

MIGLINIENĖ, Janina
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In this interview Janina Miglinienė, born in 1924 in Alytus, recalls how she, together with her sister-in-law **Bronė Miglinaitė** hid a Jewish teenager, **Maiškė Jasilevičius**.

Box 1, Tape 1

[01:] 00:31:15 – [01:] 05:20:06
00:29 – 05:28

She introduces herself as Janina Miglinienė (maiden name Paulavičiūtė), born in 1924 in Alytus; says that at the beginning of the war she lived in Alytus, but later moved in with her relatives who lived 1.5 kilometers away from Alytus; says that there were a lot of Jews in Alytus before the war and that she regrets not having learned their language; when asked what happened to the Jews during the war, she starts talking about her neighbors and calls them “informers”; recalls that a Jewish family had warned her about the neighbors and told her not to talk about anything in front of them; says she cannot remember the name of the neighbor but says that he despised Jews; says that he also did not like Russians; when asked if the neighbor took any action against the Jews, she says that he did not do anything himself.

[01:] 05:20:07 – [01:] 10:36:11
05:29 – 10:58

She claims to have seen a truck pulled over by her house and Jews being put on the truck; she says that **Bronė Miglinaitė**, her sister-in-law, lived next to her and that **Miglinaitė** had a horse and the two of them went to Punia town to see the priest; mentions that the priest used to tell people that Jews are like everybody else, although not publicly; explains that the priest had invited her to come and asked her to find a job for **Maiškė Jasilevičius**, a Jewish youth; mentions that she and **Bronė Miglinaitė** hid **Maiškė**; recalls that when the ghetto was being established, a Jewish woman came to her house and asked her to hide **Maiškė** in her barn, which she did.

[01:] 10:36:12 – [01:] 16:37:00
10:59 – 17:13

She says that when **Maiškė** came to her, she got in touch with the priest in Punia, but he responded that he could not help her; says that maybe he could have helped if they were in Poland; when asked again how **Maiškė** appeared at her house, she says that at first he was hiding with **Bronė**, but later she took him in; mentions that **Maiškė** had gone to see the priest in Punia, but that he was arrested there together with three other Jews; reports that later he was released

and returned to her; recalls that children from the nearby school saw **Maiškė** and started shouting out that they saw a Jew; states that then **Bronė** agreed to hide him in her basement; recalls that during the days he would stay in the basement and during the night he would sleep at her house; says that he stayed with her and **Bronė** for two years but that later he was found, as was his family including his father, mother and brother.

[01:] 16:37:01 – [01:] 20:10:12
17:14 – 20:56

She says that **Maiškė** was 16 or 17 years old at the time; recalls that he was arrested at **Bronė's** house by Lithuanians in civilian clothes; says that **Bronė** was not home at the time; adds that two or three days earlier they had come to her looking for Jews, but could not find any because he had escaped to Punia but that later he came back and hid with Bronė; when asked to go back to the moment when a truck pulled over next to her house, she says she did not see anything as all she cared about was **Maiškė**.

[01:] 20:10:13 – [01:] 27:09:21
20:57 – 28:14

She recalls seeing Jews living in tents by the river; says that she would hear shots; recalls that **Maiškė** would then put his arms around her and cry [*she starts crying*]; says that she would try to calm him down; says that she did not see **Maiškė** being arrested; recalls that some of the people who came to her house were in civilian clothes while the others were in uniforms; mentions that she currently receives letters from some Jews in the US; says that they offer her help.