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NOMENCLATURE NAMES IN THE MODERN UKRAINIAN MILITARY VOCABULARY (BASED ON THE VOCABULARY OF UNMANNED SYSTEMS FORCES)

The article is devoted to the study of nomenclature names (nomens) used to designate unmanned vehicles and are part of the vocabulary of Unmanned Systems Forces. It is argued that the newly created nomens for unmanned vehicles in the modern Ukrainian military vocabulary do not fully meet the utilitarian requirements, primarily systematicity, accuracy, and lack of emotional coloration. The author reveals a tendency to minimize abbreviated and numerical designations and the predominance of onyms in the creation of nomenclature units for unmanned vehicles. It is argued that the violation of utilitarian requirements for the creation of nomenclature names for unmanned vehicles is due to the lack of a single State standard and a certain voluntarism of private manufacturers in creating their own nomenclature. The main ways of nomen creation in the lexical and semantic group “Names of unmanned systems” are identified and characterized: “direct inclusion”, names of animals (including names associated with the Ukrainian folklore tradition) and traditional Ukrainian weapons; use of mythonyms (including theonyms) and anthroponyms; combination of a proper name with an initial abbreviation; alphanumeric designations, abbreviations of characteristics or manufacturer's name; transliteration; names in English. It is substantiated that the predominance of onyms in the nomenclature names of unmanned vehicles is due to the desire of Ukrainian arms and equipment manufacturers to express their own emotional attitude to the war with the aggressor. The phenomenon of language play in the context of creating nomenclature names for unmanned vehicles is investigated. The mechanism of realization of language play at the graphic level of language by emphasizing individual components of the name is demonstrated. The productivity of linguistic creativity at the lexical level is shown by “rethinking the lexeme”, as well as by using foreign language names that have an implicit reference to the designated type of unmanned vehicle.

Key words: Russian-Ukrainian war; unmanned vehicles, vocabulary of the Unmanned Systems Forces, nomenclature names (nomens), onyms, language play.

Statement of the problem. The Russian-Ukrainian war is defined by many researchers as a “drone war” because the forms and methods of its conduct are largely determined by such a modern type of military equipment as unmanned vehicles. This was stated in his article by the former Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) Valeriy Zaluzhnyi, noting that the creation of a “modern design of military operations” is possible with the use of unmanned systems that are affordable and technologically simple, provide greater availability of high-precision strikes over long distances and effective limitation of detection by modern radars, and also make it possible to save the lives of personnel while causing significant damage to the enemy [20]. In 2024, Ukraine created the Unmanned Systems Forces, which is currently the only separate branch of the country's armed forces in the world. The modern Ukrainian military vocabulary is significantly enriched with new components due to the replenishment of the new type of troops with

weapons and equipment that have not been used before. Not only the terminology of the Unmanned Systems Forces deserves attention, but also the nomenclature names directly related to the terms for unmanned systems.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Nomenclature names are the subject of scientific research by linguists who seek to determine the place of these lexical units in the terminological system, as well as to attempt to typologize them within a particular field-specific terminology system. For example, we cannot ignore the numerous publications by Kharkiv researcher Nelia Nikulina, who has worked on both the criteria for distinguishing between terms and nomenclature names and on the development of the nomenclature of the transport terminology system [13–15]. The correlation of the concepts of “term” and “nomen” is a controversial issue in Ukrainian linguistics, which has been addressed by M. Dziuba [4], L. Khalinowska [23], T. Mykhailova

[9], O. Nakhapetova [12], O. Pavlova [17], S. Rudenko & L. Sapozhnikova [19], L. Turovska [21], and others. In the context of our study, we are interested in research attempts to typologize the nomenclature of the aviation terminology system by L. Khalinovska [23], to describe models of nomens for land military equipment by N. Nikulina [16], to identify “structural and semantic features of nomenclature units that are part of the military lexical subsystem” of the English language by D. Vasylenko [2]. Also, our analysis of nomenclature names in the vocabulary of the Unmanned Systems Forces is based on publications devoted to the peculiarities of language play (linguistic creativity) as a phenomenon of creating new lexical units based on a conscious deviation from the norms of the literary language for a specific communication purpose: O. Kravchenko & N. Fedotova (“mechanisms of language play in the Internet postfolklore”) [6], S. Lazarenko & O. Nazarenko (peculiarities of the realization of language play “in the modern Ukrainian newspaper text”) [7], T. Kosmeda & O. Khaliman (“theoretical understanding of discursive practice” in the aspect of language play) [5], etc. In general, our attempt to study the nomenclature names in the vocabulary of the Unmanned Systems Forces is original in domestic linguistics, since the vocabulary of this kind of troops has not yet been the subject of professional review.

Task statement. The purpose of this study is to characterize the ways in which nomenclature names for unmanned systems are created in the modern Ukrainian military vocabulary.

Outline of the main material of the study. Unlike terms, nomenclature names (or nomens) exist to name specific items in the military field and “are a compressed projection of the definition of a terminological unit and the main technical characteristics of the object of science, which is mainly conveyed by the term or abbreviation itself, with the addition of a symbolic or numerical part or nouns” [13]. Following the Ukrainian researcher N. Nikulina, we consider nomens as an important component of the terminological system, emphasizing their close connection with terms through the ability to identify individual objects with modification differences. Thus, a term emerges on the basis of abstraction from the insignificant features of similar objects or phenomena, while a nomen emerges on the basis of individualization and identification of an object among its peers.

The utilitarian requirements for a nomen were formulated in detail and exhaustively by Ukrainian linguist N. Nikulina, who noted, in particular, that a

nomenclature unit should be characterized by brevity (i.e., formed by “abbreviated use and a large number of indices, signs and symbols that have a separate system of explanations and decipherment among field experts”) [13], as well as the absence of emotional coloration. However, in our opinion, the peculiarity of the formation of nomens used in the Ukrainian military vocabulary during the armed confrontation of the Russian-Ukrainian war is precisely the minimization of abbreviation and indexical designations, and instead the involvement of anonyms in the formation of a nomenclature unit, “which may indicate an additional connotative meaning, that is, have a certain emotional connotation” [13]. We believe that this is due to the desire of Ukrainian arms and equipment manufacturers to verbalize their emotional attitude to the war with the aggressor in their own names, which are part of the nomenclature. Add to this the absence of large state-owned enterprises in the military-industrial complex and the fact that unmanned systems are produced mostly by private companies (AeroDrone, UA Dynamics, Spaitech, Ukrspecsystems, “Aviation systems of Ukraine” (ASU), UkrJet, etc.) and even by private individuals causes a certain voluntarism in the nomenclature of unmanned vehicles, namely in the use of abbreviations and index designations that would be unambiguously deciphered by field experts. Hence, the violation of such an utilitarian requirement for the nomen, which N. Nikulina calls “systematic”, believing that “each item...should have a clearly defined place in a particular field nomenclature system, that is, be in its list with a clearly defined place” [13].

L. Khalinovska argues that there are four groups of nomens in aviation terminology: “nomens-eponyms”, “nomens based on the names of fauna and flora and other objects, subjects (cities, planets, natural phenomena, etc.)”, “abbreviated and numerical nomens”, “mixed type nomens (combining the name of a person and various signs, symbols, numbers, etc.)” [23]. Complementing and expanding this classification, here are the ways of forming nomenclature names in the lexical and semantic group “Names of types of unmanned systems”.

“Direct inclusion” (by I. Lysichkina) [8]. Samples of weapons and military equipment transferred to Ukraine by its partners have their own nomenclature in English: Bayraktar TB2, ScanEagle, H6 Poseidon VTOL, DJI “Mavic 3”, RQ-11 “Raven”, etc. It is worth noting here that such nomens function either in their original form (Latin) or are reproduced by means of Ukrainian writing, such as drone H10 “Посейдон” (“Poseidon”), kamikaze drone “Шахед” (“Shahed”),

unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) “Байрактар” (“Bayraktar”), FPV-drone “Мавік” (“Mavik”), etc. We do not aim to analyze the nomenclature of military weapons and equipment of our foreign partners, but rather focus on the nomens used by Ukrainian manufacturers to code their military products.

Names of animals: “Кабан” (“Kaban”) – a ground-based sapper drone; “Кажан” (“Kazhan”) – a strike UAV; “Сич” (“Sych”) – a reconnaissance and strike UAV; “Бобер” (“Bober”) – an unmanned aerial system with loitering munitions; “Оса” (“Osa”) – a reconnaissance UAV; “Ящір” (“Yashchir”) – a ground-based mine-clearing drone; “Равлик” (“Ravlyk”) – an all-terrain ground drone; “Рись” (“Rys”) – a ground drone; “Вепр” (“Vepr”) – a ground drone, “Скорпіон” (“Scorpion”) – a multifunctional ground drone for fire support and reconnaissance), etc. Separate mention should be made of names associated with Ukrainian folklore, such as “Сокіл” (“Sokil”) – a reconnaissance UAV, “Лелека” (“Leleka”) – a fire-correcting UAV, “Горлиця” (“Horlytsia”) – a reconnaissance UAV), etc.

The use of mythonyms (and related theonyms), which we understand as proper names for “any fictional object of the onymic space; names of gods, spirits, heroes, supernatural forces used in myths, epics, fairy tales, epics, legends” [3, с. 206]: “Валькірія” (“Valkiria”): the reconnaissance UAV was named after the warrior maidens of Scandinavian mythology who circled the battlefield looking for the dead; “Фурія” (“Furia”): the UAV fire adjustment is named after the goddesses of vengeance who punished people for their sins, most often for murder; “Ельф” (“Elf”): the reconnaissance UAV got its name because of its small size and invisibility to enemy radars; “Топ” (“Hor”): the UAV named after the ancient Egyptian god, whose symbol is a falcon, and whose name translates as “the highest” or “heavenly”; “Мапа” (“Mara”): the unmanned aerial system named in honor of the ruler of the Underworld in Slavic pagan mythology, the goddess of horrors, death, disease – everything that Ukrainian unmanned weapons can inflict on the occupiers; “Котигорошко” (“Kotygoroshko”): the kamikaze UAV is named after a fairy tale hero who frees his family from the Serpent’s (foreign) oppression, etc.

Names of traditional Ukrainian weapons: “Домаха” (“Domakha”) – a reconnaissance UAV, “Булава” (“Bulava”) – a kamikaze drone, etc.

The use of anthroponyms: the UAV-bomber “Довбуш” (“Dovbush”), the underwater attack drone “Марічка” (“Marichka”), the ground drone “Сірко” (“Sirko”), etc.

The combination of a proper name with an abbreviation or initial abbreviation: Воля-Е (Volya-E) (evacuation), Spectator-M (modernized), Ratel-S (suicide), Observer-S (system), Leleka-LR (long-range), etc.

The use of alphanumeric designations, abbreviations of characteristics or manufacturer's name: PD-2 (People’s Drone); Ace One (developed by ACE, Air Combat Evolution); RZ-500 (developed by Ramzai Private Defense Company); ACS-3 (aerial complex developed by Skyeton); UJ-22 «Airborne» (developed by UKRJET, a Ukrainian research and production company), GedzForce (developed by GedzTech, a Ukrainian technology company), etc.

Names in English that are related to the processes of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration and the expansion of the English language's functionality in the state, including in its armed forces: “Shark” – an airplane-type reconnaissance UAV with a distinctive shark's face and the ability to track “prey” for many kilometers, like this marine predator; UJ-22 “Airborne” (literally “moving in the air, aviation”); D-80 “Discovery”, E-300 “Enterprise”: the common seme in the names of these two newest Ukrainian UAVs produced by AeroDrone is “realization of ambitious plans”, which becomes clear given that both vehicles are presented by the manufacturer as modern advanced developments capable of improving the offensive capabilities of the Ukrainian army; “Hawk”, “Sparrow”: names of birds to denote aircraft; “Spectator-M1”, “Observer-S”: synonymous names (with the common seme “to look”) for reconnaissance UAVs, whose main function is aerial surveillance and detection of enemy targets; “Windhover” (a bird of prey of the falcon family, whose characteristic habit is to hover in the air in search of prey): the name of a UAV designed to perform the tasks of “aerial reconnaissance, patrolling, mapping the area with the ability to transmit operational information and obtain accurate geographic coordinates in real time” [11], i.e., those operating in hover mode (stationary at a constant flight altitude).

Transliterating Ukrainian proper names into Latin: unmanned aerial vehicle UJ-31 ZLYVA, unmanned aerial system UJ-32 LASTIVKA, unmanned aerial system “Pugach”, unmanned aerial vehicle “Soika”, unmanned aerial system “Sirko”, etc.

A separate discussion should be made of such a method of creating a nomenclature name for a certain type of drone as a *language game*. T. Cosmeda & O. Haliman define language play as a deliberate, planned deviation from language norms to create a pragmatic effect, to “renew” the motivation of a verbal

sign against the background of the automatization of standard language [5, c. 22–23]. In this context, G. Monastiretska substantiates the term “linguistic creativity” as “the level of ability of linguistic units to generate new possibilities of interpretation; the ability to create a background for the speaker to generate new ideas by deviating from the scheme provided by the language system, to create new planes of linguistic reality and demonstrate the originality of human perception and comprehension of the world” [10, c. 42]. In any case, the use of linguistic units in an unusual and sometimes “pathological” way (in violation of the norm), if the new message created demonstrates the author's ability to identify new connections or properties of the object (according to J. Guilford, to show “semantic flexibility”), is evidence of language creativity. Researchers are quite active in studying the phenomenon of language play, which, especially now, in the “post-” [18] discourse (post-truth, postmodern, postetics, etc.), is especially evident in media discourse, in particular in the so-called “post-folklore of the Internet environment” [6]. Linguistic creativity is realized at all levels of language and performs various functions, from purely entertaining to suggestive and manipulative. Considering the phenomenon of language play in the context of creating nomenclature names for unmanned vehicles, we note the tendency to implicitly express aggression towards the enemy and the desire for physical and moral satisfaction for the damage caused by it.

Thus, at the graphical level, we can see names formed with the help of foreign language components: the nomenclature name of the unmanned aerial system QBOND888 contains several components: the first letter refers to the name of the developer, namely QUADRO.ua, a Ukrainian integrator of unmanned solutions and innovative technologies, BOND is an allusion to the name of the famous character – spy James Bond, 888 is a hint to the nomenclature name of the largest passenger aircraft Boeing 777 (in our opinion, this symbolizes the superpower of this UAV in the Ukrainian drone industry). A kind of graphic language play can be seen in the proper name of the remotely controlled turret for small arms “Шабля” (“Shablya”). It is formed by what S. Lazarenko & O. Nazarenko call “visual actualization of the semantics of a certain component”, noting that its “functional purpose... is to actualize the recipient's attention on the selected component in order to arouse his interest in decoding” [7, c. 53]. It is obvious that the visualization of actualized components (belonging to the derogatory, even obscene vocabulary) is aimed

at expressing the intention to stop the enemy, who deserves only a derogatory definition.

The newest Ukrainian missile drone, “Паляниця” (“Palyanytsia”), got its name from such a means of language play as “rethinking the lexeme” [7, c. 50], or, as defined by O. Kravchenko & N. Fedotova, “playing with lexical means” [6, c. 66]. In general, we agree with the opinion of those researchers who believe that the lexical level of language is one of the most productive in terms of linguistic creativity. We are talking about those semantic modifications that arise when using polysemous words, homonyms, paronyms, etc. So, the Ukrainian drone missile, which is a new class of weapon capable of striking at the distant rear of the aggressor country, received the nomenclature armonim “Palyanytsia”. The effect of the language game in the name is to play on the figurative lexical meaning of this word, which has been formed since the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian war as a language password, a marker of friend-or-foe verification used to identify Russian diversionists. Thus, the word “palyanytsia”, which is difficult to articulate for potential recipients of these weapons, becomes an onym for the weapon (“bread that kills”) and an implication of the existential opposition between Ukrainian and Russian national choices as a dichotomy of good and evil.

The “Sea Baby” onym, which is used as a nomenclature name for the Ukrainian unmanned surface boat, is, in our opinion, a result of the homonymy of the word “baby” (translated into Ukrainian as “малюк”) and the surname Малюк (Malyuk). The effect of the language game is achieved by realizing that this vehicle was developed by the Security Service of Ukraine, headed by General Vasyl Malyuk. It should be noted, however, that in his interviews, the latter tried to emphasize that one should not look for any allusions in the name of this BEC: “When we were developing it, planning, manufacturing, and conducting the first successful tests, all the while we were calling it “kid”, “baby”, and so on. Later, we just had to add “sea” [22]. However, implicitly, in our opinion, this “coincidence” of names still realizes the intention to name the device in honor of a formidable and fearless warrior, since as you name a ship, so it will sail.

Also, at the lexical level of the language, the means of language play in the analyzed context is the use of foreign language names that have an implicit reference to the designated type of unmanned aerial vehicle. These are, for example, nomenclature names-onyms: “Punisher” to denote a long-range strike UAV that detects and destroys (“punishes”) the guilty

aggressors far beyond the line of combat, in places where equipment and personnel are heavily deployed; “HEAVY SHOT” to denote a heavy attack UAV that can carry up to 40 kg of bomb load and literally level enemy fortifications (here the polysemic lexeme “heavy” is used simultaneously in two meanings: as something that has a lot of weight and is significant in its intensity); “Raybird-3” to denote a small reconnaissance UAV in which the developer has integrated a laser irradiation system for more accurate targeting of munitions; “Vampire” to denote a heavy strike UAV characterized by precision and great destructive power, “turning the life of the occupiers into a continuous horror movie” [1], “LuckyStrike” to denote a strike UAV with a mounted shotgun capable of destroying Russian drones over the contact line, etc.

Conclusions. Thus, the nomenclature names of unmanned systems in the modern Ukrainian military

lexicon are formed in various ways: from “direct inclusion”, i.e. borrowing the original name in English, to the use of models of linguistic creativity, which is manifested mainly at the lexical level of the language: in semantic modifications of polysemic words, homonyms, paronyms, etc. In general, it should be noted that the creation of a nomenclature for the designation of unmanned vehicles in the modern Ukrainian military vocabulary does not fully meet the utilitarian requirements for nomens, primarily systematicity, accuracy, and lack of emotional coloration. This is due to the lack of a single state standard that would unify the requirements for nomenclature. Private manufacturers of unmanned vehicles create their own nomenclature, which is dominated by euphemisms that express an emotional attitude to the product and its specific function in the events of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

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Чернишова Т. О. НОМЕНКЛАТУРНІ НАЗВИ В СУЧАСНІЙ УКРАЇНСЬКІЙ ВІЙСЬКОВІЙ ЛЕКСИЦІ (НА МАТЕРІАЛІ ЛЕКСИКИ СИЛ БЕЗПІЛОТНИХ СИСТЕМ)

Статтю присвячено дослідженню номенклатурних назв (номенів), що використовуються на позначення безпілотних апаратів та є складовою лексики сил безпілотних систем. Стверджується, що новостворені номени на позначення безпілотних апаратів в сучасній українській військовій лексиці не повною мірою відповідають утилітарним вимогам, насамперед систематичності, точності, відсутності емоційного забарвлення. Виявлено тенденцію до мінімізації аббревіатурно-цифрових позначень та переважання онімів у створенні номенклатурних одиниць на позначення безпілотних апаратів. Стверджується, що порушення утилітарних вимог до створення номенклатурних назв безпілотних апаратів обумовлене браком єдиного державного стандарту та певним волюнтаризмом приватних виробників щодо створення власної номенклатури. Визначено та охарактеризовано основні способи творення номенів у лексико-семантичній групі «Назви безпілотних систем»: «пряме включення», назви тварин (зокрема назви, пов'язані з українською фольклорною традицією) та традиційних українських видів зброї; використання міфонімів (зокрема теонімів) та антропонімів; поєднання власної назви з ініціальним скороченням; буквено-цифрових позначень, скорочення від характеристики або назви виробника; транслітерування, назви англійською мовою. Обґрунтовано, що переважання онімів у номенклатурних назвах безпілотних апаратів пов'язано з бажанням українських виробників зброї та техніки експлікувати власне емоційне ставлення до війни з агресором. Досліджено феномен мовної гри в контексті створення номенклатурних назв на позначення безпілотних апаратів. Продемонстровано механізм реалізації мовної гри на графічному рівні мови шляхом «обігрування» або акцентуації окремих компонентів назви. Показано продуктивність лінгвокреативності на лексичному рівні шляхом «переосмислення лексеми», а також використання іншомовних назв, які мають імпліцитну референцію з позначуваним певного типу безпілотного апарата.

Ключові слова: російсько-українська війна, безпілотні апарати, лексика Сил безпілотних систем, номенклатурні назви (номени), оніми, мовна гра.