

Serafima Staroselskaya's Uncle Semyon Vigdergaus



This is my uncle Semyon Borukhovich Vigdergaus. Picture was taken at the Leningrad front in 1943. Mother's brother Semyon (Shlyoma) finished the Red Commissars' courses. There was also brother Yakov. He perished at the Leningrad frontline, other brothers also participated in the war there. Yakov was the only one who perished. He left two daughters who were born before the war, Galya and Edith. Mother's brother Yefim, born in 1912, served in the navy, he was man-of-war's man. Once in 1937 during the massive repressions, he mentioned in one of the conversations that

people get orders like badges. Someone denounced against him and he was put into prison. All his family was, at it was called in those days, 'incapacitated' and mother became a relative of the 'national enemy', but she never told about this at the place of her work. Later someone noticed her visiting the prison carrying parcels and informed the proper officials. Yefim stayed at Kolyma during the whole war. He got acquainted with a Russian girl, who came there with a Comsomol authorization, and a baby was born to them. They were allowed to leave Kolyma for Borovichi, since they were permitted to live only beyond 'the 101st kilometer' [1946], and his elder sister Lyuba with her husband lived in Borovichi.