Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to analyse the life and attitudes of members of the German Reich aristocratic family Schaumburg-Lippe, who owned the Náchod estate in the Czech lands between 1842-1945, and Czech-German coexistence in the first half of 20th century. The first chapter is focused on the 19th century and the person of prince Wilhelm. Its goal is to highlight prince’s attitudes and actions, which played an important role in forming the Czech-German „symbiosis“. The second chapter deals with the topic of Náchod estate and its owner prince Friedrich in the interwar period. The „symbiosis“ is examined through the prism of the Land reform as the most important aspect of the 1920’s and the beginning of 1930’s. The main area of the interest of this thesis, which deals with the family’s lives and Czech-German coexistence during Second World War, is addressed from the third chapter on. This part is focused on the question whether Schaumburgs used the occupation of Czechoslovakia by Nazi Germany and establishment the Protectorate for their benefit, whether they changed their behaviour towards the Czech people, how they experienced and described the events of the war and what was their relationship to the Nazi regime and the representatives of the occupation’s administration. The last part of the thesis analyses the life of prince Leopold during Second World War, mainly his imprisonment resulting from his insulting statement addressed to the address to the Deputy Reich Protector Reinhard Heydrich after the assassination attempt of 1942. The author used as the primary source for this work mostly the archives from the Family archive Schaumburg-Lippe in Zámrsk.

Key words:
Schaumburg-Lippe, Prince Friedrich, Prince Leopold, German Reich aristocracy, Náchod, Second World War, Czech-German coexistence