RG-50.653.0048
Interviewed 2 April 2014
Summary by Joseph Bradley (JB)

Nina Terent'eva Ivantsova was born in 1925 in the village of Chesnor'ye [Чеснорье, part of Usvyatsky district in Pskov oblast]. When the war broke out, she was living in the village of Shershni, Usviaty district, Pskov oblast. During the occupation, she worked for the Germans. [JB: not clear what she did.] After the Germans retreated, she worked for a Soviet field laundry from 1942 to 1944.

The Germans occupied the nearest town, Usviaty and established a ghetto there. The Germans did not occupy the surrounding villages, but troops came and went. Once Germans stayed in Nina's house. Nina was afraid to go to Usviaty, so she witnessed no crimes against civilians. She recounts a story that the Germans assumed that one of the captured Soviet soldiers was a Jew (because of his dark complexion). They killed him and didn't allow him to be buried. Later, Nina's mother took the body and buried it.

The village leader betrayed several villagers to the Germans, who then killed them. [JB: unclear whether these were Jews, communists or partisans.] A man by the name of Baskin who worked in the local Soviet cultural department was hanged. Nina also heard that on one occasion several young people [presumably Russians] were interrogated and revealed to the Germans where the Soviet soldiers were hiding in the forest; the young people were then released.