

Golda Rupel And Her Family

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This is my mother's sister Golda Rupel with her husband Liber Rupel, to the left is their elder daughter Entle. I do not remember the rest, all of them are Golda's children. The picture was taken in Rietavas in the 1930s during their visit. My mother's elder sister Golda lived in Gargzdai with her large family. Golda's husband, Liber Rupel, sold the cucumbers harvested by Grandfather. He put the cucumbers in the horsed cart and went across Klaipeda crying out: ?Cucumbers, cucumbers!?. He also took the whole cart to Rietavas, where he purchased strawberries and other berries and took them to Gargzdai and Klaipeda. There were times, when he brought small smoked fish from Klaipeda. In general, he had a trading business. Golda was also very entrepreneurial. She had her own horses and came to the markets with a big cart and loaded it with all kinds of goods. Golda went from town to town, supplying goods to her customers. Golda and Liber had many children. Before the war, their elder daughter Entle worked as a nurse in Telsiai. When the war broke out, she joined the Russians and was a nurse in the lines. After the war she married a Russian officer and lived with him in the town of Pavlovsk, Rostov oblast. My cousin had a tragic death a couple of years ago. The details of her death are still unknown. What is not clear is why somebody would want to kill a lonely, sick and poor woman. Golda's other children: sons Abba and Meishe and daughter Aza ? I don't remember the rest ? were shot in Gargzdai in the first days of occupation.