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**THE EMERGENCE OF A RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN EUROPE  
AND THE PARTICIPATION OF UZBEKS  
(in the example of France, 1941–1945)**

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**Abstract.** This article analyses the causes and conditions of the emergence of the Resistance movement in France during the Second World War and describes the involvement of Uzbek guerrillas. An analysis is also made of the factors behind the emergence of the Resistance Movement in France. The uninterrupted supply of equipment and armaments to the German army by enterprises in the occupied countries, the plundering of cultural heritage by the Nazis, the severe mass terror of the local population. Important factors are the uninterrupted supply of equipment and armaments to the German army by enterprises in the occupied countries, the plundering of cultural heritage by the Nazis, the severe mass terror of the local population are considered important factors. In conclusion, the author notes that the Resistance Movement was a unique experience of uniting different social and political forces in the struggle against the fascist invaders to achieve a common goal. In addition, based on scientific research the author proposes to study many archival documents on the subject, as well as the need to clarify the names of Uzbek guerrillas.

**Keywords:** Resistance Movement; guerrillas; occupation; liberation; struggle; victory.

At the beginning of the Second World War, the countries of the fascist bloc occupied almost the whole of Europe. Within the framework of the study, it became known that the emergence of this trend in France was caused by several factors. We started the article with systematic coverage of them one by one.

The first days of the Second World War were in difficult conditions. The European industry was fully subordinated to the goals of the fascist military economy. They brought raw materials, equipment and other material values to Germany. Of these, the majority of food products were made up. For example, the invaders exported hundreds of thousands of tons of wine, more than two million hectoliters of wine, a huge amount of dairy products and meat every year from France [1].

The enterprises of the occupied countries provided the German army with equipment and weapons without interruption [2]. Before

the beginning of the war with the USSR, 1,6 million people worked for wehrmacht in the French defense industry. Until the January of 1944 they supplied to Germany about 4 thousand aircraft, about 10 thousand aircraft engines, 52 thousand trucks. In 1943, France accounted for 40 percent of all orders for arms production. The storage of the invading troops cost the French budget to 74 billion francs [3]. It was a great robbery and difficult conditions for the local people.

German fascists also plundered the cultural wealth of the conquered European countries. For example, one of the leaders of the occupation administration in France, Otto Abes, wrote to the commander of Group B: "by the Order of the Fyurer, the minister of Foreign Affairs ordered me to collect all the valuable works of art belonging to the state, in the museums of the city authorities and Paris. In addition, it is necessary to collect art objects belonging to the Jews and find them in the German embassy in Paris" [4]. In this

way, all valuable items, documents and books were taken from the library of the Paris government, exhibits from the Artillery Museum in Fonteblo, as well as rare exhibits from the collection in the Louvre and other museums in France were taken away. According to the report issued by the headquarters of Rosenberg on 16 April 1943 year, since September 1940 year, cargo was transported from the occupied Western countries, mainly in 2775 boxes containing valuable paintings, sculptures, furniture and other rare items from France, in 92 carriages [4, c. 156]. The mass terror of the local population in the invasion of European countries was strong. In France, fascist troops swept more than 100 local residents during a retreat from the village of Sen-Jeni-Laval. And the Department of Endr and Luara executed 124 people [5]. Another way to destroy the inhabitants of the occupied territories was to involve them in extremely forced labor. In the years of the fascists' conquest of France, more than 250 thousand prisoners from the punitive camps were driven to heavy work [6]. In Germany, more than 220 thousand Belgian citizens worked in forced labor [4, c. 95]. In 1943 more than 100 members of the Resistance Movement were executed in Denmark. More than 20 thousand citizens of this country lived in prisons and punitive camps during the occupation [7].

Such hard work and conditions caused an increase in the level of morbidity in the population. Especially the children would consist of the majority. For example, only in 1943 year in France, about 125 thousand children suffered from tuberculosis [8]. The increase in the disease was also caused by a regular decrease in the norms of food distribution. For example, the population of France, which was occupied in 1943–1944 years, was given only 200 g of fat and 300 g of meat each month. In the occupied territories, German punishments (conslagers) began to be established. During the war, their number was more than 14000. In these

camps, more than 18 million prisoners were saved, of which about 11 million were killed [9]. Most of the prisoners were brought to the camps for forced labor and died of various casualty due to extreme living conditions, illness, hunger and extreme fatigue.

Thus, in the occupied territories, the fascists openly conducted a policy of terror, violent robbery, deportation and genocide. And this led to the occupation of its peoples to land the duties of the struggle against national freedom and fascism. And such a function was carried out by resistance actions in Europe. The term "resistance" also appeared in France terms. The forms and methods of the struggle for resistance in the occupied countries were very diverse. First of all, it was the guerrilla movement, the organization of armed uprisings, the acts of corruption and strikes, the organization of uprisings in the enterprises producing products and the dissemination of information published in secret press.

In 1944 year in France, there were about 25 thousand Soviet fighters in total in the resistance movements [10]. Among them were Fuat Sayfulmulyukov, Garif Shabaev, Gali Kurbanov, Farit Sultanbekov, Garif Fakhrutdinov and Rushad Khisamutdinov from Uzbekistan in the secret group of the famous heroic poet Musa Jalil. Later, Gali Kurbanov was able to establish contact with the resistant forces of France and organize the escape of a group of prisoners. Garif Fakhrutdinov headed a group of 18 prisoners of war and joined the French partisans. In France, Rushad Khisamutdinov became a commander in a battalion consisting of Soviet partisans. The F. Sultanbekov was placed in a camp in the city of Lemburg and from there he was released in April 1945 year [11].

On the night of August 18, 1944, the prisoners were taken along a large road. Anatoly Feofilov, a Russian, Andrey Matigullin, a Tatar, and Rahmon Rakhimov, an Uzbek, managed to escape unnoticed using the moment. Hiding on the side, they

break into the vineyard and decide to stay there until dawn.

In the morning they see a house not far from the vineyard. Andrey said, "I will go to that house to spy if there are no Nazis there, I'll shake my handkerchief, but if I don't come back, good bye". Feofilov and Rakhimov waited in ambush. A few minutes later, Andrey suddenly began to shake his handkerchief. Immediately Feofilov and Rakhimov ran home. With the help of the host, the fighters reached a detachment of French partisans led by Anselme Constant. French patriots led Soviet troops to the town of Nimes, where the first Soviet guerrilla regiment was active.

On September 3, 1944, Rakhimov and his comrades joined the regiment of the French Resistance command, consisting of Soviet prisoners of war. In the ranks of the resistance movement in France, the first Soviet partisanship detachment is formed under the command of Alexander Kozaryan, which is made up of 37 Soviet prisoners of nationality and ethnicity [10, c. 145].

The regiment took part in many operations of the French Resistance units, fought alongside the French partisans, and liberated the towns of Ales, Villefort, Saint-Shelley, and many villages such as the Gard and Lozer department [12]. 663 people from the regiment were awarded French orders and medals for their courage. Among them were Sergey Petrov, Mikhail Andronin, Nasib Amirov, Ivan Dudko, Mikhail Sisadze, Alexander Mikheev and others from Uzbekistan.

For this courage they were awarded the French government on 1 May 1945 year. Among them were A. Rakhmatov from Samarkand, S. Shomurodov from Bulungur, R. Rakhimov, N. Amirov from Tashkent.

Mambetnazar Abdunaimov from Karakalpakstan became famous in the guerrilla movements in the Jean and Chatillion-sur-Seine regions of France. Before the war, Mambetnazar worked in the fisheries of Karakalpakstan. He served in the partisan detachment named after Maxim

Gorky. It does an excellent job of blowing up a German military plant on the river that flows through the city of Albi [13].

He comes to France from among the prisoners of war brought by the Germans from the Eastern Front. The Nazis had taken Mambetnazar unconscious. But with the help of French patriots, Mambetnazar Abdunaimov managed to escape from captivity. Thus they joined the ranks of the French Resistance. The guerrillas blocked roads, blew up bridges and railways, and destroyed Nazi labor and equipment. Karakalpak Abdunaimov, along with French patriots, took an active part in these operations.

The guerrillas were told that the Germans were building a military plant in Albi. It could only be reached by the Tarn River. The part of the river near the plant was heavily guarded, and at night it was constantly illuminated by projectors. The fisherman Mambetnazar had no difficulty in crossing the river. He hung magnetic mines on himself and swam across the river. "The main thing is to dive in the middle," thought Mambetnazar, usually where the rays of the projectors would cross. A fisherman from the Aral Sea was able to do this task. That evening Albi did not sleep: at three o'clock there was an explosion, from which the windows of the houses were broken. Three barges with explosives and shells rose into the air. Thus, work on the underground plant came to a standstill.

Soon Vasily Porik, a representative of the Central Committee of Soviet Prisoners of War in France, joined the detachment, and some time later Mambetnazar joined the largest partisan detachment named after Maxim Gorky [14].

Akhmet Bektaev, Rashid Ismoilov, Abdurahmon Erdanov, Philip Laenkov and others from Uzbekistan fought in the Maki detachment [15]. They blocked roads with mines, blew up railroads, and suddenly, as if on their heads, attacked the German garrisons in the villages. Hoshim Ismailov from Kokand was very popular among the

guerrillas in the south of France. Fleeing military captivity in southern France, O. S. Ishkhneli formed his own partisan detachment in the ranks of the Second Soviet Partisan Regiment. In March 1944, the regiment attacked a prisoner-of-war camp in Albi, Tarn, and managed to free a number of captives. The members of his detachment were former prisoners of war, mostly from Central Asia and Kazakhstan. Under Captain H. Ismailov's leadership, the detachment showed courage in liberating the town of Jukevli. He fought alongside Spanish and French guerrillas against German troops. The burning alive of the guerrillas wounded by the Germans in these bloody battles intensified the guerrillas' sense of revenge for their comrades. Tashkent guerrillas Tojiboy Ziyaev, Hasan Djabarov and Andrey Ayrapetov were awarded the Silver Star for their bravery in these battles [16].

Other Uzbeks were in the French resistance movement, including Mambetnazar Abdunaimov in the Gorky Squadron, Nasib Amirov in the 1st Soviet Partisan Regiment, Mikhail Andronin, Ivan Dudko, Alexander Mikheev, Sergei Petrov, Mikhail Sisadze, Rahmon Rakhimov, Abdulla Rakhmatov, Sariboy Shomurodov, Rashid Ismailov and Philip Laenkov [17].

In general, by the spring of 1944, 35 Soviet partisan detachments were operating in France. They took part in the liberation of Paris, Limoges, Toulouse, Clermont-Ferrana, Poitiers, Montpellier and other cities. The 1st Soviet Partisan Regiment alone had 37 nationalities in the Soviet Union.

On August 15, 1944, the city of Carmo was liberated by Soviet and French partisans. Tajiboy Ziyaev and Hashim Ismailov were awarded the Order of Janna d'Arc for their bravery in liberating Jukeville and Carmo. In these battles B. Sagdullaev, A. Gafurov, Kuldashv and Alimov showed courage in liberating the south of France as part of the 2nd Soviet partisan detachment. Uzbek guerrillas took part in the liberation of Poitiers, Clermont, Toulouse, Nimes and

many other cities in southern France. In August 1944, Soviet guerrillas, along with the Parisian rebels, liberated Paris from German invaders. The Soviet Red Flag was hoisted at the top of the USSR embassy in Paris, liberated by Soviet partisans [10, c. 276]. Soviet guerrillas were also awarded various orders and medals by the Soviet government for their bravery in the ranks of resistance organizations in France. Among them, Sariboy Shomurodov was awarded the Order of the Red Star, Abdulla Rakhmatov was awarded the Medal for Courage, and Hasan Jabborov was awarded the Medal for Courage. Most of the former guerrillas were repatriated after the end of the war.

### Conclusion

Summarizing the above, it can be concluded that the reasons and conditions for the emergence of the resistance movement in Europe were as follows:

The first was the establishment of a brutal fascist system in European countries occupied by the Nazis. The invaders pursued a policy of total annihilation of the civilian population. Seeing the horrific events perpetrated by the Nazis, the civilians began to form their own secret organizations. It is noteworthy that guerrilla detachments were formed in Germany itself, and the number of civilians was constantly increasing;

Second, European industry was completely subjugated to the goals of the Nazi military economy;

Third, the Nazis sought to destroy the rich historical and cultural traditions of nations that had made significant contributions to world civilization by using the economic resources of European states. This was the basis of the state policy of the German Nazis.

Fourth, the decline in food supply to the population, heavy working and living conditions, the increase in various diseases, the death of children;

Fifth, victories on the Soviet-German front also had a significant impact. The defeat of the fascist armies near Moscow,

Stalingrad, and Kursk was a great impetus for the growth of the Resistance and gave it a mass character;

Sixth, Soviet citizens living in France, primarily prisoners of war and Russian emigrants, also played a major role. From the first days of the war, they formed Russian anti-fascist secret organizations, joined the existing ones and waged a guerrilla war;

Thus, the fascist invaders faced strong anti-fascist resistance movements in the occupied territories. The resistance movement fought for the freedom and independence of the European states, opposed the policy of forcible change of state borders and the division of the occupied countries into territorial parts, the Nazi occupation policy.

Thus, it can be said that the Resistance Movement was a unique experience of uniting different social and political forces in the struggle against the fascist invaders in the pursuit of a common goal. Indeed, the Resistance movements played an important role in the victory over fascism and played a special role in the development of post-war European political life. At the same time, Uzbek fighters of various nationalities made guerrilla activities in Europe and made a huge contribution to the Victory. The study revealed that there is very little information on this topic and that much documentation still needs to be examined. No information has been preserved about most of the fighters. They worked under new names or nicknames they had invented. Many of them died in Nazi camps. This makes it difficult to identify the Uzbek fighters. In today's New

Uzbekistan, it is important and relevant for scientists to study this topic.

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