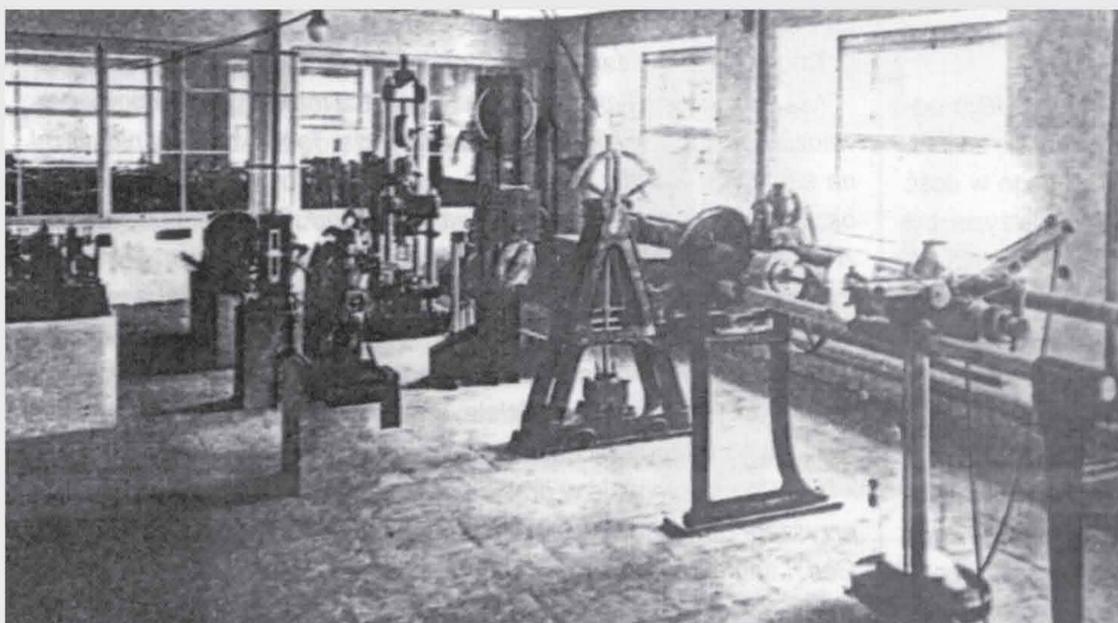
Main building of the Warsaw University of Technology

During World War II Jan Czochralski organised the Material Research Enterprise on the basis of the Institute of Metal Sciences of the Warsaw University of Technology. In return for the production of spare parts for motorcycle engines for Wehrmacht's repair workshops he was permitted to equip several dozen employees with documents protecting them against transport to Germany to forced work. The creation of the Enterprise saved the expensive foreign machines and gave an opportunity for the production of weapon elements for the Home Army*, with which Professor cooperated during the occupation.

The Home Army intelligence service often used Czochralski's contacts and position in the scientific circles to collect information needed by the underground movement. On many occasions, Professor made successful interventions aimed at releasing persons held in prisons and camps. He regularly sent money to the ghetto and hid two Jewish women in his home.

Germans treated Czochralski as one of them, although he openly stressed his Polish nationality, also in contacts with the occupants. However, he played double game - on the one hand, he solicited orders for the Enterprise, on the other, he created a collection of materials needed by the Home Army. This activity was highly secret, and very few people knew about it.

*Polish Home Army (Armia Krajowa) - during World War II, Europe's largest armed underground organisation fighting with the Nazi occupants. Home Army was anti-Communist and after the war, Polish pro-Communist authorities persecuted its leaders, soldiers and supporters. Many of them were convicted to long years in prison, and some trials based on false accusations - mainly concerning espionage - ended with death sentences.



Laboratory - technology division in the Metallurgy and Material Sciences Unit in the new building of the Chemical Technology Department



Professor Jan Czochralski in his office at the Warsaw University of Technology, 1943