



ZUBKOV GEORGII (ЗУБКОВ ГЕОРГІЙ КИРИЛОВИЧ)

(New Iserlia, Romania, May 6, 1929 - Dachne, Ukraine, May 23, 2009)



Image taken some time between 1959-1962

There are no official records relating to Zubkov Georgii's life between 1941-1944, bar one. The only available document is **Georgii's War Veteran Certificate № 031322**, issued in 1995 according to the 1993 Ukrainian Law on Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of their Social Protection (1993). Its e-copy is stored in the Romano lilakler, Sartl 1 Roma, vistaro 3, tlag Zubkov. Jorgi (Romany archives, records group 1 Roms, inventory 3, file Zubkov.Jorgi).

Though Georgii was not a reserved person, he did not like to recall or speak about his wartime experiences. His daughter, university professor Iryna Mysyk, confessed, "My father was generally silent; sometimes, watching a military movie, he reservedly commented: 'I lived it too', and fell silent."

It was only in 2001, when the **Izmail Roms association**, together with the Odessa Regional Roma Congress, was going through the process of Roma applications for Holocaust Victim Assets

Litigation as part of the Swiss Banks Settlement that Georgii shared some facts:

In 1941, the **Romanian authority deported Georgii and his family** from their village of Iserlia to Transnistria and placed them in a Romani camp (ghetto) on the Bug riverside (he didn't remember the exact name of the village but clearly recollected the name of the Romanian camp chief, officer Ion Ionescu). There the family stayed, dying of famine and disease. In the summer of 1943, Georgii and his elder brother Fedir **managed to escape**.

They **wandered through forests, fields and villages** as they tried to make their way back home. Some days they met partisans, who **fed them and gave them clothes and medicine**. Among them were some Moldavians, whom Georgii and his brother befriended and stayed with since Georgii spoke Moldavian-Romanian. Though small in stature and scrawny, he became a young scout.

This biography has been written by Niko Rergo