

ԿԱՐԵՆ ԽԱԶԱՏՐՅԱՆ

**ՆԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԸ
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**ARMENIA IN THE MILITARY–INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX OF THE USSR
(1922–1991)**

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Summary

For the first time in the Armenian historiography the problem of participation of the branches of the Military Defense industry and science of Soviet Armenia in the military–industrial complex (MIC) of the USSR in 1922–1991 is generalized and comprehensively studied on the basis of numerous declassified archival documents, historical evidence, published collections of documents and materials, as well as the scientific literature. The study also examines the questions of organization and implementation of military and defensive measures in Soviet Armenian.

Besides scientific and practical value of the research its actuality is reflected in the fact that in the sphere of organization and development of the military–industrial complex of the Republic of Armenia it is working closely with some of the countries of the former Soviet Union, and, in the first place with the Russian Federation within the framework of the Collective Security Treaty Organization. The countries realize complex measures to strengthen the defense capability of the Republic of Armenia, in particular a system of air defense is in the process of creation.

The dissertation consists of introduction, four chapters, conclusion, list of primary sources and literature.

In the introduction are presented the relevance and actuality of the theme, purpose and objectives, scientific and theoretical novelty, scientific and practical significance of the study, historiography and the degree of scrutiny topics.

On the basis of a critical examination of the historical facts we show in the paper that in the 1920–1930–s the Soviet Union took decisive steps for the formation and development of the Military Defense industry, and by the beginning of the Great Patriotic War the task of creating of the Soviet military–industrial complex was practically solved.

In 1920–1930–s creation of the branched industry in Soviet Armenia and its development had become a basis for the involvement of the republic in the military–defensive measures of the Transcaucasian Military District of the USSR and the military–industrial complex of the country during the Second World War and the Great Patriotic War. During the war years almost all branches of the industry of the Armenian SSR, about 50 factories and plants, mechanical shops and other enterprises were set in motion in the Military Defense industries. The leading enterprises of the Military and Defense industries of the republic became the Yerevan Machine Building Plant named

after F. Dzerzhinsky, Yerevan Chemical Plant named after C. Kirov (№ 742), the Yerevan plant N 722, the Yerevan aircraft construction plant N 447 and others. During the war the enterprises of the Military Defense industry of the republic produced 10 types of ammunition (incendiary bombs, shells, anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, hand grenades, etc.), 1 – armament, 6 – means of army communication, 47 kinds of clothing equipment, 20 – chemical products, 9 – engineering and artillery assets, a few dozen types of military uniforms, etc.

During the years of war a significant contribution to the organization of the Military Defense industry of the republic and military production was made by the scientists and science of Soviet Armenia.

After the end of the Second World War Soviet Armenia received its part from German war reparations. Due to the received equipment from the German factories and plants, the industrial enterprises of the republic had been refitted and replenished by costly and perfect equipment. This gave the opportunity to develop such branches of industry in the republic as the electrical engineering, machine-tool construction, instrument making, etc., as well as sharply increase the involvement of the republic in the Soviet military-industrial complex.

In the postwar years at the enterprises of the Military Defense branch of industries of Soviet Armenia was established production of electronic computers, automated control systems, a special ground-electric power equipment, radio-electronic and space communications, other products and resources for kitting as modern rocket and jet technics, radar stations and anti-aircraft missile defense systems, "Crug", "Cube", "Dal", "S-125" ("Volkhov"), "P-120" ("Neva"), "P-200" et al., as well as Soviet warships and submarines, aircraft and space apparatuses, and generally for the needs of the Armed Forces and the Soviet military-industrial complex.

In conditions of the scientific and technical progress of the postwar years in the system of the Soviet military-defense complex along with industrial enterprises of Soviet Armenia, scientists and science of the republic had a weighty share. Armenia provided a specific part of the All-Union complex – as a rule, intellectual as well as the electronics' sector. Armenia firmly established its role as the Soviet "Silicon Valley" in the USSR. About 40% of the total production capacity of the republic in one way or another served Soviet military-industrial complex. Dozens of companies, research and scientific and industrial organizations involved in this sector designed and produced up to 30–40 % of the total All-Union military and space electronics. Due to the general level of the development of the Military Defense sector of Armenia it assumed the 4th honorable place in the Soviet Union, after Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. In terms of the production of electro-technical engineering Armenia was the 2nd, and instrument making – the 5th.

At the same time it should be noted that none of the industrial enterprises of Armenia issued a final military product. This was a clear feature of the Soviet military-industrial complex – complete exclusion of the integral production of weapon systems

and military equipment not only within a single factory complex, but also in any union republic, with the exception of Soviet Russia.

The realization of military and defensive activities in Soviet Armenia helped to strengthen the defense capability and security of the republic, and the growth of the Military and Defense industry served as a serious impetus for an unprecedented economic and industrial development of the republic: creation of new industrial centers, solution of social problems, providing employment of the population, the growth of its wealth, scientific and technical progress.

The main findings and results of the study are summarized and presented in the conclusion of the dissertation.