

KRIVOPÎȘCO, Ecaterina
Moldova Documentation Project
Russian
RG-50.572*0046

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Ecaterina Krivopîșco, a former nurse from western Ukraine, talks about the extermination of the Jews during the German occupation of the city of **Lubne [Lubny]**, Ukraine. She remembers the daily gatherings of Jews in the main square of the city and their deportation to special extermination sites. She focuses on the German occupation and the process of fortifying the city. She also comments on the background and fate of one of her Jewish colleagues and her Jewish landlords. Ms. Krivopîșco discusses the local population's reaction to the Jewish situation and her own escape from a German nurse commission.

[01:] 01:03:05 – [01:] 08:13:09

She mentions her name and her birthplace; comments on the big size of the city of **Lubne**; emphasizes that there was a large number of Jews in **Lubne**; focuses on their professions as shop owners, craftsmen, etc.; talks about her lodging at a Jewish family's house in 1941; comments on the arrival of the Germans to the city in the fall of 1941; discusses the round-up of Jews to the main square, **Kirov**, near the synagogue; talks about the German visits to Jewish houses and the numerous notifications given to Jews to take only their children and food in three days to the square; comments on the Jews' confusion and anxiety; describes how the Jews were lined up in columns with their hands tied up at the square; comments on how the Germans escorted the columns with motorcycles and cars on both sides of the road; mentions her age at this time; discusses the local population's interest and curiosity in the Jewish situation; comments on the direction of the Jewish procession from **Lubne** towards the village of Zaslulie; comments on the local population's inability to approach the Jews at the square; discusses the digging of 4-meter trenches aligning the sides of the roads; focuses on the wooden and metal barricades put by the Germans alongside the roads; discusses the extermination of the Jews the day of their deportation; comments on the disposal of the dead bodies into special trenches; talks about how the local population witnessed the actual killing of the Jews at the shooting site; focuses on the presence of Russians, Moldavians, and Ukrainians among the locals; comments on the Jewish children being killed at the end; talks about her education; comments on her first work placement in a military hospital; talks about her Jewish colleague, whose daughter and husband were killed by the Germans.

[01:] 08:13:10 – [01:] 15:54:16

She talks about the daughter of her colleague; talks about the local people's stories of the killing of Jews; comments on the Germans' arrival at the end of September; comments on the question of whether the Germans started gathering Jews immediately after their arrival; discusses the local people's involvement in the capturing of Jews and surrendering them to the Germans; compares Kirov square to the one in Chisinau, Moldova, where she currently lives; discusses the large number of Jews being gathered by the Germans; comments on the lack of personal belongings among the Jews; describes the Jewish family she lodged with;

talks about her presence at the square at the time of the Jewish procession; comments on the Jews' confusion and perplexity; comments on the extradition of her landlord; talks about the luxurious houses of some of the Jews; comments on the guns and the vehicles of the Germans; focuses on the presence of Italian, French, Polish, and Romanian soldiers together with the Germans; talks about her presence at the square for approximately 2–3 hours; discusses the length of the shootings during the afternoon, which continued for 2–3 hours; comments on the earth tremors from the gunshots; talks about her visit to the place of the shootings; describes the badly covered trenches of dead bodies; focuses on the excavations of the bodies by the locals in search of gold and other valuables; talks about how the Germans prohibited the excavations of the dead bodies.

[01:] 15:54:17 – [01:] 20:55:07

She talks about the looting of the deserted Jewish houses; focuses on the decree issued by the Germans forbidding the theft of Jewish properties; talks about the Germans taking away Jewish property and belongings; discusses her visit to the Jewish house she lived in; talks about the affluent homes of the Jews being inhabited by German soldiers; comments on the allocation of the middle class Jewish houses to homeless people; comments on how people who hid Jews were under the constant threat of being killed by the Germans; comments on the question of whether any of the Jews managed to escape the persecutions; discusses the decree issued by the Germans in Ukrainian in regard to hiding Jews; describes the fear of the local population to hide Jews; focuses on the killings of the Gypsy minorities by the Germans in the city of **Lubne**; talks about the persecutions of Russian partisan groups by the Germans in the nearby woods.

[01:] 20:55:08 – [01:] 26:40:15

She talks about her participation in a medical commission which was to be sent to Germany; talks about the condition of the camp in the school where they were housed; remembers the arrival of German doctors accompanied by interpreters; mentions an acquaintance of her mother who helped her escape the medical commission; discusses her lying to the commission about having tuberculosis; recalls her previous escape from a similar commission in Kiev, Ukraine in 1942; talks about her leaving the nurse camp and being beaten with a whip by a German soldier; she comments on the question of whether any of the Jews managed to escape the persecutions before the war; describes the heavy traffic on the roads at the time of the arrival of the Germans and their families; talks about the 200-meter occupation line of the city of **Lubne**; comments on the question of whether any of the fugitive Jews came back to **Lubne** after the war; describes when she lived in Frankfurt on the Oder, Germany, at the end of the war; remembers her escape from Germany through the divided military front near the Polish border; recalls being sent to work as a nurse in western Ukraine after the war.