

THE JUBILEE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR JERZY GAŹDZICKI

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Introduction

The ceremonial Jubilee Session on the occasion of the 80th Anniversary of Professor Jerzy Gaździcki was held on his birthday, 15th October 2011 in the Szuster Palace in the Mokotów district of Warsaw. The Palace is surrounded by a little park which, on the day, was bathed in the sun's rays and the trees were dressed in autumn colours. At the entrance, the guests were greeted by the music of Chopin, but one did not know whether it was a recording or whether it was Jan Gaździcki, the Professor's grandson, a pianist preparing for the recital to honour the Jubilee ceremony. The historical interior, in warm beige-brown colours, created a unique atmosphere. As the celebration progressed everybody felt they were participating in a momentous event, nobody stifled their emotions, the speakers often had tears in their eyes and a catch in their voices.

The Jubilee Session was organized by three institutions: the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, the Faculty of Geodesy and Cartography of the Warsaw University of Technology and the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography. The programme for the session included, amongst other things: the presentation of Professor's scientific achievements and activities, an address by the Surveyor General of Poland, an address by the Dean of the Faculty, the Professor's speech, a recital by Jan Gaździcki as well as speeches by guests.

During the session, the Birthday Celebrator did not say much, others were talking about him and for him. It only seems fitting, that the 80th anniversary of his birth is the proper time to sum up his active participation in professional activities. This would be misleading. I have been associated both professionally and socially with the Professor's activities for more than forty years and like many other people, I found this behaviour to be very untypical. Professor Jerzy Gaździcki – the eminent scientist, teacher, organizer and social activist – has always been an innovator, suggesting solutions and, afterwards, implementing them himself and with other people. To illustrate, I am going to give two very recent examples: (i) less than a week after the Jubilee the Professor represented Poland at the UN, (ii) he prepared the paper *Conceptual aspects of regional spatial information systems in Poland* (Gaździcki, 2011a) for XXI Conference of PASI to be held on 7-9.11.2011, he planned the session and discussion panel devoted to this subject and intends to suggest to set up Liaison Taskforce of Regional Spatial Information Systems.

Professor Jerzy Gaździcki always demanded a lot, first of all, from himself but also from his students and collaborators; both with respect to the work done and papers prepared for publication. This paper does not meet the Professor's high standards, the proportions of individual parts are not kept, the message is not homogenous, the assumptions, content and summary with conclusions clearly formulated and in one case, quite exceptionally, even the principle of writing quotations in italics is not followed, the text is left just as its author wished. These exceptional memoirs were written, at my request, by Professor Janusz Pażyński and I should like to thank him cordially.

Scientific achievements and activities of the Birthday Celebrator

In accord with the program, the ceremonial session was opened by Marek Baranowski Ph.D., the Director of the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography before he presented a 16 slides „*Professor Jerzy Gaździcki – the eminent scientist, teacher, organizer and social activist*”. The paper included a dozen or so photos illustrating the Professor's scientific achievements and activities. Five years ago, on the occasion of Professor's 75th Birth Anniversary, we published a paper under the same title in *Annals of Geomatics* (Baranowski, Musiał, 2006). It can be seen, both from the presentation here below and from this paper, that a full or even an extensive presentation of the Professor's achievements is practically unfeasible.

To illustrate the above I have selected seventeen of the Professor's publications below, divided into textbooks, private publications and articles published in *Annals of Geomatics*; and listed them in the bibliography attached to this paper. Professor Stanisław Białousz drew our attention to the fact that the textbook *Spatial information systems* (Gaździcki, 1990) was the first textbook in this field and served students for several years before the next textbooks appeared. The work *Themes of GI science and technology* (Gaździcki, 2006) shows, how important the progress of education in Poland was for the Birthday Celebrator. Looking at the dates and titles of other textbooks, it is obvious that each publication of Professor Jerzy Gaździcki was the first one in a given field, in which he was involved and initiated certain activities. This is the yardstick with which one should measure each of more than 300 of his publications and this allows one to understand the value of each word in the presentation here below. Just three short examples:

- Venezuela (item 7) – this work took about half a year of intensive individual study of Spanish and writing as co-author of a textbook in Spanish (Gaździcki, Wahl, 1977) and two series of lectures based on this textbook (1977 and 1978) at the University of Maracaibo;
- Geodesy Computer Centre in Baghdad (a branch of the Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processing Centre, CIGiK – item 7) – reported not only on the installation of hardware and software functioning in CIGiK in Warsaw, and the technical services for the Center, but was the first elaboration of modern methods, algorithms and software which permitted realization of two largest contracts mentioned in item 7 (Gaździcki, 2009, in: Geodetic export activities), and only afterwards implemented in geodetic and cartographic production in Poland;

- The 21-year activity of the Polish Association for Spatial Information (item 11) involves, of course, annual conferences; the XXI Conference this year is held under the patronage of the Presidency of Poland in the Council of the European Union in 2011, it covers eleven sessions with the presentation of sixty papers, the aforesaid discussion panel and two workshops of several hours each (W1 – UML spatial data models and their transformation to GML schemes and databases, W2 – Using free and open software). In addition – one of the principal tasks of the Association is publication of the scientific journal *Annals of Geomatics* (first published 2003), awarded 6 points on the list of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education}, the creator and Editor in Chief of which is Professor Jerzy Gaździcki. Between 2003 and 2010, 44 issues of the journal were published with the total of 6852 pages.

Presentation

1. Professor Jerzy Gaździcki

EMINENT SCIENTIST, TEACHER, ORGANIZER AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST

Jubilee Session on the 80th Birth Anniversary

2. Youth

- Family
- German occupation
- Warsaw Uprising
- Education
- University studies

3. First years of scientific work

Assistant to Professor Stefan Hausbrandt

The Department of Adjustment Calculus and Geodetic Calculations of the Warsaw University of Technology (WUT) (1967-1968 as the Chair)

Doctoral thesis 1961 (WUT) – Some application of the notion of elimination in geodetic calculations

Post-doctoral degree 1966 (WUT) – Some numerical methods connected with adjustment of geodetic networks on electronic machines

4. Areas of scientific work at the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography (IGiK)

Head of Section of Adjustment Calculus and Geodetic Calculations (until 1974)

- Methods and algorithms of adjustment calculus,
- Automation of geodetic, photogrammetric and cartographic data processing,
- Terrain information systems, i.a. the nationwide system named TEREN,
- Designing, construction and software for technical means for geodetic and cartographic information, including registering and drawing automatic machine KART2 and specialized computers GEO1, GEO2, and later GEO20.

5. The Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processing Centre (1)

1974 setting up

Deputy director for R & D (1974-1981)

Works in the area of methodology and technology:

- Analytical aerotriangulation,
- Adjustment of large flat and high geodetic networks,
- Automation of map elaboration processes,

- Computerised land register (cadastre),
- Creation and management of land information systems

6. The Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processing Centre (2)

Results of works immediately put into practical use

1974 associate professor

1982 full professor

1977 Awarded the prize of the Master of Technique for „Methods of technologies for elaboration of results of geodetic and photogrammetric measurements”

7. Export works

Substantive support for GEOKART's works

- Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Syria, Lebanon, Nigeria, Iran, Afghanistan
- Geodesy Computer Centre in Baghdad (a branch of CIGiK)
- Setting up basic geodetic control network of Iraq
- Development of the map of Baghdad (1:500, 1:1000)

A series of lectures about methods and algorithms of geodetic calculations

- Venezuela, Iraq, China

8. The Warsaw University of Technology

1981 Elected to the post of director of the Institute of Higher Geodesy and Geodetic Astronomy (IGWiAG) of the WUT

1982-1986 director of IGWiAG of the WUT

- lectures regarding geodetic and cartographic information
- research in the area of
 - modernisation of basic geodetic control networks in Poland,
 - management of geodetic data banks,
 - generalised methods of adjustment observation sets,
- cooperation with CIGiK

(since) 1.X.1986 on unpaid leave

9. Holland

1986-1998 Department of Geodesy at the Technical University – UT Delft

- Research in the area of methodology of terrain information systems (including cadastral)

Contacts with the home country, research works:

- Terrain information subsystems for spatial management (1987-1990)
- Spatial information management within the framework of motorways construction program in Poland (1997-1999)
- Improvement of the cadastre in Poland (1998)

10. PHARE and World Bank projects

1994-1997 Streamlining the activities of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Board of the Republic of Slovakia (PHARE)

1997-1998 Research in the area of land management, consolidation of fragmented plots of land for the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Slovakia (PHARE)

2000-2002 Consultant to the World Bank in Turkey

- Marmara Earthquake Emergency Reconstruction Project – MEER
- Reconstruction of land register and cadastre for the destroyed area
- Setting up information system of state-owned land

2001 Awarded the Honorary Prize of the President of World Bank

11. Social Activity

Creator and chairman of the Club for Electronic Calculating Techniques in Geodesy (1970-1990)

Founder of the successor organisation – the Polish Association for Spatial Information and its President (since 1991)

- Organised annual conferences for more than 40 years (in total).

Creator and chairman for 20 years of the Section of Geodetic and Cartographic Information of the Geodesy Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

12. International activity

- FIG (*International Federation of Surveyors*)

- IAG (*International Association of Geodesy*)

- UDMS (*Urban Data Management Society*)

- EUROLIS (*The European Co-operation Network for Education and Research in Land Information Systems*) – set up on the Professor's initiative

13. INSPIRE's image in Poland

- INSPIRE – a number of initiatives supporting preparation and implementation of the Directive

- Initiator of majority of the most important undertakings

- Invaluable contribution to legislative works

- Coordination of actions in Poland – Council on INSPIRE Implementation (2007-2010)

- SDIC PTIP

- Chairman of the Council of Spatial Information Infrastructure at the Ministry of Interior and Administration (since 2010)

14. Achievements of the Birthday Celebrator

Professor Michał Odlanicki-Poczobutt: ordinary member of the Societas Scientiarum Varsaviensis:

...a particular feature of Professor Gaździcki is the ability to focus on issues of great practical significance and to carry out the results of his research to such a form that they are ready for direct implementation.

- About 300 scientific works in Polish, English, German and Spanish

- Knight's Cross of the Polonia Restituta Order

- Several prizes, including the State Prize II grade

15. Students

- Strong influence on professional orientation of many students and collaborators

- Diligence, reliability, high personal culture, organisational skills – these are the features of the Birthday Celebrator constituting a model for his students

- Unusually talented Scientist and Teacher – unattainable model

16. Creator of Polish school of geomatics

One of the greatest authorities in geodesy of recent decades.

Address of the Surveyor General of Poland

With the consent of the author, Ms. Jolanta Orlińska, the Surveyor General of Poland, I present the whole of her address. It outlines in a concise manner the leading role of the Birthday Celebrator first in development of geodesy and cartography and then in their ope-

ning for interdisciplinary matters connected with creation of spatial information systems and geomatics, and in recent years, with creation of spatial information infrastructure on national and European scale.

Dear Professor,

On behalf of Geodetic and Cartographic Service, employees of the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography (GUGIK) and myself I have the pleasure to congratulate you on the occasion of the Jubilee of your 80th Birthday and to express our appreciation and thanks for your activities so far in favour of progress in the area of geodesy and spatial information in Poland.

Professor, studying your CV one has to realise that it abounds in unusual events and significant achievements. You are, Professor, an imposingly active and engaged man – your participation in the Warsaw Uprising, then very early in your scientific career – you became a teaching assistant in the Department of Mathematics at the Warsaw University of Technology when you were a third year student and in a short time you received your doctoral and post-doctoral degrees. You made several foreign trips and contracts in Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Syria, Lebanon, Nigeria, Iran and Afghanistan where you supported local geodesy with your knowledge and experience. You also gave lectures on one of the best European geodesy faculties in Delft.

In your professional activity, you often occupied the leading place in facing new challenges. I shall only recall that you were a pioneer in implementing IT in geodesy. The Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processing Centre was established already in 1974, where many research and scientific works of fundamental significance for development of IT applications in geodesy and cartography were initiated and implemented. We may safely say that thanks to these activities geodesy was one of the first branches to implement IT in its production and has been up till now accepting of the most up-to-date technologies.

All the time you are actively engaged in social activity, among others in the Polish Association for Spatial Information, popularizing the most up-to-date solutions in the area of geodesy and cartography and presenting new European and global trends.

You also made an important contribution, Professor, to the activities of geodetic and cartographic administration and, recently, of the whole public administration. I mean, of course, spatial information infrastructure. From the very beginning of the INSPIRE initiative, you were its active leader and for the last few years you have been the engine of INSPIRE implementation.

I wonder if you know that it was the Professor who not only initiated and organised the administration in this area at an early stage of preparations for transposition of the INSPIRE Directive, but also outlined the first version of the Act on spatial information infrastructure.

The Act in its present form, of which the Professor is co-author, has fundamentally changed the functioning rules of public administration, eliminating a departmental approach, at least in the area of spatial information, and introducing the most up-to-date organisational and technological solutions in the activity of administrative units and – what is the most important for us as surveyors – raises the profile of geodesy in the country and makes the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography the leader of modern and innovative administration.

Implementation of INSPIRE is not completed by enactment of the Act, on the contrary, this is only the beginning. Professor Gaździcki is the chairman of the Council for Spatial Information Infrastructure at the Minister of Interior and Administration, which coordinates

the creation, maintenance and development of this infrastructure. He is the initiator and the engine of actions connected with implementation of INSPIRE making them very dynamic.

The Professor, as the delegate for Poland presents the achievements of our country in the Committee on Global Spatial Information Management of the United Nations Organization.

Acting as an expert and collaborator of GUGIK, the Professor has always supported initiatives aimed at development and promotion of the geodetic community. I am very glad that the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography may benefit from the Professor's energy, ideas and organizational skills, which were often invaluable in realization of challenges undertaken by the Office.

Please, accept again, Professor, our cordial wishes on the occasion of your 80th Birthday Celebrations. We wish you many more creative years, good health and the company of friendly people.

Address of the Dean of the Faculty of Geodesy and Cartography at the Warsaw University of Technology

Professor Witold Prószyński, took the floor next, as the time was running out, he abandoned his full address and presented only a few remarks supplementing the earlier presentation of Marek Baranowski Ph.D. He called attention to the leading role of the Professor and consequently of the whole Polish geodesy in shaping the progress in geodesy in Europe during the time he held the position of Chairman of IV Commission of the *International Federation of Surveyors* – FIG. He also expressed his opinion, that the 12-year absence of the Professor from the Warsaw University of Technology was a great loss for the Faculty of Geodesy and Cartography.

The speech of Professor Jerzy Gaździcki

Subsequent speakers finished their presentations with best wishes for the Birthday Celebrator and handed him addresses, flowers and presents (photo 1, 2, 3, 4) and also gave flowers to his spouse Teresa Gaździcka.

Professor Jerzy Gaździcki made a very short speech. It was obvious that he was deeply moved but one could also feel that, for him, the born leader, the passive role of a Birthday Celebrator was very difficult to sustain. He thanked everyone for their best wishes and flattering presentation of his profile. He recalled that as well as the achievements there were also difficult moments, which perhaps should not be mentioned on such a ceremonial occasion. He recommended to those who are interested in them a short recollection entitled *W stanie wojennym* (Under martial law), contained in the volume „Fragments of life” (Fragments of life) (Gaździcki, 2006). A little later, in other speeches it was mentioned that a group of people wanted to discredit Professor as a scientist and a man on the international scene – luckily unsuccessfully.

Recital of Jan Gaździcki

The recital by the grandson of the Professor, who played Chopin and Schumann, was a beautiful crowning moment during the first part of the ceremony (photo 7, 8). Without doubt everybody, even those who are not lovers of classical music, surrendered to the spirit of his performance.

Those attending the Celebration could learn from the biographical note in the programme of the recital about the pianist's musical studies in Germany, where he lives, his participation and prizes in international competitions, performances in Europe, participation in radio and TV programs and CD recordings. It was also mentioned that at present he is following doctoral studies with professor Andrzej Jasiński in the Academy of Music in Katowice.

Besides Jan, other members of the Birthday Celebrator's family attended (photo 9) – his wife Teresa (photo 5), son Marek with his wife Maria (photo 6), grandson Paweł and granddaughter Marysia. Only Paweł's wife Nina and one year old great grandson Dawidek were missing.

His son Marek and his family live in Germany. Marek is a professor of physics and a member of an elite circle of nuclear physicists who are often quoted in world scientific publications. His grandson Paweł followed his father's footsteps and would soon defend his doctoral thesis. His granddaughter Marysia, a student of law, followed in her grandfather's footsteps, as she has been appointed as a teaching assistant whilst still being a student.

Finally, his wife Teresa, whom professor Andrzej Makowski remembered from the student years as a beautiful girl in the student cap of Warsaw University of Technology, and the Birthday Celebrator added – with long thick plaits. Since this time Mrs. Teresa is a very important person in the Gaździcki family. I have had the pleasure to visit their home. After getting through with social and professional matters we sat down to tea and sandwiches, each of them being a little work of art, and we were talking about virtually everything – children, grandchildren, parents, present and past times, birds and flowers in the garden. During our talks the Professor often made a short summary of what we had been discussing and asked his wife – *what is your opinion about it, Tereniu?* After a while for reflection he got the answer – *You know Jureczku ...* and this was often the best idea.

The guests' speeches

On entering the Szuster Palace everybody could put their name on the list of persons who wanted to address the Birthday Celebrator and to express their wishes. In this part of the Jubilee session, the director Marek Baranowski gave the floor to people from the list according to their seniority.

Professor Janusz Paszyński was the first to take the floor. Here are his memories verbatim. After the end of the Jubilee session I overheard the opinion of a younger participant of the session – *this was a great lesson from history.*

Honorable Birthday Celebrator and dear Jurek! Ladies and Gentlemen!

I should like to say a few words about today's Birthday Celebrator as a soldier and I am justified in doing so due to the fact that during the Warsaw Uprising we both served together

as soldiers of the Home Army, in the same platoon. This was a unit of Military Service of Uprising Protection WSOP – under command of lieutenant „Kazik” – Jan Gaździcki, the father of our Birthday Celebrator, member of legions and the Polish Military Organization (photo 10). This unit was a part of III „Konrad” grouping fighting in Powiśle within the „Krybar” combat group. During the first days of the Uprising Jurek Gaździcki, 13-years old at that time, volunteered to join the army, took the oath and was enlisted into our platoon (photo 11). The platoon was distinct because – as a WSOP unit – we had two bands: a red and white on the arm and a green one with red and white checkerboard on the cuff of the sleeve. Jurek, with the nickname „Gołąb” (Pigeon), was a liaison. His tasks were to deliver reports to the commanders of the III grouping or orders to forward combat posts, he also helped to build barricades. He often had to pass dangerous sections under enemy fire. He always fulfilled his tasks without any fault, bravely surmounting obstacles and probably also his weakness and fear. He gained the appreciation of his colleagues as, in the beginning, we looked with some disdain at such kids as Jurek and at least we had some doubts as to their value as soldiers. However, it turned out soon that many of these brats equaled and even surpassed the old troopers such as, for instance, myself, warrant officer „Machnicki”, full six years older than the liaison „Gołąb”, in their engagement, bravery and devotion to the „cause”. For his combat merits in the Uprising, his dedication and bravery „Gołąb” was distinguished with the Cross of Valour. There is no place here to recount the combat actions of our platoon. This was perfectly done by Teresa Gaździcki, the wife of our Birthday Celebrator today, describing in detail in a vast work the history of the unit of lieutenant „Kazik”, for which she deserves great thanks.

Our battles carried out by the „Krybar” unit have found a permanent place in the history of Powiśle district – next to the November Night and the fire of the brewery on Solec, which was to be the signal to start another Uprising in 1830, next to Prus and Wokulski, who walked these streets. We remember Powiśle from our youth as one of the districts of Stefan Starzyński's Warsaw, as a district of craftsmen and workers, but also officials, teachers, doctors who began to live here in the interwar years.

The red and white August forty four came. The streets of Powiśle filled with a strange army: teenage boys, and such youngsters as Jurek among them, girls ... They came from all directions: from Dobra, Solec, Tamka..., from offices, workshops, from shops, from old, sometimes hundreds years old tenement houses. They had no uniforms, only eagles on their caps showed that there are Polish soldiers again on the banks of the Vistula river.

After bloody fighting in the first days, after our victorious battle for the power station and the capture of this strategically important structure, after the tragic battle for bridgeheads, for the University..., Powiśle was, in those August days, a part of free Warsaw, a piece of independent Poland. Next to the army, civilian authorities were operating efficiently, originating from the „Unia” clandestine Catholic organization. A student in Kraków named Karol Wojtyła, was a member of this organization in the first years of German occupation. „Barricade of Powiśle”, one of the best daily newspaper in Warsaw during the Uprising, appeared regularly. The attitude of inhabitants was also wonderful to such an extent that there was hardly any difference between the army and civilians, for nearly everybody was fighting: not only those with red and white arm bands, not only soldiers on barricades or liaisons carrying reports and orders, not only medics dressing wounded or scouts from the Field Post... Even those who had no weapons to fight and formally were not in the army. Those wonderful men – sometimes elderly gentlemen who fought fires, dug wells and graves for the fallen sol-

diers... and those heroic women taking care of sick and homeless and sparing their scarce resources to cook meals not only for their families but also for steadily growing number of victims of fires and fugitives from other districts.

And despite the fighting going on, despite people getting killed and the number of wounded in hospitals increasing, Powiśle did not lose its spirit. Through the rumble of shots and explosion of grenades one could hear singing. It happened that in the evening lit with glows of fires, we were singing in our quarters, military songs, the old ones from before the war, from the legions, which our commander loved so much, and the new ones, from the Uprising. And among them there was a song beginning in the following way: „*The world is sleeping calmly and does not know anything that life at war is different than in the soldier's song...*”. This is not so, though the whole world does not sleep calmly. Singing stopped at dawn. Those who started songs, fell in battle, Janeczka, Franek, Paweł fell, all those, whom – as in this song – „*war, the wonderful lady, did not caress its soldiers, hit them by a stray bullet in the chest or lost them without a trace...*”. And then the songs were ever more silent. Only these sung during evening prayers at little altars in the yards and those – hummed in a hashed voice over the graves of colleagues and friends: „Grunwald”, „Włodawa”, „Rafał”, „Nałęcz”... and so many, many others.

However, when the drama of the Old City was sealed, the whole *furor teutonicus* turned now against the Powiśle stronghold. And this was a strange stronghold. On forward flanks, instead of concrete bunkers poked with barrels, there were little houses with sloping roofs, small garrets and balconies. The system of roads, supply lines – narrow street steeply falling towards the Vistula river. Above everything, the most minatory enforcements: chimneys of the power station as watch towers overlooking the roofs of Powiśle. Against this stronghold the enemy unleashed fire and death. All days and nights the area was target of shots by artillery, armoured train, guns, bullets from tanks were pitting old walls of Powiśle, coupled mine lancers were throwing series of mines after series ..., finally Stukas planes, every hour, threw an ominous shadow on the roofs. Bullet after bullet, bomb after bomb, attack after attack. Death took a heavy toll without making any difference between the army and civilians, because bullets and shrapnel did not make any choice. Soldiers were killed on their combat posts, repulsing continuous attacks of the enemy and civilians were killed in the streets, in their apartments, in shelters... On barricades battles hardly stopped. Attack from the University, attack from the river bank, attack from the viaduct ... We were defending for a few days our positions along Czerwonego Krzyża street against repeated attacks of Germans coming from the central railway viaduct and supported by fire from the armoured train. Finally, the units of „Krybar” attacked from nearly all directions, pushed back to ever smaller area, threatened with being cut off from the rest of insurgent Warsaw, were ordered on this tragic sixth day of the Uprising to leave Powiśle. But before this happened, captain „Krybar” ordered his commanders to release from service soldiers who were living in Powiśle district and would like to stay with their families. „Gołąb” was among them – though he would rather go with the army to share the fate of our platoon, but he had to obey the decisive order of his commander lieutenant „Kazik” to stay with his mother and sister. I saw Jurek then for the last time in the gardens of Zakład Świętego Kazimierza belonging to the Sisters of Charity, when we were retreating from Solec in the direction of the escarpment and Szczygła street. We parted there.

When our unit, which lost more than 400 killed and wounded, and was decimated, crossed Nowy Świat, many defenseless wounded insurgents and civilians were brutally murdered and the surviving inhabitants were chased out, our wandering, slavery and torments of camp life began...

And what happened later? Then the times of disdain and lies came, the times of distorting history and, at best, concealing inconvenient facts, the times of humiliating and slandering the Uprising, when admitting participation in the Uprising in „liberated” Poland was dangerous, which I experienced myself... But despite all difficulties the legend of burning and falling Warsaw, the walls of palaces, churches, houses, the legend of boys and girls falling in under ground – soldiers of how difficult at that time but how strongly loved our Homeland, survived, cleared in the fire of history and in the depth of our hearts.

I should like to add something. I already mentioned insurgent songs we sang. I remember very well us in the quarters at Dobra Street learning a newly written song „*Children of Warsaw*”. „Gołąb” was sitting next to me with a blush on his cheeks and was eagerly singing together with the others these solemn words: „*Powiśle, Wola and Mokotów, each street, each house, be ready when the first shot is fired as a golden thunder in God's hand ...*”. But the most popular and most often sung was another song, neither from the times of legions, nor current insurgent one, but a song written a few years before the war or at the beginning of German occupation. This was „*The heart in the rucksack*”, and its last line went like this: „*...and though he was disturbed by bullets when starting to attack, the soldier laughed because in his rucksack he had reserve of ... a liter of brandy*”. And once, when we were singing „*The heart in the rucksack*”, one of our colleagues took from his knapsack a bottle of brandy and handed it to the commander. The brandy was of Greek origin, a trophy pillaged from Meinl's shop. During the war, Germans looted everything they could in Greece under occupation, perhaps even in a more ruthless way than in Poland and some of these Greek specialties such as olives, wine and even turtles came to Poland. Of course, these „delicacies” were available only for those who had Meinl's cards, folksdeutchs and reichsdeutchs, but sometimes they reached the black market and thus were available for Poles. The bottle of brandy was small, probably half a liter and we were a dozen or so and there was little to drink per head, or rather per throat. We were drinking from a glass one after another. When it was the turn of „Gołąb”, lieutenant „Kazik” declared: „*in my unit I shall not allow those under age to drink*”, and in his words there was as much of moral principles as of parental care. Poor „Gołąb” had to do without it and his share was drunk by the next in row.

I hope, dear Jurek, that you do not feel resentment towards me for that. But to reward you for that loss and somehow to compensate for this discrimination due to your age I decided to bring to your Celebration and to hand you with my best wishes instead of flowers a bottle of brandy, Greek – just like that one – and I believe that of not lower quality than the other one (photo 12).

Janusz Paszyński – „Machnicki”

Professor Andrzej Makowski, reflected on their early years, both of them were born in the same year. He spoke of the years they both went to school at Drowniana street in Warsaw. The school was opened in 1906 and on the occasion of the Jubilee of the 100th Anniversary of its founding it was given the name of Home Army; the name Gaździcki is mentioned in the publication on this occasion. During the Warsaw Uprising, in the cellar of the school there was a hospital for wounded insurgents from Powiśle. Those, who could not be evacuated, were brutally murdered. The destruction of Polish culture both by Germans and Bolsheviks was intentional – both sides reached an agreement aimed at the destruction not only of the Polish intelligentsia but also the spirit of Polishness. But Polish culture survived, because such subjects as the Polish language and especially history were taught in clandestine classes, educating children and youth to become valuable citizens. The school at

Drewniana Street survived in the sea of ruins and became a monument of Polishness. Therefore, on the occasion of this Celebration Professor Makowski handed to me a drawing in crayon made by himself of the school building showing a place on the wall with the trace of a bomb which was preserved till today (photo 13). The Birthday Celebrator promised that his drawing will be placed on a honorary spot in his home gallery. The home gallery of Prof. and Mrs. Gaździcki was created a few years ago to make a worthy exposition of paintings by Piotr Abraszewski, the uncle of the Professor Gaździcki, which he succeeded with much effort to bring to Poland. Reproductions of these paintings are presented in the album „Piotr Abraszewski. Prisoner of Nazi concentration camps and his Californian paintings” (Gaździcki, 2008).

Professor Bogdan Ney (photo 14) drew attention to two skills of the Birthday Celebrator, envied by other scientists. The first one is the ability to express his thoughts in a concise, clear and transparent way – despite any substantive difficulties of the matter presented. The second one, particularly worth emphasizing is the propensity and ability to move from theory to practice – to applications, implementation and control of proper use. For this reason, the Birthday Celebrator has been so active in the country and abroad.

Andrzej Bieńkowski and **Stanisław Zaremba** (photo 15) belong to the circle of the Professor's closest collaborators in geodetic practice, also drew attention to the second feature of the Birthday Celebrator's writing, in their address: *Next to their substantive value, the Professor's outstanding didactic, scientific and technical achievements are featured with extreme efficiency in their practical application. The Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processin Centre under your guidance in scientific and research matters was a „nursery” for staff, thanks to whom the newest achievements of IT and computer technology could be effectively implemented all over the country. ... The specialized computer Geo 2, of which Professor is co-creator, equipped with software for geodetic calculations with algorithms for adjustment of geodetic networks created by the Professor contributed to dissemination of the application of computer technology in geodetic and cartographic enterprises and thanks to that it was possible to complete on the national scale the works, which could not be done so far and which would require many, many years. Setting up and chairing the Club of Electronic Calculation Techniques in Geodesy first and then the Polish Association for Spatial Information, contributed to popularization of knowledge and technological culture in the area of geographic information systems (GIS), including the EU Directive on Spatial Information Infrastructure.*

Director Krzysztof Mączewski (photo 16), the Surveyor of Mazowieckie Voivodeship thanked the Professor for his support in the works on building Mazowiecki Spatial Information System which has become an instrument to monitor the development strategy of the voivodeship (province).

The idea of the system penetrated down to powiats (counties) and gminas (communes). In a project realized within *Regional development program of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship* nodes of this system will be set up in the majority of gminas and powiats.

Włodzimierz Kędziora (photo 17), Secretary General of the Association of Polish Surveyors recalled the contacts lasting many years between the Association and the Club of Users of Electronic Calculation Techniques and later on with the Polish Association for Spatial Information.

Dariusz Korpetta Ph.D.(photo 18), took floor on behalf of forestry surveyors from the Warsaw University of Life Sciences, he expressed their gratitude for the possibility of long and fruitful cooperation, particularly in the area of geoinformation within the framework of the Polish Association for Spatial Information. He finished his speech with best wishes and foresters' cry „*Darz Bór*” to which the Birthday Celebrator answered with the same cry.

Czesław Orliński (photo 20), chairman of Tadeusz Kościuszko Cultural Society in Szczekociny, the birth place of Jan Gaździcki, the father of the Birthday Celebrator said about the participation of the Professor in writing and promoting the book titled *Ze Szczekocin nad Berezynę* (from Szczekociny to Berezyna) (Gaździcki, 2006) and invited the Professor to the celebration of 20th anniversary of the Society.

Elżbieta Kaźmierczak-Kośka, representing Municipal Center for Geodetic and Cartographic Documentation in Łódź expressed their gratitude and best wishes.

Finally, **Ewa Musiał** (photo 19), expressed the best wishes on behalf of ex-colleagues from the Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processing Centre, which no longer exists but was so important in the Professor's professional career and also on behalf of members of the Polish Association for Spatial Information.

Now the most important item of the celebrations. The Granddaughter of the Birthday Celebrator brought in an immense birthday cake decorated with candles (photo 21). Everybody stood up and in one voice sang „*Hundred years*”.

Afterwards, before we all left the hall, there was a long queue of individuals tendering their best wishes. Here are a few photos made by the indefatigable photographer Jakub Giza from GUGiK. Among the guest there were Professor Adam Linsenbarth (IGiK, photo 22), Antoni Wizmur (OPGK in Kraków, photo 23) and Professor Elżbieta Bielecka (IGiK and WAT, photo 24).

An elegant reception followed with private and less private conversations (photo 25) with and about the Birthday Celebrator. We were all sorry to leave.

Conclusion

To finish here are a few quotations from the addresses to the Birthday Celebrator kindly made available to me by the colleagues from the OPGK group, the Warsaw University of Technology, the Warsaw University of Life Sciences and Warsaw Geodetic Enterprise:

- *The Professor's activities contributed to efficient implementation of the IIP Directive into the Polish legal system in the form of the Act on spatial information infrastructure and your nomination for the chairman of the Council is a guarantee that drafts of legal acts, standards and organizational, scientific and educational undertakings connected with the realization of the provisions of the Act will be of the highest level and will be efficiently implemented.*
- *The warmest congratulations and the best wishes for your good health and prosperity in your personal life as well as further successes in scientific and social activity.*
- *.... Good health and prosperity in your personal life and a lot of force to continue scientific and organizational activity so useful for all of us.*

- *We wish you further scientific satisfaction confirmed by successes from your professional mission which is so important for Poland and Polish geoinformation and for the whole sector of geodesy and cartography.*

Professor, the expectations of the Professional community have been formulated, the targets fixed, now for the next Celebration in five years.

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Best wishes from the co-organizers of the Session
Życzenia składają współorganizatorzy sesji Jubileuszowej

Photo 1. Mr. Marek Baranowski Ph.D.,
Director of the Institute
of Geodesy and Cartography
Fot. 1. Doktor Marek Baranowski,
Dyrektor Instytutu Geodezji i Kartografii

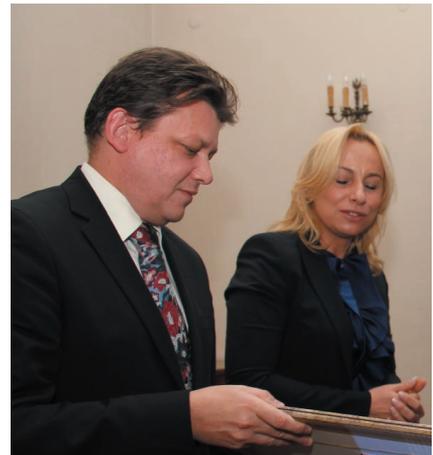


Photo 2 and 3. Ms. Jolanta Orlińska, the Surveyor General of Poland and Mr. Jacek Jarząbek,
Vice President of the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography
Fot. 2 i 3. Pani Jolanta Orlińska, Główny Geodeta Kraju i wspólnie z Panem Jackiem Jarząbkim,
Wiceprezesem Głównego Urzędu Geodezji i Kartografii

Photo 4. Professor Witold Prószyński,
the Dean of the Faculty of Geodesy and Cartography
of the Warsaw University of Technology
Fot. 4. Profesor Witold Prószyński,
Dziekan Wydziału Geodezji i Kartografii
Politechniki Warszawskiej



The Family of the Birthday Celebrator
Rodzina Jubilata



Photo 5. The Birthday Celebrator with his wife – Teresa and Jerzy Gaździcki
Fot. 5. Jubilat z małżonką – Teresa i Jerzy Gaździczcy



Photo 6. The son of the Professor with his wife – Maria and Marek Gaździcki
Fot. 6. Syn Jubilata z małżonką – Maria i Marek Gaździczcy



Photo 7. Recital of Jan Gaździcki, the grandson of the Birthday Celebrator
 Fot. 7. Recital Jana Gaździckiego, wnuka Jubilata



Photo 8. Jan Gaździcki is playing for his parents and grandparents
 Fot. 8. Gra Jan Gaździcki, słuchają dziadkowie i rodzice



Photo 9. Standing, from the left: Marek, Teresa, Jerzy, Maria Gaździcki, Czesław Orliński from Szczekociny, Marysia Gaździcki, a relative of Czesław Orliński, Jan and Paweł Gaździcki
 Fot 9. Od lewej stoją: Marek, Teresa, Jerzy, Maria Gaździccy, Czesław Orliński ze Szczekocin, Marysia Gaździcka, kuzynka Czesława Orlińskiego, Jan i Paweł Gaździccy



Warsaw Uprising – 1944
Powstanie warszawskie – 1944

Photo 10. Father of the Birthday Celebrator –
Jan Gaździcki nickname „Kazik”
Fot. 10. Ojciec Jubilata – Jan Gaździcki
pseudonim „Kazik”

Photo 11. Taking the oath by some of the Warsaw insurgents, Jerzy Gaździcki nickname „Gołąb”
Fot. 11. Zaprzysiężenie powstańców, strzałką oznaczony Jerzy Gaździcki pseudonim „Gołąb”



Photo 12. Professor Janusz Paszyński offering his best wishes and his present – a bottle of Greek brandy as compensation for what the Birthday Celebrator could not drink during the Warsaw Uprising because he was under age

Fot. 12. Profesor Janusz Paszyński składa życzenia – prezentem jest koniak grecki, który stanowi rekompensatę za tę porcję, którą za małoletniego wówczas Jubilat wypił podczas powstania warszawskiego



Photo 13. Professor Andrzej Makowski handing over his gift – his own drawing of the school at Drewniana street in Warsaw attended by the Birthday Celebrator as a child, which survived after the 2nd world war and became a monument to Polishness
Fot. 13. Profesor Andrzej Makowski wręcza prezent – własnoręczny rysunek szkoły przy ulicy Drewnianej w Warszawie, do której jako dziecko uczęszczał Jubilat, a która ocalała po II wojnie światowej i stała się pomnikiem polskości

Photo 14. Best wishes from Professor Bogdan Ney
Fot. 14. Życzenia składa Profesor Bogdan Ney



**Best wishes from
Życzenia Jubilatowi składają**



Photo 15. Mr. Stanisław Zaremba representing OPGK Lublin at one time, a close collaborator of the Professor's and Mr. Andrzej Bieńkowski from OPGK in Koszalin

Fot. 15. Pan Stanisław Zaremba, reprezentujący w okresie najściślejszej współpracy OPGK Lublin i Pan Andrzej Bieńkowski z OPGK w Koszalinie



Photo 16. Mr. Krzysztof Mączewski, the Surveyor of Mazowieckie Voivodeship

Fot. 16. Pan Krzysztof Mączewski, Geodeta Województwa Mazowieckiego



Photo 17. Birthday champagne from Mr. Włodzimierz Kędziora, the Secretary General of the Association of Polish Surveyors

Fot. 17. Pan Włodzimierz Kędziora, Sekretarz Generalny Stowarzyszenia Geodetów Polskich, wręcza urodzinowego szampana



Photo 18. Mr. Dariusz Korpetta Ph.D. – on behalf of forestry surveyors from the Warsaw University of Life Sciences

Fot. 18. Doktor Dariusz Korpetta, w imieniu leśników-geodetów ze Szkoły Głównej Gospodarstwa Wiejskiego



Photo 20. Ms. Ewa Musiał – on behalf of the Geodetic and Cartographic Data Processing Centre, which no longer exists, and on behalf of members of the Polish Association for Spatial Information; sitting: Mr. Jacek Jarząbek, Vice President of the Head Office of Geodesy and Cartography, Ms. Jolanta Orlińska, the Surveyor General of Poland, Professor Janusz Paszyński with his wife Fot. 20. Pani Ewa Musiał w imieniu pracowników nieistniejącego już Centrum Informatycznego Geodezji i Kartografii oraz członków Polskiego Towarzystwa Informatyki Przemysłowej; siedzą: Pan Jacek Jarząbek, Wiceprezes GUGiK, Pani Jolanta Orlińska, Główny Geodeta Kraju, Profesor Janusz Paszyński z małżonką



Photo 20. Mr. Czesław Orliński, the President of the Tadeusz Kościuszko Cultural Society in Szczekociny
Fot. 20. Pan Czesław Orliński, Prezes Towarzystwa Kulturalnego im. Tadeusza Kościuszki w Szczekocinach



Photo 21. Marysia Gażdżicka, the granddaughter of the Birthday Celebrator carries the birthday cake
Fot. 21. Marysia Gażdżicka, wnuczka Jubilata, wnosi tort urodzinowy



**Best wishes from
Osobiste życzenia składają
Jubilatowi**

Photo 22. Professor Adam Linsenbarth
Fot. 22. Profesor Adam Linsenbarth



Photo 23. Mr. Antoni Wizmur from OPGK in Kraków
Fot. 23. Pan Antoni Wizmur z OPGK w Krakowie



Photo 24. Professor Elżbieta Bielecka
(IGiK and WAT)
Fot. 22. Profesor Elżbieta Bielecka (IGiK i WAT)



Photo 25. Professor Stanisław Białousz
from the Warsaw University of Technology
speaking about the importance of the textbook
Spatial information systems (Gaździcki, 1990)
as the first textbook in this field which served
students for many years
Fot. 25. Profesor Stanisław Białousz
z Politechniki Warszawskiej mówi
o znaczeniu podręcznika Jubilata
Systemy informacji przestrzennej
(Gaździcki, 1990) jako pierwszego podręcznika
z tej dziedziny, służącego studentom
przez długie lata