

Abstract

The thesis called *Children and the War: the Year 1945 in the Memories of the Contemporaries from Beroun and Pilsen Regions* is focused on a crucial period of the Czechoslovakian history. It observes everyday life of “common people” during the Protectorate and it places emphasis mainly on the final stage of the war (e.g. Czech territory bombing by Ally air forces or Soviet and American soldiers coming). Currently recorded memories of the contemporaries are analysed and set into the wider historical context. Six respondents from Beroun and Pilsen regions spent the Protectorate years and the end of the war during their childhood, which was continuously disrupted by the Protectorate condition reality. These children had to act as adult people in especially tense situations (during air raid warning etc). In spite of the fact that their memories are related to the period of time seventy years ago, they are an important contribution to the never ending completing of a historiographical image of that time. We must take into consideration the fact that these memories were influenced by various factors such as propaganda, film or literature of course. An oral history fulfils its irreplaceable function in this situation: we are getting closer to the time, when it is not possible to record the personal memories to the Second World War any more.

Keywords

Spring 1945, the Protectorate Czech and Moravia, Ally air raids, Czechs and Germans, Beroun region, Pilsen region, the Soviet Army, the United States Army