# GREATER POLAND UPRISING 1918/1919

### "TWENTY-SEVENTH DECEMBER **BROUGHT FREEDOM"**

photo Capturing Zbaszyń as part of the revindication action, January 1920. (Photo from the collection of the Kórnik Library of PAS)



## 3. WAR AND DIPLOMACY

### German counter-offensive and creation of battle fronts

**Western Front** 



Fights for i.e

- Szubin

- Rynarzewo

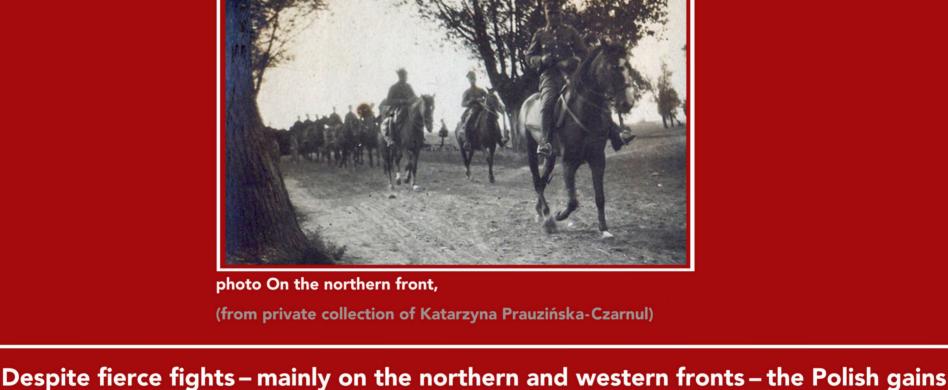
Fights for i.e. - Kopanicę

Zbąszyń

**Southern Front** 

- Rawicz - Kąkolewo

Fights for i.e.



from the first two weeks of the uprising were kept

Change of the uprising commander

### (1874 - 1960)(1867 - 1937)

**Poland Uprising** (on the photo in the general's uniform)

First Commander of the Greater

major Stanisław Taczak

Second Commander of the Greater Poland Uprising

general Józef Dowbor-Muśnicki



(photo from the NDA collection)

Fot: K.Greger & Co Poznar



and the Commander-in-Chief

(photo from the NDA collection)

of the Wielkopolska Army



THE WIELKOPOLSKA ARMY: **VOLUNTEER TROOPS:** - forced conscription organisation based on territorial structures - command positions held by experienced Polish officers no interference by the uprising commander in their from the Russian army

### functioning - no military ranks

- no single pattern of uniform strong will to fight, but low discipline

of August 1919

- about 14 thousand volunteers [mid-January 1919]
- single pattern of uniform - introduction of oath
- high discipline - about 100 thousand soldiers [June 1919]
- The Wielkopolska Army was incorporated into the Polish Army at the end

**Polish National Committee Commission of the Supreme** France

The fighting men were aided by



Ober-Ost troops.

in Paris

Forcing the Germans to sign the armistice in Trier (huge role of French Marshal Ferdinand Foch)

**People's Council** 



The armistice in Trier saved the Poznań Province from the intervention of the German

**⊙**POZNAŃ Zielona Góra zatrzymane przez Nieme granice: Prowincji Poznańskie WROCŁAW Demarcation line according to the armistice in Trier of 16th February 1919.

(author Radosław Przebitkowski from: pw.ipn.gov.pl)

THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES of 28th June 1919 finally decided to join almost

the entire Poznań Province to Poland. This success was due to an insurgent act

and the activity of Polish diplomats with the support of the Polish cause in France.

THE RESULT OF THE UPRISING:

Bydgoszc

### - impact on the development of the western and northern borders of the Second Republic

- inspiration for the Polish underground movement in Gdańsk Pomerania and Upper Silesia

- the creation of the Wielkopolska Army with 100 thousand soldiers

- about 2,000 fallen insurgents and 6,000 wounded

- **Bibliography:**
- Publications - A. Czubiński, Powstanie Wielkopolskie 1918-1919: geneza - charakter - znaczenie [Greater Poland Uprising 1918-1919 genesis - character - meaning], Poznań 2002
- M. Rezler, Powstanie Wielkopolskie 1918-1919: po 100 latach [Greater Poland Uprising 1918-1919 after 100 years], Poznań 2018 - W. Olszewski, Ł. Jastrząb, Lista strat powstania wielkopolskiego od 27.12.1918 r. do 8.03.1920 r. [List of losses in the Greater Poland Uprising from 27th December 1918 to 8th March 1920],
- Koszalin 2009 - R.T. Wilkanowicz, Utwory powstańcze, wybór wstęp i opracowanie I. Kiec [Insurgents' songs, selection, preparation and introduction I.Kiec], Poznań 2018
- "Kronika Miasta Poznania" 2018, No. 3:1918. Od rewolucji do powstania [1918.From revolution to uprising]. Photographs
- Kórnik Library of PAS
- Dziennik Polskiego Sejmu Dzielnicowego [Journal of the Polish District Sejm], Poznań 1918
- "Ilustracja Wielkopolska" 1928, No. 13
- National Digital Archive
- POLONA

- private collection of Katarzyna Prauzińska-Czarnul

pw.ipn.gov.pl

- Museum of Wielkopolska Insurgents in Lusowo

of Poland

Maps

