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Thurzó Nagy L.,

HOM HTD. 68. 4. 2., Sassy Csaba (kézirat)

THE 10th HONVÉD INFANTRY REGIMENT AND THEIR ARMY NEWSPAPER

(Abstract)

The army newspaper "10-es honvéd" (Honvéd [= Hungarian soldier] Number 10) is a special source of the history of the 10th honvéd infantry regiment. Many documents lost during the first world war and in the period following it are preserved in its pages.

The newspaper was started on 15th July, 1917 and was issued regularly until the end of the war. But it did not cease then it was only suspended as in 1923 it was published again until 1942 on every "regiment day".

The newspaper and the regiment had a close connection with the mother-town Miskolc and with all the counties the soldiers were recruited from. The newspaper differed from the civil newspapers. In its various columns it gave a spectacular account of the regiment life. The editor and the main contributor of the newspaper was Csaba Sassy, a Miskolc journalist and poet.

As we do not know a thorough history of the regiment every information is useful which can be obtained from the newspaper. Only one year of the regiment life was studied. During this period first they were stationed in Transylvania then they were sent to Bács-Bodrog county for police services. At the Transylvanian front they had only one serious battle fought on 8th August, 1917. Otherwise it was a peaceful trench warfare. The data referring to the battles, officers, common soldiers etc. of the regiment are deliberately scanty so that they might not be helpful for the enemy.

The newspaper was published specially for the help of the widows and orphans of the regiment with money. This was not the only way of collecting money for them. At the end of 1917 a war exhibition was also organized and presented in different towns for their help.

The most varied side of the regiment life was their everyday life. Several sports contests were organized to prevent the soldiers from thinking of serious things.

We cannot get a full account of the regiment life with the help of the newspaper but it is an indispensable source as it was part of the regiment life.

Györgyi Németh