

Summary of Oral History: Nadiya Hutsol

RG#: RG-50.575.0078

This summary was authored by a USHMM contractor 06/2022

Nadiya Hutsol, born in 1921, is a resident of the village of Tyrlivka. In 1941 she worked on a collective farm in the same village. About 20 Jews lived there.

Relations were good and neighborly.

In 1943, they were bringing the harvest in the field, the Jews also took part, they were near the machine that was crushing grain. Nadiya went to the village to the accounting office and saw the Jews being taken away. She quickly ran to the field and warned her acquaintances to flee. The young fled, but the old women did not leave. About half an hour later, policemen arrived on a cart, looking for the Jews, and took her away.

The whole process was led by Ukrainian policemen, one of them was local (Stepan Dmytruk), the other three were from another village. They wore yellow armbands. All the Jews were taken to the basement of the old school, and then taken by car to the field and shot. Nadiya witnessed the Jews being led out of the basement, shouting "Goodbye, Nadia." She says that the Jews were forced to take off their outerwear in the basement, and when a few days later the villagers went to the basement, they recognized the things of their acquaintances. 10 people were shot in the field. A few days later they went to look at the pit where they were buried. It was a 2 by 1.5 meter pit dug the day before by local men for silage. She does not know what happened to the property of the Jews.

Those Jews who escaped were forced to hide at villagers', in the fields, wherever they could until the end of the war. Nadiya hid a Jew, Sonia, and her daughter Julia. She mentions the surnames Iaremchuk and Herasymchuk, who also sheltered the Jews. It is also known that a Jew who paid a policeman off with a gold watch and then hid in the river, after which he fell ill with tuberculosis and did not live long.

There were no Roma in the village. She is not aware of killing communists.