

## CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editors:

I need to register an error in a recent article in *JSPPS* that impugns my reputation. The article in question is Yaroslav Hrytsak, "Ukrainian Memory Culture Post-1991: The Case of Stepan Bandera," in *JSPPS*, 2017, no. 2.

Professor Hrytsak, referring to my article on the Lviv pogrom of July 1941 that appeared in *Canadian Slavonic Papers* in 2011, wrote the following: "The documents proving the participation of Ukrainian police in the pogrom were uncovered by American scholar Jeffrey Burds; he passed them to John-Paul Himka, who published them without Burds' permission, leading the latter to accuse Himka of plagiarism in the course of a heated discussion on Facebook" (Hrytsak, p. 194, n. 33.)

I need to clarify this. Jeffrey Burds did once share with me materials on the role of the Ukrainian nationalists in the pogrom, for which I remain very grateful. They were not documents per se, but photographs. For my article on the Lviv pogrom, I found many other photos and films held by Yad Vashem, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and others that recorded the involvement of the militia (not police) of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) in the pogrom. Of the photos Professor Burds originally shared with me, some came from the Wiener Library in London. I independently contacted Wiener Library to obtain a full set of their Lviv pogrom photos and acquired permission to reproduce some of them for the article. Other photographs came from a mutual friend, David Lee Preston. For my article on the Lviv pogrom, I examined Mr. Preston's complete collection of photos and papers relating to the Holocaust in Lviv at his office in Philadelphia and also received permission to reproduce some photos in my article. There was a third set of photos that Professor Burds shared with me, photos on militia identification papers. I had received his permission to use one in an article I published in Ukrainian a few years earlier ("Dostovirnist' svidchennia: reliatsiia Ruzi Vagner pro l'viv's'kyi pohrom vlitku 1941 r." *Holokost i suchasnist'* no. 2 (4) (2008): 43-79.)

I did not have his permission to use it for the article on the Lviv pogrom in *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, and so it does not appear there. Since then, I have received the full set of militia ID photos from elsewhere, together with permission to reproduce them. Moreover, much of the evidence I adduce in my article on the participation of the OUN militia in the pogrom comes from testimonies and memoirs, all of which I found on my own, particularly while working at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2009 and 2010.

**JOHN-PAUL HIMKA**  
Professor emeritus  
University of Alberta