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Summary

Liudmila Lutskina was born in 1931, June 19 in Uvarovich where she lived all her life. Before the war Jews and Russians lived peacefully in Uvarovich. Jewish people primarily had houses on Naberezhnaya and Sovetskaya streets.

She remembered, several Jewish people: Abstein worked in a book store, Notkin two sisters did not work, Lipkin, Medvedev with 3 sons left before Germans occupied the village and other Jews who had money.

When Germans occupied Uvarovich many local young men joined police, they were rotten people, but everybody was afraid of them. Policemen were doing the "dirty work", and Germans just walked the streets, they treated her family nicely and even occasionally gave children good food.

Jews had to wear red bands. After about a month of occupation a "killing squad" came to the village they wore special uniforms and they left after killing Jews. Ludmila and her father saw how Jews were convoyed and killed from the barn.

She remembered that one day all the Jews from Uvarovich and from other places were convoyed along her street towards the huge silos pit. Jews held their kids by the arms, they thought they would be transported to another place, but they were executed with automatic rifles and thrown into the silo pit; some were buried alive. Then the pit was covered with dirt and the earth was breaving; policemen were left to watch the grave. There were a lot of people the pit was full of bodies. All was done by local policemen, Germans were just watching how policemen were killing their own countrymen.

Only Two Jews survived, they hid in another village. Tanya Freygina who had a Jewish husband ran away to Vaselitza, she and her two sons survived; she returned to Uvarovich after the war. Policemen tried to leave with Germans, but several were arrested by the Red Army and sent to prison. Some women went to work as interpreters for Germans, they saved village people, because they had connection with partisans.

She remembered several incidents when Germans pushed Russian villagers out of their homes, and made them walk around the village but at night let everybody go home; they did it for 6 days. First they gathered men and put them next to the ditch, then Germans ordered men and women all together to stand next to the ditch.

She remembered a story when two men who killed an old woman from Veselitsi were hang in the middle of the village.

Policemen occupied homes that belonged to Jews and took all their stuff. Lipkin returned after the war. She and other Russian families did not have any hate toward Jews. Her uncle once hit a policeman on the face, he was immediately arrested and killed, we never saw him again. She remembered that some people spread lies that Jews put Russian Christian blood in their matzah, but majority of village people did not believe it.