

KRUPSKY, Vilen  
Ukraine Witnesses Documentation Project  
Russian  
RG-50.575\*0006

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Vilen Krupsky talks about how his mother, his younger brother, and he lived under the German-Romanian occupation in his place of birth Odessa. He describes the dangers he faced on account of his (by-then-deceased) father's having been a Jew and a communist.

**[00:] 00:00:01 – [00:] 07:05:59**

He gives his name (Vilen Ilyich Krupsky), date and place of birth as January 28, 1931, in Odessa; discusses his parents having a Russian mother and a Jewish father; talks about his father being a communist and dying in 1939; mentions moving to a new area after the outbreak of the war; talks about the invasion of Odessa by German troops (later joined by Romanians) on October 16, 1941; relates how house-to-house searches were immediately set up to look for Jews and communists; mentions numerous arrests in the first days of occupation; describes a round-up of Jewish neighbors in their courtyard.

**[00:] 07:06:00 – [00:] 10:25:59**

He comments that although his ethnic background was not known to many on the block, someone reported him to the police; describes multiple interrogations in police precincts; mentions the fact of once being undressed by policemen to verify whether he had a circumcision, "brit milah."

**[00:] 10:26:00 – [00:] 12:20:59**

He tells how his mother befriended the family of **Evgeniy Stepanovich Mavrov**, a police employee; mentions **Mavrov's** help in easing restrictions on his family's life.

**[00:] 12:21:00 – [00:] 15:45:59**

He relates going to see gallows on Aleksandrovskiy Prospect; mentions partisans' activity in Odessa prompting harsh retaliation by Germans.

**[00:] 15:46:00 – [00:] 18:10:59**

He describes two groups of arrested Jews marched in the streets by Romanian patrol.

**[00:] 18:11:00 – [00:] 20:40:59**

He talks about hiding in the attics, in **Mavrov's** house, with other friends, and in military trenches in the neighborhood; mentions his mother's trips outside the city to trade personal possessions for food.

**[00:] 20:41:00 – [00:] 29:00:59**

He describes their arrest and placement into ghetto on Slobodka in November 1941; talks about life in the ghetto, the overcrowded barracks, hunger, lack of boiled water, filth, people's crying, and dead corpses; relates his mother's journey to find medication for his younger brother and notify the **Mavrovs** about the incarceration; describes buying the release from the ghetto by giving a few items of gold to the camp guard in February or March 1942.

**[00:] 29:01:00 – [00:] 34:20:59**

He talks about liberation by the Soviet army on April 10, 1944; describes severity and unruliness of the army's punitive detachment SMERSH.