

Sarjary

Bessarabischer Heimatkalender—1968

W. Rumpeltin, Buchdruckerei und Zeitungsverlag K.G.

[Book Printing and Newspaper Publishing Limited]

Burgdorf, Hannover/Germany

Pages 41-42

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March, 2025

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Note: Information within [brackets] are comments by the translator.

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[Translation Begins]

Sarjary

by Erwin Heer

The Germans in Sarjary lived scattered within a foreign population, which consisted mainly of Moldovans and Ukrainians (also Russians) and numbered 600 inhabitants. It was an old village, the German community was not founded until 1860

Sarjary belonged to the Cetates-Alba (Akkerman) District; its official Romanian name was Säräria. The post office was located in Tuzla until 1933; from 1935 (according to the *Kalender*) in Culevcea, which was also the nearest railway station. Sarjary had two schools, a large one, that was the state school; furthermore, the smaller Evangelical-German school; the Prayer House served as a place where the German children went to school.

Sarjary was the seat of a Comuna (municipality) with its own town hall (Primaria), to which the neighboring villages of Maraslienfeld, Katlebug, Corsienco, Regele Carol, Regele Ferdinand and Regina Maria belonged. There was also a police station there.

Although Sarjary was undoubtedly an old local settlement, there was almost no industry there: only a steam mill owned by the wealthy former Mayor (primary) Zidu; it burned out completely at the end of the 1930s and was rebuilt before the Resettlement in 1940 by the mill owners Hock from Teplitz and Brost from Besyrjamka, into whose possession it had passed. Sarjary also had two blacksmiths, two wheelwrights (carpenters) and some cobblers. Three grocery stores provided the necessary consumer goods. The main occupation of the population, including the indigenous, was agriculture, but there was also some viticulture and livestock breeding.

The Germans in Sarjary mostly lived at the southwestern end of the large village, where the Prayer House (the Evangelical-German school) and the cemetery on the southern edge of the village were located. The colonists came originally (1860) from the mother colonies of Arzis, Teplitz, Alt-Elft, and also from daughter colonies, such as Mannsburg, and leased land from the wide steppe of the large landowner Grigorij Grigoriwitsch Maraslie. Through the Agrarian Reform (land reform) in 1920, all became owners of 6 hectares [14.8 acres] of land each, as they had previously sat on leased land like the people of Maraslienfeld. On the outskirts of the old leased community, Hectare Candidates also settled. The land figure is given in the *Kalender* as 360 hectares [889.6 acres] in 1933, 175 hectares [432.4 acres] in 1938 and again 175 hectares in 1940. Mr. Gottlob Welk, on the other hand, estimates 300 hectares [741.3 acres] of land for the German colonists, which more than likely comes closer.

The following 38 German Families lived in Sarjary until the Resettlement in 1940:

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|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 01. Eduard Jesse | 14. Nathanael Handel | 27. Jakob Zaiser |
| 02. Gustav Maas | 15. Eduard Baumgart | 28. Julius Zaiser |
| 03. Johann Niebel | 16. Andreas König | 29. Gustav Trikowsky |
| 04. Johann Jose | 17. Gottlieb Stutz | 30. Adam Buchfink |
| 05. Jakob Jose | 18. Katharina Fink | 31. Stephan Buchfink |
| 06. Eduard Jose | 19. Johannes Höger | 32. Helene Jesse |
| 07. Johannes Jose (sen.) | 20. Gottlieb Jeske | 33. Andreas Handel |
| 08. Eduard Neumann (sen.) | 21. Andreas Jeske | 34. Alfred Gwinner |
| 09. Eduard Neumann (jun.) | 22. Alexander Jeske | 35. Absolon Steinke |
| 10. Gotthilf Jaßmann | 23. Johann Albert | 36. Katharina Fink |
| 11. Michael Zaiser | 24. Gottlieb Schulz | 37. Fritz Baumgart |
| 12. Nathanael Schell | 25. Christian Schulz | 38. Johann Jörke |
| 13. Christian Schell | 26. Oskar Schulz | |

The number of inhabitants is given in the *Kalender* as 320 in 1933, 318 in 1938 and 319 in 1940. In 1904, according to the report of the Support Fund of the Posttal-Bendorfendorf Parish, 185 German parishioners with 61 school children are listed.

From 1878 to 1903, the parishioners were looked after by the Kischinew Parish, from 1903 until 1940 by the Sarata Parish, and finally by Pastor Gotthold Winger. Sexton-Teachers were: Ferdinand Semmler from Sarjary, Otto Krüger from Maraslienfeld, Johann Schneider from Maraslienfeld, Willi Bogner from Tarutino, Erwin Heer from Sarata, Arnold Keller from Sarata, and finally Friedrich (son of Daniel Friedrich) from Basyrjamka. State teachers were Mihai Matei (Romanian from the Old Reich) until 1940, Erwin Heer (Sarata) from 1933 to 1934, Arnold Keller (Sarata) from 1934 to 1935. Church Curator from 1933 to 1934 was Jakob Jose.

In the midst of a foreign environment, the Germans in Sarjary were constantly in particular danger. Without a church and school, they would have gradually merged into the local population and been lost to Germanism. Resettlement was the only way out of this danger. In October of 1940, the Germans from Sarjary were resettled along with the people of Maraslienfeld and were then sent to the Goblonz Resettlement Camp (Sudetenland [German-speaking part of Czechoslovakia]). Before settling, a stay in the Lask Transit Camp near

Litzmannstadt took place. Finally, in 1941, they settled in the Kempen District and the surrounding area, in the former Warthegau. In 1945, the Flight from the new adopted home to Germany began, but most of the Sarjary people only came as far as the Eastern Zone, where they finally settled. Individual families later settled in the Federal Republic. An emigration to overseas (Canada, USA) has not yet become known.

Accidents: Matthäus Hedrich froze to death in the winter of 1924.

The list of the fifteen fallen and missing in the Second World War can be found in the *Heimatbuch der Bessarabiendeutschen* on page 592. [List found after the end of this translation]

In conclusion, it must be emphasized that, despite good will and many efforts, this report has large gaps; it is indeed piece work. Nevertheless: better a gap-like work than none at all! I owe the above information, in addition to the *Heimatbuch der Bessarabiendeutschen*—which had inspired me to write this report—above all to Mrs. Hilde Posenau née Mauch, and Mr. Gottlob Welk, both from Sarjary, whom I would like to thank especially for their help and effort, as well as for the verification of the report.

[Translation Ends]

[List of the fifteen Fallen and Missing in the Second World War as found on page 305 of the English translation of *Heimatbuch der Bessarabiendeutschen*]

01. **Fink**, Johann (father Friedrich); born 1915; died in battle 1942
02. **Handel**, Hugo (father Nathanael); missing in action
03. **Jassmann**, Friedrich; born 1913; died in battle 1943 in Russia
04. **Joerke**, Emil (father Jakob); died in battle 1942 in the West
05. **Jesse**, Traugott (father Eduard); died in battle 1943 in Russia
06. **Jose**, Eduard (father Jakob); born 1910; died October 1942 in Russia
07. **Jose**, Johannes (father Johann); born 31 January, 1913; died in battle 7 September, 1943 in Russia
08. **Neumann**, Eduard (father Eduard); born 12 April, 1914; died in battle 15 August, 1943 near Charkow
09. **Neumann**, Friedrich (father Eduard); born 9 March, 1923; died in battle 10 December, 1944 in Hohnadorf near Aachen
10. **Niebel**, Immanuel (father Johann); born 1915; died in battle 1945 in Russia
11. **Schulz**, Oskar (father Gottlieb); died in battle 1943 in Russia
12. **Stutz**, Emil (father Gottlieb); died in battle 1942 in Russia
13. **Zaiser**, Emil (father Michael)); born circa 1925; died in battle 1942 in Russia
14. **Zaiser**, Julius (father Jakob); died in battle 1943 in Russia
15. **Ziemann**, Otto (father Jakob); born 1918; died in battle 1943 in Russia



Stumpp Map of Bessarabia reworked by Rolf Jethon—not in original document