

The author of this master thesis tries to capture several moments of life stories of Czechoslovak soldiers and their so called war memoirs (e.g. private war diaries and written memoirs, novels, poetry, interviews) born during and after the Second World War. In the first part of dissertation is concerning e.g. these key questions: Why did the soldiers give testimony? How they did it? In what kind of written form they made it? Why those days seemed so cruel to them? How these testimonies were used by media and historians and how did they play a role in the process of forming collective memory in Czech Lands. Examining these sources, author tried to answer for these questions. Important goal of dissertation is to demonstrate, how memoirs was perceived throughout centuries, since the ancient ages to the present and what forms were continuously developed.

In the second part, using transformed concept of "realms of memory" (P. Nora) and "memory frames" (M. Halbwachs), author tries to demonstrate how these sources would be used in research of memory and every day life of Czechoslovak soldiers in qualitative way.

To get an inspiration, the attention was turned to methodological literature from social and human sciences in wide range especially from abroad because Czech historiography does not reflect this topic enough. (Exception to this is a few sentences in introductions, judging ego-documents "dangerous" for their subjectivity.) For author great opportunity to widening horizons was an internship in Paris - Sorbonne University (Paris IV) and also attending oral history lectures in Palacký University in Olomouc. As for the source base, it was used circa 100 published memoirs, 40 archived memoirs, 4 interviews and additional sources. High number of relevant Czech and abroad titles from secondary sources was also used.