

## Notes on the Texts

Since I can't actually read Russian, the English text is not to be relied upon. I really struggle with place names in particular. My interest is almost entirely military – details of how they fought, marched, signalled etc – is my main focus.

### Places

Some places have changed name. I list them in the order they are mentioned in the texts:

Yekaterinoslav, or Ekaterinoslav, is now known as Dnipropetrovsk or more simply as Dnipro.

Alexandrovsk is modern Zaporizhzhia

Malashkivka/Malashkevka = Malyshevka. It was also the "German" town of Neyenburg.

Khortitsa is an island inside modern Zaporizhzhia city.

Mariinskoye/Maryinsky = Mar'yans'ke.

Apostolovo is now Apostolove. The station is on the edge of the village.

Tok station is now Tik station, and is a couple of kilometres south of modern Tokivs'ke.

Vorontsovka is Novo Vorontsovka or Novovorontsovka

Blagoveshchenka may be the modern Shevchenka, near Apostolove.

Dudchani = Dutchino = Dudchany.

The Bizyukov/Bezyukov Monastery may well be the grand old monastery, now mostly abandoned, on the banks of the Dnieper in Chervonyy Mayak.



*Photo: Viktoria Komarova via Google Maps*

Northern Taurida is the area just above the Crimea (the peninsula itself being Southern Taurida).

The Akmonai/Akmanai positions are across the isthmus from modern Ak-Monayskiye (near Kam'yans'ke).

Yushunya is modern Ishun.

Karasubazar is now Belogorsk.

### Units

The Commander of the march was Major-General Ignatii Mikhailovich Vasilchenko.

The headquarters of the detachment contained officers of the General Staff: Major-General Kislyi, and Colonels G. I. Konovalov, Bozhenko and Voltishev.

The infantry was commanded by Lieutenant-General Batashev, Major-General Didenko and Colonel Dolzhenko. It contained the Hetman 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments, who upon joining the Volunteer Army took the names of the former Simferopol and Feodosiya regiments (both places being in the Crimea).

With the infantry was a Volunteer unit. The word used for it is *druzhina* in the Russian – which was often used at the time for independent militia-style units. There is no adequate word in English, so I have gone with “squad”.

The cavalry, under Colonel Gusev, was the Hetman 7<sup>th</sup> Novorossiysk Horse Regiment, but reverted to the Tsarist number of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Novorossiysk Dragoon Regiment on reaching the Volunteer Army. Colonel Volotski commanded one squadron.

The artillery was nominally the Hetman 43rd, 44th and 45th regiments but only had 4 light field guns. There was also a small howitzer unit, but it had no guns. The artillery was led by Major-General Zhukov, Major-General Beneskul, and Colonels Lebedinski, Ragoza and Nemiro – all for four guns!

The Armoured Car unit was titled a *divizion* in the Russian, which is a term used for units larger than battery/squadron but less than a regiment – for which English would usually use “battalion”, so I have gone with that.

There was a telegraph station under the command of Colonel Krasnopistsev. (Some sources say radio, but that seems unlikely.)

There was an engineering platoon.

### The Ukrainians

Hetman Pavlo (or Pavel) Skoropadski was an Austro-German puppet ruler of the Ukraine until late 1918. He was allowed a small army for show reasons, but it was largely officers with no men.

The State Guard (державной варты) were his main force. It was staffed largely by men of anti-socialist leanings, tasked with maintaining order in the towns.

Symon Petliura (or Petlyura) was a major power in the Directory (sometimes Directorate), which re-established the Ukrainian People's Republic (UNR) with the overthrow of Skoropadski's Hetmanate. At the time of the march Petliura was not yet in sole charge, but his name would soon become synonymous with the nationalist movement in the Ukraine.

I have used “Petliurists” consistently for his supporters, but many variants are used by others, such as Petliurites – the Russian used in these accounts is *petlyurovtzi* (Петлюровцы).

The Ukrainian Directory's army, outside the main towns, was largely composed of independent operators (“atamans”) with private armies. This is what the march faced.

Ataman Grigoriev was one of the most famous and soon afterwards was the primary force in driving the French from Odessa. His army was mostly local partisan units, with a few WWI veterans. It was notoriously undisciplined.

### Description of Award

A silver cross, similar in size and shape to St. George's; black enamel with a white enamel border on the edges of the sides of the cross. The cross is superimposed on a silver crown of thorns. In the middle of the cross there is a shield with the coat of arms of Yekaterinoslav – on a blue field there is a golden monogram of E II, surrounded by nine golden stars. Over the shield is a golden Imperial crown. There is a number on the back of the cross. The cross was worn on the national white-blue-red ribbon on the left side of the chest.

