

Summary of Oral History: Hryhorii Raduda

RG#: RG-50.575.0074

This summary was authored by a USHMM contractor 05/2022

Hryhorii [Grigoryi] Raduda, born in 1929, in 1941 lived in the village of Kobylivka (in 1956 it was renamed as Zarichne). There were few Jews, the director of the mill was the only Jew. The village was hardly affected by the war. He did not witness any murders. He only mentions the case, in 1943, concerning the head of the service (a Romanian named Rosa), who treated people badly, later was killed by guerrillas, and opened bread warehouses for people.

When the Holocaust began, in March 1942, the interviewee saw corpses on the way of a column of the Jews from Tulchyn to Pechery (there was a camp in the Pechers`k district). According to Hryhorii, the column was led by about 500 Romanians, German on horseback with dogs. Hryhorii witnessed (hiding in the woods 300 meters from the road), a man on crutches and a woman, who fell behind the column because they could not keep pace, were taken to the bridge and shot there. This event became the basis of the picture he later painted and demonstrated during the interview.

He also told that he had seen the bodies of murdered Jews in the trenches left after the war in a nearby forest, where the Jews had been taken, shot, and then finished off with truncheons. On the heads of some corpses, the interviewee saw either prayer books or hats tied to the bodies. It was said that 1,000 Jews had been shot in this forest alone, and about 4,000 in Pechery.