

Abstract

The diploma work concentrates on the complete development and construction of artillery produced by Skoda factory in Plzen from the beginning of weapon production, development of artillery turrets, artillery fortress guns, naval guns to field guns. The work appropriately combines three main parts: economical development of Skoda factory, the development of fortress and field artillery material and bibliography of a lot of important persons from Skoda factory. The work was divided into two important parts: from the beginning of artillery production at Skoda factory to the end of twenties of the twentieth century and the second part started at the beginning of thirties to the end of the second World War, when there were developed a lot of modern artillery constructions for the Czechoslovak army and German Wehrmacht. This work is based on the work with primary archive research at Factory Skoda archive at Plzen, Central military archive in Praha and on the work with secondary literature. Since its beginning Skoda factory became the largest producer of artillery material in Austrian monarchy, during the first war they developed a lot of new and progressive constructions at fortress material and at field artillery material including heavy siege artillery. During the first republic period they produced guns which came from first world war guns, but at the beginning of the thirties they developed and produced very modern cannons and howitzers for the Czechoslovak field army including modern fortress antitank guns and howitzers for Czech Management of fortifications works and lot of different guns for export to Romania and Yugoslavia and other states. Very interesting constructions were 38 cm heavy siege howitzer M.16 for Austro-Hungarian army and fortress artillery turret F3V for Czechoslovak heavy fortresses. This work is the contribution to the study of Skoda factory history from the beginning to the end of the second world war and to the development of artillery guns and to life stories of many of Skoda factory workers.