**Title:** First Polish scientific expedition to Greenland in 1937

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Polish activity in scientific research in Greenland developed in Jan Kazimierz University in Lviv. It perfectly fit the idea of international polar research repeatedly propagated by Henryk Arctowski, the head of the Geophysics and Meteorology Department of the University. The originator of the first Polish Greenland expedition - Aleksander Kosiba was inspired by a famous Danish polar researcher dr Johann Peter Koch who was invited to Lviv by Henryk Arctowski and Eugeniusz Romer. The idea of organizing independent Polish scientific expedition to Greenland arose when Kosiba with his experience from glaciological research in Scandinavia took part in Danish Geodesy-Geophysics Institute expedition to West Greenland in 1934. The idea was supported by Geographical Institute of Jan Kazimierz Univeristy as well as organizational and financial help offered by many Polish institutions, foundations and companies. Collected funds allowed participation of seven people and expedition duration from May until September 1937. The researchers who took part in the expedition were: Aleksander Kosiba (head), Antoni Gawel, Alfred Jahn, Stanisław Siedlecki, Rudolf Wilczek, Stefan Bernadzikiewicz and Antoni Zawadzki. The study area was the coast of the outskirts of Arfersiorfik fjord in the West coast of Greenland, between Disko bay in the North and Norde-Ström in the South. The primary tasks of the expedition were geological, glaciological and morphological studies based mainly on terrestrial stereophotogrametry. There were several key works planned, especially stereophotogrametric measurements, assembly of local triangulation network and development of a map of the research area in scale 1:50 000.

Unfortunately only a small part of the collected material was analysed and published before the war. Much of the valuable documentation was damaged or lost (e.g. a documentary planned to be released in cinemas in 1939). Part of the meteorological documentation was saved and partially published (Józefczyk et al. 2010).

One of the most essential remaining scientific results of the expedition was the topographic map “West Greenland marginal zone of the inland ice near Arfersiorfik fjord” compiled in scale 1:50 000 with contour interval 30 m, by Antoni R. Zawadzki and published in 1938 in Warsaw by Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny (Military Geographical Institute). This scale predisposed the map for general use and let it form a good background for all environmental research in the area. The map based on detailed photogrammetric measurements made in 29 stations and
covered about 370 km² including glaciers, tundra, fjord water and sandurs. The contents was presented in 5 colors: black, brown, blue, lightgreen and lightbrown.