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## 70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING

London, UK | Monday 15 April 2013  
For immediate release

**As 19 April marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto, Web of Stories is proud to share a rare, first-hand account of this pivotal moment in history with exclusive footage of Marek Edelman, one of the last commanders of the uprising, sharing his life story.**

The Warsaw Ghetto uprising took place in 1943 in Nazi-occupied Poland. It was the largest single revolt by Jews during World War II, resisting Nazi Germany's final effort to transport the occupants of the ghetto to Treblinka extermination camp. The rebellion began on 19 April, and ended on 16 May when the resistance was crushed by the German army. To mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a mural of the last commander of the uprising, Marek Edelman, will be erected in Warsaw.

Just a few years before his death in 2009, Edelman made a series of exclusive recordings for Web of Stories where he describes his memories of the harsh conditions of the ghetto, and later, his leadership of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Viewers can watch Edelman recount how he first discovered that Jews were being deported from the ghetto, and how he and others were determined to spread the word by creating a newsletter: *'We printed 500 copies of a newsletter, 500 copies which, it has to be said, were read by thousands of people... If three or four thousand people are reading this, it can't remain hidden... But people didn't believe it because everyone was saying, "What do you mean they're killing? For no reason? But we're working, we're making the uniforms for the German army, we're making brushes for hiding the tracks of the*

*military transports, we're making furlined boots for them for the winter on the Russian front, and they've got a free workforce for the cost of a bowl of soup, so why would they be killing us?'*

He also describes the beginning of the uprising: *'I think it was around 5 o'clock in the morning that they came in as usual, marching as though they were on parade, 2000 Germans... We positioned our militant groups in four corners of that place, one in each corner. So when those German columns marched in... the shooting broke out from every window. The Germans were really surprised that there was any kind of organised resistance because they thought that they'd come in, fire a few shots and that everyone would run away.'*

This footage of Marek Edelman's life story can be watched as a number of separate videos, with a fully searchable transcript. All Web of Stories videos are easy to share with friends and colleagues, and may be embedded into personal blogs and websites.

Find out more:  
<http://www.webofstories.com/play/15692>

### NOTES FOR EDITORS ABOUT WEB OF STORIES

Everyone has a story to tell. Over time many stories become forgotten, but now Web of Stories offers members of the public the chance to tell their stories for future generations to enjoy. The project is built on the belief that we all have wonderful stories to share, and have family and friends whose tales we would like to hear.

Web of Stories began as an archive of life stories told by some of the great scientists, writers and artists of our time. As the number of stories grew, it became obvious that some were on related topics and that a web was slowly being created of connected stories.

We welcome anyone to come and talk about virtually anything they like. Just like our famous speakers, we hope you will record your stories for others to enjoy.

### CONTACT

For more information on Web of Stories or any of our videos please contact the Press Desk on +44(0)20 7323 0323 or [press@webofstories.com](mailto:press@webofstories.com)

Should you wish to refer to Web of Stories and our video interviews please ensure that a link to Web of Stories is clearly viewable on your site.