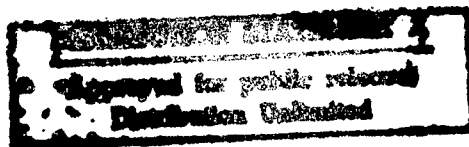


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JPRS-UMA-84-062

4 October 1984



USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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4 October 1984

USSR REPORT

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

ROLE OF PARTY COMMISSION IN HANDLING APPEALS DISCUSSED

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 6, Mar 84 (signed to press 6 Mar 84) pp 48-54

[Article by Maj Gen N. Shikhunov, secretary of the party commission under the Political Directorate of the Strategic Rocket Forces: "A Communist Submitted an Appeal...."]

[Text] In front of me are files containing cases on the misdeeds of communists which must be reviewed. Here is one of the them, the personal file of Officer S. Mikhaylichenko. It was examined by the party commission under the political section. Mikhaylichenko had been expelled from the CPSU for a negligent attitude toward his duties, for abuse of official position, for coarseness with subordinates and for violating the standards of party life. However, the case was still not closed. In it was an appeal against the decision of the party commission. Mikhaylichenko requested an investigation into what had happened and his restoring to party ranks. And our party commission had to very carefully analyze the facts and established whether or not the degree of punishment corresponded to the severity of the misdeed and rectify the error (if, of course, it had been made).

The documents of the personal file showed a great deal. But still the decision was taken to send the member of the party commission, Officer I. Pechenin, to the spot, in order to study the new facts which had been mentioned in the appeal, to investigate the situation existing in the party organization where Mikhaylichenko had been a member and establish whether the officer truly, as he himself had admitted, was profoundly aware of his blame for the mistakes made and was ready to atone for this by hard work.

After a thorough study of all the circumstances of the case, it was clear that the party commission under the political section had been right in applying the highest measure of party punishment against Mikhaylichenko. This officer had shown an irresponsible attitude toward the performing of his official duties and was chiefly concerned with feathering his own nest. He had been able to feign busy activities, as they say, to pull the wool over the eyes of others. And for a while he got away with it. However, the men around did not want to tolerate the violations of the military requirements and the standards of party life as committed by Mikhaylichenko. They pointed out to him the shortcomings in his service and conduct, but he did not heed either the comments of senior comrades, the voice of the communists or their critical

statements. Moreover, he brought pressure to bear on those who criticized the shortcomings. In particular, when the party organization secretary reminded Mikhaylichenko of the need to observe the requirements of the CPSU By-Laws and the party duty of a leader, the latter took this very painfully. He began to be prejudiced against the secretary and in any convenient instance to criticize him for being unable to work with others....

The flaunting of the standards of party life, the overweening ambition and low demands on oneself--all of this was ultimately the reason for the flagrant misdeeds committed to Mikhaylichenko. Why had he shown negligence and a lack of good conscience in the assigned job? Why did he not take into account the opinion of the party organization and why did he not heed the valid comments by the communists? Why even when they were investigating his personal file did he not endeavor to analyze his attitude toward service, his conduct and draw the necessary conclusions, but rather continue to go downhill?

These and other questions which were asked of Mikhaylichenko at a session of the party commission where they reviewed his appeal in essence remained unanswered. Instead of reflecting seriously over his misdeeds, assessing his work self-critically and admitting to the mistakes made, Mikhaylichenko endeavored at any price to defend himself, to wiggle out and understate his guilt. It was obvious that the man did not feel anything. And he did not undertake anything to show a readiness to eliminate the shortcomings. The party commission turned down Mikhaylichenko's request to be restored to the party.

In the complex and diverse activities of the party commissions under the Rocket Troop political bodies, the review of appeals from the party members and candidate members holds an important place. Unfortunately, we still have individual communists who are held liable to the party for violations of the CPSU By-Laws, party and military discipline and the standards of communist morality. In evaluating the actions and deeds of such members and candidate members, the party commission strictly adheres to the demands of the 26th Party Congress which emphasized that our attitude to those who behave unworthily and who violate the party By-Laws and the standards of party morality has been, is and will be implacable. There are no concessions for anyone when it is a question of the honor and authority of our party and the purity of its ranks!

The results of the last training year as well as the results of exercises during the winter training period provide grounds to conclude that the activeness and initiative of the communists in the units and subunits and their responsibility for carrying out party and official duty are increasing and their reciprocal exactingness is growing stronger. The political bodies and party organizations, in being guided by the demands stemming from the decisions of the 26th Party Congress, the June and December (1983) and extraordinary February Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and by the recommendations of the Sixth All-Army Conference of Primary Party Organization Secretaries, are working to eliminate everything that tells negatively on combat readiness and are placing strong demands on those who commit deviations from the requirements of the military regulations and defame the title of communist. The measures of party indoctrination and control envisaged by the CPSU By-Laws are employed for this purpose. And it does happen that a decision is taken to expel a person from the party.

The communists who have suffered severe party reprimands often turn to the higher party level with a request to review their personal files. One appeals to a sense of justice, feeling that he has been approached in a prejudiced manner in being held responsible to the party while another assumes that too strict a reprimand had been applied against him. Sometimes a party member or candidate member appeals to the superior party body, using the established right to defend himself against unsound accusations. And internal party democracy is such that a party member can always count on a considerate attitude and an objective evaluation of his deeds and conduct.

There are various infractions. But behind the same infractions are persons with varying characters and each man has his own arguments, each gives facts and evidence. It is important in all of this to investigate properly, to give a party assessment to what happened and draw the correct conclusions. The members of the party commissions must possess, as they say, special qualities and constantly hone their ability and professional skill in order to thoroughly analyze any complex situation. In one instance to find the way to the heart of a person, to initiate a confidential talk with him, to help him profoundly realize his party duty and measure of responsibility and in another, to protect a person against unproven accusations and discover the reasons for a prejudiced attitude toward him. Such qualities, in our view, are fully inherent to the members of the party commission headed by Officer L. Poroshinskiy. Here they always approach the review of appeals attentively and with a feeling of great responsibility. Each time they thoroughly check out the correctness of the accusations made and show particular attention to the party organization's opinion of the communist. This is a very important aspect for where else but the primary party organization do they better know the communist.

The party commission secretary, having become acquainted with the appeal, requests the personal file and the lacking documents. All the materials are carefully analyzed. In individual instances, upon instructions from the chief of the political section, the party commission secretary (a member of the party commission) or a worker from the political body goes directly to the spot for checking out certain facts. In preparing the personal file for a review at a party commission session, the secretary meets with the communist who submitted the appeal. The talks with him are conducted in a situation which establishes a predisposition for frankness. Poroshinskiy is an experienced worker and knows that in investigating the circumstances of one or another case, an important role is also played by the form of conversation and coldness must not be shown to the other or excessive strictness. An invisible wall of misunderstanding and alienation can immediately be thrown up between the people.

Both Poroshinskiy and the other members of the party commission endeavor to predispose the man to them and understand the complexities of the personal file as well as possible. Have all the circumstances been taken into account, has there been rush or hurry in reviewing the case about the communist's misdeed, has the man drawn proper conclusions from what happened and does he sincerely desire to atone for his blame--an elucidation of all this makes it possible for the party commission to then take the correct decision.

Let me give an example. The CPSU member, Officer A. Voloshin was given a party reprimand for failings in service activities. As it turned out in a check

conducted under the appeal from the communist, the measure of punishment did not correspond to the man's degree of guilt. In actuality, Voloshin had made mistakes in his work and did not deny his errors. However, there were certain objective circumstances which significantly influenced the state of affairs in the subunit and the results of the personnel's combat training. But these had not been taken into account. The comrades did not consider that the CPSU member prior to this had served flawlessly, he had made the mistakes out of inexperience and also that he profoundly recognized his blame for the shortcomings made.

The party commission, having reviewed the appeal from the party member, took a decision to reduce the degree of punishment for him. Time showed that the failings in the officer's work were accidental and he made every effort so that the subunit became a leading one.

From our own experience we have long been convinced of how complex it is to review appeals. This experience also teaches that one must always remember that there is a person behind the appeal. We endeavor first of all to determine what has been committed, an intentional misdeed or a mistake. In the first instance it is a question of a conscious violation of the demands of the CPSU By-Laws. But a mistake is usually made out of inexperience, rashness, as a result of unexamined actions. Practice shows that in all deviations from the standards of party life, it is essential to delve into their very essence, into the reasons which gave rise to the infractions. Then one can avoid erroneous decisions.

The following case comes to mind. The CPSU member, Officer A. Sorokin, was in everyone's good graces and had merited authority. An outstanding man in military and political training, a specialist 1st class and an able indoctrinator of subordinates--this is what the man had achieved. But then it became known that Sorokin had made a flagrant violation of the military regulations and had been expelled from the party. In preparing to review Sorokin's appeal, we requested his personal file. We went through all the materials carefully and spoke with the commander, the political worker and other communists. The fact nevertheless remained a fact: Sorokin had shown inefficiency and had not promptly carried out the instructions of the command. But still the situation was not as simple as might seem at first glance. There were rather weighty circumstances of a family nature which largely explained the officer's conduct. However, no one had taken them into account. At the session of the party commission Sorokin had not said anything about these causes and assumed the stance of the falsely accused. And his senior comrades did not have enough tact and patience to investigate the situation which had developed. They reasoned as follows: the communist must be more strictly punished as a warning for others. In a word, emotions prevailed. Although it is obvious that one must not give way to emotions when it is a question of a person's membership in the party. Likewise one must not proceed solely from formal considerations. All the more if it is a question of a well-regarded officer who, incidentally, had been awarded a state decoration.

The party commission under the Political Directorate of the Rocket Troops, having studied all the circumstances in the case, returned Sorokin to the CPSU,

having given him a strict reprimand with the recording of this on his registration card. Later on the officer was transferred to another unit because of family circumstances. Now we can note with satisfaction that we did not make a mistake about this person. In his new place of service the officer has shown his better side. He stands alert duty in an exemplary manner and conscientiously fulfills the assignments of the party organization. Recently the party reprimand was lifted. He was elected also to the party committee.

Of course, the analysis of such cases described above and others similar requires a great deal of time and effort. But we cannot do otherwise. When it is a question of checking the validity of accusations made against a communist, one must not talk about the effort spent.

Certainly, sensitivity and attention to others in no way mean that we must indulge those who are negligent in carrying out party and official duties or who commit infractions. Here we have clear guidelines. At the Extraordinary February Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the need to increase organization and strengthen order was pointed out with new strength. Any negligence or irresponsibility, emphasized Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the plenum, does serious social and moral harm. For this reason the party commissions make not the slightest concessions to the comrades who ignore the demands of the CPSU By-Laws, who behave unworthily in a collective and hold them more strictly responsible.

At one time we were examining an appeal from the CPSU member, Maj G. Miroshnichenko, concerning the severity of a party reprimand. As a check of the facts showed, the communist had been justly punished. But it was also discovered that a severe reprimand was also due Miroshnichenko's immediate superior, Lt Col Yu. Borbot, who had also violated the CPSU By-Laws and the military regulations. The party commission, having left in force the decision of the party organization to punish Miroshnichenko, also imposed a reprimand on Borbot.

In analyzing the practice of reviewing the cases concerning the infractions of communists, the party commissions endeavor to see behind the facts the real reasons for the various infractions. There are many reasons but I would like particularly to point out one of them: this is the lack in certain party organizations of an atmosphere of principledness and exactingness upon the party members and candidate members for carrying out their party duty. The political directorate has drawn the attention of the communist leaders to this shortcoming at meetings of the commanders and political workers, at seminars for the party organization secretaries and at different meetings. The party commission members, in giving informational reports in the party organizations on the work of the party commission, also emphasize the need to establish in the collectives a situation of great exactingness and to deal strictly with the violators of the standards of party life. However, facts show that in a number of party organizations they do not always follow the instructions of the 26th CPSU Congress which demanded more principledness in our work. Let me return to the above-mentioned case. Both Miroshnichenko and Borbot together and individually had violated discipline and the standards of party ethics. However, the communists put up appearances that nothing particular had happened. Here criticism was rarely voiced in the party meetings and if critical comments were made, they were of an undirected, general sort.

Such a situation in a party collective was largely determined by the position of the party organization secretary who showed a lack of principle and covered up the shortcomings. For this reason, the political body had to take measures aimed at improving the moral and psychological situation in the collective. The workers from the political section and the party commission members conducted individual talks with the communists on the requirements of the CPSU By-Laws, the decisions of the 26th Party Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the standards of party life. They also participated in preparing and conducting meetings with an agenda "On the State of Criticism and Self-Criticism in the Party Organization and On Increasing the Responsibility of the Communists for Carrying Out Party and Official Duties." In addition, at a seminar for the party organization secretaries conducted by the political directorate, they discussed the question of the work style of the party secretary and his principledness.

In examining the appeals, another trend was discovered: certain party organizations do not call down the communists who have committed so-called "minor" infractions of discipline. At best, they mildly rebuke the comrade and let that be it. They begin to sound the alarm only when the disciplinary violations lead to major flaws in training and service. This runs contrary to the demand of the CPSU By-Laws which orders that no deviation from the rules of conduct set for the communists be left without attention.

One also encounters a situation where in individual primary party organizations there is an absence of strict demand for the comrades for poor indicators in combat training, for the nonfulfillment of socialist obligations and a gap between word and deed. Certainly it is no secret that a significant portion of the subunits commanded by officer communists for an extended period of time has been satisfied with mediocre results and has not made headway in its combat improvement. The political bodies and party organizations tolerate this. Let me give an example.

The CPSU member, Officer I. Davidenko was indifferent to his assignment and did not show initiative and proper endeavor and this, of course, could not help but tell on the work results of the collective which he headed. Repeated talks were held with him, and they explained to the communist the wrongness of his position. Undoubtedly such talks are beneficial if they are reinforced by constant exactingness, by specific control and practical aid. Unfortunately, the senior comrades were chiefly concerned with persuading Davidenko. But the exhortations did not produce the desired result. The officer did not draw the proper conclusions and was held strictly responsible to the party. He turned to the party commission and intended to submit an appeal. Having carefully investigated the case, the party commission members explained to Davidenko what had caused the decision for the punishment and where his blame lay. He agreed with their arguments and admitted that the reprimand imposed on him was valid.

In working in the party organizations and in studying the reasons for the rise of the personal files on the communists, one is convinced that oversights and errors in the work of the members and candidate member occur, as a rule, where insufficient attention is given to political training and to the moral indoctrination of the communists. Certainly it is known that flaws in ideological-political and moral indoctrination inevitably lead to failures in training and

service. And how important it is for the party commission members, in reviewing the appeals, to delve deeply into how ideological indoctrination was organized in the party collective, to disclose the shortcomings in its organization and take the required measures.

Not so long ago CPSU member Officer V. Dmitrenko was called before the party. In examining his appeal, the party commission members had an opportunity to see how gradually, as they say, Dmitrenko slipped. Initially he was in command of a transport subunit. He was reduced in grade for shortcomings committed. But in the new job he did not draw conclusions from what had happened and continued violating the requirements of the military regulations and the standards of party life. And he did not draw the conclusions because, as the party commission members concluded, an atmosphere of principledness had not been established in the party organization. Here they frequently turned a blind eye to the deviations from the CPSU By-Laws committed by the communists and it even happened that they protected the violators. Just as rust erodes metal, so indifference and lack of principle ate away at the healthy features which underlay the relationships among the party collective members. The feeling of responsibility among the communists was dulled and some of them were not sufficiently aware of their role as the active fighters of the party and the leaders of the masses. It was obvious that all of this was the consequence of serious oversights in the political and moral indoctrination of the party members and candidate members. The party committee recognized as correct the decision to punish Dmitrenko. On the basis of the conclusions drawn by it in the course of examining the appeal, the political section worked out measures aimed at improving ideological indoctrination in the unit's party organization.

At the party conferences and the party report-election meetings, it has been pointed out that the party organizations and commissions under the political bodies in recent years have begun to more carefully examine the personal files and improve the indoctrination of the communists. This applies fully to the party commission headed by Officer V. Zhuravlev. Its members are constantly improving the style of their activities. They are frequently present in the subunits, they delve into the state of affairs in one or another collective, and participate in measures of an ideological indoctrination nature and in reviewing the personal files in the primary party organizations. We feel that it is no accident that the party commission approaches an assessment of misdeeds by the communists in a demanding and objective manner.

Much is rightly said about how important it is to be constantly concerned for the indoctrinational role of each analysis of a case concerning an infraction by a communist. And this means to strictly observe the established procedure in reviewing the personal files and not to avoid the primary party organization where the comrade who has committed the infraction is a member. At the same time there have been instances when a party committee or party commission under a political section have held a CPSU member liable, bypassing the primary party organization for various pretexts. This is nothing else but an attempt to remove the communist from criticism by comrades who work next to him and know him best. We also have encountered such cases. Thus, the party committee reviewed the case of an infraction by the CPSU member Officer V. Serkov, giving him a strict reprimand and entering this on his card. Serkov had

already been brought up before the party for unworthy conduct in everyday life. And he had not disputed the decision of the party committee. This time the party commission applied a stricter reprimand and expelled him from the party. The officer appealed. In analyzing this it turned out that the procedure for reviewing the personal file had been violated. The misdeed of Serkov, in accord with the Instructions to the CPSU Organizations in the Soviet Army and Navy, should have been discussed in the primary party organization. But the party committee felt that this would demean the authority of a communist officer who held a high position.

Serkov's personal file was returned to the primary party organization. The communists showed a principled approach to assessing the misdeeds of their fellow serviceman and expelled him from the party for their severity.

We feel that a resolving of the question of penalizing a communist outside the party organization where he is a member in no way increases the indoctrinational role of the reprimand and in addition reduces the degree of effect on the communist by the party organization which remains on the sidelines. Such a practice does not help to create an atmosphere of exactingness and implacability against shortcomings in a party collective.

The party commission, having reviewed an appeal, informs the primary party organization of its decision and endeavors to do this in such a manner that the communists understand the reasons for the decision and those circumstances which might not have been considered in discussing the personal file in the party collective. The party commission secretaries under the political sections systematically speak at seminars for the secretaries of the primary party organizations, they explain the procedure for examining the files concerning the misdeeds of communists and instruct them in drawing these up correctly.

I would also like to point out that we endeavor not to lose sight of the communist who has been restored to the party but has been given a party reprimand. The party commission members are interested in what assignments of the party organization he is carrying out and how he is doing this, what he is doing to rectify the mistake made and how active he is in social life. This is one of the conditions so that the person subsequently in all his activities follows the requirements of the party By-Laws.

To carefully and thoroughly examine the appeals and to objectively approach a decision on the fate of a communist--this was a remains one of the most important tasks for the party commissions. It is their duty to maintain the purity and high discipline of the party ranks and increase the responsibility of the communists for carrying out the missions of combat readiness.

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

PROGRAMMING OF KOMSOMOL MEETINGS DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) pp 9-10

[Article by ZNAMENOSETS correspondent Maj A. Kupryashin: "Why Are You Taking the Floor?"]

[Text] The special evening "Two Worlds--Two Ways of Life" was held in the ordinary manner. The Komsomol activists in turn took the floor and in loud voices read the newspaper excerpts given to them on the night before by the Komsomol bureau secretary, WO ["praporshchik"] V. Mironenko. In the battalion newspapers are regularly read by a majority of the motorized rifle troops. So the facts mentioned by the speakers were not new for them. And for this reason some were frankly daydreaming, others were whispering to their neighbor and someone else was writing a letter. But then Pfc R. Krompal'tsas asked for the floor.

"Here the attitude toward pop music has been unapproving," he said, "but I like it a lot. It makes me feel better and gives me energy. Before the army I had assembled a whole collection of recordings. Musicians need," and he began reeling off the names of Western groups.

WO Mironenko tried to refute Krompal'tsas, regretting in his heart that he had given him the floor. He said that the groups which the soldier had just been praising often perform songs with an anti-Soviet content, explaining simplistically that their repertoire is drawn up for profit reasons. He wanted to add something else. But he could not because the secretary was not prepared for talking on this subject.

"Well, we are out of time," said Mironenko hurriedly, "soon there will be the evening walk."

The motorized rifle troops noisily left the Lenin room.

The evening clearly had not been a success. Its effectiveness was virtually zero. Why? There are several reasons. One of them, in my view, is that the approach to preparing for the evening was wrong. Mironenko realized that the planned measure had to be held without fail. It was decided to narrow the limits of the discussion to the life of young people in our country and in the capitalist countries. It seems to the secretary that this would make the preparation of the special evening easier. And he, arming himself with a pair of

scissors, took a pile of newspapers from the desk. In trying to assemble more material, he put in the file articles on every sort of thing: on crime and racism in the capitalist world, the impossibility of obtaining an education and a job and so forth. There was a comment about music but this seemed "minor" to the question. Mironenko did not forget to note which of the Komsomol members had been given what excerpt to read. But he did forget something more essential: what concerned the Komsomol members, what interested them and what they argued about. Here one can see the second reason. He prepared a file with excerpts but himself was not ready to conduct an apt and well argued conversation with the young men. A conversation which would persuade, indoctrinate and leave a trace in the heart of the listener.

Moreover, the secretary did not proceed in the best manner, having made a hash of the discussion of music and actually avoiding it. It would have been better to propose discussing this the next time. And to prepare for this, to help the activists and invite in a musicologist. Undoubtedly there would have been a useful exchange of opinions which would also have encouraged Pfc Krompal'tsas to have a different attitude toward pop music.

Formalism, as is known, is capable of nipping any useful initiative in the bud and nullifying the efforts of many people. It cannot be tolerated in any question, particularly in propaganda work. Particularly now, when the imperialists have unleashed against us a psychological aggression which is unprecedented in its scale and brazenness. When by slandering the Soviet system and propagandizing the bourgeois way of life they endeavor to disrupt the monolithic unity of our society and foster views and morals alien to us in our midst and primarily among the youth.

To what formalism and inertia in the work of the Komsomol activists lead I know well from the example of the former Komsomol member and former junior sergeant Ye. Soroka.

In the company where he served, no one stopped them when the glib tank gunner told vulgar stories to the Komsomol members and where directly or covertly they belittled and made fun of concepts which are sacred to all of us. They were silent when Soroka motivated by a vain desire to be at the center of attention of his fellow servicemen and to appear an informed person, spread harmful rumors. The activists suddenly realized what was happening but it was too late. A meeting was held. Angry words were directed at Soroka by the Komsomol bureau secretary Sgt V. Lisovskiy and other comrades. All the Komsomol members voted unanimously to expel him from the ranks of the Komsomol.

Certainly all of this could have been prevented if the secretary and the bureau members knew the immediate needs of the men and what concerned them. If they had been able to promptly provide a principled assessment of the tankman's conduct. And had endeavored to understand why Soroka had become thus. Even before serving in the army he had listened to foreign radio broadcasts and was unable to see in them the concealed distortion of Soviet reality. He lacked experience in life and political maturity to recognize an adroit misconstruing of the facts. And in the subunit where Soroka happened to serve, the struggle for the hearts and minds of the men was carried out at times formally and sporadically. There was no creativity, activity and militancy in this.

Here they did not remember the words voiced at the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee: "...Not all the Komsomol organizations have been up to the tasks confronting them. At times, they have remained on the sidelines of urgent problems which truly concern the youth and have not succeeded in promptly responding to the new trends and the concerns among the youth and to give them the necessary ideological focus."

How can we see to it that the ideological indoctrination of the Komsomol organizations be carried out thoughtfully and with verve so that no Komsomol member or young soldier remains outside its influence? What must be done, for instance, so that at the special evenings there be no bored persons and each word of the speakers hits its mark, indoctrinates, tempers and develops in the Komsomol members and youth an unswerving ideological conviction and immunity to the intrigues of bourgeois propaganda?

We discussed this problem with the assistant chief of the Political Directorate of the Ground Forces for Komsomol Work and a participant of the all-Army conference for Komsomol organization secretaries, Maj V. Bogatyrev. The districts have acquired a good deal of experience in working skillfully with the Komsomol servicemen who now are setting a worthy example in training and service. This largely explains the high level of discipline in the units and subunits and the successes in the socialist competition. The district sections of Komsomol work have constantly generalized the experience of the best secretaries of the Komsomol bureaus and widely disseminate it in the Komsomol organizations and make certain this is introduced.

"The main thing," said the major, "is not to become tied up in your own involvements and to avoid routine and excessive organization. We constantly advise the Komsomol workers to show more initiative, strengthen ties with the Komsomol organizations of the plants and factories and more frequently visit the Komsomol raykoms and gorkoms. Certainly we are carrying out common tasks. Creatively employ their experience. Close contact here is simply essential."

What benefit comes from such contact I saw once for myself.

The secretary of a tank battalion Komsomol bureau, WO V. Bondarchuk, noticed a foreign magazine in Russian in the hands of Pvt V. Bobok. The foreign publication extolled the social security system for unemployed in one of the capitalist countries and praised the supposedly carefree life of the unemployed. And the days spent without any hope of earning a means to existence were called a "temporary leave."

The secretary picked up the shiny journal, quickly leafed through it and proposed:

"What about our continuing a discussion of this publication at a special evening?"

Bondarchuk mentioned his plan to the deputy battalion commander, Capt P. Lychak.

"Well, that is a good idea. But how do you intend to conduct the evening? The question is a complex one and we must be thoroughly prepared. Recently I was

at a plant and at the Komsomol committee learned that with the aid of their gorkom a similar measure was to be carried out. Judging from the replies of the young workers, it succeeded. Get in contact with the Komsomol gorkom and they will help."

Soon Bondarchuk met with the foreman of the production association imeni 50 Letiye Oktyabrya, V. P. Lyakhovchuk. Viktor Petrovich [Lyakhovchuk] who happened to have lived almost 20 years in Argentina and at one time had experienced all the capitalist "goods," agreed to participate in the special evening.

The evening was called "The Capitalist 'Paradise.' A View From Within." The discussion at it continued the subject proposed by the article in the foreign publication but had now a clear class position. I happened to attend the evening and listen to Lyakhovchuk who knew well what unemployment was. He had to stand in line for aid which was enough just to keep from dying from hunger. With his own eyes he had seen how unemployment distorted and killed human dignity and in order for people to survive they turned to crime. He recalled chronically undernourished, skinny children with sad eyes. Children ready to perform any heavy work for the sake of a piece of bread.

Lyakhovchuk held the foreign magazine in his hand and commented on its article. Each word of the eyewitness who had experienced the humiliation and lack of rights in the capitalist "paradise" was a stirring and angry rebuke to the hypocrisy and lies of bourgeois propaganda.

I saw with what unfeigned interest Jr Sgts A. Balka and S. Berichev, the other men of the battalion and Pvt V. Bobok who had brought the magazine listened to the working man and thought that this conversation would certainly be remembered by the tank troops. It helped to unerringly spot the clever lie of bourgeois propaganda. And here, of course, the success has been due to the enterprising secretary and participant of the all-Army conference. Bondarchuk constantly remembers that intelligent, well read and curious men are serving in the battalion. It is not easy to work with them. Measures must not be carried out merely for the sake of an entry in the column "done." And this means that one must constantly think and seek out ways to the awareness and heart of the young men.

"How can the effectiveness of ideological indoctrination be achieved?" a reader may ask.

Certainly this is a reasonable question. I would answer it thus: if the secretary is a creative person, an opportunity will always be found to vitalize the activities of the Komsomol bureau and make it truly active. This can convincingly be seen from the experience of the Komsomol bureau secretary of an artillery battalion, WO S. Pasyuk whom I met on one of the trips in the Red Banner Baltic Military District.

The secretary employs various forms of propaganda work. Special evenings, oral issues of the Komsomol magazine and debates are held with benefit to all. The evenings are interesting and not divorced from everyday life. Thus, in particular, the activists prepared a special evening on "Information...With a Double Bottom." Pasyuk invited to the border troop subunit WO N. Nakonechnyy and

Sgt V. Ustyugov and the assistant captain of a ship which made regular international voyages, V. Bogatyrev. The guests told with what resourcefulness foreign "tourists" resort to bringing slanderous literature into our nation and how they doubt the stories of Soviet sailors about life in our country and its successes. The discussion was an interesting one.

But using this example, I would like to say the following: the secretary has good relations with the border troops and has established professional contact which he also uses in his work. There was also a possibility to contact a navigation company and he used this, too. He was also met halfway. It would be possible to give many examples where Pasyuk showed creativity and made a great effort to prepare thoroughly and conduct the measure in an interesting way. The main thing in the work of the Komsomol bureau is that the activists do not overlook problems which are of concern to the Komsomol members, they speak about them openly and give them the necessary ideological focus.

...The Komsomol secretary has a responsible position. He must fight for the minds and hearts of the men. This is why each time, in taking the floor, before beginning a talk with the men, the secretary must ask himself: am I ready for this, have I used all the opportunities to achieve success? Will my words encounter a response in the hearts of the Komsomol members and will they strike their mark? Certainly here there should be no misses.

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ARMED FORCES

GEN YAZOV DISCUSSES IMPORTANCE OF REGULATIONS

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 6, Mar 84 (signed to press 6 Mar 84) pp 34-41

[Article by Army Gen D. Yazov, commander of the Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Proper Order Indoctrinates"]

[Text] "Five years have passed since I was discharged into the reserves. But even now I frequently recall my army service and my home company. We were proud of the fact that the rolls of our company included in perpetuity Hero of the Soviet Union, Political Instructor Vasiliy Klochkov. We were proud of the company's traditions. One of these traditions was to maintain exemplary order in everything. Our exercises always stood out in the high level of organization. The daily regimen was precisely observed and it was always clean and neat in the barracks. All of this impelled us to be internally on the alert, and taught us organization and discipline. For much I am grateful to the army, particularly for the fact that service helped me acquire such valuable qualities as resourcefulness and the ability to overcome difficulties and value time."

Not without a feeling of pride for our army which, as was pointed out at the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, is rightly called a school of courage, industry and high morality by the people, I read this letter from Sgt (Res) A. Gasanov, now a school principal and in the not distant past the junior commander of one of the subunits in the famous Order of Lenin, Red Banner and Order of Suvorov Rezhitsa Guards Motorized Rifle Division imeni Geroy Sovetskogo Soyuza general-mayor I. V. Panfilov. Similar letters are frequently received by the commanders and political workers from the reserve servicemen. The men recall with gratitude military service which taught them much, including discipline, and here they correctly assess the indoctrinational role of proper order.

As is known, the core of a soldier's indoctrination as an unstinting defender of the motherland, a true citizen, patriot and internationalist is ideological conditioning, the shaping of his scientific ideology and wholehearted dedication to communist ideals. Political studies and all forms of ideological-political, military and moral indoctrination are aimed at making the personnel clearly aware of the growing social role of the Armed Forces and fully appreciate their enormous responsibility for the dependable defense of the victories of socialism under the conditions of the increasing military threat from imperialism.

By the entire range of indoctrinational measures it is important to work steadily for a lasting moral-political and psychological strength and readiness of the personnel to endure the harshest testings, if the situation requires.

Firm proper order holds an essential place in the unified system of the political, military and moral indoctrination of the personnel. This acts as an important means for shaping the efficiency, discipline and will of the men.

In the age of nuclear weapons, of the enormous scope, dynamism and complexity of military operations and the unprecedented importance of the moral factor, the slightest violation of the demands of military discipline and the regulations can lead to the severest consequences. For this reason now even isolated manifestations of laxness and a lack of discipline are completely intolerable.

The pertinence of this question is particularly apparent in light of the party's present tenets concerning an improvement in the work style of the personnel and increasing discipline and organization. "The question of organization and discipline is a key, fundamental one for us," emphasized the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, at the February Plenum of the Party Central Committee. "On this score, there cannot be two opinions. Any laxness or irresponsibility end up not only as material losses for society. They also cause serious social and moral harm."

Under army conditions, a lack of organization and irresponsibility are all the more intolerable as they harm the combat readiness of the troops. The word "order" from the general party demands is perceived by us, the military personnel, in an inseparable unity with the concept of "prescribed order" the essence and content of which are exceptionally broad and diverse. Some are inclined to identify this solely with the internal order in the barracks and with spit and polish. But its sense is in no way exhausted by this. Prescribed order presupposes the exemplary standing of alert duty, guard and internal services. It also includes the precise organization of military and political training, the operation and upkeep of equipment. Prescribed order presupposes correct relationships among the servicemen, a reasonable organization of leisure for the personnel and high conscious discipline.

The military council, the political directorate and staff of the district, in carrying out the party's demands on further increasing organization and discipline, constantly keep the questions of maintaining prescribed order and strengthening its indoctrinational role at the center of attention. In a majority of our units, the training and indoctrinational process and troop service have been clearly organized and the tasks confronting the troops are successfully carried out. This is largely predetermined by the fact that in these units proper attention is paid to the strict observance of the requirements of the all-arms and combat regulations.

For example, the experience of the thrice order-bearing tank regiment where Officer V. Vasil'yev serves is in many ways instructive. In a planned, purposeful and systematic manner the command and party organization develop among the men a respectful attitude toward the regulations as inviolable laws in life and service, and they work constantly so that military and political training, guard duty and internal service, the relationships in the collective, routine

and leisure of the personnel are organized in strict accord with the provisions of the regulations. The studying of the regulations, their propagandizing, the explaining of the vital advisability and necessity of unswervingly following the letter and spirit of their demands, the actual working through of the elements of the daily regimen, strict exactingness of the commanders, control and checks on execution are all subordinate to the achieving of this goal.

In the regiment they daily carry out the principle of the unity of instruction and indoctrination. This is manifested in the constant concern to involve all the personnel in combat training, in the prompt and high quality execution of the military and political training plans and the exercise schedules, and in arming the officers, warrant officers [praporshchik] and sergeants with advanced procedures. As a rule, an atmosphere of organization and precise rhythm reigns in the classrooms and the field training center.

The pride of the men in the unit is the trainer installation located in a spacious two-story building and equipped with various highly effective training devices. These not only make it possible to reduce the time for training specialists but also help to increase the indoctrinational role of military service, giving it even greater intensity, preciseness and aesthetic attractiveness, acquainting the men with the achievements of today's scientific and technical thought.

The organization and rhythmicalness in the regiment's life are brought about primarily by the conscientious execution of duties by all the officials and personnel on daily detail and by constant supervision over the observance of the prescribed requirements by the commander and staff of the regiment. Of course, also by a concern for the men and that they have everything necessary for productive study, life and service.

The unit is stationed in a remote steppe area, where the natural conditions are severe, where the questions of the amenities and routine of the personnel assume particular importance and are harder to solve than in the large garrisons. All the more respect should be paid to those who by their labor and energy, in the place of the obsolete single-story wooden buildings, in a comparatively short period of time put up a modern post the very appearance of which gives rise to heightened feelings.

Both the mentioned trainer facility and the fine drill field on which all the subunits of the regiment can drill simultaneously, the mess and soldier's tea-room which meet the highest demands of modern domestic aesthetics contribute to indoctrinating smartness, neatness and proper conduct in the men.

The companies have everything necessary provided by the Internal Service Regulations. The platoons have been located in a quarters system. Cleanliness and coziness are everywhere and everywhere there is a situation which causes one to be internally alert and smart.

The experience of the leading units and subunits teaches that the key question in strengthening military discipline is the maintaining of prescribed order with the aid of an ordered system of organizational and indoctrinational measures. It is

not enough to merely urge a serviceman to be disciplined and efficient. He must be placed under conditions of strict military order and the prescribed organization of combat training and the entire way of life and service in the unit and subunit.

If we are self-critical--and we have no right to be otherwise--we cannot help but admit that the organization of combat training and the service of the troops does not everywhere and fully conform to the requirements of the regulations. As yet not all the leaders are profoundly aware that the indoctrinational role of military service is fully manifested only when this work is correctly and scientifically organized and when it is dependably supported in material-organizational and moral-political terms. Unfortunately, instances are still encountered of the delayed beginning of exercises, their poor material support and other organizational failings.

In one of the subunits of the motorized rifle regiment X, for example, firing was to be carried out according to the exercise schedule. The personnel arrived at the firing range at the designated time. The first rounds should have been gotten off, but nothing was heard. It turned out that the ammunition had still not been delivered. The staff officer of the unit, in justification, related that the battalion commander, Capt S. Antonov, on the night before had been late in submitting a request for cartridges. In addition, in the morning, the chief of the storeroom had not been at his place. Many minutes of training time were thus lost during which the men were left on their own, although, regardless of the occurring stoppage, they could have made good use of the time. For example, organize a study of the conditions for the forthcoming execution of the exercise according to the Firing Course and which certain soldiers had a shaky knowledge of. Ultimately the firing was held but it was carried out feebly, without the zeal of competitiveness and did not arouse in the personnel an uplift which is natural in such situations or a desire to excel.

Later on, at a party meeting, in analyzing this instance the communists recalled the statement of a soldier. To the question of his impressions after the firing, he replied: "Nothing special...they fired a bit...." It is a good thing, of course, that the party members endeavored to see the negative consequences of the lack of organization not only from the viewpoint of the squandering of training time but also considering the interests of indoctrination. But it would be important to go farther and more acutely pose the question of the personal responsibility of the communists who did not ensure proper order and who were to blame for reducing the indoctrinational impact of the firing.

Party principledness would demand that this case be assessed from such a standpoint. In the regiment there are numerous appeals to strengthen order, discipline and organization. High socialist obligations have been set. But why then did the deed not follow the word? With such a posing of the question the harm done to the indoctrination of the men by the irresponsibility of individual leaders becomes fully apparent. Also disclosed is the harmfulness of a tolerant, insufficiently principled attitude toward them by the party organizations.

Such phenomena cannot be viewed as something particular or nonessential. It is all the more unforgivable to justify them as certain commanders are inclined

to do by referring to objective factors, thereby concealing someone's shortcomings.

It is the duty of each army communist to assess his own work from the standpoint of high party exactingness and in the same manner view that area for which he is responsible, the organization of things on the ranges, firing ranges and airfields where combat readiness is formed.

It is exceptionally important to see to it as was pointed out at the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, that words never deviate from deeds and that the essence of a deed is not replaced by mere form. The party sees one of the most important reserves for increasing the effectiveness of organizational, ideological and mass political work in ensuring an inseparable unity of word and deed.

How can this party demand be realized in the activities of the military personnel and particularly in the area of combat readiness? This question was discussed by the district communists at the report-election meetings in the units and subunits, at party conferences in the formations and at a party conference of the district. It was correctly emphasized that the indoctrinational effect of military service and combat training is fully manifested when a word is followed by a deed and when all the training measures and exercises are conducted effectively and bring good end results.

A responsible approach to the organizing of combat training is inseparably linked to carrying out the permanent principle of troop training: "Teach what is necessary in war." This principle requires not only a mastery of the principles of modern combat but also the true tempering of the will of the men and developing in them psychological strength, tenacity, boldness and combat activeness, providing for all of this ahead of time in the concepts and plans for forthcoming exercises and drills.

The indoctrinational effect of any exercise or drill is higher the more complex the situation in it and the more fully it meets the demands of modern combat. The realization of indoctrinational possibilities to a significant degree is also determined by the level of party political work which must give the efforts of each the nature of realized necessity and maintain in the men high morale and a drive for victory.

Precisely such a comprehensive approach to the question, including constant concern for the development of the competition, ensures the high indoctrinational effect of combat training in the motorized rifle regiment and the aviation units where Officers Ye. Vorob'yev and B. Ivanov serve as well as in the other leading units and subunits. Common to them is an attitude on the part of the officials toward the combat and political training plans and exercise schedules as documents of particular importance which must be unswervingly carried out.

A distinguishing trait of our all-arms regulations is concreteness. They clearly outline the range of duties for the officials and establish, so to speak, the scale of their responsibility. The instituting of prescribed order starts, actually, with the demands placed on each of them and their training and indoctrination. The regimental commander plays a special role in maintaining prescribed order and in realizing its indoctrinational possibilities.

With all the complexity, with all the diversity of obligations entrusted to the regimental commander, there is, I would say, a special index by which it is possible to largely judge the combat readiness of the regiment and, consequently, the professional maturity of its commander. This indicator is the order in the regiment.

For example, having visited the motorized rifle regiment where Officer V. Koselev serves, one simply cannot help but note the youthful appearance of the men, the order and coziness in the housing and service quarters. The training process in the subunits is marked by high organization and a precise pace. The derivative of such an organizing of things is good combat skills which the personnel has repeatedly demonstrated at recent exercises involving field firing, having won a high grade. Of course, behind all this stands the great effort of the regiment's officers and primarily its commander.

What is characteristic of his work style? First of all, a personal example in carrying out the prescribed duties. For instance, the regulations prescribe that the regimental commander at least twice a year should inspect the weapons, the combat and other equipment and announce the results of the inspection in a regimental order. There has not been an instance when he departed from this demand. And each inspection became a true school of conscientiously fulfilling the prescribed regulations and a profound investigation into the heart of the matter for the subunit commanders and for the chiefs of the services. The order issued on its results not only recorded the positive and the shortcomings but also outlined specific measures to improve the maintenance of the equipment.

In trying to equal the regimental commander, the battalion commanders, as a rule, precisely carry out their duties related to the maintenance of the equipment and weapons as well as the other prescribed requirements. And if one of them deviates from the established rules, the regimental commander comes down severely on him. The battalion commanders, in turn, work for the unswerving fulfillment of service duties by the company commanders.... And thus this chain stretches down to the very soldiers.

The regulations oblige the commander to be the organizer of prescribed order. This demand, like the others, can be successfully carried out by him in relying on the party and Komsomol organizations, on the basis of a profound ideological maturity, broad political viewpoint and mastery of the Leninist style of leadership.

In all the diverse activities of a commander to ensure the prescribed way of life for the military collective, I would put in first place his exactingness, control and check of execution. Exactingness for the staff, chiefs of services and subunit commanders.

Instructive in this sense is the work style of Lt Col G. Flerko who was recently promoted to a higher service post from the position of unit commander. Among the questions which he, having taken on the unit, was interested in during the very first talks with the officials was how the man knows his duties according to the regulations. Here many flaws were detected. In certain officers their knowledge was very superficial and tentative. To these it was pointed out that duties cannot be successfully performed without having

mastered them fully. The date for a colloquium on the regulations was immediately set. Clearly this obliged a person to do a great deal and he came to the next meeting with the commander, as they say, fully armed. A knowledge of the prescribed regulations by his deputies, chiefs of services and battalion commanders was checked out by the unit commander also during quizzes conducted once during the training period.

But it also happens that an officer may know the regulations but does not scrupulously carry out their requirements. Strict supervision and a check on execution are a dependable means against such a gap between word and deed. In service meetings and in personal talks, Lt Col Flerko systematically analyzed the fulfillment of the prescribed duties by the officials. Specifically for each point. At the end of each training period, he assessed the personal contribution of each to the strengthening of discipline and prescribed order. A grade was given in the service meetings.

The policy of increasing the personal responsibility of the communist leaders for the fulfillment of service duties has begun to be more steadily carried out by the party organization, in making it a regular practice, in particular, to have reports by the CPSU members on their work in the area of strengthening discipline and organization. Thus, a united front of exactingness has been created both through service and party channels and this is an indispensable guarantee for success.

The unit has strictly maintained the system for summing up the work results of the officers, warrant officers and sergeants in the area of strengthening discipline. This is done at the end of each week in the companies and monthly in the battalions and on the regimental level. The unit commander has regularly participated in summing up the results of activities in maintaining prescribed order in the subunits, having first thoroughly investigated the state of affairs, and demanded that his deputies do this too. All of this, combined with constant concern for the training of the commanders of the squads and subunits, the company sergeant majors and their arming with advanced experience in maintaining prescribed order has produced positive results in strengthening discipline.

We are endeavoring not to allow the district military council to overlook the questions of the development of the unit commanders, including as organizers of prescribed order. These are periodically examined at its sessions. In the course of professional training constant attention is given to developing the organizational skills in the unit commanders. At the assemblies held with them during each training period, without fail the forms and methods of work to strengthen military discipline are examined. During the assemblies demonstration exercises are conducted based on the units which excel in exemplary order.

With all the importance of the organized forms of training, the main one still is individual work and the realization of the principle that the superior teaches a subordinate. For the regimental commander, this is primarily the divisional commander, the chief of the political section and the divisional chief of staff. Each of them, and first of all the formation commander, must constantly and patiently teach the regimental commander to organize life according to the regulations. At the same time, this is also a duty of the superior chiefs. It

has become a rule for us that upon assignment to a position, the district commander, the member of the military council and chief of the district political directorate and other members of the military council talk with each unit commander. We consider it our duty each time that we work in one or another regiment to find time without fail for a thorough conversation with its commander. These conversations again and again persuade us that it is no easy matter to develop a regimental commander, including as the organizer of prescribed order. It is all the more important to keep this area of work in the center of constant attention.

We endeavor to carry out a policy of increasing the personal responsibility of the solely-responsible commander and the other officials in all other elements of the military organism, focusing efforts primarily on work directly in the company and battery. Thus, on the basis of the company under the command of Guards Capt S. Samkov, prior to the start of the current training year, a demonstration exercise was conducted at the assemblies of the unit commanders on the subject "The Quartering of Servicemen and Prescribed Order in the Sub-unit."

The companies commanded by Sr Lts V. Samoylov and P. Yesipov in their own garisons have become unique schools of advanced experience for maintaing prescribed order and for strengthening its indoctrinational impact. We would also like to mention the contribution to achieving the successes of these sub-units made by their master sergeants, Sr Sgts N. Sychkov and K. Vasilevskiy who have assumed the role of zealous observers of prescribed order. It must be emphasized that strengthening attention to this personnel category is a major reserve for further increasing organization and order.

"Military discipline," pointed out the member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Minister of Defense, Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, "is primarily a political, moral category. Its foundation is ideological conviction of the men and the spiritual maturity of the collective." The category of "prescribed order" is also full, as was already pointed out, of a profound political content. This also determines the content, forms and methods of the work done by the commanders, political bodies, the staffs and party organizations to strengthen prescribed order and to increase its indoctrinational role. The main thing in this work is to ensure an irreproachable, personal example set by the communists and Komsomol members in carrying out military duty and in observing the requirements of military discipline and the regulations.

The party organization of the unit where Maj V. Savitskiy is a party committee member, for example, has successfully carried out this task. It constantly and purposefully indoctrinates in the men an awareness of the need to strictly and accurately carry out the requirements of the oath, the regulations and orders. In using various methods of indoctrination, the party committee endeavors to see to it that the position of each serviceman is determined by the conviction that the regulations and orders are laws which must be carried out by all without exception, absolutely and unquestioningly. The oral propaganda and visual agitation emphasize the role and importance of the regulations in the life of the Soviet Armed Forces. In particular, attention is focused on the fact that the military regulations embody the policy of the Communist Party on the questions of military organizational development, the instruction and

indoctrination of the personnel and express the socialist nature and purpose of our army.

Here evenings to celebrate the leading officers have become an effective form of propagandizing the requirements of the regulations and these evenings are marked by a clear indoctrinational focus, an emotional impact and instructiveness. In bringing out the experience of the pacesetters and the right-flankers of the competition, the organizers of the evenings without fail point out such components of their achievements as service zeal and precise fulfillment of the demands of the regulations.

Noteworthy is a statement at one such evening by the battalion commander Maj A. Kurlikov.

"I do not understand those commanders and political workers," he said, "who after the training day hurry back to the quarters of the subunit although they can see that not everything is in proper order. In our battalion we maintain a different position: a communist officer must devote to service as much time and energy as is required for ensuring firm prescribed order in the subunits."

This commander has a correct, party position.

The district military council and political directorate are working so that all levels of the district, divisional and regimental level take a personal part in military indoctrination. I cannot help but point out that the enriching of the spiritual life of the military collectives has been effectively aided by regular meetings and cordial talks with the personnel of the units and subunits in the district and the party, soviet and economic leaders of Kazakhstan, Kirghizia and Tajikistan, the oblasts and rayons. The district personnel have high regard for the attention and concern which they feel constantly from the workers of the towns and villages and are endeavoring to respond to this by the exemplary fulfillment of their service duty, by increasing their contribution to the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth and to further strengthening the unshakable unity of the army and people.

Recently the district military council reviewed the question of strengthening the heroic-patriotic indoctrination of the personnel on the occasion of preparations for the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War. All work in this area is being carried out in an inseparable link with implementing the tasks of increasing combat readiness and strengthening organization and prescribed order. Taking an active part in this are the veterans of the party and the Armed Forces, including participants of the meetings held last year at the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Ministry of Defense. The vivid example of their life and passionate oratory impel the youth to better carry out their military duty and more profoundly understand the importance of prescribed order without which our army life is inconceivable.

In carrying out the task of providing aid to the commander in strengthening prescribed order, the party organization naturally acts according to the methods inherent to it. A special word must be said on this problem. A party meeting comes to mind which I happened to attend. In this motorized rifle regiment

there had been instances of infractions of discipline and the nonfulfillment of the requirements of the regulations by individual servicemen. The communists took these up. However, the very approach to them was unsatisfactory. For example, the unit staff officer Capt Yu. Bondar', gave a talk. He named one error after another. But who specifically was to blame for the shortcomings, and how did they respond to them in the party committee and the party organization of the regimental headquarters which should set the tone for work in the given area? This question was not properly taken up either in his or the other speeches. At the same time it is precisely through a strengthening of personal demands, as the experience of the best party organizations show, that one achieves above all a greater sense of responsibility by the communist officers for fulfilling their duties and strengthening prescribed order.

The key to success in any area of work, as was emphasized at the December (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "is in increasing the responsibility of the personnel, in high exactingness on them for unquestionable fulfillment of their duties, clarity and initiative, and the unconditional carrying out of pending tasks." These are the most precise guidelines for improving our activities in all areas, including in one of the most important which is the further strengthening of prescribed order and raising its indoctrinational role.

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ARMED FORCES

MAR ZHUKOV FILM BIOGRAPHY REVIEWED

PM111325 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 35, 2 Sep 84 (signed to press 28 Aug 84) p 12

[Article by Vasiliy Morozov, military historian and USSR State Prize winner: "I Always Felt the People Need Me..."; first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] The full-length film "Marshal Zhukov. Pages From a Biography" (Footnote) (Central Documentary Film Studio. Script by M. Babak and I. Itskov. Director--M. Babak) is soon to be released. Regrettably, very few works have been written to date about Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgiy Konstantinovich Zhukov, four times Hero of the Soviet Union, Hero of the Mongolian People's Republic, the holder of two Orders of Victory. All we have had is reminiscences about meetings with Zhukov, and stories about separate incidents and facts from his life written by the marshal's comrades-in-arms or fellow servicemen of varying rank. A complete biography worthy of this remarkable man, whether in film or written form, has yet to see the light of day.

"Zhukov was a great general of the Suvorov school. He understood that the soldier shouldered the heaviest part of the combat feat," said the writer Mikhail Sholokhov. It is not accidental therefore that Zhukov's memoirs, Reminiscences and Reflections, have the following epigraph: "Dedicated to the Soviet Soldier, G. Zhukov."

Marshal of the Soviet Union Aleksandr Vasilevsky, Zhukov's close associate and front-line friend, reminded readers of Zhukov's own words in the foreword to the marshal's memoirs: "I always felt the people need me, that I am constantly indebted to them. And this, if one is thinking about the meaning of human life, is the main thing. My destiny is but a small example of the general destiny of the Soviet people." In this connection Vasilevskiy wrote these significant lines: "A man who felt his personal life to be so closely bound up with that of the people can only be envied. The life and activity of this man are worthy of imitation."

General of the Army Sergey Shtemenko, who served for years under the direct command of Zhukov or by his side, wrote in his memoirs, The General Staff in the War Years, that "this was a man of great military talent, bold and original in his judgments, very firm in implementing decisions, who would not be stopped by any obstacles in the attainment of military objectives. Feeling that he was right in this or that question, Georgiy Konstantinovich could disagree sharply with Stalin, something no one else would dare to do."

In his book *The Cause of a Lifetime* Marshal Vasilevskiy also testifies to these typical and inimitable features of Zhukov the military leader. Drawing a portrait of Zhukov the soldier, Vasilevskiy notes that he was distinguished by a fairly resolute and rigid character; he solved questions boldly and assumed full responsibility for the conduct of combat operations; needless to say, he maintained communication with GHQ and frequently suggested to it an expedient solution.

"G.K. Zhukov had a creative approach to working out operations and was original in the way he determined methods of troop actions. I think I am not mistaken in saying that G. K. Zhukov was one of the most brilliant figures among the military leaders of the Great Patriotic War."

Such outstanding personalities and colorful figures as Zhukov and many of his comrades-in-arms were also rightfully appraised at times by spokesmen of the West during the war years and in the postwar period. Thus, speaking on New York radio in August 1944, American commentator Frank Kingdon said: "The Nazi generals are opposed by talented military leaders, marshals and generals. When I think about them, I unwittingly recall the words of one critic about the music of Shostakovich. Shostakovich's music, that critic said, is good because it does not pretend to be superoriginal but originates from the tunes of the Russian people themselves. As much can be said about the military leaders of the Red Army. They have been picked from the very midst of the Russian people's many-sided genius; awakened to life by the Revolution.

"These people are the heralds of a new country, the sons of ordinary people, who have proved that this people is capable of bringing forth more talented and gifted generals than the descendants of aristocrats. The Russian generals are winning battles because they know more than is written in the manuals. These people have changed the direction of the war and its very image."

The military leaders were well matched by the soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces, who underwent severe ordeals in the crucible of war and demonstrated to the whole world high understanding of their duty, infinite courage and combat skill. And the fact that at the end of August 1942, in the grimmest days of the defense of Stalingrad, Zhukov was appointed to the post of Deputy Supreme Commander-in-Chief, and that in June 1945 he was authorized to review the Victory Parade in Moscow (at the time he was not yet 50)--all this speaks volumes about him.

A documentary film certainly does not amount to a complete biography of the military leader. This is practically impossible to achieve in a single film, even if it is a full-length film, since Zhukov's destiny as a military leader was closely linked with a number of major events in the past war, with those historic landmarks on the way to victory past which the hard-fought and victorious battle road of the Soviet Armed Forces passed in the years of the Great Patriotic War.

The authors of the film, M. Babak and I. Itskov, modestly name their documentary "Pages From a Biography".

It will be recalled that when the Great Patriotic War broke out Zhukov held the post of Chief of the General Staff and had the rank of General of the Army. He was promoted to that rank in the autumn of 1939 after the victory on the Halhain-Gol River.

Zhukov played a direct part in drawing up plans for all the military campaigns of the war, in working out plans for, and preparing, most of its strategic operations. As a representative of the Supreme Command's General Headquarters, he went on about 25 occasions to army troops in the field in order to help the front command coordinate the operations of the fronts in the strategic engagements on the main lines of advance--wherever the rebuff to the enemy was being organized in the period of the Soviet Army's strategic defense of where it was delivering the main strike in offensive campaigns.

Linked directly with Zhukov's name were such events of the 1941-1945 years as the defense of Moscow and Leningrad, the counteroffensive against and rout of the enemy near Moscow, the defense of Stalingrad and defeat of the enemy at the battle of Stalingrad, the strategic operation in breaking through the blockade of Leningrad, and the operation to encircle and destroy the enemy to the south of Voronezh, which became known in the history of the war as "Stalingrad on the Don."

The famous tank battle on the Kursk Bulge, the mammoth Dnepr-Carpathian operation in right-bank Ukraine, the Belorussian operation--one of the major strategic operations of the war--the Vistula-Oder operation to liberate fraternal Poland and, lastly, the final strategic engagement of the Great Patriotic War, the Berlin operation--all were prepared and carried out under Zhukov's immediate command. In most cases Zhukov carried out responsible assignments jointly and in creative cooperation with Marshal Vasilevskiy who was Chief of the General Staff and a member of the Supreme Command GHQ.

What do "Pages From a Biography" tell us about?

The first chapter of the film (there are seven chapters altogether) deals with events on the Halhain-Gol in fraternal Mongolia. It incorporates little-known film documents of those years. We see how Zhukov, having arrived at the battle area and later appointed commander of the Soviet-Mongolian Army Group, organizes a rebuff against the enemy, works to secure a turning point in the situation and, lastly, carries out his first successful operation for the encirclement of the enemy, which was later called the "Cannae on the Halhain-Gol."

During the days of the 40th anniversary of the victory on the Halhain-Gol in 1979, the author of these lines happened to be in those parts which the Mongolians themselves have nicknamed "land of mosquitos and wolves". I drove along the expanses of the Mongolian steppes, and visited the hill where Zhukov had his command post. Having seen this film, I can testify that the Soviet soldier had to surmount incredible difficulties in unusually hard natural conditions in order to defeat a strong and experienced enemy.

The next four chapters deal with the events of the Great Patriotic War or, more correctly, as is indicated by the title of the film, its separate pages. These are the Smolensk engagement, the defense of Leningrad, the defense of Moscow, the preparation of the Stalingrad counteroffensive and the Berlin operation.

Here we see Zhukov at the beginning of the war, as chief of the General Staff, reporting to Stalin on the grave situation at the front. For reasons of military expediency he suggests to the Supreme Commander-in-Chief that Kiev should be left, thereby arousing the latter's great displeasure. Then we see Zhukov as commander of the Reserve Front. During the Smolensk engagement in August 1941, he carries out the first successful front-scale offensive operation in the area of Yelnye.

At the time a catastrophic situation was developing in Leningrad. Zhukov is recalled by GHQ from the western direction and sent to Leningrad, where he assumes command of the troops of the Leningrad Front. The defense of Leningrad under Zhukov's leadership is an important page of his biography as a military leader. "Zhukov acted sternly and vigorously," says the narrator. "He managed to achieve the main things--to bolster the spirit of resistance. All Leningraders were mobilized for the defense of their native city. All previous directives were cancelled. The Putilovskiy, Metallicheskiy, and Elektroskila factories were not blown up. On Zhukov's orders, the instruction that the ships of the Baltic Fleet be exploded was withdrawn. Their guns began to fire at the enemy tanks and infantry. The Nazi plan for the capture of Leningrad was foiled. Leningrad stood its ground. In many respects this also decided the fate of Moscow. So they stood next to each other--our two capitals--in battle communiques, in reports, in the history of the Great Patriotic War, in Zhukov's biography--Leningrad and Moscow."

The viewer learns about Zhukov's part in the battle of Moscow from Zhukov himself because the makers of the film had the rare opportunity of including in it the most interesting stills from a cine-interview given by Zhukov to Konstantin Simonov and General N. G. Pavlenko, a military historian, at the time editor-in-chief of the VOYENNO-ISTORICHESKIY ZHURNAL (JOURNAL OF MILITARY HISTORY). These unique stills evoke particular interest today. There is no need to describe them--they have to be seen: they speak for themselves.

It can only be regretted that the authors limited themselves to film documents in which Zhukov mainly spoke about the defense of Moscow, and did not include in the film material on the Soviet Army's counteroffensive and defeat of the enemy on the approaches to the capital, where Zhukov's military talent and will were manifested with particular force. The chapter "In the Battle for Moscow" ends with these words of Zhukov's: "I still remember the minutest details of that engagement. True, before that I had fought a major battle for Leningrad. Those were also memorable things...but Moscow was the gravest experience."

"Roads of a Soldier" is the title of the fourth chapter. Here the viewer is given cinebiographical reference material on Zhukov, encompassing the period

from his birth in the village of Strelkovka, Kaluga Guberniya, to prewar events. Rare photographs published for the first time show Zhukov with his family, with cadets, and with Belorussian collective farmers, at a meeting with them after the maneuvers of the Belorussian Military District in 1936.

We see photographs depicting Zhukov in different situations in the war years. These amateur photos, taken by Captain Bedov, an officer for special assignments, have never been published before.

Of particular interest is chapter five--"Berlin Line of Advance"--which crowns the story about the course of the war. The events, linked to the Berlin operation, are well known. The film makers strictly adhered here to Zhukov's story narrated in his memoirs.

The last two chapters of the film are devoted to the May days of 1945 and the Victory Parade in Moscow. Of great interest are the shots relating to the procedure of signing the act of Germany's unconditional surrender.

The film ends with the words: "The war made the names of several outstanding military leaders beloved by the people. But all the same Zhukov remains their first love, a love won in the most tragic hours of our destiny and, therefore, the strongest."

Approaching the film from the position of a military historian, one can see a number of lapses. One cannot entirely agree with the following conclusion drawn by Vladimir Baskakov in his review of the film in the LITERATURNAYA GAZETA: "The authors managed...to show the scope of the military leader's activity. They also managed to do what is not always possible to achieve in biographical films--to express the distinctive human character of the hero, his inimitable personality."

I believe that people who know Marshal Zhukov's large-scale and dynamic activity on the battlefield from his reminiscences, from the evidence of other military leaders, and from the works of military historians, will not derive this impression from the film. Though given a full-length portrait of this outstanding soldier, the viewer did not see Zhukov in the process of working out plans for major operations or in guiding the engagements.

It is disappointing that so little is said about Zhukov's unique military art and his individuality. The film says nothing about Zhukov's combat cooperation with another outstanding military leader of the Great Patriotic War, Aleksandr Vasilevskiy (there is but one fleeting remark), together with whom Marshal Zhukov was sent by GHQ to the areas of strategic engagements at Stalingrad and Hursk, in the right-bank Ukraine, in Belorussian and other sectors of the vast strategic front, where each of them headed a group of GHQ representatives for different fighting services and arms.

Regrettably, there are other drawbacks in the film. Possibly, they would have been avoided had the film makers not decided against creative cooperation in the courts of work on the film with military historians and the marshal's colleagues.

I hope that M. Babak and I. Itskov's documentary film story is only the beginning of a series of documentary and feature films on Soviet military leaders.

ARMED FORCES

EXCHANGE WITH KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON OFFICER'S TACTLESS BEHAVIOR

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 84 p 2

[Article published under the rubric "After Appearance in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA":
"Papa Is Angry..."]

[Text] Such was the title of Lt Col V. Kir'yazov's article which was published on 15 May. The article criticized the tactless behavior of Cpt V. Nadyrshin toward L. Simakova, director of the garrison primary school.

Maj Gen A. Rodnikov, first deputy chief of the Political Directorate of the Northern Group of Forces informed the editors that the facts in the article had been checked and confirmed. The article attracted the attention of participants at the meeting of the group's party activists and the women's council [zhensovet] party activists. Cpt V. Nadyrshin was heard at the political directorate. A decision was made to deny him admittance to the military academy. The officer admitted his guilt and apologized to L. Simakova.

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ARMED FORCES

NEW UNIFORMS DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) p 30

[Unattributed article: "Passed Testing: A New Field Uniform and Other Types of Uniforms and Army Equipment"]

[Text] "Dear Editors!

One of the issues of KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL included an article by the Deputy Minister of Defense and Chief of the Rear Services of the USSR Armed Forces, Mar SU S. Kurkotkin. It, in particular, mentioned that in the troops they have basically completed testing on a new field uniform and certain other types of clothing and troop gear. We would like to know more detail about what has already been done and what is being done in this area.

WO A. Antipov"

[Question] The ZNAMENOSETS correspondent showed this letter to the Chief of the Central Uniform Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense, Lt Gen F. Petrov and asked him to answer the readers' questions.

[Answer] First of all, I would like to emphasize that the Communist Party and the Soviet government have shown constant concern for the armed defenders of the motherland, said Lt Gen F. Petrov. This concern encompasses the questions of further raising the combat readiness of the troops and naval forces and improving the logistic support for the personnel. As is known, these were thoroughly examined at the all-army conference on improving troop services in 1977. Over the years since the conference, a great deal has been done in the various spheres of rear support. The Central Uniform Directorate has also taken an active part in carrying out the recommendations of the all-army conference. A number of special measures were planned and implemented aimed at improving uniform supply for the various serviceman categories.

The personnel in regular service in areas with a cold climate began to be issued wool-blend uniforms from wear-resistant fabric. The supply of warm articles was improved for the servicemen of the Transbaykal and Far Eastern Military Districts. The officer candidates of military schools presently receive a knit training suit and a cotton pair of overalls. The officer

candidates of naval schools receive parade-walking-out dress. Warrant officers are supplied with wool overcoats instead of cotton cloaks. The wear life of the military canvas-top boots has been significantly shortened. All servicemen in regular service are issued barracks slippers and bathtowels.

Since 1968, the USSR Ministry of Defense has been paying for the full cost of making uniform articles in the shops of Voyentorg [Military Trade Organization] for officers, warrant officers and re-enlisted personnel.

Models of clothing are being developed for improving the field gear in the aim of achieving the best conditions for the servicemen to carry out combat missions. For example, field uniforms have been successfully tested and these, we feel, most successfully combine the tactical and technical requirements with the equipment elements.

[Question] Certain readers of the journal have pointed out that the new field uniform surpasses the existing one in terms of operational, design and hygienic properties. Could you generally sketch in what the tested models are?

[Answer] At present, the existing daily and field uniforms in terms of design data and appearance are the same for privates and sergeants. For this reason, it has been decided to leave the daily uniform unchanged and make the field uniform most convenient for combat training. The proposed and basically approved model of the new field uniform for all servicemen engaged in improving field skills will consist of two sets, summer and winter.

The summer set includes: a cotton peaked service cap (kepis) with a sun visor and rear flap; a short jacket with an inside side fastening and outside upper and lower patch pockets; straight trousers with front reinforcing, slit and patch pockets. The suit can be worn with boots as well as with field boots.

The winter set includes: the existing cap with ear flaps; a jacket with a fur collar, a warmer, upper and lower patch pockets and a detachable hood; straight trousers with side slit and patch pockets and a warming liner. The outer layer of the jacket and trousers will have water repellent properties.

[Question] The mentioned article of Mar SU S. Kurkotkin also said that after the all-army conference some work was done to improve military footwear. Could you tell us what has been done specifically by the uniform service in this area?

[Answer] The troops have already tested and introduced into production new types of military footwear for mountain desert areas as well as for airborne troops. Development is continuing on more advanced gear, light footwear, strong and heat-protective fabrics. In the near future, we will expand the output of new types of warm footwear from synthetic felt and to be used along with the felt boots. The troops will begin receiving more wear-resistant footwear for particular wearing conditions. There are plans for a gradual transition to producing officer chrome-leather footwear of improved design without altering the sizes. Boots with a leather lower will come with wear-resistant rubber tops.

[Question] What is the situation in the testing of special clothing for the tank troops?

[Answer] The testing is continuing in areas with different climatic conditions and has provided promising results.

[Question] What measures are being undertaken by the uniform service to carry out the recommendations of the all-army conference in the sphere of further developing the logistical base for routine supply of the troops?

[Answer] In recent years, a good deal of work has been done in this area. In the troops and fleets the soldier and sailor utility rooms have been widely approved. We are continuing to improve the utility rooms, the drying rooms and storerooms for the keeping of regular supplies and personal affects of the servicemen; the barracks are being equipped with lockers for holding greatcoats on coat hangers, kits and steel helmets. The troops have received a large amount of various equipment to use in the uniform repair shops, stationary and mobile dry cleaning and bath and laundry enterprises.

A good deal of attention has been given to organizing routine under field conditions. The mobile shops for repairing and dry cleaning of uniforms have been modernized as have the mechanized field laundries, the regimental field baths equipped with decontamination shower units and other equipment.

The operation of the uniform stores is being improved for storing and making up gear by introducing a new packaging method in standardized boxes from strong corrugated cardboard. In the next few years, we intend to develop a number of new fabrics employing the optimum quantities of synthetic fibers, to improve the quality of the military greatcoat cloth, the blankets and bed linens and to conduct troop testing of boots with somewhat shortened tops made from strong cotton-lavsan kersey. Thus, in the area of the uniform service much is being done to further improve the material and service support for the Army and Navy personnel.

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ARMED FORCES

CASE OF DISCIPLINARY DEFICIENCY STUDIED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) p 15

[Article by platoon commander Sr WO A. Trofimov of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Not Only for Oneself"]

[Text] The first 5 years of the service of WO A. Gayvoronskiy went without any problems. In truth, on his side there was no particular zeal. But everyone knew that Andrey was studying in the correspondence division of the technical school. They even tried to help him with a portion of his duties being assumed by the subunit commander, Sr Lt V. Polyakov. Gayvoronskiy's first child was born and the young father was warmly congratulated. Regardless of the shortage of housing, an apartment was assigned to him. And when the son had grown, upon a petition of the women's council, a job was found for his wife and the child was put in a creche. In a word, all conditions were created for the warrant officer for him to serve honestly and conscientiously.

But, as soon became apparent, the warrant officer in no way intended to serve. He ceased performing his required duties, he did not show up for days in the unit and was drunk. Things reached the point of a warrant officer comrade's court of honor.

We spoke plainly with the offender: either mend your ways or say farewell to the army. He replied that was his intention. Without the slightest embarrassment he explained that he now had an apartment, also a specialty and had already found a job at a civilian institution. The money was the same but there was no responsibility.

We could merely shrug hopelessly. We realized that it was useless to try to shame him or appeal to conscientiousness or a sense of duty. For it was precisely about such persons as Gayvoronskiy that they were speaking at the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee: "A person has lost his conscience. He wants to produce less but to receive more. But receive from whom? From the state, hence from us."

I remember that we left the session of the court of honor disturbed: how could a person be that way? However, having reflected a bit, we were forced to recognize that we also were to blame for what had happened. Certainly Gayvoronskiy had not considered it necessary to conceal (and this was scarcely possible) his

consumer psychology. He was always carrying off heavy suitcases with "scarce items." He explained to us jokingly that he was filling the orders of relatives and friends. But he also did not return empty handed. And again he found a justification: "I have a young family and am setting up my nest." But those who visited Andrey were amazed that he had not an apartment but rather a depot of "prestige" items. Again we found it awkward to intervene. It was hard to draw a distinction between a desire to create comfort and an all-conquering drive for fashionable living.

But there were also more eloquent facts. On the eve of an exercise two new engines on armored personnel carriers had to be quickly installed. There was only one night for the work. Many warrant officers came to the aid of the commander of the repair subunit, Sr WO Stanislav Pavlovich Zakharov. Only Gayvoronskiy found an excuse that he had no time because of studies.

Seemingly a detail but also an indicative one. It plainly showed the moral make-up of the man.

This had to be mentioned because in the warrant officer's pocket amongst his other documents was also a Komsomol card. Gayvoronskiy had seemingly forgotten that he belonged among the forward detachment of the youth. But it is also a misfortune that the activists also "forgot" this. Here I am not speaking about any Komsomol assignments. Due to the "business" of the warrant officer, these were not given him. Moreover, the members of the Komsomol bureau did not have any heart-to-heart talks with their comrade. They did not sound the alarm when flaws were discovered in his conduct. An exacting and objective public opinion was not established around this person who was "pulling only his own oar." Thus it happened that the moral decline of the warrant officer occurred before the very eyes of the people around, with their tacit, indifferent agreement. Even when Gayvoronskiy openly violated military discipline, the activists considered that this was a matter for the commander, that is, to punish and reprimand. Again, they remained in the position of outside observers.

I have thought about the problems raised in the journal by WO V. Denisov and Sr WO V. Dmitriyev on the sources of a consumer psychology and can see that it is not merely a question of shortcomings in the indoctrinational work of the party and Komsomol organizations. The reasons for this phenomenon lie in our inertia and indifference. In our inability or reticence to see behind one or another action the moral position of a person, the soldier, and its influence on the atmosphere in the collective.

Here is an example. Men called pacesetters were serving along with Gayvoronskiy. They had every right to this title. They had commendations and had won authority from the commanders and subordinates. Everyone was already accustomed to the fact that the equipment of the same Sr WO S. Zakharov was in excellent condition and there was exemplary order in the subunit of WO I. Prilepskiy. They had been accustomed to the fact that for a number of years these men had performed their military duty flawlessly. Supposedly that was how it should be.

Correct, it should. But it is too bad that not everyone always acted as they did. Moreover, our pacesetters do a great deal above what they must. But few

know about this. For instance, who in the subunit knew that when we were repairing the vehicles on the eve of the exercise the position had prohibited Sr WO Zakharov from handling oil. However, Stanislav Pavlovich [Zakharov] did not leave the parking area until the armored personnel carrier had been completely repaired. Or another case: who remembers that the Company Sgt Maj Ivan Mikhaylovich Prilepskikh had mastered the specialty of lathe operator, milling machine operator and carpenter and had put a good deal of his personal effort into creating comfortable rooms and convenient lockers for the storage of clothing?

Both warrant officers are party members. At the party meetings they, of course, had been repeatedly commended among the other pacesetters. But why did I never hear that the agenda of the meeting held, for example, such a question: "carry out party duty like Sr WO Zakharov" or "the moral make-up of a communist"? The question could also be posed thus: something for each and everyone." Or what about making the meeting an open one and invite the Komsomol members and non-party persons to it. I am confident that the indoctrinational effect would have been great. We are all so used to being concerned with tasks and results. So it turns out that our inertia does not allow us to put a true example on the pedestal and open the eyes of the men to such opportunists as Gayvoronskiy. And openly condemn them. To develop a single general opinion. To create an atmosphere of active condemnation of consumerism.

For precisely this reason the party has now set as one of the most important tasks of being more attentive to people and to their concrete contribution to the common cause and teaches us to have a differentiated approach to those who work totally for the good of society and those who merely simulate intense activity.

I feel that there is a good deal of harm in our indifference to those who, like Gayvoronskiy, consider military service merely as a means to gain more for themselves. And it is not merely a question of housing area which cannot be taken back and offered to persons who actually need it. Both combat readiness and discipline suffer. The consumer is not really concerned for this. And even worse is the deleterious effect on subordinates. When we "close" our eyes to this, the result is clearly not to the benefit of the common cause.

At present, special legislative standards have been introduced against those who "pull their own oar," violate discipline and cease to perform their service duties conscientiously. But these are effective only in the instance that they are closely tied to active and painstaking indoctrinational work by the party and Komsomol organizations and to close and principled attention to the various deviations from our moral principles on the part of the entire army community. That is, each of us.

I feel there is no other way about it.

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ARMED FORCES

LETTERS TO ZNAMENOSSETS EDITOR, RESPONSES

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) pp 11, 18-19

[Letters to editor and editorial follow-ups]

[Text] No More "Cold House"

At the beginning of last year, the editors received a collective letter from a group of submarine warrant officers ["michman"] from one of the shore bases of the Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet. They complained of the poor operation of the dormitory and asked for help. From the results of a check on the complaint, the May issue of the journal for 1983 published a critical article entitled "Hot Passions in a 'Cold House'." It commented on the irresponsible attitude of certain officers at the shore base to organizing the routine of the young officers, warrant officers and re-enlisted servicemen living in the dormitory.

When the article was being prepared for printing, a letter was received from the commander of the shore base, the officer E. Romanychev responsible for the submariner dormitory. The letter stated, in particular, that a plan had been compiled and was being carried out for providing the dormitory with amenities. The editors promised to tell the magazine's readers how this plan had been carried out.

Recently the shore base was revisited by a ZNAMENOSSETS correspondent. And here is what he saw now.

[Report by ZNAMENOSSETS correspondent, Col Yu. Romanov]

Engr-Capt 1st Rank E Romanychev who had been unable to organize the everyday life of the submariners in the dormitory had been shifted to another post and had been demoted in rank. His successor, having studied the documents defining the rules for the maintenance of the dormitory, has energetically directed the improvements.

What specifically has been done?

I inspected the dormitory along with the person in charge of the dormitory B. Rozhkova and Officers V. Ivanov, V. Azarov, V. Kozhukhar' and others. Virtually all the rooms and service areas had been repaired, the floors had been recovered with linoleum, there was fresh bed linen, new lights, blinds on the windows and better furniture.... The recreational room had been reequipped and the territory around the dormitory had been put in order.

I touched the heading radiators and they were all hot. Previously there had been nowhere to take a shower. Now, as is provided by the order of the USSR deputy minister of defense, shower units are provided along with water heaters. There is also an opportunity to wash clothes. There was also a drying area which was spacious and equipped according to the standard type. In observing the required list of routine conditions and standards, the commander had organized the installing of another several gas stoves in the kitchen, additional wash basins and so forth.

The crew petty officer, WO S. Birulin, showed us his neat and tidy room.

"My comrades and I," he said, "are very satisfied and grateful to the command for reequipping our dormitory. Now we have somewhere to rest and recuperate after the voyages."

"The work of improving the dormitory," the political worker, Officer V. Ivanov reminded us, "is still far from complete. We will continue it further."

Here is how--in a principled and business-like manner--they responded to criticism in the press at the shore base X of the Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet.

"Shown Up"

This was the title of a critical article by Col A. Kiryukhin published in issue No 11 of 1983. It told of the delayed forwarding of the personal file of WO (Res) M. Misechko to the military commissariat at the place of residence, the failure to include WO T. Priverdiyev in the list for confirming class ratings and the delay in awarding the military title of "senior warrant officer" to comrades M. Asadchiy, I. Lyul'ko and G. Sapega and of the indifference of individual officials to the needs and requests of subordinates.

The editors received a reply over the signature of the first deputy chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Transcaucasian Military District, Maj Gen N. Merkushev. It, in particular, pointed out that the facts given in the article were confirmed. The article "Shown Up" was discussed at the district political directorate and a meeting of the leadership.

The deputy chief of the district personnel directorate Col V. Sheykin was heard at the staff political section and directorate over the question of red tape involved in forwarding the warrant officers' personal files. From the materials of his report, a conference was held for the officers of the district personnel directorate.

For the delayed forwarding of the personal file of WO (Res) M. Misechko, WO A. Futkaradze who was in charge of keeping the records of the personnel and their documents was strictly reprimanded by the unit commander.

The facts indicated in the article were discussed at a session of the district military council. The decree adopted outlined measures to increase the responsibility of the officials for handling letters and verbal statements.

The deputy chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District, Col A. Aleksandrenko also replied to the journal's article. The article "Shown Up," he stated, had been discussed at a meeting of the district political directorate officers.

A check on the facts showed that the delay in awarding the military rank of "senior warrant officer" to comrades M. Asadchiy, I. Lyul'ko and G. Sapega had occurred due to the fault of the person responsible WO A. Belokurskiy who had not drawn up the necessary documents on time. He was strictly reprimanded.

The conclusions of the article were presented to the chiefs of the district political bodies. Instructions were issued to take measures to eliminate the instances of red tape and an indifferent attitude toward the personnel.

Punished for Red Tape

The December 1983 issue of ZNAMENOSETS published a letter by N. Kaleva: "After A Kindness...Up the Levels of Command." This criticized individual officials from unit X who had shown callousness to the widow of WO A. Korotin, Valentina Romanova and her daughter.

As Maj Gen Art I. Yakovlevich informed the editors, the article was discussed with the leadership, the commanders and the political workers of the unit where WO Korotin had served. The inacceptability of an indifferent attitude toward the personnel was pointed out to the unit command. A strict reprimand was given to Officer M. Myslinskiy for tactless conduct with a visitor and red tape in drawing up documents. Work was improved in reviewing the proposals, requests and complaints of servicemen and members of their family. Question and answer evenings are conducted regularly.

The question of providing the family of V. Korotina with an apartment off the military post was settled by the gorispolkom.

Training According to a Plan

"Dear Editors! Would you please explain who should conduct the training drills provided by the daily regimen for the morning hours for drilling, protection against weapons of mass destruction and other disciplines and how these can be better organized?

WO A. Shevchenko"

These questions (and they are of interest to many readers) are answered by the senior officer of the Main Directorate for Combat Training of the Ground Forces, Col A. Apakidze.

Such training drills are usually planned before the start of the training exercises on those days when there are no political information sessions. As a rule, sergeants who are commanders of squads (crews, teams) and the deputy platoon commanders are appointed as their leaders. Officers and warrant officers can also be used for more effectively conducting the training drills upon the decision of the unit commander.

It is recommended that the training drills be conducted for those subjects of study which do not require significant material support and expenditures of time to travel to specially equipped training areas.

The company (battery) commander plans for the working through of various questions a week ahead considering the level of assimilating the combat training subjects gone through by the subordinates. Here the goal is set of sharpening the practical skills of the men in carrying out the procedures, actions and norms studied in the training exercises.

It must be remembered that only in the process of individual instruction is it possible to spot all the mistakes of the soldiers or sailors and promptly correct them. However, certain commanders forget this and instruct their subordinates in carrying out the procedure as part of a squad or platoon. As a result unnoticed individual errors become a brake in the course of developing the teamwork of the subunit.

Practice shows that any one session, for example, in drill training should include not more than two or three drilling procedures. They can be executed initially by the move or at a slow pace, depending upon complexity, and then at the ordinary pace by pairs or individually, by commands, counted off by the trainees themselves or accompanied by a drum.

In conducting training for defense against weapons of mass destruction, the norms are worked on for putting on individual protective gear, actions according to the warning signals and so forth.

The questions of the procedures for individual training in individual subjects of instruction have been taken up in detail in the appropriate manuals.

Promptly and Correctly

The criticism voiced in the article "Alien Disco Rhythms" (ZNAMENOSETS, No 12, 1983), in our view, is prompt and correct. Actually, at present a certain part of the youth is attracted to empty-headed gatherings called for some reason discoteques. WOs S. Chistyakov and S. Ikonnikov are correct in asserting that you cannot get acquainted with a girl, talk or even dance in the noise, crowd and crush. We might add that here there are particularly frequent violations of the uniform rules and instances of hooliganism by civilians requiring police intervention.

We are involved with the new recruits, the young fellows who recently joined the Navy. If you talk with them you learn that some are unable to dance a waltz and have little knowledge of the works of Soviet composers or our well-known vocal and instrumental ensembles. On the other hand, the Western ones are well known to them.

And what else can be expected if instead of youth dance evenings they offer discoteques where they frequently pay homage to foreign disco fashion?

Undoubtedly, the chiefs of the clubs and the garrison officer clubs should be concerned with what is played at the discoteques and recreational evenings, as well as what the young warrant officers and officers dance and how.

WOs A. Kostyrkin and V. Yavorskiy
of the Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet

A Competition Was Held

One of the factors in the combat readiness of a squadron is the good positioning of aviation equipment. When at the start of the training year a competition was announced in the unit for establishing better placement, our aviators set to work.

Well thought out organization helped. Upon the proposal of Sr Lt V. Shuypis, each specialist, from the aviation mechanic to the group chief, carried out specific assignments. WOs V. Zgoba and I. Nechiporenko worked conscientiously, setting an example for others.

For the results of the competition our squadron received first place. The troop collective was awarded a commemorative insignia and a diploma. The commander commended many officers and warrant officers, including V. Zgoba and I. Nechiporenko.

WO G. Nishchev
of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District

The Chronicle of a Correspondence

Ordinarily people write to the editors when they cannot obtain a positive resolution to a question at the place of service or work. No exception was the technician of the wire communications post, WO P. Sizov (Red Banner Caspian Flotilla). He repeatedly tried to find out what pension would be granted him after his service. Time passed but the warrant officer did not obtain an intelligible answer. Then he turned to ZNAMENOSETS.

Letter to the Editors

"I served 25 years in the Navy and this year decided to be discharged into the reserves at the end of the tour of duty. But I had an injury sustained in performing official duties. This fact has been confirmed by a document which was issued to me at the place of service. I would like to know whether I am due a 10-percent illness payment to my pension?

WO P. Sizov"

The Letter of the Editors to the Financial Service of the Red Banner Caspian Flotilla

"We are forwarding to you the letter of WO P. G. Sizov. We request that you inform the author about the question of interest to him and the measures taken within the time stipulated by the order of the USSR minister of defense.

"Copy to Comrade P. G. Sizov."

A Letter to the Editors

"I am returning the letter of Comrade P. G. Sizov due to the fact that the functions of the flotilla financial service do not include explanations of questions of pension security and we do not possess the required amount of directive information on these questions.

Attachment: the letter of WO P. G. Sizov on a single sheet.

Chief of the Financial Service
of the Red Banner Caspian Flotilla,
Lt Col Intend Serv S. Leonov"

To the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal ZNAMENOSETS

"The Central Financial Directorate feels that the actions of the chief of the flotilla financial service Lt Col Intend Serv S. K. Leonov merit the strictest condemnation, as they disgrace him as a financial officer and in addition create an incorrect impression of the financial service as a whole and our officer personnel....

Deputy Chief of the Central Financial Directorate
of the Ministry of Defense,
Lt Gen Intend Serv A. Kotlyar"

This same letter states that in accord with the existing provisions, a resolution of questions related to assigning, calculating the amount and paying out pensions to servicemen rests on the republic, kray and oblast military commissariats and the financial service of the military districts. As for the general provisions regulating pension security for servicemen, each officer should know these since they are described in the appropriate documents issued down to the individual troop unit. The workers of the financial service are more informed of this since in addition to the orders of the ministry of defense they are also sent the directive instructions issued by the Central Financial Directorate on these questions and it is their duty and obligation to inform the personnel of the content of the guiding documents.

Lt Gen A. Kotlyar also stated that the required explanation on the procedure for assigning pensions to servicemen for the number of years served had been given to WO Sizov by the Central Financial Directorate.

Editor' Comment

How an official responds to the letter received from the editors makes it possible to truly judge his professional qualities including efficiency, sensitivity to others and responsiveness.

The slightest thing was demanded from comrade Leonov, namely to give attention to a person who had asked a simple question. There was no need, as happened, for an additional investigation or study of the facts. Seemingly everything was clear. What was not clear was how comrade Leonov could so negligently disregard the request of the veteran who had served a quarter of a century in the Navy and had in addition sustained injury in performing his service duties.

Now just imagine if Officer Leonov had spent just 20 minutes or even a half an hour to reply to the warrant officer, as a result not minutes would have been saved but hours of the working time of other people. There would have been no need for additional correspondence.

Our party constantly demands that all ranks of leaders show attention to letters and take the necessary measures to objectively examine the questions raised in them. Behind the letter one must see the Soviet person with his daily interests and vital needs and no one has the right to disregard these.

A responsive, considerate attitude toward letters is one of the basic Leninist principles and is a command of the party, a demand of the USSR Ministry of Defense and a service duty of each official.

Returned to Position

After signing up for re-enlistment, Sgt S. Goryanskiy was appointed to the position of chief of a radio. Some time later he was permitted to stand alert duty. "I endeavor to perform my duties correctly," he said in his letter, "the unit command have not made any particular complaints against my service and I also did not have any disciplinary infractions. Suddenly, without warning and without any explanation of reasons, they announced: "You have been discharged into the reserves."

This letter was forwarded to the Personnel Directorate of the Red Banner Siberian Military District. As was stated by Maj Gen Avn V. Tokarev, re-enlisted Sgt S. Goryanskiy was restored to his position and sent to a troop unit for further service. The persons guilty of his unjustified early discharge have been disciplined and fined.

Money Returned

The staff worker instructed WO M. Dorogonov to manufacture a warning panel. Certain parts were needed for this. These were sold at a store. This was reported up the line of command. They decided to take 70 rubles from the financial section and purchase what was required. This is what the warrant officer did. But the audit showed the bill submitted by him from the store to be false. This amount was withheld from his salary.

We acquainted the financial service of the Red Banner Transcaucasian Military District with the letter from comrade Dorogonov. We were answered that the recovery of the funds had been made on a legitimate basis. The editors were not satisfied by this reply as how could a person carry out the instructions of a staff worker, make the panel and then suffer material loss because of this?

The letter from the warrant officer and the reply from the financial service were forwarded to the appropriate political body. Guards Maj Gen R. Gorelov has informed us that the 70 rubles were returned to the author of the letter at the expense of Officer V. Kizim who had ordered the parts be purchased for the board. A talk was held with him on the inadmissibility of orders which run contrary to financial discipline.

Service Record Forwarded

"Upon transfer to another unit," wrote Guards WO N. Chernyy, "my service record card was not in my personal file. I turned to the commander of the unit where I had served as well as to superior levels for this question but up to now have not received any reply. I would like some help."

Officer A. Sigutkin replied to the request of the editors. He stated that the service record card of Guards WO Chernyy had not been sent out on time due to the fault of Maj V. Belousov. The latter was reprimanded in a unit order. At present, the service record card has been sent to the commander of the unit where the warrant officer is serving.

To Sr WO V. Vasil'yev

You are interested in the question of whether it is possible to receive monetary compensation or cloth instead of a complete uniform as you are being discharged into the reserves and the storeroom does not have uniforms on hand.

The Central Uniform Directorate of the Ministry of Defense has explained to us that the current documents make no provision to pay monetary compensation to warrant officers upon discharge into the reserve or to issue cloth instead of the ready uniform due them.

To WO V. Nikolenko

You have served 19 years in the Navy and also have 6 years of labor employment. You have asked can you receive a pension upon discharge into the reserves in this instance?

A pension for the number of years served is granted to warrant officers only upon serving at least 20 years. Here only active military service in the Soviet Army and Navy is counted. No provision is made by the legislation to consider periods of employment in civilian institutions in this time.

Independently of the years served, a disability pension can be granted by the Ministry of Defense if the medical-labor expert commission (VTEK) establishes for the serviceman a disability caused by military service.

[From the Editors]

Dear Readers! In sending letters to the editors please write clearly your postal code, the address of the sender, family name, first name and patronymic, military rank, the unit where you serve and indicate the district (troop group, fleet) of which it is a part and with a second letter please include our reference number.

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ARMED FORCES

NEW DOCUMENTARY FILM ON MAR ZHUKOV REVIEWED

[Editorial Report] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 August 1984 carries on page 8 an 800-word article by Vl. Baskakov entitled "Marshal Zhukov: Unique Close-ups of a New Full-length Documentary Film," in which he reviews a new seven-part film on Zhukov titled "Marshal G. K. Zhukov: Pages From a Biography." Baskakov praises the film and notes "the authors were able through the use of the Marshal's memoirs and rare film and photo documents to show the scope of the military leader's activity." Commenting on the enormous attraction such films hold for viewers of all ages he writes that it is unfortunate that "so little is written about our important military leaders and that there are no films at all devoted to such persons." He singles out "especially those military leaders who conducted large-scale strategic operations on the main axes of the great struggle, operations which resolved the fate of the country, the fate of the world--G. Zhukov, I. Konev, K. Rokossovskiy, A. Vasilevskiy, N. Vatutin, R. Malinovskiy...."

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GROUND FORCES

PROGRAMMED EXERCISES IMPLEMENTED FOR MOUNTAIN TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 84 p 2

[Article by Col A. Arutyunyan, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District:
"Mountain, Concomitant...--The Military Speciality and Physical Conditioning"]

[Text] In the tactical exercise the motorized rifle battalion commanded by Major N. Artyukh was assigned the mission of secretly outflanking the "enemy," which occupied the pass, and then making a surprise attack on it from the rear.

"We will take this route," the battalion commander said, tracing it out on a map. "We will take advantage of the wooded slope and then climb to the ridge..."

They would have to cover almost seventeen kilometers. This was the only route by which they could move without detection, however, avoid ambushes and protect themselves against strikes from the "enemy's" fire support helicopters.

I did not doubt that Major N. Artyukh and his men would complete the mission. I knew that the battalion commander was an excellent specialist in mountain training and a rated sportsman. In addition, almost all of the battalion officers and soldiers had "USSR Alpinist" badges. Each specialist had undergone a training cycle at a mountain training center and could perform his duties in any situation.

Knowing all of that, I had confidence in the commander. I could not stop worrying, however, until signal flares flashed above the pass at the prearranged time. The rear attack surprised the "enemy." Major N. Artyukh coped brilliantly with the assigned mission. The physical condition of the fightingmen, which receives a great deal of attention there, had a great deal to do with the success. Particularly the concomitant drills.

Mountains, like people, have their own specific features, and there are no general methodological prescriptions for conducting the physical training exercises and drills. The concomitant drills involve moving from the simple to the complex, from small to maximum loads. For example, several different routes with varying degrees of difficulty are used for executing moves at the training center, which are always made on foot. They all hold natural obstacles, however; mountain rivers, canyons, deep slopes and inclines, sections of mountain forests, rocky areas and (fernisty) snow.

Depending upon the training level of the subunits they execute moves not only over different routes, but also with different time factors, with tactical settings with varying degrees of difficulty, and with various loads. One of the best motorized rifle companies, for example, the one commanded by Senior Lieutenant P. Linevich, holder of the Order of the Red Star, who has experience in operating in mountains, always chooses the most difficult alternative for carrying out a move. He ordinarily completes the march with a swift bound and hand-to-hand combat.

At our recommendation the other subunits, however, which include many young soldiers, take less difficult routes. They always practice the more difficult aspects of mountain training by means of a concomitant drill, however.

These include practice in tossing grenades from various positions at targets located at various angles. Some people are of the opinion it is more difficult to destroy with "pocket artillery" targets located up-slope. The men made a thorough study of this matter and became convinced that it is more difficult to accurately destroy a target located down-slope. This is because a soldier tossing a grenade upward to a shelf in the slope, beyond rocks in front of the "enemy," summons all his will. He knows that he can be wounded by fragments if he makes the slightest mistake. It ordinarily takes several drills to learn to toss grenades upward with precision. Destroying a target below oneself is another matter. It is far less dangerous. This accounts for the less-serious attitude taken toward the drills. This is why each specialist makes dozens of tosses from various positions during the concomitant drills.

Naturally, advanced training has to be performed at the military post for each mountain exercise to produce perceptible results. It is also high in the mountains, and each specialist and each subunit goes through a training cycle in the unit before beginning concomitant drills or exercises at the training center.

A cross-country run of 3 kilometers is performed each day there, in addition to the mandatory morning calisthenics, which include running over rocks and log-tossing. At the end of the week there is a mandatory test consisting of a cross-country run of 6 kilometers. A physician strictly monitors the health of each soldier and officer.

The concomitant drills, which have become an inseparable part of life and combat training of the subunits, helps to develop stamina and a preparedness to operate in extremely difficult conditions. The men are gradually involved in preparation for marches. The companies execute marches with a full load, for example, traveling a distance of 30 kilometers in the mountains without stopping. After tactical exercises involving field firing, the battalions travel twice that distance. The marches always end with a "battle for the pass," with the capturing of bridges, hills or fords. In addition, there is always hand-to-hand combat and various tactical procedures and military stratagems are employed.

Sergeants N.N. Razumnyak and N.N. Basalayev from a reconnaissance subunit performed skillfully in the exercise, as an example. They repelled down steep precipices and detected "enemy" reserves which they promptly reported to the commander. Because of their good physical conditioning and mountain training the sergeants carried out their order in the difficult conditions.

The mountain training team headed by Captain V. Yakimchuk has existed for a number of years. Many young officers and sergeants undergo training with that team, which, incidentally, always takes part in the mountain triathlon competitions.

They gain experience and earn the right to conduct mountain training for subunits. Simulators created by local wizards are a great help in the mastering of the speciality. A simulator for tossing grenades at armored targets is successfully used for concomitant drills, for example. It is designed to take into account our terrain relief and makes it possible to practice techniques for combating tanks and armored personnel carriers in various kinds of mountain terrain and moving at various speeds. The drills produce extremely good results.

Yet another simulator has been developed from a suggestion by activists on the sports committee. It will be used for practicing tossing grenades from the hatches of combat vehicles. The targets will be at various heights and distances and on slopes of varying steepness.

The past training period and the first part of the summer period have shown that concomitant drills are a sure way to improve the physical conditioning and the training of subunits for mountain combat operations.

11499

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GROUND FORCES

USE OF GRENADE LAUNCHERS DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) p. 3

[Article by Jr Sgt R. Khazhiyev, commander of a grenade launcher squad from the Red Banner Volga Military District: "At a Point Target"]

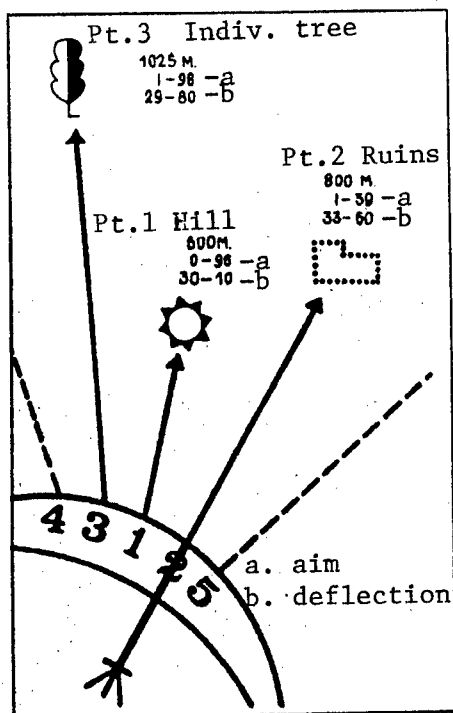
[Text] The command of the grenade launcher squad was shifted to me from Sgt L. Trifonov. Before being discharged into the reserves he shared with me the experience of the effective employment of this weapon. And at first I was amazed. The sergeant considered one of the prime tasks to be the acquiring of firm skills of pin-point firing by the grenade launchers.

"But certainly an AGS [automatic grenade launcher on a mount] is not considered a pure firearm," I argued, hearing about such a firing method for the first time.

As an argument I recalled information on the purpose and combat qualities of the AGS. How effective it is in firing at group targets on various areas is generally known.

As it was, I had underestimated the capabilities of the AGS. The opinion of the former squad commander was supported also by one of the best firers in the unit, the company commander, Sr Lt N. Yel'nikov who had received the Order of the Red Star. They assured me that with appropriate training using the AGS it was possible with watch-like precision to fire a flat trajectory with direct laying. In many instances, this was simply essential, for example, in firing through the slots of pillboxes and through windows and holes in buildings. The high effectiveness of pin-point firing was best shown in a demonstration which involved Pts A. Arazov and Kh. Gareyev along with Sgt L. Trifonov. The crew achieved a direct hit at a target which was at maximum range when the trajectory still kept its flatness.

Soon thereafter with the aid of the commander and experienced fellow servicemen, I myself learned how to carry out accurate fire at a single small target as well as a group one consisting of individual clearly visible figures. Here of great importance was the early and careful preparation of the initial firing data. This is possible in advancing from a position of direct contact with the "enemy," in defensive operations, with ground layouts and outposts. In equipping the firing position (which should ensure good visibility and field of fire)



under such conditions, we employed the following simple device. The feet of the grenade launchers mount with the aid of claws were fastened to a specially-made circular plate and which was put on the axis of a large-diameter plate serving as the mount. The first plate turned on a bearing in the horizontal plane and had a lock.

Having executed the command "Action!" the crew began to determine the settings for firing at all local objects in the given sector. They were numbered for this purpose and the grenade launcher successively aimed at them. The measured distance to the landmark (local article) was then converted using the firing table into divisions of the protractor and the given setting entered opposite the corresponding number of the blank (firing card).

The same number was marked beside a line on the lower plate. This was done after the grenade launcher had been set in position, when the correct setting of the sight, protractor and

aiming had been checked. If the situation permitted the accuracy of the calculated data could be verified by a preliminary registration.

It turned out that in the area where the "enemy" was expected to appear, each hummock, bush and so forth had been registered. With the appearance of a target close to a local object, one had merely to turn the grenade launcher, lining up the mark with the setting of the corresponding landmark and a rough aiming had been made (see the diagram). It was then merely a question of clarifying the initial data. The remainder, as they say, was a matter of technique, that is, taking the correct aim for elevation and bringing it to the aiming point made at the middle of the target. However, the technique of getting off the round should be honed to perfection.

What does the given procedure provide? In the first place, it provides rapid opening of fire which is of crucial importance in hitting the target. Secondly, the secure base in the form of the plate gives the grenade launcher stability in firing and increases its accuracy. In addition, the precise marking of the grenade launcher's position in aiming makes it possible to successfully employ data checked out in the daylight in firing at night as well as at targets concealed behind a smokescreen or in the fog.

In a similar manner it is possible to fire from an AGS-17 fastened using special equipment to the turret of an infantry combat vehicle. In this instance the base plate for the grenade launcher is the armor. On it it is not difficult to chalk in the marks which correspond approximately to the divisions of the protractor, to set the directions to the landmarks and assign them numbers. Using a blank with notations of the calculated settings makes it possible to solve firing problems and control the fire.

Prior to firing, if need be, I make adjustments for external conditions, following the basic table. I do not give the orders to open fire until I have made certain that the mechanisms for horizontal and vertical aiming are fastened and the bubbles for longitudinal and cross-levels have been brought to the middle. The regulator is shifted to a minimum firing rate and ranging is carried out with single rounds. This is done by a brief pressing of the trigger.

The gunner, Pvt S. Ibatov, did not immediately learn to employ the firing rules correctly. Here is a record of his actions in one of the first training drills: "The first explosion was watched in the sight and was off by 12 protractor divisions. For this reason, the second grenade was wasted..." I taught Pvt S. Ibatov to observe the first explosion with a naked eye. Having remembered the point of impact of the grenade, I, using binoculars and the gunner, using a sight, ascertained its deviation from the target. I gave the correction for sector in divisions of the protractor and the deviation for range in meters.

I make certain that during the firing the gunner watches the position of the aiming line. I also watch that in getting off the round he releases the trigger and adjusts the aim.

Having restored the aim, if it has been moved off, Pvt S. Ibatov checks opposite what division on the side adjustment scale on the sight's grid the grenade has exploded and uses this division for aiming the next round. The gunner is able to correct his fire using a different method: in turning the drum of the protractor, he makes the measurement from the explosion and aims the grenade launcher at the target using the new setting.

Practice has persuaded us that the AGS is a powerful means for carrying out suddenly arising tasks. In working for reliability and economy of fire, we teach how to accurately hit the targets using various methods, including pinpoint firing.

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GROUND FORCES

SEASONAL TANK MAINTENANCE REVIEWED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) pp 6-7

[Article by Engr-Lt Col V. Taranenko: "Seasonal Maintenance"]

[Text] High reliability of armored equipment both under summer and winter conditions to a large degree is ensured by the special preparation of the combat vehicles and known under the name of "converting to seasonal operation." The published article tells how to more successfully carry out this work in a tank and infantry combat vehicle maintenance unit before the summer season.

Converting equipment to spring-summer operation (seasonal maintenance) conditionally consists of three stages: planning, the training of the personnel and the direct servicing of the combat vehicles.

Planning during this period plays a special role. A carefully thought out plan makes it possible on the unit level to take into account the necessary amount of work and hence to more accurately designate the dates for performing this work. The schedule plan compiled in a subunit shows how to better utilize the personnel so that all operations are performed promptly and with high quality.

The list of operations involved in seasonal maintenance is set out, as is known, by the manuals and instructions for operating a specific type of equipment and the time for performing this work for the tanks and BMP [infantry combat vehicle] is around 2 days. If seasonal maintenance coincides in time with the regular maintenance, then this is done simultaneously over a period of 3-4 days. More attention and effort, according to troop experience, must be paid to the vehicles of the combat training group, as these require routine maintenance, assemblies, units and systems. In addition, partial preventive maintenance is required and for this reason usually 6-8 days are assigned to prepare these vehicles for summer operation.

It is no secret that the quality of equipment maintenance depends primarily upon the skill level of the specialists. For broadening their knowledge and reinforcing skills, the unit should hold 2- or 3-day assemblies for the officers and warrant officers. In the assemblies they study the particular features of operating the equipment in the summertime, they clarify the range of work which must be carried out and also assign the duties of officials in ensuring

the trouble-free operation of the equipment. As much time as possible should be devoted to the thorough training of the warrant officers who are the senior company technicians and to sharpening their practical skills at the assemblies. This predetermines the success of the subunits as a whole.

Upon the completion of the assemblies, exercises are commenced with the crews. These are conducted by the deputy battalion commanders for technical affairs and the senior subunits technicians. During this period it is most effective to go through such subjects as the particular features of operating the combat vehicles under summer conditions, the physicochemical properties of fuels and lubricants, the procedure for carrying out seasonal maintenance as well as safety measures (as well as fire safety).

In studying the operating conditions, the attention of the men must be drawn to how, for instance, the increased air gustiness, high temperature of the surrounding environment and so forth influence the functioning of the units and systems of the tank or BMP. Then, proceeding from the operating experience of the combat vehicles in the formation or district, it is essential to analyze the most frequently encountered malfunctions, discover their causes brought about by the particular features of the climate and the locality and designate measures to prevent them. It is wise to remind the specialists of the rules for operating the vehicles at nighttime, in columns and so forth.

In examining the types of fuels, lubricants and cooling fluids, it is essential to emphasize how their physicochemical properties alter not only under the effect of the temperature conditions but also due to their contamination with dust and moisture. At the end of the exercise one should take up in greater detail the specific features of taking care of the fuel supply, lubricating and cooling systems, making it possible to avoid intensive wear on the parts and assemblies.

The exercise where they study the procedure for conducting seasonal maintenance includes both a theoretical part with a brief analysis of the work to be done and a practical part. Understandably maximum attention should be given to the practical elements which are to be worked out on the training combat vehicles and in the technical training classrooms. It is essential to see to it that each crew member is able to effectively perform the operations which he is to carry out on his own vehicle.

There must also be a detailed study of the questions related to the observing of safety procedures and fire safety. This task is given completely to the senior technician who must conduct the corresponding instruction sessions at the work areas, supervise how the personnel carries out the safety and fire rules and inspects the proper working order of the equipment.

It is advisable to allocate the exercises with the crews in the following manner. The first day is devoted to studying the particular features of operating the equipment, the physicochemical properties of the fuels and lubricants and the safety measures with 2 training hours assigned for each exercise. The second day is devoted to the theoretical and practical study of the seasonal maintenance operations. Some 6 hours of training time are assigned for this. Then for 2 hours the men are given a quiz on the rules for operating the equipment in the summer and on safety measures.

Usually in converting a tank or BMP to the conditions of spring-summer operations, it is essential to carry out the following:

- 1) Change the fuel, oils and cooling fluid to the seasonal grades;
- 2) Check the integrity of the cooling system;
- 3) Inspect the proper working order of the firefighting equipment.

In order to accelerate the maintenance of the equipment and improve the quality of the work, specialized posts and brigades are organized in the unit and these include soldiers from the battalion maintenance squad and the regiment repair company. The brigades, as a rule, perform only those operations which cannot be done by the crews due to the absence of the required equipment, tools, attachments and instruments in the individual ZIP [spare parts] kits.

The work posts are stationary. These are set up in the quarters of the maintenance and repair point, on the territory of the parking area, in the vehicle parking areas of the subunits and in the trucks of the tank repair shops. The specialists of the work posts conduct only the basic operations (for example, flushing out the air cleaner, machinists or welding jobs and so forth) while the disassembly of the units from the vehicles, their transporting and assembly are entrusted to the crew members.

An example of organizing the brigades and posts in the unit is shown in the table.

	In Unit	Number of Personnel (men)	In Battalion	Number of Personnel (men)
Brigades	Stabilizers and electrical equipment	2	Adjustment of drives of power unit and transmission	2
	Weapons, firing and observation instruments	2	Lubricating of undercarriage	3
	Communications equipment	3	Painting vehicles	2
	Infrared equipment	2		
Posts	Repair of tarps, covers and tents	3	Servicing of oil and fuel filters	2
	Electric and gas welding	2	Inspection of pressure and vacuum relief valves	1
	Mechanical	3	Servicing of military-technical gear	2
	Repair and charging of batteries	3	Servicing of tools	2

The immediate servicing of the equipment and the eliminating of detected malfunctions are carried out on the basis of a schedule plan which is drawn up by the platoon commander with the involvement of the subunit senior technician and the commanders of the vehicles. The assignment is ordinarily given to the subunits for a day.

Upon the arrival of the personnel in the parking area, the senior technician conducts an instructional exercise with the crews with the demonstrating of the work area which includes a set of tools and attachments as well as various materials required for the current day. Then he describes the sequence of carrying out the jobs to be done on a centralized basis. The established schedule for the utilization of the posts and brigades is described for each company by the deputy battalion commander for technical affairs.

The instructional exercise with the recalling of the safety measures should be brief, clear and designed for not more than 15 minutes. In the course of the servicing itself, the senior technician directs the actions of the subordinates, he provides help in carrying out the most difficult operations and supervises the quality of their execution.

For example, the crews themselves change the cooling fluid on the vehicles under the supervision of the platoon commanders. While they are draining the low-temperature fluid from the radiators and flushing out the pressure and vacuum relief valves, the senior technician prepares the summer cooling fluid. As is known, this requires a three-component additive consisting of potassium bichromate, sodium nitrite and trisodium phosphate, and is added to ordinary water in strictly determined proportions.

Proceeding from the amount of fluid required for the subunit, the senior technician must make the appropriate calculations and determine the required amount of additive components. Then the additive is put in small amounts into the water (8-10 liters) warmed to a temperature of 60-80° C, mixing the solution until the components are completely dissolved. The prepared solution is poured out into the necessary amount of water and the summer cooling fluid is ready for use.

The actual filling of the vehicle cooling systems should be supervised by the senior technician. Ordinarily certain drivers on a number of types of vehicles measure the fluid level either in the radiator or just in the overflow tank. Practice shows that the filling level can be judged more accurately only from the average arithmetic value of both measurements. For example, for the T-72 tanks, the amount of this average level is 65-70 mm.

The presence of the senior technician is also required in cleaning the heater boilers on various types of tanks, including the T-72. This also is performed by the crew. The instructions provide that the boiler is filled with fuel and then the fuel should be drained off a day later. However, as the tankmen have long been persuaded, it is better to clean the boilers by another method, namely flushing them out with compressed air supplied from the fleet air supply systems (under field conditions, from the air tanks of the vehicle itself). The air is delivered through hoses to the exhaust nozzle of the heater and then to the boiler.

It must be emphasized that the senior technician should consider the checking of the quality of the operations performed as his most important task during the maintenance of the vehicles. This ultimately determines the reliability and dependability of the systems and units.

It is harder to convert the tanks and BMP to summer operation in the field maintenance parks, including at the training centers. Here in a majority of instances not stationary but mobile maintenance equipment is employed. In line with this there is a significantly greater responsibility for the commanders of the repair and maintenance platoons and squads as these should prepare the equipment of the tank repair shops and supply them with all the materials needed for the work in the field. The organization of the posts and brigades in the field in actual terms rests fully on the repair company.

In carrying out seasonal maintenance it must be remembered that by the end of the workday all the equipment and weapons should be ready for use. It is categorically prohibited to leave the tanks or BMP disassembled or broken down (with the exception of those which are undergoing planned overhaul) in order not to permit a drop in the combat readiness level of the subunits.

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NAVAL FORCES

ANTI-SUB SIMULATORS' VALUE DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Major T. Grigor'yev: "With The Help Of Simulators"]

[Text] The planned flights had gone and a target track suddenly appeared on the radar site screen. With the help of scanning equipment the navigational crew quickly established contact with the "enemy" submarine. Then a bombing run was made on it, but the boat was outside the killing zone. The munitions landed in an area significantly far from the target.

Unit navigator Captain A. Barkovskiy analyzed the data from the objective control equipment, talked with every member of the anti-submarine crew and organized a careful post-flight critique, but this did not uncover who blundered during the attack and why. Initially Captain Barkovskiy recommended that the commander plan yet another sortie for the crew to discover the source of the erroneous actions, but at the same time he was more and more inclined to think that a repeat sortie would hardly clear things up for an accurate determination of the weak link in the chain of interdependent crew actions in the air.

First, it is practically impossible to repeat the former attack variant in full detail. Second, it is difficult to catch all the inaccuracies and slips in the sharply changing situation. And third, an unnecessary flight means unnecessary material resource expense.

It was decided not to hasten with a control flight to search for the submarine but to verify the training of the crew in detail on a simulator. And here are the initial conditional sorties. The high evaluation illuminated on the tableau did not satisfy the instructor and he therefore introduced elements to complicate the search. He changed the course, speed and depth of the submerged boat and the impartial electronic examiner gave the crew an unsatisfactory mark. The complicated elements of the attack were played through another several times until the error in the crew's actions was found. It turned out that Captain V. Rudomanov reacted to the target alignment in the aiming grid late and this reduced aerial bomb strike accuracy.

Training exercises were then run during which Rudomanov and the other crew members developed the skills for competent action at this difficult flight

level. The results of the persistent and purposeful training were such that by the beginning of the new training period Captain Rudomanov had become a military navigator 1st class.

So that a simulator helps not only detect a weakness in a navigator-operator's training but also quickly eliminates it, the instructor has to step out of the pattern and show creativity in searching for new training forms. In practice this is how it works: After each training run, two crews critique the "flight" together, analyzing the maneuver, elements of the attack and actions involving the equipment with interest and objectivity.

This causes not only a mutual enrichment with the best methods but also develops a unity of views for resolving those or other combat training missions under non-typical conditions. Common training methods are begat which guarantee high tactical skills for aviators and security in a real flight. The simulator here is an objective mediator in determining the training level of every crew member in the aircraft and this facilitates creating in the collective an atmosphere of competition without which there cannot be effective socialist competition.

One day junior officers of the two crews did not agree with the marks given during a review for the month.

"Let the simulator judge us," one of them said.

And that was done. The simulator "judged" objectively and impartially and the positions were not changed. True, the electronic examiner lowered the mark for tactical training by one point for both rivals.

"You see, the simulator corrected my error," smiled the commander.

The fact that even during the equipping of the material training base they stipulated that the purpose of each stand, operating diagram and simulator on the whole must fully conform to the missions that the regiment's personnel resolve facilitated the increase in the quality of aerial and fire training for aviators. Here each innovation was dictated by the interests of combat readiness and flight security. But as USSR Minister of Defense Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov stressed at the All-Army meeting of Komsomol organization secretaries, "successes attained should not be the basis for complacency." The improvement of the training complex goes on constantly with the application of each new tactical device by the "enemy" submarine and the manifestation of any malfunction in resolving the assigned mission. Simulator equipment gives us the ability to repeatedly play through the most complicated elements of tactical maneuvers and attack with surface and subsurface ships participating.

People in the regiment will remember when one of the officers asked the commander where the further development of the simulator complex would lead.

"You will certainly be on many flights where you will see a mass of possibilities. After that we will talk specifically about which of them should get primary attention," answered the regimental commander.

And the officer did just that. He soon turned his attention to the errors of young pilots while using aviation equipment. Some couldn't stand motor start conditions and others unskillfully used or crudely checked the pilot-navigational system. The idea of developing a simulator which would help find the weakness in aerial training of young officers was born and the commander supported the idea.

However, everything was more difficult than initially envisioned. Several experiments in getting the autopilot to agree with the simulator computed were unsuccessful.

But officer-rationalizer captains N. Smul'skiy and V. Mukaseyev remained firm. They turned their attention to developing imitators of the aerodynamic force acting on the control system in actual flight. Lieutenant Colonel O. Boriskin was included in the work and together they made a draft, selected instruments and mechanisms and assembled them. After honing the mechanism they were successful. Whereas earlier, when resolving tactical missions in the training room, pilot-navigational data was fed into the simulator manually, now this information was automatically and steadily fed in, just like in actual flight.

This allowed them to transfer yet another significant part of the training exercises into the classroom. The actions of the flight crews are now developed on land under different variations of aerial combat maneuvering. The number of training flights was reduced and the savings in motor resources and fuel has noticeably grown.

After using the original tactical method for breaking contact in aviation searches, submariners prompted the next theme for improving the simulator complex. Even experienced masters of searches and aerial strikes had major difficulties in resolving the assigned missions when they came up against non-standard actions of rivals. This serves as a new incentive for a creative search for countermeasures. A collective of rationalizers made up of Major V. Kosov, Senior Lieutenant B. Morozov and Warrant Officer V. Kuznetsov developed the equipment and thanks to it flight crews in the near future will begin to develop methods for effectively combating the "enemy" in class with the enemy using intense interference.

All unit crews are completing the military training missions with high marks and in the winter training period they reached a stable, accident-free period in their work with aviation equipment, having fully met their socialist obligations taken at this stage of competition. This in many respects was done thanks to the effective use of the simulator complex.

12511

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NAVAL FORCES

SKILL, CHARACTER OF NAVY PILOTS OUTLINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Colonel General of Aviation V. Voronov: "The Legacy Of Courage--The Years of Lieutenancy"]

[Text] V.I. Voronov began his military service in naval aviation in 1942. He was a fighter pilot in the battles for the Caucasus, the Crimea and during the liberation of Rumania and Bulgaria from the German Fascists invaders. During the Great Patriotic War he flew 110 combat missions, shot down 5 enemy airplanes and completed dozens of strafing and reconnaissance missions.

After the war V.I. Voronov completed the Air Force Academy, commanded aviation units and the Black Sea Fleet Aviation. He is certified in more than 30 types of airplanes and helicopters. Now the honored military pilot of the RSFSR Colonel General of Aviation Vladimir Ivanovich Voronov is deputy commander of Naval Aviation.

I think that those people who fought the enemy in the Great Patriotic War and those who recently entered the Army will really understand me. Indeed, each of us inherently compares the past with the present, and especially now that the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory is nearing. Recalling the events of the fiery years and the exploits of military comrades, one involuntarily thinks about those who now wear lieutenant shoulder boards on their shoulders, those to whom we are now passing the precious legacy of front line soldiers, a whole-hearted love for the Motherland, bravery and valor and readiness to heroically defend socialism's achievements.

Recently during tactical training on a long ocean cruise young naval aviator officers V. Anisimov and A. Rayevskiy distinguished themselves. They took off from the anti-submarine cruiser deck many times, completed difficult missions and repeatedly emerged victorious in aerial mock battles.

I know from my own experience on initial long ocean cruises how difficult it is for young pilots to master flying from a ship's deck. From the air where ever you look there is the boundless blue of the sea. Involuntarily,

one seeks a strip of land or the tiny features of a ship on the horizon. But there is nothing. Flying over the sea far from shore at night is even more difficult. Such flights are possible only for the courageous and morally and physically hardened soldiers with much professional training. Anisimov, Rayevskiy and many others of their contemporaries totally possess all these qualities.

I learned about the latest success of the young officers and recalled 1943 when such a young man as they are now arrived at the 6th Guards Fighter Regiment of the Black Sea Fleet Air Force. Those were feverish times as the enemy had concentrated a large aviation group on the Crimean airfields. Heavy aerial battles were raging over land and sea. At times pilots had to fly 3-4 combat missions a day and exert every effort possible. And sometimes not everyone returned to the airfield. Yes, and you can't make the necessary landing in the ocean and a parachute is far from always helpful. We young fighter pilots knew and saw all of this.

Honestly speaking, my comrades and I experienced a great deal of concern then. But the examples of veteran front-liners who had a lot of combat experience and who was a threat to the fascists helped us pull ourselves together, survive the difficulties and dispel the chill of fear. And I will never forget the support and help as long as I live.

Our regimental commander was Hero of the Soviet Union Guards Lieutenant Colonel M. Avdeyev. He was stern and demanding and we immediately respected him for his firmness, fairness and personal bravery. Senior comrades repeatedly advised lieutenants to watch the commander closely and to study his self-control and composure.

I remember one of the first combat missions to cover the Kerchenskiy landing. Guards Lieutenant Colonel Avdeyev personally led the group of fighters that had the new pilots. We had to fight a whole armada of enemy planes over the front line. The forces were obviously not even, but then we heard the calm, confident voice of the commander saying, "Eagles, attack!" It was as if everyone gained strength and it was inspiring and rousing to have near us the experienced commander in whom we believed and from whom we had learned courage.

The regimental commander was the first to hit the enemy and he shot down a Messerschmitt. The rest attacked them and none of us flinched in battle. Was it really possible to let down the ones who had taught courage and who had instilled fearlessness in your heart?

In the war years combat skills and the best qualities of experienced aerial soldiers were constantly transferred to front-line youths. The celebrated aces Lieutenant Colonel N. Chelnokov, Major J. Aleksayev, Captains N. Stepanyan, M. Grub, I. Il'in, G. Moskalenko and many others fearlessly fought in the Black Sea skies at that time. Each of my contemporaries of those years carries in his heart clear examples of heroism of our senior comrades.

But here I must note that the acquisition of experience and development of the necessary combat qualities depends a lot on the young officers themselves, in their attitude to duty and their eagerness to get combat experience as quickly as possible.

Guards Junior Lieutenant S. Denisov sticks in my memory as such an assertive, energetic person. He approached accomplishing every combat mission with total responsibility and sought to use the examples of the regiment's heroes in every way. I must relate one of the young pilot's selfless deeds.

This was also during the battles for Kerch. While repulsing an attack of Junkers four of our Yaks started an uneven battle with enemy fighters. In one instance, Messerschmitts simultaneously attacked the leader of our group from several directions. It appeared that our comrade's death was unavoidable, but at that instant Denisov covered the leader with his own plane and drew enemy fire on himself.

Denisov's plane was hit. Bleeding profusely, the guardsman held out until he got to our nearest airfield. However, strength left the pilot before he could land and he lost consciousness, his plane flipped over and was destroyed. Seriously wounded, Denisov was taken to the hospital and none of us thought he would be able to return to flying after what had happened. But time went by and Denisov was returned to his own regiment and continued to bravely fight the hated enemy. He acted like Mares'yev, following the laws of courage.

The young pilot's heroism was no accident, for he had learned courage from senior comrades. In our regiment flight commander Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Rumyantsev repeatedly rescued comrades who had run into problems in battle. Even I owe him my life. Denisov certainly followed Rumyantsev's example; he studied him with determination, very conscious of his duty and ready to make every effort for the Motherland.

In the continuation and increase of glorious front line traditions a lot depends primarily on you, my young friends in combat formation. It depends on how masterfully you are able to use the rich legacy, to indoctrinate in yourself the qualities which distinguished the heroes-front line soldiers. Certainly, I anticipate the following objection: The times you are talking about were different.

I agree, they were. However, look a little more attentively, for the desire for exploits also lives in the new generation of Soviet officers. And, plainly speaking, front line soldiers taught and indoctrinated many of them.

Here in front of me is the historical service record for a naval aviation unit. It notes, "Colonel F. Matkovskiy took off first in the naval plane" and "F. Matkovskiy made the first landing on the ship's deck." Is it possible not to be aroused by the heroism of this pioneer pilot and not to assimilate his experience?

One day, when we were still beginning to master flying naval airplanes, while completing a training flight Matkovskiy's airplane didn't respond to the controls. Everyone on land was convinced that Feoktist Grigor'yevich had to abandon his plane in the very difficult situation. But then it would have been difficult to establish the reason for what had happened, so Matkovskiy decided to save his plane. He didn't lose his head and was able to partially restore control and land the plane. Specialists quickly determined that they had made an error while pre-flighting the equipment and the necessary steps were taken.

In the post-war years front liners' heirs have done many heroic deeds. I could give example after example. The excellent qualities of Soviet soldiers that were born in the terrible experiences of war are appearing in full force in our times. And every young officer is obligated to indoctrinate himself with these qualities, to strengthen his will in order to be worthy of the unfading glory of fathers and uncles.

But I want to say something else. Not long ago I had the occasion to talk to two lieutenants (I won't give their names as I hope that they have learned from what happened). One of the young officers couldn't endure the difficulties of an ocean cruise and for the other, serving in a distant maritime garrison turned out to be beyond his power. What was the reason for the fact that they, frankly speaking, were faint-hearted? It seems to me that I understand them. They wanted easy success without the necessary effort and input.

The words from a speech by Comrade K.U. Chernenko at the All-Army meeting of Komsomol organization secretaries come to mind. He said that modern military service is not easy. It demands tireless work, systematic training, resolute hardening, psychological self-control and constant self-discipline.

And there is much tension peculiar to the rhythm of service and military training. Thus in naval aviation flights from ships during long ocean cruises demand great physical and psychological endurance and real courage. And if you dream about courageous deeds, remember that you can't be afraid of rough work. There can be no place for complacency, temporizing and vacillation. Front line experience proves that there are no easy paths to courage.

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NAVAL FORCES

ROLE OF COMPASS ADJUSTER DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jun 84 p 4

[Article by Senior Lieutenant A. Umanskiy, Red Banner Pacific Ocean Fleet:
"The Deviator"]

[Text] I have heard that the Navy has a profession called "deviator" and I don't understand what this means. What do people in this profession do?

V. Chugunov, Moscow

One fine morning a large anti-submarine ship sailed into the open sea. A few hours later it arrived at the designated area.

The ship's navigator, Captain 3rd Rank F. Petrusha, called to the middle-aged short man in civilian clothes who was in the pilot house. "Gennadiy Ivanovich, we are in position. You can begin."

"Aye" he answered in the laconic naval fashion and after making some marks in a notebook he said, "Set us on a 0 degree course."

Yes, you seldom see a civilian work out recommendations for maneuvering a military ship. His profession of deviator, rare and highly respected in the Navy, gives Gennadiy Ivanovich Vikhlyayev such a right.

If you look in a Maritime dictionary, you can read that a deviator is an official in the Navy's hydrographic service whose job it is to make findings and corrections for a magnetic compass's magnetic and electromagnetic deviations. But what is a deviation? Who in his time hasn't read Jules Verne's "The 15-Year Old Captain"? Do you remember how much unpleasantness was caused by the iron hatchet placed under the compass by some ill-intended person? We will note that the heroes of this adventure novel sailed in a wooden boat. When the era of metal shipbuilding arrived, the metal hulls of ships themselves began to play the role of the "hatchet" whose magnetic field deviated the compass needle from magnetic north. Deviation for ocean-going vessels resulted in major agitations, misunderstandings and even victims. But in the end, the nature of the harmful phenomenon was unraveled and methods to combat it found. This is when deviators appeared.

For a long time this profession was surrounded by a certain aura of secrecy. A deviator's manipulations with various special magnets, iron bars or spheres with which he "curbed" the influence of the ship's iron on the compass seemed like some kind of witchcraft. It was the rare navigator who risked correcting his navigational instruments himself and deviators jealously guarded their professional secrets.

Today everything has changed. And although you see professional deviators even more rarely than in earlier times, the aura of secrecy has been gone for a long time.

Flagship navigator for the Red Banner Pacific Ocean Fleet Captain 1st Rank V. Vladimir says, "Now practically all navigators in the Navy are deviators. They all take the appropriate courses in academies and as a rule at the right time as one of their duties they independently determine and correct magnetic compass deviation. However, this does not mean that the need for specialists for whom this specialty is basic has been eliminated. No, for there are times when the usual training level in this area is not enough and a first class deviator is needed. For example, he is needed when a ship leaves a drydock after repairs or when the deviation must be corrected as quickly as possible and with special accuracy. Then the request "Send Vikhlyayev" goes out to the hydrographic service. One can say that he is an excellent specialist.

The ship is on the assigned course. After a little time passes, the ship captain at the deviator's request changes course 180 degrees. And all that time Vikhlyayev and Petrusha are carefully adjusting the needle in the magnetic compass and are collating it with hydrocompass data which are not affected by the magnetic field and thus they determine the size of the necessary correction.

Now that the deviation is determined, the most crucial stage, correcting it, is at hand. Inside the binnacle (this is what they call this kind of mechanism in which the compass bowl is set) there is a special instrument, a pipe and slide with a magnetic corrector. In moving them, Vikhlyayev also gets information on the minimum size of the harmful influence by the ship's iron on the magnetic needle. Outwardly everything is simple, but the deviator runs into specific peculiarities and complications on each ship. And what only doesn't influence deviation magnitude! Every movement of iron mass on a ship or vessel, the operation of electrical assemblies and storage batteries can change the deviation, as can some strong shock on a body or a ship's long anchorage. The deviator must consider all of these.

"Our business is delicate and sometimes you run into such curious things," laughs Vikhlyayev. "I went out to sea on one craft and started on the compass. I did everything like always, but the compass was obstinate and pointed everywhere but north. An hour, two, three passed and sailors were looking at me with ironic grins, thinking that I was a poor specialist. And suddenly I noticed that someone had inadvertently thrown an electrical cable in the far corner of the pilot house. And it turned out that it had recently been used to power up from shore. This was agitating the compass.

Like every man devoted to his business, Gennadiy Ivanovich was ready to talk about his profession for hours. He had an enormous amount of practical experience behind him. He started as a student in a navigational instrument repair shop and as time passed he got to know all the subtleties of the compass business, becoming a real compass master. Everyone in the Red Banner Pacific Ocean Fleet knows shock worker of communist labor deviator Vikhlyayev. He has never left a ship without correcting its compass deviation. And now navigator Captain 3rd Rank Petrusha thankfully smiles at him. "Everything's in order, Gennadiy Ivanovich. Thanks for the help."

The deviator gathers data on which magnets are affecting navigational instruments, their size and locations and writes it on a special tablet affixed to the binnacle, then signs it. This signature, like a craftsman's personal stamp guarantees the quality of work and the reliability of the compass and consequently, the security of the ship's cruise.

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NAVAL FORCES

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SPECIAL TROOPS

CONSTRUCTION BRIGADES RESTRUCTURED, MORE PRODUCTION GAINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Major General A. Katkov, deputy troop commander of the Volga Military District in charge of construction and troop billeting: "The Effect Of Renovation"]

[Text] Ten years ago our leading enterprise, a combine for ferroconcrete products headed by honored builder of the RSFSR Colonel S. Puzyrev, changed the machinery and equipment for making products and constructing large-paneled houses. Then the work of increasing the yield of the armature and concrete mixing assembly areas and sections was completed, warehouse accommodations were expanded and the transportation net improved. Housing construction in the district got a new series of fully assembled houses tied to the conditions of Middle Volga Region and the South Urals.

It would seem that the matter was finished and one could rest for another five years. But even then everyone was aware that a small amount of above-plan production for the plant had important significance for military construction. Whereas renovating the home construction base gave the combine a 14 percent increase in labor productivity, augmenting construction directly made up 22 percent of the total.

And the main thing is that the experience of many years work showed that reconstruction and production renovation is a normal state for the enterprise, just as a steady demand for raw material or product output. Plans for reconstruction, its tempo and methods can and must be changed from year to year and from 5-year plan to 5-year plan, but production renovation and its development must be constantly done on the basis of the achievements of scientific-technical progress.

The last stage of organizational-technical and technological improvement in the ferroconcrete combine was completed in the late 70's and early 80's. By 1983 practically without any capital investment the output of products for fully assembled living quarters rose 150 percent. The main part of the growth was attained by improving production planning, the use of new types of organization and stimulating labor.

The essence of the improvement was the fact that they made the transition from a great number of small brigades working the individual stands and

mechanisms in shifts to two large multiple-skill brigades handling finished product output. Each brigade worked in three shifts. These brigades, composed of 50 percent workers from the Soviet Army and 50 percent military builders, formed stable collectives and the firm traditions of mutual aid, interchangeability and fundamental worker exactingness. The brigades began using coefficients of labor participation as an evaluation mechanism of everyone's contribution to the overall effort.

The advantages of such an organization and work payment were such that people don't even think about returning to former times. Cadre turnover was significantly reduced, labor productivity grew by 28 percent and pay, including prizes, rose 18 percent. A large savings, on the average of 120 thousand rubles annually, was attained in all types of productive outlay.

By the way, the multiple-skill contract brigades headed by Soviet Army workers A. Lupanov and F. Gisiatullin in recent years have repeatedly been medalists in competitions of USSR Ministry of Defense contract brigades and professional trade association unions.

Beginning in 1979 planning and management of the combine's deliveries and that of others was done using EVM [computers]. This allows them to regulate the system for preparing orders and sharply reduces the time for developing delivery plans.

In 1978 a new claydite gravel mill went into operation. As a result the problem of providing all buildings and enterprises with high quality claydite was resolved. On the one hand, our large-paneled houses became lighter and on the other, they became warmer.

In short, a lot was done during that time. But leading party and government documents and the material of the recent party Central Committee Plenum directed us again and again to improve production and accelerate the growth of our economy. We understood that one of the most important routes to resolving this key task was reconstructing and renovating basic resources.

The initial measurement point at the given enterprise was already sufficiently high. Resource return steadily grew, the growth of development in the last five years exceeded 20 percent, annual profit reached half a million rubles and work time losses were significantly reduced. Nonetheless the search for resource reserves continued.

At the present time the last stage of reconstructing the ferroconcrete combine which will allow yet another 25 percent increase in output is nearing completion. The new series of fully assembled homes corresponding to contemporary demands will come out in a flood.

As in previous years they are able not only to keep production going, but also, despite the exceptional constraints in area, they are able to increase the output of large-paneled houses. At the same time it is necessary to accelerate the adjustment and testing of new shop equipment. Indeed, the

effect of renovating our production base is the changes which we achieve in construction.

Here is a typical example. Even five years ago the upper part of a pile-supported foundation, the so-called foundation mat, was made of slab ferroconcrete which was both labor and material consuming. But in the past year up to 84 percent of large-paneled buildings in the district were built on pile-supported foundations without a foundation mat. This halved the time for completing the work. The essence of the new technology is that now the assembled ferroconcrete caps on which the pedestal construction rests are assembled directly on the piles. At first glance this change is not so important, but this transition required the development and realization of a special program which combined the work of a design institute, contract construction assembly organization and clients.

At the given level of reconstruction the enterprise collective has the task of increasing pile output. There are not enough of them and also the shortage of pile drivers will soon begin to considerably slow the progressive movement of the new technology in the district's construction.

The ferroconcrete combine collective also has other problems. The question of fully meeting claydite sand production is still unresolved and there are not enough super peptizers to produce concrete. This requires the fastest development of so-called soft concrete mixtures which harden quickly with minimum thermal treatment and allow a reduction in cement outlay.

The enterprise manager, Colonel S. Puzyrev, sees all these problems and is able to plan and organize work with the future in his sights. But he is now attuning people to the main issue. The time for starting the new series of large-paneled houses and then going into design capacity as quickly as possible is approaching.

There is also the problem of raising labor productivity and the total level of production. In his speech at the April (1984) CPSU Central Committee Plenum K.U. Chernenko stressed that, while concentrating activities on constructing and reconstructing industrial objectives, one cannot forget about housing construction and projects of social-domestic importance.

There is still a lot of work in this area and we should first concern ourselves with the people's labor and rest conditions right on the production site. The enterprise's technical renovation must make itself felt not only by its weight but also in perceptions and this perception must reach the people. They must organize the area comfortably, modernize the buildings' exterior and make work positions comfortable. The most urgent task is completely providing all workers with comfortable living accommodations.

We must substantially change the attitudes of managers at all levels towards this exceptionally important task. There are various ways of resolving it, including construction of stationary domestic accommodations at the enterprise itself and the well-thought out use of buildings under construction for this. But mobile trailers must be much more widely built.

In summation, one can say that with the example of the given enterprise the renovation of the industrial base, its expansion and modernization have enormous economic and social significance and play a decisive role in resolving tasks which the party has assigned builders. And the foremost duty of all managers is to steadily deal with reconstruction issues, the introduction of scientific and technical achievements and advanced experience. Without this it is impossible to build quickly, economically and durably.

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SPECIAL TROOPS

RADIO TELEGRAPHISTS' TRAINING REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by Major V. Motitskiy, Order of Lenin Moscow District PVO [Air Defence]: "With The Help Of Trainers"]

[Text] On the evening before the first day of summer training the commander of a communications unit took reports from subunit commanders on their personnel's readiness for the exercise. The commander paid special attention to the report from Senior Lieutenant V. Yeroshevskiy who was tasked with leading training for young radio telegraphists. And, after arriving in class the next day, the troops under the command of Senior Lieutenant Yeroshevskiy began to master working with the telegraph key.

One could see that the class was composed of novices by the careful, as yet awkward hand movements and the disordered clatter of the key. Telling them, but mainly showing them how to do it properly, Senior Lieutenant Yeroshevskiy went from one table to another and noted with satisfaction that the telegraph keys were gradually beginning to click more clearly. Many of the soldiers were becoming confident that the difficult, but interesting radio telegraph specialty was not beyond their powers. Having supported this confidence in them, the chief instructor at the same time cautioned them that the specialty doesn't come so easy, in a flash to anyone. He pointed out the errors most often made by novices. For example, many of the students were not maintaining the designated rhythm.

"It is still difficult for you to catch it aurally," said the officer, "but we have an instrument in the classroom that makes all of your dots and dashes visible."

The senior lieutenant showed notes which the machine had made on paper tapes. In fact, the notes sent by the soldiers were distinctly reviewed on these tapes and the tapes showed that Private S. Reznikov's dashes were too long and that those of others were barely discernable from their dots.

"You have to do it like this so that that doesn't happen," said the officer and he made a tape of his own transmission.

Marks of the training telegraph were printed on the tape with strict periodicity. The hand of a first class radioman was immediately apparent

and some of the soldiers immediately noted that they would not be taught to send that well. Then Senior Lieutenant Yeroshevskiy showed them a tape of Private V. Popkov's work. He had entered the class with the other novices and the tape showed that the soldier had transmitted the text rather well.

The chief instructor introduced the soldiers to equipment in the training room and explained the purpose of trainers, various equipment, instruments and mock-ups. He stressed that all of this would help the soldiers master the radiomans' specialty in a short time. He turned one of the instrument on and a loud noise immediately was heard in the headsets. Interference! It didn't seem possible to pick up anything against that background, but first Yeroshevskiy and then Senior Warrant Officer N. Zalomin showed that such interference was no problem to a real radio telegraphist. And the novices felt that they in time would also learn to work under very difficult conditions.

Shortly before the beginning of summer training officers from a unit we had been competing against for several years straight visited us. And although before this they had never praised us for the state of our material training base, it was pleasant to hear such praise from our rivals. Many things, including the training classroom equipment, attracted their attention. Besides the equipment already named, the radio training classroom had equipment so that from his work position the chief instructor could change the aural reception speed, set up mutual two-man exchanges, create various types of interference and control specialists work both aurally and with objective control equipment.

Classrooms for telegraphist, telephone operators and other classrooms are also equipped with everything necessary to train soldiers successfully. It is important that all classes are combined into a communication package which makes it possible to train under conditions as near as possible to the real thing. The first day of summer training there was operational readiness training for specialists along with the exercises for junior radiomen. This was headed by Lieutenant Colonel S. Petrov and it gave him a good opportunity to develop the issues of mutual support with neighboring units in his subordinates. Class equipment allowed him to create the most difficult situations.

Based on last year's results, our unit was awarded the district military council's Challenge Red Banner and we finished winter training with high marks. In many ways this was thanks to the constant concern for improving the material training base. This base will help us to have high successes in summer training as well.

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SPECIAL TROOPS

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES TROOP HOUSEKEEPING SUPPORT

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 84 p 1

[Editorial: "For the Living Conditions of the Fightingmen--Concern and Attention"]

[Text] The Communist Party and the Soviet government strive constantly to see to it that the Armed Forces of the USSR have everything necessary to perform their main mission of reliably protecting the Soviet people's creative labor. The army and navy have the most modern of weapons and combat equipment. Material support and personal services for the personnel are constantly improving. Comrade K.U. Chernenko emphasized at the February 1984 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee that the party and the Soviet government will continue to concern themselves with strengthening our nation's defense capability and providing our Armed Forces with everything they need. Soviet fightingmen are responding to the party's constant concern with new successes in their military work.

Intense summer combat training is under way in the forces and fleets. At the ranges, at air fields and on ocean cruises the fightingmen are persistently improving their combat skill and attempting to successfully fulfill the combat training programs and socialist commitments. The great intensity and pressure of the combat training demand enormous effort and energy of the servicemen. A well-organized military life and constant concern for providing the personnel with a quality diet and drinking water, uniforms and all types of pay and allowances at the proper time are extremely important for restoring the energy and building up the health of the fightingmen and making it possible for them to thoroughly rest and relax.

All of the conditions and possibilities exist for organizing military life well in the forces and fleets. We have the necessary material and technical base, modern messing and kitchen, production and refrigeration equipment, including field equipment, for mechanizing food processing and preparation, and a smoothly functioning system for providing the servicemen with food, clothing and other rations. It is the duty of commanders, political organs and rear service specialists to take full advantage of these capabilities and strive for a situation in which each fightingman always receives hot meals, his uniforms are in good condition and he can get his rest, even on a cruise or in the field.

Personal support for the troops is a matter of great political importance. This was well understood by commanders, political organs and administrative officers during the Great Patriotic War, who constantly endeavored to see that the fightingmen had food, uniforms, medical services, bathing and laundry facilities in the difficult conditions of life at the front. Today's commanders, political workers and rear service officers also consider the personal needs of the fightingmen to be one of their prime concerns and do everything possible to see that their subordinates are fed at the right time and provided with everything they have coming to them strictly according to prescribed scales. This is the way it is, for example, in the regiment in which the rear service is headed by Major V. Filonov, in the unit in which Major V. Orlov is the rear service chief, and in many units of the Carpathian Military District. The personal needs of the fightingmen receive daily attention there. The personnel are always provided with the authorized rations at the proper time and in the full amounts. This matter receives special attention in field drills and exercises.

Unfortunately, we still have individual commanders and rear service workers who underestimate the great importance of material and personal support for the servicemen. This is true, for example, in the unit in which Lieutenant Colonel A. Polyakov is deputy commander for rear services (Transbaykal Military District) and in certain other units and subunits in that military district. Furthermore, lack of concern for the personal needs of the fightingmen is demonstrated there not just in the field, on flights and exercises, but even when the subunits are in their winter quarters. Among other things, the quality of the diet of the personnel and bathing and laundry services are not always monitored. We cannot accept such irregular occurrences. We must impose strict party demandingness upon all those responsible for organizing personal support for the personnel.

The summer combat training is performed under specific weather and climatic conditions. This obligates the commanders, rear service officers and military medics to make a special effort to see that personnel take in the proper amount of liquid, observe sanitation and medical standards and have bathing and laundry services at the right time. They still have their usual concerns too, of course. During long stays in the field and on long cruises they must see to the repair of uniforms and footwear and provide the men with an opportunity to read newspapers, listen to the radio and watch movies during their leisure hours.

Smooth and uninterrupted material and personal service support for the personnel, especially in the field, is a multifaceted task, and its successful accomplishment depends not only on the quartermaster officers, but also on the commanders and staffs, who organize the interaction and smooth functioning of all the services of the unit, the ship, the formation. It is therefore very important to provide the rear service specialists with regular training, to thoroughly plan the material support, to carry out orders and instructions irreproachably and to know how to maneuver personnel and equipment efficiently. All of this requires foresight, initiative and efficiency of those in charge. Commanders, political organs and party organizations must concern themselves constantly with developing in the officers a sense of great responsibility for the health of the fightingmen and arranging for their personal needs to be met, using all forms and methods of party-political work for this purpose.

It is with good reason that material and personal support is referred to as the morale service. Everything is important in this matter. Commanders, troop and fleet quartermaster specialists must therefore see to the timely repair of barracks and other housing, the outfitting of the personnel, the organization of medical services, and the observance of safety measures during drills to prevent injuries. The provident commander and rear service chief also see to it that the servicemen have PX facilities, even in the field.

The All-Army Conference on the Improvement of Personal Services for the Forces will be held in 1985. It is the duty of commanders, political workers, rear service agencies, party and Komsomol organizations to do everything possible to see that preparations for the conference and the competitive review of material and personal service conditions for best garrison in the forces and fleets, which is being held in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory, are an effective means of further improving personal services for personnel of the army and navy. It must be borne in mind that concern for the personal needs of the fightingmen is concern for the combat readiness of the units and ships.

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YEGOROV STRESSES IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF TRAINING RESOURCES

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 20 May 84 p 1

[Article by A. Anokhin and G. Chernomorskiy: "Reserves--Into Action"]

[Text] The work collective of the Kamenets-Podol'skiy Instrument Building Plant is well known for its labor successes. A few days ago, Flt Adm G.M. Yegorov, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, visited this enterprise. He told of the decisions of the April (1984) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the First Session, 11th Convocation, of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and about how the mandate of the voters is being put into practice.

There was also a meeting with students and the staff of professors and teachers of the Kamenets-Podol'skiy Agricultural Institute, one of the oldest VUZ's in the country.

Here painstaking work is being carried out in the military-patriotic education of young people. In this regard, much credit goes to the communists and reserve colonels I. Lyakhnovich, S. Fedoryaka and other activists of the Defense Society. Also deserving of a good word is communist and docent V. Lanevskiy. He and Ye. Kopot', chairman of the committee of the primary organization of the DOSAAF and colonel-engineer of the reserves, carried out a number of interesting campaigns at sites of revolutionary, military and labor fame.

The technical and military-applied kinds of sports enjoy great popularity among students. In the motorized section alone, supervised by I. Shevchuk, communist and reserve major, about 400 people are studying. The riflemen regularly go out on the firing range and all-round competitors train.

Flt Adm G. M. Yegorov met with the personnel of the Kamenets-Podol'skiy Motor Vehicle School of the DOSAAF.

"In this school," said the chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, "they are doing good work in constantly building up the educational-material basis. And it is very good that it is being used at full capacity. Unfortunately, not everything is so favorable. They will put up a pretty good building and put modern equipment in the classrooms, but all of this

is not used in the best manner. It is necessary for each educational organization to be a unique academy for the future soldier-specialist, every house of military-technical training must be an advanced post of mass-defense work, and every STK [Sports-Technical Complex] must be a place where our young people would participate regularly in technical and military-applied kinds of sports. All unused reserves must be put into operation."

The fleet admiral gave out awards to a group of teachers who attained high indicators in organizing the educational process. In the name of those receiving awards in the name of all instructors, masters of production training and students, A. Gordus', director of educational organization, asserted that the personnel of the school will continue to apply themselves with full responsibility to the fulfillment of their patriotic duty.

Flt Adm G.M. Yegorov, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee and hero of the USSR; T.G. Lisovoy, first secretary of the Khmel'nik Obkom of the Ukrainian CP; and A.N. Popernyak, chairman of the ispolkom of the oblast Council of People's Deputies, discussed questions related to further improvement in the mass-defense work and military-patriotic training of the oblast population.

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DOSA AF

NEED TO DRAW YOUTH INTO DOSAAF ACTIVITIES CITED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 23 May 84 p 2

[Article by N. Zolototrubov: "And in Our Yard..."]

[Text] Dnepropetrovsk--In our oblast, much attention is being paid to the work with youths at their place of residence. Veterans of the Great Patriotic War and army and navy officers discharged to the reserves, as well as DOSAAF activists, all with tremendous experience in life, share that experience generously with the boys and try to get them involved in interesting and useful activities in their time free from school. The older comrades introduce the youths to the achievements of science and technology, get them involved in the technical and military-applied kinds of sports.

The Dnepropetrovsk military-patriotic association "Youth" will soon be 5 years old. It was created at the initiative of the Zhovtnevyi Raykom of the Ukrainian CP and Ukrainian Komsomol and DOSAAF raykoms. It is supervised by Vasiliy Ivanovich Deryabin, a communist and veteran of the Great Patriotic War. Vasiliy Ivanovich gives the youth not only his time but also part of his soul. And that is why the children are drawn to him so and are so willing to carry out any assignments.

Those studying at "Youth" are students in the sixth through the eighth grades of rayon schools. Here youths become familiar with the revolutionary, military and labor traditions of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, learn the basics of military science and harden themselves physically. Six youthful schools became part of the association when it was organized and now there are already 15: "Young Tank Driver," "Chemist-Dosimetrist," "Young Rifleman," "Radiotelegraphist," "Aviation and Astronautics," "Radioelectronics" and others. At "Youth" alone, there are more than 400 students. To provide practical help in carrying out school lessons and in putting together curricula, each youthful school has a sponsor such as a military department of a VUZ, a Pioneer House, rayon section for internal affairs or a museum.

In the first years, 320 children received training at "Youth." Fifty of them received a youthful sports category, 10 became public instructors in shooting, and 20 became radiotelegraphists. All graduates successfully passed the norms of the GTO ["Ready for Labor and Defense of the USSR"] complex. But perhaps the more important result of the work of the military-patriotic

association is the conscientious service of its pupils in the army and their successful studies at the Suvorovskoye and Nakhimovskoye schools and at higher military schools. And there is still another figure that speaks eloquently of the work of "Youth." More than 70 youths who were called "difficult" and who had a record at the children's room of the police are now learning well and involved in sports. They are interested in technology and some of them have been recommended for enrollment in military schools.

In honor of the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol and for its active work in the military-patriotic education of young people, the association "Youth" was awarded the Certificate of Honor of the Komsomol Central Committee. All of the youthful schools of the association have repeatedly been awarded certificates of the raykoms of the Ukrainian Komsomol and the DOSAAF. Eleven instructors-commanders were awarded the badge of the USSR DOSAAF "for their active work."

The example of the association "Youth" is not the only one in the oblast. Thus, in Dneprodzerzhinsk, purposeful educational work with youths is being conducted at all ZhKO's [housing and municipal departments] of the plants under the aegis of the DOSAAF committees. At the Pridneprovskiy Chemical Plant, a station for young technicians is working in the center of a large housing block under the supervision of A. Golovko. Here 305 youths are occupied in dozens of circles and sports sections. L. Mashnyaga is skillfully managing the club "Young Technician" established in association with gorzhilupravleniye [Urban Housing Administration]. Three hundred youths come here to acquire the basics of radio technology and airplane and ship model making.

The Krivoy Rog Gorkom of the Defense Society is constantly involved in educational work with students. The DOSAAF organizations provide help in establishing and equipping clubs at the place of residence and sports grounds at the housing administrations. The youth associations "Sail," "Little Eagle," "Meteor," "Friendship," "Homeland," "Feat" and "Quest" enjoy well-deserved renown in the city.

Such sports as airplane and rocket model building are popular among the young inhabitants of the oblast. In all, 320 such sections have been created, in which more than 12,000 school children are united. The airplane model building section in the settlement of Zhovtnevyi in Sofiyevskiy Rayon is working well. Under the guidance of USSR sports master A. Dubenetskiy, the children established several All-Union and world records.

Nevertheless, we still cannot say that all problems have been solved. Unfortunately, by no means all youths in our oblast are filling their free time with interesting and useful activities by taking part in a military-patriotic association or a technical circle in their own microrayon. And indeed, that is precisely the task set forth in the "Basic Directions of the Reform of the All-Round and Vocational School": "Make fundamental improvement in educational work with students at their place of residence. It is important

to include all students in various mass and individual forms of educational work during their time away from school, develop their personal initiative and Timurovskoye movement, and establish clubs in areas of their interests, circles for technical and artistic creativity, and sports sections."

The organizations of our Defense Society are also called upon to make their significant contribution to solving these tasks. The members of DOSAAF of the Dnepropetrovsk area will be firm in their efforts to see that there is growth from year to year in the number of youthful patriotic clubs and sections for technical and military-applied sports so that not a single youth on our schoolyards remains unnoticed by his older comrades.

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DOSAAF

LETTERS TO SOVETSKIY PATRIOT EDITOR, RESPONSES

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 23 May 84 p 2

[Article: "They Abreacted in a Party Manner"]

[Text] "Do not believe your own eyes...." So went the correspondence published in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT 7 March 1984. It refers to shortcomings in training athletes classified in particular technical sports, to the weak material-technical base for work in circles and sections, and also to a number of defects in the military-patriotic training in the primary DOSAAF organization of the Fergana Pedagogic Institute.

As N. Petlin, deputy chairman of the Fergana Obkom of the DOSAAF, reported to the editor's office, the article was discussed with the chairmen of the DOSAAF gorkoms and raykoms.

The DOSAAF obkom issued a directive to the Fergana STK [Technical Sports Commission] to assist in equipping a training base. For this purpose, the institute was allocated a significant amount of equipment and shooting weapons, including nine motorcycles and 50 small-caliber rifles.

Through the efforts of the DOSAAF gorkom, the institute committee was provided practical help in compiling training-reporting documentation and also in planning the work of the primary organization. The essential materials were allocated for equipping the room and corners of revolutionary and military fame.

The city STK provided the motor vehicle training class with a full set of textbooks. Enrollement is under way for courses to train drivers in categories "A" and "B." Three motorcycles and two motor vehicles have been assigned to the training groups.

The radiotechnical school also allocated the necessary equipment for a radio class. The equipment will be set up in the STK of the pedagogic institute by specialists from the RTSh [technical work school].

The construction and equipping of a 50-meter rifle range has begun.

The buro of the gorkom of the Uzbek CP discussed the question of the work of the primary party organization of the pedagogic institute and the Fergana Gorkom of the DOSAAF. The attention of V. Solov'yev, chairman of the DOSAAF gorkom, was directed to the weak control of the work of the primary DOSAAF organizations of VUZ's.

The party committee of the institute reprimanded party committee member V. Osipov for his careless attitude toward fulfilling party instructions and for weak guidance of the primary DOSAAF organization.

The DOSAAF obkom, along with the gorkom and raykom, is taking the necessary measures to improve the management of the primary DOSAAF organizations of the VUZ's.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

WARRANT OFFICER TRAINING, REQUIREMENTS VIEWED

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) pp 16-17

[Article by Col Ye. Maslov, Senior Officer for the Warrant Officer Personnel Section of the Main Personnel Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense: "Warrant Officers Are Trained Here"]

[Text] Our readers Pvts A. Yalyn, Yu. Adamchuk, O. Khudaykulov, Sn A. Pal'mov and others have requested information on the warrant officer schools and the admission procedures for study. We are satisfying their request.

The warrant officer ["praporshchik" and "michman"] schools are founded, as a rule, under the training units, centers, detachments and junior specialist schools. Training in them is carried out according to training programs. For preparing warrant officers for the positions of platoon commanders, senior technicians and company (battery) technicians, the performing of which involves the training and indoctrination of personnel and the operation of weapons and military equipment, one period of instruction has been established and other periods for mastering the remaining positions.

Exercises in the warrant officer schools commence on 1 June and 1 December.

Servicemen in regular and re-enlisted service and male reservists under the age of 30 who have a secondary education and whose moral-political, professional qualities and state of health meet the demands of service in the corresponding Armed Service or branch of troops are admitted to the schools on a volunteer basis. Members and candidate members of the CPSU and Komsomol members under the age of 25 are admitted for preparation for service in the positions of Komsomol workers.

Servicemen who have served at least 1 year in active regular military service are sent to the schools for training warrant officers for positions of platoon commanders, senior technicians and company (battery) technicians while the schools for training warrant officers for other positions receive servicemen 5 months before their fellow servicemen are discharged into the reserves.

Applicants for study are chosen by the troop unit commanders and by the rayon (city) military commissariats with the participation of the personnel bodies.

The drawing up of the documents for sending servicemen to the warrant officer schools is carried out 2-3 months before the start of exercises and for draftable individuals as they are selected by the military commissariats for active military service as warrant officers.

The promises to serve voluntarily as warrant officers as well as the official, party or Komsomol recommendations for servicemen who wish to serve after completing schools not at their former place of service but in another military unit are forwarded to the appropriate commanders of the troop units or to the personnel bodies. They examine the question of the possibility of being accepted for military service as warrant officers.

The staffs of the military units forward the personal files for the accepted applicants to the corresponding chiefs of the schools. These files should contain the following documents: service record, an autobiography, the promise to voluntarily serve as a warrant officer, the service, party (Komsomol) recommendation, a copy of the unit order for accepting the applicant as a warrant officer, copies of the educational document and birth certificate and a statement by the military medical commission on fitness for military service.

The acceptance of the arriving applicants as officer candidates is carried out by an order of the school chief. Applicants for instruction from servicemen in regular and re-enlisted service who do not meet the school admission conditions are returned to their units and draftable individuals go back to the military commissariats at their place of residence.

Persons accepted for study in the warrant officer schools during the period of instruction have the status of the officer candidates of military schools and are housed in barracks; housing is not provided for the family members of the officer candidates. Officer candidates who prior to enrollment in the school had received sergeant (petty officer) ranks or the rank of "private 1st class" ("senior seaman") may wear the insignias established for them while those who do not have such ranks wear the shoulderboards of the rank-and-file (seaman).

Instruction in the warrant officer schools is carried out in accord with the training plans and programs using the method of class-group and seminar exercises, practical exercises in the field and vehicle parks, independent study, consultation and troop tours of duty. The academic exercises are aimed chiefly at instilling in the officer candidates the practical skills in a specialty and ensuring the high-quality assimilation of the programs by them, a firm knowledge of the requirements of the military regulations and the skillful utilization of the weapons and military equipment.

The troop tours of duty are conducted in the troop units (on ships) where the schools are located. During this period, the officer candidates actually master the service requirements for the corresponding positions.

The commanders of those subunits where the officer candidates have undergone their tour of duty draw up recommendations for them. These recommendations are approved by the unit commander and forwarded to the schools.

Certain officer candidates can be expelled from the schools for poor grades, for a reticence to study or lack of discipline as well as for state of health. Here the persons who did not serve their active regular military service are sent back to their troop units while those who have arrived from groups of troops are sent to troop units where the schools are located. Persons who have served their time or who are unfit due to state of health, including those in the reserves prior to admission to the schools, are discharged from active military service and are sent back to the military commissariats at the place of induction. Officer candidates from re-enlisted personnel, upon being expelled from the school for poor grades, a reticence to study or lack of discipline, are discharged into the reserves.

Graduating exams are held at the end of the period of instruction. These are given in not more than five subjects. Some 7-10 training days are assigned to prepare for them. In the course of study, the officer candidates take quizzes for subjects which are not being given on the exams.

Those who have completed the schools are given the military rank of warrant officer and in a ceremony are presented a diploma showing the completing of the school while dirks are presented at the navy schools.

Identification for those who completed the schools and received the military rank of warrant officer, as a rule, is issued in the troop units after assignment to positions. In individual instances identifications can be presented at the schools in graduation.

In addition to the designated warrant officer schools, certain Armed Services have technician schools with their own training programs. These are designed to train warrant officers with a specialized secondary education. Servicemen who have an education on a level of a secondary general education school have the right to be admitted to these schools.

Applicants for admission to the technician schools are selected on a volunteer basis from the soldiers, sailors, sergeants and petty officers for whom the period of active military service ends not before the completion of the technician school and who state a desire to serve at least 5 years as warrant officers after completing instruction.

Upon completing technician schools the graduates are awarded the national technician qualifications in accord with the obtained specialties and are presented a diploma and a chest insignia showing the completion of a specialized secondary school.

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MILITARY HISTORY

MAR ARMORED TROOPS LOSIK RECALLS LIBERATION OF MINSK

Minsk KOMMUNIST BELORUSSII in Russian No 6, Jun 84 pp 10-14

[Article by O. Losik, Hero of the Soviet Union, Marshal of Armored Troops:
"The Red Banner Flew Over Minsk"]

[Text] At dawn on 3 July 1944 red-starred tanks burst onto the streets of fascist-occupied Minsk. The clank of tracks and the roar of guns proclaimed to the people of the Belorussian capital that freedom was being returned to their long-suffering city.

In the summer of 1944 the world was witness to one of the notable events of World War II--the Belorussian strategic operation. It encompassed enormous territory from the West Dvina to the Pripet and from the Dnepr to the Vistula and Narew. In a massive battle, unfolded on the fields of Belorussia, the Red Army delivered its main strike on the strategic direction, the shortest to the borders of Poland and Germany.

Coinciding with the third anniversary of the start of the Great Patriotic War, the offensive of the Soviet forces commenced here on 23 June 1944. The hostile front in Belorussia collapsed under their first powerful strikes. Large groupings of fascist troops in the Vitebsk and Bobrusk regions were surrounded and annihilated. For the first 6 days of the operation, formations of six fronts penetrated the enemy defense on a 520-kilometer front and advanced 100-150 kilometers.*

By 28 June favorable conditions had developed for carrying out the plan of the Headquarters, consisting of how to surround and destroy the main force of the enemy's 4th Army and free the Belorussian capital with a double envelopment by our forces advancing from the regions of Borisov and Osipovich in the direction of Minsk. A particularly important role in the accomplishment of this task was accorded the 3rd Belorussian Front. The 5th Guards Tank Army of Marshal of Armored Troops P. A. Rotmistrov, the Horse-Mechanized Group of General N. S. Oslikovskiy and the 2nd Guards Tatsinskiy Tank Corps of General A. S. Burdeyniy spearheaded its strike group. Striving to fully utilize the favorable conditions, the front commander, General of the Army I. D. Chernyakhovskiy, demanded high rates of the offensive from his subordinate troops. Our 2nd Guards Tatsinskiy Tank Corps, transferred since 29 June to the operational subordination of the 31st Army, constituting its mobile group,

received the task, advancing in the direction of the villages of Makon' and Studenka and the settlement of Smolevichi, to burst into Minsk from the West.

The German-fascist command undertook desperate efforts, attempting to delay the powerful avalanche of the Soviet offensive and move its 4th Army out from under the threat of encirclement which hung over it. The enemy threw nearly all of its reserves to the line of the Berezina and mainly in the direction of Borisov. The appearance among troops of the enemy units of the 5th Tank Division of three security regiments, four police regiments, and a number of other units was established by our reconnaissance. The drawing in by the enemy of these basically subsidiary forces to participate in the defense, persuasively confirmed the conclusion of our command regarding the withdrawal of strong enemy reserves in the Minsk direction. Therefore the decision was made to strengthen the onslaught.

The offensive continued at a high tempo. During 29 and 30 June, troops of the front forced the Berezina in the area from the Sea of Palik to the town of Borisov. The Horse-Mechanized Group of Oslikovskiy for the following 2 days advanced 100 kilometers, and on the morning of 2 July, together with partisans, seized the town of Vileyka from the march, depriving the enemy of that same route of withdrawal from Minsk to the northwest. On that very day the Horse-Mechanized group of General Pliyev, having joined the ranks of the 1st Belorussian Front, cut the Minsk-Baranovichi road and blocked the withdrawal from Minsk to the southwest to the fascist troops.

Troops of the 5th Guards Tank Army, by the morning of 1 July, had crossed the Berezina and, continuing the offensive, by the end of 2 July advancing to a depth of 60 kilometers, reached the line Beloruch'ye-Pil'nitsa-Ostroshitskiy Gorodok.

Formations of our 2nd Guards Tatsinskiy Tank Corps, advancing in exceptionally difficult forested-marshy conditions south of the Minsk highway, by the middle of 30 June came out by Berezino in the region of Chernyavka. We were unable to force the river from the march because the enemy had set fire to the bridge and fords for the tanks were not found. On the night of 1 July motorized rifle subunits of the corps forced the river on improvised means and gained a bridgehead. By morning of that same day, sappers of the corps and a ponton bridge brigade restored the bridge, and the tank brigades were crossed on it.

From the morning of 2 July our corps went on the offensive, conducting it on two directions, with one tank brigade on the Glivino, Strupen', Zhodino, and the main forces on the Makon', Studenka, Smolevichi. Thus, as earlier, the corps offensive continued in difficult conditions of no roads, marshes, and forested tracts. Here, a great deal of help was given to the tankers by partisans of the 1st Minsk Brigade, commanded by Ye. A. Ivanov--detachments imeni Chapayev and Shchors. They helped rebuild bridges, lay corduroy roads, and clear obstructions. Knowing the area well, the partisans presented themselves as indispensable guides for our columns and often pointed out a route of movement, on barely noticeable paths through the forest and marsh, that allowed the tankers to pursue the enemy day and night at high tempos.

By the middle of 2 July, units of our corps had approached to Smolevich. With a sudden thrust from the south and the north they annihilated the enemy here and, seizing its important strong points, continued the offensive to the eastern outskirts of Minsk.

The German-fascist command attached great significance to the defense of Minsk. Here were drawn up significant forces capable, in its opinion, to delay the offensive of Soviet troops and accord the opportunity to move formations of the 4th Army from the line of the Berezina River. In order to hold the lines prepared in advance on the approaches to the city, it intended to use the remainder of the withdrawn units and subunits of three infantry, grenadier, motorized, and tank divisions. From these troops for the defense of the city so-called "extraordinary regiments and combat groups" were formed hastily. In addition, several police regiments, pulled from the reserve of Army Group "Tsentr" were drawn in to the defense of the city. In the city outskirts foxholes were dug, bunkers were constructed, and the principal streets leading to the city were mined and covered with antitank ditches.

However the Hitlerite calculations were wrecked by the swift actions of the advancing Soviet troops. At 2400 on 2 July, 4th Guards Tank Brigade reached the Minsk highway in the region of the village of Korolyev Stan, where it met the strong resistance of infantry with artillery and more than ten "Tiger" and "Panther" tanks. It was decided to attack the Hitlerite units with the strikes of two tank battalions from the flanks and a third battalion from the front along the highway. In a short nighttime battle our tankers, having destroyed several tanks, up to a battery of artillery, and two infantry companies, annihilated the enemy. It was its last line of defense, covering the direct approaches to the city.

By this time, operating on the right and left, the 25th and 26th Guards Tank Brigades of our corps defeated the enemy covering detachments in the regions of the villages of Kamenka and Bitaya Gora. The way to Minsk was open!

Units of the 2nd Tatsinskiy Tank Corps immediately began to pursue the enemy. Reconnaissance sent out from the 4th Tank Brigade by 0200 on 3 July reached the eastern outskirts of the city in the region of Observatoriya, where it discovered the defensive line--foxholes, tank and gun positions, a minefield, and an antitank ditch. The enemy succeeded herein occupying a defense with withdrawing subunits. It was necessary to attack it while it was still dark, not waiting for the approach of other units of the corps, for a sudden attack, even with smaller forces, as a rule brings success.

Delivering a frontal strike was not advisable; an unoccupied sector in the enemy's defense had to be found. To resolve this task, the tank platoon of Junior Lieutenant D. G. Frolikov was sent to the northeastern outskirts of the city. After half an hour this platoon joined battle and destroyed a German artillery battery. Dmitriy Frolikov reported by radio, "The way is clear!". At 0300 our 4th Guards Brigade began to attack the city. Deploying into battle formation from the march, the tank battalions of Captain P. F. Klochko and Major I. G. Mastashov, skirting a covering detachment and an antitank ditch from the south, burst into the city south of the Minsk highway. The tankers, firing on the move, advanced on several roads to the center of the

city. Tanks of Junior Lieutenant D. G. Frolikov's platoon broke into the city first. In a battle in the streets of Minsk, his tank crews destroyed a self-propelled gun "Ferdinand," an antitank gun, an antiaircraft gun, and killed nearly 30 Hitlerites.

A tank broke through to the river Svisloch' first, the driver-mechanic of which was Master Sergeant V. G. Bel'kevich of Minsk. At the fork of the roads of Nemig and Ostrovskiy, the tankers smashed an antitank gun with the first round and sped to the market place of Svoboda. The fighting men of the adjacent tank brigades also distinguished themselves in battle. A platoon leader of the 25th Tank Brigade, Lieutenant N. I. Kolychev acted courageously during the seizure of the bridge over the Svisloch' near the Belorussian Theater of Opera and Ballet. An intense heated fight developed in the region of the freight station. The enemy defending there occupied favorable positions and conducted strong fire. But the attack of Captain A. A. Yakovlev's company, of the 26th Tank Brigade, was so unexpected and bold, that the fascists did not endure and turned in flight.

The partisans burst into the city together with the tankers, they liquidated fascist groups occupying the buildings, smoked them out of the basements, organized a commandant's service, and took key objectives under protection.

By 0830 our brigade reached the western outskirts of the city. On that very same day, units of the 5th Guards Tank Army entered Minsk from the north, forward detachments of the 31st Army from the east, and the 1st Guards Donskoy Tank Corps of 1st Belorussian Front from the south.

With the entrance of three tank, two mechanized, and two cavalry corps into the Belorussian capital and into regions located 60-70 kilometers to the northwest and southwest of it, the encirclement of large enemy groupings was completed. In the Minsk "cauldron", east of the city, there were 105,000 enemy soldiers and officers of formations and units of the 4th and 9th Germany-fascist Armies.

The sun rising over the city on 3 July illuminated the Red Banner hoisted over one of the few remaining intact buildings in the Svoboda marketplace. The capital of Soviet Belorussia, Minsk, was liberated. People came out of basements and cellars onto the streets and squares. They joyfully rushed to the red-starred tanks, showered them with flowers, and embraced and kissed the fighting men. Everywhere was heard the cries, "Hurrah! Glory to the Red Army!".

The fascists inflicted heavy wounds on the city during the 3 years of the occupation of Minsk with their barbaric "scorched earth" policy, turning it into a heap of ruins. Enterprises, including rail car repair, machine-tool construction, a glass factory, a streetcar yard, a confectionery, and footwear and knitted-goods factories, were blown up. The Hitlerites put a water line, sewer system, and telephone and telegraph communication system out of commission, wrecked, burned, and pillaged the university campus, the Academy of Science, the Young Pioneer Palace, theaters and libraries, schools and hospitals.

The Command of Soviet Troops, together with party and Soviet organs, then and there restored normal life to the city. In a very short period of time sappers conducted a great deal of work in mineclearing. They removed and rendered harmless 1884 landmines, 1474 aerial bombs and 1238 antitank and antipersonnel mines. Thanks to the bravery and high military skill of our sappers the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee building, the House of the Government, and the House of the Red Army were saved from being blown up.

On the evening of 3 July the capital of our Motherland, Moscow, saluted the heroic troops who had liberated Minsk with 24 artillery volleys from 324 guns.

The Motherland valued highly the feat of arms of her sons, decorating many fighting men, who had distinguished themselves, with decorations and medals. Seventeen tankers were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union for the liberation of Minsk. Among them were General V. T. Obukhov, officers M. I. Rodionov, D. G. Frolikov, N. I. Kolychev, S. M. Mitt, and others.

The 2nd Guards Tatsinskiy Tank Corps and all of its brigades were decorated with the Order of the Red Banner, and our 4th Tank Brigade, in addition, received the honorary name "Minsk". Forty-five formations and units of the 3rd Belorussian and six formations and units of the 1st Belorussian Fronts were awarded the same name.

More than 50,000 inhabitants of Minsk city and oblast, and nearly 30,000 partisans gathered at a meeting on 16 July, at the city hippodrome, to note solemnly the liberation of the capital of the republic from the invaders. After the meeting there was a parade of troops of the partisan formations. And on the following day--17 July--there was another "parade." Along the streets of Moscow were convoyed 57,600 Hitlerite soldiers and officers, including 19 generals, captured primarily in the days of battle for Belorussia.

Now Minsk is unrecognizable. On the wreckage and ruins grew a beautiful city with a population of one and a half million and with highly-developed industry. It has become the center of science and culture of the republic. In its Pobeda Square, the majestic Pamyatnik Obelisk was erected to the fighting men of the Soviet Army and the partisans, who displayed great bravery and heroism in the battles for liberating the Motherland from the German-fascist invaders. The grateful people of Minsk carefully and lovingly will always place flowers before the Eternal Flame. At the Minsk Officers Home stands a monument to the Soviet tankers who played a very important role in the liberation of Belorussia and its capital. On a marble slab fastened to the base, the following words are engraved with gold letters: "To the valiant fighting men of the 4th Guards Minsk Red Banner of Suvorov II Class Tank Brigade of the 2nd Guards Tatsinskiy Red Banner Order of Suvorov II Class Tanks Corps, entering first into Minsk on 3 July 1944 during its liberation from the German-fascist invaders."

These sacred places are constantly visited by the people of the cities and towns, young pioneers and Komsomol members and fighting men of the Red Army. A flame burns in their hearts with intense love for the Soviet Motherland, and

the resolve always and in everything to be worthy of the heroes who have died for their country will become stronger.

The Belorussian people, as all Soviet people greet their holiday -- the 40th anniversary of the liberation -- intimately with solidarity around the Communist Party, amidst widespread struggle to realize the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. I, and all who fought for the liberation of Soviet Belorussia, want to heartily congratulate its populace on this joyful holiday and to wish them great successes in realizing the grand tasks of communist creation.

*During the Belorussian operation Oleg Aleksandrovich Losik commanded the 4th Guards Tank Brigade of the 2nd Guards Tatsinskiy Tank Corps. For bravery and heroism, displayed in the battles for the liberation of Minsk, he was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

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AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW TV REPORTS ON CURRENT SITUATION IN KABUL

LD052033 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 5 Aug 84

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by V. Fadeyev]

[Text] The life of the capital of Afghanistan during these summer days is now described by our Kabul correspondent:

Nothing is able to destroy the rhythm of this ancient city--a rhythm which has come into being over the course of centuries--not even the burning sun. People are used to it here. And the sun, together with water, or more precisely the quantity of it, determine the fate of the harvest every year. This year it is a good one in nearly all provinces. Every street of Kabul is a part of a single market which covers the entire city. Peasants from the suburbs and from remote provinces bring vegetables and fruit gathered from their own land here every day. [Video shows street scenes in Kabul and market stalls laden with fruit and vegetables.] This year many of them have done this for the first time in their lives. And not just in their own lives, but in the lives of many of their generations and their relatives.

It is only now that the land and water reform being carried out in the country is making the peasants the masters with full rights of their land. The network of state shops is being extended in the capital. Firm prices have been fixed and are being controlled for many foodstuffs and necessities. The population of the capital is growing quickly. About 1.5 million people now live here. There are still many old buildings here; but we decided it would be better, during these days of summer, to show the construction of new buildings, new residential districts where hundreds of families have already celebrated their housewarmings, and where others are going to do so in the near future. [Video shows modern housing under construction.] The development of the capital is being carried out on the basis of a general plan. This has been drawn up for a period of 25 years and has been worked out jointly by Afghan and Soviet architects.

You see all this and cannot help remembering how zealously all kinds of Western voices and publications try to depict life in the Afghan capital as being something isolated from the whole country, where fear and uncertainty about tomorrow predominate in the feelings of people. What's more, they have been repeating this for several years already with a maniacal degree of

persistence. How many times has one had to read and hear that life in this city will scarcely be able to return to normal in years? We will not argue about the different interpretations, the different impressions and concepts there are of the words to normal, just as we are not going to assert that life in Kabul goes on peacefully and without upset. There are still many enemies of the April revolution. But the people who work and who live in this city know something else too--that the whole of the country is trying to live up to its mark.

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END