Press service of the Ukrainian Galician Army

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Abstract — The article the author analyzes the major periodicals of UGA issued with the support of the front-line troops and other military units. The author also gives a brief description of the major press services of state organs of the time.

Key words — document-information system, press organs, UGA, press services, Ukraine, Ukrainian-Polish war.

I. Introduction

Together with the process of origination and formation of the West Ukrainian National Republic (ZUNR) actually the process of development of the armed forces of the country, as a regular military army on the basis of military duty began. This process of formation and establishment of an efficient UGA was closely connected not only with the organization of its combat units, but also with a well-established document-information system of support of the army.

One of the components of structures of UGA, which worked in the channel of informing of the army, was the press service. Therefore, it is appropriate to provide an overview of the press organs or headings, which was created by the initiative of the army personnel and became very closely connected with it. Among 50 periodicals issued during the period of 1918-1919 in Galicia and Eastern Ukraine, the best and the most directly illustrating spirit of the Ukrainian-Polish war.

II. Press organs of the state

Information field of ZUNR was mainly filled by the organizations of civilian and national character, or by government agencies. In its majority the press of ZUNR was of non-partisan nature and supported the struggle of Galician warriors were periodicals, issued during the period of the Galician war.

Following the downfall of Lviv, “Ukrainian Voice” established the press service. Therefore, it is appropriate to provide an overview of the press organs of state organs of the time.

Another periodical of high level, which was spread in the army, was the daily periodical “Republica” — the official organ of the government of ZUNR (it was issued in city of Stanislaviv, February 2 till May 25, 1919). After the downfall of Lviv, “Ukrainian Voice” started its activity in Ternopil being published by famous poet P.Karmansky in spring of 1919, his newspaper became an organ of the National Council. This official organ of the government published first of all orders, notification laws, notes, ads, etc. But since December 8, 1918, in the 15th issue of the periodical “Ukrainian Voice” changed its field of activity and basically starts to publish private notes and announcements. A responsible leadership for the issue of the periodical went to the editorial office. However, due to the circumstances the periodical ceased to exist as a newspaper and is transformed into an other periodical entitled “Ukrainian News”.

The newspaper “The Ukrainian flag” (editor — an outstanding public and political figure S.Baran.) was also widely spread among Galician soldiers. It was published in 1919-1920. In Vienna. It often contained the patriotic articles written by the political figures of ZUNR, namely by K. Tryliovskiy, K. Levitskiy, T. Shestelskiy, and K. Shukhevych. After the downfall of Lviv, “Ukrainian Flag” published the memoirs of the first Chairman of the Government of the ZUNR.
III. Periodicals of the local District Military Commands

Newspapers, which were published in the region centres, were the official periodicals of state organs, but in the conditions of the war, they were, in fact, beca me the periodicals of the District Military Commands.

The newspaper “Ukraine” was one of the first of such periodicals (November 6, 1918) published the in the town of Zhovkva on the basis of publishing house of the Galician army. In the first issue of it, he published the Appeal of the District Combat Committee of the Galician army, which led the 9-month war for independence of the R Republic with a po werful enemy – Polish and. In the summer of 1919 it helped the UNR Army to liberate from the Bolsheviks almost all the territory of Ukraine on the right bank of the Dneiper River with the capital Kiev. It helped to stubbornly fight against the invasion of Denikin’s forces as well.

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