

RG –50.226 – 0020.

Interview with Vladimir I. Lubarski.

01.00.20.

I was born in 1927, in the village Loghkincy, district Minski. I lived there for a few months and then my parents and I moved to Kharkiv. My parents finished institute and they worked as engineers. Also I had a brother.

01.01.00.

Before the war I studied in school and I finished 7th class in 1941. When the war started my father was taken to war and he had to restore all buildings that were destroyed by the Germans in Kharkiv. As my father had a special job in Kharkiv he could not evacuate from the town. My mom and I could evacuate without my father if we had wanted to but we did not want to leave father alone.

01.03. 50.

In October 1941, the Germans were next to Kharkiv. My father received an order to prepare important buildings sites of Kharkiv for destruction in case if our town would have been under German occupation. This order was received from Stalin who said the Germans must not get anything of value from our country.

01.05.00.

When the Germans approached Kharkiv my family left town and we thought we would find a safe place to live behind the town. We moved to the village Saltov that was 40 kilometres from Kharkiv. But the Germans were there already so we returned to Kharkiv.

01.05.17.

In 3 days the Germans entered our apartment and they beat my parents. We left the apartment and we went to live with our grandmother.

01.06.00.

There were many Germans in our apartment building and they made an order for all people who lived there to bring 6 pails of water every day for water heating because the Germans needed heat for their apartments. As we had no water in Kharkiv since the beginning of the war we had to go to the river and it was very difficult because the river was 3 kilometres from the town.

01.07.10.

Soon we got an order to gather together in the ghetto. The guards of the ghetto were very cruel to us and we had an ugly life there. There were 12000 Jews in the ghetto. We had no water and we ate snow. Some people from the ghetto tried to escape and some had success.

01.11.16.

There were 12 barracks in the ghetto with no heat. The Germans did not give us any food. At first the Germans allowed us to leave the ghetto in order to find some food and water but soon they forbade it. Our life was more and more difficult with every day.

01.17.50.

From time to time, the Germans took the Jews and many Jews were killed. There was a big hunger in the ghetto and many people died from hunger.

01.20.30.

One day my family decided to escape from the ghetto. We did escape at night. One man gave shelter to us in his house and we lived there for 3 weeks. But we could not live a long time there and so my father and I began to look for another place to live.

01.26.20.

My father's friend found shelter for us and we lived there all winter. We lived with one woman named Rughkova. My mom made passports for us without Jewish names.

01.29.00.

One day my father and I went to find some food and we met my father's colleague Meschaninov from his job. The man promised to give some soap to us the next day in order that we might exchange it for some food. He made an appointment to meet us in the market. But when, the next day, my father entered the market he was taken by the police. In a few days people told me that my father had been killed.

01.31.00.

In three days after my father was taken by the police my family left the town and we went toward New Vodolaga. We were lucky having the new passports with non-Jewish names because all the time we were asked to show our passports.

01.31.40.

We lived in New Vodolaga a few days and then we left town. We found the Red Army and soldiers gave shelter and food to us. My mom asked commander if he would not mind to taking me in the in order to that I could be the pupil of the Red Army. The commander answered yes. So I lived with other soldiers and helped as much as I could.

02.01.38.

One day our war part was encircled by the German Army and it was a hard time because each of us understood that the Red Army began a deviation. Red Army went toward town Donec and then Goroxovka. There was an accident with one Romanian person who was killed and other Romanian took revenge for it. They gathered all people from the village including me and they divided us into three groups. There were inhabitants of the village in the first group, strangers like me in the second group and there were prisoners in the third group. At night I escaped from the second group to thr third group and on the next day we went toward the town Izjum.

02.06.11.

There was a camp for war prisoners in Izjum and there lived 85 000 people. We worked in the camp and the Germans gave us some food.

02.07.00.

One day one war prisoner and I hid from The Germans and then we went to village Barvenkovo. There we lived with one family. Soon I met my mom and my brother. We decided to continue our route and we went avoiding stopping in villages with many Germans. We went toward the North Caucas. We knew that the front was at Stalingrad already.

02.11.47.

As it was a winter we could not continue our route village to village because the weather was very cold. So we entered village Vysotskoe of Stavropol' district and lived there on a farm. I worked as a herdsman all winter having for my job some food and a place to spend the night.

02.21.20.

In winter the Germans began the retreat. The end of February a village headman decided to escape from the village because he was scared to see the Red Army and my friend took away from him his horses and stuff and then he and my family left the village Vysotskoe.

02.22.45.

In February 23 our area was free from the Germans. My mom and I went to Baku and then to Tbilisi where lived familiar people. We lived there for one week. As we had no food or clothes we could not stay with our friends and we went to another place. We found a house where the Germans lived before the war and as they escaped their house was empty. We lived there until August 23, when Kharkiv was freed.

02.26.50.

We entered Kharkiv in January 1944. I began to work as a worker there. Soon I began to study in artillery school and I finished the school in 1947. Then I studied in War College.

02.29.30.

I was demobilized in 1951 and I returned to Kharkiv where my mom and brother lived. I finished Kharkiv polytechnic institute in 1956.

02.31.20.

My brother moved to Germany in 1992 and he is living there now. I married and I have 2 children. My daughter lives in Israel and my son lives in Ukraine.