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THE VOLYNIA NS' EVERYDAY LIFE IN THE UKRA INIAN CENTRAL COUNCIL PERIOD (THROUGH THE PRIZM OF VOLYN REGIONAL ARCHIVE MATERIALS)

Abstract. *The purpose of the research is to find out to which extent the funds of the State Archive of Volyn region is filled with documents and materials that illustrate the everyday life of Volynians in the days of the Ukrainian Central Council (Ukrainska Tsentralna Rada). The research methodology is based on the complex application of general scientific method, special and historical method, special source studying methods. The basis of the research is formed with the principles of historical cognition, in particular, objectivity, systematic analysis, scientific character, historicism, etc. The scientific novelty consists in the fact that, for the first time in the Ukrainian historiography, on the basis of the analysis of the documentary funds of the State Archive of Volyn region, the author grouped and published documents illustrating Volyn region citizens' everyday life in the period of the Ukrainian Central Council. In particular, the research covers the following several aspect of the Volynians' everyday life: the Refugee Movement in Volyn territory, the Peasant Protesting Movement, and the Russian army soldiers' relations with the local peasants. The Conclusions.* Having analysed Volyn

region State Archive materials, the confirmation was found concerning the fact that a certain array of the Ukrainian Central Council documents have been accumulated there. The frontline status of Volyn region determined the peculiarities of the everyday life of the inhabitants of the area, in 1917 – 1918, in the conditions of permanent military operations, presence of a large number of soldiers who gradually left the front and returned home, the Refugee Movement, etc. SAVR funds revealed the documents that illustrate the attempts, which were made in order to resolve the land issue, characterize the Refugee Movement and the Peasant Protest Movement in the territory of Volyn, and explain the military's relationship with the locals.

Key words: Ukrainian revolution, Volyn region (Volynska huberniya), Volyn, peasants, army, everyday life.

ПОВСЯКДЕННЕ ЖИТТЯ ВОЛИНЯН У ДОБУ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОЇ РАДИ КРИЗЬ ПРИЗМУ МАТЕРІАЛІВ ДЕРЖАВНОГО АРХІВУ ВОЛИНСЬКОЇ ОБЛАСТІ

Анотація. *Мета статті* – з'ясувати документне наповнення фондів Державного архіву Волинської області матеріалами, які ілюструють повсякденне життя волинян у добу Української Центральної Ради. **Методологія дослідження** ґрунтується на комплексному застосуванні загальнонаукових, спеціально-історичних і спеціальних джерелознавчих методів. Основу дослідження склали принципи історичного пізнання, насамперед об'єктивність, системний аналіз, науковість, історизм тощо. **Наукова новизна** полягає у тому, що вперше в українській історіографії на основі аналізу фондів Державного архіву Волинської області згруповано й оприлюднено документи, які висвітлюють повсякдення населення Волинської губернії в добу Української Центральної Ради за кількома аспектами: спроби врегулювання земельного питання, біженецький рух на території Волині, селянський протестний рух, взаємини військових російської армії з місцевими селянами. **Висновки.** Аналіз матеріалів фондів Держархіву Волинської обл. підтвердив, що тут накопичено певний масив документів часів УЦР. Статус Волинської губернії як прифронтової визначав особливості повсякдення жителів цього терену в 1917 – 1918 рр. в умовах веденням перманентних військових дій, наявності значної кількості військовослужбовців, які поступово залишали фронт й поверталися додому, біженецького руху тощо. У фондах ДАВО виявлено документи, які ілюструють спроби розв'язання земельного питання, характеризують біженецький рух і селянський протестний рух на території Волині, пояснюють взаємини військових із місцевими жителями.

Ключові слова: Українська революція, Волинська губернія, Волинь, селяни, військо, повсякденне життя.

The Problem Statement. To begin with, the Ukrainian Revolution (1917 – 1921) events studies acquired a new meaning during the last three years. The process was facilitated not only by the century that passed since then and the order of a number of public authorities to commemorate the military political episodes of that time, but also by seeking, rethinking and publishing a layer of archival documents on various spheres of life in the Ukrainian huberniyas (provinces).

Owing to the domestic researchers' work, today we have a chronology of events that took place during 1917 – 1921 in most parts of modern Ukraine, taking into account the requirements of the Ukrainian historiographical science. However, some aspects of the military political and socio economic history of territorial administrative units, to the territory of which the power and legislation of the Ukrainian state institutions extended, are still left behind by the researchers.

It is obvious that a significant part of the materials that will fill this gap can be found in the regional archives of Ukraine. On the other hand, researchers do not always study this layer of documents that require cross-checking, knowledge of local features, immersion in

the everyday life of the time. Instead, the study of the funds of regional archives helps to identify a number of aspects that allow better reproduction and understanding of the then socio political atmosphere in a particular region.

The Analysis of Recent Researches and Publications. There were numerous separate articles published with references to some cases from the funds of the State Archives of Volyn region during previous years. The authors of this research also got acquainted with those written articles. In particular, they were used to illustrate the illegal actions of the Russian army servicemen in Ostroh Povit (County) (Demyanyuk, 2019, pp. 132–133), local Volyn authorities measures in order to implement the state policy of the Ukrainian Central Rada (Demyanyuk, 2018, p. 79, 80), local peasants opposition to the Russian and Ukrainian Socialist Revolutionary Peasant Organizations (Bundak, 2016, pp. 82, 83), etc. However, there was no comprehensive study based on the materials of the State Archives of Volyn region, which was brought out in order to cover Volyn region inhabitants everyday life issue.

The Purpose of the Research. Taking into consideration the issue, we consider it necessary to illustrate the Volynians' daily life during the period of the Ukrainian Central Council (Ukrainska Tsentralna Rada), using the relevant materials of the State Archives of Volyn region.

The Main Material Statement. To begin with, the term “the Volynians' everyday life” is quite multifarious and broad in content to cover all its components within one article, in spite of a rather narrow chronological range – the spring of 1917 – the spring of 1918. Therefore, we will reproduce some pages of Volyn region everyday life primarily through attempts to solve the land issue, local authorities analysis, the Refugee Movement in Volyn, the Peasant Protest Movement, military relations with local peasants, using materials from the State Archives of Volyn region (State Archives of Volyn region).

It should be mentioned that a number of archival documents of this regional archive are devoted to the Russian Imperial Army servicemen relations with the local population, first of all, the peasants, less often – townspeople.

Taking into account that most poviats (counties) of Volyn guberniya (province) in 1917 still remained frontline, there were diverse cases of the Russian Imperial Army military intervention in the daily lives of local residents. For instance, in May of 1918 the population of the region faced up to the servicemen's long stay consequences, in particular, the local authorities noted the following “From the beginning of the revolution, the city of Lutsk was overcrowded with troops leaving the front and stationed in Lutsk, which polluted the city as much as possible. Especially pollution had been carried out since the autumn of last year, when all the troops at the front around Lutsk came to the city and settled down there for the winter” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1693, p. 3).

A lot of attempts were made to abuse military status to obtain additional funding and improve maintenance from the local authorities at that time. Hence, in July of 1917, the squadron committee members of the 1st squadron of the Horodnenskyi Hussar Regiment, stationed in Lutsk, appealed to the City Council to provide them with material assistance for more effective patrolling of the city, “otherwise they would be deprived of the opportunity to require their comrades to carry service carefully and drive into the dark corners of the city, as well as to serve two or three hours after four hours that they are obliged to serve” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1629, p. 58).

Furthermore, Volyn povit (county) towns were overcrowded with the Russian military personnel, who had, in fact, lost military discipline – anarchy, desertion, and disobedience to commanders were spreading, the above-mentioned request of the Hussars was rather a demand or they were trying to blackmail than make a polite request. As a result, the local authorities

and ordinary citizens had no decent alternative to maintain law and order than appeal to the regular army. Owing to an interesting document, which was kept in the State Archives of Volyn region, it became clear that not all the military supported such kinds of appeals. Thus, at Lutsk City Council meeting, Tsyvinskyi, the executive committee member of the Council of Soldiers, Workers and Peasants Deputies of Lutsk stated the following: "Considering such an illegal proposal as disgraceful to the glorious name of the soldier, I protest categorically against such demands and insist that Lutsk Garrison Chief was informed about it" (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1629, p. 57). However, there were no found documents with the local authorities reaction to Tsyvinskyi's appeal, the executive committee member.

It should be mentioned that the Russian army soldiers were engaged in looting and robbery, while leaving the leading positions on the Eastern Front, part of which passed through the territory of the West Volyn povits (counties). According to Yampil volost Police Chief's report: "I would like to inform you that on the 29th of August in 1917, at about 6 o'clock in the afternoon, I received information from some people that in the town of Yampil soldiers were walking in the streets in disarray and allegedly intended to make a mess" (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 511, p. 2). Due to Lutsk District Court records we managed to find out that the citizen, B. Rosenberg was robbed by the soldiers after eight o'clock in the evening, when after threats he was forced to open his shop in order to give them all kinds of goods that just caught their eye" (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 511, p. 26). Citizen I. Goldfarb described a similar situation: "... the soldiers began to take what caught their eye, although some paid money for things worth a ruble and more than 10-20 kopykas" (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 511, p. 26v.). The merchants also stated the amount of losses. The first merchant lost 700 rubles, the second – 200 rubles.

In addition, there were statements of other merchants indicating the circumstances of their robbery by servicemen of the 2nd Guards Cavalry Division and the amount of damage at the same fund. Owing to the analysis of these documents, similar cases were not uncommon and occurred during the autumn of 1917 – the spring of 1918 in most areas of the demoralized Russian troops retreat.

Moreover, the facts of theft were recorded in other documents of the State Archives of Volyn region. Hence, on the 2nd and 3rd of January in 1918, Yampil Stage and Food Station Head, N. Rovinska, made the following report: "military units of the 6th Corps arbitrarily confiscated bedding straw belonging to Volyn Provincial Food Administration, which had been sheltered near Yampil railway station for 2,000 years". Later on, Lutsk District Court prosecutor was particularly interested in this case, which was recorded in the mentioned archival case (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 140, p. 4).

Another theft on the railway was mentioned on the 19th of January in 1918, when an act was drawn up at Rivne station of the South-Western Railway: "19.01 on the 2nd track of the South-West park the train was found open at 8 o'clock. The inspection did not reveal a box with 40 pairs of boots, and one was opened with signs of theft and a lack of 3 pairs of boots" (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 339, p. 5).

On the other hand, the local peasants, along with the Russian servicemen (mostly also peasants), resorted to theft and robbery for numerous times during the study period. Thus, Ostroh District Doctor Prushynskyi informed Lutsk District Court prosecutor about the destruction of his estate on the 29th of November in 1917: "On the night of the 29th of November in 1917, the local peasants from the village of Ilkovets together with Kazan Regiment soldiers of the 6th Corps of Army XI carried out a pogrom on my farm – they looted, dismantled and partially destroyed it" (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 107, p. 6).

Due to the military and political circumstances of the time, the local population had a large stockpile of firearms. As a result, it was used not for self-defense, but to demonstrate force, robbery, intimidation. Diverse attempts made by the authorized persons to seize weapons were not always successful. Typical of that time were the resolutions and orders, for example, one of them issued by Lutsk city district police executive committee on the 20th of April in 1918: "The Residents of the city of Lutsk and the village have different weapons in their hands. In order to keep a weapon you need permission from the Povit (county) Commandant. All residents, who have a weapon in their hands and do not have the permission of the Povit (County) Commandant must hand it over to the County Commandant Office within three days from the 3rd time of the announcement of this order. Whoever does not surrender his weapon, and it will be found at his place, will be punished by the law of wartime" (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1700, p. 86). However, the vast majority of such measures were ineffective.

In the days of the Ukrainian People's Republic, complaints continued to be received from various local residents in order to compensate for the damage caused during the first years of World War I. In the State Archives of Volyn region one of such documents was preserved. For example, there was a record concerning one small landowner I. Udod, who came from the village of Voyutyn of Torchyn volost (nowadays, Lutsk District, Volyn Region), appealed to Lutsk County Evaluation Commission to determine the losses with a complaint on the 25th of January in 1918: "On the land that belonged to me, located in the village of Voyutyn of Torchyn volost by order of our military authorities in August of 1915 destroyed crops. That is why, I am asking the Evaluation Commission to give me money for crops from the nearest treasury" (SAVR, f. 202, d. 1, c. 45, p. 1).

Furthermore, numerous documents certify the unauthorized seizure of arable land, hayfields, forests, destruction of stock and agricultural equipment of their fellow villagers or wealthy residents of neighboring settlements in the funds of the State Archives of Volyn region. It should be mentioned that the local authorities received dozens of complaints, which were made by the offended Volyn residents. For instance, we came across one interesting complaint, which was made by eight inhabitants of the village Mlynovtsi, Kremenets Povit (County): "From the 7th to 10th of February in 1918, the residents of the village Bakota began to hack and managed to cut down in the amount of four thousand five hundred rubliv. At our request and persuasion to suspend the deforestation at the disposal of the government, they did not pay attention and continued to destroy the forest" (SAVR, f. 49, d. 1, c. 139, p. 7).

In 1917 and at the beginning of 1918, the refugees issue was acute in Lutsk and the vast majority of West Volyn povits (counties). Hence, at the beginning of September in 1918, the head of Lutsk district police reported to Lutsk city administration that "the population of Lutsk has recently more than doubled due to the influx of a large number of refugees and other newcomers. There are many people who commit thefts, robberies, etc. in the city on a daily basis" (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1629, p. 2).

It should be emphasized that the local authorities did not hinder the civilian population resettlement, but the local state institutions continued to operate even in the face of the threat of settlements' seizure in Volyn by military or political opponents. Hence, A. Vyazlov, the Provincial Commissioner, wrote a telegram to the Povit (county) Commissioners of Lutsk, Kremenets, Dubno and Starokonstantyniv in July of 1917 and noted the following: "The city zemstvo council with all establishments will remain on places. No one can be prevented from leaving voluntarily at their own expense" (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1680, pp. 3, 4).

As a result, the problem did not disappear by the end of the year. On the contrary, the rumor reached the capital of the state, and all-Ukrainian public organizations began to take

care of it. In December of 1917, Lutsk branch of Kyiv Committee for Assistance to the Jewish Population Affected by the War wrote a letter to Lutsk City Duma stating the following: “There are more than 5 000 refugees from the surrounding areas devastated by the enemy in Lutsk. The Committee opened schools for the refugee children, and canteens at schools, thus serving up to 600 children. Three shelters were opened, in which about two hundred children found shelter. An outpatient clinic was opened, serving more than 2 000 refugees a month, in addition to helping at home. The City Duma must immediately apply to the General Secretariat of the Central Council with a request to subsidize schools and shelters” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1629, pp. 109–109).

Hence, the refugees issue was closely connected with another, no less important social problem – the education of children in the revolutionary military period. We found out from the materials of the State Archives of Volyn region that the Jewish community of Lutsk solved the above-mentioned problem by funding the educational institutions for the refugees of the Jewish nationality predominantly. In the list of schools operating in the county we came across the following: “2 Jewish refugee schools (operate at the expense of the Society for the Dissemination of Education among the Jews), 3 children’s schools – the center of the Jewish Health Society” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1472, p. 15).

Consequently, the local authorities tried to interfere in the work of the Land Committees. Thus, on the 18th of August in 1917, Volyn Provincial Zemstvo Committee sent a circular to the City Dumas of Volyn Hubernia (Province), putting emphasis on that “According to the Provisional Government Resolution, issued on the 21st of April in 1917 “On the Land Committees formation” and provided in Art. XIV item 1, that the composition of Povit Land Committees includes one member elected by the City Council” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1629, p. 93). However, it was not possible to implement it everywhere, even at the level of Volost Land Committees. Hence, Kurylenko, acting as Volyn Provincial Commissioner, addressed the District Commissioners of Volyn hubernia (province) on the 19th of December in 1917: “There is information confirmed by the force of complaints received by individuals from different parts of hubernia that the Volost Land Committees, without waiting for orders from higher institutions, took a direct initiative in the accounting and protection of estates and, thus, by these actions they exaggerated the chaos dominance in hubernia, because without the appropriate instructions, arbitrarily make and implement a number of regulations that do not meet the requirements of the 3rd Universal and the explanation to it” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1541, p. 15).

Due to M. Tkachenko’s circulars, the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Ukrainian People’s Republic, who repeatedly addressed the Hubernia (provincial) and Povit (county) Commissioners concerning the above-mentioned matters, we found out that the land issue was not solved. In one of them, the Minister stated that “Recently, there have been frequent cases of looting by individuals of living and non-living inventory from the estates. Considering that on the basis of the land law all estates, as well as living and non-living inventory are the property of the people, that the Land Committees are responsible for the integrity of this good, it is proposed p.p. Commissioners to explain to the Land Committees that they should not commit such a crime, bearing in mind that they will be punished as negligence for the protection of the public good” (SAVR, f. 3, d. 1, c. 1541, p. 19).

The Conclusion and the Prospects for the Future Research. Taking everything into consideration, owing to the State Archives of Volyn region funds materials analysis, we may state that a certain array of documents was accumulated in the State Archives of Volyn region, the processing of which contributed to the understanding of the peculiarities of an everyday

life of the Volynians in the days of the Ukrainian Central Council (Ukrainska Tsentralna Rada). Such features were caused by the status of Volyn gubernia (province) as a frontline. That is why, the daily life of the inhabitants of this area in 1917 – 1918 was determined by the conduct of permanent military operations, the presence of a significant number of servicemen, who gradually left the frontline and returned home, the refugee movement and, etc. Hence, the found documents in the SAVR funds, illustrated diverse attempts, which were made in order to resolve the land issue, characterizing the refugee movement in Volyn, the Peasant Protest Movement, and explaining relations of the military with local peasants.

The further research of other aspects of the life of Volyn region through the elaboration and analysis of SAVR documents seems promising, in particular, the local authorities activities, the local national institutions development, a number of military political aspects.

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