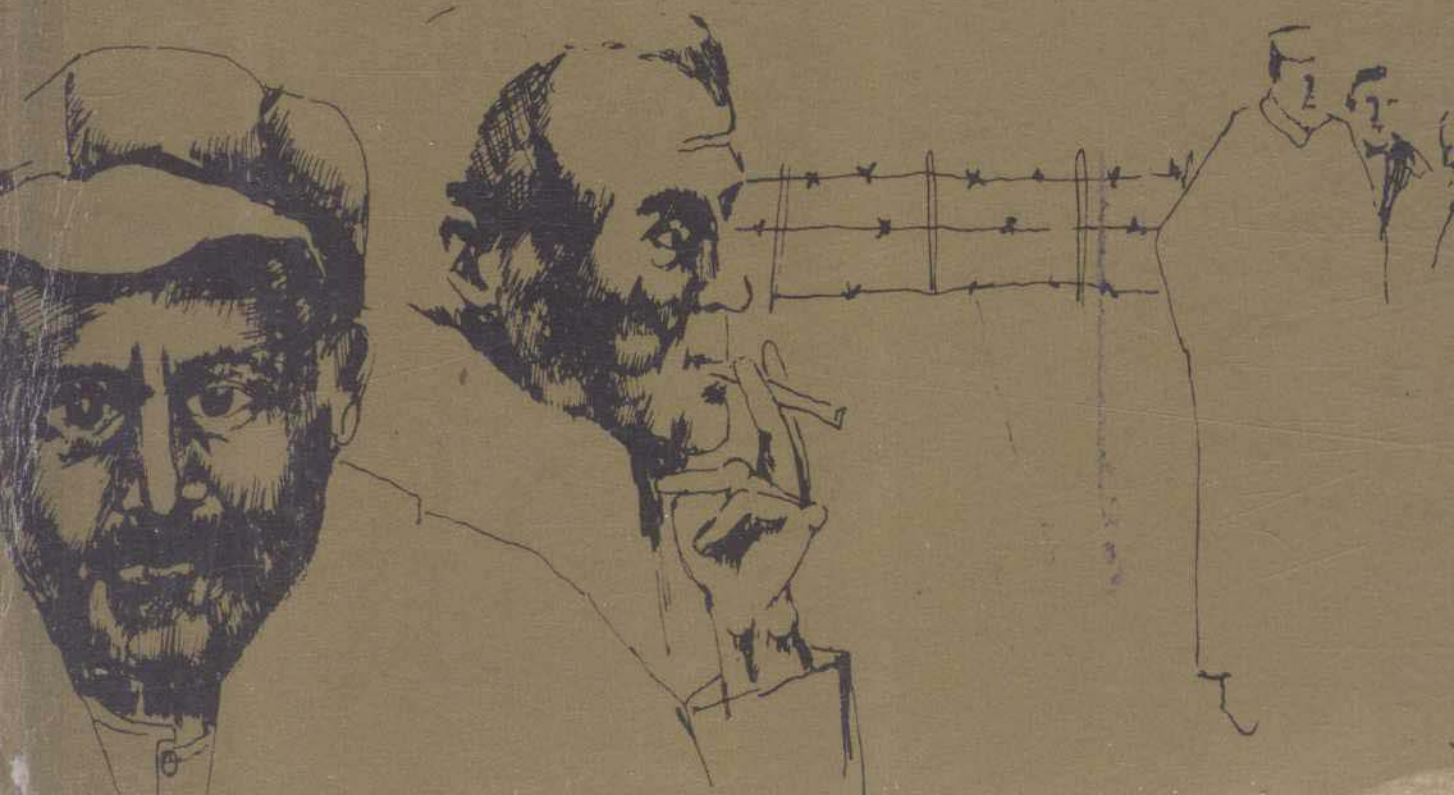


Aleksandr I.
Solzhenitsyn

The Gulag
Archipelago
Three



Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn

THE GULAG ARCHIPELAGO

1918-1956

An Experiment in Literary Investigation

V-VII

Translated from the Russian by Harry Willetts



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Preface to the English Translation

To those readers who have found the moral strength to overcome the darkness and suffering of the first two volumes, the third volume will disclose a space of freedom and struggle. The secret of this struggle is kept by the Soviet regime even more zealously than that of the torments and annihilation it inflicted upon millions of its victims. More than anything else, the Communist regime fears the revelation of the fight which is conducted against it with a spiritual force unheard of and unknown to many countries in many periods of their history. The fighters' spiritual strength rises to the greatest height and to a supreme degree of tension when their situation is most helpless and the state system most ruthlessly destructive.

The Communist regime has not been overthrown in sixty years, not because there has not been any struggle against it from inside, not because people docilely surrendered to it, but because it is inhumanly strong, in a way as yet unimaginable to the West.

In the world of concentration camps, corrupt as everything within the Soviet system, the struggle began (alas, it could not begin otherwise) by terrorist actions. Terrorism is a condemnable tool, but in this case it was generated by forty years of unprecedented Soviet state terrorism, and this is a striking instance of evil generating evil. It shows that when evil assumes inhuman dimensions, it ends up by forcing people to use evil ways even to escape it. However, the concentration camp terrorism of the fifties, out of which heroic uprisings were born later on, was essentially different from the "left-wing" revolutionary terrorism which is shaking the Western world in our days, in that young Western terrorists,

saturated with boundless freedom, play with innocent people's lives and kill innocent people for the sake of their unclear purposes or in order to gain material advantages. Soviet camp terrorists in the fifties killed proved traitors and informers in defense of their right to breathe.

However, there is no kind of terrorism that can be considered a pride of the twentieth century. On the contrary, terrorism has made it into one of the most shameful centuries of human history. And there is no guarantee that the darkest abyss of terrorism already lies behind us.

November 1977
Vermont

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature, likely belonging to the author, is written in dark ink.

1. Relatives identifying the corpses of those executed at Yvinnitsa.



I went right through Ekibastuz with the number Shch #232 until my last few months, when I was ordered to change it to Shch #262. I smuggled patches with this number on them out of Ekibastuz, and I have kept them to this day.



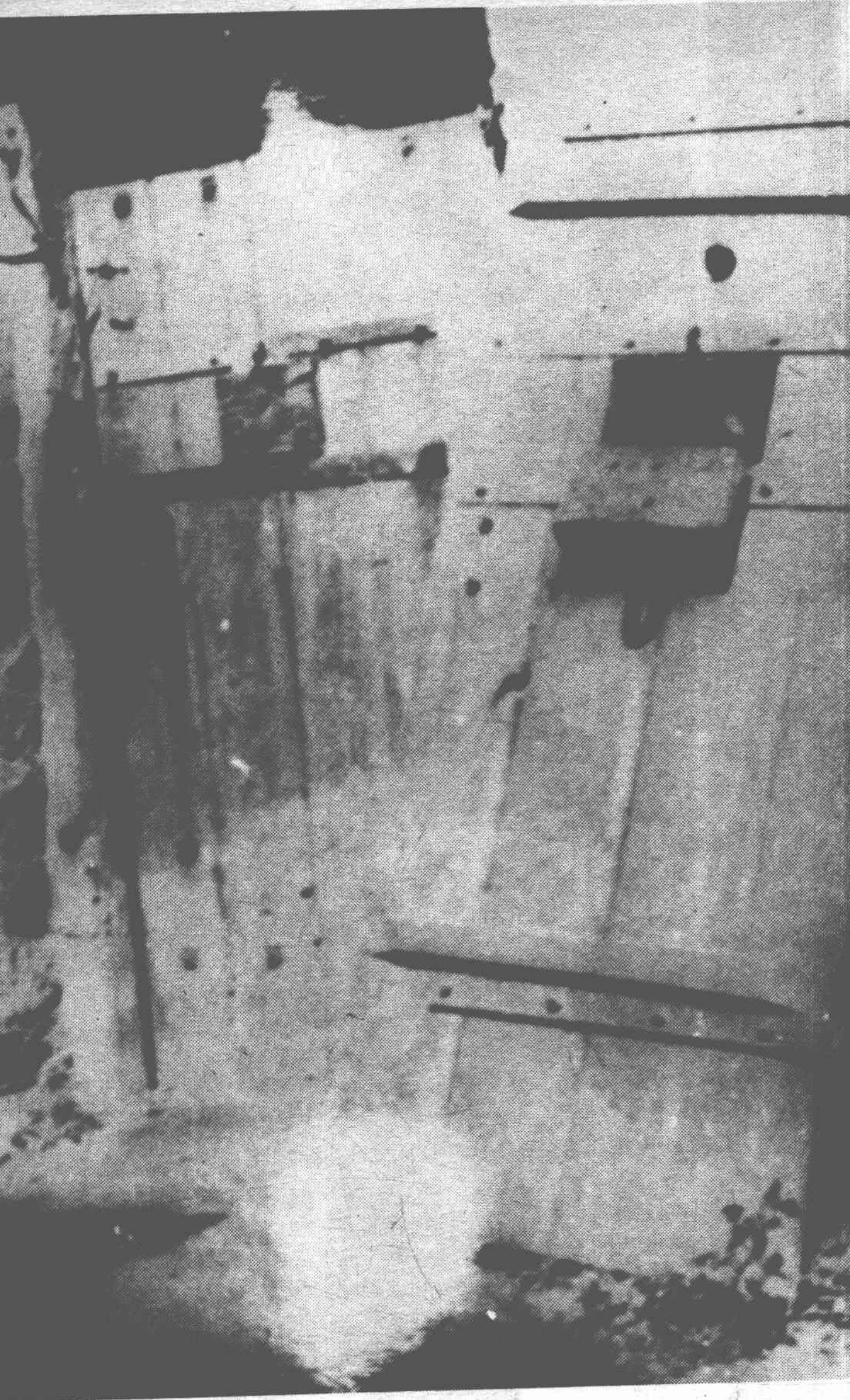
2. The author in 1953, right after his release from the special camp.



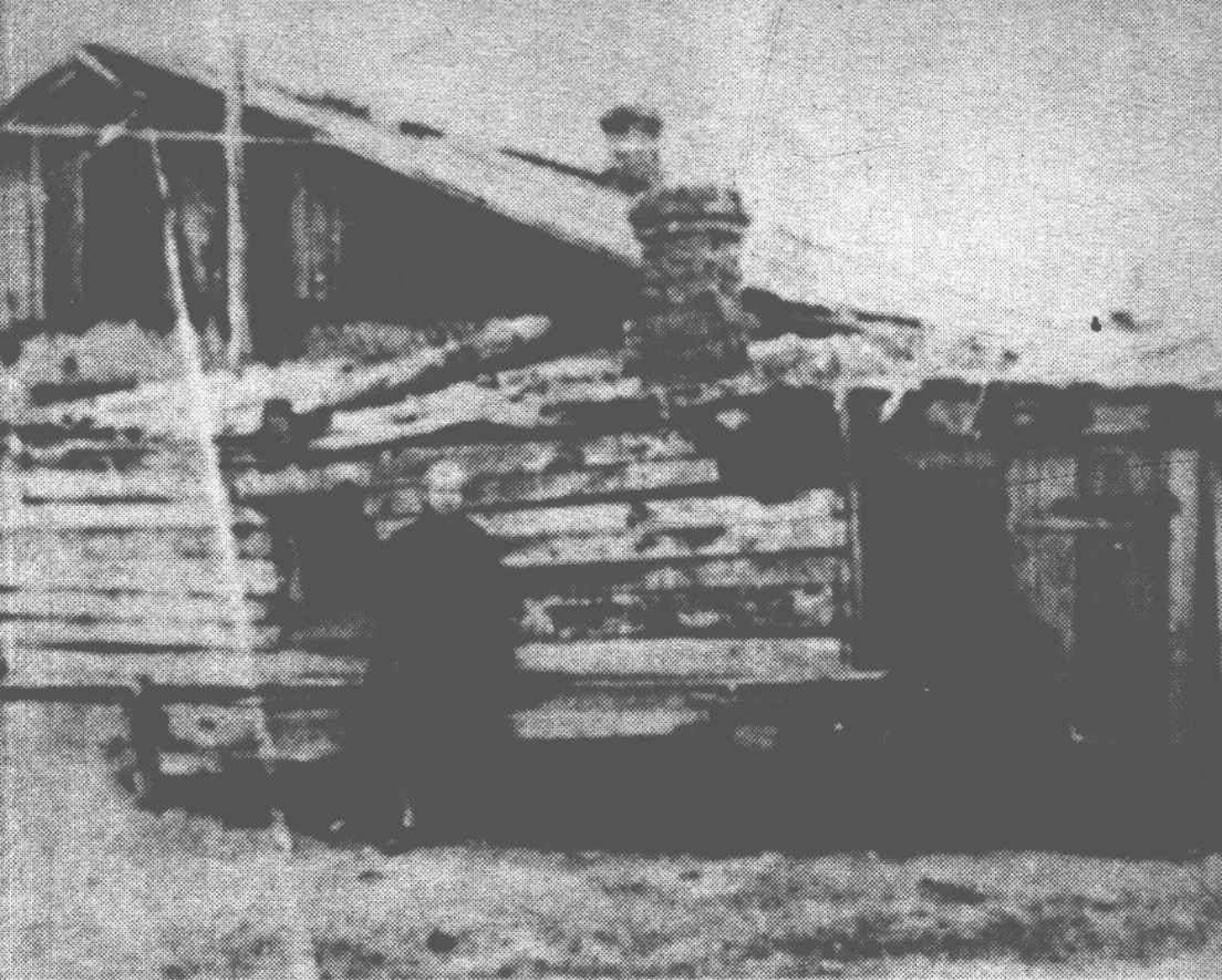
3. Body search.



4. Georgi Pavlovich Tenno.

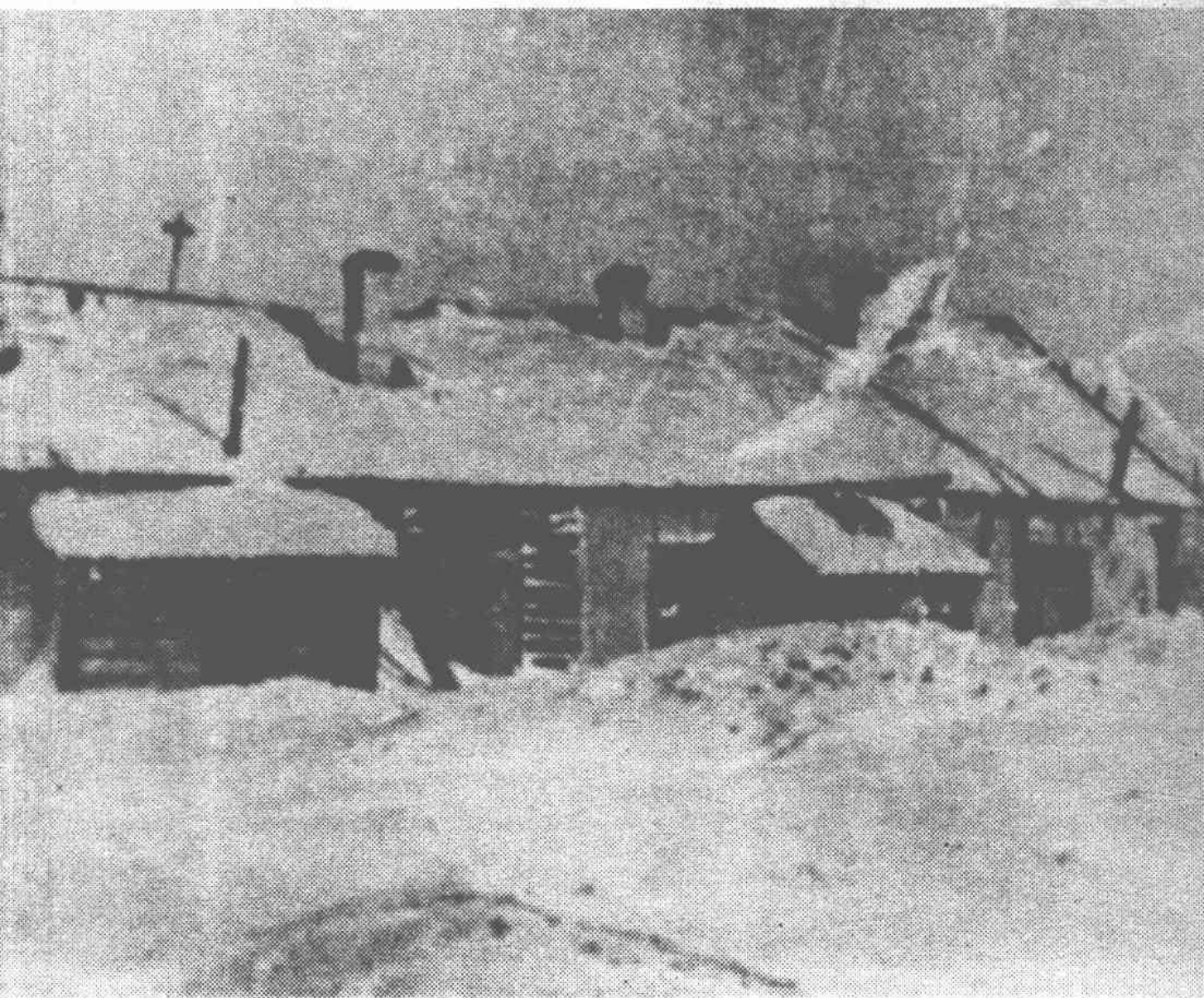


5. The door to the Ekibastuzsky BUR (Disciplinary Barracks).



6. N. V. Surovtseva beside the hut.

7. VGS Barracks.



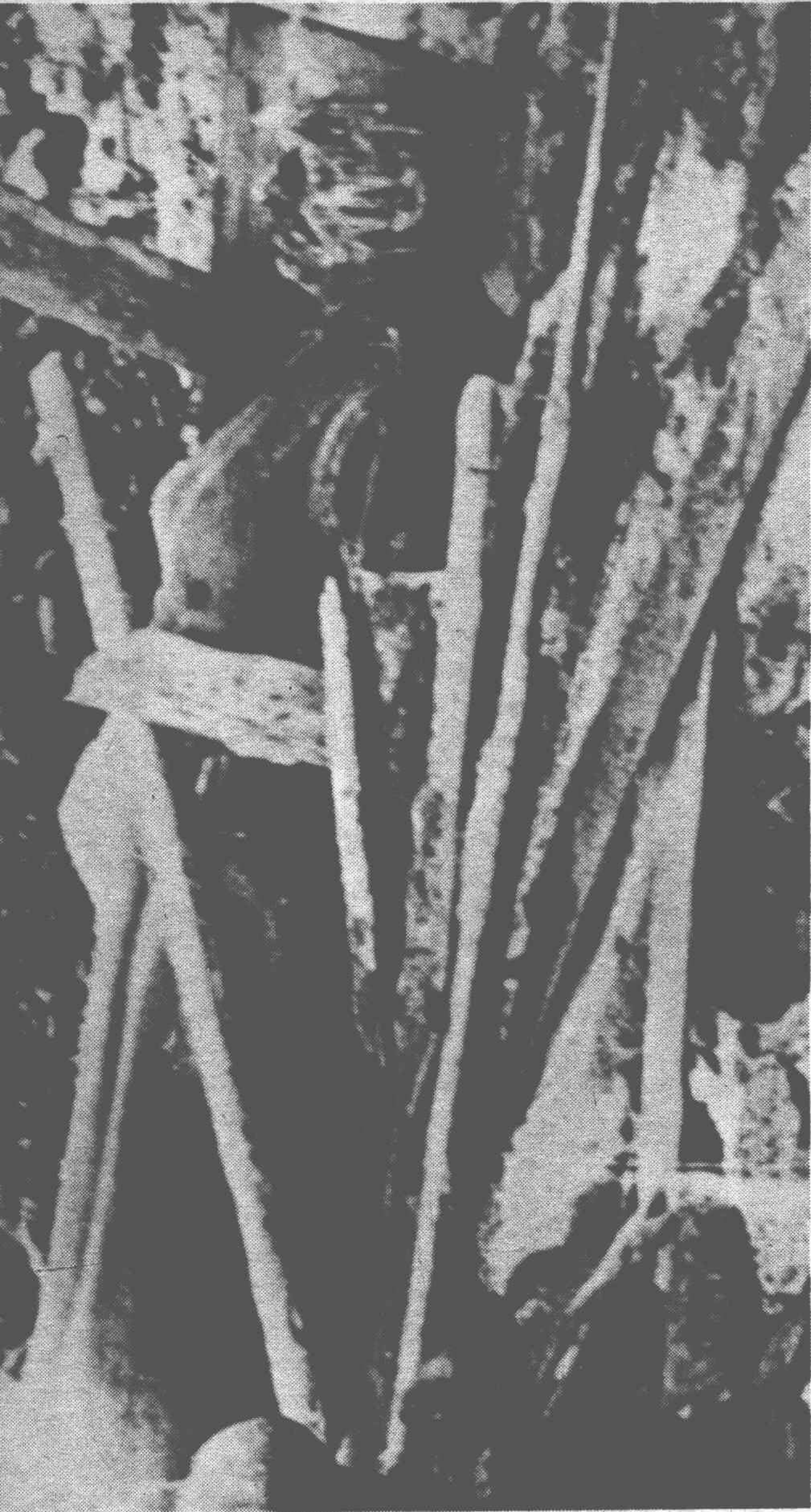
Kadatskaya and her husband
in their youth.



9. Kadatskaya in 1968.



10. Sculpture by Nedov.



11. On the Vorkuta dump. Sic transit ...

Contents

<i>Preface to the English Translation</i>	x i
---	-----

PART V Katorga

1. <i>The Doomed</i>	7
2. <i>The First Whiff of Revolution</i>	37
3. <i>Chains, Chains . . .</i>	56
4. <i>Why Did We Stand For It?</i>	78
5. <i>Poetry Under a Tombstone, Truth Under a Stone</i>	98
6. <i>The Committed Escaper</i>	125
7. <i>The White Kitten (Georgi Tenno's Tale)</i>	154
8. <i>Escapes—Morale and Mechanics</i>	193
9. <i>The Kids with Tommy Guns</i>	219
10. <i>Behind the Wire the Ground Is Burning</i>	228
11. <i>Tearing at the Chains</i>	249
12. <i>The Forty Days of Kengir</i>	285

PART VI Exile

1. <i>Exile in the First Years of Freedom</i>	335
2. <i>The Peasant Plague</i>	350
3. <i>The Ranks of Exile Thicken</i>	369
4. <i>Nations in Exile</i>	385
5. <i>End of Sentence</i>	406
6. <i>The Good Life in Exile</i>	423
7. <i>Zeks at Liberty</i>	445

PART VII Stalin Is No More

1. <i>Looking Back on It All</i>	471
2. <i>Rulers Change, the Archipelago Remains</i>	484
3. <i>The Law Today</i>	506

<i>Afterword</i>	526
<i>P.P.S.</i>	528
<i>Notes</i>	530
<i>Glossary</i>	538
<i>Index</i>	547

A section of photographs follows page 174.

PART V

Katorga



**“We shall turn the Siberia of *katorga*, Siberia in shackles,
into a Soviet, socialist Siberia.”**

STALIN

NOVA 2

