

Plotnicka, Frumka

(1914-1943), A leader of the *He-Halutz* underground in occupied Poland.

Born in a village near Pinsk, Plotnicka was a member of the *Dror* Zionist Youth Movement. In 1938 she went to work at the *Dror* headquarters in Warsaw. When World War II broke out in September 1939 and the Germans occupied Poland, Plotnicka, along with many other young Zionists, moved to eastern Poland which was still occupied by the Soviets. From there, they hoped to make it to Palestine. In 1940 Plotnicka returned to the German-occupied zone to reorganize *Dror* as an underground movement. From Warsaw, Plotnicka attempted to unify and bolster the Zionist *He-Halutz* youth movement undergrounds.

In September 1942 Plotnicka was sent to Bedzin by the Jewish Fighting Organization of Warsaw, in order to help establish a self-defense organization there. She also made contact with organizations in Switzerland and Slovakia and the Rescue Committee of the Jewish Agency in Turkey; she sent them information about the dire situation in Poland.

Plotnicka refused to escape and save her own life, in favor of staying and helping her fellow Jews. She perished in battle on August 3, 1943, along with the last remaining fighters in Bedzin. (see also Jewish Fighting Organization, Warsaw.)