



Barracks camp (Koszary)
 Marainka, Borystau, 1979

These are former stables that were used as dwellings for the prisoners in Koszary. The doors shown in the picture are the front doors to the stables. In the back the stables had big, wide barn doors that were used for bringing horses in and out. These doors were closed with boards while the camp was in operation.

After the war the Russians used the camp site as a shoe factory. The factory closed about a year before Chaim and his friends organized remembrance trip to Borystau. That's why they were able to walk on the premises unobstructed. However, the Ukrainian guards watching the place were not happy with the visit, but became more cooperative after receiving some money.



Barracks camp (Koszary)
Marzaniec, Borysław, 1979
The first building on the left is White House (Biały Dom) behind which the victims of camp executions were buried. There were about 10 group graves there, but Chaim took part in burying only 5 people: Leon Hoffman, Mendel Berfler, Symon Burg and the doctor and his wife who committed suicide.

Barracks camp (Koszary)
Marzaniec, Borysław, 1979

This was a three storey building in the Koszary camp. It was an empty hall with very high ceiling. Inside there were four levels of bunk beds built for the prisoners. In the winter time this building was extremely cold. Chaim lived here.

In total, at the beginning the camp housed about 3500 prisoners. The prison population consisted of slave labourers and their families - if they had any families still left.

At the beginning of 1943 Nazis started getting rid of the workers that were no longer necessary. In total, there were 3 transports of the forced labourers and their families to the extermination camp in Auschwitz.





Barracks camp (Koszary)
 Marazmka, Boryslaw, 1979.

Chaim Segal stands exactly in the place where Leon Hoffman, Mendel Derfler and Symon Burg were executed by SS Schönbach and SS Menzinger. He is telling the story to the members of his group.

Behind him is one of the buildings, called barracks where the last surviving Jews from Boryslaw were stationed. The barracks were really former stables that used to belong to some very rich Polish aristocrat.

When the camp was there the barracks were surrounded with electrical wire and there were guards at every corner.



Picture taken in Holon, Israel
October 2000

The couple in the photo are Gustek (Gustav) Halperin and Bronia Herzog. These 2 people saved Ymeh's life during the apol on March 1, 1944 when the truck carrying people from the electrical power plant drove to the camp. The cover of the truck was lifted so that the captured people could be seen by camp prisoners. The Gestapo called in German: "Whoever is connected to these people come forward!"

Ymeh saw his mother and aunt Zosia on the truck and jumped forward, ready to join them. His mother said him and started screaming in Polish, "Don't come to me, I want you to stay alive. Tell everyone what they did to us!" At the same moment Bronia and Gustek grabbed Ymeh, closed his mouth and pulled him back in the line. They held him strong until the truck was covered again and driven away.

In this photo Bronia and Gustek are standing beside the model of the bunker that Gustek built in the Opaka forest.



Holon, Israel, 2010

This is Chaim Segal with Gustek Halperin's model of the Opaka Forest bunker.

The model of the bunker was offered by Gustek Halperin and Bronia Herzog to the Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem and it remains there.



Holon, Israel, October, 2000

This is the section of the bunker with front part removed. Gustel Halperin looks down at his creation.

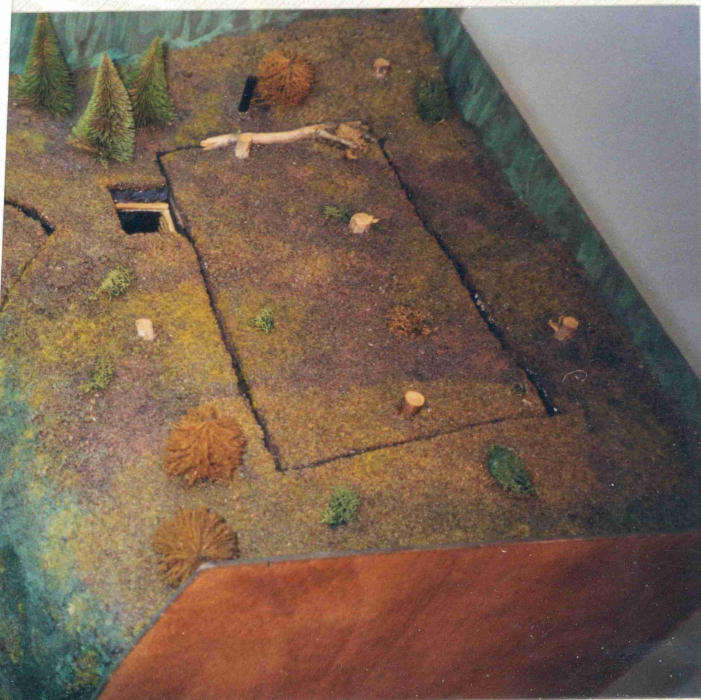
There were 3 levels of bunk beds with a maximum of about 3 feet (90 cm) of clearance between the benches. The entire height of the bunker was about 10 feet or 3 m. The entire living space was about 15 feet by 15 feet or 4.5m x 4.5m. When the bunker was full, 15 people (both young men and women) lived in it.

In the Opavia Forest there were about 25-30 such bunkers. Some were smaller, some bigger. About 200 people in total survived in such bunkers until liberation.

Holon, Israel, October 2000.

On the model built by Gustel Halperin is shown the entrance to the bunker in which the people used to hide after the liquidation of the barracks camp.

Originally the entrance was completely camouflaged with dirt, leaves and branches. There was always one person left outside to camouflage the entrance and to stand on guard. If that person noticed anyone approaching the warning signal was issued by tapping on the entrance to the bunker.





Holon, Israel, October 2000

The front view of the model of the bunker built by Gustel Halperin.

The bunker was built into the side of the hill and covered on the outside with grass and bushes. It was so well camouflaged that no-one could even guess that there was a structure underground.

Inside the bunker there were three levels of bunk beds built from rough, unseasoned wood. There was room there also for sitting and for cooking.

Toilet was a pail used by every one and then emptied every morning.

The food was stolen from the animal barns in the night time and consisted mainly of animal fodder. This was supplemented by berries and mushrooms picked in the forest. Occasionally one would catch small wild game such as a rabbit.



Holon, Israel 2000

This is the cross section of the bunker looking down, with top removed.

On the right is a bunk bed made from rough, unseasoned wood. The bedding was rags, blankets and anything that people could find.

On the left there is a bench for sitting in the day time.

The walls were also from small, rough logs of wood. They prevented the clay walls of the bunker from caving in and falling inside.



Borystaw, 1979

These are 2 plaques attached to the monument behind the slaughterhouse where about 10 thousand people were killed and buried.

This is the translation of the Ukrainian text:

"Passerby please stop,
we ask you to bow to the
memory of innocent
people shot and buried
in this place in the
years 1940-1944 by the
20th century barbarians,
the Nazis.

Group Memorial "