

This thesis compares afterwar fates of three noblemen from the foothills of the Šumava mountains – prince Joseph Windischgrätz, Otomar von Pelikan and Georg Heintschel von Heinegg. These noblemen share a few characteristics. Except being members of the royalty, their mother tongue was German and they all had similarly huge property in a size of a few hundreds hectares. These estates were situated in the not so fertile area of the Šumava foothills. Since all three men were noblemen, after 1918, they felt as being strangers in their own country. This impression was even stronger on their Šumava manor farm estates which were situated in predominantly Czech areas with German minority. Each of the men reacted differently to his uprootedness – Georg Heintschel was involved in the Austrian Fatherland Front and he later entered NSDAP and was a dedicated Nazi member. After the war, he was for this sentenced to death. Pelikan pinned his hopes on Sudeten German movement and entered SdP and during the so-called second republic also into NSDAP. However, already in the beginning of the war he started to temper his opinions and at the end he used his position in the Nazi hierarchy for helping people. Pelikan represents an example of an equivocal collaboration in this thesis. Pelikan's afterwar trial lacks verdict because Pelikan was expelled before the verdict was pronounced. Windischgrätz represents in this thesis an example of a clear noncollaboration. During Protectorate he tried to stand aside. He tried to get his confiscated property back after the war but the development after February 1948 definitively sealed the confiscation.