

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP V – SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

CASE SUMMARIES - PART 1

I. CLAIMS WITH C.255 CERTIFICATES

3101073

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 28.03.1934. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. During the occupation her family lived in Slovenska Volova on the edge of the village in the forest. In September 1944 in the afternoon a troop of German soldiers went around them. When they saw them they fled into the forest. The Germans knew that they were all fleeing to the partisans and they caught them all and stopped them on the way. They surrounded them with machine guns in their hands and began to search them. During this search they found foreign identity papers on one of her relatives. Then they pointed the machine guns at them and marched them to Slovenska Volova and then to Humenne on foot. There they were put into a truck and taken to Presov. They spent one night there and then in the morning were divided into two groups. They left the mothers and children together. The fathers were sent to perform forced labour in Presov, including her father. She and her mother and siblings, along with the other mothers and children, were taken to Liptovsky Mikulas. There they slept at the train station. They were cold, because they didn't have any warm clothes, because they weren't allowed to take anything with them, indeed they didn't have time. In the morning they were again loaded into the truck and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. She stayed there in a wooden barrack with her mother and six siblings. They didn't have anything to eat, they were starving and exhausted. They collected the garbage from the rubbish heap and caught typhus. After review by the Gestapo they were all shaved bald. During these difficult conditions her mother had to clear leaves away from the camp while they held a gun to her head. She and her siblings were very afraid for her mother and thus they helped her as much as they could, even though they didn't have any warm clothing or boots. For every day that they survived in these conditions they thanked God. In later months there was harder work, because the snow fell and they had to clear it away. They tried with all their strength to work as hard as they could so that they would not give them any reason to punish them with beatings. This suffering has so affected her life that today she is sick at heart about what she lived through in the concentration camp. She will never forget it.

3101494

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 05.05.1936. From 07.08.1942 - 04.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She states only the dates that she was in the camps.

3101495

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 15.08.1925. From 10.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. In her personal statement Claimant cites a book by Czech historian, Ctibor Necas, Andr'oda taboris - Veznove protektoratnich cikanskych taboru 1942-43, Brno, 1987.(tr. 'Andr'oda taboris - Prisoners of the gypsy camps of the Protectorate, 1942-43), p. 19. "12 members of the family were imprisoned at the Lety concentration camp. Four members of the family died at the Lety concentration camp, 8 were released to freedom. According to the account of Claimant, during the period of imprisonment at the Lety concentration camp, she was 17 years old, and all of her family worked very hard in the camp. In the camp they had to endure inhuman conditions. "

3101560

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 27.07.1924. From 22.06.1939 - 15.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at RAVENSBRUCK. In the camp she endured very bad treatment from the Kapo and the SS. She was hungry, they were beaten, and for washing even in winter they had only a cold shower. She sewed uniforms for the German soldiers, and was also subjected to pseudo-medical experiments. After she returned from the camps she weighed only 35 kg.

3101607

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 03.03.1926. From 15.03.1940 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ and BUCHENWALD. During the war his family was in the Protectorate and tried to escape to Slovakia, but were caught and sent back, and at the border they were captured and taken to Auschwitz. His mother and father were murdered in the gas chambers. While at Auschwitz he had experiments performed on him by Dr. Mengele. Later he was transferred to Buchenwald and subsequently other camps, and was eventually liberated by American soldiers with his entire family.

3101872

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 07.06.1929. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She states only the dates that she was in the camp.

3101931

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.05.1926. From 05.08.1942 - 27.01.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ. She states only the dates that she was in the camps.

3102226

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 04.02.1928. From 04.08.1943 - 11.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ and BUCHENWALD. He states only the dates that he was in the camps.

3102336

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 27.04.1924. From 05.08.1942 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN, AUSCHWITZ, DACHAU, and RAVENSBRUCK. She was taken with her mother to the camp at Hodonin where she was for about a year. There they worked building roads in the forest, very hard work, during which they were cruelly beaten. Then they were taken to Auschwitz with their relatives. She was there for about a year and then was transferred to Ravensbruck. At the end of the war she returned home. Everywhere she was she endured very bad treatment and inhuman conditions.

3102339

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 22.01.1927. From 09.05.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, DRAZDANY. Her mother, sister and brother died in the camps. She had to perform hard labour.

3102375

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 21.10.1933. From 05.08.1942 - 20.09.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN U KUNSTATU. He was a boy and stayed with his mother; they were hungry. His father worked building a road for the Germans. As children they had to break gravel from morning until night.

3102500

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.09.1926. From 11.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She did not suffer any health effects from being imprisoned but her parents had all their property taken away.

3102550

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 16.06.1923. From 11.08.1942 - 09.12.1942, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU, AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK and FLOSSENBURG. On August 11, 1942 she was captured and taken, pregnant, to Lety u Pisku. She escaped from Lety u Pisku in December 1942, and had a daughter in Prostějov. She was recaptured in March 1943 and sent to Auschwitz, where her child was killed by the Germans. She worked in the infirmary. She was injected with typhus by Dr. Mengele and received other injections.

At Flossenbergr she worked in a Munich factory. She escaped on the Death March and thus saved herself. After the war she had a mentally handicapped child as a result of the experiments that were made on her. That child is still living with her.

3102557

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 09.09.1935. From 02.08.1942 - 27.07.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was in the camp with her parents and her brother. Her mother died of typhus in the camp. The slave labour consisted of camp construction, agricultural work and work in the forest. Her mother worked in the carpentry shop making coffins.

3102564

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 07.11.1930. From 04.08.1942 - 04.09.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN U KUNSTATU. She was taken to the camp with her family by train. At the camp they were building a road and she was forced to break up large rocks into gravel. She and her family were supposed to be taken to Auschwitz with the other prisoners, but because of good relations with the camp director, Mr. Stepan, they were allowed to stay behind and assist with the closing down of the camp, after which they were released. Her father was later sent to perform forced labour in Germany for the rest of the war.

3102571

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 30.09.1928. From 07.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. Her parents were taken to the prison at Pankrac (Prague) and then to concentration camps, and she was taken to the camp at Lety u Pisku.

3102573

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 19.01.1933. From 05.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He states only the dates that he was in the camp.

3103104

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 18.04.1926. From 11.08.1942 - 09.12.1942, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU, AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSRUCK, GELSENKIRCHEN, MATHAUSEN and KRASLITZ. She escaped from Lety (9 December 1942), but was later recaptured and sent to Auschwitz.

3103109

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 07.11.1928. From 02.08.1942 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ. Her entire family was taken to Auschwitz and died there. Only she and her sister returned.

3103127

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 12.03.1931. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. The Germans came at 6 am and took her and her entire family away in wagons pulled by horses to Humenne. There they waited for two days for railcars to be available. They were kept in a building. In the evening they took away the young women and brought them back in the morning. They infected her sister-in-law with a sexual disease and then shot her in the camp. At the camp her father and oldest brother were separated from them. On the way they stabbed one of her sisters with a bayonet and pulled her out. The older children and Claimant dug pits, potatoes, and cleaned under the coercion of the Germans. They were treated inhumanely.

3103133

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 18.02.1932. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She states only the dates that she was in the camp.

3103874

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.12.1929. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She and her family had to hide in the woods, because the Germans drove them out and tore down the homes in their village. They had to hide out in severe winter conditions without food or drink. The partisans from time to time brought them something, but it was always very little because it had to be divided among many people. Most of them didn't even feel hungry any more but had to take at least a little, so that they wouldn't starve to death. The Germans eventually took her and her two sisters away to Dubnica nad Vahom, but first they cut their hair off.

3103961

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 10.06.1921. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She worked in the rock quarry. She was taken to the camp with her 4 year old son, and was also pregnant. When her second child was born, she was murdered. The fascists tore the baby from her arms, threw the baby on the ground, and murdered her by trampling on her head. She is still traumatized by this experience. It also affected her husband, who was in the camp at the same time.

3103962

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 28.08.1926. From 15.09.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She had to perform various kinds of work in the camp, such as laundry, etc.

3103964

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 01.11.1930. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She performed construction work under the supervision of the camp administrators. She lived through the typhus epidemic.

3103966

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 05.03.1930. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He was at the camp from November 1944. He performed construction work. During his internment he had typhus.

3103967

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 11.01.1927. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She was taken to the concentration camp with her entire family.

3103968

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 17.02.1932. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. In December 1944 the whole Romani village of Dlhe nad Cirochou was rounded up by the Gestapo and taken to Dubnica. There they were guarded by Gestapo and German soldiers with dogs. Escaping from the camp was punished by being shot to death. After being liberated by the Soviet army they returned home and everything was destroyed.

3103973

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 18.09.1935. From 04.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. Even though she was small, she had to work with the other children carrying stones and bricks.

3103974

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 10.09.1931. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She was forced to work on the expansion of the camp. In addition she worked on maintenance at the camp.

3104013

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 20.11.1935. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. During his internment he worked on the expansion of the camp, under military surveillance. He worked with his father digging a latrine, and they also built an enclosure.

3104020

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 30.06.1937. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She was in the camp with her family. During her imprisonment she had to carry water. It was terrible.

3104037

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.05.1927. From 29.09.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at BERGEN-BELSEN. She was forced to work in the forest around the camp. She didn't receive any money for the work. Food was minimal or non-existent. The Nazis treated them like slaves. The conditions were inhuman. There were 20-30 people in a 20m² space.

3104038

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 24.03.1926. From 02.11.1944 - 16.03.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He was in the camp with his siblings and parents and performed various labour: repairing tracks, working on the riverbed, and later working for Skodovka, Dubnica.

3104041

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 24.01.1923. From 10.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, and BUCHENWALD. During her time in the concentration camp she suffered both physical and psychological losses. First they took her whole family away, her mother, father and 3 brothers, her a year later. Even the transfer to the camp was a battle for survival. They travelled without food, water, and in conditions fit for cattle. During the time in the camp they suffered hunger, inadequate bedding, physical tyranny, beatings, humiliation and hard work, even for women. They were taken to a factory to perform various work and when

they got back to the camp there was more work for them, in inhuman conditions, without rest and food, with a shovel and pick-axe. She lost her entire family at Auschwitz and it is difficult for her to write about it.

3104048

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 21.05.1930. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was taken to the camp when she was 12 years old with her entire family. There she contracted typhus. The suffering that they endured at Lety is well known to the public.

3104049

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 04.01.1929. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She worked in the camp cleaning. They weren't even given anything to eat. Even before she was taken away to the camp she worked for about three months digging trenches for the German Army.

3104050

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 01.01.1926. From 05.08.1942 - 20.09.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN U KUNSTATU. She worked as a nurse in the camp, and attended at her mother's delivery of a child. She was at 30 births and she received no wages.

3104052

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 13.04.1922. From 10.03.1943 - 27.05.1944, Claimant performed slave labour at RATTNITZ B. BRESLAU. From 1942 he worked as a forced labour for L.A.A. Breslau; then he was arrested by the Gestapo and taken to Rattnitz b. Breslau. He worked excavating and transporting various materials. He had to travel daily about 5 km on foot. In connection with his arrest, the property from his apartment in Brno was confiscated.

3104053

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 24.09.1925. From 03.08.1942 - 31.08.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He was in the camp with his family. He had to dig pit graves for corpses, holes for telephone posts, and do other types of work. He recalled how a certain Czech man came to the camp and took away in a truck the people selected to go to the gas chambers in Auschwitz. He and his family were released, but were in fear of being re-arrested until the war ended.

3104055

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 20.05.1938. From 05.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was taken to the concentration camp with her entire family: 3 brothers, parents. On 27 May 1943 she and her brothers were given to relatives. Her parents stayed at the concentration camp. Her father was later released but her mother did not return until after the war.

3104056

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 17.08.1931. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He was imprisoned as an 11 year old with his mother, father, siblings and extended family. He worked with other children cleaning. He also had to carry bodies of dead children to the forest to pits where lime was thrown on the bodies.

3104118

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 18.12.1926. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He had to work in the camp. There was much sickness. Sick people were shot and then burned. They had to dig graves for them.

3104128

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 28.07.1928. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He worked digging graves, where they buried dead bodies.

3104193

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 28.03.1928. From 21.12.1944 - 29.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DACHAU. He was first evacuated to Komarno, where they performed forced labour. Then they were taken to Dachau. There they performed very difficult work. He also had pseudo-medical experiments performed on him. As a result he contracted various illnesses--malaria and typhus.

3104194

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.01.1930. From 21.12.1944 - 29.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DACHAU. The personal statement indicates that Claimant is suffering from cancer of the larynx, and is also illiterate, therefore it was not possible to obtain a description of the forced labour performed.

3104196

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 27.01.1932. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. During her internment there she had to work. They were not allowed to just sit around. She worked in the kitchen and also cleaned the camp. They were beaten if they didn't work.

3104197

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 07.12.1922. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. The Germans came to the village where her family was living and took all the Romani to Humenne. At Humenne they were divided into men and women: the men were taken away to do forced labour and the women were sent to the camp. At the camp their heads were shaven. When she went home she wore a scarf so that she would not be ashamed in front of Gadze (non-Romani). In the camp they had to get up early and go to work. She worked cleaning the camp. When anyone stopped they were beaten by the Germans. Even the children who were not entirely small were sent outside to work and help them. She also worked in the kitchen. When the Germans came into the barracks, she hid under the bed. One young Roma woman was taken away by the Germans and they never saw her again. They (the Germans) were sleeping with her. She was always afraid. Everyone had lice. Sometimes she and other women slipped out of the camp through a way where the Germans were not aware of. They went to local Slovaks and begged for food. One Slovak woman told her to stay with her, but she was afraid to do so, because it would be very dangerous. When some Romanies at the camp got sick, they were thrown alive into lime. Once they took some sick people away in a big truck. They never came back. "I didn't get sick, I had two children, that helped me to stay strong, I had to". In winter it was very cold and they had to go outside barefoot in the snow. When they knew the Russians were coming they opened the gate and escaped. It took them two months to get home, but when they arrived, their homes were destroyed.

3104198

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 22.03.1937. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. They were beaten and given a quarter of bread to eat for five people and they also had potato soup. They were tortured and had their heads shaven. They had cold water sprayed at them. She was not paid for any work.

3104200

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 11.02.1922. From 01.02.1942 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ. She was 17 years old when the war broke out. Her family was living in Oslavany, near Brno. They were very afraid. The Germans came for her family. She and her sister managed to hide in the cellar for a week, but the Germans caught them, and took them away, and then loaded them into a (freight) car like cattle and took them to the concentration camp. There they were separated. She never saw her

father and her brothers again. Her mother and her sister were taken to the gas chamber. She does not know how she survived. Afterwards for a long time she did not know how to keep living. Eventually she went back to Oslavany where she lives now with her own family.

3104208

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 28.02.1924. From 01.03.1942 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN, AUSCHWITZ, and RAVENSBRUCK. She states only the dates that she was in the camps.

3104209

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 15.08.1924. From 03.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ and BUCHENWALD. He states only the dates that he was in the camps.

3104210

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 09.06.1921. From 01.08.1941 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN, AUSCHWITZ and BUCHENWALD. In Buchenwald he worked in a quarry, and at Buchenwald-Dora he worked manufacturing torpedoes. He was also subjected to pseudo-medical experiments at Auschwitz.

3104219

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 27.05.1926. From 03.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, HARTZUNG, and BERGEN - BELSEN. His father, mother, sister, grandparents, and cousins (numbering around 25) were all murdered in concentration camps. At Auschwitz he was the subject of pseudo-medical experiments, and was saved only by a French prisoner who was also a doctor.

3104221

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 24.08.1934. From 01.08.1942 - 01.11.1942, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN U KUNSTATU. His personal statement contains only the dates he was in the camp.

3104222

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 19.11.1933. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She was in the ghetto in Uzhorod and then at the camp at Dubnica, where she worked for the Germans.

3104225

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 25.05.1938. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He was at Dubnica nad Vahom with his family where they were housed in one room with about 45 people. His family, including his mother and father and six siblings lived like animals. They were always starving and filthy and many Roma people were sick with typhus. From January 1, 1945 to February 23, 1945 the Germans took 26 Romanies to the edge of Dubnica to pits that had been dug beforehand and shot them. Among those killed was his brother. The exhumation of his corpse was confirmed under number 5 which description matched his clothes. He had been brutally shot.

3104226

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 03.05.1925. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He was at Lety with his entire family, where they got typhus. They lost all their property.

3104227

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 22.07.1919. From 20.10.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at BERGEN-BELSEN. She states only the dates that she was in the camp.

3104229

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.02.1922. From 03.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, SWOITAW, and FLOSSENBURG. She states: "I lost my entire family there. I have nothing more to add."

3104230

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 13.11.1924. From 04.03.1943 - 16.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, and FLOSSENBURG. In Auschwitz he worked loading gravel into wagons; in Buchenwald he worked in a stone quarry. He was beaten and kicked until bleeding.

3104231

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 17.01.1928. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She had to work in the kitchen, the stockroom and also in the cellar, always watched over by the Nazis. She was beaten and raped by them. Her grandmother was killed and her sister was also beaten and raped. They were tortured with hunger. They stole potatoes and were tortured for that. In the winter they had to

go in the snow without proper clothes. This all left her with heart problems. If there had been cameras at that time and it had been filmed, you wouldn't even be able to stand to watch it.

3104233

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 11.10.1926. From 11.03.1943 - 29.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU, AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, GROSS ROSEN, and DACHAU. He states only the dates that he was in the camps.

3104235

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 31.12.1931. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He states only the dates that he was in the camp.

3104241

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 10.04.1930. From 05.08.1942 - 21.01.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was taken to the camp with her mother and two younger sisters. She worked with her mother in the quarry, breaking up rocks and carrying them to wagons. As a consequence of the conditions in the camp she started having epileptic attacks and today she is an epileptic.

3104243

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 05.05.1924. From 02.02.1943 - 27.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, and MITTELBAU. He states only the dates that he was in the camps.

3104247

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 03.12.1930. From 06.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. Five of her siblings died in inhumane conditions. She had typhus. She worked in the camp with the other children, in hunger and in winter. She still feels the suffering that she endured, and sees the corpses that lay in piles. When they returned home their small house had been destroyed.

3104248

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 06.07.1922. From 17.02.1945 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at TEREZIN / MALA PEVNOST. He worked digging anti-tank trenches and repairing railway tracks. He got sick with typhus and was put with the dying, but his mother found him and saved him.

3104249

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 07.06.1938. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She was imprisoned with her mother.

3104284

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 19.09.1922. From 04.08.1942 - 20.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN, AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, and WITINBERG. In Hodonin she broke rocks, at Birkenau she carried rocks, at Ravensbruck she spread sand, and at Witinberg she worked manufacturing airplanes.

3104286

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 30.01.1925. From 24.12.1942 - 24.07.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at BRNO FORCED LABOUR CAMP. In 1942 she was taken away on grounds of race to Uherske Hradiste. From there she was taken to the Gestapo at Zlin. After about 2 months she was taken to the Brno collection camp where she was until 24.07.1943. From there she was taken to Widenske Nove Mesto, where she was working at the post depot in the parcel section until the third month of 1945. During the time of the German action she lost both her brothers (Auschwitz) and both her parents (Auschwitz).

3104289

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 10.02.1936. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She had to drag and put away canisters. She doesn't know what was in them.

3104306

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 10.08.1933. From 07.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. In June 1943 all her parents' money and property were taken and they were all sent to Lety u Pisku.

3104308

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 26.07.1924. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He states only the name of the camp.

3104311

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 07.09.1931. From 01.05.1944 - 01.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. Her entire family was taken to the camp. In the summer they worked in the fields, and in the winter in the kitchen.

3104312

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 21.05.1926. From 02.09.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at BUCHENWALD, SACHSENHAUSEN, and RAVENSBRUCK. In September 1944 he was, together with his mother and his brother, taken to Komarno and then to the concentration camp at Buchenwald. They slept on the ground piled on one another. The living conditions at Buchenwald were so terrible that even after a few hours work they were tired and exhausted. They were continually reminded that they were powerless and they (the Germans) could do whatever they wanted with them. He saw people drop dead from exhaustion. After work they came back and cleaned out the dead and sick people. These people were literally thrown in a truck and taken to the gas chambers. He lived through enormous fear. At night he still tries to forget. May such a time never come again.

3104315

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 13.03.1930. From 14.11.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DACHAU. In June 1943, he was captured and taken to Komarno, to a small fortress where there were Hungarian soldiers and Gestapo, and about 150 other prisoners including Romanies and Jews. He was there for about 6 months until he was taken to Dachau, where he performed slave labour.

3104318

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 06.04.1936. From 06.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was taken to the camp as a child along with her 11-member family.

3104319

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 28.01.1930. From 03.08.1942 - 15.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU, AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, and BERGEN-BELSEN. She states only the dates that she was in the camps.

3104321

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 16.09.1926. From 07.05.1943 - 11.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD. He states only the dates he was in the camps.

3104323

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 22.11.1935. From 07.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He states only the dates he was in the camp.

3104329

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 12.11.1930. From 07.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She worked collecting stones into wagons. She was at the camp with her family.

3104331

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 30.10.1938. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He went to the camp with his whole family. His mother died in the camp. His father did farm work in the camp and also worked in the woods. His mother helped in carpentry making coffins.

3104333

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 26.11.1931. From 10.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. Aside from starvation and a crooked back as a result of the work which for a child was very difficult, five siblings died.

3104364

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 09.09.1925. From 15.09.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. They had to work all day carrying heavy rocks. If they refused they were tortured and beaten. Even if they were sick they had to work. They were starving, exhausted, and still they had to work.

3104365

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 27.09.1927. From 15.08.1942 - 11.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, and LEIPZIG. On the 'Death March' was beaten on the back by the SS which led to his disability.

3104366

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 11.09.1923. From 12.08.1942 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD, and BERGEN-BELSEN. He states only the dates that he was in the camps.

3104369

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 23.02.1938. From 04.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was in the camp at Lety with her mother, father, and her little sister. Half of her family died at Auschwitz, including her mother. Still today she misses her mother and all her relatives.

3104370

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 14.03.1925. From 03.08.1942 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN, AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBURCK, LIPSKO, and DORA. In Auschwitz she was subjected to tests for Flek typhus, and she became jaundiced. She had to carry stones from one pile to another. In Ravensbruck she carried sand for sidewalks, and shovelled coal.

3104372

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 11.08.1936. From 02.08.1942 - 19.02.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She was in the camp with her parents and her two sisters. Both sisters died. She worked in the kitchen helping. Her mother worked in the forest and her father worked on the roads.

3104380

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 05.05.1937. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. His whole family (8 members) went to the camp. His parents worked in the stone quarry and he and the other children worked unloading bricks from wagons, or sometimes were taken to the quarry to carry the smaller stones to the carts. His whole family survived the camp, except his father's mother and his father's brother.

3104387

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 15.12.1935. From 05.08.1942 - 30.09.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN U KUNSTATU. He performed slave labour as a child, and both men and women had to work.

3104389

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 09.01.1927. From 03.08.1942 - 12.03.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She contracted typhus in the camp.

3104390

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 17.03.1938. From 07.11.1944 - 18.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He grew up in a poor Roma family, in the forest where there were Partisans looking for information about Germans. He and his family were arrested for helping the partisans and taken to the concentration camp.

3104435

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 11.11.1936. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. He had to carry stones and was beaten. His father was killed at Auschwitz and his mother at Lety. Afterwards he had to live in a home for children.

3104445

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 03.04.1913. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. In the night on August 3, 1942 they were taken away to the Lety concentration camp. Nobody told them anything. They were divided up so he didn't see his wife and children. At that time his wife was pregnant. Unfortunately it is already 60 years ago so he doesn't remember everything. They were locked up like animals. During that time his daughter died. They took only a few of them to work, and when it was still night so that they couldn't escape. They worked in the gravel pit and in the stone quarry. As a result of this toil and insufficient food he became sick with typhus. In February 1943 they had a son. In May they were released. Unfortunately his daughter and father died in the camp.

3104446

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 04.10.1936. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She states that she performed cleaning work in the camp. She also went out to the fields to work, gathering potatoes and beets. Because her mother gave birth to her sister in the camp, she had to take care of her mother and the newborn. At that time she was only 8 years old and it was beyond her strength to take care of two sisters and two brothers.

3104449

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 30.03.1937. From 03.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. In the night of August 3, 1942 the soldiers and some Germans in civilian clothes came and took them away to Lety. Even children of 5 or 6 had to work in the quarry carrying stones which were taken away in a wagon. They suffered hunger, thirst, and were screamed at and beaten by the German-Czech women. They lived in surroundings where there were lice and other vermin. She contracted typhus. She was saved by a Dr. Khun from Votice.

3104523

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 31.05.1936. From 25.07.1944 - 30.01.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at TREBLINKA. When his parents were away, the Germans took him and his brother to the camp. They had to clean, carry things, and say 'Heil Hitler' fifty times a day.

3104524

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 29.06.1933. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. She worked in the kitchen, carried water, and also planks.

3104574

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 15.11.1927. From 05.08.1942 - 20.09.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at HODONIN U KUNSTATU. She simply states that she was in the camp. She also attaches her father's c.255 certificate indicating that he died in a concentration camp (was tortured to death) on 18.06.1942.

3104575

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 29.04.1932. From 05.08.1942 - 21.01.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She states only the dates that she was in the camp.

3105891

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 01.01.1922. From 16.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ and RAVENSBRUCK. In Auschwitz she worked manufacturing airplanes. There she had an injury to her right hand and she is paralyzed in her left hand. She also worked in the building, cleaning the bricks and other work.

3105893

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 15.09.1920. From 22.12.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at PARDUBICE and TEREZIN. By a decision of the work office in Kostelec nad Orlov in July 1942 he was sent to work in Schwainic to fix rail cars. After approximately 8 months he escaped home, because he was refusing to work for the Germans. He got home around May 1943. He stayed in hiding with friends until December 1943 when he was caught by the Czech police and taken to Hradec Kralove. From there he was transferred to Pardubice, where he was until February 1944. He was released and supposed to return to work at Schwainic. Again he went into hiding until he was arrested again in December 1944 when he was taken by the Gestapo to Hradec Kralove, and from there to Terezin. After liberation he was sent home where he did not recover his health until 1947.

3105894

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 05.05.1927. From 15.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, and BENDVORTH. She was imprisoned because of racial discrimination and she performed forced labour at all three camps. From May 1945 to July 1945 she was in a camp run by Americans for recuperating, then she returned to Straznice, where she lives until today.

3105900

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 10.07.1925. From 15.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, BUCHENWALD (Komando Dora) and MITTELBAU. He simply states the names of the camps and the dates that he was there.

3105901

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 26.08.1928. From 03.03.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, and NEUSTADTKLOBE. She states only the dates that she was in the camps.

3105903

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 23.01.1928. From 04.11.1944 - 29.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DACHAU. He states only the dates that he was in the camp.

3105905

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 21.01.1924. From 07.08.1942 - 20.11.1942; 08.11.1943 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU, AUSCHWITZ, and RAVENSBRUCK. When she was a prisoner, she worked in the stone quarry. The supervisor hit her on the hand with a club and broke her knuckle, leaving her to this day with a deformed hand. Then she underwent the Death March, which they did in winter, if you can imagine what they endured, and today even she herself wonders how she endured it. After that she worked in a factory sewing gloves for the Wehrmacht. And she would be glad, in case she does not make it, to see the compensation paid to her son. She also notes that their property was confiscated, and attached is a testimonial from another individual, stating that his mother told him that Claimant's family was very rich and well-respected, and had extraordinary gold and jewels, as well as 8 horses and an exceptional caravan, and this was all confiscated by the police just before the family was sent to Lety. He also says that Claimant had a small child who perished at Lety, and that of her entire family, only Claimant and her father returned from the concentration camps.

3105907

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 19.02.1936. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. He states only the dates that he was in the camp.

3105916

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 27.10.1928. From 11.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She states only the dates that she was in the camp.

3105917

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 19.05.1936. From 05.08.1942 - 27.05.1943, Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU. She states only the dates that she was in the camp.

3105919

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 19.04.1938. From 15.07.1944 - 05.05.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at TREBLINKA. As a child at Treblinka he was forced to perform various chores around the camp.

3105920

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 29.04.1934. From 09.08.1942 - 19.12.1942, Claimant performed slave labour at NIZNA HRABOVCINA. During the war she was, together with her parents and siblings, interned in the work camp for Romanies at Nizna Hrabovcina in Slovakia. Her brother and sister did not come home from the camp. They lived in harsh conditions. Her parents performed excavation work.

3105921

Claimant is a Romani currently living in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born on 17.02.1931. From 02.11.1944 - 08.04.1945, Claimant performed slave labour at DUBNICA NAD VAHOM. During his internment he worked in the adjacent munitions factory with the other prisoners.

II. CLAIMS WITH ARCHIVAL OR OTHER DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

3101170

Claimant is currently resident in the Czech Republic, and attests to having been persecuted by the Nazis because he was or was believed to be a Jehovah's Witness. Claimant was born 9 November 1918. Claimant performed slave labour at GROSS-ROSEN and elsewhere in Germany from early 1944 until May 1945. Claimant states that at the beginning of 1944 he was arrested by the Gestapo, and taken to the prison

at Breslau. After a month and a half he was transferred to the concentration camp at Gross Rosen. He worked there in the quarry, dug bunkers and performed other hard labour. The labour was assigned daily at the morning roll call. At the end of November he was taken to the town of Cottus, where he worked for the firm AEG-Michovis under guard until the end of the war.

3101864

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 24 March 1938 in Kelca, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at ORAVA in 1945. Claimant states that in 1945 she was transported along with her entire Romany village to Orava where she was forced to work and endured physical abuse.

3101889

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 15 October 1933 in Kezmarok, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at ENZERDORF from 1943-45. Claimant states that her entire family was forcibly taken to Germany. They were in several camps in Germany and Austria until 1945. In the camps they were marked as "Asocials".

3102357

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 15 January 1937 in Kelca, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at ORAVA in 1945. He states that he and his entire family were deported to the occupation camp at Orava. They were eventually freed by the Red Army and the Czechoslovak resistance fighters.

3102365

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 7 April 1935 in Malkov, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU from August – September 1942. Claimant states the dates that she was imprisoned at Lety u Pisku.

3102546

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 23 June 1927 in Medzilaborce, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at HANUSOVCE NAD TOPLOU and DUBNICA NAD VAHOM from 1942-45.

3102562

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 20 April 1925 in Smolenice, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at MAGDALENA V LINCI from October 1944 to April 1945. Claimant states that as a Romani in Slovakia, when he was 18 years old he was sent to a work unit in Sabinov.

When the Slovak National Uprising began in August 1944, he fought with the partisans until he was captured by the Germans and sent to prison at Magdalena Linz. While there he performed forced labour at the Gazwerk firm and the AZDAK firm. They slept in wooden barracks surrounded by a high voltage cable.

3102572

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 17 May 1925 in Josefuv Dul, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, NEUSTADTKLOBE and HINDENBURG from 8 March 1943 to 5 May 1945. Claimant states the dates that she was imprisoned in the concentration camps.

3102695

Claimant is currently resident in the Czech Republic and attests to being persecuted by the Nazis because he was or was believed to be homosexual. Claimant was born 30 May 1922. Claimant performed slave labour at the Mayer Maybach branch factory of the NORDBAU, NORDDEUTSCHE MOTORENBAU FACTORY in Berlin Schoeneweide from April 1942 until January 1944. He worked as an assembler. In January 1944 he contracted eczema and was sent back to Prague. After six months the work office in Prague sent him back to Berlin. He did not go, but in April 1945 he was released and returned to his former employment.

3103000

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 29 November 1936 in Prague, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU from August – September 1942. Claimant states that when she was taken to the camp at Lety u Pisku she was separated from her parents. She had to work in the quarry gathering stones.

3103481

Claimant is currently resident in the Czech Republic, and attest to having been persecuted by the Nazis during WWII because she was or was believed to be Romani. Claimant was born 5 July 1926 in Katerinky, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at LETY U PISKU from August – September 1942. Claimant states that during the occupation she and her parents and three siblings were taken by train from Prague to Lety u Pisku on August 2, 1942. According to attached documentation, Claimant and her family were first believed to be Romanies by the authorities, but when the authorities decided otherwise, they were released from Lety, on September 7, 1942.

3104469

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 15 July 1927 in Poprad, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at BYSTRE NAD TOPLOU from April 1943 to May 1945. He states that Gardists came and took him away to be locked up in Spisska Nova Ves. From there he was

transported to Hanusovce, and Bystre nad Toplou. He worked there without pay beginning on April 5, 1943 until May 1945. He states that when he was sick, he was told that he was trying to avoid work and he was beaten.

3104480

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 20 July 1927 in Vratenin, Czechoslovakia. Claimant performed slave labour at AUSCHWITZ, RAVENSBRUCK, and FLOSSENBURG from March 1943 to May 1945. Claimant states the dates that she was imprisoned in the concentration camps. Claimant is recorded in the Memorial Book, The Gypsies at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

III. SLAVE LABOUR AT WORK CAMPS IN SLOVAKIA

1. FORCED LABOUR CAMP AT PLAVEC

3101567

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 26 September 1921 in ORLOV-PLAVEC, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/44 - 01/05/45. Claimant states that the Germans came and shaved their heads: she, her husband, her mother and father. Then they took her father and brother away to dig trenches. She and her mother escaped into the woods. They were barefoot and her mother wrapped rags around their feet, because the snow was about to fall. Then the Germans took them and they had to stay in a camp in a kind of wooden building, and dig trenches.

3101569

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 24 March 1926 in ORLOV- PLAVEC, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/06/44 - 01/05/45. Claimant states that she dug trenches near the work camp at Plavec, but did not stay there. Every morning the Germans came with a truck, and took Claimant and others to dig trenches, along with other Romanies who were inmates at Plavec work camp. It started in the fall and lasted for about a year. Likely they stopped because it was getting too far away and they took others instead. Then they were driven out of their homes and had to stay in a wooden shelter for animals for a couple of weeks. Soldiers were guarding them. When the Russians came they let them out, told them to go home, and started shooting after them.

3101570

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 14 May 1931 in PLAVNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/02/44 - 01/08/44. His father was half Polish and fled to Poland. His mother worked in the local pub/store owned by Jews. Then the Germans came and took all the Jews away. In 1943 they (the Romanies) were driven out of the town in accordance with Tiso's decree. They built new shelters in the woods, like for

dogs. They lost their property and their fields. Typhus broke out and six members of his (extended) family died. His mother got caught by a German and a Gardist from the village, was beaten, and came home and died 14 days later. One brother was caught and sent to Mauthausen. The claimant started working for a villager but then found out he was a Gardist. He fled but was caught and sent to Plavec. A truck came in the morning and picked up him and 30-50 other people. He was only 12 so he worked carrying water to those who were digging trenches.

3101578

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 7 March 1932 in JARABINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/45 - 01/02/45. They came and took him and his father to Plavec. They were there for about two months. They had to dig trenches. They had to sleep in a kind of barn.

3101608

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 26 May 1923 in SARISKYCH SOKOLOVICH, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/44 - 01/04/45. During the war they were forbidden to go into the village. Gardists (Hlinka) shaved their heads, and they had to destroy their houses and sleep under the sky. The Germans came and took them to Sabinov, and then to the work camp Arbeiet (sic) - Plavec. For food they had only bread and coloured coffee for the whole day. Married couples were split up. When German soldiers were drunk, they would rape and beat the women and the boys and girls had to look on. At Christmas 1945 (1944) they started releasing them with papers. At Sabinov she and her brother were stopped and they had to show their release papers.

3101611

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 2 March 1927 in PREROV, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/42 - 01/01/43. He had to hide in the woods with his family. When the Germans found them they took everyone away to the work camp at Plavec. There he had to work on re-building a tunnel and railway tracks. He also had to play the violin for the Germans. Every morning when they went out to work, a German stood there with a piece of paper in his hands and called out their names. Eventually they had to go work in the forest digging trenches. He escaped one very rainy day with his father, when the Germans got very drunk and fell asleep. After they escaped they helped the partisans. During the war his father, mother, grandmother, grandfather and brother and sister died.

3101849

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 26 June 1926 in LIPANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 09/01/44 - 01/01/45. Sometime at the end of August 1944 the German army came to their village, captured him and some other people, and took

them to the station and then by freight train to Plavec. There he mainly dug trenches and built other fortifications. He stayed there until the Russians came. There they lived in some sort of old school. To work they went beyond the village, to the woods and worked always until evening. It was worst in winter, because they did not have boots. For food they had bread and vegetable soup. Sometimes there were not even potatoes in it. Today he has problems with his left leg, from being frozen.

3101876

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 9 August 1927 in TERNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 08/01/44 - 02/01/45. In August 1944 the German army came to her village. They took everyone who could work, even small children of 12 or 13 years old. They put them into a truck and drove them to Plavec. There they had to build fortifications--trenches, and cut down trees. She was there with her sister and father. They worked every day from morning until evening. They slept on straw in a big building. They went to work on foot, sometimes it was far. They were there until the Russians came and the Germans fled. Then they went home, on foot. The worst was that in the winter they did not have enough clothing, there was not anything to eat, and they were often beaten.

3102330

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 5 October 1935 in HROMOS, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/43 - 01/02/43. In about 1943 the Germans came and took him and his brothers to Plavec. 10 year old children had to work. If they could not dig, they had to help by carrying things. His mother and sisters stayed in the village, where they also had to work, doing laundry and other duties for the soldiers. They were there for about a week. Then Slovaks from their village came and got them released. Before they were taken to the camp they already had to work around the villages digging trenches and bunkers. The way they (the Germans) behaved towards people is not a good memory. One German took a pick-axe heated from the fire and jabbed it at his brother's leg. It was all terrible. He saw how they killed people in the village.

3102340

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 10 October 1933 in MATYSOVA, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 08/01/44 - 12/01/44. The Germans came and took her father to dig trenches. He came home and said he could not manage it, that they measured out for each person how much they had to dig. So the children had to go to help him. Her older brother went first with her father to Sulín and Legnava, but they were not there long. Then her father was imprisoned at Plavec (where Claimant had to go and help him work). He had to stay in a wooden shelter. The children could not sleep there and had to go home at night. They did not get paid for their work. Even if they had, they were not allowed to go to the shops.

3102343

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 21 November 1933 in LUBOTIN, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 08/01/44 - 01/01/45. She lived in Stara Lubovna with her family. During the war they had to leave their homes and hide; they were warned by the mayor that the Germans were coming. Eventually the Germans came and took her father away to Plavec and they had to go with him. Her father dug trenches and they (the children) carried away the earth he dug up.

3102352

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 30 July 1936 in SAMBRON, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 08/01/44 - 09/01/44. He was born in the Romany village at Sambron. His father was a musician and played all around the area before, and after, the war. They had to go dig trenches for the German soldiers [near the village], and dig potatoes in the fields. They were beaten if they refused. There were many children, mostly from 10-15 years old. His father had to go to Plavec to dig trenches; there was a train there. He was at Plavec for about a year with many other people. The claimant went to Plavec with his mother to bring his father some food. The claimant also ended up working at Plavec for about 2 months. He was a strong child so he worked carrying away the dirt. He was taken there and back (to Plavec) by German soldiers. At the end of the war they had to flee before the Germans who were shooting everyone because they thought they might be partisans. Bullets were flying past their heads. He remembers on the road to Jakubany there were dead bodies at every step, both Germans and locals. When they returned to their village, everything was burned down.

3102384

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 24 November 1932 in KYJOV, OKR. PRESOV, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 08/01/44 - 01/12/44. Her father was taken to Plavec to dig trenches. She brought him food (bread) and helped him clear away the dirt with a shovel. Eventually her father got sick and they went home. Her father died three months later.

3102517

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 1 May 1929 in HANUSOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/43 - 01/01/45. Her husband was in the camp at Plavec from 1942-45, and she was there from 1943-45. It is difficult for her to describe the conditions in the camp but to say that the food, housing and working conditions were shocking. They slept on the ground, the food was soup and a piece of bread for the whole day. They had to work from 6 AM to 8 PM in the winter and the summer. Whoever could not work was shot. Her husband escaped the camp in January 1945 and joined the Red Army. She was there until the Germans fled in April 1945. She

says that the Romanies were treated like garbage during the war, and the only thing that saved them from death was that the Germans did not have enough time left for them.

3102548

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 27 February 1929 in KRASNA LUKA, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC during WWII. She was hiding from the Germans, first in the cellar at the school, and then in the cellar of a certain man. Then the Germans came and took her and some other girls to Plavec to cook for them. (Romany) boys were there digging trenches for the Germans. She remembers that people with small children were hiding all around the camp in the woods. She was there for about four months. She also remembers the Germans raping some of the women. Eventually she went home to her family.

3103454

Claimant was born in JAKUBANY, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans took her and other Romanies on foot to Plavec. She was taken there with her father and her brother and other Romanies who were in Jakubany at the time. There they were forced to dig trenches and build bunkers. They stayed in a sort of two-storey building, and slept on the ground, on straw. Once a German was beating her, and wanted to rape her, but there was a cook who protected her.

3103457

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 10 February 1935 in JAKUBANY, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 04/01/44 - 09/01/44. They were not allowed to go anywhere (during the war). Once he went to town (Stara Lubovna) and the Gardist (Hlinka) caught him and threw him into the water. Then the Germans took them and made them go by foot to Plavec. They dug trenches and bunkers. They slept in a 2-storey building on straw. They were there for about four months. He was there with his father and his father's brother.

3103745

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 10 January 1921 in PODSADEK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC during WWII. During the war she was living with her mother and her two children because her husband had died. When she was about 23, they came and got her and she had to leave her six-month-old son at home. He later died from hunger. Every morning at the camp they called out the names of each of the inmates and they had to say "I'm here". Every day they had to go out to the woods and chop down trees. They piled the wood on them and they carried it to the fire. She was the supervisor of the women because she spoke some German. She had to make sure no one escaped. They slept in a big barn. In the morning she had to count everyone and

divide up the work. She says there were also men at the camp, and she heard that they were digging trenches.

3103864

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 28 September 1930 in PRESOV, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC during WWII. As a child he was with his father at the camp for forced labour. The camp was located at Plavec. They had to build bunkers and trenches for the Germans. His village was not re-located, but it was almost completely burned down. He had to work hard and he was always hungry. His mother died in Levoca. They shaved all their heads. It also happened that the Gardists came in the night to beat them. They tormented all of them, even if they were only children. They were forced to watch how they tortured their friend. He saw how they shot his friend in the leg, so that he could not escape.

3103931

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 27 February 1936 in PRESOV, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/41 - 01/01/43. Before the war her father worked in a stone quarry. Her mother worked for the villagers in the fields and doing household work. She and the other children gathered berries in the woods. After the war started they were forbidden to go into the town, on penalty of being shot. They were moved away from the village. In 1940 the Germans came and locked them in a work camp at Plavec. They shaved their heads. She remembers the Germans raping the women and girls. They beat her father and her brother-in-law and tried to get them to say who was a communist. Her sister was raped and tortured. After the war she moved to the Czech Republic to begin a new life.

3104487

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 28 April 1925 in TERNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/10/44 - 01/02/45. In 1939 all the Czechs were driven out, including the schoolteacher, the policeman, and others. Romanies were not allowed to sell anything, and they could not even go to the spring to get water. Then the Germans came and took them by truck, like sheep, to Sabinov, and from there by train car without windows to the Polish border at Plavec. There they stayed in a large wooden building with straw on the floor. They had to dig trenches from morning until night, divided into men and women, and sing. They got fleas and lice and then they had their heads shaven. Some people tried to escape but it was not possible--there was a big lake with a bridge, and anyone trying would have been shot. The officers used to make them sing and dance until morning; they raped the women. One morning when they were going to work, a drunken SS officer in a black uniform came and took a beautiful girl. Her father promised him boots, if he would leave her. The officer shot the girl and her father, and everyone else had to go to work like nothing had happened. That was her life, which cannot be described. She would not wish it on anyone, even those who tortured them.

3104493

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 8 July 1926 in PECOVSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/09/44 - 01/04/45. In the fall of 1944 he was taken away from the train station at Sabinov where he was working. They were about 100 men. They (the Germans) drove them to Plavec. There was a huge barn there that must have belonged to some big landowner. The Germans drove them into it like animals. There was nothing inside but half a meter of straw. They were locked up in the barn and guarded. There was a kind of iron bridge over the water, and that was also guarded. The work consisted of digging trenches. They had quotas to meet. One person had, for example, 30 meters a day. When it went well, it was possible, but when it was rocky, it was not. Those who could not dig enough were beaten by the soldiers. Once he was hit so hard he could not get up. They worked like that for the entire winter. They slept in the straw without blankets. The food was inedible. Then when the snow had gone away, all the Germans fled and they were left there. They were lying in the trenches and the Russians came. They (the Russians) did not shoot them. When the Russians saw how weak they were they loaded them into trucks and took them home. They could not take the train because the Germans destroyed the line from Plavec to Kosice. His father was also taken away to dig trenches, but along the Polish border further to the east.

3104571

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 23 April 1928 in KYJOV, SLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/44 - 01/01/45. She had to work at Plavec even though she was pregnant. She got sick and her baby was born, but it only lived six months. There was a kind of a steamer at the camp and they had to put their clothes into it.

3104589

Claimant is a Romani currently resident in the Czech Republic. Claimant was born 27 February 1927 in BABIN POTOK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant performed slave labour at PLAVEC from 01/01/42 - 01/01/45. In 1942 the German army came to their village with guns in their hands. He was 15 years old. They herded them into trucks and took them to the criminal prison at Sabinov. From there on the second day they deported them to the work camp, Plavec - Orlov. In that camp, in various and difficult conditions, he performed hard labour for three years under the surveillance of German soldiers, without pay. The food was bad and there were beatings for no reason.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP V - SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

CASE SUMMARIES - PART 2

I. SLAVE LABOUR AT WORK CAMPS IN SLOVAKIA

1. PETIC FORCED LABOUR CAMP

3101575

Claimant was born in PAVLOVCE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work at Petic work camp from July to September 1942, after which he escaped from the camp. His family was later punished for his escape. The work at the camp consisted of excavation work related to the construction of the railway line between Presov and Strazske. There were many people working there, not just Romanies, but also Jews and others, and also women. Claimant and his brothers and father lived near the camp so they were allowed to go home to sleep at night. Nobody dared not to return to work the next day. Once someone did not go to work, because he was sick, and two Germans and two Hlinka Guards showed up at his door and beat him up. They were not given any food, and if anyone passed out from hunger, he was shot.

3101610

Claimant was born in SPISSKE BYSTRE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was taken away as a young man to the work camp at Petic. There he was forced to perform excavation work, digging and filling up wagons with the earth. The wagons were taken away and then brought back empty and they had to fill them up again. There was hardly any food. Someone took Claimant's boots and he had to go barefoot. When the work was finished he went home, and then he was forced to work in the army, and was eventually sent to Germany to work. In Germany he worked in the forest, cutting down trees, somewhere near Hamburg. He was there for about 7 months, until the war ended, and he came home by train to Bratislava.

3102568

Claimant was born in BZENICA, OKR. ZIAR NAD HRONOM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to perform excavation work at Petic from February 1941 until February 1943.

3104563

Claimant was born in PAVLOVCE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work constructing the railway line at Petic, for the contractor Lozovsky. He states that the prisoners were abused and made to beat each other. He was interned in the work camp next to the construction site, and he states that the guards were Germans. Claimant later escaped from the camp with some other Romanies and hid in the woods for some time. Subsequently he was forced to dig trenches for German soldiers when the front approached. In February 1945 there was a typhus epidemic in his Romany village.

2. HANUSOVCE NAD TOPLOU FORCED LABOUR CAMP

3101565

Claimant was born in PORUBA, AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE. Claimant states that he was first taken to the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou, and from there to work at another location, possibly Bystre nad Toplou. At both camps he was forced to perform excavation work. He was not paid but he was given some food: bread and apples. Then he was taken by German soldiers to dig trenches and to camouflage them with branches. When the war ended he was somewhere in Germany doing this work, and he had to walk all the way home. He was afraid to take the train because he thought he might be caught again.

3101577

Claimant was born in ULOZA, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was taken away to Hanusovce and forced to work digging a kind of tunnel. He was given only a little food, similar to pig feed. He was beaten whenever he stopped working, even if only to rest a moment. One man died from such a beating. Once one fellow escaped, and when he was caught they brought him back and beat him in front of all the prisoners, and they had to watch so that they would be afraid to try escaping themselves. Claimant and the others slept on straw and had fleas and lice. He was at the camp for about a year.

3102381

Claimant was born in PAVLOVCE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war he stopped going to school because Romanies were not allowed to go into the village or use the bus. Eventually the Germans came, SS officers, and made the village school their local headquarters. Claimant was taken to work on the railroad, at Pavlovce, Podlipniky and Hanusovce, along with his father, for about 3 years. When they could no longer work they were beaten on the head. They did not receive any food or money. They contracted typhus and 'plague' and many other diseases. At the end of the war he was forced to work for the Germans with a machine laying out cable. Later he found out it was a telephone cable.

3103722

Claimant was born in SPISSKE HANUSOVCE, OKR. KEZMAROK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was in a forced labour camp where he worked for the Germans. He had to dig pits. All the prisoners slept together. Anyone who was unable to work was severely beaten. There were various diseases in the camp: typhus and scabies, for example. The guards always wanted the prisoners to have clean hands, and if they did not, they were clubbed on the hands. They had very little to eat and sometimes they did not get anything at all. Claimant worked first in Habesh nad Toplou [sub-camp of Bystre nad Toplou] for four months, and then later was transferred to Dubnica nad Vahom, where he worked until December 1943. Later Claimant was forced to dig trenches for German soldiers around his village of Spisske Hanusovce.

3103746

Claimant was born in SARISSKE JASTRABIE, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII his family was hiding in the woods, sleeping in a barn. Then the Germans caught them and took him and a number of Romanies,

including his two brothers, to a work camp at Hanusovce. The Germans forced him to work digging with a pick and shovel, carrying rocks, filling wagons. Anyone who did not work was beaten. They worked until 5 or 6 in the evening and then they were taken into the barracks. Whenever a Romani did not want to work, he was shot. One Romani in the camp was designated by the Germans to beat everyone else. Claimant escaped home from the camp, but then was caught again by the Germans and taken away to dig hiding places for the German soldiers. He was liberated by the Russian soldiers.

3103871

Claimant was born in PODOLIE, OKR. NOVE MESTO NAD VAHOM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when he was about 10 years old his family was taken to the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou. Claimant was forced to work with his father in the stone quarry, and there he broke three of his ribs. He was beaten everyday. They had to work from when it was dark in the morning, until it was dark in the evening. They were always hungry.

3103970

Claimant was born in REBRIN, OKR. MICHALOVCE, AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE. Claimant states that he was taken to the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou, and then to the work camp at Revuca. At the camps he was forced to work digging post-holes and trenches with shovels and pick-axes. Some sort of cables were then placed in the trenches. Claimant was beaten. He escaped into the woods and tried to join the partisans, but they refused him because he had five children, and they told him that if he was killed his children would suffer. He eventually was released and went back to his village in Michalovce.

3104113

Claimant was born in HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she and her family and other Romanies were hiding in the woods when Hlinka Guards came in 1942 and took them to the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou. Claimant had to go on foot, and the Guards were on horseback. At the camp she was forced to perform excavation work. At night when the German soldiers at the camp were drunk, they would make her and the other young Romany women dance for them. Claimant also encloses a letter from the Slovak authorities concerning her mother's transfer from the camp to the hospital in Humenne and back again which states: "Today I sent to the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou 20 gypsies, in the attached list, who were in forced recuperation at the state hospital in Humenne. 8 gypsies remain for further recuperation. They have contagious diseases and as a result cannot be sent to the work camp. [Signed] Regional Chief". Claimant's mother's name appears in the attached list.

3104122

Claimant was born in BIDOVC, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came to his village of Bidovce in the night and loaded the Romanies including Claimant into a truck. Their musical instruments, such as violins, were all destroyed. They did not know where they were going or what was going to happen, but eventually they arrived at the work camp at Hanusovce. At the camp the work consisted of piling stones and dirt into wagons. His uncle was beaten so badly from head to toe that he died in the camp. Claimant was hungry and he tried to collect garbage to eat, but he was caught and badly beaten by the guards. Two women from his family also died in the camp. Eventually Claimant was released to serve in the army. Claimant's younger brother, confirms that his two older brothers were in the camp at

Hanusovce nad Toplou. Claimant's brother went with his mother and brought them food, but they were only allowed to pass it across the fence surrounding the camp.

3104584

Claimant was born in ZBEHNOV, OKR. TREBISOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1942, Hlinka Guards came to Zbehnov, and took the Romany men to the local pub, bought them a beer and a cigar, and then put them into a truck and drove them to Hanusovce work camp. There he slept on a wooden bed and worked every day from 4 am to 5 pm. He worked digging pits and pouring concrete. Sometimes he was beaten. After a year-and-a-half, Claimant and others were taken to Cemerne nad Toplou where they also had to work digging. Later he was at Liptovsky Hradok, where he was forced to work digging trenches. Eventually he was freed by the partisans.

3104597

Claimant was born in ROZDALOVICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that his father was Slovak and his mother was Romany. Because he was half-Romany he was interned in the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou. In the camp he was beaten and humiliated by the guards, who used very cruel methods. Because of the unbearable conditions he escaped from the camp. He was caught and taken to the work camp at Dubnica nad Vahom. Altogether he spent two years in the work camps. Later he was forced to work on the front lines, where he and about half of the Romanies deserted to the Soviet army, where they stayed until the end of the war.

3. FORCED LABOUR CAMP NEAR VRANOV NAD TOPLOU

3103132

Claimant was born in CEMERNE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to her village, Claimant and her family and the other Romanies had to sweep the road, the sidewalk, and all over the village. Then she was taken away to the work camp at Vranov nad Toplou, where she had to work for about 3 months, digging. She was given only a piece of bread and water to drink, and became terribly thin. Everyone in the camp had their heads shaven, and anyone who had glasses had them taken away. When she was released from the camp, she came home, and her entire family fled from the village and hid in the woods until the end of the war.

3103591

Claimant was born in SKRABSKE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work at Cierne nad Toplou [sub-camp of Vranov nad Toplou], constructing the railway line. His relatives were also forced to work there. He had his head shaven at the camp and was treated badly. Afterwards he was forced to work in a camp at Poprad.

4. DUBNICA NAD VAHOM FORCED LABOUR CAMP

3103444

Claimant was born in PRAHA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work for the contractors Lozovsky-Stefanec, which operated the work camp at

Dubnica nad Vahom. She states that she worked in a munitions factory nearby, located near Povazska Bystrica. She was forced to work there for about 2 years with other Romanies, travelling 7 km and back daily. In the autumn of 1944 she was also forced to work digging trenches for German soldiers.

3103666

Claimant was born in BOHUNICE, OKR. TRNAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in May 1942 he was sent to the work camp at Dubnica nad Vahom. He was forced to work there until October 1942, when he was sent with the Slovak Army to Italy to fight on the flank of the German army. He still has scars on his back from being burned at the camp. While he was away, his family had to hide in the woods, and they suffered cold and hunger.

3103813

Claimant was born in DOBRA NAD ONDAVOU, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that beginning in May 1941, he and other Romanies were forced to go to work camps. Claimant states that he was taken away to the camp at Dubnica nad Vahom. There he was forced to perform excavation work. While he was there he got sick and he injured his leg. Eventually he managed to escape, but in November 1942 he was caught again and returned to Dubnica nad Vahom. He worked there until January 1943, when he escaped again and hid in the woods. When he arrived home at the end of the war, everything was destroyed.

3104126

Claimant was born in CICMANY, OKR. ZILINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1941 the Germans came and captured him at a relative's wedding, taking three other Romany men along with him to the police station. Altogether there were about 60 Romany men taken from the area. They spent one night at the police station, where they had their heads shaved, and then they were loaded into carriages and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. There he was forced to work in the arms factory, and later on the hydro-electric project, digging with a shovel and pick-axe. Their job was to even out the banks of the river so that there was a strong current. He was there for 2 years and was forced to work every day. They slept on wooden beds. The food was potatoes and bit of bread, beans, peas, and corn. There were people dying of hunger. Then there were waves of disease, typhus and others, and more people died. In 1943 he was released, and new workers were brought in. He states that the conditions after 1943 were apparently worse than before. He returned home, and had to hide with other Romanies until the war was over.

5. TVRDOSIN (USTI NAD ORAVOU) FORCED LABOUR CAMP

3104367

Claimant was born in DOBRA NAD ONDAVOU, VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that his entire family was in a work camp. They were driven out of their village and taken to the camp by Germans.

3104470

Claimant was born in DOBRA NAD ONDAVOU, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came to their village and made them go on to Hanusovce nad Toplou, and from there to Presov. After about one month staying there shut in a building, they were taken to the train station and travelled by train for a day and one

night. Then they arrived at a place called 'Orava'. From there they were taken to a work camp. There was a long wooden building. A soldier watched them constantly, but he had his own room in a small, separate building. Whenever anyone died, they took them away, including her younger sister. Some people tried to escape from the camp to Dolny Kubin, but they were caught and returned. Finally a Russian soldier appeared and told them they could go home.

3102511

Claimant was born in DOBRA NAD ONDAVOU, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 one of the local Romanies stole some arms for the partisans, and so the Germans took the entire Romany population from the village and sent them to the camp. They went by foot to Presov, in the winter. Anybody who could not or would not walk was shot. In Presov they waited in a school to be transported. From Presov to Tvrdošín they travelled by train, in cattle cars, stopping to pick up people along the way. At the camp they were divided into men and women. Everyone had to work digging trenches outside the camp. She was beaten. Everyone wore the clothes they came in. Hygiene was poor. There was a Turkish toilet and it was dangerous to go there because it was always icy and very slippery. They had 2L water per day for six people. Several of the prisoners were hung. Claimant says this was the family of the Romani who helped the partisans.

3102574

Claimant was born in DOBRA NAD ONDAVOU, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that her family was driven out of their village on foot, by Germans. They ended up in a work camp.

3103186

Claimant was born in DOBRA NAD ONDAVOU, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war her brother went to steal some food, and the Germans saw him, but he escaped. After this the Germans came and made her and her family, including her sister, [Claim 3104470], go on foot to a city, and from there by train to the work camp. At the camp she had to work cleaning the barracks and sweeping the courtyard. Her father worked in the trenches. Her younger sister died in the camp. They were there until the Russians came.

II. SIXTH WORK BATTALION OF THE SLOVAK ARMY

3101060

Claimant was born in HOLICE NAD MORAVOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that at the beginning of WWII he was living in the Czech Protectorate with his family, travelling in caravans, but then they fled to Slovakia. There he was caught by the Hlinka Guards and the police, and taken to the work camps at Salinov, Bratislava (Svatý Jur) and then to Liptovský Hrádok, where he was forced to work in a stone quarry, and to dig pits for corpses. Each of these locations was a work camp of the 6th Work Battalion of the Slovak Army. Towards the end of the war he was taken to Hungary and forced to dig trenches until the war ended.

3101071

Claimant was born in DURSTYN, NOWY TARG, POLAND. Claimant states that during WWII he was living with his family in Spisska Stara Ves. He states that he was forced to perform forced labour as military service at Podolinec.

3101881

Claimant was born in MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was caught when he was deserting to the Soviet army on grounds of racial persecution, and taken to the military work camp at Svaty Jur, where he spent 4 years. He was forced to work in various locations around Svaty Jur, depending on where it was needed. He was forced to perform mainly excavation work, including road repair, filling, clearing forests. He was guarded by Hlinka Guards and Germans. He often worked without food, and in any weather.

3102385

Claimant was born in TREBISOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in approximately 1942 he was taken to the military work camp at Liptovsky Svateho Petra, where he and about 80 other Romanies were forced to work under guard, building a road through the woods to Koprava Dolina, Ticha Dolina and Raikova Dolina. They also built a graded path up to the heights of the forest. They escaped during the Slovak National Uprising on August 29, 1944.

3103124

Claimant was born in PARCHOVANY, OKR. TREBISOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII German soldiers came to his village and forced the Romanies to dig trenches. Then one day he and other Romany men were taken to the work camp at Liptovsky Mikulas. When they arrived, their heads were shaved. There they were part of a special work squad that was charged with building the military camp, and bunkers. They were fed only enough food so that they did not die of hunger. Every day he saw someone die from exhaustion. They slept in a decrepit building, on the ground, without sheets. Whoever could not work was shot. He was told that the Germans were preparing to send them to the frontlines to dig trenches, so he and his brother decided to escape. They succeeded, but his brother's health had been broken in the camp, and he died shortly afterwards. Claimant spent the rest of the war in hiding, with family and with local farmers.

3103530

Claimant was born in CICAVA, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that sometime after the separation of Slovakia from Czechoslovakia, he received a notice that he had to enlist in the Slovak Army. He was sent first to Kosice and then to Brezno. He was there for about a year, and then he was sent to Palota. The men were divided into work groups. Some of the men worked building bridges, roads, and tunnels. Claimant's group was forced to build bunkers. They were guarded at all times when they were working. They dug the bunkers and then they poured cement to reinforce them. They stayed in the village in a barn, and were driven to work every day. Eventually some Germans came to where they were digging bunkers. The Germans had dogs and trucks and other motorized vehicles. The Germans caught them and tortured them briefly, and then let them escape.

3103575

Claimant was born in MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was soldier in the Slovak army. He was taken to a work camp and there he had to drag around a type of military apparatus in which two people were sitting. He had to work with a rifle pointed at him. He was also forced to dig trenches. Sometimes he was forced to work all night long. He was often beaten, and now he has poor hearing. They were punished for the smallest transgressions.

3103589

Claimant was born in KRALOVCE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and drove him and his family into the woods. There they spent several months suffering hunger and cold, and getting sick. Finally the Germans found them and made them go on foot several kilometers to a work camp at Cemerne. Some people fainted, and the Germans shot them and left them in the ditch. At the camp Claimant was attached to a work unit and forced to work digging tunnels for about a year. He lived in barracks and was allowed to visit his wife twice. He did not receive any wages, and the food was terrible.

3103788

Claimant was born in NALEPKOVO, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was released from the regular Slovak Army and he was forced to go to the military work unit at Kamenica nad Cirochou, as part of the 6th Work Battalion. He worked there until he was freed by the Russian army, and then he fought with the Russian army.

III. SLAVE LABOUR FOR GERMAN SOLDIERS IN OCCUPIED SLOVAKIA

1. NORTH EASTERN SLOVAKIA

POPRAD - SPISSKA NOVA VES – SABINOV

3101182

Claimant was born in MATEJOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was going to school in the village when the Germans came and told her father to shave her head. She was forced to do this with a soldier pointing a pistol at her. She was allowed to go to school after that, but only for a short time. Then she was taken away with her mother and father, by train, in the morning, to dig anti-tank trenches. She had to carry away the dirt in her hands. It was winter and they did not have proper clothes and they got sick.

3101221

Claimant was born in HRABUSICE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work for the Germans in Spisska Nova Ves. He had to dig bunkers and throw the dirt into wagons. He also had to collect wood for the kitchen.

3101321

Claimant was born in HNILEC, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that, towards the end of the war, the Nazis came and forced Claimant to work digging trenches. His father had a blacksmith shop and he (his father) was forced to make excavation tools for the Nazis. The work took place around Hnilec and lasted about 5 months.

3101572

Claimant was born in KRAVANY, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when Slovakia was occupied by German soldiers he went to stay with his sister, in Spisske Bystre. From there Claimant and others were taken away in a truck to Huta, Hnilec and Harichovce [Spisska Nova Ves region]. There they were forced to dig trenches and cover them with brush so that they could not be seen from the air. The Germans stood over them with rifles. They worked through the fall and the winter until the front came, and then they fled to the woods to avoid the Hlinka Guards, who were searching for partisans. Claimant remembers how Slovak provocateurs, dressed in civilian clothes, got Romanies to say that they were partisans, and then they poured gas on those Romanies, and burned them.

3101576

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that, during the war, he and his family were hiding in the woods, but he was captured by German soldiers and taken to Hnilec to dig pits in the forest. Anyone who did not want to work was shot. He was there for about 2 months.

3101586

Claimant was born in MARKUSOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war she and her family were living in Spisska Nova Ves. In or about 1942 they were forced to work digging trenches for the Germans all the way to the airport at Spisska Nova Ves. After they were released, she and her family spent the rest of the war hiding in the woods. Eventually her father was shot by the Germans.

3101591

Claimant was born in RAKUSY, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came, and he and his uncle had to go dig trenches in Spisska Nova Ves and Liptovsky Mikulas. The German soldiers stood over them with guns, and they had to work. The Germans killed his uncle, and Claimant could not do anything.

3101613

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was taken to Spisska Nova Ves and forced to work digging pits. Sometimes they threw corpses into the pits, and sometimes they were military trenches. They were not allowed to talk, or they were beaten. He suffered from hunger and disease, but he was forced to keep digging.

3101861

Claimant was born in OLSAVICA, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was taken by the Germans and forced to do excavation work. She was forced to work from morning until late at night. She was pregnant at that time, but she still had to work. She also did washing, and sometimes cooked for the Germans. She and the other Romanies were liberated by the Russians.

3101870

Claimant was born in VYSNY SLAVKOV, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that German soldiers came first to his village in 1943, and forced all the Romanies to work in the fields during the harvest, digging potatoes and other work. He was forced to do the same work in 1944.

3101930

Claimant was born in OCOVA, OKR. ZVOLEN, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that from 1939 onwards his family was persecuted by the Hlinka Guards, the police and the SS. In January 1944 he was taken away to the mountains to work on the construction of fortifications for the Germans. After 2 months he escaped, and after travelling for 2 months on foot arrived home, where he hid until the end of the war.

3101969

Claimant was born in MARKUSOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII, towards the end of 1943, she was forced to move from the village to a Romany settlement, where the Romanies were constantly persecuted by the Nazis. They eventually had to flee to the woods. Then they were caught by the Germans and taken to Spisske Vlasy, where they had to work digging trenches. Anyone who could not work was severely beaten, without regard to age. They were constantly starving. This lasted until the end of February 1945.

3101971

Claimant was born in NALEPKOVO, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was 7 years old when Germans came to her village and rounded up all the Romanies. After that she and the others had to live in the forest. She had to collect potatoes from the fields and take them to the kitchen for the Germans to cook. Most of the village of Nalepkovo was forced to do this work.

3101977

Claimant was born in HRONOVNICA, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans took her entire Romany village to Spisska Nova Ves by train, and then on foot to dig trenches. She remembers being beaten for not working hard enough, for looking at the soldiers the wrong way, for anything. Her mother died of injuries from the Germans.

3102328

Claimant was born in PECOVSKA NOVA VES, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Pecovska Nova Ves with his family. Many of

his relatives were taken away to work camps. One day the Germans came to the village with the mayor and told the Romanies that they had to go to work. Claimant had a shovel and he had to start digging in shafts and in trenches. He was there for about 14 days and when he returned home their house had been destroyed. The Germans had dug a pit in the earth inside Claimant's house from which they could shoot anti-aircraft guns towards the airport. There were cartridges everywhere.

3102341

Claimant was born in GANOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that before the war they used to gather wood and sell it to the Jewish people in town. She remembers that the Jews were forced to leave and go far away somewhere, and that they were only allowed to take 15 kg with them. Then the Romany men were taken away somewhere to work. She was taken away by train to Spisska Nova Ves for about a month in the autumn of 1944 with about 100 other Romanies from neighbouring villages and forced to work. The Germans made them dig pits, tunnels, and trenches, and cut down trees. Anyone who refused to work was killed. Then the front came, and the bombardment, and Claimant and the others had to hide.

3102374

Claimant was born in REJDOVA, OKR. ROZNAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that after the arrival of the Germans he was forced to work in Nalepkovo digging trenches, and also for the local German farmer. He was threatened with death if he did not comply.

3102377

Claimant was born in KATUN, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that after the arrival of the German soldiers in Nalepkovo, she was forced to work for the local German farmer. She was threatened with death if she did not comply.

3102379

Claimant was born in LETANOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in November 1944 the German soldiers and the Hlinka Guards gathered together all the Romanies and chose those who could work, including children who were big enough. The soldiers put them into a livestock wagon and took them to Spisska Nova Ves and Levoca. She worked clearing away the earth that her relatives dug up. She also swept the ground and camouflaged the trenches. The trenches were used as hiding places for the German soldiers when the Russian Army came. At night Claimant and the other Romanies were terrorized by German soldiers, who wanted to rape girls and who were also looking for information about partisans, and who were threatening to kill all Romanies. Claimant lived in fear until the end of the war.

3102412

Claimant was born in GANOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans and Hlinka Guards gathered the Romanies together and chose the ones that they would send on the cattle wagons to work. Claimant was forced to work digging trenches and then camouflaging them with branches. When the bombardment began, Claimant and the other Romanies escaped to the woods.

3102537

Claimant was born in MOCIDLANY, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and took her mother and her to work digging trenches around Sabinov. All of the Romany men had already fled or been taken away to work, so there were only women and children remaining. The Germans gave the women small shovels to use. The children had to collect the earth and throw it out of the trenches. They worked from 6am to 6pm, and slept in a barrack on straw. There was no food except for a kind of dry bread, but her mother told them not to eat it because it might be poisoned. Whoever was not working, or not working hard enough, was beaten by the soldiers. Her mother was unaccustomed to this type of work and was often beaten. When Claimant did not want to work, the soldiers would pick her up and throw her into a snowdrift. They did not have warm clothes; they wrapped themselves in potato sacks. Eventually Claimant was sent home with the other small children, but her mother was not released. At the end the Germans drove all the Romanies into one building and were going to pour gas on it and burn them, but the Russians came. Claimant did not know they were Russians at first, because all the soldiers looked the same to her.

3102559

Claimant was born in SPISSKE BYSTRE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work digging trenches. The Germans, together with Hlinka Guards, gathered up all the Romanies from the village. After selecting some of them they, including Claimant, were loaded onto livestock wagons and taken away to work. They worked in the winter, and were hungry. He tried to escape, but was caught, and after being beaten was returned to work. He worked in the snow and the frost without adequate clothing. He was also beaten in the legs.

3102561

Claimant was born in LUCIVNA, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and, together with the Hlinka Guards, forcibly collected Claimant and other Romanies and took them away in a wagon. She was forced to work in the region of Spisska Nova Ves and Levoca. She worked camouflaging the trenches. With others she gathered twigs, brush and leaves and covered the trenches. She also worked to keep the fires going, and scraped up the dirt from the trenches.

3102566

Claimant was born in ZAKAROVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he had to work for the Germans digging trenches about 20 km from his home village of Zakarovce. He was beaten and was not given any food. He saw his mother and his sister raped by soldiers.

3102570

Claimant was born in SKRABSKE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and the Romanies were forced to work for them. Claimant worked digging trenches in and around Hermanovce (okr. Presov). He worked in 1943, 1944, and in January and February 1945. In 1945 he got typhus.

3103032

Claimant was born in LUCIVNA, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to his village, Lucivna, he was forced to go with them and dig trenches. He was still a young boy at the time. Once he was beaten with a kind of metal poker and he passed out. His leg was injured and for a time he could not walk. Later he was taken to Svit, where he also had to dig trenches for 2 or 3 months, until the front arrived.

3103039

Claimant was born in NALEPKOVO, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Nalepkovo with his family. He and his father were captured by the Germans and taken to work for soldiers in the area of Spisska Nova Ves.

3103443

Claimant was born in SLOVINKY, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was forced to work digging trenches for the Hlinka Guards and the German Army. She was taken out of school to work. She worked for about two months, and she was afraid.

3103475

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work in the region of Spisska Nova Ves digging trenches for Germans. His father was taken away to a work camp, and when his father tried to escape, he was shot.

3103478

Claimant was born in GERLACHOV, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came looking for girls to rape and her father hid her in the potato cellar. Then the Germans came and got Claimant and her family and took them to dig trenches in Spisska Nova Ves. They travelled by train and then on foot. It lasted for 2 or 3 months, and then the Russians came.

3103502

Claimant was born in KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was born in Kosice, but when the Hungarians took over Kosice in 1938, his family moved to Krompachy (near Spisska Nova Ves). After the Slovak National Uprising in 1944, the Germans came and began to terrorize the Romanies. He and his family had to go hide in the woods many times, waiting until it was dark, and quiet, before they returned home. Once in the night the Germans came and put them in a row and wanted to shoot them all, but some men came along and persuaded them not to, although the Germans did shoot two men. Towards the end of the war, the Germans began to come and rape the Romany women. At that time Claimant also had to work for the Germans, digging trenches and other fortifications around Richnava. Each day they were picked up and driven to work by the Germans. The work carried on for about 2 or 3 months and then the Russians came, at about 4am one morning.

3103503

Claimant was born in KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she and her family left Kosice after the Hungarians occupied it and moved to Krompachy (near Spisska Nova Ves). The Germans came in the autumn of 1944. Several times they wanted to shoot Claimant and her family but each time they managed to escape to the woods. Then the Germans came and took them to Richnava to dig trenches. The men dug trenches and the women dragged birch trees from the forest.

3103506

Claimant was born in PECOVSKA NOVA VES, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that at the beginning of WWII he was living with his family in Pecovska Nova Ves, but they were driven out by Hlinka Guards. They went to Lipany, where both Romanies and non-Romanies in the village were one day arrested by the Germans and accused of being partisans. They were then divided up, and Claimant and his brother were sent to Dolny [now Nizny] Slavkov, where they were locked into an overcrowded barn. When they came out, the Germans shot into the barn, and killed around 10 people who had stayed there, hiding. Next they were taken to Levoca, where they were forced to work driving cattle gradually northwest towards Stary Smokovec (okr. Poprad). They stayed in empty barns along the way. It lasted about 10 months, through winter and summer. Sometimes they were given food, sometimes not. They were beaten all over their bodies. Along the way the Germans collected more Romanies. In Strba they shot at Romanies who were escaping, and Claimant remembers the children crying. Claimant wanted to escape, but did not want to leave his brother, so he stayed. Eventually they reached Germany. In Germany they managed to escape during the bombardment. They travelled first with some Poles, and then all the way back home on foot. Later Claimant was briefly in the Slovak Army and then fought with the Russian Army.

3103507

Claimant was born in DANISOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in the winter of 1944-45, he, along with other Romanies from his village capable of working, had to dig defensive trenches for the German army around Danisovce.

3103508

Claimant was born in CHRAST NAD HORNADOM, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was forced to work for the Germans digging trenches. She was loaded into a train with her mother and father and they were taken to the work locations, around Spisska Nova Ves and Krompachy. She was forced to work by being beaten.

3103514

Claimant was born in HELCMANOVCE, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans occupied her village (south of Krompachy), including the school, and no one, not even the Slovaks, could go to school. Later she and her family and other Romanies had to work for the soldiers constructing various things. For example, they had to build a toilet. Whoever did not work was beaten. Claimant's pregnant mother also had to work.

3103518

Claimant was born in CHRAST NAD HORNADOM, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to work digging trenches for the German army. Beginning in winter 1943, he was taken with other Romanies to Spisska Nova Ves to work. He was taken each day in a carriage without windows, like for livestock. The work was very hard, and they did not receive any food. To eat they had only what they brought from home. They were beaten by the Germans, whenever they were tired or did not work enough. The Germans beat children and adults, they did not differentiate in their treatment. Claimant states that you could never be sure you were not going to be shot.

3103521

Claimant was born in VYSNY SLAVKOV, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and took him and other Romanies to Horny Slavkov (between Spisska Nova Ves and Levoca), where they were forced to dig trenches.

3103531

Claimant was born in SARISSKE MICHALANY, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was forced to work for the Germans in the brick factory at Sarisske Michalany, along with her father and the rest of her family. She was beaten.

3103577

Claimant was born in SARISSKE MICHALANY, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1942 her family and other Romany families were forced to move from their settlement just outside Tolcemes to an uninhabited place 1.5 km away. They had to destroy their own homes before they left. In 1944 she was forced to work for German soldiers digging trenches in Pecovska Nova Ves. Some Romanies were also taken to the work camps at Plavec and at Petic.

3103643

Claimant was born in VIKARTOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to her village they looked for the young men, but they could not find any, only women. The Germans drove the Romanies out of their houses, yelling at them that they were going to kill them. Then they herded them into a large barn and shaved their heads. She and her mother then had to work cleaning and scrubbing the floor in that building. She also had to clean soldiers' boots.

3103707

Claimant was born in LUBICA, OKR. KEZMAROK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII German soldiers came and searched their (Romany) houses and said they were looking for partisans. Then they came in the night and raped two women. Then the Germans returned and loaded Claimant and other Romanies into wagons and took them to build trenches in the fields around Noveska Huta, where they stayed in a large building in one room. Claimant had to do what he was told because the soldiers were pointing guns at them. He worked digging trenches and bunkers, and cutting down trees in the fortress to use in the bunkers. To eat they

had only bread or potatoes. Once they were taken to a kind of camp, and they were afraid that they were going to be sent away to a concentration camp, but instead they had to dig trenches around the building.

3103724

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she and her family were captured by German soldiers and taken away in a truck. When they were unloaded their heads were shaven, and she was put to work collecting dirt from defence mounds and spreading it into a small stream. At night she had to clean soldiers' boots.

3103730

Claimant was born in TOLCEMES, (now Sarisske Sokolovce), OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in about 1942, his family and the other Romany families were forcibly moved from their settlement near Tolcemes to a place about 1.5 km away, where had to live without any housing. In 1943 Hlinka Guards came and shaved their heads. Romanies were not allowed to go into town. Towards the end of 1944, German soldiers came and took some people away to Plavec, some to Petic. Claimant was forced to work at Pecovska Nova Ves (okr. Sabinov) digging trenches.

3103743

Claimant was born in STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was first in a concentration camp for about a year, and then he was taken to Germany and forced to dig trenches for German soldiers. He states he suffered greatly, that they were always being tortured.

3103784

Claimant was born in NALEPKOVO, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to work digging trenches for the Germans, without a break. A German with a gun was guarding them so that they would not escape.

3103790

Claimant was born in SPISSKY STVRTOK, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 the Germans came and caught Claimant and other Romanies, shaved their heads, and divided them up into older men, boys and girls. Then they were loaded into a truck and taken to Levocske Luky to dig trenches. She was there for about 3 months and then she escaped.

3103811

Claimant was born in ZALOBIN, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he performed forced labour in 1943. Later, in 1944 he was forced to work around Hermanovce, near Spisska Nova Ves.

3103855

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she had to work digging large pits for the Germans that were made into bunkers. She also had to take care of the German horses. She was beaten by the German soldiers.

3103865

Claimant was born in BETLANOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that towards the end of the war, the Germans came to her village and forced Claimant and other Romanies into a barn and shaved their heads. From there they were taken to Levocske Luky and forced to dig trenches.

3103868

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living with his family in a village near Spisska Nova Ves. He remembers that they had to stay at home, they were not allowed to go out anywhere, and they were often hungry. One day the Germans came, and they left their houses to escape, but the Germans caught them and took them to a work camp, where Claimant was forced to work. Eventually they escaped, except for his father.

3103870

Claimant was born in SPISSKE TOMASOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 the Germans came and caught Claimant and other Romanies, shaved their heads, and divided them up into older men, boys and girls. Then they were loaded into a truck and taken to Levocske Luky to dig trenches. He was there until the end of the war, when the Germans put Claimant and other Romanies into a barn and wanted to burn them, but the Russians arrived before this could happen.

3103910

Claimant was born in LIPTOVSKY MIKULAS, SLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Liptovsky Mikulas with his family. Germans came and destroyed the entire Romany village and they all had to watch. Then Claimant and other Romanies were driven away, into the forest. Eventually Claimant and others were caught by German soldiers and taken away in trucks to a location around Liptovsky Mikulas where they were forced to dig trenches. Claimant had to obey the soldiers; whoever did not was either beaten or shot. The Romany men were given high black boots that they had to wear.

3103919

Claimant was born in VYSNE SLOVINKY, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she had to work with her 5 siblings in a stone quarry in Slovinky, south-west of Krompachy. They also spent time hiding in the woods, and her two-year-old brother died there.

3103941

Claimant was born in NITRA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that before the war began she was living with her family in Pecovska Nova Ves (okr. Sabinov). One day Hlinka Guards

came and burned down their houses and forced them to move. When the front came near them, they saw the air raid on Presov, and fled to relatives in a neighbouring village. When they returned home, they were caught by Germans. Those over 16 years of age were sent to Plavec. She was younger so she had to stay and dig trenches in Pecovska Nova Ves instead.

3104562

Claimant was born in NALEPKOVO, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came, they divided the Romanies into different groups. She was sent to dig trenches around Nalepkovo, and her husband was sent to a work camp in Poprad. She had to leave her two children at home. She did not receive any food or money for working. Finally German SS officers came and wanted to shoot them (Romanies), and they had to flee into the woods.

3104565

Claimant was born in OLCNAVA, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work for the Germans in 1944-45. He and his brother were forced to work digging trenches in Krompachy (okr. Spisska Nova Ves) and the surrounding area.

3104580

Claimant was born in POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and shaved everyone's head. She was also raped by a German soldier, as was her sister-in-law. All the Romanies, including Claimant, were forced to go work digging trenches for the soldiers, in the vicinity of her village.

3104586

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and took her and her family to Spisska Nova Ves in or about 1943 to dig trenches in the forest. The Germans came and got them each morning and they had to work all day without food or water. They were always being beaten. When the war was coming to an end, Claimant and the others had to flee to the woods.

3104595

Claimant was born in GANOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he and others were taken by train to Spisska Nova Ves in or around late 1944 where he worked until February 1945. At the camp Claimant was forced to work cutting down trees and then covering the trenches with the trees. He states that they did not have anything to eat, and they had to eat whatever they found on the ground.

3105967

Claimant was born in NIZNY SLAVKOV, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that towards the end of 1944, the Germans came to his village and took all the men and boys from 15 years old and up. They were forced to work in the forest about 10 km away, in deep snow. The work consisted of digging trenches and laying barbed wire. Some Romanies also carried wood. They were taken out every morning at 7am and returned at 4pm. They did not receive any money or any food. It lasted about 3 months, until spring, when the aerial

bombardment began. Claimant also states that they were afraid of the Germans. He says that the worst soldiers were the young German officers in black uniforms, and it was dangerous to be at home when they came around.

3108503

Claimant was born in OSTROVANY, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living with his family in Ostrovany. He and other Romany boys were turned over to German soldiers by the local Hlinka Guards. He was forced to work driving cattle, all the way to the Polish border. There the cattle were loaded into carriages. Claimant and the others had to travel on foot when they were driving the cattle, sleeping in the woods, and eating whatever they could get by begging. Claimant did not return home for a long time, and when he did return, his father had been taken away to the work camp at Petic. After he came home, Claimant spent the rest of the war hiding from the Hlinka Guards, so that he would not be taken away again. His father returned from Petic after about a year, in very bad health.

LEVOCA

3101054

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Nizne Repase, okr. Levoca, with her family. One night the Germans occupied their village and they had to flee to the woods, and then to another village. They were later caught by the Germans and forced to work at a mill. Her older sister sometimes had to hide in the woods to avoid being raped by German soldiers.

3101579

Claimant was born in LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she and her family had to go with German soldiers and digging a big trench, which they were preparing for the Russians. When Claimant and the others no longer felt like digging, the Germans beat them. When the bombardment began, they were allowed to stop working for a short period of time and flee to the woods, but then the Germans came and got them and forced them to go back to work digging the trench. They had to keep digging until the trench was about 200m long. When she was about 14 years old, the Germans came again, and Claimant and her family were not allowed to leave their house. They tried to escape into the forest four times, but the Germans came back, and wanted to shoot them all. A Slovak from the village persuaded the Germans not to shoot them. Her brother later died when he stepped on a mine.

3101580

Claimant was born in DVORCE, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came to her village and told them that they had to go to work or they would be shot. Her entire family and all the Romanies in the village were forced to go work. They dug trenches from a metre to two metres deep. They were not given any food, but they were allowed to bring potatoes from home which they roasted in fires in the fields.

3101582

Claimant was born in SPISSKY STVRTOK, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and took all the younger Romanies from his village and brought them to the woods around Levoca. There they were forced to dig trenches, in

winter. They were taken to work each day and then returned home each evening. Once some German soldiers came in the night and lined them all up against the wall, and raped his mother, and they all had to watch. Later they were taken to Poprad, to clear away the snowdrifts so that the Germans could drive through with their tanks and other defensive equipment. Eventually they were captured by partisans and Russians, who then released them. They went back to their village, but their house was destroyed. It had been situated near a bridge which the Germans had blown up, along with their house.

3101585

Claimant was born in SPISSKY STRVOK, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII, when Claimant and her family saw the Germans approaching with tanks, they fled. They headed to another village, but there was already shooting there, so they had to return home. They had nowhere to hide, so they stayed in the potato cellar for a while, but the Germans were always hunting for them so they went to Levoca to stay with some relatives. There Claimant was forced to dig trenches for the German soldiers in the woods outside Levoca. It was winter and she had only a dress and boots made of rags. She was so cold she could hardly move. Once some Germans came in the night and wanted to rape her and her mother, but her father allowed himself to be beaten so that they could escape.

3101597

Claimant was born in LUBICA, OKR. KEZMAROK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that German soldiers took her to Levocske Doliny along with her husband and other Romanies. They were building trenches there, and she was forced to carry wood, and water. She also had to throw dirt on the trenches to camouflage them. German soldiers guarded them with machine guns. They were given only potatoes to eat. If she did not work in the way that the soldiers wanted her to, she was beaten. Only Romanies were working there.

3101869

Claimant was born in VIKARTOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to her village (Vysny Slavkov, okr. Levoca), her husband was away with the partisans, and she was home alone with her children. The local priest and the German soldiers moved them out of the village, and they had to hide in caves nearby. She had nothing to feed her children, except rotten potatoes. Later she was forced to work for German soldiers in Torysky, okr. Levoca, digging trenches, and also in the fields. Her children also had to work in the fields. It ended in 1945 when the Germans left.

3102326

Claimant was born in PECOVSKA NOVA VES, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one day in the summer, towards the end of WWII, German soldiers came to his village, and the mayor of the village called together all the Romanies in the village and told them that no one was allowed to leave their homes. Then the Germans took almost all of them to a barrack in Sabinov. They stayed there overnight, and then a truck came and took all of them (8 or 9) to a work camp at Levoca. There was an iron bridge leading to the camp over a deep pit, and anyone who tried to escape was shot. There Claimant had to work digging trenches for tanks, and clearing the ground. The Germans frequently beat him on the head. For the entire day they were given only dry bread and black coffee, just enough to keep them alive. Many people were simply beaten to death, or shot, and left to lie there. The German soldiers were

armed with rifles, and there was nothing the Romanies could do. They were not allowed to talk to each other. After the war he returned home on foot, but his house had been destroyed.

3102567

Claimant was born in VITKOVCE, OKR. SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Vitkovce with her family. German soldiers came and took them by train to Spisska Nova Ves and then to Levoca, where they were forced to work. They dug trenches and in the forest, they collected trees that had been chopped down and dragged them to the fire. The Germans beat them on the back. The Germans shaved Claimant's head, and wanted to rape her, but her father protected her. After the war they returned home, but their village had been destroyed by fire.

3103040

Claimant was born in LUBICA, OKR. KEZMAROK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one day the German soldiers came to her village, looking for partisans. They stood a young man against the wall and shot him. Then they made all the people in the village come out of their houses: men, women and children, and took them into a field, yelling at them and pointing guns at them. For some reason they did not shoot them. Then the Germans came again, in the night, and took by force all the men and women, mostly Romanies, and took them to the village of Levocska Hora near Levoca. There they were forced to dig trenches. They stayed in a large abandoned building. They slept there on straw. She was there for about 2 months before the Russians arrived and freed them.

3103797

Claimant was born in MARGECANY, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that her entire village, Romani and non-Romani, was driven into the woods by the German soldiers. They had to sleep there, and they were all hungry and cold. One day the Germans came and took her husband to the work camp at Levoca. Then the Germans shaved her sister's head, as a warning that they should all go to the work camp. Claimant went to work out of fear that she would be beaten. She was forced to go every day and dig graves for the people who were dying in the work camp. She was eventually beaten so badly she had bruises all over her body.

3104553

Claimant was born in GANOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work in the trenches near Levoca. The men did the digging and the women and children did related work. They cleared the ground, carried twigs, and camouflaged the trenches. They were forced to work by German soldiers.

3104591

Claimant was born in GANOVCE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the German soldiers and Hlinka Guards came and selected Romanies to perform forced labour, which was mostly digging trenches. He and his brothers were forced to work. Claimant worked camouflaging the trenches. They were taken to the work camp in Levoca in cattle wagons. They did not receive any money, or even any food for their work. His sister was raped by the Germans.

3104592

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work building trenches near Levoca. While working she was beaten by the German soldiers. Children also had to work.

3104593

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to work building trenches for the Germans. Children also had to work. They were transferred to the work locations by wagons. He worked in Levoca, Spisska Nova Ves, and other places. He did not receive any money for his work.

3104598

Claimant was born in SPISSKE BYSTRE, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war she was forced to work in the trenches at Levoca. She also states that in her village the Romanies were terrorized by the Germans. She was beaten and raped. Sometimes she was forced to stand in the snow, naked. The Germans were looking for information about the partisans.

PRESOV

3101074

Claimant was born in BAJEROVCE, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Bajerovce. After the occupation of Presov by the German army, they (Romanies) were forced to work digging pits for bunkers. They were driven out of their homes and were forced to stay in the fields. They worked very hard, and were beaten by the soldiers. When the war ended they had no place to return to because their homes had been destroyed.

3101152

Claimant was born in PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the war began, the Germans came and drove them into the woods. They stayed there, hiding, until the Germans caught them and forced them to dig trenches. As a small girl she was forced to dance and sing for the Germans. She also was forced to dig trenches with her mother. They went early in the morning and came back late at night, every day. They were forced to dig until they were told to stop. There was little food, and they all got very thin from such hard work.

3101606

Claimant was born in KAPISOVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans loaded him and other Romanies from his village into vehicles and took them away to an estate near Kukova, okr. Presov, where they were forced to dig potatoes and carry them to the kitchen. Children who could no longer work due to exhaustion were killed.

3101874

Claimant was born in MICHALANY, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that sometime after the division of Czechoslovakia, Germans came to the village where

she was living, Chmianska Nova Ves, and took over the local farm. She was forced to work there with other Romany women for the duration of the war. The soldiers came and got them in the morning and they had to work chopping wood and cleaning. They were constantly in danger of being raped. Sometimes the Germans drove them into the woods and into cold streams in the winter, calling them dirty Gypsies. Sometime in 1944-45 she got typhus and nearly died.

3101935

Claimant was born in PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was forced to do stonework in the trenches for German soldiers. For Claimant it was a time of hunger, and fear. She did not have any shoes. Her uncle was a partisan and was shot and killed. Her father was taken away to a work camp.

3102358

Claimant was born in KELCA, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when they learned that the Germans were in the area around Presov where they were living, she and her family and other local Romanies fled to the woods. The next day they were found by the Germans and taken to a nearby barn, where they were divided into groups to work on estates that the Germans had occupied. Claimant and the others had to work on the estates from morning until night in the fields and in the woods. They received only a piece of dry bread. Many times they were so hungry they ate the food for the pigs. Once she tried to escape, in winter, with 2 other Romanies. Right when they were crossing a stream the German soldiers appeared on either side and made them stand in the freezing cold water until their legs were frozen. She has problems with her legs even today as a result.

3103102

Claimant was born in PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war she was captured by the Germans in Presov, along with many children of her age. All were without their parents. They were forced to perform excavation work until the end of the war. She had to do everything she was told. She was often beaten. She was saved by her uncle who found her 2 months after the war had ended at the Red Cross camp in Presov.

3103520

Claimant was born in SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he had to work fortifying the railway tracks about 15 km from Licartovce. The Germans came and got Claimant and other Romanies each day, and brought them home in the evenings. The Germans always checked them and made sure they were all there. This was the main train line from Kysak. [Kysak is where the train line from Kosice branches northward towards Presov, and westward towards Spisska Nova Ves. Licartovce is on the train line between Kysak and Presov].

3103740

Claimant was born in KAPISOVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans loaded him and other Romanies from his village into vehicles and took them away to an estate near Kukova, okr. Presov, where they were forced to dig potatoes and carry them to the kitchen. Children who could no longer work due to exhaustion were killed.

3103815

Claimant was born in CHRABKOV, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII her family was driven out of their house by Germans and Hlinka Guards and their house was burned to the ground. They were forced to move about 1.5 km into the woods and were not allowed to go into town. Her father was later taken to the work camp at Plavec. Once some drunken German soldiers arrived and wanted to rape her mother. She and her siblings tried to defend her, and one of the soldiers threw Claimant against a wall, leaving her unconscious for 14 days. In 1944 she and her siblings were forced to dig anti-tank trenches around her village for the German soldiers.

3103856

Claimant was born in PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans occupied her village, they all had to flee to the woods. She was sent to a forced labour camp at Presov immediately after she gave birth to twins. Later she heard the twins had died of hunger. When she arrived at the camp she had her head shaved and she had to strip naked and go into a kind of disinfection chamber. There were many other women there. When her husband found out she was in the camp, he tried to get her out, and he succeeded but it took him 3 days. Her husband was also in the work camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou.

3103922

Claimant was born in PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that, at some point in 1943 he and his family were driven into the woods, where they stayed for several weeks. Then they were caught when they went into the village for food, and taken to a work camp. His mother kept him with her, even when she had to work, even when she had to work at night. They were not given food, and they did not have adequate clothing. They were beaten. His father died during the war.

3104060

Claimant was born in TURHINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and took Claimant and his family to dig trenches not far from his village [approximately 20 km south-west of Presov]. They were there for about two months and then the Russians began bombarding them and everyone, including the Germans, fled.

3105972

Claimant was born in SLAVKOV, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to his village, they cut off everyone's hair. His family was warned that the Germans were going to take the young men, and so he fled to the woods. Where there was water they walked in the water, because the Germans had dogs. Eventually he made it to his brother's place at Peklany [okr. Presov]. When he arrived the Germans were not there yet, but they arrived after about half a year. He was taken by the Germans and forced to do excavation work. He was beaten. Then one night when the Germans were asleep, he and some others escaped. Some were successful and some were shot. Finally the Germans fled when the Russians came. At this time there were aerial bombardments, and no one knew where to hide.

STARA LUBOVNA

3101601

Claimant was born in SAMBRON, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to their Romany village, they burned all the houses. Claimant was forced to work with his father from 1943 to 1944 digging trenches for the Germans. The Germans were preparing defences for the Russian attack. Claimant and his father worked without a break from morning until evening, wearing wooden shoes. They were starving, and every day they were beaten by the German soldiers.

3101852

Claimant was born in LUTINA, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in March 1944 German soldiers came to her village, took her about 5 km away, and forced her to work digging trenches. The trenches were made into reinforced bunkers. Claimant and other Romanies slept nearby in a kind of barn. Claimant was there until the Russians came in the winter, and then they fled.

3101860

Claimant states that in April 1944, German soldiers forced him to dig trenches and build fortifications around Lutina (okr. Sabinov), Slovakia. He had to clear the earth away with a shovel. He and the other Romanies were not given any food; his mother had to bring him food. He worked until approximately November 1944.

3101885

Claimant was born in LUTINA, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in March 1944, German soldiers came and took him, and other Romanies from his family and village, about 5 km away to perform excavation work. Every 10m or so they were forced to dig bunkers and reinforce them. They slept near the workplace in a barn. Once a German soldier pushed him into the pit and he injured his left eye, which was untreated and has troubled him ever since. Claimant and the others worked until late 1944 when the Russians came, and then they and the Germans fled.

3102342

Claimant was born in MATYSOVA, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Matysova with his family. He states that the Germans had headquarters in the region, and there was a transmitter that everyone knew about. Towards the end of the war Claimant was forced to work with his father digging trenches and bunkers for the German army. His father dug, and Claimant cleared away the earth with a shovel. First they were digging at Sulin. The Germans came and got them everyday and took them there. Then the front approached and the Germans stopped working and began hiding in the bunkers. As the Russians came closer they began to flee. Claimant and his family were hiding in the woods, but it was too cold and they had to return home. Then early one morning German soldiers on horses arrived, made them all come out of their houses and stand in a row, and were preparing to shoot them, pointing guns at them. Then an older officer came and shouted at the soldiers not to shoot them. As they were fleeing the Germans mined all the bridges, so the Russians had to come on foot.

3102350

Claimant was born in VYSNE RUZBACHY, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was hiding in the forest with her family, but the Germans caught them. The Germans drove them from place to place, locking them into barns or wherever was handy. She was forced to dig trenches. It was in winter and there was snow everywhere. They were fed only a bit of soup, either in the morning or at night. They were so thirsty they drank urine. Everyone was beaten. This lasted about 6 or 7 months until the Russians came.

3102525

Claimant was born in MATYSOVA, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans took Claimant and other Romanies and forced them to dig trenches in a field near Stara Lubovna sometime in Autumn 1944, when there was snow on the ground. They were forced to stay in a barn where there was hay when they were not working. The younger Romany children worked carrying water for the Germans.

3103479

Claimant was born in JARABINA, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that Germans took her and her mother, brother and sister to a stone quarry 5-10 km away from their village of Jarabina [north of Stara Lubovna]. They were forced to work for about 4 or 5 months, and were guarded by German soldiers. They slept in the woods under German surveillance, including dogs, through the winter. If someone could not work, he or she was shot and the others had to dig a grave for them. Eventually they were freed by partisans.

3103636

Claimant was born in PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Obrucne (okr. Stara Lubovna) with his family. One day the Germans came and burned the Romany village. Some of the people did not want to leave their homes, but they had to, otherwise they were beaten or killed. Once the Germans had burned down their village they drove all the Romanies into the woods, where they shaved their heads. Then he and his brother were taken to a work camp. There they were forced to dig tunnels, and sometimes, graves. There was nothing to eat and they were all starving. He saw many people die there. After the war he moved away, but in time he found out that the Germans had used their village as a military base.

3103914

Claimant was born in HALIGOVCE, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he and his family tried to hide in the woods, but the Germans caught them whenever they needed them to dig trenches and forced them to work. Then he was taken to a work camp with his family. His father died there. They were all very hungry, and there was nothing to eat.

3104569

Claimant was born in LEGNAVA, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she had to work for the Germans in Stara Lubovna in 1944 when the German front arrived. She was forced to clean potatoes, to do laundry for the Germans in the river in the winter, and to carry water to the men who were working. The Germans stood above them with pistols, yelling 'Arbeit'.

LAPSZE, POLAND

3101594

Claimant was born in HALIGOVCE, OKR. STARA LUBOVNA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Haligovce with her family. German soldiers came and took them forcibly to Lapsze, Poland. There were about 30 Romanies there. They stayed in an empty barrack and were forced to dig trenches. The Germans were on horses and walked around them as they were working. If anyone was not working hard enough, the soldiers beat them. One person dug and other carried away the dirt, always a man and a woman paired together. They were given only bread to eat.

3101862

Claimant was born in JURGOV, POLAND. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Spisska Stara Ves with her family. The Germans came and got them and took them by force to Lapsze to dig trenches. She had to go barefoot. They were given some wooden shoes to wear. The Germans took only the younger Romanies, including Claimant and her brother. In Lapsze they had to dig pits deep in the ground; they could not even see the Germans above them. At night they stayed with Polish Romanies, and slept on the ground.

3103708

Claimant was born in LAPSZE VYZNE, OKR. NOVY TARG, POLAND. Claimant states that she was forced to dig trenches in the woods near Lapsze, in the winter. She did not have shoes. They were all beaten. Afterwards she escaped into the woods, and stayed briefly with partisans.

3103821

Claimant was born in SPISSKA STARA VES, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and took Claimant and other Romanies, including women, to Poland and forced them to dig trenches. They spent about 14 days each time, and then returned home. Claimant had to carry water. While in Poland, they all had to sleep on the ground and as a result he got scabies. Finally the Russians arrived on small horses, and Claimant and the others escaped home.

3105976

Claimant was born in JURGOV, OKR. NOVY TARG, POLAND. Claimant states that in January 1943 the mayor of the town came with Hlinka Guards and German soldiers and took away everyone (Romanies) that they could find in wagons pulled by horses to Lapsze, where they were forced to dig bunkers. At night they had to stay in a kind of building that was guarded by the Germans. Claimant and others were forced to work there until January 1945.

BARDEJOV

3101055

Claimant was born in BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he and his family were forced to work for the German soldiers, around Zlate. His parents and older siblings had to dig trenches. He and the other children his age had to clean the soldiers' boots and work in the fields. He was often beaten.

3101061

Claimant was born in BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living with her family in the Bardejov region. She remembers having her head shaven. She did not have a brother; but all of her male cousins and her uncles were taken away to work camps. She was forced to work digging trenches for German soldiers. She had to work from morning until night with other Romanies, under surveillance and subject to the aggressive behaviour of the soldiers. Every day she was afraid for her life and the life of those around her.

3101072

Claimant was born in CHMELOVA, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that after the Germans occupied their village, he was forced to go work for them. The German camp was about 200m from where he lived. First the German soldiers came and got him and forced him to dig a pit for their garbage, which took about 2 weeks. Later he and other Romanies had to go and sweep the ground. He also did that for about 2 weeks. He was always under surveillance by the German soldiers, who had rifles. When the front approached, they hid in the home of an older Slovak man, because they were far from the nearest forest. Nobody could go outside. There were Germans with tanks, and they shot anybody they found.

3101490

Claimant was born in STROPKOV, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work for the Germans with his father, building bridges and other things. They were not allowed to rest even for a moment or they were beaten. He saw the Germans shoot his cousin and her husband.

3101851

Claimant was born in ZBOROV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that at the end of the war she had to work for the German Army around Bardejov performing various kinds of heavy labour under threat of death for her entire family if she did not comply. During one air raid they managed to escape to the woods and hid there until the end of the war.

3101853

Claimant was born in LIVOV, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work digging bunkers for the German Army. He performed this work daily for about 10 hours along with other Romanies from his village. He worked around the villages of Gerlachov and Tarnov.

3101982

Claimant was born in ZLATE, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in November 1944 he was taken by the Germans to a place near Dukla, Poland and forced to work. He and other Romanies had to cut poles about 10cm thick and store them there. The poles were used for protection from falling debris. When the Russian front came they were taken back to Slovakia to Bardejov, where they were forced to work digging trenches.

3102556

Claimant was born in ZLATE, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII his father and brother were taken away to dig trenches and build bunkers. He was at home when Hlinka Guards and a German soldier with a dog came and got him and took him about 10 km away from his village to do excavation work. Anyone (Romanies) who could work was there. The younger children cut down small trees and cut off branches, and then used them to camouflage the bunkers that were being built there. Claimant was forced to work digging. He worked first in Tvarozec, and then Kruzlov, and then he was taken to Poland to work digging fortifications because there was a shortage of Romany men. They had to sleep with cattle. Outside it was 30 degrees below zero. He did not have any boots to wear; like the others he wrapped his feet in rags and straw. After he had walked about 4 km, the rags usually fell off and he would be barefoot for the rest of the time. Whenever the Germans did not like someone in the camp, they beat them. They beat one Polish fellow to death. For food they had only a bit of soup in the evening with some bread. He had to work in several locations in Poland, including Graby, and a place outside Krakow. He was forced to work in each location for 2 weeks or a month, until the work was finished, and then they were taken somewhere else. In between he was several times returned to his village, exhausted. Later when he was back at home the Germans occupied their village and began terrorizing the Romanies. When the Germans left at the end of the war, there was poverty, because they destroyed or stole everything.

3102955

Claimant was born in STROPKOV, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and drove them out of their houses and shot at them. Some of them (Romanies) were killed, and some escaped, including Claimant, who ran into the woods. Claimant went to her grandmother's house in Dubina [now Dubinne], but was caught by the Germans and taken to a kind of building where soldiers had beds. She and her mother had to work there, cooking and cleaning for the soldiers. She was beaten by the soldiers. They were liberated by Russian soldiers. When the Russians went home, Claimant and other Romanies helped them by guiding them through the field that the Germans had mined.

3102968

Claimant was born in BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was about 15 or 16 years old when the Germans started to come and take them (Romany women) in the morning, to dig trenches. The Romany men had already all been taken away. Whenever Claimant or the others stopped working, from exhaustion, they were beaten by the soldiers. She was starving and barefoot, and had to wrap rags around her feet. She also remembers having her head shaved and her clothes steamed, and having to strip naked and be sprayed with cold water. She remembers two groups of German soldiers: the first were not so bad, but then came the soldiers wearing black, whom she says treated Romanies very badly.

3102999

Claimant was born in BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Bardejov and the Germans came and took him and other Romanies and forced them to work. At first they (Romanies) were taken away for a week or two to work and then brought back to their village. They were forced to work digging trenches and pits for dead bodies. Then he was taken to do this work near Rovne, not far from Dukla, Poland, for about 4 months. When they were not working they were locked into a church. After that, when the front was approaching the Germans took Claimant and the others with them to a new location, and locked them in a shed. Then they had to work at night, building fortifications. Finally, Claimant had to work near Humenne on the Humenne-Kysak railway line, building a railway tunnel.

3103111

Claimant was born in KRUZLOV, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII her husband was taken away by the Germans to a camp. He escaped but was caught again, and taken to work in Poland. She went to stay with her husband's family, in Zlate, for Christmas, but the Germans caught her and took her to dig pits, near the Polish border, near Dukla. She started working in December and worked for 3 months. She did not have shoes. The farmers gave them potato sacks and they tore them into strips and wrapped their feet. She was given a pick-axe and forced to dig. When she returned to her village at the end of the war the Germans had destroyed their houses.

3103905

Claimant was born in ZLATE, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans were starting to flee, then she and other Romanies were forced to work, because the Germans were trying to build something to protect themselves from the Russians. She was forced to dig trenches 2 or 3m deep, across a field. She broke the earth with a pick-axe and her sister carried the dirt away. She had to work for about 3 months. The Germans measured off the amount that they were supposed to dig, and if they did not finish it, they did not get any food. She worked near Dukla, and later at Nizny Tvarozec and Vysny Tvarozec. The trenches near Dukla were more heavily fortified. While working they were guarded by German soldiers in black uniforms. Once when she straightened up to rest for a moment, she was beaten with the butt-end of a rifle.

3104568

Claimant was born in SMILNO, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when he was 12 years old, German soldiers and Hlinka Guards came to his village and took them (Romanies) to a nearby location where they were forced to work burying dead soldiers. Afterwards, until the end of the war, they were all transported around the region to various regions in a sort of freight truck, following the German soldiers. Claimant was forced to work in the kitchen, unloading supplies, and cleaning. At the end of the war Claimant and the other Romanies had to flee to the woods because the Germans were destroying everything and shooting anyone they found.

MEDZILABORCE

3103737

Claimant was born in HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she lived with her family in Medzilaborce, in the Romany village. She does not remember exactly which year, but suddenly, one day, the German soldiers arrived in trucks and began driving them out of their homes. The soldiers beat all the Romanies, whether they were old or young. Some people managed to escape, but Claimant and her parents and siblings and other families were loaded into trucks and taken to a camp. There her parents and older siblings were forced to work digging trenches. She had to work cleaning German soldiers' boots. When the soldiers felt like it, they would throw them a bit of food, but sometimes they would just beat them. Sometimes they got all the children together, and forced them to dance. All the Romanies had their heads shaven.

3103757

Claimant was born in BRUSNICA, OKR. STROPKOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came and burned his village, and then he and his family and other Romanies had to hide in the forest. When the Germans caught them, they made them go a long distance on foot. There Claimant was forced to work with his older brothers digging trenches. They were starving and they were beaten.

3105928

Claimant was born in VRBOV OKR. KEZMAROK, SLOVAKIA. Claimant states that around January 15, 1944 at 4 am, the Germans took him away with other Romanies to Sabinov. From there they travelled 2 or 3 days to Laborce, near the Polish border. Claimant and the others were forced to work there until the Soviet Army came. The work consisted of heavy labour: repairing roads, carrying concrete blocks up to 200 kg, and working in the forest cutting down trees. They built a new road in the area of Lubkov. The food was poor, and many Romanies did not survive. When the Soviet army arrived, Claimant went home on foot.

2. SOUTH EASTERN SLOVAKIA

TREBISOV

3102095

Claimant was born in KAMENICA NAD CIROCHOU, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was first taken to Presov with his family, by truck. The first day was spent in a large wooden building, and on the second day everyone had to go to work, even children. The work consisted of stacking wooden planks onto a saw. After about 14 days his family escaped and made their way back to Humenne. In Humenne they were captured again by Germans and taken to the train station at Humenne, from where they were transported to Michalany (okr. Trebisov). At Michalany there was a larger work camp with wooden barracks, with many Romanies from the entire Eastern Slovakia region. One day he was working with his mother in the forest, and they managed to escape. After that they hid in the forest until the Russians came.

3103131

Claimant was born in VELATY, OKR. TREBISOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to work for German soldiers in various locations around Trebisov. He had to dig graves, and then collect people who had been killed in the fields and put them in the graves. He and other Romanies, including women, also worked on the railway line, around Michalany and Trebisov. He was often beaten on the shoulders with a club.

3104585

Claimant was born in VOICICE, OKR. TREBISOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII that she and her parents were forced to work for the German soldiers. At that time she was about 8 years old. Later they had to hide in stables and under bridges.

MICHALOVCE

3102547

Claimant was born in VELKE REVISTE, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to dig trenches for the Germans under the threat of being beaten if he did not comply. He worked from morning until evening. He was always hungry. Later Germans came and burned their homes and they had to flee to the forest.

3103130

Claimant was born in MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came to his village and put all the Romanies into a large building and shaved everyone's head. Then they took the men into the woods, including Claimant, and forced them to work cutting down trees. It was winter, and Claimant did not have any boots, only slippers filled with straw. Claimant was also forced to work digging trenches. Eventually Claimant escaped and joined the partisans. At first the partisans did not want to take him because he was too young, but he pleaded with them and they finally accepted him.

3103440

Claimant was born in PAVLOVCE NAD UHOM, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans drove the entire village out into a field. It seemed that the Germans were going to shoot them, but then an officer arrived, and they took all the male Romanies to dig trenches. Claimant went with his father. The Germans came and got them every day and then released them in the evenings. The work location was about 1-2 km from the village, in the forest. While they were working, German soldiers guarded them with rifles.

3103448

Claimant was born in SAMUDOVCE, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1943-44, German soldiers and Hlinka Guards began to raid the Romany settlements. They came to his village and shaved all the women's heads. Both the Hlinka Guards and the German soldiers wore black uniforms. In 1944 he and his uncle and his father were forced to go work digging trenches. The German soldiers guarded them while they were working. There were many Romanies from different places working there, but they were in different units and were not allowed to talk to each other, so he does not know exactly where

everyone was from. The line of fortifications on which they were working stretched up to Presov and beyond to Poprad. His father and his uncle were later taken to work in those places, but he was not.

3103505

Claimant was born in PRIEKOPA, OKR. SOBRANCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war he was forced to work for German soldiers, digging graves and burying corpses in the area around his village. When he did not want to go to work he was beaten.

3103638

Claimant was born in STRAZSKE, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to go to a work camp with his parents. His mother was forced to dig trenches and he was forced to help her. He also had to clean soldiers' boots and sing. There was a pond, and sometimes the soldiers would make the children go and stand in it. The Germans shaved their heads.

3103656

Claimant was born in MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII German soldiers came and loaded the Romany families in her village into trucks and took them to a work camp. Claimant and the others were forced to stand in a row and have their heads shaved. Her parents had to dig trenches, and she and the other children were forced to sing each night for the soldiers.

3103801

Claimant was born in RUSKOVCE, OKR. SOBRANCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans drove him and his family out of their home, and then they had to watch while the Germans destroyed their house and the entire Romany village. After that they had to sleep wherever they could: in cellars, barns, or in the woods. They did not have anything to eat, and they had to beg. Then he was captured and transferred to a work camp. There he was forced to work digging trenches, bunkers, roads, and laying barbed wire. Once he escaped, but he was caught and returned. His cousins were killed because they could not manage the work.

3103808

Claimant was born in SENNE, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans occupied her village during WWII they forced her to work for the farmers at harvest time. She did not have shoes and her feet were often bleeding. She did not receive any food or any money for working. She had worked for the farmers before the Germans came, but then she had been given food in exchange. Later many Romanies got typhus, from the poor hygiene and lack of food, and they all had to have their heads shaved. Claimant contracted a lung disease.

3103810

Claimant was born in JASTRABIE, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that after Slovakia separated from the Czech Republic, life changed for the Romanies in Slovakia. Some Slovaks formed a fascist organization called the Hlinka Guards. Some of the

local villagers were members. At that time, the Romanies had no way to defend themselves against the Hlinka Guards. When the German soldiers came, the Romanies had to hide. Eventually, in the autumn of 1944, when the Soviet Army was drawing near, the Germans caught Claimant and other Romanies and forced them to dig trenches. Claimant was only 14 years old, but he looked like an adult and he was forced to go. It was winter, there was rain and mud, and they were forced to dig from morning until night. They did not receive any food. Every morning two or three soldiers came and drove them to work. They were working around his village, which is part of the Eastern Slovakia lowlands. Because the ground is low, in spring and fall the rivers overflow and it is difficult to cross the region. The Russians were on one side and the Germans were on the other, so when Claimant and the others were digging trenches they were under fire. After about 2 weeks the Germans retreated, and took Claimant and other Romanies with them to Lastomir, where they had to dig for another 2 weeks until the Germans fled.

3103930

Claimant was born in HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one night during WWII, many soldiers came to his village, shooting into the air. Some Romanies managed to escape to the woods, including his parents, but Claimant and his brother-in-law were taken to a work camp at Strazske, okr. Michalovce. When they arrived at the camp they had their heads shaved, and had to strip naked and have water poured over them. He was then forced to work digging tunnels. He had to wear the same clothes for the entire time, and he suffered from hunger.

3103934

Claimant was born in MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans occupied her village during WWII, Claimant and other Romanies tried to flee. Those who did not manage to escape were shot. Claimant and other Romanies escaped to the neighbouring village where they hid. They continued to be hunted by the Germans, and some were caught and tortured. She was with a group that succeeded in hiding for some time, but eventually they were caught by the Germans, loaded into a truck, and taken to a sort of military camp. There she had to dance all night, and clean soldiers' boots, under the threat that she would be shot if she did not comply.

3104483

Claimant was born in ZALOBIN OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to go dig trenches for the Germans with her parents and brothers. In 1944 the Germans destroyed their homes, and they and other Romanies fled into the forest. Their village was set on fire and when they returned home at the end of the war they had nowhere to live.

3104599

Claimant was born in KAMENICA NAD CIROCHOU, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was driven from his home with his family by German soldiers. They had to march for two days without food or water, and some died. There were two or three hundred Romanies. Eventually they arrived at a work camp in Kusin (okr. Michalovce). There a German who spoke Czech helped Claimant and some other Romanies to escape after about a week, by saying that they were going to work outside the camp. They hid until the Russians came, and then returned to their village.

3108502

Claimant was born in BLATNE REMETY, OKR. SOBRANCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that before WWII she lived with her family in a Romany settlement about 1 km from the village. There were about eight or nine houses in the settlement. Before the war her parents worked for the local farmers in exchange for food. When the German soldiers came during the war, she and the other Romanies were forced to stand in a row, while the soldiers beat them. The soldiers took her father and all of the other Romany men away. The Germans burnt their houses, and then took Claimant and the other children and women away to a large barn. There were Romanies there from other places, and also a couple of Jews. There were many people crowded into the barn and there was little air. There were rats and lice. Claimant and the others were forced to work in the fields, cultivating beets. Her mother and the other women were often being raped by the Germans. Claimant did not have any shoes, just rags wrapped around her legs. To eat they had raw, rotten potatoes. She was there for about a month, before the Russians arrived. Claimant and the others went home on foot. When she got to the settlement, there were four or five houses still standing, but they were badly damaged.

DARGOV

3101568

Claimant was born in ROZHANOVCE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in November 1944, Hlinka Guards arrived with Germans, loaded Claimant and other Romanies into a truck and took them to dig trenches around Dargov, near the front. They were forced to work from morning until night. The older ones dug with pick-axes, and the younger ones followed, clearing out the dirt behind them. He was barefoot. They were given a bit of soup and a piece of bread to eat, only enough so that they would be able to keep working. They could hear shooting and bombs exploding. One morning they woke up, and the Germans were gone. There was only one German left, an older fellow who was hiding under the bed. He could not walk very well and was unable to escape. The Russians took him with them. When they returned home to their village, it had been completely destroyed.

3101573

Claimant was born in BUDKOVCE, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one day during WWII, the mayor of the village and German soldiers came to the Romanies and drove everyone out of their homes. They made them all stand in a line and counted the men. The mayor could speak German and he told Claimant and others not to be afraid. He told them that other people had worked for the Germans and now they would have to work as well. In the morning the Germans returned and loaded Claimant and others into a truck and took them to Dargov. Every day they were driven out in the morning and returned to the village in the evening. At first they were forced to perform various types of agricultural labour: harvesting grain and tobacco. Later they had to dig trenches around Dargov, and work loading and unloading wagons.

3101926

Claimant was born in KECEROVSKE PEKLANY, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 the German Army came to his village and took away Claimant, his brother and father on foot to Dargov, where there was a German military camp. There he was forced to work taking care of horses and chopping wood for the heating needs of one officer. He

was there for about 14 days when the Russians began to bombard the location. Claimant was injured in his left leg during the bombardment and was sent home.

3103045

Claimant was born in LASTOMIR, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that Germans came and took him and his entire family—father, brothers and mother-- to Dargov. His mother was killed there. The adults were forced to work digging trenches and he was forced to work bringing them water and doing other work related to the digging. He was there until the Russians came. He was also injured from getting some shrapnel in his chest.

3103661

Claimant was born in ROZHANOVCE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant is currently in hospital recovering from a stroke, but his mental faculties are intact. Claimant has submitted as testimonial evidence the statement of his brother, Claim 3101568, in support of this claim. His brother states that he and Claimant had essentially the same experience during WWII, that is, they were both forced to work digging trenches for German soldiers at Dargov.

3103747

Claimant was born in BIDOVICE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. During WWII, when the front was approaching, their village was located very near to Dargov, where there was much fighting. The Germans stored munitions and other supplies in Bidovce. When Claimant was about 14 years old, the Germans came and took all the Romany boys over 14 years old and forced them to work digging fortifications. The older boys and men had already fled or been taken elsewhere. They had to work digging trenches. The Germans guarded them with rifles. Every night Claimant and the others came home, and then walked back about 4 km the next day. It lasted about two months. Later they were taken by truck to Kysak (okr. Kosice), where they were forced to work digging a tunnel. They were not given much food, only one loaf of bread for 10 people. One day he also had to chop wood. They also built bunkers, reinforced them with wood, and camouflaged them. Eventually he and other members of his family were forced to go on foot to Presov. From there they were transported to a camp. His father obtained their release by bribing one of the guards with his sister's ring, and they eventually made their way home. His sister and brother did not survive the war.

3104583

Claimant was born in ZBEHNOV, OKR. TREBISOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in September 1944, one German soldier and three Hlinka Guards came to his village and took Claimant and other Romany men and boys away to Borda, near Dargov. There the Germans were preparing for a big battle. Claimant was forced to work there carrying wood to reinforce the trenches that the Romany men were digging. After they had finished working and were back at home in their village, the German soldiers came again, drove them out of their houses, took all their food, and burned their houses to the ground.

RIMAVSKA SOBOTA

3101979

Claimant was born in RATKOVA, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came to her village and first took away the Jews, and then the Romany men to dig trenches. Later German soldiers came and occupied the village. Claimant and her family were driven out of their house. Every morning she and other Romany women were taken to work. Claimant worked in the laundry, washing and repairing the uniforms from dead soldiers. She also worked in the kitchen, cleaning potatoes and greens. Sometimes the Germans gave them food to eat, sometimes they had to eat frozen potatoes that had been discarded, or that they took from the kitchen when working there. The German soldiers were always raping the women. After several months the Germans fled, because the Russian Army was approaching. Claimant also states that all of the Romanies from nearby Tisovec, numbering approximately 200, were massacred by the Germans, save one who escaped to Ratkova, because the men were partisans.

3102827

Claimant was born in RATKOVA, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII soldiers came and took her husband away to Levoca. Later more German soldiers came and forced all the Romanies out of their houses and slept in their beds. Claimant and the others had to sleep on the ground and in cellars. The next day they forced Claimant and others to work washing clothes for the soldiers. They did not have enough to eat and they were always hungry. The German soldiers beat them, cursed them, and tossed their children around. Once the German soldiers took a young girl 13 or 14 years old, and all of the Romanies had to stand by while five soldiers raped her in succession. After the fifth one, she died. Afterwards, when one older Romany woman started to cry, they grabbed her and threw her down and she split her head open, and a week later she died.

3103138

Claimant states that during WWII, she and her family lived in VRBOVCE (now Velke Teriakovce, okr. Rimavska Sobota). One night in 1944 the Germans came and drove them out of their home and forced them to dig trenches. The Germans used their house as a stable for horses and cattle. After a while she and her family escaped and hid until the end of the war.

3. FORMER WORK CAMP LOCATIONS

HANUSOVCE NAD TOPLOU

3102363

Claimant was born in HANUSOVCE NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was 11 years old when the Germans came to her village. The Romany men and older boys were taken away to a concentration camp. When her father returned after the war he was so sick that he died soon after. Claimant and her mother and the other Romany women were forced to work for the Germans in the forest, and digging trenches. They suffered hunger and cold.

3102538

Claimant was born in POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was in hiding, but he was caught by two Hlinka Guards, who beat him, tore his shirt, and made his nose bleed, and then tossed him into a truck with other Romanies and took him to Hanusovce. There he was forced to dig trenches, 3 to 4m deep. They were often beaten, and those who did not want to work or complained about food were killed. They were given only bread and a kind of potato soup to eat. He was there for 3 weeks, and then they were taken to another village. First they worked for the Hlinka Guards, and then for the German soldiers. The food from the German soldiers was slightly better, but whoever did not fulfill their work quota was shot. He was forced to work until the Russians came and liberated them.

3103018

Claimant was born in PAVLOVCE, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in March 1944 Hlinka Guards came with Germans and took all the Romanies they could catch, to work at a location where people from a concentration camp were already working. They were forced to work building a railway track. Those who were older than 15 dragged cables, and those who were younger carried water. Claimant was forced to work carrying water and cleaning the soldiers' barracks. Later on the soldiers put the Romanies from his village in a row, and divided them into men and women, and were preparing to shoot them, when a commander came along and told them that all the Romanies were going to end up in a concentration camp anyway. They were supposed to be transported somewhere from Presov, but an Allied airplane landed in Presov and two days later the Russians liberated them.

3103125

Claimant was born in HANUSOVCE NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she and her two small children and all of the Hanusovce Romanies were put into a transport train. They spent two days on the train, waiting, but then partisans came with the mayor of their village to intercede, and Claimant escaped with the children into the woods. She was later raped by 'Ukrainian' Germans. She was also forced to work for German soldiers and Hlinka Guards around her village.

3103741

Claimant was born in HANUSOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he and his family had to leave their home and go hide in the woods. Then the Germans came and took all of them to a camp. His brother died there. They were forced to dig trenches and carry heavy rocks. Women had to do the same work. Everyone's head was shaven. They were tortured. Children who were around 5-10 years old had to clean soldiers' boots, and dance.

3103816

Claimant was born in NACINA VES, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that her entire family was taken to Hanusovce to work. There they were divided into men and women. The men dug trenches and the women tended the cattle. Claimant escaped after several months and returned home, but after German soldiers came again to her village and terrorized her family, they fled to the woods for the rest of the war. When they finally returned to their home after the war, it had been destroyed.

3104043

Claimant was born in LASTOMIR, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that from May 18, 1944 until December 28, 1944, he was forced to work around Hanusovce nad Toplou. He had to work in the stone quarry, breaking up heavy rocks and putting them in a pile. Other workers took them away. On December 28 he managed to escape from the camp, and hid until January 15, 1945, when he joined the Soviet Army. He fought with them and arrived in Prague in May 1945.

3104135

Claimant was born in VRBOV, OKR. POPRAD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Lubica (okr. Kezmarok) with her family. When the Germans came to their village, they first took Claimant and her family away along with the Jews. Claimant and her family thought they were going to Palestine. First they were taken to the woods for about a month, and then to Kosice. There they were shut into a large building on the outskirts of town. Then the Romany families were transferred to a school, but all the Jews stayed in the other building, and none of them returned after the war. When it became apparent to Claimant and the other Romanies that no one was watching them in the school, they escaped and made their way back home. When they were back in their village, each house had a written notice on the outside listing the inhabitants. They were not allowed to lock their doors. Eventually Claimant was forced to go with her father to dig trenches for the German soldiers around Hanusovce. She was there for about a month. They were not given much food, but they were allowed to go home once a week. One week she simply did not return. Later some German SS officers came and surrounded them, pointing guns at them. They were looking for partisans, but they did not find any. Towards the end of the war Claimant and the others fled from their village to avoid the shooting.

3104495

Claimant was born in SEDLISKA, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work in the camp at Hanusovce nad Toplou. She was always under guard by German soldiers and dogs. She had to do the same work as adults. She did whatever she was told because she was very afraid of the Germans.

VRANOV NAD TOPLOU

3102367

Claimant was born in VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she and her family were living in the forest near Vranov nad Toplou. Her mother sometimes gave the partisans bread, and because of this the Germans caught them and took Claimant and her father to dig trenches. They were beaten so that they would work harder. Once a soldier pointed his gun at her father and wanted to shoot him, but Claimant grabbed the barrel and the shot went into the air. At the end of the war Claimant had to hide in the woods, because the Germans were shooting everywhere. There were people were hanging dead in the trees.

3102382

Claimant was born in PAVLOVCE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII, when the Germans began to build a railroad near her village,

her father had to go work on the railroad. Eventually she and her mother were forced to go work for the soldiers in the fields around Hanusovce. When she could not work anymore from hunger and fatigue, the Germans beat her. Claimant and her mother slept on straw. Finally they escaped into the hills and were fortunate to be hidden by a local farmer.

3102536

Claimant was born in BENKOVCE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII when her grandmother was working in the field for one of the villagers, she saw the Germans coming towards them from Vranov nad Toplou. She ran home and told Claimant and her family to pack their things and flee, but by the time they were ready to leave the Germans were already there. The Germans loaded Claimant and her family and other Romanies into a truck, and some other Germans started burning down their houses. Claimant and the others were taken to a military camp, where they were forced into a kind of wooden hut. She was forced to work there digging trenches and building fortifications for the German soldiers.

3102542

Claimant was born in BENKOVCE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came in the night to her village and started to burn the Romany houses. Claimant and her family escaped from their house at the last minute, but the Germans caught them and put them into a truck, and took them away to work at Benkovce. The men were forced to work digging and the children, including Claimant, had to work clearing away the earth and carrying water. Eventually the German soldiers fled, and Claimant and her family escaped to the woods and hid there until the end of the war in holes they had dug in the ground.

3103002

Claimant was born in JABLON, OKR. HUMENNE, SLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in Spring 1943 the Germans came to her village at night and set their shelters on fire. They fled from the fire and the Germans and hid. At some point later, the Germans caught them on the road and wanted to shoot them, but one of the soldiers spoke Slovak, and he convinced the others not to kill them. However, in a couple of days they were caught again and deported to Nizny Hrabovec, where they were put into a camp. They were divided up into men and women. There were only Romanies there. They were under constant surveillance by soldiers. For food they received only bread and water, and Claimant was constantly hungry. They slept on the floor jammed together. She believes she spent 7 or 8 months in the camp. The work consisted of digging beets, and digging drains in the fields, which were probably intended for irrigation. At that time she was in an advanced state of pregnancy. When she refused to sleep with the German who was guarding them, he beat her and shortly afterwards she gave birth to her child, who died after a few minutes. Around the same time, her brother, who was 22, died of exhaustion in the fields. She was released when the Russians came.

3103460

Claimant was born in SKRABSKE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that German soldiers came to his village and forced the Romanies to work for them. Claimant was about 10 years old and he also had to work. He had to carry wood, and also dig trenches around the village. His entire family had to work: his father and three brothers and himself. They did not have to work every day, but whenever the Germans came and got them.

In the winter towards the end of the war Claimant and his family escaped to the woods and hid there, because they heard the Germans wanted to shoot them all when the Germans realized the Russians were drawing near.

3103728

Claimant was born in CEMERNE, OKR. VRANOV NAD TOPLOU, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII Romanies did not go anywhere, into town or to the pub, because they would be caught and taken to perform slave labour. He states that if he was caught by a Slovak and asked to do some sort of work, he had to do it, otherwise the Slovak would contact a Hlinka Guard and Claimant would be beaten or locked up. One day when he was in town the Germans caught him. They shut him into a barn with a number of other Romanies, and the next day they were loaded into trucks and taken away to work. He was forced to dig a machine gunner's nest. He did a poor job of it, and the German came and began to beat him with the butt of his rifle. The German was yelling 'sabotage', but a Slovak woman who could speak some German came along and rescued him. After that he was transferred to a less responsible job. He worked for about six months digging trenches. The trenches were about six metres wide, three metres deep, and two or three hundred metres long. The area where they worked was altogether around 6 or 7 km long. All the work was done manually. He had to work without boots. His brother made them some footwear from sacks and straw. To eat they were given some kind of cold soup that tasted like it had been made from rags. He was afraid to escape because he feared the Germans might kill his family in retaliation, but finally he fled to the woods when he found out his family was already there.

3104578

Claimant was born in KELCA, OKR. STROPKOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944, when the German and Hungarian soldiers arrived, she and a friend fled into the woods. There they were caught by the soldiers, who wanted to send them away to a camp. In the end, however, Claimant was not sent away, but she was forced to work in Prosacov (okr. Vranov nad Toplou), in the stables, taking care of the soldiers' horses and cattle.

PETIC

3101975

Claimant was born in KOPRIVNICA, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII, his father was taken to work at Petic by Hlinka Guards, who came around with a large dog. Later the Germans came and captured Claimant, and took him and his grandparents to Petic as well. Claimant was forced to work digging a tunnel. The Germans were planning to build a railway line through to Dukla (Poland). There were not only Romanies working there, but also Hungarians and Slovaks, but they were kept separate from the Romanies. He estimates there were about 1000 people working there. All they did was dig, using pick-axe or shovel. Anyone who did not work was beaten. They slept on wooden beds without blankets or mattresses. The camp was surrounded by a fence. They had only rotten potatoes and carrots to eat. Eventually Claimant got typhus. Towards the end of the war Claimant and his family escaped from the camp and went home.

3102309

Claimant was born in DRIENOV, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was in a work camp near Presov called Petic. At first she was with her family, but then later only with children. In the camp she was beaten. Eventually she escaped to the forest. She had to stay in the forest until springtime, and froze her legs.

3103013

Claimant was born in SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII his family was taken away from Sabinov in trucks that were enclosed in metal. They were taken to Kapusany where they were forced to work digging a tunnel. Claimant had to take away the rocks that were broken up during the digging in a cart. If someone could not work they were punished. One method of punishment was placing the person's finger under a heavy rock. Claimant's father was later sent to Dubnica nad Vahom. Claimant was at Kapusany until the Russian soldiers came. He was sick for a long time after the war, mainly from the poor food he had received.

3103523

Claimant was born in KRIVANY, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to work during WWII when he was 13 or 14 years old. Every morning he was taken in a truck to a village called Petic. He had to tend livestock for the German army. He was beaten with a strap.

3103823

Claimant was born in ROZKOVANY, OKR. SABINOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work for German soldiers near Petic, where she had to dig pits. She and others also had to sleep in the pits.

3104497

Claimant was born in KURIMA, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she and her family were taken to the camp at Hamborek (now Brezovica) okr. Sabinov. She and her father and brother were forced to work digging bunkers for the German soldiers. They had to go by foot every day to the work location, eventually they nearly reached Levoca. They were cold and starving. After three months she became ill and could no longer work, and her father hid her in the forest. In 1944 she was forced to go with her father to Petic, where she was forced to work digging a tunnel and along the railway tracks. There Romanies were falling down from exhaustion. In 1945, after the Russians liberated them, they walked home.

3104596

Claimant states that during the war she was living in Zalobin, okr. Vranov nad Toplou, with her family. During the war the Germans occupied her village. She and her family were thrown out of their small house and had to hide in the woods. Eventually the Germans caught them and transported them to Hanusovce, to the Petic camp where they were forced to work. When they returned home at the end of the war, barefoot and starving, the Germans had burned their entire village.

4. WESTERN SLOVAKIA

WESTERN SLOVAKIA

3101059

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that before WWII his family was travelling in carriages around Moravia. When the war started, they fled to Slovakia, and hid in various places. Many people from his family in Moravia were taken to concentration camps: his cousins and his aunt. Claimant and his family managed to escape. However, in Slovakia, Claimant was caught by Hlinka Guards, and had his hair cut off, and was forced to work with other children. He states that as a child he was forced to work at the worst jobs. His two older brothers were taken and forced to work at Dubnica nad Vahom and Liptovsky Hradok.

3101209

Claimant was born in VELKE BEDZANY, OKR. TOPOLCANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living in Chynorany (okr. Partizanske) with his family. Before the war he worked at a local factory. When Chynorany was bombarded, he was forced to work for the Gestapo clearing out the livestock that had been destroyed. Later he was taken with other Romany men from his village to dig trenches at Zabokrekty nad Nitrou. When the front approached he was taken with other Romanies to a work camp at Ticha Dolina near Pribyliny. In the camp there were other Romanies, but also Hungarians and Romanians. Claimant was forced to work 10 to 12 hours daily, digging trenches. Sometimes the German soldiers came and woke them in the night and beat them. They were often beaten when they were working; for example, if someone paused to wipe the sweat off his brow, or to try to straighten up. He returned home at the end of the war.

3101314

Claimant was born in MALACKY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Romany part of the village was separated from the rest. When they went out they had stones thrown at them by villagers. At school they had their heads shaved, and they were separated from the other children. Many of the Slovaks in her village were closely allied with the Germans, and at night they had drunken parties. Her family was so frightened they usually spent the nights in the forest. Her brothers were taken to the work camp Ilava, and one brother died there. In 1942 she had to go work on an estate at Plavecky, Svaty Mikulas. She had to work from morning to night for little food. She and her sister tried to escape but were caught and returned. After a year she caught typhus and was sent home.

3101319

Claimant was born in VARHANOVCE, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she had to work at the Nazi camp in Banska Bystrica. There she was forced to work serving food and also digging trenches. She was there with her two brothers. She was there for about one year until she managed to escape, in the summer of 1944.

3102308

Claimant was born in FACKOV, OKR. ZILINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she lived in Fackov with her parents and siblings. Her father was a successful blacksmith. Then the Germans came and drove them out of their house so that they could live in

it, and they had to flee to the woods. Her father was taken away to Hanusovce nad Toplou to work. Eventually she and her mother and siblings were caught by Germans and taken to a kind of work camp at Castkovce (between Nove Mesto nad Vahom and Piestany). There Claimant and the others were forced to work with their mother in the fields. They worked from morning until evening, with an hour or half-hour break for lunch. There were between 100-200 Romanies there. They all stayed in a building, some of them slept on the bare ground, some on coats or mattresses.

3102540

Claimant was born in BOSACA, OKR. NOVE MESTO, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII his family joined up with the partisans when they were trying to escape from the shooting and the Hlinka Guards. He remembers later seeing the partisan leader hanging, dead. The Germans found out that Claimant's family was helping the partisans and sent three of his brothers to Dubnica nad Vahom to dig trenches. Another brother was sent to Italy. Claimant was also eventually caught, and forced to dig trenches at the edge of the forest near Trencianske Bohuslavice (okr. Nove Mesto). Two of his brothers did not survive the war.

3102560

Claimant was born in MARTINOVA, OKR. NITRA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that from 1943 to 1945 he was forced to work for German soldiers digging trenches and building fortifications. His supervisors were armed. He had to meet work 'norms' in order to get food. The work took place around Martinova.

3102569

Claimant was born in MYJAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came to her village, Pobedim (okr. Nove Mesto nad Vahom) and forced her and her father and brother to dig trenches around Sipkove and Ockov (okr. Piestany). They were forced to walk about 10 km to work each day, and returned each night.

3103488

Claimant was born in DOLNY LOPASOV, OKR. PIESTANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was at a work camp at Madunice (okr. Hlohovec). He was forced to dig trenches. He was beaten on the legs and on the head and has permanent injuries as a result.

3103510

Claimant was born in KOPCANY, OKR. SKALICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when she was about 11 years old she was forcibly taken out of school (first grade) by 'Hitlerjugend' with white stockings, beaten, and then forced to work at the Cunin tobacco factory, processing tobacco. She worked for almost one year and received no wages or food. She was constantly under the supervision of armed Germans. Other children and old women from her Romany village were also forced to work there. Every day when they left the factory, she and the others were forced to strip naked to show that they were not stealing anything. In the village they were constantly harassed by Hlinka Guards and German children. Once her grandfather went to the forest for kindling wood, and a Hlinka Guard from the village caught him and took his boots, and made him stand in the snow for 2 hours. Her grandfather froze his feet, and could not find any other boots, so from then on he had to wrap his feet in sackcloth. Later they had to hide in the woods.

3103515

Claimant was born in RUZINDOL, OKR. TRNAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when he was 8 years old the Germans caught him at school and made him clean, carry wood, and tend the fires. In spring he had to help the older Romany boys dig trenches. When the air raids began they had to flee to the woods.

3103751

Claimant was born in TVRDOSOVCE, OKR. NOVE ZAMKY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one day during WWII the Germans came to her village. They burst into Claimant's house, caught her mother, and shaved her head. Then they began to beat her mother, and the rest of them, including Claimant. Then they forced Claimant and her family out of their house. They ran into the woods, and then later hid in a cornfield. There they were caught and taken to a camp with soldiers. She was forced to work cleaning soldiers' boots, and dancing for the soldiers. When she refused she was beaten. She and the others also had cold water poured onto them. At one point a German soldier grabbed her and threw her over a big wall. On the other side there was a Romany man who caught her, and they fled.

3103805

Claimant was born in MALACKY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII his father was taken away to work at Dubnica nad Vahom. Claimant and his family were hiding in the woods, where they dug bunkers to live in. Eventually Claimant was caught and taken to a work camp where he had to sing and clean the soldiers' boots.

3103822

Claimant was born in SENICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she and her sister had to hide in the woods, but eventually the Germans found them and took them to a work camp. There they had to dig trenches and carry heavy rocks. They received only tea and dry bread. Her sister was shot and died.

3103916

Claimant was born in CARY, OKR. SENICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII some of his family on his father's side, Czech relatives from Moravia, were killed at Hodonin u Kunstatu. In Claimant's village there was a large Romany settlement, with 30-40 Romany houses. The Germans came in the night and drove them out of their houses. They were forced to go work in the trenches in the nearby fields. Their father worked digging, and Claimant and his siblings carried wood to camouflage the trenches and arms, and also for firewood. It was in winter from September to November 1944. They were not given any food, and they ate what they could find in the fields: potatoes, corn, beets.

3103920

Claimant was born in TRENCIN, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and destroyed their houses. Then they drove all the Romanies out of the village. Claimant and the others had to hide in the woods. Eventually the Germans caught them and took them to a work camp. There she had to have her head shaved. She was forced to work digging trenches. Often they were beaten, and some of the women were raped. Everyone else had to watch when someone was beaten.

3103957

Claimant was born in PLAVECKY STVRTOK, OKR. MALACKY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and occupied their village and drove all the Romanies into the woods. Claimant and the others were forced to work for the Germans, scraping the earth with their bare hands, carrying wood, and washing their clothes, which they dried on the grass. If anything was not cleaned to the satisfaction of the Germans, Claimant and the others were beaten. Her brother was taken away to Cemerne to work.

3104564

Claimant was born in KOBLOV, OKR. PRIEVIDZA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came to her village, and she was forced to go with her mother to dig trenches. She used a hoe. The Germans took them to Nitrianske Pravno, and there they were divided into men, and women and children. The men went first digging, and the women and children followed them, clearing the dirt away. Eventually the Russians came and the war ended, but they were left without anything.

3104567

Claimant was born in POVAZSKA BYSTRICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII her father was taken to the work camp at Dubnica nad Vahom. She sometimes took him food while he was there. Later she herself had to perform forced labour in Tuchyna (okr. Ilava), digging trenches for the Germans.

ZIAR NAD HRONOM

3101139

Claimant was born in ZIAR NAD HRONOM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he had to flee to the woods with his family. Occasionally the Germans caught them and forced them into the village to work, releasing them in the evenings. The Germans and the Hlinka Guards were always beating them and treating them like animals. His father dug a hiding place in the ground for his sisters so that they would not be raped.

3103137

Claimant states that in 1944 through 1945 he was forced to work digging trenches for the German soldiers at various locations. At one point he was injured in the belly, and was in danger of dying. Because the hospital in Banska Stiavnica was occupied by Germans, he was ultimately treated at a Russian field hospital. He received 15 stitches.

3103799

Claimant was born in MYJAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 he was staying with a tailor in Cierny Luh. At that time an order was issued that one man from each home had to go to dig trenches. He was sent to Nova Bana (okr. Zarnovica), near the Hron river. He had to supply his own equipment. He was forced to work digging trenches for about 2 months in the winter of 1944. They were forced to work from morning until night, and were under surveillance. The ground was frozen. Afterwards he had to hide until the end of the war.

IV. SLAVE LABOURERS FOR GERMAN SOLDIERS IN OCCUPIED HUNGARY

3101141

Claimant was born in SVINICA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and drove Claimant and other Romanies out of their homes. After that they lived in the forest, and tried to hide from the Germans. Once they were captured by the Germans. The Germans were screaming at them, and beating them, and Claimant and other Romanies did not know what they wanted. The Germans raped the girls. Claimant and others were taken and were forced to work digging pits for bunkers. Afterwards they again hid in the forest, and suffered hunger and cold.

3101215

Claimant was born in BUKOVEC, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII, his village became part of Hungary and he was forced to take part in military exercises for cadets. When he was around 16, he was taken with other Romanies from his cadet group to Drienovec and forced to work at a fish pond. He slept on the ground. He and the other Romanies were under surveillance and they could not escape. They were then transferred to Debrecin. There they stayed in barracks. He was forced to work digging trenches for the German soldiers. They were taken to work every day in a field. When they found out the Russians were coming, Claimant and the others fled to the train station in Debrecin and got on the train to Kosice.

3101218

Claimant was born in SVINICA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 his father was arrested by Germans because they thought he was a partisan. In the autumn the front approached Claimant's village in eastern Slovakia. Claimant was taken away by Germans to dig trenches. He and other Romanies had to dig bunkers and canals along them, and holes for cannons. When they were not working they were shut into an underground bunker. They were given dry bread and leftovers from the kitchen to eat. As the Russian front came closer they were subjected to air raids. When he returned home after the war, half his village had been destroyed, including his family.

3101228

Claimant was born in MNISEK NAD HNILCOM, OKR. GELNICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 German soldiers came to his village of Hranecna and took him and his family to a camp in Kosice. From there his father was taken to a concentration camp in Germany. In Kosice Claimant was forced to work digging trenches. It was winter and he had no

shoes. Whoever could not work was beaten in the legs. Then the German soldiers tried to teach them how to use guns, but Claimant and the other Romanies would not cooperate, so the Germans were preparing to shoot them, but the Russians arrived.

3101236

Claimant was born in HODEJOV, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that sometime in the winter of 1944, he was forced to dig bunkers for the German soldiers. His feet froze because he did not have any shoes. His father had earlier been taken away by the Germans and was forced to work for the duration of the war in Linz.

3101317

Claimant was born in BLATNA POLANKA, OKR. SOBRANCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to work with his father around the village of Kristy (okr. Sobrance) at a work camp. Their work consisted of collecting dead bodies and burying them. After that he was forced to do the same work around the villages of Sejkov, Krcava, Vysne Nemecke, Nizne Nemecke, Jenkovce and Blatna Polanka.

3101556

Claimant was born in JOVSA, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was a prisoner at the work camp in Uzhorod. He was forced to work under the surveillance of German soldiers. Claimant and the other prisoners were beaten.

3101574

Claimant was born in BUKOVEC, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that her village was part of Hungary during the war. One day the police came and took all the Romany women away, including Claimant. First they were taken to Kosice. Then they were taken further by train to a camp. In the camp there were long wooden barracks. She was in the women's camp. Men were on the other side. They slept 3 to a wooden bed. The camp was fenced so that they could not escape. She had to work in the field, digging potatoes. There were German women guarding them. In the camp there were mainly Romanies, but also Czechs, Slovaks and Poles. Then she was taken back to Kosice, where she was forced to work in the brick factory. After that she went home. There the Romany women had to hide from the German soldiers, for fear of being raped. Claimant and the others smeared soot on their faces, and said they had typhus so that the Germans would not rape them.

3101974

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he had to perform forced labour at a camp in Hungary. During the war he also had to hide in the woods to escape persecution by the Germans.

3102362

Claimant was born in TRSTICE, OKR. GALANTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the war she was living in Topolniky (okr. Dunajska Streda), and she was taken along with all the other Romanies in Topolniky to the concentration camp in Komarno (Csillagvar). One night while she was there she saw the Germans place women and children in a circle and shoot them all. She was forced to work hard in the camp, and was beaten all the time.

3102539

Claimant was born in BRZOTIN, OKR. ROZNAVA, CZECH REPUBLIC. Claimant states that during WWII he was living with his family in Brzotin, which became part of Hungary after 1938. Before the war Claimant and his family were local musicians. Then the Germans and Hungarians came and took away the Romanies, including Claimant, and forced them to dig anti-tank trenches. They had to go on foot. He went with his father and two brothers. Once he was badly beaten by the German soldiers for taking potatoes from a field when he was hungry. Over time they travelled from place to place, working. There were about 200 Romanies in the group. At the end of the war they were somewhere in German territory. They were captured by the Russians and taken as prisoners to somewhere in Romania for about 8 months before being released.

3102553

Claimant was born in KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in Bukovec as a young man during WWII, he was forced to go to military training with the Hungarians. Then the Germans came and took Claimant and other Romanies to Kosice. Claimant and the others were afraid when they saw partisans hanging from lamp poles. In Kosice they were loaded into carriages and taken to Stratena (okr. Roznava) and then to Podhorela (okr. Brezno) where they were locked into schools. In the schools with them there were also Jews and Slovaks. Every day some of the people, starting with the Jews, were taken away in trucks and murdered. Claimant was forced to work digging graves for the victims. Eventually, as the Russians approached, the Germans fled and Claimant and those who remained went home.

3103028

Claimant was born in NIZNA MYSLA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in about September 1944 she went to Kosice to go shopping, and there was a raid, and she was caught by German soldiers and loaded onto a train and taken to a work camp. She was pregnant so she was forced to do lighter work, mainly cleaning in the kitchen. They were not given much food. Once she asked for some bread for the children and the German soldier beat her. She remembers sleeping on the ground in some sort of cellar below a large room. She was there until the Russians came.

3103035

Claimant was born in UZOVSKA PANICA, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the German occupation, 1944-45, he was forced to work for the Germans clearing out the houses of Jews who had been taken away. He had to load furniture onto trucks, and also load heavy things like cement and sand. After a while he escaped to the woods and hid there. Eventually he was caught again and forced to work for the German soldiers digging trenches and clearing away the dirt with a shovel.

3103038

Claimant was born in ROKYTNÍK, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the German soldiers forced her and other Romany girls to clean their artillery cartridges, clean up the supplies, and help out wherever directed.

3103042

Claimant was born in PLOSKE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans came to his Romany village, took them to a nearby field, gave them shovels, and told them to dig trenches. While working they had to stand up to their knees in cold water. In the evenings the Germans took them home. There were also Romanies from other villages forced to work there. After several months Claimant went into hiding so that he would not have to go to work.

3103043

Claimant was born in PRIEKOPA, OKR. SOBRANCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was a prisoner in a work camp at Uzhorod, from 1943-44.

3103134

Claimant was born in PALARIKOVO, OKR. NOVE ZAMKY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that the Germans occupied his village in 1940, including the school. In 1941, while the Germans were carrying out military exercises, a grenade or some sort of explosive device landed on the roof of Claimant's house, and because it was straw, their house was in ashes two hours later. The next day his father went to the German command to ask for help. Instead his father was beaten so badly he had to be taken to hospital. Later Claimant and the older children were forced to work for the German soldiers digging trenches and carrying supports for the trenches.

3103439

Claimant was born in KRALOVCE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to go work at Cizatice (okr. Kosice), which was occupied by the German soldiers. He was forced to chop wood. Every night he went home. He was forced to work for about 2 or 3 months.

3103474

Claimant was born in KOSICKE HAMRE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she lived with her family in Kosicke Hamre, near the Hungarian border, but still part of Slovakia. All of her family members were taken away by the Germans during the war. Her husband went away to fight with the partisans. For about a year before the end of the war the area was occupied by German soldiers. She and the other Romany women used to paint their faces with soot, to appear ugly so that the German soldiers would not rape them. Eventually she was forced to work with other Romany women digging trenches, large deep holes, for the soldiers. Sometimes she had to work so long that she passed out from hunger. If she stopped digging, the German soldiers beat her. One German soldier felt sorry for them, and told them his name, which was Hans, and then another German soldier came along and shot him. She worked digging the trenches for about a month. By the end of the war her village had been completely destroyed. She was the only one from her family that survived.

3103476

Claimant was born in JORADARME (now STOROZNICA, UKRAINE), CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII Hungarian soldiers occupied his family's house and made it into the police station. It was a large house that Claimant's

grandfather had been given for his service to a baron. Claimant and his family were forced to move into the Romany part of the village. In the summer of 1944 Claimant received a paper telling him to report to the military command in Uzhorod. He and other Romanies were then taken away because they were said to be "unreliable". The Germans and Hungarians loaded them into wagons and took them to the Polish border near Dukla. Jews were in one camp, and they, Romanies, were in another. They were forced to work digging bunkers, building bridges, and digging trenches. Claimant was there until the end of the war. Once a Russian grenade fell into one of the bunkers and killed everyone inside.

3103486

Claimant was born in BUKOVEC, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was forced to perform labour for the German soldiers around the village of Bukovec. Claimant also includes the personal statement of several people from his village. One of these individuals states that his father and Claimant's father were cousins and that both men were taken away to work for the Hungarian Army, in 1941. Claimant also attaches a statement from an individual who was born in the same year as Claimant who states that boys of his age in Claimant's village had to work for the local Gestapo collecting berries from the woods and chopping wood.

3103490

Claimant was born in ZDANA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the German soldiers and Hungarians came in the night, and took them out into the snow, and then took him and other Romanies away by train to a place where they were forced to dig trenches. They were also thrown into the water and they had to collect rocks. They were barefoot. A soldier stood guard over them with a rifle. When the Germans fled as the front approached they destroyed everything they could, and left many mines.

3103509

Claimant was born in NADOST (TRSTENE PRI HORNADE) OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the Germans came to her village, all the Romanies fled to the woods. Eventually the Germans caught them. The Germans were separating the men and the women, so she dressed her husband as a woman, but the Germans sent him away anyway. Claimant ended up in a work camp near the Hungarian-Slovak border. She was forced to work harvesting potatoes. Later they were forced to build bridges and chop wood. She and the other Romanies were often beaten by the soldiers. She and the others were dirty and got lice, and Claimant eventually caught typhus. For food they received only dry bread and water. They slept in a small barn for cows. When the war ended they were told they could go home, but they had nothing, everything had been destroyed.

3103516

Claimant was born in CUCMA, OKR. ROZNAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was taken to the front lines by Hungarians and Germans. She was forced to work caring for the injured German soldiers. She was there for about 5 months, until she was shot in the leg and then eventually sent home.

3103574

Claimant was born in SAFARIKOVO, OKR. REVUCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1939 he had been forced to participate in the Levente (Hungarian military youth organization), but in 1943 he was released. In March 1944 he was arrested when the authorities were rounding up 'politicals' and Romanies, and taken by train to Putnok. There they were divided into groups, and the younger ones were sent to "Bukalnagy". There he and the others were forced to work clearing debris from Gyor, which had been bombarded, and clearing away dead bodies. He was also taken to Hatvar, and forced to work in the fields, and digging. They were guarded by soldiers and were beaten all the time. After Szalasi came to power in Hungary, they began sending people to Germany. The German soldiers told them it would be better for them in Hungary, but when Claimant and the others were working outside, the Hungarians told them a more realistic version. One night Claimant and the others were loaded into a train to be transported to Germany. At one point during the journey, at Miskolc, the Hungarian soldiers opened the doors and yelled at them to escape, so Claimant and four others jumped out. Afterwards they hid in cemeteries and gradually made their way to Slovakia, where he joined the Slovak partisans.

3103587

Claimant was born in KRASNA NAD HORNADOM, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was taken to a work camp in Autumn 1944. First she was taken to Kosice, to some sort of Jewish church. From there she and other Romanies were taken to Torna and then to Semsá, where she and other Romany children were forced to work digging trenches. They slept in a decrepit building, where many people were dying from hunger. Claimant and the others were forced into the building and down some stairs. On the floor was excrement from the people that had been there before. They cleaned out the excrement and put down old newspapers and rags and then they had to sleep there. To eat they had only dry bread. They worked there for three or four months and then there was an order from the German command that children were to be sent home, and so the Germans stuffed them into a truck, where they could hardly breathe, and drove them some distance, and finally they made it home, travelling many kilometers on foot as well. At home everything had been destroyed.

3103590

Claimant was born in BLATNA POLIANKA, OKR. MICHALOVCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that Germans and Hungarians came and made the Romanies stand in line. They selected the men, loaded them into a truck, and took them to Uzhorod, including Claimant. From there he was sent to Mukacev and other places to dig trenches along the front line. He remembers the Germans yelling "Arbeit Arbeit Arbeit!" and "Los Los Los!". Anyone who did not work was shot. To eat they had soup like dishwater, and bread white with mould. Eventually he escaped home during the bombardment, but he and his family had to flee to Uzhorod because the fighting on the front lines was passing through their village.

3103592

Claimant was born in VYSNA HUTKA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII her family was driven into the woods where they hid for a long time. Then the Germans found them and took the entire family to the work camp at Garbocbogdany (Bohdanovce), where they were all forced to work digging trenches. Claimant and the others had their heads shaven, and were tortured and humiliated by the German soldiers. She was also forced to dance and sing for the soldiers.

3103595

Claimant was born in ZDANA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in the Romany settlement outside Zdana near Kosice. Then the Germans came and drove them out of their houses into the woods. They stayed in the woods, but sometimes they had to go and dig potatoes for the Germans. Her two brothers and her husband were taken away by German soldiers and forced to dig trenches. Then the Germans came and wanted to shoot them all. All the Romanies fled into the woods with the Germans shooting after them. They fled all the way to Hungary in the snow. Eventually she got typhus.

3103645

Claimant was born in ZDANA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the winter of 1944 her family was living in a cellar with about 10 other families. The German soldiers had arrived in 1944 and began taking girls away to rape, including Claimant and her sister. She was taken to a bunker about 3 km away and repeatedly raped. Afterwards she was also forced to work for the German soldiers. They gave her a small shovel and she had to dig bunkers beyond the village between the fields. She also had to carry wood for the Germans' cooking fires. Her sister died from the consequences of being raped. Claimant's health was also affected, and she had to have many operations after the war.

3103649

Claimant was born in ZDANA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 the Germans and Hungarians came and drove them out of their homes into the woods. Then they destroyed their houses. Later the German soldiers came to the woods and caught them, shaved their heads, loaded them into wagons, and took them to a nearby village. Then partisans began shooting at them and the Germans released them. Claimant and the others returned to their village, which was deserted, because all the Slovaks had fled. Then the Germans caught them again, and they were forced to work digging trenches towards the south from their village, to the Hungarian border. They also had to carry chests of cartridges. They were taken to work irregularly, sometimes for a day, and sometimes for four, but they were not allowed to go close to the front line.

3103653

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII, when the German soldiers arrived in his village, a small girl was standing by the road and threw rocks at them, and so the order was given that the entire Romany village should be cleared out. The German soldiers destroyed their houses and they had to go live in the forest about 3 km away. Claimant was forced to work for about a year in the fields. Then he was taken to Hungary where he was forced to work for German soldiers digging trenches around Debrecen, Mateszalka, and Miskolc. Afterwards he was attacked by a Hungarian doctor who was supposed to be treating him for typhus. As a result he was unable to walk for three months.

3103742

Claimant was born in VILMAN, HUNGARY. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and drove him and his family out of their home, which was then destroyed. He and his brother were then loaded into a wagon and taken to dig tunnels for the German soldiers, in Moldova. He had his head shaven. While working they were not allowed to speak.

3103794

Claimant was born in SOKOLANY, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the war began, her father and a number of her male relatives were in the Hungarian army. During the war the Germans used Claimant's home as a munitions storehouse, and after the war it was completely destroyed. Claimant and her family stayed with her cousins, and slept on the ground. Eventually the Germans took Claimant and the others and forced them to dig trenches. They worked near the village, not far from the train station. Her mother dug with a hoe and Claimant and her siblings followed and cleared the earth. They worked from 8 am to 2 pm each day and then went home. At one point a kind German soldier asked her why she was crying, and when her mother told him it was because she was hungry, he secretly brought her some bread. Once five German soldiers came and raped her aunt, who died as a result. Her father complained to the local German commander, because he told him that the men in her aunt's family had fought for Hungary, and the commander took her father to Kosice, where he pointed out the five men, and they were all sent to the front line. Claimant's mother smeared her face with soot, so that she would seem ugly to the German soldiers.

3103796

Claimant was born in VYSNY MEDZEV, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the German soldiers came to his village, he and other Romanies had to flee to the woods and hide there. All around children were crying, they had nothing, and nobody knew what would happen next. They did not sleep much because they were always on the lookout. Eventually Claimant was caught by German soldiers and taken to dig trenches. There anyone who did not obey the soldiers was beaten or killed.

3103804

Claimant was born in PODKRIVAN, OKR. LUCENEC, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 the Germans came to her village in the middle of the night, and drove Claimant and the other Romanies out of their homes. They put all the women and girls into one house and then shaved their heads. Then the Germans loaded Claimant and the others into trucks and took them to Lucenec, where they were forced to work digging trenches and bunkers.

3103817

Claimant was born in ZLATE KLASY, OKR. DUNAJSKA STREDA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that her entire family had to perform forced labour for the German soldiers in several locations. They had to work outside in winter without shoes.

3103861

Claimant was born in BUKOVEC, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 the Germans took away his father and he never saw him again. Once some Germans, Gestapo and Hungarian police from Semsá came and took all the Romany women over 15, locked them into a cleared-out barrack in town, and shaved their heads and poured gasoline on them. His mother was there for about a month. The women were forced to work digging trenches, and were also there to be raped by the German soldiers. After they took his mother away, he stayed in the forest with some other boys. Then some SS officers caught them and made them collect berries for them. An SS guard accompanied them when they went out to the forest. The guard had a kind of red armband. Afterwards Claimant and the other boys were

locked into the cellar at the police station. From that time they had to chop wood, and otherwise were forced to stay in the cellar. They were given bread and soup, and striped prisoner's clothes to wear. When the Russians came near, the Germans fled.

3103907

Claimant was born in BUKOVEC, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living with her family in Bukovec. The Hungarians came and forced her and the other Romanies to work cleaning the courtyards, and between the houses. Then the Hungarian militia came and took all the Romanies from her village, including Claimant, to Semsá, where she was forced to work for German soldiers. She was pregnant at the time, but she was forced to work digging potatoes for the German soldiers. Their heads were shaved. After she had her baby, she was immediately forced to go back to work, three or four days later. Some of the Romanies were fainting but they all had to keep working. To eat they were given only a piece of bread and a cup of tea for the entire day. When the soldiers saw that the Romanies were getting food from the village, they destroyed the food, and beat them. Children were forced to work with the adults in the fields. In the winter it was cold, and Claimant did not have shoes. Her husband was also taken away to work somewhere, but she does not know where.

3103940

Claimant was born in NIZNA MYSLA, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the war began the Hungarians (Nyilasi) came and took Claimant and other Romanies in his village to the German soldiers, for whom they had to work, in the woods around the village of Zdana. She was forced to work digging trenches. She did not know what the trenches were for, but she worked anyway, because otherwise the Germans would have killed her. She was barefoot and hungry, waiting for the Russian front to arrive. Her mother wrapped Claimant's legs in rags, but the snow was up to her knees. She was forced to work from morning until night, until the war ended.

3103953

Claimant was born in KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII Hungarians came and took him to Hungary and forced him to work. His brother was beaten to death by the Hungarians. Claimant was taken first to Pecs. There the Germans were returning from the front, and he had to go work in the field hospital cleaning, and carrying injured soldiers. Then he was taken to Budapest where he stayed in a kind of large barn, with about 60 or 70 other men. There he had to dig anti-tank trenches. They were all badly beaten whenever they stopped working. He was released when the Russians occupied Budapest, but the Russians also shot at them. When he got home his house had been bombarded by the Germans. Later he had to work for the Russian soldiers, burying dead bodies.

3103955

Claimant was born in DURKOV, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the war began, she had a one-year-old son. She and other Romanies from her village were taken to the police station, to the Germans, and there they were tortured. She was tied to a tree and beaten. Then they were driven into the forest. She hid in the rocky areas and the low places. She ate whatever she found. Finally she was found by German soldiers, who tossed a grenade beside her, and taken to some sort of encampment where she was forced to work carrying rocks and dirt out of a tunnel that was being constructed.

3103960

Claimant was born in BIDOVICE, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she and her family had to flee from the Germans and live in the woods. They were hungry and cold. Her two brothers had previously been taken away to a concentration camp. She never saw them again. Then Claimant and her family were caught by German soldiers and taken to a military encampment. Claimant's parents were forced to work digging, and the children had to clean the soldiers' boots. Claimant was forced to work carrying rocks and earth in buckets.

3104114

Claimant was born in SAVOL, OKR. LUCENEC, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he lived with his family and 15 – 20 other families in a Romany settlement just outside Savol, which became part of Hungary after 1938. At one point all the children and older people were ordered to go to the village and have weekly injections. He and the others were not allowed to speak Romany, only Hungarian. Then every boy between 10 – 17 years old had to attend military training. When the Germans came the military exercises stopped. The German soldiers occupied the local toy-making factory (at Filakovo), and Claimant was forced to work there making wooden chests for grenades, mines, cannonballs, and other arms. By late 1944 the town was being fought over by Germans on one side and partisans and Russians on the other, and Claimant and other Romanies were hiding in cellars. Finally they decided to escape to another village, but when they came out of the cellars they were caught by Germans who wanted to kill them. Partisans arrived at the same time, and the Germans then fled. By the time the war ended everything had been destroyed, and the Germans, Hungarians, Romanians, and even Russians had stolen whatever they could.

3104132

Claimant was born in RECA, OKR. SENEC, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when the war began the Germans came and drove the Romanies in her village out of their houses, and began using the houses as stables for horses. Claimant and the other Romanies were then staying in the woods, and the Germans came and got them and forced them to work digging anti-tank trenches. Claimant was forced to carry away the earth from the excavations. She also had to dance and clean soldiers' boots. She and the other Romanies were forced to work every day. If they did not work they were beaten. She saw her cousin raped by German soldiers.

3104500

Claimant was born in STRABICOVE, USSR. Claimant states that during the war he was living in Kosice with his family. In September 1944 his father was sent to work in the ghetto at Zlate Solky. Shortly afterwards, Claimant and his family were collected by the Hungarian police and put into the ghetto at Florian Utca (in Kosice). They stayed there for about two months with other Romanies and Jews, and then they were deported to Komarno. Eventually, because of the conditions in Komarno—poor food and bad hygiene—many children became sick and so a law was passed releasing mothers and children. Claimant was released with his mother, but his older sister was sent to a concentration camp in Germany. In the camp Claimant froze his legs and contracted bronchitis. When they returned to their house it had been badly damaged, and was missing windows and doors.

V. DUBNICA NAD VAHOM CONCENTRATION CAMP INMATES

3101211

Claimant was born in TRENCIN, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Banka, okr. Piestany. Hlinka Guards came and loaded Claimant and other Romanies into livestock wagons and took them away to Dubnica nad Vahom. Boys were beaten. At the camp she lived in a room with 50 other people. She was forced to work digging potatoes, from morning until night.

3101223

Claimant was born in VESELE, OKR. PIESTANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Vesele. She was hiding in the woods with her mother, father, and husband, but they were caught by the Germans and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. There they were divided into young and old. She was forced to work building a large bridge. Claimant and her family managed to escape from the camp with the help of a German woman, whose husband was a German officer in the camp. This woman told Claimant that they should escape because her husband had orders to eventually kill them.

3101562

Claimant states that he was living with his family in Turzovka (north of Povazska Bystrica) when Fascists came and raped his mother and took his father to a concentration camp. He and his mother and younger brother were taken to the work camp at Dubnica nad Vahom. There they suffered inhuman treatment. They eventually managed to escape but had to hide in the woods. When they finally returned to Turzovka, their home had been destroyed.

3101859

Claimant was born in TRNAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was taken to Dubnica nad Vahom with his entire family. They were first taken to Piestany, where many Romanies were collected, and then on to Dubnica nad Vahom. There his father had to work outside the camp, and he and his mother and siblings had to work inside. After some months they were released. When they returned to their home it had been destroyed.

3101886

Claimant was born in PAPIN, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she and her entire family were captured by the Germans in Papin and taken away to the camp. All the children were thrown into a truck together. In the camp her mother had a small baby which died of hunger because she was unable to nurse it. After the baby had died, the Germans came along, wrapped the baby in paper, and burned it. Her father was shot in the camp. They were in the camp through the winter. Men and women were separated. The only food was tea and dry bread. Only she and her brother survived the camp. They were liberated by Russian soldiers. She spent two months in the hospital in Humenne after the war.

3102360

Claimant was born in VOLICA, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII her husband was hiding in the woods with the other Romany men because he was afraid of being caught and sent to Germany. She was home alone when the Gestapo came and

took her by truck to Presov, where she waited with other Romanies until they were taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. She had to perform excavation work and cleaning at Dubnica nad Vahom from November 1944 to April 1945.

3102960

Claimant was born in POBEDIM, OKR. NOVE MESTO, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was forced to work with his father digging trenches around Ockov, Sipkov, and Vrbovec. Then Claimant and other Romanies were taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. There were also small children in the camp with him. Claimant was forced to work even though he was starving.

3103046

Claimant was born in BUKOVEC (OKRES KOSICE), CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was imprisoned at Dubnica nad Vahom from November 2, 1944 until April 8, 1945. While in the camp, she was forced to work sweeping and cleaning up.

3103458

Claimant was born in VESELE, OKR. PIESTANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one day during WWII, her mother went to visit her sister. Claimant was staying with the neighbour, who had many children. Soldiers on horses arrived and loaded them all, including Claimant, into carriages and drove away. They sat on the front of the carriage; it was November and it was cold. They were taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. There they were unloaded and there were many people around them. At the camp there was a kind of trough where they all washed, and then their hair was cut off. There was a long wooden building without windows, around which there was an iron fence. Germans with clubs were guarding them. Music played and they had to exercise. Meanwhile her mother was looking for her, and found out she had been taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. Her mother voluntarily came to Dubnica nad Vahom, to be with Claimant. Her mother also had her hair cut off. In the camp they had only one set of clothing that they wore constantly. All the women went to work somewhere outside the camp. The food was terrible, only hard bread. They eventually went home on foot.

3103525

Claimant was born in SERED, OKR. GALANTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she lived with her family in southern Slovakia. They were travelling Romanies, and they were continually persecuted by both Slovaks and Germans. They managed to hide until near the end of the war, but then they were caught and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. The conditions there were terrible, Claimant had to work very hard. There was nothing to eat, and it was a hard winter.

3103528

Claimant was born in MORAVSKA OSTRAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that his family fled Ostrava (southern Moravia) before the beginning of the war and went to stay with relatives in southern Slovakia. There, at the end of the war, they were loaded into trucks and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. Even though he was still a child he had to work. He was hungry and sick.

3103594

Claimant was born in HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII his family was taken from Humenne to Dubnica nad Vahom. His parents and older siblings were forced to work in the fields, and digging anti-tank trenches. He was forced to carry bricks and also clean soldiers' boots. Often the soldiers spit at him when he was cleaning their boots.

3103702

Claimant was born in BOROVI, OKR. MEDZILABORCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII Claimant and his family had to hide in the woods. Towards the end of the war they were caught and sent to Dubnica nad Vahom. There Claimant had his head shaved and was separated from his parents. He was forced to work cleaning soldiers' boots. He saw many people die from disease and hunger. There was a typhus epidemic.

3103731

Claimant was born in BOROVI, OKR. MEDZILABORCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII Claimant and other Romanies were driven out of their village, and had to hide in the woods. They ate whatever they could find, even carrion. Their village was bombed from both sides, by Germans and Russians. They hid because they knew the Germans might kill anyone they found. Finally they were caught by the Germans and taken in trucks to Dubnica nad Vahom. The men and women were separated. They stayed in wooden barracks without heat. Snow fell through the slats. Around the camp was an electric fence. They were forced to work. The men were taken away from the camp in trucks to dig trenches, and carry rocks. They were beaten all the time. Finally they were liberated by the Russians. The night before the Russians came, some other Germans came and wanted to kill all the Romanies in the camp. One German who also spoke Czech convinced them not to do it. He told them he would do it himself, and then he simply left in the night.

3103744

Claimant was born in HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was taken with her entire family to Dubnica nad Vahom. In the camp there were only Romanies, both from eastern and western Slovakia. They stayed in a barrack, and there was something black and smelly spread on the floor. She saw her sister being brutally punished for having committed some sort of 'offence' in the laundry. She remembers when the sick people were taken away, supposedly to the hospital. Instead they were shot. Before this happened her mother told everyone in their barrack, sick or not, to stand at attention during the inspection, and not to admit they were sick. Afterwards all those who were sick thanked her mother.

3103754

Claimant was born in HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she lived with her family in the village of Olka in Humenne. One night the Germans came at midnight and Claimant and other Romanies fled to the woods. The Germans caught them 4 days later and took them to Dubnica nad Vahom. There Claimant worked in the kitchen, and her mother worked in the fields. They were starving. The Germans were raping women. When the Russians liberated them, they went home by foot. The Germans had mined the road, and her cousin stepped on a mine and lost both legs.

3103783

Claimant was born in NIZNA SITNICA, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and captured him and his family, and began marching them on foot through village after village, collecting more Romanies along the way. Eventually they reached Dubnica nad Vahom. In the camp he had to wash the stairs, sweep, and clean. After the Russians liberated them they walked back home.

3103859

Claimant was born in SPISSKA NOVA VES, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was at Dubnica nad Vahom with his father. His father had to dig trenches and graves. Claimant was forced to play the guitar for the soldiers.

3103912

Claimant was born in SVEDERNIK, OKR. ZILINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1944 he was living with his family in Brezova pod Bradlem (okr. Myjava). One day the Germans came and got his family and three or four other families and crammed them into three trucks. He states that this happened because of Hlinka Guards in the village, who knew that he and other Romany boys had been helping the partisans. First they were taken to Piestany, where they slept in a school. They had to work chopping wood, and sweeping. They were guarded by both Germans and Hlinka Guards. They were given dry bread to eat. Afterwards they were taken to Nove Mesto nad Vahom, where they waited for about a week at a kind of collection camp, but for some reason they were released. They had to walk home. After that he rejoined the partisans and spend the rest of the war with them.

3103958

Claimant was born in CACOV, OKR. SENICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one day during WWII the Germans came in a vehicle to her village and drove her and other Romanies out of their houses. The Germans forced them into the car and they were taken away to a work camp. There they were divided into men, women and children. She was forced to work cleaning soldiers' boots and also singing and dancing. She also had to help her mother dig trenches. They went to work every day. Many people died around them.

3104063

Claimant was born in CABALOVCE, OKR. MEDZILABORCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came and drove out all the Romanies from their village. They drove them all the way to Humenne. Some families managed to escape along the way, but not Claimant's. In Humenne they were loaded into cattle cars and shipped to Dubnica nad Vahom. It was autumn. At Dubnica nad Vahom they were divided into men, women and children. He was with the children and they were forced to work cleaning. He remembers many children getting typhus and dying.

3104136

Claimant was born in DULOV, OKR. ILAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was living with his family in Dulov during WWII. One day the Germans came and drove them out of their homes and burned the entire village. After that they had to flee and hide in the

woods. Eventually they were caught by the Germans and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. There Claimant had to work digging trenches. His father died in the camp. He also remembers that he had to clean the soldiers' boots.

3104140

Claimant was born in DOBRA VODA, OKR. TRNAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that one summer during WWII, German soldiers wearing black arrived and treated Romanies very badly. Claimant and other Romanies were not supposed to go outside or into the village. Then in November 1944 all the Romanies in Trnava region were gathered up. At that time there was no radio, and the Germans used a drummer: someone went around banging a drum and announcing that the Romanies were ordered to collect at the train station. Then at midnight the train cars arrived and they went in livestock cars to Dubnica nad Vahom. It was dark and they could not see where they were going. When the cars stopped there were Germans, and they were yelling at them and beating them. At the camp they were divided into men, women and children and put into wooden barracks. She was with women from her village. They had only soup to eat. She was one of the women forced to work singing for the soldiers. The camp was very dirty. Finally a Russian came on a horse and told them they could go home. She went home sick with typhus.

3104545

Claimant was born in NOVA BYSTRICA, OKR. CADCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII her entire village was collected and taken to Cadca, and from there they all went to Dubnica nad Vahom. When they arrived at the camp there were dogs barking at them everywhere, and the Germans were laughing. They had their heads shaven, and were divided into men, women and children. She saw women being raped and men being tortured. She remembers that whenever anyone new was brought to the camp they were beaten. Nobody could help for fear of being beaten themselves. Once she was beaten so badly she could not sleep for the pain.

3104548

Claimant was born in DLHE NAD CIROCHU, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was taken to Dubnica nad Vahom along with his entire village. Men had to work digging anti-tank trenches and brick-laying, and women had to work cleaning. His wife became sick with typhus, and was among those who were allegedly taken to hospital but were instead simply shot. After his wife was killed he escaped, and eventually joined the partisans.

3104556

Claimant was born in ROVNE, OKR. SVIDNIK, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was at Dubnica nad Vahom. Her brother, claim 3103783, also states that he was at Dubnica nad Vahom and provides a detailed account of how his family was brought there from eastern Slovakia.

3105890

Claimant was born in OLKA, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII Germans came to his village and took his father away to the village Dobra, where he was forced to dig bunkers. Around the same time, Germans came and took Claimant and his

siblings and mother, and made them go by train to Presov and then to Dubnica nad Vahom. In the camp his mother had to work, and Claimant and the other children were forced to work peeling potatoes, and washing dishes. Some of the Germans were very bad, but there were some that sometimes brought them some food. When they returned after the war their house had been destroyed.

3105922

Claimant was born in VELOPOLIE, OKR. HUMENNE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII he was living with his grandparents. They were hiding in the woods for about 2 weeks with the partisans, but the Germans found them and came and marched them to Humenne. There they were put into a stable belonging to a kind of monastery. From there they were taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. The food was terrible and the camp was unsanitary. Men, women and children were divided up. Very small children were left with their mothers. He got sick with typhus. He states that three times they were loaded onto train cars bound for Germany or Poland, but each time they were unloaded.

3105941

Claimant was born in VELKE KOSTOLANY, OKR. PIESTANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that when she and her family were taken away they did not know where they were going. She was with her entire family. When the train stopped they were at Dubnica nad Vahom, at the train station. From there they went by foot to the camp. At the camp they lived in wooden barracks. They had to stand barefoot in the snow and sing. The camp was surrounded by an electric fence.

3105955

Claimant was born in BARTOSOVA LEHOTKA, ZIAR NAD HRONOM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that on 29 August 1944 there was a 'mobilization' [Slovak National Uprising], and he was with the partisans. Claimant states that they were not well-armed compared to the German soldiers and they had to disperse into the mountains. He made it to Jastraba (near Ziar nad Hronem) to see his pregnant wife, but there he was captured and taken to Dubnica nad Vahom. At the camp they lived in wooden barracks. Many people were killed by the Germans, and Claimant and others had to dig graves for them. Towards the end of the war it was chaos in the camp, and he managed to escape.

3105956

Claimant was born in REGETOVKA, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was imprisoned and performed slave labour at Dubnica nad Vahom from November 2, 1944 until April 8, 1945.

3105959

Claimant was born in JABLONOV, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII the Germans came to her village and captured everyone who could not hide in time, including Claimant and her mother. They were all first locked up in the fire hall, and then loaded in to big trucks and taken to the work camp at Dubnica nad Vahom. Claimant was forced to work digging trenches. It was the middle of winter and they had no shoes, only frozen rags wrapped around their feet. They suffered hunger and cold. When they returned after the war they had nowhere to live because their house lay in ashes.

**VI. CLAIMANTS PAID AS SLAVE LABOURERS BY THE GERMAN
FOUNDATION FOR REMEMBRANCE, MEMORY AND FUTURE**

3101493

Claimant was born in SULICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she performed forced labour at Lety u Pisky from August 5, 1942 until May 27, 1943.

3102554

Claimant was born in MEDZEV, OKR. KOSICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was imprisoned at Terezin, Ravensbruck and Buchenwald during WWII. She was forced to work digging graves for other prisoners who had been tortured to death. She had to do this work every day. She also had a tattoo burned into her skin, and was subjected to pseudo-medical experiments.

**VII. INDIVIDUAL WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR
FOR GERMAN SOLDIERS IN ITALY**

3101492

Claimant was born in CELADINCE, OKR. TOPOLCANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that before the war he was employed in the regulation of the flow of the river, and was also a well-known violinist. In January 1945 the Germans gathered Claimant and other Romanies in Topolcany at a barrack. They slept there one night and the next day they were marched to the train station, put into carriages that had already been prepared for them, with an armed German guard in each carriage. They travelled at night and in a week they were in Italy. Other Germans picked them up and divided them up to work digging trenches. Claimant was there with other Romanies. There were also some Czechs and Slovaks, but the Romanies were treated the worst. He worked around Milan, Verona, and near Lombardy. For food they had only one meal a day, usually rice and water, sometimes a bit of bread. He returned home in August 1945.

**VIII. ROMANIES WHO FOUGHT AS PARTISANS
BUT WERE CAPTURED AND FORCED TO PERFORM SLAVE LABOUR**

3103041

Claimant was born in KOMJATICE, OKR. NOVE ZAMKY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that from 1938 onwards, the Hungarian police began beating him and other Romanies in his village, when that part of Slovakia became instead part of Hungary. In 1943 Germans came and wanted to take the Romanies away to work, but the local priest and council protected them. The Germans began raping and sometimes murdering the local girls and women. In order to protect themselves from the Germans, Claimant and his family went to Levice and obtained work with a local farmer. Later Claimant fled to central Slovakia and decided to join the partisans. He met up with other refugees and they joined up with the partisans in Krupina. He was later caught by German soldiers around Ruzomberk. They took all his documents and his leather boots, gave him wooden boots and sent him to Osek u Duchcova (near the northern border of the Czech Protectorate, north-west of Prague) to a work camp. There he became seriously ill with typhus. People were dying on the spot with typhus and there were dead bodies lying around. The food was raw or cooked potatoes, or beets, or bread. And many times his

fellow prisoners took his share. Once he was bending over to pick up a raw potato and a guard saw him, and using the butt end of his rifle the guard hit him on the side of the face and knocked out all his teeth on the right side. They were forced to work building the foundation and structure of a factory for manufacturing arms. As soon as it was built it was put into operation, manufacturing machine guns, cartridges, tanks and other military equipment. Some of the individuals who were working there were sabotaging the production by putting sand into the cartridges instead of gunpowder. When the Germans found out who was doing it, they took them to the fence and shot them with machine guns. Then Claimant and others had to collect the bodies and take them with a kind of wheelbarrow to the Osek cemetery, and bury them all naked in a mass grave. After a while Claimant met a man working in the camp as a guard who had been a policeman in the Czechoslovak Republic. This man told Claimant he knew his father, and that he would protect him. This man was in charge of the Yugoslav prisoners, of whom there were about 80 in the camp. After this, Claimant worked in this man's group, sewing on buttons and repairing soldiers' uniforms. He worked in a single room, and he was always cold and hungry, but the Yugoslavs gave him some food and a bit of coal for the stove. Then one month before the war was over the man took him to Kolin, where there were Russian and Czechoslovak officers. He remembers that none of the soldiers used each other's names or ranks. He stayed in kind of a cellar that was equipped as a room. He remembers it was close to the train station. Then he became sick and was in hospital for many weeks. Afterwards he was taken by the Czechoslovak army to Most where he guarded arms (after the war). He returned home in the middle of July, 1945, and hardly anybody recognized him. He was 19 years old.

3103114

Claimant was born in PRIBYLINA, REG. MIKULAS, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was a prisoner of the German army from September 1, 1944 and he returned home on June 12, 1945. Claimant's Military Workbook confirms that he was performing labour as a soldier from June 15, 1944 in a work unit, and that he was taken prisoner by the Germans on September 1, 1944, shortly after the Slovak National Uprising began.

3103456

Claimant was born in VRBOVCE, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during the Slovak National Uprising (August 1944) he fought with the partisans. Then he was caught by the Germans and sent to Germany to perform forced labour. He believes he was somewhere near Berlin. He was forced to work digging bunkers and carrying heavy stones. They slept on wooden beds. He was beaten so badly he has had lifelong back problems. Eventually he escaped in the night, through the woods, across a stream, and made his way back to Slovakia. At one point there was shooting around him, and he was shot in the foot. Finally he got back to Slovakia and met up with two Romanies. One cooked him some potatoes, and the other, an older woman, took care of his leg.

3104015

Claimant was born in CICMANY, OKR. ZILINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that on January 6, 1944, the Gestapo came to his home and took him away as a prisoner to Zilina, where there were already some prisoners. From there they were taken by train to Muhlberg. In the camp they were all forced to perform heavy labour. After 8 months they were released without any means. He went home on foot, occasionally travelling short distances by train. After his return he had to hide in the woods, and he eventually joined up with the partisans.

3104336

Claimant was born in SKOCANY, OKR. TOPOLCANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in November 1944 he was stopped by the Germans and taken to the criminal prison in Liptovska Luzna where he was interrogated by the Gestapo. He was released by the Gestapo but sent to Germany to perform forced labour, first to 'Lamsdorf', and then to 'Wilenshafen', and finally to Sande. He was forced to work digging trenches and then at a factory in Brehmen. He was known only by his prisoner number.

3104573

Claimant was born in CICMANY, OKR. ZILINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was a prisoner at Muhlberg during WWII and that he performed forced labour there from April 1945 until May 1945.

3105978

Claimant was born in RIMAVSKE BREZOVO, OKR. RIMAVSKA SOBOTA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was fighting with the partisans when he was captured by the Germans in the winter of 1944. He was sent to Hamburg, Germany. He had to stay with many prisoners in a single room, sleeping on the ground. To eat he had only soup like water. They were woken up in the morning when it was still dark, sometimes by having water thrown on them. They were taken out to work in various places, usually in the forest. They were often beaten. Once he had to sleep in the cellar with corpses, as punishment.

IX. ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN THE PROTECTORATE OF BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA

3101320

Claimant was born in OSLAVANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work at the firm Rossitzer Bergbau Ges. Liebe Gottes in Segen Gottes beginning on August 24, 1943. This order was revoked on racial grounds (Claimant is Romani) on October 2, 1943. From October 18, 1943 Claimant was forced to work as an assistant at the firm H. Jelinek Buchbinderei until June 12, 1945. In Spring 1943 her entire family was called to the Gestapo headquarters in Brno, from Oslavany. They were escorted by the police chief from Oslavany and another member of the police force, and travelled by train. They were taken to the Gestapo office on Lidicka ulica, where they waited for two days to be transported to Auschwitz. Claimant states that in 1942, about three-quarters of the Romany population of Oslavany had been taken to Hodonin u Kunstatu, and later transported to Auschwitz. The remainder of the population had been taken directly to Brno, and from there to Auschwitz. She states that of the pre-war Romany population of 120 who were taken to concentration camps, only 10 returned after the war, including several of her cousins.

3101322

Claimant was born in POLKOVICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he is from a Romany family that before WWII travelled and performed its circus programme through Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Russia. The circus was called Humberto. During WWII, Claimant and his family were at Bustehrad (near Prague), and Claimant went to the local council to announce their programme. There he was arrested and taken by train to Uherske Hradiste, to

Zlin, and finally to Ostrava to a work camp. In the work camp there were many prisoners, mostly partisans. At Ostrava-Kuncice there was a camp with about 1500 prisoners and at Kuncicky there was a building project. Claimant and the others were woken at 5 am, they had black coffee for breakfast, and then they went on foot to Kuncicky, worked for 12 hours, and then came back to the camp. At night they received bread. They had grey uniforms and had rag boots with wooden soles. They were working to build a smelter. He was there for about 3 months, waiting to be transported to Auschwitz. However, in the meantime some people from Poland calling themselves 'Volksdeutsch' arrived, and took the prisoners to Germany. Claimant was taken to Berlin, where he was forced to work at the airplane factory 'Honigsdorf AEG', Apelstrasse. There he worked driving a small vehicle. He experienced hunger, lack of hygiene, lice and bed-bugs. He returned to Czechoslovakia in June 1945.

3101856

Claimant was born in FACKO, OKR. ZILINA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to perform agricultural work on a German estate at Poloskovice in Litomerice from March 1, 1943 until November 26, 1943. There were about 50 people working there at the same time, some of whom were forced labourers like Claimant. After being released she was forced to hide until the end of the war.

3101934

Claimant was born in PETRVALD, CZECH REPUBLIC. Claimant states that during WWII she was forced to work for a bricklayer in Petrvald, near Karvina. She had to help him build a bathhouse for the Germans. One of the German officers tortured her every day, beating her between the eyes so badly that is now blind in one eye because of a detached retina. Her husband had to hide in the woods for the duration of the war.

3101937

Claimant was born in PRASKOLESY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that he was taken from the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia to Auschwitz. His mother was also taken to Auschwitz, and died there.

3102233

Claimant was born in OSLAVANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she is from Oslavany (near Brno) and many of her relatives were deported to Auschwitz. She and two of her sisters managed to stay in Brno during the war, performing forced labour. In 1943 they were arrested by the Gestapo and nearly missed being sent on the final transport to Auschwitz. Claimant was forced to work at the factory Deutsche Gartenbauschule in Brno. German police kept her house under surveillance to make sure that she was working for the German Reich.

3102304

Claimant was born in HRADEC KRALOVE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that as a result of the German occupation of Czechoslovakia her family lost their home in Opava. They were forced to move, and to work at the firm 'Wichterle a Kovarik' in Prostějov, making arms for the Nazi regime.

3103001

Claimant was born in PRAHA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she was taken out of school and forced to work at the Primus factory at Vysocany, which was making thermoses and thermometers. She was responsible for sounding the alarm when there was an air raid, and then they would all run out of the factory into the woods. Once she sounded the alarm by mistake. This was taken as an attempt at sabotage by the Germans. She was supposed to be deported to the 'Reich' but instead she escaped and hid until the end of the war.

3103126

Claimant was born in ZDANA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living with a Jewish family in Kosice, taking care of their small child. Her father and mother also worked for the family. One day the Germans came in a big car and took away the Jewish father and mother, and then the children, including Claimant. They were put into a wagon. Children, old people, and women were all separated. Claimant and the small boy were with the children. He was only one year and two months old. The Germans did not give them any food, not even a bottle for the baby. Claimant started crying. Then a German threw the baby out the window. As he took the baby, he struck Claimant, and she fell, as she fell, he struck her again on the arm with a club and broke her arm. Later they asked her if she was a Gypsy and she said she was. Then they were taken to Terezin and put to work, digging bunkers and covering them with sod so that the Russians would not know they were there. She was there about three months. She believes she was saved by declaring Hungarian nationality. She states that President Horthy (Hungarian president during the war, until the German occupation of Hungary) said that they could work, but the Germans were not allowed to kill them. This was at Terezin. She was there with Jews only. Nobody from her family knew where she was. In the fourth month they released her. They broke up the camp and she and others went home on foot. She had no shoes. It was in winter. Many people died en route. The Russians caught them in Prague. She did not get home until a year after the war. Two years ago she sent all her papers to the regional authorities, including the papers that the Russians gave her at the time.

3103642

Claimant was born in NIZNY SLAVKOV, OKR. PRESOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that from 1939 he lived with his family in Tabor (Czech Protectorate). When the war began they hid in the forest. He was afraid to go into town because he knew if he were caught he would be sent to a concentration camp. In 1944 the Germans caught them in the night, beat them terribly, and took them away in a car to Tabor. There they had their hair cut off and were put to work digging trenches in fields. At first they did not know what they were digging, and then they realized they were bunkers. They had to work very hard, and were hungry and thirsty. They did everything they were told because they were afraid that they would be sent to a concentration camp. In 1945 he escaped and made it to his parents' village in Slovakia, where he stayed until the end of the war.

3103749

Claimant was born in HORNI DUBNANY, OKR. ZNOJMO, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1939 he and his family were living in the Czech part of Czechoslovakia, but they fled to Slovakia when the Germans took Prague. His family were travelling Romanies, and his father was a tinker, but after they came to Slovakia they were forced to sell their horses. They settled in Pastuchov, okr. Hlohovec. There were two Jewish families in the village, and one night they were taken away by Germans. His family and other Romanies were being terrorized

by Gestapo and Hlinka Guards, and around Easter 1943 they fled into the woods. After about 3 months they had to return to the village, because they had no food. They went to a neighbouring village, and stayed there about two months. Then suddenly the Germans arrived, with trucks and big dogs, and took all the Romanies and loaded them into trucks, and drove them across the Czech Protectorate to Terezin, near Litomerice. Claimant believes this occurred around August or September 1943. When they got to Terezin there were many Jews there. Claimant and the other Romanies had to work cleaning out the compound. Then Claimant and his family were taken on foot to a nearby train station, loaded in wagon cars, and taken to Poland, sometime in spring. They were taken to an enormous camp, with people from many different places including Poland, France, Italy and Russia. There were also Jews and Romanies. He was forced to work cleaning a bulldozer that dug large pits for graves. He was guarded by dogs. He says the Romanies were housed separately in the camp, and were there as labour power. He describes gas chambers where many people were being killed every day. Claimant and some of the other children had to work clearing up the clothes and shoes that were left behind after the prisoners stripped and went to the gas chambers. They also had to sweep the camp. To eat they mostly had potatoes, and sometimes soup. Many people were sick. He was there for about a year, and then was freed by the Russian army.

3104517

Claimant was born in CESKE BUDEJOVICE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that in 1940 she was forced to work in Nove Mesto, in Chlumec, at an agricultural breeding enterprise. From 1942 until the end of the war she had to hide and her family had to hide with acquaintances and in the woods to avoid being sent on a transport to a concentration camp.

3104594

Claimant was born in HORNY TISOVNIK, OKR. ZVOLEN, ZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that after the occupation by the German Army of Viglas (okr. Zvolen) in WWII, she and her family had to leave their homes and go to live in the forest. After a certain time they were captured and taken to a work camp, and from there to Leopoldov, and later to Plzen. She had to work doing laundry for the soldiers. She had to watch them murder her father and other relatives.

X. ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN GERMANY

3101192

Claimant was born in PRIEVIDZA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was with her family in Slovakia around Novaky. The Germans found them hiding in the cellar, and loaded them into trucks, and took them to Germany. The Germans took only Romanies. At one point a German took her into the woods and raped her, and another German cut her hair off. She remembers that they had to work very hard, and received very little food.

3101858

Claimant was born in REPISTE, OKR. ZIAR NAD HRONOM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that she and her family were driven out of their home by Germans who shot at them and then occupied their houses. They had to flee to the woods. Later the Germans caught her and took her away in a truck to a concentration camp, which she believes may have been Buchenwald. There she was forced to work doing laundry in cold water, and mending. She was

beaten. Anyone who could not work was shot. Prisoners also worked digging trenches and carrying rocks. Some of the women were taken away for injections that caused them to be sterile. They had to wear striped prisoner's uniforms. For food they had frozen potatoes and apples. For washing they were put into a room, 50 at a time, and had cold water poured over them. As a result many people got sick. She was in the camp for about two and one-half years, beginning just before Christmas one year. She had a tattoo with a number, but she later had it burned off, because she was ashamed of it.

3102276

Claimant was born in KUROV, OKR. BARDEJOV, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that from 1944 until 1945 he was forced to work in Germany in a place called 'Kusunberg' (*sic*). He was forced to work with other Romanies digging trenches for the Nazi regime. They worked from early in the morning until late at night, for only a little food. He also was forced to work doing the same work in Poland, but he does not remember the name of the place.

3103802

Claimant was born in BELUSA, OKR. POVAZSKA BYSTRICA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she and her family were taken to somewhere in 'Poland' where they spent one year living in a ghetto. They all had their heads shaven. She had to perform forced labour. She was badly burned in the ghetto, when she was thrown onto the fire. As a result she still has scars, and is deaf. She also has a deformed left leg.

3103908

Claimant was born in CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was sent to a work camp with her parents somewhere along the German border, possibly at a place called 'Sabegiter' (*sic*), and forced to work. Both her parents became very sick at the camp, and died during the war.

3104558

Claimant was born in BALDOVCE, OKR. LEVOCA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Claimant states that during WWII she was living in Baldovce with her family. They were the only Romany family in town. At one point Hlinka Guards drove them out of their home, and after that they had to live in the forest. In 1944 she was captured by German soldiers and taken to Germany to dig trenches, around a place called 'Vanderzburg' (*sic*). They were forced to work from morning until night. She returned home only in May 1945. She still has scars in her leg from being shot, and crooked fingers from the labour.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP VIII SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES

SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO WERE DEPORTED TO TRANSNISTRIA AND WHOSE CLAIMS WERE INDIVIDUALLY REVIEWED BY THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MUSEUM (USHMM) HISTORIANS

3416851

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. All of his valuable belongings and money were confiscated. During his detention, he lived in very harsh conditions: the food rations were small, scarce and horrible; he did not have enough water and he was forced to perform labour. Claimant was often severely beaten.

3416862

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. All of his valuable belongings were confiscated. He was forced to perform agricultural labour. He could not object because any objection would have resulted in severe beatings or death. The Roma who had been killed were buried in common graves.

3416864

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. During the detention, she was frequently beaten and had to perform forced labour. The food rations were small, poor and mainly consisted of potato skins and a few beans. All of her valuable belongings were confiscated.

3416942

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. During the detention, he lived in very harsh conditions; the food rations were small and mainly consisted of potato skins and beans; he was mistreated and frequently beaten. Claimant was forced to work in the fields.

3417025

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. After her arrival, all of her valuable belongings were confiscated. She was forced to perform labour which included working in the fields, cutting wood in the forest and carrying stones. She could not object because any objection would have resulted in severe beatings or death. Claimant received very little food and the rations were very bad.

SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR NOMADIC ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO
WERE DEPORTED TO TRANSNISTRIA

3420200

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant was deported with his family and their belongings which included a wagon with horses, a tent, some gold and their clothes. The family was transferred from one police station to another until they arrived in Moldorica, Transnistria. All of their belongings were confiscated there and they were forced to live in dingy underground holes. Claimant lived in very harsh conditions without sufficient food, water and clothes or any medical assistance. Claimant's parents and brothers died of typhus. After their death, Claimant was taken care of by another Roma who then raised him. They were transferred from one camp to another. As a result of extremely severe living conditions in the camps, Claimant developed rheumatism and heart problems. Although, Claimant did not state that he performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3420884

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In the summer of 1942, Claimant was deported from Urziceni, Dombovita to Transnistria. She was taken to Berezovka in Russia. After their arrival, all of her personal belongings, which included wagons, horses and jewellery, were confiscated. Claimant was forced to work in agriculture and dig trenches for the German Army. The living conditions were extremely harsh: Claimant and other prisoners lived in a barn with animals and their small food rations consisted of corn flour and a few potatoes a day. After the German troops had retreated, Claimant returned to Romania on foot alone.

3420886

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In the spring of 1942, Claimant and his family were deported from Copaciu, Guirgiu, Romania to Berezovka. After their arrival, all of their personal belongings, including wagons, horses and jewellery were confiscated. They were forced to work. They had to dig trenches and holes for the German Army. In exchange for the forced labour, they received a bowl of corn flour and a few potatoes. In 1944, the family returned to Romania.

3420891

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant, her family and all other Roma from the county were deported by the Romanian soldiers. They were transferred from one police station to another until they reached a border. At the border, all of their belongings, including wagons and horses were confiscated. Then, Claimant and the others were taken to Saridorovka where they were forced to work in exchange for a bowl of corn flour and a few potatoes. They drank water from dirty lakes. They slept in animal barns with animals. After the German troops had retreated, Claimant and other survivors returned to Romania.

3420895

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In the summer of 1942, Claimant and her family were deported to Russia. At the Russian border, all of their belongings, including wagons, horses and other valuables were confiscated. Claimant and her family were transferred to Vradiovka in Russia. They lived in harsh conditions. They were held in an abandoned windowless house where they slept on the floor. They were forced to perform labour in exchange for a daily portion 500g of corn flour per person. Due to the very poor conditions, many prisoners were ill with malaria. Claimant's parents died in Russia.

**SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR SEDENTARY ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO
WERE DEPORTED TO TRANSNISTRIA**

3420322

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In September 1942, Claimant was deported from Constata, Romania. He was transported by a cattle train first to Tighina in Besarabia and then to the Grigoresti train station in Ukraine. From there he was sent to Odoleni to work in a kolkhoz. Then he was transferred to Coronika and Balsoi in Oceacov District. All prisoners who were capable of working were forced to perform labour in inhumane conditions without food or water. Claimant returned to Romania in 1944.

3420384

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In September 1942, Claimant and his whole family were deported to Transnistria. They were transported in overcrowded cattle trains. After a 10-day journey, they arrived in Grigoresti where they were divided into groups which were then sent to various locations. Claimant and his family were forced to work and in return they were given a small, bad quality food ration a day. They lived in inhumane conditions. They were held in animal barns where they slept on the floor. Claimant and his family returned to Romania and found that none of their property was left.

3420563

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1941, Claimant with her mother and other Roma were deported to Transnistria. At first, they were taken to Bablic near the Libasovka area; then, they were transferred to Savran where they were forced to perform various kinds of labour which included work in the woods and in agriculture. Many Roma died because of harsh conditions, hunger and illnesses or because they were shot by the Germans. Claimant returned to Romania in the autumn of 1944.

3420641

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In the summer of 1942, Claimant and his whole family were deported to Russia. Claimant's belongings, including a wagon, horses and other valuables were confiscated. They were transported by goods trains to Vradiovka in Russia where the German Army forced them to work in agriculture or to dig trenches. They were held in an animal barn which was shared by 200 – 300 people.

They worked very hard and in return they received a daily food ration consisting of a bowl of corn flour and potato skins. They were mistreated and suffered from the cold and hunger. In the summer of 1944, the survivors returned to Romania.

3420861

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant's family was first taken to the police station in Maglavit where their wagons were confiscated. After more Roma families were brought to Maglavit, the whole group was transferred from one police station to another until they arrived at the Colafat train station. From Colafat they were transported to Craiova by goods trains. Then, the journey continued for another 3 – 4 weeks and went through Bucharest, Galati, Braila, Tighina, Tiraspol, and Odessa until they arrived in Koronika. In Koronika, they were kept in animal barns with other Roma families. They were forced to work in agriculture and in return they received 250g of mixed flour and 250g of corn flour. Claimant was born in 1942 in Koronika. Claimant's family with Claimant returned to Romania in the spring of 1944.

**SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO WERE
DEPORTED TO LARGE CONCENTRATION AREAS IN TRANSNISTRIA**

3420258

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant's family with Claimant, who was 2 years old at the time, were deported to the Bug. They were taken to Vradiovka, Treidube, Nikolaev, Dumanovka, Odessa and Tiraspol. They suffered from the cold, hunger and thirst. They received very small portions of food, thus, they had to eat leaves and potato skins. One of Claimant's brothers died during their detention. Claimant returned to Galati, Romania, in 1944. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3420271

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, following the government's order that all Roma had to move to the Bug, Claimant and his family were deported there. They were detained in different locations, including Tiraspol, Procopka, Vradiovka and Nikolaev. They were mistreated and humiliated. They had to perform forced labour and they suffered hunger and thirst. Claimant returned home in 1944.

3420277

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant was only 2 years old when he and his family were deported to the Bug. He was in Nikolaev, Vradiovka, Dumanovka and Odessa. Their food consisted of bread and raw potatoes only. Some members of Claimant's family died during their detention. Claimant returned home in 1944. Although, Claimant did not state that he performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3421096

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In the summer of 1941, Claimant, his parents and other Roma families were deported to the camps of Dumanovka and Vladiovka in Russia. All of their belongings were confiscated by the Germans. At the camps, they were forced to perform various kinds of labour depending on the season. Claimant was often beaten and mistreated. Women were raped by German soldiers. Many people died because of the cold, diseases or because they were shot. Claimant returned to Romania at the end of 1944.

3421525

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, following the government's order that all Roma had to move to the Bug, Claimant and his family were deported there. They were transferred to Vradiovka, Triaspol, Tighine and other locations. During their detention they were mistreated, beaten and suffered hunger and thirst. They were forced to work in agriculture. Claimant returned to Romania after more than a year.

**SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO WERE
DEPORTED TO SMALL CONCENTRATION AREAS IN TRANSNISTRIA**

3420274

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug with his parents. They were detained at Dumanovka with many other Roma who had been also deported. At the camp, they had to perform various kinds of labour such as carrying stones or working in agriculture in the summer and cutting timber in the forest in the winter. They suffered hunger and thirst and they were mistreated. In 1944, after the German troops had retreated, Claimant and his family returned home.

3420485

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant was deported with his father to Kavaliovka in Russia. They lived in inhumane conditions: at first they slept in the fields without any shelter, then they were kept in animal barns. The food was insufficient and consisted of a bowl of corn flour. The prisoners were supervised by German guards all the time and could not leave the camps. They were forced to perform labour, mainly agricultural, for no compensation. Claimant could not refuse to work because any refusal would have resulted in severe beatings. Claimant and his father were transferred to Pitilevca, Corncian, Costovoi and Tiraspol. No medical assistance was available at the camps; therefore, various diseases were widespread. Claimant's father died of typhus. After the Germans had retreated, Claimant returned home and found that all of his and his late father's property had been destroyed and their personal belongings were missing.

3420671

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant was deported to the place called Treidubi. She and other prisoners were kept in underground holes in the field. Claimant was forced to work in the woods. Since Roma did not have much experience with that kind of work many of them had accidents. The prisoners were frequently beaten. Their food rations consisted of mainly boiled beetroots.

3421127

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant and her family were deported from Dirlos to Dumanovka, Golta. During their detention, they lacked everything and the food was insufficient. Many Roma, including Claimant's parents, died of malnutrition and various diseases. Claimant returned to Brateni Sibiu, Romania. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3422000

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant and her family were deported to the Bug, to the place called Vradiovka. They were held in underground holes, which were shared by 10 – 15 prisoners each. The living conditions were very harsh: they suffered hunger and thirst. After a year, Claimant and her family managed to escape and after a long journey they arrived back at home. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

**SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO WERE
DEPORTED TO TRANSNISTRIA BUT COULD NOT BE CATEGORIZED INTO
OTHER GROUPS HEREIN**

3416946

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. All of her valuable belongings were confiscated. She was frequently beaten and suffered from the cold, hunger and thirst. Claimant managed to survive and come back home. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3419505

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported to the Bug. She suffered terribly. She saw people dying every day. At the beginning, it was frightening, however, as time passed, the view became normality. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3419549

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Claimant and his parents were deported from Dolharca, Succeava, Romania. Claimant's parents died during their detention. Although, Claimant did not state that he performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3419552

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant was deported from Budeni Dolharc, Romania. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Romanies who were deported to Transnistria were forced to perform labour.

3419682

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1942, Claimant and her family were deported to the Bug as slaves. They were detained in slave camps where they suffered from very harsh living conditions, hunger and thirst. Their daily food rations consisted of water, salt and low quality bread. They were frequently beaten and had to perform hard labour. Claimant and other women were abused and humiliated by the Nazis.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XII SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO WERE DEPORTED TO TRANSNISTRIA

3416593

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1941¹, Claimant and her parents were deported to Trei Dube, Transnistria. They traveled to Transnistria with their carriages. Upon arrival to Transnistria, their property was confiscated. Later, they were transferred to Varvaloca. During their detention, they suffered from cold, hunger and were harshly mistreated. In September 1944, they returned home and found that their house was in ruins.

3416601

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. Two months before Claimant and her family were deported to Transnistria, the mobility of the Nomadic Romanies was restricted. Subsequently, they were deported in 1941² with all other families that were in their Roma settlement. They were deported to a valley near Golta and all their valuable belongings, including carriages, horses, tents and gold, were confiscated. They were lodged in unheated underground holes and received food rations. Each family received 600g. of corn flour and 20g. of oil per day. They did not receive any vegetables and if they wanted to eat potatoes they had to steal them. They remained there until the Romanian Army receded. During that time, they performed forced labour in the potato and corn fields. The children were also forced to perform labour.

3416626

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1941³, Claimant and his family were deported to Transnistria. They traveled to Transnistria with their carriage and horses. Upon arrival to Transnistria, their property was confiscated. They were detained at Varvaloca where they had to perform forced labour. Those who could not work and those who were sick were thrown into the Bug River. At the time of deportation, Claimant was six years old. Most of the stories he knows are accounts he heard from his late parents. However, he remembers crying because of hunger and the dead bodies that were loaded on carriages before they were thrown into the Bug River.

¹ Although Claimant states 1941 in his personal statement, IOM believes that, consistent with the deportation of other Roma from this area and the historical record, either Claimant was probably deported in 1942 and, with the passage of time, has become confused about the actual year of deportation or because the official persecution of Romania began in 1941 after Antonescu's speech on 8 July 1941 about the elimination of national minorities, Claimant due to his young age and the passage of time has not distinguished the two events.

² Id.

³ Id.

3416652

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1940⁴, Claimant, her parents and siblings were deported to Transnistria. They traveled by freight train in extremely bad conditions. In Transnistria, they were detained at Bogdanovka, Vladiovka and Berezovka. During their detention, they suffered from hunger, thirst and poor hygiene. They had to eat roots and plants. Those who died were buried in holes, those who tried to escape were shot dead. Adults were forced to perform agricultural forced labour. In 1944, when the Germans withdrew, they managed to escape from the camp and returned to Romania.

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN ROMANIES WHO
PERFORMED FORCED LABOUR IN ROMANIA

3416821

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. In 1941, when Claimant was eleven years old, German soldiers arrived in his village and took him to perform forced labour. Claimant was forced to dig trenches and perform different types of hard labour. Claimant was displaced to different locations in Romania that were under the control of the Nazi Regime. During his detention, Claimant was mistreated and suffered from harsh living conditions.

3416834

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. During the Nazi Regime, Nazi soldiers entered Claimant's family's house and took all the food they could find, the birds and other animals. They also raped many women. Later, they sent Claimant and her family to perform agricultural forced labour for private landlords. They had to work from dawn until night. They were humiliated, beaten and lived in inhumane conditions. They slept in tents and occasionally ate some corn, beans, potatoes and molded cheese.

3419837

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. During the war, Claimant and his mother were taken from their home and forced to work for the German Army that was stationed in Romania. Claimant's father fought on the front for the Romanian Army.

⁴ Id.

3419877

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. During the Nazi Regime, Claimant performed different types of forced labor for several landlords such as, Gheorghe Bara, General Marculescu, Rudi Baron, Camarasescu and others. The landlords came with the policemen and took Romanies to their properties where they were forced to perform labour all day long. They slept on straw. Their food was inedible and often spoilt.

3419880

Claimant is Romani of Romanian origin. During the war, Claimant and his parents were forced to perform labour for a landlord by the name of Gheorghe Bara. They were harshly treated. The food rations were small, poor and mainly consisted of nettles, beans and rice. Later, the German Army occupied the landlord's properties and the mistreatment became harsher. In order to satisfy the German soldiers, the landlord offered them the most beautiful women. Claimant's mother was one of the victims. Subsequently, Claimant's brother hit a German officer. He was then harshly treated but he managed to escape.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP VIII SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

CASE SUMMARIES

Belgorod Region

3102663

During the Nazi occupation of our town I felt a lot of sorrow. We were taken to different places to perform forced labour. I had to camouflage their fortifications from raids and air-bombings. I loaded lorries with boxes that contained valuables stolen from us. I carried bags with sand and gravel to level roads destroyed by bombings. I had to perform work that was inappropriate for my age. I was afraid that I would be deported to Germany. I ate scraps. Once I refused to sing for the officers, because I was exhausted from the work. One of the Nazis beat me with his boot. I fell down, hit my head and lost consciousness. He poured freezing cold water on me and threw me outside. When I regained consciousness, I tried to stand up and go to the barrack, where my relatives helped me recover. I was sick for three days. As I was afraid for my life, I got up with great difficulty and went to work. I hoped that this hell would end sometime. And it did – we were liberated from the occupants by our troops.

3102928

I was living with my relatives in Belgorod when the war started. I was no longer able to return home and so I stayed with them. The Fascists occupied the town in autumn. Our house was taken by the soldiers and we had to move to the stable. Adults were forced to work, and I, because of my young age, could only help them. I helped women clean soldiers' houses: collecting and taking out the garbage, bringing clean drinking water and wood for fireplaces, cleaning soldiers' boots. I also helped men with cleaning the streets, collecting garbage, carrying stones and cobblestones into pits from bombs. The food situation was very bad, so we were almost always hungry. It was very cold cleaning streets without warm clothes. In addition, the Fascists were constantly bothering and humiliating us, beating us for nothing, just to scare us. That is why I always eagerly waited for the Soviet troops to come and liberate us from the Fascists.

3104670

In April of 1942, I, was ten years old when I went together with my mother, to a town called Staryy Oskol, where my mother's parents were living. We went there because we did not know what had happened to them when the war started. In July, when the Nazis came, our family, together with our cousins and other relatives, was thrown out from the house to a barrack, where there were already many Gypsies. We were kept in terrible and inhuman conditions. We, children, were forced to work like adults from early in the morning until late in the night. I dug trenches, helped adults construct

antitank fortifications, cleaned Fascists' boots, helped my mother in the kitchen, peeled potatoes, washed the floor to the point that I had back pain. We ate almost nothing, and when we, children, took something from the kitchen or tables, we were beaten and forced to dance outside where it was freezing, for the amusement of the Nazis. Worn out and falling down from fatigue and hunger, we went back to the barrack, but early in the morning this nightmare started again. All the inhabitants of the barracks were forced to watch how the Chairman of the Village Council was hanged by the Fascists in the square of the town. This horror continued for more than one year. And when, in 1943, the Red Army liberated Staryy Oskol, my mother and I, together with other Gypsies, walked to Moscow, where I live now.

Bryansk Region

3102660

At the very beginning of the war I happened to be in occupied Bryansk, together with my whole family. The Nazis immediately drove all Roma together, established a camp and forced us to work everyday. I performed harsh manual labour along with other men - chopping wood, stacking firewood, digging trenches, dragging stones and logs, and building anti-tank fortifications. The labour was exhausting, we were fed only once per day, we were not allowed to celebrate either Easter or Christmas, and our necklaces with crosses were taken away. All this continued for 2 years.

3104426

In the winter of 1941 Germans came to Rzhanitsa, Bryanskaya oblast where we lived prior to the war. Our village was burnt to ashes and village residents who managed to survive were deported to Bryansk. In Bryansk we were placed in barracks, my parents, my older sister and myself were forced to perform labour. My sister and my mother worked in the fields, and I worked in the kitchen: fetched water and firewood, did dishes and cleaning. We worked in this manner from morning till evening. Once per month we were given a day off. We were fed awfully. Soviet troops liberated us.

3104541

As a six-year-old child I fell under the occupation, which lasted in our city for two entire years. I went through so much pain and offense caused by the Germans that it cannot be expressed by words. Despite my age, I had to work at the same level with all the others. I washed floors in barracks, did the laundry, carried flasks with food from the kitchen to the hospital. In the hospital I had to feed and give drinks to the injured, take away their bedpans, and attend to them during the night. After a whole day of running without food my head was spinning, and I was sleeping while walking. For this the guard beat me with a lash, and the others just laughed when I cried. I will never forget my childhood tears and I do not want this to happen again.

Kabardino-Balkariya Region

3102392

Our tabor¹ happened to be in occupied Nalchik. The Nazis took away all our property, horses and jewelry. The elderly and the sick were shot before our eyes. The rest of us were settled in barracks. We were ordered to perform labour together with the surviving residents of the town. I helped the women of our tabor as much as I could. I gathered garbage, took out slop, washed floors in the soldiers' barracks, did laundry, cleaned boots, carried firewood and tended stoves. It was hard for me and there was nobody to feel pity for me since I had no relatives. The Fascists harassed me in different ways, beat me and pulled my pigtails. They laughed at me when I cried from pain and humiliation. I moved to Krasnodarsk region when I married and I stayed there together with my family.

3103093

I was born in St. Prishibskaya, Mayskiy region, Kabardino-Balkariya, USSR. I was residing there when the war broke out. The Germans arrived in August 1942. Both my 5 year- old daughter and my husband were killed. A German took me to perform household work for him. I washed the floor, washed dishes, cooked, laundered, carried water and tended the stove. I was fed scraps. It was only in May 1943 that the Soviet troops liberated us.

3104072

When the war started, our tabor happened to be in Nalchik. The Germans killed many people and they took my father away to an unknown place. I never saw him again. My mother and I were taken to live with a German officer. He made us work: clean, do laundry, cook, bring water and firewood, and bake bread. We were always very tired. We were given a day off now and then. He fed us scraps from his table. We were liberated by the Soviet troops in 1943.

Kaluga Region

3102998

Our tabor was roaming, and in Autumn 1941 we came to a halt in Kaluga. Suddenly, the town was occupied by the Fascists. They started issuing orders, according to which everyone had to work. We were also forced to work. I had to load cars with stolen valuables. Then I was taken for logging - I had to saw trees and boughs, make logs, and load them on sleighs, which were sent to the town. We worked in the forest from dawn to dusk. We were fed only thin soup and a piece of rotten bread. We had neither gloves nor warm clothes - they were taken by the Fascists for themselves. Luckily, the town was liberated quickly, and our tabor left to go to a safe place. The Fascists did not manage to use the logs in any case.

¹ Roma Camp

3105145

I was in the occupation for only three months, but it was enough to find out what Fascism was. During this period I lost many relatives and people that were close to me. The Fascists did everything possible to exterminate Gypsies. I stayed alive by a miracle. All inhabitants were forced to work for the Fascists. I helped women in their hard work as I could. When they cleaned soldiers' barracks, I swept, collected and took out the garbage, brought water and wood for fireplaces, and cleaned boots. Soldiers often mocked me, beat me, humiliated me, pulled me by my hair, and I could not even complain. It was lucky that the Soviet troops came quickly and liberated the town and us from this nightmare. I got married and settled in Vladimir region.

Kareliya

3103394

In the Autumn of 1941, Petrozavodsk was occupied by the Germans and our tabor happened to be on the occupied territory. All men, including teenagers, were sent to the forest to stock up on winter firewood. I cut off boughs from felled trees, sawed logs. In the town I helped my father clean horse stables. I cleared away manure, watered horses. There was no food, we stole oats from the horses. All our property was taken by the Germans. Many months passed but finally we were liberated by the Soviet Army.

3103599

When the war started our tabor was roaming around Kareliya. To escape from the Fascists we went to Petrozavodsk, but in October it was occupied by the Fascists and we did not manage to run away. According to the new regulations established by the Fascists, all people were obliged to work for them. I was sent to do the most hard and dirty work. For the sake of my little children I did not refuse to work. I dug trenches, cleared away rubble from destroyed houses that had become traffic obstacles, cleared away destroyed military equipment, filled in bomb craters, washed soldiers' clothes and cleaned barracks. After the Germans shot our men and elderly people, for the sake of my children, I endured all assaults, humiliations and beatings from the Fascists. When the town was liberated, I returned with my family to my birthplace.

3105224

We were roaming around Kareliya in Autumn 1941 when our tabor happened to be on the occupied territory of Petrozavodsk. The Fascists took all our clothes, horses and burned our carts and kibitkas [translation: nomad tents]. We were put into sheds and cellars and were obliged to work. I was a little girl but together with the adults I worked in a hospital. There I washed bandages, cleaned floors, took away bed-pans, distributed water and medicine and fed and nursed seriously wounded soldiers. There were many wounded soldiers and I was very tired, and from the constant malnutrition my head was spinning. And in the evenings, together with other Gypsy women, I had to entertain the wounded soldiers with Gypsy songs and dances. Thanks to this, we

would sometimes get a piece of half-rotten bread. After liberation, our tabor left for places free from the Fascists and the war.

Krasnodar Region

3103363

Before the war almost all Gypsies roamed. Our tabor also roamed a lot. When the war started, we tried to escape from the Nazis, but we were captured in Krasnodar. All our men were collected and deported, and we never saw them again. Women were put in barracks and forced to perform different types of work. I was sent to build barracks for soldiers. I carried bricks, mixed the solution and gave it to the bricklayers in barrels. It was very hard, but because of my little children I had to consent to everything. Then I cleaned these barracks: I swept, took out slop, did laundry, brought wood for fireplaces and heated them. I was very tired, and almost all the time I was hungry, because I gave every piece of bread earned to my children. After the liberation, all those who survived left for places where there was no war. I had a family and settled in Rostov region.

3103897

The war brought a lot of sorrow and troubles to Gypsies. We were exterminated. Young men and women were deported to perform work in Germany. The Nazis forced me to collect watermelons in melon fields. They enjoyed eating them. In addition, I picked grapes in vineyards, put them carefully in boxes, which I loaded on a cart and brought to the Nazis' camp. It was hard, but I worked. In winter the Nazis forced me to fetch water in barrels and give it to horses. The barrels with water were very heavy; the water splashed and flowed out onto my feet. I was freezing from the cold. They forced me to remove ashes from fireplaces, clear the streets of snow. I had to work a lot in order to survive.

3104532

During seven months of Nazi occupation we became acquainted with the fear and horror of war. I performed different types of work. I worked on a railroad. I had to disconnect and change rails damaged from air attacks, and fortify them. I helped load a train with cattle, sacks of grain, boxes of stolen valuables, which was sent to Germany. In abandoned vegetable storehouses the Nazis discovered boxes with vegetables and fruit, bags of potatoes. I loaded all of this cargo into cars and unloaded it at restaurants where the Nazis ate. I worked in a building site, drove wounded soldiers to a hospital for bandaging. Soon our troops arrived and liberated us.

Kursk Region

3101437

As a young girl I happened to be on occupied territory with my family. The Germans took everything away from us, even our necklaces with crosses, and forced us to perform labour. I dug trenches, camouflaged military fortifications with nets, and cleared the rubble of ruined houses. We filled in craters on the roads using soil and the debris from those houses. They treated us badly, mocked us, beat us, and forced us to work all day. All this was happening in addition to our starving and being without shelters to rest under, because the Germans took our houses away.

3104976

I was in Shchigry, Kursk region in 1941, when the Germans occupied that city. My family and I were put into barracks and forced to perform labour for the Nazis. I dug pits, did the dishes, fetched water, threw out slops, cleared snow from roads and cleaned the shoes of the Nazis. It continued for one-and-a-half years until our Army liberated us. Afterwards, all survivors were evacuated.

3105230

I spent two long years in occupied Rylsk together with my tabor. During that time I learnt very well what Fascism was about. Fascists were destroying our cities; they were beating, mocking the civilians, and murdering them. We were ordered to come and work for the Fascists, and death was waiting for those who refused. I was sent to work at the hospital. In that hospital I cleaned up the wards, washed floors, took out bedpans, served drinks, fed the bed-ridden patients, and attended the severely wounded ones. They had too many patients there, and I was getting enormously tired, it was difficult for me to work all day. Sometimes when I would fall asleep the guards would beat me. They were mocking and humiliating me in every possible way, and when they were retreating they almost shot me. That is why the day of our liberation was the happiest day in my life. After the war our tabor was roaming around a lot, until we were prohibited to do so.

Leningrad Region

3101120

My family was settled in Leningrad, where I was born. In the summer of 1941, I went alone to my grandmother's place in Ostrov to spend the summer there. My three sisters and parents stayed in Leningrad. When the Nazis occupied Ostrov, there were many Gypsies, and they were all gathered together, their valuables were taken, and they were put into barracks in unbearable conditions. I worked with my grandmother and other Gypsies as if I were a grown-up, even though I was only eleven years old. I had to do everything – dig trenches, carry sand and water, do the Nazis' laundry, wash pots and pans and clean floors. They often beat us and they did not feed us, we had to drink bad water. Since then I have always had stomach problems. Many of my

relatives died, and only after the war I found out that my sisters and parents were in the blockade. During the blockade my father died from hunger, and I still do not know where his grave is. I do not even want to recall this.

3101534

In September 1941, our tabor was in Krasnogvardeysk (Gatchina), when the Nazis occupied it. We were immediately gathered in the square and told that we had to work for the Nazis. Several people were immediately executed, including disabled old men. I had to do a lot of laundry for the Nazis, sew their clothes, cook and bring water. We were driven to work in fields, collecting corn and potatoes. I had to clean the floors in the houses where the Nazis were staying. As for us, we were hungry all the time, and freezing from cold. We had lice; we lived in conditions worse than those in which dogs lived. And it was so frightening when the town was bombed, and people were executed in front of your eyes. It was very difficult to survive.

3101640

During the occupation, the Nazis forced all Gypsies to work. It was very cold. Together with others I was forced to build fortifications. We had to put bricks around wooden buildings. Since it was freezing, the mixture became hard. It was very difficult to work, plaster was falling down, but there was no choice. We were forced to load cars with boxes that contained stolen valuables. I had to accompany wounded soldiers to a medical unit. I had to treat seriously wounded soldiers, I had to bandage them and help them move. I had to clean the barracks where the soldiers stayed. One Nazi with the face of an animal attempted to commit an outrage against me. I pushed him away with all my strength. He fell and hurt his head. I tried to escape, but he caught me and started beating me. He took me by my hair and smashed my face against the wall. I fell and lost consciousness. I regained consciousness in my barrack. The next morning I started to work again, because I was afraid that I would be executed. But God saved me.

3102925

In the beginning of Autumn 1941, our tabor was captured in Uritsk by a punitive detachment of the Fascists. They started beating us with rifle butts and lashes, and our old men protested, since Gypsies are freedom-loving people. For this, all the old men and adult males of our tabor were executed by the Fascists. The rest were taken to a camp. We performed the most difficult work. I was taken to a building site, where I had to carry bricks, cement, stir the solution, and give it to the bricklayers. We worked from morning until late at night; the work was hard and I was hungry and very tired. In addition, there were constant insults from the soldiers. I do not know how I survived in such a hell. But I do not want this to happen again.

3105815

In July 1941, during the years of occupation of the village Lera in Leningrad region by the Fascist troops, I, as a grown-up woman, was captured on the streets, driven to their barracks, and with the help of a translator we were told to do laundry for the Germans, dry and iron it, and heat the stoves. The work was very difficult; we had to heat the stinky laundry in a barrel outside, and then boil it very well and dry it, and after iron it. The work of a laundress was very responsible; there were constant threats of being executed if there was a little spot. I slept in a barrack, ate thin soup and scraps. I was raped whenever they felt like it. We were liberated by the Soviet troops.

Moscow Region

3102976

I was staying at my relatives' house in Maloyaroslavets, when the Fascists captured the town. They kicked us out of the house into a shed, killed our cattle and stole our things. According to the new rules, all the inhabitants that survived had to work for the Fascists. I was sent to a hospital to help the medical staff. There I had to wash used bandages, take out bedpans, sweep wards, serve drinking water and watch over seriously wounded soldiers. There were many wounded, so we had to work the whole day from morning until late at night, I was very tired. I felt dizzy from constant hunger. In the evenings we had to amuse the wounded soldiers with Gypsy songs and dances. And for this they gave each of us a piece of rotten bread. But the arrival of the Soviet troops became for us the most important celebration, even though when the Fascists were leaving they burned down a big part of the town, including our house as well.

3103695

I was visiting my relatives in Mozhaysk when suddenly the Fascists broke through the defenses and seized the town. All survivors were obliged to work. Despite my young age, I helped my relatives with their hard work. When they cleaned the houses where the Fascists lived I threw out the rubbish and slop, swept the floors, brought firewood for stoves and cleaned soldiers' boots. But the soldiers found fault with my work, they beat me and insulted me. It was very hard and I was scared. I was afraid that they would kill me because the Fascists were very often shooting people without any reason. Fortunately, the occupation did not last long and we were liberated by the Soviet Army.

3103208

The occupiers surrounded our tabor on motorcycles and with dogs. They pushed us, screamed, threatened and set the dogs against us. Then they put us in a lorry and brought us to a shed. They took the young and strong men and women out. The rest were locked in that shed, and they poured petrol on it and set it on fire. This was a terrible picture. During the four months of occupation we had to work from morning to evening. I hollowed out frozen soil, dug trenches and built fortifications. I built barracks for soldiers using logs and helped construct fireplaces in the barracks using

bricks. I unloaded trucks with food supplies for the Nazis. I had to put this food in a basement for storage, and then I had to carry the necessary food products to the kitchen using a cart. I cooked in the kitchen, laid and cleaned the table, swept and took out the slops. I sang and danced for them.

3104536

It was autumn and our tabor was going to leave for warmer places, but we did not succeed. The territory was occupied by the Nazis, and we were sent to perform forced labour. My mother and I worked in the Nazis' kitchen. I helped my mother with cooking. I washed and peeled potatoes, vegetables and fruit; I washed dishes, dried them and put them on a table; I had to slice bread and bring it on a dish. During the winter period I fetched logs for fireplaces on sleighs and cleared the snow from the streets. I had to sweep the kitchen floor and take out the garbage. Thanks to the fact that we worked in the kitchen, we were allowed to eat there. That is how we managed to survive. Sometimes we had to perform for the Nazis – my mother sang and I danced. Once I was locked in a dark, damp basement because I refused to dance in a soldiers' barrack. From fright I cried a lot and became sick. My mother took me to work sick, fearing that we would be executed.

Northern Caucasus Region

3103237

During the occupation of Cherkessk, I performed exhausting forced labour for the Germans from August 1942 until January 1943. At first, I was taken away by force from my parents and given to the German officer as a housemaid. Then I was raped and sent to the hospital to work as a nurse under bullets and missiles. I stayed alive by some miracle. Thanks to the Soviet Army, which liberated our region.

3101812

I lost my mother during the first days of German occupation of our city of Mozdok in August 1942. I stayed with strangers. They hid me as long as they could. But once they caught me, they brought me to their barrack and forced me to sweep the floor after I washed it. And it was like this everyday. I was fed badly, only thin soup; it is hard to recall this. In January 1943 we were liberated by the Soviet Army.

Novgorod Region

3103151

My parents and I did not manage to leave town, because we hoped that the Fascists would not be allowed to reach us. But in August they occupied the town, and all the inhabitants were forced to perform work for them. I was sent to work as a waitress for German officers that had settled in our house. I had to keep the rooms in order, clean them, bring clean water, tend fireplaces during winter so that it was always warm, clean clothes and boots, and carry out other orders of the officers. They punished me

severely for any negligence; they often beat me without any reason; they humiliated and insulted me. I felt dizzy because I was constantly hungry; I fell asleep from fatigue forgetting to carry out one or another duty. But all these weeks and months I believed in and awaited the return of the Soviet soldiers, who would liberate us from the Fascists.

3103374

We did not manage to leave when the Nazis occupied the territory, and we found ourselves under their yoke. I was taken to a forest and forced to cut trees for some sort of construction. I sawed logs, processed them, dragged them to the river using a rope and took them along the river to the place designated. I worked in a stable, re-shod horses, fed them, and cleaned up after them. I had to butcher cattle, which was cooked for the Nazis. During the winter, I had to break frozen coal using a crowbar and wearing no gloves. We cut and chopped wood, heated stoves in barracks, so that the Nazis would be warm. As for us, we stayed in freezing barracks. We froze from the cold and swelled up from hunger. Exhausted and weak, I lived with one wish - to survive by any means. Many Gypsies were executed because of minor offences, and it was used as a means of scaring others. Many people were driven far from the camp and were buried alive and executed in ditches. I was destined to survive. I endured the humiliation and torture, and I stayed alive.

3103990

When the Germans occupied our town, they introduced their own rules, according to which we were not able to live freely, and we all had to work. I worked in a hospital: I swept, helped to bandage, washed and then wound bandages, took out bedpans, and took care of wounded soldiers. I had to be a sick-nurse for seriously wounded soldiers. The work continued from morning to evening; sometimes from fatigue I fell asleep on the chair beside patients' beds. And then the supervisor beat me on the head, which was spinning from hunger anyway. Fortunately, this nightmare ended.

Orel Region

3101528

I was a small girl when I fell under the occupation along with my parents. The Germans forced everyone to perform labour for them, no matter if one was old or young or even a child. In order not to be taken away from my mother and sent to a concentration camp I did all types of work. I helped my mother to clean the houses where the Germans lived and to deliver clean laundry to them. In the kitchen I gathered dirty dishes and threw out slop. We ate food that we found as scraps. During the winter as well as during the summer we slept in a cold barrack. However, we endured everything and managed to wait for the day of our liberation.

3101547

We experienced tough times during the occupation. No mercy was shown to either women or children. I had to perform different types of labour: digging and fortifying the trenches, and building houses and installations for Nazis. I unloaded bricks and other construction materials from rail cars. I had to load heavy boxes, horses and other livestock onto rail cars. The stolen property was sent to Germany. While preparing for winter I had to chop wood, to process and saw logs, load them on horse carriages, and deliver them to the houses. Then I chopped the firewood, and stored it in a barrack. During the winter this firewood was used to heat the barracks. Sometimes I was forced to attend wounded Nazis for whole nights without sleeping, to nurse them. I treated their wounds and changed their bandages. I had to work day and night to survive.

3103251

I performed forced labour while being under occupation in the village Bolkhov, Orel region from October 1941 until September 1943. We built crossings, bridges, and roads. I pastured horses, tended them and drove them back to the Germans on time. We were fed badly, I did not sleep much and the Germans continually threatened to kill us. We were liberated by the Soviet troops.

Pskov Region

3102813

I was on occupied territory of the village Nikitkino, Bezhanitskiy district, Pskovskaya region together with my large family. We were all removed from our houses, settled in the cold shed and forced to perform labour. I cleaned the houses of the Nazis from morning until evening, washed floors, threw out the slops, cleaned the yard, looked after the livestock, filled in craters from bombs, and did laundry for the Nazis. The occupation lasted for a very long time. After the liberation, we Roma all left Pskovskaya region, because we were afraid of the Nazis and our houses had been destroyed.

3104472

On the day of the occupation, we did not manage to get away. I will never forget those dark years of my life. I was 15 years old at the time. I was forced to work in a hospital: taking care of wounded soldiers, cleaning the floor, washing soldiers' laundry and bandages and carrying flasks with hot food and water. Later, I was sent to work for a railway. I sorted frozen coal for the fireboxes, used carts to move sand and stones to pave railbeds, changed rails and railway ties. In severe frost periods we were forced out to clear snowdrifts on the roads, and to dig trenches. For the smallest disobedience people were shot immediately. After the working day we were forced to sing and dance; by that time we were completely exhausted. They beat me up when I

fell, and then they put me in a cold cellar. In the mornings we were taken to work on a construction site. Life was very hard.

3105052

I remember my childhood as the most frightening period of my life. I was 10 years old when the Germans came to our village. That terror continued for almost three years. The Germans forced us, children and teenagers, to perform forced labour that was beyond our strength. I dug pits, fetched water, chopped wood and delivered it to the houses where the Germans were living. I spent a lot of time in the fields, digging potatoes, carrying them on my shoulders to the barracks, and in the springtime I sorted vegetables. I cleaned the houses where the German soldiers were quartering, polished their shoes, cleaned the snow and removed it to the gully on sledges. I tended livestock which had been taken from civilians by the Germans.

Rostov Region

3102947

Our tabor spent almost 2 years in occupied Taganrog. During this period we lost all of our property, horses, and most importantly, many relatives and close friends. Some of them were shot by Fascists, some died of hunger and hard labour. As a 12 year- old boy I had to perform labour equal to that done by adults. I dug trenches, loaded trucks, cleaned streets, cleaned snow in wintertime and filled in holes left by bombs. The Fascists made us boys clear away the destroyed military machines from the fields around the town. Many boys died there or were crippled when they stepped on landmines. During all this time I never ate enough since there was a shortage of food. Moreover I suffered a lot of aggression and beating from the Fascist soldiers. Therefore our liberation and the arrival of our soldiers was a very happy event for us.

3103168

The German occupation caught our tabor in Rostov. The Fascists took away all our property and horses. They took all the jewellery from the women and burned our nomad tents. All of us were obliged to work. I was sent to a horse stable. I helped to water, clean, re-shoe horses, and to clear away manure. Often I stayed overnight in the stable during the winter because I didn't have any warm clothes. Instead of food I ate oats which was intended for the horses. The Fascists liked horses and found fault with me for the slightest cause and tried to beat me with a whip as badly as possible. But in spite of all these misfortunes and hardships, I survived until liberation. After the war our tabor continued to roam until it was forbidden.

3103607

Before the war almost all Gypsies roamed from place to place. Our tabor also roamed a lot, even after the war began. One day we stopped overnight in Salsk and in the morning the town was taken by the Fascists. According to the new regulations, everybody had to work for the Fascists. I was sent to a horse stable to help adults. There I had to water and feed horses, groom them, walk them, and clear away manure.

The Fascists kept a lot of horses. I was very tired, but because I loved horses very much, I endured. It was very cold without warm clothes, which the Fascists had taken from us, and I was always hungry as there was no food. Sometimes I was able to stealthily eat oats by handfuls from the horse feeders in the stable. After the war all of those from our tabor who survived continued to roam our big country.

Smolensk Region

3101408

Our town was occupied for only three months but this time was just enough to understand what occupation was. The Germans took away all of our belongings and jewellery and sent everything to Germany. We were forced to dig trenches, I had to carry stretchers with soil for repairing holes left by bombs, and camouflage military equipment using special nets. It was very scary, as there were battles going on all around and there were missiles constantly detonating. Nevertheless we hoped to be liberated soon.

3102691

I performed forced labour for the Germans during the period of occupation of the village Lyudinovo, Smolensk region from August 1941 to September 1943. I had to build bridges, defense-line installations and roads across swamps. This was men's work that was too hard for us women to perform. I thought I would never endure this, but evidently my destiny was to stay alive. We were liberated by the Soviet Army.

3104907

Both my father and mother were killed in war. I lived at my aunt's place in the village of Luzhok where I was born. During the war, I performed hard work for the Germans for a period of 4 months. I did everything: cleaned the barracks, cleaned toilets, and carried wood for heating. We were fed poorly. Later a Nazi man took me to live with him because I was young and beautiful. I did all the housework and slept with him. I have to admit he fed me well; however, when he got drunk, he beat me. I endured it all until we were liberated by Soviet troops.

Stavropol Region

3102826

I was 10 years old when Nazis occupied the area. I was forced to perform labour along with many other Roma. I was brought to a ruined house made of bricks and forced to clear the rubble with my bare hands, to pull out undamaged bricks, to clean and pile them onto a horse carriage. Later I was forced to build fortifications for Nazis with those bricks, where they hid their missiles and ammunition. All this work was certainly kept secret. I was afraid that they would shoot me, and I asked to be transferred to some easier work site, basing my request on my state of health and age. God took pity on me and I was transferred to work in the kitchen. I peeled potatoes

and vegetables, did the dishes, washed the floors, and threw out the garbage. I delivered flasks with food to the barracks. We were fed awfully. When I got back to the barrack, in which the Nazis had gathered us, I dropped from exhaustion and fell asleep. In the morning I had to go to work again.

3102910

When the Nazis occupied Stavropol, we Romas were driven away to a camp [lager] and forced to perform labour. In summer I tended livestock stolen by the Nazis. I learned how to milk cows, strained milk into pails, and distributed it to the Nazis. I cleaned their shoes and Nazis forced me to sing and dance for them. In the winter, I delivered firewood loaded on sledges to the barracks. On sledges I carried pails filled with water, and watered the horses in the stable. I knew that I had to work although I was a child. From adults I heard that those who refused to work were taken far away from the camp, and there, shot. We were fed with corn, which made me sick; my stomach was painful and swollen because of it. I could not work well because I had no strength anymore, thus I was afraid that the Nazis would kill me. Soon the liberators came and I am still alive thanks to them.

3103896

My family and I did not manage to leave the city prior to the arrival of the occupiers, and thus we fell under their oppression. I was forced to work hard. At the railways where I worked I had to carry heavy rails, change them and fortify them on tracks that had been destroyed by bomb attacks, load and unload railcars, pile heavy boxes on the platform, not knowing what was in them. Afraid of being killed, I silently performed any type of work. When the Nazis pulled out the gold crowns from my teeth with ordinary pliers used for nails, they damaged all my teeth and it was very painful. Afterwards I had pain in my mouth for a long time, I was not able to eat for ten days and I could only drink water. I damaged my health because of that harsh work. I was sick but I continued to work, I had no choice, I wanted to live. I had to suffer a lot. A friend of mine who tried to escape but failed, was killed before my eyes. However, I managed to survive.

Tula Region

3103215

When the war started I was visiting my grandmother in Uzlovaya, Tula region. We hoped that the Fascists would not reach us; therefore we did not go away anywhere. Unfortunately, in November the Fascists occupied the city. Everyone who managed to survive was registered at the commandant's office and ordered to start working. I also had to work to avoid being shot as a person who refused to work. In the beginning, I was assigned to load and unload rail cars. We unloaded cars with the boxes full of stolen property and then loaded them again onto rail cars. Then I was assigned to clean the streets. I swept them, cleared the snow, filled craters left from bomb explosions with soil, and helped to clear the rubble from bombarded houses. It was winter, but we were half-dressed and had no gloves. However, I endured everything

and survived that hell. After liberation we went away to another city, and then I settled down in Nizhniy Novgorod region.

3103226

I fell under the occupation in my hometown, Belev. All surviving citizens were registered at the commandant's office and ordered to start working. For refusal to work the punishment was execution by firing squad. I worked in the canteen: cleaning the dining room, washing floors, collecting dirty dishes, cleaning pots and frying-pans, fetching firewood for stoves and water for cooking and cleaning, and peeling vegetables. The workday lasted from morning till late at night, and it was really difficult to spend a whole day on your feet. The town was occupied only for two months, but the Fascists left us in poverty, because they had plundered our household belongings and burned down our houses. After that we wandered for a long time, but when I got married I settled down in Arzamas region.

3105219

Our tabor roamed all over the country and when the war began we stayed in Novomoskovsk, Tula region. However, in the autumn of 1941, the Fascists occupied the city, and we did not manage to leave. Our tabor was divided, women were housed separately, men were taken away, and apparently they were shot. I was ordered to work at the hospital. There I assisted in putting bandages on, after that I washed the bloodstained bandages, and washed the floors of the wards. In the winter, I tended the stoves in the wards. I took bedpans away, served drinks, fed severely wounded individuals, and fetched heavy flasks with food from the kitchen. We were always hungry and because of that our heads were spinning, we had no strength to work, and I was extremely tired. But I had to bear it all, because for any fault the Fascists would shoot without mercy. Despite all the troubles and hardship I stayed alive. After the war, survivors from our tabor continued to roam. After starting my own family, I returned to settle down in my hometown.

Tver Region

3102158

One cannot erase the hard years of war from the memory of a child. The town of Rzhevsk in the Kalinin region was occupied by the German aggressors practically without any resistance. Without losing any time, the Germans stripped all locals of housing, food and means of transport. Communists, Jews, and to a certain extent, Roma, were shot in the most horrific manner. My mother and brother were among those who were shot. Unfortunately that happened before my eyes. I performed labour 14 – 15 hours a day until I was totally exhausted. Sometimes I did not remember how I reached my bed. Death was inevitable in these conditions and therefore I decided to flee. During my flight I was wounded in the left arm. However, the German dogs lost my track when I crossed a shallow river. Incredibly, I reached partisans, with whom I stayed till the end of the war.

3103060

Like most Roma, our tabor roamed all over the country. When war broke out we were roaming around Kalinin region, and the Fascist occupation reached us in Rzhev. The Fascists stole all the property of the tabor, destroyed our tents and carriages, and took away our horses. Like the rest of the population, we were forced to perform labour. I assisted adults in performing labour as much as I could. I collected garbage, took out slops, brought fresh water and wood for stoves, and cleaned soldiers' boots while women cleaned the soldiers' barracks. I also washed cars in a garage, assisted in repairing them and refueled them. Together with other boys I was forced to collect wrecked military equipment that was in the way of shooting. Many boys lost their lives or were crippled after stepping on unexploded landmines or missiles. Luckily I escaped their fate and was left safe and sound, and met the returning Soviet troops.

3103107

I was born in Irkutsk oblast. We were a friendly family: my father was a trader and my mother did housework. Just before the war we moved to my grandmother's in Rzhev. I started attending school there and I liked it very much. When the Fascists occupied the town, I was already in 4th grade. The children from my class were all arrested in the middle of a lesson. Since my appearance was very different from that of the Russian children, I was sent to a camp where they made me perform the hardest work. In the wintertime, I cleaned snow, carried stones to fill in pits left by bombs, cleaned the barracks, did laundry, cleaned boots, and carried water for the soldiers' sauna. The work was too hard for me but I had nobody to complain to, since everybody around was doing hard work up to the point of losing consciousness. I was liberated by Soviet troops, the arrival of which I waited with enormous patience.

Volgograd Region

3102863

During the four months of occupation of Stalingrad we Romas had experienced fear and horror. Nazis mercilessly shot entire families or buried them alive. Women were raped and small children were used as blood donors. We were forced to perform hard labour. As a 9 year-old girl I had to drag pieces of metal beds to barracks, assemble and arrange beds properly in there, so that soldiers would have something to sleep on. In very low temperatures I had to clear snowdrifts, saw logs, chop firewood, and tend the stove. I assisted injured Nazis, washed their bandages, delivered food to them. In spite of my being exhausted and hungry I had to sing and dance. I wanted to stay alive so I hid my tiredness, although it was very difficult for me. I was forced to wash their stinky puttees and their legs and to massage them. It was disgusting, but I had no choice. I experienced fear and humiliation.

3102867

During the occupation of Stalingrad all the Romas experienced tough times. Nazis mercilessly exterminated us. They forced us to perform harsh and dirty labour. I was forced to gather the corpses of dead soldiers and throw them into a common grave.

The corpses were very heavy so I had to drag them. Then I poured gas over them and burnt them. Also, I was forced to dig trenches. Due to very low temperatures the soil was as firm as ice, so I had to chisel it with a crowbar. Because of the intensely cold weather my fingers stuck to the metal. We built fortifications for the Nazis with logs and bricks. I was really exhausted because of the harsh labour. There was hunger and cold. Once I was taken to the forest and forced to saw boughs off trees, which were to be used for heating the barracks. I was extremely cold, so I sat down under the tree and fell asleep. Thanks to the woman who woke me up and saved my life, otherwise I would have frozen to death and not woken up. After that I was sick, but in order to survive I kept working.

3103192

As a consequence of our being illiterate and ill-informed our labor happened to be on the territory occupied by Nazis. Nazis surrounded us. They set their dogs after us, beat us with their rifle butts, loaded everybody into a truck and brought us to some barrack. It was cold there because it was never heated. We were forced to perform labour there. I chiseled soil that was frozen solid, dug trenches, and built fortifications. I had to reconstruct railways, change and fortify rails and railway ties. I assisted in boarding injured soldiers onto railcars. I loaded livestock, horses, boxes full of stolen property onto railcars and all this was sent to Germany. I rebuilt destroyed bridges and roads, which the Nazis used for their movements. My hands and my legs ached because of the hard work. My head was spinning because of hunger.

Voronezh Region

3103239

I was a young girl when the Nazis occupied Voronezh and our labor happened to be on the occupied territory. To escape being sent to Germany I painted my face in soot and dressed in rags. All Roma women were housed in one barrack. They took away all our jewelry and forced us to perform labour. I was sent to work in a front-line hospital where I helped to treat the wounded, cleaned the rooms, brought water to the wounded, fed them, looked after the seriously wounded and did some washing of bandages. In the evenings we were forced to sing and dance for the wounded. My head was spinning and I often fainted because of malnutrition. There were many wounded and therefore we had to work around the clock. I was very tired but I had to keep going. The punishment for refusal to perform labour was very harsh and could include execution. I was lucky to survive through this terrible time until we were liberated by Soviet troops.

3103355

Our labor retreated from the front line together with the Red Army and arrived at Voronezh. We hoped that the Nazis would not reach this location, however they occupied the city in the summer of 1942. All residents of the city were ordered to register with the commandant's office in order to be sent to perform labour. We were split up to perform different types of labour. I was initially sent to dig trenches and to

camouflage the defense lines. I also cleared rubble that blocked roads, filled holes on roads and cleaned snow from the streets. We had almost no food, and the Fascists had taken away our warm clothing for themselves. It was cold, and without gloves I got bloody callouses on my hands. My back ached from the weight I was forced to carry. We worked the whole day without any breaks and our supervisors constantly forced us to work faster. If a person fell to the ground out of malnutrition or tiredness, he/she was shot on the spot. Notwithstanding this nightmare, I survived until our liberation.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP VIII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

CASE SUMMARIES

Brest Region

3104343

I would like to tell you about the town of Brest where my family resided during the war. My mother worked in the factory and the Germans used to give her special cards for bread. My brothers were sent to Germany to perform labour. I was raped by the Germans several times. Initially I lived with one German, then with others. I took care of them and did all the household work. I was fed normally. Sometimes they even gave me honey and margarine. I was liberated by the Soviet troops.

3104810

I was roaming with my tabor, and when the war started, we happened to be in Brest, Belarus. My husband and brother were sent to perform labour in Germany. I remained with a small child. Later a German made me live with him and they (Germans) drowned my son in a well. I worked in the house of the German. I did laundry, washing, cooking and was forced to sleep with him. Now and then in the evenings I was forced to go to the sauna with the Germans. I had to both wash them and sleep with them. I received the same food they ate themselves: porridge, eggs, butter and sausage. I was liberated by the Soviet troops.

3105107

At the outbreak of the war our tabor happened to be on the territory of Belarus not far from Brest. A missile hit our tent and many children as well as adults were injured. The rest of us were taken prisoner. My father attempted to flee and was shot. I was sent to a German officer. He made me live with him. I served food to Germans, cleaned, baked, laundered and worked on the harvest. Sometimes I would be given a holiday once a month. I was liberated by Soviet troops.

Gomel Region

3102289

Our village Myshinka was occupied by the Nazis during the first months of the war. All inhabitants who survived the battles were forced to perform labour. I was sent to work in the stable. I helped to shoe horses, cleaned, watered and fed them, and cleared away manure after them. It was especially difficult during the winter; I had to hollow

out ice in order to get drinking water, and to rake out hay from underneath the snow. I slept alongside the horses, it was warm by their side. I ate oats stolen from them. The horses helped me to survive and wait for liberation.

3105348

From July 1941 until September 1943, during the years of occupation of my hometown, Gomel, by the Fascist Army, I was driven out and forced to build military fortifications. Along with adults I chopped wood, chopped boughs off trees, tied logs with ropes, dug trenches and fortified them with logs. We slept on bunks, directly on straw, were fed soup, and sometimes we were given bread. We were liberated by Soviet troops.

3105674

A German took me to his house in 1941; I had to serve at his table, clean, and wash for him. I lived in a nearby shed. He gave me food, sometimes porridge, sometimes potatoes, but otherwise I was given bread and water like other citizens of the town of Zhlobin. In early February of 1942, in the winter, I escaped from home, because the German started to increasingly harass me. At first I wandered around, then I reached the partisan division named after "Zaslonov."

Grodno Region

3103660

I worked in the town of Lida from the very beginning of the war. The Nazis forced me to harvest potatoes outside of town in the autumn. For several months I dug trenches, everyday from morning till evening. Then I lived at a German's house, did his laundry, and cleaned his house; he fed me alright. And I slept with him--why hide this sin now--since otherwise they would have killed me. This is how it was until liberation.

3105470

I was forced to bring firewood and distribute it to the houses of Germans. I did this for two weeks. I lived with my mother and sister. We fed ourselves, mostly with potatoes. Sometimes Germans gave us some bread. My mother did laundry for them. In December 1943, I chopped firewood for a German officer and arranged it in a shed. He only said "gut, gut." I remember he played a joke on me right before New Year's Eve by pouring a bucket of water on me while I was cutting wood for him. I was liberated by the Soviet troops.

3105842

When the war broke out, the Nazis did not make us work, but then, starting in December 1941 they forced my grandfather and me to feed cattle and care for them. Since my grandfather had cattle himself, he also had a big shed where Germans put

the cattle they had taken away from other people. They made us look after the cattle, clean, pasture and feed them. I brought water to the cattle, cleaned the shed and took the cows and bulls out to pasture. We lived a normal life and the Germans did not bother us since we were responsible for all the livestock in the village and we had food. We were liberated by the Soviet troops.

Minsk Region

3105083

I met the war in the village of Strezhi, Vileyskiy district, Minsk region in July 1941. In the beginning I hid in the forest with my parents. Then I became bold and went to the village, where we had buried meat. Here the Germans caught me. They took me to work on a farm, to pasture and harness horses and bring them back at a particular time. If they thought anything was wrong, they beat me. I slept in the stable; I was fed scraps. I was rarely given any bread. We were liberated by the Soviet Army.

3105474

I have hard memories about the occupation of the village Grichino in Dzerzhinsk district, Minsk region. From July 1941 to September 1943 we all lived in fear and deprivation. I, a teenager, was caught and in broad daylight taken to a hayloft in a shed and raped. Then I was taken to a German kitchen where I was forced to heat stoves, chop wood, cook and clean. I ate scraps and slept in the shed. We were liberated by Soviet troops.

3106116

During the war my mother was executed and my father was at the front. I stayed with a relative in Minsk. I worked during the entire war, dug trenches as well as chopped trees in forests near Minsk. We were liberated by the Soviet troops. We were fed badly, paid nothing; what is more, we were treated as animals, we were not regarded as human beings. We had days off, but only when the Nazis wanted. I worked during the entire war, from the beginning until the end. But I hid from 1942 to 1943.

Mogilev Region

3105292

In July 1941, the Germans occupied Mogilev after having broken a one-month resistance. The Fascists treated the prisoners of war cruelly, and then started dealing with civilians. All around there was crying; they first took some neighbors, then others. We were scared to go out on the streets as they were catching people and taking them to be shot. In the beginning of 1943, I was captured next to my house and driven to their hospital, where they took a lot of blood from me. Then they took me to a barrack where teenagers like me stayed and left me there. They fed us with a thin soup, rarely giving us a piece of bread. They started taking me to build military fortifications. During day, I dug dugouts. When the Germans started retreating, they were particularly cruel, and so I decided to run away. At night I escaped to the forest getting through their security. That is how I survived. We were liberated by the Soviet troops.

3105372

After the occupation of Bobruysk in July 1941 the Germans searched the entire neighbourhood for Jews and Gypsies. I hid with my mother and sisters. But when our food was finished I went to the market to buy some bread (the money had been collected by several families). There I was captured and sent to a labour camp where I did the same work as adults. We built roads, fords and dug out shelters. We were fed soup and sometimes bread. I remember this all like a nightmare. We were liberated by Soviet troops.

3105467

During the occupation of the Mogilev region in July 1941 by the Fascist troops, we all lived in fear that we would be taken and executed at any moment. The Jews and Gypsies who had not hidden were executed. My mother, sister, brother and I hid in a forest and lived in a mud-hut. In the beginning of 1943 I was captured on a street (there was an ambush) and taken to a labour camp. I had to work from morning to evening, as the Germans were getting ready to defend themselves. We lived in a barrack, were fed a thin soup, and beaten without any reason. We were liberated by the Soviet troops.

Vitebsk Region

3103673

In the Spring of 1943, I was forced to dig trenches in a former football field in the outskirts of Vitebsk. We had a day off on Sundays. I got food with a card. They gave us a piece of bread and water. I lived in a barrack with other 10-12 people. We slept on the floor. The Germans treated us badly. I looked more like a Gypsy than a Russian, but I spoke Russian fluently, which is why the policemen did not denounce me. The Soviet troops liberated us. I worked during the spring and summer, and partly through the autumn.

3105472

In 1942, a German officer took me to his house in the village of Britiki. I cleaned his house, the yard, heated the bathhouse, and chopped logs. He did not trust me with cooking. I had no choice, because my father had been executed, and my mother and brother had been deported. The German fed me more with leftovers than with normal food. He made me get drunk, and then dance, but he did not harass me. When the Soviet troops were approaching, I escaped.

3106143

During the war I lived with my parents in the town of Gorodok in the Vitebsk region. The Nazis took my father away, and my mother and I worked for the Fascists. I had some understanding of technical equipment, and so I walked five kilometers every day to take care of it. I had to check all the connecting parts in the suspensions of cars and motorcycles. In addition, I washed cars. They fed us with what the Germans in this division ate. Then I collected leftovers and brought them home to my mother. During 1942, every day and without any day off, my mother cleaned two houses, where German officers lived, until she got sick with tuberculosis. I had one day off – Sunday, but usually the Germans told me on Saturdays to come on Sundays to wash cars. At the end of 1943, I escaped to the partisans. I hid until the end of the war.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORY OF UKRAINE AND MOLDOVA - TRANSNISTRIA**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3106679

Claimant was 21 years old when the war began. Many Gypsies were taken to defend the motherland, i.e. to serve in the army. As Claimant was travelling around, he was not taken. Instead the Fascists collected all the Roma in Nisporenskiy region in 1942 and drove them to Rybnitsa in Moldova. There Claimant stayed more than a year working. Claimant was taken to railroads, which he had to repair; he loaded and unloaded carriages. Claimant was taken to fields. They were scarcely fed and often became sick. They were not given any money for the work. In the beginning of 1944, Claimant was taken to Ukraine on foot. He walked from May to August. He was not given any water, and he hardly saw food. Many people died. Claimant was brought to fields, where he had to collect the harvest, and then he was driven further. Thanks to some corn and grain he survived. They intended to execute Claimant in 1944, but at that time the Red Army took the offensive and so the soldiers rescued him.

3106808

In 1942, Claimant was driven to Ukraine, Vinnitskaya region, apparently near Bershad. He worked as a blacksmith, in the fields, digging trenches and bringing in the harvest. All of this was done by hand. Gypsies were starving, getting sick, dirty. There was no medicine, they were often sick. Many had typhus. The war had a bad impact on Claimant's health, because of the fact that he was in the Ghetto. In 1944 Claimant was supposed to be executed. Claimant survived only because the Red Army liberated him.

3106866

During the war, the Germans and Romanians occupied Claimant's village of Koban, Kalineshty, where she lived at that time. All the Gypsies were driven out of their houses. They were beaten and those who tried to resist were executed right away. They were gathered in a line. First, they were told to hand over all their valuables and gold, then they were told that they would be deported to Ukraine. They were driven on foot towards Beltsy. On the way they were beaten. Many people could not endure this; there was no food, and they fell down. The Fascists got them up using their rifle butts; those who could not stand up were killed and left on the road. In Beltsy, Claimant was put onto the Stalypinskiy train, which apparently was intended for carrying cattle, and sent to Odessa. From there, she was sent further. And so

Claimant ended up in a camp near Kovalevka. She lived in a long shed. Every day Claimant was sent to work. She was scarcely fed - only bran and vegetable peels. Due to such food and the exhausting forced labour people died every day. It was extremely cold in winter; Claimant covered herself only with straw. Until 1944, Claimant worked for the Fascists, dug trenches, worked in fields, collected beetroot, potatoes. In general, men worked as shoemakers and blacksmiths. Claimant was liberated by the Soviet Army.

3106933

Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] was travelling around, and the Germans captured them in 1942 when they were in the town of Yassy. Their property was taken - gold, money, horses and cows. People were executed on the way to Varvarovka. When Claimant's tabor was driven to the camp, the Germans started mistreating, beating and killing them and forced them to work. They had to perform a lot of hard work as a result of which many people died and were bricked up in the walls of buildings. Claimant worked in the fields, collected the harvest, sawed wood and collected boughs in a forest. Men worked as blacksmiths. Claimant was lucky that she managed to escape with the help of locals.

3107428

When the war began, Claimant was 13 years old. His father went to the front, and Claimant and his mother stayed at home. When the Fascists came, Roma were rounded up. Many were executed - elderly and sick people. The rest were driven along in lines. Fascists and policemen with dogs guarded them. Claimant walked for a long time. Not everybody reached the camp; some could not endure - they either died or were executed by the Fascists because they could not walk. The camp was surrounded by barbed wire and guarded. It was located in the village of Berezovka. Adults were forced to work from early morning until late in the evening. Claimant also helped. Older children helped the adults. Claimant dug trenches, chopped wood, fired stoves, cleaned, swept. Claimant scarcely ate. The Fascists mistreated the Roma, beat them and set their dogs on them. Claimant was liberated by the Soviet Army; which drove the Fascists out. From the camp Claimant did not go back home. Claimant went to Moldova together with other Gypsies.

3107443

Claimant's tabor [Romany Camp] travelled around in Romania, Moldova, Bessarabiya, etc. They even reached Poland. The Fascists arrested Claimant's tabor in Moldova and immediately took everything from them. They were driven to Ukraine near the town of Nikolaev, in particular to the village of Domanevka. There they stayed until liberation. From morning until evening Claimant performed the hardest work - loaded, carried, dug, built, worked in the fields. Claimant was not paid for this work; was scarcely fed; was beaten, and adults and children often became sick. In 1944 the Germans intended to drown them in a river. Apparently it was on August 1 that the Red Army took the offensive. Airplanes first dropped leaflets. The Fascists started running away, and then the area was bombed. That is how Claimant stayed alive.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORY OF MOLDOVA**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3102203

When the war began, Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] was travelling around in Moldova. One day it stopped in Kishinev for an overnight stay, and in the morning the Fascists had broken through the defense line and occupied the town. All Roma were gathered into barracks, and the men and the elderly were driven away to an unknown location. The rest were taken to perform forced labour. First Claimant was sent to dig trenches and build defense installations. He often loaded cars and train carriages. Then Claimant cleaned streets: he had to sweep them, and clear away snow in winter. he cleared away the debris of houses, which were impeding traffic; and filled in craters with soil. Claimant was a teenager but had to work as if he was an adult from dawn until dusk. Food was scarce, and Claimant worked with his bare hands in winter because the Fascists had taken their warm clothes. It was freezing cold. It was very hard to endure humiliation by the Fascists, but Claimant managed to survive.

3107046

During the war Claimant was 16 years old, which is why she remembers well when first the Romanians and then the Germans occupied her village, and how they took all her family and other Gypsies to work by force. They forced them to dig trenches and build roads. Many Gypsies were driven to the Bug. Claimant was not paid for his work. If anyone refused to work, they were beaten severely and if somebody tried to escape, they were shot. Claimant's family is grateful to the Red Army for liberation from the German occupants.

3107230

During the war when the Germans occupied Claimant's village, he was approximately 9-10 years old, but he remembers well that Gypsies were forced to work. Out of fear they would do everything that the Germans told them to do, i.e. build roads, dig trenches. Nobody was paid for this slave labour. As for Claimant, he was a 9-10-year-old kid, he pastured horses, cleaned uniforms. Claimant had to clean badges and boots till they shone. If he did not want to do it, or more precisely, if he refused to do it, they would beat him severely. Sometimes Claimant did not sleep at night so that they would be satisfied with his work, because everything had to be clean in the morning, including horses and stables. Claimant was not paid anything for this work. Thanks to the Red Army he was liberated.

In 1943 Claimant was sent to work in a special camp. He was put into a truck and taken to the village of Kozakliya. Claimant does not remember the name of this area; it might have a different name. But Claimant does know and remember that he worked on a building site. Claimant carried sand, chippings, stones using a cart; he dug the foundation for a building together with other Roma. He was severely mistreated, beaten, and then again forced to work. The same happened to others as well. Hard slave labour, dust, cold, starvation had a bad impact on Claimant's health. As a consequence of this Claimant lost his vision. He also had problems with his digestive organs (stomach and liver). Claimant was rescued by the Red Army.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR FOR
THE NAZI REGIME DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

1.a. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Northern Hungary

3454394

Claimant performed slave labour in Tolgyes (now part of Slovakia). In August 1944, the German Military Police stopped Claimant near Ofeherto, Hungary and then took him away by truck to Tolgyes, Slovakia, where he was kept under surveillance with 33 other Roma in the cellar of the nearby castle. Claimant was beaten and forced to work in the nearby fields. He was threatened several times with execution. Once they were driven out to dig themselves a mass grave, but fortunately the commander arrived and thus the execution did not take place. When the Russians were approaching, the Germans left them behind and after a few days they scattered and made their respective ways home.

3455304

Claimant performed forced labour in Kisvarda. He was taken by the Germans to perform forced labour because of his Roma origin. His father had also been taken to perform forced labour, six months earlier. Claimant was forced to work in the territory between the towns of Kisvarda and Zahony. He had to dig trenches, perform railway labour and other physical work. The camp was closed when the Russians arrived.

Group Summary

(3455441, 3455453, 3455454, 3455455, 3455462 and 3455465)

Claimants performed slave labour in Ujfeherto. Claimants were in the ghetto in Ujfeherto between April 1944 and March 1945. They were taken to the ghetto by gendarmes and Nazi soldiers because they were Roma. In the ghetto, they were under constant surveillance by gendarmes. They were forced to perform agricultural labour during the day. They heard that the Jews had been taken to concentration camps and exterminated, and they spent their days in fear that they would also be murdered. They did not receive any information, and they could not even talk to each other, because they were closely guarded while they were working.

Group Summary

(3455452 and 3455466)

Claimants performed slave labour in Ujfeherto. Claimants were taken to the ghetto in Ujfeherto and remained there between April 1944 and March 1945. In April 1944,

gendarmes and the Nazi soldiers appeared at their homes and took them by surprise. They were not told anything. Roma men, women, and children were transported to the camp at Ujfeherto, where they were held under constant surveillance. There they were forced to work. Even the children performed agricultural labour. Neither food nor medical attendance was supplied. They knew that earlier the Jews had been taken away and killed, and Claimant and the other Roma were expecting to have the same fate. They spent their days in fear and terror.

3455462

Claimant performed slave labour in Ujfeherto. Between April 1944 and March 1945, Claimant performed forced and slave labour while in the ghetto in Ujfeherto. In April 1944 gendarmes and officers with a swastika on their uniforms took Claimant and other Roma to the ghetto in Ujfeherto. He was under 24-hour surveillance in the camp. During the day, he was taken to work in the fields. He was not provided sufficient food, accommodation, or medical assistance. He and the others were not informed about anything, not what was going to happen the following day, or when they would be released. They spent their days in fear, expecting that they would be murdered. Claimant lived through all these events as a child of 9 years old, and is still traumatised. Claimant was taken away with his mother, but was separated from her in the ghetto.

3455475

Claimant performed slave labour in Raho. On 4 May 1944, German troops transported Claimant 800 kilometres from the Hungarian border to Ukraine, in the Soviet Union, to German troops engaged in fighting, because he was of Roma origin. He was forced to work in the Carpathians, near Raho (then annexed to Hungary), building bunkers. He worked as a forced labourer for seven months, but before the withdrawal of the troops he managed to escape from the labour camp. In the camp they were under constant surveillance by armed guards. Some people who attempted to escape were executed.

3455522

Claimant performed slave labour in Szendro. During the German occupation in 1944 Claimant was 31 years old and had five children. In the spring of 1944 the Germans came to Szendro. After their arrival, the Roma settlement was quarantined and a curfew was ordered. Her husband was taken away and never returned. The Roma were shaved bald, and the girls and women were sexually abused, in many cases in front of the children. They were forced to work, and they were frequently beaten. There was a typhus outbreak and they had no medicine so many people died. In the end they were taken and confined in the 'Rockdust Pit' where it was very crowded, and the situation became even more unbearable. When the German soldiers finally fled, they destroyed the Roma houses. Claimant was left alone to raise her five children, penniless and homeless.

3455604

Claimant performed slave labour in Selyeb. In the spring of 1944 the Germans came to Claimant's village along with gendarmes. They took accommodation in the local

school and in the houses of some farmers. Claimant and other Roma were confined in their homes by the gendarmes. They were told that if anyone tried to escape they would be taken to the village of Szikszó and later to Germany. They were allowed to come out of their houses only when taken to perform forced labour. Claimant and other Roma women had to perform agricultural labour under the surveillance of the gendarmes. The men either had to dig trenches because of the approaching Russians, or work for farmers. They were very frightened because they had heard that 20 km away, in the village of Szikszó, the Germans had already prepared cattle cars for transports. Claimant and the other Roma living in the Roma settlement were saved by the arrival of Russian troops. The Germans and the gendarmes fled when they heard the boom of cannons.

Group Summary
(3455633 and 3455863)

Claimants performed slave labour in Arnot. During the Second World War, in the autumn of 1944, Claimants were living in Arnot with their parents, when German soldiers occupied the Roma settlement. The Germans erected machine gun emplacements, and the freedom of the inhabitants, including Claimants, was curtailed. They were not allowed to leave their homes. Adults and older children were forced to work. Claimants participated in taking down telephone poles that stood in the meadow at the time.

3455642

Claimant performed slave labour in Raho. In 1944, Claimant was living in Hodmezovasarhely with another family because her parents had died. Two soldiers and a gendarme appeared and told her to bring food with her for two days, because they were to take her for work. The father of the family spit on the Roma man who was with them, and thus the whole family had to go to perform forced labour. They were taken to the train station and put on the first car. They were transported to Raho where they dug trenches and cleared the forest. In the evenings, Claimant did laundry for the men and cooked whatever she could find.

3455651

Claimant performed slave labour in Satoraljaujhely. Claimant, her parents and three siblings were taken from Satoraljaujhely to Rozsák Tanya (on the outskirts of Satoraljaujhely) in 1944. They stayed in unheated barracks, and hardly received any food, except for some bread and porridge so that they did not starve to death and could be forced to work. Claimant remembers that many Roma from Satoraljaujhely and the neighbouring villages were there with them. They were constantly guarded by gendarmes, and those who did not work were beaten. Many women were raped. Claimant was 12 years old at the time and also had to work. Her parents, her siblings and she worked cleaning and stacking carrots, collecting turnips, and performing other tasks. This was a terrible period for Claimant and other Roma. First, in the spring, the Jews had been rounded up and confined. The Jews had been kept under strict surveillance, and the gendarmes had ensured that nobody could give them food. And then, in the summer, it was the Roma's turn. Nobody was spared; everybody was rounded up. The men were separated and taken away by the Germans. Only a few

returned. Claimant worked together with another woman, who at that time had a child that starved to death.

3455680

Claimant performed slave labour in Szendro. She was 12 years old when German soldiers and Arrow Cross men occupied her village. They quarantined the Roma settlement and everybody was taken to a cellar. Three days later they were allowed to come out and everybody was shaved bald. Claimant and her siblings were forced to work on the local collective farm for 10-12 hours per day. The work was very difficult, they were humiliated, and if they did not work hard enough they were beaten.

3455693

Claimant performed slave labour in Szendrolad. When Claimant was 13 years old, he lived in Szendrolad with his parents and three siblings. His father was a shepherd in the village and he was with his father when the Arrow Cross men arrived in 1944. The Roma settlement was quarantined and Claimant did not see his mother or siblings for months. His father became frightened about what might have happened at home and tried to go home, but was caught on his way. He was taken away and only returned after the war. Claimant remained with the animals in the field and in the evenings he drove them into the barn. From that day on, he had to carry out his father's duties. The Arrow Cross men forced him to herd the animals. He was threatened that he would be killed if he refused, and he was beaten. The Arrow Cross men came every day and helped themselves to animals for their own supply. Claimant was scared when he was alone in the dark, and during the day he was scared of the Arrow Cross men. He received food only once a week from their leftovers. He had to dig a pit, which served as a shelter. He hid himself in there from the rain and storms. At the beginning of October, the Germans began to flee. Three German soldiers and Claimant drove the animals and later two Arrow Cross men joined them. They were told to drive the animals to the train station in Edeleny. Claimant was very scared because he suspected something bad was going to happen to him when they got there. When they arrived, the others all went to eat and Claimant waited there. Fortunately, a Hungarian soldier came along, and with his help Claimant managed to escape.

3455723

Claimant performed slave labour in Paszto. In autumn 1944, when the Germans arrived, Claimant and his family were driven out of their house and his mother was raped. Horses were then kept in their house. Claimant was forced to work digging trenches for the German soldiers.

3455776

Claimant performed slave labour in Mateszalka. At the end of April 1944 two gendarmes attacked the inhabitants of the Roma settlement in Hodasz, and the people who did not manage to escape, including Claimant, were driven to the local train station. From there they were taken to Mateszalka in cattle cars, to the Gypsy ghetto, next to the train station. The families were put together in houses, 8-10 people were

in one room. The women were not taken away to work, they had to clean in the camp and look after the children. Men had to chop wood and clear forests. Claimant delivered her daughter there. She was born with a hare-lip, and because there was no medical assistance she died when she was two weeks old. Russian soldiers liberated the camp in October 1944.

3455783

Claimant performed slave labour in Mateszalka. In early April of 1944 the Roma people living in Nyiradony, including Claimant and her parents, were collected and taken to the local Jewish synagogue by Hungarian gendarmes and German soldiers. From there they were taken to the ghetto in Mateszalka where the Jews had been detained before. Claimant's father was taken to dig trenches, and she stayed with her mother. They were in rags, starving. Because of the lack of hygienic facilities all their hair was cut off. They had to work cleaning in the camp, collecting potatoes, and performing other tasks that they could hardly do because they were so weak. If they complained they were beaten. They suffered until liberation in October 1944.

3455786

Claimant performed slave labour in Mezohegyes. Claimant was 13-14 years old when the policemen appeared in the Roma settlement. Claimant was sent to Mezohegyes to work. He lived in the stable at Mezohegyes, and worked in the tobacco and beet fields, from morning until evening. They received only a little food, and Claimant was always hungry.

3455797

Claimant performed slave labour in Raho. On 20 February 1944, Claimant was participating in a Levente class in St. Stephen Square in Hodmezovasarhely. Two soldiers and gendarmes appeared at the class, and all the young Roma were selected and informed that they would be taken for work. Claimant and others were escorted to the train station and put onto railway cars. In Raho, they built bunkers, dug trenches and cleared the forest together with adult men under inhuman conditions. There was no medical assistance available. They were guarded by soldiers at the worksite and also within the camp.

3455812

Claimant performed slave labour in Orhalom. She and other Roma were forced to work without a break. Anyone who complained that they could not work any more was shot to death immediately. They were held in an enclosed yard, and guarded by soldiers with weapons. Germans came to check on them and those who complained were shot on the spot. They could only talk to visitors over the fence. Claimant and other Roma did not receive any food, other than what their parents could send them, and they were starving. When they were sick, they did not receive any medical assistance. They did not receive any warm clothes, not even a blanket, in late autumn, and they suffered from the cold. They slept on straw.

Group Summary
(3456158 and 3456228)

Claimants performed slave labour in Miskolc. Claimants were 18 years old and 21 years old, respectively. At the time of the events Claimants and their families shared a courtyard, along with approximately 30-40 people. They lived close to Miskolc and Ujgyor, and thus the Germans took them to perform defence work around Christmas 1944. One day, two German soldiers came, and drove all the people from the yard to the creek that ran at the end of the garden. There they had to dig trenches, so the soldiers could hide and protect themselves. Everybody, including children, women, and men, had to work digging. They had to work from dawn to dusk. Anyone who did not work fast enough was beaten, including one of the Claimants. In the evening, they were allowed to return home, but there they were also guarded. Armed soldiers guarded them the entire day, so that we would not escape. One night, when Claimants were in their neighbours' air-raid shelter, people started shouting that the Russians were coming and that they were freed. Hearing this news, the Germans fled and were never seen again.

3456192

Claimant performed slave labour in Selyeb. In the spring of 1944 the Germans and the gendarmes confined the Roma in their homes. Most of the Roma were then forced to perform different kinds of agricultural labour. Claimant had to work as a maid. She had to clean for the Germans who were lodged in the school.

3456670

Claimant performed slave labour in Paszto. He was 11 years old when the Germans marched into Paszto. They drove him and his parents and sisters out of their house so that the house could be used as a stable. Claimant and others were forced to dig pits in the cemetery, while the Germans pointed guns at them. The Germans wanted to take Claimant's sisters away, and beat him up when he tried to protect them.

3456691

Claimant performed slave labour in Petervasara. Claimant was around 9 years old when German soldiers occupied her village, Petervasara, in late autumn 1944. The Germans ordered a quarantine around the Roma settlement, and it was not possible to enter or leave the place. They were all fearful about what was going to happen. During the first week of the occupation, all the Roma, including men, women, and children, were forcibly taken out of their houses, and gathered on the square in the middle of the Roma settlement. After that, they were informed that they were all going to be forced to work. Those who opposed were beaten. Claimant and her Roma companions had to peel potatoes, dig trenches, and carry water. Once, when she did not want to go to work, one of the armed soldiers grabbed a shovel and hit her. She never dared to oppose German authority again. This continued until the Russians came to Hungary, the Germans had to retreat, and they were liberated.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR FOR
THE NAZI REGIME DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

1.b. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in the Transdanubian Region

Group Summary
(3455419 and 3455322)

Claimants performed slave labour in Livia major. Claimants state that in 1944 they were forced to perform slave labour in Livia major under armed guard. From April to November 1944 they performed mainly agricultural labour. Although they were children at this time, they were nonetheless taken with other Roma inhabitants to perform slave labour.

3455500

Claimant performed forced labour in the Bacska region of southern Hungary, which was annexed to Hungary from Yugoslavia in April 1941. In the last days of April 1944, gendarmes and German soldiers came to Claimant's house at night. They knocked on the window, came into the house, and dragged Claimant and other Roma out by their hair. They were taken to the station and put onto railcars. In May 1944, they arrived in Baja and then went on to Bacska, where they were taken to a ghetto-like agricultural site. There they had to perform agricultural labour, such as working with sunflowers and corn. The guards were German soldiers who stood always behind their backs. Every Sunday at four o'clock they tied up the women, and tied the men to trees. Anyone who fainted had water poured on them. When working they were often beaten. In December 1944, Soviet troops arrived in the region, and the Germans withdrew and made them dig trenches. When the ghetto site was liberated they went home barefoot.

Group Summary
(3455501, 3455469, 3455484, 3455493, 3455496, 3455500, 3455502, 3455503 and
3455519)

Claimants performed slave labour in the Bacska region of southern Hungary, which was annexed to Hungary from Yugoslavia in April 1941. In the last days of April 1944, German soldiers, shouting, drove them out of their homes and took them to Bacska-Baja in railway cars. While in the cars they received no food or water. After arriving at the Baja railway station, they were put into trucks, but there was not enough room for everyone, and some people had to follow on foot, under escort. The trucks arrived at an agricultural site where there were barracks surrounded by barbed wire. Armed German soldiers, shouting, ordered them off the trucks and escorted them to the site. They were forced to perform agricultural labour on this site under

inhuman conditions. They had to plant corn and sunflowers, and harvest crops. To eat they were given only the amount of food needed to keep them alive, a small amount of bacon and rotten peas. If anyone resisted, they were tied up, beaten, and bound to trees. The German soldiers often did this for entertainment.

3455626

Claimant performed slave labour in Nogradmarcali. In July 1944 Claimant and other Roma were forcibly taken by the German soldiers and Hungarian Arrow Cross men from Balassagyarmat to an estate in Nogradmarcali where they were forced to perform agricultural labour such as hoeing and harvesting. The soldiers were very violent and Claimant and others were often beaten. The food was very bad. They were forced to work until October 1944.

3456102

Claimant performed slave labour in Kiralymezo Turbacil, and in Vemend. In June 1940 the young abled-bodied Roma men from Mohacs, including Claimant, were rounded up and taken to Pecs. From there they traveled by train night and day, eventually reaching Kiralymezo Turbacil. In that region there were mountains and large pine trees. Claimant and other Roma lived in barracks, they were forced to work building a road and chopping down trees. In the other camp there were only Jews, who carried the wood. The Roma were forbidden to have contact with them. The Roma camp was guarded and they were not allowed to leave. Three months later Claimant was released. Later, in 1944 Claimant was back in Mohacs, near the Danube. The Russians were on one side of the Danube, and on the Mohacs side there were German trenches. Claimant and other Roma were not allowed to go there because the Germans would have killed them. One autumn night in October the gendarmes collected Claimant and other Roma men and brought them to the camp in Trefort Puszta (Vemend), saying that Roma were lazy and did not like to work. There they were supervised by soldiers. They were hardly given anything to eat, and slept in barns where there was not even straw. They were full of lice. There were three barns in the camp and there were approximately one hundred Roma there, only Roma. They were taken to dig trenches and bunkers for the Germans. But in the end they no longer had to go, because they were being shot at by the Russians. One month later Claimant escaped from the camp, and hid until liberation.

3456224

Claimant performed slave labour in Tatabanya. Claimant was arrested and taken away on 12 June 1944 and was released on 16 January 1945. Until liberation Claimant had to work on the construction of barracks. He was taken from Ercsi to Tatabanya and later to Pusztavárom to a camp. He and others were prisoners and were held under guard. To eat they received only water, dried bread and salt.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR FOR
THE NAZI REGIME DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

1.c. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in the Transtisza region

3455354

Claimant performed slave labour in Devavanya. On 1 May 1944 Claimant and other Roma were taken to an estate to perform forced labour; there they had to perform various types of labour. Every morning at 3 a.m. the gendarmes came and they were driven out to the land. Sometimes they were given breakfast, which was a piece of bacon and a little piece of bread. In late afternoon they were given some stale food. Anyone who did not want to eat was beaten by the gendarmes. They frequently got sick because of the food but the gendarmes did not care. Beatings were an everyday routine, even for the sick and very old. When they came back from work it was 10 or 11 p.m. but before going to sleep they were driven to the lake, where they had to wash themselves under the surveillance of gendarmes. Then they were allowed to go to the barn where they stayed, also under the surveillance of gendarmes. Every night the gendarmes said to them "Sleep, dirty, smelly Gypsies, tomorrow we will take you again".

3455367

Claimant performed slave labour in Kecskemet. Claimant was born in 1921 in Kecskemet, and lived in the Roma settlement. The Roma settlement was surrounded by the Germans, and the Roma were beaten and the women were harassed. Claimant was taken away to a forced labour camp where he had to perform railway labour. If he or the other Roma stopped to relax for just a moment, they were beaten with rifle butts. They were starving and there were no hygienic facilities. Claimant also had to dig trenches. Claimant and some others eventually managed to escape. The people in the Roma settlement were beaten, whether man, woman or child. The women were allowed to go to the pumping well to get water. Children playing in front of the house were sometimes shot down.

3455443

Claimant performed labour in Devavanya. On 1 May 1944 Claimant and other Roma were collected by gendarmes and taken under guard by train to Devavanya. There they worked from dawn until late at night. They received only stale food, and anyone who tried to complain was beaten. They were not paid; they received only insults and inhumane treatment. In October 1944 they heard that the Russians had come, and the gendarmes left slowly, one after another. Claimant and others escaped at the end of the month.

3455450

Claimant performed labour in Razompusztá. On 17 May 1944, the Roma men of his village, including Claimant, were rounded up by gendarmes and taken away. First, they were taken to the collection point in Tiszalok, and from there, to Razompusztá. In this camp there were many Roma confined, and they were assigned to perform different jobs. Claimant was sent to work every day, mainly agricultural labour, on an estate. They were confined, crowded, in a sheep shed under inhumane conditions, guarded by soldiers, day and night. They slept on the ground. Their only form of hygiene was washing their hands and face in a drinking trough. They received food once a day, and Claimant lost a significant amount of weight during his confinement. He eventually escaped and went home on foot, arriving approximately ten days later.

Group Summary
(3455480, 3455483, 3455486 and 3455803)

Claimants performed slave labour in Decs. Some Roma families from Decs, Bátaszék and Sárpilis were rounded up and transported to Szekszárd where they were put onto railway cars. Those who were taken to Komárom never returned; they were transported to camps. Mr. Pörnyi, the judge of Decs, gave his approval to the deportation of the Roma families, and they were accompanied by the head of the police. At the gendarme post several violins belonging to Roma musicians were broken into pieces. Some Roma from Decs, including Claimants, were taken to the nearby airport, sometime around September-October 1944. The airport was about 150-200 m away from the Roma settlement in Decs. The Roma were forced to break bricks into pieces to be used to prepare the runway for German planes. Men used hoes and axes to break the bricks, while women and older children put the pieces into baskets and carried them away. Day after day, the gendarmes continued to surround the Roma settlement and the work went on, including everybody: children, men and pregnant women. When the Soviet troops arrived, they forced the Roma people to perform the same work, but at that time the non-Roma inhabitants of the village were also involved.

Group Summary
(3455602 and 3455756)

Claimants performed slave labour in Demecser. In the spring of 1944, gendarmes appeared at the Roma homes in Demecser. Whether they lived in the Roma settlement or elsewhere, the personal details of the Roma were noted, and posted on the walls of their houses. A curfew was ordered, and they could not leave the village, nor were they allowed to go to school. The gendarmes threatened them with shooting, and the Roma were taken away to perform agricultural labour. The agricultural labour lasted until late autumn, October or November. While they were performing the labour they were treated harshly, being called parasites and told that they would be 'next'.

3455663

Claimant performed labour in Debrecen. In March 1944, in the early hours, the Roma men, including Claimant, were rounded up from the Roma settlement in Debrecen. They were taken to the hospital in Debrecen, where they were forced to bury the dead,

do the laundry, and collect dead bodies. In return they received only leftovers, and never any payment. Around November 1944, they were sent home. They had to hide in different places until liberation.

3455710

Claimant performed slave labour in Kecskemet. Claimant lived in Kecskemet in the Roma settlement and was 12 years old at the time. The Roma settlement was surrounded by the Germans, and a curfew was imposed. The men were taken to perform forced labour and the women had to do laundry and iron. They also had to dig big graves and throw the dead bodies into them. They were taken for disinfection once a week, and they were allowed to line up for water at the same time. Originally the Germans wanted to kill all the Roma, but the mayor intervened and saved them.

3455819

Claimant performed slave labour in Mezohegyes. Claimant was 17 years old, and his younger brother was 15 years old, when the gendarmes appeared in the Roma settlement where they lived. When the gendarmes appeared, they gave the order to the Gypsy king at the time to send all the able-bodied men into the street, where they were lined up. They were taken to Fejer county and later to the labour camp at the stable in Mezohegyes, where they stayed in a sheep shed. The sheep were driven out and planks were laid on the ground, and hay was scattered onto the planks. 30-40 people were in a sheep shed like this. They had to work hard from morning to evening. Many became ill, but they still had to work.

3455841

Claimant performed slave labour in Kecskemet. Claimant lived in Kecskemet in the Roma settlement and was 17 years old at the time. Claimant remembers that the Roma settlement was surrounded, the men and women were separated, the men were taken to perform forced labour, and the women were raped. They were made to stand against the wall, a machine-gun was set up, and some of the Roma were shot. They were hungry and they were often beaten. The Germans made them bury those who had been murdered. They were persecuted because they were Roma.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR FOR
THE NAZI REGIME DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

1.d. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Central Hungary

3455315

Claimant performed slave labour in Abony. On 10 June 1944, as a person of half-Jewish, half-Roma origin, Claimant was taken to the Jewish ghetto in Abony with his siblings and mother. On 30 July they were released because they practiced the religion of his mother, who was Lutheran. On the same day Claimant was taken to the estate of a certain Mr. Wolfinger. This was a 200-acre area surrounded by barbed wire, where they were guarded by Arrow Cross men and gendarmes. There they suffered very bad treatment, getting inedible food just once per day. According to Claimant this place was even worse than the Jewish ghetto. Claimant had to perform agricultural labour until 3 November 1944 when he was released.

3455333

Claimant performed slave labour in Kobanya. In the spring of 1944 Claimant and other Roma were rounded up with their parents. A certain Colonel Murai gathered all the Roma into the school. Women and men had their heads shaved. At the beginning of summer the older men were put onto railway cars, and it was said they were taken to Komarom. Those young people, including Claimant, who were able to work were taken to the aircraft factory in Kobanya. There they were forced to work under German surveillance, until being freed by Russian troops. They got back home at the end of December, travelling on foot.

3455436

Claimant performed slave labour in Kunszentmiklos. The Roma families in Claimant's village were first taken away to Egres Street. There, everyone had to strip naked. Water was poured into a big iron tub and something was put into it, making the water white. Then they had to climb into this water. Their clean clothes were put in disinfectant. They protested in vain that they did not have lice. Their heads were shaven completely bald. Anybody who opposed was pushed into the water with rifle butts. Afterwards they covered their heads with shawls in shame. Later they were driven to what is now the home for the elderly and there they had to perform slave labour. In the winter they had to collect sugar beets. They hardly received anything to eat. They lived in constant fear.

Claimant performed slave labour in Jaszalsoszentgyorgy. Claimant was taken with his parents to Jaszalsoszentgyorgy to a sheep barn on the outskirts of the village, and there they were detained for one year. They were beaten and starving, and were held under inhuman conditions. They slept on the ground on straw, without adequate clothing. Both the children and their parents were driven to work under military surveillance. The territory was surrounded by barbed wire. Because of these hardships, they developed diseases that resulted in disabilities later in life.

Group Summary
(3455821 and 3455436)

Claimants performed slave labour in Szalkszentmarton, a village near Kunszentmiklos. In 1943, the houses of 25 Roma families in Kunszentmiklos were torn down and the families were relocated to a site beside the brick factory. The authorities let these families build shacks from the remnants of their former houses. Claimant and others kept hearing rumours that Hitler had the same plans for the Roma as for the Jews. By this time, forcing Roma men to work had already become an everyday practice. They had to load locomotives with coal. Gendarmes collected the men at 3 a.m. and forced them to carry the coal-laden buckets on their backs until the required amount was loaded. Then they could go home. Some men were taken to slave labour at the airport in Bankhaza. Conditions for the Roma became particularly harsh after March 1944 when the Germans occupied the country. With the assistance of the gendarmerie, the local Roma were collected on the square at the end of Wesselenyi Street. The authorities waited until 10 am for the Roma to be rounded up, and then marched them, around 300-400 people, to the hospital located just outside the village, without saying what their intention was. Small children were crying. Nobody was allowed to leave. Anybody who tried to fall out of line was beaten with a rifle butt. At the hospital they said that people would be disinfected. The young women's beautiful long hair was cut off. Anybody who resisted being disinfected or having their hair cut off was badly beaten. The women cried loudly because of the terrible humiliation of having their hair cut off. They were not released until everyone had gone through this procedure. The authorities were unable to capture everyone that day, but they kept a record of those they had missed, and in the end, everybody had to suffer this abuse. The authorities kept emphasising that Roma were filthy and lousy, saying that they should be glad to be left alive and get disinfected, so that they would not infect Hungarians anymore. From this time on, the harassment became even worse and they had to perform slave labour in the Szalkaszentmarton, Solt and Dunafoldvar areas. There the Roma, including Claimants, had to dig roadblocks and perform other excavation work on defence installations, under the supervision of armed soldiers. Claimants were eventually liberated in late 1944 when Soviet troops arrived.

Claimant performed slave labour in and around Budapest. In October 1944, German soldiers caught him and took him to perform forced labour. He and his companions had to shepherd cattle and sheep over a period of days from Karacsond (northern Hungary) to the Public Abattoir in Budapest. While they were doing this work, German soldiers constantly guarded and beat them. Claimant was only a child, and

was scared and hungry. When they reached the Public Abattoir, they were released, but they did not receive any payment or documents.

3456565

Claimant performed slave labour in Dunavarsany. In 1944, in the middle of summer, Claimant was taken away with his parents and three siblings. They had to travel on foot. Armed German soldiers confined them in a camp in Dunavarsany where they had to perform forced labour. The men had to dig trenches, rake the earth, and perform other kinds of work. The women had to serve the soldiers, do laundry for them, and other types of domestic work. Older children, including Claimant, also had to do whatever work they were ordered to do. They were starving, and were held in a cellar under very harsh conditions. People were often beaten. They were released when Russian soldiers arrived in late autumn.

3456570

Claimant performed slave labour in Dunavarsany. In the summer of 1944 German soldiers took Claimant and other Roma away from Szigetszentmiklos to the labour camp in Dunavarsany. There they were forced to dig trenches and rake the earth. They had to work hard until late at night. They went home in late autumn of 1944 after the arrival of Soviet troops.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR FOR
THE NAZI REGIME DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

1.e. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Southwestern Hungary

3454402

Claimant performed labour in Draskovec, Croatia. In October 1944, Claimant and her husband were taken with other Roma by Arrow Cross men to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa where they were detained until the end of December 1944 in a collection camp. In January 1945, they were transported to Draskovec, Croatia, where they were held under permanent armed surveillance. There were no medical personnel or medicine supplied. They were forced to work on farms in the surrounding area until April 1945 when the Soviet troops arrived and they were released.

3454428

Claimant performed labour in Draskovec, Croatia. One night Claimant and other Roma were taken away from the Roma settlement by the Arrow Cross soldiers. First they were crowded into the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa. There they were starving and thirsty, because they were given only a very small amount of food. No medical assistance was provided for those who were ill. From there they were taken further to Draskovec, where they were detained in a church. Claimant's mother was taken away to work, he did whatever he was forced to do, such as sweeping. Many people died because of the continuous bombings. When the Russians arrived they escaped and began their journey home on foot.

3454431

Claimant performed labour in Draskovec, Croatia. One night Claimant and other Roma were rounded up by Arrow Cross men and taken to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa. There they were crowded and confined under inhuman conditions. After a period of time they were taken further to Draskovec, but on the way they suffered a lot because in spite of the fact that Claimant and others were women, they were forced to dig trenches, while they had their children with them, some of whom were being breastfed. They were released from Draskovec when the Soviet troops liberated them. Many Roma died before this.

3454432

Claimant performed labour in Draskovec, Croatia. At night, Claimant and other Roma were deported from the Roma camp. First they were taken to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa, where they did not receive any food or drink. There were no

hygienic facilities or medical care. Claimant was then taken to Yugoslavia for forced labour with her mother. In Draskovec, they dug trenches, and performed other related work, from morning until evening. They were very afraid. During the bombings many died. When the Soviet troops arrived they escaped to wherever they could.

3454445

Claimant performed labour in Draskovec, Croatia. One night in September of 1944 the men were rounded up from the Roma settlement and were taken to the "Jozsef barrack", while the women and the children were driven to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa. The Roma men, including Claimant, were then taken to Iharosbereny in Somogy district, where they were forced to dig ditches and trenches, and build bunkers. They were under the armed surveillance of Arrow Cross men almost day and night. No medical assistance was provided for those who became ill as a result of frequent beatings and starvation. They were all starving and thirsty. After Iharosbereny they were taken to work in Zala district where they had to perform similar work. And finally they were taken to Draskovec, Croatia. One night in April of 1945 there were bomb attacks, and many people died at this time. They were liberated by the Russians and went home by foot.

3454483

Claimant performed labour in Draskovec, Croatia. At night, Claimant and other Roma were deported from Bagola-Sanc Roma Township to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa. There they were kept in crowded and inhuman conditions, without food, drink, or medical assistance. They were then transported to Draskovec, Croatia. There Claimant was separated from her father and stayed with her mother. They dug trenches and worked at whatever the Germans commanded. They fled home after the Russian liberation.

3455742

Claimant performed slave labour in Kistarcsa. During the night Claimant and other Roma were rounded up and taken to the gendarmes' office that was the collection point, and then they were taken further to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa; there was a huge crowd already there. There were many sick children and adults. After a short period of time they were taken further to Kistarcsa to the collective farm where they had to work day and night, harvesting and thrashing corn. They were accommodated in a barrack under inhuman conditions. They were beaten. One night Claimant managed to escape with a few others, and they went home on foot.

3456721

Claimant performed slave labour in Nagykanizsa. In October 1944, the Germans marked the houses of Claimant and other Roma with Xs and took them away from the Roma settlement to Nagykanizsa where they were confined in the coffee factory. The peasant inhabitants in the neighbourhood were advised not to leave their houses because the 'Gypsies' were going to be driven to the nearby field to be shot. They were confined for weeks, they were thirsty, starving and humiliated. They received only thin cabbage soup and potato peels to eat. There was no medical assistance for

anyone who was sick. Their heads were shaved bald and they had to work from morning to night. During the nights they were locked up, and it was very crowded. In February 1945 they were liberated with the advance of the Soviet troops.

3456728

Claimant performed slave labour in Nagykanizsa. In September 1944 Claimant was taken with her family to the Roma collection point in the town of Letenye. After having their hair cut and having been disinfected, Claimant and other Roma were taken to the coffee factory in Nagykanizsa. There they were forced to work and were beaten a lot. During the confinement her parents were tortured and her mother was raped. Claimant and others were sick but no medical assistance was provided. They were confined for six months under inhuman conditions. Many people died. The Germans ordered them to dance barefoot in the snow just for entertainment.

3456731

Claimant performed slave labour in Letenye. In September 1944, Claimant and other Roma, including women, children, and men, were taken away from their Roma settlement to the collection point located at the gendarmes' barrack in Letenye. There they were shaven bald and beaten. Earlier, their houses had been marked and everything inside had been vandalised. In Letenye they were forced to work filling in bunkers and burying the dead. They suffered many hardships until liberation.

3456734

Claimant performed slave labour in Kistarcsa. In 1944, Claimant and other Roma were rounded up by the Germans during the night. First they were taken to the gendarmes' office in Letenye, where their names were recorded, and then they were transported to Kistarcsa to perform forced labour in agriculture. They were given only soup to eat. Claimant was often beaten, did not have a bath for months, and got lice. As a result her head was shaven, which was very humiliating for her. After the Russians occupied Kistarcsa, she managed to escape.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN
KOMAROM DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3425873

In 1944, Claimant was deported to Komarom along with his parents. They were kept there under inhuman conditions. They had to watch people being horribly tortured. They were not given any food or drink and were starving. There were no hygienic facilities, they had sores on their skin, and lice, and did not receive any medical treatment. According to Claimant, the prisoners in Komarom were treated worse than animals. He and other Roma still remember those times, because poverty and bitterness have made them remember. They lost everything they had and had to start over after the war.

3425893

During WWII Claimant was living in Szekesfehervar with her parents and her four siblings. In October 1944, they were locked into railway cars and taken to the Komarom Star Fortress. The women stayed together with the children, and the men were locked up separately. They were confined in the fortress for approximately three months under inhuman conditions. They rarely received food or water, sometimes thin cabbage soup. When they were very thirsty, the guards gave them dirty water from the puddles next to dead bodies. Their clothing was inadequate and they often stood barefoot on the icy ground. One day in December, they were put into railway cars again, and spent a couple of days there. They did not receive any food or drink, and some people next to Claimant suffocated. However, the train did not depart, and one morning the doors were opened and they were told only that everybody could now go wherever they wanted. They fled to her mother's relatives living in Szony.

3425952

Claimant and her family (her mother and four siblings) were deported from Nagybecserd to Komarom in September or October 1944. First they were taken to the collection point in Pecs, and then they were put into railcars and taken to Komarom. There they were locked up in bunkers, and were not allowed to leave them, except when the guards threw food at them. Those who were able to catch the food, ate, those who could not, starved. Claimant was able to return home only in January 1945. The journey was difficult, part of it on foot, and her younger brother became ill and died on the way.

Claimant was held in Komarom. His brother and his father were not released from the ghetto, but were deported and never heard from again. When Claimant and others were released in mid-December, it was snowing, and they went home on foot. They were cold and hungry. According to Claimant, there are many illiterate and unemployed individuals among the Roma because the parents of many children died during WWII. After the war, young children had to work, and their mothers had to beg. There was no possibility that they could go to school, because they were occupied with managing their daily lives. After the war, and the confinement in Komarom, they lived in constant fear, and were afraid that they would be deported again.

During WWII Claimant was a small child, and was taken to Komarom along with his family, from the town of Szony. On 4 November 1944 gendarmes surrounded the Roma settlement, and they put whomever they could find onto trucks, including Claimant and his family. They tried to stay together; everybody looked for their relatives. They were not told where they were being taken, and could not ask, because they would have been beaten. Even children were being beaten with rifle butts. Claimant and other children had difficulty climbing onto the trucks, but they were pushed and shoved by the guards. They did not spare the children. The gendarmes shouted at them, calling them 'parasites' and 'cursed Romas.' The truck stopped in Komarom and they were taken into the 'Star Fortress,' where they were locked up in underground bunkers. It was dark and they were scared. There were many people there, both Romas and Jews. He does not know how many people in total were there, but Roma were brought there from everywhere by train. It was very crowded and they were packed in one on top of another. They were not given water, only a piece of black bread. Claimant cried because of hunger. Many died, mostly young children. The armed guards amused themselves by taking the children away from their mothers and throwing them into the air. They also practiced target shooting on them. They killed them and then they threw them out. The camp and the bunkers were surrounded by moats. Those who tried to escape were shot. Some young Roma and Jewish girls were selected, but nobody knew what happened to them. Many of the Roma died, and they were thrown into a corner and left there. Some of them were still alive, but so weak they could not protest. Claimant had three relatives who were very beautiful women. These women made an arrangement with a certain Gyula Rak, who was the head of the Arrow Cross men, one of the bosses, and who liked beautiful Roma women. He selected these three women for himself, and they convinced him to release Claimant's family. After a month, Gyula Rak came into their bunker, and whomever he pointed at was released, including Claimant. The women and children of Claimant's family were released, but not the men. His brother never returned. They never heard from him again, and he was probably transported from Komarom to a concentration camp. His father was also deported, and returned only one year later, skin and bones, and sick.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN
AXIS COUNTRIES DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3454387

Claimant performed slave labour in Gyergyotolgyes, Romania. On 20 February 1944 German soldiers, Arrow Cross men and the gendarmerie collected the Roma and confined them in the Jewish school. From there Claimant and others were taken with the Jews to Mateszalka, where they were distributed. Thanks to luck and some bribery Claimant was able to stay with her husband. They were both sent to the forced labour camp in Gyergyotolgyes. There she carried water for the men who dug trenches and made concrete machine gun emplacements for the Hungarian Army. Conditions were harsh. After finishing their work they were driven to wooden barracks, which were surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by German soldiers and Hungarian Arrow Cross men. They were released in October 1944 with the advance of the Soviet troops. The Germans escaped and left them to their fate.

3454393

Claimant performed slave labour in Gyergyotolgyes, Romania. In February 1944, Claimant and other Roma were collected in Nyilota (Hungary) and were taken to Fehergyarmat by horse-drawn carriage. There they were put into railcars and taken on to Gyergyotolgyes. There they were forced to work building barriers to protect the Germans from tanks. They were forced to live under very strict conditions; those who were not able to work were beaten with rifle butts. They did not get anything to eat, they had to find their own food. When the Red Army arrived, Claimant, the other Roma, and the Germans escaped at the same time.

3454473

Claimant performed slave labour in Zsido Puszta, Croatia. In 1942 thirty-two Roma were taken away from the Hungarian town of Veszto to perform slave labour in Croatia. Claimant and the others spent more than three years in Croatia, from the spring of 1942 to the end of December 1945, being forced to work on an estate performing agricultural labour. All those working there were Roma.

3456201

Claimant performed slave labour in Nagyvarad, Romania. Claimant was taken to Nagyvarad in 1943 as a soldier, as a member of a labour battalion. He had to take care of the animals and dig trenches. In 1945, he became a prisoner of war in Germany and later in France.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES FROM HUNGARY WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN
GERMANY DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3456152

In May of 1944 Claimant was taken as a child to Szecheny, and from there to Losonc, and from there he and others were taken by railcars to Germany to a certain ghetto--as he is illiterate he does not know the name of the village or city—and there they had to perform slave labour. In the ghetto they were held under inhuman, prison-like conditions. They were forced to work naked, they had to build bunkers, the nutrition was insufficient and there was no medical care available. They worked like animals under German armed surveillance. Anyone who was not able to work was shot like a dog. They were liberated with the arrival of the Russians in Germany.

3456208

Claimant was drafted in Veszprem, Hungary. From there he was taken to a city in Germany, and accommodated in a camp called "B-I". Everyday he was taken by truck to a forest to carry wood, and he also had to work in a cannery. They were around two hundred and were split into two groups. They got three slices of bread per day, but if someone did not work until the very last moment of the day he did not even get the bread. If someone got sick or was not able to work any more he was shot, and they all had to be present when these people were executed. They did not understand German but they read the gestures of the German soldiers, which said that their destinies would be the same if they did not work properly. One of his fellow inmates committed suicide with a piece of iron in the cannery. Claimant also felt that maybe it would be better to die. Every evening there was a search. One day five other fellows and Claimant had to dig a big pit and that they were thrown into. The rest of the people were forced, by guards with guns, to throw soil onto them. The guards laughed at them because they tried to escape from the pit. Then they were beaten by the guards, and every part of his body was swollen. The next day his fellow inmate, who called him "my brother", was shot. On 1 March 1946, they were taken home to Komarom.

3456316

Around Christmas of 1944, Claimant was arrested by Arrow Cross men and gendarmes and taken to Rimaszombat [Rimavska Sobota, now in Slovakia] and then to Hegyeshalom. From here they had to go on foot to Germany. On the way they stopped in barns. Then they arrived at a camp, which was on the outskirts of a city, but he does not know which city. They were held under very harsh conditions: it happened that in the mornings twenty dead bodies would be taken out of the camp. They were taken out to work in the surrounding area. From here they were taken to Dachau, and Claimant presumes that they wanted to exterminate all of them

[Romanies] as was done with the Jews. At that time his health was totally destroyed. After the fall of Nazi Germany, they were taken by the Americans, and in January 1946 they were released.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORY OF UKRAINE - REICHSKOMMISSARIAT AND DISTRICT
OF GALICIA OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3107825

When the war started Claimant was only 13 years old. He worked for the 'kolkhoz' community, but when the Germans went to his village, they forced him to work for them. Claimant performed various types of labour, some part of that work was useful, but some was entirely useless. He fetched water in pails and when he brought a full pail, they would pour it out, laughing. Then they would beat him until he almost died. Claimant was not able to walk home, he could only crawl. If the next day Claimant did not go to work, then they would have shot and killed him; that is what they told him. This is how he spent his childhood.

3107843

During the war Claimant and her parents travelled in the region of Ukraine. When they set up their tents in Poltava, the Germans saw that they were Romas and drove them to the forced labour camp. Claimant's father was killed because he was ill and not able to perform labour. Her mother and older siblings were forced to dig trenches, carry rocks, and weed the fields. As Claimant was a small child she was forced only to sweep up their rooms, and collect the rubbish. Claimant saw her mother beaten by the Germans for trying to feed her. Claimant's Mother told her that due to this incident they were not fed for three days.

3108212

During the war Claimant and her parents travelled in Ukraine. When they settled with their tabor [Romany camp] in the outskirts of Kovyl, somebody informed the Germans that Gypsies were around. Claimant's mother told her that early in the morning the Germans occupied the tabor; they ransacked the tents and took all the property. Elderly people were executed, while younger people were taken to perform forced labour. Claimant and her mother were taken to work in a hospital. Claimant's mother helped bandage, clean and cook for German soldiers. She could not feed Claimant because she would have been beaten. While Claimant's mother dug trenches Claimant dug out soil with her hands. It is impossible to forget that time.

3108320

Claimant turned 18 when the war started. Her tabor [Romany camp] was on the outskirts of Lugansk. When Claimant had gone to exchange things for bread and salt,

the Germans occupied her tabor. They ransacked tents, took gold, clothes, horses; they took all the Gypsies to the square and executed them. Claimant's parents were there and she could see everything. Claimant stood in the crowd and cried. After the execution the Germans committed raids, and Claimant was taken to perform forced labour. She worked in a garment factory, and then was sent to the dye-works. It was unbearable to work there – her eyes were full of tears due to the chemicals and her hands were swollen from hunger. It was difficult to live without parents.

3109629

Claimant and her family were travelling around in Chernigovskaya oblast. The war caught them in the village of Peremoga. The Germans killed Claimant's father and grandfather in front of her. They burned their clothes, took their horses, gold and food. They drove the whole tabor [Romany camp] to Ponchievka in Chernigovskaya region. There they executed all weak and elderly people. Claimant was forced to dig graves for them. Claimant could not do it, her hands were shaking, she cried, but they beat her and threatened to execute her. So she worked for the Germans, dug graves for dead people, dug trenches, brought water, fed cattle. Claimant was not fed and lived in a barn with the fear that she would be executed.

3110468

When the war started, Claimant was with her parents in Simferopol. The Germans raged mercilessly throughout the city. The raids were as terrible in the city as in people's houses. When the Germans came to Claimant's house the whole family was there, and they hid Claimant in the pillows. The Germans took away the Claimant's family: her grandfather, grandmother, father, and mother. Later, Claimant rushed to her neighbors, and they told her the Romas would shortly be shot along the seashore. Claimant ran to the seashore and there she saw with her naked eyes the execution of her parents. The Germans saw her but they were generous enough to send her away to perform forced labour instead of executing her. Claimant worked everywhere they sent her: digging trenches, doing laundry, cleaning around the harbor and unloading heavy things. There was no one to feel sorry for her, but she managed to survive that difficult period of her life.

3111922

The Germans occupied their village in the summer of 1941. The Germans and the Romanians did not disturb Claimant's family in the beginning. They, like the rest of the population, had to give sour cream, eggs and meat to the German Army. Once in the winter of 1942, German soldiers came into the house and took away clothes, icons, food; they also took out the horses and cows from the barn. Claimant was put into a truck and brought to Vinnitsa. She was then detained in a forced labour camp. Claimant's mother and other women were taken to work, and Claimant and the other children that stayed in the barrack cleaned the grounds of the barrack and sang to German officers and policemen. After some time the Germans informed them that Claimant and her father, mother and several other people would be taken to another forced labour camp. They were loaded into a truck, but could not leave the camp because the bombing started. They jumped out of the truck and ran in all directions. The Germans killed a woman, Claimant's father was injured in the shoulder, and

Claimant and her mother hid in the ruins of a house. By morning the Soviet Army was in the town.

3112202

When the war started Claimant was only 16 years old. His father died before the war and his sister was very small. When the Germans occupied his village, the first thing they did was to take the names of all the inhabitants of the village. Claimant and his mother were also told to go to register with the commission. They fingerprinted him when he went there, but as soon as they realized that he was Roma, they incarcerated him. There were very few Roma in his village – only three families. All of them were imprisoned in the barn and everyday they were driven to work like animals. Sometimes they would severely beat all the Roma, including Claimant's family. For minor disobedience they would simply shoot people dead. Claimant was forced to dig trenches and to clear the minefields. Claimant managed to survive because he was saved by partisans.

3112247

During wartime Claimant lived with her mother in Krymki, Aleksandrovskiy rayon, Kirovogradskaya oblast. During the occupation period the Germans forced Claimant to work for them. Claimant performed all types of work: dug trenches, chopped wood, made hay and performed all other manual labour. Claimant could not refuse to work even if she were sick, because she could be shot dead or beaten to death. Claimant remembers how they beat her cousin to death in front of her eyes. People who got sick, particularly the Roma people, were taken away. Later, Claimant found out that they were taken to Belozori, Cherkasskaya oblast and were shot to death there. Now they have a common grave of Romas there.

3112378

Claimant was captured from the marketplace during one of the German raids and taken to the police station. There, they already had a few women, whom she joined along with some other women. Then they were taken by two policemen to the laundry complex and were left there as the laundresses. Claimant was forced to work there against her will and under the threat of death. The machines in that laundry complex were broken, so she had to launder the linen of the hospital and injured soldiers with her bare hands. After laundering the linen from dawn till dusk Claimant would fall down from fatigue. Her hands became worn. Claimant worked as a laundress for half a year, from the winter of 1942 until May of 1943. She was fed poorly: food was given to her in the evenings and only once per day. She was not paid in any way. Because of the non-stop laundering, the soap, the sodium carbonate and the dirty laundry Claimant's hands became covered with blemishes and started itching. A German doctor told her that the work did not suit her and gave her some medicine – a hand cream. Claimant was released and her hands got better thanks to that cream. Nevertheless, Claimant had to continue living and had to eat something, so she went to do the laundry again. Her hands became covered with scales and ever since then she has suffered from eczema. So many years have passed since that time, Claimant has tried almost all types of medical treatment, but it has not improved.

3112403

Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] was approaching the village of Boromlya, when the occupiers came into the village, surrounded the tabor, took the gold and other valuables and then, threatened Claimant with execution. Claimant was forced to go to a field to harvest wheat. Claimant's parents worked on the threshing floor and had to bring the sheaves to the threshing floor using their horse. Claimant was with her mother on the threshing floor. Claimant brought water and winnowed grains. Then they made a brigade consisting of children and so Claimant was forced to collect wheat. Claimant was 8 years old and was constantly hungry. She ate grain stealthily from the Germans, because otherwise she would have been beaten. Claimant worked until autumn irrespective of weather conditions without resting and having days off. The Fascists neither fed nor paid her. The local population felt pity for the adults and for the children, and tried to support them somehow. The whole tabor was put into a barn. Claimant remained there for the winter as well, because after they finished collecting the harvest, their horses were taken away. Claimant did not have anything to eat, not even bread. She went with the adults to a field to collect different kinds of beetroot. They cooked 'borshch' soup with beetroot and as dessert they had sweet beetroot, either baked or boiled, with tea. They cooked food on bricks in the threshing barn, but it was smoky and cold. Only God knew how they survived this cold and suffering. Many of the elderly and children did not manage to live until the spring. Fortunately, this was not the case in Claimant and her family.

3112410

Claimant lived in the village of Budenovka together with her mother, brothers and sisters during the time it was occupied by Fascist troops. From the beginning of the war German soldiers forced Claimant, her mother and siblings, to perform slave labour. Claimant's mother worked in the fields and on farms and was forced to dig trenches and build things for the Fascist troops. The Germans did not pay anything for this hard labour and did not provide any aid. Claimant, a small child, was forced to work on the construction of the railway line; it was very hard physical work. Despite her young age, the Germans often beat her. Claimant was often ill, but there was no medical aid provided. At the end of the war, when the Fascists were retreating, they executed Claimant's mother. After the war, all this affected Claimant's health.

3112465

During the occupation Claimant was forced to work on the railway at Kazatin station. The work was rigidly controlled. Claimant worked under the surveillance of guards with guns. The work was very hard and lasted almost day and night. Claimant had to restore destroyed parts of railway lines. She had to carry stones, rails and sand with her hands. For the smallest disobedience, they were beaten severely. Claimant was beaten while performing slave labour, and when she was sick she did not have any medical care. Claimant was barely fed and was always starving.

3112793

Claimant and her family lived in N. Vodolaga in their own house. The occupiers came and took everything they had at that time. Claimant became a slave because they forced her to work for them. Claimant lived behind the house in a barn, and the Fascists stayed in the house. They were two, but as impudent as if they were ten. They forced Claimant to clean the floor in the living room and in the bedroom twice a day, cook, do dirty laundry, clean shoes and bring water for a shower and washing. Claimant and her mother had to do all this work. Claimant was 13 years old then and her mother tried to do everything so that the Germans would not notice her. Claimant's mother cut her hair, and Claimant always put soot all over herself and covered her head. Together with her mother Claimant was sent to a field to collect wheat. They worked from morning until evening. The wheat was then sent to Germany. Claimant's father and brother were taken to clear railroads and carriages and clear debris. After retreating, the Fascists bombed the villages. Claimant's house was bombed as well, and so after liberation Claimant went with a new tabor [Romany camp] to look for a better place to stay.

3112809

During the war Claimant and her parents travelled in Ternopolskaya region. The Germans occupied their tabor [Romany camp] in the outskirts of a village. Claimant had gone with her mother to exchange clothes for bread. When they were approaching the tabor, the villagers informed them that they should not go there. The Germans had taken all the Gypsies away. Claimant and her mother hid in a barn, but the headman found them and they were sent to perform forced labour. Claimant's mother weeded in a field and worked in a cowshed. Claimant looked after geese and helped in the cowshed.

3113052

Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] was captured near Kherson. Claimant remembers how the Germans shouted at them, beat and robbed them. They took away their clothes, food and other valuable belongings, and then they drove them to perform forced labour. Claimant worked somewhere near Tsyurupinsk, where everybody was forced to work in the quarry and to carry sand and rocks. Claimant was a little child, but she remembers very well how severely those who fell down because of heavy loads and fatigue were beaten. Claimant carried sand herself and she was beaten several times as well. Beating and scaring children were favorite things for the Germans. Despite all this harsh work Claimant was fed badly and there was not sufficient time for rest. Claimant remembers the ragged and hungry people, who had no strength to escape. Claimant's parents worked there as well. Claimant's relatives were executed for their refusal to work. Several Roma were beaten to death. Claimant remembers that everyone was afraid; her mother was always trying to hide her away from the sight of the Germans.

3113129

As soon as the Germans entered Claimant's village Ostashki, Khmelnistkaya oblast, they began robbing them, and hanging those who did not obey them. They took several horses, all their crockery, everything that was more or less valuable, and turned everything in Claimant's house upside-down. Then they ordered everyone to go and register themselves. All Roma, including Claimant's family members, were arrested. Everyday they drove them naked and barefoot out into the cold, to perform heavy labour. They built a road so that they could advance. Claimant's father was killed by them; his brothers were beaten severely. If there had been no Soviet Army, everyone would definitely have died, but they were saved.

3113142

Claimant does not remember a lot about the period of occupation. Most of her memories are based on the words of her relatives and those who were with them at that time. Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] was captured and sent for forced labour from the Berislav rayon. Claimant's parents and her relatively grown-up siblings were sent to the steppes, where they were forced to dig trenches, ditches and to carry soil and sand. Claimant worked in the kitchen. She was forced to wash dishes, to fetch water, to clean and to do the laundry. Claimant remembers that she always wanted to eat and to sleep. Claimant was fed very poorly, and was almost never allowed to have a rest. She was extremely afraid of the Germans. They repeatedly mocked Claimant, beat her up and threatened her with their dogs. Once one of their dogs even bit Claimant's hand. She was very worried for her relatives. Her brothers died performing slave labour; they were shot to death for trying to escape. The Germans treated the Roma especially bad; they considered them to be only a herd of animals. They gave them the dirtiest work, mocked them, beat them and killed them. The local people helped them by giving some food, but they were punished for that, they could even get killed for that.

3113298

When the war started, Claimant was living with her parents in Slavyansk in Stalinskaya [now Donetskaya] region. The Germans came into their house and took everything that was inside: gold, expensive vases, [and also] things from outside: livestock and horses. Claimant's father was very proud of his horses. He went up to the Germans and asked them to let the horses go but the Germans took him away. Despite the fact that Claimant's mother was left with three children, the Germans sent her to perform forced labour. Claimant and her younger sister worked for the Germans together with her mother. They were sent to a farm. Claimant's mother milked cows, and Claimant and her sister had to mow grass and take manure away. One day the Germans took Claimant's mother and wanted to execute her, but Claimant's neighbor asked them to let her go, because she had two children and a third child was going to be born. They did not kill her. Instead they harnessed her to a carriage and forced her to pull it. Claimant stood and cried and could not help with anything.

3113330

As soon as the Germans occupied Claimant's village, they started robbing the local inhabitants. They took everything that they were able to carry; they were especially eager for food, cattle, and poultry. They burned Claimant's house, and shot her grandfather dead. Claimant's father was fighting on the front line, so they had only women and children left at home. There were three Roma families in Claimant's village. The Germans captured them all. For one whole week they had to sit in the basement although it was very cold and humid there and they were not given any food. They forced Claimant to perform hard labour for them, and they beat her severely. Claimant managed to survive due to the Russian troops, who defeated the Germans and liberated her village.

3113475

Claimant was born on 17 July 1934, in the village of Porechye, Veselinovskiy district, Nikolaevskaya region. During the German occupation soldiers beat Claimant. His father was taken to build a railway line and he took Claimant with him. Claimant helped him: he brought stones and sand, rooted out grass and bushes. They scarcely ate; Claimant was falling down from starvation and tiredness, but the Fascists beat him so that he stood up and continued to work. Claimant was forced to wash baking tins called 'studera' and to look after horses. He had to dig trenches with his mother in the village of Pokrovka in 1944. The German troops were in his village from the time of the invasion, Claimant does not recall which year exactly it was, until December 1944 when they retreated.

3113664

In January 1942 the Germans killed Claimant's mother, his sister and 72 other Roma. Her father and her husband had been drafted into the army. Claimant was left alone with her little baby. The Germans forced her to do the dirty work – to work in the fields, to clean the grounds, and to clear rubble after the bombings. Claimant worked in the laundry, and laundered the linen of the German soldiers. The Germans did not allow her to breastfeed her child, because she would have had to stop working to do that.

3113811

During the German occupation Claimant and his parents were travelling around in Lugansk region. They were arrested by the Germans and forced to work in the coal mines at Krasnodon. Claimant's father worked in the mines; Claimant and his mother pushed trolleys. They were humiliated and beaten.

3113942

During the war, the Germans forced Claimant to work in coal mines, where Claimant's parents and other relatives had to carry trolleys. The mine was located in the Krasnograd area of Luganskaya region. Even though Claimant was a teenager, he had to perform different kinds of auxiliary work.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORY OF UKRAINE – TRANSNISTRIA**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3108597

Claimant was born in 1932 in the village Nechayanoe of Nikolaevskaya district, Nikolaevskaya region. During the German occupation she lived there together with her father and mother. There were seven children in the family. Claimant's father was taken to a concentration camp, more precisely to a forced labour camp in Odessa. Claimant and her siblings stayed with her mother. They were humiliated and beaten. They were kicked out of their house during the night, which was then burned. They could not live there anymore after the fire; everything burned down – the house itself and all the things that were inside. They had to stay with strangers. In every nation there are kind and malicious people; Claimant values people's kindness the most. Claimant managed to survive thanks to kind people. In fear of being executed she had to load trucks with boxes of food, flour and sugar. Claimant also had to load trucks with cartridges. She washed clothes, worked in the kitchen, brought water and swept and washed the floor.

3108599

Claimant was born in 1935 in Stavki, Veselinovskiy district, Nikolaevskaya region. His village was called Vaterlovo before the war and was a German colony. Claimant's parents worked for the Germans. There were seven children in the family with the Claimant being the oldest one. That is why Claimant remembers his childhood in the garden, vineyard...potatoes and beetroots. Then Claimant had to look after his younger brothers and sisters. The war started when Claimant was six years old and ended when he was eleven. Claimant still remembers it very well; he will remember the sorrow and that nightmare for the rest of his life – the attack by the German troops and when they retreated. The Roma were beaten and executed; their houses burned down. Claimant had to help his mother perform the work that she was forced to do: build roads, clean floors, bring water, carry firewood, and wash clothes. On his own he cleaned the bread baking tins; they were called 'studera.' Claimant had to take the bread out of the oven. He would have been beaten ten times if he dropped the bread. Claimant had to groom and feed the horses.

3112631

During the occupation period Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] moved up to Novoselovka and stayed there. Claimant and his parents went to the village to beg for food. In the evening the Fascists came to their tabor with their dogs, turned everything upside down, took whatever they wanted, then threatened to kill them all if they didn't go the next day to harvest the wheat, and finally warned them not even to think about escaping. On the next day everybody – even women with toddlers – went to work in the fields. Claimant's parents harvested the wheat and Claimant was with them all the time. Claimant and other children, were forced to follow the women and

to collect the wheat. The Fascists threatened to kill them if they disobeyed. They worked like adults from morning until evening, because they were afraid of the Fascists. Claimant was always hungry so he started furtively putting some wheat in his mouth, but if the soldiers had seen this they would have beaten him, in spite of his age. They were not given any food, and they were not paid for their work, the village inhabitants were their only support at that time. In the fall after the harvest Claimant's parents were forced to work collecting wood. The bombings started in the spring and soon they were liberated by the Soviet military units.

3112687

Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] reached the village of Novoselovka. Claimant was 7 years old and remembers very well when the Fascists went to the village, everyone saw how cruel and without compassion they were. The first thing they did was to take all the gold and valuables from the Gypsies and then they sent them out to the field to collect wheat, under penalty of death. And the Gypsies went and worked together with the inhabitants of the village. Claimant and her parents and brother (two years older than her) worked in the field. Claimant brought water, collected ears of corn, and helped her father carry the sheaves to the threshing floor. They had hardly had any food from the occupiers and they were not paid. Claimant is grateful to the local inhabitants who shared their food with them, out of pity for the children and for the adults. The Fascists made them stay in a cow-barn, even in the winter. They slept in a heap, and installed a temporary stove, and Claimant's parents fueled this with whatever they could find; they prepared food from whatever was given to them by the inhabitants. They lived in conditions of starvation and constant cold. It was very difficult to survive the winter of 1942. Claimant's parents were driven out to dig trenches, and to clear snow and debris from the roads. Claimant was seriously sick with tuberculosis from her childhood onwards, when they lived in constant cold and hunger.

3112733

During the occupation Claimant lived in Novoselovka. Claimant and her husband and child were not in the village when all the young and healthy inhabitants were taken out of the village. Along with all the people driven to the fields for harvesting, Claimant's family was also forced to work without a break from dawn till dusk, scared of being killed. The harvest was collected in late fall and transported to Germany. Then in the slush and bad weather they were forced to dig trenches. Nobody cared when they were sick and had no medicines. They were treated as if they were animals, they were beaten or even killed on the spot since there was no need to dig graves for them - the Fascists would simply shove them down into the trenches. The 'rulers' took everything away from them and they lived half-starving in a barely heated house as all the wood had been taken by the Fascists and there was not enough straw. In the spring of 1943 the Soviet airplanes started to break through and bomb the German targets. Claimant was liberated by Soviet military units.

3113084

From 1942 to 1944 (until approximately February-March), Claimant together with his mother and other members of his family was forced to work in Baltskiy district, Odesskaya region. A couple of Roma families worked for a German company, which specialized in bee-keeping and collecting mushrooms and forest plants.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORY OF UKRAINE – TRANSCARPATHIA**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3108545

In the spring of 1943, the German soldiers and an officer along with the Hungarian gendarmes arrived in the camp. They drove all inhabitants out of their homes and stood them in the street. At that time there were 13 houses in the camp. They herded men and older boys to the side. They were forced to drive stakes into the ground and then the camp was surrounded with barbed wire. Then they took all the men away. Women and children remained in the camp. They stabbed Claimant's male cousin with a bayonet and he was only four years old at that time. They took the horses and the carriages. In the spring of 1944, when Claimant was already 12 years old, they forced him to start carrying loads for the needs of the German Army, to clean toilets, to carry out the dirtiest work. They took all the down bedding from Claimant's house, which the soldiers took away to their barracks and used for their beds. After the soldiers left, it was impossible to use this bedding, because it was very dirty and damaged.

3109045

From the words of Claimant's mother and father, she knows the following. The Germans came as enemies into Claimant's house. Her father was in Chinadievo in the beginning, from where he escaped after the Germans came. But here he suffered a bad fate. The Germans took him and another Roma to Germany. From there he was sent to work in the mines (this is confirmed by the other Roma's son who was born in 1932 and who lives in Claimant's village). In the mines they had to extract ore. It was hard work. Claimant's father overexerted himself. He and his colleague tried to escape but they were caught. This happened in the concentration camp Kotasko. The mine site was surrounded by wire and people had to wear shackles. Claimant's mother was taken to build military fortifications in the mountains near the village of Volosyanka. Over a period of several months she came home at night only twice, to wash herself. Her body was covered with scrapes. Claimant was young. They lived in hunger and cold. Then the Germans found something for them to do: Claimant carried wood and water and cleaned the boots of German soldiers. If the boots were not shining, Claimant was kicked until she bled. From her childhood, Claimant remembers only tears, the humiliation of her mother, the pain of her father, who exhausted himself underground at Kotasko.

3109583

In the autumn of 1943, all the young men of the Gypsy camp in the village of Svalyava were driven out of their houses and taken by cars and then by foot to the village of Skotarskoe. A railway bridge had been destroyed there during bombing by Soviet airplanes. The Fascists forced them to reconstruct it. Claimant and his older brother were sent to Skotarskoe village to quarry stone intended for building the bridge supports. Claimant's father and other men were sent to a forest to fell trees to be used as supporting rafters for the bridge and sleepers for the railroad. They stayed in temporary barracks. In the winter of 1943–1944, many people who worked with Claimant at the bridge-building site got sick and died. The partisans tried to blow up this bridge several times and that is why the Fascists kept them in Skotarskoe for a long time, until the arrival of the Soviet soldiers.

3109699

In 1943 Claimant was 11 years old. In the spring of 1943 drunken soldiers arrived at Claimant's camp with Hungarian gendarmes. In the camp there were about 12 houses. They took all the men to perform forced labour, at first to build dugouts in the woods for the soldiers, and then they were taken away to an unknown destination. When the German soldiers came to the camp, they began to commit outrages against the women; they beat them. There were four children in Claimant's family and she was the middle child. Claimant had an older brother, whom they beat to death. From Claimant's family, all the young women were sent to work at the brick factory in Beregovo, where they worked together for six months. Then they were sent to the former homes of Jews, where they had to carry things remaining in cars into the houses, and to clean the houses. Every day they were forced to travel thirteen kilometres from Beregovo, and then back again. In the summer of 1944, they were locked in the cellars of the Hungarian Komar Dyula and forced to work in his fields. They were not allowed to go home until the autumn of 1944, when the Soviet forces arrived.

3110410

At the beginning of the war there were four children in Claimant's family. In March 1943 German soldiers and Hungarian gendarmes arrived at Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] in trucks. They drove all the village inhabitants out of their homes. At that time there were more than 10 houses and approximately 50 people. All the men were put into cars and driven to the village of Volosyanka, 40 km away from Claimant's village. Young women were put onto carriages and taken to the forest, where other men felled trees. Claimant and her mother were taken there – Claimant was quite tall at that time. In the forest they lived in a wooden barrack – there were more than 30 people inside. They ate brown bread, tea and some kind of soup. Claimant and her mother carried wood to the places where other men dug trenches and built bunkers for the Arpad line. Claimant got sick with typhus and she was taken back home by carriage. Claimant was sick for a long time. Only when there was extensive shelling did the Germans leave in their vehicles, and Claimant returned home.

3111490

In 1942, the Germans occupied Claimant's town. They surrounded his camp. They attacked the inhabitants, raped women, and after that they killed many people. Those who stayed alive were forced to dig pits, trenches and reconstruct railroads. They were beaten severely if they tried to escape. Claimant's parents worked 18 hours a day. They were barely fed and they were forced to perform different kinds of agricultural labour. They were driven to the village of Perbenik and even to the village of Selmets. They were locked up in a shed, which was full of people and where horses were kept as well. The Germans wanted to deport them on railcars to incinerate or execute them, but they were liberated.

3112765

Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] in Vinogradovshchina was quite big, 28-30 houses, where approximately 150 people lived. Up until the spring of 1943 the Roma were not persecuted. In the spring, at the end of April 1943, German soldiers and officers went into Claimant's camp. All the inhabitants were driven to a field and there they were divided into several groups: men, women, children and the elderly. The men were put into trucks and sent first to Uzhgorod and then to the town of Sotmar-Neymet in the territory of Hungary. There were more than 1500 people. They were forced to dig trenches. They worked there for 6 months. Then they were put into trains and sent to a concentration camp at Kotasko (Poland), where they had to dig and cut limestone. So they worked; they were 5000 people until the autumn of 1944, when they were liberated. Claimant got sick with typhus and stayed in a hospital until the spring of 1945. He returned home in April 1945 wearing striped clothes.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORY OF UKRAINE – TRANSCARPATHIA – MUKACHEVO
GHETTO**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3108000

Claimant was born in 1942. During the war she lived in Mukachevo Gypsy tabor [Romany camp]. Together with her parents she went through the same humiliation that other Roma of Mukachevo tabor were subject to at that time [i.e., forced labour, beatings, scarcity of food etc.]. In 1944 she was in the Mukachevo Ghetto, in the former home for invalids. She was placed on the list of those to be deported to Germany.

3108614

During the war Claimant lived in Mukachevo tabor [Romany camp] and remembers how all the Roma suffered, begged and lived in fear and deprivation. Hungarian gendarmes mocked their mothers and sisters. Their fathers and older brothers were taken to perform agricultural labour, dig vineyards, cut garden trees, work in fields and mind cattle. When fighting grew close, they forced them to dig trenches and build defense construction and then it became particularly difficult for them. Then the gendarmes did whatever they wanted in the tabor: they took mothers to perform various jobs, in a hospital, where they did laundry, cooked in a kitchen, cleaned houses and soldiers' dwellings, they even dug trenches and rebuilt ruined bunkers. Twice during these years of occupation they, the Roma of the Mukachevo tabor, were examined and their heads were shaved. Their tabor was closed for quarantine because of epidemics of typhus and malaria. In April 1944, all the Roma of the town of Mukachevo and of Mukachevo region, were gathered and kept in the Ghetto in Velikogornaya street.

3109590

As soon as the Germans got to Sema (Rovnoe) they immediately took Claimant's family's two horses and a cow away from them. Claimant's parents cried and begged the Germans not to take them away from their children. But nobody listened to them. Claimant's parents, his brothers and other Roma were taken into the ghetto. It was very awful in there. The Germans came frequently to the ghetto. Once, during the night, the Germans came and took Claimant's older brother with them. They said that he was being sent to the front line. And it was only after the war that Claimant discovered that his brother had been killed at that time. In the ghetto Claimant often heard gunshots and screams during the night. They were the screams of people being beaten up for some kind of disobedience, and girls and women who were being raped.

Claimant's mother hid while his father was performing hard labour for the Germans – clearing out the ditches in the ghetto. People were always hungry in the ghetto. A lot of old people died because of hunger. When the Russians 'partizans' arrived to liberate them from the Germans, they had already been collected in the Jewish street where they were intending to exterminate all of them.

3109885

There were six children in Claimant's family, her father was not home, he was taken to Hungary to perform forced labour. Claimant, as the oldest daughter, helped her mother hide the children in the shelter during the times of bombardment. Suddenly, the Germans drove all the Roma from their homes and took them to the ghetto, where Claimant was locked up together with Jews. Claimant was liberated by Soviet troops.

3110235

During the time of the war Claimant's father was taken into the Hungarian Army to fight. Claimant stayed with her mother and six children. Claimant's oldest brother was taken to a forced labour camp. At the end of the summer of 1944, the Germans drove them into the building of the former children's hospital where the ghetto was located at that time. After four months, Claimant was liberated by Soviet troops.

3110841

According to the statements of Claimant's parents, in 1944 many Roma had already been taken on transports to Germany, and from Claimant's tabor [Romany camp] his family and those Roma who were still healthy were taken to the Mukachevo Ghetto to be deported to Germany. Before this, all Roma and Jews were tortured to exhaustion with field work to which they were driven every day like livestock. They were forced to carry out various tasks, work in the vineyards, tying up, collecting and carrying hay and stacking it. All of the agricultural work was done by Roma prisoners, until the end of November, when everyone was liberated.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**POLISH ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE
OCCUPIED TERRITORY OF POLAND**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

a. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Southern Poland

3102183

Claimant was born in 1920 in Jurgow – Bukowina Tatrzańska, Poland. During WWII he performed forced labour with other Gypsies from Jurgow, building gravel roads in the area around Jurgow (they had to break gravel into tiny pieces). German soldiers supervised them. They slept along the road in shelters made with tree branches. He also worked as a blacksmith preparing metal parts for the army and a German arms factory.

3104092

Claimant was born in 1937 in Nowy Targ in Poland. He was arrested and detained with his parents in the ghetto at the stadium in Nowy Targ. His father was deported to Austria where he passed away; his mother with 5 children, including Claimant, was released and sent to perform forced labour for the Germans. His mother worked for the German-administered plants in Nowy Targ, cleaning and performing other manual labour. Claimant and his siblings helped their mother.

3104093

Claimant was born in 1933 in Nowy Targ in Poland. During WWII she was with her parents and siblings in Nowy Targ. As the oldest daughter she had to take care of her 5 younger siblings. In 1942 her parents were arrested and held in the Jewish ghetto at the stadium in Nowy Targ. Her father was deported to Austria where he passed away. Her mother was breastfeeding so she was released and worked for a German Labour office. She worked cleaning and Claimant helped her.

3104098

Claimant was born in 1926 in Nowy Targ in Poland. During WWII, as the oldest child, she was with her mother in Nowy Targ. Her father was deported to Germany for forced labour and nobody ever saw him again. Claimant worked with her mother in the kitchen of the German administrative office in Nowy Targ. In 1942 she and her family were held at the stadium with the Jews. Until the end of the war she worked in the German kitchen.

3104100

Claimant was born in 1931 in Nowy Targ in Poland. During WWII she was in Nowy Targ. Her father was deported to Germany for forced labour and nobody ever saw him again. Her mother lived in the ghetto at the stadium in Nowy Targ because she had six children. She was sent to perform forced labour, along with the older children. Claimant worked with her siblings performing various cleaning tasks for the Germans in Nowy Targ.

3104101

Claimant was born in 1935 in Nowy Targ in Poland. During WWII she was in Nowy Targ. Her father was deported to Germany for forced labour and nobody ever saw him again. Her mother stayed in the ghetto at the stadium in Nowy Targ because she had 6 children. She was sent for forced labour with older children. Claimant worked with her siblings performing various cleaning work for Germans in Nowy Targ.

3104165

Claimant was born in 1931 in Berlin, Germany. As a young boy he had to hide because of his Romani origin. He was eventually caught by the Germans near Dukla. He was forced to work digging trenches. He managed to escape and was caught again and placed in Iwonicz Zdroj, a large transit camp. From there he was transported to perform forced labour for the Germans in various locations, all types of manual work. He managed to escape at the end of 1944 and went into hiding.

3104179

Claimant was born in 1936 in Czarna Gora - Bukowina Tatrzańska, Poland. During WWII all Gypsies from Czarna Gora, including Claimant and his family, performed forced labour for the Germans. They worked building gravel roads. They would sit along the road and break the gravel in tiny pieces. German soldiers supervised them.

3104236

Claimant was born in 1925 in Poland. During WWII she performed forced labour with her husband building gravel roads in Czarna Gora and Bukowina Tatrzańska. She was pregnant and gave birth to her daughter while working, and later she had a son. Her work consisted of breaking gravel into pieces while sitting. All Gypsies worked there under threat of death. The labour was performed for the German road building company.

3104242

Claimant was born in 1929 in Nowy Targ, Poland. In 1942 she was caught in a roundup and sent by train to Bochnia with other Roma and Poles. From Bochnia they had to walk to Wisnicz and then to a little village surrounded by barbed wire. There they were forced to work digging ditches and trenches. After one year of work she

escaped with some other Gypsies. In 1943 the Germans arrested her again and transported her with other Gypsies to Czarny Dunajec, to work in a peat mine in Baliglowka. German soldiers supervised them. She worked there until the end of the war.

3104244

Claimant was born in 1929 in Nowy Targ, Poland. In 1942 she was caught in a roundup, and held at the stadium in Nowy Targ. From there she and other Romanies were transported by train to Bochnia. From Bochnia they had to walk to Wisnicz and then to a village surrounded by barbed wire. Every day they dug ditches and trenches for the army. She escaped to Nowy Targ, Germans arrested her again and transported to Czarny Dunajec, to work in a peat mine. Only Gypsies worked there, they were from Nowy Targ, Szczawnica and other places, such as the Roma settlement 'Birgitka Roma'. She worked there until the end of the war, when the Germans fled.

3104245

Claimant was born in 1935 in Nowy Targ, Poland. In 1942 she was caught in a roundup with other Gypsies and held at the stadium in Nowy Targ. From there they were transported by train to Bochnia. From Bochnia they had to walk to Wisnicz and then to a village surrounded by barbed wire. Every day they dug ditches and trenches for the army. She escaped to Nowy Targ, the Germans arrested her again and transported her to Czarny Dunajec, to work in a peat mine in Baliglowka. Gypsies from Nowy Targ, Szczawnica and other places worked there. She worked there until the end of the war.

3104270

Claimant was born in 1924 in Lopuszna, Poland. During WWII she was with her parents and siblings in Lopuszna. They performed forced labour on German farms. At the end of the war they dug front-line trenches for the army.

3104271

Claimant was born in 1924 in Szaflary, Poland. From 1940 – 1945 all Gypsies from the Zadzial hamlet in Szaflary performed forced labour in the German slaked lime production plant in that location. Whole families worked there, children included. Claimant's family and Claimant survived thanks to this work.

3104272

Claimant was born in 1936 in Lopuszna, Poland. During WWII she was with her parents and siblings in Lopuszna. They performed forced labour on German farms. At the end of the war they dug front-line trenches for the army.

3104273

At the war time in the village of Szaflary there was a German slaked lime production plant. All Gypsies, woman and children, living in the Zadzial area in Szaflary were

performing forced labour there. Thanks to this work Claimant's whole family survived, except Claimant's mother, who was deported to Auschwitz concentration camp and did not come back.

3104277

Claimant was born in 1927 in Lopuszna, Poland. During WWII he performed forced labour building roads, and fish farming in Lopuszna. He worked there until the end of the war. He received food tickets. After school he was sent to dig trenches.

3104278

Claimant was born in 1931 in Ostrowsko, Poland. During WWII all Gypsies from Ostrowsko, children included, worked digging trenches and building gravel roads. They had to break stones into tiny pieces. From Ostrowsko they were deported to the labour camp in Czarny Dunajec. They lived in wooden barracks in the woods. They were transported to work in a German peat mine in Baliglowka. Claimant had to carry peat briquettes. She also had to bury the bodies of Gypsies who had died.

3104279

Claimant was born in 1934 in Jablonka, Poland. During WWII he was taken with his family from Jablonka to perform forced labour in the woods. They had to dig ditches and trenches for the army under threat of death. Adult and young Gypsies were held in wooden barracks. They worked there until the end of the war. There were German bunkers. The labour was performed for the German border army units (Czech-Polish border).

3104292

Claimant was born in 1918 in Jablonka, Poland. During WWII she performed forced labour in the woods in Lipnica, where she dug trenches. She was deported to Germany. She tried to escape, and was shot in the leg. Then she worked with a big group of people on a German farm. She does not remember the name of the location.

3104611

Claimant was born in 1926 in Nowa Wies, Poland. During WWII she performed forced labour with her parents and other Gypsies from Szczurowa. They worked in the fields on German farms near Szczurowa. All the Gypsies from Szczurowa were killed and their houses were burned down. Claimant managed to escape.

3104832

Claimant was born in 1932 in Szczurowa, Poland. During WWII all Gypsies living in Szczurowa hamlet (Claimant and his family included) worked in the fields for Germans. On July 3, 1943 there was a pogrom in Szczurowa, 90 Gypsies were killed, including Claimant's parents and siblings.

3104906

As a little boy Claimant was taken with his parents and siblings to dig anti-aircraft trenches. They worked in Lapsze, Trybsz, and Jurgow. As a small child he was taken with his parents, because they were afraid to leave him alone, not knowing if they would return. They were persecuted as Roma. They received no money for the forced labour they performed.

3104928

Claimant was born in 1936 in Lapsze Nizne, Poland. During WWII Claimant performed forced labour with his parents in Jurgow, Trypsz and Lapsze. They dug trenches for German army units near the Czech/Slovak border. His parents would take him and his siblings with them because they did not know if they would be back home.

3104942

As a boy Claimant had to perform forced labour. His father and mother brought the children along to work because they were afraid to leave them alone. In 1941 they were all deported to a forced labour camp in Bobowa, where they remained until 1944. Then they were transferred to Auschwitz – Birkenau where they stayed until liberation.

3104967

Claimant was born in 1923 in Ochotnica, Poland. During WWII Claimant worked with her parents in a forced labour camp and then on German farms in Ochotnica Gorna. They worked under threat of death, digging trenches for the German Army.

3104971

Claimant was born in 1930 in Zabrzez za Lackiem, Poland. During WWII she performed forced labour in a dairy, in a sewing workroom and on German farms in Zabrzez.

3104975

Claimant was born in 1931 in Ochotnica Dolna, Poland. During WWII he worked with other Gypsies in Ochotnica Dolna building roads and digging trenches.

3104978

Claimant was born in 1933 in Chelmiec, Poland. During WWII she performed forced labour from 1940 – 1944 with her family. They were arrested and detained in the forced labour camp in Szczawnica. She helped her mother who worked in a German dairy.

3104988

Claimant was born in 1932 in Sromowce, Poland. During WWII he worked with his family and other Gypsies in the German peat mine in Czarny Dunajec. The peat was transported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. They worked also on German farms in Baliglowka.

3105015

Claimant was born in 1934 in Kacwin, Poland. During WWII he worked with his family in the forced labour camp in Kacwin. There was a gathering point where Gypsies from neighbouring camps were held. They received only a very small quantity of food. Then they worked in Nidzica and Czorsztyn for German farmers under threat of death.

3105021

Claimant was born in 1938 in Jurgow, Poland. During WWII she worked with her parents and Gypsies from her camp building gravel roads in Jurgow, Czarna Gora, Brzegi, Lopuszna and Ostrowsko for a German road construction company. It was very hard work because it is an area with mountainous terrain. At the end of the war they dug front-line trenches for the German Army.

3105024

Claimant was born in 1934 in Kacwin, Poland. During WWII he performed forced labour with his family on German farms. They also worked in a gravel pit. The gravel was transported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. His parents died, and other Gypsies took care of him.

3105046

During the war whole families were deported for forced labour from Jurgow to work in building gravel roads in Trybsz, Brzegi, Lapsze Ostrowsko. Claimant and his family also worked digging front-line trenches for the German Army along the Czech border. They worked under threat of death.

b. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Jewish Ghettoes

3104275

During the Nazi occupation Claimant was with her parents in Lvov. From 1940 to 1944 she worked in the ghetto in a sewing company. She worked there with Jewish women. She sewed German uniforms. There was also a laundry for Germans. She suffered hunger and humiliation.

3104614

Claimant was born in 1929 in Zyrardow, Poland. During WWII she worked with her parents and siblings in Powazki (Warsaw). They performed domestic work for Germans. During a raid thirty Roma individuals, including two of her brothers, were shot and killed. She and her sister ended up in the Jewish ghetto, where the Germans forced them to work cleaning the apartments of Jewish victims, and also cleaning streets. They also worked in the cemetery in Powazki. After the Warsaw uprising they were sent to Sluzewiec to work on a farm. Then they were deported to Germany.

3104663

Claimant was born in 1924 in Biala Podlaska, Poland. During WWII Claimant and her whole family worked cleaning streets and removing rubble in the Jewish ghetto in Warsaw. She also worked in the kitchen and in the sewing workshop with Jewish women.

3104681

Claimant was born in 1937 in Stary Zadyb (Siedlce region), Poland. During WWII Claimant and his family performed forced labour in Garwolin. Many Gypsies, including his parents, were killed during a roundup. He escaped to Warsaw with other Gypsies. They worked on the clearance of the Jewish ghetto; they carried rubble and cleared Jewish corpses off the streets. After the Warsaw uprising they had to dig trenches.

3104713

Claimant was born in 1931 in Dobrzejewice - Obrawa, Poland. During WWII Claimant performed forced labour with his family in the Warsaw ghetto. He carried out rubble from Jewish apartments. They also worked on the loading platform at Powazki cemetery.

3104722

Claimant was born in 1925 in Warsaw, Poland. During WWII she was sent to the ghetto in Warsaw where she worked with other Gypsies cleaning the apartments formerly belonging to Jewish individuals. Then they worked in a German agriculture production plant near Warsaw.

3104773

Claimant was born in 1910 in Telaki, Sokolow. During WWII she performed forced labour in Lvov, working with other Gypsy and Jewish women in the sewing workroom. Her daughter stayed with her. From Lvov they were transported to Zamosc, held in prison, and transported to work for German farms.

3104869

Claimant was born in 1933 in Gdynia, Poland. During WWII the entire Gypsy camp of Lovara was caught near Lvov and forced to work in the Jewish ghetto. They cleaned and pumped water. They escaped to Mikulnica near Tarnopol, were caught, and were forced to work digging trenches.

3104881

Claimant was born in 1928 in Dębniaki - Bielany, Poland. During WWII Claimant and his Gypsy camp were caught in a roundup and sent to work in the ghetto in Warsaw. They cleaned streets, carried rubble, water, etc. Then they were sent to work in a camp in Sochaczew or in Lowicz, where they pumped water, dug ditches and trenches and worked in the fields.

3105654

During the Nazi occupation, Claimant was held with other Gypsies at the stadium in Nowy Targ from where he and other Gypsies were taken under threat of death to the Jewish cemetery. There they dug graves for Jewish victims. He remembers that he had to scatter corpses with lime, cover them with tree branches, and then bury them. Later they were taken and forced to dig front-line trenches.

3106231

During the time of the occupation Claimant and his parents were briefly in the ghetto in Warsaw where they worked clearing the streets. Then they were taken to work digging in the fields near Sluzewiec for the German Army.

c. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Warsaw and Region

3104409

Claimant was born in 1935 in Warsaw, Poland. In 1943 Claimant was caught with his parents in a round-up and sent to perform forced labour on German farms near Zakroczym. In 1944 after some escape attempts there was a pogrom of Gypsies. His parents were killed, and Claimant and his siblings were sent to Pruszkow to a transit camp with other Roma. They managed to escape and went into hiding until the end of the war.

3104451

Claimant was born in 1937 in Cudnowo, Jedlnia Letnisko, Poland. During WWII she was caught in a roundup and sent with her mother to the Jewish ghetto in Radom. Her mother was deported to Majdanek in 1942/1943. As a young child she was separated from her mother and had to work with her grandfather for a German farmer near Bielawa and Pieszyce. She worked there until the end of the war. According to her grandfather, the farmer's name was Gissler.

3104491

Claimant was born in 1919 in Nowa Wies, Poland. During WWII he was living in Warsaw and environs. In Warsaw he was forced to do some clearance labour; he also spent some time in Pawiak prison. He took part in the Warsaw uprising, carrying water for the underground army. He was caught by the Germans and forced to work with his father to remove the rubble from basements. They escaped to Zakroczym (50 km from Warszawa) after the uprising. The Germans organized a roundup and killed everybody from the Roma camp, including Claimant's parents and sister. He managed to escape and worked in the fields for a German farmer.

3104682

Claimant was born in 1933 in Zyrardow, Poland. During WWII he performed forced labour in a transit camp in Zyrardow, Pruszkow. From Pruszkow Claimant and other Gypsies were transported to work in German plants. Then they were sent to the Jewish ghetto.

d. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Kielce and Region

3105032

Claimant was born in 1926 in Zytyn, Poland. During WWII she was arrested with her family and transported to Kielce to work for German farmers. Then they were transferred to the forced labour camp in Rudniki near Czestochowa. Later they worked in the ghetto in Kielce removing corpses from the streets under threat of death.

3105714

During the war Claimant and his family were hiding in the woods near Kielce. The Germans were organizing raids on Gypsy camps, and as a result many Gypsies were killed near Zagnansk. Claimant and other young Gypsies were taken to perform forced labour in Kielce, where they worked for the Germans on the railway and also at the sawmill in Kielce. During the war his feet were frostbitten and now he has difficulty walking.

e. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Bialystok and Region

3104276

Claimant was born in 1927 in Jeziory, Poland. During WWII Claimant and her camp were in hiding. In 1942-43 they were captured and their belongings were taken. They were sent to Jeziory near Grodno (in Poland at that time). She and her family had to perform forced labour in a peat mine, under threat of death. They worked there until 1944, when the Germans fled from the advancing Soviet Army.

3104624

Claimant was born in 1933 in Rozana, in the former USSR. During WWII Claimant, her parents and siblings went into hiding. They were arrested in 1942 and sent to the camp in Wolkowysk. There they worked digging ditches, cleaning; they also worked on the railways. As a young child, Claimant stayed all the time with her mother. They suffered hunger. They managed to escape at the beginning of 1945 and came back to Rozana. Their house had been burned down. They went to the 'Ziemie Odzyskane' ['Recovered Territories', area in western Poland annexed to Poland from Germany after WWII] on a transport with partisans. Their family was the only one that survived from their Gypsy camp.

3104626

Claimant was born in 1932 in Blotkow Duzy, Terespol, former USSR. During WWII (1942 – 1943) Claimant, her parents and siblings performed forced labour on German farms around Bialystok and Terespol. Her father was arrested and sent to the Stutthof concentration camp. He was killed there. Claimant and her family were detained at a collection camp for Jews and Gypsies in Suprasl. They had to perform slave labour under threat of death. Their mother could not tolerate it and died.

3104646

Claimant was born in 1936 in Terespol, former USSR. During WWII (1942 – 1943) Claimant, her parents and siblings performed forced labour on German farms around Bialystok and Terespol. They were transported to the workplace every day. They had to work all day long under threat of death. In 1943 they were sent to a collection camp for Jews and Gypsies in Suprasl. They worked there until 1945.

3105037

Claimant was born in 1929 in Makowlany, Poland. During WWII he was held with his family in the prison in Bialystok. They were transported to work every day by vehicle. His parents and sister died in prison after a typhus outbreak. Claimant and his brother ended up in Holynka, where they worked at a German police station, chopping wood, and doing maintenance work.

3105606

Claimant was born in 1929 in Sidra, former USSR. During WWII she performed forced labour with her parents and siblings. They worked for German farmers in Stare Garbowo near Kobylin Borzyny. They were arrested in 1943 by the Gestapo and sent to the Jewish and Gypsy collection camp in Suprasl. They worked very hard under threat of death. Her father (who was a Polish Army officer) perished in the Stutthof concentration camp.

f. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Southeastern Poland (Lublin and Lvov)

3104711

Claimant was born in 1920 in Gorzyce, Przeworsk, Poland. During WWII Claimant worked in the forced labour camp in Jaroslaw near Gorzyce with other Gypsies. He worked in a stable taking care of horses belonging to the German Army. From Gorzyce they were transported to the German brickfield in Tomaszow Mazowiecki where other Gypsies were already working.

3104724

Claimant was born in 1929 in Plock, Poland. During WWII she worked with her husband, parents and siblings in the forced labour camp in Zamosc. They were held in a prison, from where they were transported to work in various locations on German plants and farms.

3104816

Claimant was born in 1935 in Kalusz, former USSR. During WWII he performed forced labour with his parents and siblings. They assisted their father who worked for German enterprises in Wlodzimierz Wolynski. In 1941 Claimant's family was arrested and put in the ghetto in Wlodzimierz Wolynski. His father dug trenches and worked for the German railway company. His mother worked in the kitchen and in the laundry. He assisted one or the other. They worked also as musicians playing for the SS-men. They had little food. They escaped thanks to one SS-man who was a Gypsy music lover. They went into hiding until the end of the war.

3104894

Claimant was born in 1936 in Grudziadz, Poland. During WWII Claimant lived with his parents and siblings in Lvov, where they worked in the German jam factory. Most of the workers were Roma. A German soldier caused him to fall down the stairs in the factory. He was injured and became a deaf-mute for the rest of his life.

3105027

Claimant was born in 1936 in Kalisz, Poland. During WWII he lived with his family in Lvov. He helped his father who worked in a German dairy. Then he dug trenches with his brothers and worked for a German farmer.

3105039

Claimant was born in 1937 in Lublin, Poland. His parents were shot in 1941 along with the rest of his Gypsy camp. Claimant escaped, and worked with his aunt in Pulawy for a German farmer. He worked for scraps of food.

3105975

From the beginning of the war Claimant and her family had to hide in the woods. Eventually, exhausted, they were obliged to work on an estate in Dominow. They survived because they worked well. For that reason they were not handed over to the SS, who came twice from Lublin to collect them. They worked in an estate managed by a German. They worked on sugar-beet treatment and did some clearance work around Majdanek camp in Lublin. They worked for Germans and were supervised by them until liberation in 1945.

3106004

From the beginning of the war Claimant hid in the woods with her family. She does not remember the name of the village where they were caught. They were sent to a labour camp. She is illiterate, but she remembers people saying that they were near Zamosc.

3114426

Claimant was born in 1933 in Deblin, Poland. During WWII she was caught with her family in a roundup and they were sent to the ghetto in Zamosc. They were held in a prison, from where they were transported to work in a forced labour camp. They worked in a German agriculture production plant. Then they were transported to Krakow and Lvov.

3114929

Claimant still suffers psychologically from what happened to her during WWII, and wakes up at night and runs out of the house, imagining that the Germans are arriving and that they are going to shoot somebody. During the war, the Germans organized a raid, and many Gypsies were killed, including her oldest brother. She cannot say how many times they ran away, leaving everything they had, all their belongings, because they wanted to save their lives. Then they were captured and confined in the ghetto in Zamosc. During the transport, some of the Gypsies managed to escape, some were killed. Claimant and her sister arrived in the ghetto. She remembers the screams, cries, hunger and cold.

3114930

Claimant and his family were transported with other Gypsies to the ghetto in Zamosc. The beatings, torture, mistreatment, hunger were very difficult to endure. Claimant and his mother, along with other Gypsies, were later transported from Zamosc to the village of Potoki near Tomaszow Lubelski. There they were imprisoned in a stable for three days. Claimant and his mother managed to escape. Today there is a memorial marking that spot, because around 100 Gypsies were shot and killed there, including some of Claimant's relatives. When Claimant and his mother escaped, they joined up with other Roma, and hid in the forest. There was a raid, and Claimant was shot in the left leg. Now he is disabled.

g. Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour in Western Poland

3106003

During WWII Claimant was hiding in the woods with his camp. His parents were killed in a raid. Claimant was in a forced labour camp in Brzesc from 1944-45. Until liberation in 1945, he lived a nightmare, and survived only by a miracle.

3106247

During the time of the occupation Claimant ended up in prison in Bydgoszcz. He was beaten by the Gestapo, and sent to a work camp in Bydgoszcz. There he performed hard manual labour.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**POLISH ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN
CONCENTRATION CAMPS**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3104507

In 1943 Claimant was working with a Gypsy camp in a sawmill near Kielce. Then they were transferred to Radom, and in the end Claimant arrived on 12 November 1943 at Auschwitz. He had a number tattooed on his left forearm. There he performed forced labour. In January 1945 he was transferred to Mauthausen, where he worked until liberation.

3105723

Claimant was born in Janow Lubelski. At the beginning of the war the Germans took her family to a forced labour camp in Janow. As a small girl she worked in the quarry in Janow with her parents. In 1943 her parents were transported to Majdanek concentration camp, along with Claimant and her siblings. Her entire family was killed there. She had to work very hard, and became so exhausted that she had to go to the camp hospital, where she caught typhus. She spent a long time there and survived thanks to that stay.

3106007

At the beginning of the war Claimant was in hiding with her family in the woods. They were captured in 1943 and sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Her entire family perished there, only she and her brother survived. She was in the camp from 1943 to 1944, and then she was transferred to Ravensbruck, where she remained until liberation.

3114546

In 1943 Claimant was captured with her small daughter and imprisoned in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Her daughter died there. Then she was transferred to Ravensbruck where she remained until liberation in 1945.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

POLISH ROMANIES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN GERMANY

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3102213

In the spring of 1943 Claimant's camp was located in the woods around Radomsko. The camp was surrounded by Germans, and many Gypsies, including Claimant's family, were shot and killed. Claimant tried to escape, but was caught by a soldier and sent to prison in Radomsko, and from there to Germany. She was sent to work on a small farm near Berlin. She worked there involuntarily until liberation in May 1945. She was beaten, and mistreated physically and mentally. After liberation she returned to Poland.

3104651

At the beginning of the war Claimant was arrested in Tomaszow Mazowiecki and deported to a forced labour camp in Kasel, called 'Bettenhaus.' Claimant worked in a German factory owned by the SS-man Lemle, from 1942 to 1943. Then the camp was destroyed, Claimant and others were injured, beaten, and transferred to another camp in the same town, Kasel. The second camp was called Auischwald. Claimant performed slave labour from dawn until dusk, with only a small amount of food. He was able to return to Poland only after the war. He never saw his parents again.

3105896

Claimant's father was deported in 1941 to perform forced labour, and then Claimant was deported with 17 other young people from her village. She was taken to the farm 'Dorf Schidel' in Nimes, which belonged to Anzelma Schraier, whose husband was a soldier who was killed near Stalingrad. Claimant got sick and so was taken to the factory 'Liberose' where her family was working, including her mother and two brothers. Her father worked first on the railway, then in a smithy / forge, he repaired tracks in Cottbus, and later he worked in Liberose. Claimant and her family were then sent to the 'Goodbush' farm, where they worked in the fields. Her father and brother worked in the smithy. There were many Poles, Ukrainians and Russians. One of her brothers was born there. They worked there until the end of the war, for the countess Cinke or Cinter. The name of their supervisor was Herdrymel.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XVI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

BALTICS - REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

Group 1

Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour on the Occupied Territory of Latvia

3100118

During the war Claimant lived in the town of Saldus with her relatives because her parents were executed in the town of Kuldiga. Claimant was taken to perform forced labour. In particular, she had to dig trenches, clean and sweep soldiers' houses and carry military posts. Claimant was mistreated; she lived in the same room together with other detainees, and slept on a cold floor.

3105294

During the Second World War Claimant lived with his parents in Daugavpils. In 1942, he was caught by the Germans and imprisoned. Claimant was kept there for approximately two months and then transferred to Shtraven, where he performed forced labour. He was forced to cut wood for cars. The work conditions were not different from those in the prison. The territory was guarded. Following that, Claimant was put into railway wagons and sent to Ostrov and OPOCHKA in Latgalia, where he was forced to repair railways. Claimant stayed there with his father and his older brother. Claimant was liberated in Daugavpils by the Russian troops.

3105367

Claimant was born in 1933 and is of Gypsy origin. During the war she was approximately nine years old. In 1943, Claimant and her parents were interned in a forced labour camp. All adults and children were forced to work. They had to dig trenches and build railways.

3105379

During the Second World War Claimant and his family lived in Daugavpils. They were taken hostage by the German troops. In the winter, when it was freezing cold, they were forced to dig trenches and carry heavy things. Claimant was always underfed, which resulted in deterioration of his health after the war.

3105380

During the war Claimant and his sister were sent to the Salaspils Concentration Camp where they were forced to work in forestry from dawn until dusk. In particular, he had to carry heavy wood and load them into cars. Sometimes they were taken to dig graves. Claimant managed to run away to the partisans in the direction of Belarus.

3105383

During the WWII Claimant's family lived in Daugavpils. He and his father were taken to perform forced labour. They lived in a barrack located in a forest. Claimant was forced to dig trenches, carry wood and perform other hard labour. He was humiliated by the Germans. Claimant's sisters and their children were executed in Ludze. Claimant was liberated by the Soviet Army.

3105387

During the war, Claimant's family lived in Daugavpils. She was six years old at that time. Claimant and her parents were forced to leave their house, and all their valuables were stolen by the Germans. Following that, they were taken to perform forced labour in Citadele. The Germans threatened them and indicated that their property would not be of any use to them anymore as they had little time to live. Claimant and her parents were forced to dig trenches and carry heavy cast-iron things.

3106293

In 1942, Claimant and her parents ran away to a forest, but soon were found by the Germans and detained in a camp. They were forced to work on railways. They also carried heavy boxes from barracks. Apart from this, Claimant was forced to work in the basement of a German officer.

3106370

In 1942, Claimant and his parents lived in the village of Virtsava, where they were hiding from the Germans. However, they were caught by the Fascists and sent to Salaspils. They were locked in a cold barrack. At 4 AM, Claimant and his parents were taken to work on railways, where they were forced to install sleepers manually. They also had to dig trenches. Claimant's family was executed, while he was rescued by the Russian Army.

3106546

During the war Claimant had to perform very hard and humiliating labour in a forced labour camp in the town of Sabile, Talsi region. She dug trenches and graves. There was nothing to eat. As a consequence, her health condition deteriorated. Claimant's relatives were executed by the Germans.

3106570

During the German occupation Claimant was forced to perform humiliating slave labour for the German Army. In particular, he had to chop wood and carry heavy things.

3106640

Claimant lived in Stende and worked in a sawmill. He was 18 years old when Fascist soldiers arrived. They took him to a shed, where he was beaten and threatened with execution. Following that, Claimant, together with other people, was deported to Dzukste and detained in a shed. The next day he was forced to dig trenches. He was scared that he would be executed. Claimant was fed with leftovers; the soup was made from potato peels. In December, Claimant, together with other detainees, managed to escape to a forest, where they hid. After that, he arrived in Stende and was hidden by his former employer for whom he worked in the sawmill.

3106642

In May 1943, Claimant, together with his family, was captured by the Germans in the town of Spare. They were sent to a railway station where their relatives and other Gypsies were already gathered. They were put into a freight cart and sent to Dzukste, where they were detained in a shed. At that time Claimant was 13 years old. Claimant had to work every day from 7 AM until 7 PM. He was fed with leftovers. Detainees were humiliated by the Fascists and some of them were executed. Claimant managed to run away to the forest, where he hid for a long time. The Germans raided forests frequently and those who were found were executed. Claimant's house in Spare was destroyed and the cattle taken away.

3106744

In 1942, Claimant together with her mother and nine-year old sister were detained in Salaspils Concentration Camp. They were forced to work. In particular, they had to carry heavy stones. They were constantly sick and because of this they were beaten and forced to work even harder. Despite her young age, Claimant had to dig graves.

3106755

Claimant was born in the town of Ventspils, Latvia. His hometown was occupied by the Germans in 1941. They beat up Claimant's father and took all their possessions. Claimant's family was given one hour to depart in any direction. They left for Talsi wearing the same clothes. Some of Claimant's relatives were executed in the town of Tukume. In Talsi, Claimant was forced to work for a company. He had to drive cattle from the rail station of Stende to Talsi. Claimant worked there from July 1941 until May 1945.

3106862

During the Second World War Claimant lived in Latvia. Her family had their own house and farm. When the German troops arrived, they had all their valuables and other movable property taken away. Claimant's family was forced to perform labour in a forest. In particular, Claimant together with adults had to dig trenches and carry heavy things. Claimant was constantly underfed and humiliated.

3106983

In 1942, German troops occupied Claimant's hometown and took away all the teenagers for labour. Claimant was forced to carry heavy stones, clean the cattle, etc. Upon the arrival at home, she discovered that all of her family, including her father, mother and sisters with their children, were executed in a concentration camp in Lithuania.

3106988

During the Second World War, Claimant's family lived in the village of Plevas in Talsu region. They were arrested and sent for forced labour. Claimant together with his parents were taken to perform slave labour in Okte. In particular, they had to dig trenches, saw wood and dig bunkers. They were kept in barracks for Gypsies. As a result, Claimant's health condition deteriorated.

3107003

Claimant was a forced laborer during the war. He performed the simplest and dirtiest labour in various locations. In particular, he worked in forests and dug trenches. Claimant was detained in a prison in the towns of Ventspils and Liepaja. Claimant's relatives were executed near Liepaja.

3107147

When the Germans arrived, they intended to execute Claimant and his family, but in the end they forced them to work. Claimant and his father had to dig trenches, while his mother was taken somewhere else. The Germans often were drunk and used Claimant and his father as targets for shooting. Both were beaten severely.

3107151

Claimant's father was deported to a camp in Germany, while she together with her mother and siblings were locked up in a shed, which the Germans intended to burn down. However, they stayed alive, but were forced to perform slave labour. In particular, Claimant was forced to cook, wash and clean Germans' house.

3107257

Claimant was forced to work in a kitchen and serve German soldiers. She was humiliated and sexually harassed. Claimant was constantly depressed and scared.

3107360

During the war Claimant was seven years old. She, together with her parents, was forced to work in a forced labour camp. Claimant worked in a forest and carried heavy logs. She also remembers that they were beaten and that they worked because they feared execution.

3107436

During the war Claimant and her family lived in the town of Plevas. In 1942 the Germans invaded their house, beat her father and sent the whole family to the neighboring village of Garlene, where they were forced to dig trenches and build an airport. Claimant was given a heavy shovel, which she was not able to hold in her hands. All the detainees, including Claimant, were registered. They were paid nothing for the slave labour. Instead, they were humiliated and beaten.

3107508

Claimant and his parents were sent to a forced labour camp in the town of Sabile in the Talsi region, where they lived in a barrack in cold and hunger for several months. Claimant was forced to perform very hard labour; he was beaten and humiliated. Apart from this, he was often threatened with execution. Many detainees died because of hard labour, cold and hunger.

3107552

Claimant together with her parents was interned in Salaspils Concentration Camp. They were forced to perform labour for the Germans. In particular, Claimant had to perform excavation work, such as digging trenches and graves for executed and tortured to death detainees. Apart from this, she was subjected to humiliation and mistreatment. The food in the camp was scarce.

3107572

In 1942, the town of Dobeles was invaded by the Germans and those who were able to work were taken hostage. Claimant was captured together with her six-month-old daughter and detained in barracks for prisoners. She was beaten and was not allowed to feed her daughter. Claimant was forced to perform hard labour, which included digging trenches and carrying heavy stones.

3107589

During the German occupation, Claimant was taken to a forced labour camp in the town of Ventspils. He was forced to work on the railways, chop wood and carry heavy logs. He suffered morally and physically. Many of Claimant's relatives were executed by the Germans, but he managed to survive.

3107598

During the war, Claimant and her family were taken hostage by the Germans and forced to work in Citadele in the town of Daugavpils. They lived in barracks and worked on the railways. They were humiliated and underfed.

Group 2
Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour on the
Occupied Territory Of Lithuania

3106300

In 1942, Claimant's town was occupied. They lived in hunger and cold, and they did not have any clothes to wear. Claimant's parents were forced to perform difficult and humiliating work. In particular, they dug trenches and performed other labour. Claimant had to sweep soldiers' rooms and clean their boots. She and her parents were mistreated by the Germans and endured humiliation. In 1944, when the Germans started retreating, Claimant together with her parents managed to escape. They were liberated by the Russian Army.

3106305

In 1941, Claimant, together with his family, was taken from the town of Kaunas to Pravieniskes forced labour camp to perform forced labour. In 1944, he was deported to Germany where he was forced to work. In particular, Claimant had to dig trenches and rebuild railways. Following that, he was transferred to France, where he was also forced to perform labour. Claimant was liberated in 1945.

3106307

In 1942, Claimant was arrested by the Germans and sent to a forced labour camp. She was forced to perform different kinds of labour: dig trenches, repair railways, dig pits and build bunkers. Claimant was humiliated and barely fed. She stayed in the camp until the Russian troops liberated the camp.

3106309

In 1942, the Germans occupied Siauliai. All inhabitants were interned in a ghetto camp. Claimant together with her parents was also interned in this camp. There she had to perform different kinds of labour. However, in 1943 Claimant managed to escape. Following that, she was captured again and interned in a forced labour camp in the town of Kazlu Ruda, where she was forced to perform labour. Claimant stayed in the camp until the Russian troops liberated the camp in 1944.

3106313

In 1942, Claimant was arrested by the Germans and sent to Beloe Voke forced labour camp in Paneriai to perform forced labour. She had to perform very hard physical work, dig pits and build bunkers. Claimant was humiliated, beaten and barely fed.

3106316

In 1942, the Germans occupied Claimant's hometown. Claimant and his family were deported to a forced labour camp, where they were mistreated badly. Claimant was forced to dig trenches and rebuild railways. He stayed in the camp until the Russian Army liberated them.

3106319

Claimant's hometown was occupied by the Germans in 1942. All inhabitants were gathered and deported to a forced labour camp. Some people, including Claimant's father, were taken to railways, while others were deported to Germany. Claimant and her mother worked as laundresses. Despite her young age, she was had to work as if she was an adult. They often went to bed hungry and lived in unheated barracks.

3106336

In 1942, Claimant lived in Kaunas. The Germans occupied her hometown and sent her to a forced labour camp. After that, she was deported to Germany. Claimant's parents worked in the forced labour camp, and she, A teenager, was also forced to work. They were liberated by the American Army in 1945.

3106414

In 1942 Claimant, together with her family, was taken to Pravieniskes camp. They were mercilessly mistreated, severely beaten and barely fed. Claimant was forced to perform hard physical labour. Those who could not work due to illness were executed. In 1944, Claimant was liberated by Russian soldiers.

Group 3
Romanies Who Performed Slave Labour on the
Occupied Territory of Estonia

3111006

When the Germans arrived, Claimant was living in the town of Unikula in Virumaa district, Estonia. Claimant, together with her family, was arrested in 1941, and they were taken to Rakvere Concentration Camp, where most of her family died. Claimant and her younger sister were sent to a camp, Kunda, to work on car installations. They were liberated by Russian soldiers in autumn 1944.

3111008

Claimant and his family were arrested in the beginning of the war and sent to Rakvere Camp, which was situated on Karja Street in the town of Rakvere, Estonia. From there Claimant together with his mother and two uncles was sent to Kunda Camp, where they worked until 1944. They were liberated by the Soviet Army. Russian fighter pilots destroyed barracks in Klooga, in which Claimant and others were detained in order to be executed.

3111012

In 1941, Claimant, together with his family, was arrested in the town of Valga, Estonia. First, he was sent to Patarei Prison located in Tallinn and then to Harku Camp. Following that, Claimant was detained in Laitse in a forced labour camp. In Laitse, he worked under supervision of armed guards in a peat bog in a forest. When

the Russian Army advanced to Estonia, the armed guards escaped. Claimant and other detainees stayed locked in a barrack but three days after they managed to run away.

Group 4
Romanies Who Were Detained in German Foundation
Recognized Camps in Latvia and Lithuania

3102106

In 1942, Claimant and his family were captured and sent to a forced labour camp near Vilnius. His parents were forced to perform labour; they dug trenches and loaded freight cars. They were mistreated by the Germans and performed humiliating labour for a piece of bread and a sip of water. In 1944, the Germans started retreating and Claimant together with his family were liberated by the Russian troops.

3106222

Claimant's hometown was occupied in 1942. Everybody was gathered and sent to a forced labour camp. Claimant's parents worked from dawn until dusk; they were constantly hungry, beaten and humiliated. In 1944, Claimant and his family were liberated by the Soviet Army.

3106310

In 1942, the Germans occupied the town of Kedainiai. Claimant's family and other relatives were deported to a forced labour camp located in the occupied town of Kazlu Ruda. His parents were beaten by the Germans and forced to perform different kinds of labour. All Roma had to work in the camp. Claimant and his family stayed in the camp until they were liberated by the Russian Army.

3106320

In 1942, Claimant's family was taken to a forced labour camp in the town of Alytus. Her parents had to work many hours and were fed inadequately. In particular, they were forced to dig trenches, worked in railways and had to carry rails and sleepers. Claimant and his parents were treated like animals. In 1944, they were liberated by the Russian Army.

3106331

In 1942, Claimant and his family were detained in Fort IX Concentration Camp. They lived in hunger and fear. There were gas chambers in the camp, and Claimant could hear screams of prisoners being tortured. In 1944, Claimant and his family were liberated by the Soviet Army.

3106474

In 1942, Claimant and her family were arrested and sent to Salaspils Concentration Camp, where everybody was forced to work and then executed. Claimant's father was executed, while she and her mother were detained in the concentration camp until 1943. Claimant's mother worked in constant fear and was often humiliated. Claimant was very sick and hungry and it was difficult to survive.

3106631

In 1942, when Claimant was one year old, he and his mother were sent to Salaspils Concentration Camp, where they were beaten severely. Claimant's mother was forced to perform hard labour, such as digging trenches, carrying heavy stones and working on railways. As a consequence, their health condition deteriorated. Claimant was constantly sick, while his mother suffered a heart attack.

3106632

Claimant was born in Salaspils Concentration Camp in 1942. His parents were forced to work. In particular, they had to work on railways, carry rails and logs. While working, Claimant's mother carried him in her hands and it was hard because he was very small at that time.

3106985

In 1942, Claimant's mother was pregnant when she was captured by the Germans and sent to Salaspils Concentration Camp, where Claimant was born a few months later. Despite this, his mother, although not yet fully recovered from the labour and birth, was forced to work. She had to carry heavy stones and dig trenches. Claimant was left to lie down on cold ground despite the weather conditions.

3107135

Claimant was approximately seven years old, when he was arrested. He was pushed into mud when he and other detainees were marching to a barrack. He remembers that he was beaten on his head with a butt. As a result, he was sick for two months and almost died.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XVI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

YUGOSLAVIA GROUP CASE SUMMARY

This group of 1,214 Claimants are Romanies of Yugoslavian origin. Between 1941 and 1945, Claimants were forced to perform labour in Serbia and the Independent State of Croatia (NDH).

Typically Claimants were rounded-up at the time a given region was occupied and forced to live in barracks. On some occasions, adult men and older people were often executed immediately by the German occupying forces. Romani survivors were forced to work for the German forces in various capacities, depending upon their age and the geographical location.

Claimants performed slave labour such as, digging trenches, building fortifications, cutting timber, construction of roads and railroads, clearing debris from bombardments, carrying of heavy constructing materials and agricultural labour. Claimants assert that they were forced to work for the German Army, German factories and private landlords.

Claimants stated that as Romanies they were constantly abused and humiliated by German soldiers in the course of performing their slave labour tasks. Punishment for refusal to work, trying to escape, or any perceived transgression ranged from beatings to being executed on the spot. Claimants were typically fed thin soup, scraps, and, occasionally, bits of spoiled bread. They suffered from terribly harsh living conditions such as insufficient clothing, lack of hygiene, beatings and the savage rape of the Romani women. Claimants were liberated in 1945.

Claimants have plausibly demonstrated that they performed labour for the Nazi Regime and are members of Slave Labour Class I.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XVI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

GROUP CASE SUMMARY BLOOD DONORS

Claimants are four Romani individuals who currently reside in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and who were forced to perform labour in Germany, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russian Federation and Ukraine during World War II. Their claims are being grouped because all of them served as blood donors/suppliers during World War II. At the time of their service Claimants, typically, were young men and women under the age of 21 who were forced to furnish blood for injured German soldiers at regular intervals. Between intervals, they were fed, allowed to rest and some performed light labour for the Nazi Regime. They were often housed in barracks so that they would be readily available in the event of a medical emergency.

Their work was to be ready to supply their blood on demand. During their recovery periods, some of the blood suppliers sometimes performed other more traditional labour for the Nazi Regime such as cleaning and nursing assistant jobs. But their main job, was to serve as the war time equivalent of the modern day blood bank.

It was difficult work for a minor. It was physically draining work and many indicated that there were times when so much blood would be taken from them during one delivery that they fainted and were left to die. Unless they were fortunate enough to escape, once they regained consciousness and strength, they would have to report back to the hospitals or medical facilities to supply their blood, again.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XVI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

GERMANY

GROUP CASE SUMMARY

Claimants are 7 Romani individuals who currently reside in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and who were forced to perform labour in Germany, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russian Federation and Ukraine during World War II. Their claims are being grouped because all of them served as blood donors/suppliers during World War II. At the time of their service Claimants, typically, were young men and women under the age of 21 who were forced to furnish blood for injured German soldiers at regular intervals. Between intervals, they were fed, allowed to rest and some performed light labour for the Nazi Regime. They were often housed in barracks so that they would be readily available in the event of a medical emergency.

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HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XII SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

BLOOD DONORS/SUPPLIERS

GROUP CASE SUMMARY

Claimants are 47 Romani individuals who currently reside in the Russian Federation and Belarus. Their claims are being grouped because all of them served as blood donors/suppliers during World War II. At the time of their service, Claimants, typically were young men and women under the age of 21 who were forced to furnish blood for injured German soldiers at regular intervals. Between intervals, they were fed, allowed to rest and some performed light labour for the Nazi Regime. They were often housed in barracks so that they would be readily available in the event of a medical emergency.

3106614

During the war Claimant was three years old and was used as a blood donor. In 1943 Claimant's family was arrested. Claimant was the youngest in the family, which consisted of five members. The Germans stole all their valuables, two horses and other household items.

SAMPLE CASE SUMMARIES FOR ROMANIAN JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES WHO
WERE PERSECUTED IN ROMANIA BECAUSE THEY REFUSED TO
PARTICIPATE IN THE WAR

3424398

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of his faith, Claimant was arrested by the police in Paltinis, Doromoi Region. He was severely beaten at the police station. From the police station, he was sent to prison, first in Cernauti and then in Balj. In Balj, Claimant was sentenced to 15 years of forced labour. He was sent to the military prison in Craiova. Claimant was beaten there. He also suffered from the lack of food and medical care. The prisoners in Craiova were constantly supervised by armed guards. In May 1944, Claimant was transferred to the prison in Busau. He lived in inhumane conditions. He performed forced labour loading construction material on trains. During that period, he was seriously injured, but did not receive medical help. Claimant was liberated on 24 August 1944 without any documents.

3424399

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. He was sentenced to 60 years of imprisonment by court-martial presided by Colomalul Petrescu. Because of his faith, on 13 March 1941, Claimant was arrested and sent to prison in Jilva. Later, he was transferred to Ajud, Urmato, Ribnita, Golta and Vabmiarka. He had to perform 14-16 hours of forced labour per day under supervision of German guards called capos. The prisoners were given a small ration of bad quality food. They were tortured from time to time, e.g. their teeth were pulled out and they were beaten. Claimant returned home as a prisoner and he was detained until 1964.

3424400

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of her faith, in May 1943, Claimant was arrested and sentenced by the court in Cernauti to 10 years of imprisonment. She was sent to prison in Mislea, Romania. She had to perform forced labour in Floresti, which was 7 km away from Mislea. She had to cut the cornfields and small wattle trees. Whenever Claimant made a mistake, she was severely beaten. The prisoners had to work throughout the whole day, 6 days a week – Sunday was a day to rest. In winter, they worked in the snow taking the worms off the trees in a big orchard.

They suffered from the cold and had to eat their food in the snow. In spring, they dug half-meter holes in the stony ground of the orchard. Claimant was only a 17-year-old girl at that time. The living and working conditions were very harsh and Claimant never completely recovered from that period. She was liberated on 23 August 1944 and walked back home barefoot and without food.

3424401

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of her faith, in January – February 1944, Claimant was sentenced by court-martial in Cernauti to 25 years of forced labour. At first, she was held in prison in Cernauti where she did the washing and cleaning. Then, she was transferred to Craiova where she was forced to work in a sewing workshop. In June, Claimant was transferred to Ocnele Mari where she worked in the kitchen of the camp's canteen. The conditions in each prison were very harsh: hard work, insufficient food rations, no medical help, restricted freedom and lack of communication with the external world. Claimant was liberated in September 1944.

3424402

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of his faith, in September 1943, Claimant was sentenced by court-martial in Cernauti to 25 years of forced labour. Most members of Claimant's family received the same sentence, but one of his brothers was sentenced to death. In the Cernauti Prison, they all worked like slaves. They had to demolish the Military Base Number 11 in Rosiori and other military bases. They were forced to work until they fell down, then they had to get up and continue working. Their forced labour also included loading luggage on trains. Claimant was liberated from Cernauti prison in March 1944. He did not receive any documents.

CASE SUMMARIES FOR THE CLAIMS OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES – INDIVIDUAL CASES

3424396

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of his faith, on 3 May 1944, Claimant was arrested by the Nazi Regime. He was sentenced to two and a half years of forced labour. Claimant was detained at Cluj where he performed forced labour. On 6 November 1944, Claimant managed to escape following the bombings of the Allied Forces on the prison. Only 15 out of a total of 36 prisoners who were detained with Claimant survived.

3424397

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of his faith, on 10 July 1944, Claimant was arrested by Hungarian soldiers and deported to Austria where he performed forced labour. He was forced to work in the woods, to perform agricultural labour and to dig trenches for the German Army. In October 1944, Claimant was transferred to Germany where he was forced to dig bunkers. On 15 June 1945, Claimant was liberated. In June 1946, when Claimant returned home, he was arrested and imprisoned.

3424410

Claimant is Jehovah's Witness of Romanian origin. Because of her faith, Claimant and her father were arrested by Hungarian soldiers. Claimant was tortured as a way of forcing her to admit that her father was responsible for her religious beliefs. However, Claimant refused to make such an admission. Later, her father was deported to a camp in Germany and Claimant was sent back home. In March 1943, Claimant was arrested again and was detained at Fegj Haz prison in Debrecen, Hungary. There, she was constantly tortured by the Hungarian soldiers in order to force her to denounce her faith as a Jehovah's Witness. She was liberated in 1944. Although, Claimant did not state that she performed forced labour for the Nazi Regime, the historical record presents conclusive evidence that Jehovah's Witnesses who were arrested by the Nazi Regime and imprisoned performed forced labour.

3435078

Claimant is a Romanian of the Jehovah's Witness faith. Because of his faith he refused to participate in the war effort and thus, on 15 April 1943, was arrested by the Nazi Regime. He was severely beaten until he collapsed. Then he was sentenced by the court-martial of Cluj to five years in prison. He was transferred to Jaszbereny, Hungary where he was beaten because he refused to participate in the war effort. Several weeks later, he was sent to the Danube with a group of 152 Jehovah's Witnesses. There, they joined a group of one thousand Jews. All of them were deported to Bor, Yugoslavia where they joined another group of two thousand Jews. On 26 July 1943, they were sent to a forced labour camp where they were forced to work in a mine and were constantly tortured. Once, the Witnesses were invited to participate in a ceremony in the honor of Hitler and Horthy. However, they refused to take part and were severely beaten. As Germany began to lose the war, they were evacuated from the camp in October 1944. After a walk of approximately 300 km, they arrived at a brick factory. There, they witnessed a massacre of 2,000 Jews in one night. Later, they were transferred to Veszprem, Janoshaza and Szombathely where they performed different types of forced labour. On 1 April 1945, they were liberated by the Russian Army. Claimant could not deliver the liberation documents he received by the Russians upon liberation since these documents were confiscated in 1948, when Claimant was rearrested because of his religious beliefs.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**CLAIMANTS WHO WERE PERSECUTED AS JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
AND WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN ROMANIA**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3100227

Claimant was sentenced to death (execution by shooting) by the Chernovitskiy Military Tribunal, and was imprisoned in Chernovitskaya prison in January 1943. The death sentence was then commuted to 25 years of imprisonment. Claimant was transferred to the prison of Krayova in Romania, where he performed forced labour until September of 1944. Claimant was prosecuted for his refusal to take part in the military actions of Fascist Germany. During his imprisonment he worked at the woodworking plant and on the tree-felling site.

3102662

Claimant was arrested on 4 April 1943 for being a Jehovah's Witness. She was under investigation until 1944. In 1944 she was sentenced to three years of imprisonment. The court proceedings were held in Balsh, Romania. She served the sentence in the forced labour camp in Krayova. She was forced to perform slave labour without any remuneration. Upon liberation, she was given no documents except for a travel pass, but it was lost. She was liberated by Soviet troops prior to the completion of her sentence.

3114181

In 1943 Claimant's parents were brought to trial because of their religious beliefs as Jehovah's Witnesses. Within the year, on 5 March 1944, Claimant was arrested by local police and sent to Chernovitskaya prison. On 18 March 1944 Claimant was condemned by a Court Martial and a German commendatory to 15 years of penal servitude. As Claimant was a minor, he was sent to Krayova (Romania). From there after several days Claimant was sent to the town of Buzyv to a special camp where they had to load gravel into cars (minimum 20 tons per person). In the camp they were given orders by a guard. If they did not fulfil the work quota, they were punished. Claimant was in this camp until 31 August 1944 when he was liberated by the Soviet Army.

3114188

Claimant was born in 1919 in the village of Beshtautsy, Moldova. In his family, his brother had been a Jehovah's Witness since 1932. Claimant was baptized as a Jehovah's Witness in June 1939. During the Nazi occupation, on 8 August 1941, Claimant was arrested by the Romanian authorities. Together with other Brothers he was beaten for three days in a row every two hours. Then they were released and told

to appear in court. The military tribunal sentenced them to the highest punishment, execution, which was then commuted to 25 years' imprisonment. Claimant was imprisoned in the central prison in Ayud, Romania. From 1942 on he worked there as an unskilled worker logging wood for the private company 'Pogranichnik', located in the town of Kuzhyr in Carpets. The director was Shara Simeon. Claimant was liberated in 1944.

3114267

Claimant was born in 1918 in the village of Kolenkovtsy, Khotinskiy district, Chernovitskaya region, into a family of Jehovah's Witnesses. He was baptized in 1932. In 1942 he was arrested by the Romanian authorities and sentenced by a military tribunal in Chernovtsy to the highest degree of punishment because he was a Jehovah's Witness. He was sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment with severe conditions. He served the punishment in the town of Okni-Mari. He was also imprisoned in Tiraspol. While imprisoned he was subjected to humiliation and harsh beatings. He was put into irons and beaten many times. The guards boiled chicken eggs and put them into his armpits, put needles under his nails, and slammed doors on his fingers so that he would renounce his faith. Claimant endured this torture in order to remain faithful to his beliefs.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR FOR
ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3100192

Claimant was arrested as a Jehovah's Witness in 1942 by the Romanian authorities. He was sentenced to death in January 1943 by the Romanian military tribunal because he did not go to fight against the Russians. Claimant was kept in prison in Chernovtsy for 6 (six) months. There, he was subjected to systematic mistreatment and was sentenced to 25 (twenty-five) years. In March 1944 Claimant was transferred from Chernovtsy to a prison in Craiova in Romania. He worked at tree felling and was subjected to corporal punishment. In August 1944, Claimant was granted amnesty and liberated.

3100193

Because he was a Jehovah's Witness Claimant was arrested in January 1943 by the Romanian authorities and in February in the city of Chernovtsy he was sentenced to death by the military tribunal. After 25 days, there was, again, a trial where Claimant was asked if he had repented. No. The sentence stayed the same. The sentence was to be carried out in the evening and Claimant was taken at gun-point to the 'Penitenchar Chernovitsy' prison. Claimant was kept there from March to August. Then there was a retrial where he was sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment, and sent immediately to the construction site of a hospital for prisoners. In March 1944, Claimant was evacuated to Romania to a prison in Craiova. He worked on the Craiova - Bucharest railroad construction. From March until August 28 Claimant was in prison and was liberated on 1 September 1944 when the Romanians broke their pact with the Germans and joined the Russians. Claimant was granted amnesty and liberated.

3100194

Because Claimant was a Jehovah's Witness, she was arrested by the Romanian authorities in March 1944. After the inquest she was taken from Lipcani region to Khotinskiy uezd and then to Lezhiuniya (that was the name of the gendarmerie). There she had her fingerprints taken again, and then she walked from post to post to Chernovtsy. In Chernovtsy Claimant worked in a prison and, after some time, she was sent to Craiova prison where she was condemned to 3 (three years) of imprisonment. In this prison, she worked as a weaver. Claimant was liberated in September 1944. She was not given any documents. And so, Claimant walked 100 km home.

3100376

As a Jehovah's Witness during World War II, Claimant was subject to persecution by the Romanian government. In autumn 1942, Claimant was arrested and taken to Chernovitskaya prison. In spring 1943 he was convicted in Kraeva, Romania. Claimant was condemned to the highest degree of punishment by Court Martial of the Kingdom of Romania. In later proceedings, the Court sentenced Claimant to 25 years' imprisonment. In 1944, Claimant was granted amnesty. In prison, Claimant was subjected to various physical punishments. He worked in hard conditions felling trees.

3108793

The German-Romanian authorities came and took Claimant to prepare for war, and he refused as he was a Jehovah's Witness. That is why he was imprisoned in Chernovtsy and sentenced to the death penalty. On the day of the execution, 20 minutes before, the punishment was annulled by Prince Mikhay. Before the execution (before the conviction) Claimant was asked for the last time whether he would agree to fight against the Russian Army, and he refused to fight, because he was a Jehovah's Witness. So they called Prince Mikhay and he stayed the execution. Prince Mikhay asked Claimant and other Jehovah's Witnesses to write a letter with a description of their religion. After that, Claimant stayed for awhile in Chernovtsy, where he performed different types of work. During the attack of the Russian Army in Bukovina, Claimant was were taken to Krayova and worked there in tree felling. When the Russian Army advanced into Romanian territory, Claimant was free to leave the prison and he was given a certificate, which had the title 'Liberation from prison.'

3108862

Claimant was ordered by a duty officer to the 'selsovet' (village administration). She was alone at home as her parents had been arrested by the Romanians for their religion. After that Claimant was sent to Chernovtsy to "Kurtya Marsiale." Because Claimant did not betray her religion, she was sent to prison in Chernovtsy. There, for about half a year, Claimant was forced to work in the laundry and as a spinner without any payment. Then, she was transferred to Kamenka, which is 20 km from Chernovtsy. Claimant worked from early morning until evening in the fields of an estate without getting any payment. The food Claimant received was very bad. After one year-and-a-half, Claimant was liberated by the Russians and the Germans retreated. When Claimant came home, the house was destroyed.

3108868

Claimant was arrested in January 1943. The reason for his arrest was refusal of military service due to his religion as a Jehovah's Witness. Those who were arrested were marched from the village to the Kishinev prison. In prison, Claimant was sentenced by the military tribunal to 25 years of imprisonment. Before the trial Claimant was badly beaten and he was ordered to give up his religion. After the trial, he was chained, put on train carriages and sent to a labour camp in Transylvania, Romania. At that time Romania was in an alliance with the German invaders. When

he was in the "Aiud" Prison Claimant was forced to work in a brick-and-tile-making factory for 15 – 16 hours a day. In October 1944, all prisoners from Moldova were released without any identity documents. At this time Germany was retreating, the Russian troops were approaching and explosions and shoot-outs thundered all around. During this hard time Claimant travelled home without documents and money.

3108937

On the morning of 28 November, 1942, Claimant was arrested for being a Jehovah's Witness. During his detention, Claimant was verbally harassed for three days, beaten until he was unconscious, and then he was sent under guard to the regional tribunal of Chernavtsy, which is located at present in the Ukrainian Republic. In Chernavtsy, Claimant was investigated for two months, the investigator's name was Baloshesku. In February of 1943, he was sentenced to the highest degree of punishment, the judge's name was Kristesku and he was a colonel. After the court decision was handed down Claimant was locked in a dark room for 14 days. Every day of these fourteen days he was harassed and under guard delivered to various people to perform forced labour for them. Later, he was transferred to Krayeva. Claimant served his sentence from December 1942 until 1944 and at the end, he was liberated by the Soviet Army. All this time was spent in prisons. While on his way home, Claimant was taken into the camp again by the Russians.

3108993

In the spring of 1943, the authorities arrested Claimant, her mother-in-law and other women (seven persons in total) for being Jehovah's Witnesses. They were sent to Kishinev, where they were sentenced to 25 years. Then, they were sent to the forced labour camp " Mislya " in 'uezd' Prakhova, Romania. In the camp, Claimant performed forced labour at the weaving factory, then performed agricultural forced labour on the estate of Madame Domnitsa. Claimant was liberated during the Soviet Army advance.

3110745

Claimant was born in Blishten, 'uezd' Belts, Romania. He was arrested on January 24, 1943 for refusing to take the oath and to participate in military activities. After being severely tortured and beaten, Claimant was sent to the War Tribunal in Kishinev, where he was sentenced to 25 years of penal servitude. Claimant was put into irons and sent by rail car to the prison in Aiud, 'uezd' Albayuliya, Romania. After several months, Claimant was sent, guarded, by train, to log wood on the mountains that belonged to the village of Kuzhir 'uezd' Khunedora, where he and the other prisoners performed difficult forced labour on the slopes of the mountains, wearing shackles and under guard. Approximately at the end of September 1944 the guards told Claimant to go down to the railway station in Kuzhir and there they put Claimant into a railcar and sent him to the prison in Aiud so he would receive a certificate confirming his liberation. When Claimant returned to his home-village Vasiliuts, from where he was arrested in the beginning, the village administration took this certificate away from him and gave Claimant a military record book in return.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES FROM POLAND WHO PERFORMED SLAVE
LABOUR FOR GERMAN AUTHORITIES DURING WWII**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

a. Jehovah's Witnesses Who Performed Slave Labour on Farms

3108707

In July 1942, under the Hitler regime, Claimant's family, including her father, mother, two of her sisters and she were deported from their farm in Zakrzew to perform forced labour on Catharine Luhrs' farm in Marienfeld. Her older brother and sister were deported to perform forced labour on Jana Wierkes' farm in Menne, Warburg. Because they were Jehovah's Witnesses, they were subsequently detained in concentration camps until the end of the German occupation. Her brother was detained in Neuengamme and her sister in Ravensbruck. Claimant's family became Jehovah's Witnesses in 1939. On Catharine Luhrs' farm in Marienfeld Claimant performed difficult physical labour, twelve hours a day. She would often pass out from exhaustion. As a result of being forced to perform slave labour, Claimant was deprived of an education, which affected her later in life.

3108759

When WWII began, Claimant was living with her parents and siblings. Her father was deported to Auschwitz. Claimant was taken by a German to work for him in agriculture. She worked there from 1 October 1939 until the end of the war. The German's name was Heinrich Barttel and he lived in Zajaczkowo, district Swiecie. Her father and her entire family were Jehovah's Witnesses and this was the reason they were persecuted and forced to perform slave labour. She, a young girl at the time, was deprived of the possibility to study and instead had to work as hard as adults. Despite this, she managed to survive until the end of the war and kept her faith and religious beliefs as a Jehovah's Witness.

3108947

Claimant's parents were detained in concentration camps from April 1942 when the Gestapo arrested them. Claimant and her sister were cared for by strangers. At first her mother hid them with neighbours, just before her parents were arrested. The next day, the neighbour sent them to stay with another family in case the Gestapo came back. They had been hidden by those people for three months when their grandmother took them. After four months, their grandmother died. After that, Claimant and her sister were separated. Claimant ended up in four different places. As a small child, she was forced to do various hard jobs such as carrying wood, water,

and cleaning on the farm of a German administrator until her mother's return. She came back from the camp in 1945. Her father never came back from Auschwitz.

3108951

Claimant's parents were taken to a concentration camp in April 1942. Claimant and her younger sister were left at the neighbours'. Claimant was 8 years old at that time. For three months, the neighbour hid her with another family in case the Gestapo came back. Then, they were taken by their grandmother with whom they stayed for four months, until she died. From then on Claimant and her sister were separated. Claimant stayed with the friends of her grandmother, but not for a long time as the father of this family molested and bullied her. Then she was taken to the village of Potulice where she had to do various hard jobs, working in the fields.

3110296

Already in 1939, before the war, Claimant's parents were Jehovah's Witnesses. When the war started, they were displaced from their apartment in Brzoza to a substitute flat in Przyleki. Claimant, as the eldest of the three children, was taken to perform forced labour on a farm of a German called Meyer. The farm was situated in Przyleki. Claimant worked there for the entire period of the German occupation, every day of the week, and was only permitted to go home occasionally. Claimant was not paid for his work; he received only food.

b. Jehovah's Witnesses Who Performed General Manual Labour

3107191

Claimant is from a family of Jehovah's Witnesses, previously called Bible students (Bibelforscher). In August 1943 during the German occupation, Claimant's father was arrested as a Bible student and was sent to Auschwitz concentration camp. Later, he was transferred to Mauthausen concentration camp where he passed away in May 1944. As a child of Jehovah's Witnesses, the Germans expelled Claimant from school at the age of twelve. In May 1942, Claimant was forced to perform labour for the textile factory "Flachswerke Wartheland." He had to work very hard as a slave labourer until liberation.

3108796

Between January 1942 and January 1945, Claimant worked for the German railroad company (Direktion Oppeln). He was detained at Gleisbautruppe in Gleiwitz and lived in train wagons with other workers. Claimant worked in track reparation. In December 1943, Claimant was sent to work for Bauzug 2402 near Slowiansk, on the territory of the former Soviet Union near the front line. The work was very hard and he suffered from harsh living conditions. Sometimes the temperature was minus 50° C. Claimant did not have adequate clothes and the food was bad. His health deteriorated since that period and after the war Claimant was assigned disability of the first degree. Claimant's superiors tortured him and kicked his head. Because he was

Jehovah's Witness, Claimant was persecuted by the Germans and suffered a lot, morally and physically.

3114532

From a very young age Claimant was brought up in a family of Jehovah's Witnesses. On 22 October 1939, he was arrested by the Selbstschutz and imprisoned. Claimant and other prisoners slept in their clothes on the cement floor. For the first two weeks, they were given only stinking soup made of rotten turnips. At night, there were interrogations and beatings with a whip by the commandant of the prison, Goetze (former Polish officer). At five in the morning, five prisoners, including Claimant, were taken out of the room and escorted to the Gestapo. There, they had to light a fire in the stoves, arrange furniture and tidy up while being beaten and kicked. They also had to dispose of the dead bodies of people killed in groups of six by electric shocks. At night, they were brought back to the dormitory, and this took place every day. On 29 October 1939, ten inmates from Claimant's cell were taken and shot dead publicly in the main square. One day, Goetz stormed into the room and said that if there were any riots on 11 November, Independence Day, 30 more inmates would be killed. He chose 30 people, including Claimant. They were put in a separate room where they waited, despairing what would happen. Fortunately, the town stayed calm. The facility was closed down on 4 December 1939 and all the inmates were released. Claimant was taken to a forced labour camp in Owczarki near Grudziadz, where in temperatures of minus 30 degrees he cleaned bricks left from destroyed houses. They stayed in a building next to the railway station in Owczarki. At night, they slept in their clothes, on the floor, and were not allowed to light a fire in the stove even though there were stoves and enough wood. After an illness and a short period of time of not working, he was sent to work at the printing office "Der Gesselige". After having refused to sign the Volksliste, he received a Kennkarte and Polish starvation ration cards without milk. He was forced to work casting stereotype plates where he got lead poisoning. In the springtime, Claimant was forcefully taken to dig trenches near Grudziadz citadel. In March when the Russian Army was close to Grudziadz, Claimant was forced to dig trenches under fire on the front line in the village of Nowa Wies. The Russians were about 500m away from Nowa Wies where the front line was. Claimant dug trenches until the liberation of Grudziadz on 6 March 1945.

c. Concentration Camps

3102042

Claimant was interned in the concentration camps Auschwitz and Mauthausen-Gusen, where he suffered physically and mentally every day. One event out of many more severe ones took place in the Auschwitz subcamp, Jaworzno. Claimant worked there as a carpenter along with civilians. He was able to transmit correspondence from families. The Germans found out that he was doing this. They wanted to know who was receiving the correspondence. Claimant did not say because everybody would have suffered. He was severely beaten. Four SS-officers first boxed him in, passing him like a ball from one to another and later, they all started hitting him with a wooden stick until he lost consciousness. His ribs were broken, he was all black and blue and his buttocks were one big wound. For a few days after this incident, he could not lie down, but had to sleep squatting.

d. Reform Institutions for Children

3101068

Because Claimant's family were Jehovah's Witnesses, Claimant's father was taken to Auschwitz. Her mother was deprived of her parental rights and therefore her two brothers, Bernard and Henryk, were sent to a reformatory and then to concentration camps. Claimant and her younger sister were sent to an institution run by nuns in Klosterbrück near Opole (present name: Czarnowasy). Although they were raised by their parents as Jehovah's Witnesses, at the institution school they were forced to practice Catholicism and nationalistic rites. After finishing school, Claimant had to work in gardening and was not paid. It was very hard work for children.

3101118

Because Claimant would not "Heil Hitler" at school, she and her sister were arrested and taken to the reform camp Klosterbruck and later to the Landsdorf camp near Opole. In both camps, they had to do all the tasks connected with meal preparation, cleaning and going to the bakery to get bread. Claimant was completely separated from her family. At the same time, her mother was taken to Auschwitz where she died on 1 December 1943.

3101229

After Claimant and her sister refused to say "Heil Hitler" in school, they were arrested and sent to the reform camp 'Klosterbrück,' and then to the Landsdorf camp near Opole. In both camps they had to do all kinds of work related to cleaning and food preparation. Claimant was completely separated from her family. At the same time her mother was deported to Auschwitz, where she died on 1 December 1943. At the end of the war the Landsdorf camp was evacuated to the West and Claimant was liberated by Americans. Claimant came back to Wisla only in September 1946, because the Americans who liberated children organized special care for them, in order to nourish them well and to let them recover the strength necessary for their journey back home.

3108869

Claimant's mother and sister were imprisoned as Jehovah's Witnesses during the war. Her cousin was executed for refusing to join the army, and her father died in a forced labour camp because he refused to dig trenches. One day German gendarmes arrived and took Claimant to a camp for girls near Kalisz. At roll calls they all had to stand around the flag with one arm out-stretched and sing the anthem. To Claimant, this was against God's commandments, and she did not do it. As a result she was given the job of working at a laundry, in winter. There she had to do the washing in cold water all day long. She also had to clear away snow and ice outside. Later she was sent to a prison in Inowroclaw. There, she was humiliated by a gynecological intervention. Then she was sent to another camp for girls near Rawicz and the situation from the first camp re-occurred. Claimant did not pay proper respect to the flag and was given the worst job, finding the potatoes in the cellar that were rotten. For this she wore a gas mask. Eventually she was expelled.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**CLAIMANTS WHO WERE PERSECUTED AS JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
AND WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN GERMANY**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3100094

In April 1942 Claimant became a Jehovah's Witness. At that time Jehovah's Witnesses were being persecuted, and the mayor of Claimant's village hated them. He purposely tried to make Claimant do things that were incompatible with her religious beliefs; for example, when his son died, he tried to make Claimant carry a wreath and take part in the funeral ceremony in church, but she refused. As revenge, the mayor sent Claimant to Germany three days later. On 2 November 1942 at 1 a.m. an SS team took Claimant right out of bed and brought her to Krennitsa, Novy Soich, Kropov. The commission certified her as physically fit and she was sent to a forced labour camp in Zest. She worked there for six months and after that was sent to work for a private owner, W. Hatwinkel. Apart from being given some food, she received no remuneration, and performed forced labour in Germany for three years.

3100097

At the end of October 1941, during a raid by German soldiers for slave labourers, Claimant was in the outskirts of the town Stryy in Lvovskaya region, and was taken to a labour exchange in the town of Stryy (Arbeits-Amt). There he was guarded with other people. On 8 November 1941 many people, including Claimant, were put onto a train and taken to Germany to the town of Hannover (Westphalen), from where they were distributed to different places. Claimant was sent to Ragden, where he worked for Madam Mayer, in the village of Faralgeide, Libbeke region. He worked in agriculture. He was then 18 years old and the work was difficult, beyond his strength. He worked from 5:30 AM until 9:00 PM. The owner was ruthless and cruel. Once for not performing work he was beaten, and then the owner called a policeman who also threatened Claimant with a rubber stick. Later, he escaped and chose another place of work without informing the labour exchange (Arbeits-Amt), also in agriculture but with better people in the village Zwinghausen. But the labour exchange sent him to another owner, the farmer Henrich Liker, in the town Libbeke, Westfallen, Gausstete 31. This job also related to agriculture. He worked there until the end of the war. He worked hard and honestly, because he was a Jehovah's Witness. There was no mercy during wartime. The working hours were from 5:30 AM till 8:30 PM.

3100098

In June 1942 a German soldier and a person from the local authorities came to Claimant's home and told him: "Since you are a Jehovah's Witness, you should immediately get ready. We are sending you to work in Germany". On the same day

Claimant and five other Jehovah's Witnesses were deported under escort to the town of Rogatin. From there they were put in a railway cargo car and sent to Lvov. There he was subjected to a medical examination and then sent to Leipzig, Germany. From there they were driven to Debeln. Nothing was explained to Claimant. He was selected by a farmer called Hari Hempel and taken to the village of Dorf Hertig. Claimant worked there from 1942 to April 1944. Then he was taken by a farmer called Albert Paul and worked for him until May 1945. The work was particularly hard and lasted from 5 AM to 6 PM. They were given one hour for lunch. They were fed poorly and inadequately. Claimant lived in a building that was never heated, and could not go anywhere without permission. Soviet troops arrived on 5 May 1945 and Claimant went home the same month.

3100104

In June 1942, Claimant, born in 1932, was deported to Germany along with his parents to perform forced labour. He was then ten years old. In Germany he lived and worked on an estate in the village of Waschow (near Wittenburg). He was in Germany for approximately one year. In May 1943 he was released because he got sick, and together with his parents he returned home. He states that he was deported to Germany with his parents because he and they were Jehovah's Witnesses.

3100234

In 1942, the German occupiers deported Claimant and seven members of her family from the village of Gorozhanka, Monastyriskiy rayon, Ternopolskaya oblast to Germany. In the beginning they were held in a camp, and only after a few months were they distributed to their respective worksites. Claimant worked along with her parents and brother on the estate of the private owner Friedrich Tuhn. The conditions of labour were terrible. They worked for 12 hours per day or even more. Small children were forced to perform labour as well. They performed various types of labour on the estate of Tuhn from January 1942 until May 1945.

3101802

On 25 July 1942 Claimant was deported as a Jehovah's Witness to Glauchau, Germany, to perform slave labour. The address was Janlagitschen, Risdorf No. 41, German master, Paul Polster. Claimant worked there as a slave labourer until 25 July 1945. After liberation he returned to the village of Ugrinov, Ternopolskaya region.

3101804

Claimant was deported to Germany as a slave labourer, as a Jehovah's Witness. She worked for a German landowner, Elli Fuchta, at Bertecheisordorf, Geluchau Chemnitz, Sachsen, Germany. In April 1945 she was liberated and returned to Ugrinov, Ternopol region.

3108815

Claimant was born in 1926 in Dnepropetrovskaya oblast, Ukraine. She lived with her parents and was at school, but she met Jehovah's Witnesses and became one. In 1943

she was deported to Germany from the occupied territory of Magdalinovskiy rayon. She performed slave labour in agriculture for a private farmer in the village of Gumberg in Schimberg region. While living in Germany for these two years, she read the Bible and shared her findings from it with others who were there along with her. She returned home on 11 June 1945 when the war was over. In 1951 she was exiled to Siberia, Irkutskaya oblast, Molta by Stalin.

3113924

In April 1942 Claimant was transported by horses from Telyava to Krosno, and then further to Krakow. In Krakow he was held with others for two weeks in a house, all in one room, sleeping on the floor. They were fed badly, once per day. From Krakow they were transported to Vienna by freight cars. In Vienna they were divided up; he was left there along with a small number of people and the rest were transported further. There they underwent sanitary procedures and then were transported to Garberg (Graz), and from there were finally redistributed to their worksites. They worked there for 16 – 18 hours per day from 5 o'clock in the morning. They worked hard, and there was never enough food. The farmers treated them very badly.

3113928

Claimant was 17 years old and was taken under guard and then put on a railway car. She was 'bought' by a proprietor and taken to the "Siemens" factory. She and others were put into four lines and had to march like that to the work site. They were fed only once a day, spinach and rutabaga. Later on, they were sent to the salt-mines. Claimant was also taken to Berlin where she had to undergo some experiments when she was unconscious. She was not able to have children as a result. Claimant states that Jehovah's Witnesses were despised while in the camp, but even after she and others returned home they were seen as criminals and betrayers of the homeland.

3113994

Claimant was 14 years old when he was deported to a forced labour camp in Germany. His first day in the camp, along with other children aged 7 to 14, in total 18 of them, he was driven under guard to harvest vegetables for six weeks. As a result of lifting heavy baskets full of vegetables, he strained his spine and developed a brutal pain in his stomach. Immediately after this, he was ordered to work for the 'N.S.U' factory, where all 4700 inmates of the camp worked already. As a result of standing daily for 10 hours behind the boring-machine, wearing shoes with wooden soles, and from getting thoroughly chilled wearing summer clothes in wintertime, he developed severe pain in his joints, which he still has today. In each sector of the barracks there were 40 inmates, two-floored bunks, mattresses filled with straw, bedbugs and rats. They were under the constant surveillance of guards armed with clubs and accompanied by Alsatians. There was a canteen without tables, and Claimant and others waited in long lines for thin broth. Breaking any rules of the camp meant being sent to a concentration camp. Claimant lost his education, homeland and friends. As a consequence of his despair, he stopped growing, so that when the American Army arrived in April 1945, he was the same height as if he were still 12 years old. Upon returning home in August 1945 he could not study, but had to work in order to survive. The KGB interrogated him over a period of one year. In place of his

hometown he found only ruins and emptiness, and he experienced hunger and hard labour for many years after the war. He maintained his strength in the camp by being a Jehovah's Witness.

3114027

In 1942, when the German Army occupied Western Ukraine, many young people who were able to work were taken to Germany to perform forced labour. There were various kinds of people, including Jehovah's Witnesses, that the German authorities did not like. At that time Claimant was a Jehovah's Witness. From her village three men and five women, all Jehovah's Witnesses, were taken.

3114179

Claimant was arrested together with other Jehovah's Witnesses for refusing to work on defense sites. He was taken under arrest to Drogobych in Lvovskaya region. There they were forced to work loading and unloading. For refusing to perform tasks related to military work, Claimant was constantly threatened with execution. Then he was transferred to Slovakia, to the village of Posha in Vranov nad Toplou region. There he and others were sold for 10 Crowns per day to local people for agricultural labour. In September 1944, in the town of Spisska Nova Ves, for refusing to work in a military kitchen, and going on a hunger strike, he was sent to a POW camp. From there he was sent to a work camp in Krakow, Poland, and from there to Germany, Sudetengau, to a military plant. There the director of the plant was more compassionate towards Jehovah's Witnesses when they refused to work for the war, and sent them not to the Gestapo, but to perform agricultural labour. Claimant was sent to the village of Waykesdorf to work for Iosif Lazerman. He worked there from December 1944 until May 1945.

3114198

In 1939 Claimant became associated with the Jehovah's Witnesses. In November 1941 she was taken to the train station in Stanislav, where she was put onto a freight car with some other Jehovah's Witnesses. They did not receive any food before going; their captors said only: "God be with you!" They were brought to a distribution camp in Vienna, where a doctor kept Claimant for three days because of a minor illness. Then they were taken to a distribution camp in Znaym Arbaytsant, from where Claimant's future husband and she were taken by Oskar Novak who had a farm in the village of Valtrovitsi, where Claimant worked. As the front started approaching, the landowner fled together with his family. Claimant was liberated by Czech partisans, and then the Red Army arrived. Then, together with one Serbian fellow and some POWs they travelled to the railway station in Bratislava, then to a transit camp in Budapest, and from there to Stanislava and home.

3114260

In April 1942 Claimant was sent to Germany to perform forced labour, where he and others were forced to work tree felling. They were fed very badly, only one slice of bread in the morning. When they refused to work, they were forced to and even imprisoned. Then they were sent back to the forest where they continued to fell trees

with primitive instruments. There were other Jehovah's Witnesses together with Claimant, and also other people who were not Jehovah's Witnesses. At the beginning of 1943 they were suddenly put on a train and sent home. They received no money, and no documents.

3114371

In 1942 Claimant was sent to a forced labour camp in Germany, where he worked until autumn 1943. In 1943 he was given leave from work, which he received due to his diligent work, but he did not return. He hid from the Nazis until the end of the war. He spent some time with his neighbors, then with his parents. The Nazis took a cow and other things from his parents because they believed his parents were hiding him. They were persecuted because he and his family had been Jehovah's Witnesses since 1934.

3114372

Claimant was ordered to leave her parents' town of Dzhankoy on 17 June 1942 to perform forced labour in Germany. She was transported in a railway car with 40 other people, and it was very crowded. They stopped in Poland to take a bath for disinfection. The doors of the car were locked in Germany, and they were brought to Frankfurt on Main to a big distribution camp. Then they were transferred to Kassel to the laundry factory 'Waescherei Jakob'. In the beginning they lived in a camp-type barrack with two-floor wooden beds, which was located in a corner of the camp surrounded by barbed wire. They were lined up and escorted to work by a policeman. While they were walking to work, the German kids called them 'Russe schwein, Russe schwein!' Then the owner bought a barrack and so they stayed on the grounds of the factory. There were gratings on the windows. The shutters were closed for the night so that no one could get out. In the middle of the barrack there was a room for a policeman surrounded by a metal fence. This man beat Claimant with a lash on several occasions. They ate in a common kitchen for prisoners. Two of them went with a wheelbarrow and a big can for food, escorted by a policeman. They were given two loaves of black bread per week. There were 45 women and 7 men working ten-hour shifts.

3114570

During the period of the occupation, in 1942, Claimant was deported to Germany from the village of Belousovka. There she was kept in a camp for one week, and then she was 'bought' by a proprietor to work in a flax factory located in Finfeld. She worked there as a laundress doing difficult and hazardous jobs until the end of war.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**CLAIMANTS WHO WERE PERSECUTED AS JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
AND WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3100093

The Germans occupied the town of Shipitovka, Ukraine in 1941. At the end of August or beginning of September, Claimant was imprisoned in a camp for POWs. Claimant tried to escape, was caught, and was imprisoned in the concentration camp Auschwitz (Poland). There he was tattooed. Later he was transferred to Buchenwald. Later he was sent to other concentration camps as a Jehovah's Witness, and was imprisoned until the end of the war when British troops occupied Bergen Belsen in the first days of May 1945.

3104737

Claimant's parents were Jehovah's Witnesses and raised their children, including Claimant, as Jehovah's Witnesses. During that time Jehovah's Witnesses were severely persecuted by law. Claimant's parents died during Stalin's repressions. In June 1942, because she was a Jehovah's Witness, SS soldiers deported Claimant, a teenage girl, from the orphanage where she lived to Schweinfurth am Main, Germany, to a camp surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by policemen. The windows and doors of the barracks were locked at night. Claimant and others worked for the Kugel military plant. They were escorted to and from work by guards. Claimant worked as a turner and controller in the turning shop. The plant was guarded by SS soldiers who also supervised the workers. Once, for producing a defective component, Claimant was severely beaten, and was hospitalized for a concussion for one month in the camp hospital. Upon her recovery she decided to escape to the farmers in the village. In July 1944, during the bombardment, she escaped, but was soon caught by a gendarme and put into CC Ravensbrueck. With the help of a French man she escaped from the camp and started looking for a job in the villages, but a farmer betrayed her to the gendarmes. She was brought to Schweinfurth again. There were 36 people in her room, including three Jehovah's Witnesses. In the evenings they preached words of God, read the Bible, and sang songs. A policeman overheard and informed his administration. All three of them were caught and put into an isolation cell for one month. In October or September of 1944 all were deported to the extermination camp "Munye". This camp was located in the forest 25 km from Schweinfurth, and it had bombs stored on its territory. There Claimant worked on lathes in bunkers; she carried boxes with completed components to be checked, and worked as a controller. In late March of 1945 the front line got closer. The SS soldiers mined the camp. On April 1 at 11:00 pm the policemen drove all the inmates into the barracks, locked the gate and the doors of barracks and left the camp. Claimant and some others felt that it was the end and ran away as soon as it got dark outside, climbing over wires and escaping to the forest a few minutes before an explosion. The camp was destroyed

along with all its inmates at 12.00 pm. The next day the SS soldiers searched the forest, and found the runaway inmates – including Claimant– and drove them to a precipice. Suddenly American airplanes flew in and started bombing, so they ran in all directions. Claimant ran towards the forest, stretching up her hands and praying: “God, save me”. She fell down and bullets fell all around her. Afterwards she found her friends; they were all injured and bruised. They were liberated by the Americans on April 12, and brought to the hospital in Batkesingen. Upon her recovery she was delivered to the Russians at Chemnitz. She also worked clearing rubble at the aircraft factory in Waldenburg, Germany, and collected the harvest on farms left by farmers in the village of Hagenfridenberg, Germany. She returned home in December of 1945.

3113919

When Claimant was taken prisoner he was sent to the concentration camp located in Peremyshl, Poland. There people were tortured, humiliated and beaten, and were forwarded to other similar camps. At the end of April 1944 Claimant was sent away along with other prisoners by steamship and then by railcar to Norway, initially to Oslo and then to the region of Trondheim, where the concentration camps were located. There, under guard, he worked along with the others on the construction of roads, the airport, and other installations, and on the construction of bridges over the gulf. They were fed badly, and moreover, their rations were constantly decreased with the ultimate intention of extermination. Nevertheless, this was not successful and on 8 May 1945 they were liberated by the English and Norwegian armies.

3114201

In April Claimant was taken to Snyatyn, Kolomyya, Lvov, then to Lublin, and from there to Ravensbrueck. She and ten other women were sent to a bullet plant (to fill bullets with gun-powder). They all refused and were offered nine days of forced starvation, with execution on the tenth day, if they did not cooperate. They all refused and waited for the verdict. They were not given any food on the ninth day. On the tenth day, they were not executed, but were all given purple triangles. The plant was located not far from Ravensbrueck in Gentin. After some time they were sent to Ravensbrueck to work in a laundry. She wore the purple triangle. At the laundry they worked in two 12-hour shifts. The laundry was located in Gentin, and they lived in barracks. Then she was sent to Ravensbrueck, where she sewed clothes for prisoners using sewing machines. She stayed there until liberation. Just prior, everybody except Claimant and other Jehovah's Witnesses were taken away somewhere. The next day their barrack was going to be blown up, but they were liberated, and then sent home in July 1945.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**CLAIMANTS WHO WERE PERSECUTED AS JEHOVAH'S
WITNESSES AND WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR ON THE
OCCUPIED TERRITORY OF UKRAINE AND THE FORMER
USSR**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3100390

During the period from September 1941 until August 1943 Claimant was forced to perform field work without remuneration for the Nazi regime, tilling the soil, bringing in the harvest, and other agricultural work. During wintertime, Claimant tended cattle, and cleared snow from the road.

3108684

Claimant was born in 1912 in Loevaya in Nadvornianskiy rayon, Ivano-Frankovskaya (Stanislavskaya) oblast, Ukraine. In 1940, she gave birth to her daughter, and in 1942 she and her daughter were brought to the distribution point in Nadvorna to be deported to Germany, but with her child in her arms and with tears in her eyes she begged not to be deported. They were allowed to stay, but for the entire period of the occupation she performed forced labour for the Germans. In order to be able to work she had to leave her child with the neighbors. She built roads, did laundry and cooked for soldiers. She also dug trenches and graves of 10x12 m², and then in those graves she buried Jews who had been executed by shooting. The soldiers made use of her house, and they used her shed for their horses. When they executed Jews they drove Claimant and others out to bury the dead bodies. At that time Claimant was studying the Bible with other researchers of the Bible (Jehovah's Witnesses). Some of the locals started to incite the soldiers by telling them that she was of Jewish religion. A soldier called her over, brought her to the grave, aimed his rifle on her and asked:

-Evangelischen? Ya?

-Ya – she replied.

He laughed at her and released her. But from that time until the departure of the German Army she worked for the German soldiers and occupiers.

3108924

When, in 1941, the Germans occupied the area in western Ukraine where Claimant lived, he was 14 years old. The Germans began mass deportations of both young people and the elderly. Claimant was also arrested and taken to a transit point in Lvov. However, at that time Claimant was not deported to Germany and returned home. Later his mother was deported, and Claimant was also targeted for deportation, but he refused to go, explaining that he was a believer, a Jehovah's Witness. The 'Schutz Polizei' came and took him to a police station. There he was abused for more

than a week, and then transferred to the regional prison. Later he was transferred to the town of Kosov where he was held for one month. Finally he was transferred to the town of Kolomyia where he was held in an ice-cold basement for 16 days with almost no food. In the same town there was a forced labour camp, where he was sent without a court decision or investigation. There he was forced to perform labour from early morning until late at night. He suffered hunger. This lasted until the front line came closer and Soviet troops approached. Then the Germans started to flee, and so did the prisoners. Claimant returned home and hid for some time because it was unclear what was going to happen to his country. Claimant still has health problems related to having been exhausted, abused, cold and hungry.

3114905

During WWII, Claimant became an orphan, and as a nine-year-old child was forced to walk several hundreds of kilometers with a convoy, while being bombarded. During the war her mother died and her father was killed. Beginning in July 1941 the territory where she lived with her family was occupied by the German Army. In February 1942, their village of Severiki was burned down, and they were escorted to Germany. They arrived in the Stolbtsovskiy region of Minskaya oblast and were thrown into cold sheds, which were surrounded by barbed wire. Adults were forced to build fortifications, and children, including Claimant, had to wash bandages for injured German soldiers. The children were also used as blood donors for injured Germans. When they all became completely weakened, the Germans tried to get rid of them by burning down the sheds. Claimant managed to escape from the burning shed, badly burned. She attributes the fact that they survived to their faith as Jehovah's Witnesses. She and others were found and rescued by partisans in October 1943. She returned to her home village, which was now a mine-field, in May 1944.

**HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)
GROUP XII SUBMISSION
SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I**

**CLAIMANTS WHO WERE PERSECUTED AS JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
AND WHO PERFORMED SLAVE LABOUR IN HUNGARY**

REPRESENTATIVE CASE SUMMARIES

3102074

Claimant has been a Jehovah's Witness since 1940. She is a member of the Mezevari assembly. On 21 February 1941 she was arrested, brought before the court in the town of Beregovo, and then taken to a displaced persons' camp in the town of Nagykanizsa in Hungary. She and others were taken regularly from the camp to perform agricultural labour. They were not paid; instead, their employers were paid for their labour. She was released on 13 September 1944.

3113966

In April 1940 Claimant was sentenced for his religious beliefs as a Jehovah's Witness by the tribunal of the 8th corps of 'Mukachevo' to 18 months of imprisonment. Later, for his refusal to serve in the army he was sentenced to four more years of imprisonment by the Military Tribunal of 'Koshitsk'. From there he was sent to the camp in 'Ovar', Hungary, from where he was transferred to the special penal battalion No. 442 in the Don Bend. In May 1942 he was transferred again to the penal company No. 482 in the Kursk Bulge. Throughout this period he performed forced labour as a blacksmith for Hungarian military units. He never received any payment for his labour. He was liberated on 25 October 1944.

3113972

Claimant has been a Jehovah's Witness since 1933. He was persecuted by Hungarian gendarmes in his homeland (occupied Ukraine) from 1938 to 1941, and then was in forced labour camps and labour battalions from 1941 until 1944. He performed labour for the Hungarian military on the front line in 'Volovetskiy rayon'. Claimant returned home in November 1944.

3114122

In 1940 in Mukachevo, when Claimant was 12 years old, he was sentenced to three months of imprisonment on the grounds of his religious beliefs as a Jehovah's Witness. Then in Beregovo he was sentenced to imprisonment until 1941, after which he was sent to Kosice to perform special forced labour until the end of 1944. The place where he and others were held was located at 39 Bobic Street, Kosice. He worked there in the fields and vegetable gardens, and never received any remuneration for his work.

3114124

At the beginning of October 1942 Claimant was sentenced by the tribunal in Mukachevo on the grounds of his religious beliefs as a Jehovah's Witness. After 10 days he was transferred to the palace Rakotsi in Saint-Miklosh (present-day Chinadievo). There he was brutally tortured. At the end of December 1942 he was transferred to the Margit-Korut prison in Budapest and served his sentence there. They all worked very hard there, performed different types of labour and were persecuted by their supervisors. At the end of April 1943 he was liberated. He never received any remuneration for his labour.

3114153

Due to his religious beliefs as a Jehovah's Witness Claimant refused to participate in military training. The Hungarian gendarmes beat him mercilessly, trying to make him renounce his beliefs. Claimant refused, and in November 1941 he was handcuffed and handed over to the Hungarian Royal Investigative confinement facilities in Debrecen. After three months' solitary confinement, the Hungarian Court sentenced him to four more months of confinement in the Debrecen prison. When he returned home to Uzhgorod region the prosecutor sent him to an internment camp in Kistarcsa in accordance with an order of Budapest Court. There he became really weak and sick, and was transferred to the public hospital located in Satoralja, "Erzsebet Korhaz". He was there from 15 June 1944 until 22 October 1944, lying in a plaster cast with the diagnosis of 'spinal tuberculosis'. When Soviet troops were approaching, the camp was relocated to Germany and he was released on the condition that he remain under house arrest.

3114186

Claimant was born in 1924 in the village of Beregrakosh, Mukachevskiy district. He lived there until 12 October 1942, and on that day there was a general arrest of Jehovah's Witnesses throughout Hungary. He was taken to Mukachevo, and after several days he was sent to a castle in Chinadievo. He was kept there with others in isolation until 20 December 1942. They received various sentences. Claimant was sentenced to two years of imprisonment. From Chinadievo he was sent to Budapest, to a prison, which was located on Margit Kerut street. In June 1943 he was taken to the town of Jaszbereny. Many Jehovah's Witnesses were brought there from different prisons. Claimant and approximately 200 people were organized into a special labour detachment, which had number 801. From Jaszbereny they were sent by boat (on the Danube) to the town of Bor, in Yugoslavia. There they were forced to work for 12 hours a day. Claimant worked in the copper mines. He worked as a blacksmith until November 1944 when the Soviet Army began approaching. Then they were forced to travel on foot to Hungary. They were stopped many times on their way and forced to work. The last stop was on the Austrian border. There the Soviet Army caught up to them and they were liberated. After that they went home on foot as well. Claimant arrived home on 7 May 1945.

3114190

On 24 October 1942 Claimant was arrested in the town of Rakhov. From there he was taken to the town of Mukachevo to a building where there were already Jehovah's Witnesses and communists. There they sat on the floor, held hands, and looked at the wall. After two weeks they were escorted on foot to a castle in Chinadievo and Claimant was there under investigation for two-and-a-half months. Then the Court sentenced him to nine months. He was 16 years old. In December 1942 he was sent to Budapest to the military penal prison 'Margit Kyrut'. He was held there until June 1943. Then he was released because he was a minor.

3114304

In 1942 Claimant was drafted by the Hungarians to serve in the army and fight against Russian soldiers. Claimant refused and so he had to dig trenches. In 1944 Russian soldiers came and took Claimant and others as hostages to Yazbirik, and then to Fokshany. Then they were sent to the Donbass to perform forced labour in the Snegovo mine in the town of Chistyakovo. Claimant worked there until February 1946.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XVI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

GROUP CASE SUMMARY

Group Recommendation
(3101200, 3101201 and 3101225)

Claimants are individuals who were persecuted as Homosexuals during WWII and who were forced to perform slave labour in concentration camps. Two Claimants were forced to perform laboury in Bremen and Dachau. The third Claimant was forced to perform labour in Auschwitz and Gusen.

3472552

During his escape from Fritzlar in July 1944, Claimant was arrested by SS soldiers who were guarding trains when he arrived in Duisburg. He was interrogated, beaten, jailed and then sent back to Fritzlar under SS supervision. He resumed his forced labour at the Bereitstellung where he was subjected to severe beatings and sustained injuries to his leg and ankles. He lived in inhuman conditions and suffered from poor nutrition. His persecution was extremely severe because of his target group.

3472639

Claimant was deported to Germany to perform forced labour in 1943. He worked in two bakeries and was detained in Neustrelitz Camp. In follow-up correspondence to IOM, Claimant identified his target group as homosexual and stated that he was scolded and treated like a dog.

3472671

Claimant was arrested in the Netherlands and deported to the Berlin area in Germany where he was forced to perform industrial labour. In follow-up correspondence to IOM, he identified his target group as homosexual and some of the treatment he received in the camp.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP VI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

(Disabled/Sterilization)

CASE SUMMARIES

3114445

Claimant was born in Germany in 1922. According to a court decision, Claimant was adjudicated schizophrenic in 1939 at the age of 18 and compulsory sterilization was ordered. Schizophrenia was considered to be an incurable hereditary disease that required compulsory sterilization under Nazi law. Because of this diagnosis, Claimant was believed to be mentally disabled. Claimant was sterilized at the Heidelberg University Clinic. Later, he was treated at the Tannenhof Medical Center where he was forced to work for the Nazi Regime.

3114446

Claimant was born in Germany in 1919. Claimant was one of ten children. Five of her siblings died when they were babies. Claimant was three years old when her mother died. Claimant's father remarried but her stepmother did not want the children of her father's previous marriage. At the age of nine, Claimant was sent to Nordhausen Children's Home. It is presumed that she was forced to work at Nordhausen Children's Home and that even at the age of nine, she would be capable of performing tasks that would contribute to the maintenance of the children's home. She also attended school and was trained to be a "white seamstress" in Bad Köstritz. Before she was allowed to leave for her year of mandatory duty, she was sent to the hospital with several other girls for an operation. Later, she learned that she had been sterilized. Claimant was, in effect, an orphan who was considered genetically inferior/disabled under Nazi philosophy. Thus, sterilization would have been recommended in her case. During the war, Claimant was also forced to work for an ammunition factory.

3114447

Claimant was born in Germany in 1911. Claimant was reported to local authorities by his landlord in the spring of 1938 because he allegedly saw a "second face." Claimant was diagnosed as schizophrenic in August 1938. Schizophrenia was considered to be an incurable hereditary disease that required compulsory sterilization under Nazi law. Because of this diagnosis, Claimant was believed to be mentally disabled. In 1938, he was sent to a psychiatric hospital for treatment. The head of the institution recommended that he be sterilized in accordance with the law on congenital diseases. Claimant was transferred to a Zschadrass Hospital where the procedure was performed. Claimant continued to live and work at the hospital until 1992 in spite of

a recommendation from a doctor in 1946 that he be released after a short time. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" and that had he not been able to do so, he would have been a euthanasia victim.

3114448

Claimant was born in Germany in 1922. From 24 October 1940 to 29 December 1940, Claimant was in the Chemnitz Psychiatric Clinic. After a course of treatment, he was discharged as it was determined that he was healed and fit for work. In early August 1941, he tried to join the army but was denied. Later that month, he was diagnosed as being in the beginning stages of schizophrenia so he was returned to the institution. Schizophrenia was considered to be an incurable hereditary disease that required compulsory sterilization under Nazi law. Because of this diagnosis, Claimant was believed to be mentally disabled. At his mother's request, he was released in November 1942. Approximately one month later, he was sent to another institution where he was sterilized because it was determined that he was suffering from a congenital disease. One of the institutions where Claimant stayed was the Waldheim Medical Center. While he was there, he was forced to work for the Florena Waldheim Cosmetics Company. He also had to assist small farmers in the area.

3114450

Claimant was born in 1933 in Germany. Claimant lived at Warburg Children's Home from March 1943 to August 1945. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) at Warburg Children's Home and that had he not been able to do so, he would have been a euthanasia victim. Some time between February and March 1945, Claimant went to the hospital there because of a knee injury. He believes that he was sterilized at that time. As Claimant was a resident of a children's home, it is probable that he was considered an orphan and genetically inferior/disabled. As such, sterilization would have been recommended for him. Claimant was released from Warburg Children's Home after the war and placed in another children's home.

3114451

Claimant was born in 1913 in Germany. In 1938, he had to participate in a short but mandatory training for the Germany Army. As Claimant had been raised in a Christian home, he had an aversion to military service and bearing arms. It was against his religious beliefs. After four days of this training, Claimant appeared to be in a confused state and this was reported. Claimant was sent to the Army Hospital in Glauchau. On 14 March 1938, Claimant was sent to the psychiatric institution, Untergölsch bei Reiderwisch. Under Nazi philosophy, Claimant would have been diagnosed as feeble-minded/disabled. This was considered a hereditary disease that would have required sterilization under Nazi law. While he was at the psychiatric institution, Claimant was forced to work. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) at Warburg Children's Home and that had he not been able to do so, he would have been a euthanasia victim.

After one year, the Director determined that Claimant was schizophrenic. In accordance with the law on congenital diseases, Claimant had to be sterilized. He was

told that he would not be released until he agreed to this procedure. In order to gain his release, Claimant agreed to the procedure that was performed at Auerbach.

Claimant had problems finding a wife because only a marriage with someone similarly situated was allowed. He met someone in 1940 but they had to wait until after the war to get married. Theirs was the first marriage after the war.

3114452

Claimant was born in Germany in 1930. When he was two years old, his mother took him to an orphanage and left him there to be raised by a nun. He attended public school and lead an uneventful life until he was discovered at the age of ten because he did not have a birth certificate. Claimant was sent to an institution in Dortmund-Alperbeck. He stated that he was sterilized there in 1942 because he was diagnosed as incurably insane and feeble-minded/disabled. Under Nazi law, an individual with this diagnosis could be subjected to compulsory sterilization. In 1943, Claimant was taken to Niedermarsberg to the Johannes Foundation where he remained until 1943. Claimant stated that he was forced to work at Dortmund-Aplerbeck and Niedermarsberg.

3114453

Claimant was born in Germany in 1924. She was an illegitimate child who was born with a speech impediment. In 1926, her mother had a son, also illegitimate. When Claimant was 8 years old, her mother married. Unfortunately, her stepfather was an alcoholic who was aggressive with his wife and the children. Eleven children resulted from this marriage. When Claimant was eleven years old, her stepfather sent her and her brother to an orphanage. At the orphanage, Claimant had problems at school because her speech impediment was viewed as a handicap. When she completed school, she worked for a farmer for a year. She was teased and sexually abused by the farmer's sons. Then, the farmer started to make sexual advances toward Claimant and she tried to hide from him. When this got to be too much for her and she did not know where to turn, she set fire to the farmer's house. She was adjudicated a mentally sick/disabled criminal and sent to Eickelhorn Hospital where she stayed from the end of 1939 to 1946. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" at Eickelhorn Hospital and that had she not been able to do so, she would have been a euthanasia victim. Under Nazi law, mental illness was an incurable hereditary disease that required compulsory sterilization. In 1942, at the age of 15, she was sent to a hospital in Hamm for an abdominal operation. She later learned that she had been sterilized and would not be able to have children.

3114455

Claimant was born in Germany in 1917. As a small child, she experienced occasional epileptic seizures. During the four years that she attended elementary school, she was classified as learning disabled. In 1927, Claimant was transferred to the Bethel Institution where it was believed that her epilepsy could be best handled so that she could continue with her education. While there, she was forced to perform some labour such as feeding smaller children and shopping. It is presumed that she was forced to work at the Bethel Institution and that even at the age of ten, she would be

capable of performing tasks that would contribute to the maintenance of the institution. She was sterilized against her will on 22 November 1935. Claimant spent a total of nine years at Bethel. After she was sterilized, she was sent to the Applerbeck, Marsberg and Warstein Institutions. Under Nazi law, epilepsy was an incurable hereditary disease requiring compulsory sterilization. Thus, an individual with epilepsy was considered disabled.

3114456

Claimant was born in Germany in 1916. Claimant stated that he was in the German Army in 1937 when, after an inspection, he became boisterous and unruly. Shortly after this episode, he was put into a straitjacket and taken to Göttingen Psychiatric Hospital. He was forced into a rubber cell and given various medicines and injections. Boisterous and unruly behavior was the equivalent of feeble-mindedness under Nazi law. Feeble-mindedness was an incurable hereditary disease that required compulsory sterilization. Claimant believes that he was sterilized while he was at Göttingen Psychiatric Hospital. While he was there, he was forced to work. In March or April of the following year, an SS man took him to the home of his parents.

3114457

Claimant was born in Germany in 1921. In 1935, Claimant was picked-up in Augsburg, with other children, and taken to the Augsburg State Hospital for sterilization. From there, Claimant was sent to Schonbrunn Psychiatric Clinic and finally to Kaufbeuren Medical Center. There, Claimant was forced to do agricultural work. He believes that, unlike other children, he survived because he could always perform the work assigned to him. Claimant had been diagnosed with English Disease (rickets) and meningitis. As he was physically deformed and diagnosed with a disease that it was believed would lead to mental disability, Claimant was considered disabled under the Law of Inherited Diseases. With this label, the Nazi Regime would have recommended compulsory sterilization. He was released from Kaufbeuren to his uncle's care. He had to work at his uncle's guesthouse for 18 – 20 hours per day. He left his uncle's place and found a job with a local peasant. The Gestapo arrested him and put him in prison because he had run away from his uncle's guesthouse. Afterwards, he was sent to a forced labour camp where he was forced to work under strict supervision. Those who could not work were abused and shot.

3114458

Claimant was born in Germany in 1913. Claimant was employed at a testing field for airplanes in Rechlin, Germany from 1936 to 1945. In 1937, Claimant was drafted into the military. From 10 January 1937 to 4 March 1937, Claimant was in a military hospital where he was diagnosed with schizophrenia. He was transferred to another hospital in Dömjüh/Altstrelitz under supervision. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) and that had he not been able to do so, he would have been a euthanasia victim. Under Nazi law, schizophrenia was an incurable hereditary disease that required compulsory sterilization. Claimant was forced to appoint his mother as his guardian. She was coerced into agreeing to his sterilization in order to save him from concentration camp. He was sterilized at Neustrelitz Hospital.

3114459

Claimant was born in Germany in 1917. Because at the age of seventeen, Claimant had an infantile appearance, she was tested and diagnosed as having the genetic disease of mental illness. With this diagnosis, Claimant would have been considered as disabled. Claimant failed her intelligence test. It was noted that she was oriented to place and persons, but not time. Furthermore, she could not perform simple mathematical calculations. Although she attended school, she did not make any progress. She became the subject of a court order for compulsory sterilization because she was diagnosed with an incurable hereditary disease. Claimant was sent to Galkhausen Hospital for this procedure. She believes that she was also subjected to typhus experiments there. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) at Galkhausen Hospital and that had she not been able to do so, she would have been a euthanasia victim.

3114460

Claimant was born in Germany in 1914. After mandatory military training, Claimant was sent to Göttingen Hospital in June of 1935 and sterilized against his will. Although he was in good mental and physical health for more than six months, his release from the hospital was contingent upon his agreeing to undergo sterilization. Although Claimant did not provide information concerning why he was sent to Göttingen Hospital, it is presumed that he was diagnosed as feeble-minded/disabled during his military training. Feeble-mindedness, under Nazi law, was an incurable hereditary disease. Therefore, his doctors would have recommended compulsory sterilization. While he was at Göttingen Hospital, he was forced to work.

3114461

Claimant was born in Germany in 1933. Claimant had suffered from meningitis since he was seven years old. The disease resulted in mental disability so his parents took him to the Mosbach Medical Center in 1941. Under Nazi law, meningitis was an incurable hereditary disease requiring compulsory sterilization. With this diagnosis, Claimant would have been considered mentally disabled. Claimant was transferred to Hadamar in 1944 where he was sterilized and forced to perform labour. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) at Hadamar and that had he not been able to do so, he would have been a euthanasia victim.

3114462

Claimant was born in Germany in 1911. She was diagnosed as having epilepsy which was considered genetic and incurable under Nazi law. As a result, Claimant would have been considered disabled and compulsory sterilization would have been recommended in her case. During the war, Claimant spent 13 years at the Bethel Institution. She also spent time at Gütersloh and Applerbeck. She was forced to perform labour at all three institutions. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) at the Bethel, Gütersloh and Applerbeck Institutions and that had she not been able to do so, she would have been a euthanasia victim.

victim. It has been very difficult for Claimant to overcome her depression and feelings of inferiority. She cannot adequately describe the bitterness that remains as a result of her experiences during those years.

3114463

Claimant was born in Germany in 1911. In 1934, after a nervous breakdown, he was sent to Uchtspringe Psychiatric Clinic. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to perform "productive tasks" (forced labour) and that had he not been able to do so, he would have been a euthanasia victim. Claimant was considered to be mentally disabled, an incurable and genetic disease under Nazi law. With this diagnosis, compulsory sterilization would have been recommended in his case. He was told that he would not be released unless he agreed to be sterilized. Under duress, he agreed to the procedure in order to gain his freedom.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XII SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

DISABLED / STERILIZATION

CASE SUMMARIES

3451110

Claimant's mother died shortly after Claimant's birth in 1924. Claimant's mother was the second wife of Claimant's father. Together, they had four children. Claimant's twin brother died shortly after he was born. Claimant did not indicate what happened to his other two siblings. At age of three, Claimant was sent to the Eben-Ezer institution in Lemgo, Germany. He attended school in Eben-Ezer. After school, he had to work on the farm of the Eben-Ezer institution, without receiving any payment. The chief doctor of the institution diagnosed claimant as feeble-minded. In 1940, Claimant was forcibly sterilized. In 1941, he was allowed to leave the institution. However, Claimant had to perform agricultural forced labour for a local family until 1945.

3451111

Claimant was born in 1926. Because of her frail health, she only attended school for 4 years. In 1942, Claimant was sterilized against her will in Wismar, Germany. She does not provide a reason but it appears that she was considered to be genetically inferior/disabled due to her frail health. From March 1943 to May 1945, Claimant had to perform forced labour in the Markof ammunition plant.

3451112

Claimant was born in 1914. His father burned himself as a child and, as a result, suffered from a lame leg and a nervous debility. Despite successfully completing his apprenticeship as a bookbinder, Claimant was sent to the Landesheil-und Pflegeanstalt Grossschweidnitz institution in Germany in 1935. There, he had to work as a gardener and clean the alleyways. In 1936, Claimant was forcibly sterilized as the genetically inferior progeny of a disabled parent and as a result of being diagnosed as feeble-minded. He was released in 1938. According to the hereditary health law he was not allowed to marry his fiancée.

3451113

Claimant was born in 1930. In October 1940, Claimant was forcibly sterilized, presumably because he was considered to be genetically inferior/disabled. From August 1942, he had to stay in the Aplerbeck institution. There, he had to perform forced labour in the laundry. In April 1943, he was transferred to the Marsberg institution. There, Claimant had to work as a basketmaker. He was released in November 1945.

Claimant was born in 1924. Claimant was declared as non compos mentis by the court. Following this, he was sent to the Staatliche Verwahrstelle für kriminelle Geisteskranke Tapiaw institution in East Prussia in 1942. There, Claimant had to perform forced labour for the German Army, producing military items. He had to work 14 hours per day, 6 days per week. In November 1944, Claimant was forcibly sterilized. Following this, he was released but still had to remain on call for digging trenches and building anti-tank walls.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP XVI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

CASE SUMMARIES

DISABLED

Group

(3435993, 3473382, 3436317, 3436002, 3460757
3460766, 3460781 and 3435976)

This group is composed of eight disabled claimants from Austria, Germany, the Netherlands and Poland. Although each has a unique story that would justify an individual recommendation for payment, they are being grouped together because they all have in common the fact that they were determined to be disabled by the policies of the Nazi Regime. In particular, most of Claimants were alleged to have a handicap such as a mental disability and then, as a result of this allegation, arrested and/or sent to an institution for evaluation. The basis of the alleged mental disability could have been hearsay or a parent who was considered genetically inferior. Some Claimants were released and returned to their families, others were sent to perform forced labour in accordance with their abilities. At some point, with or without their permission or, in the case of minors, the permission of their parents, they were forcibly sterilized. After the sterilization procedure, they were either returned to their previous forced labour assignment or sent to perform forced labour at a new location.

3100136

Claimant was born in Russian Federation 1923. Claimant had congenital heart disease. Claimant was taken from his residence to a temporary camp. Claimant was persecuted at this camp because of his disability, congenital heart disease, and was treated as if he was mentally disabled. As a result of the advancing Red Army, he narrowly escaped execution but was deported to Germany for forced labour. He was forced to work in aircraft factory in Frieberg until April 1945.

3100203

Claimant was born in 1932. Claimant stated that she was deported to the town of Malvino with her parents. There her parents were forced to perform agricultural labour and she assisted them. Claimant provided documentary evidence indicating that she was disabled since childhood.

3101042

Claimant was born in Germany in 1926. Claimant has suffered from epilepsy since childhood. She was deported to Auschwitz, Flossenbürg and Dachau concentration camps where she was forced to perform labour.

3101331

Claimant was born in Latvia in 1930. In 1942, Claimant lost his right arm. Claimant did not specifically describe the circumstances under which this occurred. In 1943, Claimant was detained in Salapils Concentration Camp in Latvia. Later, he was transferred to a concentration camp in Salzburg, Austria. He was forced to perform railway construction labour and also served as a blood and tissue donor/supplier.

3101690

Claimant was born in Ukraine in 1925. Due to an injury. Claimant sustained prior to WWII, her arm was deformed because her elbow joint was shortened and appeared to be shrinking. Nevertheless, Claimant was deported to Germany to perform forced labour in a garment factory where she was severely persecuted because of her disability.

3107655

Claimant was born in 1925. In her personal statement, Claimant stated that she is a mentally and physically handicapped person who did not fit the ideal of a homogeneous or ubiquitous German Society. Therefore, she was persecuted in her homeland and deported to Germany to perform forced labour for Siemens.

3110581

Claimant was born in 1920 in Belarus. In 1939, Claimant underwent an operation that was unsuccessful and resulted in a permanent disease or disability. Claimant did not specifically describe the disease/disability. However, he stated that he was persecuted because of it and in spite of it had to perform forced labour. In 1941, he was injured while performing forced labour and was exempted from deportation to Germany by the first medical commission. A second medical commission found him fit for deportation for forced labour and he was forced to go to Germany in the place of another healthy man.

3114581

Claimant was born in 1929. Claimant stated that he was persecuted by the Nazi Regime because he was physically disabled and could not move properly. Claimant did not provide any further details concerning his disability. However he also stated that he was beaten by the Germans because of his disability.

3114699

Claimant was born in 1935. In September of 1941, he was sent to an institution for deaf-mutes in Germany. At the institution, he was forced to work in the fields.

3114712

Claimant was born in 1938. In 1940, as a result of a bomb explosion, Claimant lost his hearing. Claimant was placed in an institution for the deaf and mute where he was forced to stomp sauerkraut with his feet and work with coal in a locked basement. He was also mistreated because he suffered from hearing loss.

3115069

Claimant was born in 1925. In her personal statement, Claimant indicated that she was handicapped from birth. Claimant stated that she was persecuted by the Nazi Regime because she was physically disabled and could not move properly. Claimant did not provide any further details concerning her disability. Claimant performed forced labour for a gunpowder factory. Claimant was also detained at Stutthof, Ravensbruck and Buchenwald Concentration Camps.

3115073

Claimant was born in 1925. In her personal statement, Claimant indicated that she was handicapped since childhood. Claimant stated that she was arrested and deported to Germany where she performed forced labour. Claimant did not provide any further details concerning her disability.

3460839

Claimant was born in Germany in 1931. Claimant was confined to a psychiatric clinic from September 1938 to January 1942 and experienced the mistreatment and murder of children in those facilities. As a result of the time spent in psychiatric facilities, she was not able to go to school and receive a formal education.

3460866

Claimant was born in 1919. He was sent to an institution for deaf-mutes in Mils. At the institution, he was forced to perform agricultural labour.

3472330

Claimant was born in Belgium. As a child, Claimant had polio and became handicapped as a result. In 1944, Claimant was deported to Germany where he was forced to perform labour for Fritz Wolf Company and others.

3473462

Claimant stated that he was mildly retarded from birth and that he was subjected to medical experiments involving piercing his eardrum. In 1943, Claimant was deported from Poland to Germany where he was forced to perform agricultural labour for Herman Koch.

HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS PROGRAMME (SWISS BANKS)

GROUP VI SUBMISSION

SLAVE LABOUR CLASS I

(Spiegelgrund)

CASE SUMMARIES

3100002

Claimant was born in 1927 in Vienna, Austria. He is Jehovah's Witness. In December 1940 he was expelled from school because he refused to say the Hitler greeting and refused to join the Hitler Youth movement because of his religious beliefs. Claimant was determined to be the mentally disabled progeny of genetically inferior parents. On 1 April 1941, he was arrested by the Gestapo and taken first to Kust Children's Home and later to the reform school, Am Spiegelgrund (children's pedagogical sanatorium). He stayed there until 12 November 1941. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. At Spiegelgrund, he was subjected to medical experiments. From September 1944 to January 1945, he was called to serve in the Empire Labour Service. In January 1945, he was called to serve in the army but because he refused to use weapons and fight, he was sent to the police prison in Iglau where he was imprisoned until the end of April 1945.

3100033

Claimant was born in 1934 in Graz, Austria. He was sent to Spiegelgrund, Baugartnerhohe 1, Vienna 1140 and stayed there from 23 June 1943 to April 1945. Claimant was sent to Spiegelgrund with the diagnosis "hard to educate - asocial." Later this illness was re-diagnosed "psychopathic" and "asocial disruptions of personality." Thus, Claimant was branded as mentally disabled.

At Spiegelgrund, Claimant was beaten until he bled and he was starved. He had to do dirty work under constant beating. They also performed medical experiments on him. Claimant states that the conditions were similar to those in concentration camps. At present he is 70% disabled and receives psychological treatment.

3100035

Claimant was born in 1938 in Vienna, Austria. Right after birth, he was taken to Vienna Central Children's home, a childcare center, and then to a foster mother who was a cruel and violent woman. In 1941, Claimant was taken to Spiegelgrund for the first time to the psychiatric clinic but the doctors decided that he should be transferred to the Frischau Children's Home in 1942. Later, he was returned to his foster mother. On 17 November 1944, while he was in Kust at the children's home, there was an

entry made in his file – “mentally retarded.” With this classification he was sent to Spiegelgrund again, only this time to the child reform home where he stayed until the end of the war in 1945. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work in the institution usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

3100036

Claimant was born in 1926 in Vienna, Austria. He is handicapped. Having been transferred from Modling Children's Home (16 November 1940 – 30 November 1940), he was treated at Spiegelgrund from July 1941 to September 1942. At Spiegelgrund, he had to work in food transportation. Because Claimant lived at a children's home, it is plausible that he was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus, he was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of his disabled status. Claimant was imprisoned at Moringen concentration camp from October 1942 to June 1945. His camp number was 786. At Moringen, he was forced to work in an ammunition factory.

3100037

Claimant was born in 1929 in Vienna, Austria. Claimant's father was an alcoholic and his mother was very poor. Because his father was an alcoholic and alcoholics were considered to be hereditarily ill/disabled under Nazi law, Claimant would also be considered disabled. The family was arrested and sent to a psychiatric clinic. Claimant was 10 years old at that time. After having stolen some money, he was arrested by police. He was sent to the Spiegelgrund psychiatric clinic (T4) where Claimant was abused, beaten and medical experiments were performed on him. He was imprisoned in a single cell without any furniture and held there for a long time. 'Educational methods' like keeping him in cold water until he lost consciousness, wrapping him in wet linen cloth like a mummy and then letting it dry for several days, and poison injections were used most commonly. The attending doctor was Dr. Gross against whom Claimant has now brought three lawsuits. This raised quite a lot of publicity in Austria since Dr. Gross was a well-known scientist who had received a government award and actively participated in politics. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work in the institution usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. After Spiegelgrund, Claimant was brought to Modling Children's Home.

3100038

Claimant was born in 1934 in Vienna, Austria. As an 8 year old child, she was sent to the Distribution Centre at Lustkandlgasse where she spent 4 weeks. Because Claimant was sent to the Distribution Centre, it is plausible that she was the progeny

of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus, she was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of her disabled status. From there she was sent to Spiegelgrund where she stayed from July 1942 to October 1943.

The reason for Claimant's transfer to Spiegelgrund was her moral decline and consequences of severe physical mistreatment. She describes her daily treatment at Spiegelgrund as receiving injections, medicine and severe physical mistreatment, e.g., cutting nails to flesh and being forced to stand outside in wintertime with a wet linen cloth over her head until it dries out. She had to eat food from the floor and was unjustly accused of bedwetting. She was beaten and threatened with death. She describes Spiegelgrund staff as monsters with human faces. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. After Spiegelgrund, Claimant was sent to another Nazi reform house in Melh/Donau where she stayed until 1948. There she had to earn her food by working in agriculture and was sexually abused by peasants.

3100040

Claimant was born in 1933 in Vienna, Austria. At 5 years of age, he was sent to Kust Children's Home in Vienna and later, on 5 January 1942, he was transferred to Spiegelgrund (Steinhof). Because Claimant lived at a children's home, it is plausible that he was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus he was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of his disabled status. At Spiegelgrund, he was subjected to medical examinations, after which he became a bed wetter. He was tortured by being wrapped in cold and wet linen cloths which had to dry on his body, and being pushed into a bathtub full of cold water where he was forced to remain until he was half-conscious. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

On 9 September 1942, he was transferred to a National Socialist children's home in order to be educated as "Hitler Youth." As he could not keep up with the other children, on 21 December 1942, he was sent to the child reform home, Modling, where he was exposed to army-like discipline and was forced to perform labor no matter whether it was hot in the sun or there was a cold wind or rain. In 1945, Claimant escaped to Germany as a refugee. In the same year, he was arrested and returned to Modling. He was not able to leave Modling until 1947.

3100316

Claimant was born in 1926 in Vienna, Austria. She was raised in a family who were active members of the Jehovah's Witness religion. In 1939, together with her sister,

she was expelled from school because both of them refused to say the Hitler greeting and sing National Socialist songs. The perception of the Nazi administration was that only mentally sick people could allow this kind of attitude in their family. Claimant's father was arrested by the Gestapo and taken to a psychiatric clinic. Her mother was denied any social welfare. On 2 September 1939, the Gestapo took Claimant and her sister to the children's home, Kust, in Lustkandlgasse, Vienna. They were considered to be disabled under Nazi law. In April 1940, she was transferred to the Central Children's Home and after that to the Weisenheim in Hohe Warte in Vienna Dobling. As she refused to say the Hitler greeting there as well, she was forced to work in the kitchen. Later she was taken to Spiegelgrund and Luisenheim where she remembers being examined naked every day by doctors. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. In January 1942, she was released from Spiegelgrund.

3100328

Claimant was born in 1930 in Vienna, Austria. His father was disabled from birth (he had a paralyzed left hand). He was analphabetic and an alcoholic. The place of residence of his mother was unknown. Claimant was taken to different children's homes (including St. Polten) starting from the age of six months. He was considered asocial and hard to educate which was the equivalent of disabled under Nazi philosophy. Furthermore, as the offspring of a handicapped parent, he would also be considered disabled. Therefore, between the ages of 10 to 18, he was taken to different reform institutions including Spiegelgrund from 1941 to 1943. He was treated by Heinrich Gross and as punishment received injections and the so-called "schwefelhur." Because of his attempt to flee, he was imprisoned in a single cell. In 1944, he was transferred to the reform home in Modling near Vienna. Claimant states that he performed some bomb-clearing work and agricultural work when he was a 10-14 year old child. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. Claimant stresses that since his liberation in 1948 he has always worked.

3100329

Claimant was born in 1935 in Vienna, Austria. She was held at different children's homes (including Kust, Spiegelgrund, Meierhofen) from her birth until she was 17 years old. Because of her heavy speech impediment, she was sent to Spiegelgrund Pavilion 17 in 1942 as she was considered to be disabled. Claimant was put on the list of asocial and mentally retarded children who had to undergo medical experiments and who were often murdered as they were considered useless to Nazi society. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to

work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. She still suffers physically and mentally from the mistreatment she received at Spiegelgrund.

3100330

Claimant was born in 1938 in Vienna, Austria. He lived in different child reform homes including Kust and Spiegelgrund between July 1944 and August 1945. Because Claimant lived in different child reform homes, it is plausible that he was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus, he was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of his disabled status. Claimant remembers being a bed wetter and being exposed to mistreatment such as drying wet linen cloths on his body, being forced to sleep on the balcony in the winter, having his fingertips beaten with a ruler and being forced to take several substances that caused vomiting. Because of the mistreatment, he has developed a fear of injections. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

3100331

Claimant was born in 1935 in Vienna, Austria. Claimant's father was active in the resistance movement and was a Communist. In 1940, his father died in Potsdam and Claimant believes he was killed because of his anti-Nazi activities. Claimant's mother was unable to take care of her 7 children. Therefore, in 1940, Claimant was sent to a children's home in Baden near Vienna that had been taken over by the Nazis and transformed into a National Socialist reform home. The employees of the reform home forced him to clean shoes for the whole group.

Claimant states that it was because of his father's anti-Nazi activities that he was characterized as mentally retarded, first sent to the Distribution Centre at Lustkandlgasse and later transferred to Spiegelgrund. Claimant stayed in Spiegelgrund from June 1944 to April 1945 and was treated by Dr. Gross and Dr. Illing. He experienced the horror of mistreatment and medical experiments. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. In April 1945 together with other children, he was taken to a ship and transported to Bayern, Germany from where he was liberated by American troops in October 1945.

3100332

Claimant was born in 1939 in Vienna, Austria. His childhood was spent in different child reform homes (including Kust and Spiegelgrund) from the age of 6 months until he was 16 years old. Because he was born handicapped, he was taken to Spiegelgrund Pavilion 15/17 where he stayed from 20 February 1941 to 09 April 1943. Claimant

was on the list of asocial, mentally sick and handicapped children who were intended for medical experiments. As a result of those experiments Claimant still suffers both physically and mentally. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

3100333

Claimant was born in 1930 in Vienna, Austria. From birth, his health was fragile. When he was 8 months old, he fell sick with bronchitis. He was treated for two years and this negatively influenced his development. His mother died when he was a 6 year old child and he has never known his father. Claimant was constantly mistreated by his uncle who was arrested and sent to Dachau concentration camp because he had spoken out against the Hitler regime. His uncle's political beliefs and the fact that Claimant was considered to be an illegitimate child were used as grounds for his being sent from Kust Children's Home to euthanasia in Spiegelgrund and classified as mentally disabled. Claimant was held in Spiegelgrund for one year - from 1 September 1941 to 3 September 1942. He characterized his stay there as being full of pain and suffering. In particular, he remembers mistreatment like beating, receiving injections and almost being drowned in a bathtub full of cold water. He claims that this mistreatment has negatively influenced his mental capability. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. Because of the active protests of Claimant's grandmother, he was transferred from Spiegelgrund to Modling Child Reform Home.

3102261

Claimant was born in 1935 in Vienna, Austria. Her parents were unemployed and homeless. When she was 3 years old she was sent to foster care for one year. As Claimant came from a large family (Claimant had 6 siblings), her parents received an apartment in the neighborhood where many persecuted Jewish families lived. Claimant's father died in 1941, the same year she started attending school. At school, she was treated as an outsider because her mother was not a member of the National Socialist Party. Her mother was reported to authorities because she helped Jewish neighbors with food. In 1944, Claimant was separated from her mother and sent to the Kust Children's Home and then to Spiegelgrund where she stayed until 1947. Because Claimant lived at a children's home, it is plausible that she was the progeny of genetically inferior parents. Thus, she was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of her disabled status. She remembers that they were isolated and locked-up with no books to read. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. Because of this

mistreatment she always lived in fear, later was often unable to go to work and still needs medical treatment.

3102283

Claimant was born in 1938 in Vienna, Austria. He was sent to Spiegelgrund in December 1944 when he was 6 years old and stayed there until May 1945. Because Claimant lived at Spiegelgrund, it is plausible that he was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus, he was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of his disabled status. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. Dr. Gross performed medical experiments on him while he was at Spiegelgrund. Claimant states that he could neither walk nor talk afterwards. As a result of the treatment while he was at Spiegelgrund he is deaf and physically 'destroyed'.

3107852

Claimant was born in 1928 in Pillersdorf, Austria. He is disabled (blind). In 1940, he was sent to Spiegelgrund where he was subjected to medical experiments (received injections). All of the experiments were performed by Dr. Gross. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. After that he was sent to Hartheim Castle for 1 year where 30,000 people were killed. From there, he was deported to a concentration camp in Mauthausen, then to forced labour camps at Dachau, Auschwitz, and finally to Königsberg in the North of Germany. In 1945, he was liberated from Königsberg by US armed forces.

3107871

Claimant was born in 1927 in Vienna, Austria. In 1934, Claimant's mother came into contact with Jehovah's Witness teachings after being involved in the Adventist movement. In 1935, she became a member of the Jehovah's Witness religion. Claimant was raised, therefore, in the spirit of Jehovah's Witness teachings.

In 1940, Claimant was expelled from school and arrested by the Gestapo because she refused to comply with different procedures at school (like singing the anthem and saying the Hitler greeting). The perception of the Nazi administration was that only mentally sick people could allow this kind of attitude in their families.

On 10 February 1941, Claimant was taken to Kust Children's Home after which she was transferred to Spiegelgrund where she was physically punished for not changing her religious beliefs. Thus, she was considered to be mentally disabled, a hereditary disease under Nazi philosophy. She still suffers from damage done to her health at

that time. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

On 10 July 1941, Claimant was taken to the Youth Home in Klosterneuburg where she and another Jehovah's Witness child were forced to perform heavy work in the garden (gathering tree stumps).

After being released, Claimant wanted to become a kindergarten teacher but was not allowed to work in this profession because of her religious beliefs. In 1943, Claimant and her mother continued to be persecuted by the Gestapo.

3107875

Claimant was born in 1925 in Vienna, Austria. The National Socialist regime had described her as asocial/mentally ill and, therefore, at 16 years old, she was sent to Spiegelgrund where she was kept against her will from 1941 to 1942. Because Claimant lived at Spiegelgrund, it is plausible that she was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus, she was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of her disabled status. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. Later, because she was branded as a politically unreliable person, she was denied the opportunity to study for her chosen profession of teacher.

3108067

Claimant was born in 1934 in Vienna, Austria. During the Nazi period, he was taken to the Bad-Hall rehabilitation home. The employees of the rehabilitation home had not noticed that he had developed a nasal diphtheria and forced him to take food. When he refused to eat, he was sprayed with cold water and locked in the basement for punishment. As a result of this mistreatment, he lost his speech and became apathetic. This shock-like condition continued while he was on his way home by train because he was isolated from other children (because of the infection) and taken to a hospital without being able to see his mother. He was classified as an idiot. Thus he was considered mentally disabled.

Claimant's mother lived with an Italian man. The party (National Socialist Party) pressured her to get married but the Italian man refused, as he was an anti-war activist. Claimant did not participate in the youth political movement of the Hitler regime. The family was perceived as politically unreliable, therefore, the parents were sent to forced labor camps and Claimant was sent to child reform homes including Spiegelgrund where he was held from 1941 to 1943. At Spiegelgrund, he was subjected to chemical experiments. He was also abused by other children as he could not speak and complain to personnel. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to

work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

Upon the request of his mother in 1943, he was transferred to Modling Child Reform Home. The reform home functioned under military discipline and all the children had to perform labor – cleaning snow, digging trenches, transporting wood materials and cleaning vegetables.

3109243

Claimant was born on 16 April 1931 in Vienna, Austria. He was taken to the Child Distribution Center (Küst) on 6 December 1940. On 7 January 1941, together with other children, he was examined by a commission, which classified him as Roma because his mother's name sounded Roma. Claimant claims that his being taken for Roma was the reason he was sent to Spiegelgrund. Because Claimant lived at a Spiegelgrund, it is plausible that he was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus, he was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of his disabled status. He describes the environment of Spiegelgrund as being prison-like and horrific. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia. The treatment of the educators was inhuman and brutal. Penalties included prohibition to go to the toilet in the evenings, food deprivation, restriction of movement, cutting of fingernails to the flesh, injections and threats of being transferred to Pavilion 17 where many children were killed. Claimant especially recalls the treatment of Dr. Gross, which included injections and pills. Claimant tried to flee and commit suicide but was found and returned to Spiegelgrund. After that, he was given injections and taken to the isolation department of Pavilion 17. His aunt was told that he was about to die.

On 2 March 1942, Claimant was sent to the children's home in Kolburgasse. He was very sick and was taken to a hospital on 8 November 1942. He found out from his sister that during his stay at Spiegelgrund, he had developed diabetes, jaundice and pneumonia. Since that time, he has been plagued by different sicknesses, operations and psychological trauma.

Being constantly sick, he has lost several jobs and, therefore, has always been in a bad financial situation. Today, he survives on a pension of 800 DM. He has been 90% disabled for many years. For the injustice done to him, Claimant blames the state of Austria.

After Spiegelgrund, on 3 March 1945 Claimant was sent to a bakery, "Frank." He worked for food and lodging. He worked daily from 23.00 to between 13.00 – 14.00 the next day. He had to do the most difficult work and did not receive any remuneration for it. When he applied for his pension, he learned that for the period 9 August 1944 to 27 March 1946, no social security payments were made on his behalf.

Claimant was born on 12 April 1931 in Vienna, Austria. In 1941, Claimant was sent to Spiegelgrund. Because Claimant lived at Spiegelgrund, it is plausible that she was the progeny of genetically inferior parents and also an orphan. Thus she was considered disabled according to Nazi philosophy. Claimant was institutionalized and removed from German society because of her disabled status. It is presumed that Claimant was forced to work at Am Spiegelgrund and that the work usually included kitchen tasks, cleaning of windows, floors and the grounds of the institution. Some children were forced to work outside of the institution at local farms, households and businesses. Only those who were viewed as useful - fit to work, had a chance of escaping euthanasia.

Later the same year, she was transferred to Klosterneuburg Child Reform Home. In 1942, she was sent to Roschitz where she was forced to perform agricultural labor on a farm. She had to pick up stones from the field, harvest potatoes, clean and feed livestock. Because of lack of food and bad working conditions, she became ill and was hospitalized.