

**POLITICAL STRATEGY AND PRACTICE OF RESTORING
THE SOVIET NOMENCLATURE SYSTEM
OF GOVERNMENT FORMATION AND MANAGEMENT
OF THE WESTERN REGIONS OF THE USSR AT THE FINAL STAGES
OF THE WORLD WAR II**

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Abstract: This article analyzes political, legal, institutional and procedural mechanisms for the Soviet nomenclature practice of appointments to executive positions in the renewed party, Soviet, economic and other government bodies of the Western regions of the USSR during their liberation from Nazi occupation in January-October 1944. The priorities of making policy for a casting of local authorities mainly through the involvement of the leadership positions who arrived from the Eastern regions of the Soviet Union of the party, Soviet, economic officials, employees of internal affairs bodies, state security, attorney office and court have been under the discussion in the article. It is indicated that such political strategy and practice had the purpose of the recovery of a total political and ideological control over all spheres of life of inhabitants of the region in the shortest possible time.

Keywords: Western Ukraine, nomenclature, Stalin's totalitarian regime, authorities.

1. Introduction

Political characteristics of the restored after the liberation of the Nazi occupation, Soviet political regime obviously should not be limited characteristics of Stalinism as the left extremist type of totalitarianism, and, in particular, include an analysis of political activity as complex active attitude of individuals and entire social groups in their social environment that aims to targeted regulation and transforming using the factor of power. The need for objective interpretation of historical and political aspects of the given problem is in the common requirement of the time, because it is still considered by the part of our society ambiguously. Thus, the offered research can be considered valuable in scientific, theoretical and applied dimensions.

2. Materials and methods

Describing the state of scientific research of the outlined issues, it should be noted that it has repeatedly drawn attention of modern domestic Lviv [1], and Volyn [2] historians and political scientists [3]. However, the relevant theoretical and methodological issues are needed to study the questions of political strategies and tactics of the formation of the staff of the government and management of the Stalinist totalitarian regime in the western regions of the USSR at the closing stages of the World War II, which had been started by the author in the previous paper [4].

The aim is to analyze the policies and practices of political nomenclature personnel policies of Stalin's totalitarian regime in Western Ukraine at the final stage of the World War II.

In accordance with the goals the following major research objectives should be fulfill:

- to define the essence of political strategy and practice of restoration of total control of Stalinist regime over all spheres of life in the western regions of the USSR;

- to analyze political, legal and institutional mechanisms of Soviet nomenclature practice of senior positions appointment in the reconstructed government, business and other authorities in western regions of the USSR during their liberation from Nazi occupation in January October 1944;

- to disclose policies priorities of the formation of the staff of governmental, soviet, business employees, employees of the Ministries, state security prosecutors and courts.

Political activity can be analyzed as a specific form of active attitude towards the social environment, which aims its targeted regulation and transformation with the help of power factor. In the act of power the important elements are powerful resources as a set of the means through which the effects on power is in accordance with the objectives of the subject, I particular, social ability as social status or rank, place in the social structure.

The achieving of political activity effectiveness is largely depends on the adequate targets and tasks formation f the development of the society, making policy strategy.

At the heart of political strategy is more or less ideal image of the future social system, political system, and particular political institutions based on the generally accepted values and political ideas. Political strategy is implemented in the policies, is defined by the political program and is designed for a long period.

As a type of political totalitarianism is characterized by the following features: rejection of liberal and democratic institutions, human rights and freedoms; absolute power

monopoly on information and corporate organization of hierarchical type; public and/or private ownership of the means of production under heavy bureaucratic control; administrative regulation of the economy, centralized distribution, significant part of forced labour and extra-economic coercion that leads to free of charge or cheap labor force; maintaining order as the realization of rigid system of rules and principles that ensure absolute priority rights and interests of a particular class, nation, race, or exclusive group; the substitution of political loyalty (moral choice, respect to the laws and people's interests) by rigid loyalty of mafia type; official regulation of all spheres of society and humans; paternalism, alienation of people from the political process; messianic state ideology with pretension to the world domination; militarism, economic, and cultural expansionism in foreign policy, combined with the isolation of the country; militarization of the economy and the society as a whole; national - class charismatic leader as a fundamental element of political and legal ideology [5].

Based on the most important characteristics of the Soviet totalitarian regime underlined by famous political scientist V. Gorbatenko, including the which was founded as a system of presence of a holistic bureaucratic mechanism, which was founded on the system of nomenclature appointment of civil servants in managerial positions [6], we can talk about the fusion of the party and the state where politicizing of all governmental organs (through the control of the appointment), the party subordinates them, becomes a "party-state" through the merger of state institutions that are under the full control of the party.

It is therefore logical, that in autumn 1943, organization of regional party committees were organized. After the restoration of the Stalinist totalitarian regime in Western Ukraine had to mass the main leverage to ensure prompt and reintegration in the western region into the common soviet space. They were managed by the "proven" by years of Stalin's life party functionaries I. Grushetsky (Lviv regional party secretary), M. Slon (Stanislavsky Regional Committee Secretary), V. Begma (Rovno Regional Committee Secretary), etc. [7]. In early March 1944 in the village Lanivtsi Ternopil region, together with the parts of the Soviet troops arrived the operative group of Ternopil Committee headed by the Secretary I. Kompanets. In a few weeks the bureau of regional party committee was founded, consisting of I. Kompanets (HR manager), A. Zozyliov (staff deputy, chairman of the executive committee), Z. Dorofeev (head of the NKVD), V. Saraev and the editor of the regional newspaper A. Mazanko. The regular meetings began where among the priorities have been analyzed questions about personnel in the liberated areas [8]. Operational Group of Lviv Regional Committee also began its work in the region, in the Kremetsi city. It consisted of 56 persons [9].

As it is known, with the beginning of the German-Soviet war, the vast majority of party, soviet and governmental assets of western regions of the USSR had left the region. During the restoration of the Soviet power the main emphasis was on the "authorized persons", arriving after the Red Army.

In February 2, 1944 Organizing Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party adopted a resolution on

"The selection of senior party and government employees to work in the western regions of the USSR. Central Committee obliged Kharkiv, Voroshylovograd, Poltava, Sumy, Dnipropetrovsk, Stalin, Zaporizhia regional committees to choose 450 persons with the relevant qualities, where 140 persons to work as first secretaries and 150 persons to work as heads of executive committees. The regular mobilization campaign of the soviet party employees to work in the western regions of Ukraine was announced on the 28th of March 1944. According to the order of the CC the CP demanded "by 20th of April to allocate 2510 persons. Candidates for senior positions were appointed by the Organization Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party. Only in April 1944 at the meeting of that body 102 candidates were approved as functionaries in Lviv, Stanislav, Ternopil and Chernivtsi regions". In August two more resolutions have been adopted: on the 5th of August about the appointment of 430 persons to work in western regions and 120 persons to attend courses in Central Committee of CP and on the 29th of August - "About the interviewing soviet, and governmental employees for the western regions of the USSR". The latest resolution obliged 12 regional committees to select and to deploy 500 soviet representatives to work for the committees of western regions till September 1944 [10].

Updating of party apparatus, government and management organs was primarily due to quantitative growth, without sufficient consideration of the experience, professional and educational background, moral qualities. Only in 1944 in Ternopil region 5935 persons have been sent from the eastern regions of the USSR. Half of those leaders had working experience less than a year, and only 34 persons had higher education [11].

In that time 5783 arrived responsible workers worked in Dohobych region [12]. With regard to their industry-departmental distribution, the employees of the NKVD, prosecutors and courts were more than 28%, industry, transport and communications - 22%, health care, education, culture and the arts - 22%, government institutions - more than 8%, party - more than 5%, Komsomol - about 4%, and agricultural procurement - 3%, etc. All executive positions in regional committee were occupied by the arrived functionaries, including the first secretary of the Regional Committee was the commander of the partisan unit Oleksenko, the second secretary - deputy secretary - deputy secretary - of the Communist Party - Gorobets, Personnel Secretary - Korolenko, Secretary of agitation - the secretary of agitation in Zaporizhzhya regional committee - Dejneka [13].

In October 19, 1944 was issued the declaration of the Central Committee "About the strengthening by rural, regional and local workers of party organizations in western regions of Ukraine and Belarus", which gave a new impetus to the formation of management staff by arrivals from the eastern regions of the country nomenclature employees at various levels.

Special attention was paid by the authority to the replenishment of the top staff of repressive and punitive structures. Only in Lviv region was routed over 3.6 thousand of NKVD, prosecutors and court workers [14]. In the Volyn

region during the 1954 to occupy positions of judges were appointed 31 persons of newcomers and only two local nominees. Any local person was appointed as prosecutors [15].

Local governments in the Soviet Union were the council committees and their departments which performed administrative activities. A characteristic feature of the system of soviet state administration was the presence of their respective party structures that not only duplicate the functions of government bodies, and in many cases going over it [16]. The existence of parallel power vertical contributed to the strengthening of the dominant influence of party structure in local government and administration.

In the first years after the liberation of the Nazi occupation in Western Ukraine authorities were not elected and but were formed by senior party and government bodies. Such practice was defined after the accepted in the 1st of April 1944 resolution of Politburo of the Communist Party "On the governing bodies of local Soviets" [17].

According to the usual practice in the Soviet executive committees of local Soviets assumed almost all matters on local authority's decision making, removing them from solving Council. The establishment of party control of the executive committee of local Soviets supplemented absence of significant parts of their deputies, who had at least formally, control the executive committee and their department.

Although there was a lack of workers in governmental and management state authorities, the management was not inclined to change their major priorities of personnel policy. Reporting at the party conference in February 1945, the first secretary of Lviv regional Committee of the Communist Party I. Grushetsky underlined: "Despite on the great demand for personnel ... no one gave the right to the managers of enterprises and institutions for frivolous approach for receiving and processing of new employees. The strengthening of the struggle with Ukrainian, German and Polish nationalism requires from every communist, from each worker to increase vigilance, strict adherence to all rules of administrative bodies" [18].

At the time of release of Drohobych region from the Nazis (October 1, 1944) regional party apparatus was staffed by 67%, leading Soviet workers – 61.5% [19]. Among the 449 leading party and Komsomol employees of the regional, district and city committees in Drohobych area, only 28% worked there before the German-Soviet war [20]. Among 70 regional party leaders 57 persons were promoted to the leadership positions for the first time [21].

On the 1st of January in the western regions of Ukraine was directed over 31 thousand of senior officials from the eastern regions of the USSR, including about 12.4 thousand of educators, 3.3 thousand of Komsomol functionaries, 2.3 thousand of workers in health protection, about 1.6 – workers in agriculture area, about 1.8 thousand – workers of the ministry of billets, 1.4 thousand – workers of the ministry of finance [22].

For the rapid re-election of the power by party committees on August the 1st 1944, party organs of western

regions reported that in the region were organized: 556 primary party institutions, 32 candidate and two Komsomol groups, which covered 5709 members and candidates of the party. By the end of 1944 in the region were 1145 primary party organizations (18 560 members and candidates to the party) [23]. Thus, at the end of the year party organization in Drohobych numbered 2 072 persons [24]. Among the Communists in Ternopil region NKVD officers were almost 37%, and more than 16% of party committees, rail transport – 13%, Executive Committee – more than 5% [25].

3. Results

Significant rates of migration of management personnel in western regions of Ukraine were due not only to the need in sufficient proven functionaries, but also in their significant turnover. The latest was due to serious disadvantages in the selection and placement of new personnel when under the consideration was their party affiliation rather than the level of education, professional training, and personal qualities. For example, during only February – December 1944 in Alexandria near Rivne region was released three NKVD chiefs of the police station, police station chief of the NKVD, the Komsomol district committee secretary, heads of departments of finance and public satisfaction [26]. In 1945 36% of the nomenclature employees were changed in the Drohobych regional party committee [27].

Lack of specialists from the eastern regions and the need to draw on the power side of the local population demanded broader involvement of local professional to work in the administrative apparatus. This taken into account not only the competence, professionalism to local "nominees" as their social origin and political loyalty to the Soviet regime. By the middle of the May 1954 in the regional and district institutions and organizations in Ternopil region worked about 4012 local citizens. Besides them 1874 persons became chairmen and secretaries of village councils, 875 – head of village houses, clubs and reading halls, 833 – financial agents, 415 – directors of primary schools [28]. In the same year in Drohobych region to different positions were appointed 3620 persons, but only 280 of them were in the range of regional party nomenclature and 37 to the nomenclature of Central Committee [29].

As rightly concludes E. Bilous, the main sources of replenishment personnel management of Bolshevik power in Western Ukraine in the early postwar years (1944-1945) were immigrants from the eastern regions of the USSR and the Soviet Union who came here as on vacation, according to the order of the USSR. Another category of employees were demobilized soldiers, whose number grew after World War II. Another group of personnel reserve amounted former Soviet partisans and members of the underground movement. The least represented categories of workers from the total number of party officials that period were local activists [30].

4. Conclusions and prospects for further research

Thus, on the basis of the study can be argued that the political regime that established in the western regions of

the USSR in the final stages of World War II was totalitarian and was similar to the system and method of exercising power in the whole Soviet Union or any of its regions. In politics accelerated "Sovietization" of Western Ukraine prominently played organizational and human components of the recovery of the authorities were Stalin's totalitarian regime through mechanisms nomenclature selection. The political strategy of recovery as soon as possible the total control of the Stalinist regime over the edge by the West because of the practice of the staff of the local authorities and government mainly through involvement in leadership positions who arrived from the eastern regions of the USSR and the Soviet Party, government, business employees, employees of the Ministry, State Security, prosecutors, judges were selected and belonged to a range of party committees appropriate level of the USSR, regional, district and city party committees). The subject of these historical and Political Studies can become analysis of the nature, extent and scope of political participation of the population in the western regions of Ukraine by the authorities of the Stalinist totalitarian regime after the liberation of the country from the Nazi occupation.

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