

SUMMARY, No.7—8 (94-95), 2010

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The richly illustrated issue deals with last German occupation of Belarus during WWII. It has been focused on terror against civil population and its propaganda indoctrination.

The issue opens with a preface by an ARCHE editor Dr. **Alaksandar Paškievič**.

Volf Rubinčyk in his «Don't Cast Additional Stones at Michail Savicki» discusses an old conflict, provoked by a painting by a well-known Belarusian artist Michail Savicki «The Summer Theater» from the cycle «Digits at Heart». Some Jewish activists accused the canvas and its author of anti-Semitism. Rubinčyk concludes that the charge is groundless and the topics of Jewish collaboration with Nazis have to be explored deeper.

A review by **Timothy Snyder** 'Caught Between Hitler & Stalin' deals with a film directed by Edward Zwick 'Defiance' as well as a book 'Defiance' by Nechama Tec, with a foreword by Edward Zwick (Oxford University Press, 2008, 374 pp.) Both pieces are focused on the Bielski Partisan Unit in the Naliboki forest. Its creator, Tuvia Bielski, rescued more than a thousand of his fellow Jews from the Holocaust. Consequentially the Partisan Unit activity sparked the bestial Nazi response, first of all against local native people. Some Polish rightwing authors blamed Tuvia Bielski for increasing Nazi terror against Polish inhabitants of the Naliboki forest. **Snyder** not only examines such suggestions, but offers his critical re-assessment of the 'Defiance' book and movie as well as its perception by American and Polish reviewers.

Alexander Pilič in his 'Das Neue Europa in der nationalsozialistischen Propaganda — Untersuchung am Beispiel des okkupierten Weißrussland 1941—1944 ('New Europe Concept in Nazi Propaganda: Belarus Case') traces the origin of 'New Europe' concept in Nazi discourse as well as its practical use in the occupied Belarus.

Theresa Voigt in her 'Zwischen Nazi Propaganda und Realität. Die Einstufung der Bevölkerung von Belarus während des 2. Weltkrieges als Hilfsvolk oder als Untermenschen.' (Between Nazi Propaganda and Reality. The Classification of the Belarusians during WWII as an Assistant People or 'Untermenschen') analyses top Nazi leaders attitude towards Belarusian people from racist point of view as well follows its transformation as political and military situation had been changed.

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Vasil Matoch's account «Broadcasting Station 'Miensk' in the Context of German Propaganda Policies in the Occupied Belarus» touches upon the Nazi radio broadcasting addressed both to the Wehrmacht soldiers, stationed in the country, and to the local civil population.

Babette Quinkert in her 'Die «Ostarbeiteranwerbung» im Generalkommissariat Weissruthenien: Terror und Propaganda' (Recruiting of the Eastern Labors in the General Commissariat of Belarus: Terror and Propaganda) summarizes that despite of Nazi Propaganda declarations overwhelming majority of the Belarus born 'Eastern Workers' were forced to go off their motherland.

Felix Ackermann in his «Horadnia under German occupation: June 1941 — July 1944» sorts out compressively various aspects of living in Horadnia and its outskirts during the Nazi rule.

The issue contains the first full translation into Belarusian of the record of a General Commissariat of Belarus staff meeting, conducted on April 8—10, 1943. The top Nazi officials discussed at the event main problems which they faced in the country. The publication was prepared by a Belarusian archivist **Siarhiej Žumar**.

Helmut Heiber in his 'Aus den Akten des Gauleiters Kube' ('From the Reports of the Gauleiter Kube') discloses some ideological and political contradictions between Wilhelm Kube, the top Nazi ruler of the General District of Belarus, and other Nazi military and civil officials.

An analysis by **Alaksandar Frydman** 'Summer 1941: the Persecution and the Extermination of the Jews in Belarus' depicts early stages of Shoah in the country. **Yehuda Bauer** in his 'Jewish Baranavichy in the Holocaust' and **Shlomo Kless** in his 'The Judenrat of the Baranavichy Ghetto 1942—1943' continue elaborating the subject on the example of a particular Belarusian city Baranavichy.

A piece by **Volha Holeta** «Lebensunwertes Leben»: the Fate of the Patients of Mental Hospitals in Belarus in 1941—1944» re-constructs a less-known aspect of German occupation of Belarus, namely intentional extermination of mentally ill people. The murders were accompanied by the criminal experiments on those people to explore new, 'more human' methods of mass slaughter.

Dzianis Stolar in his '8 May, 1943 in Remembrance of Inhabitants of Nalibaki' debates massacre in the village Nalibaki, conducted by Soviet partisans. About 140 people died. **Stolar** estimates, how the traumatic event influenced

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three generations of Nalibaki inhabitants: eye-witnesses, their children and grandchildren.

Jury Hryboŭski in his 'Local Assistant Police in the Occupied Belarus and the Attempts of Belarusian Nationalists to Create National Army in the Country (1941–1944)' tries to answer question why the Army was never established.

The issue ends with three reviews. **Bernhard Chiari** reviews Siarhieŭ Novikaŭ's monograph 'Belarus u kontekście hermanskaj historyjagrafii historyi druhaj susvetnaj vajny., Minsk: Minski dziaŭžaŭny lnhvistyčny universitet, 2004, 222 p.' **Felix Ackermann** criticizes two books, which has been published recently by *Ferdinand Schöningh Verlag*: «Unter Rotem Stern und Hakenkreuz: Baranowicze 1939 bis 1944. Das westliche Weißrussland unter sowjetischer und deutscher Besatzung» by Alexander Brakel as well as «Propaganda und Terror in Weißrussland 1941—1944. Die deutsche «geistige» Kriegsführung gegen Zivilbevölkerung und Partisanen» by Babette Quinkert.