

Interviewee: Maria Boratynska (Mishalov), born July 6, 1924, in the village of Topylna, Vyyshanskyy raion, Kyiv oblast.

Interviewer(s): Ariadna Ochrymovych, Orest Zakydalsky

Date: February 17, 2009

Description: Danusia Tsehelska

00:00:34 – Interviewee introduces herself and describes her family’s estate.

00:00:59 – Interviewee recalls her family’s experience with the introduction of communes and dispossession.

00:01:24 – BREAK IN INTERVIEW.

00:01:28 – Interviewee describes her family’s experience with kolhosps.

00:02:04 – Interviewee describes her family members.

00:03:17 – Interviewee describes her village.

00:03:51 – Interviewee talks about going to school.

00:04:48 – Interviewee discusses dekurkulization, search brigades, and dispossession.

00:07:18 – Interviewee describes kolhosps, harassment from officials, dispossession, and dekurkulization experienced by neighbors.

00:08:52 – Interviewee discusses communists and deportations.

00:10:33 – Interviewee discusses kolhosps, taxes, requisitioning, and rations.

00:12:38 – Interviewee describes communist ideology and poverty in her village.

00:13:44 – Interviewee recalls the requisitioning as well as the survival strategies and food substitutions her family used during the famine.

00:17:27 – Interviewee recounts witnessing widespread famine and mortality.

00:19:26 – Interviewee returns to the topic of going to school.

00:21:16 – Interviewee states that none of her family perished during the famine but mentions hearing of mortality in villages.

00:22:48 – Interviewee recalls her mother bartering earrings for food.

00:25:04 – Interviewee describes deaths in the village.

00:27:04 – Interviewee provides her views on the famine, requisitions, search brigades, and apathy.

00:29:48 – Interviewee recalls seeing beggars and that people ate anything that was alive.

00:31:53 – Interviewee describes the village church, its closure, and its repurposing into a storage facility.

00:33:37 – Interviewee describes religious suppression.

00:34:03 – Interviewee recalls the exile of priests and others to Siberia.

00:35:35 – Interviewee recalls subjects studied at school such as Stalin, Lenin, and bourgeois countries of Europe.

00:36:50 – Interviewee being taught violent propagandist chants in school by the eldest “komsomols”.

00:37:41 – Interviewee provides further details on religious suppression and the promotion of atheism.

00:38:48 – Interviewee discusses arrests conducted in 1937 including those of family members.

00:42:14 – Interviewee describes dekurkulization and destruction of homes.

00:43:11 – Interviewee recalls some survival strategies, including theft.

00:49:29 – Interviewee discusses self-censorship about the famine.

00:50:00 – Interviewee mentions the death of her mother, her father’s remarriage, and his later escape from authorities.

00:52:09 – BREAK IN INTERVIEW

00:52:25 – Interview about Holodomor ends.

00:52:25 – Interviewee describes some of their experiences during WWII.

01:02:12 – End of interview.