

A CENTURY SINCE THE SAVING OF THE NATIONAL BEING (1917-2017)

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Abstract. The armed struggles remain on the Eastern Front in the summer of 1917 constitute a moment of great importance in the evolution of the First World War. To emphasize the special international echo generated by the confrontations in Marasti, Marasesti and Oituz, this time we appeal to diplomatic and military documents, due to senior foreign officials, who commented on the effort of the Romanian army.

Keywords: First World War, Marasti, Marasesti and Oituz, diplomatic and military documents

The year 1917 was crucial for Romania, as it was facing the situation of no longer existing on Europe's map. The evolution of the events was very closely followed by the European diplomacy, who noticed that the dangers that threatened Romania were coming not only from the enemy, but also due to the overthrow and the complication of the political regime in Russia.

Over the years, numerous documentary testimonies remained and have been preserved, proving that in the summer of 1917, the national being was saved from extinction by the sacrifice of the "great war generation <that> accomplished his duty toward his nation."¹

The first document that was closely examined is the report drew up by the Swiss charge d'affaires in Romania, Gustav Boissiere and released in July 17, 1917, who was notifying the federal councillor of the Public Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs about the situation on the battlefield. The main conclusion of the Swiss diplomat made reference to the tragic situation in Romania, which "definitely cannot rely on its neighbours, and the only support that others allies can offer is supplying with ammunition and other war materials."²

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¹ Mareșal Alexandru Averescu, *Notițe zilnice din război (Daily notes from the war) (1916-1918)*, Publishing house „Cultura Națională”, Bucharest, p. 232.

² *1918 la Români. Desăvârșirea unității statale a poporului român.(Romanians in 1918. The achievement state unity by the Romanian people)* Documente externe (External documents) (1916-1918), vol. II, Publishing house Edit. Științifică și Enciclopedică, 1983, p. 925.