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THE TRAINING OF MILITARY SPECIALISTS IN UKRAINE DURING THE PERIOD OF NATIONAL LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN 1917–1921**I. V. Tychyna***Teacher,
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Summary. The article made on the current topic of modern historical pedagogical thought. The article identified patterns and trends of building the military education system in Ukraine during the Civil War. We explored the preconditions for the establishment of this system and the problems of military specialists training in educational institutions which were in Ukraine in the following period are revealed. The content of military specialists training and recruiting for the Red Army of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was studied. The article researches the range of problems in the military specialists' training at the territory of Ukraine in 1917–1921. Also it is considered the questions of distinctive system of military education revival during the period of national liberation struggle. We reflected a process of «Ukrainization» in military educational establishments in a given period and found the factors and prerequisites for establishing a system of military education in Ukraine. We used archival documents, domestic and foreign original sources and memoirs which illuminate the real picture of the military education system in details. It was used the scientific knowledge and system analysis.

Keywords: hetmanate; the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR); the Directory; junior school; military education; military educational institution (MEI).

The most important question is to detect the principles, tendencies of the military education system building in Ukraine during the period of National Liberation Struggle of the mentioned period. At the same time for full-fledged analysis we need to study the background of the stated system and to define the dynamic changes in military specialists training during the period of 1917–1921.

Twenty-two military educational institutions of the Russian imperial army functioned in Ukraine before the revolution in 1917. Nearly half of them were based in Kyiv, four – in Odessa, Chuguev military school, evacuated Vilen military school in Poltava, Elisavetgrad cavalry school and two schools of warrant officers' training of war time of southeastern front were based in Zhytomyr. In addition four cadet schools were situated in Kyiv, Poltava, Odessa and Sumy.

In 1917 the last graduating cadets had to make a decision what army to

join. Unfortunately most of cadets from Kyiv, Odessa and Sumy, the cadets from Elisavetgrad cavalry school and Sergievsk Odessa artillery school joined the White Guard Armed Forces of the southern Russia [2]. On this background Petrovsko-Poltavskiy cadet corps was the striking exception. The children of nobles of Chernigiv and Poltava provinces and the progeny of the Ukrainian foremen and the Cossacks studied there [8]. Chuguev military school was also reliable in this respect. Although V. Borisov who was the eyewitness and the participant of revolutionary events in 1917 and worked as the officer-tutor at the military school recollected that the personnel of the school was pro-Russian and tried to leave for Don to the army of Kaledin. But the facts show us the opposite. The marching song of Chuguev military school was «Hetman Sagaydachnyi» [8] and the tutor of the school O. S. Astafiev was the head of the main school council of the UNR War Office during the period of 1917–1919 and



the graduating students became the combatant and tutorial staff of the military educational institution of the UNR Army of the instructors sergeant majors school.

The beginning of the formation of MEIs was the Ukrainization of the first and the second Kyiv military schools and Mykolaiv artillery school and Oleksiiv engineering school made the Ukrainian departments in September 1917 [7]. The UNR War Office set up the first and the second Ukrainian military schools for Central Rada cornet troops training against abrogated 5 Russian warrant officers schools and 4 academies in autumn 1917 in Kyiv. The Ukrainian ranks and decorations were put into use in these educational institutions and their students were named youths instead of cadets. But these institutions didn't exist for long period because the youths of the first Ukrainian military school died defending Kyiv against Bolshevik forces in January 1918. The instructor sergeant majors school was founded by the order of the UNR military minister Oleksandr Jukovskiy after the return of the Ukrainian government to Kyiv on the 14th of March 1918. The first course was formed by the youths of senior school of abrogated of the first and the second Ukrainian military schools of Central Rada and junior sergeant majors and under sergeant majors of the UNR Army. The instructor sergeant majors school played a leading role in the establishment of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the period of War of Liberation. It retrained 1667 junior sergeant majors of the former Russian Army during 1918. They studied the courses of the Ukrainian Study and the Ukrainian Language, learned the Ukrainian regulation and the basis of military discipline which was mostly lost in 1917 [8].

The school consists of five hundred of infantry and hundreds of cavalry, engineer, machinegun and artillery. The general membership of school was 1400 persons, more than one hundred were tutors and sergeant majors of the course. The

training period lasted for two months during which the youths got all necessary humanities and military disciplines. The studying was in Ukrainian and most of the textbooks were translated into Ukrainian by the Main school council of the UNR War Office. Based on the school graduating student's memoirs of the the sergeant major of the second course Semen Levchenko the structure of studying subjects in MEI was the following: the Ukrainian Study, the History of Ukraine, Grammar, the Ukrainian Language and Literature, Fortification and Tactics. Every day after the end of the classes the drilling exercises were held for youths and they practiced military disciplines, weapon training and regulations.

Coup d'etat of P. P. Skoropadskogo on the 29th of September 1918 considerably decelerated the process of military educational institutions formation. Although the legislative acts of ministers of Hetman Rada on the 24th of July 1918 provided the formation of one flying school, four cadet corps, two sergeant major schools for infantry, one artillery school, one cavalry and one engineering school. Besides it was foreseen the formation of military academy with three year course of education [3], but only from September the 20th, 1918 the 10-months courses of sergeant majors' retraining at wartime were introduced in all youth schools. The school could enter citizens of Ukraine with secondary education, under 25 years of age, single and married and the state of health had to meet the requirements. In the first place the graduating students of cadets corps were accepted to schools, in the second place – the youths with higher education, in the third place – whose who had got secondary education and had already studied in military schools, in the fourth place were all youths who have got secondary education and high marks in the certificate. During the first month of education youths could leave the school by their own will and from the second month they were considered as servicemen. At sight the



youths got the rank of cornet and a grant in the amount of 45 karbovanets. They were at full public charge [4].

The Directory which came instead of Hetman decided to change the situation in military education. In January 1919 the Main Body of military educational institutions of the UNR War Office formed 6 military schools in Kyiv, Poltava, Chugiv, Zhytomyr, Kyiv machinegun, Kyiv engineering and Elisavetgrad cavalry. But all schools except Zhytomyr school didn't have the opportunity fully established and sooner they disappeared from the register of the UNR functioning Army. The educational programs and statutes were made and translated into Ukrainian. The common program of «joint youth schools» was made for two year education period. It should be mentioned that there were not national restrictions that ethnic Czechs, Poles, Russians and even the Jews could study in military schools [1].

The organization of Zhytomyr youth school started on January the 5th, 1919 by the order of S. Petlura after the end of struggle with Skoropadskiy and it was one of the Directory steps in the formation of self sergeant major corps. It was remained by insurgents who were noted in the fights. The formation of school was entrusted to the colonel V. Petriv. He was the former commander of Haidamak Cavalry regiment named after K. Gordienko the Central Rada troops and the secretary of the main school council. The staff of the school and training principles were defined by the colonel Petriv: «The school was intended for four foot hundreds of infantry, the training course of machine gunners with four machinegun Maxim, two Kolts and the division of the rapid firing rifle Shosha and Lewis. The training course for cavalrymen was planned to be reorganized into Cavalry Squadron. Also there were courses for gunners which were included into gunner platoon, mortar men, throwers and signals. Due to the educational program of joint youth schools they began studying in

the Cavalry Squadron and while studying all educational course they get acquainted with over types of weapon. But the command of the educational institution chose the capable students to other arms and they were further transferred to a certain gun and cavalry schools or specialized in machinegun, signal, thrower and other specializations in their own school.

Each foot squadrons consisted of 4 platoons, each platoon was as an educational class in the curriculum and consisted of 35 youths. Machine gun training course accepted youths from a previous study in foot squadrons and consisted of 100 permanent and 60 of a changeable staff; cavalry training course totaled 150 people from which 100 were a permanent staff and whose who were transferred to the special schools; gun course totaled 100 persons and 60 of them were a permanent staff.

The course of operators totaled 100 people and 50 were a permanent staff; training courses of the additional weapons, mortars, throwers, flame throwers, chemical, etc. totaled 100 people and 50 were a permanent staff. The full staff of school totaled 1200 youths and it would make 1000 youths and about 100 people of teaching and administrative staff in case of changing school of professional courses, machine gunners and cavalrymen.

An acceptance to the first course of two-year norm of infantrymen training were firstly accepted 560 youths and also reduced in twice teaching and administrative staff [5].

The teaching and the listeners staff of the most of the UNR military institutions took part in the battle-front with the Bolshevik forces from February till May 1919 and the elements of military educational institutions and the elements of the Main School Council of the UNR War Office were captured by the Poles in Lutsk in May of 1919. Some units of military schools participated in military confrontations with the Bolshevik troops during the second half of 1919–1920 and interned by



the Poles youths returned to civilian life or continued studying in internment camps.

The Ukrainian military education as a system has not received its sustainable development during the national liberation struggle of 1917–1919 years. Constant fighting, occupation of Ukrainian territories by various armies and constant changes of government hampered the progress of the military educational system. The UNR state and military authorities managed to open youth schools in 1917 which operate in front conditions. Hetman Pavlo Skoropadskiy nominally restored the system of military education at the former MEIs by changing the names and «shoulder straps» of cadets who didn't support the policy of the Hetman's power and fought on the side of «Russian Voluntary Armies». Only in January 1919 it was the beginning of the full-fledged system of military education by creating of 6 junior schools, but only one actually functioned. The training of military personnel for the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the period of 1919–1921 was conducted on the basis of principles and common approaches of reorganization of the army in all directions and in a professional basis, but not only by the party affiliation or nationality. It was based on the use of distinctive historical traditions on the basis of the development of military schools system and by important organizational and legal measures, the developments of the real plan of military building, the introduction of conscription and the approval of the staffing and organizational structure of all military units.

The analysis of the literature shows that the range of the article problems in the Ukrainian historiography is not fully investigated and needs further research. Full and comprehensive research has an important scientific sense. It finds out the

role of military specialists in the formation and building of the Ukrainian Armed Forces during the period of National Liberation Struggle of the Ukrainians for their independence. It confirms the heredity of the Ukrainian military traditions and refutes fixed stereotypes which exist in historical science in the estimation of the given problem.

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