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Interview conducted on August 19, 2004 in village Listovoye, Saky, Crimea by Zaitseva Tatiana, and Il'chenko Viktoriya

Language: Russian

Interview Summary:

Liubinetskii, Iosif Frantsevich, born in 1927 in Khmelnytskyi Oblast. He moved to Crimea on June 20, 1950 from Khmelnytskyi Oblast.

The Jewish settlement was established in 1927 by the Agro-Joint (the American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation). They leased land from the Soviet Union. This was a steppe; there was nothing here. At first they dug 14 wells and prepared land for planting vegetables, orchards, vineyards. They built three dormitory houses for the Jewish workers; Ukrainians and Tatars also lived in these dormitories and worked here. There were specialists from America. About 150 people worked in the settlement. These were mostly single people, but some were with young families. Twelve apartments were built in Zhuravli (formerly Molotovo). In 1927, 25 homes were build tin Listovoye (formerly Voinovo). There was an office and a dining room. They began to build in Mitiayevo (formerly Poliotdel). There was a school. They took care of livestock and started to build a mill.

The Agro-Joint (the American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation) covered all costs. By the 1930s everyone was very well off. Many foreign visitors came.

In 1930s many were accused of espionage against the Soviet Union; the settlement ceased to exist. When the war started no one was left.

Twenty five empty Jewish homes remained.

A Jewish cemetery remains in the village of Lesnovka.

Geographic Name: Khmelnytskyi Oblast Village of Zhuravli (formerly Molotovo), Saky, Crimea Village of Listovoye (formerly Voinovo), Saky, Crimea Village of Mitiayevo (formerly Poliotdel), Saky, Crimea Village of Lesnovka, Crimea