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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

EDITORIAL: PARTY CONCERN FOR MILITARY LIVING CONDITIONS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul p 1

[Editorial: "Prepare for Winter"]

[Text] Military camps grow better-looking and are increasingly put in better order with each year. There are getting to be more and more living quarters with a high level of comfort, and the barracks accommodations are being renovated on a modern basis. All of this visibly demonstrates the concern of the party and the government for improving the life of soldiers and their family members and for creating conditions for fruitful combat training of troops and naval forces.

According to regulations, it is the duty of commanders and chiefs to look after creating good living conditions for personnel and preserving and strengthening the health of subordinates. Commanders and chiefs are called upon to set an example of zealous, proprietary attitude toward barracks accommodations, cultural and welfare facilities and official buildings and give daily attention to their maintenance and repair. However, as the experience of the past year showed, such attention is not shown everywhere. In a number of garrisons of the Transbaykal, Ural, Leningrad and Far East military districts they did not treat preparation for winter with proper responsibility. Living quarters, communal buildings and engineering systems were not repaired in a timely manner. As a result, there were interruptions in providing heat, water and electrical power.

Due to miscalculations and carelessness in preparing for winter, the Moscow Air Defense District, the Pacific Ocean Fleet and the Leningrad Naval Base did not fulfill the established goals for saving heat energy, and the North Caucasus Military District did not fulfill the goals for saving electrical energy. In places where the boiler-rooms and heating systems were repaired in a timely manner and the living quarters and buildings were heated up, the picture proved to be quite different. Thus, the planned goals for saving fuel with an uninterrupted heat supply were surpassed in the Kiev and Belorussian military districts, although the winter there was more severe than usual.

The party attaches great social and political importance to timely and qualitative preparation for winter. This problem was examined at a CPSU Central Committee Politburo session where it was emphasized that measures to

prepare power facilities, housing resources and municipal services for winter and for the uninterrupted supply of heat to cities and villages must be monitored unremittingly. Attention was turned to intensifying the policy of economy and efficient use of fuel and energy resources.

Specific tasks for commanders, political workers and rear services officers of the army and navy and for all workers of the barracks services result from these directions. Completion of them cannot tolerate delay. There is reason for the saying that a summer day is worth a week of winter. Preparation for winter requires a serious, responsible attitude. However, it sometimes happens that it appears on paper that the living quarters are completely ready for winter, but the freezing cold weather hits and it is immediately discovered that the doors and entrances have not been repaired, there are air locks in the heating batteries and moisture gets in the wall joints. Such cases often result in rush work, in which the quality of repair work is forgotten.

Experienced, foreseeing commanders and managers begin preparing for winter in advance according to a well thought out plan. This ensures quality of repair and saves them from fuss and haste. Just as in past years, it is well underway, for example, in most of the garrisons of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany and the Kiev and Moscow military districts. Here, back in the spring they determined the volume of repair work, the amount of material and money required and formed repair brigades. Steps have been taken to set up a planned fuel reserve and replenish the material and technical base of repair and construction and barracks services organizations, whose efforts are concentrated on repairing living quarters and barracks accommodations, boiler-rooms, cleaning rooms, power and water supply facilities and sewer and engineering systems.

Unfortunately, such an approach to things is not seen everywhere. A number of garrisons of the Siberian and Turkestan military districts are behind in the repair of living quarters and office buildings, and the preparation of boiler-rooms is going slow in certain military camps of the Leningrad, Central Asian and Volga military districts. The impression is made that they did not draw the proper conclusions from the lessons of the past winter here.

Preparation for winter is work that requires much planning. One has to check and adjust all elements of the installation facilities and services. Special responsibility here falls on the garrison commanders and their deputies for political affairs and logistics and seniors of military camps. The range of their concerns is great. They must look after the officers' clubs and pre-school institutions, guard rooms, trade enterprises and many other things.

The quality of boiler-rooms, water pumping and sewer stations, cleaning rooms and engineering networks turned over for operation by the builders plays an important role in preparing military camps for winter. It is no secret that any kind of flaws in workmanship turn into trying experiences for people and gives rise to justified complaints. Therefore, those who permit shoddy work and those who sign for a project with flaws in workmanship must be held strictly accountable under disciplinary and party procedures.

Today preparation is underway in the army and navy for the All-Army Conference on Improving Troop Living Conditions and for the final phase of the All-Army Competition for Best Garrison according to Material and Living Conditions. Commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations are called upon to enlist the efforts of service members, workers and employees of the army and navy for qualitative completion of tasks for further public services and amenities of military camps, improving living conditions and qualitative and timely preparation for winter. It is necessary to attract the attention of public opinion, people's inspectors and women's councils to this work so that winter does not take us by surprise and the shortcomings of last year are not repeated. It is important to instill in people a caring attitude toward housing resources and engineering equipment and a responsibility for safekeeping of national property.

Winter will demand strong measures. It will not make allowances or indulgences. The everyday life of service members and their family members and in the final analysis, also the results in combat and political training and successful completion of the crucial tasks entrusted to the armed defenders of the Motherland will depend largely on how the installation facilities and services are prepared for the winter.

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WARSAW PACT

BRIEFS

JOINT EXERCISE IN GDR--It is planned to conduct joint exercises by the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany and the National People's Army of the GDR from 6 to 14 July 1985 in the area of Templin, Magdeburg, Juterbog and Kotbus in the Germany Democratic Republic. The exercise is being conducted for purposes of working out questions of interaction among various branches of troupes. Units and subunits of ground and air forces with a combined numerical strength of more than 25,000 men will be involved in the exercise. [Text] [Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 85 p 1] 11499

1801/251

ARMED FORCES

LT GEN BOBYLEV ON NEED TO ECONOMIZE ON WEAPONS, EQUIPMENT

Moscow AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA in Russian No 9, 1985 (signed to press 30 Apr 85) pp 17-20

[Article by Lt Gen V. Babyev under the rubric "For Political Study Group Students and Assistant Instructors": "You have been Entrusted with the People's Property"*]

[Text] Soviet servicemen have at their disposal the most up-to-date combat equipment and weapons developed on the basis of the latest scientific achievements. They acquire military proficiency in well equipped training centers and classrooms, at firing ranges, in training areas and on airfields. Their routine and leisure time are appropriately provided for.

The Communist Party tirelessly instills a responsible attitude toward public property in Soviet citizens. Back in 1922 V. I. Lenin said in a speech at a plenum of the Mossoviet [Moscow City Council of Workers' Deputies]: "All of us now have to calculate and each of you must learn to be calculating." In the first booklet for the Red Army man approved by V. I. Lenin, the party called on soldiers to learn military affairs conscientiously, safeguard weapons, and protect public and military property from damage and depredation. The booklet emphasized that the Red Army man has to take a prudent attitude toward weapons specifically because this is common, public property and not his personal property.

The serviceman's special role in assuring the safekeeping of weapons, equipment and other supplies lies in the fact that this is inseparably linked with his performance of military duty in defense of the Motherland. During the Great Patriotic War Soviet soldiers preserved their entrusted weapons and combat equipment, often at the risk of their lives, realizing that it was only with weapons in hand that they represented a formidable force capable of defeating the enemy. It is generally known, for example, how our tankmen Lt Shaporenko, driver-mechanic Lazebnyy and repair personnel encircled at Leningrad worked for 12 nights in our knocked-out tanks in no-man's land some 200 m from enemy emplacements. Toward morning on the 12th night two tanks' engines were started and they moved to friendly positions literally from under the noses of the astounded fascists. The other machines were dragged away by

*This article is recommended for use in preparing political classes on the subject "Be Conscientious Toward Military Labor and Safeguard Military and People's Property."

winches and tow vehicles. The exploit of Red Navy man Ivan Golubets received wide renown. He threw burning depth charges overboard in saving his own ship. The hero died but the ship remained in formation.

Combat equipment, weapons, training classrooms, barracks, clothing, fuel, rations and so on are public property and comprise the physical basis for the Army and Navy's combat might. People of the most varied trades and entire production collectives take part in creating the tank, aircraft, ship and missile. Much public money is spent to produce equipment and weapons. It is therefore difficult to overestimate what has been done and all the concern shown by military personnel to safeguard equipment, weapons and all military property.

Some soldiers and sailors unfortunately have approximately the following opinion: it isn't such a big deal if liters of fuel are poured on the ground when equipment is fueled or, let's assume, one lightbulb is burning on a bright day--our state is enormous and such losses are a drop in the ocean for it. But as the people say, a rich man is not the one who has much property, but the one who considers and cares for this property. CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade M. S. Gorbachev remarked at the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum that the reserve to which we must apply ourselves resolutely is the campaign against extravagance and losses.

A serviceman cannot remain indifferent on seeing waste, but it is not enough merely to express his disapproval or criticize a negligent colleague. He must immediately take decisive, specific steps to stop the waste. For example, on seeing an electric light turned on without necessity in the daytime he himself must turn off the unnecessary lighting and inform the daily detail of this before becoming indignant over the waste which has occurred. A soldier or sailor must not pass by doors or windows which are ajar in winter, a running faucet, or a discarded rag. He must feel himself to be the proprietor and treat everything public as he does personal property.

A thrifty attitude toward weapons and combat equipment is of special importance. This is determined above all by the fact that the combat readiness of the subunit, military unit and ship, which means the Army and Navy as a whole, depends on their serviceability and constant readiness for use. Meanwhile it should be taken into account that today's equipment is costly and each breakdown resulting from negligent or incompetent operation requires considerable expenditures of physical and monetary assets to restore it.

This is why the law has established stricter responsibility of servicemen for damage to weapons and equipment and the illegal disposal and loss of military property. The statute on servicemen's liability for damages provides that if damage has been caused to the state by misappropriation, deliberate destruction, damage or breakage to weapons, equipment and other military property, then the guilty servicemen, including those on first-term service, must compensate fully for the damage. Persons who will not be able to compensate for the damage in their period of service will compensate for it at their place of work after release to the reserve.

To preclude the breakdown or damage of equipment and weapons, a soldier must learn them to perfection, master firm practical skills in using them and, also of great importance, he must operate them without the slightest deviation from requirements of instructions and manuals. To do this he has to work constantly and painstakingly to improve his proficiency and develop in himself the firm habit of strictly fulfilling everything to the last requirement for the storage and servicing of weapons and equipment.

Thrifty use of resources is an important direction in the campaign for preserving military equipment. Using every minute of equipment operation thriftily and with greatest benefit for the job means extending its longevity, increasing the operating periods between repairs and maximum service life, and increasing the practical return.

The competent, skilled operation of equipment permits saving fuel and lubricants. For example, at the initiative of subunit technician WO [Praporshchik] A. Danilin in one of the subunits of the Volga Military District, a check was organized both daily and when making marches into the correctness of combat vehicle track tension. The fuel consumption was cut 4-5 percent as a result. Its saving just in this subunit was over three tons in a year's time.

Skilled soldiers who have mastered their specialty to perfection attain high success in extending military equipment operating periods between repairs and in saving fuels and lubricants. Tank driver-mechanic Pvt V. Koveshnikov in the Moscow Military District increased the combat vehicle's mileage between repairs by 2,000 km as a result of its skilled operation, and vehicle drivers privates A. Chernikov and D. Gavrilyuk saved 735 and 640 liters of gasoline respectively during 1984.

Army and Navy inventors and innovators are called upon to make a substantial contribution to the campaign for saving engine operating life. By directing their creativeness toward improving the training facility and toward exploring and applying the most effective methods for using and repairing equipment, they can do much to improve the economy of the training process and the longevity of costly parts, mechanisms, assemblies and systems.

A thrifty attitude on the part of privates and NCO's toward clothing, footwear, underwear and bedding, proper care of clothing property and its timely repair contribute to an extension in their periods of wear and create possibilities for accumulating stores of work clothing and uniforms in the exchange pool. Unfortunately, some servicemen lose the individual clothing and equipment issued them for personal use, and shortages of supplies are uncovered in some subunits. In a number of cases the ZIP's [sets of spare parts, instruments and accessories] are cannibalized, tools are lost, and spare parts and construction materials are squandered. Instances of a loss of dishware are often encountered.

An extension of service life, the assurance of the safekeeping of equipment and property, and economy of bread, fuel, electricity and other physical resources is one of the principal tasks of personnel struggling for the title of "Subunit of the Thrifty." Many are achieving excellent results. For

example, there have not been losses or shortages of military property for five years in subunits of the Moscow Military District commanded by officers A. Demyanenko and S. Dorenko. These subunits were the winners of socialist competition in the unit [soyedineniye] for the right to be called the "Sub-unit of the Thrifty."

Much is said about a thrifty attitude toward bread, but are the recommendations for its economy being implemented everywhere without a drop in the quality of nutrition? Unfortunately, not everywhere. Bread often still is supplied to tables in soldiers' and sailors' mess halls in large pieces and the servicemen take it without consideration for actual need. As a result of such waste the uneaten bread remains on the tables and later is tossed into the garbage.

Meanwhile, substantial results are being obtained in the units where bread economy is considered a matter of state importance and where the personnel constantly and persistently campaign against its squandering. For example, the military unit which Officer V. Kuznetsov commands saved over 70 tons of bread in 1984. Bread is supplied to the tables of this unit's mess hall in thin slices and there is constant work to explain to the personnel the great importance of a thrifty attitude toward bread.

In discussing economy we cannot help but mention a reserve of economy such as time, which at first glance does not represent a real value. Meanwhile, aimlessly spent training and work time does no less harm than waste in using supplies. Some reason approximately as follows: it's not so terrible, we'll make it up tomorrow.

It can be said for comparison that the loss of just one minute of work time on a national scale is tantamount to the loss of results of a day's work by more than 250,000 workers. Each minute saved permits increasing the output of industrial products in the country by more than 1.2 million rubles. A thrifty attitude toward training time, where each minute is embodied in new knowledge and skills so needed by the soldier for reliable protection of the country, must become the immutable law of life for each military collective.

At the present time the serviceman's obligation to preserve and strengthen state and socialist property is legislatively fixed by the USSR Constitution and by military regulations. In taking the military oath the serviceman vows to safeguard military and public property in every way. No one has either the moral or the legal right to remain aloof from this important job.

Assurance of the safekeeping of socialist property and the thrifty expenditure of supplies and funds are not one-time campaigns. Thrift must permeate the Soviet serviceman's entire service and all his daily life and work both in the Army and after release from the Armed Forces.

Our country becomes richer with each passing year. It has more and more opportunities for increasing the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces. But everything given to the Army and Navy has to be used zealously and thriftily. Every serviceman must fully understand that he is personally responsible for the safekeeping of public property and for its rational, thrifty and economic use.

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ARMED FORCES

AMNESTY DECREE ON FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY

Moscow VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SOYUZA SOVETSKIKH SOTSIALISTICHESKIKH RESPUBLIK in Russian No 18 (2300), 1 May 85 pp 271-273

[USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree, Article 309, issued 26 April 1985, signed by V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Moscow, the Kremlin, No 2317-XI: "Amnesty in Connection with the 40th Anniversary of the Soviet People's Victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945"]

[Text] In connection with the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees:

1. To release from punishment in the form of imprisonment and from punishment not involving imprisonment persons who took part in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 as part of the USSR Armed Forces, partisan detachments or the people's volunteer corps and those who participated in other combat actions in defense of the Soviet Motherland, with the exception of persons enumerated in Part One, Article 11 of the Decree.
2. To reduce the remaining portion of punishment for persons named in Article 1 of the Decree who are not subject to release and who have served at least one-third of the imposed term of punishment, with the exception of convicts enumerated in Part Two, Article 11 of the Decree:
 - a. Those with first-time convictions--half;
 - b. Those sentenced for premeditated crimes to imprisonment more than once--by one-third.
3. To release from punishment in the form of imprisonment, as well as punishment not involving imprisonment:
 - a. Persons decorated with USSR orders and medals for selfless labor during the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945;
 - b. Wives and widows of war invalids as well as widows whose husbands died in defense of the Soviet Motherland;
 - c. Women with children up to 16 years of age, as well as pregnant women.

4. To release from punishment those sentenced to imprisonment for a period of up to and including five years or to punishment not involving imprisonment:

a. Women;

b. Men who have been declared group I or II invalids as well as men over 60 years of age.

5. To release from punishment male juveniles sentenced to imprisonment for a period up to and including two years who have served at least one-third of the imposed term of punishment.

6. To release conditionally from places of detention with mandatory employment those sentenced to imprisonment for a period up to and including three years, except persons falling under the application of articles 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Decree.

7. To release from serving additional punishment in the form of exile and deportation the persons enumerated in articles 1, 3, 4 and 6 of the Decree.

8. To dismiss all investigatory cases and cases not tried by courts:

Concerning crimes committed before entry into force of this Decree by persons subject to release from punishment in accordance with articles 1 and 3 of the Decree;

Concerning crimes for which the law provides punishment in the form of imprisonment for a period up to and including five years or punishment not involving imprisonment, committed before entry into force of the Decree by persons enumerated in Article 4 of the Decree.

For cases of crimes committed before entry into force of the Decree by persons enumerated in Article 4 of the Decree, for which the law provides punishment of over five years' imprisonment, the court releases the convicted person from punishment if it deems it necessary to impose a punishment up to and including five years' imprisonment or punishment not involving imprisonment.

9. Convicted persons are not subject to release on the basis of Article 6 of the Decree:

a. Whose remaining term of punishment is less than three months;

b. Who are serving punishment in colony-settlements and in colony-settlements for persons who have committed crimes of negligence;

c. Who committed crimes during first-term military service;

d. Juveniles;

e. Foreign citizens and stateless persons.

10. Not to apply amnesty to persons enumerated in articles 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Decree:

a. Convicted for especially dangerous state crimes;

b. Convicted for crimes covered by articles 14, 14¹, 15, 16, 17, 20, 23, 24 and 25 of the USSR Law "Criminal Liability for State Crimes," and for crimes covered by Part Four of Article 117 and by articles 142, 162, 190¹, 190², 190³, 213², 224, 224¹, 224², 226, 226¹, 227 and 228 of the RSFSR Criminal Code and by appropriate articles of the criminal codes of other union republics;

c. Convicted for crimes covered by paragraph b of Article 2, paragraphs b and c of Article 4, paragraph a of Article 6, paragraph c of Article 8, paragraphs b and c of Article 10, paragraph c of Article 11, paragraph a of Article 13, paragraph c of Article 19, paragraph c of Article 21, paragraph c of Article 23 and paragraph b of Article 24 of the USSR Law "Criminal Liability for Military Crimes";

d. Declared especially dangerous recidivists;

e. Convicted for premeditated murder (with the exception of murder committed in a state of strong emotional disturbance or in exceeding the limits of justifiable defense), embezzlement of state or public property in especially large amounts, and taking a bribe under aggravating circumstances;

f. Convicted for the following crimes: premeditated serious bodily harm (with the exception of injury inflicted during a state of strong emotional disturbance or in exceeding the limits of justifiable defense); an attempt on the life of a militia worker or people's guard; rape under aggravating circumstances; theft of state or public property with entering of premises or other storehouse; theft under aggravating circumstances; robbery; misappropriation of firearms, ammunition or explosives; acceptance of a bribe without aggravating circumstances; giving a bribe or serving as intermediary in bribery; especially malicious hooliganism, and for crimes covered by Part Three of Article 144, Part Three of Article 154, and articles 209 and 210 of the RSFSR Criminal Code and by corresponding articles of the criminal codes of other union republics;

g. Previously sentenced to imprisonment for premeditated crimes;

h. Previously released from places of detention prior to completely serving the court-imposed term of punishment because of amnesty or pardon and who again committed a premeditated crime;

i. Who have not completed a full course of treatment for alcoholism, drug addiction or venereal diseases;

j. Who maliciously violated the regime while serving punishment.

11. Not to release from punishment the persons enumerated in Article 1 of the Decree convicted for crimes named in paragraphs a, b and e of Article 10 of the Decree, and also those declared especially dangerous recidivists; those sentenced to imprisonment for premeditated crimes more than twice; and malicious violators of the regime.

Not to reduce the remaining term of punishment in accordance with Article 2 of the Decree for persons convicted for crimes names in paragraphs a and b of Article 10 of the Decree, and also those declared especially dangerous recidivists; and for malicious violators of the regime.

12. This Decree enters into force on the day of its publication.

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ARMED FORCES

PROBLEMS IN OBTAINING SUITABLE OFFICER CANDIDATES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 85 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Maj I. Burbyta: "Without Proper Responsibility: Notes in the Course of Officer Candidate Selection"]

[Text] The traveling selection board of the Moscow Military District worked several weeks at the training center of the Tambov Higher Military Command School of Chemical Defense on selecting candidates to military educational institutions from among initial and extended active duty commitment service members. On the days I had the opportunity to spend there, for many of those who had chosen for themselves the heroic profession of an officer the initial stages of professional selection were already behind them. Ahead were tests on checking the general educational level. More accurately, they had already taken these tests: compositions were written and certain other examinations were taken. Now the candidates used all the time and efforts in order to be better prepared for the remaining examinations.

I got to know some of the future officer candidates. The first thing that struck me in talking with them was the tremendous desire of many soldiers to fulfill a dream and enter a military school. One of the candidates was PFC A. Kallaur. After school he somehow did not think about a career as an officer. But after serving almost 2 years in the signal troops, he knew that this was for him. He did not even think about choosing another way of life.

During the meetings with the officer candidate applicants, much was done to prepare them well and thoroughly for the entrance examinations. Review lectures, additional classes on individual subjects and consultations conducted by experienced instructors were alternated with independent work on textbooks and solving mathematics and physics problems and exercises. According to the candidates, everything possible was done for them so that each could refresh his knowledge and successfully pass the entrance examinations.

Unfortunately, not all who came wanted to take full advantage of the opportunities given them. Some service members openly shirked the classes, and others, not even thinking of taking the examinations, simply used the time for rest. How did they end up here? There is only one answer: In a number

of units (chasti, soyedineniya) they treat candidate selection formally and operated under the principle of merely carrying out directions.

There were also cases on record which cause special concern. As an example, a group of about 30 service members that arrived, who were selected at the unit by officer Ye. Krasnykh, having completed an expensive trip, returned to their duty station in almost full complement without even waiting for the entrance examinations. Some of them did not pass the medical board, and the rest showed extremely low physical training.

The following cases are also indicative of a lack of interest in candidate selection. Junior sergeants Yu. Plutarenko, M. Khromykh and A. Popov and Pvt V. Denisov--they all arrived from a unit where selection was made by officers A. Brechalov and A. Zlobin--had embarked on the path of breaching military discipline. The staff judge advocate's office took an interest in the offenses they committed. These sort of cases can only be interpreted as irresponsibility of certain officials towards a most important matter as recruitment for military schools.

Unfortunately, during the work of the traveling selection board there arose many discrepancies of an organizational nature as well, which did not at all contribute to the quality of professional selection. According to the plan, the schools training center was supposed to meet and billet quite a specific number of candidates. But four times as many candidates arrived unexpectedly. It turns out that applications from units located in the territory of the Moscow Military District, but not subordinate to it, for the training course plan were not submitted in a timely manner. Someone's oversight or slowness resulted in people beginning to arrive in large groups when the main complement of applicants had already met the medical board and taken two examinations. The new arrivals, naturally, were put in extremely difficult conditions, especially since they had to take the examinations practically without preparation. Many of them were those who, having a firm desire to enter the school, showed insufficiently high knowledge. Can only the service members themselves be blamed for this? It remains a pity that a considerable number of them bid farewell to their dream, at least this year, to become officer candidates.

We must also mention those who did not arrive here at all for incomprehensible reasons. Incidentally, one of the reasons is known: on various pretexts, some candidates were denied permission to travel at the last moment. There were quite a few of these. Several dozen personal records of people who were unable to come here were looked through. Most of the soldiers are characterized positively and have enviable successes in training and competition. Could this circumstance really be the main reason for prohibiting them from taking the school entrance examination? The question is not only rhetorical. More than one board member had occasion to hear opinions that, unfortunately, in some units they are very unwilling to send the most deserving soldiers to schools.

Quite a few of the arrivals found themselves in a situation which neither they themselves nor the board members could resolve. People prepared for the examinations, attended classes and consultations, reviewed material

independently and, finally, the time came to take the entrance examinations, but their personal records were still missing. How were they to act, and what was to be done with these service members? We would agree that a decision to allow a service member to take the examinations without knowing how he was characterized, how he performs duty and, in essence, what kind of a person he is could hardly be considered fully justified. However, Col V. Goncharov, Col S. Kuzmin, Capt 1st Rank V. Dolgov, Lt Col V. Tkachev, Maj A. Glushko and all the other board members understood that the people were not at fault that their supervisors did even find time to study the procedures for admission into military educational institutions and sent the personal records to the school in the old manner. The board made what appears to be the most reasonable decision. It was announced that those who wished could take the examinations, but it was with the understanding that without the personal records the examination results would not be the sole criterion for making the final conclusion for enrollment into schools.

Warrant Officer M. Ivancha, Pvt A. Kirichenko and others took advantage of this opportunity, which once again shows the great desire of many service members to fulfill their dream. They are greatly annoyed by what can only be called neglect of duties by those whose duty it is to select school candidates in the units, but neglected this matter. Primarily it is their fault that the professional selection was not conducted in a quality manner according to all the procedures and their fault that some service members ended up deprived of their dream. We address this reproach to officers N. Abuzyarov, A. Volkov, P. Selitskiy and Yu. Kanyshkin.

The selection board did much to somehow correct the situation and eliminate the errors made locally. The officers worked, as they say, without rest. Some of them even made trips to look for the personal records of candidates.

Already departing, I met Pvt A. Blokhin who was hurrying to the last examination. A total of seven people arrived with him. His colleagues had returned to the Borisoglebsk Higher Military Aviation School for Pilots imeni V. P. Chekalov were they were serving their initial active duty commitment--their personal records never were found. Blokhin decided to take all of the examinations. He expressed hope that he would make it anyway. A commendable aspiration indeed. But why create artificial obstacles on the path to the profession.

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ARMED FORCES

COVERAGE OF KAVKAZ-85 EXERCISE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jul 85 p 6

[Article by special PRAVDA correspondents A. Gorokhov and G. Lebanidze:
"Battle in the Passes"]

[Text] ...It was the dead of night on the Iori plateau stretching southeast of Tblisi. Over the difficult mountain roads, negotiating canyons and passes, the troops of the opposing sides, here they are called "East" and "West", arrived at the start lines. The tension was continuing to mount at the command posts. The intrigue of the upcoming battle was as tight as a powerful spring...

In combined arms tactics there is such a concept as H-hour. We heard this short term, like a shot, in unit headquarters of the "East" and "West." It means that an attacking soldier has burst into the first "enemy" trench with a shout of "hurrah." H-hour means that the artillery has begun firing, that the infantry had moved further, that the tanks have moved...

Now this hour had come.

It was near midnight when the "West" went on the offensive. The skies over the Iori plateau were illuminated by lightning bursts of an engagement. For the "East," they also strove to carry out the combat mission on the offensive, the battle proved not to be quite successful, and they had to go over to the defensive.

...There are no words to describe how difficult the exercise area was. One can get an idea of it, perhaps, only in the museum of history of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District, where the territory occupied by the district is shown to scale on a relief map. Judge for yourself: mountains, ravines, passes, rapid rivers. Here it is difficult, as they say, to the utmost extent for tankers and aviators to deploy. Troops often operate without "close" contact. How important it is to achieve good cooperation in such a situation! Perhaps skillful mastery of weapons and equipment, and the vast majority of the exercise participants demonstrate this, will still not be enough for success in such conditions. A special moral and psychological disposition of people is needed, as well as outstanding physical endurance in

order to carry out the assigned mission. It is true that the mountains love the bold and courageous.

We talked with a member of the Military Council--chief of the district political directorate Lt Gen V. Gulevich--about all these nuances and the characteristics of party-political work in the troops during the exercise.

"The mood of the soldiers is like in combat," Vladimir Leontyevich said. "The commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations are supported by the great political enthusiasm among the exercise participants. I will not hide that we especially value the fact that on the threshold of the 27th Party Congress the troops of namely our district have appeared, if it can be expressed in such a way, before the entire Soviet nation. The Kavkaz-85 exercise is the most important operational activity of the year for us. Precisely this fact has left a natural imprint on the party-political work in the troops..."

Let us note in turn the following: During preparation for and in the course of the exercise here they strove to inform every soldier and officer about the recommendations and conclusions made at the recent meeting of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M. S. Gorbachev with leaders of the USSR Armed Forces in Minsk. After all, a large group of generals from the Transcaucasus participated in the meeting.

It is hard to list all the commanders and political workers we met during these days. Those we talked to were unanimous, whether the topic was increasing troop combat readiness, qualitative mastery of equipment and weapons, strengthening discipline and order, skillful use of the experience of the Great Patriotic War...

...In the cozy tent which, it seemed, had long ago become home, where the muffled rumble of the tanks moving in the ravine, not long before the start of combat training operations we had a short conversation with Lt Col V. Mamenko, the son of a war veteran reserve officer. We took notice that the officer was decorated with the peacetime order "Badge of Honor." It turned out that Vladimir Ivanovich was given this award for participating in the crop harvest in the Krasnodarskiy Kray and in Kazakhstan.

"Yes, we are soldiers of peace," V. Mamenko said, "but we must always be ready with weapons in hand to defend the peaceful labor of the Soviet people. Now exercises are underway. However, the soldiers are operating just as in a real combat situation. The party and government demand this of the military."

In the area of Bezymyannaya Hill, we saw how the motorized rifle subunits (podrazdeleniya) of the "West," supported from the air by helicopter gunships and fighter-bombers, were squeezing the "East."

...A hot encounter is underway on the Iori plateau. Exercise Kavkaz-85 continues.

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ARMED FORCES

EDITORIAL ON PHYSICAL TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The Sports Summer"]

[Text] The summer sports season is a good time for physical culture activities, a good time for millions of Soviet people to participate in regular sports training and in various competitions. Physical culture and sports, the meeting of the GTO [ready for work and defense] standards and mass outings help to strengthen people's health, to extend their working life and to prepare the youth to serve in the Armed Forces. The Communist Party and the Soviet Government devote unweakening attention to the physical education of citizens of the USSR. The main direction of the party's policy with respect to organizing mass physical culture and health improvement work are set forth in the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers: "On the Further Improvement of Mass Physical Culture and Sports." Certain questions pertaining to enlarging the role of physical culture and sports in the improvement of the population's health were recently discussed at a meeting of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee. The main role of the physical culture movement is to make physical exercises, sports and tourism a daily need for the Soviet individual, particularly children and the youth.

In the army and navy physical training and sports serve to strengthen the conditioning of the fightingmen and consequently help to improve the combat readiness and the field, air and naval training of the personnel. Physical training and mass sports work are conducted with the personnel on a high level in many units of the Airborne Troops, the Central Group of Forces, the Siberian, Far East and Belorussian Military Districts and the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. Thanks to the constant concern of commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations and sports committees, most of these fightingmen have met the rating standards and are holders of the VSK [military-sports complex] badges. And it is not by chance that these units are distinguished by significant achievements in the combat and political training and by a high level of military discipline.

Unfortunately, there are also examples of another kind. Many deficiencies have been detected in the organization of physical training and mass sports work in a number of units in the Northern Group of Forces, the Ural and Transcarpathian Military Districts and the Northern Fleet. There are

subunits in which few of the personnel are involved even in the morning calisthenics. The methodological level of the physical training exercises, as well as the physical drills conducted during the combat training work, also leaves something to be desired. The sports sections do not function on a regular basis, and competitions are rarely held. The same situation exists on certain ships of the Pacific Fleet.

Commanders, sports committees and sports specialists of the units and ships must make effective use of the summer season to further improve the physical training and develop sports on a truly mass scale in the army and navy. Special attention should be given to the applied military and technical types of sports, to the holding of relay races involving elements of combat training, and to the development in the fightingmen of strength, endurance, determination, reaction speed and the other qualities and skills essential in combat.

Physical training, sports and combat readiness are inseparable. The interests of our job demand that the closest of attention be given during the summer period to executing long marches and teaching the fightingmen to swim. All of the servicemen must take an active part in the 27th Review of Mass Sports Work in the Soviet Army and Navy. The all-army military sports competitions in applied swimming for prizes offered by the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and the Sports Committee of the USSR Ministry of Defense must be expanded in the forces. More servicemen and members of their families need to be involved in such competitions as "Runner's Day" and "Swimmer's Day." Such sports as football, handball, volleyball and basketball must become more widespread within the system of mass sports work.

All of the sports work must be closely tied in with the combat training and used as a means of strengthening military discipline, uniting the collectives, providing the fightingmen with moral indoctrination and organizing their leisure time. Socialist competition is a powerful tool for improving mass sports.

We need to remember that mass sports work and physical culture are the best means of accustoming the people to a wholesome way of life in which the individual can most fully reveal all of his talents and capabilities and demonstrate his best personal qualities. The decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee "On Steps to Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism" stresses the need to make more effective use of stadiums, gymnasiums and other facilities for conducting health improvement and cultural indoctrination work. Sobriety must be the standard for the life of every Soviet person.

As we do everything possible to make summer sports widespread in the forces, as we develop and implement practical steps for fulfilling the demands of the USSR minister of defense with respect to improving the physical conditioning of the fightingmen, we must give proper attention to producing highly rated sportsmen in the army and navy. The 6th summer Physical Culture Festival of Friendly Armies is the main starting point of the summer season for athletes of the Soviet Armed Forces. It will commemorate the 40th

anniversary of the Victory over fascism. Competitions in the Physical Culture Festival will be held in the Polish People's Republic in August.

Army sportsmen have been champions of the nation, of Europe, of the world and of the Olympic Games hundreds of times. Army men have already competed successfully this year as members of the USSR's composite teams in classical and free-style wrestling in the European championship competition. Warrant Officer P. Ugryumov and Privates A. Zinovyev, V. Zhdanov and V. Klimov were on the Soviet team which won the world bicycle race. Cadet D. Bilozerchev performed brilliantly in the European championship gymnastics competition, winning six gold medals.

Not all of the army teams demonstrate top-level skill, however. The army weight-lifters, skaters and pentathlon participants are not doing a brilliant job. All of this is a result of deficiencies in the training and indoctrinational process, of poor utilization of progressive know-how and scientific achievements, and the fact that earlier performances are not critically analyzed.

The summer sports season is gaining momentum. It is the task of commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations, sports committees and specialists in physical training and sports to make the fullest possible use of the favorable summer period for strengthening and improving the physical conditioning of the fightingmen and for developing mass sports. The sports summer is calling us to the starting line!

11499

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ARMED FORCES

LETTER TO EDITOR: SOLDIER RETURNS HOME

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jul 85 p 4

[Letter to the editor and responses under the rubric "A Subject for Reflection":
"The Soldier Has Come Home..."]

[Text] Letter to the Editor

Respected Comrades!

My son is presently serving in the Soviet Army. He will soon be released into the reserve. This is cause for joy--my son is coming home; and concern--he officially has 3 months "to rest up" if he wishes after completing his service. I have been thinking: Why should a young, strong and healthy man fritter away an entire 3 months?

Furthermore, my son will need clothes. He has spent 2 years in the army, after all, and has matured, grown and become stronger. He will not be able to wear his old clothes even if he wants to. But he will not want to: styles have changed completely.

Would it not be better for him to earn his own livelihood? I know that many soldiers will not agree with me (my son will be the first)---the state authorizes a 3-month leave, after all. It is my own personal opinion, however, that 1 month is sufficient to rest up and fill out papers. After that, get to work!

I believe that many parents will agree with me, and the state will benefit enormously from the strong hands. Think how many young, strong men would not be loafing around with nothing to do, but would begin working immediately!

Valentina Semenovna Rogova,
Moscow

We showed this letter to the servicemen in one unit. The opinions differed sharply.

Private Nikolay Avdeyenko: Two years of service without days-off or leave time, 2 years of a "nonstandardized workday"--doesn't the soldier have a 3-month leave coming to him?

Private Aleksandr Dorofeyev: Take my case, for example. I plan to enter a VUZ after the service. I have forgotten everything I learned in school. Even 6 months is not enough to go through the entire school program.

Sergeant Ivan Malakhov: Valentina Semenovna is actually right. The army ends all types of allowances for us, but mama will provide. Isn't that shameful? I will go to work immediately. The fellows in the brigade write the following: "We're waiting for you. Come on back."

Editor's commentary: And so, let us read the line from V.S. Rogova's letter once more: "...but would it not be better for him to earn his own livelihood"?

It is easier, of course, to get it from mama. But isn't it time to become a man? You have had the army schooling and studied a specialty. And strengthened your character. Perhaps you should indeed earn your own money?

What about it? Let us think about it. We want to survey the Komsomol organizations of units and subunits. Discuss V.S. Rogova's letter at Komsomol meetings. We await letters and suggestions.

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ARMED FORCES

BRIEFS

AUTOMATING AUTO INSPECTION--Unique electronic devices have appeared motor vehicle inspection of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. Here, in addition to the usual first-generation simulators and teaching machines, mini-computers have been installed. They have considerably expanded the opportunities for conducting examinations and self-control of knowledge. Having a memory, the machines can be used in several modes and provide error-free grading. The miniature electronic complexes are used in teaching military motor vehicle inspectors in the course of planned classes. They also help check on drivers' knowledge of traffic rules. The initiators of introducing the latest generation electronic equipment are Lt Col V. Stepanov and CWO V. Klimachev. The electronic devices for teaching drivers and inspectors are widely used in all garrisons of the district. The number of highway accidents has been reduced, and traffic safety has increased, although the amount of transport equipment put into operation has increased. Motor vehicle inspection workers are actively conducting preventive work, and electronics helps them well in this. [By KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col A. Yurkin] [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 85 p2] 12567

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NAVAL FORCES

FLT ADM SU GORSHKOV: SELLING THE NAVY

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 10, May 85 (signed to press 29 Apr 85)
pp 2-3

[Article by Flt Adm SU S. G. Gorshkov, CIC of the Navy, deputy USSR minister of defense, Twice-Honored HSU, under the rubric "The Army and Literature": "Allies in the Exploit"]

[Text] At the first writers' congress a half-century ago Maksim Gorkiy called defense of the Motherland one of the essential obligations of literature. Today we military people have every basis to say that Soviet literature is worthily standing its combat and patriotic watch. During the Great Patriotic War writers were an example of faithful service to the socialist homeland by their selfless work. Many of them fought at the fronts with weapon in hand and their fervent, passionate and inspiring writer's word fought with them. Any frontlinesman will say what the books and journalistic statements of Mikhail Sholokhov and Aleksey Tolstoy, of Ilya Erenburg and Vsevolod Vishnevskiy, and "Vasiliy Terkin" of Aleksandr Tvardovskiy meant in the war. They strengthened a great, all-conquering feeling of filial love for the Motherland and a sacred hatred for the fascist enslavers in the hearts of fighting men and they gave strength and staunchness in combat.

And today the spiritual lives of Army and Navy personnel would be poorer and duller without the literary works of the war years, without the novels of Aleksandr Chakovskiy, Yuriy Bondarev and Ivan Stadnyuk, without the poetry of Mikhail Dudin and without books about the Navy and about people of the romantic and courageous profession--navymen.

Emphasis on the sea is traditional for Russian and Soviet literature. Sea subjects always held an honorable place in such literature. They instilled and continue to instil in the Soviet youth (and not just in them) a love for the sea and the nautical profession, they perpetuate the memory of seamen who gave their lives for the sake of the Motherland's freedom and independence, and they familiarize us with the history and grand traditions of the Navy.

Our literature knows well and carefully preserves the names of talented writers about the sea Konstantin Stanyukovich, Aleksey Novikov-Priboy and Aleksandr Stepanov. The books of Vsevolod Vishnevskiy, Leonid Sobolev, Boris Lavrenov, Sergey Sergeev-Tsenskiy and Arkadiy Perventsev enjoyed great

popularity at sea, in the soldiers' trenches and among the toilers of our heroic rear during the Great Patriotic War. More than one generation of navy-men was brought up on the works of these writers.

Writings about the sea in postwar years are characterized by an attempt both for artistic generalization of the heroic war experience and for a demonstration of the present-day Navy and the inseparable spiritual ties of the generations of defenders of the Motherland's maritime frontiers. The reader's attention was drawn in particular by such works as the novels by Grigoriy Skulskiy "V dalekoy gavani" [In a Far-Off Harbor] and Leonid Zaytsev "Belyye skaly" [White Cliffs], the dramatic tale of Aleksandr Shteyn "Okean" [The Ocean], the novel by young writer Boris Sheremetyev "Krasnaya eskadra" [Red Squadron] and others.

Books became genuine allies of seamen which inspired them to perform exploits. Writings about the sea are growing to match the Navy. It is true that in the first postwar years there was a certain slump observed in the readers' attention to the naval subject, but then interest in it began to rise noticeably and steadily. While only several tens of writers worked in this subject matter in the mid-1960's, now their number is many times greater. In recent years alone over 50 separate books about the Navy and seamen have come out in central and local publishing houses. Poets and composers have written good songs about the sea and nautical service which have become beloved and popular not just among seamen. A number of interesting and meaningful fictional and documentary films about the modern Navy appeared as a result of the unification of creative efforts of writers and film-makers: "Incident in Quadrant 36x80," "Heavy Water," "The Truth of Lt Klimov" and others.

The central press (the newspapers PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA, TRUD, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA and SOVETSKAYA KULTURA; the journal OGONEK), Central Television, All-Union Radio, and local organs of the press, television and radio broadcasting have begun to display greater interest in and attention to the Navy.

Nevertheless, it is rightful to ask the question: Can we--I have in mind both the navymen and writers--can we be satisfied with how the Navy is propagandized today by the forms of artistic creativeness? I have occasion to visit different parts of our country and foreign countries. I have seen many times that much is known about our Soviet Navy abroad, especially in coastal states. But right here at home--this was in Siberia--I was once asked, frankly speaking, an unexpected question: Do we have a Navy which would be able to oppose the navies of imperialist states in a modern war? I believe that there is--and I will resort to a term from a well-known film--food for thought here. It obviously cannot be considered a normal situation where our citizens know about foreign navies but not about our own.

The USSR's shores are washed by 14 seas, included in the basins of three oceans. Of the 60,000 km of Soviet borders, some 40,000 km are maritime frontiers, which is five times greater than the coastline of Great Britain, almost twice that of the United States and 13 times greater than that of France. Our fleets are based in the west, east, north and south of the

country, but at the same time they are divided by thousands on thousands of land kilometers. It turns out that people sometimes know very little about the Navy in the depth of this "dry land," far from seas and oceans. Who will tell Soviet citizens the truth about their Navy better and more widely than the press and literature, which long ago beat a path to every corner of the country and into every home? The fact is, our people must know what formidable weapons and what powerful modern ships embody the public funds allocated for defense needs and must know why we need such a Navy.

We are forced to strengthen our Navy in connection with increased aggressiveness of American imperialism and its desire to win supremacy on the world ocean because, as the facts indicate, we cannot look through our fingers at the imperialists' threats. The United States has used its Navy in local wars some 200 times in the postwar period, giving it the role of world gendarme and active tool for suppressing national liberation forces in various parts of the world. This was manifested especially in the U.S. wars against Korea and Viet Nam, and in the aggression against Grenada and Lebanon. Today, as we all know, ships of the American Navy are performing provocative actions near the shores of Nicaragua.

But the principal objective of world imperialism's military preparations is the destruction of socialism as a system.

The only thing deterring the lovers of military adventures is the might of our defense potential and the understanding that an irresistible retaliatory strike of retribution will follow from our side.

The Soviet Armed Forces are developing on a balanced basis and they have the most up-to-date military equipment and powerful weapons. The objective situation is such that the Navy, which has moved onto the expanses of the world ocean, most fully demonstrates in peacetime the scientific-economic achievements and future capabilities of the USSR in the area of defense and military affairs both to the probable enemy and to our friends.

Soviet navymen carry to the world the most accessible and obvious truth about our country and about the Soviet way of life by their peaceful mission on the ocean and by noble, dignified behavior during business calls and official friendly visits to foreign ports. Simple people abroad see our seamen brought up in a spirit of respect for other peoples and for their national customs and features. They see this and draw their own conclusions, and they begin to be critical of all kinds of antisoviet fabrications of bourgeois propaganda.

The seamen of western navies behave differently. The haughtiness and scorn for peoples of developing countries have their roots in those times when many western powers were establishing their empire and expanding colonial domination in the world specifically with the help of the navy. It is easy to notice that the imperialist NATO bloc put together against us brought together all these traditionally naval powers, where even today greatest reliance is placed on naval forces.

This same distinction also is manifested in the approach to problems of ocean study and development, where two directions are apparent. One, involving an expansion in possibilities of joint use of ocean resources in the interests of all mankind, is the direction of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and of many developing states. The other is that of capitalist countries headed by the United States, which view the ocean as a sphere of economic expansion and nurture plans for establishing their individual rule over ocean expanses.

It is important that our literature, together with the periodical press, radio, television and movies, fully reveal the lofty and responsible state mission of the Navy.

M. S. Gorbachev said at the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum: "The information media are called upon to thoroughly analyze events and phenomena, to pose serious problems and propose ways to solve them, and to persuade by their content, efficiency and information saturation."

We probably should not complain in particular about the number of books being published in recent times about the Navy, but the specific nature of the Navy conceals those deep-seated layers which have not yet been really touched on by a talented writer's pen. Without in any way belittling the importance of what has been done, I will note that, for literature, the life of the modern Navy largely is still similar to virgin lands which our writers have just begun to plow.

Many books on naval subjects still have an inherent sketchiness and illustrative nature; there is a lack of deep penetration into the essence of phenomena taking place which involve the revolution in military affairs, the growing complexity of the world situation, and at the same time the romance of distant ocean voyages.

It stands to reason that I will not suggest specific topics, but I would like to express a few ideas. In my view, the subject of war, arms and peace is one of the most current topics in literature under present-day conditions, which was discussed at the jubilee plenum of the board of the USSR Union of Writers. The Navy is a fertile background against which this topic can be worked out vividly and graphically in many of its deep-seated aspects. Literature has taken and is taking steps in this direction. Recently, for example, we had a conversation with writer Aleksandr Prokhanov about a new novel he has conceived specifically on this plane. I would like other writers to accept our social order as well. Such works will help instil in the personnel and in all our citizens high patriotic feelings, a Soviet pride, a class flair and hatred for warmongers, and readiness for an exploit in the Motherland's defense.

The Navy is a very specific branch of the Armed Forces in the sense of conditions of the personnel's service and routine. Picture a surface ship, let alone a submarine, on an independent deployment of many months where people are separated for a long while from families and from many "earthly" blessings and habits, where they constantly live and work in a closed space, where they are in one and the same narrow circle of associations, where time is measured

not by day or night, but by the continuous relief of watches. This is real mass heroism, worthy in our view of the most intent consideration through the prism of artistic creativeness. Showing this heroism means helping to accomplish it. The expanse here for artistic search is immense.

The Navy is a very romantic and very technically outfitted branch of the Armed Forces. A seaman is 19 or 20 years old and he already has crossed the seas and oceans, stood up against their unchecked elements, visited foreign countries, and seen another world and other people in this world. The most sophisticated technical systems are subservient to him. The vitality and combat effectiveness of a powerful modern ship, which has put to sea on the Motherland's assignment, depend on him. I would like the Navy to rise as such from the pages of books and from the movie screens, and for the press, literature and movies to arouse dreams of the sea, naval duty, and the profession of a naval officer in young people.

The farther time takes us from the stormy years of the Great Patriotic War, the greater is the significance acquired by works about that heroic time and about our victory. Not so many years will pass and literature and the movies will become the sole sources of truth about the war.

Many fictional and documentary works have been created about the Navy's combat actions and the navymen's heroic exploits. The deepest and most sincere gratitude for this goes out to our writers, respected by all the people.

And for this reason we sincerely believe that we will definitely have major works which are genuinely vivid and profound concerning today's defenders of the Motherland's maritime frontiers, works which will be a literary event and will become the equal of the best books of Russian sea subjects, and that we will not have long to wait for them, as the saying goes.

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6904

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NAVAL FORCES

TRAINED, EXPERIENCED SHIP COMMANDERS IN SHORT SUPPLY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jun 85 p 2

[Article by Adm (Ret) V. Platonov under the rubric "A School of Frontline Know-How": "The Commanders Matured in the Battles"]

[Text] I read Rear Admiral I. Litvinov's article "The Prestige of the Senior Man on Board" in the 8 December 1984 issue of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The newspaper's coverage of a subject which once also concerned my generation of sailors convinced me that the prewar and wartime experience in training ship's commanders to perform independently in a complex, dangerous navigational and combat situation is in many respects not outmoded. I believe that it may be of interest to the commanders of modern surface ships and to their direct superiors. I shall permit myself to share certain thoughts on this problem.

For our Soviet Navy the question of forms and methods of training ship commanders as a whole dates back to the '30s, a time of intensive construction of submarines, destroyers and minesweepers, and of learning to handle them. This required a considerable number of ship commanders within a historically brief period of time. There was no trained reserve, and the fleets began to experience a shortage. It was necessary to advance young officers with theoretical training but with little sailing experience and with inadequate length of service and professional skills. Navigators and captains from the merchant fleet took their positions on captain's bridges along with these young regular officers. They were assigned as apprentices to trained ship commanders and studied at the academy, and they rapidly became qualified officers. Heroes of the Soviet Union, North Sea submariners N. Lunin and G. Shchedrin, and boat commander (katernik) V. Alekseyev came out of precisely this group of former civilian seamen.

The new ship commanders had to be taught everything, from casting off to approaching for an attack. And there were not enough teachers. Experienced commanders from ships undergoing repair began to be enlisted in the fleets, along with the commanders of divisions and chiefs of staff of units and formations. They were called "outside" or "support" commanders.

Experience soon demonstrated that only the direct superiors of the beginning commanders could be their real teachers and fully capable indoctrinators: the commanders of battalion, brigades, divisions and squadrons. These officials bore full responsibility for training the commanders and had an interest in developing them as rapidly as possible, but because of their vital interest in having them subsequently perform with confidence, the officials were not in too big a hurry to permit them to assume independent control of a ship. Random people taken on as trainers were frequently indifferent with respect to the success of their trainees or were like those individuals in the examples cited by Rear Admiral I. Litvinov: now dangerously absent-minded, now tiresomely fussy.

The author of the article "The Prestige of the Senior Man on Board" is right when he says that neither a loud voice nor excessive tutelage is suitable for training commanders. Hero of the Soviet Union Ivan Aleksandrovich Kolyshkin, whose experience the author of the article cites, told me how frequently during critical moments in a battle he had fought the temptation to shove his subordinate, the boat's commander, away from the periscope and take over control of the ship. His final decision and specific actions were determined by many factors, however. It was one thing to entrust a young commander with an independent attack against a single transport, but something else to permit it against a combat ship or an enemy convoy traveling with security. Kolyshkin most frequently granted the commanders authority to conduct the attack to the very end, but in case of obvious blunders on the part of the commander, he could replace the commander at the peak of the battle.

I have gotten somewhat ahead of myself, however. Prior to the war a rule developed that the commander could only be replaced on the watch by an executive officer certified to handle the ship. Any kind of familiarity on the part of the executive officer--"Commander, you go below and have some tea, and I'll stay here on the bridge"--was considered to be laxity and negligence.

The other extreme was also harmful: excessive caution with respect to granting independence to a young commander, with a prompter and guardian constantly on his back for fear that he would "foul up." This method prevented the development of decisive and self-confident commanders.

My generation of sailors recall the tragic fate of one of our surface ships, which was blown up by mine. In order to guarantee the crew's safety, the commander could have and was duty-bound to take the ship onto shallows. This would have meant in addition to the hole caused by the mine, however, also breaking the propellers, the rudder and the propeller shafts. The commander should have had the courage to make this decision, but he looked around at advisors on the bridge and waited for them to give the order. No one could ever bring himself to give the necessary order, however. The ship capsized and sank. This was the cruel and inevitable punishment for the commander's timidity, lethargy, weak will and fear of responsibility.

The war faced us with the need to drastically reduce the time involved in developing commanders. Arseniy Grigoryevich Golovko, commander of the Northern Fleet, calculated for himself and explained to the formation commanders that

if circumstances had prevented a ship commander from completing one or two of the tasks in his program, this did not at all mean that he had still "not matured," that he could not be permitted to go to sea on his own. (The fleet simply did not have enough "outside" or "support" trainers for all of these commanders). But it also did not mean that commanders were permitted to go to sea under uncertain circumstances. An energetic and active officer possessing general naval expertise and familiar with the enemy's tactics, who had mastered the know-how of the best commanders, at least theoretically, could always come up with the correct decision. It was the task of the staff and the flag officer to provide the ship commanders with a well thought out briefing, to orient them toward imaginative and decisive action.

I shall cite an incident which was fairly typical for the war years. An aerial bomb fell onto the engine compartment of an American transport traveling in a convoy from Iceland to Murmansk. The vessel lost speed. A British security ship removed the crew from it and departed. The 10,000-ton hulk, loaded with military equipment awaited at the front, was left to meet its end in the middle of the ocean.

The commander of our destroyer decided to save both the transport and its cargo. On the turbulent waves and running the risk of damaging the ship and maiming the men, he set a rescue crew on board the transport at his own initiative, attached a towline and towed the transport to Kola Bay.

The ship commander had never practiced such a rare and difficult task as placing men on board a drifting vessel and towing the heavy vessel hundreds of miles, but he brilliantly accomplished his task, which involved numerous delicate nautical procedures. Unfortunately, I can name neither the ship nor the commander: I don't recall them, because during those years such things were considered to be completely ordinary. But perhaps therein lies both the force and the value of this example.

As a rule, all combat operations produce unexpected tasks for the command element, the staffs and the ship commanders. During the very first days of the war, the Northern Fleet had to land a number of landing forces in the enemy's rear area. In prewar maneuvers we had been accustomed to landing infantry with ship's boats from destroyers and with rowed fishing vessels from transports. I recall that we even tried to land horses for horse-drawn guns. When the war began, however, the situation immediately demonstrated how naive such procedures were, how far removed they were from the realities of combat tactics. With enemy aircraft dominating the air, it was foolhardy to send transports and large combat vessels to the flank of the land front. Small ships such as minesweepers, patrol boats and submarine chasers were best suited for this. And I, the commander of a formation of such ships who had never landed and never transported troops, was ordered to set those first landing groups ashore. We put the first landing group ashore as early as 6 July 1941. We had to conduct the operation guided by our general knowledge of the theory of landing operations, by our naval experience, by logic and wit. There were organizational difficulties, disappointing errors and bitter losses of some ships. We succeeded in successfully accomplishing the main missions, however. And from battle to battle, we gained military wisdom and valor, and the commanders and crews performed more boldly, confidently and

proficiently. Small ships of the fleet landed 6,000 naval infantrymen in the enemy's rear area during the 2 hours of darkness, the most difficult time for landing operations, in April 1942. Prior to the war probably no one would have believed that this was a realistic possibility.

Since the war I have heard people say that we were almost lucky--we had the war to teach us! Neither a peacetime nor a war situation in and of itself teaches anyone, if the individual himself does not grasp the lessons of life, does not analyze the situation and derive the correct conclusions. It seems unnecessary to me to stress the degree to which the navy has changed in recent decades with respect to "weapons-equipment-electronics" features. I believe that these changes are apparent, that they are the most tangible. The psychological aspect of the training of ship commanders, however, given all the adjustments for factors of modern times, which I am willing to make, I believe still retains a large number of traditional features in many respects. Every ship commander invariably passes through a period of development, of professional maturation. And whoever is beside him during that important time, what he teaches the commander and what attitudes he develops in him--this determines the commander's fate during the long years ahead.

11499

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NAVAL FORCES

LONG-TERM SHORTCOMINGS ABOARD TRAINING VESSEL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Capt 2d Rank V. Shirokov, Red Banner Pacific Ocean Fleet: "Under Investigation..."]

[Text] The article "Only One Application...", which talked about the shortcomings in training vessel usage in N-unit of the Pacific Ocean Fleet, appeared in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 3 August 1983. About 2 years has passed since then. As our correspondent reports, the situation has remained the same.

The training vessel commander, CWO V. Rybak, glanced at the clock. At this time, according to the notification from one of the ships, training on damage control was supposed to begin on the vessel. Capt 3d Rank Ostrovskiy was designated training instructor. However, neither he nor his subordinates were to be seen.

"It doesn't make any sense to wait for them any longer," the chief warrant officer sighed. "Once again they prepared the compartment for work for nothing."

Alas, there was truth in these words. There was not a single training session aboard the training vessel that day. Perhaps the ship the sailors were to come from went out to sea in a hurry? No, it was standing in the harbor, and there was no pressing work being done on it. This is precisely how the activities scheduled with personnel from other escort ships on the training vessel fell through. For example, sailors from the Vozbuzhdenny were last on the vessel in March. Since then they have solid lines drawn in the attendance log for activities conducted aboard the training vessel. For June the ship did not send any notifications at all. Apparently, they finally gave up such "formality" as hopeless.

It is noteworthy that the training vessel in question is considered to be one of the best in the fleet. It has first-class equipment so that sailors can develop sound damage control skills with maximum effectiveness. In particular, in the compartments here it is possible to recreate many types of battle damage: actual fire pockets, water coming in through shell holes....

But what is the use of an improved training base if it is used with extremely low efficiency. Thus, in some months of the winter training period the vessel's attendance by ship crews was 20 percent. Things are no better during the summer period either.

It was noted specifically on 3 August 1983 in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA that most of the blame falls on the unit staff which is supposed to monitor strictly the status of training aboard ships. This is to be done not from inspection to inspection, but constantly, striving to see that training sessions are conducted in a planned manner and purposefully, with maximum utilization of the training base.

The newspaper's critical article had an effect for a certain period of time. The official response to the editor reported on the punishments imposed on officials and that the problems of effective utilization of the training vessel would be given special attention. As time has shown, this was nothing more than an outward showing of taking steps. Things even went so far that the vessel's compartment designed for showing training films and equipped with appropriate movie equipment, upon instructions from above, was re-equipped into living quarters.

"When will the training process on the training vessel finally get on a normal course?" I asked Capt 2d Rank M. Kaverzov.

"We will eliminate the shortcomings immediately," he assured.

This conversation took place a month before I had the occasion to meet with CWO V. Rybak. As we see, if something was done to intensify training, the effect did not last very long.

Perhaps not everything depends on the staff here? In particular, the thing that draw attention to itself is that most of the personnel in the training subunit (podrazdeleniye) commanded by officer V. Khugayev spent quite a bit of time on auxiliary work at a military sovkhos and other agricultural installations.

I asked Rear Adm G. Semenov to comment on this fact.

"Yes, there was an order to send service members to assist in planting potatoes," the rear admiral said. "However, it is strange that they used sailors who were just beginning duty and, therefore, were especially in need of planned training. We will look into that..."

Several days later CWO V. Rybak called the correspondent post:

"They are now holding training sessions on the training vessel even on their days off."

That is good news. But will this surge of enthusiasm last long enough?

12567

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NAVAL FORCES

JPRS-UMA-85-054
13 September 1985

BRIEFS

GREEK SHIP VISITS LENINGRAD--In accordance with an understanding, the Greek Navy training vessel Aris, navigating in the Baltic Sea with naval school officer candidates, will visit the port of Leningrad from 18 to 21 July. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 85 p 3] 12567

CSO: 1801/277

DOSAAF

DOSAAF CC REVIEWS REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Jun 85 p 1

[Report under the rubric "In the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee": "Strive for More"]

[Text] Commissions directed by Fleet Admiral G.M. Yegorov, chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, have made a study of mass defense work in DOSAAF organizations of the Azerbaijan SSR, the Dagestan and North Osetian ASSR's, Krasnodar Kray, Astrakhan and Rostov Oblasts. The committees and the primary, training and sports organizations have been given assistance in accomplishing the tasks stemming from demands set forth at the 26th party congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on 7 May 1966, the greeting from the CPSU Central Committee to the 9th All-Union congress of the defense Society, and its decisions.

It was determined that DOSAAF committees and organizations are doing a great deal to further improve the military-patriotic indoctrination of the workers and the youth, to prepare specialists for the Armed Forces and the national economy, to develop the technical and applied military types of sports, to create and strengthen the materials and equipment base and to improve the financial and management and the production operations.

Since the 9th All-Union DOSAAF Congress, the organizations' ranks have grown by 330,000 members and there has been a considerable step-up in the work of indoctrinating the Society's members in a spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism and constant preparedness to defend the socialist homeland.

DOSAAF organizations of the Azerbaijan SSR and Rostov Oblast are outstanding.

There are substantial shortcomings and omissions in the practical work of the republic's DOSAAF Central Committee and the kray and oblast committees, however. The task of turning the primary organizations into centers of mass defense work and raising the level of their supervision by the raykoms and gorkoms is being carried out too slowly. There are no technical groups or

sections for the technical and applied military types of sports in 60 percent of the primary organizations in Astrakhan Oblast, for example.

Not all of the DOSAAF committees and organizations have achieved the thorough reorganization of the military-patriotic work in accordance with the party's contemporary demands. Proper concern for the substance and effectiveness of the military-patriotic activities conducted is not universally demonstrated. This applies particularly to the development of a high level of political vigilance in the Society's members.

Many organizations, particularly the rural ones, make poor use of various forms of oral and visual agitation, literature and posters put out by the DOSAAF Publishing House or the Society's newspapers and magazines, and rarely show films on mass defense subjects.

There are shortcomings in the preparation of specialists for the Armed Forces of the USSR, particularly in their practical training. A number of DOSAAF training organizations tolerate indulgences and simplifications in the training. Many of the trainees have poor practical skills in operating and servicing the equipment. These shortcomings are especially characteristic of DOSAAF organizations of the North Osetian and Dagestan ASSR's and Astrakhan Oblast.

Not all of the reserves have been used for further increasing the extent and improving the training of cadres in the large-scale technical occupations for the national economy.

There are many substantial deficiencies in the development of the technical and applied military types of sports, especially with respect to enhancing their mass nature. The demands contained in the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Further Improving the Mass Nature of Physical Culture and Sports" are being fulfilled too slowly. Such sports as car and ship modeling, motorized aquatic sports, gliding and delta-wing gliding (deltaplanernyy) sports, underwater orientation, radio sports, the all-round marine event and others have not been properly developed.

The Bureau of the Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee has reviewed the results of inspections and discussed steps to correct the shortcomings revealed. The committees have been instructed to thoroughly study the causes of these shortcomings, to continue to improve the organizational work, to give greater attention to the selection, the indoctrination and training of cadres and the public aktiv, and to constantly improve the supervision of primary organizations. They are to focus their main efforts on improving their workstyle, enhancing organization and coordination in the work and strengthen order and discipline, monitoring and the verification of execution.

It was recommended that the committees constantly improve the DOSAAF organizations' military-patriotic and international indoctrination of the defense Society's members. By 1 August 1985 they are to consider additional steps to assure active participation by the DOSAAF committees and organizations in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the workers, the draft-age and predraft youth in light of demands stemming from decisions coming out of the March and April 1985 Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

The positive experience acquired in military-patriotic indoctrination in the course of preparing for the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's Victory in the Great Patriotic War should be summarized and discussed in the committees and actively utilized for conducting military-patriotic measures aimed at providing a fitting reception for the 27th CPSU Congress.

The republic's DOSAAF Central Committee, the DOSAAF Kray Committee and oblast committees have been apprised of the need to work more persistently to improve the preparation of specialists for the Armed Forces. They need to increase the role and raise the level of the work performed by DOSAAF model schools to disseminate progressive experience in the training and indoctrination of the draft-age youth and further improve the performance of the defense Society's aviation organizations.

The Bureau of the Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee has charged the Society's committees with further increasing the mass nature of physical culture and sports and the development of rifle, motor, radio technical and ship modeling sports, the applied military all-round event and other technical and applied military types of sports. It is important to make fuller use of the possibilities of enterprises, establishments, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and educational institutions for further developing the technical and applied military types of sports.

Steps have been specified for developing and strengthening the material training base and for assisting with the construction of training buildings and sports facilities.

The correction of shortcomings revealed during the inspections and the improvement of the mass defense work should contribute to the achievement of good end results and to a fitting reception for the 27th CPSU Congress by DOSAAF organizations.

11499

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DOSAAF

GTO SMALL ARMS FIRING NORMS OUTLINED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Jun 86 p 4

[Article by A. Burakov, senior rifle instructor for the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee: "The Complex Has Been Perfected"]

[Text] An improved All-Union GTO [ready for work and defense] physical culture complex is now in force.

Inspections have shown that during the testing for the GTO norms in rifle firing, the rules for the testing and the conditions for performing the exercises are being violated in some places. A harmful and faulty method of counting up the points is still frequently used for determining the firing results, for example. Specifically, the dimensions of the target are traced on plexiglass and placed over the target with the bullet holes so that the mean point of impact coincides with the center of target dimensions drawn on the plexiglass. A participant in the competitions who has not met the specific norms for the exercise is thus given credit for meeting the rating or GTO norms for grouping of hits.

We have cases in which the firing of small-caliber rifles under the initial military training program is simultaneously registered as firing for the GTO norms, although the conditions for performing the exercises are different (one is with a rest, the other with a strap but without a rest).

The GTO norms for rifle firing are met with IZh-22 or IZh-38 air rifles with an open sight and using Diabolo or DTs bullets. The firing is from a distance of 5 meters at a "II" target (a school target for use with air rifles). Three sighting rounds and five official rounds are fired. The firing position is standing with a rest for meeting the norms for the BGTO [be ready for work and defense] complex, second and third levels.

The ready position for this firing exercise is with elbows on a table (or a stand) and using a beam or some other stable device to support the rifle.

The same positioning and ready position used for performing exercises in the BGTO complex, second and third levels, are permitted for performing the firing exercises in the BGTO complex, fourth level, except that it is forbidden to use a rifle rest (a beam or some other device).

The TOZ-8 or TOZ-12 small-caliber rifles with sports and hunting bullets are also used for meeting the GTO norms. Firing distance is 25 meters for a

No. 6 "B" target (with ten 3.4mm [rounds]) and 50 meters for a No. 7 target. Three sighting rounds and five official rounds are fired. The firing position is resting on one arm and using a strap. It is forbidden to use a rest (a beam or some other device).

GTO Complex

1st Level: "Strength and Courage"
(for boys and girls in grades 9-10 (11), or 16-17 years old)

Type of Test	Norms			
	Girls		Boys	
	Qualifying	Gold Medal	Qualifying	Gold Medal
Firing small-caliber rifle at 25m (hitting black circle, points)	4	37	4	35
or at 50m (hitting black circle, points)	4	35	4	32

2nd Level: "Physical Perfection"
(for men and women 18-39 years old)

Type of Test	Norms by Age Group							
	18-24		25-29		30-34		35-39	
	Qualifying	Gold Medal	Qualifying	Gold Medal	Qualifying	Gold Medal	Qualifying	Gold Medal
	<u>Men</u>							
Firing small-caliber rifle at 25m (hitting black circle, points)	4	42	4	42	4	40	4	40
or at 50m (hitting black circle, points)	4	38	4	38	4	36	4	36
	<u>Women</u>							
Firing small-caliber rifle at 25m (hitting black circle, points)	4	38	4	38	4	36	4	36
or at 50m (hitting black circle, points)	4	36	4	36	4	34	4	34

3rd Level: "Health in Motion"
(for men 40-60 years and older and women 40-55 years and older)

Type of Test	Norms by Age Group							
	Men (Age)				Women (Age)			
	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-60	40-44	45-49	50-55	
Firing small caliber rifle at 25m (points)	38	38	38	38	36	36	36	
or at 50m (points)	35	35	35	35	33	33	33	

BGTO Complex

Complex Level	Type of Test	Norms			
		Boys		Girls	
		Qualifying	Gold Medal	Qualifying	Gold Medal
2nd level "Everyone Starts" (for boys and girls in grades 3-4)	Firing air rifles (hitting black circle, points)	3	30	3	27
3rd level "Brave and Skillful" (for boys and girls in grades 5-6)	Firing air rifles (hitting black circle, points)	4	34	3	32
4th level "Sports Successors" (for teenagers in grades 7-8)	Firing small-caliber rifles at 25m (hitting black circle, points)	4	33	4	32
	or at 50m (hitting black circle, points)	3	32	3	30
	or Firing air rifles (hitting black circle, points)	4	34	3	32

11499
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MILITARY HISTORY

GEN KISSAKOV RECALLS KOREAN LIBERATION WAR

SK201027 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GTM 14 Jul 85

[Excerpts] The significant 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation from the Japanese colonial rule by the Soviet Army is approaching. Soviet soldiers demonstrated mass heroism and fulfilled their internationalist duties to the end in the various battles for the Korean people's freedom and independence.

Our radio is going to introduce the participants of the liberation of Korea and of the battles staged in Korea in August 1945. We will now introduce an essay by general Ivan Kissakov, former commander of the 25th Soviet Army, which liberated Korea, and Soviet hero. Ivan Kissakov was a core member of the army. He began to serve the red Army in 1918.

Sixteen days after the Soviet Army and fleets launched an operation against Japan North Korea was liberated. The Korean people kindly greeted the Soviet soldiers. The order of General Kissakov, commander of the 25th Army, read as follows: The Red Army advanced to North Korea with an aim of smashing the Japanese aggressors. The Red Army will establish its own order and will not pursue the aim of possessing Korean (?territory).

On 26 August 1945, General Kissakov flew into Pyongyang to personally carry out the disarmament of 30,000 Japanese troops. As soon as the airplane took off, the Korean people, knowing that the commander of the Soviet Army was coming, gathered at the airport. They waved flags and happily shouted greetings. An improvised rally was held at the airport. General Kissakov said to the people gathered there:

Dear comrades: [Word indistinct] and the Soviet Government sent us here to liberate Korea from the Japanese aggressors. From now on, the Korean people are the masters of their country. Please keep Korea and safeguard your future! We will protect you and help you organize a new life. Military actions have ended in Korea.

General Kissakov, commander of the Army, carried out purely civilian projects, not military works. The Soviet Army gave assistance to the Korean people in restoring the economy, which was destroyed by the Japanese rascals. The Soviet Army handed over the mines, enterprises, irrigation facilities, means of communications and transportation, and banks the Japanese rascals had possessed to the Korean people, who were the genuine masters.

Because there were no Korean technicians who were able to organize the work in such enterprises, difficulties were compounded. Technicians, teachers, agricultural technicians, locomotive operators, chemical technicians, mining technicians, and other engineers belonging to the 25th Army helped the Korean people. They shared their knowledge and techniques with the Korean people. They also helped the Korean people operate plants, mines, transportation facilities, and post offices. At that time, General Kissakov frequently visited towns and counties and rapidly solved various problems arising in the field. He met with representatives of the People's Committees and directed them to implement democratic reforms.

It is not accidental that the Korean workers who greeted the Soviet Army in 1945 as the liberators sent it off as their genuine friends 3 years later. The Soviet military museum holds a large silk cloth on which 17 million north Korean residents wrote their signs. Accompanying this silk cloth is a letter expressing the people's enthusiasm, which says: Seeing off the Soviet soldiers, we express our deep thanks to and respect for the Soviet Army for its precious achievements made for our country. The achievements made by the Soviet Army for our liberation will always be glorious.

General Kissakov left Pyongyang in the spring of 1947 to assume a new assignment. After his departure he wrote the following: I very much regret leaving Korea, which I grew to love after I learned about it. I made efforts to fulfill my part in contributing to liberating Korea and organizing a new life.

General Kissakov remembered to the end of his life the successes won by the DPRK (?soldiers) in socialist construction with great interest in socialist countries. When the USSR-DPRK Solidarity Society was organized in 1958 in the Soviet Union, he was elected deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the Solidarity Society and made great contributions to strengthening and developing the friendship between our two countries. He also visited the DPRK many times as a member of various groups.

How can one describe the emotion of this old soldier in seeing the successes attained by the workers of the Republic when he visited there? Seeing new cities, plants, and cooperative farms in the nation he liberated, he talked about the impressive reunion with the people in the fraternal country. At the invitation of the DPRK, he led a Soviet military delegation to functions marking the 25th anniversary of Korea's liberation from the Japanese aggressors. He made a speech at a ceremony held in Pyongyang and toured Korea. He said in a record kept at this radio station: As one of the old soldiers who participated in Korea's liberation, I was able to observe how many achievements the DPRK has made in such a short period of time.

The Soviet people rejoice over the successes won by the Korean people with the help of the internationalist contribution of the Soviet people. The same historic destiny, Marxist-Leninist socialist system, and objectives and struggle for social progress and peace against imperialism have made us unite with each other.

CSO: 4110/238

MILITARY HISTORY

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON DEFEAT OF JAPAN IN WWII

PM010837 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 July 1985 second edition carries on page 2 a 2,400-word article by candidate of historical sciences Colonel A. Orlov under the heading "The USSR's Decisive Contribution." The article opens by saying: "In August 1945 the Soviet Armed Forces defeated the Kwantung Army--the main bulwark of Japanese militarism. Nonetheless after the war U.S. President H. Truman falsely claimed that 'the Russians made no military contribution to the victory over Japan.'" Orlov goes on to examine the Soviet role in the war against Japan and subsequent Western assessments, stating that "the bourgeois falsifiers of history, exaggerating the U.S. role in the defeat of militarist Japan, regard the war in the East as being completely independent of military-political events in other theaters of war. But the war against militarist Japan was an integral part of World War II." He outlines the course of Soviet military operations against Japan, citing contemporary Western assessments of their importance to the allied war effort and stating that "subsequent events confirmed entirely the military necessity for the offensive by the Soviet Armed Forces and Mongolian forces" against the Kwantung Army. "The role played by the Soviet Union's entry into the war against Japan is indicated by the fact that in the morning of 9 August 1945, at the opening of an emergency session of the Supreme Council for leadership of the war, Japanese Prime Minister Suzuki was forced to state: 'I have come to the conclusion that the only possible alternative is to accept the terms of the Potsdam declaration and cease hostilities.'" Orlov concludes that the atom bombing of Hiroshima on 6 August "caused no great concern" to the Japanese military-political leadership and that "there was no military necessity for the atomic bombing of Japanese cities."

CSO: 1801/285

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

LT GEN VOLKOGONOV ON U.S. 'PROVOCATIONS' IN NICARAGUA

LD201502 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 20 Jul 85

[From "I Serve the Soviet Union" program]

[Text] Topical subjects of the day: "Along the Tracks of State Terrorism"--
A commentary by a military specialist. At the microphone is professor and
Lieutenant-General Dmitriy Antonivich Volkoganov, Dr of Philosophy:

There are alarming reports from Central America. Nicaraguan airspace is being systematically violated by U.S. Air Force planes. Provocative maneuvers are being held incessantly on the borders of the sovereign state. Bands of counter-revolutionary mercenaries trained by the CIA and the Pentagon are being sent into its territory. What can such brazen acts by the U.S. military mean? The answer is clear. Washington is trying on one hand to force Nicaragua by means of military pressure to abandon its independent course; and on the other hand, as another option, it is preparing a direct military invasion by numerous bands with the participation of U.S. formations. The adventurist acts by the U.S. military in Central America are creating heightened tension in the area which is fraught with a military explosion. The reason for this situation is also clear. It is the striving by the U.S. ruling circles to wipe out the revolutionary gains of the Nicaraguan people and to rule the roost here as if it were part of their empire of former times. Such is the political logic of those people who are accustomed to view the whole of Latin America in the spirit of the notorious imperialist Monroe Doctrine, according to which the United States is the lord and master of that part of the world.

The attempts by a group of countries of the region--the Contadora group, as it is called--to settle the situation in Central America by peaceful means are being blocked by Washington with its ultimatums to Nicaragua meaning that it should in fact abandon its revolutionary gains. And since the people who have won their freedom have no intention of giving in, Washington has expanded its action on an increasingly wide scale--action which in its essence is state terrorism.

In order to impair, weaken, and destroy the progressive regime from within, the CIA organizes acts of terrorism, murder, arson and explosions in Nicaragua one after the other. The world public has learned of the existence of a special CIA manual which gives scrupulous recommendations as to how deceive public opinion, how to discredit revolutionary leaders, how to organize murders

and how to create an atmosphere of violence in the country. The disclosure of these criminal acts, however, gave rise only to slight embarrassment in Washington, which has let it be known that the practice of acts of diversion and sabotage will be continued.

The state terrorism of the United States can be seen vividly, too, in the cynical military pressure that the Pentagon puts on the sovereign state. For many months now more and more bands of counterrevolutionaries and special units of the U.S. Army have been concentrating near the land borders of the country, while U.S. warships sail off its shores. According to foreign reports that have appeared, the Pentagon is sending more and more units to Central America. Thus, servicemen from special sabotage detachments, units of the Green Berets and the Rangers have appeared in the Panama Canal Zone. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has threatened to repeat the Grenada experience against the freedom-loving people. And it is not simply a threat, but a planned act of broad, all-round pressure with the aim of overthrowing the progressive regime. Joint exercises by U.S. and Honduran units codenamed "Cabanos-85" started in early June in Honduras. They are the third large-scale military maneuvers in Honduras since the beginning of the year. These maneuvers are expected to last until September, and they could turn at any moment into an act of direct invasion and aggression against Nicaraguan revolution. Therein lies their particular danger: the sword of aggression has been unsheathed. Whether it is used, however, depends not only on the United States, but also on broad international public opinion which strongly condemns the gendarme-like expansionism of U.S. imperialism.

In the face of this real, and not invented, threat, the people of Nicaragua are joining ranks. The country's national leadership has stated that, coming up against the growing possibility of aggression, it is forced to prepare to defend the revolutionary gains. The country's armed forces have been put into a state of enhanced combat readiness. The guarding of airfields, bridges, communications centers and other installations has been stepped up. The United States, said Daniel Ortega, president of the republic, will not succeed in turning back the revolutionary process in Nicaragua. In the event of direct military intervention, all the Nicaraguan people will fight for the revolution with weapons in their hands, the Nicaraguan leader stressed.

Progressive public opinion in the world can see for itself yet again that the peaceloving rhetoric of the Washington administration is nothing more than ideological camouflage. Lebanon, Grenada, and now Nicaragua, too, are the objects of state terrorism for a country whose leaders like to hold forth on freedom and democracy. It is clear, though, that for them the concept of freedom boils down chiefly to freedom of violence, lawlessness, terror and aggression.

Such is the alarming situation that has come about around Nicaragua. The exacerbation of the situation in Central America through the fault of the United States demands heightened vigilance on the part of all people of good will, for this is just one of the component parts in the global aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism which is striving for world hegemony.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

PRAVDA DEPLORES U.S.--EGYPTIAN 'BRIGHT STAR--85' MANEUVERS

PM051557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Aug 85 First Edition p 5

[Article by Andrey Stepanov under the "Our Commentary" rubric: "Dangerous Schemes"]

[Text] With the memory of the way the heavy guns of the U.S. battleship "New Jersey" shelled Lebanese civilian settlements still fresh in our minds, the Pentagon has again dispatched its troops to the Near East. This time, to participate in the joint American-Egyptian Bright Star--85 maneuvers. Let us recall that the accord on the regular holding of maneuvers was signed soon after Egypt signed the separatist Camp David deal with Israel, which was concluded with U.S. participation.

Around 9,000 servicemen belonging to various categories of U.S. troops plus subunits of the Egyptian Armed Forces are involved in the present exercises. A region west of Alexandria where the landing of marine and airborne assault troops is being carried out, and a section of desert west of Cairo designated for field firing constitute are the main "theater of action." "Field exercises" are also being carried out in Somalia and Oman. It is noteworthy that Sudan has refused to take part in the maneuvers this time.

The goal of the present maneuvers is to rehearse cooperation between the American "Rapid Deployment Force," which comes under the Central Command (Centcom), and troops from "friendly countries." Particular attention is being paid to transferring troops over long distances and to the "specifics of combat deployment in desert conditions."

As the Syrian newspaper TISHRIN observes, the interventionist "Rapid Deployment Force" is rehearsing in the Egyptian desert operations to invade Arab countries with the aim of defending "American vital interests." This all indicates, the newspaper points out, that Washington is counting on methods of military and political pressure to persuade Arab states into a capitulatory peace with Israel.

Indeed, the United States does not even conceal the fact that Bright Star-85 is aimed at doing just that. According to the WASHINGTON POST, the maneuvers are designed to back up the Reagan administration's intention of "resuming an active role" in the region. In other words, to revive attempts based

on combining "quiet diplomacy" with overt military blackmail to embark again on pushing through a "solution" in the Near East which would secure hegemonist positions for the United States.

America's dangerous schemes are becoming increasingly obvious, not only to those in the Arab world who have already tasted the bitter fruits of American "peacemaking". The Bright Star-85 maneuvers are yet another confirmation of the fact that Washington's militarist policy and gamble on encouraging Israeli expansionism pose a direct threat to the peoples of the region.

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AFGHANISTAN

KOMSOMOL PAPER NOTES KALMYK HERO

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 85 p 2

[Article by TASS correspondent B. Belyakov, Red Banner Volga Military District, under the rubric "The Place of Service--Afghanistan": "Reliable In Flight"]

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel V. Ochirov, sniper-pilot, has been awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union for courage and heroism demonstrated in the performance of his international duty in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. He has also been awarded the Red Star Order and the Afghan "Military Valor" medal.

...Comrade Mir-Abdullo, secretary of the local committee of the Democratic Party of Afghanistan, excitedly explained the situation when he arrived at the airfield. Their settlement had unexpectedly been attacked by a gang. The party cell and the self-defense group fought them, but the dushmans were well armed and kept coming. The battle had lasted several hours, there were wounded, and ammunition was running out.

Valeriy Ochirov rapidly found our settlement from the air by the black column of smoke and frequent muzzle flashes. The helicopters turned and followed the line of fire. The arrows of fire striking from the mountains immediately changed directions. The dushmans switched their fire to the helicopter pilots. Valeriy Ochirov raised a tall cloud of dust with the spinning rotor, which securely covered the defenders, and the helicopter pilots were able to calmly pass their cargo to the Afghan comrades.

Drawing fire to oneself. So many times, rushing to rescue friends, Lieutenant Colonel V. Ochirov's helicopter has become a target for machine-guns. He has been fired upon with so many kinds of bullets and shells! American, Israeli, Chinese and Pakistani. Diverting the attention of the bandits, however, the pilot has taken the machine precisely to the designated spot.

A native of Kalmykia, Valeriy Nikolayevich Ochirov is the first person in his autonomous republic to receive the great title Hero of the Soviet Union since the war.

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AFGHANISTAN

WESTERN ADVISORS SAID TO HELP CREATE STORIES OF DRA 'POGROMS'

PM131203 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Aug 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS correspondent V. Volkodav for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "Slandering the Revolution"]

[Text] (Safiulla Guriani), one of a group of bandits arrested in Herat Province, has described here the methods used by Western propaganda media in compiling false reports about the situation in Afghanistan. After yet another dushman attack on a village in Enjil District, he said, two "advisers"--an American and a German from the FRG--appeared in the gang. They photographed and filmed the results of the action mounted by the "defenders of Islam": wrecked houses, blown-up motor vehicles, corpses riddled with bullets. Subsequently these frames were used in the United States and West Europe to slander the Afghan authorities and the limited contingent of Soviet forces in the DRA.

According to the testimony of (Faiz Mukhammed), the leader of (Guriani's) gang, at a trial which has taken place in Kabul, reprisals were mounted exclusively against the unarmed civilian population. His group, which was regarded as a special unit of the subversive Jamiat-e Eslami organization entrenched on Pakistani territory, had a special mission, namely armed robbery on highways designed to intimidate the inhabitants of population centers in the area. So, for instance, in Marjeh village in the south of the country a gang of the Haraqat-e Enqelab-e Eslami organization (which, incidentally, also has its headquarters in Peshawar city in Pakistan) burned down the warehouses of the district peasant cooperative council and shot all the people who worked in the vicinity.

In Helmand, as a result of an attack on a state farm by bandits sent in from abroad, the entire harvest was burned and tractors which were to have been distributed among farmers were blown up.

According to the testimony of Abdol Gader, former leader of one of the gangs who has gone over to the government side, the counterrevolutionaries' foreign masters demand unquestioning implementation of orders under which all the families of peasants who join a cooperative or accept a grant from the state are to be exterminated without delay. In all, the bandits have staged programs in more than 900 rural cooperatives during the year since the revolution.

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AFGHANISTAN

ARMY PAPER PRAISES COURAGE OF SOVIET AIRMEN

PM080902 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 August 1985 second edition carries on page 3 a 1,950-word reportage by special correspondent Major A. Oliynik under the headline "Sizzling Sky: On the Courage and Skill of Soviet Helicopter Crews in Afghanistan" describing the work done by helicopter crew led by Captain Pyrin, who has been awarded the order of the Red Star and the Komosomol "Military Valor" medal, Oliynik describes the typical tasks performed by helicopter crews in the DRA: rescuing wounded servicemen, dropping landing forces, and transporting food, medicines, and combat hardware. Such tasks, he stresses, most frequently involve perilous landings and takeoffs, sometimes at night, and always run the risk of Dushman attack. "Each flight," Oliynik continues, "is a test--of flying skill, presence of mind, and courage." And he concludes that "the ground subunits of the limited contingent of Soviet forces in Afghanistan are always under reliable cover from the air."

REBUILDING IN KABUL NOTED

PM071349 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 August 1985 Morning Edition carries on page 5 a 900-word "Afghan Reportage" from Kabul by own correspondent G. Ustinov under the heading "'Let (Fakir) Come'" Ustinov describes how the construction of a large educational complex was behind schedule until the construction administration brought in (Fakir Khuseyn), a construction workers' team leader already renowned for the speed with which he had helped to reconstruct some of the "several tens of apartment blocks" in Kabul destroyed last November when "counter-revolutionaries fired ground to ground missiles on a densely populated quarter of Kabul." The reportage ends with a brief interview with (Fakir), who asserts that it is only under the present regime that his masters have shown him such trust and that he hopes to justify it.

MINE-CLEARING OPERATION DESCRIBED

PM021500 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 July 1985 carries on page 5, under the "Tour of Duty--DRA" rubric, a 1,600-word Kabul-dated dispatch entitled "Brave Men" by own correspondent G. Ustinov. The article describes the role played in the lifting of the rebel siege of the border settlement of Barikowt, Konar Province, by a Soviet engineer-Sapper Subunit commanded by Georgiy Gil. The Sappers' help was requested by the Afghan Army command because the approaches to the settlement were "crammed with explosives." It is reported now the subunit covered 28 kilometers to reach Barikowt, continuing to clear a way even at night, "literally groping their way forward with their probe" as any light would have given them away. The subunit "detected and neutralized more than 100 cunningly disguised charges" and suffered no losses. Various kinds of mines are described and the difficulties in detecting them recounted. The subunit commander remarks that: "The counter-revolution clearly has some experienced instructors. The Duchmans place the mines precisely and try not to leave any trace." The presence of metal deposits in the rock also creates problems with the detection equipment. The value of dogs is pointed out, although the intense heat in the region can cause them to tire quickly, a dog handler remarks.

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AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

DRA ARMY SUCCESSES AGAINST REBELS--Kabul, 8 Aug--Units of the DRA armed forces, actively supported by the population, continued to inflict blows on gangs of counterrevolutionaries sent into Afghanistan from abroad. According to the BAKHTAR agency, successful operations to disarm dushmans have been mounted in Laghman, Qandahar, Parvan, Bamian, and Badghisat provinces. A gang of counterrevolutionaries was also routed in Kabul Province. Twenty of the criminals were killed and several captured. [TASS report: "Strikes Against Gangs"] [Text] [Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Aug 85 First Edition p 5 PM]

FRG AIDING REBELS CLAIMED--Kabul, 7 Aug (TASS)--Fresh facts testifying to the FRG's involvement in the undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against the DRA were made public at a news conference held here. The FRG, it was stressed at the news conference, is involved in financing the counterrevolutionary rabble and in training and arming the bandits who sow death and destruction on Afghan soil. Journalists were shown examples of West German-made weapons seized during the liquidation of dushman gangs. Replying to questions from journalists, Ghulam Sarwar Yurish, the DRA deputy minister of foreign affairs, described Bonn's hostile anti-Afghan policies as a violation of international treaties and agreements, as interference in the DRA's internal affairs, and as an encroachment on the national sovereignty and independence of the republic. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Aug 85 LD]

MERCENARY BANDS DEFEATED--The Afghan Armed Forces are inflicting decisive blows against mercenary bands who have been sent into the republic's territory from abroad. A large quantity of western-manufactured weapons was seized during an operation in Balkh Province. The republican armed forces annihilated over a hundred cut-throats from counterrevolutionary groupings who had dug in on Pakistani territory. During the operation subversive literature published in Pakistan was also confiscated. [Video pans over a mass of weaponry, including rifles, mines, and ammunition with soldiers standing guard over it all] [From the Vremya newscast] [Text] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 18 Jul 85 LD]

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