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## OLEXANDR ZAHRODSKYI: LIFE TO SERVE UKRAINE

**Abstract. The Purpose of the Research.** The personal qualities of one of the prominent participants in the national liberation competitions, a colonel general, Olexandr Olexandrovych Zahrodskyi (1889 – 1968) are of a significant scientific and generally cognitive interest in the context of the human, patriotic, civic, and ultimately military qualities. They form the holistic vision of the liberation struggle leaders. First of all, the aim is to investigate not only the motivation of his crucial decision-making and actions, but at the same time, it is equally important to explore the internal nature of the instigating moments of the soldier's psychology and the military leader as such. **The Research Methodology.** In the article the extraordinary personality scientific, historical and interdisciplinary methods of the research have been used, based on the principles of the historical veracity, objectivity, consistency, comprehensiveness and a multiple factor analysis. **The Scientific Novelty.** The formation of O. O. Zahrodskyi's personality traits has been analyzed for the first time. The emphasis was made on the peculiarities of the family education, the village environment and its influence on the future soldier's

character. The determination and the strong volitional qualities, which led to a fundamental change in the future life path, have been emphasized. At the same time, a sufficient level of knowledge, needed for the future military career; the capability of making the sound decisions, especially the fateful ones, which change the later life paradigm, have been highlighted. It is worth emphasizing that the universal human values and qualities of O. O. Zahrodskiy's personality have been revealed not only during the period of the national liberation struggle but also in emigration. **The Conclusions.** The formation of O. O. Zahrodskiy's personality as a future Colonel General of the UNR Army started at the end of the XIXth century in the social environment of Ukraine by means of the family education. He was brought up in the priest's family. His further life, a conscious choice to follow a warrior's destiny, the participation in World War I and the gained experience led to his transfer in November 1917 to the military formations of the Central Council of the Ukrainian People's Republic (UPR). This move was perceived as a motivated step, determined by the inner nature of his extraordinary personality.

**Key words:** O. Zahrodskiy, education, soldier, service, devotion, honour, Ukraine.

## ОЛЕКСАНДР ЗАГРОДСЬКИЙ: ЖИТТЯ В СЛУЖІННІ УКРАЇНИ

**Анотація. Мета статті.** Особистісні якості одного з визначних учасників національно-визвольних змагань, генерал-полковника Олександра Олександровича Загородського (1889 – 1968) в контексті людинознавчих, патріотичних, громадянських, напевні фахових якостей як військовика, викликають не тільки значний науковий, але й загальнопізнавальний інтерес, формуючи цілісне уявлення щодо очільників визвольної боротьби. Найперше ставиться мета висвітлити мотивацію прийняття ним вирішальних рішень, його вчинків і дій, не применюючи водночас важливість дослідження внутрішньої природи спонукальних моментів психології вояка та військового діяча. **Методологія дослідження.** Вивчення непересічної особистості забезпечено загальнонауковими, історичними та міждисциплінарними методами дослідження. Цьому сприяли такі принципи: історичної достовірності, об'єктивності, системності, комплексності, науковості, всебічності та багатofакторності. **Наукова новизна.** Уперше цілісно досліджено становлення особистісних якостей О. О. Загородського. Акцентовано увагу на особливостях родинного виховання, середовищі села, його впливові на якості характеру майбутнього вояка. Підкреслено рішучість та вольові якості, котрі спонукали до принципової зміни майбутнього життєвого шляху. Водночас зауважено достатній рівень знань, необхідних для майбутньої кар'єри військового, здатного приймати вивірені рішення, особливо доленосні, коли вони змінюють парадигму подальшого життя. Варто підкреслити, що загальнолюдські цінності та якості особистості О. О. Загородського нами виявлено не тільки в період національно-визвольних змагань, але й в еміграції. **Висновки.** Формування особистості генерал-полковника Армії УНР О. О. Загородського у соціальному середовищі України започаткувалося засобами сімейного виховання у священничій родині наприкінці XIX ст. Його подальший життєвий шлях, усвідомлений вибір долі вояка, участь у Першій світовій війні та набутий досвід забезпечили перехід у листопаді 1917 р. до військових формувань Центральної Ради УНР. Це був умотивований крок, зумовлений внутрішньою природою його непересічної особистості.

**Ключові слова:** О. О. Загородський, виховання, вояк, військо УНР, Центральна Рада, честь, Україна.

**The Problem Statement.** Once again, returning to the recent history of Ukraine comprehending, it is inevitable to conclude the necessity to understand the place and rank of a particular person in the course of the recent history events. Moreover, when it concerns the struggle for independence, freedom, the right of the Ukrainians to live on their land according to their laws. The national liberation movement during 1917 – 1921 provides a particularly rich material not only for understanding the lessons of the past, but in many respects, it warns against the errors at present, especially during the challenge periods and hardships.

At the same time, there is a gradual but consistent transition from understanding the history of events to understanding the personal qualities of a person, his or her life history,

because the person occurred at the crossroads of the events owing to the will of the historical process. The person's decision-making and the decision implementation will inevitably have consequences, sometimes the irreversible ones. Therefore, studying the history of the formation and development of a person to a personality in space and time will enable us to understand the cause and the effect links in the events that took place. In addition, studying the history of the formation and development of a person to a personality will teach, at the same time, and it will warn against making mistakes in the future. That is why doing the researches, finding the place of the most prominent personalities in the course of the struggle for an independent Ukrainian statehood, their influence on the course of the events and the results are perceived not only timely, – the human studies are considered to be the priority at the modern stage of the historical researches in Ukraine.

**The Analysis of Sources and Recent Researches.** Taking into consideration the growing public demand for the researches on the history of the national liberation movement during 1917 – 1921, the prolonged interest in this period of the recent Ukrainian history, it should be emphasized on the significant increase in the number of the published works after the proclamation of Ukraine's independence. There happened a corresponding increase in the published materials concerning both the leaders of the national liberation movement and the military circles representatives, who implemented and approved the state-making processes in an armed way.

The whole information set, formed by the Ukrainian researchers of that period, is roughly classified into three groups of sources. The first groups of sources concerns the generalizing works, in particular, it is necessary to single out the publications: on the generality of the Ukrainian national-liberation movement, written by O. M. Kolyanchuk, M. R. Lytvyn and K. Ye. Naumenko (Koljanchuk, Lytvyn, & Naumenko, 1995); the ways of Ukrainian officership in 1917 – 1921, written by Ya. Tynchenko (Tynchenko, 1995); the notes on the Ukrainian revolutions, written by S. V. Kulchytskyi (Kul'chyc'kyj, 2001); the biography of Pavlo Skoropadskyi, written by H. V. Papakin (Papakin, 2003) and many others. The second group refers to the works and other materials that are differently related to the biography of Colonel General Olexander Zagrodskyi (1889 – 1968); the information on the internment of the UNR Army in the camps of Poland and Romania, written by I. V. Sribniak (Sribniak, 1997); the memoirs of P. F. Shandruk (Shandruk, 1999); the memoirs of the Ukrainian commander M. V. Omelyanovych-Pavlenko (Omelyanovych-Pavlenko, 2007); the memoir work by I. P. Mazepa (Mazepa, 2003); the biographical reference of the UNR Army officer corps, written by Ya. Tynchenko (Tynchenko, 2007); some publications of the direct participants of national liberation movement. The third group comprises the data of the Central Archives of Higher Authorities and Administration of Ukraine (CSAHSAPAU) and the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine (CSHAUK).

**The publication's purpose.** Understanding the fact that the moral and professional qualities of the personality of the famous soldier, a colonel general Olexander Zahrodskyi, go far beyond an everyday perception, puts the authors before the need to study not only the motivational component of his various activities. In the context of the human being, patriotic, civic, and finally professional qualities as a soldier, one must understand the nature of the actions, which, in our opinion, is of a considerable scientific and cognitive interest, since the perception and realization of the multifactorial principle forms a holistic view of O. O. Zahrodskyi's liberation struggle. Therefore, the perception of the whole amount of factors: social, political, ethnic and territorial, makes it clear that the leaders of national

liberation movement, including O. O. Zahrodskyi, were tested by the circumstances in various ways. Therefore, primarily, the aim is to study not only the causally motivated situation, but it is equally important to explore the internal nature of the decisions, the actions in O. O. Zahrodskyi's psychology as a soldier, as an activist.

**The Statement of the Basic Material.** It should be emphasized that the study of the prominent figures qualities of the national liberation movement from the point of view of the present period is based on the principles, which are logically connected with the studios of the famous Ukrainian scientist Ya. Dashkevych, who considered it possible to obtain the desired results because of the higher manifestation of the biography facts. They can be achieved by applying the principle of multifactoriality for an in-depth study of a person's personal essence, so he noted that «... five blocks of issues... relevant to the Ukrainian biography studies and prosopography, which have, of course, their national specifics, caused by the very difficult conditions of the people's life during many centuries: 1) personal; 2) ethno- and religious psychological; 3) public; 4) political; 5) creative» (Dashkevych, 2011, pp. 240–241). Therefore, the authors consider it necessary to make a full use of the creative inheritance of a well-known scientist O. O. Zahrodskyi, concerning his life in service for Ukraine.

The personal factors of the person's best qualities formation are causally caused by the family education. It is known that O. O. Zahrodskyi was born in a large family of a village priest, in Zelenkiv village, Uman district of Kyiv province. Olexander orphaned early, the family lost their breadmaker Olexander Zahrodskyi († 1896). In «the Cleary Gazette of the Uman County for 1890», we find the material about a large family of the priest Olexander Zahrodskyi. His son Olexander, who dropped out of the 4th grade at Kyiv Theological Seminary and eventually chose the military service, was the youngest among his children. He was born on April 10, 1889 and was baptized in the Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, in Zelenkiv village (CSHAUK, f. 127, d. 1011, c. 3192, p. 280). The children, especially the sons, grew up in a rural environment, which significantly influenced the formation of the best features of the Ukrainian people. It seems necessary to emphasize that honesty in the relationship, honesty, a sense of duty he received in the family circle and entrenched it in the communication with the fellow villagers.

The next step was the study at the seminary for three years. He left school and worked as a village teacher for some time. In some period of time, however, the personal judgment made him change his vital interests – he left the seminary after his third year of study ... He chose the path of the soldier: «20.11. In 1912 he was enrolled in the army and enlisted in the 74th Stavropol infantry regiment (Tynchenko, 2007, p. 168). It is likely that these three years of studying at the seminary allowed him to finish successfully the non-commissioned officer's school (since June 30, 1913 – a junior non-commissioned officer (Tynchenko, 2007, p. 168). The service was successful, so as early as March 28, 1914 – a senior non-commissioned officer (at the age of 25). As a person capable of a critical analysis of the situation, he realized that it was not too late to pass the examination for the officer rank, he passed the examination on 18. 06. 1914, he received the officer rank «ensign» on 22. 08. 1914 (RSMHA, f. 409, d. 1, c. 51410, p. 508). Such step was more motivated since World War I began on August 1, 1914, so the need for the trained officers arose immediately.

It has been determined that in the World War I he served in the 74th Stavropol infantry regiment as a junior officer. This fact was confirmed by his photo among the unit commanders.

The regiment was the part of the 19th Infantry Division 12, Army Corps 9. It was located on the left section of the Southwestern Front (the headquarters in Kamianets-Podilskyi).

According to the available information, O. O. Zahrodskyi was a brave soldier; he did not hide from the bullets behind the soldiers' backs during the attacks. On August 17, 1914 he was wounded in the upper part of the abdomen in the battle near Rohatyn. He was cured of and returned to his regiment. He was again wounded in the battle (the night of the 24th – the 25th of November, 1914. It is quite obvious that the skillful leadership under the conditions of the warfare at night was noticed by the commanders, more over, the received wound became the basis for commemorating the military warfare, so by the «highest command» of April 22, 1915, the ensign O. Zahrodskyi was awarded the golden St. George weapon. He was wounded for the third time near the village of Chebakhaza on March 22, 1915. In addition, he was awarded the Order of St. Stanislav of the III<sup>d</sup> degree and St. Anne of the III<sup>d</sup> degree with swords (RSMHA, f. 409, d. 1, c. 51410, p. 508).

At present, the search for the established sample of the general khoruzhyi O. O. Zahrodskyi's registration card of the Ukrainian People's Republic Army service did not give the desired results in the Central State Archives of the highest authorities of Ukraine. That is why, the authors decided to use the information, provided in the biographical guide, compiled by a historian, a specialist on the military history (Tynchenko, 2007, pp. 168–169). They took the information as the basis and conducted the search based on it ...

Among other reasons, World War I accelerated the social upheavals in the Russian Empire, a series of the defeats at the fronts, and the propaganda efforts of various political parties led to the abdication of the throne. The country entered the bourgeois revolution. The intensification of the socially coloured passions, the reluctance and the refusal from the hostilities, the Bilshovyk agitation, the centred sentiments of the national elites ultimately led to the cessation of fighting and the collapse of the front ...

In the Ukrainian territories, as the response to the national situation, the national intellectual elite formed the Ukrainian Central Council. At first it functioned as the representative body of the political, civic, cultural and professional organizations, and after the All-Ukrainian National Congress (6–8.04.1917 p.) – as Parliament of Ukraine.

Personally for O. O. Zahrodskyi, the staff captain, there came the moment of decision making under critical conditions. It should be taken into account that, as the officer, he had no clear political preferences and therefore he did not belong to any political parties. We assume that this time, the main motive for the transition to the service in the Ukrainian army was the family education, based on the Ukrainian national traditions. He offered his military knowledge and experience as the combat officer to serve the Ukrainian people, their national liberation. According to his own, internally motivated and made decision, O. O. Zahrodskyi already at the beginning of November 1917 – «... the commander of Kyiv guard regiment of the Central Council Troops» (Tynchenko, 2007, p. 168). Later on, his experience, his education, his honest fulfillment of the duties started working. He was appointed of commander of the 1st Zaporizhzhya Kuren (from 09.02.1918.), later on – the commander of the 1st Zaporizhzhya Regiment (from 15.03.1918), deployed from the kuren (a full name –the 1st Zaporizhzhya infantry regiment named after Hetman Petro Doroshenko). At first it was part of the separate Zaporizhzhya Corps, but the corps was reorganized in the separate Zaporizhzhya Division during the period of the Ukrainian State of Hetman P. P. Skoropadskyi. After the coup d'etat against the hetman, the sotnyk (the rank assigned on 21.10.1918) O. O. Zahrodskyi on 16.11.1918 became the commander of this division within the troops of the Directory, stationed in Kharkiv region (from 19.12.1918 he combined position of the Ukrainian troops commander of Kharkiv region). Separately, it should be said

that O. Zahrodskyi supported the anti-Hetman uprising, since as a military man he could not accept the Germans' stay in his native Ukraine, but he was loyal to his official duties during the Hetmanate era.

The next turn in his professional career was taken with the responsibility realizing, already on February 28, 1919, he combined the position of the assistant commander of the Eastern front of the UNR Army's Active Army of the colonel S. H. Khilobchenko, a colleague in the kurin command in the separate Zaporizhzhya Corps. Almost the entire spring period of 1918 passed in the fighting within the departments of the Zaporizhzhya units: in May 1919 – he was the chief of the 6th Zaporizhzhya Division; from 10.06.1919 – he was the assistant (in the rank of the colonel of the UNR Army) of the Chief of Zaporizhzhya group, the UNR Army (Cossacks) of the general M. V. Omelyanovych-Pavlenko, formed in Kreminets-Pochayiv district; at the same time – he was the commander of the 6th Division (Tynchenko, 2007, p. 168). The fighting on the territory of Right-Bank Ukraine with the dominating number of the enemy forces (Volunteer Army, Red Army and Polish troops) was extremely exhausting for the UNR Army, the lack of ammunition, the rear supplies, besides there broke out a fierce typhus. So under the enemies pressure the UNR Army happened to be in a triangle (Lyubar – Chortoryia – Myropil).

The military units commanders gathered for a meeting. As a result of the discussion of the situation, the opinions were different. Some commanders offered to go for the internment, the others – for the alliance with the Reds, while the others denied this idea, understanding of the dire consequences of such decision. According to Yu. Tyutyunyk, on December, 4, 1919 the meeting in New Chortoryia showed the loss of the communication between the Army command and the military units. But then the note was received from the Army Headquarters: «To all the divisions commanders: Zaporizhzhia, Volyn, Kyiv, S. S. and Zalizna. The chief commander ordered tomorrow 5 / XII till 12 o'clock to send the following information to the army headquarters: 1) what state of the division is; 2) what area it wants to move to; 3) what the division wants to receive from the headquarters and what kind of supply; 4) the questions that arise from the commander. New Chortoryia. 4.XIII.1919. part 32» (Tjutjunyk, 1966, p. 25).

Due to this, the discussion of the situation continued during the following days. O. O. Zahrodskyi, the commander of the 2nd Volyn Division, as one of the most respected commanders, at the meeting in the morning of December, 6, 1919, he was the first to report on the state of the division, but he stood apart from the political issue, consciously noting that ... «...the political matter is not his occupation» (Tjutjunyk, 1966, p. 25). The deputy commander of the UNR Army and, at the same time, the commander of Kyiv Division Yu. Y. Tyutyunyk, again taking the floor after O. O. Zahrodskyi, stated that «... striving to continue the armed struggle at all costs and to keep the army until the spring, he had already decided to break through the rear of White Russians. After the destruction of the Whites, to fight against the Reds» (Tjutjunyk, 1966, p. 26).

For O. O. Zahrodskyi, the decision to make the raids to the enemy's rear was not easy. He pondered for some time because the political component of the winter raid was unclear. But at the same time he, as a professional military with several years of the war experience, was well aware of the full amount of the difficulty of the armed struggle against the enemies, being in the state, in fact, of the self-supply and reliance. Finally, the sense of duty to the native land became predominant ... It turned out that Yu. Y. Tyutyunyk, being pleased, stated that «Zahrodskyi agreed to go to the rear, and Trutenko agreed after him» (Tjutjunyk, 1966, p. 26).

It should be noted that the First Winter Campaign (06.12.1919 – 06.05.1920) was first perceived by its participants, the military leadership of the UNR Army, the authorities of the UNR in emigration as one of the highest manifestations of heroism, bravery and a military courage. The array of the information on the First Winter Campaign conduct was quite significant. In our opinion, most fully its emotional dramatic component was transmitted by Yu. Y. Tyutyunnyk (Tjutjunnyk, 1966), a detailed analysis from a military point of view was made by M. V. Omeljanovych-Pavlenko (Omeljanovych-Pavlenko, 2007).

O. O. Zahrodskyi carried out his high duty as the commander of the 2nd Volyn Division with honour. Being exhausted by typhoid fever, he was taken to his family for the treatment (February – April 1920), due to the care and the efforts of medicine of that time he returned to the army and continued fighting. After the internment on the territory of Poland he continued being the commander of the 2nd Volyn Division.

The internment period during 1920 – 1923 became a real challenge to the ordinary soldiers and commanders, since on the shoulders of the latter there was all the burden of the life support and the subordinates employment. The archival materials testified that O. O. Zahrodskyi fulfilled his duties honourably: «To the good state, which the units in Kalish illustrated to the Supreme Leader of the Polish Army, to the healthy moral state of the division, which impressed the High Guest, I express my gratitude ... to the commander of the 2nd Volyn Rifle Division, O. O. Zahrodskyi, General-Hohorunzhyi ...», it was stated in the order of the Main Command of the Army of the UNR P. 32. June 04, 1921. The order was signed by S. Petliura, Chief Otaman, and M. Bezruchko, General Khorunzhyi, temporally in duty of the Army Commander and temporally in duty of the Minister for the Defense (CSAHSAPAU, f. 1075, d. 2, c. 463, p. 67).

It is quite evident that the visit of Józef Pilsudski, the communication of S. V. Petliura with him made the military and political leadership of the UNR inspect all the internment camps. The commission was headed by O. I. Udovychenko, General Horunzhyi. According to the results of the check, the order of the Main Command of the Army of the UNR P. 68 was prepared on October 1, 1921: «The Inspectorate General of the Army revealed, despite the difficult conditions of the internment, our glorious warfare retained a healthy mood and faith in our matter – these are the fundamental factors of the military psyche, which in the nearest future will lead us to the final victory over the enemies. Sharing my heart with all these higher feelings of the military soul, I express my gratitude to everyone from the General to the Cossack ... to the commander of the 2nd Volyn Rifle Division, General Khorunzhyi O. O. Zahrodskyi». It was signed by Chief Otaman S. Petliura, General Khorunzhyi Pavlenko, temporal in duty of the Army Commander and temporal in duty of Minister for Defense (CSAHSAPAU, f. 1075, d. 2, c. 463, p. 92).

At the end of his internment period, he lived as an emigrant in Kalisz, Poland. Since 1921 he was involved into the public and organizational work, leading the Ukrainian Union of the Disabled of the UNR Army. O. O. Zahrodskyi was a member of the Main Board of Simon Petliura Cross – the award in the UNR Army (1936 – 1946), he built the Ukrainian Cooperative Union in the Helm. As the Soviet troops approached, he emigrated to Austria with his family in 1944. Remembering that in 1920 Christian Rakowski demanded O. O. Zahrodskyi's extradition from the Polish government, in 1950 O. O. Zahrodskyi emigrated to the United States. He continued doing the public work. He was the member of the Board of the Ukrainian Congress Committee in America. He was the member of the UNR Government's Military Ministry in exile, the honorary member of the «Association of Former Ukrainian Soldiers in America».

«The Tryzub» magazine published the note about the end of O. O. Zahrodskyi's earthly path. The part of the note is given below: «On August 4, 1968 in New York unexpectedly died at the age of 79 years of his life the regiment General of the UNR Army Olexander Zahrodskyi, Knight of the Iron Cross and S. Petliura Cross. The funeral took place at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in Bound Brook» (Tryzub, 1968, p. 23)

The Conclusions. It has been determined that O. O. Zahrodskyi's personality formation, General Colonel of the UNR Army, was provided by means of the family upbringing in the priestly family at the end of the XIXth century, taking into account the traditions and values of the Ukrainian village environment, which inevitably influenced his psyche. In addition, the knowledge of his family members, their fates, education and a social status has been expanded.

A further life of the young man, studying in the theological seminary, interruption of the education, the reflections on the further life, a conscious choice of the soldier's fate, the participation in World War I and the military experience gained there ensured the transition to the military formations of the Central Council of the UNR in November 1917. The transition is perceived as a motivated step, conditioned by the inner nature of his extraordinary personality.

The service in the 74th Stavropol infantry regiment formed in his mind the sense of discipline, responsibility, the ability to make the reasonable decisions and be responsible for them. The participation in the hostilities developed his determination, courage, the ability to subordinate the subordinates to achieve the task.

The analysis of the archival materials and the publications made it possible to expand significantly the understanding of his mental and psycho-volitional qualities, as well as to reveal that he proved to be a capable, competent commander, a conscious performer of the tasks for gaining independence for the Ukrainian people during the period of the national liberation struggle in 1917 – 1921.

The additional information on the military service in the Army of the Ukrainian People's Republic, required to form a complete portrait of Colonel General O. O. Zahrodskyi, is in a scattered state. Thus, the information on the personnel of the command of the 2nd Volyn Division headed by O. O. Zahrodskyi has been revealed (CSAHSAPAU, f. 1078, d. 2, c. 216, p. 98). There is also a separate list of the army chiefs (CSAHSAPAU, f. 1078, d. 2, c. 216, p. 116). The UNR High Command also worried about the moral state of the soldiers interned at Kalish camp. The UNR High Command got rid of all those, who had lost the faith in their struggle (CSAHSAPAU, f. 2282, d. 1, c. 61, p. 25). O. O. Zahrodskyi had the authority, so the Inspector General of the UNR Troops, in connection with the service s trips, entrusted Zahrodskyi with his duties (CSAHSAPAU, f. 2282, d. 1, c. 61, pp. 34, 48). A separate case, concerning the organization of the internment internal life of the 2nd Volyn Rifle Division in Kalish, has been found out, in particular, the organization of a daily service, the performance of various work, the training of the army chiefs, the celebration of different holidays (CSAHSAPAU, f. 3238, d. 1, c. 21). In our opinion, the internal life of the interned soldiers is worthy of a special research study.

It is clear that the article focuses only on the contours of the issue raised, and to a certain extent, it outlines the way of a further study of O. O. Zahrodskyi's personality, Colonel General, since his life journey after World War II passed through Austria, Germany and ended in the United States of America.

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