The paper presents the work of interpreters during the trials held before the Supreme National Tribunal (NTN) established in Poland in 1946 to judge Nazi criminals after Second World War. The paper is based on archival sources collected in the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN), former Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation in Warsaw. There were seven trials from 1946 till 1948 and they were held in Warsaw, Cracow and Gdańsk. Nowadays they are known as Poland’s Nuremberg trials. The paper presents the work and the profiles of the interpreters recruited for this unique tribunal in the history of Polish judicial system and it examines the interpreting practices when the simultaneous interpreting was applied for the first time. At the same time the paper raises the issues of trust and control over the interpreters involved in war crimes tribunals in Poland in comparison with other war criminals trials of this period.

The author presents also the first trial of the SS functionaries which took place from November 27th till December 2nd 1944 in Lublin, some months after the liberation of the concentration camp in Majdanek, but several months before the liberation of other camps and the end of the Second World War in Europe. It was the first multilingual trial of Nazi criminals held in Poland which involves three languages (Polish, Russian and German) and needed a specific interpreting system.