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ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA OF NAZI GERMANY IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OF UKRAINE DURING 1941-1944

During World War II, anti-Semitism reached its highest level of cruelty, especially in the occupied territories of Ukraine. The article revealed the German occupation policy, which adhered to the principle of conflict creation between different peoples and ethnic groups, who inhabited the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine" and the area of military administration. The article also covered the periodicals, leaflets, caricatures, all kinds of proclamations, propaganda campaigns as means of anti-Semitic propaganda were aimed at creating a terrible image of the Jew. The most widespread in Nazi propaganda was the accusation of Jews of crimes by the Bolshevik Stalinist regime. It has been proven that the open call for the extermination of Jews as bearers of Bolshevik ideology and practice was made through Nazi propaganda. It was found that the influence of Nazi propaganda on the population of the occupied territories was huge, which forced the Soviet troops to intensify their own propaganda after returning to their territories. In general, German agitation and propaganda activities played a significant role in advancing the Nazi army deep into the USSR, but the inconsistent policy of the German occupation authorities undermined the information principles it had created. The Nazi occupation policy led to the total annihilation of the Jewish people in the occupied territories of Ukraine. The moral and psychological condition of the population of the occupied territories was extremely difficult, people no longer believed that the German authorities would fulfill the promises they had mentioned in their propaganda. The political forces of Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union used the most modern methods and means of influencing the population of opposing and military opponents.

Key word: *anti-Semitism policy; World War II; German-Soviet war; propaganda; media.*

Introduction

The policy pursued by Hitler's authorities in the occupied territories were part of Hitler's German conquest plans in World War II. They planned to expand the living space of Germany primarily at the expense of the territories of the Soviet Union and other Slavic countries. On the eve of the war, detailed plans for the structure of Eastern Europe were developed. The SS's Reich Main Security Office developed the first version of the Generalplan Ost in 1941. It was presented on May 28, 1942 by Reichsführer-SS Konrad Meyer-Hetling, the representative of the Office of the Reich Commissioner for the Consolidation of German Nationhood. It was entitled "The Generalplan Ost (Master Plan for the East). Legal, economic and spatial foundations of the East" (*Hitler's Table Talk, 1953*).

During the Second World War, barbaric racism and anti-Semitism were united for the first time with the officially declared goal of genocide, the destruction of entire races and peoples. To give a more concise definition, it can be called as radically racist, genocidal version of German expansion to the East. The connection between the Generalplan Ost and the Holocaust is extremely large and close. Including the racist intention to exterminate tens of millions of Slavs, the Generalplan Ost was also key experimental area for the killing of Jews throughout Europe and around the world. It was created to provide territory for an unlimited number of ghettos and death

camp. In contrast to the Holocaust, the Generalplan Ost provided for a broad program of looting and expansion.

The capture of the eastern territories was explained with the "Bolshevik threat" or with the need to expand the living space for the Germans. One participant of the Nuremberg Trials testified that Himmler had already explained to his twelve SS group leaders in early 1941 that the extermination of 30 million Slavs was "the goal of the campaign against Russia" (*Dashychev (ed.), 1973:37*). The same witness confirmed to the Soviet prosecutor, "that the struggle against the guerrilla movement was a rather important reason for the extermination of the Slavic and Jewish populations" (*Der Prozeß gegen die Hauptkriegsverbrecher, 1947: 520*). At the beginning of the Eastern campaign, Hitler ordered that the occupied areas should be calmed down "as quickly as possible" (*Der Prozeß gegen die Hauptkriegsverbrecher, 1949: 92*). He suggested, "It is the best decision to shoot anyone who looks askance" (*Der Prozeß gegen die Hauptkriegsverbrecher, 1949: 87*).

One of the important aspects in the information policy of the Hitler's leadership in Nazi Germany, and then in the temporarily occupied territories, was the Jewish issue. It was clearly seen in the confrontation between Germany and the Soviet Union. In the information space created by Hitler's propaganda in the occupied territories, anti-Semitism flourished from the first steps of the Nazi army in the conquered territories. Anti-Semitism permeated all

Nazi propaganda, revealed in any of the media. The German philologist V. Klemperer well described how the anti-Semitism manifested itself in the Nazi propaganda of 1933-1945 in Germany. He noted that the word "Jew" in German is more common than any other word. It is combined with the Bolshevik, English and American ideas of the world order (Klemperer, 1998).

Anti-Semitic propaganda and its impact on the population of the territories occupied by the Nazi army have become the object of attention not only of foreign but also of domestic historians. In particular, M. Mykhailiuk analyzes the methods and technologies of Nazi propaganda in occupied Kyiv in his research and concludes that the Nazis used modern propaganda tools for that time aimed at the consciousness of the local population (Mykhailiuk, 2006).

D. Tytarenko studied the influence of the Nazi government's cultural policy as a tool of propaganda. He showed the activities of theatrical institutions, libraries, museums, the role of print propaganda, cinema and radio as means of forming a picture of the world, the popularization of certain cultural stereotypes. The author notes that the policy pursued in the occupied territories was based on the principles of racial and cultural superiority of the Germans inherent in the Nazi ideology, the thesis of the inferiority, backwardness and cultural incapacity of the Slavs and the Jewish population (Tytarenko, 2005).

Historian G. Kostyrchenko studied the use of anti-Semitism as a tool for the implementation of the Stalinist regime in the Soviet Union. He showed two closely related processes: the concentration of absolute power in Stalin's hands and his practical actions, which often escalated into Judaophobia (Anti-Semitism), and the desire to attribute real political problems to the machinations of "Jewish nationalists" (Kostyrchenko, 2003).

Therefore, the aim of our article is to identify tools and methods of anti-Semitic propaganda in the occupied territories of Ukraine by the government of Nazi Germany and the USSR during the Second World War

Methods of research

The principles of objectivity and historicism are the methodological basis of this study, which provide a politically impartial analysis of the collected information of specific historical circumstances, as well as the use of such methods as historical-typological, comparative, statistical and others. The principle of objectivity was used in the assessment of sources and materials on our issue to reproduce a holistic picture of the events that took place in 1941-1944 on the territory of Ukraine. Methods of systematization and comprehensiveness allow to study and generalize the achievements of historical science in studying the issue of information and propaganda policy of Nazi Germany in the occupied territories of Ukraine during the Second World War, to present the material in a logical, consistent and complete form. The principle of historicism, on which this study is based, requires mandatory consideration of lessons of history and historical domestic and world experience, the need to take into account specific historical circumstances of the era, during which information and political confrontation become an important form of military struggle between Germany and the Soviet Union.

The historical-typological method made it possible to identify similar properties and features in different socio-political structures and events of the socio-economic area

(for example, the means and mechanisms by which Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union tried to influence the population of the occupied territories).

The historical-comparative method gave an opportunity to compare the selected structural parts of the subject of study over time and to compare the socio-political processes on the eve of the Second World War in Germany and the USSR.

The principle of systematization directs to a comprehensive understanding of historical knowledge about the epoch in which the development of an event or the formation of a social phenomenon took place. A comprehensive study of large and complex objects (systems) is its essence. It means the study of these objects as a whole with the coordinated functioning of all elements and parts. That is why every object of scientific research needs its using. During the study of the information space created by the Nazi authorities in the occupied territories of Ukraine in 1941-1944, it is necessary to know and take into account socio-political, socio-economic, cultural, military development, relations with neighbouring countries, place in the political space of Europe. The principle of systematization takes into account the achievements of not only domestic but also foreign historians in studying the problem of information policy in the occupied territories of Ukraine, including the Ukrainian diaspora, in order to ensure the integrity of Ukrainian historical thought (Kalakura, 2004: 496).

Results and Discussion

During the preparation for the war with the USSR, the authorities of Nazi Germany created the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories, headed by Alfred Rosenberg. Unifying the periodicals of the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine" and turning them into the main information and psychological weapons against the Jewish population and party workers were his tasks. The political department, which was subordinated to the ministry, consisted of 14 departments, including the general propaganda department. Its structure included subdivisions: propaganda, press, radio, cinema, foreign relations, economic recruitment, exhibition, military service, etc.¹. Inspector of the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories Mr. Oettinger was engaged in the political development of measures and implementation of Wehrmacht plans in the field of press and propaganda².

The Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories created a clear system for organizing the functioning of both the German and occupation press and providing it with the necessary materials. Dr. G. Zimmerman, Ministerial Dirigent, was the head of this department, and Ludwig Bulysh was a Secretary. This department provided propagandists with equipment, film, newspaper, loudspeakers, etc.³.

To serve the Eastern press in the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories, a group of 18 C was created. Publishing houses of newspapers and magazines distributed in the occupied territory of the Ukrainian

¹ Imperial Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Regions (Berlin), (German archives. Trophy documents). State Russian Military Archive. Fund 1358. List 1. File 1. Page 8.

² Ibid. Page 26.

³ Ibid. Page 38.

SSR (Nove Slovo, Golos Donechchyny, and others) were subordinated to this group⁴.

With the outbreak of hostilities between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union in the occupied territories of Ukraine, anti-Semitism was manifested with double force. The Nazi occupation authorities tried to convince the population that Jews and Bolsheviks were to blame for all the problems that existed in the USSR before the war. Persecuting the Jewish population and embodying the idea of anti-Semitism, Hitler's propaganda proclaimed one of its tasks in the occupied territories "liberation from Bolshevism". Propaganda of this nature in the first period of the war was quite effective, it was usually aimed at uncovering real crimes committed under the Soviet system. To confirm this information, German troops opened prisons for public inspection where the NKVD (The People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs) killed prisoners in the summer of 1941, and in Vinnytsia and other cities on Right Bank Ukraine, mass graves of people killed by Soviet troops were demonstrated to locals in the spring of 1943.

The ideological stamp of "Jewish Bolshevism" was imposed on all actions taken by the Soviet authorities, and it was the main feature of Nazi propaganda in the occupied territories of Ukraine. This is how the German occupation authorities identified the Jews and the Bolsheviks, trying to destroy them in one blow.

The Soviet authorities tried to circumvent the painful issue of the Jewish population in the occupied territories. Their main task was to win back the living space occupied by the Nazi army at any cost, so the Jewish issue was not politically focused for them during the war.

The study of the famous Russian historian G. Kostyrchenko is the evidence of this. According to Stalin, before the war the Soviet authority in the person of J. Stalin did not pursue any anti-Semitic policy: Jewish culture and nationalism were suppressed along with all other national cultures and movements, and the percentage among those repressed in the political processes of 1937-1938 was not higher than among other nationalities (Kostyrchenko, 2003: 234-237).

However, it should be noted that the attitude of the Soviet authorities, and in particular J. Stalin, to the activity of Jewish political and social organizations during the war was ambiguous. With the beginning of the war, when the information and propaganda activities of the Soviet leadership intensified on the territory of the USSR, the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee (EAC) was formed under the chairmanship of S. Mikhoels, the People's Artist of the USSR. The management of the EAC included S. Lozovskii, I. Erinburg, D. Bergelson, J. Cruiser, P. Kapitsa, L. Stern and others.

Despite the active activities of the EAC, the Soviet authorities tried not to notice it, in addition, to avoid examples of the heroism of Jews who fought in the Red Army covering in the press. The publication in the magazine "Bolshevik" № 2 in 1943 is an example is. It provided data of service members awarded orders and medals due to the nationalities. Counting the winners, it was indicated how many Russians, Ukrainians and others were there. At the end of this paragraph we can read: "Yakuts, Jews, fighters of all nationalities of the USSR are among the winners also". The number of Jews awarded was also not specified, although by October 1942, 5,163 Jews were

awarded, while the number of awarded Russians was higher - 11,525 (Kostyrchenko, 2003: 237-239).

Despite some anti-Semitic manifestations by the Soviet authorities, the struggle of the Nazi administration against the Jewish people in the occupied territories surpassed all known anti-Semitic manifestations. According to the racist theory and ideology promoted by the ideologues of the National Socialist Workers' Party (NSWP) in the territory of occupied Ukraine, periodicals and leaflets with propaganda against Jews were distributed. If we analyze the anti-Semitic publications published on the territory of the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine", we must recognize the extremely wide psychological treatment of the local population by the Nazi authorities during its policy of "final settlement of the Jewish issue". Periodicals not only informed the population about the anti-Jewish measures of the occupying authorities, but also directly influenced their attitude to the Jews (Lyakhovitsky, ed., 1992: 99-114).

With the beginning of an armed aggression against the USSR, Hitler's occupation administration immediately began to implement its plans for the Jewish population.. - There were mass executions of residents, the largest of which - the execution of the Jewish population in almost all captured cities: Zhytomyr, Berdychiv, Vinnytsia, Kyiv, Kharkiv and others. Thus, F. Vynokurov, examining the documents of the security group of the secret field police "OST" of SS Sturmbanführer Friedrich Schmidt and Untersturmführer Karl Daner from December 24, 1941, notes that the "Jewish issue" was solved by shooting civilians. Thus, on January 10, 1941, all residents of the Jewish nationality in the village of Stryzhavky, mostly elderly people, women and children, were shot dead near the stone fence of the former prison. On April 16, 1942, about 5,000 Jews were shot in honour of Hitler's arrival (Vynokurova, 2007: 221).

On September 26, 1941, the issue of measures to eliminate the Jewish population of Kyiv was considered at the meeting in the Sixth German Army under the command of W. von Reichenau. The place of execution - Babyn Yar - was determined that day. An information base was prepared to spread rumours about the departure of Jews to their ethnic homeland (Yevstafieva, 2007: 265). At the same time, information that the Jews set fire to the Khreshchatyk street and other central streets of the city was spread. From the document of the Reich Main Security Office "Report on the events in the USSR" №97 from September 28, 1941, we know that "The fire engulfed the center. The most valuable buildings were destroyed... Jews are actively involved in arson.... Measures to capture all Jews were taken, which include the execution of 50,000 Jews" (Sbornik dokumentov i materialov..., 2002: 76-77).

In order to launch an anti-Jewish campaign, to turn the local population against the Jews, so that the people would not only identify and betray the Jews, but also take part in measures against them, Hitler's propaganda carried out a significant propaganda work. For this activity, the occupation administration used all the media available to the Nazis. Postcards with caricatures, orders and directives also had a great influence on the population of the occupied territories.

The periodical press was most actively used. In the occupied territories, it not only informed the population about the measures of the occupying power, but also directly influenced the change in the attitude of the local

⁴ Ibid. Page 40.

population towards Jews. This was sometimes crucial in providing or not providing them with the necessary assistance (*Averbukh, comp., 2005: 56-58*).

A special printing house was launched in Kyiv, where newspapers and leaflets with anti-Semitic articles and publications were printed. Thus, a data on the number of Jews in Kyiv and information that before the war they placed a leading position in the management and trade hierarchy of the city were in one of the newspapers in the article "Jewish Kyiv" from October 1942. The Nazis resort to a completely marasmic, in our view, accusation in the article "War and the Jews": the Jews were accused of inciting war against Germany. The content of this article showed that not Hitler and his supporters started World War II, but the people who suffered the most (*Gogun, 2004: 135-139*).

The leaflets emphasized that all the troubles that had befallen the Ukrainian people from the fact that Jews held key government positions. Leaflets "Jews have no place among us", "Ukrainians! Who ruled over you?" were among them. Leaflets offering Red Army soldiers and Red Army commanders a paradise life without Jews, and others (*Gogun, 2004: 140*).

From the speech of Gavtman Panenbrock, the head of the Propaganda Department, we learn that the Nazis gave a significant place to the intelligentsia, its influence on the population of the occupied territories, and therefore, calling for cooperation, the Nazi administration noted that the new intelligentsia became a weapon in the hands of the Jewish Communist group⁵.

Anti-Semitic propaganda was actively carried out through periodicals, leaflets, caricatures, various kinds of proclamations, and propaganda actions aimed at creating a horrible image of a Jew. Even the pre-war government in Ukraine was called Jewish or Jewish-Bolshevik. Thus, through Nazi propaganda, there was an open call for the extermination of Jews as carriers of Bolshevik ideology and practice. For example, in the newspaper "Vynnytsia News" in September 1941 an article "Ukrainian people and Jews" was published, which told about Jews as sworn enemies who took land from peasants, robbed and insulted the Ukrainian people⁶.

Articles of the Sumy Visnyk newspaper were also permeated with anti-Semitic issues. Thus, in the 14th issue of this newspaper of December 4, 1941, we read that the German army constantly defeated the Red Army because a Jewish-Communist gang of international adventurers led it. Further the same article noted that the level of education of the Ukrainian and Russian peoples is extremely low and primitive, and again Jews and communists are guilty of it⁷.

A conference of Ukrainian writers was convened in Kharkiv on June 14, 1943, during which, on behalf of the Ukrainian people, sincere gratitude was expressed to the German army for liberation from the Jewish Bolsheviks and the Soviet regime⁸.

The activities of nationalist organizations and their propaganda weakened the information space of both sides, the German and the Soviet.

In its publications, the OUN reported to the Ukrainian population about events that took place in other territories occupied by the German army. This made it possible to realize the true scale of the tragedy. The same newspaper reported that the German authorities organized raids on the population in the bazaars in Dnipropetrovsk, with aim to increase the working day at the factories to 12 hours... Mass arrests of intellectuals, burning villages, robbing locals were in Kamianets-Podilskyi... The German administration made large arrests among the clergy, the intelligentsia, and among the workers in Lutsk and the surrounding areas: more than 100 people were arrested. The Ukrainian language was not heard in the city. Terror was intensifying⁹.

The OUN Visnyk of the Information Service also played an important role in counter-propaganda. It is noted that sometimes only Moscovites serve in the auxiliary police (Ukrainian rescue service) in one of the editions. They all wear blue and yellow headbands. Communists are among them. They are trying to convince the local population that the Bolsheviks are better¹⁰. Thus, the Soviet counter-propaganda tried to prove to the local population through various information sources and organizations that only the Bolsheviks could ensure a peaceful life on their land.

The occupying authorities emphasized the threat from the Bolsheviks of Jewish descent during the recruiting campaign of workers from the Ukrainian population to Germany. Newspaper articles abounded with appeals to workers published in the local newspaper "Ukrainskyi Golos" (Ukrainian Voice) and in leaflets. They said that the German army liberated the population of Ukraine from the terror of Stalin and the Jewish-Bolshevik commissars, the Bolsheviks destroyed factories where Ukrainians worked before the war, burned farms, housing, deprived them of livelihoods. It was emphasized that Germany can help the population of Ukraine if Ukrainians work faithfully for the German state (*Halchak, 2004: 67-68*).

In both Germany and the occupied territories, Nazi propaganda claimed that the Bolshevik Party and its punitive organs, the NKVD, were in fact puppets in the hands of a worldwide Jewish conspiracy aimed at the complete conquest of the people of the entire world. The Jews were accused of starting the war on their own initiative. Hence the conclusion: Bolshevism and Judaism are one whole. They are the enemy of the people of Russia, and therefore must be destroyed. As a confirmation, we propose to pay attention to some quotes from Nazi leaflets: "Jews have no place among you", "What Jews did not give to your children", "The end of the Berdychiv Jew" and others (*Averbukh, comp., 2005: 62, 104, 106*). It is clear that such leaflets could not leave indifferent those who had already negative attitude to the Soviet government.

The set of leaflets of this nature was perhaps the largest in the propaganda arsenal of the Hitler administration. As the above example shows, the leaflets used various methods of presenting propaganda material and its con-

⁵ Documents of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (Bolsheviks) of Ukraine: Central State Archive of Public United Ukraine. Fund 1. List 23. File 531. Page 3.

⁶ Vynnytski visti. № 8. (1941).

⁷ Sumskyi visnyk. 1941. № 14. 2.

⁸ The editorial office *Sumskyi visnyk*. State Archives of Sumy region. Fund 1848. List 2. File 10. Page 256.

⁹ Collection of materials Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (OUN-UPA). State Archives of Rivne region. Fund R-30. List 1. File 20. Pages 14-15.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* Page 4.

tent. Some leaflets called for the destruction of the Bolshevik-Jewish authorities of the Soviet Union, others called for the expulsion of their families from public life, while others compared what Jews in the USSR did and what Ukrainian and Russian peasants and workers did. In this context, it should be noted that the distribution of anti-Semitic leaflets usually preceded the extermination of Jews.

A historian O. Kruglov offers us generalized information about the executions carried out by Einsatzgruppe. According to him, the Einsatzgruppe C team killed more than 150,000 Jews between September 29, 1941, and the end of 1942. In total, about 630,000 Jews were exterminated in the USSR during 1941-1943 (*Kruglov, 2008*). It was terrible that German occupation propaganda made the locals afraid to help the Jews.

The caricature genre was often used in leaflets. Mostly caricatures of light satirical content were combined with simple humorous poems that were very easy to remember and pass on from one person to another.

It should be noted that satirical genres coped with their propaganda task no worse than rationally verified propaganda materials. Their strength was in the impact on the moral and psychological state of the reader, who at that time was in difficult conditions. For example, the newspaper "Vinnytsia News" contained a caricature "The true face of Bolshevism" where depicting a Jew who removes a mask with the face of Stalin. Then, under the caricature, there is the text: "It is easy for Father-Stalin to rule many peoples, because this difficult but lucrative duty were performed by the Jews for him. "Father" Stalin is only their mask!"¹¹. Similar caricatures were published in other newspapers. Their content is mainly a humorous coverage of the Bolshevik-Jewish authority of the USSR¹², the relations between the leaders of the three countries - the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain - as a political caricature (Stalin and Churchill carry Roosevelt in daily shift)¹³.

Indeed, the content of the caricature directed a great impression on the population of the occupied territories and on every Ukrainian, and the picture repeatedly came to mind and made think about the situation at that time. Often, in order to share their impressions, Ukrainian citizens repeatedly turned their attention to one or another caricature, discussing it, giving it a new meaning¹⁴.

In order to counter-propaganda and persuade the population of the occupied territories to their side, leaflets were distributed by the Soviet political administration. Postcards were delivered by guerrillas or dropped by Soviet planes from the air. But it must be admitted that the capabilities of the Soviet authorities, in this context, were significantly limited compared to the occupying power.

The occupation city councils also created and distributed the leaflets. For example, artists from the information sector of the Kyiv City Council, headed by A. Shekeryk, created propaganda slogans, drew caricatures and posters of anti-Semitic and anti-Soviet content (*Mykhailiuk, 2006: 133*).

German poster propaganda in the occupied territory of Ukraine was aimed at exposing the Soviet system as a regime in which everything positive is destroyed. It was based on demonstrating the positive features of the new occupation authorities in order to encourage the population of the occupied territories to cooperate or reduce their fears of forced labor in Germany.

As a rule, the content of such posters focused on the negative features of collectivization and industrialization, thus trying to influence the consciousness of the population of the occupied territories, drawing on the bitter experience of these people. The agitation strategies of this propaganda had to take into account the orientation of the object of propaganda. This was manifested in the active use of Soviet political slogans by German posters in the 1930's, in part even in their literal reproduction, but with the opposite pictorial support.

The accusation of Jews in the crimes of the Bolshevik Stalinist regime was one of the important methods of Nazi anti-Jewish propaganda used in the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine" and in the area of military administration. The Holodomor of 1932-1933 - the criminal policy of the Stalinist regime during the 1920s and 1930s in Ukraine, repressions against various social groups of Ukrainian society, the creation of a system of concentration camps, and others set a significant part of Ukrainian society against the Soviet regime.

The idea of "Jewish Bolshevism" was the key motive of most Nazi occupation posters. Propaganda successfully exploited the existence of anti-Russian, anti-Bolshevik, and anti-Semitic images of the enemy at the same time, giving them extraordinary drama (*Vashik, 2002: 16*).

In its propaganda, the German occupation authorities opposed the Ukrainians to the Bolsheviks, forcing the population to believe that the Jews and the Stalinist regime were the cause of all the tragedies of the Ukrainian people. Among such posters are some of the series "Jews are your eternal enemies", "Jews have no place among you!" etc (*Lyakhovitsky, 1991: 64*).

Drawing the Bolsheviks, Nazi artists (for example, V. Krain, G. Agricola, K. Molnir) gave them "typically Jewish" features, contrasting them with the real representatives of the Aryan race.

Poster art was an important means of influencing the population of the occupied territories of Ukraine. Through the images presented in it, German propaganda predicted a happy life for Ukrainians under the Nazi "new order" without Bolshevik-Jewish rule, and promised to redistribute the land and hand it over to the peasants. This propaganda content was reflected in most of the posters (*Ty-tarenko, 2005: 166*).

Finally, it should be noted that rumours had great influence on the local population, which were formed by the occupying power. The spread of rumours incited national movement or ethnic hatred. Great hopes were placed on this type of propaganda. The spread of information that all Bolshevik Jewish leaders actively supported the strained relations between Ukrainians in Western Ukraine and Poles, between ethnic Germans and Ukrainians, between Jews and Ukrainians and other people who inhabited Ukraine during World War II was as proof of this (*Laynbardzher, 2015: 17-18*).

The German occupation authorities carried out extensive propaganda among ethnic Germans. A large number of books by well-known German authors and brochures

¹¹ Vinnytski visti. № 81. (1942).

¹² Vinnytski visti. № 47. (1942).

¹³ Vinnytski visti. № 42. (1942).

¹⁴ Documents of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (Bolsheviks) of Ukraine: Central State Archive of Public United Ukraine. Fund 1. List 70. File 19. Page 2.

with propaganda content were sent to them from their ethnic homeland. Special libraries were set up in almost every commissariat where ethnic German communities lived¹⁵.

The German government, on the other hand, encouraged all kinds of nationalist manifestations and even the idea of the possibility for Ukrainians to build their own state especially during the initial period of the war. Given the importance of the press as means of influencing the minds of the population, the propaganda apparatus of Hitler's occupation administration encouraged Ukrainian nationalists to cooperate, offering them to publish their articles and appeals in magazines and newspapers published by the new government (Kosyk, 1993: 371-372). In this case, it should be noted that Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda during 1941-1944 had a significant impact on the territory of Western Ukraine.

The fact that Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda also had an impact on the population of central and eastern Ukraine is stated in the report of the Committee for State Security of the Ukrainian SSR (KDB URSR) addressed to Khrushchev on November 13, 1943. "Cases of sharp anti-Semitic manifestations by the local population were in all cities during the liberation of Ukraine by the KDB USSR. Recently, our authorities have noted an increase of anti-Semitic manifestations in a number of settlements of the USSR, which in some cases have a tendency to open demonstrations with a destructive nature. Analysing the reasons that gave rise to anti-Semitism and its widespread today, it must be said that this is primarily based on traces of German fascist propaganda and the propaganda of Ukrainian nationalists, which they conducted against the Jewish population during the occupation" (Vronska et al, 2003: 514-515).

Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda impact on the population of Ukraine. Individuals from the Ukrainian population volunteered for service in the Ukrainian auxiliary police units. Since this body had to adhere to the policy pursued by the occupation administration on Ukrainian lands, those who went to its service had to obey all orders and had no choice. According to job descriptions, protection the places of execution of the population, including Jews, was their function. They did it by escorting victims to the place of execution, taking away items, jewelry, protection of selected valuables, and others (Podolskiy, 2007: 386).

According to Jewish sources, they testify to the participation of Ukrainians in punitive actions. But this is not confirmed by the testimony of the Einsatzgruppe, which operated in northern and central Ukraine. On the territory of the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine", one of the reports stated "the population involved in actions against Jews was almost nowhere". Another report stated that "the population has almost no racist and ideological anti-Semitism" and that "the Ukrainian population lacks both leaders and spiritual passion for repression against Jews" (Kosyk, 1998: 157).

Under the influence of Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda, the local population was afraid to support the Jews and save them from persecution by the occupation administration. It should be noted that the natural law of self-preservation played an important role in this aspect, as sheltering and rescuing members of the Jewish people threatened own lives and often the lives of the whole fam-

ily, because the occupying administration, along with anti-Semitic propaganda, punished those who hid Jews. Despite this, many Ukrainians rescued Jews and their families.

A poster with the Easter Archpastoral Letter was a reflection of Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda is also, in which Jews and Bolsheviks were enemies of Jesus, who never ceased to persecute Christians in the Ukrainian lands. Moreover, it stated that they constantly destroyed the Orthodox Churches and used terror against the faithful and ministers of the Orthodox Church. The clergy of Orthodox churches were destroyed, sent to distant forced labor, imprisoned, and so on. This is evidenced in the study of historian V. Korol "Lost but not forgotten", which shows that only in January-February 1941, the Soviet authorities in the countryside were destroyed 25 churches, including 7 in Kamianets-Podilskyi, 6 - in Zhytomyr, 5 - in Vinnytsia regions, and in March-May - 16 churches and church institutions were destroyed too (Korol, 2006: 85-87).

Therefore, it should be noted that the German occupation administration adhered to the principle of creating contradictions in its national policy between different people and ethnic groups inhabiting the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine" and the area of military administration. Supporting the illusion of future happy and peaceful life on their land for the Ukrainian population, the Nazi authorities contrasted it with ethnic Germans and Jews, raising some, humiliating and destroying others.

In general, in determining the impact of Nazi propaganda and the information space created in the temporarily occupied territories, the following factors must be taken into account. A large part of the inhabitants of the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine" and the military administration zone hated the Bolshevik government and deliberately cooperated with the occupying authorities. Individuals helped the guerrillas and the underground institutions, while working for the occupiers, preventing sabotage. A large group of locals fought the enemy with the means available to them. Mostly the intelligentsia and a large part of the peasants obeyed the Germans, showing loyalty to them, waiting for the arrival of Soviet troops and the liberation of Ukraine.

Conclusions

Summing up, the impact of Nazi propaganda on the population of the occupied territories was great, as evidenced by the measures taken by the Soviet authorities in the liberated territories. The regional committees of the Communist Party of Ukraine had to rebuild as soon as possible the cultural and educational network of institutions that had previously operated in the territory of the Ukrainian SSR. The regional committees of the party prepared lecturers and speakers for the youth meetings. Active work was carried out among schoolchildren and factory-plant educational institutions. In those areas where German periodicals were recently published, the issue of large-circulation Soviet newspapers was being established¹⁶.

Therefore, the propaganda activities of Hitler's Germany in the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine" and in the area of military administration were aimed at creation of a

¹⁵Central State Archive of the highest authorities and administration of Ukraine. Fund 3206. List 2. File 72. Page 5.

¹⁶Decisions of city and district committees KP(b)U on exclusion from the party. State Archives of Donetsk Region. Fund P-326. List 2. File 122. Pages 21-23.

special information space that would promote the Nazi occupation policy, in particular during the initial period of the German-Soviet war (June 1941-June 1942).

Both sides - the Hitler administration and the Soviet authorities - actively used all means of printed propaganda, especially leaflets, to influence the population minds temporarily occupied by the German army. People were often lost in the variety of so many leaflets, but their false content allowed them to make the appropriate decision.

As the real situation of the Ukrainian population did not correspond to what was offered in leaflets, posters and brochures, people increasingly distrusted these visual means of German propaganda and very often used paper on which they were made for other purposes.

In general, German agitation and propaganda activities played a significant role in advancing the Nazi army deep into the USSR, but the inconsistent policy of the German occupation authorities undermined the information principles it had created.

The moral and psychological state of the population of the occupied territories can be analysed from the reports of guerrilla units that carried out raids in the territories occupied by the Nazi army. Thus, from the combat report of the guerrilla unit under the command of Ya. Melnyk, we can understand that the residents of Rivne region received leaflets and conversations of guerrillas with great attention and interest. They believed in victory over Hitler's invaders¹⁷.

The moral and psychological mood of most peasants remained difficult, most of them were hostile to the Nazis, especially in those villages where the occupying authorities massacred the Jewish population¹⁸.

Young people, who were constantly threatened with being sent to work in Germany, were also opposed to the German occupation policy. The assistant commissioner of the Sumy Guerrilla Komsomol organization wrote in a report note that young people were disappointed in the occupying power. Because for almost a year and a half they were forbidden to come together, sing Ukrainian songs, dance national dances, and even speak loudly. With great desire they came to the evenings and conversations held by the guerrillas, and listened to the achievements and victories of the Soviet Army and the supporters¹⁹. Because of this policy, a large number of young people fled to the guerrillas and took part in protests against the Nazis, being awareness of the consequences of Nazi domination in Ukrainian lands.

The peasants despaired that agrarian reform would be carried out. They were outraged that their land and property were being taken away again and made the property of the new owners. By general order №1 of July 9, 1941, collective farm cattle, machinery, and arable land became the property of the German occupation authorities. In addition, all the collective farm property that the peasants saved after the retreat of the Red Army must be returned and handed over to the appropriate authorities²⁰. The terrible situation and hopes of the peasants for a better

life and self-management, which crumbled to dust, became a reality of the occupation life. They began to ignore the instructions of the German administration, increasingly helped the guerrillas and waited for the arrival of the Soviet army.

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¹⁷ Collection of documents of the Reich Commissariat "Ukraine". Central State Archive of the highest authorities and administration of Ukraine. Fund 4620. List 3. File 100. Pages 74-75.

¹⁸ Ibid. Page 76.

¹⁹ Ibid. File 106. Pages 180-183.

²⁰ Ibid. File 97. Pages 131-132.

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АНТИСЕМІТСЬКА ПРОПАГАНДА НАЦИСТСЬКОЇ НІМЕЧЧИНИ НА ОКУПОВАНИХ ТЕРИТОРІЯХ УКРАЇНИ ПРОТЯГОМ 1941-1944 РОКІВ

Під час Другої світової війни антисемітизм досяг найвищого рівня жорстокості, особливо на окупованих територіях України. Стаття розкриває німецьку окупаційну політику, де використовувався принцип розв'язання конфліктів між різними народами та етнічними групами, які населяли Рейхскомісаріат «Україна» та територію військового управління. Стаття містить аналіз періодичних видань, листівок, карикатур, прокламацій, пропагандистських кампаній як засобів антисемітської пропаганди, що були спрямовані на створення потворного образу єврея. Найбільшого поширення у нацистській пропаганді набуло звинувачення євреїв у злочинах більшовицького сталінського режиму. Доведено, що відкритий заклик до знищення євреїв як носіїв більшовицької ідеології та практики постійно лунав у нацистській пропаганді. Було визначено, що вплив нацистської пропаганди на населення окупованих територій був величезним, що змусило радянські війська посилити власну пропаганду після повернення на свої території. Показано, що німецька агітаційно-пропагандистська діяльність відіграла значну роль у просуванні нацистської армії вглиб СРСР, проте непослідовно жорстока політика німецької окупаційної влади підірвала створені нею інформаційні принципи. Нацистська окупаційна політика призвела до тотального знищення представників єврейського народу на окупованих територіях України. Морально-психологічний стан населення окупованих територій був надзвичайно тяжким, люди вже не вірили у те, що німецька влада виконає ті обіцянки, про які говорила у своїй пропаганді. Політичними силами нацистської Німеччини та Радянського Союзу було застосовано найсучасніші методи та засоби впливу на населення противника та армій противника.

Ключові слова: політика антисемітизму; Друга світова війна; німецько-радянська війна; пропаганда, ЗМІ.

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