

Paul Morenec

It was very bad in Dzhankoi, because people tried to escape from Ukraine to the Crimea, to save themselves from starvation. They thought that there would be no famine in the Crimea. [Dzhankoi] was the first train station in the Crimea, and people were taken off the trains there, and were not allowed to go any further into the Crimea or to Simferopol. So in Dzhankoi many died.

When we were coming from the bazaar, we saw a small boy, swollen from hunger. He was sitting by the road, and somebody told my mother that he was one of the dekulakized. His family probably died, and he was swollen and also dying. I saw him for maybe ten minutes, and then I went home, and I never saw him again.

I remember our neighbors in Dzhankoi, the husband was a [Communist] Party member, and he had a job and food. For the Communists there was no famine. Their parents had good jobs and food; they didn't know what famine was. But the villagers, they know. The villagers know.