



## SUMMARIES

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**IULIIA KYSLA**

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### SURVIVING UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS: HOLOCAUST IN BORYSLAV (1941-44)

The following article examines Shoah in a small industrial city located in Eastern Galicia, now part of Ukraine, and focuses on various survival strategies and factors, both external and internal, which ensured the survival of Boryslav Jews under German occupation. Basing her analysis on survivor testimonies collected by the Central Jewish Historical Commission just after the WWII, Iuliia Kysla shows that Nazi genocide of the Jews in Boryslav had its own specificity. There was one of the highest percentage rates of survival of Jews in Poland. Apparently, there were two reasons for this. First, because of high importance of oil industry for the Third Reich, mainly due to the rescuing efforts of Bertold Beitz, many Jewish specialists in oil production managed to survive to the last days of occupation. Second, Boryslav was located in the foothills of the heavily forested Carpathian Mountains where a large numbers of bunkers and dugouts were built.

The Boryslav case demonstrates the existence of so-called “grey zones of rescue,” where the clear distinction between notions of “rescuer” and “perpetrator” is often blurred. As such, the article shows, these categories could easily overlap, providing us with a broader understanding of “rescuer” and “rescue”, which can include even collaboration and perpetration. As this study reveals, people who survived Holocaust in Boryslav often did not have

just one rescuer but many people who, perhaps even unintentionally, took part in their survival. Thus the act of rescuing, according to the author's interpretation, was rather a collective enterprise which often depended on a bunch of important, often situational, factors (money, age, education, linguistic skills, contacts and connections) and, furthermore, human factor as well. Even though the elementary luck was the most important factor, only a complex combination of them gave chance to be the lucky one to survive.

## **ROMAN MYKHALCHUK, MARIA LUTSENKO**

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### **THE NOTION OF "JEWISH BOLSHEVISM" IN "UKRAINSKYI KHLIBOROB" MAGAZINE WHEN ISSUED IN RIVNE (January-October, 1942)**

The article analyzes foundation, composition, activities and propaganda peculiarities of the magazine "Ukrainskyi Khliborob" issued by a Ukrainian publishing house "Volyn". The magazine was clearly oriented towards one professional group (peasants and farmers) and was a monthly publication. "Ukrainskyi Khliborob" was founded owing to the need for printed body of Rivne Oblast Land Department ("Ukrayinska Khliborobska Palata").

The article covers all 10 volumes of the magazine published during January – October 1942 in Rivne. The authors have defined targets of each antisemitic publication, compiled the list of these, attempted at uncovering the motives behind such publications, submitted by local writers.

Each volume contained anti-Bolshevik articles, 70% of which were also antisemitic. 3 volumes out of 10 (No. 1, 6, 10) have no traces of anti-semitism, but only anti-Bolshevik articles. All the anti-Jewish writing in the magazine was done in accord with the supposed connection between Jews and the Soviet regime (so-called "Jewish-Bolshevizm"). That is why 65% of the publications were in line with this concept and only 35% were aimed against Jews as such.

7 volumes of the magazine contain 23 antisemitic articles. Out of these 13 were articles of various mode (narrations, clarifications, calls for action), 4 information notes (2 chronicles and 2 news), 3 announcements, 1 order

duplicated twice in two volumes and 1 poem. They are signed in 12 cases (52,2%), which is a high (the highest) figure, compared to other journals of Rivne region. For example, 238 volumes of “Volyn” newspaper contain 318 antisemitic items only 90 of which are signed (28,3%).

To characterize Jews the writers use “traditional” clichés (“Moscow-Jewish occupants”, “Jewish-Muscovite commune”) along the unusual ones (“Jewish-Bolshevik parasites” (using words from local Ukrainian dialect)). Antisemitism was found not only in articles, but even in professional announcements.

The aspect of depersonalization and dehumanization of Jews was not clearly marked. The specifics of the magazine accounted for articles accusing Jews of destruction of local agriculture and economics. The articles were written on local materials and examples from Ukraine, not involving foreign information. Therefore, the magazine shaped the image of the Jew as enemy of the Ukrainians, mostly the Ukrainian peasants, but not as the incarnation of the world’s evil, which sets it apart from other journals. Compared to newspapers like “Volyn”, “Kostopil News”, “Sarny Holos” (totally 14 legal published bodies of the occupation period are known) antisemitism of the magazine analyzed was not that aggressive, which is explained by the journal’s narrow focus. Nevertheless, the magazine contributed to the creation of the mood of acceptance of Nazi crimes, providing ideological background and justification for the murder of Jewish dwellers.

## **IVAN KAPAS**

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### **GHETTO IN DUBROVYTSIA AS REFLECTED IN KHAIM SYHAL’S CRIMINAL FILE**

The paper sheds light upon the unknown aspects of the life in Dubrovysia ghetto ( Rivne oblast) during the Nazi occupation of Ukraine. It is based on the criminal case of Khaim Syhal, who was of Jewish origin and commandant of Dubrovitsia police during the Nazi occupation. The 4 volumes of the case are stored at the archives of the Security Service of Ukraine.

The article consists of two parts: introduction and published fragments of interrogations with comments. The documents specify details of the ghetto establishment, some stages of its history (forced labor of the ghetto inmates, looting by the Nazi administration and locals) and liquidation (number of escapees, circumstances and site of executions), as well as the post-war history of the graves. Moreover, the paper shows an uncommon way some Jews could use to survive during the Holocaust, namely collaboration.

The introductory part deals with some examples of Jewish involvement in the Nazi occupation authorities similar to Khaim Syhal's case. It becomes clear that prewar experience (many of such people were involved into the Soviet security police, NKVD) could play the leading role in making the decision to cooperate with the Nazis. Eyewitness testimonies and excavation results made it possible to establish that Khaim Syhal personally participated in the executions of the Jews from the ghetto, those Jews who fled during their resettlement from the town of Dubrovytsia unto the town of Sarny. They were caught, gathered in small groups and finally killed.

The other part consists of the minutes of interrogation of the defendant Khaim Syhal, as well as witnesses A. Naiman and P. Nashora. A. Naiman's testimony is of special importance since he was a ghetto prisoner from the beginning until the end of its existence. A. Naiman tells his own experience but also what he learned from his relatives who were involved in the Judenrat activities. He was able to avoid death by fleeing during the resettlement. He then joined the Soviet partisans and stayed with them until the Red Army came. The other eyewitness, P. Nashora, with other men was digging pits for the doomed Jews, and he saw how they were killed.

**ALEKSANDR KRUGLOV**

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### THE DESTRUCTION OF RIVNE JEWS IN NOVEMBER 1941 AS REFLECTED IN THE GERMAN DOCUMENTATION

In the beginning of November, 1941 in Rivne, one of the largest actions on destruction of the Jewish population of Ukraine took place. During this action at least 15 thousands, but, most likely, 17 thousands

people were killed. Till now the details of this action were known only from the Soviet documents.

The sources presented enable to see the events in Rivne in the beginning of November, 1941 from the German perspective, i.e. through the eyes of those who committed the crimes or assisted in the executions. A number of details presented in these documents supplement and specify data from the Soviet ones. Generally, these sources reveal the organization scheme of the massacre, as well as the level of participation of various Nazi units and sub-units in these crimes.

The documents are grouped not chronologically, but by a certain military unit involved in the killing process. Thus, nine documents show the participation of the members of 320<sup>th</sup> police battalion; three documents originated from the HQ personnel of the commander of the *Wehrmacht* in Ukraine, the “Ostland” company and the *SD-Truppe*; two documents are connected to the activities of the 315<sup>th</sup> police battalion; one document is of the labor office (*Arbeitsamt*) located in Rivne, *Schutzpolizei-Kommando* based in Rivne and a guard battalion for the POW camp located in Rivne. All the documents (except the document No. 1) were never published before.