

A thousand may fall at your side. Ladislav Rašín during the 2nd World War.

Abstract

The bachelor thesis follows the fate of Ladislav Rašín, an important member of National Democratic party, between the years 1938–1945. It focuses on his involvement in the activities of the resistance group Politické ústředí, and subsequent years spent in several German prison houses. Rašín's closest relatives will also be considered in the thesis, as the entire family poignantly illustrates the dramatic turns of fate which many of the leading 1st Republic families endured during the 2nd World War and Nazi occupation. Of particular interest are Ladislav's mother Karla Rašínová (a widow of the assassinated Minister of Finances Alois Rašín) and his wife Marie, since both of them were also involved in resistance activities. Using their contacts, they were even able to reverse the death sentence pronounced upon Rašín and his resistance colleagues in the year 1941. Despite this triumph, their determined fight for a beloved son and husband inevitably ends in tragedy.