

ктурних підрозділів імперської жандармерії. Появляється факт поступового перетворення Севастополя на один з головних об'єктів спостереження чинів політичної поліції. Зроблена спроба визначення ролі жандармерії в історичному процесі на території Севастополя в зазначений період.

Ключові слова: Таврійська губернія, Севастополь, політична поліція, Корпус жандармів, революційний рух.

Pasechnikov I. A. Formation and development of the bodies of the political police of Sevastopol in the XIX century / I. A. Pasechnikov // Scientific Notes of Taurida V. I. Vernadsky National University. – Series: Historical Science. – 2013. – Vol. 26 (65), No 2 – P. 125–142.

The article examines the organization and activities of the political police of Sevastopol in the nineteenth century. Special attention was paid to the work of its bodies. The duties of the Corps of gendarmes in maintaining political order and the struggle against the revolutionary movement had been analyzed. The activities during the Crimean War have been separately marked. An attempt to determine the role of the gendarmerie in the historical process in the Sevastopol region was made. The Special Corps of Gendarmes was the uniformed security police of the Russian Empire in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Its main responsibilities were law enforcement and state security. The responsibilities of the Gendarmes also included the execution of court orders, pursuit of fugitives, riot control, and detainment of «unusual» criminals. Gendarmes could also be assigned to assist local police and officials. Following the 1825 revolt, the new tsar, Nicholas I, created the office of the Chief of Gendarmes in July 1826 and appointed General Count Alexander Benkendorf to it; all of the Gendarmes were subordinate to the Chief. Benkendorf was also appointed Executive Director of the newly created Third Section of the Imperial Chancellery, although the office of the Head of the Third Section was not formally merged with Chief of Gendarmes until 1839. In 1827, the Gendarmerie was transformed into the Special Corps of Gendarmes, under the Chief of Gendarmes. The Commander of the Corps and Chief of Staff of the Corps were also Directors of the Third Section under the Executive Director. The Corps was divided into seven territorial Districts, six of them located in Russia and one in the Kingdom of Poland, each having a Directorate. The Main Directorate, along with additional Gubernial Directorates, was also created. As of 1867 statute, the Corps consisted of: Main Directorate; Surveillance staff; Caucasus, Warsaw and Siberia Districts; Gubernial Directorates (56); Uyezds Directorates (50); Railroad Directorates; St. Petersburg, Moscow and Warsaw divisions; Mounted units (13). In 1871, the Gendarmes acquired the right to investigate both political and criminal cases, as the judicial investigators were dismissed. Only the most competent of the Army's officers in noble ranks could join the Corps of Gendarmes. Although the Corps maintained a powerful image, its large network of informers and agents often supplied nothing more than rumors and slanders; the Gendarmes were obviously incapable of infiltrating real revolutionary organizations. In August 1880, both the Third Section and the Special Corps of Gendarmes were transferred to the authority of the Minister of Internal Affairs by proposal of Count Loris-Melikov. The office Chief of Gendarmes was inherited by the Minister, and the Commander of the Corps became his Deputy. Many Gendarme officers were transferred to then-created Department of Police. In the article the little-known sources and archival documents had been used.

Keywords: The Taurida Governorate, Sevastopol, the political police, The Corps of gendarmes, the revolutionary movement.

Поступила в редакцію 01.11.2013 г.

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