

REZNIC, Ana
Moldova Documentation Project
Romanian
RG-50.572*0021

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Ana Reznic, born in 1931 and a native of Rezina, speaks about a convoy of Jewish people passing through the village she grew up in. She recalls them being taken to the Dnister (Nistru) River, and shot and killed at that location. She also mentions a relative of hers being killed, because her name was a common Jewish name.

[02:] 01:15:00 – [02:] 12:25:11
00:00 – 12:06

She introduces herself, giving her date and place of birth as July 24, 1931, in the village of Rezina; says her maiden name is Dragoman [Drăgoman]; says she was about ten when World War II began; remembers seeing planes bomb a metal bridge and her father explaining to her that the war had started; says how she later on saw German soldiers retreating; tells that in the vicinity of Rezina there lived more Jews than in the village of Rezina; recalls that when the war began, most Jews were in the district; recalls how a convoy of Jews was passing by [*gestures to the street in front of the house*]; tells about when a group of Jews was murdered: says that farther away from her house there was a bridge over the Dnister, and once the group of Jews crossed it, they were shot dead and thrown into a ditch; says those in the group were dragged, whipped, and were starving; says her mother threw a piece of polenta [*boiled cornmeal*] to the group over the fence and they crowded to get it and some of them ate the crumbs on the ground; says her mother was whipped for that; says the Jews were asking for food and water; recalls how some ate raw corn from the fields; remembers the convoy being long, consisting of 300–400, perhaps even 500 people; says the villagers were not allowed to watch and were beaten by the soldiers if they did; says that some of the villagers were still going after the convoy to see where it was being taken; remembers the Jews having luggage with them; says they threw her mother a jacket as thank-you for the polenta; remembers that then the road was narrower and she was together with her mother in the courtyard, near the fence; says the Jews were guarded by Romanian soldiers; mentions she knows they were Jews because of her parents; says her father followed the convoy over the bridge and saw how the Jews were shot and thrown into the ditch; says the living were also thrown into the ditch and then the ditch was leveled; says her father told her how some of the Jews threw themselves over the bridge into the Dnister and some were pushed over by the soldiers; says she does not know exactly where the group was from because they were not from Rezina, but were from other villages; remembers some villagers taking their clothes away, of who a family whose daughter is a teacher now; remembers how the Jews were tired, suffering, and were carrying their children on their backs; tells again how the soldiers did not let them talk and would whip them while villagers gathered to watch; says she never saw how they were shot, she only saw how they were taken away.

[02:] 12:25:12 - [02:] 19:42:08
12:07 – 19:51

She says her mother is from **Trifești**; says her cousin (her mother's niece) [*later in the interview the interviewee will note it was her mother's cousin, not niece*] was shot because of her name: **Sara**; says this is the reason why one of her sisters, also named **Sara**, used the name Alexandra during the war; explains how after the war they officially changed her name to Alexandra; recalls how she and two of her younger brothers were brought to **Trifești**, because the fighting was not as bad as in Rezina; mentions that her three older brothers remained in Rezina at that time; remembers being accosted while on their way through the woods by Romanian soldiers, who took their only horse; says that in **Trifești** there also lived Jews who were shot; remembers her mother telling her about this and mentioning some Jewish names: **Haika**, however she is not sure; says that in **Trifești** she was with her grandparents, siblings, aunts, and uncles; says her mother had remained in Rezina; says that the Jews were killed before she arrived in **Trifești**; does not know the year when they went to **Trifești**, she just knows it was spring, nor does she recall how long the war had been going on at the time of her arrival; repeats that in **Trifești** all of the local Jews had been killed; remembers there were rumors that a girl named **Ruclea** had been hidden by some villagers and therefore had been saved; says she has never seen any of this, but only heard about it.

[02:] 19:42:09 – [02:] 23:26:00
19:52 – 24:02

The interviewer resumes the story of the killed relative, and Reznice says she was killed because of her name: **Sara**; says that soldiers were searching for Jews by their names, and **Sara** is a Jewish name; says that **Sara** was her mother's first cousin—**Sara's** father and her mother's mother were brother and sister; says that her name was **Sara Dogoter**, and she was killed before she arrived in **Trifești**; points out that she had been killed because of her name, just like other villagers who were thought to be Jews; says that she had curly hair and looked Jewish; says that soldiers came and just took the people out of their homes; says that she does not know whether Agafia Cebotari [*USHMM Interview RG-50.572*0025*] has told the interviewer, but the sister of Cebotari's husband—**Liza**, was almost taken away because she looked Jewish; mentions that **Liza** is still living in **Rîmnița**; says that soldiers would not ask or listen to relatives of the accused attesting that they were not Jews when they were taking people away; says the rest of **Sara's** family survived; says she does not know exactly how it happened, or when she was taken.