

Paweł Majdański

The Lubelskie Province Governor's Office 1944-1950

Abstract

The subject of this doctoral thesis is the matter of functioning of the Lubelskie Province Governor's Office within the structures of local administration in the years 1944-1950. Its main objective is to outline the legal basis for the actions undertaken by the Governor as a body of general administration in conditions of the post-war political transformations as well as to indicate the detailed forms of its activities based on the example of Lubelskie Province.

This dissertation consists of a list of abbreviations, an introduction, three chapters, an ending, list of sources and literature and eleven annexes. It is based on archival materials gathered from The State Archive in Lublin, Central Archives of Modern Records (AAN) in Warsaw and Department Archive of the Lubelskie Province Governor's Office in Lublin. This thesis should be considered an attempt to outline the formal and legal research basis for the in-depth analysis of the working conditions and institutional output of the national institutions in the separate areas of administration in Lublin Province in the years 1944-1950.

The first chapter is devoted to the position and role of the Province Governor within the structure of local administration in the years 1944-1950. It presents a series of events which led to the creation of The Polish Committee of National Liberation and the reconstruction of Polish local administration. This chapter contains the matter of legal status of the Province Governor's Office in years 1944-1950, its statutory scope of authority as well as the analysis of the relations between the Province Governor and Voivodeship National Council in Lublin and the activities of the Voivodeship Department as an executive body of the VNC in Lublin, which was chaired by the Province Governor. The latter part of the first chapter brings up a question of political affiliations of consecutive Governors and Vicegovernors of Lubelskie Province.

The second chapter outlines the transformations which occurred within the structure of the Lubelskie Province Governor's Office throughout the years. It also covers the matter of the office systems regulating the circulation of the documentation within the Office as well as the analysis of the regulations concerning the Office's employees. The organisational and technical aspects of the operation of the Office are also referred herein. Moreover, the attempt to characterise the Governor's Office personnel and the changes in its number was made.

The third chapter brings up the matter of selected issues concerning the activities of the Province Governor and its role as a representative of the national government and the head of the general administration. It discusses the relations between the Province Governor and the Citizens' Militia and public security bodies. This chapter also includes the issues of Province Governor's activities within the scope of selected research areas concerning, e.g. nationalization of industry, "battle for trade" or the resettlement of the Ukrainian population. The issue of the relations between the Province Governor and the starosts, where the particular emphasis was made on the research of the Province Governor's supervision over the starosts, was developed separately. Moreover, this chapter presents the Province Governor's role in the process of selection of the chairman of the executive bodies of the municipalities. The latter part of this chapter brings up a question of political affiliations of starosts, city presidents and mayors.

The dissertation's ending includes the summary of the thesis itself as well as the most significant conclusions arising therefrom. Eleven annexes were prepared for the purpose of this thesis. The layout of these annexes corresponds to the order in which the matter of the thesis was arranged.

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