

Protodeacon German: March 2/15, 1917

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"There is no sacrifice that I would not make in the name of a real good and for the salvation of Mother Russia," said the Sovereign in these terrible days as a result of long, painful reflections, when he was finally convinced of the betrayal of the highest generals, with the exception of Admiral Kolchak, the only one who did not provide him with his "most loyal request" for renunciation.

How grandeur emanates from these words of the Tsar-Martyr! He renounced the ancestral Throne without setting any conditions for Himself personally or for His Family. About tréksya sacrificial n about. __ I renounced in the name of Russia. "What was left for me to do when everyone cheated on me?" - immediately after the abdication, the emperor said to the palace commandant, General Vladimir Voeikov. Because of the intrigues of all sorts of adventurers sitting in the State Duma, among whom it is worth highlighting Guchkov and Chairman Rodzianko himself and many others who managed to influence and deceive the chief of staff of the Sovereign, General Alekseev, a huge country, the great Russian Empire, was plunged into turmoil for many decades, bloody atrocities, lawlessness and unbearable oppression.

Having voluntarily or involuntarily become the main instrument of the betrayal of his Tsar, being His closest collaborator, General Alekseev, who played the most responsible role in the abdication of the throne of Emperor Nicholas II, never, as far as we know, openly expressed repentance for his deed, or for everything else, he is remembered with only his complaints which are known, for the ingratitude of the Provisional Government, which dismissed him, according to him, as a servant, only a month and a half after their

appointment of himself as the new Supreme Commander. I could, according to the saying, say to myself: "the Moor has done his job, the mavr can leave". It is only known that already on the second day (!) after the abdication, he opened his heart to General Lukomsky: "I will never forgive myself for believing in the sincerity of some people, that I followed them and that I sent a telegram about the abdication to the emperor and commander-in-chief." Then, however, he tried to make amends with his Motherland, being one of the founders of the Volunteer Army, but you can't bring back the past ...

General Evert, Commander-in-Chief Of The armies of the Western Front, although he supported the fatal initiative of General Alekseev, he found the strength to admit his guilt: " I, like other commanders in chief, betrayed the Tsar, and for this atrocity we all must pay with our lives. It was necessary to expose at least the front, but go at the head of the faithful units to Petrograd in order to protect the Sovereign and restore the broken order "... But even here - one word, but another deed ...

While all sorts of conspirators and politicians were bustling about, allocating high positions to themselves, playing the new masters and saviors of the Russian land, our great martyr, Tsar-Martyr Nicholas, could not help but see the catastrophe that awaited Russia, and only thought about one thing: about Russia, about the Army, which, he knew, remained consistently faithful to him, about the word given to the Allies, about the necessary victory, about the shed blood, and he makes his last farewell address to the troops. To the great shame of the new rulers of power, this touching appeal was decided by them to not bring it to the attention of the army. This shows how even the shadow of the abdicated King troubled them, how much they were not yet sure of the support of the people for the lawlessness that they had created. After all, it was so: the mass of the army, unlike the conspirators of the commanders-in-chief, were stunned by the unexpectedness of such a concussion, when there was only one last throw for inevitable victory after three years of exhausting war and after bringing so many efforts and sacrifices.

Yes, the new government was simply afraid to convey this touching parting word of the Tsar. It was afraid that the army would feel the greatness of the spirit of the Sovereign, understand what a betrayal was being committed and rebel against the new government, to remain true to their oath and stand up for the Tsar betrayed by the adjutant generals. Alas, such a saving, cleansing movement did not materialize. The army knows no other behavior than obedience to superiors, and they did carry out the orders of the commanders-in-chief, not for a moment suspecting their betrayal. Thus, the passivity of the army can be explained.

Another circumstance can be put forward. In this appeal, when it finally became known, in particular, under the signature of the Tsar himself, it was said about obedience to the Provisional Government, which could not but put the monarchist-minded military in a difficult position. This circumstance seems to us the most convincing explanation for the passivity of the army.

However, this call to obey the Provisional Government is called into question by some researchers: does it really belong to the Tsar's pen? We do not dare and are not able to resolve this issue, but we cannot but listen to it. Supporters of the thesis of falsification of the document base their opinion on the fact that at the Headquarters the Sovereign handed over his last Order to the Army, into the hands of General Alekseev, who, having delayed it for a while, could "process" it to bring "clarity" and bring it in line with the desired course of the political environment. This opens up an area of conspiracy into which we do not intend to enter. However, we present this appeal **in the wording in which it is officially recognized as the last Royal Word to the Russian people**.

"For the last time I turn to you, my dearly beloved troops. After I renounced the Throne of Russia for myself and for My son, power was transferred to the Provisional Government, which arose at the initiative of the State Duma. May God help it to lead Russia along the path of glory and prosperity. May God help you, valiant troops, to defend our Motherland from the evil enemy. In the course of two and a half years, you have been carrying out hourly heavy military service, much blood has been shed, much effort has been made, and the hour is near when Russia, bound with her valiant allies by one common desire for victory, will break the last effort of the enemy. This unprecedented war must be brought to complete victory.

Whoever thinks about peace now, who desires it, is a traitor to the Fatherland, its traitor. I know that every honest warrior thinks this way. Fulfill your duty, valiantly defend our great Motherland, obey the Provisional Government, obey your superiors, remember that any weakening of the order of service only plays into the hands of the enemy.

I firmly believe that the boundless love for our great Motherland has not faded in your hearts. May the Lord God bless you and may the holy great martyr and victorious George lead you to victory.

NIKOLAY

March 8, 1917. Bid

Anyone who reads this Appeal cannot but agree with General D.N. Dubensky, who wrote: "It is difficult to meet a more noble, more cordial and great in its simplicity farewell word of the Tsar, who speaks only of the happiness of the people he has left and the well-being of the Motherland. This parting word expressed the whole soul of the Sovereign and all his pure image.

Protodeacon German Ivanov-Thirteenth

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And silently, with humble meekness
You put a cross on your shoulders
 And a marvelous feat daring
 He did before the people.
 Golgotha of royal suffering
 Passed by you
And the malice of a violent uprising
 Defeated by your cross.

S. Bekteev