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**UNCONQUERED: PAGES OF THE JOINT FIGHT  
OF KAZAKHS AND UKRAINIANS  
IN THE EUROPEAN MOVEMENT OF RESISTANCE**

Modern hardships of the world community objectively actualize the problem of preserving peace, which in turn necessitates a deep understanding of how victory was achieved in the World War II. Kazakhs and Ukrainians wrote exciting pages in the annals of great friendship in those years both on the Soviet-German front and in the European Resistance Movement. In the anti-fascist struggle that took place on the territory of the occupied European countries during the World War II, a powerful force of international solidarity among the peoples was clearly manifested.

The forms of the struggle of the international resistance movement were very diverse: failure to comply with the enemy's orders, anti-fascist propaganda, and assistance to the people pursued by the fascists, intelligence activity in favor of the anti-Hitler coalition, strikes, sabotage, mass demonstrations, partisan struggle in temporarily occupied territories, armed uprisings.

The immortal main hero of this war was the close cooperation of peoples. Their joint struggle against Hitler's Germany has shown its strength and powerful potential, has become one of the main sources and the determining factor of the victory over the Nazi-Fascist invaders.

**Key words:** Resistance Movement, Europe, France, Kazakhs, Ukrainians, close cooperation.

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**Бағынбайтындар: европалық қарсылық қозғалысындағы  
қазақтар мен украиндықтардың бірлескен күресінің кезеңдері**

Қоғам дүниежүзіндегі бейбітшілікті сақтаудың мәселесін объективті түрде өзектендіруде, бұл өз кезегінде Екінші дүниежүзілік соғысындағы жеңістің оңай келмегендігін тереңірек түйсінуге шарттандырады. Сол кездегі қазақтар мен украиндықтар кеңес-неміс майданында, сондай-ақ европалық қарсылық қозғалысында да мәңгілік достық шежіресіне толғандыратын беттер қалдырған болатын. Екінші дүниежүзілік соғысы кезіндегі антифашистік күресте, басып алынған европада халықтардың халықаралық ынтымақтастығының қуатты күші көрінді.

Халықаралық Қарсылық қозғалысындағы күрес әр түрлі формада көрініс тапты: қарсыластың бұйрығын орындамау, антифашистік насихат, фашистер аңдып жүрген адамдарға көмек білдіру, Гитлерге қарсы коалицияның пайдасына барлау қызметін орындау, ереуілдер, саботаж, диверсиялар, жаппай көтерілістер мен демонстрациялар, уақытша басып алынған жерлердегі партизандық күрес, қарулы көтерілістер.

Бұл соғыстың өшпес бас кейіпкері халықтардың арасындағы тығыз ынтымақтастық болды. Олардың гитлерлік Германиямен бірлескен күресі фашистік жаулап алушыларды жеңуде басты анықтаушы фактор мен негізгі көзі болып, өзінің күші мен қуатты әлеуетін көрсетті.

**Түйін сөздер:** Қарсылық Қозғалысы, Еуропа, Франция, Қазақтар, Украиндықтар, тығыз ынтымақтастық.

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### **Непокоренные: страницы совместной борьбы казахов и украинцев в европейском движении сопротивления**

Современные испытания мирового сообщества объективно актуализируют проблему сохранения мира, что в свою очередь обуславливает необходимость глубокого осмысления того, как достигалась победа во Второй мировой войне. Волнующие страницы в летопись великой дружбы вписали в те годы казахи и украинцы как на советско-немецком фронте, так и в европейском Движении Сопротивления. В антифашистской борьбе, развернувшейся на территории оккупированных европейских стран в годы Второй мировой войны, ярко проявилась могучая сила международной солидарности народов.

Формы борьбы интернационального движения Сопротивления были самыми разнообразными: невыполнение распоряжений врага, антифашистская пропаганда, помощь преследуемым фашистами людям, разведдеятельность в пользу антигитлеровской коалиции, забастовки, саботаж, диверсии, массовые выступления и демонстрации, партизанская борьба на временно оккупированных территориях, вооруженные восстания.

Бессмертным главным героем этой войны стало тесное сотрудничество народов. Их совместная борьба с гитлеровской Германией показала свою силу и мощный потенциал, стала одним из главных источников и определяющим фактором победы над фашистскими захватчиками.

**Ключевые слова:** Движение Сопротивления, Европа, Франция, Казахи, Украинцы, тесное сотрудничество.

## **Introduction**

Modern hardships of the world community objectively actualize the problem of preserving peace, which in turn necessitates a deep understanding of how victory was achieved in the World War II. Moreover, the severe travails of the World War II have become a vivid testimony of the inviolability of the community of nations in their struggle for peace, when the sons and daughters of different peoples of the USSR fought side by side against the Nazi beast.

The disclosure of «white spots» implies not only the identification of the names of warriors called to the front and the missing who were captured, who died outside the homeland, but also those who, after the Victory, repatriated to their homeland, and their subsequent fate. An analytical, comparative search of documents on the activities of compatriots during the war, names lists of soldiers, and their places of burial is very relevant and important, both from a scientific and a moral point of view.

## **Methodology**

The research is based on general scientific methods of study, including the principles of historical knowledge: history, objectivity, and others. To achieve the goals, such methods of research of the historical process as historical-comparative, historical-biographical, historical- method of historical reconstruction, archival research method are used.

In addition, the study uses a comparative method, applies causal and system analysis, through which we can make a single picture, using information from various archival and electronic sources.

### **The Joint Fight of Kazakhs and Ukrainians in the European Movement of Resistance**

Exciting pages in the annals of great friendship were written by Kazakhs and Ukrainians in those years both on the Soviet-German front and in the European Resistance Movement. At a time when

the Nazi troops occupied the territory of Ukraine, Kazakhstani people hospitably welcomed more than half a million residents evacuated from the Ukrainian SSR. «We were all received and met exceptionally warmly and well,» wrote Monastyrskaya from Kyiv in her letter. – On the same day, the commission met, planned a job for everyone and placed everyone in the apartments. Everyone was happy. We were received as brothers and sisters.» 52 evacuated enterprises from Ukraine joined the economy of Kazakhstan. An invaluable contribution to the brotherly cooperation of the peoples was made by Ukrainian scientists, representatives of science and culture. By their activities, they provided great assistance to industry and agriculture of Kazakhstan (Kozybayev, 1968).

Shoulder to shoulder with the sons and daughters of all Soviet peoples, Kazakhstani fought at the front, defending and liberating Ukrainian lands. Thousands of them bravely defended Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine. In May 1942, in the 28th Army, in the battles in the Kharkov area, the 38th Infantry Division, formed in Kazakhstan (Safiullin, 1966).

In these days, the newspaper Pravda wrote «A group of Kazakh fighters successfully crossed to the shore previously occupied by the Germans. Having entered the liberated Ukrainian land, the Kazakhs dropped their lips to it; they kissed the ground cleared of the enemy» (Kozybayev, 1968). This historical fact was in the basis of the article by the prominent Ukrainian artist A. Dovzhenko «The Great Commonwealth»: «Many enemies perished. But a lot of Kazakh young eyes have also closed, they will never see their vast Kazakh steppes, their mothers and young Kazakhs, their fast herds, or the golden eagle in the sky. Kazakh-Batyr were at rest in battle. They consecrated friendship, poured blood and themselves fell asleep on Ukrainian lands. And forever has remained the undying glory, gratitude and pride of the gray Kazakh grandfathers and the inspiration of the best, fastest young men and all Kazakhs that will live after us for centuries». Many newspapers wrote about this event. In particular, the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda published an article by T. Korelstein, where it was especially emphasized: «Hitler hoped for national strife in the Soviet family. He hoped that after the first strikes between our peoples there will be enmity. And today, the Kazakhs who participated in the Kharkov direction responded to Hitler. They answered in silence, but so expressively, that this answer sounded stronger than any words» (Karelshstejn, T., 1942).

The Ukrainian and Kazakh peoples will forever remember the heroic feat of the Ukrainian P. Boyak

and his friend Kazakh A. Dosmukhamedov, who, with grenades in their hands, rushed to enemy tanks and at the cost of their lives carried out the order. Thousands of representatives of the Kazakh people fought for the liberation of Ukraine in various divisions of the Soviet Army. Only in the Ukrainian Front, troops in the summer of 1944 there were more than 2 thousand Kazakh soldiers who showed themselves most in battle.

In the partisan detachments of S.A. Kovpak, A.F. Fedorov, A.N. Saburov, M.I. Naumov, S.F. Malikov, A.N. Grebchak, M.I. Shikayev were about 650 Kazakhs. The Kazakh poet Zhumagali Sain fought in the partisan detachment in Ukraine. A Ukrainian peasant from the village of Pshonichny, Rubezhansky district, Lugansk region, Efrosinia Mikhailovna Maslova, cured him after a serious injury. In his poems, the Kazakh poet called Ukraine his second homeland, and the outgoing Ukrainian peasant woman, his mother. The Kazakh Azhigali Zhumagaliev became one of the organizers of the partisan detachment named Chapayev, the brave partisan commanders Kasim Kaisenov, Ernazar Seksenbayev, the partisan-machine gunner D. Baidaletov and many other sons of Kazakhstan strengthened their friendship by their exploits.

In the anti-fascist struggle that took place on the territory of the occupied European countries during the World War II, a powerful force of international solidarity among the peoples was clearly manifested. People of different nationalities united to fight against a common enemy – «for your and our freedom.» Among the participants in the Resistance movement were representatives of Ukraine and Kazakhstan. Only in France in the Resistance movement participated representatives of 57 peoples (Laroche, G., 1965). The forms of the struggle of the international resistance movement were very diverse: failure to comply with the enemy's orders, anti-fascist propaganda, and assistance to the people pursued by the fascists, intelligence activity in favor of the anti-Hitler coalition, strikes, sabotage, sabotage, mass demonstrations, partisan struggle in temporarily occupied territories, armed uprisings.

In the Resistance of France not only the French took part, sometimes in separate detachments or localities, they were even a minority. For example, in the department of Côte-d'Or there was a detachment «Maxim Gorky», headed by Ivan Skrypai from Cherkassy. In the poppy detachment «Colonel Nicolas,» as the fearless Ukrainian was called «... there were 42 Russians, 90 Spaniards, 5 or 6 Poles, Italians and a few Frenchmen.» Connected with the central headquarters of FFI

in Paris was the Frenchwoman Rosa «Anna» Garnier, the translator – Kharkiv citizen Serge Chubar, who carried out important missions of «Colonel Nicolas». The forces of this international detachment were liberated from the invaders of Chatillon-sur-Seine (Gérard, S., 2016). About three thousand German and Spanish antifascists (anarchists, communists, left-wing republicans, Basque and Catalan nationalists) who had good military experience took active part in the armed resistance to the German troops. So, on August 22, 1944, near the town of La Madeleine, a squad of 32 Spaniards and 4 Frenchmen attacked a German column retreating from Marseilles through the Garde region (1,300 soldiers in 60 trucks, with six tanks and two self-propelled guns). Partisans blew up the bridge and road, and themselves with machine guns took positions in the hills near the road. The battle lasted almost a day – from three o'clock in the afternoon to noon the next day. 110 Germans were killed, 200 injured, and the rest surrendered. At the same time, the detachment had no losses, only three partisans were wounded.

In total in the ranks of the French Resistance fought about 40 thousand partisans of 17 nationalities. Of these, about 3-4 thousand Soviet patriots of different nationalities, united in about 50-60 partisan detachments, and a large number of partisan groups. According to incomplete data, only in the northern part of France during the landing of the Allies 32 Soviet partisan detachments were operating with a total of 1,500 men. In addition, hundreds of Soviet patriots were part of the French and mixed detachments, sometimes even led them, and everywhere they were distinguished by a special strength of spirit, steadfastness and discipline, high military skill. In France at that time there were several tens of thousands of Soviet prisoners and citizens who had been hijacked by the Nazis for hard labor (Kosyuk V., 2001).

In the camps, near the cities of Carmo and Albi, prisoners of war did not sit idly by. One of the participants of the French Resistance, Ahmet Bektaev, a doctor by education, in his book «Under the Sky of France», told that in the camp near Karmo an underground communist organization was created, led by him and Pyotr Dyachuk (underground Stepan Martynyuk) – an immigrant from Ukraine, who worked in local mines. Members of the organization established links with the French partisans (makizars). P. Dyachuk and A. Bektaev developed various escape schemes for legionaries who wanted to desert. They managed to send 97 people to the guerrillas, including the Kazakhs,

Uzbeks, Kirghiz, Turkmen (Beregovenko, T.M., 1972).

In maki sqads Ukrainian P. Dyachuk served as a liaison and scout under the command of the Frenchman Maurice Thorez. The guerrillas operated in the area of Albi – Carmo – Toulouse – Marseille. Gradually the division of Maurice Thorez turned into an international battalion, the basis of which was the Ukrainian-Polish detachment, created in 1943 by emigrant miners. The commander of the detachment was Ivan Popyk from Transcarpathia. After his death in battle with the punitive forces near Zhukievill, the commander became Lvovite Nikolai Ankutovich. The unit participated in the liberation of the cities of Carmo, Albi, Castaro, Toulouse and other settlements. Partisans captured up to 7 thousand fascist soldiers and officers. Since February 1944, P. Dyachuk headed the detachment, which included former prisoners of war of different nationalities: Byelorussians, Poles, Kazakhs, Russians.

July 1944 from the camp of Albi, a mass escape of former prisoners of war was made, of which a separate battalion was formed. After the partisans liberated the camps of Debernet and Castres, their prisoners joined the battalion of the Makizarov. The First Soviet Partisan Regiment was formed, whose commander was Lieutenant Otari Ishchneli, chief of staff – Kazakh Ali Moldagaliyev, commissioner – Serb Ivich, and senior physician – Ahmet Bektaev. The regiment fought around 300 Kazakhs: Bisengaliyev, Zhumashev, Kunaev, Katshikov, Karenov, Karazhumin, Uteshev, Yedisov, Amangaliyev, Balykov, Ilyasov, Nugmanov, Martynenko, Hangereev, Seksenbayev, Khusainov and others (Aubakirov, E., 2017; Prokop'ev, A., 1965). One of the detachments, and soon the battalion was commanded by the junior lieutenant from Atyrau, Kadem Zhumaniyazov. Teacher in the specialty, in the guerrilla regiment, he became a talented commander, liberated the cities of Albi, Toulouse, Saint-Giron, Carcassonne and others. In his diary he wrote: «On December 12, 1944, in the city of Toulouse (Southern France) was our First Soviet Partisan Regiment, which in the majority consisted of Kazakhs and Georgians. We were all refugees from the POW camp, then became partisans and fought against the Germans. I commanded a guerrilla detachment of submachine gunners consisting of 90 people from the Spaniards, French, Poles, Russians and Kazakhs. We liberated many towns and villages in Southern France « (Zhantykin, M., 1965).

The first Soviet partisan regiment became famous in many battles. He liberated the cities of



Carmo, St. Antoine, Albi, Toulouse and Marseille. The great victory was met by the soldiers in Paris. On May 1, 1945, the French government awarded the First Soviet Partisan Regiment a Combat Flag and the Order of the Military Cross with the Silver Star. In addition, the regiment was awarded three Red Banner from the city organizations of Marcel, Lyon and Nîmes. 665 soldiers were awarded French orders and medals.

The authors found correspondence, memories, documents about the creation of the First Soviet Partisan Regiment, in which the Kazakhs fought side by side with Georgians, Ukrainians, Russians and representatives of other peoples in Archives in France, Russia, Kazakhstan.

In August 1945, the regiment was withdrawn from France and disbanded. In October 1945, part of the fighters seized the guerrilla certificates and French awards. By the autumn of 1945, the return of prisoners of war to their homeland began. Representatives of repatriation arrived in Europe. Throughout Europe, the American «Studebaker» returned home warriors of international units. They swore allegiance to the memory of the fallen prisoners of the Nazi concentration camps, photographed, exchanged addresses. Most of the Kazakhs from former POWs and legionaries returned to their homeland. In total, 26 thousand Kazakhs were repatriated from European countries. They passed through the filtration camps and returned home. However, a few months later many of them were arrested again. They were accused of collaborating with the Germans and working for foreign intelligence. For example, Zunun Zhamankulov was accused of cooperating with the Americans. And Mukanov, who was one of the active participants in the Resistance, was thrown into the camps for 10 years (Naubet'yarov, A., 1995).

In 1947 the family of P. Dyachuk, believing Soviet propaganda in France, – moves to the Motherland, in the village Vodniki Pustomyrovskiy district of the Lviv region. They returned in freight cars under a Soviet convoy, because they could escape on the way. Upon his return, he immediately began searching for his fighting friends – former Soviet prisoners of war, to whom he helped escape from Nazi bondage and move on to the partisans. Envelopes contained photographs of these people, donated to P. Dyachuk before his departure to his homeland. And so began the search. In different parts of the USSR requests were sent. After a while Peter Dyachuk received the first answers. The letters came from Jambul (now Taraz), Frunze (Bishkek), Tashkent and other cities. Correspondence began to

hang between them. Friends did not forget Comrade Pierrot, as he was called in France, and for life they kept in their hearts their gratitude to a colleague from Ukraine. They write about it in letters.

«I am very glad and touched to the depths of my soul that I heard from someone close and dear to me. Finally, one of the fighting friends was found. I remember you well, Pierrot, and to the death I will be grateful to you for saving my life. I work in Tashkent. I have four children ...», Gavriil Koenov wrote (Beregovenko, T.M., 1965).

It was especially gratifying to learn about the Ukrainian patriot and about the fact that another of his sister-in-arms, Ahmet Bektaev, resides in Kazakhstan. He often wrote in with. The Vodnik. Then A. Bektaev worked in Shymkent as the head of the therapeutic department of the regional hospital. In the 1960s. he twice came to visit Pyotr Grigoryevich Dyachuk. At the table the whole family, children, grandchildren gathered. Late at night. There was something to talk about, something to remember. All was remembered. Nothing is forgotten. And most of all they remember the battle near Zhukovil on August 6, 1944, when, in response to the active actions of the poppy, the Nazis were sent to the village where the partisans and punitive detachments were located.

The forces of the Hitlerites are much superior to the forces of the partisans. An unequal battle ensued, which lasted more than twenty hours. The guerrillas fired back to the last bullet, held on, waited for help.

The Nazis burned almost the entire village, but they had to retreat with losses. Many comrades fell in this battle. The battle of Zhukievil is forever inscribed in the history of the French Resistance. Then the commander of the partisan detachment, Maurice Thorez, also died. Pyotr Dyachuk and Ahmet Bektaev always remembered about him with particular warmth (Klimchuk, 2016).

It should also be noted that the Kazakh Seilkhan (Alexander) Gabdullin from the Atyrau region fought in the international partisan brigade «For the Motherland», which operated in Belgium, in the province of Limburg. (State Archive of the Russian Federation, F. 9526. S. 1. F. 47. Pp. 39-40; 60-62) The Nazis called it «black squad.» The brigade was formed from the number of former Soviet prisoners of war, who fled at various times from German concentration camps (State Archive of The Russian Federation, F. 9526. S. 1. F. 156. Pp. 85-86) headed then by partisans I. Dyadkin and K. Shukshin. Along with Seilkhan Gabdullin, about a hundred Ukrainians fought in this brigade, in particular Vasily Kucherenko from Cherkassy was the deputy

commander and the head of reconnaissance of the brigade, and the commander of the 1st detachment of the brigade was the Kievite Efim Nikitenko. Together, they mercilessly took revenge on the enemy for all their suffering – their own and their people. Under the escarpment, enemy echelons fled with the Nazis, equipment and ammunition heading east. The German cars were flashing, motorcyclists were flying into the air. The meters of the railroad tracks went out of order, albeit temporarily, but the movement of the trains stopped. From reconnaissance they returned with enemy «tongues». Once, after a night out to the rear of the enemy, Salikhan himself delivered six German prisoners to the detachment. With the arrival of the Allied forces, the brigade «For the Motherland» joined their ranks and, as part of the tank brigade of the Eisenhower troops, liberated Belgium.

Soon the brigade was relocated to France, where members of the French Resistance movement joined them. They were stationed in a sanatorium, not far from Lagrange. In mid-October 1944, they were disarmed and given money for participating in the partisan Resistance movement. Particularly good relations in the brigade «For the Motherland» in

Seilkhan Gabdullin were formed with the Ukrainian kid Nikolai Turantsev from Kagarlyk of the Kiev region (The Archive of the Kagarlyk District Historical and Local Lore Museum of the Kyiv Region. F. 20771). Before the repatriation in the city of Marseilles, they were together in the US troops, where since January 1945 the brigade guarded about 300 thousand German prisoners of war in France. In his memoirs, N. Turantsev wrote very warmly about «his brother in arms.» In the archives of the Ukrainian, the general photos taken at Marcel's photo studio have been preserved.

### Conclusion

All this testifies to the strengthening of the commonwealth and the bonds of great friendship of the Kazakh and Ukrainian peoples on different fronts and in the rear during the World War II. The immortal main hero of this war was the close cooperation of peoples. Their joint struggle against Hitler's Germany has shown its strength and powerful potential, has become one of the main sources and the determining factor of the victory over the Nazi-Fascist invaders.

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