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**SOCIAL PROTECTION ISSUES OF MILITARY SERVICEMEN
IN SUPREME AUTHORITIES ACTIVITIES OF THE UNR
(DECEMBER OF 1918 – NOVEMBER OF 1920)**

Abstract. The Purpose of the Research. *The organization of an effective social protection of servicemen is an important component of the state policy in the military service formation sphere. Therefore, the purpose of the article is to elucidate the highest authorities activities of the Ukrainian People's Republic (the UNR) during the Directory period. The research methodology is based on the principles of historicism, logic, scientific objectivity in assessing the past, a critical approach to the sources, including the highest authorities official legislation of the Ukrainian People's Republic, the research works of participants and eyewitnesses. The scientific novelty of the article consists in the fact that the social protection issue of servicemen of the UNR Army, although it occupied one of the key places in the activities of the highest authorities of the UNR – the Directory and the government – the Council of People's Ministers, was not the subject of a separate scientific study. The social protection issue was presented in the context of a military policy and military formation in general, or in the aspect of the state social policy. The Conclusion.* *The social protection issues of servicemen were constantly in*

the field of view of the highest state authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic during the Directory period. By means of relevant laws adoption, the state tried to make service in the army prestigious, to increase the status of a soldier in the society not only materially but also socially. However, the unfavorable situation on the fronts, the critical domestic and foreign policy situation of the state did not allow to implement the adopted bills.

After the final defeat of the Ukrainian People's Republic in the war with Soviet Russia and the retreat of the Ukrainian army on November 21, 1920, to the territory of Poland, the government tried to support its troops during the year. However, the depletion of funds put an end to the functioning of social care for them. The military had to adapt to the new realities of an emigrant life on their own.

Key words: Ukraine, the UNR Directory, Active Army, social protection of servicemen.

ПИТАННЯ СОЦІАЛЬНОГО ЗАХИСТУ ВІЙСЬКОВОСЛУЖБОВЦІВ У ДІЯЛЬНОСТІ ВИЩИХ ОРГАНІВ ВЛАДИ УНР (ГРУДЕНЬ 1918 – ЛИСТОПАД 1920 рр.)

Анотація. Мета дослідження. Важливою складовою політики держави у сфері військового будівництва є організація ефективного соціального захисту військовослужбовців. Тому метою статті є висвітлення діяльності у цій галузі вищих органів влади Української Народної Республіки періоду Директорії. **Методологія дослідження** ґрунтується на принципах історизму, логічності, наукової об'єктивності в оцінках минулого, критичного підходу до наявних джерел, зокрема, офіційних законодавчих актів вищих органів влади УНР, праць учасників та очевидців подій. **Наукова новизна статті** полягає у тому, що проблема соціального захисту військовослужбовців Армії УНР хоча посідала одне із ключових місць у діяльності вищих органів влади УНР – Директорії і уряду – Ради Народних Міністрів не стала об'єктом окремого наукового дослідження, а подавалась у контексті військової політики та військового будівництва загалом або ж у руслі соціальної політики держави. **Висновки.** Питання соціального захисту військовослужбовців постійно перебували у полі зору вищих державних органів влади УНР періоду Директорії. Держава намагалася через прийняття відповідних законів зробити службу в армії престижною, підвищити статус військовика у суспільстві не тільки у матеріальному, але й суспільному плані. Однак несприятлива ситуація на фронтах, критичне внутрішнє та зовнішньополітичне становище держави не дали можливості реалізувати прийняті законопроекти.

Ключові слова: Україна, Директорія УНР, Дієва армія, соціальний захист військовослужбовців.

The Problem Statement. A social protection of citizens is one of the most important functions of the state. After all, its authority in society, the formation of respect for the state institutions, and the formation of patriotic feelings depend on the establishment of an effective system of a social protection. The military occupy a special place in a social protection system because of their functional status, on the one hand, they represent the defenders of the state, on the other hand – they are largely dependent on it in social and material aspects. Therefore, in accordance with historical experience, the proper social, material and financial security of servicemen is, if not the only, a very important factor in the entire military mechanism functioning. The words of Mykhailo Hrushevsky, the “father” of the Ukrainian People's Republic, who in 1918, outlining his vision of the place and role of the army in the revived Ukrainian state, emphasized that the service in it should be “financially profitable” for soldiers not to run away from the army “to have more substantial pies”, as our ancestors used to say” (Hrushevskiy, 1991, p. 175). The social protection issue of servicemen of the Active Army of the UNR, although it occupied one of the key places in the activities of the highest authorities of the UNR – the Directory and the government – the Council of People's Ministers was not the subject of a separate scientific study. Mainly, it was analyzed in fragments in the context of military policy and military formation in general, or in the aspect of the social policy of the

state. Taking into consideration the current situation, when the Ukrainian Armed Forces since 2014 have been involved in rebuffing the aggression of the Russian Federation in the east of our country, the social protection issues of servicemen become extremely important. Thus, the acquired historical experience in this sphere of the state authorities activity is actualized. The above mentioned aspects determine the topicality of the research.

The Analysis of Sources and Recent Researches. The source base of the study is the published archival materials, which concern the activities of the highest authorities of the UNR – the Directory, the government, and S. Petliura, the Chairman of the Directory and the Chief Otaman of the UNR Army, as well as I. Ohiyenko, the Chief Government of the UNR.

Nowadays, in domestic historiography there are no studies that would purely concern the social protection issue of servicemen of the Ukrainian army during the Directory period of the Ukrainian People's Republic. Mainly, the authors mention the social protection issue superficially, covering the social policy of the UNR governments. Thus, O. M. Zavalniuk analyzes this issue, covering the activities of the Ukrainian governments on the social protection of citizens of the Ukrainian People's Republic in 1918 – 1919. At the same time, it should be noted that the author did scrupulous analysis of the Ukrainian social legislation of that time, as well as the measures taken by the state in the social protection sphere (Zavalniuk, 2012, pp. 314–327). The financial support issue of the army of the Ukrainian People's Republic during the Directory period, and social payments to soldiers, are analyzed by T. Liaskovych and V. Holubko partially. Although the authors analyze the same thematical issue, but they do it from different aspects. T. Liaskovych elucidates the social protection issue through the prism of subjective impressions of contemporaries, which they recorded in their memoirs and, thus, reconstructs the events at the micro level, characterizing the image of soldiers' reception of material and everyday life, its assessments and personal impressions (Liaskovych, 2020, pp. 363–377). Instead, V. Holubko focuses on organizational and legal measures of the state bodies during the period of 1917 – 1920 aimed at creating the supply and financing system of the Ukrainian troops. The author draws the conclusion that the difficult military and political situation in which Ukraine was at that time – permanent hostilities at almost its entire territory left an imprint on the supply and financing of the troops, which made the authorities and the army command legalize emergency measures concerning financing and supply (Holubko, 2019 – 2020, pp. 339–352). I. Terliuk analyzes some aspects of the researched issue (Terliuk, 2011). It is obvious that the issues related to the servicemen social protection, especially cash benefits, depended on the financial situation of the state, its ability to fulfill its obligations, which were fixed in the correspondent regulations. Therefore, to some extent, the publications on the financial system of the UNR and money circulation, in particular, are related to the research topic. There should be mentioned the researches of V. Lozovy (Lozovyi, 1996, pp. 42–45), O. Petruk (Petruk, 2020), M. Utkina (Utkina, 2015), P. Hai-Nyzhnyk (Hai-Nyzhnyk, 2008).

The purpose of the research is to elucidate the activities of the Republic governing structures in the social protection sphere of the Army servicemen of the Ukrainian People's Republic, especially their financial and material support, various social benefits, based on the analysis of historiographical works, the source materials – the documents of the highest authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic during the Directory period, as well as the memoirs.

The Main Material Statement. The period of the Ukrainian revolution during the rule of the Directory of the Ukrainian People's Republic (December of 1918 – November of 1920) is the most difficult and dramatic, both in terms of the search of the nation-formation model and

the international situation imposed on it (Hai-Nyzhnyk, Leiberov, 2013). The state social policy issues played a leading role in these processes. Having raised an uprising against the regime of Hetman P. Skoropadsky on November 14, 1918 under the slogans of social justice and the implementation of the model of the welfare state in the form of the Ukrainian People's Republic, without losing the influence on the situation, its leaders were forced to follow the revolution-stirred society. As the eyewitness to these events, L. Tsehelsky, one of the leading figures of the Western Ukrainian People's Republic, recalled, "the phrases "land and freedom", land to the working people", "away with the landlords, away with the kurkuli, away with the bourgeoisie!" – float in the air. The string of the social zhakeriya strongly dominates... The phrase about Ukraine "without a peasant slave and a landlord" is rare. (Tsehelskyi, 2003, p. 129). At the same time, the experienced politician focused on a very difficult task for the Directorate to solve – to keep under control the conscripts, mostly peasants, who self-demobilized spontaneously after the relatively easy overthrow of the Hetmanate. As L. Tsehelsky remarks in his memoirs ironically, "when the siege of Kyiv ended, this "revolutionary army" dispersed to their homes, taking with them overcoats, boots, soldiers' caps, blankets, armament, and etc. This was the "revolutionary", one hundred or two hundred thousand army of "conscious working class people" (Tsehelskyi, 2003, p. 130). Therefore, it is not surprising that the social preferences provided by the leadership of the UNR to thousands of soldiers significantly affected the preservation of the popularity among them. Since the Directory army consisted of peasants, it was clear that a key element in encouraging peasants to the military service would be a favorable agrarian reform. A few days before the capture of Kyiv by the republican troops, S. Petliura, the Chief Otaman of the UNR Army, emphasized in the issued order that "all those who do not take an active part in the fight against the Hetman and his government will not be given a plot of land". Accordingly, the commander of each subordinate unit was required to conduct daily personnel checks and to record the presence of each soldier (Petliura, 2004, p. 223). In the first programme document of the "Declaration of the Directory of the Ukrainian People's Republic" of December 26, 1918 it was stated, "that all small peasant farms and all labour farms remain intact in the use of their previous owners, and the rest of the land is given to cultivation by the landless and peasants who had not so many plots of land, and especially those who joined the army of the Republic to fight against the Hetman" (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 391). However, in January of 1919 the military and strategic position of the UNR deteriorated sharply – much of the Left Bank territory of Ukraine was lost, and important administrative centers were lost as well, the Active army, which consisted of mostly semi-regular and poorly disciplined units, began to fall apart (Holubko, Hrytsiuk, Kryvyziuk & Lysenko, 2019, pp. 220–221). To prevent spontaneous demobilization and encourage the peasantry to serve in the army, on January 18, 1919, the Council of People's Ministers of the Ukrainian People's Republic adopted the law on additional land allotment for soldiers who serve in the army. According to its provisions, "all Cossacks, who serve in the regular Army of the Ukrainian People's Republic, in addition, to the share of land the citizens of the Ukrainian People's Republic may have by law, are immediately given an additional plot of land in the amount of 1 to 2 tithes in their counties" (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 439). In addition, the law provided for the provision of benefits to the military after the war in the form of a non-repayable state loan of 2 thousand hryvnias and the same amount of interest loan for a period of five years for the purchase of implements. During the period of the army service, each soldier had the right to lease the land received, and in case of his death the land could be inherited. At the same time, traitors and deserters were deprived of the right to additional plot of land (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 440).

The Directory and the Government of the Ukrainian People's Republic provided citizens with various social benefits in order to attract them to serve in the army. Thus, according to the law of January 13, 1919, the conscripts – soldiers, officers, military officials, were guaranteed the preservation of previous positions in government and private institutions, as well as the half of the salary received. The families of those mobilized, who did not belong to these categories received allowance from the state on condition of the absence of other sources of subsistence (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 431). To make service in the army more attractive, on January 26, 1919, the government approved the law “On Improving the Status of Servicemen of the Active Army of the Ukrainian People's Republic” (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 68).

The financial support issues of servicemen were in the field of view of the highest authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic constantly. Taking into account the acute economic crisis caused by the military devastation, almost completely destroyed state economy, as well as the loss of the major part of the state territory, the country financial system was undermined by galloping inflation. The situation was especially critical in the spring of 1919, when the Ukrainian government controlled only a few counties in western Podillia and southern Volhynia. In this regard, the Directory and the Government of the Ukrainian People's Republic had to reconsider the amount of salaries in the army. Thus, on March 30, the latter decided to increase the salaries of government officials. In particular, it was about increasing the financial support of Kamianets youth school, employees of Kamianets district military chief and artillery staff (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 12). As for the military schools where officers were trained, the government law of January 21, 1919 guaranteed the full state maintenance of cadets on a par with the servicemen of the active army (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 450). Among the highest authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic it became common practice to consider issues related to one-time cash payments to soldiers and army officers in case of financial difficulties, and medical expenses in case of wounding or illness. As the Ministry for Military Affairs was responsible for this item of expenditure, the government established a military fund at the end of December of 1918, by means of which the army was financed, including expenses for salaries and other forms of financial assistance to servicemen. At the meeting on January 26, 1919, the Council of Ministers of the Ukrainian People's Republic, considering the amount of salaries, at the suggestion of the Military Minister, General Olexander Hrekov, assigned a loan of 500 000 hryvnias for “assistance in various cases” (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 217). In addition, it was decided to preserve previous positions and the corresponding salaries of all government officials, who joined the army and did not demobilize (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 131). Despite the fact that the salaries of the Active Army servicemen of the Ukrainian People's Republic were high, they were “eaten” by inflation. Therefore, the government had to revise the amount of salary regularly, increasing it, to set various interest rate premiums according to the specific situation. However, the finances allocated to the army were often used inefficiently and even abusively. The fact is that under conditions of the armed aggression expansion against the UNR at the beginning of 1919 and the lack of combat-ready troops, the command introduced the practice of forming units according to the so-called “Otaman” principle, when commanders (otamans) were given money to recruit volunteers. Let alone the control and efficiency of money wasting. According to the Prime Minister of the Ukrainian People's Republic, Isaac Mazepa, this “Otaman” principle and the lack of money wasting control caused a severe financial crisis. “Our financial situation”, he acknowledged, “was so dire that the main financial stocks taken from Kyiv by the Directory were spent mainly on ...legendary otaman formations by previous governments ...” (Mazepa, 2003, p. 229). The lack of banknotes, the issuance of

which in the required quantity in Ukraine was impossible to establish, was especially noticeable. Some of them were printed in Stanislaviv, then in Kamianets-Podilskyi, but mainly banknotes were imported from Berlin. It is obvious that salary delay affected the mood of the military negatively. It should also be taken into account that due to the lack of well-established logistics for the soldiers of the Active Army, they had to buy food or even weapons from the population at their own expense. But it was difficult to do it due to the lack of money, sugar, salt were used mainly in purchasing purposes, and substituted the functions of banknotes (Bytynskiy, 1935, p. 3). Of course, the government did its best to respond quickly to such situations. For instance, during the combats with the Red Army in the first half of July of 1919 near Kamianets-Podilskyi, after receiving the information about the situation at the front, the government decided to instruct the Minister of Finance to organize paying money to Zaporizhia groups and other combat units urgently, which were fighting there (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 408). Due to the rapid depreciation of the Ukrainian currency and the decline in its purchasing value in the autumn of 1919, in order to ensure at least the minimum subsistence level of servicemen, S. Petliura was forced to sign the Directory law on a one-time in-kind food tax for the army on November 6. However, it provided for their forced redemption for the prices set by the state from the population. Consequently, it was possible to achieve the acceptance of the Ukrainian money only by implementing the above-mentioned way (Petliura, 1999, p. 135). In general, at the meetings of the Ukrainian People's Republic (UNR) government and even the Directory often there were addressed issues related to the provision of individual financial assistance to servicemen, who were in a difficult financial situation due to the loss of personal property as a result of hostilities. Hence, it was a common case for the servicemen to apply directly to the government for compensation for property lost during the combat. These cases became especially frequent after units of the Ukrainian People's Republic (UNR) Army were interned in Poland in December of 1919. The absence of the Polish currency put the military in an extremely difficult position, as payments received in Ukraine in hryvnias and rubles ceased to be a means of payment. Thus, on January 11, 1920, S. Petliura issued an order to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, appointing 200 000 marks from the 50 million fund in Polish marks in order to help the soldiers in need, who were in Poland (Petliura, 1999, p. 172). In addition, the higher authorities often returned to the consideration of individual requests of both soldiers and officers for financial assistance until the end of their stay in Ukraine. For example, on March 30, 1920, at the meeting of the Directory with the participation of S. Petliura, the report was considered, written by Captain M. Vedensky on the issuance of financial assistance. It was decided to allocate him 10 thousand Polish marks "due to the difficult situation" (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 13). The cash payments were given to the servicemen as well as awards. Hence, after the end of the First Winter Campaign of the Army of the Ukrainian People's Republic in May of 1920, the Cabinet of Ministers instructed the Military Minister to submit for his consideration a bill on awarding all participants in the campaign a special order and financial assistance (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 26). At the beginning of June of the same year, when the Ukrainian troops and the allied Polish army liberated Right Bank Ukraine and Kyiv from the Russian Bolsheviks, the expenses for the army increased significantly due to the mobilization. Therefore, at the meeting on June 5, the government granted the request of V. Salskyi, the Minister of Defense, to allocate 5 million hryvnias at his disposal "for giving various financial assistance to servicemen" (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 56). Meanwhile, the events at the front, which broke out in the middle of June of 1920, turned out to be not in favor of the allied armies. On June 12, the Red Army regained control of Kyiv and launched a general offensive in the western direction. Under such

circumstances, the financial system of the UNR was shaken even more. The galloping inflation caused a sharp fall in the exchange rate of the Ukrainian currency. As a result, the government allowed the Minister of Finance to issue 60% of cash in Polish marks for the needs of the army (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 109). But its foreign exchange resources were quickly depleted. The fact is that the government of the Directory of the Ukrainian People's Republic failed to adopt the state budget and used the foreign exchange reserves accumulated by its predecessor, the Hetman's government. It should be mentioned that high and often uncontrolled expenditures (Dotsenko, 1923, p. 143) led to a high budget deficit, which was mainly compensated by banknotes emission. Of course, this could not improve the financial condition of the Ukrainian People's Republic and had a detrimental effect on the financing of the army.

Furthermore, the higher state authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic did not ignore the custody issue of wounded soldiers and army officers. Permanent hostilities in which the Ukrainian army was involved during the year of 1919, caused heavy losses. It was especially difficult in the first half of the year when the army was forced to make long retreats and cover long distance. On August 25, at the meeting, the government decided to allocate 200 thousand hryvnias from the military fund in order to help the servicemen of the Active Army when the situation stabilized a bit (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 468). It should be mentioned that the state aid was extended to those soldiers and officers of the former Tsarist Army, who became disabled but had the Ukrainian citizenship.

Due to the spread of typhus in the Ukrainian army in the autumn of 1919, the state allocated considerable funds to overcome it. On September 29, 1919, at the government meeting, it was decided to allocate 10 million hryvnias for one-time cash benefits to servicemen in case of falling ill with contagious diseases (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 526). At the same time, there was discussed the issue of establishing new norms for providing one-time benefits to the soldiers, who were wounded in battle or performing official duties during hostilities. According to the minutes of the meetings of the Directory and the Council of Ministers, it was common practice to consider providing one-time assistance to wounded and sick soldiers. In particular, on October 11, 1919, the Directorate adopted the law on providing one-time assistance to servicemen of the Active Army – “the Cossacks, officers, military, government officials of various kinds and the clergy in case of getting ill with various contagious diseases, other diseases during the war, after recovery in a difficult situation, and due to lack of funds to continue treatment” (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 600). Certain sums of money were transferred by the Ministry for Defense to the Chief Military Sanitary Administration, which in turn distributed them among the hospitals which provided the money to those in need. The amount of assistance was set from 300 to 2000 hryvnias. In total, one million of hryvnias was allocated from the state treasury to the military treasury for the implementation of this law (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 600).

The Ukrainian People's Republic government also tried to take care of the pensions of the military, as well as their families. The above-mentioned issue was repeatedly discussed during the meetings of the Directory and the government. In particular, on February 17, 1919, there was discussed the report of I. Krasovskyi, the director of the Directory, on the procedure for assigning pensions and assistance to the parents of fallen soldiers (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 53). The case was finally regulated by the law issued on July 30, 1919 when the Directory approved the “Law on the Provision of the Families of Persons in Active Military Service” adopted by the government. It established the right to the state assistance to the families of soldiers, officers and military officials, who were mobilized or enlisted voluntarily in the army. It was applied to wives and children under the age of 16, incapacitated family

members of servicemen: parents, brothers, sisters. The law determined the monthly amount of financial assistance: 100 hryvnias for parents and 50 hryvnias for children, brothers and sisters. Also, the family of the conscript was provided with a part of the salary from the previous place of work until the moment of his return from the army. All these benefits were lost if the serviceman deserted or surrendered voluntarily (Petliura, 2006, pp. 260–262). On July 30, 1919, at the meeting of the Council of People's Ministers, the draft pension statute of the People's Republican Ukrainian Army proposed by the Military Minister provoked a discussion. As a result, it was decided to finalize it, taking into consideration the principle that "the pension statute should be based on the principle of social security and labour protection of the employee, that the statute should be the same for all workers, that pensions should be granted – on the principle of a greater or lesser threat to life or health at a particular field of work, and only those who worked for the benefit of the UNR and its people can have the right to pension" (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 440). The so-called social pensions were granted by the UNR government to the families of servicemen who died in hostilities or died of the wounds. The social pensions were granted at the suggestion of the Military Minister. In particular, on October 6, 1919, at the government meeting, a one-time allowance of 16 800 hryvnias and an annual pension of 16 800 hryvnias per year were granted to the widow of Dmytro Sokolovsky, a famous insurgent leader – Nadiya Sokolovska, a widow of Konstantyn Vozny, the commander of the 53rd Novohrad-Volyn Regiment, who was shot dead in Zhytomyr, – Zoya Vozna, who was granted an annual pension of 14 400 hryvnias per year, as well as to the severely wounded in the battle a centurion Ivan Popov, the head of the political department of Slobidska Ukraine Kish – an annual pension of 19 200 hryvnias (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, pp. 537–538). One-time financial aid and pensions were also allocated to the widow of Yevhen Myshkovsky, the colonel, a former chief of staff of the Galician Army – Lisaveta Myshkovska and the widow of General Fedor – Kolodiy Hanna Kolodiy (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, pp. 24, 156). It should be noted that the procedure of one-time financial aids for servicemen and their families was regulated by the law of July 7, 1920 (Dyrektoriia, 2006b, p. 155).

The children of servicemen were not neglected by the highest authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic. In August of 1919, the Directory passed the Law on the Provision of Children of Soldiers, the Victims of War. It established benefits for the children of dead or wounded soldiers, who were in the Ukrainian service since the proclamation of the First Universal by the Central Council of Ukraine (Tsentralna Rada) on June 23, 1917. All of them had the right to education and training at public expense up to the age of 18. If the children were unable to work due to physical disabilities, their maintenance was still fully assumed by the state. For this purpose, it was planned to establish the state shelters, as well as shelters at local governments, public and private institutions. The school-age children were sent to primary, secondary and vocational schools and the state scholarships were allocated for their maintenance (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 586).

Due to the rapid inflation cash payments were insufficient to support servicemen and their families, the government also introduced such forms of social assistance as food rations, clothing, tailors, and etc. On October 31, 1919, at the government meeting, during the consideration of the draft resolution on one-time assistance to government officials of central and local institutions for the purchase of clothing and assistance to families, the Military Minister was instructed to elaborate a similar bill for military families (Dyrektoriia, 2006, pp. 568–569). The difficult situation at the front in the autumn of 1919, and, hence, the deterioration of the army supply due to the depletion of available resources, forced the

government to reconsider the existing practice of issuing rations. According to the government decision issued on September 18, 1919, employees of the military department involved in the rear institutions were deprived of the right to food rations from the quartermaster office, except for those who served in the drill units (Dyrektoriia, 2006a, p. 511).

In addition to the Directory and the Council of People's Ministers, the Chief Commissioner of the Ukrainian People's Republic Government also dealt with social protection issues of the Ukrainian People's Republic soldiers. The institution of the Chief Commissioner was established on November 15, 1919, the day before the departure of the highest state authorities from Kamianets-Podilskyi. Already on November 16, according to the agreement of S. Petliura with J. Pilsudski, the leader of Poland, the territory of Podillia was occupied by the Polish army. This occupation was done to prevent occupying Podillia by the Russian White Guard troops under command of General A. Denikin. As many local Ukrainian government officials remained in the area, as well as soldiers, who for various reasons could not leave with the army and government, it was the responsibility of the Minister of Religion, Ivan Ohiyenko, to represent their interests before the Polish authorities. He was appointed the Chief Commissioner of the Government of the Ukrainian People's Republic, which at that time was located in Tarnów, Poland. Four districts of Podillia hubernia (province) and Starokostiantyniv povit (district) of Volyn fell under the competence of the Commissioner. To resolve military issues, he had a military officer, who was subordinated to the Military Ministry. I. Ohiyenko's attention was focused on supporting servicemen, providing them with at least minimal means of subsistence. In fact, it all came down to paying salaries, all kinds of cash benefits, arranging cheap or free food, caring for wounded soldiers, who were in hospitals. For this purpose, a fund of the Chief Commissioner was created, through which finances were transferred for these purposes. Hence, on December 16, 1919, he decided to allocate 3 million rubles for sewing clothes, linen and shoes for the sick and those who returned from captivity (Holovnoupovnovazhenyi, 2017, p. 168). The biggest problem faced by I. Ohiyenko was the rapid devaluation of the Ukrainian currency. He had to increase constantly the salaries of soldiers, help their families, the amount of per diems for the recovering people. Hence, in January of 1920, he decided to provide assistance to the families of officers, who found themselves in the Polish internment camp in Dąbie in the amount of 200 hryvnias per day, to ordinary soldiers for rehabilitation after illness – 160 hryvnias per day. For ordinary soldiers, who were in Kamianets-Podilskyi, a salary of 150 hryvnias per day with the addition of rations of tea and sugar was allocated at the rate of no more than 40 hryvnias per day. From the 25th of January to the 1st of March in 1920, 300 hryvnias were allocated for the daily maintenance of an ordinary man, in addition to lunch, dinner and tea 2 times (Holovnoupovnovazhenyi, 2017, pp. 213, 226, 232). In order to illustrate to what extent those payments were commensurate with the prices of that time we should provide the following data: lunch cost 40 rubles (or 80 hryvnias, 1 ruble was equal to 2 hryvnias), breakfast and dinner – 20 – 30 rubles, one liter of milk – 45 rubles, bread – 30 rubles, eggs – 25 rubles for two eggs) (Holovnoupovnovazhenyi, 2017, p. 386). The prices for fats and meat were also sky-high. However, it should be noted that the activities of the Commissioner played a significant role in providing assistance to the Ukrainian military at the most difficult time for them.

After the final defeat of the Ukrainian People's Republic in the war with Soviet Russia and the retreat of the Ukrainian army on November 21, 1920, to the territory of Poland, the government tried to support its troops during the year. However, the depletion of funds put an

end to the functioning of social care for them. The military had to adapt to the new realities of an emigrant life on their own.

The Conclusions. Hence, the social protection issues of servicemen occupied an important place in the activities of the highest state authorities of the Ukrainian People's Republic during the Directory period. Legislation in this area was socially oriented. The state tried to make service in the army prestigious and to increase the status of a soldier in the society by means of adoption of relevant laws. However, the unfavorable military situation on the fronts and a general military and strategic position of Ukraine prevented the implementation of the adopted bills in the field of social protection of the military.

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