

RG-50.120 #047 1 Tape
Gelbelman, Esther

- 1.01 She was born in 1926 in Kishinov. She had one twin brother and an older brother. Father died in 1946 and brother took over their store. When Russians took over, they took their store. She describes city and Jewish life. Does not have many memories. Mentions the pogrom in 1939.
- 1.07 Her memories start in 1940, when Russians confiscated store. Describes the June 1941 bombardment of city.
- 1.15 Family did not leave on the trains East that the Russians provided. Finally, days before the Germans entered they left and joined the large caravan of Jews walking East.
- 1.34 They hid out in Beresovka. She describes the ghetto. They were then marched 30 km by the Germans to Domanovka.
- 1.39 Describes ghetto and treatment of Jews.
- 1.48 Dec. 1941, extermination of camp was started. Ukrainians and VolksDeutsche did the work of shooting and burning 54.000 Jews in a large pit.
- 2.03 23rd Dec, her mother and brother were murdered and she was saved to sort out clothes of those murdered.
- 2.24 24th of Dec., the killing was interrupted for the holidays, and then continued until 10th of January.
- 2.29 Describes how Germans selected women for prostitution. Killing of brothers fiancé. She worked there until April 1944.
- 2.45 Describes her psychological trauma and its effects on her in the present.
- 2.56 After 2 years only 90 out of 2000 in Domanevka remained.
- 3.03 In 1944 the killings stopped. Describes her physical condition. The work of transferring bodies from one pit to another.
- 3.13 April 1944, when the Russian army approached, the Germans fled. The prisoners dispersed and walked to Karlovka where they were liberated by the Russians.
- 3.19 They went with the Russian army. She was asked to testify about what happened in Bogdanovka.

- 3.20 Talks about Slivenka, the Ukranian murderer.
- 3.25 Describes her return to Bogdanovka after 20 years, and her efforts to have the pits covered and the grave cared for.
- 3.45 Describes her current despair and inability to forget.