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Summary

Kleopatra Pavlovna Butsko was born in 1930, 20th of January in the village (shtetle) Otvalki, that later was renamed to Golubitch.

Her parents had a horse and cows and 2 children.

She remembered that there were many Jews in the village, they were teachers and worked in stores. Catholics and orthodox Russians and Tatar people lived peacefully in Golubitch. Jews were friendly and kind. Jews had a big place of worship and it was their school.

Kleopatra remembered the story that was spread among villagers that Jews put Christian blood in their matzah, although she didn't remember trying matzah, she read a story about this.

She remembered that Jews asked Christina's to start their samovars on Holidays; Jews had a holiday Chartohob when they built huts and slept in them.

Several Jewish families left the village before German occupation; she remembered Wiyman Rosa and her family among them.

She also remembered that she went to school with Paya Peloton, but she did not know what happened to her.

Kleopatra remembered that one day in the summer in the middle of the day when she was returning cows home she saw a small group of Jews, possibly 4 people, and several non-Jewish people, who were supposedly "communists" killed and pushed into the open ditch, about 6 people.

She and other kids saw bodies some covered in blood, half dead. One man Saya was badly wounded in the head. Later villagers came to collect their relatives' bodies.

She remembered that the execution was handled by local policemen, who were dressed in white uniforms, she remembered two names: Yazino and Victor Otvalko.

She remembered that a lot of people were killed in Zhverovnya after the killings in her village.

Germans and policemen took everything from Jewish homes before they left the village.

One Jewish man came back after the war he was her teacher of arithmetic and music, his name was also Saya and his son stayed in the village.