

## Schwarzbart, Ignacy Isaac

(1888--1961), Zionist activist and politician. Born in Galicia, Schwarzbart was a lawyer who served as an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army during World War I. In 1918 he enlisted in the Polish army. After the war he returned to his law practice and began writing for various Zionist newspapers. He also served as a delegate from the General Zionist movement to most of the Zionist Congresses and was a member of the World Jewish Congress's executive committee. In addition, he was a member of the Jewish faction in Cracow's city council, and one of the leaders of Cracow's Jewish community. In 1938 Schwarzbart was elected to the Polish parliament as a representative of the Cracow district.

When World War II broke out in September 1939 Schwarzbart, as a member of the Polish government, fled Poland for France, where the Polish government-in-exile was established. At that point, he became a member of the Polish national council-in-exile. After France fell to Germany in mid-1940, Schwarzbart moved with the government-in-exile to London.

In early 1940 Schwarzbart created a publication on Polish Jewish affairs called *The Future*. In January of that year he also instituted the Organizing Committee of the Polish Jewish Representation in France.

Over the next six years, Schwarzbart served on the National Council of the Polish Republic and the Delegation of Polish Jewry. Over time, he also wrote a war diary and collected a wealth of documents about the history of Polish Jewry during the Holocaust and the interactions between Jews and Poles during World War II. This archive has since been maintained as an important collection of Holocaust testimony and documentation; it was brought to Yad Vashem in the early 1960s.

After the war, Schwarzbart continued writing and stayed active in the Zionist movement, including the World Jewish Congress. From 1946 to 1961 he lived in the United States, where he published several booklets about the Warsaw ghetto uprising, including *The Story of the Warsaw Uprising: Its Meaning and Message*, and a book in Yiddish on Jewish life in Cracow between the world wars, called *Between the Two World Wars*.

