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ROȘCOVAN, Olga Mihailovna
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In this interview, Mrs. Roșcovan, born in 1928, in the village of Budăi (central Moldova), discusses the experiences of the Jews in her village, where she lived as a teenager. She describes witnessing the massacre of the Jews and the torture inflicted on the victims by German soldiers. She also discusses the atmosphere in the village from 1940 to 1945.

File 1 of 1

[01:] 00:17:03 – [01:] 10:04:10
00:16 – 10:25

Mrs. Roșcovan introduces herself: she was born in 1928, in the village of Budăi; discusses instances of physical violence enacted against the civilian population during the war; admits that, because she was a child at the time, she does not specifically recall any of these acts of violence, but asserts that they were numerous; mentions women and soldiers doing “crazy thing” [*I am not sure if she is implying something sexual.*]; describes an incident she witnessed, when a German soldier, who was being chased by Russian soldiers, fell to the ground, and was beaten and kicked by 30 Russian soldiers [*It appeared that the German soldier was dead.*]; says that there was a machine gun next to the German man [*The interviewee says that it was a machine gun, but I am not entirely certain of the type of gun; it may be an MP 38 or MP 40 submachine gun.*]; says that as the Russians walked away from the man, convinced that he was dead, he got up and fired the machine gun at all of them; specifies that this incident occurred in 1944; mentions that the German soldier used the last bullet to kill himself; tells the story [*This occurred before the arrival of the Russians.*] of a pregnant woman who was walking in a funeral procession, while nine German soldiers tormented her with questions about the gender of her unborn baby, placing bets about whether the child was a boy or a girl; says that they then proceeded to cut open her belly; admits that she does not know the type of knife used, but indicates that it was longer than a normal knife, like a spear or a sword, but not a bayonet; specifies that this incident occurred in March 1944; remembers the name of the pregnant woman, Nina Andronic; when asked by the interviewer how she managed to understand the language, and therefore, ascertain where the soldiers were from, and what exactly they were saying, she mentions that this information was conveyed to her by her father, who spoke both German and Hebrew, and was present at the time.

[01:] 10:04:11 – [01:] 19:11:16
10:26 – 19:55

The interviewer asks her whether she knows what happened to the Jews in the village; she says that most of the Jews fled; recounts a story about a Jewish man named **Iosif** who hid in a

“sofca,” a closet; says that people went to his house and took anything they found; asserts that there was a lot of gold in the house; reveals that people only later discovered **Iosif** hiding in the closet; explains that the Moldavians sheltered the Jewish man; when asked by the interviewer whether taking things from abandoned houses was a common practice, she says that many people took clothes, household objects, carpets, wardrobes, and other such items from Jewish homes, because they were deserted and not guarded; recalls another incident, when a woman and her two twin children were taken at gunpoint to the outskirts of the village, where she was forced to throw her children into a pit, and then was shot and thrown into the pit also; specifies that this incident with the woman, who was about 26 or 28 years old, occurred in 1945, during inspections conducted to determine if certain people were Jewish; says that two Moldavians were forced by Russian soldiers (?), under threat of death, to dig the pit, and kill the children and their mother; alleges that the Jews were essentially “evicted” in 1944; explains that, starting in 1941, the Jews were fugitives, hiding in the forests nearby; mentions that the village was set on fire, but does not remember if this occurred in 1942 or 1943; says that there were many Jews living in the area; says that, at the start of the war, several armies – Russian, Ukrainian, German, and even Romanian – came through the area; maintains that the Romanians were struggling to fight their own war, and did not intend to harm them; she is unable to provide, at the behest of the interviewer, an accurate timeline for the succession of the aforementioned armies; confirms that Germans were present from the beginning to the end of the war; when the interviewer asks how Russian soldiers could have murdered Jews, she is unable to provide an explanation; asserts that most of the Jews fled at the start of the war, and that those who were unable to hide amid the Moldavians and were unable to escape, were killed.

[01:] 19:11:17 – [01:] 30:00:13
19:56 – 31:39

She explains that the woman who was killed with her children by two Moldavians owned a tailor shop, and that she was in hiding for two years before being discovered; when asked about the size of the pit where the woman and her children were buried, she estimates that it was about two meters large; mentions that the Russian soldiers, about four or five men, wore black uniforms, but not heavy uniforms, because this incident took place at the beginning of autumn; asserts that she knew that the soldiers were Russian because they spoke Russian, as did most people at the time; says that she does not remember any more incidents; maintains that she only spoke of events she personally witnessed.