Ukrainska Halytska Armia

The army of the West Ukrainian People’s Republic (ZUNR) was a disciplined force that provided the Polish Army with stiff opposition. The bulk of the material below was kindly supplied to me by Boguslaw Goscieniecki (nsz45@poczta.onet.pl) with additions from the Ukrainian Encyclopedia and Ukrainian Armies 1914–55.

The initial core of the army were the Sich Riflemen and other units from the former Austro-Hungarian Army. These were joined by spontaneous worker and student detachments and then conscription commenced by November 1918. By the start of December 1918 there were 30,000-odd men, but only half were properly ready for combat. Early in 1919 the assortment of regular and irregular units was formed into a regular army of three corps.

Organisation and doctrine were essentially Austrian.

Theoretical Unit Structures

Corps
- 4 brigades
- Independent sapper company
- 2-5 field hospitals and sanitary trains

Infantry Brigade
- 6 infantry battalions, in 2 regiments
- Cavalry squadron
- Field artillery regiment, of 6 batteries
- Sapper company
- Various communications and auxiliary units.

Infantry Battalion (Ukr. kuren) – 1,364 soldiers
- 3 infantry companies (Ukr. sotnia) [NB: some authorities say 4 companies]
  - 3 infantry platoons (Ukr. choty)
  - Light machinegun platoon – LMGs
- Heavy machinegun company
  - 4 platoons – 2 x “Maxim” each
- Reconnaissance platoon
- Engineer platoon

Independent Cavalry Squadron (Ukr. sotnia) – 161 soldiers
- 3 cavalry platoons
- Heavy machinegun platoon – 2-3 Schwarzlose
UHA Order of Battle — April 1919

I Corps – Colonel O. Mykytka
   5th “Sokal” Brigade – Captain P. Petryk
       3 infantry battalions
       2 artillery batteries
       cavalry squadron
       armoured train
       technical company
   6th “Rava” Brigade – Captain W. Stafaniak
       4 infantry battalions
       2 infantry companies
       3 artillery batteries
       cavalry squadron
       heavy machinegun platoon
       technical-engineer company
   9th “Uhniv” (later “Belz”) Brigade – Captain B. Shashkevich
       4 infantry battalions
       3 artillery batteries
       cavalry squadron
       technical platoon
       military police company
       engineer company
   10th “Yaniv” Brigade – Major A. Dolud
       4 infantry battalions
       cavalry squadron
       artillery battalion (2 artillery batteries)

II Corps – Colonel M. Tarnavsky
   1st “Sichovykh Striltsi” (i.e. Sich Riflemen or USS) Brigade – Maj S. Bukshovany
       2 infantry battalions
       reserve battalion
       1 artillery battery [6 guns]
       cavalry squadron
       engineer company
   2nd “Kolomyya” Brigade – Major F. Tinkl
       4 infantry battalions
       assault company
       infantry company “Huculsk”
       Field Artillery Regiment No 2 (2 artillery batteries and mortar battery)
       technical company
       armoured train
   3rd “Berezhany” Brigade – Colonel A. Wolf
       4 infantry battalions
       6 artillery batteries
       cavalry squadron
   4th “Zolochiv” Brigade – Major S. Shukhevych
       5 infantry battalions
       infantry company
       Field Artillery Regiment No 4 (6 artillery batteries)
       military police platoon
   2nd Sich Artillery Regiment (2 batteries) [3 x 122mm + 1 x 152mm howitzers, 2 x 106.8mm]
III Corps – General M. Gembachiv
7th “Stryy” (later “L’viv”) Brigade – Major A. Bizanz
7 infantry battalions
4 artillery batteries
armoured train
8th “Sambir” Brigade – Colonel A. Kraus
I Group “Rudki” (“Hoffman”) – Captain K. Hoffman
6 infantry battalions
“Dnieper” heavy artillery Brigade [24 x 106.8mm type 1910 guns]
II Group “Krukenitsa” – Colonel Szepel
4 infantry battalions
II Group artillery [13 guns]
III Group “Hlyboka” – Captain M. Fedyk
4 infantry battalions
assault battalion
artillery group [15 guns]
armoured train
2 infantry battalions – reserve 8th Brigade
1st Mountain Brigade – Major O. Chersky
I Group “Staryy Sambir”
2 infantry battalions
demi-battery mountain howitzers [2 x 100mm type 1916 mountain howitzers]
cavalry squadron
II Group “Lutoviska”
9 infantry companies
demi-battery field artillery [2 x 75mm type 1915 guns]

Air troops
1 Air field company HQ – Duliby (Stryy) [1x Nieuport17, 1x Brandenburg C, 2 x LVG]
2 Air field company HQ – Krasnoye
3 Air field company HQ – Ternopil’
Technical battalion

Notes:
- the Sich Rifles had added another infantry regiment by June 1919. It was the best unit of the UGA.
- the Hlyboka and Krukenychi Groups of the 8th Brigade were to form the basis of the 11th “Stryy” Brigade in June 1919.
- IV and V Corps were also organised in June, but due to lack of manpower were soon dissolved.
### Numbers

as at 15.03.1919

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>officers</th>
<th>soldiers</th>
<th>guns</th>
<th>infantry guns</th>
<th>mortars</th>
<th>MGs</th>
<th>horses</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>305</td>
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<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Corps</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>14,025</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>2,074</td>
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<tr>
<td>II Corps</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>13,044</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>124</td>
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<td>III Corps</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>19,362</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>207</td>
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<td>Siczovi Striltsi</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>4,245</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>781</td>
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<td>Air troops</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,396</strong></td>
<td><strong>51,274</strong></td>
<td><strong>192</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td><strong>512</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,981</strong></td>
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**Notes:**
- The UHA reached its greatest size in June 1919, when it had 70–75,000 men (including reserves). About 65,000 men crossed the Zbruch (others being forced into Czechoslovakia).
- Its proportion of officers to men was very low, requiring the recruitment of Ukrainians from the UNR Army (Directory Ukraine) and former Austro-Hungarian army specialists.
- Cavalry was initially very limited, with the few squadrons only being 40-50 men and only about 600 sabres in March 1919.
- On the advice of General Hrekov a cavalry brigade was formed in June and July 1919, with a total of 1,340 sabres.
- Artillery was largely ex-Austrian pieces, including some heavy pieces with each brigade. It was the greatest strength of the UHA.
- Armoured cars were fielded around L’viv. It seems that the UGA reached a total of 8 cars.
- II and III Corps had an armoured train each.
- The air arm reached 40 planes, ex-Austrian and Russian. Until April 1919 it had the advantage in the air but then Polish strength grew rapidly.

### Commanders

**Commanders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commander</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonel D. Vitovsky</td>
<td>29 October to 5 November 1918</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel H. Kossak</td>
<td>to 9 November 1918</td>
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<td>Colonel H. Stefaniv</td>
<td>to 10 December 1918</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brigadier General M. Omelianovych-Pavlenko</td>
<td>to 9 June 1919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major General O. Hrekov</td>
<td>to 5 July 1919</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brigadier General M. Tarnavsky</td>
<td>to 7 November 1919</td>
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**Chiefs of the General Staff**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chief</th>
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<tr>
<td>Colonel M. Marynovych</td>
<td>to 5 November 1918</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Major S. Goruk</td>
<td>to 10 December 1918</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonel Ye. Myshkivsky</td>
<td>to 12 February 1919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonel V. Kurmanovych</td>
<td>to 7 June 1919</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonel A. Schamanek</td>
<td>to 7 November 1919</td>
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