I. The aim of elaboration and the structure of the theme

Mass of special literature were published about the armed force of Dual Monarchy and the Hungarian royal honvéd army – in a great measure military historical and structure (establishment) historical work. But the Hungarian historiography remained in ours debt with the scholarly pretention elaboration of the history of certain branches of military service of the Hungarian royal honvéd army and the insurance and attendant formations and corporations of these. Such works weren’t published about the sanitary of the Hungarian royal honvéd army either. I endeavour to retrieve a slice of lack with my dissertation. It contains the historiography of the medical and assistant staff in its first part and the historiography of the sanitary establishments in its second part.

Scientific aim of my dissertation are the presentation of the structure and function of the honvéd army’s sanitation between 1867 – 1918 first of all making use of archival researches, home and foreign technical literature; comparison with the similar structure of the emperor-royal military force; then valuation both of the services (mainly the activity in World War I). I would like to introduce mainly the structure history with gathered and systematized data because I haven’t got a medical education and the big part of the having documents and the trifling numbers of special literature revealing by my research are bantered to the questions of structure, organising and numbers of staff. My say is classified by themes and by chronology inside the themes.

I used the researchal methods of the military science when I researched and elaborated this subject. I applied the mechanical descriptive method e.g. at the demonstration of structure, the analytical method at the description of the numbers of staff, the comparative method at the parallelism of the honvéd sanitation and the similar structure of the common army.

The structure of my dissertation:
- I give the reason of choosing the theme, analyse the home and foreign technical literature, give the researchal and elaborational methods, make the structure and scientific aim of my dissertation in the introduction.
- I give a short historical summary about progress of the sanitary service in the first part. I demonstrate the sanitary service of the army of Habsburg Empire from the 16th century till the Compromise of 1867. It gave the basis of the sanitary service of the Hungarian royal honvéd army.
- I describe the circumstances of bringing into existence and general tasks and role of the honvéd sanitary service in the second part: the role in preservation of the military ability of the honvéd army in peace and war. I specify the place of the honvéd sanitation in the sanitary service of the imperial army and the system of the upper sanitary board of the honvéd army.
- I review the system of the effective force, the supplement, the taking part in continuation courses and the employment of the honvéd medical staff of officiers in the third part, and I compare it with the medical staff of the common army.

- I demonstrate the activities of the sanitary auxiliary staff and the sanitary group functioned at the common army in the fourth part, and I look over the work of the Hungarian Red Cross played an auxiliary role in the World War I.

- I write about the development, the characters and the activity of the permanent and military sanitary establishment system in the Hungarian royal honvéd army in the fifth part, and I compare them with the similar institutes of the common army.

- I sketch out the work of those sanitary establishments in the sixth part, which effected individual exercises. They were organised during the World War I, and they weren’t included in the plans of mobilization.

- I write about the measures used for against the spreading of the epidemic illnesses in the seventh part.

- I value the functioning of the sanitary service of the Hungarian royal honvéd army in the conclusion, especially its role in the World War I, and I recommend the employment facilities of my dissertation.

II. The sources of the dissertation

My dissertation is based on mainly revealing sources, its base consists of several elements. I rested on primary the remained archival sources during writing my work. First of all I can mention the files of Ministry of Defence and Honvéd General Headquarters saving by the War History Archive, then the Supreme Decisions. The collection of troop material of the World War I also gave important data to the activity of the sanitary service in the World War I. I could have the facility to make scientific investigations in the Austrian War Archive with the help of the scholarship of Collegium Hungaricum in Vienna. We can mention the files of the common Ministry of Defence and the General Headquarters of Army from this collection. The Order Communiqués for the common and the honvéd armies are printed sources – they contain the organizational and personal changings. Since 1870 the annually published sematizmuses (name-lists) of the honvéd army give indispensable base to the compilation of archontologies. The period organizational resolutions published in distinguished prints are beside this theme. The printed, mainly Hungarian language rules of military service determining the daily activity of the service were important proofs, too.

The special literature dealing with the sanitary services of the army of the Monarchy represent only insignificant part from the works published about the military army of the empire – as I mentioned it early, too. The best part of these are German language Austrian publications - they were born mainly in the age of dualism and right after this age. We’ ve to stress Paul Myrdacz, Samuel Kirchenberger and Johann Steiner from the Austrian authors. But their works deal above all with the sanitary service of the common army, so they write about the honvéd army mostly incompletely or inexactily.
I stress Sándor Szurmay’s and Mihály Illésfalvy Papp’s works from some Hungarian language military historical publications about this theme – these follow life and progress of the honvéd army, inside its sanitary with attention till the turn of the century. We can place Ignác Vághó’s and Aurél Stromfeld’s compilations also here. They wrote (translated) school-books for the honvéd educational institutes in the theme of organization of armies. (Ignác Vághó: Haderegészervezet – Budapest, 1900 and Aurél Stromfeld: Haderegészervezet – Budapest, 1911.) These school-books helped me very much in the beginning of my work.

Between the two world wars Emil Csaszkóczy dealt with progress of the military sanitation in his two essays. Only one of them dealt deeply with the marked term – this was published in the book titled A magyar királyi honvédség története 1868 – 1918 edited by Berkó István. It had a fundamental role among my inquirial points – in spite of its several inexactitudes.

Nowadays only two works deal with the sanitary service of the Hungarian royal honvéd army. The first is Barczy Zoltán’s, he published it in 1990, its title is: Királyért és Hazáért. The second is the encyclopaedia Magyarország az első világháborúban publicated in 2000. But these works deal with the sanitary organization of the honvéd army only in some pages – because of their character. I published three essays in the annals of the War History Archive in years 1999, 2000 and 2001.

We can meet several technical periodical reviews from the age of dualism. We’ve to mention the Hungarian Military Publications (the successor of Ludovica Academy Publications) from these. The Military History Communique’s and the Hungarian Military Review can be stressed from the periodical reviews existing after 1918. I had got the facility to use their high level articles while I wrote the chapters of my dissertation.

Nowadays we can come across Erzsébet Sághi’s and Károly Kapronczay’s articles about this theme in the Medical Weekly.

I had got the facility to look trough certain volumes of Österreichische Militärische Zeitschrift (1808 – 1918) and Militärarzt (1866 – 1918) from the Austrian technical periodical reviews. I found used articles in Wehrmedizinische Monatschrift from the present Austrian periodical reviews.

III. Scientific worth and principal results of my dissertation

My methods were mainly those approaches which are used in the military historical elaboration. I suppose the new scientific results of my research work and my dissertation are:

- I’ve been the first who summarized the structure and the educational system of the sanitary service of the Hungarian royal honvéd army on the basis of the revealed new data;
- I gave a comparison between the sanitary organizations of the imperial and royal - and the Hungarian royal honvéd armies;
- I compiled own statistics and did cipherings about the effective force of the honvéd medical staff of officers;
- I valued the activity of the honvéd sanitary service in peace and war with the elaboration of discovered and mainly unknown data.
My dissertation can be used first of all in teaching of military history and it can be interesting also for people dealing with logistic or with history military reserves.

I think my work can be a useful source also in the collection of the Medical History Library – besides on the shelves of the military scientific ones. I would like to call the attention to the sanitary service with my dissertation which - I believe it – played an important role not only in the examined term but also in the history of the Hungarian military forces of the following terms.

**Curriculum vitae**

I was born in 1970, Budapest. After the final examination in secondary school I began to work at War History Archive as an archival assistant since September, 1988. I was admitted to archivist branch, *ELTE BTK* in 1993. During my university studies I worked on in partial working time at War History Archive, so I’ve done archival exercises since 1996. I work as a chief – archivist since June, 1998 – till June, 2001 as a professional officer.

My references are the care and revealing of the documents about the history of the armies of the Hungarian royal *honvéd* army (1868 – 1918) and the Dual Monarchy. I joined to the scientific life by way the Military Science Encyclopaedias in 1995 – I was one of the authors of its historical chronology. Then I took part as an author in the works of these encyclopaedias: Hungary in the World War II and Hungary in the World War I. I’ve participated in publishing of two bands of our archival publication series issuing since 1998. I’ve started to be enganged with sanitation of the Hungarian royal honvéd army intensively in 1997. I publicated three essays in the annuals of the War History Archive in this theme in years 1999, 2000 and 2001. I was admitted to the PhD - teaching of the Zrínyi Miklós University of National Defence with the above – mentioned theme in May of 2000.

**My issued publications in the theme of this dissertation**

My accepted publications before issuing

– Orvosok és egészségügyi intézetek a m. kir. honvédségben 1868 – 1914. 25 p. In Hadtörténelmi Közlemények
– A m. kir. honvédség lábadozó osztagainak tevékenysége az első világháború idején. 6 p. In Ad Acta