

RG-50.589.1070

Interview location: Aleksandrovka, Rostov Oblast, Russia

Summary

Sergey S. was born on August 14th, 1926 in Krasnaya Polyana, a small village. He lived there until February 1943, he returned in October 1948.

His parents worked at the collective farm, father died in 1933, father was taking food to Rostov and caught bad cold and died. mother lived till present time.

It was a small place about 70 houses, now even less, it is falling apart now. In 1951 Sergey moved to Aleksandrovka, a regional center.

The majority of villagers were Russians. Sergey remembered that In August-September 1941 people from Ukraine, from Jitomir, Mozer moved to his village; and they received housing for free. He remembered a woman who was pregnant.

Names: Haya, Kartman with a daughter who was 13; Tamarkin, Stockman.

He doesn't know what happened to these people after liberation.

Regional administration ordered to pick up refugees from the station, the brigadier from his collective farm asked him to go to the station. The village was 50 kilometers from the station, the train was delayed. People arrived in a freight wagons; their belongings were attached to the train. Refugees stayed in small groups. First, they took people to Alecsandrovka - to the regional center, then people were distributed between collective farms and placed with families. Jews spoke Russian, but among themselves they spoke another language.

He took 2 families in his wagon; older woman, and a young woman with a child; they stayed in his house. They were placed in the big room, there were two beds, one for an old woman another for a woman with her daughter. There was a Russian stove, they cooked their own meals. They stayed for about 6 months, they moved out right before Germans occupied the village. They worked in the village. There were about 20 Jewish people in his village.

He never heard about these people after he returned from the army home.

Sergey was a member of Komsomol organization, he was hiding when the Germans occupied the village, he was going from house to house, hiding during the day, visiting houses at night. He was hiding for about one week. There were about 7 German soldiers and officers, they stayed outside of the village.

Sergey destroyed the Russian stove to prevent Germans from choosing their home for their residence. Germans collected food from the villagers, but otherwise didn't do much harm. Germans had green uniforms. Germans stayed in the village for about 6 months

One policeman was his neighbor who switched to the German side, he was about 27 years old. There were several policemen in the are. After the war he was arrested, went to prison for 10 years, and he never came back. Sergey and two other men arrested him.

During German occupation Sergey worked at the collective farm. Zazulya Leoniy Antonovich became a senior in charge, he was an invalid of the WWI. Sergey delivered water on the wagon. During occupation he was hiding because Germans were after Komsomol members; Then Sergey joined the army, in the army he was reinstated in Komsomol organization. People knew that he didn't cooperate with Germans during occupation, people treated him nicely.

When Germans were moving away they gave them old bad cows. Sergey was hiding together with his cousin who came from Aleksandrovka, his cousin was a member of Communist Party.

Sergey only heard about partisans after the war.

Sergey was mobilized into the Soviet Army in the summer of 1942. He was involved in many battles and he with his division reached Brest. He was in artillery division, he became a commander in 1943. He finished the war in Brest, it was a very emotional moment, they started shooting their weapons in salute of the victory.