

MONUMENTS FOR THE ROMANIAN HEROES OF 1917

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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 14th 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 24th - 30th 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 2st - August 2st 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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