

SUMMARY

The thematic collection is totally dedicated to the events that took place on the territory of Belarus during the German occupation in 1941—1944.

An article by a historian from Hrodna **Zmicier Lucik** «Hrodna Catastrophy of the Soviet 3-rd Army in 1941» traces in chronological order and analyses the first days of the German-Soviet war of 1941—1945 and the events that were happening around Hrodna.

An article by a scientist from Sweden **Per Anders Rudling** «Schooling in Murder: *Schutzmannschaft* Battalion 201 and *Hauptmann* Roman Shukhevyeh in Belarus 1942» considers the history of the activity on the territory of Belarus of a police unit formed of Ukrainian nationalists. On the basis of the analysis of different sources, the author comes to a conclusion that the fighters of the unit stained their honour by participating in numerous punitive actions against peaceful population.

An article by an American researcher **Meredith Meegan** «Auxiliary Police Units in the Occupied Soviet Union, 1941—43: A Case Study of the Holocaust in Gomel» traces the details of the annihilation of the Jewish population of one of the biggest cities in Eastern Belarus and evaluates the role which was played during the commitment of the crime by the collaborator units formed of local inhabitants.

An article by **Per Anders Rudling** «Terror and Local Collaboration in Occupied Belarus: The case of *Schutzmannschaft* Battalion 118» considers the story of the notorious *Schutzmannschaft* Battalion 118, the soldiers of which committed many war crimes on the territory of Belarus. A separate article by the same author «The Khatyn' Massacre: A Historical Controversy Revisited» considers the most famous crime of the mentioned police unit — burning down the village of Khatyn' together with its population not far from Minsk in 1943.

An article by a Canadian historian **Erich Haberer** «The German Gendarmerie and Partisans in Belarus, 1941—1944» is dedicated to a topic which used to be neglected by researchers of the partisan movement and of anti-partisan actions in occupied Belarus — that of the role of the German gendarmerie on the territories that were under German civil commandment. The geography of the article is restrained by the then Baranovichi region (Gebietskommissariat).

An article by an English researcher **Martin Dean** «Microcosm: Collaboration and Resistance during the Holocaust in the Mir Rayon of Belarus, 1941—1944» analyses tragic events that took place on the territory of a small Mir region during the German occupation.

An article by a historian from Warsaw **Juryj Hryboŭski** «The 13th Battalion of SD Ancillary Police: The History of Its Formation and Activity» critically considers numerous myths and stereotypes related to this pro-German Belarusian formation in Belarusian and foreign historiography.

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An article by a German historian **Alexander Friedman** «Stalin's Portrait on the Right. Stalin's Portrait on the Left...» concentrates on the contents of the humorous materials which were published at the end of 1943 on the pages of the main printed Belarusian organ which circulated in occupied Miensk — «The Belarusian Newspaper».

An article by another German historian **Alexander Brakel** «The Relationship between Soviet Partisans and the Civilian Population in Belarus under German Occupation (1941—1944)» pays special attention to the aspects of the history of the partisan movement on the territory of Belarus which used to be considered «embarrassing» in Soviet and post-Soviet historiography and were, consequently, suppressed.

The issue ends with the first complete publication of a diary by **Kastuś Jarmiłaŭ**, leader of an underground youth organisation «Smugnar», which functioned in Kalinkavichy in 1942. The diary has been prepared for publication and accompanied by an introduction and scientific commentary by a historian from Minsk **Andrej Zamojski**.