

## **Summary of Oral History: Olena Serbei**

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**This summary was authored by a USHMM contractor 07/2022**

Olena Serbei, born in the village of Rodnykova Huta, Svaliava district, Zakarpattia region. in a large family (9 children). They lived in poverty.

When the war broke out, the interviewee was 10 years old.

She tells that two Jewish families lived in the village and were engaged in trade. Relations with them were good. The villagers, including the interviewee, worked for them. They were religious. The Jews knew that enemies would come for them, but they did not hide. On the day they were taken away, both the family and the villagers cried. They were taken away by the Hungarian police.

The Jews had a hexagonal star attached to their clothes.

Olena heard that elderly Jews were burned, young people were taken to a concentration camp to work there. People later took everything from the houses of the Jews.

She briefly tells that when the village was a front-line territory, the family went to Mukachevo to visit their uncle. The postwar years were the hungry years.

She recalls the Soviet collective farm and how people did not want to join it and hid away.