

32nd IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

PARIS

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Summary of the Lecture :

Contextualizing Individuals.

The Bessarabian case

Speaker : Vincent Vagman, Belgium

Les mots pour le lire

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et recherches historiques

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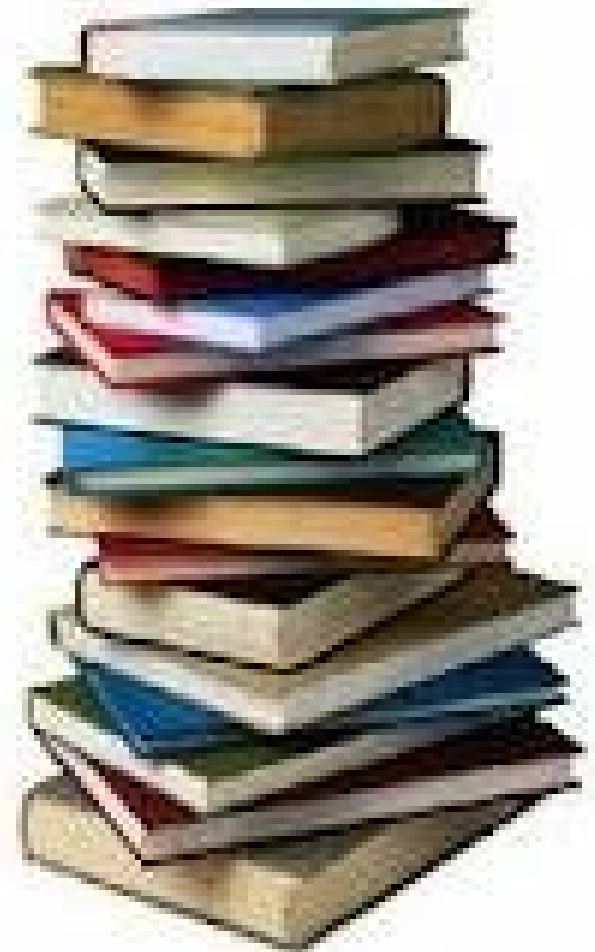
INTRODUCTION



- Overview of my model of contextualization characters presented in Paris
- Sketch of a transposable interpretative framework for jewish bessarabian Genealogists
- Illustration with family of Elie Vagman and Ghennia Schmoukler (Akkerman) (photo of the Vagman family in Akkerman, 1932)

PART 1 :

Overview of the
theoretical and
methodological
aspects



Tipp-off

If you prefer to discover directly the application to Bessarabia, please join me to the second part (diapo 16).

However, this first part is of general interest. Do not hesitate to report it to your genealogist friends who could be interested in this methodology.

1. Familial Identity , Ancestor Identity

A genealogist is usually using historical sources to trace ancestors. The result of this research is summarized in a tree.

- Contextualizing Individuals aims to discover the sap that feeds the tree.

- Contextualizing Individuals puts the question of Identity. Identity is :

 - recognizable ;

 - in interaction with its environment (assimilation / differenciation) ;

Both one and the same. This third aspect is especially what I use in my method of contextualizing ancestors

2. Introductory Example : Emigration of Sholik in America (1)

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10-14-08

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES

ALL ALIENS sailing as a part of a commercial United States line or a foreign port or a part of the land passenger of the United States, and all other sailing as a part of a land passenger from a foreign port, part of a commercial United States line, shall file for the favor of the U.S.S. Passengers sailing from Danzig, 17th SEP 1908

No.	NAME IN FULL	Age	Sex	City or place of birth	Profession or occupation	Place of birth	Country	City or town	State	City or town
1	Titie	32	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
2	Cetrjak	40	M	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
3	Cetrjak	30	M	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
4	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
5	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
6	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
7	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
8	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
9	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
10	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
11	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
12	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
13	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
14	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
15	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
16	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
17	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
18	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
19	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland
20	Cetrjak	2	F	Poland	Housewife	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland	Poland

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Genealogical approach (1):

Sholik Vagman leaves Akkerman and embarked (17/09/23) on the steamship Polonia in Dantzig and arrived to Ellis Island (New York) (see record embarkation for America (NARA, U.S. Passengers Arrival Manifests, Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1897-1948: 6787-6788 volumes, microfilm 175 4710, excerpt available by request on behalf of Sol www.ellisland.org Wagman). (Sh. Wagman is listed halfway on this page archive)

NB : The city of Akkerman (Russian Empire) = Cetatea Alba (Romania 1918-1940) and now Belgorod Dnevstrovski (Ukraine).

2. Introductory Example : Emigration of Sholik in America (2)

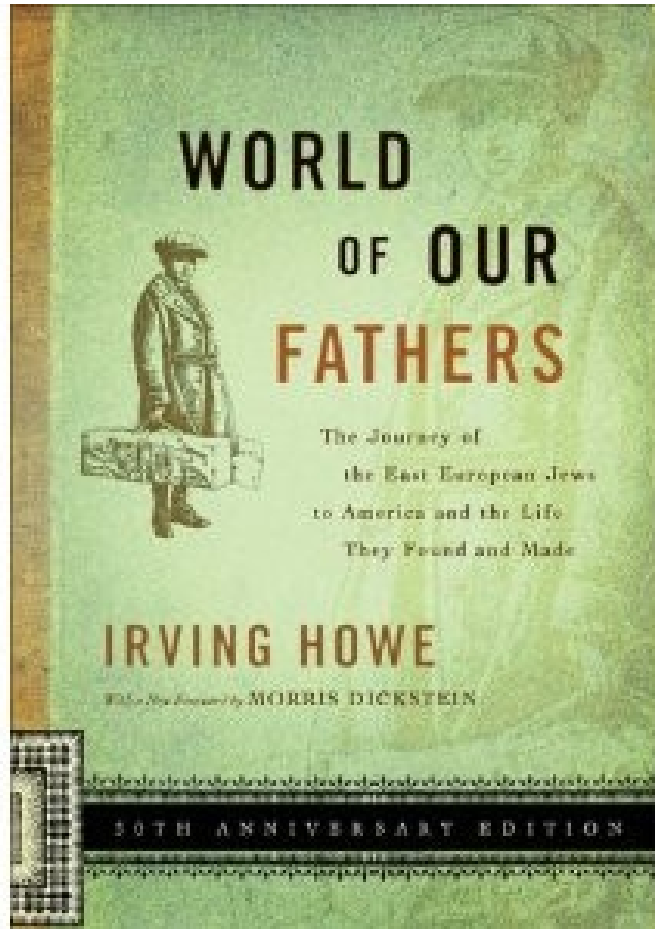
Genealogical approach (2) :



Twenty years later, in a letter to his brother Mendel, Sholik speaks about his life in America. He wrote: *I still remember very well how much I suffered in the richest country in the world, that I was hungry .*

(on this photo : Sholikk 's shop in 1946)

2. Introductory Example : Emigration of Sholik in America (3)



Historical approach :

Among a lot of general observations, it is noted that :

- Jewish emigrants from Eastern Europe to America usually don't refer to those they left how the image of America to the streets of gold is an illusion. They prefer to hide their adjustment difficulties.
- Jewish emigrants from Romania avoid embarking in Odessa. Although this embarking point is geographically easier, there is a big risk to suffer the romanian antisemitism.

2. Introductory Example : Emigration of Sholik in America (4)



Lessons (1):

Divergent aspect of the character:

Sholik stands out openly when he is citing difficulties in adapting

----> Uniqueness

(on this the photo taken in a park in Brooklyn circa 1943, Sholik Vagman has become American Sol Wagman)

(2. Introductory Example : Emigration of Sholik in America (5))



Lessons (2):

Sholik lives 80 kilometers from Odessa but went through Bucharest to Gdansk to embark

----> Same character

(on this photo, migrants transiting through Danzig in May 1923, like Sholik himself will do there a few weeks later to embark to America)

3. The method of contextualization characters (1)

Here are four steps that were explained at the Lecture in Paris to make the contextualization of an ancestor spotted in genealogy :

- 1) identify the character with genealogical sources
- 2) establish the elements of the context (permanent) of the character using historical summaries
- 3) compare the genealogical data of the character to the context to determine the cases the same and the cases of uniqueness
- 4) for each component of the context in which confrontation shows that the character is the same, create a similar framework (I explained how to Paris to determine the modalities of implementation of this context on a localized scale as small as possible in the time and in the space), so we obtain the identical nature of the alleged character.

To meet these milestones contextualization, I presented two methods :

3. The method of contextualization characters (2)

1. The use of sequences :

How to put his character in a sequence ? There are two types of sequences :

- Either the character reveals aspects identical (assimilation) or single (differentiation) operating in the environment remains relatively stable. This sequence is stable if political , territorial, cultural and socio-economic criteria change little : the context is stable
- Either the character reveals aspects identical (assimilation) or single (differentiation) operating in an environment that changes abruptly. This is the interrupt sequence. Political, territorial, cultural and socio-economic criteria change and the context changes.

3. The method of contextualization characters (3)

Examples of criteria used to determine a sequence :

- Political criterion : political revolution, new state
- Territorial criterion: a new treaty, a new frontier
- Cultural criterion: the decline of religious influence, new teaching ...
- Socio-economic criterion : new technology, economic crisis, ...

It is also useful to combine all the criteria. For example, the combination of a political criterion (new state) with an economic criterion (crisis) may cause a pogrom.

3. The method of contextualization characters (4)

2. The use of analogy :

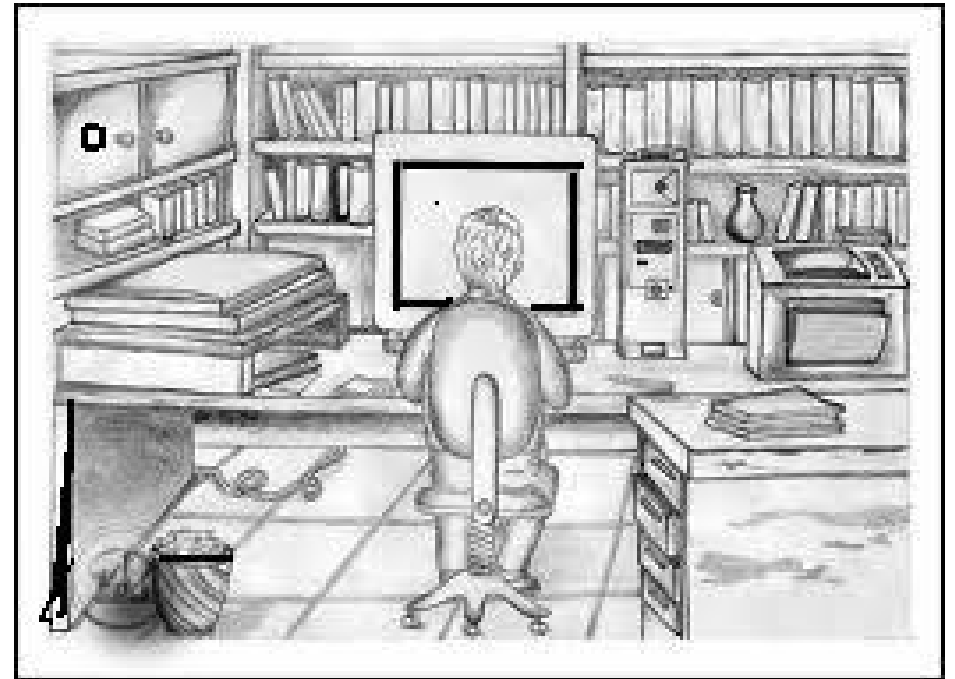
The use of analogy is needed in case of deficiency of purely genealogical sources within a sequence or inability to use them. The use of analogy is only useful for the side of the character which is the same. It is impossible to know if the character was unique or the same during this sequence. But, in the hypothesis of the same, using context (analogy) helps to imagine more about the character about which there are no informations.

In Paris, I emphasized:

- The need to use analogy in the same sequence to reduce the risk of anachronism
- The need to leave the general context described in the literature for the synthesis refine using monographs. According to a zoom effect, they should ideally restrict as much as possible the chronological and geographical scale.

PART 2 :

Application to the
bessarabian case and
illustrations with the
Vagman family



During my lesson in Paris, I used my application method to determine chronological sequence concerning Bessarabia through a series of criteria and combining them.

Then I see some constants and fractures.

They allowed me to specify the sequence in which the ancestors would take place. These sequences may be useful to bessarabian genealogists who want to make the contextualization of their ancestors.

Here are the results on the next page :

1. Bessarabian Sequences (1)

Constants and fractures

4 constantes :

- Antisemitism
- Russian Anchoring
- Predominancy of urban artisans faced with poverty
- Sympathy for revolutionary ideas

4 fractures:

- The change of regime in 1918 after the 1917 revolution
- The decline of mass emigration in the early '20
- cultural and generational break after 1917
- The short-lived Soviet occupation in 1940 followed by the "Romanian Holocaust" in the following year

Selection and classification of sequences:

- A "Russian" homogeneous type sequence
- A sequence of rupture "between 1917 and the early '20"
- A "Romanian" homogeneous type sequence
- A sequence of rupture "between 1940 and immediately after World War II"

1.Bessarabian Sequences (2)

For each of these four sequences, I determined :

- the general context
- a framework for interpretation by analogy

I use the genealogical information which is available for an ancestor.
Comparing with the context, I see if it shows a same or an unique side of my ancestor.

If I have no genealogical information for my ancestor during this sequence, I use my interpretive framework by analogy to determine what might have been his life during this sequence.

2. Illustrations with some members of the Vagman family (1)

1. Khaim Vagman during the "Russian sequence"
2. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20"
3. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence"
4. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by" "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War"

2. Illustrations with some members of the Vagman family (2)

Elie Vagman	Ghennia Shmoukler
1860 (Zvatslav)	?
-	-
1941 (Akkerman)	1934 (Akkerman)

Sholik	Khaim	Mendel	Rivka	Esther	Ethel	Typa	Sarah
1898 Akkerman	1899 Akkerman	1903 Akkerman	? Akkerman	1910 Akkerman	? Akkerman	1912 Akkerman	? Akkerman
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1978 Miami Beach (FI)	1956 Brooklyn (NY)	1966 Charleroi (BEL)	1966 Akkerman (UKR)	1991 Afula (ISR)	1941 Akkerman	? (USA)	1941 Akkerman
+	+	+	+ ?	+		+	
Flora ?	Frima Zilberman	Mariette Deregge	(divorcee)	Falik Winderman		Samuel Wolf	

3. Khaim Vagman during the "Russian sequence" (1)



What I know :

Khaim Vagman was born July 12 1899 in Akkerman. He was a tailor. He married Frima Zilberman in 1920. The young couple emigrated to America via France and landed at Ellis Island May 23, 1921. Hyman was joined in America by his elder Sholik, Hyman hosts his brother in his home in Brooklyn until 1939.

Khaim became a U.S. citizen a few years after his arrival and was called Hyman Wagman. In 1932, he visited his parents in Romania via Belgium, where, in the meantime, his younger brother Mendel had migrated .

Hyman had successes and failures in the business. In addition, he helped his brother Mendel to pay studies in Belgium and welcomed his sister Typa and her family in America in 1948.

Hyman died in New York on 24 September 1956. His wife died in 1987. The couple had no children.

3. Khaim Vagman during the "Russian sequence" (2)

- The context of the "Russian sequence"
 - 1) area of Jewish settlement in the empire ----->
 - 2) anti-Semitism and pogroms ----->
 - 3) Anti-Semitism and emigration to America
 - 4) revolution of 1905 and the Duma elections ----->
 - 5) Jewish cultural life (+ secularization versus Hasidism) ----->
 - 6) pauperism
 - 7) Jewish political activism ----->
- Analogy with the "Russian sequence"
 - 1) Bessarabia in the settlement area and russian anchorage
 - 2) the particular impact of the pogrom of Kishinev in Bessarabia and Akkerman
 - 3) -
 - 4) election of the Duma Bessarabian the following years
 - 5) Bessarabian Jewish cultural life, including radiation of the klezmer music
 - 6) -
 - 7) Jewish political parties in Bessarabia

3. Khaim Vagman during the "Russian sequence" (3)

In the case of Khaim Vagman the "Russian sequence" corresponds to the first twenty years when he lived in Akkerman before migrating to America.

Because of the lack of genealogical data for this period, the only way to try to learn more about Khaim Vagman at this time is using analogy.

For example, the photo of a carrier water in Akkerman (YIVO Institute) in the year when Khaim leaved is an indication of their familiar living environment.

From a more systematic point of view, the elements of the analogical framework of this sequence should be assessed for their likely impact on the youth of Khaim and what has been established as a result of his life.



3. Khaim Vagman during the "Russian sequence" (4)

Khaim Vagman is too young to participate in the Duma elections of Bessarabia organized after 1905, or if it was his temperament, to become involved in Jewish Bessarabian political activism. However, Khaim has certainly felt the impact of the Kishinev pogrom, especially because he was six when the wave of pogroms arrives in Akkerman in 1905 (see attached photo of children after the Kishinev pogrom two years before, which can be used by analogy).

Although I am unable to use Yzkor book of Akkerman (available online on the website of the New York Public Library) because I do not know Hebrew, I can use an English description of this pogrom : see in Landsmanschaften Akkerman Benevolent Association New York, USA 1905-1955.

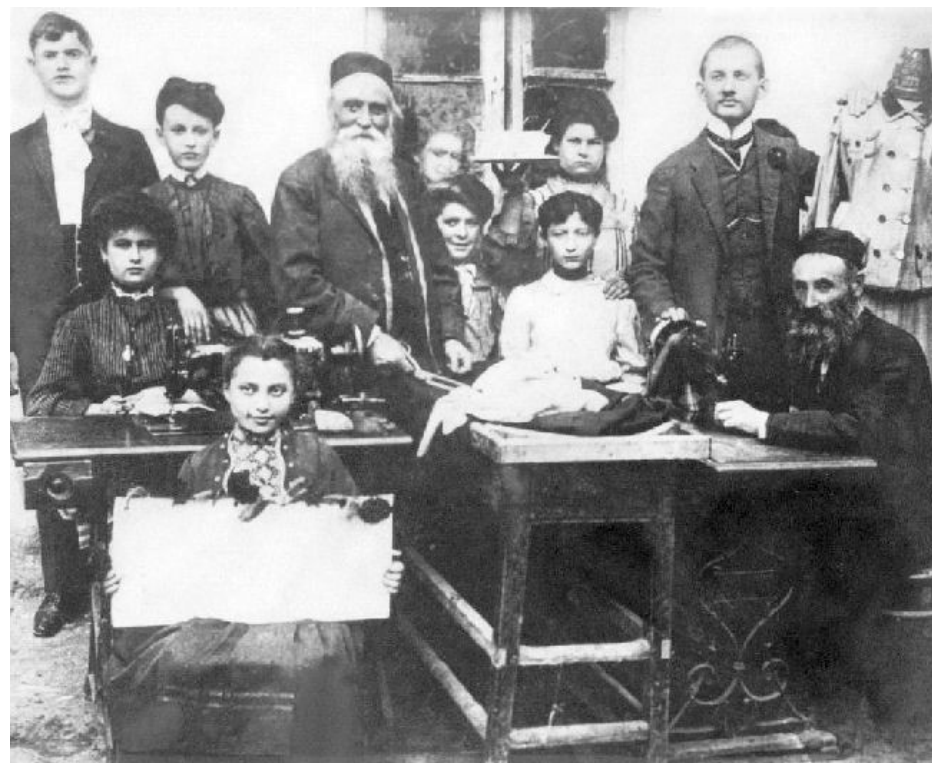


3. Khaim Vagman during the "Russian sequence" (5)

What was the point of this sequence ?

- This illustration provides a track to enrich the knowledge of a person in the absence of genealogical information available in the relevant sequence

- In the context of the family, the only known character is that Khaïm is a tailor and that he worked with his father (following family memories). By analogy, we can use a family picture of Jewish tailor at work at this time (see photo) and retrieve descriptions of this type of activity at this time in memorial books (for example written by Joseph Roth) .



4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (1)

What I know (1) :

Mendel Vagman was born September 6, 1903 in Akkerman. He began his studies at the Gymnasium) of Akkerman in the Russian Empire and finished it under the Romanian regime. Being afraid of the numerus clausus, he migrated in Liège (Belgium) in 1924 and enrolled in the university. He became chemical engineer. Mendel decided to live in Belgium. He worked as a peddler until her marriage in late 1933 with a Belgian wife of Charleroi : Mariette Deregge. After his marriage, including five children born between 1934 and 1948, Mendel gradually left his itinerant activity and opens a business in Charleroi. During the occupation of Belgium by the Reich between 1940 and 1944, Mendel is denied the use of his shop.



4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (2)

What I know (2) :

Mendel manages to be able to avoid the confiscation of all his capital, he illegally trade to feed his family and manages to escape to requisition to the forced labor. Increasingly threatened, he eventually abandoned his activity towards the end of the war to hide in the countryside with his family.

After the war, Mendel momentarily welcomes at his home in Charleroi his sister Typpa and her family who returned from Tashkent via Bucharest and Czernowitz before leaving for New York in Khaim Vagman's house.

Mendel became a Belgian citizen in 1956. He ensures the growth of his business and became a merchant.

Mendel died in Charleroi Vagman in May 15, 1966, three years after my birth, which is also his first grandchild (see photo). His wife Mariette died in Charleroi in November 5, 2008.



4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (3)

- context

1) end of the emigration to America

----->

2) 1917 revolution and pauperism

----->

3) Balfour Declaration ----->

4) territorial reduction in Soviet Russia
after 1917 ----->

5) secularism versus Hasidism

- analogy

1) Bessarabian Jewish emigration
related to Romanian attitude

2) election of community council in
Akkerman

3) dominant Zionist activism in
Bessarabia

4) Bessarabia (and Bukovina) become
romanian provinces

5) -

4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (4)

Genealogical data about Mendel Vagman during this sequence (1) :

Passport Vagman Mendel's passport (extract below cons)(1) :



4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (5)

Genealogical data about Mendel Vagman during this sequence (2) :

Archives Générales du Royaume de Belgique à Bruxelles. Archives de la police des étrangers. Dossier Mendel Vagman 1. 358 360. Légation belge de Bucarest. Bulletin de renseignement pour avis de délivrance d'un visa de passeport n° 254 1548 (voir ci-contre) –

Translation :

(General Archives of the Kingdom of Belgium in Brussels. Archives of aliens. Mendel Vagman file 1. 358,360. Belgian Legation in Bucharest. Bulletin of information for notice of the issuance of a passport visa n° 254 1548) (see cons)

LÉGATION DE BELGIQUE A BUCAREST
No. 254 1548

BULLETIN DE RENSEIGNEMENTS
pour l'obtention d'un visa de passeport
pour avis de délivrance d'un visa de passeport

NATURE et DUREE DU VISA: Wagon - 3 mois

Nom: MENDEL
Prénoms: VAGMAN
Lieu et date de naissance: Betatac Alba 6/9-1903
Nationalité d'origine: russe
Nationalité actuelle: roumain
Fils ~~ou fille~~ de Elio Vagman
né à Zaslou Russie
et de Genia Vagman
née à Zaslou Russie
Célibataire:

Epoux ou Epouse veuf ou veuve Divorcé ou divorcée de	Nom: Prénoms: Lieu et date de naissance: Nationalité d'origine: Nationalité actuelle: Date du mariage: fils ou fille de né à
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4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (6)

- Unique Aspects (1):

The contextualization of Mendel Vagman's life during this sequence can dissipate a potentially wrong interpretation . he has not chosen the path of Belgium because the doors are closing in America but because it is part of a migratory movement and much smaller alternative : the expatriation pursues an objective of the study and his arrival in Belgium is explained by the existing opportunities for this project (advertising of the University of Liège mentioned in his testimonies to his children)

- Unique aspects (2):

Contextualizing Mendel Vagman during the following years reveals an unique aspect which is accentuated in the continuum of elements observed in this sequence between 1917 and the early '20.

- Indeed, it has been established that :
 - he frequents Revolutionary circles and he become tracked by the belgian police. At the same time, he is in fact singling in the ideological moderation away from its initial Menshevism
 - he refuses to follow some of his classmates engineers responding to the call of Zionist parties to go and build factories in Tel Aviv.

4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (7)

Identical aspects (1):

Compared to the context and analogy for this period, Mendel Vagman was obviously very attentive to events related to the Balfour Declaration (family memories) and its Marxist opinions related to the context of pauperism (evidenced stories passed on by his son or niece) are associated with a distancing in relation to religious practice.

No indication authorizes the assertion of its participation in the election of community council of Akkerman after the October Revolution, but his sympathy for this event is plausible.

Identical aspects (2):

Contextualizing Mendel Vagman during the following years confirmed its distance from his religious practice and establishes that he remains bathed in Russian culture (claimed admiration for Tolstoy).

4. Mendel Vagman during the "sequence between 1917 and the early '20" (8)

What was the point of this sequence ?

- With this Mendel Vagman's case, people see that the contextualization of a character shows how a person reflects in its own way the trends of his time and of his environment and, simultaneously, how it differs because of his intrinsic personality.

- In this sense, the unique aspect of this character sequence determines and probably explains in part the result of a life trajectory in the following sequences (out of context Bessarabian)

- In his family background, this illustration led to evoke a typical separation of the migration experience. By analogy, we mention this picture of a farewell scene with Akkerman station upon departure of an emigrant (see photo below cons, taken from the book of Yzkor Akkerman. Let us be careful : this is perhaps a photo of a later sequence, seeing the aspects of the clothes).



5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (1)

What I know



Usher's son, Elijah (Elie) Vagman was born in Zvatslav (Volhynia) between 1860 and 1964. For unknown reasons, the young tailor moved to Akkerman at the end of the nineteenth century and started a family with Ghennia Shmoukler. They had many children, including those mentioned in this paper.

Elijah undergoes the Akkerman pogrom of 1905, participates in one of the Duma elections in the years that followed, and passes under the Romanian regime in 1918.

This pious man frequents the synagogue of the city's artisans.

Elijah Vagman loses his wife in 1933 or 1934 and lives with two of his daughters (Ethel and Sarah). Both of sisters do not want to abandon their old father when it comes to flee hurriedly approaching the German-Romanian invaders in July 1941. All three were shot by the Romanians in the massacre of 1500 Jews of the city and surrounding areas at the end of July 1941..

5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (2)

- **Context**

- 1) forced Romanization ----->
- 2) Romanian antisemitism ----->
- 3) economic crisis of the '30s ----->

- **Analogy**

- 1) particularism of the russian anchorage in Bessarabia
- 2) Anti-Semitism intensified due to the Russian cultural roots
- 3) Bessarabian Jewish credi co-operatives

5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (3)

Genealogical data about Elie Vagman during this sequence (1):

- Elie Vagman's census as a voter in the election of the Duma of Bessarabia in March 1907 (and dissolved three months later) (see the list of electors in the Duma published in *Vedomosti Guberniskie Bessarabskie monitor*, available online at www.jewishgen.org/ data bases / romania)

- *Anuarul Socec "al Romaniei - Mari, 1924-1925, vol. II (Provincia) "comune urbane Cetatea Alba* (Directory business in Romania, available online at the website of the New York Public Library, and more recently with an English translation on www.jewishgen.org/bessarabia.org) (see below cons)



5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (4)

Genealogical data about Elie Vagman during this sequence (2):

Ilie Vagman is indicated in the heading namely *croitori bărbatești (Ateliere)*, which means *tailors for men (workshops)*

(see cons in the upper part of the left column, just above the heading *croitori lady (Ateliere)*)

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CETATEA-ALBA

Moscovscia — Toprinescua Elena, str. Mihai Viteazul—Trahtman Abran, str. Mihai Viteazul.
Conserve alimentare și de pește (saucii): „Pontos” S.A., P-ța Cailor 2.
Croitori bărbatești (ateliere): Anenburg Zarob, Simeon Murafa 17—Bogelman Haim, Daciei 20 — Bezprozvanii Moise, Mihai Viteazul 57 — Bolteanachi Boris, Mihai Viteazul 55 — Bromberg Iosif, Mateeviei 21 — Buhner Abran, Daciei 14 — Buchenbaum Yolf, Simeon Murafa 17 — Caminachi Smil, Regele Ferdinand 59—Doncenco Harion, G-ral Averescu 61 — Elford Zelman, Regele Ferdinand 3 — Grosman Iacob, Mihai Viteazul 50 — Hanțeg Moise, Simeon Murafa 12—Iaspon Iacob, Regele Ferdinand 14 — Iaspon Moti, Regele Ferdinand 15—Lohovitch Șapira, G-ral Averescu 49 — Meister Rudolf, Macdonelii 17 — Neor Ugor, G-ral Averescu 64 — Roitman Nuhim, G-ral Averescu 20 — Spivac Haim, Regele Ferdinand 16 — Stambovici Leib, Regele Ferdinand 23 — Suenaschi Voleo, Soborului 12 — Terepe Ansei, Piața Mică 38 — Vagman Hie, Regele Ferdinand 7 — Veitler Gheorghe, Daciei 14—Vinevotchi Leib, Mihai Viteazul 8 — Vusinschi Nuhim, Mihai Viteazul 73 — Zaidler Boris, Regina Maria 57.
Croitori de dame (ateliere): Bezprozvania Feișeb, Daciei 1 — Bobrova Antonina, Vasile Dreov 2—Bolteanachi Hana, Mihai Viteazul 41 — Cuzovscia Danga, Macdonelii 20 — Gavdari Eugenia, Chișinăului 42 — Cripser Hava, Mihai Viteazul 64 — Cudreavțova Ecaterina, Traian 7—Farladanachi Zolda, Mihai Viteazul 42 — Gartsman Noia, Mihai Viteazul 40—Henco Talaan, Chișinăului 40 — Parafian Iudmila, Regina Maria 61 — Tauerli Erdoschi, Sf. Gheorghe 41 — Toischer Brana, Regele Ferdinand 22 — Voslova Polaghia, Banatului 10—Wilderman Fonia, Regele Ferdinand 64.
Curieri: Clainar Calman, P-ța Mare 70—Gleizer David, P-ța Mare — Ignatenco Iacob, P-ța Mare 82 — Ignatenco Ivan, Mateeviei 22 — Sotaiac Boris, P-ța Mare 76 — Șusterman Mendel, P-ța Mare 77 — Șvartman David, Piața Mare 88.
Dentisți: Aronovici-Goldman Regala, Mihai Viteazul 9 — Bihuan Mihail, Mihai Viteazul 54 — Hnac Maria, Daciei 46 — Gantman Eugenia H., Mihai Viteazul 70 — Croșchin Mihail, Belicovicii 9—Egul Alexandra, Mihai Viteazul 50 — Rimann-Foldman Sifra, Vasile Dreov 17 — Iosovici Haim, Ovidiu 5 — Lander Estera, Regina Maria 37 — Lohomachi-Novitchi Leita, B. P. Hagdei 5 — Lurie-Heifetz Rozalia, Reg. Maria 16 — Mareoci Taisia, Regina Maria 31 — Soper-Șapira Friderica, V. Dreov 21—Soeolova Elena, Mihai Viteazul 46 — Zalcman-Belachi Rebecca, Simeon Murafa 10.
Distilieri: Ing. Nadrie Leon, str. Chișinăului.
Dogari: Lusogubenco Ivan, Carpatilor 67—Pancenco Anton, Regele Ferdinand 3 — Semanenco Marc, Regina Maria 40 — Tarnopolachi Gheorghe, Daciei 21 — Timofin Ivan, P-ța Mică 32 — Tsvetlov Vasile, Vlad Beșeg 35.
Drogarii: Barschi Iacob, str. Simeon Murafa — Brodschi Iania, str. Mihai Viteazul — Eriich Haim, Ismailului 19 — Foldman Iacob, str. Regele Ferdinand — Hes Srul, str. Regele Ferdinand — Mamutov Boruh, str. Reg. Ferdinand.

Făină (dopozite): Cucine Aron, str. Ismailului — Dvoeina Avram, str. Ismailului—Paterstein Elean, str. Moscovscia — Gracie Loiza, str. Macedonici — Papandopulo Spiridon, P-ța Mare — Răbălanie Mordco, P-ța Mare — Zalov Iacob, str. Chișinăului.
Farmaci: Brodschi Isaac, str. Mihai Viteazul — Eriich Efim, Simeon Murafa 22 — Fingman Iacob, Regele Ferdinand 42 — Mamutov G., str. Regele Ferdinand — Marian G., Spitalul Central — Pîporgal Nusim, Mihai Viteazul 42 — Flohatsic Ivan, strada Alexandru-cel-Bun — Vitconitschi, str. Simeon Murafa.
Fierărie (magazine): Andoniat Mardirov, strada Regele Ferdinand — Caplin Israel, P-ța Mare — Ghecht Boruh, P-ța Mare 79 — Gherșevici Nuhim, P-ța Mare — Goldstein Leib, strada Zeilic, str. Moscovscia — Litvin Moșe, Ismailului 41 — Tabacnic Aizic, Moscovscia 25 — Vasilovschi Bention, P-ța Mare.
Fotografi (ateliere): Gurevici Ana, Mihai Viteazul 31—Meister Abran, Mihai Viteazul 29.
Fructe (comercianți): Bezprozvanii Leib, strada Daciei — Brodschi Abran, str. Mihai Viteazul — Brofman Moise, str. Mihai Viteazul—Clurfeld Moise, Simeon Murafa 16 — Crasnopolschi Leiba, P-ța Mare — Culișova Maria, P-ța Mare—Doenova Parascovin, P-ța Mare—Fisman Mendel, str. Mihai Eminescu — Goldman Azriel, str. Sf. Gheorghe — Gordon Volf, str. Moscovscia — Iaroslavski Șaia, str. Simeon Murafa — Lăchîn Feodor, str. Mihai Viteazul — Naimon Haschel, str. Regele Ferdinand — Polci Oizer, str. Simeon Murafa — Purici Titianu, P-ța Mare — Seukurova Delaghia, P-ța Mare — Spinner Mehes, str. Mihai Viteazul — Spinner Moisei, str. Ismailului — Steinberg Abran, P-ța Mare — Trahtengherș Sili, str. Mihai Viteazul — Veinberg Iosif, str. Regele Ferdinand.
Furaje (dopozite): Brodschia Hava, P-ța Mare — Causonschi Meer, str. Regele Ferdinand — Cogan Chiva, str. Ismailului — Edlis Srul — Feodorova Alexandra, str. Ismailului — Rudenco Conrad, str. Flavanovai — Segal Iosif, P-ța Mare — Șiner Gheorghe, str. Regele Ferdinand — Teplitchi Abran, P-ța Mare — Tulcinechi, P-ța Mare — Vaisman David, str. Soborului — Vaisman Haim, P-ța Mare.
Galanterie (magazine): Arhit Loia & Farladanachi Motel, str. Regele Ferdinand — Beighehman Tamba, P-ța Mare — Bolteanachi Estu, P-ța Mare 12 — Bolteanachi A., str. Soborului — Brizgal Bruta, Belicovicii 20 — Carolic Hana, str. Moscovscia — Cogan Aron, str. Regele Ferdinand — Cogan Iacob, P-ța Mare — Cogan Meer, P-ța Mare — Constantiner Estera, str. Mihai Viteazul — Dahn Polsch, str. Mihai Viteazul—Eucin Iosif, P-ța Mare—Furman Eta, P-ța Mare 8 — Goldstein Natan, Mihai Viteazul 70 — Grinspan Haim & Gherșgorn Mendel, str. Regele Ferdinand — Hanțeg Juda — Harfonscua Ferien, str. Regele Ferdinand — Harfonschi Sula, P-ța Nouă 7 — Iacolson Sura, P-ța Nouă 9 — Jitakovschi Pincus, P-ța Mare 2 — Mojelean Tuba, Mihai Viteazul 60 — Nudelman Gheorghe, P-ța Mare — Pinsberg Mareș, Mihai Viteazul 68 — Reznic Meida, P-ța Mare — Tabacnic

Articole de toaletă, la SOCEC & Co., S. A.

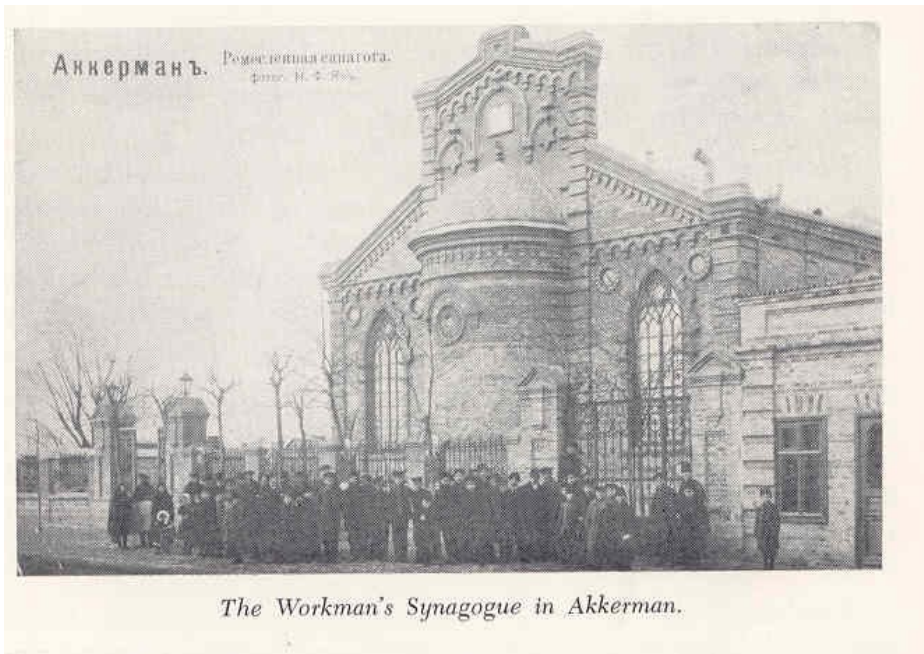
5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (5)



In this case, no specific character could not be established. This is why the contextualization of a character is particularly useful to indicate paths in order to imagine some aspects of Elijah Vagman during this sequence (for example -occupation : see photo of a Jewish tailor at work here against).

We can then make the assumption that this Russian-Yiddish speaking man struggles with the new language when required to use it, or that he undergoes the anti-jews legislative changes (increasingly segregationist) or that he uses the loan of the jewish co-operative of Cetatea Alba.

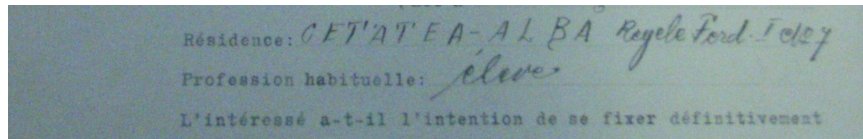
5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (6)



The mention of a artisans synagogue in Cetatea Alba (pictured in the yzkor book devoted to the city) indicates the place of Elie Vagman's worship. To reconstruct the religious atmosphere, we can use, for example by analogy to a source in the French language: the report produced in Bessarabia at the time by Albert Londres, entitled *The Wandering Jew* arrived.

Using the directory above also allows to accurately trace the immediate vicinity of all the family at this time and Vagman confirms the implantation of the family in an environment of jewish craftsmen.

5. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" (7)



What was the point of this sequence ?

- This illustration provides a path to enhance the case of a similar character for which there are indications genealogical

- In a family context, this sequence establishes the correspondence between the Elie's address stated on the artisans repertory in 1924 (7, Regele Ferdinand) and the one mentioned in the same year by the Belgian Legation in Bucharest in the folder of the application of immigration by his son Mendel (see photo below cons)

6. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (1)

- context

1) pact Molotov-Ribbentrop ----->

2) alliance between german Reich and Romania in the antisemitist denunciation of Jewish Bolshevism ----->

3) Romanian invasion of USSR in 1941 by the german and romanian troops, Romanian Shoah (+ Einsatzgruppen) ----->

- analogy

1) Soviet reoccupation of Bessarabia in 1940-1941

2) accusation of the Judeo-Bolshevism Romanian Bessarabian due to the Russian anchor of the bessarabian Jews

3) regaining Bessarabia (and Bukovina), with the Romanian wave of killings in Bessarabia (and Bukovina) during the summer 1941 (and not in other Romanian provinces) and arrival of Einsatzgruppe D

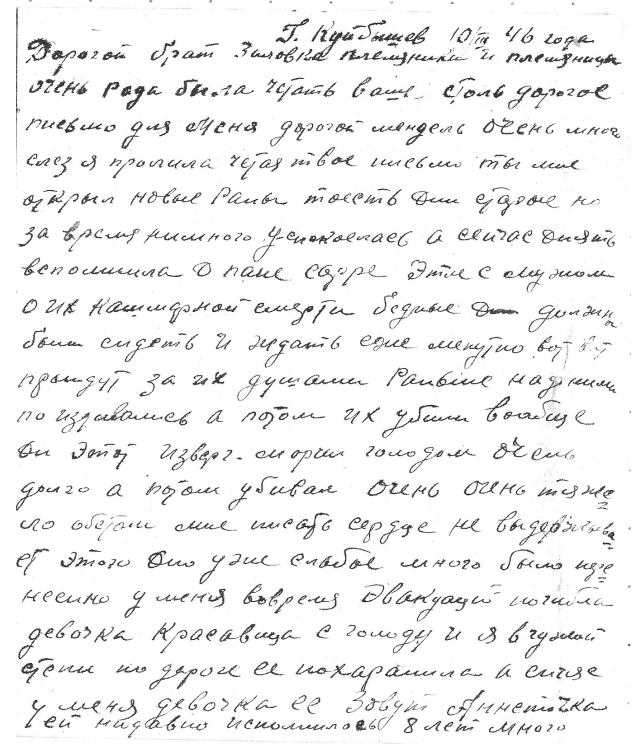
6. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (2)

Genealogical data about Elie Vagman during this sequence

The only genealogical data comes from a letter received in 1948 by Mendel Vagman in Belgium from his sister Esther who fled to Kouïbichev . She teaches his brother about the murder of their father and sisters who were remained with their father.

It turns out that they were murdered by Romanian soldiers a few days after the reconquest of Akkerman in late July 1941.

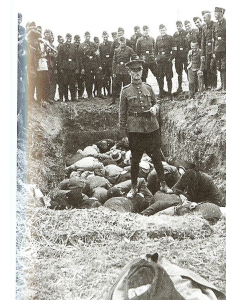
The identical nature of this sequence has been deepened by using the analogy



Л. Крайбичев 10-го 46 года
Дорогой брат Зисович племянник и племянница
Очень рада была читать вам. Очень дорогой
мне был дядя очень дорогой мандел очень много
слез я пролила когда тебе писала тебе мне
открыл новые Равви то есть вы судите но
за время много узнается а сейчас думаю
вспомнила о маме сестре эти с сестрой
о их домашней сестры бедные вы думали
были сестры и дядя еще меньше вы
приняли за их дядями Равви на дяди
по изданию а потом их убить воякам
вы этот изверг. морщи голодом очень
долго а потом убивая очень очень тяжело
но об этом мне писало сестре не видевшая
ей этого вы уже знаете много было пере
несено у меня воякам ввандуции пошла
девушка Краевица с голоду и в воякам
сестры по дороге ее похоронили в сестре
у меня девушка ее зовут Аннетика
у ее писали ископанные 8 лет много

(3)6. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (3)

On the one hand, access to circumstantial evidence recorded in the book of yzkor Akkerman or collected in filmed interviews of witnesses proved impossible because of my ignorance of Hebrew and Russian. However, the plate of the Benevolent Association Akkerman has a chapter on this tragedy. Some of his information help to complete the laconic familial information . It to can be useful to also consult on youtube propaganda films devoted to Romanian Nazi invasion of Bessarabia, some passages are turned Akkerman. Finally, pictures can also be used (see cons photos simulacrum found on a Romanian soldier).



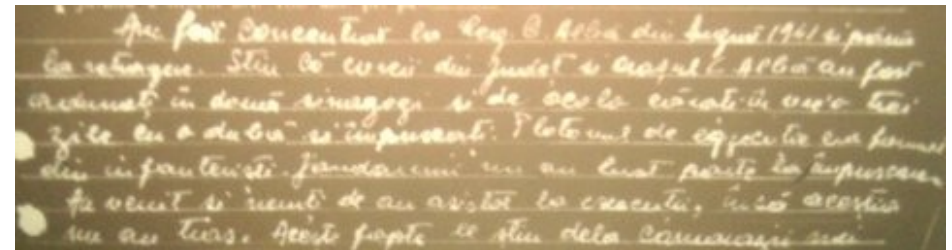
Souvent, les Roumains ne prenaient pas la peine de combler les fossés soulevés à plusieurs reprises la protestation de leurs alliés allemands.

6. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (4)

On the other hand, consulting microfilmed archives including documents relating to lawsuits Romania in Bucharest in 1945 the authors of the massacre Cetatea Alba (Akkerman) confirms many indications above and complete it.

It has enabled not only to confirm the identity of local sponsors but also to discover that members of the squad who shot.

(see an extract reproduced below cons available USHMM Washington: Bucharest-Romanian Information Service (SRI) records. (MANUSCRIPT rg-25 004M) 20 725 11 25 reel, reel 26 20,725 11 (continued): Trial of policemen accusé of killings of Jews in Cetatea Alba, 1941. Statement of the accusé and of the Witnesses, 1945 153 pages and 149 pages).



6. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (5)

Besides the practical arrangements for three days of torture, it has been established that the organizer of the massacre of Jews Akkerman (principal and plunderer) is the captain Alexandru Ochisor, commander of the 35th Infantry Regiment.

The platoon leader responsible for the massacre called Illic Jorge. He gave the fatal order to killers, especially including infantry Corporal Gheorghe Simion and Agospa Pelin.

Below against a sheet extracted from the internment folder of Alexandru Ochisor, which was transferred to the Soviet prisons.

This research contributes to break the anonymity of the massacre

PENITENCIARUL *Alud* Nr. DOSARULUI *34*
 ANUL *1952* LUNA *noi* ZIUA *22* *62/955*

FIȘA MATRICOLĂ

Numele *OCHISOR M.* Prenumele *ALEXANDRU*

Prezenta

Născut în anul *1894* luna *aprilie* ziua *29*
 în comuna *CANCINAZ* Raionul *Căteoaalba*

Regiunea *4-R.S.S.* Întel lui *MINAI +*
 și al *EUGENIU* domiciliat în comuna
DRĂGANȘANI Str. *TROIAN* Nr. *144*

Raionul *Bragoștanu* Regiunea *Gilești*

ocupația la data arestării *Ofițer* în trecut *Soldat*
 Avea deținut *nu* la data arestării *nu are* în trecut *nu are*
 Avea deținut *nu* la data arestării *casă* în trecut *casă*
 Avea soție la data arestării *nu are* în trecut *Soldat*
 Ocupația părinților în prezent *Uneltari* în trecut *Greot*
 Avea părinții în prezent *nu* în trecut *o casă*

Originea socială *Av. Burghez* categoria socială
 Studiul *Liceul și Școala Noștră* cetățenia *națională*

Serviciul militar clg. *1915* gradul *Capitan* unitatea căreia aparținea *Reg. 35 Infaut.*
 Starea civilă *casătorit* numele soției *Verboșanu Iulie* copii *BAFI 2*
 Apartenența politică și deținută la data arestării *nu are* în trecut *deținuț în închisoare publică*

SEMNALMENTE: înălțime *170* în fruntea capului *curt* gura *puț*
 bărbie *nu are* țesut *nu are* ochii *albaştri* părul *cașunt* sprâncenele *castaniu*
 barba *nu are* mustața *nu are* urechile *nu are* semne particulare

SITUAȚIA JURIDICĂ: antecedente penale *deținuț în închisoare publică*
 Prezent de la data de _____ de către _____ cu mandatul
 de arestare nr. _____ pentru faptul _____
 Descrierea pe scurt a faptului _____

REZERVE: (trădător, evadări, rădăcat pentru arestări, etc.)
03-07-52 T. J. J. J.

Reședința _____

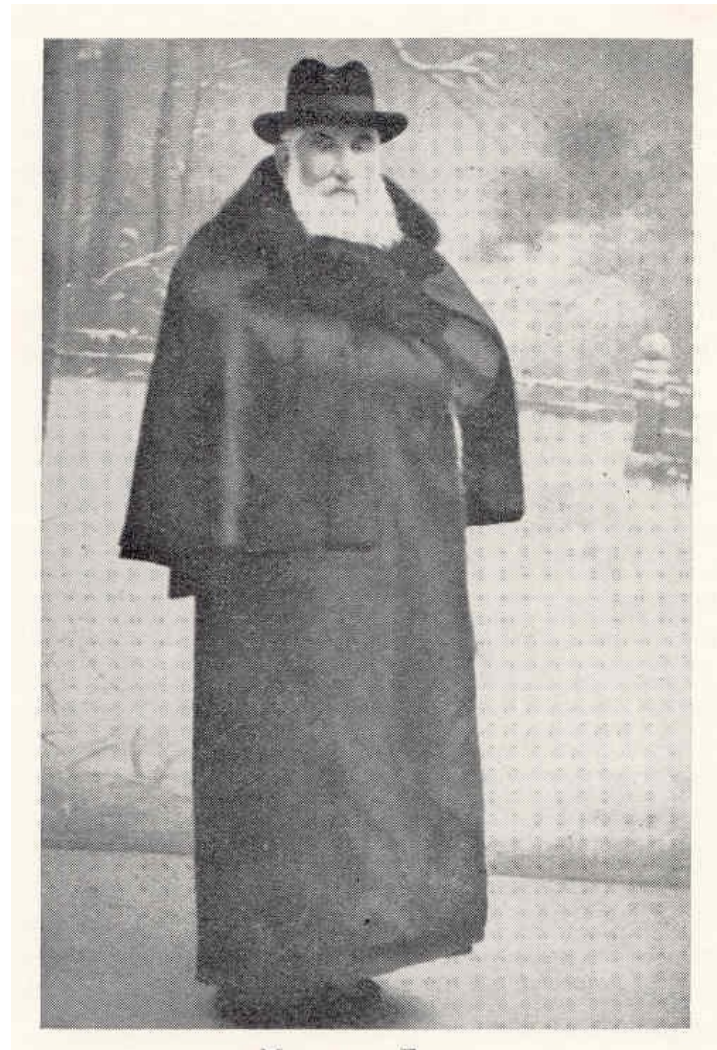
6. Elie Wiesel during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (6)

What was the point of this sequence ?

- This illustration provides a path to enhance the knowledge of a similar character for which there are indications genealogical very low.

It particularly highlights a high degree of contextualization of the character. The zoom effect from general to the particular is very precise here in time and space, so that the exercise arrives to a really level of reconstitution.

(in this picture, Mordechai Frigin lived in Akkerman and had the same age as Elijah Wiesel. He was also his companion in misfortune).



6. Elie Vagman during the "Romanian sequence" followed by "between 1940 and immediately after the Second World War" (7)

- In a family context, this sequence highlights the differentiated fate of the sisters who were able to flee, to the example of Tura Vagman and son Yankel (Iancu) Wolf (see against the reproduction of their assignment drawn from the archives NKVD of Uzbekistan)

Фамилия <i>Вольф</i>		Имя <i>Цина</i>	
Отчество <i>Рубеви</i>		Отношение к главе семьи <i>дочь</i>	
Пол <i>м</i>	Год рождения <i>1908</i>	Место рождения	
Специальность и стаж		Национальность <i>евр.</i>	
Место жительства область (рай) до эвакуации. район		Где работал до эвакуации	
город, село <i>Ашкерия</i>		Цех	
Кем работал (должность) <i>г-кас</i>		№ списка <i>85</i>	стр. <i>64</i>
Где поселен (адрес) <i>Ферган. обл. Базардех. р-н. ай. Сердоб, рабочий ул. 30</i>		Где работает в настоящее время	
		Учрежд. Должн.	

Список детей до 16-лет, проживающих вместе				
Фамилия	Имя	Отчество	Отнош. к главе семьи	Возраст
<i>Вольф</i>	<i>Мену</i>	<i>Самодов</i>	<i>сын</i>	<i>1933</i>

Правка выдана: кому _____

г. 1942 г.

из ЦСУ, 66.39/204 (8,1-42 г. т. 35300). Тип. НКВД, зак. № 514 35300 42 г.

CONCLUSION

The contextualization of the character provides benefits to genealogists.

It requires locating ancestors in specific sequences but allows them to learn more. However, some aspects of their lives remain assumptions because we can not assume that their life has been the same as the general trends in all aspects of a sequence.

The use of analogy can also use various sources of inspiration to imagine the life of an ancestor. These sources show similar situations of life in movies, pictures, stories, case studies, testimonials or memories of other people who were very close to an ancestor in the time and in a space. It is better if the sources of inspiration are very close in space and time of the ancestor. It prevents anachronism mistakes.

But the traditional stages of the character's life (birth, childhood, youth, adulthood, old age, death) must be interpreted in light of the sequence in which they occur.

Contextualizing characters, you can get informations enough to write a true story of family, whose family tree is only a small aspect.

Bessarabian genealogists can use an interpretive framework to better discover the life and personality of their ancestors.

Good work !!!

Une réalisation de :
A realization of

Les mots pour le livre

Agence-conseil en communication rédactionnelle
et recherches historiques
Agency communications consultancy editorial
and historical research

—

Belgium

Do you have ancestors in Belgium ?

I can find their tracks :

- Records of their emigration to Belgium
- The files of the Gestapo and other documents during the occupation by the Reich
- Possible file their naturalization Belgian
- and ... many other tracks

I can write for you the Belgian chapter of your family history, explaining the context in which your ancestors lived in an illustrated text by the family archives and old photographs.

*

**

If you are interested, please contact me : lesmotspourlelire@gmail.com

I will be happy to answer you. Vincent