

Historical Analysis Of Military Industry And Trade In Russia In The Early Twentieth Century

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ABSTRACT

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Abstract: The article presents the directions and trends in the development of military industry and trade of the Russian Empire in the early twentieth century. The processes involved in attracting foreign investment to the Russian military industry have been analyzed from a historical perspective. Russia's trade relations with foreign countries are also covered in this article.

Keywords: Russia, foreign trade activities, trade, foreign investments, foreign economic relations, credits, balance, export, import, the industry, development, economy

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the areas that requires in-depth scientific analysis and a consistent approach today is the socio-economic life of the country during the economic policy of the Russian Empire in the early twentieth century, especially the political, socio-economic changes of the First World War. It is important to draw the necessary scientific and practical conclusions from the lessons of the past in today's market economy by studying the formation of the banking capital and credit system in the country, the formation of military industry committees and their activities. The importance of studying the economic policy of the Russian Empire on a scientific basis is that it allows us to fully understand that the reforms being carried out in Uzbekistan are in the interests of man and to draw the necessary conclusions from the sharp differences between them.

It is worthwhile to explain the relevance of the topic with the following key factors:

- First of all, revealing the essence of the economic policy pursued by the Russian Empire during the First World War is one of the urgent tasks facing history;
- Secondly, the development of capitalist relations of production in the Russian Empire had a serious impact on the social life and economy of the peoples of Turkestan, most of whom were engaged in agriculture.
- Thirdly, during the First World War, the main focus was on the role of the Russian Empire in providing industrial enterprises with raw materials and the necessary products for their troops;
- Fourth, the historical fact, which reflects the essence of the economic policy pursued in the Russian Empire for many years, has been interpreted in many ways. However, the metropolis's policy on the development and transportation of the country's natural resources was ignored in the interests of colonialism;

The first group includes works by authors directly related to the economic policy of the Russian Empire. They play an important role in the study of socio-economic life in this period.

It is known that research on the economic relations of the Russian Empire was first published in periodicals. These studies have attempted to highlight the role and place of the Russian ruling circles and the trade and industrial bourgeoisie in the metropolitan trade relations with Turkestan[1].

In particular, N.I. Masalsky, A.I. Dmitriev-Mamonov, M.A. Terentev, A.I. Shakhnazarov, I.I. Geyer, N.P. Verkhovsky, S.R. Konopko and other researchers a number of works on economic policy were created.

An analysis of most of the second group, the Soviet-era scholarly research and monographs, shows that the falsification of history and the oppression of Soviet ideology are evident in the great state chauvinism and class-based approach to colonialism and excessive politicization. Many of these studies attempt to exaggerate the "positive" effects of the Russian Empire's economic policies.

In the 1920s and 1930s, when the ruling party's instructions and guidelines did not fully cover all aspects of social and spiritual life, the influx of Russian and foreign capital into the country's economy, the development of capitalist relations in the country and the world market and financial issues of involvement in the system were raised. Another important aspect of the literature of this period is that it acknowledged that the policy of the Russian Empire towards Turkestan was colonial, and accurately expressed the contradictions in the national question. In particular, G. Safarov, recognizing all sections of the Russian-speaking population in the country as colonialists, noted that they treated the population of the country not as human beings, but as working animals that can be beaten, robbed, raped and humiliated[2].

The literature created by such authors as A.Asatkin, I.Sevostyanov, A.P.Demidov, E.Fedrov, P.G.Galuzo, V.Lavrentev, A.V.Shestakov, which are directly related to the topic, is also of great scientific importance[3].

In the 50-80s of the XX century, many studies were conducted on the economic policy of the Russian Empire in Turkestan, including MK Rozhkova, A. Aminov, H.T. Tursunov, PA Kovalev, S. Soatov, M.P. The work of such researchers as Vyatkin, AM Yuldashev, MI Vekselman should be noted[4].

Some aspects of the problem under study are also partially reflected in the research of foreign authors belonging to the third group.

It should be noted that foreign publications also have different views on the policy of the Russian Empire in Central Asia. Some researchers, such as the German historian F.von Schwartz praised the economic policy of the Russian Empire in the region and tried to justify it[5]. He concludes his Turkistan with the words: "Turkestan has no economic future and is doomed to inevitable destruction." According to him, the only way to save the peoples of the region from this tragedy is the accession of Turkestan to Europe.

In turn, O. Gotch and R. Junger fully reflected and criticized the harmful effects of Russia's economic policy[6]. The British scholar M. Atkin warned that the establishment of a system of colonial administration and the implementation of socio-economic reforms could provoke resistance from indigenous peoples with their own lifestyles and relationships [7].

The history of the colonial period of Turkestan is reflected, albeit partially, in modern Russian historiography. In particular, the researches of M.K . Lyubavsky, O.I. Bursina, S.N. Brezhneva are among them[8]. Also, the articles in the scientific collection "Asian Russia: people and the structure of the empire" reflect the socio-economic changes resulting from the preparation and conduct of military operations by the Russian Empire against Turkestan, the

establishment of colonial regimes and resettlement policy[9]. It should be noted that these works still give a positive assessment of the economic policy of the Russian Empire.

Scientific research on the problem under analysis is also being conducted by Kazakh scientists. They cover the interrelated problems of the country from the XVIII century to 1917, in particular, the relations of the Kazakh khans with neighboring countries and the political, socio-economic changes that took place in the region after the establishment of Russian rule, the state of spiritual culture, trade and migration. and special attention is paid to the issues of administrative-territorial structure[10].

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The war soon showed the status of the states participating in it. The predictions of leading economists and the military of a number of countries that the hostilities would last 2-6 months and eventually the opposing forces would be forced into a peace agreement did not come true[12]. The war led to a disruption of the balance in the economies of the states. This, in turn, has had a major impact on world economic relations, leading to significant changes in the international financial system[13].

The Russian Empire had been seriously preparing for war for a long time. In 1910, Tsarist Russia's military spending was \$ 543.5 million. In 1913 it amounted to 679.4 million rubles. rubles. This accounted for 25% of state budget expenditures[14]. It also spent 1,265 million in 1910 to improve the army and navy over the next decade. The "Small Military Program" in the amount of 2 billion rubles, and in 1911-1912 - 2 billion rubles, aimed at the development of shipbuilding until 1930. A large program in the amount of rubles was adopted[15].

Despite great preparations for the First World War, the Russian army began to suffer one defeat after another on the fronts. This situation required drastic measures. Urgent measures were taken by the Russian government to try to rectify the situation.

The spring and summer of 1915 were the most difficult period in arming the army. With the depletion of military reserves, the organization of the production of new ones had not yet been established. Commentators described the situation in the army as follows: "There is a shortage of artillery shells and ammunition in the army. We are fighting as a shield for the human body, they understand that, and it can have tragic consequences [16] "

In such a difficult and difficult situation, the Russian bourgeoisie gathered all the forces inside the country and took the initiative to organize military-economic mobilization. On May 21, 1915, a Special Council was established to provide the active army with weapons,

artillery and shells. According to a document signed by Tsar Nicholas II on June 7, the Special Council was given broad powers[17].

The establishment of a special council meant that the government had moved away from military state procedures in fulfilling its front and rear demands[18]. The structure of the special council became a new form of political cooperation between the tsarist government and the bourgeoisie.

The Special Council was to oversee private and state-owned factories working on military orders, direct the construction of new plants, and further improve and expand the operation of factories operating for the state defense force. The Council was also tasked with distributing military orders between Russian and foreign factories and monitoring their implementation in order to strengthen the army[19].

The role of the Military Industry Committees should be emphasized when talking about the role of state bodies in the organization of defense, coordination and mobilization of industrial activities to meet the needs of war. Military industry committees were established at the initiative of the III Congress of Industrial and Trade Representatives, which took place in May 1915[20].

Speaking at the congress, PP Ryabshinsky stressed that the development of Russia's productive forces is a task for the future, and the main task today is to arm and materialize the army. Following his remarks, the congress adjourned its meeting and set up a 40-member commission to draft a resolution. Paragraph 1 of the resolution adopted by the Congress states that the main task is to mobilize all the forces of Russian industry to meet the requirements of state defense[21]. In order to organize this work, district committees will be formed on the ground. Their activities are regulated by the central military-industrial committees in the provinces. In turn, it was noted that the regional Military Industry Committees provide the industry with the necessary raw materials and tools, as well as machine tools.

On July 25, 1915, the First Congress of the Military Industry Committee began its work. After the congress, the great industrialist and banker A.I. Guchkov was appointed chairman of the Military Industry Committee, and AI Konovalov was appointed his deputy[22]. As a result of the measures taken, military industry committees were set up in a short time in all major cities and industrial centers. By the end of 1915, there were 32 regional and 221 local military-industrial committees throughout Russia[23].

The Military Industry Committees have, in the course of their practical activities, operated within the limits of the charter approved by the Government. The committees were to assist the state in providing the army and navy with arms, ammunition and necessary supplies[24]. In turn, the financial base of the Military Industry Committees was formed at the expense of state advances and up to one percent of the orders distributed through the Committee. The committee was to use this money to finance the material and other expenses of its administration[25].

Regardless of what resolution is passed by the Military Industry Committee or what issues are put before the government, its activities are primarily determined by what the industry has done to meet military needs.

In practice, the Charter adopted in the interaction of military-industrial committees with government organizations has acquired secondary importance. The charter made it clear that the committee was primarily an organization that assisted government agencies in meeting the needs of the army[26]. With the adoption of this clause, the bourgeoisie forgot that it was in opposition to the state and surrendered to the monarchy.

Despite the fact that the local committees included large industrial manufacturers and the provincial military-industrial committees were in the hands of the bourgeoisie, during their

economic activity and in the distribution of orders, the local committees worked with more small and medium enterprises.

The military-industrial committees, which operated during the First World War, were the most widespread organization, aiming to gain control of the entire country's economy. For this reason, the local offices of the committee were established not only in the cities where the major industrial centers were located, but also in the regions where there were no factories working on military orders. In Turkestan, as in the case of the military-industrial committees, this is exactly the situation[27].

The reports of the heads of the military-industrial committees reported that the small and medium-sized links of industrial production had been merged. Indeed, the main task of the committees set up on the ground was to mediate between small private and medium-sized industrial enterprises in the interests of the war. After all, the state did not have the capacity to direct all small and medium-sized industrial production to the needs of war. The military-industrial committees acted as a state organization in the consolidation and regulation of scattered small and medium-sized enterprises.

The military-industrial committees were financially completely dependent on the state treasury. They lived primarily on 1 percent income from loans, subsidies and orders allocated by the state. Attracting private funds has occurred only in a few cases[28]. In turn, in addition to the committees, economic and organizational issues in the country were resolved by a special council. However, the newly formed military-industrial committees tried to influence the activities of the special council in the interests of the industrialists. The committee, as a representative of the bourgeoisie of the whole country, came to the government with various projects and proposals. The military-industrial committees, which were the center of the mobilization of forces opposed to the tsarist government, co-operated with the government [29].

The reports of the heads of the military-industrial committees provided information on the unification of small and medium-sized links of industrial production. Indeed, the main task of the committees set up on the ground was to mediate between small private and medium-sized industrial enterprises in the interests of the war. After all, the state did not have the capacity to direct all small and medium-sized industrial production to the needs of war. The military-industrial committees acted as a state organization in the consolidation and regulation of scattered small and medium-sized enterprises.

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World War I aggravated the political and socio-economic situation of the Russian Empire. Despite the programs and measures taken by the tsarist government, the country was found to be far weaker economically and militarily than Germany and even Austria-Hungary[30]. Russia's economic life is rife with destruction, chaos, and scarcity[31]. After the initial mobilization, the number of Russian troops increased to 5.5 million. By the end of 1914, that number had risen to 6.5 million. In total, during the war years, more than 10 million people took part directly on the battlefield under Russian weapons 15.8 billion in 1914-1915[32]. The country's national income in 1916-1917 amounted to 12.2 billion rubles. rubles. Military

spending is \$ 4.3 billion. 7.1 billion rubles rubles, covering half of the country's national income[33].

During the First World War, the Military Industry Committees developed major measures to regulate industrial production in Russia and tried to do some work to implement it. The Central Industrial Committees of Russia have carried out a number of works on the creation of new branches of industry in the districts, the creation and launch of small-scale industrial enterprises. Work has begun on accepting and preparing orders to satisfy the military interests of the Russian state, which was involved in the First World War, and to provide it with weapons. But the Central Asian inter-provincial and local military-industrial committees, operating under the guise of war interests, in fact tried to put the interests of the bourgeoisie above the interests of the state in their activities.

The new factories and enterprises established in the country by the military-industrial committees, the new directions of industry did not lead to the development of the Turkestan region and its local population, nor did it have any positive effect on the improvement of their living standards. On the contrary, it has strengthened Russia's colonial policy in the country, plundered the wealth of our people by using a new economic form of national oppression against the local population, and served the Turkestan economy in the interests of the military. If in the second half of the 19th century Russia pursued a policy of moral and social humiliation against the population of the region, subjugating raw materials for its economy and industry and replenishing its treasury, during the First World War forced Turkestan's economy and natural resources to serve its military interests.

In conclusion, the military-industrial committees and their local branches, although undertaken to improve the military supply and capacity of the state, have not been able to do so in practice. The received orders were not fully fulfilled. The deadline for preparing orders has been extended. Most of the completed orders were much lower than the level of demand in terms of quality. The bourgeoisie has succeeded in using these committees to its advantage.

During the First World War, the colonial policy of the Russian Empire intensified. The subjugation of the country's economy, raw materials and social life to the interests of war and the establishment of new military-industrial branches have further aggravated the situation of the population. Despite the fact that the government of the Russian Empire put the people of the region in a difficult and confusing situation, it went the way of putting the entire burden of the war on the colonial powers. The issue of forced use of natural resources, raw materials in underground and surface deposits, food, industrial and agricultural products, as well as the physical strength of the local population in the interests of war was on the agenda. All of this has fueled the indigenous people's hatred of the colonialists.

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