

## NICOLAE TITULESCU MAKES HIS CASE FOR ROMANIA JOINING THE ALLIES (3 MAY 1915)

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**Abstract.** *On 3 May 1915, in the city of Ploiești, Nicolae Titulescu made a speech titled *The Heart of Romania*, strongly advocating the union of Transylvania with Romania and the need to abandon Romania's neutral stance by engaging alongside the Allies.*

*The speech represented a masterpiece of Romanian political thinking at the time and continues to be so regarded to this day as a level-headed and impassioned plea inspired by genuine patriotic feelings, leaving no room for doubt about Nicolae Titulescu's views concerning territorial integrity, national unity and the fact that Transylvania has always belonged and has to belong forever to the Romanian space.*

**Keywords:** Titulescu, Ploiești, Transylvania, Someș, Mureș, Olt.

The outbreak of World War I caused Nicolae Titulescu to refocus his priorities: all his demarches and efforts were now directed toward making his country whole again and establishing the unitary Romanian national state.

On 3 May 1915, in the city of Ploiești, Nicolae Titulescu made a speech titled *The Heart of Romania*, strongly advocating the union of Transylvania with Romania and the need to abandon Romania's neutral stance by engaging alongside the Allies.

The speech represented a masterpiece of Romanian political thinking at the time and continues to be so regarded to this day as a level-headed and impassioned plea inspired by genuine patriotic feelings, leaving no room for doubt about Nicolae Titulescu's views concerning territorial integrity, national unity and the fact that Transylvania has always belonged and has to belong forever to the Romanian space.

By championing the case of Transylvania, Nicolae Titulescu never forgot Bessarabia and Bukovina; his endeavours demonstrated a comprehensive vision, where the issues related to bringing all the estranged Romanian provinces back home was integrated into a single purpose, even though current political developments brought one or another component temporarily to the fore. Titulescu never spoke or acted with regard Transylvaniei and Bessarabia in terms of alternative options.

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In full accord with the ideas and hopes that were nurtured by other leading contemporary Romanian statesmen and shared by the Romanian population at large, Nicolae Titulescu stated an incontrovertible truth: there could be no peace and stability in Europe as long as the great empires of the time continued to unlawfully hold territories belonging to other countries, as long as imperial policies were blocking the accomplishment of the national aspirations of the peoples that had languished, sometimes for centuries, under the infamous and oppressive rule of the Ottoman, Hapsburg or Tsarist Empires.

Nicolae Titulescu's moral and political commitment to the cause of acquiring and safeguarding the unity and integrity of his country, its inalienable attributes on independence and sovereignty was constant, categorical and unambiguous; in the following years, it was to be further enriched as expanded as the Romanian statesman had better opportunities to express himself from positions of high responsibility in Romanian diplomacy and in the international organisations with a universal vocation.

### *The Heart of Romania*

Dear Fellow-Citizens,

It is almost a year since, all of a sudden, unexpectedly, tragically, Romania has been confronted with the moment at which she had to judge all the efforts of her gloomy and unfavourable past, all the promises of her bright and lofty future: the supreme moment we have all contemplated in our dreams of glory, the moment which the generations called upon to live it did not dare hope it might ever come true.

What has happened then, how has a sinful act been prevented, namely, the monstrous and absurd sin to have our blood shed in defence of our enemies' frontiers, of those very frontiers that have choked us for centuries on end, of those very frontiers which are like deep and painful slashes in the nation's live body, of those frontiers, which, if we don't succeed to have them swept away<sup>1</sup>, would keep us fettered within the walls of a jail, under whose shadows life withers away and dies; and, we know it quite well, what really happened then!

The way we were prevented to turn into miserable and petty, wronged and undignified, oppressed and yet despised wretches goes to the credit and eternal glory of those who had the mission to accomplish this deed!

The nation's instinct, through its chosen people, spoke in good time!<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Austria and Hungary concluded, on February 17, 1867, the Agreement on the creation of the Dual Monarchy or the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, under which Transylvania remained incorporated into Hungary and had its autonomy annulled.

<sup>2</sup> The Crown Council gathered at Sinaia, on August 3, 1914, which was attended, in addition to Cabinet members, by politicians representing the Opposition, rejected the demand of King Carol

Instinct cannot stop here, it cannot fall asleep, after having woken up the soul!

And the Romanian soul, tormented by historical memories, tormented by its grand destiny looming at the horizon to the end of time, tormented in its turn by the force of the moment lived by the Romanian soul, more awake and loftier than ever, orders immediate action!

The question facing Romania today, may be appalling, but is quite simple: either does Romania understand the duty imposed upon her by developments and, in this case, her history is just beginning and her victory will be a prolonged and splendid revenge for all humiliations suffered for centuries on end; or, looking myopically at everything meaning “tomorrow”, with her eyes wide open at everything meaning “today”, Romania does not understand it and stay still, dumfounded as she is, and, in this case, history will record for ever and ever the unique and miserable example of a lived suicide!

But, under present circumstances, Romania must come out complete and great! Romania cannot be complete without Transylvania; Romania cannot be great without sacrifice!

Transylvania is the cradle that nestles her childhood, it is the school that brought up her nation, it is the charm that supported her life. Transylvania is the spark that kindles her energy, the maiming that asks for revenge, the treachery that demands retribution, the choke that calls for liberty! Transylvania is Romanianism in distress, is the strength that rebukes the enemy, is life that calls for life!

We need Transylvania! We cannot do without it! We will know how to take it and, particularly, how to deserve it!

For Transylvania there is no life gladly waning away; for Transylvania any efforts are made unconstrainedly; for Transylvania everything changes, everything is embellished, even death looks different: it is not hideous any more, it becomes appealing!

Transylvania is not only the heart of political Romania; take a look at the map: Transylvania is the heart of geographical Romania!

It is from its heights that spring the waters that have bathed Romanianism all along history: to the North – the Someș, to the West – the Mureș, to the South – the Olt! All along the Carpathians, Romania stretches today like the military zone of a natural fortress, fallen in alien hands!

He who does not feel his body cut down at his waist when looking at Transylvania is not Romanian, he is an alien seed settled in Romania at a time when it was gone with the winds!

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I (backed by P.P. Carp) regarding Romania's joining the war alongside the Central Powers and decided that a policy of armed neutrality be followed.

We need Transylvania, but we cannot need it without sacrifice! Flesh and flesh cannot be stuck together without bloodshed! Transylvania cannot be taken by means of neutrality! Neutrality was justified once, but it is dead and gone!

It was justified because our neutrality was not calculated, was not prompted by fear.

Our neutrality was in the beginning the wall erected against those who tried to goad us to commit a crime against our own kin and against which their heraldic vision broke into pieces: the Romanian Eagle carrying in its beak the Crown of Sf. Stephen; neutrality became then the shelter where we could prepare ourselves and wait for the Day; neutrality is today the cobweb the most innocent breeze can scatter to the winds!

Romania cannot prolong neutrality beyond the limits of her own needs and, chiefly, beyond the limits of her dignity.

A state can stay neutral only when it has nothing to ask for; a state cannot stay neutral when it has its own claims to assert, particularly when it had already expressed them! It would mean that this state is either unable to win over its claimed belongings, which is painfully humiliating, or that it gave up at its own will its ideal, which is insanely absurd!

It is impossible for something conceived by the Romanian mind, felt by the Romanian heart not to be accomplished by Romanian energies.

But nothing weakens energies more than waiting in expectation, nothing wears them away more than idle use, but, nothing fuels them better, up to paroxysm, than the awareness that they are strong and worthy of consideration!

Or, this consideration is what Romanianism actually needs more than ever before, nay, it is what it needs above all!

Today, when the most civilized states have accepted this abominable massacre, this devastation having no like or equal, not in order to annihilate a nation, but to destroy a concept, not in order to enthrone a domination, but to inaugurate a policy, obviously, nobody would be able to enjoy the fruit of the new state of affairs if he has not proved by his valour and by his own heart that he is worthy of them!

Without bleeding and great sacrifice, without brotherhood at arms and without pain, no landmark will move an inch away!

Without the trust of those people who fought before us, without their firm belief that we have a deep sense of justice and duty, without sincere love of freedom, not only ours, but everybody's freedom, without a sustained elevation of the soul, our sacrifice, however great it might be, cannot bear fruit, for it lacks the very thing that engenders it: its moral worth!

Therefore, I think, our leaders will not forget for a moment that they represent today more than Romanian ingenuity, that they embody today the lofty moral concept of Romanianism as a civilizing force! And, maybe, it would be

asserted more easily by attitude rather than by argument, by a deed of heroism than by protracted negotiations.

Either will Romanianism prove a first-rank civilizing force and, as such, it will come out triumphant, or will Romanianism prove a mere mark of coward and greedy selfishness and, as such, it will be doomed to die, like everything else which will die after this war if not supported by justice and sacrifice!

But how can I say that? Can Romanianism ever die? Are we not, all of us, ready for sacrifice? Are we not, all of us, revolted against injustice, disgusted by oppression?

Do our forefathers not sleep in our own blood, awaiting to be woken up in glory?

No, Romanianism cannot die after this war; doomed to perish are only those who proved unworthy of it!



## MAJOR LIVIUS TEIUȘANU – THE FIRST ROMANIAN MILITARY ATTACHÉ IN UNITES STATES OF AMERICA

Alexandru OȘCA\*

**Abstract.** Convinced that, after the United States joined the war, the peace would be organised according to their will, the Romanian government decided to send to Washington knowledgeable people, with charisma and strength, to inform the American public opinion about the justified wishes of the Romanians in order to create a wave of sympathy and support for them. This was Major Livius Teiușanu.

**Key words:** The war for Union, hero soldiers, military attaché, the great Union, communist prison, gratitude

The national ideal of the Romanians everywhere was emphasized in many ways by the brilliant minds and pure souls of this nation.

1918 was, no doubt, the graceful moment for all Romanians living between Carpathian Mountains, Danube River, and Black Sea coast. By a happy coincidence, all wishes came true, both of those in the kingdom who were willing to fight alongside the Entente to unite with the Romanians from Ardeal, Banat, Maramures, Bucovina, as well as of those who were willing to fight alongside the Central Powers to unite with Basarabia, again.

There is an unending trail of Romanian patriots who dedicated their energies and their lives to serve the national ideal, whether on the battlefield or – not least important – on the diplomatic field, in the struggle for acknowledgement of the 1918 Union.

It was, no doubt, important – if not vital – for the Romanian nation, that, after the war, its sons, be them from Muntenia, Moldavia, Ardeal, Banat, Bucovina, Basarabia, Dobruđea decided to build themselves a future together. Remarkable statesmen have worked for the will, spirit and soul of the Romanians. Often, remarkable personalities from these provinces are mentioned together, justifiably. In the spirit of the Union, there fought statesmen from the kingdom, too. I would like to remind King Ferdinand, Queen Mary, I.I.C. Bratianu, Take Ionescu, Nicolae Iorga, Nicolae Titulescu, Constantin Stere and many others.

Army people, too, have felt just as the rest of the Romanian people who wished for the Union; among these some famous generals, officers and simple soldiers, many of whom had arrived from Ardeal or Banat and had joined the Romanian army. Their trail is impressive and some of them have become

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legendary: generals Prezan, Averescu, Eremia Grigorescu, Culcer, Traian Mosoiu, Gh. Cristescu, Arthur Vaitoianu, Iacob Zadic, Ernest Brosteanu, David Praporgescu. Many lower rank officers, not as visible as the first, but just as important, who acted mostly on the military diplomatic front, deserve all the gratitude of their successors. Some have remained, unjustly, unknown, even though, without their brilliant and perseverant patriotic efforts, the Romanians' will, expressed by true plebiscite in 1918, might have been delayed.

Obviously, the presence of career diplomats in the great capitals of the world was a normal thing; so was their plea in the international forums, serving the interests of the Romanian state with refined means, specific to diplomacy, in order to convince and support their just cause.

It is less known, though, of a category of diplomats emerging from the military ranks, who, even though without specific training in the field, have served in diplomacy during the war or soon after it. Those with remarkable abilities for this field have succeeded in this career later on, as military attachés (Paul Teodorescu, Vasile Stoica, Titus Garbea) or as special emissaries by the Romanian Legations in the European capitals or at the National League Commission, as experts<sup>1</sup>. Names like Radu Rosetti or Toma Dumitrescu are, at this moment, well known.

About the mission of promoting the national ideal of the Romanians in the United States of America, where Vasile Stoica has had an important role – there have been a few studies already. Also, there have been studies about the Romanian military mission from Vladivostok of Victor Cadere (native of Ardeal) and second lieutenant Alevra, who dealt with a difficult situation, and under heavy risk, to save and return home the former Romanian prisoners from Ardeal who had joined the Czechoslovak Expeditionary Corps from the Russian Far East.

Further I wish to refer to a fascinating character from the army ranks, who, under a special situation, received the task to represent the interest of our country abroad, in the summer of 1917, by the Romanian Legation in Washington. This was Captain Livius Teiusanu, a hero of the Jiu river battle, where he had been seriously injured and was left invalid. After the war, he suffered a tragic, unjust and sad fate.

Convinced that, after the United States joined the war, the peace would be organised according to their will, the Romanian government decided to send to Washington knowledgeable people, with charisma and strength, to inform the American public opinion about the justified wishes of the Romanians in order to create a wave of sympathy and support for them. This was an extremely difficult task, so much so, since Romanian lobby in America was almost null, while the

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<sup>1</sup> I have published, together with Lenuta Nicolescu, Alesandru Dutu, Gheorghe si Andrei Nicolescu, five volumes of the series "Military attaches inform...", on the aim of making the efforts of these diplomats from between the two world wars, better known to the public.



Austrians, Hungarians, Polish, Czechs, Serbians and even Bulgarians promoted their interests diligently and unhindered by any.

I.I.C. Bratianu and other statesmen realised the utility of these actions too late, or they lacked the financial resources for them to act on time. At first, the Romanian authorities had decided to send a group of civilian emissaries (Father Mota, Vasile Lucaciu and Vasile Stoica). They were not efficient enough, the connections with the American society were hard to articulate and their objective (forming a unit of young Romanian American voluntaries to fight for Romania in Europe) failed. Except for Vasile Stoica, the other two couldn't speak English, and help from Romanian Diaspora was negligible<sup>1</sup>.

An official diplomatic emissary to the United States of America was necessary but the financial resources of the Government were exhausted. The prime minister called upon the patriotic feelings of doctor Angelescu, who took upon himself, together with the title of Romanian Representative to the American authorities, the financial supporting of the whole Legation<sup>2</sup>.

The few members of the Legation needed be joined by a military attaché. The Grand General Quarters thought the post could be successfully filled in by a young officer, straight from the battle field, a hero, to which the American society was sensible and ready to give its full consideration.

This was Livius Teiușanu, a captain, who had become famous, in the battles of the Romanian Army from the 1916 campaign. I bring his case to the knowledge of the readers, not as much for his actions of war or for his diplomatic career – though very valuable and dignified – but for the fate he stood in the period between the two world wars and after the Second World War. Like many other heroes – because Teiușanu was a great hero – to the end of his life, instead of enjoying the gratitude he deserved, Teiușanu ended in misery and humiliation, forgotten by all, in the prisons of Carol the 2<sup>nd</sup> regime and later the communist ones.

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<sup>1</sup> Nicolae Penes, *Radiografii subiective (Subjective Radiographies): Dr. C. Angelescu – the story of a life*, 2011. I.I.C. Bratianu recommends Vasile Stoica to the chief of the Romanian Legation with these words: "He is from Ardeal. When the war started he fled from the Austro Hungarian army, so he wouldn't have to fight against his brothers, and he crossed the Carpathian mountains into the Kingdom of Romania. The Empire had him sentenced to death, in absence. He is an experienced fighter for the rights of the Romanians from Transilvania. He speaks several languages: English, French, Hungarian, and, of course, Romanian. You can make good use of him."

<sup>2</sup> Idem. The author explains the circumstance of the Royal Decree for appointing Angelescu as chief of Legation, which started its mission only in December 1917. He also transcribes the discussion of the prime minister with the doctor, who informed him the state couldn't support him: "As you know we lack money. What we borrowed from external sources we will use for weapons. We have no other chance, if we are to win. To survive. We know it's hard. That it is very hard, but I have faith in you, in your abilities and perseverance. You must prevail. The stand of America in this war, which will change for many decades the map of Europe and the world, is a heavy, decisive stand. America, doctor, we must definitely have it on our side."

No doubt, the case of major Teiusanu is a very special one. He suffered, as did thousands of his comrades, the privations and abuse of the communist regime, but, previously, he suffered – for more than eight years – the abuse of Carol the 2<sup>nd</sup> regime.

Who was and what did Livius Teiusanu? We have a lot of valuable information packed in documents, though not from all of his lifetime, both as active military and as a retired officer. He was born September 1<sup>st</sup> 1888 in Draganesti Olt, in a family of a not very wealthy orthodox priest. He decided to join the military career which he embraced passionately. He graduated several schools for army branches and attended specialisation courses in the country and abroad. He attended, for three years, the Infantry Officers' School in Germany. The appreciation and grades were extremely complimentary for professional expertise, general knowledge, character, spirits, culture level, physical aspect.

He took part in the Bulgarian campaign (1913) as chief of a machine gun unit, where he was appreciated for the way he conducted his unit. The full measure of his value and patriotism he showed on the battlefield, when, during the awful campaign of 1916, he fell severely wounded, while leading his battalion for his commander who had been killed in action. Himself wounded and unconscious, lieutenant Teiusanu was evacuated by his soldiers and immediately operated. In order to be saved, his right hand was amputated from shoulder down. He was left handicapped, in full youth and full strength. Under this circumstance, some have resigned and accepted their fate and condition, honourable but sad, that of being invalid. He (and many others) did not.

Why do I speak about this brave officer? Because Teiusanu understood to fulfil future dispositions and orders that, by their difficulty, could be refused even by fellow officers in full health. After the Medical Commission gave its verdict of inapt for military service for peace and wartime, Teiusanu – in the meantime advanced to captain and major – asked to return to the battlefield and fight next to his comrades.

Of course, that could not be allowed, but he was accepted in the active ranks and he helped raise the morals of the troops by giving great speeches in every regiment, conferences about their duty as soldiers as well as lessons about tactics and knowledge of the modern weapons and army material.

In the summer of 1917 the chief of the Grand General Quarters general Constantin Presan, called him urgently, at the High Commandment for a task of great importance. He was ordered to join the Romanian Legation in Washington as the military attaché. Many other officers who would be offered such a mission would have hastily thanked the chief of the Army. After all, apart from it being an honourable mission, the new position would have pulled them away from the danger of the battlefield. But Teiusanu refused at first, and asked to be allowed to return to his comrades in the battlefield, as they were getting ready for the

summer battles. Only after he was explained that the mission had nothing to do with his infirmity and that it wasn't a way of keeping him safe, but, on the contrary, it was due to his great expertise and capacity, that he had been chosen, did the officer – hero accepted the task and carried it out.

I present, next, a few documents about his activity as well as others that refer to the ordeal of the diplomat officer during a regime that didn't know or didn't want to respect its national values and those who defended them with their lives.

## D o c u m e n t e

### 1

Legatiunea României la Washington  
Atașatul militar

Confidențial

Paris, 4 decembrie 1918

### PROGRAM asupra Memoriului de activitate al Atașatului militar pe lângă Legatiunea României la Washington

Până la completa restaurare a unei căi sigure de comunicațiune cu țara, este mai prudent a nu se trimite încă, documente și memorii complete asupra interesantului rezultat obținut în America, ci numai o schiță asupra programului de lucru, cu oarecare date sau concluziuni.

Iată care ar fi categoriile mai de seamă.

a) Militare: Punerea în contact foarte strâns cu autoritățile militare, care s-au arătat foarte binevoitoare, legături amicale cu ceilalți atașați militari, vizite la diferite instituțiuni, arsenale, fabrici de munițiuni etc., conferințe asupra situațiunei noastre etc.

Grație impresiunei bune ce au căpătat despre noi, și aceasta în urma multor efortări depuse spre a contrabalansa propaganda bulgară care ne preparase un teren foarte nefavorabil, grație faptului că eram un militar cu cunoștințe suficiente asupra germanilor, ca unul ce făcuse studiile 3 ani acolo, grație muncii asidue, ce se prelungea adesea până la orele 4 sau 5 dimineața, căci, pe lângă faptul că eram singur și invalid (lucru care nu-mi mai provoacă niciun fel de obstacol acum) dar nu eram ajutați financiar nici cu solda pentru viața zilnică, necum a plăti secretari, cheltueli de birou etc., toate suportate de mine personal, până acum, grație tuturor

acestor lucruri, am atras atenția americanilor într-un mod foarte sincer, deși situațiunea noastră creată prin încheierea păcii ne amenința cu o concluziune contrară.

b) Sociale: în America societatea joacă un foarte mare rol; de aceea, de la început am avut contactul cel mai strâns cu lumea influentă și corpul diplomatic. Faptul că americanii au intrat mai târziu în război făcea nu numai să aprecieze pe invalizi, dar să se ofere cu tot felul de servicii și să-i introducă în familiile lor. Astfel, devenind foarte familiar în societatea bună, nu pierdeam un singur moment din vedere a arăta situațiunea noastră de martiri. Concluziunea se va vedea la capitolul Orfani, Cruce Roșie etc.

Nu știu dacă ar fi locul să intercalez aprecierea multor americani și români de la Paris puși în cunoștință de cauză, legătura și mai strânsă creată între România și Statele Unite – după cum anunța presa americană cu ocaziunea căsătoriei mele – de ajutorul imens oferit de către familia mea (S. Humphrey din Philadelphia Pa.) ocupându-se îndeaproape cu chestiunea românească în America, cu care au pus în contact personagiile mai influente dintre cercul de prieteni. Doamna Humphrey este președinta societății de ajutor al Orfanilor români, în Philadelphia, precum și al unor societăți înființate de dânsa în același oraș cu scopul de a ajuta România, unde a interesat în cauza noastră mai bine de 10.000 de persoane din elita statului Pensylvania.

c) Diplomatice. Legături foarte strânse în special cu Ambasada Franței, al cărei șef, Ambassadorul Jusserand, ne-a făcut cel mai mare serviciu în chestiunea drepturilor noastre, cerând cu insistență a nu fi considerați ca neutrali ci, din contră, ca aliați care au dreptul la răsplătirea sacrificiilor făcute pentru aceeași nobilă cauză. Pentru a se vedea sentimentele de care este animat reprezentantul Franței în America, îmi permit a alătura copia scrisorii sale, adresate mie, cu ocaziunea prezentării de plecare, atât de regretată și poate interpretată de toți care erau în măsură să o judece.

Asemenea, ambasadele Italiei, Angliei, Legațiunea Greciei, Serbiei, Boliviei (prin intermediul unui căpitan vechi prieten al meu ni s-a făcut mare propagandă în toată America de Sud, reproducând conferințele mele în jurnalele lor, și altele. De remarcat este prezentarea mea de plecare cu care ocaziune am aflat pentru prima dată oficial (august) cele ce credea despre noi nu numai șeful de Stat Major American, ministrul de Război și dl. Lansing, dar chiar președintele Wilson, care s-a arătat mai mult de decât amabil față de noi, dându-mi mesaj verbal a transmite Majestății sale Regele și Guvernului, precum și poporului român, și asigurări de tot concursul său și al poporului ce reprezintă.

d) Propaganda. Presa din Washington ne-a fost foarte favorabilă datorită, în special, domnului Benett, redactorul principal al jurnalului „Washington Post”, cu care căutăm a ține un strâns contact. Români din America, în număr de circa 186.000 de ardeleni și ziarele lor, au contribuit la exprimarea durerilor noastre

naționale. Parăzi, conferințe, întruniri grandioase făcute cu concursul lor, au pus în evidență sentimentul nostru național.

Articole favorabile, fotografii și conferințe, acompaniate de filmele cu care am plecat, au sporit șansele de a ne face întâi cunoscuți, apoi simpatici.

Este de remarcat simpatia creată pentru familia noastră Regală, care se bucură în America de o deosebită admirație, astfel se explică fotografiile Regale, Tabla de onoare dedicată Majestății Sale Regina, intitulată „Regină între regine”, din partea Doamnelor Americane, pe care nu am putut lua cu mine de teama de a nu fi expusă pierderii provocată de nesiguranța comunicației.

e) Orfanii. Pentru ajutorul celor 50.000 de orfani ai noștri cu ajutorul Doamnelor din societate din toată America am înființat „Comitetul American pentru Ajutorul Orfanilor de Război ai României” sub patronajul Domnișoarei Margareta Wilson, care comitet a aprobat a adopta orfani, întreținându-i cu câte 50 de dolari anual, depuși pe numele meu la Paris, pentru care am telegrafiat adesea întrebând de trimitere, dar nu am primit nici-un răspuns. Orfelinatul se va numi „Sublocotenent Ecaterina Teodoroiu”, după numele eroinei cercetașe ale cărei fapte se cunosc acum nu numai în America dar și în Anglia, unde am fost invitat de gl. lt. sir Robert Baden Powell, care a binevoit a recunoaște că cercetașii noștri sunt printre cei mai buni din lume, pentru care a cerut permisiunea de a oferi alteței sale regale, principelui Carol, recompensa binemeritată, precum și mie Ordinul cercetășesc „For Merit”, cu adăugarea „Pentru serviciul adus cercetașilor din lume”, considerând că am fost Instructorul Eroinei noastre și a Cercetașilor de la Jiu.

f) Cercetașii noștri sunt bine clasați acum văzându-se rezultatul strălucit al acestei instituțiuni atât de necesară la noi. Doamna Dougherty, secretara Comitetului pentru Orfani, mi-a promis un mare ajutor bănesc pentru cercetașii noștri, care s-au comportat atât de brav; din nefericire, plecarea mea a întrerupt demersurile făcute, rămânând a se reveni înainte de a trece pe al doilea plan. Conform dorinței Alteței Sale, am executat ordinul de a începe cele mai strânse legături, numind în același timp, în numele Alteței Sale 4 Președinți Onorifici (între care și gl Baden-Powell) și aproximativ 20 de membri onorifici ai noștri, cu ocaziunea conferințelor mai importante, din cele 50 de conferințe ce am ținut în America. Drapelul oferit de mine gl. Baden Powel la Londra a fost primul în acest fel și a fost depus cu cinste în Sala de recepție a quartierului lor.

g) Crucea Roșie americană, datorită cererii ce am adresat domnului Davidson, șeful Crucii Roșii, la 23 iulie când a a binevoit a lua parte la o întrunire 9 persoane, între care dl. Anderson și domnișoara Margareta Wilson, am reușit a obține promisiunea formală de a ni se da două milioane și jumătate dolari pentru orfanii noștri și pentru Crucea Roșie. La telegrama dată în acea noapte precum și la cele următoare nu am avut nici un răspuns. Cu onoare, rog să binevoiți a se da o rezoluțiune de urgență acestei chestiuni, americanii fiind dispuși a ne trimite în special materii prime necesare vieții, îmbrăcăminte și bani.

Dorind a profita de primul curier care trebuie să plece astăzi spre România, sunt nevoit a face abstracție de alte detalii, pentru care aștept ordine de executare a lor la Paris, prin intermediul Legațiunii noastre.

Maior Livius Teiușanu, Atașat militar.

Raport nr. 91 din 4 decembrie 1918

Raportul a fost trimis către gl Coandă, înregistrat la nr. 426 din 10 ianuarie 1919.

Arhivele Militare Române,

Fond nr. 5431(M.St.M., Adjutantură), Dosar nr. 298

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*Popic 90*  
 Ambassade  
 de la République Française  
 aux Etats-Unis  
 Washington le 16 Août 1918

Monsieur le Commandant,  
 Votre départ est tout récent et vous avez  
 raison de l'oublier; rappelé dans votre  
 pays, vous vous y rendez.  
 Je regretterai, très tristement, beaucoup votre  
 départ, car votre présence ici a été fort utile.  
 Nous avons le sentiment favorable à la Roumanie  
 et très puissant aux Etats-Unis; le Président  
 le Gouvernement et le peuple Américains admirant  
 les grandes qualités éclairées par les  
 Roumains; au cours d'une lutte inégale, parmi  
 des épreuves les plus cruelles, ils ont montré  
 une force d'âme qui sera leur salut.  
 L'œuvre n'est pas terminée de sa

*1918*

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destinée, mais il n'en va pas de même des  
peuples. C'est une leçon que Dieu de sa main  
la Russie; et nous toujours les fait parti-  
cipent et jugement pour ceux dont l'âme,  
au milieu des traverses, demeure invaincue.

Notre présence ici a fortifié le sentiment  
américain en faveur de la Roumanie, et j'aurais  
été heureux que votre séjour fût si prolongé.  
Vous êtes ici le représentant de la seule  
part de la nation russe de la race roumaine;  
vous avez du surcroît vu à l'une et à l'autre  
le service de la paix universelle et universelle  
digne.

Animés d'un même esprit les deux  
Républiques française et américaine peuvent de  
même au sujet de la Roumanie; on le verra  
succès par la suite.

Mais vous vous accompagner dans  
4376

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notre voyage de retour; je ne répète pas  
ici, parce qu'ils sont connus, ceux que je  
vous prie votre grâce.

Veuillez recevoir, mon cher Commandant,  
l'assurance de mes sentiments très  
distingués et dévoués.

(18)  
Jusséviand

Monsieur  
le Commandant Teiușanu  
Attaché Militaire à la Légation de Roumanie  
Washington, D. C.

Par sa confiance  
Major Livius Teiușanu  
Ottaviano M. M. M.  
4376



Arhivele Militare Române,  
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### 3

Foaie calificativă  
(copie)  
Cpt.Teișanu Livius

A luat parte la campanie cu Regimentul 18 Gorj, în calitate de comandant de companie mitraliere, unde a luptat până la rănirea sa în defileul de la Jiu și pasul Merișor.

În ziua de 20 septembrie a luat parte la luptele de la Oberec, unde ofițerul a avut loc o misiune specială de a ține în loc inamicul la retragerea detașamentului col. Trășculescu. La 29 octombrie, în luptele de la muntele Gernicelu, la drumul Neamțului, a luat comanda a două companii care fugeau în debandadă și a ținut pe loc pe inamic care încerca să întoarcă flancul stâng al poziției. Aici a fost rănit de un glonț dum-dum și a fost evacuat la Craiova, unde i s-a amputat brațul, apoi a fost evacuat la Iași.

Deși nevindecat, totuși a cerut să fie mutat la Școala Militară, lucru ce i s-a aprobat. Comisia II medicală l-a reformat, totuși el a făcut un raport, cerând să fie lăsat încă în armată cel puțin până la terminarea campaniei, încă putând aduce bune rezultate la instruirea unei unități, lucru ce i s-a aprobat de MCG.

Venit la Școală, s-a afirmat ca un prea bun ofițer. Aptidunea sa fizică foarte plăcută, sănătos și mult rezistent, foarte energic, ținută curată. Ofițer capabil, a predat cursurile de tactică și armanment cu multă competență. Aptitudinea sa militară este corectă precum și educația sa militară completă. Își îndeplinește serviciul cu multă conștiință și pricepere, puțin cam pedant, dar își va reveni cu timpul.

Rezultatele obținute de ofițer cu instruirea Companiei de Elevi care i s-au încredințat cred că vor fi din cele mai strălucite la terminarea Școalei la 15 mai. Aceasta o afirm din ceea ce văd starea cum se prezintă compania.

Este ofițer cu foarte mult suflet pentru Țară, deși cu brațul amputat și reformat, totuși ofițerul se sacrifică din a lui voință pentru a forma acest tineret, însuflețându-le dragostea de neam și țară. A fost decorat cu *Steaua României*, cu spade, pentru bravura sa din campanie.

Fiind nou în grad nu pot să-i fac nici o propunere, îl caracterizez că ar putea înainta de a se menține în armată sau a fi menținut la Școală ca profesor, nelipsindu-i calitățile în această privință.

Comandantul Școalei Militare Iași,  
Lt. Col. Pârvanevici.



Arhivele Militare Române,  
Fond nr. 5431(M.St.M., Adjutantură), Dosar nr. 298

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Miliția raionului Drăgănești  
Gr. P.O.  
Nr.7347

Strict Secret,  
20 septembrie 1954

Către

Ministerul Forțelor Armate ale R.P.R.  
Serviciul Pensii

La Ord.dvs M.P. o708 și 122944/1954, înaintăm alăturat, un referat de verificare a numitului Teiușanu Livius, din comuna Mărunței.

De felul cum este cunoscut de noi, acest cetățean în momentul de față nu are existența asigurată, deoarece nu mai are nici un fel de avere și nici copii sau rude ca să-l întrețină. După cum rezultă din referat, trăiește din mila publicului, îl întrețin cetățeni care-l cunosc.

Susnumitul deasemeni nu poate să muncească, fiind bătrân și invalid, puțin suferind de alienație mintală, în sensul că uneori vorbește fără să-și dea seama.

În trecut nu se cunoaște să fi făcut politică, însă din discuțiile cu dânsu rezultă că a urât monarhia, pentru care a fost arestat.

În prezent are unele atitudini antidemocratice, însă acestea sunt ca urmare a situației sale în care se găsește.

Șeful Miliției Raionului Drăgănești  
Locot. de Mil.

Arhivele Militare Române,  
Fond nr. 5431(M.St.M., Adjutantură), Dosar nr. 298



## MONUMENTS FOR THE ROMANIAN HEROES OF 1917

Horia DUMITRESCU\*

**Abstract:** During the Great War heavy battles took place on the Romanian territory, at Mărăști, Mărășești and Oituz, in Vrancea County. In their memory were built the monuments presented below.

**Keywords:** war, heroes, gratitude, monument, Mărăști, Mărășești and Oituz.

After two years of devastating war in Europe and after two years of neutrality, on August 14<sup>th</sup> 1916, Romania joined the right and saint war of union, of fulfilling the national aims, legitimate and ancient, of the Romanian people.

The inhabitants of Transylvania received the offensive of the Romanian army beyond the Carpathians with enthusiasm and joy. During only two months, the Romanian troops almost reached Sibiu. Being insufficiently supported by the countries of the Antanta, the Romanian army had to retreat fighting heroically for each piece of land. On the rivers Jiu and Olt, at Bucharest and Ramnicu-Sarat, the Romanian soldiers proved heroism simply legendary, sweeping away the intentions of the enemy to throw Romania out of war.

The front became stable on the alignment of the Eastern Carpathians, the lower course of the rivers Putna and Siret and of the big river Danube. Moldavia remained the only free part of the country. Here was the strength and the hope of the Romanian nation. After the recovery, after those intense preparations of June-July 1917, the fights of the Romanian army were to become real in the bright victory from Marasti since 24<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> of July 1917.

In that situation, the new plans of attack of the enemy had as their aims the breaking of the Moldavian gate at Marasesti, on Siret and the opening of the road to Iasi, the defeating of the army and the abolishing of the Romanian state.

The answer of the Romanian army came with a powerful force: „*Nobody passes by here!*”. Between July 2<sup>st</sup> - August 2<sup>st</sup> 1917, at Marasesti at the neighborhood, at the hard price of the sacrifice of blood and life, the soldiers „*made brought into darkness the dreams of a easy conquest of the country*”, their heroism „*shuddered the world ...*”, stopped the enemies' offensive and changed the battle into a bright and resounding Romanian victory. The First Romanian Army, its commander and the same of the battle from Marasesti won the eternal victory.

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\* Member of Academy of Romanian Scientists.

During the long, painful and heart-breaking days and nights of the battle, the names of Marasesti, Doaga, Strajescu, Moara Alba, Moara Rosie, Razoare forest were written with letters of fire and blood. On the name of the battle shines eternally the day of August 6<sup>th</sup> 1917.

In the same day, in front of the military German giant that started the attack in 4-5 successive waves on the direction of Razoare forest - Marasesti, interposed the 13<sup>th</sup> Division Infantry lead by the general Ion Popescu, formed by the Regiments no. 47, 51 and 50. The Divisions no. 9, 14 and 10 defeated the other sectors. The whole progress of the fight was under the command of the general Eremia Grigorescu. His lucidity, courage, abnegation, his perfect experience and military formation had a decisive role in the success of the resistance and in the changing of the battle into a great victory.

On the battle field of Marasesti gave their lives over 480 officers and over 21.000 soldiers and graded soldiers. Then and there heroically died Grigore Ignat of the regiment 51 Infantry with all his people, Gabriel Pruncu, the corporal Musat and the hero - child Mariuca Ion Zaharia.

At Marasesti was born again the soul of the Romanian nation and it also raised on the climax of the eternal glory.

At Marasesti, the arm of the Romanian soldier was strengthen by the superiority of the knowledge, they valued life as long as it served for the ideal fore which the soldier was fighting: the Liberty and the unity of the country and of the Romanian nation.

The initiative of building the Heroes' Mausoleum in Mărășești belonged to the Romanian Women National Orthodox Society within the Congress that took place on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1919, in the Senate Hall in Bucharest.

In this scope, it was constituted a committee made up of great personalities of the time, under the presidency of Princess Alexandrina Gr. Cantacuzino.

On October 8<sup>th</sup> 1919, during a memorable ceremony, was set up the place where it was to be built the Church of the Nation, a place that was pointed out according to the tradition with an iron cross brought from the Metropolitan Church of Moldavia and Suceava. Georges Ulise Negropontes donated the land on that was built the monument, on July 14<sup>th</sup> 1921.

In 1921 was organized a competition for the best project for the construction of the mausoleum, a competition that was won by the architects Georgette Cristinel and Constantin Pomponiu but because of the lack of funds, the winning project was abandoned, The current monument was erected according to the plans of the architect George Cristinel.

The foundation of the future memorial monument was set up on August 6<sup>th</sup> 1923.



Heroes' Mausoleum Mărășești

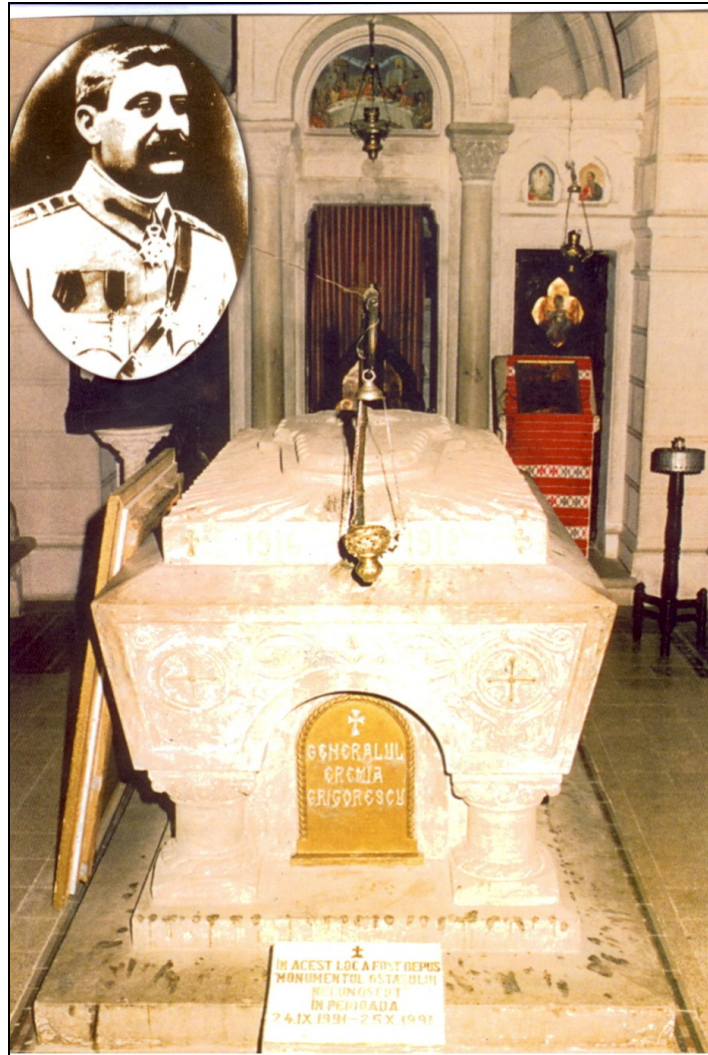
In the summer of 1924 began the re-burying of the bones of the soldiers dead on the battle field, in the crypts of the mausoleum and in September there were deposited in the central sarcophagus the remains of General Eremia Grigorescu, commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Romanian Army during the battle of Mărășești.

On September 27<sup>th</sup> 1924 took place the ceremony of the crypts' inauguration, in the presence of Queen Mary and of some high personalities of the time.

After 12 years, there were started again the works for the construction of the monument's dome, known under the name of „*The Dome of the Glory*”, its bas-reliefs being sculpted by Ion Jalea and Corneliu Mendrea and in the interior was painted in fresco by Eduard Saulescu.



The sarcophagus of general Eremia Grigorescu and The Chapel



Detail of the sarcophagus of general Eremia Grigorescu

On September 18<sup>th</sup> 1938, in the presence of King Carol II, of many personalities and of an impressive crowd, took place the ceremony of the inauguration of the mausoleum.

The Mausoleum shelters in those 154 individual crypts and 9 commune crypts, disposed in a radial manner on those 18 passages, a number of 5.073 soldiers and officers, among them being the heroine-girl Măriuca Zaharia, the captain Grigore Ignat, the lieutenant Gabriel Pruncu.

On the frontispiece of the Mausoleum were written the words „*For the Slave of Nation's Heroes*” and the name of the localities where took place the main battles on the Romanian front.



Cupola of Glory

It was inaugurated at 18<sup>th</sup> of September 1938 in the presence of King Carol II.  
It shalter 154 individual crypts' and 9 in commune, for 5.073 soldiers and officers.

The historic destiny of the Romanian area, between Siret and the tops of Vrancea Mountains, characterized by Nicolae Iorga as „*a small image of the Great Romania*”, made that, during only summer, the one of the year 1917, by the dramatic, heroic and sublime effort of the Romanian Army, from the clenching with an enemy that had as goal deleting Romania from the European map, to be condensed here the whole time of our becoming comprised between past and future.

At that moment, in the name and for the liberty of the Country, for the fulfilment of the sacred right of the Re-completion of the Romanian people, at Soveja and Câmpuri, at Panciu and Străoane, at Muncelu and Varnița, at Mărăști, at Doaga and Mărășești, thousand of officers and soldiers caught in the hora of fire and death of the battles, they kneaded with their blood and sweat the country's clay, raising an obstacle that couldn't be passed in front of the enemy.

To them, to the Heroes of Nation, as a sign of our gratitude and our eternal remembrance, the future generation built for them, in every village and town of our district, the monuments. To them and their saint bones have been lasted Mausoleum at Mărășești, Mărăști, Soveja and Focșani, temples of heroism and sacrifice in the name of saint national ideal, temples of praying and veneration, symbols of durability and continuity for eternity of the nation born between Carpathians Mountains and Black Sea.

Since then and forever, the people of Vrancea walk on their lands with shyness, with a tremble in the heart in order not to disturb the quietness of the heroes on whose hearts are built the present and the future of Romania.

Mărăști Mausoleum was raised on the place of the battle of 9-17<sup>th</sup> of July 1917, at initiative of „Mărăști” Society, according to the plans of architect Pandele Șerbănescu.

The basement stone was put in 10<sup>th</sup> of June 1928.

On the main face there are 15 marble plates, with the name of 1.700 heroes.

Bas-relief are the work of sculptor Aurel Bordenache.

The basement is shelter for sarcophagus of Marshal Alexandru Averescu, generals Arthur Văitoianu, Alexandru Mărgineanu and Nicolae Arghirescu.



Mărăști Mausoleum



The bust of the Marshal Alexandru Averescu (1859 – 1938)

Sculptor: Oscar Späthe





Bas – relief (details)



Bas – relief (details)



The sarcophagus that shalter bones of Marshal Alexandru Averescu

### **The Heroes' Mausoleum from Soveja**

The Heroes' Mausoleum from Soveja was raised between 1923 - 1928, according to the plans of the architect George Cristinel and it was inaugurated in 1929.

Ossuary shalter the bones of 2.000 unidentified soldiers and the crypts' 800 known soldiers.

Soldiers that you died for the country, brave people of faith, soldiers wherever in the graves you lie, rest in peace.

Those who died for the country on the field of the rich plain.

Sacrificing an entire spring, They didn't die but they resurrected.



Soveja Mausoleum

## Inscription – Soveja Mausoleum

Soldiers that you died for the country,  
brave people of faith, soldiers  
wherever in the graves you lie,  
rest in peace.

Those who died for the country on the  
field of the rich plain  
Sacrificing an entire spring,  
They didn't die but they resurrected.