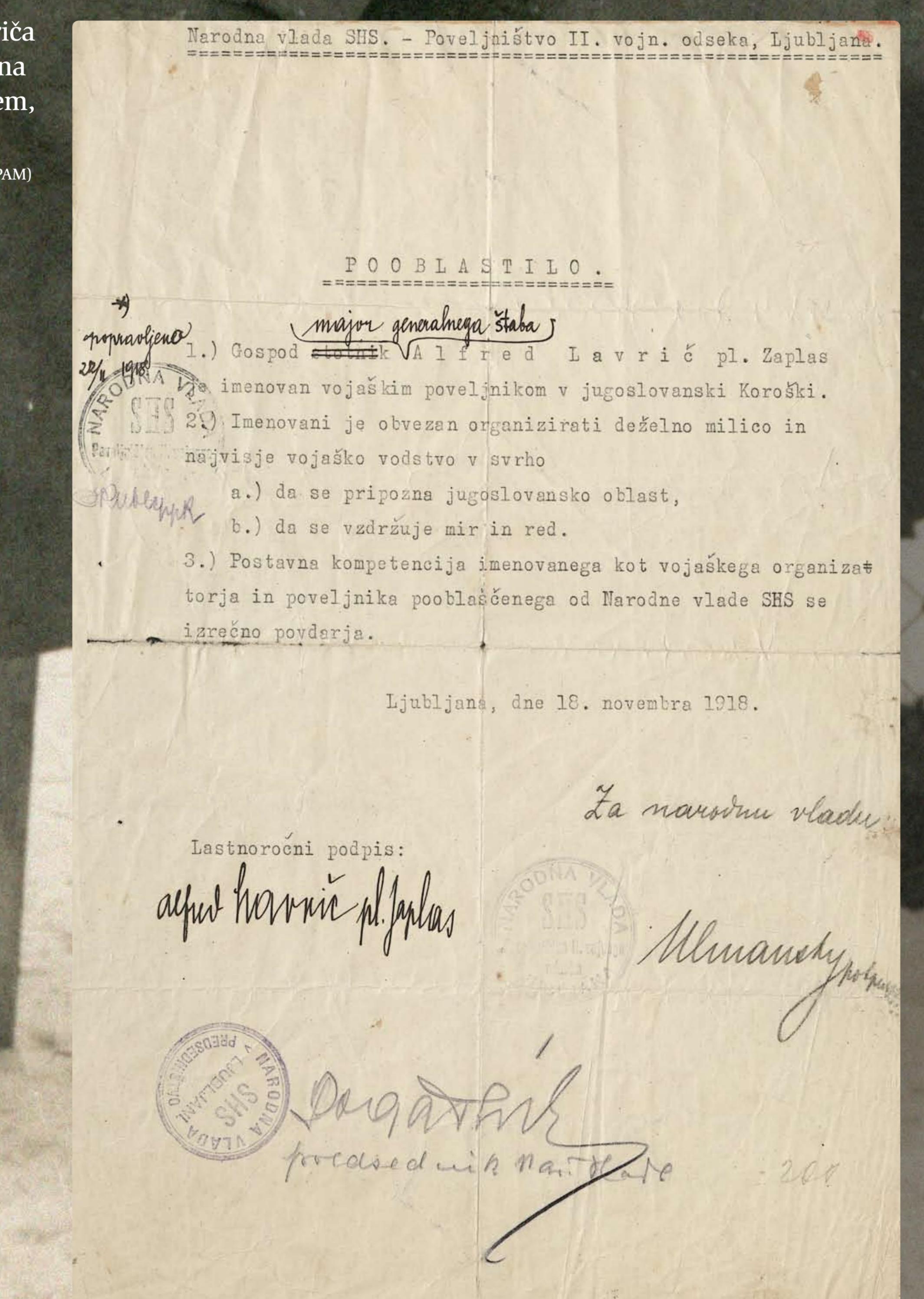


Zasedba južne Koroške do Drave in Velikovca

(november-december 1918)



Skupinski portret častnikov in podčastnikov, pozimi 1918-1919 v Borovljah. Tretji z leve sedi Alfred Lavrič pl. Zaplas, poveljnik Obmejnega poveljstva za zahodno Koroško. (Zasebna last)



Nova Država SHS ni imela definiranih mej. Nekdanjo deželo Koroško so si (z izjemo občine Jezersko) lastili koroski Nemci. Na drugi strani je Narodna vlada v Ljubljani na prvi seji 1. 11. 1918 sklenila, da slovensko Koroško priključi Državi SHS, kakor hitro bo mogoče. Resne akcije se je ogibala – za oskrbo prebivalstva je bilo premalo živil, manjkalci so tudi vojaki. Prevladali sta veseljska navelicanost nad vojskovanjem in vera, da bo antanta dala Slovencem njihovo ozemlje po mirni poti. Sprejemali so polovične ukrepe – stotniku Alfredu Lavriču so ukazali, da zasede Koroško do Drave; namesto vojakov pa je Lavrič dobil pooblaščilo, da nabira prostovoljce. Odziv je bil slab. Z le 60 možmi je 19. 11. 1918 zasedel Borovlje. Isti dan je tam s koroškimi Nemci sklenil sporazum, da do dokončnega dogovora ozemlje južno od Drave zasede Država SHS. Na vzhodu Koroške je nadporočnik Franjo Malgaj do 6. 11. 1918 zasedel Mežičko dolino, 23. 11. 1918 vkorakal v Pliberk, 30. 11. 1918 prekoračil Dravo, zasedel Velikovec in ga naslednji dan obranil pred nemško-avstrijskimi enotami. Ta razmejitvena črtta je ostala do januarja 1919.

Occupation of the Southern Carinthia to the Drava River and Velikovec (November - December 1918)

The new State of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes had no defined borders. Germans in Carinthia claimed their right over the former land of Carinthia with the exception of the municipality of Jezersko. On the other hand, at its first session on November 1, 1918, the National Government in Ljubljana decided to annex Slovene Carinthia to the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes as soon as possible. However, The National Government avoided taking any serious action since food was scarce and there were not enough soldiers. In the aftermath of the war, a sense of tiredness prevailed, alongside the belief that the Allies (Entente) would give the Slovenes their territory in a peaceful way. Consequently, only partial measures were taken. For instance, Captain Alfred Lavrič was ordered to occupy Carinthia to the Drava River but instead of soldiers, he was given the authority to recruit volunteers. The response was poor: with only 60 men he occupied Borovlje on November 19, 1918. On the same day, Lavrič reached an agreement with the Carinthian Germans that the territory south of the Drava River would be occupied by the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes until a final agreement was reached. By November 6, 1918, Lieutenant Franjo Malgaj occupied the Mežica Valley in eastern Carinthia. He marched into Pliberk on November 23, 1918, crossed the Drava River on November 30, 1918, and occupied, as well as defended, Velikovec on the next day against German-Austrian units. This demarcation line remained in place until January 1919.