

FRASS, Nina
Ukraine Witnesses Documentation Project
Russian
RG-50.575*0017

Box 1, Tape 1

In this interview, Nina Frass talks about her wartime experiences during the German occupation of her native town Kharkov.

[01:] 00:15:00 – [01:] 01:39:59

She gives her name (Nina Nikolayevna Frass), date and place of birth as May 1, 1926, Kharkov; mentions that she lived all her life in Kharkov.

[01:] 01:40:00 – [01:] 06:50:59

She talks about seeing groups of Jews reporting to the “Traktornaya” (tractor factory) following orders by the Germans; tells about a Jewish girlfriend, whose father had been hanged earlier, who went to the “Traktornaya” with her mother and siblings; describes the terrible living conditions in the barracks; talks about the restriction on using the toilet only once per day and whoever could not hold it being shot; discusses starvation; comments on her girlfriend escaping twice and coming to the Frasses to buy food; talks about the neighbors noticing this and threatening to report it to the German soldier who stayed with them; discusses her girlfriend going into hiding; comments on her girlfriend returning to the “Traktornaya” and finding all Jews killed and their bodies being buried in trenches; talks about the girl coming back to the Frasses; discusses the girl getting false papers and running away to a suburban kolkhoz (collective farm); says that the girl was forced to leave from there, after her Jewish origin was revealed.

[01:] 06:51:00 – [01:] 10:25:59

She describes the leaflets created by the Germans that ordered Jews to report to the “Traktornaya”; comments on the leaflets being written in Ukrainian and possibly Russian; discusses execution by hanging for people who helped Jews; tells about Jews led through the streets by Ukrainian policemen (“**politsayyi**”) who were collaborators; reports hearing about local residents trying to take away belongings from the Jews in the convoy; discusses the Jews looking frightened; says that the Jews were told that they would be relocated to a new place and they believed it; discusses the overcrowded barracks.

[01:] 10:26:00 – [01:] 18:00:59

She talks about the start of the war and the heavy bombardment; comments on surrendering an apartment in **Rozhkina Dacha** to a German officer; relates about being

caught up during a curfew and made to watch how Germans were hanging about five people who had signs on them saying “Jew” or “Partisan”; talks about the victims being hanged from balconies near the Hotel “**Inturist**”; mentions a German soldier who moved into their apartment in Kholodnaya Gora; comments on her brother cleaning the German’s shoes; recalls witnessing an explosion, and human body parts, such as legs and intestines, being scattered all over the place.

[01:] 18:01:00 – [01:] 20:35:00

She mentions that the vacated Jewish apartments were looted; tells about going to a granary to steal grain; describes a few people being shot to death by the Germans when returning with grain.