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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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2 February 1984

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

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ARMED FORCES

ARM GEN MAYOROV REVIEWS M.A. GAREYEV'S 'COMBINED-ARMS EXERCISES'

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Dec 83 p 2

[Review by Arm Gen A. Mayorov of book "Obshchevoyskovyye ucheniya" (Combined Arms Exercises) by M. A. Gareyev, Voenizdat, Moscow, 253 pages]

[Text] Combined arms tactical training exercises occupy a leading position in the training and education of military personnel. Such instruction is the highest, most effective way to train commanders, staffs, political organs and to ensure that subunits [podrazdeleniya] units, [chasti] and formations [Soyedineniya] are geared for combat. The problems of developing and implementing this, the best and most complex form of military training, are the subject of a book by Colonel General M. Gareyev, "Combined Arms Exercises," which has been published by Voenizdat. This book can be said to represent further development of the basic tenets expounded in his 1977 book, "Tactical Exercises and Maneuvers," which aroused a high level of interest in the military and, of course, played a useful part in the improvement of methodology for developing and implementing tactical exercises and in the methodological training of officer cadres.

The book being discussed here is of interest to the military reader. It devotes a good deal of attention to the historical evolution of combined arms exercises and maneuvers. The author emphasizes and convincingly demonstrates the pioneering role of the Russian Army in the development of the forms and methods of military field training. Tactical training exercises, which arose during the reign of Peter I, reached their highest level of development during the tenure of A.V. Suvorov. It was during Suvorov's time that the famous start-to-finish attacks and other methods of bringing training closer to the actual conditions of combat were born. This chapter includes new material about the methods of training insurgent armies in Russia in the 17th and 18th centuries and the methods used for developing and implementing training exercises and maneuvers in a number of armies on the eve of the World War II and during the Great Patriotic War. Especially instructive is experience gained training the troops with a view toward their future combat missions in the Belorussian, Wisla-Odra and Manchurian operations.

On the basis of analysis of a great deal of historical experience, the author demonstrates, through well grounded arguments, that throughout its entire course of development the military has always faced two extremely important problems: first, that of correctly foreseeing the nature of a future war and

using this to determine the content of military training, i.e., the problem of what to teach the troops, and, second, the problem of how to train them, i.e., of finding the forms and methods of training which will facilitate the realization of current doctrine on methods of waging war and the troop combat training requirements derived from this doctrine. However, the methodology for training the forces has frequently turned out to be less progressive and, at certain stages, has lagged behind the general level of development of the methods of conducting combat operations. Even such seemingly obvious requirements as the need to conduct exercises in the winter or at night, or creation of troop support and provisioning conditions simulating those of combat, were only attained after great difficulty.

At the same time, as history has shown, without well-developed training methodology, the most accurate conceptions of the nature of a future war and the most appropriate troop training requirements may remain only desiderata and not be put into effect in reality. For this reason, one must agree with the author that "attitude toward combat training has always been the main indicator of the degree to which one or another army is seriously preparing itself for war, while the level of battle training has been considered a most important component: of combat readiness as a whole."

It is especially important to take into account that every change in the nature of combat operations demands a corresponding change in the content and methods of training. Under modern conditions, this task is complicated by the fact that, as the means of armed combat develop more and more and their destructive capabilities increase, it becomes more and more difficult to create tactical conditions in training which are close to those of combat. In addition, the required level of troop combat training and the complexity of the missions which must be performed in the course of combined arms exercises have also increased precipitously.

At the same time, developing combat training embodying conditions which, to the maximum extent possible, approximate those of actual combat has not only not decreased in importance, but has actually grown more important. This is the basis for the most important conclusion drawn by the author of this book, i.e., that problems and tasks related to the methodology of combat training must be studied just as carefully as those relating to the methods of conducting combat operations and that the military cadres must be taught to master training methodology no less carefully than they are taught the art of war. Unfortunately, in the military literature, as well as in the actual practice of officer training in the higher educational institutions and in the field, too little attention is sometimes paid to methodological preparation, especially the methodology of developing and implementing training.

The author's contribution lies in the fact that, when discussing the level of proficiency in the art of war and combat skills required of all military personnel, he not only demonstrates the importance of these factors, but also presents concrete measures and methodological techniques for developing and implementing combined arms exercises which would best assure the attainment of this goal.

To attain this goal, in the author's opinion, it is most important to use the well tried method of creating exercises which reproduce, to the fullest extent possible, the conditions of modern combat in all its complexity and which require and compel the trainees to manifest those qualities which are essential in battle and which must be developed in the commanding officers, staff officers and all the personnel in the course of combined arms exercises.

The book utilizes a whole series of convincing examples to demonstrate that, in combined arms exercises, the main thing is not the instruction given by the director of the exercises or the umpires, but the instructive features of the tactical conditions that they create, the skillful build up and simulation of combat operations and all the other factors which make it possible to place the trainees in circumstances approximating those of combat as closely as possible. The book gives specific recommendations concerning the content, forms and methods of developing the basic planning documents for combined arms exercises, recommends methods for the organizational work of commanding officers, staffs and political organs in developing the exercises, for providing them with all types of support, and for the organization of the work of the directors and umpires during the course of the exercises.

In light of the demands made by D.S. Ustinov, Marshal of the Soviet Union, the USSR Minister of Defense, that "radical changes in the area of military technology, in the organizational force structure and in the nature of combat and methods of waging war must increase immeasurably the demands made on military training, on the moral and political qualities and the ideological and psychological stability of the personnel of the Army and Navy," the task of developing the most expedient methods for designing and implementing training in accordance with the nature of modern combat operations becomes particularly urgent.

In light of all this, this book will, to some extent, facilitate the solution of these problems. Additionally, this book is of value because it is, in essence, the first attempt to investigate the generation and evolution of methods of developing and implementing combined arms training exercises. It is unfortunate that, to this day, we have no books or works devoted to the history of combat training and it is to be hoped that such works will appear in the near future. We would also like to note that this book is written with a great deal of knowledge of its subject and in a good and vivid style. For this reason, in spite of the complexity and technicality of the material discussed, it is easy and very interesting to read.

Like all books, this one is, of course, not without individual faults. Too little attention is devoted to the simulation of combat operations under conditions where nuclear weapons and high precision conventional weapons are used and also where there is communication between the director and umpires. The work would have been even better if an appendix containing samples of the major exercise planning documents had been included. The diagrams in the book are not located close to where they are referred to in the text. It would be desirable to eliminate this shortcoming in subsequent editions of the text.

Unfortunately, the book, intended for a wide circle of officers, was printed in a limited edition (15,000 copies).

On the whole, this book generalizes on the basis of rich experience with combat training and demonstrates ways to further improve methodology for developing and implementing combined arms exercises, with a view toward projected trends in the development of the art of war. Without a doubt, it will be useful to officers, as well as students in military schools.

9285

CSO: 1801/141

ARMED FORCES

REVIEWER STRESSES IMPORTANT ROLE OF MILITARY MEMOIRS

Moscow LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA in Russian No 49, 2 Dec 83 p 10

[Review by Anatoliy Safonov of books by V. Ryabov, "Put' muzhestva i slavy" (The Path of Courage and Glory), DOSAAF, 1982, 256 pages and "Chitaya voyennyye memuary.." (On Reading Military Memoirs), Pravda: Biblioteka Ogon'ka, 1983, 48 pages]

[Text] Books of memoirs... Treat them with special respect. They contain living historical truth, set down by direct participants and witnesses of the events described. Brand new books, still smelling of fresh printer's ink and veterans, which have been read and re-read, stand in formation, like soldiers, preserving the memory of what has been endured.

More than 2000 individual works and collections of military memoirs have been published by national and local publishers; of these, more than 1,700 are about the Great Patriotic War. More than 150 million copies are in circulation.

These data are cited in a book, small in size, but large in scope, written by Lt. General V.S. Ryabov and entitled "On Reading Military Memoirs." The title itself describes the nature of the contents. This short overview and analysis enables us to take a voyage through the realm of published military memoirs and serves as a sort of compass in this immense diversity of books. Of course, as the author himself states, it is not possible to present any sort of complete overview of such an enormous number of publications in a single short document, but, even so, what is said here seems to sum up all that is most significant in this genre.

In his professional career, the author of this book, V.S. Ryabov, dealt directly with the publication of military memoirs. Associated with the Soviet Armed Forces throughout his entire life, in the ranks of which he has now served for more than 40 years, he is a veteran of the Great Patriotic War. A post-war graduate of the Publishing Department of the Military Political Academy imeni V.I. Lenin, he worked in the Publications Division of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy for many years. V.S. Ryabov has served as an editor-in-chief and is now the director of the Military Publishing House of the USSR Ministry of Defense. He has authored documentary-journalistic books, pamphlets and articles, devoted to the military course

followed by our army. Among these is the book "The Path of Courage and Glory: An Essay on the Soviet Armed Forces," published by DOSAAF. In a documentary format, it traces the major landmarks in the building of our armed forces, year by year, and their whole heroic 65-year biography unfolds before the reader's eyes.

In the pages of this book, the author speaks enthusiastically about the role of Soviet literature in the Communist education of the troops, particularly of such works as Aleksandr Tvardovskiy's poem, "Vasilii Terkin," Mikhail Sholokhov's books, "They Fought for their Homeland," "Man's Fate," "The Science of Hate" and others.

The book, "On Reading Military Memoirs," places a high value on the reminiscences of participants in recent wars, followers of the renowned tradition of contemporary memoir writing. The originator of this tradition is the great Lenin himself, with his disciples and comrades-in-arms. The first, most significant work, which introduced military Leninana, was "Lenin and the Red Army" by M.V. Frunze, published in 1925. The published memoirs of other contemporary leaders contains much which is valuable and interesting concerning the military activity of V.I. Lenin, who, according to their testimony, had a brilliant command of military affairs.

In his work, Ryabov refers to the reminiscences of the legendary commander of the First Cavalry Army, S.M. Budenny, "The Road Taken", which has made a significant contribution to the literature of the military memoir, on the subject of the events of the days of October and the civil war.

The author notes the breadth and diversity of the range of themes and authors in military memoirs, and cites dozens of names of memoirists who have been entered in the annals of the Great Patriotic War. Representatives of the Headquarters of the Supreme Commander-in Chief, leading workers of the People's Commissariat of Defense and of the General Staff, commanders of fronts and armies, commanding officers of divisions, brigades, regiments, famous pilots and eminent Air Force and Naval commanders and frontline political workers all have had their own true and authoritative statement to make about the war.

G.K. Zhukov, Marshal of the Soviet Union, dedicated his widely known memoirs to the Soviet soldier, by whose sweat and blood victory was won. The writer, M. A. Sholokhov called Zhukov a general of the Suvorov school. The Marshal understood that the shoulders of the common soldiers bore the heaviest portion of the burden for feats of arms. "I think this is the reason his memoirs are so well loved," continues the writer. Such books are destined to live long lives: the fifth edition of G.K. Zhukov's "Recollections and Reflections" has recently been published by the "Novosti" publishing house.

Books by war heroes who were common soldiers awaken great interest in the reading public. One of these heroes is Nikolay Andreyevich Zaletov, who became the first full Cavalier of the Order of Glory in the Soviet Army. He tells of the war as he saw and experienced it, along with his brother-soldiers, in his book "Fighters of the First Line." It has been published in the popular

"Rasskazyvayut frontoviki" [The Veterans of the Front Tell their Stories] series.

The author also cites the memoirs by M.Ya. Radugin "We Were Each Eighteen," which was published in the same series. Radugin was sent to the front as a young sergeant and found himself commanding a platoon in the very thick of the battle; when the officer was critically wounded, he took command of the company and continued the fight. He was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Speaking of the more recent military memoirs, V.S. Ryabov points out that the time has come to produce books in this genre about the post-war history of our Armed Forces, which is rich in many important and stirring events. As a first step, he cites a book by Vice Admiral N.V. Usenko "Ocean Maximum." The author, a Naval political worker who was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union in the post-war period, talks about the modern generation of sailors in a lively and absorbing style.

The value of V. Ryabov's books, "The Path of Courage and Glory" and "On Reading Military Memoirs," lies in the fact that they make it possible for a wide range of readers to approach the enormous fount of military memoirs, and to draw from them remarkable examples from the heroic military history of our recent past.

9285
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ARMED FORCES

MILITARY COMMANDER ENGAGES IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 83 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col V. Nagornyy: "In the Wake of a Letter: Indulgence"]

[Text] The letter to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA by Sr Lt Med Serv B. Voronkov took up nine pages of closely spaced text, but its content can be conveyed in a few words. An unsuitable practice of sending equipment and personnel to civilian enterprises for the purpose of "earnings for subunit needs" had become established in the unit commanded by Lt Col N. Kasyanenko.

Two local glass plants, a baby carriage factory, an animal farm, a meat combine and certain other facilities had come within the sphere of Officer Kasyanenko's special attention. Coordination with the heads of these facilities was accomplished according to the principle: "You do something for us, we'll do something for you..." "They" were assigned vehicles for loading and unloading, for field work and for hauling logs and garbage. In return the unit was given construction materials and food fish, heaven knows on the basis of what equivalent. Just what prompted the unit commander and other officials to develop a search in this direction with a scope worthy of better application?

In Lt Col Kasyanenko's opinion, he was prompted to do this by objective circumstances. Having taken over the unit 2½ years ago he realized not without alarm that his predecessor had left him a very unenviable "legacy." There were uncomfortable barracks and obsolete buildings in the vehicle and tractor motor pool... Who would be pleased by such an apology for an environment? Kasyanenko of course reasoned faultlessly that the unit, which had been behind before this, owed many of its troubles specifically to the lack of proper regulation order in a number of areas. Imposing such order required some things to be repaired, some things to be renovated, and some things to be acquired. Unfortunately the commander did not take up the resolution of these matters with his inherent energy and persistence under established procedures but, figuratively speaking, moved all the power of vehicles and machinery to the plants and various farms, which naturally readily opened their gates wide...

We will not begin to list all the simple and multi-move combinations carried out under the motto of a struggle to impose firm order. This would take up much too much time and space. But here, for example, is one of them. The unit once had a hard-working tractor which had served its iron age faithfully and had received capital repairs twice. Finally a commission assembled and concluded in its report: "The machine is in the 5th category. It must be written off and turned in to the 'Vtorchermet' [State Trust for Procurement and Processing of Secondary Ferrous Metals] point." The senior chief instructed: "Disassemble the written-off tractor in the unit repair shop and submit an inventory list."

After that the tractor disappeared from the motor pool. The entire focus is on the fact that it was still operable and prior to that the people continued to use it little by little for unit needs. But then Sr WO [Praporshchik] V. Arkusha received the task of loading the vehicle on a KrAZ [vehicle produced at Kremenchug Motor Vehicle Plant] and taking it to one of the populated points, which is what he did. Officer Kasyanenko recalls this fact very unwillingly. Initially he explained that the tractor allegedly was scrapped, then a different version appeared that the vehicle had been transferred to some enterprise in exchange for a truck written off there. People say that it later was "cannibalized" for spare parts. That possibly is how it was. And so, as we see, the officer got away with his arbitrariness and was encouraged toward new "operations."

The unit ships very scarce material, cement, to the glass plant actually without records being kept and receives a color television set as an award for "mutual help." At various times the unit's heavy-freight trucks scurry here and there and a bulldozer, scraper or truck crane rumbles at city enterprises, and the unit receives chipboard sheets, paint or both. And of course there never are any traces remaining as to just what was the actual cost of work performed. Does it have to be proved that favorable conditions for abuses thus were formed on both sides?

The question may arise: Just why did such actions by Lt Col Kasyanenko and some of his deputies remain unpunished? The fact is that a favorable situation took shape here on this score. The unit performs its assigned missions independently and the commander is given a great deal in decisionmaking and in allocating personnel and means.

Commissions from higher levels visited here more than once. They ascertained that the unit was changing its appearance for the better, but no one seriously pondered just how this was being done, whether or not the upswing was lasting, or whether the moral costs would entail a new and possibly more disappointing slump than before. For example, a group of officers worked here in the spring and found certain deficiencies, but the overall conclusion was optimistic: The unit was on the correct path. In particular, the commission wrote in the report: "Work of the logistical service is arranged in conformity with requirements of guidance documents." Meanwhile, for example, with the connivance of Officer Kasnyanenko, Deputy Commander for Supply Capt V. Sholupov was disposing of food as if it were products from his own refrigerator.

He repeatedly issued instructions on scraps of paper to supply depot chief WO A. Kozlov to release certain products to applicants. "Issue Jr Sgt V. Kontsevich," he ordered the warrant officer, "five cans of canned meat, three of canned fish and one kilogram of lard, since we are going on TDY." In the very same manner Kozlov issued other depot products based on little notes and faked invoices. Certain other officials also made deals on their own behind Lt Col Kasyanenko's back.

After Sr Lt Med Serv B. Voronkov reported this to the higher political entity, Lt Col G. Gubarev and Engr-Maj A. Nevinskiy came here. It has to be regretted that they did not delve especially into the real state of contractual affairs. Their main conclusion was as follows: "It was established that the leaders assigned equipment and personnel to city and rayon enterprises and organizations in the form of sponsorship help for repairing roads, cleaning up grounds, and loading and unloading railcars. . . . The enterprises and organizations in turn gave help in improving the servicemen's life, routine and cultural leisure and in developing the kitchen farm."

In other words, Lt Col Kasyanenko got off with a "slight scare," as is customarily said in such cases. Light is shed on the "sponsorship" help if only by the following episode.

One day unit chief of staff Maj V. Medvedev called in WO A. Zharkov. Some civilian was in the office. "Here it is," said Maj Zharkov. "You have to take a trip with this person. Take a truck crane and KrAZ. He will tell you the rest..." They arrived at a forest several tens of kilometers away where a clearing was being cut for a LEP [electric power line]. Here that very "person" assumed full control over the equipment. This lasted for several days, and the truck crane and tractor remained in the forest overnight without supervision.

I asked Maj Medvedev on whose instructions the machines had been assigned and what organization was being given so-called "assistance." The only thing the chief of staff knew was the first name of the mysterious visitor: Zakhar. This is called "sponsorship help." Other facts also indicate that Officer Kasyanenko was in no way discouraged by the warning to cease "economic operations." Hardly had the door closed behind the departing commission when the very same Capt Sholupov ordered WO A. Zharkov to go with truck crane driver Pvt A. Abramenko to unload soda from a gondola car for the glass plant. WO V. Grachev and Pvt V. Gergenreyder covered up to 100 km in a dump truck to haul manure to someone's personal garden.

A persistent attempt was made both in the unit and the political entity to prove to me that Lt Col Kasyanenko's actions were quite selfless in all cases without exception and that he is concerned only with job-related interests. Perhaps that is how it is, but for some reason it is difficult to believe this. Take just the following fact.

On one occasion motor vehicle service chief Sr Lt A. Kozlov was handed TDY orders. According to the order he was to set off in a MAZ [Minsk Motor Vehicle Plant]

vehicle for spare parts at one of the points. Officer Kasyanenko clarified the assignment, explaining in detail the supplementary route to this point. To reach it Kozlov had to cut across the territories of two oblasts of the Russian Federation. On returning from the distant travels he brought back three sheep.

When Sr Lt V. Ostapchuk, chief of the food and clothing service, asked out of curiosity just what to do further with the sheep, Lt Col Kasyanenko's answer was: "That isn't your concern..." The sheep were fed at the kitchen farm for almost a month. Then one was butchered by the cook, but no mutton ended up on the soldiers' table. Officer Kasyanenko just did not tell me the true state of affairs of the "sheep voyage."

Those are the facts. Now Lt Col Kasyanenko is casting angry arrows at Sr Lt Med Serv Voronkov and giving him unflattering epithets. The motives for this reaction are well known: The "dirty laundry" was aired. Meanwhile, in describing Voronkov quite recently Officer Kasyanenko wrote with his own hand: "He can express critical remarks directly and correctly." And here is the comment of the party organization: CPSU Member Voronkov ". . . speaks regularly at party meetings, offering businesslike suggestions, and boldly expresses an opinion about existing deficiencies in the work of the party organization and individual party members."

It turns out that in Nikolay Antonovich Kasyanenko's opinion, "directly and correctly" is fine when it concerns someone else? Or the "bold statements" are fully received only in private?

This position does not make the party member-manager look good.

And one more thing. Just how long could those to whom the unit is subordinate look impartially at all this? It is time to learn to look at such phenomena in accordance with state standards.

6904

CSO: 1801/130

ARMED FORCES

LACK OF SKILLS HAMPERING MILITARY READINESS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 83 p 2

[Article by Engr-Lt Col V. Gurgenidze, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District: "A Reader Asks a Question: The Class Rating Is High, but How About Proficiency?"]

[Text] According to the nature of my assignment I often have occasion to check the condition of equipment and weapons and the combat readiness of subunits. At times one encounters the following paradoxical fact: A subunit is in good repute, it has many highly rated specialists and masters, but give it a difficult training mission and the next time one looks there begin to be troubles and discrepancies reducing the quality of combat work and reducing the grade accordingly.

I will cite a recent case as confirmation of what I have said. The surface-to-air missile subunit commanded by Officer O. Proskurin received a low grade for performance of an operational training mission. The subunit (and we will note that it bore the title of outstanding) justifies this as follows: The equipment let them down. Allegedly there had been a breakdown which they had not succeeded in fixing promptly. But this was a result and not the cause. The cause was that the missilemen (among whom, by the way, there were first class specialists and masters) prepared the equipment for combat work inadequately. Frankly speaking, the breakdown which occurred cannot be placed in the category of especially difficult as it was fully within the capability of a specialist with a medium class rating. But the fact is that the most experienced missilemen were fixing it and despite their high class rating they lacked both the knowledge and skills to do this in a short time.

I also encountered other facts where during the course of combat work highly rated specialists did not make full use of the equipment's capabilities and allowed crude miscalculations. For example, the majority of soldiers in the battery commanded by Capt F. Amirov are specialists with a higher class rating, but during a recent tactical exercise when unexpected narrative problems were received and the situation became complicated, some of them became confused and began to act with uncertainty.

Each such instance has its reasons, but if they were all systematized one general reason can be singled out--the professional schooling and real capabilities of some specialists do not fully conform to their class ratings.

Why does this happen? In a number of cases aren't we reducing the demands for conferring a class rating on specialists? It happens where the subunit commander knows well that a subordinate still is poorly trained in the professional sense, but recommends him for testing on the off chance that he will pass.

I would like to mention the following phenomenon as well. While preparations for testing for class ratings are under way scheduled and supplementary classes are held regularly with the servicemen, independent training is well arranged and technical circles work actively. But hardly do the tests end and the work to better the specialists' professional schooling often lets up. The goal allegedly has been reached, appropriate points of the combat training plan and socialist pledges have been fulfilled and now it is possible to relax.

That is how some officers reason, although they obviously cannot help but understand the truth that the very fact of conferring a class rating signifies only one thing: attainment of the next level, which is far from the last one on the path to proficiency. As experience convinces us, without constant strenuous work the best trained specialist very quickly is disqualified and loses much of what he acquired previously.

In my view we staff officers and chiefs of services who have a direct relationship to specialist training also are largely guilty of the fact that the personnel's class ratings do not always accurately reflect subunits' capabilities and combat readiness. It is no secret that we are not always sufficiently exacting in holding tests for a class rating or during periods of inspections of the personnel's schooling and the equipment's status.

Unfortunately the following situation also is no exception. The time is approaching for sending a commission to a subunit for conducting tests for a class rating, but there is turmoil just then in the unit headquarters. What should be done? In such cases one of two versions usually is chosen: Either this matter is entrusted to subunit officers themselves, or (if there is such an opportunity) an assignment is given to the first staff worker heading there to give the tests for class ratings alone. As a rule, in both cases there is one and the same result: a reduction in the level of exactingness toward those who are taking the tests for class rating.

And who among us has tried to raise the question of reducing the class ratings of those servicemen who do not deserve it? For some reason I don't recall such a thing.

I believe these matters deserve a sharp, fundamental evaluation in staffs and political entities when analyzing the training year's results.

ARMED FORCES

FACTORY MANAGER'S ROLE IN TRANSPORTATION FOUL-UP

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Nov 83 p 4

[Article by Col A. Drovosekov: "A Satirist's Remark: Pallets and Runs"]

[Text] In August of last year an impressive cargo arrived uninvited on eight railroad flatcars at a construction enterprise located on the shores of the Baltic, sent from the shores of the Volga. According to documents these were multiton dolly-pallets for wall panel forms. The shipper, a reinforced concrete articles combine, sent them without a preliminary agreement, which greatly troubled enterprise chief Engr-Col N. Shevchenko. As a person who had been around, however, Nikolay Pavlovich was not about to waste time looking through memorandums with the shipper, but ordered the pallets to be unloaded so a penalty wouldn't have to be paid for the railcars standing idle. This was of course wise because, as the course of events showed, not only time but the mediation of arbitration also was required to clarify the terms.

But all this came later. When the pallets had been removed from the flatcars Nikolay Nikolayevich determined with the eye of an experienced specialist that they had been sent for no reason other than as an item for making scaffolding. And indeed, already in September Comrade Shevchenko had in his hands two documents called job authorizations which gave instructions to engage specifically in this work. The job instructions were signed by Engr-Col A. Ivanov. Inasmuch as drawings for the scaffolding had not been sent, however, the pallets continued to lie as inert metal without any interest shown in them.

Interest was shown after receipt of the drawings. A careful inspection showed that the pallets had been made exceedingly poorly. They were basically rejects. Moreover, their weight exceeded the capabilities of available hoisting machinery, so that for these two reasons the scaffolding could not be made. Comrade Shevchenko informed his superiors and Engr-Col S. Puzyrev, chief of the reinforced concrete articles combine, of this and also requested that an authoritative commission be appointed for confirming that the pallets did not meet specifications.

Correspondence went on, time went on and the pallets lay there. Finally in the final days of March 1983 instructions came from Engr-Col (now Engr-Maj Gen) A. Borovtsev to ship them to one of the plants. Shevchenko fulfilled the instructions and was about to sigh with relief, but then he had another

thought because he remained the loser, and for no small amount: The enterprise paid the railroad 4,432 rubles for delivering the dolly-pallets from Kuybyshev to Kaliningrad.

This seemed unjust and very vexing to Nikolay Pavlovich. There had been so much trouble involved in unloading, loading and shipping the pallets, and as a result there still was money to pay! Not on your life! They won't get away with that, he decided, and a letter flew to the reinforced concrete articles combine with a suggestion to remunerate the 4,432 rubles voluntarily. We did not order the pallets, he said, and the combine sent them on its own initiative, so be kind enough to pay the shipping charges.

Comrade Puzyrev was brief. He informed Comrade Shevchenko that the claim would be examined in the construction directorate of the Volga Military District. But there was no hurry in examining it there and a new letter with a request to speed up the decision on the matter was left unanswered. Then Comrade Shevchenko turned to the USSR Minister of Defense arbitration. The investigation showed that Engr-Col Puzyrev, chief of the reinforced concrete articles combine, seemed not to be guilty. In shipping the dolly-pallets to the construction enterprise he acted according to instructions of officials. It turns out that these persons did not know the enterprise's technical capabilities and as a result the pallets made an unnecessary trip from Kuybyshev to Kaliningrad.

"We knew the enterprise's capabilities," Engr-Maj Gen A. Borovtsov told me in objecting to this. "It would have fulfilled the order for scaffolding but it received a new urgent assignment and I made the decision to place the order for scaffolding in another place. With regard to unnecessary shipping, that actually took place from the city of Kokhma, Ivanovo Oblast, where the pallets were manufactured, to Kuybyshev, to the reinforced concrete articles combine."

"But the combine is not at fault for this..."

"That's correct. Engr-Col Zakharov, chief of the Volga Military District Construction Directorate, is at fault. It was he who, having concluded the agreement for manufacture of the pallets, did not concern himself with placing the order for scaffolding."

Engr-Col N. Zakharov does not agree with this:

"My task was a narrow one to conclude an agreement for making the pallets and that's all."

As we see, it is no simple matter to determine who is guilty and to what extent. Therefore let the appropriate chiefs resolve this matter. The following figures can be cited for their information: According to railroad invoices the distance from Kuybyshev to Kaliningrad is 2,292 km, and from Kokhma to Kuybyshev it is 1,092 km. The entire path traveled by the pallets for nothing was 4,000 km. Each time the shipments had to be coordinated at high railroad levels because the pallets are a bulky load.

Just what was the reason for all these entirely unjustified costs? It lies in departmental discrepancies, lack of coordination, and at times in ill-conceived decisions. A rather high price has to be paid for all this.

It is only a pity that the state pays. As a rule, those who should have been punished for the sake of justice receive a most severe slap on the hand.

6904
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ARMED FORCES

LETTERS TO KRASNAYA ZVEZDA EDITOR, RESPONSES

Telephone Requires Party Intervention

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Senior Lieutenant V. Konovalov's letter to the editor, published 10 June, was entitled "The Forgotten Promise." It discussed the fact that frontline soldier G.I. Pegov was not able to get a personal telephone installed for a number of years, despite the fact that it was extremely necessary for him as an invalid of the second group.

As chief of the Department of Transportation and Communications for the Odessa Obkom of the Ukrainian Communist Party V. Lukashevich informed the editors, on orders from the Obkom to the oblast communications department the technical requirements for developing design documentation and estimates of work production to put a telephone in G.I. Pegov's house were sent out. The Odessa cable company "Odesskabel" was charged with completing the work. The issue is under control.

Street Beautification an Issue

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] A letter from retired Lieutenant Colonel N. Vlasov was published 4 August under the head-line "Will the Street Be Beautiful." He criticized the delayed organization of a street in the city of Belgorod.

As the chief of the City Department of Municipal Economy A. Dmitriyev informed the editorial staff, work on repairing the public parts of the road and sidewalk the full length of the street was done in 1983. Further organization will be done after construction is completed on the new hotel and two houses.

Training Time Misused

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Correspondence from Captain M. Smyslov was published under the headline "Value Training Time" on 20 July and brought out deficiencies in the organization of the training-indoctrination process in the subunit headed by Major V. Makarevich.

Officer V. Ivanchishin responded to the paper's critical article. He reports that the correspondence was discussed at an official officers meeting and party gatherings were organized in regimental subunits where measures aimed at eliminating deficiencies and measures for effectively using training time were discussed.

Subunit commander Major Makarevich and political subunit deputy commander Major P. Dovzhik were released from the duty positions and reassigned to lower ones for serious deficiencies in organizing the training process and for omissions in political-indoctrination work with personnel. The regimental staff imposed strict controls on the course of combat training in subunits and officers and warrant officers are receiving the necessary methodological help.

Unhealthy Moral Atmosphere

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Correspondence from Lieutenant Colonel V. Ryazantsev, published under the headline "Conflict" in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 26 August, discussed the unhealthy moral atmosphere in the General Tactics and Combat Engineer Support faculty at the Leningrad Construction Engineer Officer Training School imeni General of the Army A.N. Komarovskiy.

As commander of military construction units' Political Department Colonel General V. Bychenko reported to the editors, the facts cited in the correspondence were true. Unhealthy circumstances had been created in the faculty headed by Colonel E. Zmachinskiy. Deficiencies in the leadership style of the faculty head and the low work level in the party bureau headed by Colonel V. Golovan' were the reasons for this.

The correspondence was discussed in the political department of military construction units. The newspaper article was seen as real and timely. The leadership of Capital Construction in the USSR Ministry of Defense and the political department of military engineering units are taking measures to eliminate the conflicting situation in the faculty and the deficiencies cited in the correspondence.

The issue of improving educational work in the faculty was discussed in October 1983 at a conference of senior military construction educational institutions leaders and at a seminar for chiefs of schools' political agencies.

The faculty head Colonel E. Zmachinskiy was dismissed to the reserves. Former secretary of the faculty party organization Colonel V. Golovan' is being made answerable to the party for neglect and internal party work and is reviewing the question of a service transfer.

The necessity of more specifically concerning themselves with the education of professor-instructor personnel and uniting the faculty collective was pointed out to the leadership.

The editors also received an answer signed by the head of the school Engineer Lieutenant General N. Vauchskiy and chief of the school's political department Colonel A. Kaptil'nyy. They noted that the correspondence "Conflict" was discussed at a meeting of school leaders, in the political department, with secretaries of Party organizations and at Party meetings for the faculty of general tactics and combat engineer support. Correct conclusions from the deficiencies noted in the correspondence were reached and specific measures were determined to improve maintenance of party work and increase demands on leaders for the state of affairs in the units entrusted to them.

'Cadre Owes'

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Correspondence from Colonel of Legal Services I. Ryzhenkov that was published under the headline "The Cadre Owes" on 4 October discussed the abuse of service position by several officials, violations of monetary discipline and the system of accounting for and using material resources in one of the Northern Group of Forces units.

The facts were confirmed by Colonel V. Girenko's report to the editors. Major A. Repetskiy was put on the schedule of summary punishment. Also on it were Captain V. Krasil'nikov and Warrant Officers A. Pustovoyt and M. Pavlyukov, all of whom also made financial remuneration. Warrant Officer A. Urban had to strictly answer to the Party and was dismissed to the reserves.

Misappropriation of Equipment

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] A satirical essay by Colonel A. Drovosekov published under the headline "Bulldozers on Errands" on 4 October discussed the unsatisfactory guarding of equipment and violations of the rules for their use at several military construction sites. This led to the disassembly of several mechanisms and forced time loss at the UNR [work supervisor's office] headed by Engineer Colonels O. Martyagin, V. Voronkov and A. Sinitsa.

As chief of the Military Engineer Organization Colonel of Engineers A. Semenov and interim chief of the Political Department Lieutenant Colonel A. Popov reported to the editors, the facts contained in the satire were substantiated.

Colonel of Engineers V. Fevralitin, Lieutenant Colonel N. Fedorov, Lieutenant Colonel of Technical Services Ye. Aseyev, Major of Engineers V. Kartashov and other officials were punished. Lieutenant Colonel Ye. Kurkov was warned about incomplete service compliance.

Chief of construction section Senior Lieutenant of Engineers V. Dement'yev and chiefs of construction assembly sections employees of the Soviet Army V. Tikhonov and N. Zadnishevskiy and work production Soviet Army employee N. Kharchenko were made answerable for financial losses to the state.

An order was given calling for the elimination of deficiencies in using construction equipment on sites and for raising the responsibility of officials in safeguarding and timely repair of this equipment.

The newspaper article was discussed at a meeting of the construction organization leadership and Party committee meetings were held at which the issue of increasing personal responsibility of communist leaders for the work of tractor and construction equipment was reviewed.

Wristwatch Deficiencies Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Military pilot Lieutenant S. Pavlov writes the editors, "Among a pilot's equipment is the 'Navigator' wristwatch. I heard that at the present time this chronometer is being modernized. Is this so?"

Our correspondent met with a representative of the watch factory, engineer O.P. Gumenyuk, and asked him to talk about the work on pilot time pieces.

[Question] Oleg Petrovich, as far as I know, the enterprise where you work began producing watches for the "fifth ocean" several years ago?

[Answer] Actually pilots began receiving our product not long ago. They owe this to sailors for it was primarily for them that the "Ocean" model watch was first issued in our factory. The original appearance, high accuracy and reliability quickly gained it a reputation. Pilots also wanted to have such a chronometer.

[Question] However the first lot of watches for them wasn't entirely successful, isn't this so?

[Answer] Unfortunately you are correct. Having begun to issue "Navigator" watches, we did not take one feature differentiating the two oceans into account. While the instrument for sailors easily withstood a pressure load of several atmospheres, the pilot's model reacted in a strange manner to an increase in altitude.

[Question] The protective glass on the watch face flew off?

[Answer] Entirely correct. With an increase in altitude the internal body of the watch mechanism created excess pressure greater than in the cockpit. And the glass construction was designed for increased pressure from the outside.

[Question] Do aviators claim that this still occurs?

[Answer] We sometimes have a watch returned to us with this defect. As a rule this is a watch from the first series. The factory guarantees the pilots that watches will be exchanged or repaired while still in the warranty period.

The decision to have the present set-up was made quickly. With this goal in mind, the factory has a guarantee workshop for watch repair. Besides that, pilots do not have to personally deliver them for repair. Everything is done in a centralized manner. This procedure is immediately explained to the aviator.

[Question] And what are all the prospects for improving the quality of the "Navigator" watch?

[Answer] The question isn't being asked exactly correctly. The quality and reliability of the chronometer is sufficiently high already and the watches are up to the world's best standard. Judge for yourself. Accuracy deviation realistically does not exceed ± 5 seconds in a 24-hour period and the mechanism is guaranteed moisture proof. The watch balance has an anti-shock mechanism. However you can verify this yourself in tests. As regards to the face plate protective glass, we resolved this problem. In the shortest time, in 1984 to be exact, aviators will receive watches which will not have this defect.

[Question] At what expense will this be achieved?

[Answer] There will be few changes. To keep the glass more firmly on the body and less "afraid" of altitude, we decided to change the time-zone scale. Then the glass could be pushed by the body of the watch mechanism and besides be "seated" in a hermetic structure. We intended to carry out just a few more modernizations. All of this in the end will significantly increase watch reliability and, I think, it will be estimated at its own worth by pilots.

[Question] I noted that each watch has a small tally mark with a number and inscription. What does this signify?

[Answer] The high quality of each chronometer is reached because it is assembled by only one master. Before the watch is turned over to OTK [Department of Quality Control], the master places his signature on the control tally. This is his personal sign of quality, his conscience and respect for his own work.

[Question] Which of the masters, expressing himself a little differently, is the flag-navigator in the production of navigator watches?

[Answer] Masters Yuriy Mikhaylovich Sychugov and Anatoliy Fedorovich Ustinov have been working in our enterprise for more than 25 years. The quality of the work made by their hands requires practically no additional control. They are passing their art on to the younger workers. They compete with each other but keep no secrets from the other. Advanced knowledge, a new discovery, an idea are all willingly shared. By the way, this is a result of their army school upbringing. They relate to the young people as stern but considerate commander mentors. They constantly follow the quality of watch mechanisms assembly done by their pupils. Come, let us see how testing is going with this latest batch of watches for our "Icaruses."

And here we are in the testing room for the anti-shock mechanism of the balance axis. Before this they had just observed how the "Navigator" held up in the altitude chamber where they had simulated an altitude of 10 thousand meters. Not a single glass cover in the series of watches being tested "exploded." They placidly lay on the bench attracting a glance with the appearance of a chronometer and their time readings were exact. But what really surprised me after this exceeded all the most daring assumptions. The watches underwent shock testing.

The technical requirements read: the anti-shock mechanism of the balance axis must protect the pin and jewels from damage in the event of a blow corresponding to a free fall from a height of 1 meter 20 centimeters. In my presence they "dropped" the navigator watches down on their face plates, clockwork heads and backs from a height several times higher than called for in the instructions. And they continued giving the time. No glass flew off, no axis or other part broke. While watching the Navigator watch being tested, I thought about how such a reliable instrument would make aviators happy as soon as possible.

Position Used for Personal Gain

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] The correspondence from Ye. Sorokin published 5 September was entitled "With Someone Else's Hands" and brought out facts concerning the use of service position for personal gain by several military personnel. There were three answers to this article.

Chief of a military construction organization Lieutenant Colonel V. Kenzhibayev and political worker Major N. Chertkov reported that the correspondence was discussed with command-political and technical engineering personnel and also separately discussed with warrant officers and materially responsible individuals. Measures for eliminating deficiencies were outlined.

The commander of a military construction detachment, communist Major A. Rudenko received a reprimand noted in his records and was also punished. Communist Senior Warrant Officer N. Gavrik by Party commission decision received a reprimand noted in his records. Major A. Rudenko and Senior Warrant Officer N. Gavrik reimbursed the state for losses suffered.

The response signed by chief of construction organization S. Yuden and secretary of the party committee A. Mironov reports that the commander of a military construction company, Senior Lieutenant N. Ivanov, was warned about incomplete service compliance. By party line he received a severe reprimand noted in his records. Senior Lieutenant N. Ivanov paid 574 rubles 87 copecks to the state according to 1983 retail prices. At the same time the party committee also carried out the punishment of the former company commander, Captain V. Kostyayev, for illegal assignment of military construction workers to other organizations.

As chief of the construction department for the Leningrad Military District, Colonel of Engineers A. Vashkevich, reported to the editors, company commander captain I. Vybin and Senior Warrant Officer Sokolov received reduction in assignment and were held pecuniarily liable for abuse of their duty positions. Communist I. Vybin received a severe reprimand noted in his records.

Indifference Noted in Various Units

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] Staleness and indifference were manifested in the N-unit where our reader Ye. Danilkina went with a request for information she needed so she could get an allowance for her child. Our reader's husband, Private S. Danilkin, also went to the unit commander with the very same request, but the results were the same, dead silence from the officials.

From the answer the editors received, the individuals guilty of procrastination received severe warnings and Comrade Danilkina was sent the documents she requested. However, Colonel M. Perevalov, who signed the answer to the editors, did not name the specific procrastinating culprit and did not indicate whether apologies were tendered to our reader.

"I bought a motorcycle at the military store but am unable to register it at GAI [State Automobile Inspection] which means that I cannot ride it," writes Warrant Officer V. Obukhovskiy. "The problem is that for the five month period workers at the military store were unable to find the time to register the purchase documents."

At the request of the editors Acting Head of the Department of Trade for the Kiev Military District, Colonel N. Lyakhimets, replied that the issue was delayed because former head of joint management of one of the military stores, V. Yeres', was negligent in his duties. He has now been dismissed from military commerce for serious omissions in work. The necessary registration for Comrade V. Obukhovskiy has been delivered.

Serviceman Tarakanov wrote, "We serve on one of the ships in the Pacific Fleet and have been at sea for a long time and have served carefully as Soviet sailors are to do. But at times we feel that no one cares about us. The personnel on our ship have not been given our financial and clothing allowance for a long time."

The editors immediately contacted our permanent correspondent in the Pacific Fleet, Captain 1st Rank A. Slobozhanyuk, and charged him with quickly investigating the described situation. As it turns out, the facts stated in the letter were confirmed. At the present time the financial and clothing allowance for personnel have been fully distributed, including to servicemen already discharged to the reserves. Officers V. Gurbo, Yu. Boshtanyuk and others had to answer to the party and were punished for dereliction of duty. Measures have been taken to preclude any further occurrence of inattention to the needs of unit personnel.

With the birth of his second child, Private V. Trofimov gained the right to early release to the reserves. However workers at the Ustinovskiy Rayon Voenkomb [Military Registration and Enlistment Office] in Kirovograd Oblast who were supposed to draw up and send to Private Trofimov's unit the statement on the change in family situation did not hurry processing the necessary documents. V. Trofimov wrote to the editors about this.

We asked the Kirovograd Oblast Military Commissar Colonel V. Yarych to verify the facts. The editors soon received an answer. It was reported that the documents on V. Trofimov's early release from the Soviet Army were sent at the time required. Ustinovskiy Rayon Voenkomb worker Warrant Officer P. Novotorov was punished for being negligent in registering documents.

12511

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ARMED FORCES

LETTERS TO KRASNAYA ZVEZDA EDITOR, RESPONSES

Didn't Rock the Boat

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Nov 83 p 2

[Letter by Lt Col A. Ryabushkin, Red Banner Baltic Military District, and commentary by Maj Gen A. Makhov, first deputy chief of Baltic Military District: "Openly, in a Party Manner: Our Slogan Is to Attack"]

[Text] Dear Editors! On the eve of the party report-election meeting in our unit headquarters I informed the secretary and party bureau members that I would be criticizing party member Officer M. Buryachenko in my presentation.

Just what did I wish to discuss? Above all, about how difficult it is to perform indoctrinational work in the collective when a party member-leader abuses his official position. For example, he has used the labor of workers and servicemen for personal purposes so many times. Strange "operations" also were carried out, such as where money drawn as financial help for someone then was transferred to Buryachenko. In one of the subunits alone 250 rubles were collected in this manner in two years. It is said that the money went for gifts and souvenirs, but to whom and for what? It is also incomprehensible, for example, where the money went which was earned by our unit drivers "on the side." In short, there was something to discuss. I hoped I would be supported, but I was wrong. For example, political deputy Col I. Zabolotniy said frankly, when he learned of my intention, that a report-election meeting is no place for sharp statements, and he tried to make matters appear as if the reason for the criticism was a personal conflict.

I was familiar with these words, for even earlier I criticized in similar instances, but this did no good. Moreover, my relationships with those who specifically were obligated to react to the criticism in a very serious manner began to deteriorate. And then it happened again...

The meeting already is over. I spoke at it, but not about what disturbed me most. I didn't want to rock the boat, as I knew what this would lead to. I had the thought: "What do I need most of all? There will be nothing but unpleasantness."

Nevertheless, I now regret this and I am given no rest by the question: Is it really necessary to expend so much effort and nerves in defending obvious

truths? How can a situation be created in the collective where everything is done as prescribed and no grounds arise for strained differences and acute conflicts?

The editors familiarized Maj Gen Ye. Makhov, first deputy chief of Baltic Military District political directorate, with this letter and requested him to express his opinion on the issues raised by the author.

The simplest thing would be to reproach the author of this letter by saying: Just why did you forego your principle? said Maj Gen Ye. Makhov. But first of all, he finally realized that he had acted incorrectly, as indicated by the letter to the editors itself. Secondly, we certainly also have to realize that not everything in life goes "as if on parade," as they say. When a person has occasion to be faced with a choice, he reflects, perhaps has doubts, and gets hold of himself--that is how it is in the not so simple circumstances of everyday life.

Questions are asked in the letter which assume a discussion in response, and I am sure that the topic itself takes us beyond the framework of a particular instance. What arises here is the problem of our party attitude toward deficiencies and toward the undignified things still encountered in life.

Is it really necessary to expend so much effort and nerves in defending obvious truths? One can understand you, Anatoliy Aleksandrovich. Yes, that happens. You think it is quite clear that what we have is an infraction of the law, standards of morality or regulation demands. It seems one only has to drop a hint and the person will think again. But he doesn't "think again" and the infractions and deviations continue. He consciously takes this path for the sake of some advantage to himself. Or he doesn't understand that he has taken the crooked path and that these deviations are not so inoffensive. How can a party member be silent here? Most often it happens that a person will hear a word of criticism, he will fall to thinking and he will change. But it also happens differently: He defends himself and even attacks. Perhaps in this instance one should stop and close one's eyes to everything? The doubts which you had on this score have been overcome and your conclusion of course was not to be silent. But "should you expend so much effort and nerves?"

This is no less a matter of principle because there can be no dividing line for a party member on where to expend effort and where to hesitate. Expend it! No matter what, one cannot retreat. Moreover, our slogan is to attack! The fact is, it was for the sake of this, for the sake of a struggle to implement party policy and establish party ideals that we joined its ranks.

I wish to recall here the words uttered by Comrade Yu. V. Andropov at the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum: "The more boldly and concretely party members speak out in discussing pressing issues of party and national life and the more actively they take part in fulfilling the decisions which are made, then the more successfully our party will be able to fulfill its historic mission." This is the height at which boldness of position and concreteness of judgments and actions of the party member have been placed!

Everyone has to sense this deeply, and in the given instance political worker Officer I. Zabolotniy and certain other comrades above all. I am sure that the proper moral atmosphere will be established in your party organization. With regard to the abuses and infractions mentioned in your letter, they too will not be ignored. After a certain period of time the district political directorate will announce the steps taken in the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

Strictly speaking, this already concerns the second question you raised in the letter. It is true that I assume a statement is understood between the first and second questions: An atmosphere must be created in the collective where everything is done as prescribed and no grounds arise for strained differences and acute conflicts. When the atmosphere in the party collective is healthy and high principles have struck deep roots in it, as they say, then no one will dare commit an undignified act. Then, in truth, nerves will not have to be expended and any difficulty in party work will be resolved by comradely constructive criticism, friendly advice and collective concern.

Now a direct response to your question: Just how can such an atmosphere be established? This is the daily task of a party organization: to instil in party members a sharp sense of responsibility for membership in the Leninist party and an understanding of the fact that all of us have to stand guard over the purity of party morality and correctness of party policy implementation in the collective. That is the height of understanding which makes us party members.

Bias in Promotions Claimed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Nov 83 p 2

[Letter by Gds Capt N., Unit (Soyedineniye) "X" of Moscow Military District, and commentary by Gds Lt Col V. Milovidov, staff officer of Unit "X," Moscow Military District: "A Senior's Advice: Why 'Don't They Promote Me?'"]

[Text] I have been commanding the battery for four years. Several times I heard from my superiors: As soon as a higher position becomes vacant we will recommend you for it. But the cart is still there, as they say... I know that one other battery commander, Gds Capt V. Kantonistov, was recommended for advancement, but the recommendation has not been fulfilled to this date. On the other hand, officers whose time spent in previous positions is only two years are receiving career advancements.

This was the letter received by the editors. The author didn't wish to give his last name, and this is his right, but the question he raises certainly deserves attention. For this reason the editors asked Gds Lt Col V. Milovidov, one of the staff officers of Unit "X" of the Moscow Military District, to express his opinion on the question raised.

Before answering the question raised in the letter I will give the following example. Recently colleagues congratulated Gds Capt A. Mal'tsev for his appointment to the position of battalion commander. I would like to direct attention to the following detail: Prior to this Gds Capt Mal'tsev commanded a company. And so he became a battalion commander, bypassing the position of battalion chief of staff. That decision was made with consideration of the officer's extensive experience. Those seven years which Mal'tsev "sat in the same position," as some say, gave him a great deal in the sense of command development. Now he feels completely confident in the new position and probably does not regret the "lost years" a bit. And generally I believe it hardly apropos to raise a question of some kind of rigid time periods an officer must spend in a particular position. The approach here has to be strictly individual.

For example, Sr Lt S. Miroshnichenko completed military school just two years ago, but he is already commanding a company, and the best company in the division. Almost all its officers, NCO's and privates are first class specialists and each one is proficient in a related specialty. It is said of Miroshnichenko himself that he possesses a commander's talent. Well, there's nothing surprising in the fact that such officers receive a career advancement earlier than their contemporaries. But the unit commanders and officers of the division political department and staff also perform much work with them, the foremost officers.

In particular, officer OJT in a position one level higher than he holds is one of the forms of this work. I have to say it is a very effective form. First of all, this gives us an opportunity to get to know the person better on the job and secondly, the candidate for advancement can test himself.

For example, Sr Lt A. Petrov, chief of the best team in a missile subunit, is an acting battery commander. In final problems the battery won the title of outstanding largely thanks to his efforts. Isn't this an indicator of the officer's command maturity and of his readiness to assume a heavier burden?

And finally a few words about the conclusion in the performance appraisal of Gds Capt Kantonistov, mentioned in the letter to the editors. Yes, the conclusion was that he is worthy of advancement, but who said that a performance appraisal automatically involves a career advancement? Many factors are considered in examining this question. Moreover, speaking of the officer mentioned, another circumstance to be borne in mind is that the performance appraisal also takes note of deficiencies in his work which will take time to remedy.

We had a thorough discussion about this at a conference with candidates for career advancement. It is not precluded that the author of the letter to the editors also was among them.

Parental Alcoholic Gifts Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Nov 83 p 2

[Letter to editors by Capt-Lt A. Sokolov and commentary by Jr Lt (Ret) V. Kazakov: "A Father's Opinion: Such are the Parcels..."]

[Text] Dear Editors! Our unit does much to eradicate the remnants of a shameful phenomenon such as drunkenness. No violator of military discipline goes unpunished. But often some of the soldiers' parents contribute to an infraction of discipline. I am speaking about those philoprogenitive fathers and mothers who send their sons large money orders without any particular need or consider it their duty to "brighten up" their service with bottles of alcoholic beverages.

Recently Smm Ovetisyan received a parcel from home for his birthday. He was of course happy and began to treat his comrades to nuts and candies and before everyone's eyes he took out a polyethylene package of granulated sugar. They opened it and in it was a hot-water bottle with liquor and a note: Son, celebrate your 20th birthday worthily and share it with comrades...

Do the parents have a thought for the moral consequences of such "bounties"?

The editors showed this letter to Jr Lt (Ret) V. Kazakov, a Great Patriotic War participant, whose five sons worthily served in the Army. Here is what the frontlinesman thinks about this matter.

In reading Capt-Lt A. Sokolov's letter I automatically recalled those packages which came to us young fighting men at the front. They were of course small and modest. The soldiers were sent cedar nuts and lard from Siberia, and warm things and dried fruits from the south.

Packages from home and news from a home area always give out warmth, kindness and concern. I can picture the silent scene where a soldier takes out a bottle of liquor in the presence of comrades (sharing what is sent from home is a good Army tradition). Could the commander assume that the parents' attention would be like this? And so, obviously without thinking about the consequences, some parents give their sons a push toward an infraction or perhaps a crime.

In sending off my five sons to serve in the Army neither I nor my wife Polina Vasil'yevna, with whom I have lived in harmony for 37 years, never had the thought to "cheer up" our boys with a package of liquor. None of them took the potion of intoxicating liquor in his mouth. I believe everything depends here on the person and on his culture and awareness. The send-offs of all five sons in our home took place without a bottle on the table. We would give the children advice and instructions over tea and pie, which my wife is a good hand at baking. The sons later often recalled these very minutes of farewell and the instructions to serve according to their consciences. I doubt that those soldiers whose parents saw them off to the military commissariat in an inebriated state and to the clink of bottles and glasses take such instructions to heart.

Now, when it is especially uneasy in the world through the fault of American imperialism, who if not we parents of the soldiers have to help commanders and political officers in every way possible to develop in our sons a high sense of responsibility for the Motherland's fate? For example, no matter how busy we were, the first thing Polina Vasil'yevna and I did was write letters to our boys constantly. We understood that their successes in service and their mood largely depend on our kind words. I also wrote to the commanders and asked how things were going for my sons. The commanders always would send detailed answers full of concern which would please Mother and I immeasurably. We didn't spoil them with our packages and money orders. We firmly knew that the state provides soldiers with everything necessary: good food and walking-out, fatigue and special clothing. Money for personal expenses also is given the soldiers. And again I would like to express a parent's heartfelt gratitude to the mentors of our sons.

I believe that is how everyone thinks who sincerely love their sons and wish them good, and who want their sons to become genuine defenders of the Motherland, ready to fulfill their sacred duty at any minute.

Readers' Suggestions for Newspaper

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Nov 83 p 2

[Series of individual letters by authors shown below]

[Text] In response to an appeal to readers published on 18 October, the editors continue to receive letters with suggestions, wishes, advice and critical remarks.

Avoid common truths in articles revealing foremost experience in training and indoctrinating personnel and organizing socialist competition. It is enormously more useful for a reader to find here that rational kernel which can produce good shoots in the field of endeavor of many, many commanders and political officers.

Capt 2d Rank V. Bakal'chuk
Red Banner Northern Fleet

I regard the series of Sunday lead articles, which are of enormous indoctrinational importance, to be a great acquisition by the newspaper. They include "The USSR State Flag," "Military Dynasties," "Veterans," "The Party Card," and others. I suggest publishing this series as a separate pamphlet. Further, I would like to see a new rubric entitled "The People and the Army are United" in the pages of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

Lt Col Med Serv (Ret) A. Guseynov
Kaliningrad Oblast

With all my heart I approve of the newspaper's intention to beef up coverage of the heroic theme and the grand combat traditions of our Army and Navy. This is important not only because the 40th anniversary of Victory in the Great

Patriotic War is approaching. All of us know what danger has hung over the world through the fault of American imperialism and NATO. In the face of this danger we must rally our ranks more closely about the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, and the newspaper must reveal in more detail the participation of all USSR nations in the struggle against the fascist invasion.

Z. Avakyan
Great Patriotic War participant
Armenian SSR

With the right of a permanent reader of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (I have been subscribing to it for 20 years now) I would like to express approval of the Saturday issue with insert. Keep the rubric "People with a Great Destiny." Tell under this rubric about our famous designers of aircraft, tanks and artillery systems who made an enormous contribution to victory over the enemy during the past war.

F. Tovstokoryy
Zaporozhye

Tell more regularly about the life and combat training of armies of socialist countries and about how international friendship of brothers in class and brothers in arms is tempered and strengthened.

Sr Lt V. Yartsev
Central Group of Forces

The honor of an officer and authority of the Soviet commander... My school comrades always await articles on these topics, for we decided to link our fate with the Army and we have to develop in ourselves those qualities being demonstrated today by Soviet soldiers who are performing international duty in Afghanistan.

Cadet V. Orlov
Red Banner Siberian Military
District

Articles about behavior of servicemen outside the unit are rarely seen in the newspaper's pages. It is no secret that some of them are guided by regulation requirements only to the threshold of the KPP [traffic control point], as they say...

Engr-Lt Col V. Tsikhanovskiy
Red Banner Carpathian Military
District

I consider the rubric "Our House" very necessary, although the articles published beneath it could be deeper in content. Why not let a psychologist or sociologist have a say here? Show how servicemen's wives help the officers and warrant officers [praporshchiki and michmany] serve better for the sake of our Motherland's security.

A. Pakhomova
Kostroma

Aviation Cadet Training Problems

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Nov 83 p 2

[Article: "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage: 'Who Gives a Start in the Sky'?"]

[Text] That was the title of a critical article by Col A. Sorokin published on 15 October. It told about instances of a violation of the methodology for training and indoctrinating cadets by Maj I. Kustov, an air flight commander, and about his crudeness.

As the editors were informed by Col N. Kuchin, chief of the Orenburg Higher Military Aviation School for Pilots imeni I. S. Polbin, and by school political department chief Col V. Markachev, the facts set forth in the article had been confirmed. Party and administrative investigations had been conducted into them.

By decision of the school political department party commission, party member Maj Kustov was given a strict reprimand with entry in the record.

Unit commander Lt Col A. Lebedev and his political deputy Lt Col V. Lyamkin, as well as party members Lt Col V. Bedich and Maj N. Chernitsyn were held accountable by the party for serious omissions in training and indoctrinating flight instructors.

Maj Kustov's behavior was examined by a comrades' court of honor of senior officers. Kustov presently has been relieved of training and indoctrinating cadets and the question of his removal from the position is being examined.

The response to the editors also announces that the article was discussed with the leading flight instructors, with commanders of cadet subunits, and with the party and Komsomol aktiv of the air training regiment. The school's flight training methods department has outlined measures for a further improvement in selection of instructor pilots and in indoctrinational work with them.

Former Hospital Chief Punished

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Nov 83 p 2

[Article: "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage: 'No Better Off Than at the Start'"]

[Text] That was the title of an article by Col A. Khorev published on 1 October. It told about the moral decay of former garrison hospital chief A. Zhuravel' and about the conditions contributing to this. Lt Gen Avn V. Ponomarev, member of military council and chief of political directorate of the Moscow Air Defense District, informed the editors that the article generated great interest and a broad response in district forces. All facts set forth in it were authentic and the reasons for the moral degradation of Zhuravel' had been determined correctly.

The district military council and political directorate carried out a set of party-political and organizational-administrative measures. The article was discussed with military council members, chiefs of district directorates, departments and services, commanders and chiefs of political entities of units [soyedineniye], officers of the political directorate and political department, and in party organizations of military hospitals and the district rear. Measures of a party and administrative nature were taken against officials who overlooked the abuses of hospital chief Col Med Serv A. Zhuravel' and who shut their eyes to his criminal activities.

Col Med Serv I. Dzhagupov, chief of the hospital's medical unit, was reprimanded along party lines for unsatisfactory supervision over the expenditure of scarce drugs and for conniving with Zhuravel' in accepting civilians for inpatient treatment in the military hospital. He was recommended for release to the reserve. Lt Col A. Pichugin, deputy chief of the hospital for political affairs, was given a strict reprimand by the party commission of the district political directorate for taking a conciliatory position toward the hospital chief's abuses. By decision of a meeting of the hospital's primary party organization, party bureau secretary Col Med Serv V. Danilyuk was reprimanded and not recommended for re-election to the party bureau for insufficient party principle in evaluating the facts of abuses by Zhuravel'.

Col Med Serv I. Klimushin and Maj I. Sharko, who performed a check of the letter about abuses by Zhuravel' in an unqualified manner, are no longer serving in the district: The former has been released to the reserve because of age and the latter has been transferred for duty outside the Air Defense Troops. Engr-Capt A. Ukolov was given disciplinary and party punishment for a superficial check of the fuel service in the hospital.

The district military procurator's office prepared and sent to party and political entities recommendations on holding the following accountable for administrative, party and material liability: heads of a number of enterprises as well as officers of troop units [chast'] unrelated to Air Defense Troops or the district, particularly lieutenant colonels V. Sychev, V. Tikhonov and V. Shironin, who contributed to abuses by Zhuravel'.

A. Zhuravel' will be tried by the military tribunal.

Slow Innovation Dissemination Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Nov 83 p 2

[Review of letters: "Once More About the Bolt with the Round Nut"]

[Text] "Bolt with a Round Nut: Technical Innovation or Ballast?" was the title of an article by Engr-Col Yu. Alekseyenkov and Capt V. Shchepilov published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 15 September 1983. The newspaper's article found a lively response among readers and was discussed in units and aboard ships. Authors of many letters to the editors spoke up for continuing the discussion on this subject. (As a parenthetical note, those criticized by the newspaper have performed extensive work to remedy the deficiencies.) As the editors were

informed by acting deputy commander of North Caucasus Military District for armament Col G. Zinchenko, district units and establishments held seminars with chairmen and members of invention commissions to improve their competency and qualifications; an account was heard by the officer in charge of inventions in the district entitled "On the Status of Invention and Rationalization Work and Measures to Improve It"; an exchange of technical information was arranged; and there will be an administrative investigation of facts of illegal payment of rewards and bonuses for the purpose of compensation for material damage from guilty parties.

It follows from another answer signed by Engr-Col V. Zagorovskiy that the inventions commission reviewed and declined previously accepted "rationalization" proposals. A program was developed and approved for conducting a comprehensive audit of the production and financial-economic activity of subordinate units on matters of invention and rationalization work.

In short, the editors' mail indicates that the inventors themselves, the rationalizers and those directing technical creativeness are interested in eliminating the barriers hindering innovation as a whole.

In discussing in his letter to the editors the long-range planning, purposefulness of exploration and ways of achieving the end goal, Maj Tech Serv V. Cherepanov stipulates: "An idea, a specific concept, is necessary for creating any kind of innovation, but it is not generated all at once. It is as a result of the posing of new tasks and as additional knowledge, abilities and so on are gained. The planning of rationalization work a half-year or a year ahead is more guesswork than scientific approach." This viewpoint is shared by another of our readers, Maj A. Kuznetsov. "Creativeness is the lot of remarkable intellects, but our thematic plans at times are made up of mediocre ideas," he writes. "An idea cannot be hurried; one must think about it and 'nurture' it constantly. Then there will be no proposals for a checkmark or 'sterile innovations,' but productive and specific planning will become the standard." Authors of the letters further suggest an adjustment of thematic assignments quarterly.

It goes without saying that it is necessary to plan, but one must plan the direction of exploration and adjust plans, only not quarterly without fail, but when matters require it. Then plans will give prompt consideration to new tasks and the solved problems or those which have lost their urgency will be excluded. Technical creativeness cannot develop strictly in a straight line. Sudden turns occur here at times or it is simply that failures happen, such as when a concept does not prove out. But the planning itself, if it does not bear a formal nature, orients us on the key, necessary element and thus precludes neglect, the dissipation of forces and means, or the birth of "petty trivialities," as already mentioned.

Our readers write specifically about this and cite specific examples. Engr-Col M. Vinogradov, chief of briz [rationalization and invention bureau] of the Air Forces, writes to the editors: "In the Air Forces, scientific-technical creativeness is given proper attention. Documents are published which analyze this work in units, military-educational institutions and enterprises of the

Air Forces, and specific measures are taken to improve its effectiveness." He continues: "The main efforts of inventors and rationalizers are directed at resolving large-scale problems: a further improvement in combat readiness of air units, an improvement in reliability and the perfection of air equipment and flight safety, an extension of aviation engine life, an improvement in the quality of periodic technical servicing and repair work, a saving of physical, labor and financial outlays, and a rise in the scientific-technical level of the work being performed."

Engr-Col Vinogradov cites specific examples of innovations which provide great economic effect, improve equipment operating reliability and make work easier. Engr-Capt A. Kalinin also gives the source of foremost experience. There are other examples, however; the letters contain a just rebuke of invention commissions where the secretaries are officers N. Lomonos, A. Tikhonov, V. Say and V. Shishko for the fact that at times they limit their work merely to a registration of what already has been done and do not make full use of the capabilities for technical creativeness in their collectives.

It happens where results of work are judged by the number of rationalization proposals submitted and not according to how extensive their dissemination was and how effective and beneficial they are. At the same time, there is little use even from very successful devices and improvements if they are made in one or two copies.

Just what is hindering the dissemination of innovations? Engr-Maj Yu. Oshurkov sees one of the reasons to lie in miscalculations by information services: "We learn about the latest innovation in a year in the best instance." As a matter of fact, in the Central Asian Military District where the officer serves, district exhibits of innovators are held irregularly and information is delayed. And so it happens that time and means are wasted at times on inventing what already has been invented and creating what already has been created, and painstaking work of organizing technical creativeness is replaced by a pursuit for the number of rationalization proposals. Meanwhile, as correctly noted in his letter by Col Med Serv V. Starcha, the stress on production volume and the attempt to fulfill numerous points of a plan taken out of thin air no matter what does much harm to creativeness as a whole.

Here is another aspect of the problem. It is not so simple to locate the necessary switch or relay, announce the authors of letters, and more time often is spent looking for parts than creating the innovation itself. Under such conditions the person who does not burden himself with searching for an original technical solution but is able to get something, find something somewhere and agree on something with someone has more chances for success. The question is not as simple as may appear at first glance. At the same time experience indicates that where commanders, staffs, political entities, party organizations and inventions commissions support innovators not in word but in deed, these problems find a solution.

And so the editors' mail suggests once again that successful fulfillment of pledges and implementation of thematic plans for technical creativeness will

depend largely on how much energy and initiative the inventions commissions have and how effectively they are able to make use of innovative ideas. That is the way--purposefully, with consideration of new requirements--we have to approach the organization of technical creativeness and innovators' labor competition today.

Abuse of Official Position

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Nov 83 p 2

[Article: "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage: 'Summer Residents Against Their Will'"]

[Text] An article by Capt 1st Rank A. Slobozhanyuk was published under that title on 11 October. It told about abuses of official position on the part of Maj B. Pavlyuk.

As the unit commander reported to the editors, the facts cited in the article had been confirmed. Maj Pavlyuk was made answerable for party and disciplinary liability.

The response from the unit political department chief states that the article had been discussed at an officer conference where the inadmissibility of such instances was pointed out.

The editors also received an answer from Col Justice A. Perepelitsa, military procurator of the Pacific Fleet. He reports that a procurator's check confirmed the facts set forth in the article entitled "Summer Residents Against Their Will." Considering the fact that no selfish goals had been established in the officer's actions and that he had received positive performance appraisals throughout his career, the institution of criminal proceedings against Maj Pavlyuk was rejected. The post military procurator gave Maj Pavlyuk a warning about the inadmissibility of violating the law.

Deficiencies in Performance Appraisal

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Nov 83 p 2

[Article: "'Principle by Order'"]

[Text] That was the title of a rejoinder by Capt 2d Rank A. Zlydnev which discussed shortcomings permitted in giving team leader WO [Michman] R. Gabdullin a performance appraisal.

The editors received an official answer signed by Rear Adm O. Yerofeyev. Captains 3d rank V. Vetkin and V. Korobeynikov, who allowed a lack of principle in rating WO Gabdullin, were given disciplinary punishment. The newspaper's article was discussed at a party meeting.

Officers' Club Repair Delays

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Dec 83 p 2

[Article: "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage: 'Red Tape with Seniority'"]

[Text] That was the title of a letter from E. Izmaylov published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 11 September. It told about red tape involving repairs to a garrison officers' club where Maj T. Plotskiy is the chief.

After a reminder from the editors a response to the article was received from Col Yu. Koshelev, deputy chief of the Siberian Military District political directorate.

It states that the facts were confirmed. The political directorate heard district KEU [billeting directorate] chief Engr-Col G. Klimov and district construction directorate political department chief Col Ya. Murakhovskiy.

The decision was made to include the garrison officers' club in the 1984 capital repair plan.

Regulation Not Followed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Dec 83 p 2

[Letter from Jr Sgt V. Galushkin: "From the 'Azimut' Mailbag: There was Such a Case"]

[Text] It is evening roll call. Company first sergeant WO [Praporshchik] V. Savchuk calls out names. The formation responds in a discordant "Here!" Then suddenly a hitch:

"Cadet Kolodiy!"

No answer.

"Jr Sgt Titkov, where is Cadet Kolodiy?"

"I don't know," answers the squad commander.

After evening roll call company commander Capt V. Ivanov engages in a search for Cadet A. Kolodiy, who has disappeared, but without results.

Everything was cleared up by morning. It turns out the cadet was... on leave. He received permission from the deputy commander for political affairs. It turns out he was not at fault.

But still... The USSR Armed Forces Interior Service Regulation contains the simple, clear words: "Servicemen apply to their immediate superior for permission for leave." Just why was regulation procedure violated in this instance?

There is an explanation for it: Cadet Kolodiy's parents asked for his leave. And of course they didn't go to the NCO, who doesn't even have a telephone.

Just who deserves a reproach in the given situation? Cadet Kolodiy above all, for the fact that, after receiving permission for leave he didn't report this to the squad commander, his immediate superior.

A wise book, the regulation!

Mailbag Review

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Dec 83 p 2

[Article: "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Mail"]

[Text] The editors received 11,491 letters from readers in November 1983, of which 496 were published in the newspaper. There were 603 responses to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA articles.

Last month the Soviet people and their Armed Forces celebrated the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. There was a discussion in letters from KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers about how units and ships were preparing for the nationwide holiday and about the indicators with which military collectives ended the training year.

"The crew of the radar station commanded by Maj N. Shklyayev was again in first place in competition," writes Sr Lt O. Mil'chakov from the Leningrad Military District. "Operators demonstrated heightened combat proficiency in the final tactical exercise and were awarded a challenge pennant and honor scroll of the CIC of Air Defense Troops."

There were many such letters in the November mail. Their authors tell about the new and foremost things accumulated in the troops and show concern for seeing that the valuable experience of training and indoctrinating personnel and of the effective use of the training facility was not forgotten but was thoroughly studied, generalized and adopted in the practice of subunits' combat work.

November is a month of intensive preparation for the new training year by troops. Young replacements have arrived in the Army and Navy. Before service many of the young people mastered military-technical specialties in DOSAAF schools, circles and courses. In their letters the readers emphasize that at this important moment the commanders, political entities, and party and Komsomol organizations must devote special attention to the young soldiers and see to it that they immediately become part of the combat formation and are included in competition, and that from the first days Army duty becomes a genuine school of life and school of indoctrination for them. Such paternally demanding concern is being shown in many military collectives.

"It is an early, frosty morning in the Transbaikal and a demonstration class in weapons training already is under way at the range," writes Maj M. Tolpegin. "A tank company is firing under the command of Gds Sr Lt O. Tolmachev. Young soldiers are attending a lesson in tactical proficiency. The accurate firing by the guards tankmen lets the novices see with their own eyes the effectiveness of modern weapons and combat equipment."

"From the very first days we surrounded the young replacements with attention and concern," announces Lt Col A. Pashkov from the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. "We accommodated the privates in the best spaces. There are lectures and talks about unit combat traditions for them, and there are meetings with rated specialists. The young privates are trained by the best officer methods specialists Maj G. Sidorenko, Sr Lt A. Prokof'yev and Sr Lt N. Babayev."

Letters responding to the Declaration by CPSU CC General Secretary, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Comrade Yu. V. Andropov occupy a special place in the editors' mail. Fervently approving and unanimously supporting party and state measures for a further strengthening of national defense, the readers angrily condemn the intrigues of American imperialism, which has set a course toward preparing a new world war.

"It is not from others' words that I know what war is. I was at the front from the first to the last day of the Great Patriotic," writes D. Tikhonenko from Poltava Oblast. "I had occasion to go into bayonet attacks and lose combat friends in fierce fighting against fascism. War brought so much grief to people and so many tears were shed! We reached the long-awaited victory at a high cost. I declare in the name of those fallen and living: 'We will not allow the flame of new war to be kindled!' I welcome and fervently approve the Soviet state measures to defend Soviet citizens' peaceful labor."

And these were the emotional lines sent to the editors by reader M. Shageyeva from Kirov Oblast: "I have three sons," she states. "Two serve in the Army. I direct my maternal word to them and to all soldiers of the Motherland on this day: Enemies of peace are stationing formidable weapons at the threshold of our home. Be on guard!"

In fervently approving and supporting party and state policy, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers Maj I. Vetryakin from the Siberian Military District, Pvt F. Sirazetdinov from the Carpathian Military District and many others declare that they will give all their strength and energy to the further reinforcement of combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Airfield Technical Support Deficiencies

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Dec 83 p 2

[Article: "Following KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Coverage: 'Formally, in the Old Way'"]

[Text] That was the title of the critical article by Sr Lt V. Trusov published on 27 September. It told about deficiencies in flight support and in

the organization of socialist competition in the airfield-technical support battalion commanded by Maj V. Stepanov.

As the editors were informed by Lt Col I. Buynitskiy, the facts cited in the article were confirmed. Maj V. Stepanov was removed from the position he held for dereliction of duty. Motor maintenance company commander Capt N. Skvortsov was heard at a session of the subunit party bureau. A new chief of the battalion motor vehicle and electric-gas service was appointed. The Transbaikal Military District Aviation motor vehicle and electric-gas service carried out measures contributing to an improvement of motor pool duty and the organization of socialist competition in units and subunits which provide flight support.

6904

CSO: 1801/143

AFGHANISTAN

PDPA OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON COUNTRY'S DEFENSE SYSTEM

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 29 Dec 83 pp 1-2

[Article under headline: "APN Informs and Comments"]

[Text] The Afghan people are gradually overcoming the difficulties. Destroyed projects are being restored, new enterprises are being built, the land-and-water reform is being carried out, the cooperative movement is gaining momentum, a steady upsurge takes place in some industries and in agriculture, Yasin Sadaqi, secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, said in an interview to an APN correspondent.

[Question] A single comprehensive system of the defence of the revolution has been established in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. What does this system represent?

[Answer] It includes close cooperation between military units, the tsarandoi (the people's militia), security services, detachments of the defence of the revolution, tribal voluntary formations and territorial self-defence formations. Thanks to their joint actions considerable successes have been gained in the struggle against the counter-revolution.

The DRA's armed forces are the decisive link in this struggle. This year they have conducted large-scale operations in the Herat, Balkh, Baghlan, Kandahar and Langhman provinces and in some other places. During the past seven months alone more than 200 recoilless guns, 230 grenade launchers, about 11,000 small arms and 1.5 million pieces of ammunition were destroyed or seized. Two thousand bandits were taken prisoner.

Today practically no large gangs have remained in Afghanistan. While three or four years ago dushmans (counter-revolutionaries) actively operated in 20 provinces of Afghanistan, at present the people's power controls all 29 provinces of the country.

CSO: 1812/76

AFGHANISTAN

TASHKENT ON FORMATION OF AFGHAN TRIBAL REGIMENTS

GF271508 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 25 Dec 83

[Station observer's commentary: "Afghan Tribes Are Safeguarding the Revolution"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: Tribal volunteer groups are being formed in various parts of Afghanistan to safeguard the fruits of the April Revolution. HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR has reported that the [word indistinct] tribes in Nangarhar Province have been organizing their own regiments [polklar] and groups for struggling against the bandits sent into Afghanistan from Pakistan. These regiments and groups are helping the armed forces in their struggle against the counterrevolutionaries. The PDPA Nangarhar Provincial Committee has said that the participation of the tribes of the province in the effort to safeguard the gains of the revolution is gaining momentum.

It is not wrong to say that the setting up of military groups by the tribes in Afghanistan is not a new development. This is, in fact, traditional. The tribes have set up armed groups when the people were threatened in the past to defend their women, children, and property against raiders from foreign countries. This was the case during the years when a struggle was waged against the British colonialists. Currently, the tribes are engaged in an active effort against the counterrevolutionaries and their American supporters. These counterrevolutionaries and their American supporters have met with [words indistinct] in the land of Afghanistan.

The Ahmadzar tribe in Paktia Province has set up its own regiment [polk]. There are 1,000 fighters in this regiment. As for (?the regiment set up by two tribes in the western region), it is composed of 2,500 men. The main body of the units being set up by the tribes in various parts of Afghanistan is composed of former members of the bands of robbers. They realized who the real enemy of the Afghan people is and defected to the side of the legitimate government. The regiments and the battalions [batalyonlar] have been gaining significant experience in the struggle against the Basmachis. In fact, they are making a significant contribution toward the consolidation of peace and law and order in their beloved homeland. Meanwhile, the officers of the Afghan Armed Forces are making a big effort to train these regiments and battalions. They are making a major effort from the point of view of the objectives and duties set by the people's democratic revolution.

The bands of robbers are raiding tribes and robbing the people of their property. They are taking the men of the tribes who can handle arms to lairs in Pakistan and Iran. They are also taking revenge in a savage way on the people supporting the populist sovereignty. However, (?regardless of the ruffian behavior) by the bands of robbers, the trend of setting up armed units from among the members of the tribes is continuing at full swing. The units set up are taking active part in the struggle against the (?agents) sent into Afghanistan by U.S. imperialists. Here is a recent report from Afghanistan which confirms this:

Recently, armed units of the tribes in Badakhshan Province (?surprised) over 200 Basmachis with the help of the security forces. Meanwhile, a group of Basmachis has been captured in Balkh Province. Numerous arms and large quantities of ammunition were seized in both instances.

CSO: 1836/32

AFGHANISTAN

TASHKENT LAUDS SOVIET-DRA COOPERATION

GF211249 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 19 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Cooperation Based on Equality and Mutual Benefit"]

[Text] Dear listeners, the peoples of the Soviet Union and the DRA have recently marked the fifth anniversary of the agreement for friendship, good-neighborliness, and cooperation. Through its agreement they expressed their wish to develop mutual relations in the economic, scientific, and technical fields on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Here is what our commentator has written:

I would like to begin by giving a number of examples. Recently, equipment has been brought from the Soviet Union to Kabul for the construction of a powerplant in one of the districts of the capital of DRA. The capacity of the new powerplant will be 45,000 kilowatts. It will be recalled that with the aid of the Soviet Union a powerplant has already been set up not far from Kabul. This powerplant can generate 100,000 kilowatt hours. Currently, a new powerplant is being built with Soviet aid in Mazar-e Sharif in Balkh Province.

Generation of power is not the only important field in the sphere of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. For example, let us take into consideration the question of irrigation, which is important for Afghanistan. Currently, there are 7.8 million hectares of land in Afghanistan suitable for cultivation. However, (?irrigating) all [words indistinct] is impossible. Lack of water is considered to be the reason for the cultivation of only half of the land suitable for that purpose. However, the drilling of artesian wells have begun with the aid of Soviet experts. The water acquired from the well has made the irrigation of 1.8 million hectares of dry land possible.

Another fruitful field in the Soviet-Afghan cooperation is related to vehicle transportation which is the main means of transportation in the DRA. A jubilant meeting was organized in the (Cengalenk) automobile assembly plant a month ago marking the commencement of the repairing of the factory. The factory is being repaired with Soviet aid. It is common knowledge that the (Cengalenk) automobile assembly plant was put into operation in 1960. Its capacity however, failed to meet the growing demand in the republic. The

plan drawn up by Soviet experts covers the construction of 18 installations for the plant in addition to repairing and enlarging the plant itself. A new workshop for repairing vehicles, a [words indistinct], a power generating center, a kitchen for workers, a medical department, and a sports ground have been set up.

Speaking at the jubilant ceremony held on the occasion of the commencement of the repairs, Prime Minister Soltan Ali Keshimand said: The (Cengalenk) plant plays an important part in the development of Afghanistan's economy.

The DRA prime minister expressed deep gratitude for the aid the Soviet Union has extended for the construction of the plant. He said that over 150 important economic projects have been completed or are about to be completed in Afghanistan. A total of 70 percent of the industrial output in Afghanistan is acquired from these establishments in addition to the generation of electricity. The profit the country made from these establishments totalled over A14 billion.

In addition to helping Afghanistan develop its economy, the Soviet Union is also helping it in training its national experts. During the years of cooperation with Uzbek SSR, Soviet experts trained over 80,000 Afghans in various fields. The April Revolution and its [word indistinct] have created an opportunity for developing economic cooperation between the two countries. The [words indistinct] was commissioned after the April Revolution. The (Nilupher) Space Communications Station [as heard] has been set up for receiving foreign television programs and securing telephone links with foreign countries. Dams and [word indistinct] have also been built in addition to the railway and automobile bridge over Amu Darya which has facilities such as dams, workshops for vehicles, and powerplants. In short, the good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and the DRA are based on equality and versatility. These relations cover machinery production, power generation, agriculture, chemical and [word indistinct] industry, and geological [word indistinct], construction of highways and dwelling quarters.

Irrespective of the undeclared war waged by the United States and its allies against the April Revolution, the economy of the DRA is developing as a result of the goodneighborly relations. The Soviet Union is supplying the DRA with machinery, tools, oil products, foodstuffs, and consumer goods. And the DRA exports wool, cotton, [word indistinct], dry fruit, and natural gas to the Soviet Union.

The developing foreign trade relations of the DRA confirm the steady development of Afghanistan's economy. If Afghanistan's foreign trade totalled A526 million in 1980 and 1981, the volume of DRA's foreign trade during the (?second half) of the current year totals A426 million. HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, which is published in Kabul, has written that this confirms the fact once again that economic relations between the Soviet Union and the DRA (?are in line) with Afghanistan's economic development and that Afghanistan's economic and political independence is becoming consolidated.

The economic relations between the two countries is allowing Afghanistan to proceed in the direction of establishing a new life. This is one of the indications proving the realization of the Soviet-DRA agreement.

CSO: 1836/32

AFGHANISTAN

TASHKENT FAULTS WESTERN MEDIA REPORTING ON AFGHANISTAN

GF031436 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Afghanistan--From Darkness into Light"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the unchanging view of each and every credible political observer is that the April Revolution in Afghanistan, which achieved victory in 1978, has ended feudalism in that country forever and initiated a new era.

The people of Afghanistan have chosen a path which leads to freedom, independence, and development. Although they have met with friends on this path, they have been confronted with enemies as well.

President Reagan is playing an important role in the design against Afghanistan. A hostile conference was organized in Washington during the middle of December on Afghanistan. The leaders of Basmachi groups attended the conference. It was aimed at drawing attention to the situation of the Afghan renegades living as refugees. Actually, the meeting was organized with a view to strengthening the undeclared war against Afghanistan and giving momentum to the secessionist activity of the Afghan evil forces which have fled to foreign countries.

Reports say that the recent strengthening of the secessionist activity of the enemies of the Afghan people is the result of the conference in Washington. This is due to the fact that a decision was taken in the conference for increasing modern arms supplies to the counterrevolutionaries. Meanwhile, propaganda activities are being strengthened against the DRA particularly by the United States. Over 50 radios are airing secessionist casts for many hours every day in the various languages used by the peoples of Afghanistan. The mass media organs in the Western world are competing with each other in fabricating unfounded reports on the present situation of the Afghan people, particularly on the purge of Muslim clergymen in Afghanistan. However, nothing is being mentioned about distribution of land to hundreds of thousands of Afghan farmers as a result of land reclamation work. Nothing is being said about the fact that over 1 million Afghan youths are learning how to read and write during the current academic year and that about 200,000 Afghan girls are currently continuing their studies in secondary schools and scientific and technical institutions.

Other figures seem more attractive to the Western media organs, an example of which is as follows: The Afghan Basmachi groups have destroyed 1,800 schools, 31 hospitals, over 100 (?medical) institutions, and tens of industrial factories in Afghanistan.

CSO: 1836/32

AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW TV REPORTS ON VOLUNTEER WORK IN AFGHANISTAN

LD021902 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 2 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; correspondent V. Fadeyev report on volunteer work in Afghanistan]

[Text] Only yesterday there was no road in this small village but today, due to the joint efforts by its inhabitants and workers and students who came to their help, a road will link together all the village buildings and will make car access here considerably easier. The appearance here of vehicles with logs of wood, kerosene and food in difficult winter times creates a good mood in the people and a special atmosphere of confidence in tomorrow. Those families that are particularly needy have been noted: they get the logs, the kerosene and the food free of charge, whereas others get them at stable state prices, which is also a beneficial factor of not inconsiderable importance. [Clips of people assembled at village center, receiving fuel, kerosene, firewood delivered by volunteer workers in Kamaz trucks.] In all areas and villages where the days of unpaid work are taking place, medical points have also been organized, where thousands of inhabitants can receive medical consultation and medicine on the spot. Organizing such days in the country, done on the party's initiative, helps the growth of people's trust in the people's power.

CSO: 1801/159

AFGHANISTAN

DRA PRESS CONFERENCE ON 'FOREIGN INTERFERENCE'

LD260036 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A press conference devoted to exposure of foreign interference in the DRA internal affairs has taken place in Kabul. The former refugees and the former members of gangs, both those who had voluntarily laid down their arms and those who had been taken captive, told in detail about the methods and means used by the counterrevolution in order to force Afghan citizens to flee their motherland or else to join the gangs of Basmachi.

They are banking on lies and slanders concerning the real situation in the country; the goals and tasks of the April Revolution are portrayed in a distorted way; blackmail and direct threats are used.

[Begin recording of former gang member in Dari fading into Russian translation] I joined the gang, obeying the order from the Islamic Movement organization. When we were abroad, we were forbidden, on pain of the death sentence, to listen to the Afghan radio and we knew nothing of the events taking place in our homeland. Then the gang penetrated the Afghan territory. It burned mosques, schools, and completely innocent people were losing their lives. I understood that we had been lied to and decided to give myself up to the people's authorities. [end recording]

Samples of foreign arms were shown during the press conference. The arms had been seized from the dushmen.

CSO: 1801/159

AFGHANISTAN

ROLE OF DRA CIVIL DEFENSE VIEWED

PM281147 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Report on interview given by Colonel Dost Mohammad chief of DRA civil defense and DRA deputy minister of national defense, to Lieutenant Colonel V. Skrizhalin, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA permanent correspondent in the DRA: "Defending the Revolution. Dispatch From the DRA"--date, place not specified]

[Text] Kabul, December--The undeclared war being waged against the DRA by imperialist reaction jointly with the counterrevolutionary rabble is not dying down. The recent confirmations by Pentagon Chief C. Weinberger and other U.S. Administration leaders of Washington's pledges to supply the bandits with modern weapons are evidence of new efforts by imperialism--albeit in vain--to strangle the April Revolution and destroy its political, economic, and social gains.

Under such conditions, special significance is attached to the solution of the task posed by the PDPA national conference--to establish a comprehensive system for defending the April Revolution's gains: "It is necessary to protect from the people's enemies everything that comprises the people's property: plants, factories, bridges, highways, power stations, irrigation canals, schools, hospitals..."

The country's civil defense occupies a most important position within the general system of measures for the state's defense. Colonel Dost Mohammad, chief of DRA civil defense and DRA deputy minister of national defense, told Lieutenant Colonel V. Skrizhalin, our permanent correspondent in the DRA, about the role and position of the civil defense and the tasks it is resolving in protecting Afghanistan's population and economy from external and internal enemies:

The DRA civil defense differs considerably--if not fundamentally--from the generally accepted and, so to speak, classic civil defense formula. In the overwhelming majority of countries in the world its basic task is to protect the state's population and economy from mass-destruction weapons. The Afghan's people's real enemies are not a thing of the future but exist in reality today, both inside the country and beyond its frontiers. By way of armed interference they are hindering our motherland's democratic development.

The target of civil defense activity is to suppress these attempts by our enemies, and its tasks at the present stage of our state's development can be summed up as follows: to protect the population from attacks by armed gangs and render first aid to the victims; to organize measures aimed at ensuring the steady functioning of economic installations; to protect livestock, crops, food supplies, feed, and water sources from contaminating agents and to implement measures to liquidate the consequences of the use of such agents; to conduct salvage and repair work in areas hit by natural calamities; to train the population in the methods of defense against the enemy's means of destruction.

Today we consider the main task in the entire range of civil defense tasks to be the protection of the population and industrial enterprises against possible attack by insurgents. And, of course, this is to be achieved with the use of weapons.

In practical terms, civil defense is only just being set in our country. This is a completely new matter for our country and, in addition to the implementation of organizational measures, we are conducting large-scale political work among the population aimed at explaining its tasks.

Civil defense in the DRA is organized on the territorial-production principle. As a rule, its formations are set up on a voluntary basis from among enterprise workers and employees and village inhabitants. They are provided with the necessary equipment and tools, as well as weapons. The armed protection and defense detachments provide the basis of the formations.

At present we have completed the organization of civil defense at Kabul's housing construction combine, the (Dzhangalak) automotive plant, and the (Bagrami) textile combine, as well as at the Qandahar textile combine, the Mazar-e Sharif nitrogenous fertilizers plant, and the (Khatdat) stockraising unit in the Jalalabad irrigation complex.

We are paying special attention to the civil defense detachments being formed in rural areas. In industrial enterprises the fighters are in formation only during working hours, except for the duty groups which are serving round the clock; but in the villages, most of which lack close contact with subunits of the armed forces and the sarandoy (people's militia), they have to maintain combat readiness day and night. And at full strength, moreover.

The largest rural formation, consisting of more than 500 personnel, has been formed in a group of villages to the southeast of Herat. The fighters in this formation, under the leadership of (Shir Aga), have repeatedly participated along with army subunits in operations to liquidate insurgent gangs.

A considerable part of Adraskan district in the same province of Herat is reliably controlled by the civil defense formation headed by (Vakil Bassir). (Pakhlivan Klych's) detachment from (Murchak) in Badghisat Province has made a name for itself.

The struggle against the enemies of the revolution in Afghanistan is acquiring a nationwide character. Some quite young fighters are joining the ranks of the revolution's defenders. Taking account of our young people's aspiration to stand in the front ranks of the struggle against the counterrevolution, we have deemed it possible to include teenagers of 16 and upward in civil defense formations, and to set the "upper" limit for men at 55 years. Women of 18 to 45 years of age are also accepted. And they actually join not only the medical but also the combat subunits, as, for example, at the ("Dzhangalak") plant.

Incidentally, by deliberately "confusing" the age limits set for civil defense fighters with the draft age for the armed forces, and by juggling with the figures "16" and "55," our enemies have launched a new propaganda canard to the effect that an almost total mobilization has been introduced in Afghanistan owing to the army's "inability" to combat the "defenders of Islam." Well, this propaganda trick is by no means original. As regards the army's "inability" to beat the enemy, the "defenders of Islam" themselves have repeatedly felt (and continue to feel) the force of its blows.

The goals and tasks of civil defense are humane; they are close to and understandable for our people. This is why more and more new fighters are joining its ranks. The association of the plow and the rifle, the machine tool and the submachine gun--this is today's grim reality in Afghanistan, and it can be explained by one reason only: the interference in our country's internal affairs by imperialist circles, and by the United States above all.

CSO: 1801/159

AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW ANSWERS LISTENERS' QUESTIONS ON AFGHANISTAN

LD041915 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Many listeners writing to Radio Moscow ask what is happening in Afghanistan, why the limited contingent of Soviet troops is still there and what are the chances of a political settlement. In the following program your questions are answered by our staff writer Yuriy Soltan, who visited the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan last year.

Why the Soviet troops are still there?

Their functions are limited. The Soviet Government has said more than once that it has no intention of keeping its troops there eternally. They will be withdrawn as soon as foreign armed interference in Afghan affairs comes to an end and when reliable international guarantees are provided that this interference will not be resumed. So far neither has happened.

And who is to blame for the conflict situation remaining?

First and foremost they are the United States and some of its NATO allies. The blame is theirs because they are forming, training and arming bandit groups on Pakistani territory. They are supplying the latest kinds of weapons, including chemical weapons. They are also sending these groups of terrorists and provocateurs into Afghanistan, which is a sovereign state. International law holds such actions as aggression. An unseemly role in training the armed bands and spreading slander about the situation in Afghanistan is also played by China.

All told, the war against the Afghan revolution, though nobody has formally declared it, is going on. With my own eyes I saw blown-up bridges, destroyed villages, burnt out lorries and ruined transmission lines.

There have been reports in American and other Western papers that who are described as insurgents control most provinces in Afghanistan. Is this true?

When I was in Afghanistan I was shown the operations map at the general staff of the Afghan armed forces. The map indicated areas in which the bandits were still operating: in about 80 administrative units at the sub-provincial level out of the total of 286 such units. What is now

happening in Afghanistan is the crushing of counterrevolution and the mopping-up of the bandits.

Unfortunately the process of political settlement is unwinding extremely slowly and the greatest hindrance is Washington's opposition to any peaceful talks. But everybody who visits Afghanistan, including progressively-minded Western correspondents, becomes firmly convinced that the revolutionary process that began in April 1978 cannot be turned back.

CSO: 1812/79

AFGHANISTAN

COMBAT VETERAN RECEIVES MEDAL FOR AFGHAN SERVICE

AU042100 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1415 GMT 15 Nov 83AAU

[Text] That day will for a long time remain in the memory of Yuriy Kisilev, first-year student at the Red Banner Order-decorated Higher Military Aviation Engineering School in Kharkov. The school chief ceremoniously presented him with the Medal for Combat Merits. The former mechanic and repairman at the (Debaltsevo) railroad station in Donetsk Oblast and then soldier was recommended for the medal for the courage and valor displayed in carrying out international duty in the composition of the restricted contingent of Soviet troops in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Yuriy did not know that he had been recommended for a medal. He has entered the school, and is now mastering the profession of military aviation engineer. The school colleagues cordially congratulated Yuriy Kisilev on the high appraisal given to his (?services).

CSO: 1811/24

AFGHANISTAN

DRA'S KARMAL PICTURED WITH SOVIET TROOPS

PM281328 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 November 1983 Second Edition carries on page 2, under the rubric "Afghan Photodiary," a 9-inch by 5-inch photograph by Lieutenant Colonel Engineer V. Sukhodolskiy showing DRA's Babrak Karmal smiling and surrounded by Soviet and Afghan servicemen. The photograph is accompanied by the following caption under the heading "Defending the Revolution":

"They were born and grew up on the banks of the Volga and the Yenisey, the Amu-Darya and the quiet Don. They crossed the Hindu Kush to come here, onto Afghan soil, motivated by the great force of internationalism. Their fathers helped Afghanistan's people in the postwar years to build plants, power stations, roads. And when a deadly threat hung over the revolutionary which took place in friendly Afghanistan, the Soviet soldiers came to help the Afghan people.

"...Russia will always be the first friend of the Afghan mountain state....' These words were spoken by Vladimir Ilich Lenin.

"I want to repeat time and again, in all responsibility that had it not been for the Soviet Union's assistance, including military assistance, which is given on a completely legitimate basis, our beloved Afghanistan would no longer exist.' These words were spoken by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council. Comrade Karmal has spoken repeatedly about the Soviet Union's assistance and its significance during meetings with Soviet and Afghan soldiers.

"The Afghan revolution is young, and its defenders are also young. Comrade Karmal reminded one of his meetings with young people that over 50 percent of the republic's population are under 19 years of age. The support for the April revolution's ideas by the young people of the new Afghanistan is a guarantee of victory in the incredibly difficult struggle being waged by the Afghan people.

"Remember Spain.... That was the first clash with fascism and how proud we are that we stood with the Spanish people in their hour of need! The great idea of internationalism is sacred to us always and for all times.

"We have warned that, if the aggression does not cease, we will not leave the Afghan people in the lurch. And our words do not differ from our deeds. The Afghan serviceman and Soviet soldier stand next to one another, shoulder to shoulder on the lookout positions of ancient Afghan fortresses, whose walls have seen many greedy strangers, from Genghis Khan to the British colonialists.

"We are helping the new Afghanistan to defend its national independence, freedom, and honor. And we will continue to help for as long as the external threat exists. This is because we are internationalists. And that is our position."

CSO: 1801/136

AFGHANISTAN

ARTICLE NOTES SOVIET, AFGHAN PILOTS FREQUENTLY FLY TOGETHER

[Editorial Report] PM291911--Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 December 1983 second edition publishes on page 4 an "Afghan photo diary" entitled "Reliable Friends" which consists of a 600-word article by Engineer Lieutenant Colonel V. Sukhodolskiy and two photographs taken by him. The first photograph shows a Soviet and an Afghan soldier in front of a star-shaped memorial, and the article explains that these are Private Yuriy Kalashnikov, an armored carrier driver, and Private (Khayrulla). The text states that "They stand side by side so that the enemy knows that the Afghan people have real, true friends." The second picture shows nine Soviet and Afghan servicemen standing in front of a helicopter, and the article says that Soviet and Afghan pilots "frequently fly together" and that Afghan helicopter pilots "gratefully recall the kind assistance of Soviet airmen, follow their example, and admire their courage, heroism, and skill."

CSO: 1801/159

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

700 DUSHMAN OVERCOME; ARMS CAPTURED--Some 500 counterrevolutionaries were killed or wounded and about 200 taken prisoner during an operation by the Afghan Army against dushman bands in the northeast of the country. According to reports from Kabul, the bandits had penetrated the republic's territory from neighboring Pakistan for the purpose of mounting subversive and terrorist actions. During the operation a big haul of arms of Pakistani, Egyptian, and American manufacture was seized. [Text] [LD030551 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 3 Jan 84]

CSO: 1801/159

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