

SIDOR, Miciu  
Moldova Documentation Project  
Romanian  
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Tape 1

In this interview, Miciu Sidor, born in Butuceni, discusses seeing the bodies of Jews floating in a river and working in the ghetto in Soldanesti. He also mentions over-crowding and the terrible condition in the ghetto. Discusses an incident when he witnessed a group of Jews being buried alive.

Q: Please tell us your name.

A: Sidor.

Q: And your full name?

A: Miciu Sidor Vasivici.

Q: Tell me the date you were born. What year were you born?

A: 14th of May in 1923.

Q: And where?

A: Here in the village.

Q: In the village Butuceni.

A: Yes.

Q: Did you live here in the village before the war?

A: Yes

Q: And do you remember what happened to the Jews when the war began?

A: They took us out of the village; they took only the young ones to the camp.

Q: Who?

A: The Germans.

Q: When?

A: In the spring of 1944.

Q: But before that, do you remember what happened to the Jews in 1941?

A: \_\_\_\_\_. I saw everything. Over here to the left side, their skin, they were burnt. In Şoldanesti how there were Jews, there was a ghetto, and also a camp and they were putting stones up \_\_\_\_\_ and there were two older people and three or four children and there was a river shore \_\_\_\_\_ I saw everything, that's what I saw.

Q: But how did you know that the people floating in the river were Jews?

A: Because it was said that they threw them in the river.

Q: And in the camp they were putting up stones, they paved the way.

A: In the camp they paved \_\_\_\_\_. With which they paved the roads. \_\_\_\_\_ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_ It was paved with small stones. And they were beating them and loaded them, they were very thin, hungry, naked \_\_\_\_\_, they were just wretched...

Q: And who watched over them, can you remember?

A: The Germans watched over them.

Q: German soldiers.

A: German soldiers; yes. They took approximately nine hundred if not more of them, they were many of them. They overcrowded them and took them into camps, in that ghetto, not camp, here it was a ghetto.

Q: Where was the ghetto?

A: In Şoldanesti, there was a ghetto where they overcrowded all of them.

Q: And the ones you said that you saw covered by dirt

A: Yes, you could not see them anymore. Nobody could take them out of there, because it was so tall, taller than this house. There was a pit where they were digging, and they put them into the pit and then covered them with dirt. There were two Romanian soldiers who put the dirt over them.

Q: And those people were...

A: Jews.

Q: Were they dressed?

A: Yes. Dressed and with their three or four children around 13–14 years-old. Nobody took them out of there anymore, nobody could get out.

Q: And where were you when you saw all this?

A: At a distance as from here to the gate, this is how far I was.

Q: And was there anyone else with you, or were you alone?

A: No, I was alone.

Q: And did the soldiers leave after that?

A: Yes, they left for good. There was nobody that could take them out of there, hundreds of tons of dirt.

*[Interview interrupts abruptly]*