

## POSUDEK DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

*Jméno a příjmení studenta:* Eduard Pareis  
*Název diplomové práce:* The Presence and the Motives of the Aboriginal Soldiers in the Canadian Military in the Second World War  
*Vedoucí diplomové práce:* Regina Helal, M.A.  
*Oponent diplomové práce:* PhDr. Christopher Koy, M.A., Ph.D.

- I. Cíl práce a jeho naplnění: 2. Cíl práce byl naplněn s drobnými nedostatky
- II. Struktura práce: 1. Logická, jasná a přehledná
- III. Práce s literaturou: 1. Výborná: zvoleny a použity vhodné prameny v patřičném rozsahu, přesná práce s citacemi, kritická analýza zdrojů
- IV. Prezentace a interpretace dat: 1. Systematická, logická prezentace, originální a důsledná interpretace
- V. Formální stránka: 1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům
- VI. Jazyková úroveň práce: 1. Výborná
- VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu: 1. Velmi vysoká
- VIII. Přínosy práce: 1. Originální zpracování a názory, předkládá nová zjištění

Vyjádření vedoucího diplomové práce/oponenta diplomové práce\*:

*Excellent topic and well-structured and thoughtfully written. I would only have preferred some details about the role of those „military“ skills which the Aboriginal warriors were particularly superior at and which they excelled in (building and defending the forts, scouting, language communications with other tribes etc).*

*Now to some criticism: after the British colonies become the United States, it gets confusing when you distinguish the relations between the British and Aboriginals vis-a-vis Canadians and Aboriginal allies (pp. 15-19). By „Canadian“ do you mean perhaps the already-defeated French? A grave historical error is to be noted on p. 18: Thomas Jefferson was elected to two terms as American president in 1800 and 1804 – Jefferson was therefore not president during the War of 1812 – James Madison, also from Virginia, held the office of president then. No tribes are mentioned in that war again nor their motivation to fight. Finally, it seems that*

since the borders of 1811 were restored and the British/Canadian under Procter „retreat[ed] and left the Aboriginal soldiers and families to their fate” (p. 19) that is a strange notion you make on p. 17 that „Canada would not exist” when it was FRANCE which helped in the U.S. Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 against the British (Napoleon was in power at the start of this war and was at war with the British in Europe at that time... Waterloo was still in the future). Hence some clarity about where the defeated French (Quebec) people stood remains a mystery when reading this section... and whether they are your designated „Canadians”

In the section for WWI you offer motivational factors for Aboriginal participation for the first time, and it does not seem too different from the whites in their motivation except that you refer to their wish to leave the reservations. Yet earlier you only mention reservations existing in the United States, so are these Aboriginal volunteers in the WWI Canadian forces from U.S. reservations? That is unclear. (Or did perhaps Canada also have reservations for tribes as well? If so you only mentioned them existing in the USA so that is an important omission.)

In the four pages from p. 30-33, the subchapter on participation of Aboriginal women, only one sentence is dedicated to Aboriginal women (that 72 of them are counted as participants- p. 32), and the rest of the subchapter describes women in uniform generally or pie charts on men and women. If you had not had enough for a subchapter on Aboriginal women, you should not really have given to a subchapter that title. A similar situation for 2.2: Raymond Anderson is the only Aboriginal soldier identified in this subchapter as a participant of the Normandy invasion, and thenceforward just one short quote from him-the remaining 4 pages (p.35-39) is merely an overview of the mission for the allies. Again, you should not really have given to a subchapter 2.2 the title „Aboriginals on the European Battlefields.” Finally the discussion of the situation of aboriginals after the Second World War (your discussion of their lot from 1950s to today on pp. 49-53) is irrelevant to the topic of this thesis, though you found and accessed more literature on this period.

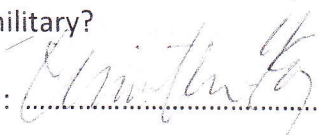
The individual Aboriginal servicemen and servicewomen presented (54-63) is done so in an excellent way.

Práce splňuje/nespĺňuje\* základní požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji/nedoporučuji\* k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná známka: **v ý b o r n ě**

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. Early in your historical section there is reference to Aboriginals without differentiating between various types of tribes such as nomadic (hunter-warrior tribes) and house-dwelling (agriculturally-based tribes). You mention the „Seven Nations” as allies of the French, but then which tribes were allied with the British in these wars between the future Brit. and French Canadians? No tribes are identified who are allied with the British (pp. 12-14).
2. In the conclusion of the pre-WWII section (pp. 23-24), did Aboriginal volunteers who volunteered have any better benefits or did they basically share the same fate at those in the United States military?

Podpis oponenta diplomové práce\*: 

Datum: 30.1.2014

\*nehodící se škrtněte