

COJOCARU, Pavel
Moldova Documentation Project
Romanian
RG-50.572*0019

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Pavel Cojocaru talks about the fate of the fugitive Jews from the city of Orhei and their being killed and describes the bombing of a bridge near his village by German planes. In addition, he gives details about the concentration camp in Chişinău.

[01:] 00:35:00 – [01:] 16:25:13

He states his first name, family name, place and year of birth (Morovaia, 1920); he talks about the fate of the fugitive Jews from the city of Orhei; remembers how a family of Jews stayed in his family's house; he talks about the obligatory enrolment of the youth in the Red Army and states his refusal to join; talks about his subsequent hiding for two days in a forest near the village out of fear that he would be caught by the authorities and sent to the army; remembers the triple bombing by German planes of a bridge near the forest he was hiding in and describes the killing of the Jewish people who were crossing the bridge, including the family who had stayed in his parents' house; talks about the gendarmerie office that had been set up in his village and remembers the officer named **Lungu** and his team of four or five gendarmes; he talks about the capturing of the fugitive Jews and their imprisonment in the gendarmerie office; he remembers that he had been obliged to work at the gendarmerie office and witnessed every day how the Jews were taken for work, but cannot say where they went or what they were forced to do; he remembers the killing of 30 Jews in a forest near the village; he also remembers witnessing two floating Jewish corpses in the river nearby – he recognized them as being two old Jews from his village who owned a store; comments on the concentration camp in Chişinău and on the daily life in the camp; remembers entering the camp together with his father; states that Romanians were allowed to enter the camp – the Jews used to sell their belongings to them in order to get some money; says that some of the Jewish people detained by the gendarmes in his village were shot, while others were probably taken to the concentration camp in Chişinău, but cannot say exactly what happened to them.