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**WATER SUPPLY IN UKRAINIAN CITIES OCCUPIED
BY THE NAZI (during 1941-1944)**

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**ВОДОПОСТАЧАННЯ МІСТ ОКУПОВАНОЇ
НАЦИСТАМИ УКРАЇНИ (1941 – 1944 pp.)**

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On the basis of a wide range of historical works and sources, it was established that during the time of their rule the Nazis paid considerable attention to the restoration of the water supply system of the Ukrainian cities destroyed during the retreat by the Red Army. This did not fit into the primary strategy of Reich, according to which large cities in the eastern occupied territories should have disappeared. Yet they remained administrative, economic, and cultural centers, despite a significant decline in the population. Water supply recovery has taken a long time and has not been fully completed. Unsatisfactory electric supply became a significant obstacle. The focus was on the central areas of cities and districts where the occupying forces or the Volksdeutsche were living. Often the water that came to the homes did not meet the required standards. Polluted drains flowed into the water bodies. The most difficult time was the freezing winter of 1941-1942, when the main source of water for the city-dwellers were ice-holes and wells. During 1942 the situation with water supply improved. This was due to the Blitzkrieg failure, the need to comply with sanitary and epidemiological standards, the hygiene of the hosted troops and population and fire safety. It should be noted that sufficient stable water supply was not achieved. Widespread were the epidemic diseases, the morbidity rate of which has increased several times. During the retreat the Nazis utilized the "scorched earth" tactics, completely breaking down the system of water supply and drainage of Ukrainian cities.

Keywords: occupation regime, Nazism, Ukraine, water supply, cities, "scorched earth" tactics.

Foreword. Under the circumstances of the Crimea annexation and occupation of several districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the problem of a retrospective comparative analysis of the diversity of occupation regimes received a new, modern perspective. Indeed, world history and political practice has vast experience in this area: from moderate economic exploitation and development, the creation of puppet states, quasi formations and protectorates to the complete destruction of state institutions, the total exportation of resources, the transformation into a raw material base for the ruling power, genocide, the

introduction of a strict occupation administration. In general, this allows us to understand the ultimate goal of conquest. Despite the already considerable historical distance, in modern science there is a lively study of the period of Nazi occupation, a significant theoretical basis in the study of similar phenomena is gathered.

Formulation of the problem. This article does not claim to be a comprehensive coverage of the Nazi regime in Ukraine, of all manifestations of its genocidal nature. **The purpose of this study is to** highlight a small, but important aspect of it – water supply of cities and provision of their population with the necessary drinking water resources. This is not just a matter of convenience in everyday life. This is a strategic point of ensuring the health of both local civilian population and the garrisoned occupation forces in cities, their hygienic needs, and fire safety.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Historiography of the problems of the Second World War and occupation of Ukraine by the Nazi currently has several hundred volumes. A large part of it belongs to the Soviet period, which, first of all, tried to highlight all the horrors of occupation, ignoring the issue of survival of the population on occupied territory. However, since the first years of independence, fundamental changes have taken place in the approaches to the analysis of the occupation regime. During this time, the picture of the occupation reality, which in ideologically biased works consisted of the atrocities of the Nazi, the heroic struggle of the overestimated number of guerrillas was complemented by a significant amount of published memoir literature [29; 39; 51], works on economic development [40], state of different areas and zones of occupation [5; 22; 24; 33; 36; 47], the transition from awareness of general political processes to the reproduction of the everyday life of different segments of the population took place [20; 23; 38; 57], the phenomena of collaboration [31; 33; 56]. A refusal to perceive the occupation regime as a static phenomenon occurred: the transformation of the regime,

depending on military and economic factors [33; 40; 52] and the subjective views of Reich's leaders on the Ukrainian question [2; 27; 28; 49] were analyzed.

The widespread use of new methodological principles, of anthropocentric approach, allowed us to turn the focus of history onto real social needs, the life or survival of separate social groups, even families and people, perceptions of the past tragic occupation reality and at the same time display of it in all diversity [48; 49; 52]. Research involving a wide range of sources, including the memoirs of dozens of contemporaries of events, has made it possible to achieve significant progress on these issues.

Research results. Regarding the plans of Reich's leaders, with the onset of aggression, they foresaw the transformation of Ukraine into an agrarian country with a maximum extortion of raw materials and agricultural products. Part of the implementation of such a policy would be the destruction of cities and large industry as the main consumers of food and migration of urban population to the village. What were the plans of the leaders of Reich for Ukrainian cities, recorded by historians? Cities, according to Hitler were the breeding grounds for Bolshevism and Russianness. "The Germans were not under any circumstances to settle there, it is better that the soldiers lived in barracks outside the city. Destruction of the main Russian cities is the prerequisite for the eternity of our power over Russia" – wrote Hitler [2, 45.]. Erich Koch talked about destruction of the Ukrainian industry, and the proletariat driven back to the village [2, 47]. Himmler dreamed that, after twenty years, at the crossroads of highways and railways, there would be purely German cities, each of which would have at least twenty thousand people, and surrounded by purely German villages [2, 54-55].

Despite the fact that this strategy was subject to changes due to defeat of the blitzkrieg plan and the situation on the fronts, the urban population was rapidly shrinking. This was manifested in the decrease of the population of Kyiv (from 846 to 200 thousand, or more than 4 times), Kharkiv (from over 928 thousand to less than 200 thousand), the Dnipro (from 501 thousand to 280 thousand), Nikolaev (from 167 thousand to 84 thousand, twice) and other cities. According to T. Vronskaya, at the time of the liberation of Ukraine from Nazi invaders, the urban population was 38% of the prewar level [6, 5]. It should be noted that the factors involved were the mobilization, evacuation, tactics of the "scorched earth" of the Red Army, the considerable food complexities of the city's population, even famine (especially in Kharkiv and Kyiv), deportation to Reich, mass execution of the population, the Holocaust, general decline in fertility. In 1942, in Kharkiv, more than thirteen thousand people died of starvation, and in general over thirty thousand [50] during the years of occupation. The Dutch historian Karel Berkhoff draws an analogy with the Holodomor of 1932-1933, but in this case it is a question of organizing an artificial famine in large cities by the occupation regime [2]. As a result of the famine, many city-dwellers began to move

to villages, which was in line with Reich's strategy. Nevertheless, the cities themselves remained the administrative, cultural, and economic centers of the occupied Ukraine.

Having established their power, the Nazis were forced to solve the problems of urban life, providing the minimal needs of the population, quartered troops and sanitary conditions for their existence. At the same time, in the apartments of the absolute majority of the urban residents there was no centralized heating, there was no food, and visiting the village under such conditions took incredible effort. In such a difficult situation were placed, in particular, hundreds of residents of Kyiv and Kharkiv, who often did not return home, perishing from cold and famine on the streets of the city, or on rural roads in search of food. A significant factor was the lack of work for the vast majority of townsmen which left people without livelihoods and food cards. The changing of government in power, the general disorganization in the supply of the city, the support of occupants for private trade and not centralized shipment did not contribute to the betterment of the situation. The overall socioeconomic situation in the cities occupied Ukraine was extremely difficult.

Setting up the work of the sewage and water supply economy was one of the main tasks for the occupation authorities. Sanitary and epidemic security of the quartered troops, the timely extinguishing of fires depended precisely on this. A significant issue in this process was the energy supply of water-pump equipment. Applying the tactics of "scorched earth", the Red Army completely destroyed the energy infrastructure. The destruction of the water supply system continued with the beginning of occupation due to the mining of objects, actions of saboteurs and partisans. The most striking example of this situation was Kyiv.

On September 18, 1941, Soviet troops completely destroyed the water supply and sewerage network, damaged the electrical equipment and machinery of the Dnipro water supply station and the Vvedensky duct station, the collector was destroyed by the explosion at the Harbor bridge, and also the artesian water supply was terminated [21]. An eyewitness of the events, the Kyivan resident Dmytro Malakov recalled the following about this time: "Morning of September 20 came. The crane in the kitchen hissed and became silent ... There was no water anywhere ... But people were coming who carried water from the very Dnipro ..." [29, 72]. Part of Kyivans, who lived far from the river, in the first days of occupation took water from a water well or springs. Water had to be carried from the wells, which were located a few kilometers from the houses. Often the well was the only one in the area. People were lined up in queues, standing for 2-3 hours, trying to pour full buckets and bring them home without spilling. Sometimes the Germans, ordered to the wells or fire tanks to collect water, got it for the citizens too [21]. Last but not least, the lack of water supply, in turn, played a role in the destruction of a large part of the city

center during fires and explosions organized by the Red Army.

In a special message of the deputy Commissar of Internal Affairs of the USSR Savchenko to the Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPU M. Khrushchev on December 4, 1941, noted that thanks to the efforts of the workers of Water and Sewer trust the city water supply was restored [20]. But water was served, first of all, in the building, captured by the occupants and in separate buildings in the central part of the city, moreover, on the upper floors the water pressure, as a rule, was not enough. Everyday household problems, including residential ones, have become crucial for the further improvement of life for many Kyivans for a long time. Bad living conditions negatively affected the health of citizens.

For a long time the situation with water supply in Odessa, which belonged to the Romanian occupation zone Transnistria, remained difficult. Professor V. Selivanov reproached the Soviet authorities that "they fled and left the city without water, light, without factories and plants, with ruined houses". He was supported by Professor V. Kiselev, who stated that "two months of defense have brought horrible destruction to the city, but we are confident that the military command will provide great help ..." [5].

The situation was worse in Kharkiv and Stalino (present-day Donetsk, during the occupation also known as Yuzivka), captured by the Germans at the end of October 1941. Given the acute shortage of electricity and difficult weather conditions, their city councils in the autumn-winter of 1941/1942 did not manage to provide city districts with water. So in the winter of 1941-1942 the main source of water supply were rivers, other reservoirs and wells. The queues of the elderly, children and women were formed near the ice-holes. Exhausted people had to make considerable efforts to overcome the slopes of the river banks, where they were often waited upon by German soldiers who took away buckets and used this water for various technical needs [43, 297]. In Kharkiv, the city dwellers had to cross the rivers and streams of the Kharkiv and Lopan rivers, the Zhuravlivsky slopes in order to get to the Nahirny district. Moreover, it is characteristic that, according to orders of almost all city authorities, repair of water supply and sewage and all the relevant services were carried out primarily in houses occupied by the Germans [16, 1]. The sewage system at this time also significantly malfunctioned, transferring only half of the wastewater to the treatment facilities, the rest without any filtering went down to the rivers. One can only imagine the quality of water used by the people [17, 2-3]. Unfortunately, there is not much information about water samples. On this we will dwell further.

The following data testify to the problems of the water economy of this period. Before the war, Kharkiv's water supply network gave the city 120 thousand cubic meters of water per day, including from Donetsk water supply – 50 thousand cubic meters, from artesian water supply – 70 thousand cubic meters. In the course of

hostilities, the Donetsk water pipeline suffered especially great devastation. Its reconstruction during the winter of 1941-1942 in the war conditions was extremely difficult, and therefore the focus of the department of municipal economy was on the restoration of artesian water supply. Gradually, this network was brought to the working condition, but could be used at full power only if the electric energy was supplied up to 2,5 thousand kW. The power used for this purpose in December 1941 was only 200-300 kW, or 10 times less [43, 148]. In addition, at the beginning of occupation due to weather conditions, the situation in the city was catastrophic. Frosts exceeded 30°C below zero, which became an additional factor in the failure of all water supply networks.

It must be noted that in the cities of occupied Ukraine the benefits of civilization were first used by officers of the occupation forces and local authorities, since they were occupying the central streets. A typical phenomenon at that time was the eviction of inhabitants of the central streets from their homes. In the beginning of the occupation of Kharkiv, the Germans evicted more than 4 thousand families from apartments, which they occupied, a total area of about 100 thousand square meters [42, 111]. And on December 15, 1941, the occupation authorities issued an order to evict the inhabitants of the central streets, who immediately had to go to the barracks of the machine-tool factory and of the former 8th trust, taking clothes and valuables with them. Within two days Hitler's bandits drove 16 thousand families to these barracks under the threat of shooting. In January 1942, their entire population, about 30 thousand people, was robbed, transported by car to the Drobitsky ravine and shot [42, 114]. Such atrocities continued from the beginning to the end of the rule of the Nazi regime. A similar situation was observed in Kiev and other cities where the German troops occupied the premises in a convenient city center. The Volksdeutsche were in a relatively favorable position as well.

All the same, let us note that during 1942 water supply of cities significantly improved. However, when in Kharkiv the urban water supply system started to supply water in almost all areas of the city, it turned out that a significant part of the communications around the houses and inside them was damaged. The city council found a way out of this problem by shifting responsibility for its own water supply to the inhabitants themselves, and if they did not take any measures to repair the networks, they could be fined [26, 45]. During the entire occupation, Kharkiv water supply was very limited and extremely irregular. According to the city authorities, 25 thousand cubic meters of water were received every day [26, 45]. When even not taking into account the needs of German soldiers, then it accounted for 15 liters per day per capita, and before the war this figure was as high as 120 liters. It should be noted that the population could not timely pay for utilities according to the existing tariffs of the time (5 rubles for water supply per person, 3 rubles for drainage [18, 9]),

which, of course, negatively affected the workings of utility companies. In fact, most of the water was used by German soldiers, and the population used mostly wells [43, 148].

In the Stalino (Donetsk) and Voroshilovgrad (Luhansk) regions, since spring 1942, special brigades of workers were formed for the restoration of the water economy, which were provided with all necessary facilities and at the same time produced a daily report on the work performed [12, 36, 64]. Although it was not possible to fully restore water supply in cities in a short period, however, significant progress was made in this: in particular, the water supply of city centers was restored both in Voroshilovgrad (Luhansk) and in Yuzivka [7, 50], other cities [8, 2-7] and industrial facilities. But if the daily need for water supply to the residents of Yuzivka was 9-10 thousand cubic meters daily, then in fact in January 1943 Stalino was supplied 6 thousand cubic meters [11]. Sometimes water did not meet the requirements for drinking water: one of the appeals to the city population indicated that due to the expected high turbidity of tap water during the passage of flood waters to prevent diseases of the gastrointestinal tract it is necessary to drink only boiled water [10, 4]. The situation in Yuzivka was complicated by the fact that its own water supply company "Vodokanal" did not have its own water sources, and all the water was supplied by the water supply company "Donbasvodtrest". Given this, as well as the acute shortage of electricity, the uninterrupted supply of water was impossible [13, 4]. But some water at least went to ordinary residents and, most importantly, to bath houses, disinfection points and cameras, laundries [13, 2-7].

As a result of war, residents of cities in the general district were deprived of water supplied to their homes by water pipes [35, 117]. For example, in Proskuriv city, it became accessible to ordinary citizens with the commissioning of a repaired water supply since February 1942. The city authorities immediately developed new tariffs on water. For the use of water from the water supply, owners of apartments and private houses paid 2 rubles per person a month [35, 192]. The city's population could take water free of charge only from the columns and water intake booths. In other cities of the district for water and electricity and other utilities the population paid the following tariffs: in Shepetivka city, the cost of 1 m³ of water was 1 ruble 50 kopecks (before the war 1 m³ cost 80 kopecks) [35, 193], the cost per kilowatt-hour was 1 ruble 75 kopecks (before the war only 1 ruble) [35, 194]. For consumers in the city of Kamyanets-Podilsky from April 1942 a kilowatt-hour cost 80 kopecks, 1 m³ of water – 1 ruble 70 kopecks [35, 195].

For most of Kyivan population, almost all of 1942, water was supplied only once a day at a certain time. Due to the lack of water and fuel in the city there was only one operational common bath house. In most cases, people paid for water and sewage without actually using either one [4, 203-204].

The lack of water, especially hot, and hence the inability of daily hygiene, worsened the sanitary and epidemiological situation in Kyiv. Most of the water pipelines were damaged. Cold water was extracted from the wells, courtyard cranes. Hot water, as well as electricity, was not available in most of the apartments at all because of interruptions in the operation of power plants due to lack of fuel [20].

During 1942-1943 the water supply of the former capital of Ukraine gradually improved. Residents paid 1 ruble 32 kopecks per square meter of housing and 4 rubles per each member of the family for communal utilities [56, 41].

In another large city of Ukraine – Dnipro (Dnipropetrovsk) – during the period of occupation water supply was also mostly restored. Bath houses, laundries and "Green Plants" management were functioning. Reports on the quality of drinking water in the water supply network from August 1942 to February 1943 for the city of Dnipro are preserved. In August 1942 the bacteriological laboratory tested the quality of the Dnipro water 31 times. In February 1943, 324 bacteriological and 27 chemical analyzes were carried out in reservoirs of drinking water, as well as in the water supply pipeline on Budyonny Street. It was established that the water supply was heavily contaminated with bacteria [56, 58].

However, not everywhere in the Dnipropetrovsk region the circumstances were so good. So in Vasylykivsky district of the region there was no functioning water supply company and water had to be constantly supplied because there were not enough wells with quality water [56, 42].

The immediate consequence of the long unsatisfactory state of water supply and drainage, water quality was the escalation of the epidemic situation, the spread of various diseases, which are satellites of military hardship in any case. Taking into account such factors as pollution of rivers and wells, shortage of fuel for boiling water, there was rapid spread of gastric diseases, typhus and other dangerous diseases [52, 125-127].

The response to this German command was the formation of the anti-epidemic fund. The money from it were spent on the formation of sanitary detachments, the main purpose of which was mass vaccination. Their work was largely null and void, as the overwhelming majority of the population used water from rivers or mine wells, and the lack of bath houses and laundries led to a massive pediculosis. Therefore, despite the efforts of healthcare workers, outbreaks of dysentery, typhus, malaria, diarrhea and smallpox had an epidemic nature. For example, in the Rovenkovsky district of Voroshilovgrad region in 1942, a cholera outbreak began. But the Germans kept it secret from both the public and local civilian health authorities. By protecting their troops from this disease, they did nothing to help practically helpless medical workers: disinfectants, medicines were not distributed. As a result, cholera spread among the local population (200

cases were identified, of which 150 ended lethally). A similar situation was with typhoid fever. Typhoid mass diseases have been detected in the settlements of Kuteinikovo, Pavlovka, Grigoryevka, Karakubstroy, Amvrosiev of the Stalino region. At their borders, the Germans set up special signs about the epidemic and did almost nothing to improve the situation [54, 208]. As a result of begging, famine, generally insufficient quantity of soap, disinfectants, etc. which is necessary to combat this disease, typhus in cities and large settlements has become widespread, and the number of patients has been measured by thousands. In some areas, the command issued orders for the shooting of families in which typhus would be detected. By this they drove the disease in depth, prevented it from treatment, and condemned the population to a gradual extinction [14, 95]. In the opinion of the author, the most problematic region in terms of the spread of infectious diseases was Kharkiv: the morbidity rate of the Kharkovites during the period of occupation increased by 15 times compared with the prewar period. In 1942, according to incomplete data, 7917 patients with tuberculosis were registered, of which 141 people died already in the first half year [43, 315].

To prevent the spread of dangerous epidemics in the cities of the general district, the population was held administratively liable for not complying with the established sanitary norms for the maintenance of cesspools and garbage pits and yards [35, 118].

According to the summary data by O.V. Shaikan, the incidence of typhus on occupied Ukrainian territories has increased 15 times, typhoid fever – 12 times, diphtheria – in 18 times [56, 54].

Thus, the morbidity rate of epidemic diseases under the conditions of occupation was growing rapidly, which was a direct consequence of unsatisfactory water supply and drainage in the cities of Ukraine.

During the retreat, the occupiers utilized the tactics of “scorched earth”, the main goal of which was to leave behind a desert. Such an instruction to the German troops included, in particular, the order of Himmler on the destruction of the Donbas to the supreme head of the SS and police in Ukraine, which reads as follows: “It is necessary to ensure that when leaving the regions of Ukraine no person, no head of livestock, no centner of grain, no rails were left... The enemy must find a truly burned and destroyed country ...” [41, 261].

In the cities of the Voroshilovgrad (Luhansk) region, the Nazis destroyed 13 water supply stations, four dams, 44,674 thousand cubic meters of economic buildings. In Stalino occupants destroyed the city water duct and the city electricity grid [30, 141].

As a result of the “scorched earth” tactics used by the Germans up to 85% of Kyiv was destroyed, up to 70% of Kharkiv, and other Ukrainian cities suffered significant losses. In the postwar period due to losses caused to urban water supply, the population was deprived of quality drinking water for a long time. People were forced to extract water from accidental, dangerous sanitary sources: rivers, streams, abandoned

wells; in winter, they were drinking snow thaw water very often, in summer it was rain water. The actual water consumption rate of the population in comparison with the prewar period decreased by 2-3 times or more [23]. It is also necessary to take into account the general policy of the Nazi leadership of Germany to destroy large cities in the occupied eastern territories. Retreating, Germans actually destroyed the system of water supply and sewage of Ukrainian cities.

Conclusion. Thus, on the basis of a wide range of historical works and sources, it was established that during the time of their rule the Nazis paid considerable attention to the restoration of the water supply system of the Ukrainian cities destroyed during the retreat by the Red Army. This did not fit into the primary strategy of Reich, according to which large cities in the eastern occupied territories should have disappeared. Yet they remained administrative, economic, and cultural centers, despite a significant decline in the population. Water supply recovery has taken a long time and has not been fully completed. Unsatisfactory electric supply became a significant obstacle. The focus was on the central areas of cities and districts where the occupying forces or the Volksdeutsche were living. Often the water that came to the homes did not meet the required standards. Polluted drains flowed into the water bodies. The most difficult time was the freezing winter of 1941-1942, when the main source of water for the city-dwellers were ice-holes and wells. During 1942 the situation with water supply improved. This was due to the Blitzkrieg failure, the need to comply with sanitary and epidemiological standards, the hygiene of the hosted troops and population and fire safety. It should be noted that sufficient stable water supply was not achieved. Widespread were the epidemic diseases, the morbidity rate of which has increased several times. During the retreat the Nazis utilized the “scorched earth” tactics, completely breaking down the system of water supply and drainage of Ukrainian cities.

The preparation of this article has shown that native historiography has not yet sufficiently developed the material on regional studies and urban history, which is a barrier to proper coverage of the Nazi occupation regime in Ukraine. In future research, in our opinion, more attention should be paid to the plight of different groups of the urban population and the Ukrainian cities themselves, the state of communal utilities and transport in them.

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Фомін А.В. Водопостачання міст окупованої нацистами України (1941 – 1944 рр.).

У статті розглядається проблема забезпечення питною водою міст окупованої нацистами України, на основі широкого кола історичних праць та джерел, встановлено, що нацисти за часів свого панування приділяли значну увагу відновленню системи водопостачання міст України, зруйновану під час відступу Червоною Армією. Це не вкладалося у первинну стратегію Райху, за якою великі міста на східних окупованих територіях мали зникнути. Все ж вони залишалися адміністративними, економічними, культурними центрами, не дивлячись на значне скорочення населення. Відновлення водопостачання зайняло тривалий час та в повній мірі так і не було завершено. Значною перепоною стало незадовільне електропостачання. Основна увага приділялась центральним районам міст та районам, де компактно квартирували окупаційні війська або фольксдойче. Часто вода, яка надходила до помешкань, не відповідала необхідним стандартам. До водойм скидалися забруднені стоки. Найбільш важким часом стала надзвичайно холодна зима 1941 – 1942 рр., коли основним джерелом води для містян стали ополонки та колодязі. Протягом 1942 р. ситуація з забезпеченням водою покращувалась. Це пояснювалось провалом блицкригу, необхідністю дотримання санітарно-епідемічних норм, гігієни розміщених військ та населення, пожежної безпеки. Зазначимо, що достатнього стабільного водопостачання досягти не вдалось. Ширилися епідемічні хвороби, захворюваність на які зростає у декілька разів. Під час відступу нацисти також застосували тактику «випаленої землі», повністю зруйнувавши і систему водопостачання та водовідведення міст України.

Ключові слова: окупаційний режим, нацизм, Україна, водопостачання, міста, тактика випаленої землі.

Фомин А.В. Водоснабжение оккупированных нацистами городов Украины (1941 – 1944 гг.).

В статье рассматривается проблема обеспечения питьевой водой городов оккупированной нацистами Украины. На основе широкого круга исторических исследований и источников, установлено, что нацисты во времена своего господства уделяли значительное внимание восстановлению системы водоснабжения городов Украины, разрушенную во время отступления Красной Армии. Это не укладывалось в первичную стратегию Рейха, по которой крупные города на восточных оккупированных территориях должны были исчезнуть. Все они оставались административными, экономическими, культурными центрами, несмотря на

значительное сокращение населения. Восстановление водоснабжения заняло длительное время и в полной мере так и не было завершено. В значительной преградой стало неудовлетворительное электроснабжения. Основное внимание уделялось центральным районам городов и районам, где компактно квартировали оккупационные войска или фольксдойче. Часто вода, поступающая в квартиры, не соответствовала необходимым стандартам. В водоемы сбрасывались загрязненные стоки. Наиболее трудным временем стала чрезвычайно холодная зима 1941 - 1942 гг., когда основным источником воды для горожан стали проруби и колодцы. В течение 1942 г. ситуация с обеспечением водой улучшалась. Это объяснялось провалом блицкрига, необходимостью соблюдения санитарно-эпидемических норм, гигиены размещенных войск и населения, пожарной безопасности. Отметим, что достаточного стабильного водоснабжения достичь не удалось.

Распространялись эпидемические болезни, заболеваемость которыми возросла в несколько раз. Во время отступления нацисты также применили тактику «выжженной земли», полностью разрушив и систему водоснабжения и водоотведения городов Украины.

Ключевые слова: оккупационный режим, нацизм, Украина, водоснабжение, города, тактика выжженной земли.

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