

István Ravasz:
**The Hungarian-Ukrainian connections in the first half of the
XXth century**

Our country was the first one to establish an embassy in the independent Ukraine. The task of the present and future is to develop a wide-ranging, systematic tie with this new European country, which, based on its area, population and energy sources, is a middle-sized power. From several points of view, to form this "good neighbour" attitude, has to start from the beginning.

Before the public opinion, it is not well-known, that during the course of history, more than once, we established ties with our eastern neighbour. The historic truth is, that the Ukrainian capitals name Kiev

(Kiiv), already had a Hungarian version from the Middle Ages in the form of Kijov.

The first attempt for the establishment of the independent Ukraine

The first Eastern Slavic state, Kiev Russ, came into being in the 10th century, on the territory of the present day Ukraine, after Oleg, the prince of Novgorod - partly with the help of Viking nobles - united a large part of the Eastern Slavic tribes. One of the preliminary conditions of statehood (the Byzantine orthodox) Christian religion spread during the reign of Jaroslav the wise (1019-1059). After his death, however, the principality fell apart. The Tartars occupied the former area of Kiev Russ in 1240, then later, the Grand principality of Lithuania conquered it.

Following this, in the Middle Ages, it belonged alternately to Poland and Russia, without having even definite borders.

The country of Ukraine, developed in the XVI and XVIIth centuries as a result of a series of uprisings by Cossacks against the Poles and Russians. Bogdan Hmelnyckij led the Cossack fighting against the Polish rule, and against the Russian supremacy, first Stepan Razin, then Ivan Mezepa.

Katherine II, liquidated the partial autonomy of the Ukraine, - for which they had fought so hard.

In 1914, Ukraine, was divided into two parts: within Russia into five governor ships (Kijev, Harkov, Csenyigov, Novorod-Szeverszk, Jakatyerinoszlavszk, altogether 30 million Ukrainians), and within the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy into two colonies (Eastern Galicia, and the northern part of Bukovina, totalling 4. 5 million.) The outbreak of world war I, activated the awakening of the national Ukrainian movement. In August, 1914, in Lemberg. (Lviv Lwow) the Ukrainian National council, (Ukrainszka Nationalna Rada) was formed, but resettled in Vienna after the withdrawal from Lemberg, returning only on June 15, 1915, after the recapture of the city.

In 1916, they organized a Ukrainian Legion as the half-regular part of the imperial Landwehr; chiefly, for armed force duties (Ukrainszkij Legijon Szics-Sztrelkovaja Gvardija). The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy considered the formation of Rada Ukraine as a member state. The model would have been Hungary's joining Austria in a personal and real Union.

After the revolution in February 1917, in Russia, on March 17, in Kijev the Central National Council was formed (Centralna Ukrainszka Hationalna Rada). On April 9, in Kiev, with the participation of 2000 representatives at the Ukrainian National Congress (Ukranszkij Nationalna Kongress) the two Radas became united. The new goal was to be a state within Russia, which the Rada declared on July 9, and on November 20 proclaimed the Ukrainian people's Republic. In Breszt Litovszk, at the peace conference, the central powers resumed contact with the Rada, and on January 12, 1918, recognized it as the government of Ukraine.

On the 22, the Rada, in Zsitomir, concluded a separate peace treaty with the Central Powers and declared an independent, Sovereign Ukrainian People's Republic, annulling the two months old pact, made previously with the Russian Empire, when the Central Powers made a separate peace treaty on February 9th,

In Harkov, held by the Soviet troops (which had been the capital of Ukraine until 1934) on November 19, 1917, 100 representatives of the General Ukrainian Soviet congress (Vszeukrainszky Szovjetov Kongress), placed the Rada out-of-law, declared the foundation of Soviet Ukraine and asked for military help from Soviet Russia,

On November 20, in Kiev, a Soviet-Ukraine government was formed, which on January 6, 1919, declared a Ukrainian Council Republic. This, on December 28, 1920, made a peace treaty with the Russian Council Republic. During 1918, the Soviet-Russian Army occupied the central part of Ukraine, on February 6, also Kiev. Although, the armies of the Central Powers, on March 1, forced out the armies of the Soviet Rusaians, on April 28, the Rada ceased functioning.

On October 18, in Lemberg, the reorganized Rada, which fled previously from Kiev, on November 13, declared the West-Ukrainian Republic. Sergei Petrusevich became president. On December 14, the same day, when the German Army evacuated Kiev, in Belaja Cerkov (on Soviet Ukraine territory) szemen petljura, formed an Anti-Soviet Directorium (Directorium Ukraini), which the Rada refused to recognize, though Petljura made an attempt.

In the power vacuum, the West-Ukrainian Republic, fought a life-and-death struggle with Petljura, the newly-formed Poland, into the Bukovina, marching Romanians, the Soviet-Russian and Monarchist White Russian armies. On November 22, 1919, the Polish Army occupied Lemberg. so the government

evacuated to Stanislau (Stalisnawow, Stanyiszlav). On January 22, 1919, the West-Ukrainian Republic and Directorium made peace and formed an alliance. Their united armies, were pushed into Podolia in the spring against the Red Army and broke into the right bank of Dnyester, from where Admiral Gyenyikin's White Russian Army squeezed him out and again also the Russian Army.

(Petljura, on April 23, 1920, made an alliance with Poland and gave up Eastern Galicia in favour of Poland. This was annulled by the Polish-Soviet peace accord on March 18, 1921. The 35000 strong Ukrainian Army on Nov. 10, 1920 in Volhynia, suffered an annihilating defeat from the Red Army, but its units continued for 5-6 years partizan fights on the territory of the Soviet Union and Poland. So the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic became a founding member of the Soviet Union. In 1922, the area was 460,000 km², with a population of 29 million, from this 82% (25.28 million) Ukrainian, 13.5% (3,915 million) Russian, 5.86% (1.7 million) Jewish, 1.35% (590 thousand) German, 0.71% (207 thousand) Polish. 4 million Ukrainians went to Poland. The capital, until 1954 was; Harkov, from then on Kiev.

A second attempt to create an independent Ukraine.

But, let's not go back so far in time, rather stay in the not too distant: past lived through by our fathers. After the two decades of communist (stalinist) terror, there existed still a movement which wanted to restore the sovereignty of the country. Out of the two more remarkable organizations we have to mention two leaders; Stepan Bandera (Party of the Ukrainian

Nationalists, Partyja Ukrainskych Natioanisztiv, PUM) and Andrij Kelnik (Ukrainian Nationalist Party, Ukrainszka Nationalna Partyja), U. N. P. Both leaders were rescued from the prison in Lemberg by the German Army in the summer of 1941.

Soon, following this in Lemberg, under German pratectorate, a Ukrainian National Government was foramed, (Ukrainszka Mationalna Rada). The two parties - preserving their own constitutional independence -for uniting the two national movements - brought about the organization of Ukrainian Socialists (Orhanyizacija Ukrainszkich Matinalisztiv, OUN) The Chief protector of the Ukrainian Government was Erich Koch (Reichkomissariat Ukraina) With his leadership on June 30, 1941, the Ukrainian Administration was formed. However, this government lasted only for a short time.

The Ukrainian population which, in the summer of 1941, of ten received the Germans as liberators, became disillusioned fast. They started to transplant the Nazi racist theory into practice in Ukraine and the infamous sonderkommandos became active there.

The Ukrainian leadership also turned away from them, although, not at the same time, so Bandera's and Melnik's armed detachments fought against each other for a short period, depending on their relationship to the Germans. According to the reminiscenses of Elek Takácsy, this is what one Ukrainian thought of the Germans:

“The people of the Wehrmacht were quite good, but those who followed them, the so-called military administration was awful, they spoiled everything and, we welcomed them almost as liberators

In March 1944, the Rada with Mykolaj Lebegy, as president of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (Ukrainszka Holovna Vyzvolna Rada, UHVR) was reorganized. This time, they were united in the armed struggle against the Germans. By the fall of 1944, Ukraine was ruled totally by the Red Army. The armed strength of Rada continued the fight until the turn of 1940 and 1950 as partisans against the Soviet Army and administration for the independence of Ukraine. One time members and sympathizers received amnesty from Gorbacsov in 1988, and were allowed to return from Siberia, the Far East respectively, supposing, they were still alive.

To be truthful, there were many in the Ukraine who received the Red Army as deliverers. This, however, not to the Hungarian, but more to the Romanian and German occupation can be retraced. The good relationship, under the circumstances, between the Hungarian soldiers and the population of Galicia, can be proved by several reminiscences.

The Ukrainian Rada and certain leaders of the araised forces - this is not fully proved yet - but it is a very probable surmise, that they fled to the west through the Karpathians, held by the First Hungarian Army. They established their own emigree organizations. Their centre was Munich, but also had some in Canada and the USA. In the capital of Bayern the Rada's military leaders in 1946, renewed their Antibolshevist National Block. (See below)

Neither the MKVD, nor later the KGB belonged to timid and benevolent organizations. Bandera was shot by an agent in München in 1959, a few years later, another agent killed Melnik with a poisoned cigar.

Hungarian-Ukrainian ties in the middle of the WW II

In the second half of 1941, the Hungarian troops moving across Ukrainian territory, had no links to their Mationai Movements. They saw in the Hungarians soldiers, who took part in the pushing out Stalin's army from their homeland. Often, Hungarians, when reaching Ukrainian villages, were received as liberators.

During the last two years of world war II, we had rather good relationship with the forces fighting for their Ukrainian National and state freedom. There are many people in Hungary, who through their personal experiences remember these happenings, and such people can also be found in the Western part of Ukraine. Recalling those good memories (in both countries) could be valuable in building the Ukrainian-Hungarian mozaic.

The first engagement between the Hungarians and Ukrainians happened in Volhynia, in Koniusky, at the local battallion's headquarters, captain Andriji Dolnyitsky, ordered by UFA colonel

Petro Qlijnik. We have no data regarding the content of the discussion and the result of it, but can be assumed, it did not end in failure. We have to mention the role of Count Andrij Septicki, Greek Orthodox Bishop of Lemberg, Who until the spring of 1944, and the fall of Lemberg, was trying to mediate between

the Hungarian military authority and the fighting for Ukraine's independence political and military organizations,

Between October and December 1943, the chief-of-staff of the VIIIth army corps, József Padányi, whose units had carried out occupying duties in Ukraine, organized a visit to Hungary for an OUN delegation. The three-member group, flew to Budapest from Lemberg. They were: Ostap Lutszki, Euhén Vretsiona and Ivan Hyroni. (According to other sources the leader was Miron Luckij, the third member Vaszilij Mudrij) In Budapest, they were received by General Ferenc Szombathelyi chief-of the general staff and, also by Dr. Dezső Saly, adviser from the Foreign Office.

The Ukrainian committee brought with them the written maxims compiled by one of their leaders: Nyicola Lebegy. Briefly, they contained the following:

- the delegation should represent the whole of Ukraine, fighting for independence,
- secure the support of the Hungarian Government for creating an independent Ukraine,
- Ukraine, presently, is at war with communist Russia (sic!) and Hitler's Germany,
- Ukraine does not wish to fight with Hungary and against the military force stationed there,
- the delegation should persuade the Hungarian government to break ties with Hitler's Germany,
- Ukraine is requesting the help of Hungary to form a united front in helping small nations against two totalitarian (sic) powers,
- the delegation should finalize the signing of the agreement with the following main points:
 - All Hungarian actions against the Ukrainian population should stop,
 - all UPA actions against the Hungarian military should cease,
 - united actions against the German and Russian forces,
 - co-operation between the Royal Hungarian Armed Forces and the UFA regarding provisions of arms, food, health, military; communication between the Hungarians and the UPA

- the exchange of staff officers for the co-ordination of all of the above,
- the training of UPA officers by Hungarian military personnel,
- to give temporary shelter to the civilian population fled from the by Russian occupied territories,

The agreement's clause delayed the demarkation of the common borders for after the war and also the status of national minorities in the two countries.

Although, András Marton, lieutenant colonel, travelled with the returning delegation to Lemberg and met the chief-of-staff of the UPA Dimitro Kliacsivki, colonel general, this did not close with concrete results, and remained a secret both in Hungarian and UPA military circles.

The reason for a temporary break in the discussions from the Hungarian side was that the Ukrainian party urged the Hungarians, to break off all German connections as, among the Ukrainian claims, there was Sub-Karpathia (Karpatszka ukraina), returned to Hungary in 1939. It took six months, before both the meeting and the negotiations became general knowledge in military circles.

Hungarian-Ukrainian military connections in the fatal year of 1944.

On January 6, 1944, the 1. Hungarian Army was mobilized for the defence of the North-East Karpatians. But after the German occupation at Hungary in March, it was commanded to join the

German North Ukrainian Army Group. They, in the middle of April, in the, enclave of Nadworna. (Nadvirna) in Galicia. Delatyn, (Gyeljatyn, Kolomea (Kolomijy) joined the military operations.

However, the Hungarian soldiers had to fight with the enemy not only face to face in spite of the strict command, "to avoid fighting with unknown armed units as they only have to secure the roads and territory between the villages". Behind, the frontlines, considerable guerilla activity was in progress,

The Hungarian soldiers were attacked mostly by Soviet-led partizans, but, at first, even by Nationalist Ukrainians. The attacks endangered the connecting front lines to such an extent that the whole 201 light battalion had to be used for anti-partizan duty. For applying guerilla fighting technique was made possible in the vicinity of the front-line, because of the many gaps due to the insufficient strength and placement of the Hungarian troops and networks of guards placed at greater distances.

The Hungarian soldiers hardly got used to these frequent surprise attacks, when in the late spring and early summer, they noticed that the partizans were not consistent? They experienced it even in more cases, chiefly, in the Stanislau (Stanislaw) Ivano-Frankivszk and Dolina areas, stretching to the Black Forest, that in obvious situations the attack did not happen often, they found traces of enemy activities, but nobody harmed the Hungarian

soldiers. The German 1.Armored Division, to the left and, the Romanian soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, did not experience these inconsistencies. The partizans, pounced upon them at every opportunity.

For the local population it was an accepted fact and explanation but, for the Hungarian soldiers, time was needed to discover that there were different sorts of guerillas. There were those, who all over the Soviet Union followed MOSCOW 's instructions, Communist or under communist leadership, just on Ukrainian territory, mostly Ukrainians operating on the western part. The latter ones, Nationalists, mostly Ukrainians, belonged to the UPA (Ukrainszka Povsztanzska Armija, Ukrainian Rebel Army), which, according to some sources, was formed on October 14, 1942, in Volhynia, from August 27, 1945 it became a regular army. His first commander was Roman Sukhavich, alias Taras Chuprynka. This name also appeared as Ukrainszka Partizanszk Armyja, but the former one is the original.

It is worth mentioning that in the UPA, not only Ukrainians fought, but in great numbers Poles from Podolia and Galicia, also Ruszins from Karpathia and Romanians from Bukovina, also green partizan, according to some data.

On the vast territory the Soviet Union, naturally, the active partizans did not belong only these two categories. There were Anti-Communists, White Russians, Baltic and Cossack Nationalists, Anarchists, Trockyists (in Stalin's Empire!) In Galicia, the National Polish (Armija Krajowa) and the Communist Polish Army (People's Army), Armija Ludowa partizans were fighting. These organizations successfully established a loose co-operation with these groups, except, of the Anarchist, Trockyist and Polish, naturally under German tutelage, in the framework of the ABK (Antibolschewistischer Block der Nationen, Antibolshevist Block of nations). Robber gangs also operated everywhere and also by the Kaspian sea the local warlords or tribal chiefs' freedom fighters, but these cannot be classified as partizans.

The exact time and place the formation of ABN is unknown, but from the first part of 1942, there are some data about its activity. It did not have a central organ and neither its creators, nor the ABN enjoyed true sovereignty. Members of the ABS were as follows: ROA (Russzkaja Oszvobogyityelnaja Armija, Russian Liberating Army) generally known as Vlaszov Army, the three Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) working under German tutelage, a semblance of self-government and, also a few smaller tribes from the Kaukazus. The remaining members of the Ukrainian OUN, in 1946, after fleeing to the West, restructured the ABN in Munich. In 1947, the organizations of the Danube Club counted among its members for a short time The Hungarian Freedom Movement as well, also some Albanian refugees and some from the Baltic States. Its leading organ at this time was the Central Committee's (Zentral Komitee) official newspaper called the Political Dream (Pollitische Traume).

The UPA was also a member organization of the ABN, which with the unified Anti-Soviet partizan establishment, formed on June 30, 1941, was already active in Galicia under German "umbrella", at the same time with the Ukrainian Territorial Administration. Its military commander was Dimitro Kliacskivszki. UPA colonel general and, his chief of staff Bogdan Zubenko

UPA general. At first, the UPA helped the German occupying authorities with an auxiliary force, but, from 1943 fought against them and, from 1944 also against the Soviet troops reaching Ukraine and, also against the Romanians.

By 1944, the number of UFA reached 50,000 and, by the fall of 1944, the entire country was occupied by the Red Army. The UPA continued the fight against them, basically for the independence of Ukraine, right until the turn of 1940-1950.

In West Ukraine, where the Hungarian 1st Army was fighting, "only" the Russian Communists, Ukrainian, National Ukrainian (UPA), National Polish and Communist Polish were present and active.

The communists, regardless of nationality, fought against all the occupying forces, so against the Hungarians as well, until the arrival of the Red Army, then joined them. With the National Polish partisans the Hungarian military and political leadership from the autumn of 1939, had most definitely good relationship, and it remained such, until 1944, they did not attack Hungarian units.

The Ukrainian national, and Communist partisans both fought hard against the Germans and Romanians and, also against each other. The UPA considered the Hungarians only initially as targets. Its leaders and, also the - from each other isolated - partizan groups re-appraised their viewpoints after the

Hungarians arrived in Galicia. At first, they saw only a new enemy in the 1. Division of the Royal Hungarian Army, but they gradually realized they had no intentions to settle down on by then occupied territory, contrary to the Germans and Romanians. The possibility almost offered itself for the German, Soviet and Romanian troops and, also against the Polish and Communist fighting Ukrainian National Partisans, and for the hardpressed Hungarian Army to ease their situation, at least, from one side. Finally, recognizing this, they were not considered as their enemies.

The Ukrainian population had hostile feelings only at the beginning towards them. They had very bad experiences of the German occupying authorities, so they received the Hungarian military administration with certain amount of suspicion and fear. They, however, accepted the situation quickly, even started to be friendly towards the Hungarian soldiers. Before, during the German administration experienced punishing actions against the civilian population, forced labour, numerous deportations, ceased. The older people, especially, were rather looking forward to receiving the Hungarians, as they cherished positive memories from the time of the Austro-Hungariaa Monarchy a quarter century earlier, contrary to the Polish era and the Stalin years. In addition to this - unlike the Germans - the Hungarian Army allowed the Ukrainian local and political organizations to function with only one condition: not to entice the population against the Hungarians.

The leadership of the OUN and UPA notified the 16th Hungarian military command (already in the spring of 1944) in case they mistreated the Ukrainian population, they could count on strong partizan attacks, but showing a friendly attitude, they do not have to be afraid of Ukrainian arms.

In a letter, they even offered to harmonize the activities of the Hungarian soldiers and National Ukrainian partisans against the common enemy, the Red Army and Soviet partisans.

This document was sent to 16th Hungarian Army Division's chief-of-staff. We have no knowledge of a written answer to this, but, we know, — the Hungarian soldiers and the National Ukrainian partisans ceased their actions against each other - so, we can assume that at least a verbal agreement must have reached the Ukrainian partner.

Not much later - as they experienced that the Hungarian military authority had a different attitude towards them, they made two essential concessions, on the one hand, they relinquished their territorial claim to Subcarpathia and, on the other hand, they did not insist on Hungary breaking off all ties with the Germans. It is true, however, that since the first contact, six months had passed and the fortunes-of-war changed a great deal; the Soviet Army already reached the North-East Carpathians.

At the end of May 1944, on the Eastern side of the Carpathians, in the Bistrica valley, a large group of the UPA capitulated in front of the Hungarian Army. They sent a Ukrainian captain to the 16th Infantry Division's command. The negotiations took place in a forest near the village of Korosztiv-Guta, led by a UPA colonel and Alajos Pápay, colonel of the 16th Infantry Division, proved to be successful. On June 27, Ferenc Farkas, Colonel-General commander of the 6th Army Corps of the 1st Hungarian Army, and on behalf of the UPA Dimitro Kliacsclivszki, Bogdan Zubenko. in writing agreed in the following:

- the UPA and the Hungarian Army stop hostilities at once,
- the UPA commands a liaison officer to secure provisions for the Hungarian troops and guarantee those,
- the Hungarian Army looks after the wounded and sick of the UPA

The every day practice, however, soon overreached the written agreement points. The effect, theoretically, spread beyond the 6th Army Corps area of military operations. It happened that the UPA informed the Hungarian Command about the troop movements beyond the Soviet lines.

We know about cases when Ukrainian national partisans freed Hungarian prisoners-of-war before they were transported into concentration camps, (This happened in Kadworna, where these soldiers were placed in a gymnasium for the night).

Sometimes, because of the change in battle situations, the Hungarian and, in the neighbouring woods secretly hiding UPA battalions had to alter positions at the same time,

The two commanders - through Ukrainian envoys appearing unexpectedly crossed the marching lines and orders, so, the two units, at the same time, without disturbance, could perform their maneuvers. (More information is available about this in the "Kiárpátalja" 1993/4, published in Ungvár).

The Hungarian soldiers received a password from the territorial command, to prove their identity to the Ukrainian partisans. It is highly probable, that the password was often changed, only one is known to us "HONTA"

There is no trace in the War History of the German Archives about a good relationship between the Hungarians and National Ukrainian Guerillas in high level German reports. This, however, does not mean that they had no knowledge of the connections between them. True to the already quoted remembrances, it happened that a German courier asked for a Hungarian flag, because he had to drive through extensive wooded area.

At the beginning of August, as we know it, from Lajos Hidvégi, reservist second lieutenant of the 24. Hungarian Division, as an aide-de-camp, subordinated to the XI. German Army Corps in the Bisztrica valley in Galicia. in Rafailowa, representing the UPA the village "starosta", (the chief magistrate), paid a visit to major general János Markóczy. (It is worth mentioning the elderly man saluted the commander and speaking in perfect German, reported to him in the manner of the old Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, where he had served as a sergeant). According to the agreement, going beyond the one made on June 27, (Farkas - Zubenko). the UPA received also arms and ammunition, in exchange for the rescued Hungarian soldiers mentioned above.

This, however, was a unique case. It became possible only after the meeting of the Hungarian commander and the Ukrainian sztaroszta, when a UPA liaison officer was attached to the Hungarian commander-in chief. Lajos Hidvégi owns a photo, showing major-general Markóczy, fishing with the liaison officer, who is wearing the uniform of of the National Ukrainian Army.

At the turn of July and August, when the I. Hungarian Army withdrew into the fortified Árpád line in the North-East Karpathias. the UPA and the Hungarians held the Tatár pass together against the Soviets until the major forces could return into the bunkers. During the retreat, as German units mixed with the Hungarian ones the UPA soldiers fighting with the Hungarians helped the Germans as well.

Heroic deaths follow all fighting. Most UPA soldiers, together with the Hungarians, lie in the No. 124 field-hospital's cemetery in Vorohta. At the end of September, during the retreat, at the entrance of the Tatár pass, the troops were creating congestions, and a fast Soviet attack -trampling through them - could have cut the front into two. Lajos Hidvdgi, reservist second lieutenant, officer of the 24th Infantry Division, during the night of the 26th, drew together a regiment from UPA partisans and from soldiers separated from their own regiments. They - along others - retreating through Vorohta - with delaying tactics - assisted the Hungarian and German divisions in recapturing the pass. József Göcz, from the Szekler Light Regiment, remembers as follows: As a the matter of fact, during the retreat, we were the rear-guard, and Ukrainian partisans also undertook the risk. They did this, because they did not want the Soviets, advancing from the east, to occupy their territory.

Relatively few National Ukrainian partisans retreated to Hungarian territory. The bulk of the UPA remained in Ukraine, but we know of a small group which

retreated with the Hungarian soldiers to Hungary and squeezed into the encircled city, and took part in the defence of Budapest,

These are old events. Recalling them is not without interest, as there are many people today who hate and fight against each other only on the basis of ethnicity. The above events show, that two much-suffered nations, if they are willing, under difficult circumstances are capable to create human connections,

Finally, we should quote the Ukrainian National partizan's, Bogdan Zubenko s No. 896 command, dated in the early fall of 1944:

Dr. István Ravasz
Ministry of Defence, BP.
Institute of War History Museum
War History Museum, chief secretary

UPA Headquarters
11,789/44.D.Z.Dr.N.P.D.

Ukraine above everything else.
Death to the occupiers!

Order No. 896

The Soviet hords started their attack against our country. At the same time, the German Army also advanced to destroy the enemy. Our heroic soldiers already, without German help, caused great losses to the enemy lines. Some of them, however, at their own initiative, disarmed German and Hungarian soldiers as well. This is an arbitrary action, therefore, these soldiers have to be court-martialled.

The soldiers of the Hungarian Army are a great help to us in defeating the Soviets. We can state strongly, that today, we have reached the kind of military and political understanding which before, was not possible. Therefore, we must not continue a senseless fight for a handful of land

(Sub-Karpathia) and, at the same time, let our most beautiful homeland, a larger area than France - to cede to Moscow.

Without delay, we have to call the attention of our soldiers for the possible co-operation between Great Ukraine and Hungary. Those, who do not realize this, or do not want to understand, are not fit to be a member of our action for liberation! We have to keep a good neighbourly bond with Hungary. We have no territorial claims against Hungary and, therefore, we want to be good neighbours. Hungarians know the value of our arms and, if needed, they will come to our help. Those, who try to wrong this good relationship will have to be thrown out of the freedom fighting army. Such soldiers, should be court-martialled as we cannot tolerate individuals, who do not obey the orders of the chief-of-staffs, Do not do anything that may cause us disservice!

Long live the harmony with our neighbours!

Death to the imperialist!

ZUZ. The commander-in-chief of the rebel Army,

Zubenko Bogdan, general