

GIURCĂ, Aurel
Romania Documentation Project
Romanian
RG-50.573*0009

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Giurcă Aurel, a former district attorney and later public attorney, talks about the local Jews of Călărași and their experiencing persecution and cruelty through the legionaries.

[01:] 00:31:02 – [01:] 10:19:03

He gives his date and place of birth as October 21, 1927, in Călărași; talks about the persecution of the Jews; mentions a gynecologist being accused of killing children by abortion and being tied to the so-called “pole of infamy” in front of the city hall for a few days; discusses the same man being taken to a concentration camp in Slobozia; mentions a legionary with the name **Dan** who was extremely cruel to the Jews; talks about the legionary policemen who stole the Jews’ jewelry; comments on his wife, a pharmacist, who worked in a building that was constructed with the Jews’ money; talks about Jewish forced labor; comments on the local population of Călărași which had a close relationship with the Jews and was hostile towards the legionaries; discusses his family hiding several Jewish families in their basement; talks about his father having many Jewish friends.

[01:] 10:19:04 – [01:] 20:01:04

He talks about his profession as district attorney and his being interested in the unusual cases of dying Jews; says that he was forced to give up this job due to political pressure; talks about his becoming a public attorney in 1955; comments on a train full of Jews coming from the city of Iași; discusses that the Jews from that train were almost dead, and the ones alive were very thin with their feet burned by the urine and caustic lime on the floors; talks about the bodies being buried in communal pits and the surviving Jews being transported to a garage and left without clothes on the cement; comments on his father and other friends collecting clothes and food for the Jews; talks about the local population of the city who also helped the Jews.

[01:] 20:01:05 – [01:] 29:42:05

Giurcă talks about the local population which was strongly opposed to the legionaries; *[a pause in the interview during which they speak another language]*; mentions a legionary by the name of Alexandru Nicolescu who tortured the Jews with great cruelty and bragged about it; talks about his own participation in the trial of Alexandru Nicolescu and Radu **Ducescu** [**Duțescu**], and both of them admitting their crimes; mentions his birth place Călărași where many people of different nationalities lived together peacefully and this being the reason for which the people there were so tolerant and did not accept the inhuman behavior towards the Jews.