

AMIT HIRSCH

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Miejsce i czas wydarzeń	Sobibór, World War II
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The story of Josef Kopf

One of the days she [Gienia Kopf] met her brother, Josef Kopf, that wanted to went to the shop and Teklak told him not to go. And he was killed by Polish man. The only chance for her to family.

Her brother, Josef Kopf, he is the first was expelled to Sobibor death camp. He was from the first people that take revolt, take an act against the Nazis and the Ukrainians guards, the story is famous in the books that told the history of Sobibor. One of the researchers is Jules Schelvis, Dutch researcher that wrote about the story on 27th of July 1943. Josef Kopf was taken to the *Waldkommando*, they worked over there in the woods. *Waldkommando* it's the unit of the woods and they took woods for the crematorium to the place that they burned Jewish people and to build other things over there. It was a group of 40 people, half of them Dutch, new people that came to Sobibor, and half of them were Polish. And in this day it was very hot and he and his friend Szlomo Podchlebnik were chosen to go to the next village Żłobek. And they went the village with Ukrainian guard to bring water. And over there they bought some food, and some water and liqueur and gave to the guard. And in the way back Szlomo Podchlebnik – he gave a testimony after the war, we have the testimony in Polish. Szlomo Podchlebnik told in the testimony that he told the guard that he have something to give him, a diamond in his pocket. And when the Ukrainian guard bent down, Josef Kopf caught him and take a knife and stab him and cut the throat maybe. And take the body of the guard and threw it to one of the ways. And they ran away. And in this time it was a big mess. The people of the group waited for them to go back and the Nazis didn't know what happened and they sent one of the Ukrainians to look for them. And in that time, the people, the Jewish people understood what happened, they Ukrainians and they started to run away, each one of them to another way. And Dutch people just sat, they didn't know the language and what to do. And some of the Polish people were killed and 3 people managed to survive all the war

because of this act. Maybe after it, the big rebel of Sobibór, maybe they thought about this idea because of Josef Kopf?

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