

Fred Horobec

Interviewer - *Did your father join the collective farm?*

FH - That was the problem. He didn't want to join. If he had joined, maybe we would have stayed [in our village]. But they refused, so the state took all the property and threw [us] out, and sent us to Murmansk. He got five years [exile]. This was [like prison]. Near Murmansk, there was a [special] settlement, called Soroka. That was where people were sent.

Usually, they transported people in boxcars, the same they used for cattle. Sometimes they packed them so full of people that by the time they got to the destination, half of them had [died]. They choked, because they were closed, and there was only a small window, with bars, a couple of windows. But how much air could get in?