

RG-50.226*008 CHANDROS, BORIS NAUMOVICH

- 1.01 My name is Chandros Boris Naumovich. I was born in 1923, December 25. My father was a Jewish teacher. Our family lived in small town of village Ozarintsy.
- 1.01.30 I finished 4 years of Jewish school and I know Jewish very well. Even now, my father was not only teacher; he even created his own school and all children loved it. After 4 years of school kids began to study in Ukrainian school. My mom, Nina Borisovna had strong volition and big soul. We learned from her many things. She was a very understanding woman. Our life was not light. Like many people we were hungry in 1933. About these events I wrote 2 books.
- 1.12.30 Speaking about time before war, I must say beginning of 20 years was the best time for our small town because we had bloom of culture. We had 3 Jewish schools and after 1930 we had only one school for Jewish kids. It was my father's school.
- b Then Boris Chandros tells much about his feelings about culture of his small town before war. Then he continues to tell about wartime.
- 1.17.00 Journalist asks to tell about hunger of 1933-34: I had written book 'Death Letters' and this book keeps only facts about that time and you can see how much hard was life of Ukrainian people.
- 1.20.30 I must mention many Jews did from hunger in 1933-34 but if to say about percentage between Ukrainians and Jews, more Ukrainians died.
- 1.22030 The day before war, my friend Mitya Narughnyy and I went fishing. We did not know about war before we came back from fishing. It was June 23, 1941, second day of war. We lived next to Dnestr and had front only month there. After month our area was occupied by German army. I wanted to be soldier like many friends of mine but I was too young for war. But I wanted to be useful and without permission I went to war. I had usual clothes and helped as much as I could bring together with real soldiers.
- 1.24.40 One day my war part had hard battle and I was shelled - shock case and I had very hard condition. And after this battle I took to village of injured soldier and while I waited there I went to sleep. When I opened my eyes I saw in front of me was German soldier. I said I was student, not soldier. I was lucky because I had usual clothes and German soldier believe me and allowed to go out from this place.
- 1.27.30 So I continued my route. First of all I wanted to see if everything was ok with my parents. I had come to Mogilev-Podolsk in August 1943. First thing I saw there were grazing people. They ate grass on the field by their teeth. They did it because they were ordered to do so.

- 1.29.40 The same day I went to Karpovka where a friend of mine Mitya lived, but did not stop there. I continued my trip to Ozarintsty. Next to Ozarintsty's cemetery I listened to a familiar voice calling me by name. This was my schoolmate Tamara Burik. She was older than me two years. Tamara explained I could not go to small town because we had German soldiers there. So I went with Tamara and lived with her family about 3 weeks. Burik's family was very friendly to me.
- 1.32.40 Living in Burik's family I began to make leaflets and friend of mine distributed them. Few weeks my parents did not know where I was and it was wise decision because we had very dangerous time.
- 1.34.00 But one day I went to my family because she needed help from hunger.
- 2.00.00 There was a ghetto in our small town, Ozarintsy. Before my arrival many Jews were killed by German soldiers.
- 2.01.00 I want to tell you about a very special person, Stukalenko. This man was a doctor and he worked in border troops before the war. Stukalenko was an amazing person and a real friend. Some Ukrainian people did not want to speak with Jews because it was dangerous but doctor Stukalenko was not afraid. He not only had conversations with our family but also he tried to help as much as he could and one day he saved my life.
- 2.08.40 Sometimes I hear people say German soldiers did not kill Jews in our small town. But I must say they killed by not totally. And all time we had guillotine of death about our heads.
- 2.10.40 That year was very hard for our small town. Population of us grew because we had many people from other villages. Our family had one other family in our house and so we lived in small room all together. One day among us began Typhus. All members of our family got sick. Only father who already had this disease few years ago was not sick and he took care of us. But it was not enough. I wrote letter to Dr. Stukalenko and asked him to visit us. He visited us almost everyday and gave food and medicines and he saved our lives.
- 2.12.25 After winter 1942 was gone we began to go Mogilev-Podolsk. We had some food and we changed it for some money for family.
- 2.13.10 In summer people from small town received orders that one member from each family must go to ghetto for work. So I went to work camp in Pechora.
- 2.19.15 First time we had very hard work in Pechora but soon we changed place of camp. It was ugly place with many Jews. I worked in forge and all time when I lived in this camp. I thought about escape. I saw many people die from hard work and from ugly life and I knew I had only two ways or I will continue to work here and die or I escape.

- 2.24.00 I was lucky because I got much help from smith [?]. One day he said he would want to help me with my escape. He gave me also some food with me and I was gone from camp.
- 2.25.30 I did not notice but one guy followed me when I escaped so we decided to continue our route together.
- 2.27.20 After camp I went to Ozarintsy. And again Stukalenko helped me there. I had opportunity to live in his hospital and doctor hid me during swoops.
- 2.29.00 One day German soldiers stepped back through our small town and one soldier appeared in our house. He yelled at us and shot me. But I could run from him. And again Atukalenko helped me. He gave me some medicine and took me to hospital. In few days after it we had Russian Army in our area.
- Also I want to tell you about one event happening few days before I was shot. That day I came to Mogilevsky ghetto to visit my uncle. He told me there was stranger in his town and people from town would want to know if he was good person or he was provocateur. I agreed to speak with stranger. Very first minute I met this young fellow I understood he was a very good person. Even more I found friend. This fellow escaped from German camp and now he was a partisan and he shot many German soldiers. But when I was shot by German soldier I lost this fellow from field of vision and also he thought I was killed.
- 3.02.45 In 1992 I visited Israel and I told about this fellow on the radio. And I found him and we spoke with each other!
- 3.04.00 After war we had only few Jewish families in our small town Ozarintsy. People moved to other places and no Jews live there now.
- 3.07.40 As for me when my town was liberated I served in the cavalry and was secret-service agent. I met victory at Elba.
- 3.09.30 I got demobilization in autumn 1945. After 1945 I began to study in Kiev University and studied before 1950. I was teacher many years.
- 3.13.10 Now I am working on special book. I want to show life about our small town during war. I wrote more than 30 books and made many movies all war events of our small town.