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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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18 MARCH 1987

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY POLITICAL ISSUES

COL GEN KOROLKOV ON USE OF TRAINING TIME, ROLE OF PARTY

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Colonel General of Aviation B. Korolkov, First Deputy Air Force Commander-in-Chief and honored USSR military pilot under the "Turning the Energy of Concepts into the Energy of Actions" rubric: "The Capacity of Training Minutes"]

[Text] How many times have we heard discussions about how important and how necessary it is to have a careful attitude toward training time, to value every hour spent on improving the military skills of pilots and all aviation specialists? The idea is indisputable because it is correct and topical. At the same time it is often said that many officers and generals primarily see a careful attitude toward training time as efficiently planning the daily routine in order to accomplish a greater number of activities.

The problem of economizing in training time is undoubtedly much more extensive. People who discuss this readily agree with the fact that the main reserve of time is concealed in increasing the quality of military training and intensifying it through more efficient work methods, yet there are still many places where people do not follow this conclusion in their practical activities.

One does not have to possess any special insight to notice the idle expenditure of time during daily training throughout the entire year, but especially during the concluding inspections. The majority of aviators do not deserve reprimands for idleness and laziness. People are literally working day and night because flights are planned day and night. However the end result of all this activity does not always warrant the time that is spent on it.

During one inspection we visited a group of officers in a classroom that had pilots from one squadron. The deputy commander clearly reported that all officers were prepared for their flights. We inspected how and for what they prepared and with no real effort we discovered that they were training "simply for flights." There was simply no talk of developing any elements of battle or learning any tactical methods. Pilots simply and without any special enthusiasm copied schematics from the plan for the upcoming exercise into their work books and colored flight maps. And how could they be enthusiastic

if they did this boring and practically useless work day after day and if there was no discussion about creatively looking for and striving to find their own solutions to the missions involved in the upcoming training battle? What happens is that people are occupied with the business at hand, but are actually using the time ineffectively since there is little movement toward the main objective, improving their military skills.

And what about the squadron commander? He was making up planning charts for the upcoming flight shift. And he was making up different variations -- for normal meteorological conditions to minimum flying weather, although the regiment, division and higher have a meteorological service that is able to qualitatively evaluate the weather for the near future. There should not be any major weather forecasting errors and if there are, workers in the meteorological service must be held responsible and must be made to work better so that subunit commanders do not waste time developing a large number of variations for upcoming flights depending on the weather conditions.

So much time today is spent on making up planning charts that the squadron commander does not have the ability really to teach his subordinates the tactical methods of conducting a battle or get involved in resolving educational and many other issues. And we cannot hold the commanders themselves responsible for this, for they are restricted by the situation. I will not begin to list how much information a commander must have to skillfully make up a planning chart for a flight shift or how much time he spends on this. And we must also consider the fact that the squadron commander is also a pilot and must himself prepare for flights. Experience shows us that a large share of flight incidents and the preconditions for them fall precisely on this category of flight personnel and consequently this is closely associated with flight safety.

The Riga Higher Military Aviation Engineer School imeni Yakov Alksnis that is headed by Doctor of Technical Sciences Colonel B. Bochkalo is working to improve the system of objective control which allows a commander, engineer, flight instructor and all supporting services to get all the information that they need both on the state of military equipment and on the training level for every specific pilot almost instantaneously. Time is urgently demanding that video terminals, microprocessor equipment and computers be put into operation. They will certainly give an enormous saving of training time and will consequently increase the quality of military training.

The Military Air Academy imeni Yu. A. Gagarin has developed a method for using computers in the training process. This allows them to increase the volume of materials studied in an hour by a factor of three or four without any loss to learning quality. The task is to disseminate this throughout the force as quickly as possible.

There are also reserves in making better use of training equipment. For example, the unit commanded by Colonel A. Kopytov regularly holds exercises on training equipment according to the planning chart. By the way, flight missions which the pilots will have to carry out in the air are worked out on the eve of those flights. The equipment is heavily used and operates in two shifts. A lot of attention is focused on young pilots as required; at times

we compare their hour "raid" in the trainer to a flight in combat planes and at times the former exceeds the latter. And first class pilots do not stand on the sidelines. They do not consider it shameful to again work out one exercise or another in the trainer.

This type of attitude toward using special equipment to prepare for flights allows all of the regiment's pilots constantly to keep themselves, as the saying goes, in good form. Unfortunately this is not how things are going everywhere.

To be fair, we should note that the existing trainers do not totally meet the needs of contemporary training and they do not allow some tasks of combat employment and some flight training exercises to be developed. Designers, engineers, inventors and efficiency specialists have to think about this.

There is an inexhaustible source for saving training time by improving the organization of the entire training process and increasing the competence of commanders at all levels. One often sees that commanders and staffs are not thinking that real battles must follow those decisions when they make decisions on organizing combat operations during exercises, but rather how they can please the inspector and arrange their own manipulations in commanding and controlling their subunits more "beautifully." Some commanders make decisions with unusual ease, but do not provide the combat, technical or rear area support or the required crews. A lot of time is wasted on secondary, unimportant issues, on stage work and actually on visual effects to the detriment of resolving the basic tasks. Selecting the optimum decision must be substantiated with all the necessary crews and all the assets for accomplishing the tasks. But no commander, even if he is a Solomon, can cope with all of this if he does not have qualified, competent assistants. The commander must also be constantly and tirelessly concerned about the state of professional training or else there can be upsetting failures.

For example, this is what happened in the major unit where Colonel V. Avdonin was carrying out the duties of commander during the inspection. Despite the fact that he made his decisions in a skilled and operational manner and gave clear missions to the units and subunits, the results were worse than expected because officers in the command post tactic control were not trained well enough. As a result some of the targets were intercepted late and were not intercepted at the assigned lines. In short, a lot of time and assets were wasted and the training was not very effective.

Under modern battle conditions success depends equally on the quality of the crews' military training and on the level of competence of the command and control element. But the failure of one will negate even the highest qualifications of the other. Poor command post crew training may have a ruinous effect on the operational results of all the subunits in a unit or major unit and therefore the responsibility for high quality command and control level training is increasing many-fold. In just this way the skill of a pilot and all the time that he has spent improving his training can be negated by the poor work of his technical support personnel. For example, during a final inspection the aviation engineer service was the reason for Major I. Malkov's test launch being disrupted.

One cannot avoid the issue of pilot longevity when discussing the need for having a careful attitude toward every training hour and every minute. At times, years are wasted when a pilot has to quit flying prematurely for health reasons before he has reached his age limitation. The solution to this problem depends primarily on commanders and political workers, but much of the responsibility in this area also lies with flight physicians, chiefs of physical training and the pilots themselves. Everything must be arranged in such a way that physical training and sports and also activities on special equipment become a matter of first-class importance in every aviation unit, as important as flights themselves. And the hours spent on this are no longer a reserve for conducting other, supposedly more important measures. The time has come for aviation garrisons to have, not simply a sports hall, but a sports and health complex so that people at the highest level can be involved in issues to extend the length of service for flight personnel. Success in this area will repay all costs since it costs the state a lot to train pilots with high qualifications. But the physical training and tempering of pilots are important for more than just pilot longevity, for they define to a great extent how well the pilot accomplishes his daily missions and flights, since physical conditioning also helps the pilot endure the great stresses and the stressful situations that are often a part of flight work.

Party and Komsomol organizations can and must play a major organizational role in resolving the issues associated with increasing the effectiveness of every minute spent in the training classroom or on a flight and in the end, with increasing the quality of military training. Unfortunately there are still times when these organizations stand on the sidelines. We were once in a local party organization election meeting during the final inspections in one unit. Many of the communists that spoke had words of praise for restructuring and accelerating, but the conversation was essentially about fulfilling the plan for flights and about the number of hours spent in the air to develop one element of military training or another. There was nothing said about how well the elements of military training were accomplished or about increasing the return from every training minute, both of which are a part of restructuring and accelerating.

Today time is really severe and demanding. The party is resolutely struggling against everything routine, obsolete and antiquated, whether it be an organizational form or an opinion on a problem or matter. But when repeating the lofty and wise words that were uttered at the party congress and after it, we must relate them primarily to ourselves, make greater demands on ourselves and seek the reserves that are not being utilized, to include those for which we are personally responsible. This relates to all areas of every officer's and communist's work, to include working on the problem of having an economic attitude toward training time. Time that is spent senselessly and without return is lost, never to return. These losses cannot be replaced, but an economic attitude toward training time can bring a steady increase in the training level of personnel and make a major contribution to the arsenal of military preparedness.

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CSO: 1801/101

MILITARY POLITICAL ISSUES

DISCUSSION OF EXCLUSION OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS FROM PARTY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Major N. Medvedev, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent under the "Restructuring: the Communist's Position" rubric: "Dummy Personnel"]

[Text] This story begins with the fact that dummy personnel have been detected in departments that are responsible for receiving their salaries. But other things have also been detected at the same time...

Former chief of the Alma-Ata Voyentorg [Military Trading Organization], L. Prisyazhnyuk, was a new member in this political organization and this meeting of communists was dedicated to him. He talked for a long time and the other personnel became totally convinced of one thing. If he had made any mistake, it was that he had been too trusting of his former subordinates and especially his Deputy for Cadre Affairs I. Kazankin. He expressed this in signing an order.

All of those at the meeting got the same idea from his general appearance: the face that was no longer young and that had been touched by grief, the multi-colored swath of medals on the lapel of the modest jacket. He was a front-line veteran who had done a lot of deeds in the past. But what about the present?

His fate in the party organization of Billeting Office No 1 in Alma-Ata's Moskovskiy Rayon where reserve Colonel L. Prisyazhnyuk was now registered was in essence being decided. They were reviewing the issue of his further CPSU membership. Lieutenant Colonel A. Petrashka, party commission secretary for the Central Asian Military District's Rear Area Political Department, who took part in the meeting's work, had asked that it be presented in just this way. As a matter of fact, the issue was instigated at the initiative of the party commission that was, as the saying goes, already in pursuit.

Aleksandr Boleslavovich told me, "He has to atone for the error that he allowed." Then after breathing heavily he added, "Complaints have come in. They are following this in Moscow."

In short all the horrors had still not been dealt with. Rumors were rolling over the garrison in waves and the names of highly respected officials were

under question. People were saying that Prisyazhnyuk got away with it because he provided special services for someone. Letters were coming in to various party offices. A letter had even been sent to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

The author of that letter, reserve Colonel A. Gorelikov, had asked a question that was by no means rhetorical. Can a man who has committed misdemeanors that are punishable by law remain in the party? If not, then what was the reason for the leniency shown toward CPSU member L. Prisyazhnyuk during the review of his personal affairs in the rear area political section party commission, as Prisyazhnyuk had disregarded not only the law, but also the high rank of party official. This had to be investigated.

Frankly speaking, everything was exactly as the letter had said. The military procurator had established for certain that Prisyazhnyuk had allowed a number of gross legal violations while heading the voyentorg. And dummy personnel had specifically been established. No one saw them at work, but their pay had been regularly signed for at the pay department. V. Syuy, the former chief's glib secretary, had done this especially often. Sometimes he received -- seven salaries. And A. Denisenko, Prisyazhnyuk's service vehicle driver, was also involved. And there were many other such facts. Prisyazhnyuk had been generous at the State's expense and his former deputy for cadre affairs, I. Kazankin, had helped him in this.

However this story did not result in a criminal case. Its participants were lucky, for a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Order granted amnesty in connection with the 40th Anniversary of Victory. The State's material losses were repaid through a civil suit. But, as the lawyers say, could the concept of what had been done been changed? No, it was not changed. This was clearly stated in the resolution about stopping criminal action. Communists who allow such violations have a double responsibility -- a responsibility to the State and also to the party. Prisyazhnyuk's personal actions have to be examined in light of Paragraph Twelve of the Party Regulations which state, "An individual who commits a misdemeanor that is punishable by legal action is to be expelled from the CPSU."

In other words, there is no other way. But the story of the dummy personnel showed that they tried to find another way. This case was not evaluated in a basic manner. Soviet Army employee and retired officer L. Prisyazhnyuk was removed from his position at his own request. It was because of "rapidly failing health," as he wrote on his request to the chief of the district's trade directorate. True, a little later he was removed from party rolls after being given a note on his party card.

As an aside, when a party investigation was made, the conclusion was that L. Prisyazhnyuk had allowed faults to be concealed and was coarse and arrogant toward his fellow workers. Nonetheless they clearly did not hold him responsible.

You cannot agree with this conclusion when you compare this story with the other facts.

Not long before the events stated above, a party commission for the rear area political section investigated the personal actions of Major A. Sizemov who had been given a severe punishment in a local party organization. And, as the saying goes, it was deserved. He had used his service position for mercenary purposes and had had a course attitude toward his subordinates. The party commission increased the punishment and expelled Sizemov from the ranks of the CPSU.

"We could not have acted otherwise. It is now time to be strict, for we are talking about maintaining the clear image of a communist," said Lieutenant Colonel A. Petrashka.

And the facts that we ran into make us think most of all about this.

Here we want to digress a little. How do we understand the concept of a clear and honest party image? How do we struggle for it? Do we always evaluate a communist's deviations with party principles and the measures of the times? These are questions that are especially important today, for all of us and for the party's authority in the masses. If we examine them today, as the saying goes, against local background, the conclusions will be advantageous for everyone -- whether we are talking about a young communist or a party official with long service, a party organization in a trade establishment or a ship and military commissariat or a political section. But we would like this question be go beyond the bounds of "local activities." Because one sees too much of the lenient, "mitigated" attitude toward the crimes of communists at more than just the local level. We see other such signals in the editorial mail.

Yes, we agree with Lieutenant Colonel Petrashka -- the time for strict evaluations is at hand. We are strengthening the atmosphere of efficiency, initiative and fundamentals and we are stepping up the fight against everything that is obsolete and alien to our ranks and to our way of life. This fight is also being increased in party organizations. The image of a communist must be honest, clean and unsullied. And no other way! Those things that someone got away with before must not be allowed today. But aren't there places, to include the party commission headed by Lieutenant Colonel Petrashka, where the levels of demand are not always high enough and where these levels are established arbitrarily? People made strict demands on Sizemov who was in a modest position in a small rear area unit and were totally justified in doing so. But there was a totally different attitude toward Prisyazhnyuk who knew whom and how to please.

One should think that the most serious issue of today is the moral confirmation of our affairs, regardless of what this applies to. Whether we care about increasing merchandise turnover in the voyentorg, strengthening discipline in a regiment or accomplishing military training plans, behind all of this must be a communist's ideological clarity of purpose, moral purity, sincerity and decency. Otherwise what kind of "disciplinary improvements" can there be if everyone knows that course violations are being hidden. What kind of "military training improvements" can there be if there are whispers that the results are false? And what kind of authority can communists have when they support their "positive results" in this manner?

Certainly the strangest thing of all is the decline of moral values. And since the party presented the issue of an honest and clean image for a party official in such a fundamental manner at the 27th CPSU Congress, this can mean only one thing -- we must increase the level of demand on communists. This means that we must eradicate the psychology of being all-forgiving, be sharper in viewing deviations from the norms of party morals and must use organizational (educational, monitoring) measures to raise the rank and importance of party membership progressively higher. In other words, we must manage the process of increasing the feeling of responsibility and increasing the struggle for an honest and clean image of a communist.

How do the party organizations in the trade directorate and the rear area political section headed by Major General V. Makarov control this process? Let us look at the decline of moral values, for it is there. Here are two examples.

Serious violations were uncovered relatively recently in the district's military store operation. The district's trade directorate published an order on this subject and it is appropriate to cite an excerpt from it. "The director of the district's store, T. I. Kulish, is expelled from the post he holds and is discharged for having poor control over his subordinates' work, hiding deficiencies from the trade directorate and the military procurator, selling unaccounted goods and other violations and also for personal abuses." They announced the punishment at a party formation.

However, a month later Kulish was appointed as the director of a supermarket that had opened on the military station. What is striking about that is the fact that not only was the worker who committed the error "shuffled" from one easy chair to another, but the order was signed by one and the same official -- Chief of the District Trade Directorate Colonel I. Kiselev.

And strange as it may be, the district rear political section did not voice its feeling about this assignment.

One might ask, "How can communist and manager Kiselev imagine that his subordinates can have an honest and clean image if, as it appears, abuses mean nothing to him?"

During his five years of working at the trade directorate Soviet Army employee S. Khamitov acquired three passenger cars for his personal use. In doing so, he grossly violated the established order for selling these vehicles, an order whose compliance was administered by Khamitov himself as a worker in one of the sections. And it is not difficult to imagine how other people complied with this. Yet everyone ignored this. Only after Khamitov carried out his next scheme did the secretary of the trade directorate's political section, N. Chizhma, and several other communists speak up. True, their complaints were so weak that Khamitov was only reprimanded the meeting. And even now the deputy chief of the trade directorate, V. Vinogradov, is acquiring a Volga, having forgotten about honesty. He was also taking part in squandering funds as was uncovered by the people's controllers. And there were no consequences.

It has been established that the voyentorg headed by Prisyazhnyuk made it a practice to present holiday gifts to senior trade workers. A torte, a bottle of cognac, flowers on the secretary's desk... These were also paid for by "dummy" personnel. But the tea service that was given to a co-worker when he retired was acquired with assets supposedly allocated to repair service buildings.

Judging by everything, not one of the communists even thought about whether this was dishonorable or not!

It is not surprising that there is one thing that is consistent in the plans for party work -- the meetings to discuss production issues. Yet there are no direct discussions about the ethics of this communist, his conduct at work at outside of work, his exactingness and his principles. And the district's rear area political section is not cognizant of this distortion.

We will end with the same thing we began the tale with. Lieutenant Colonel A. Petrashka's hope that this "error" would be corrected was not justified. People at the Billeting Office No 1 party organization meeting considered Prisyazhnyuk's age and former service and felt sorry for him. And many were seeing him for the first time. It came down to one thing: should the reprimand with the notation on his card stand?

After the meeting the party commission secretary made a helpless gesture. He said, "Now Prisyazhnyuk's affair will be reviewed by the rayon party committee buro. We wait."

And we will have to await the final decision of this issue. But we do not have the right to wait for the approval of the clean and honest image of other communists.

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CSO: 1801/101

MILITARY SCIENCE

MARSHAL SOKOLOV COMMENTS ON SOVIET MILITARY DOCTRINE

Moscow VOYENNIY VESTNIK APN in Russian No 1, Sep 86 p 1

[Unattributed feature: "USSR Defense Minister Marshal Sergey Sokolov: The Essence of Soviet Military Doctrine"]

[Text] Soviet military policy is closely linked with the constructive goals and tasks of our country and is conducted within the framework of the peace-loving foreign policy of the USSR. Soviet military doctrine, which is of an exclusively defensive nature, conforms completely to this policy. It is impossible not to mention in this regard the unfoundedness of the unceasing efforts of Western politicians and ideologists to ascribe aggressive and expansionist traits to Soviet military doctrine.

It is widely known that any military doctrine has two aspects--the political and the technically military. It is namely the political aspect that has the supreme and leading role herein. Its substance is completely defined by the policy adhered to by the state. The policy of the Soviet state from the Leninist decree on peace up to the present day is a clear and consistent policy of peace. The resolve to conduct it persistently and unwaveringly in the future as well was confirmed by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in January of this year.

As for the military aspect of Soviet doctrine, its substance is completely subordinate to the program requirements of the CPSU to support the armed forces at constant combat readiness to cut off the intrigues of imperialism against the USSR and its allies and to defeat decisively any aggressor. The technical equipping of the army and the fleet is ensured in accordance with this. Today, our country is able to resolve any scientific and technical tasks and not to allow military superiority either on earth or in space. We are, however, fundamentally opposed to the arms race and the militarization of space. There is much proof of this: the refusal of the Soviet Union to be the first to employ nuclear weapons, our moratorium on the conducting of any nuclear explosions, the practical program for a reduction in nuclear weapons right up to their full elimination by the year 2000, set forth in the declaration [illegible] stipulates, in particular, the following: "it is essential that the USSR and the United States, right from the very beginning, agree to halt all nuclear explosions and appeal to other states with an appeal to join in this moratorium as soon as possible."--Ed. note., a halt in the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe, not to be the first to enter space with arms, and our readiness for other radical steps in disarmament as well.

ARMED FORCES

PRAISE FOR CHIEF OF MILITARY SOVKHOZ

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 87 p 3

[Article by PRAVDA correspondent V. Khatuntsev in the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District under the rubric "Living According to One's Conscience": "Sovkhoz Chief". First paragraph is source introduction.]

[Text] The congratulatory telegram of USSR Armed Forces Rear Services Commander Mar SU S.K. Kurkotkin to Senior Warrant Officer B.N. Silyuk in connection with the awarding of the Order of Lenin did not find the addressee at home.

His resolution ripened toward springtime. It would have been possible to report to the superiors, a refusal would probably not follow. But how to persuade Zinaida Andreyevna to go to a distant region? The wife wouldn't understand at once, she would recall their ages--beyond fifty--and women are highly accustomed to a settled existence.

"You know, I get bored somehow in the same place," began Boris Nikolayevich in a roundabout manner. "Maybe we should go where we have not lived before..."

"To Kamchatka, or what?" laughed his wife, not sensing the trick. "That's the only place where they don't live yet like everywhere else."

"All right then, to Kamchatka!"

From the expression in his eyes, she understood he wasn't joking.

The peasant son Silyuk came to the Far East from his native Volynshchina as a new recruit five years after the war ended. He served out his hitch and then re-enlisted. For ten years he was master sergeant of a communications company, and got hundreds of new recruits onto their feet. To himself he thought: the kids that come are more and more educated. And he enrolled in night school--to make up for what was missed during the war.

Then he was named commander of an independent working platoon. Then Silyuk realized that the peasant streak in him had not died out, that no amount of technical knowledge could dim his attraction to the land. The more so as the matter entrusted to him was a crucial one--to feed the soldiers.

The rations of the soldiers are strictly regulated, down to the last calorie. And although they sometimes get too much barley or oatmeal, what sort of soldiers would they be without kasha! It is not by accident that by the end of service their shoulders have widened and their muscles have hardened. They grow up. Everything needed on the table is served. But where does it come from? Of course, the state allocates much from every harvest for the upkeep of the defenders of the Motherland. But even the Soviet Army has subunits with a direct service relationship to the land. These are the military sovkhozes.

"I understood that the matter went right to my soul," relates Boris Nikolayevich. "I entered the Ussuriyskiy Agricultural Institute, and studied for six years as a correspondence student. There --a mixture of the military and the academic. And truthfully speaking, we didn't start from scratch."

The Far East has always been in need of workers who love the land. And good traditions were laid down right from the day the Red Banner Far East Military District was formed. During collectivization, 8,745 soldiers and junior commanders became the organizers of new farms after their discharge into the reserves. The military, for instance, founded the now-famous Priamurya Order of Lenin Kolkhoz in Amur Oblast. In March of 1932, the Special Kolkhoz Corps was formed, which assimilated much land in the Amur region and the Prikhankayskaya Depression. As a matter of fact, their farmland was later inherited by several of today's military kolkhozes.

Silyuk distinguished himself in his duties as chief engineer at one of the farms. Eleven years ago he was named commander of a sovkhoz located near Khabarovsk. The farm was not remarkable for its successes, a strong leader was needed trusting not in his vocal chords but in the ability to work with people. Some were offended by the selection of Silyuk. The fact is that the position of sovkhoz chief is occupied, as a rule, by officers, and Boris Nikolayevich was a warrant officer...

He began with the construction of housing. Although the sovkhoz is a military one, civilians hired from among the local residents also work there. And everything was not well with their everyday life. They took into account the wishes of the people in the construction of the housing: if you want a private subsidiary plot, you get an apartment in a two-family house with storage rooms and gardens. Some multi-family homes were also built.

They started to learn to farm in a different manner, to pose innovative tasks. What is all this land with potatoes--five hectares in all! No harvest will recoup the expenditures. They brought the planting to 200 hectares and mechanized the operations. The time came for animal husbandry as well. Last year, for example, the yield per cow was 5,025 kilograms of milk. Meat, milk, eggs, vegetables and potatoes were obtained here with steady increases. And this means that the soldiers' tables were varied, and there was enough produce in the garrison stores, kindergartens and hospitals.

Silyuk brought the backward farm into the top three for the entire ministry, for which he was awarded a bonus car, and the VDNKh [Exhibition of the

Achievements of the National Economy of the USSR] conferred an honorary degree on the sovkhos along with a color television, while Silyuk himself was decorated with a Badge of Honor.

And here now is a report of another decoration, the highest. But the congratulatory telegram from Moscow, as we already know, did not find the senior warrant officer at home.

Yes, last spring he requested a different farm.

"I admit that Silyuk's request to be transferred to a backward sovkhos was unexpected," I was told by V. Yakovenko, commander of the agricultural department of the district. "Boris Nikolayevich has a long period of solid service and would be entirely within his rights if he wanted to retire. But you have to know him..."

Zinaida Andreyevna set herself up as a bookkeeper at the new location, got to the heart of the financial affairs of the farm and was not pleased--the losses were large. And close to the fall, Silyuk announced to the collective: if you keep up the pace, I promise you a profit of a hundred thousand rubles! There is feed, about a hundred kilograms of potatoes are ripening on a hectare. You have to work.

Since it is a military sovkhos, it would seem simple: the order was given, and things start to roll. But Boris Nikolayevich knows what becomes of commands from above on a state farm. He is used to trusting his own sense of order, and it does not let him down.

"Supplying the units of the district is inconceivable without the produce of our sovkhoses and private plots," relates Maj Gen B. Kopytov, deputy commander of district rear troops and chief of district rear services. "We even have farms in such distant places that the feed has to be transported by ship. As is well known, the eastern section of the Baykal-Amur Mainline was built by railroad troops. And our own farming was quickly organized in places where the railroad goes..."

And Boris Nikolayevich is confident that he will extract the sovkhos he has headed for a short time from among the backward ones. He promised his sons--Aleksandr and Vyacheslav--I will test myself again and then can prepare for rest, choose a place for permanent residence. The sons, one of whom is an officer and the other a scientific associate, know that he does not intend to leave the Far East. He has put roots down here, as they say.

The land is supported by those such as Silyuk--whether on a distant shore or in a suburban area. The worker, the peasant and the soldier all live by the same bread: the bread of the Motherland.

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CSO: 1801/94

ARMED FORCES

MAJ GEN ANTOSHKIN MADE HERO OF SOVIET UNION FOR CHERNOBYL FEAT

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Dec 86 p 3

[Interview by V. Shcherban with Maj Gen Nikolay Timofeyevich Antoshkin under the rubric "Calling from IZVESTIYA": "A Star for General Antoshkin". First paragraph is source introduction.]

[Text] A decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet was published the other day. The title of Hero of the Soviet Union was conferred upon Maj Gen Avn N. Antoshkin. When the Chernobyl tragedy occurred, he was one of the first in a helicopter over the destroyed reactor. He was entrusted with the leadership of flight operations during this whole epic. The air force, to which fell a burden unprecedented in peacetime, did not let him down...

We called Kiev.

[Question] Nikolay Timofeyevich! We congratulate you on this high award of the Motherland. Health and success to you! By the way, how are things there now?

[Answer] Thank you. My blood is already getting back to normal. My wife thinks I should regain the seven kilograms I lost over the time I worked at Chernobyl. She is force-feeding me with Ukrainian borshcht and dumplings with sour cream. But most important is that all of my men are flying, working together.

[Question] Where did you receive the news that you had been awarded the Hero's gold medal?

[Answer] On the runway. I was doing my usual work. Suddenly I saw a staff car coming. The officers who came in it told me. Of course, I was glad to get the Gold Star--the more so in peacetime. The pilots did not disgrace the honor of aviation in the skies over Chernobyl. We all had one desire--to "plug" the reactor as fast as possible, to throw equipment, people and materials at it. Over the first week of operations we carried many hundreds of tons of cargo. Sometimes I was simply struck by the mood of my men. At times you had to chase them off to rest, and they were soon back again.

People consciously took the risk. The pilots made up to twenty flights a day, and some even more. There were not enough people right from the start. And this was perhaps the most tense period. Only toward the end of the third day, and perhaps later, were we able to sleep a little. The pilots rested for three or four hours in the first days. Sometimes there wasn't even anywhere to get a snack. Nobody would have minded that. But there was still enormous responsibility. In those dramatic days, the fate of the plant, and maybe not just the plant alone, was in the hands of the military pilots. It got a little easier by the end of the first week, when they rushed extra helicopters and pilots to us, the majority of whom had been in Afghanistan, where work was arranged in several shifts. Cargo was loaded onto the helicopters without even landing them--they were hovering.

[Question] What other work did you do?

[Answer] We did radiation surveys, photography and remote surveying. There were many emergency flights. The government commission asked for direct data on the development of the situation. We carried scientists and specialists. Just the operation to throw sand, lead, boron and rubber into the reactor took a lot.

[Question] Tell us about that.

[Answer] We threw lead bars of 50 kilograms. First they broke off. Then we found a way to fasten them that was more reliable and they fell precisely onto the target. It is true that we were worried that on the route, on one hand, there were the reactors, substations and machinery room. On the other hand, we had to drag heavy loads overhead. Have you heard of an "air slalom?" A very precise name in principle. This was the pinnacle of piloting. The pilots literally measured their way in meters, so as not to drop their cargo on operating facilities. Everything, fortunately, went fine.

[Question] Did you train anywhere special for this?

[Answer] We work on this element in general in training, so we have certain skills. We also used air controllers this time as well. All cargo, which was dropped from an altitude of 200 meters, landed precisely on the bulls-eye.

[Question] Nikolay Timofeyevich, what brought you into aviation?

[Answer] I had a large family, there are seven brothers and sisters besides me. After school we threw our bags on the shelf and went to tend the cows in the field, and planes sometimes flew overhead. And what boy doesn't dream about the sky? I enrolled in the Orenburg Flight Academy.

[Question] And you never regretted your choice?

[Answer] Never, even notwithstanding the fact that I was burned in an aircraft, and when I couldn't get the landing gear down during one landing...

[Question] What conclusions did you draw for yourself from the Chernobyl tragedy?

[Answer] From the humanitarian point of view, I'll say that we must take this nuclear "warning" into account. Those who have not seen Chernobyl can hardly imagine a city of 50,000 completely deserted. There are dried fish and clean laundry hanging in the yards. And there is no smoke, no fire, no smell...

[Question] What do you remember most of all from the events of the first few days at Chernobyl?

[Answer] I myself noted once again how important personal example is. We had to call a group of civilians up from the reserves, dress them up in military uniforms and send them to the area of the plant. I saw that these people took in my report without any particular enthusiasm. Then I formed them up and said: look, here is a general of aviation standing before you. Come along with me. When I run away, then you can quit your work and come after me. But until then, while I am alongside you--no one leaves. Then they worked from dawn to dusk. No one left.

[Question] What is your greatest dream?

[Answer] To fly! But my duties are such that it is still not favorable for me to fly. But my hands long for the stick...

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ARMED FORCES

UZBEK COMMISSARIAT'S PROBLEM OF FINDING 'FIT' DRAFTEES

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 86 p 3

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondent V. Shcherban, Tashkent: "The Fall Conscription--Or What Our Correspondent Saw at the Tashkent Assembly Point"]

[Text] Fall is the time for new recruits. Men "with a spoon, mug and notification" come to the assembly points in the cities. From eighteen to twenty years old. Closely clipped. And accompanied by girls, friends and relatives. And they kiss, sing, dance and sign... And behind all of this is an exciting and unknown world, another world really--the army.

The call-up to the Armed Forces. Whatever you say--it is an exciting event. A milestone in our lives. It is no accident that, having served, we divide our lives into "before the army" and "after." But, not hiding anything, we have become accustomed to seeing the ceremonial aspects, as if reflected in the brass of the orchestra polished to a high sheen. There is also a flip side to the coin that everyone tiptoes around.

The doors opened at 0900. And they came. Through the sieve of dozens of physicians. And into this room, where the members of the call-up sit. They stand on a small platform, as if on a pedestal. And they begin their report: who they are, from where. A guileless monologue of a couple of dozen words. But you find out a lot. You turn the pages of the personal files of the conscripts. And you are more and more convinced: this must be discussed...

Questions of conscription have recently aroused a certain anxiety. The number of young people whose case is put in the "unsuitable" pile after the medical commissions is not shrinking. There are more "nervous Nellies," those with ulcers, nervous, liver and kidney trouble... The commission includes psychiatrists and narcotics specialists. And what can you do? The matter has come to the point that such a mighty region as Siberia, considered the domain of healthy lads from time immemorial, has begun to produce sickly people. They have their problems in the Baykal region and the Urals.

The next conscript was in the middle of the room. I looked at his "dossier." He finished the tenth grade. The physicians' conclusion--"suitable."

"Why aren't you saying anything? Report..." I heard a voice from one of the members of the commission.

A guilty smile in reply.

"This one's from the boondocks," the chief of the oblast assembly point, Lt Col V. Fiterer, explained to me. And he pointed to the banner that said "Service in the Armed Forces is an Honorable Duty!"

"Read it!"

The conscript read it with difficulty.

"What branch do you want to serve in?" the lieutenant colonel could not help asking.

They translated it. He shrugged.

"To the infantry?" continued the officer.

"N... no," he shook his head.

"Well then, where do you want to go?"

The conscript was silent.

Sighing, Fiterer wrote boldly in the personal file: "Construction battalion."

Due to their poor knowledge of Russian, many conscripts from Uzbekistan are sent to non-combat units. This problem has become the talk of the town. Everyone has a simple explanation: there are no Russian instructors in the republic. But a more complete answer was given to me by Col A. Rubeko, commander of the political department of the military commissariat.

"We have traveled through many of the oblasts of Uzbekistan. It became clear that the classes in basic military training are in Uzbek. Even Russian is taught in Uzbek there."

"'No, no, don't think that,' the rayon workers asserted. 'These are not typical instances.' And they started to pull out plans of measures from dusty files. And they talked and talked..."

But why, then, does the percentage of conscripts that has poor command of Russian change hardly at all? And for this call-up was even somewhat more? And who can guarantee that the graduates of the teaching schools will willingly go into the backwoods in the future? That a language environment will finally be created in the schools? There is no such guarantee. That is why schools were created in a number of places in the republic where the young children are trained for entry into the military academies. In literally one year they begin to speak Russian pretty well and become stronger. As a result, many young men from Uzbekistan are now serving in combat units, and not only in construction battalions. But these are basically those from the

cities. And the republic, after all, has enormous human resources. Often they come to the aid of other regions. But the issue is not just one of numbers, but the quality of the training of the conscripts.

They called a break. We decided to relax from the din of voices and the press of warm bodies. But we hardly gone out into the corridor when the plans changed. The telephone, it seemed, would explode into pieces if it wasn't answered immediately. They were calling from the sport society. They were requesting that we postpone the call-up of a group of hockey players: "the team will perish without them..." They also asked the same for a soccer player who "could be a star in the future..."

"We recently have had to remind these intercessors that service in the army is obligatory for everyone," I was told by Col U. Muminov, the military commissar of the republic. "Even the deferments for students have been abolished. We only excuse people for family obligations and for health reasons..."

We have a five-hour session. Over this time, many hundreds of strong and muscular fellows passed before us. Many of them could straighten a horseshoe. And against this background, it was somehow awkward to see young men who were swollen from overeating, with sagging stomachs and arms, delicate, like flower stems...

A new one came up on the pedestal. The wood even groaned under him. He looked to be a hundred kilograms!

"Look," my neighbor showed me his personal file, "he has a GTO [Ready for Labor and the Defense of the USSR] badge!" And he smiled. "But that is only on paper, I think. Now we'll see."

"Here you go," he said, indicating the three fellows that were standing nearest to him. And he commanded: "Outside, to the horizontal bar!"

The three future soldiers were dangling from the horizontal bar. Three gold medalists. They told me: in checking on the GTO medalists, it became clear that many of the conscripts did not complete the standard set.

"This will come to an end, I think. Don't you think so?" asked the officer. "Beginning this year, the work of the sports and physical-education committees will be evaluated not on the scale of champions trained, but on the level of physical fitness of the young men drafted."

I have spoken more about the chairman. As if he alone were the commission--and what about the others? The Komsomol is silent, although there are issues in which it should be intervening. Many conscripts go off to the army without having even paid Komsomol dues.

The deputy commander should also dig into the situation. But he sent his associate...from the garage.

We sat at the tables again. And right away the neurologist had a surprise for us: he "vetoed" two fellows for heart murmurs. They stood before us--tall,

about a meter ninety. Ungainly, hanging their heads. Their files were set aside.

"After the 'sign-up commission,' lists of all those in need of treatment are sent to the polyclinics where the young men live," explained Maj A. Kurbanov, the commander of the medical detachment of the assembly point. "And the young man won't go there on his own, God forbid. That is why there are many more suitable for service at 14 than at 17..."

The last were the so-called "dead souls"--several students. Healthy and strong fellows. Their schoolmates have already served for a long time. But all of these are "on the outside." Why? They were simply forgotten. The military training organs of several institutes tolerate blow-outs. It happens that after all of the students are called up, it becomes clear that there are still a hundred or so that were missed.

Ten people on the agenda today did not appear. We had to work tonight. We got a car and went to the addresses...

We were able to single out the house of the conscript from afar. The yard was brightly lit and music played. Young people were dancing. Pipes could be seen. At the gate stood young men with faces the color of ripe tomatoes. The head of the household came out to meet us.

"I'll take my son to the army. But all the relatives haven't come yet," he explained.

We searched out most of those that didn't appear. There are those, however, that even the police cannot find...

The new recruits were sent off early in the morning. On the platform they embraced, danced and sang. There was a smell of flatcakes and melons. And suddenly there sounded over everything: "To the cars..."

They tidied themselves up and their eyes shone like steel. They became harsher--as should the eyes of those people entering into the great fraternity of soldiers.

FROM THE EDITOR: At first glance it may seem: isn't it is laid on a little thick in this material? As practice proves, however, the majority of the problems raised are pressing for other regions of the country as well. And these problems therefore require thought and the adoption of effective measures to overcome them. How can they be solved? It seems that the answers to these questions should be sought jointly by local soviet organs, the Komsomol, the schools and the military commissariats. All of those who directly prepare the young for service in the Armed Forces. Purposeful and constant work is needed. And it cannot be put off. At issue is the defenders of the Motherland.

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ARMED FORCES

ECONOMIC EFFORTS OF CARPATHIAN GARRISON

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Nov 86 p 4

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel M. Gordiyenko, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "Caring About People"]

[Text] The military cantonment of the unit where Lieutenant Colonel M. Manichev serves is beautiful and comfortable. The area has been asphalted and trees and shrubs have been planted. The comfortable pavilions and tea rooms have been set up in an interesting style and invite one to relax.

Officers M. Solyanyk, P. Adamov, A. Chikin and others worked hard to get the barracks, club, headquarters building, aid station and guardroom refurbished by summer. Construction will soon be completed on a group of domestic service enterprises where servicemen will be able to obtain uniforms and shoes and also shower and get haircuts.

The unit has created an exemplary subsidiary economy. Since the beginning of the year 1500 kilograms of meat have been supplied to the planned allowance and 300 kilograms of meat have gone to improve the soldiers' meals. A lot of greens and vegetables have been grown in the greenhouses and 15 kilograms of apples per soldier have been put away for winter storage.

Concern for people has an excellent effect on operations. The unit completed the training year with good results in military and political training.

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ARMED FORCES

DUTIES, IMPORTANCE OF MAINTENANCE, SUPPLY CHIEFS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "The Authority of the Service Chief"]

[Text] When Captain G. Popov, the chief of chemical service in an air defense unit, recommended a novel approach to storing equipment under the excessively rainy Siberian conditions, some of the officers were surprised at the simple manner with which the problem was resolved, others were skeptical and yet others began "to use" the idea in their own subunits. Without going into the details of the method itself, we will say that high marks were given at the review inspection for the condition of the chemical troops' weapons and protective gear whose operation and storage the service chief was responsible for. And those people who actively introduced the advance methods in their own subunits also successfully passed the test. We will add just one more line to the portrait of the officer who distinguished himself with his creative energy: he created an excellent material training base for his specialty. If one were to measure the efforts of Captain G. Popov by his final results, they would be convincingly expressed by the high training level of the subunit's personnel.

One can cite many such examples of responsible and creative approaches by chiefs of service and flagship specialists in solving the difficult tasks of military training. Correctly perceiving the trend of the times, the officers do not wait for special instructions, but look for and find possibilities within the sphere of their own duties as defined by regulations for changing things for the better and for working in new ways.

The role and importance of service chiefs and flagship specialists in accomplishing the tasks before soldiers and sailors are constantly increasing. This has been caused primarily by the increased demands on organizing engineer, tank and automotive, chemical, medical and finance support to units, on supplying subunits with all types of rocket artillery weapons, ammunition, fuel and lubricants, rations, clothing and personal gear. This is dictated by the increased demands to train specialists involved in operating modern equipment and weapons and reducing the times for preparing them for combat employment. In putting the progressive and advanced methods that scientific and technical progress has given birth to into practice and that are necessary to achieve victory in modern battle, service chiefs have been called upon to

become the "legislators of fashion" in the method of training personnel in their specialties and in mastering the most effective methods for using trainers and other technical means to intensify the training process.

Now, in the intense days of preparing for the new training year, it is incumbent on service chiefs to provide qualified service to equipment and weapons and to improve objectives in the material-technical training base. By taking an active part in developing the plans for military and political training within their specialties, they must be among the direct organizers of the indicated exercises, methodological meetings and other measures in the command training system which is the school of foremost experience. Their activity must set the example for other officers in initiative aimed at finding more effective ways for resolving the complex of tasks associated with maintaining a high level of technical and special training for personnel and also the example of an efficiency-expert approach and professional competence.

Unfortunately some service chiefs do not want to leave the old well-worn ruts and redevelop their work style to meet the needs of the time. They do not want to increase their level of organization, responsibility, creativity and productivity. This is specifically what happened with Major A. Ivanin, the chief of tank services in a unit in the Ural Military District. The officer did not apply the required energy when resolving problems involving tank maintenance and at times he missed periodic inspection dates and violated the sequences for their use, servicing, storage and repairs. In the final analysis, all of this impacted on the most important area, the quality of combat training for personnel.

This situation is, of course, intolerable. Regardless of what service an officer heads, he is personally responsible for the successes within his sector and for reliably supporting subunits with everything that they need. This demands that he constantly improve his political, military and specialized knowledge. Today his leading role in all the diversity of army life depends on how active and consistent he is in the struggle for introducing the most effective methodological techniques and modern technical training devices into the training process and how he operates in the struggle to maintain regulatory order and organization.

The commander and his deputies for armaments, technical affairs and rear services have an important role in developing this style of activities among service commanders. These officials, the service chiefs' immediate superiors, must show constant concern for increasing their authority and increasing their ideological, political and professional growth. They must make the service chiefs strictly responsible for work deficiencies and must teach every one of them the methods for mastering everything that is new and advanced.

Service chiefs must be involved in educating personnel. At times, in referring to their extraordinary work load and how busy they are, they withdraw from political, educational and individual work with people. There is one requirement for each of them -- to realize their own personal responsibility for strengthening regulatory order and creating conditions in military collectives that would preclude any military disciplinary violations,

simplifications and indulgences, both at exercises and when operating and servicing equipment and weapons.

Service chiefs are personally responsible for the safe-keeping, maintenance and correct use of equipment, material assets and military property. The struggle for economy and thrift must be a very important part of their work in supplying subunits with everything that they need. At the foundation of this is a selfless, conscientious attitude toward carrying out their regulatory duties, a very high level of demand on themselves and others and irreconcilability toward mismanagement and waste.

One of the most important tasks for political sections, headquarters and party organizations is supporting and developing among service chiefs the drive for initiative and the search for the new and for creative activities. One of the reliable methods for accomplishing this is to increase strictness and arm service chiefs with advanced experience and the ability to get rid of everything that slows the acceleration of military training.

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ARMED FORCES

GOALS OF 1987 TRAINING YEAR

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Toward New Levels"]

[Text] The Soviet Armed Forces are beginning the new training year. The fact that it will take place during preparations for the 70th Anniversary of the Great October gives this stage in the life of the army and navy special significance. The task of commanders, political sections, headquarters and party and Komsomol organizations is to strengthen and multiply what has been achieved and to go yet further, to work tirelessly to restructure effectively the work style of military cadres in the spirit of the demands of the 27th Party Congress.

One of the ways to resolve this task is to intensify military training as the primary, deciding factor in the life of military collectives, to increase the effectiveness and quality of exercises and to master equipment and weapons. One of the requirements of military training that must be steadfastly realized is learning what is necessary in war and mastering the difficult forms of combat operations, both day and night and in various geographical and climatic conditions. This presupposes that the training process comes as close as possible to real combat conditions, that there is a constant search for more effective methods for arming personnel with all of the knowledge and skills that they need and that indulgences and simplifications are decisively stopped. And this must be based on the increased capabilities of the contemporary means for armed struggle. Soldiers must learn to act confidently and clearly under conditions of electronic warfare and the enemy's use of nuclear, chemical and high accuracy weapons and as well as under drastic changes in the situation. They must learn to withstand extreme physical and moral-psychological stress and confidently strive for highly qualitative results in every training period, exercise, flight and cruise.

Experience shows that success in combat training is highest when planning discipline is observed, when tactical training includes marksmanship, technical, engineer and special training, when military training tasks are fully developed at a high qualitative level under conditions where the "enemy" is using both conventional and nuclear weapons and when personnel learn to make a rapid transition from one type of combat operation to another.

It is precisely this approach that is characteristic for personnel in the outstanding Guards tank regiment commanded by Guards Colonel A. Grigorash. The commander, staff and unit party organization have been able to maintain the spirit of high exactingness at all exercises, have maintained planning discipline, strictly observed exercise schedules and have achieved high quality training, firing and exercises. The purposeful political and educational work that is diverse in form and is aimed at finding new, more effective ways to speed up military training and resolve the entire complex of tasks that soldiers have at the current stage has had an extreme influence on the training results.

Unfortunately there are still other examples. There are still commanders, staffs, political sections and party and Komsomol organizations that do not base their work on the fact that military training is the main, decisive thing in the life of units and ships. During the past year there have been many cases where people in units that had been specified for exercises have been involved in various economic activities, servicing equipment and everything other than military training. Other officials and communists would talk about restructuring, but would change nothing in their organization of training and service or in educating personnel. They attempted to resolve the new, more complex tasks with old methods which only slowed matters and made accomplishing tasks even more difficult. We must be more resolute in eradicating the elements of carelessness and complacency in military and political training and persistently strive to increase the quality of every exercise.

The main criterion for training army and navy forces was and remains their readiness and their ability to wage war successfully under the most difficult conditions. Things first and foremost should be arranged so that from the first exercises there is a persistent struggle to increase the effectiveness and quality of command training. The most active forms of training -- group activities on-site, tactical flights, exercises during which the problems of organizing a battle, commanding and controlling subunits and providing them with clear and continuous mutual support -- must be at the center of attention. Drill and physical training for personnel must be elevated to a higher level and every trip to the field, each exercise and training session must be used productively for this.

Today qualitative indicators in military and political training are becoming more important than ever before. The roles of the headquarters, the agency that commands, controls and monitors the course of the training and educational process, and the roles of chiefs of arms of services and services, flagship experts and party organizations are increasing because of this. We must improve the style of their daily activities. The necessary traits of this style are efficiency, competence, a high level of demand and the ability to take every mission to its end. Strictly evaluating the state of affairs means calling things by their true name, judging everything openly and objectively informing the commander, higher headquarters and personnel about achievements and about shortcomings.

One of the critical conditions for the successful accomplishment of military and political training tasks is the total use of the mobilizing forces of

socialist competition. The primary efforts of socialist competition must be focused on intensifying military and political training, struggling for the effective use of training time, skillful mastery of equipment and weapons, increasing the quality of field, flight and sea training and bringing those who are lagging up to the level of the best.

The maintenance of a clear rhythm and high effectiveness and quality in military training is inseparably linked with further strengthening military discipline and maintaining regulatory order and a high level of exactingness in carrying out party and service responsibilities. Persistently strengthening the atmosphere of principles, exactingness toward cadres and responsibility for the assigned matter, an atmosphere that was created by the 27th Party Congress and that must exist in all military collectives and all party organizations, will promote the successful accomplishment of the tasks before the Armed Forces in the new training year.

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ARMED FORCES

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 'RAID' VISITS LIVESTOCK FACILITY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Nov 86 p 6

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel P. Kozlovskiy, chief of the district food service section, Lieutenant Colonel P. Yakovlev, senior inspector for the district political directorate, and Major A. Dokuchayev, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Don't Repeat Past Errors -- A KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 'Raid' on Subsidiary Farms in Some Military Units"]

[Text] The deputy unit commander for rear services, Lieutenant Colonel I. Lymar, offered to inspect the livestock complex. Many years ago people in this remote garrison had decided to build this complex through their own efforts and there were now one hundred pigs, ten cows and some chickens "registered" in the complex. Last year the unit had turned over more than eleven tons of meat for the food plan and has already fulfilled this year's plan.

Privates A. Esenov, Yu. Medvedev and R. Shamukhamedov were operating the complex. The first two had been livestock specialists before entering the army and the latter had three veterinary institute courses under his belt. The three of them were involved in livestock selection and they scientifically prepared food for the livestock. The complex was mechanized.

It is no secret that few people know the real cost per kilogram of bread, meat and vegetables. And this creates a certain attitude: you think, so what if of half bucket of potatoes disappears, there is still more. So what if some cabbage rots? The loss is small...

And this is what we found. When they collected potatoes from the bin into a basket, the soldiers would put the rotten tubers back. And the rot would go from them throughout the container.

People in the unit where Captain A. Korotun is deputy commander told us that last winter the potatoes and vegetables froze because the heating system in the storehouse was out of operation. And in addition, ground water had somehow appeared. All of this was the result of officials having a careless attitude toward carrying out their responsibilities and also a lack of respect

for the work of others. If the windows had been warmed in a timely manner and drainage pipes had been put in to take the water away, none of this would have happened.

Our raid exposed the fact that whereas the unit had once worked to educate its soldiers to be thrifty and zealous, this work had fallen off. There were no meetings with questions and answers, no speeches by officers of the various services and by lawyers on this subject. We did not see any visual propaganda or information on the course of competition for economy and thrift in the subunits.

The lessons of last winter were not forgotten and now everything is being done so that they are not repeated. The heating system has been repaired. A new stock-raising complex was built. A shed was erected nearby so that hay which was prepared in the required amount could be better stored in bad weather.

In general, our raid detected gains and losses. And although there were more of the former, they in no way justify omissions in such an important matter as safeguarding food and having an economizing attitude toward that.

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ARMED FORCES

AN ERROR IN CERTIFICATION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel N. Kikeshev, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District under the "Working with Cadres: Trust and Exactness" rubric: "An Error In Certification"]

[Text] "I am not guilty of anything," said Major A. Salenko. And there was so much conviction in his voice that doubt involuntarily crept in. Was it possible that someone had actually made up a lot of nonsense about the man? But the charges against Aleksey Mikhaylovich were serious: he was rude and tactless in dealing with people, was arrogant and there were errors in his educational work. As a result, he was given a severe party punishment and reduced in position.

And now officers V. Sinko, A. Tyutin and A. Aydinyan, people whom Salenko had called as witnesses to justify his actions, were sitting at the table. They discussed him in different ways, but in the end their conclusions agreed. Yes, he was a skillful specialist and able to do many things. However a lot of what he did came to naught because of his rudeness toward people who were junior in rank and position, his lack of attention and also his disregard for people's needs and inquiries. People aptly called this the "Manager's Syndrome."

When had Salenko caught this illness? People in the know are convinced that it happened a long time ago. In any case its symptoms had appeared even before he took over the position from which he was removed. Even then Aleksey Mikhaylovich experienced a slight giddiness from the sense of his own importance. The pre-emptory "I said," "I decided," and "it will be my way" would penetrate into conversations. Yet here is the certification that Colonel M. Arutyunyan wrote the officer on the eve of his promotion into that position. There, among the certified officer's merits, was the remark, "sociable and able to work with people." How could this be?

Political worker Lieutenant Colonel S. Golovkin said, "They certainly knew about his negative character traits, but shut their eyes to them."

And this played a fatal role in the officer's fate.

"This small military station is situated high in the mountains. Conditions are severe. And it is cold here for more reasons than just the frost. Major Salenko's rudeness had cooled the people's spirits for more than a year. For example, Aleksey Mikhaylovich did not say "hello" to his own deputy, Captain S. Busov, the entire winter. The first crack in their relation appeared after an incident that Salenko does not even remember now. The women of the camp had gathered one day to decide some minor issues. And they had been invited to do this. But Salenko brushed them aside: "You go and get rid of them. I don't have the time..."

The women did not complain about the difficulties to which they had already become accustomed, but rather about his lack of attention and his reluctance even to vary life in the military station. For this was not a city. There were no sights here except for the snow-covered mountains and from time to time one wanted to get out and go somewhere where there were theaters and museums...

Captain Bysov decided that that was justified. And he promised, "Be ready to go on an excursion next Sunday."

He did not procrastinate and that very day he coordinated with Salenko on the issue of allocating vehicles. He knew that people in the station would look forward to Sunday as if it were a holiday. And people actually arrived at the meeting place in families. But the bus did not appear at the appointed time. Puzzled, Busov went to Major Salenko.

The latter shouted, "No one is going anywhere! The officers need more work on drill exercises so we are going to train."

The officers and warrant officers spent half a day working at the drill field, trying to demonstrate their diligence and training. And the wives and children sat nearby and waited. And then Captain Busov heard a phrase filled with resentment and aimed at him.

"But they promised..."

He could not stand it and again went to Salenko and plainly asked, "Why are you against these people? This was a deception."

And Salenko reveled in his power. "I am senior here. What I say, goes."

The next day for the first time they did not shake hands. By the way, Aleksey Mikhaylovich also did not greet the other officers. He did not, as they say, consider it necessary. And then the word "comrade" disappeared from his lexicon.

It seemed to him that he was doing everything to put things in order and strengthen discipline, but in fact things frequently turned out just the opposite. It was not by accident that incidences of non-regulatory relationships among soldiers soon began to appear. The procurator got

involved. Aleksey Mikhaylovich raged, not noticing in his fit of passion that his own rudeness, a rudeness that bordered on caddishness, was itself setting a bad example for his subordinates.

His senior chiefs had to correct him. Salenko appeared at party commission meetings three times. He repented, agreed and thanked them for their advice, but was not able to change himself.

Why did not all these educational measures have the desired results? One of the reasons was that Salenko was convinced that he could control his subordinates only through pressure and fear. And he overstepped the requirements of the regulations. Instead of looking for assistants and relying on the collective, he lost them with every passing day.

Here is one example. There had long been a tradition in the collective that a naming day be set up one day every month. Everyone prepared for this event in good time. Women baked tarts and covered a table with refreshments for the soldiers. Poems and songs rang out in honor of those whose naming day it was. In short, this event in the life of a man became a holiday for everyone. And Salenko never came forward to congratulate his subordinates.

Every time Busov invited him, he responded, "It is your idea, you lead it." He did not like other people to take the initiative.

The manager of the library went to Captain Busov one day and said, "Find a replacement for me. I am resigning."

There were quite a few who wanted to take her place so he gathered the women and talked with them. Together they decided in favor of the wife of officer A. Onuchina. She had a good record and had the education. But alas, while they had been judging and bargaining, Salenko had decided otherwise.

V. I. Lenin wrote, "A communist who has not demonstrated his ability to unite and modestly lead the work of specialists by getting into the meat of the matter and studying it in detail often causes harm." He did not say this today, but it sounds timely. It was not by accident that the 27th Party Congress demanded that officials be held increasingly personally responsible for the results of their administrative and educational activities within the sector entrusted to them and for setting a personal example in following moral norms and having a respectful attitude toward their subordinates.

And now he is sitting in front of me. With a charming, sympathetic, correct appearance. Only from time to time the gleam of a bitter smile runs across his face. He does not understand and does not want to understand.

How does a man get into such a position? I think that first and foremost it is his chief Colonel M. Arutyunyan who was guilty. He was the one who wrote him the certification and then a report in connection with the offered assignment to that position. That was a sin against the truth.

The latest certification for Major Salenko directly contradicted the one that had been written previously. The particle "not" appears quite often. It is

as if chiefs fear that they do not have enough arguments for the severe conclusion to the certification, "He is not fit for the position that he occupies"

I do not doubt that the conclusion is correct. But is there really an officer who does not have some merits that are worthy of being noted in his certification? Errors in this document are very costly.

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ARMED FORCES

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Moscow TEKHNKA I MOLODEZHI in Russian No 12, Dec 86 pp 60-62

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GROUND FORCES

CROSSING A WATER OBSTACLE ON THE MARCH DESCRIBED

Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian No 10, Oct 86 pp 9-12

[Article by Maj I. Selyuk, commander of a motorized rifle battalion, and Capt. Ye. Shepel, chief of staff of a motorized rifle battalion, Odessa Military District, under the rubric "Theory and Praxis of Combined-Arms Combat": "Across a Water Obstacle on the March"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The predawn quiet was suddenly broken by a powerful artillery cannonade. Hundreds of mortar and other shells rained down upon the opposite bank of the river. The "enemy's" positions were obscured by smoke and dust.

Helicopters appeared from beyond the woods a short time later. They crossed the water barrier and landed in the depth of the "enemy's" defense. Airborne troops attacked the intact strong points. Artillery fire started up again, preventing the defenders from bringing up reserves and destroying the airborne force. The situation in the area of the airborne landing force's tactical combat operations gradually became more complicated.

Now the rumble of motors was heard, however, and two columns of infantry combat vehicles approached the river at top speed. The motorized riflemen were rushing in to help the landing force. Not wasting a second, they forged the obstacle from the march. At the same time, tankmen who had taken up a position on the starting bank neutralized detected targets with their guns. The companies were now on the opposite bank. The battle gradually moved into the distance. Now, at the river, fightingmen of the combat engineer subunits had the main role. Rapidly and deftly, they prepared assault and ferry crossings. A little more work, and all of the subunits in the forward detachment with their attached means would be on the western bank.

This fragment of a training battle to capture a bridgehead is only an episode from an exercise conducted by the 3rd Motorized Rifle Battalion commanded by Major Yu. Karpenko. Let us take a more detailed look at how the forcing of the water barrier was prepared and how it proceeded.

This was the situation at 10:00 on 5 August. Our troops had begun the offensive on the morning of 3 August. In 2 days of fighting, they had succeeded in breaking the "enemy's" resistance, crossing the security zone and the main defensive zone, and carrying combat operations into the depth. The arrangement of the

sides is shown in the diagram [diagram not reproduced]. The motorized rifle battalion in the reserve had reached the southern edge of Osipovo. Operational instructions arrived at that time, from which Major Karpenko learned the following:

"The enemy, engaged in containment fighting on a line between Hill 150.0 and Beltsy, is attempting to gain time and establish a defense on the western bank of the Golubaya River. Reserves are being brought up from the depth for this purpose. At 09:30 on 5 August, our aircraft struck at two columns of motorized infantry with tanks and artillery, 60 kilometers west of Strelino.

"The 3rd Motorized Rifle Battalion with a tank company, an artillery battalion (divizion), an engineer platoon, a platoon of tracked amphibian carriers, a tracked self-propelled ferry platoon and a separate chemical reconnaissance company make up the forward detachment (PO). Its mission is to rapidly arrive at the water barrier, without being drawn into prolonged battle before reaching it, and forcing it from the march on the Monino and (isk [not further identified]) 'Grusha' thicket. On the opposite bank, it is to destroy the enemy in the area of hill 111.1, tumulus 3.5 and Dubki, and to occupy a line between the field road intersection and 'Khvoynaya' thicket. It is to hold the captured bridgehead and secure a crossing for the main forces.

"Direction of movement--Osipovo, Berezki, Alekseyevka.

"Reinforcements will arrive at 'Figurnaya' thicket by 10:30 on 5 August."

The battalion commander also knew that a tactical airborne force (a motorized rifle company) would be landed 1.5 kilometers south of Dubki at 12:40.

It should be noted that the senior chief had considered aspects of interaction between the forward detachment and the tactical airborne force during preparations for the offensive on a mock-up of the terrain. Only individual elements were now being clarified.

It was planned to support the detachment and the landing force from the air. A helicopter platoon was detailed for this purpose. Major Karpenko assigned it the missions through the air support controller.

We know that the main steps taken in a battalion to prepare for the crossing were the following: a patrol was sent out to the water barrier; the decision was adopted; the missions were assigned to the subunits; interaction, control and all-round support were organized. Let us briefly discuss a few of them.

The /patrol/ determined the composition, the origin, the status and the intent of the enemy in the forward detachment's area of responsibility on both banks, as well as the nature of the water barrier and adjacent territory. The number of patrols sent to the river was determined by the situation and by the extent of their missions.

What is good in our example is the fact that a BRD [combat reconnaissance patrol], commanded by Senior Lieutenant Yu. Shevtsov, was sent out from the battalion as early as 10:20. The patrol included a motorized rifle platoon and scouts from the

artillery and engineer subunits, who joined up with the motorized riflemen in "Figurnaya" thicket. A section of the platoon conducted radiation and chemical reconnaissance. By 12:00 the scouts were to obtain information on the "enemy's" defense on the approaches to the barrier and on the opposite bank, to determine the width, the depth and the speed of the river, and what its bottom was like, and also to find convenient sites for setting up the assault and ferry crossings. When the advance detachment approached the river, it was planned to detail one more BRD, commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Gain, to reconnoiter the opposite bank.

It was not always possible for the scouts to cross the river undetected, however. Perhaps, in cases such as this, it would be a good thing to send at least one motorized rifle section from the forward detachment with the landing group to reconnoiter the enemy on the opposite bank and approaching reserves, coordinating this with higher headquarters? This is a debatable issue, of course, and it requires a certain amount of study. One thing is clear, however: under any circumstances, information obtained by battalion reconnaissance will be the most greatly desired and reliable to the commander as "first-hand" information.

The commander of the forward detachment adopts the /decision/ while advancing toward the water barrier, bearing in mind that all preparations for the forcing must be completed before the advance security detachment reaches the river. Major Karpenko took 10 minutes to arrive at the decision. It took around 15 minutes to assign the missions to the subunits and issue instructions for interacting, and 10 minutes to organize all-round support.

The officer thus spent 35 minutes organizing the forcing--that is, the commanders of the organic and attached subunits already knew what to do, how and when to do it by 10:40.

And now a few words about the planning of the destruction of the "enemy" with fire. Major Karpenko attached special importance to this matter. This is why he included artillerymen with reconnaissance equipment in the BRD with the mission of revealing in advance targets and objectives for neutralization by the artillery. The attached battalion and the organic mortar battery were to fire from covered fire positions, while the tank company and the mortar platoon were to move closer to the water, occupy fire positions and destroy targets by direct laying.

The advance of the motorized riflemen to the water and its forcing were to be covered with artillery fire. In order to ensure continuity of artillery support for the subunits' combat on the opposite bank, the officer planned to send the artillery battalion across first. Nor did he forget about the combat helicopters, coordinating their operations with the artillery fire with respect to time and place.

The battalion commander's concept was approximately the following:

"Concentrate main effort on Alekseyevka, Dubki axis.

"Exploiting results of artillery fire and strikes by combat helicopters, and operations of tactical airborne group, force Golubaya River from the march on the

Monino, (isk) "Grusha" thicket sector. Interacting with airborne group, destroy enemy on opposite bank in area of hill 111.1, tumulus 3.5, Dubki. Occupy line between field road intersection and "Khvoynaya" thicket by 13:30. Firmly hold captured bridgehead, making it possible for main forces to cross.

"With fire from artillery battalion and mortar battery, and tank company and mortar platoon designated for firing by direct laying, secure rapid approach of motorized rifle subunits to river, forcing and battle on opposite bank.

"Battle formation--single echelon. Reserve--three motorized rifle platoons, three motorized rifle companies and one tank platoon from tank company."

With respect to the combat missions for the subunits, they are shown in the diagram. We should note only that it was planned to cross the Golubaya River initially with an advance security detachment (motorized rifle company, tank platoon, self-propelled artillery battery), after first destroying the "enemy" subunits on the starting bank. The detachment's main forces would exploit the results of the advance security detachment's combat and, using smoke, force the water barrier from the march, join up with the tactical airborne force and, together with it, occupy the designated line.

The officer provided for setting up two crossings on the forcing section: an assault crossing on PTS [amphibious transporters] and a ferry crossing on GSP [tracked self-propelled ferry]. Plans were made for taking the tank company across on the GSP, and a mortar battery and the battalion (battalion, division) rear services on the PTS.

The sequence in which the subunits would cross the water barrier was carefully thought out. After the motorized rifle companies dug in on the western bank, the artillery battalion would begin crossing in batteries. Simultaneously, the tank company would begin crossing on ferries and, first, part of the rear services (four vehicles with ammunition, one with fuel and lubricants, and the battalion medical aid post), followed by the mortar battery and then the remaining rear service subunits, on the amphibious transporters.

As we conclude our discussion of preparations for the forcing, we must say a few words about the /organization of all-round support/. The commander and staff planned a number of steps to provide protection against weapons of mass destruction and high-precision weapons. In the battalion, for example, radiation and chemical reconnaissance was organized, an obstacle clearing party was set up, plans were made for using smoke extensively in the crossing of the water barrier, and attention was given to the detection of nuclear and chemical mines near the river and their immediate destruction. In addition, organic and improvised means were prepared in the subunits for mopping up after the use of chemical and incendiary ammunition.

Security for the main forces was provided by advance and rear security detachments, as well as by patrols assigned to the flanks from each company.

Major Karpenko provided for technical and rear service support. Among other things, he set the amount of ammunition and fuel to be expended in a day of combat, and minimum levels to be maintained. The battalion's rear service was to

proceed behind the combat subunits in a state of readiness to replenish their supplies, provide aid to the wounded and evacuate damaged equipment.

How did events develop? The forward detachment moved rapidly toward the river, bypassing powerful "enemy" strong points encountered on the way. At 11:30 a report came from the BRD commander that trenches were being dug on the eastern outskirts of Monino and Alekseyevka. A platoon was switching to a defense at each inhabited area. Defensive operations were also being conducted on the eastern slopes of hill 111.1. He also reported that, except for the fording site at Monino, the most convenient place for forcing the river was the bushes, "Grusha" thicket area. A report arrived simultaneously from higher headquarters that two columns of motorized infantry with tanks and artillery, each 7-8 kilometers deep, were moving toward the river 25 kilometers west of Strelino.

Major Karpenko rapidly assessed the information and derived the proper conclusions. The "enemy" was attempting first of all to cover the dangerous Monino, Strelino axis. Dismounted reserves were also being moved there. It would therefore not be efficacious to take the forward detachment to that area, even though there was a fording site there, a convenient spot for crossing the river. There was a danger that a battle with covering subunits on the starting bank would result in a loss of time. This would mean that the defenders could bring reserves up to the river and occupy a defense. That was one thing. For another, it appeared possible to maneuver, force the water barrier north of the "Grusha" thicket and emerge on the flank of the deploying reserves.

The officer explained the missions to the advance security detachment and the other subunits in the forward detachment by radio, which they immediately began executing. At Major Karpenko's order, the advance security detachment systematically destroyed the covering subunits and, fighting for the fording site, gave the "enemy" the illusion that this was precisely where the attackers would be forcing the Golubaya River. It was therefore not surprising that all of his advancing reserves were sent to the area of Strelino, hill 111.1 and Dubki.

The tactical airborne group was landed 1.5 kilometers south of Dubki at 12:40 as planned. Routing a small "enemy" detachment in the inhabited area, the motorized riflemen took up a defense on its western and southwestern outskirts. The road leading from Strelino to the river was covered, which convinced the "enemy" even more that this was the planned forcing site. The airborne forces were battling in encirclement by 13:00.

At that time, the forward detachment's main forces reached the river at the bushes, "Grusha" thicket area. Two motorized rifle companies crossed the water barrier from the march, destroyed some small "enemy" groups on the eastern slopes of some unnamed hills without suffering special losses, and began moving swiftly toward the flank of his deploying reserves.

The appearance of new motorized rifle subunits on the western bank, and from a different direction, was totally unexpected by the defenders. Finding themselves at a disadvantage and having suffered "losses" from the strikes by combat helicopters and from artillery fire, they withdrew in the direction of Strelino.

The advance security detachment completed the "enemy's" defeat at Monino and, fording the Golubaya River, engaged in a battle for hill 111.1. By 13:30, basically the entire forward detachment was on the western bank, where it joined up with the tactical airborne landing force and switched to a defense on a line between the field road intersection and "Khvoynaya" thicket. It remained only to hold the captured bridgehead.

A powerful counterattack came before the motorized riflemen had succeeded in digging in. About two battalions and more than 20 tanks, supported by artillery fire and air strikes, attempted to force the forward detachment into the river. They did not succeed, however.

Combat helicopters, at the battalion commander's order, were the first to strike at the "enemy." The artillery battalion and mortar battery then inflicted perceptible "casualties." More and more weapons entered the battle as the counter-attackers approached the forward edge. Major Karpenko also skilfully maneuvered the subunits. When the "enemy" wedged into the defense north of Dubki, for example, he committed the reserve (a motorized rifle platoon and a tank platoon) to the battle. He also moved another motorized rifle platoon from the left flank, where the situation was more stable, to the dangerous sector. In addition, he concentrated fire from the entire artillery battalion on that area. As a result, he succeeded not only in restoring the defense, but also in pressing the "enemy" and enlarging the bridgehead.

The forward detachment completed its mission. The main forces used the captured bridgehead to cross safely to the western bank and continued the offensive without slowing the pace.

The tactical exercise demonstrated improved field training on the part of the personnel. It was apparent that the motorized riflemen, tankmen and artillerymen have good skills in crossing a water barrier from the march and in carrying out unexpected missions. The exercise confirmed once again the fact that, all else being equal, success is achieved by the commander who gets his bearings in a situation well, vigorously maneuvers the subunits and fire, rapidly makes competent decisions, and precisely assigns the missions to subordinates.

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11499

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GROUND FORCES

ABILITY TO COMBAT ANTITANK WEAPONS STRESSED

Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian No 10, Oct 86 pp 58-60

[Article by Maj Gen E. Grebenshchikov and Lt Col M. Gavrilov under the rubric "Fire and Weapons": "Be Able to Combat Antitank Weapons"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The Great Patriotic War showed that the timely destruction of enemy antitank weapons (PTS) contributes greatly to the successful accomplishment of the combat missions. The pace of the offensive by subunits increases, and the defense becomes more stable and active.

Today, when antitank weapons are being intensively developed and continuously improved, it is extremely necessary to carefully study methods of combatting them.

In many units and subunits--those in which Lieutenant Colonel O. Fedorov, Major A. Koshonov and Captains I. Chudinov and O. Kurgosov serve, among others--the personnel diligently learn how to combat antitank weapons in all types of combat. And they begin /with the preparation of the officers personally in these matters/.

They believe that there are extensive possibilities for teaching commanders and staffs to combat enemy antitank weapons. The important thing is just to correctly realize them. This means making productive use of the classes for commanders (with training films), demonstration classes, methods instruction classes, short tactical exercises, and group exercises in the field, for example. This is where the officers need to study in detail the combat capabilities of the antitank weapons and the organization and tactics of operations of a likely enemy's subunits. The scale on which the basic principles involved in the combat employment of the antitank weapons are depicted on special drawings and diagrams depends upon the category of trainees. Let us illustrate this with some examples.

Take the class (exercise) conducted for the officers in which one of the training subjects (reconnaissance) was the organization of antitank defense. Lieutenant Colonel O. Fedorov went over the principles involved in the formation and distribution of antitank weapons on the terrain in detail with the trainees. He focused the officers' attention on the weak and strong points.

He then questioned several officers on the procedure for destroying antitank weapons. He summed up the subject and demonstrated (using diagrams and a terrain

model) how to make the most effective use of available weapons in the existing situation and how to organize close and, most importantly, constant interaction and control of maneuver and fire in combat.

One other good point is the fact that when Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov conducts group exercises and short tactical exercises, he always attempts to create an initial situation in which trainees who have incorrectly assessed the "enemy's" composition and status and have made the same old decisions with respect to destroying the antitank weapons do not achieve success. There is no question that this kind of training develops in the officers circumspection and the ability to foresee the development of a battle. Control equipment is extensively used in these classes, and the information comes not from the instructor's mouth but by technical means.

Major A. Koshonov, battalion commander, organizes classes for the subunit officers in a skilful and well-conceived manner. He devotes serious attention to the combatting of close-combat antitank weapons during an attack on the forward defensive edge, the detection and destruction of their strong points in the depth. The main goal he sets is to teach the officers at the company level to assess the situation rapidly and correctly, to make the most efficacious decisions, and to assign precise missions for destroying the weapons to their subordinates.

The classes conducted by Major Koshonov are interesting and instructive. He always creates a complex and dynamic situation. He first hears the decisions of several of the trainees for destroying the antitank weapons detected. He does not draw any conclusions but performs the fire missions with the officers, during which the possible outcome of the specific situation is revealed. Various methods are used for determining the probability of each target's destruction and the degree of overall damage on the opposing sides. The trainees then make mathematical calculations, and Major Koshonov hears their conclusions and their decisions on subsequent operations. He thereby provides a basis for organizing efforts against antitank weapons, teaches the officers how to correctly select the weapons and methods of conducting fire, and how to assign the fire missions to subordinates.

Considerable attention is given to material support for classes and drills in these units and subunits. An adequate number of mock-ups and pop-up and moving antitank weapons to serve as targets with simulated fire have been set up at various distances at the tactical training areas, artillery training grounds and firing ranges. In specific situations, the officers perfect their skills in observing the battlefield, in reconnoitering targets and in the precise determination of initial firing data.

Those in charge create various situations typical of a platoon and company battle. The decisions and practical actions of the trainees are carefully analyzed and compared. Particular attention is given to time factors and the effectiveness with which the antitank weapons are destroyed. The evaluation is lowered for any error, even a small one. This forces all the commanders to give careful thought to the arrangement of the subunits' battle order, to the reconnaissance and assessment of the "enemy," and to organizing the destruction of his antitank weapons with fire.

We should point out that the officers there successfully work out questions of controlling the fire of the subunits in firing (tank gunnery) drills. Against a specific tactical background, the platoon and company commanders learn (and simultaneously teach their subordinates) how to rapidly make decisions for destroying dangerous targets and how to adjust fire. In the verification exercises, for example, officers and NCOs in the companies of Captain G. Dadamatov and Senior Lieutenants O. Popov and V. Yermolayev demonstrated excellent training in organizing the destruction of antitank weapons.

Good results are produced with joint drills for combined-arms commanders, artillery and antiaircraft officers in the destruction of the "enemy," including his antitank weapons, with fire.

The knowledge and skills acquired are perfected in various tactical exercises.

The need to carefully prepare the motorized riflemen, tankmen, artillerymen and other specialists to effectively combat antitank weapons stems from the fact that they themselves are the /immediate performers/.

At first, theoretical classes in the classroom are conducted with the personnel for developing solid practical skills in them. These cover the performance data for the weapons, their typical identification features, the principles of their combat employment and their possible arrangement based on terrain features and natural camouflage conditions. Teaching the fightingmen how to rapidly detect and identify antitank weapons on the battlefield, and the ranges at which they can fire effectively at attacking armored vehicles (tanks, infantry combat vehicles, armored personnel carriers, self-propelled howitzers) is considered to be the main thing.

In addition to the scheduled classes, the subunit commanders periodically go over these subjects with the personnel again, during the hours of self-preparation, in firing (tank gunnery) practice, battle drill and tactical exercises.

Captain V. Nikolayev, a company commander, for example, sets up a training site in certain tank gunnery drills, where the tankmen learn how to detect and destroy antitank weapons. Several antitank weapons, including a helicopter, are placed as targets on the field. The main purpose of this training is to teach the personnel how to detect antitank weapons, how to determine their importance and the sequence for firing at them, and how to accurately prepare the initial data for destroying them with the first shot.

The following is one element of an exercise. Two targets appeared: an RPG [antitank rocket launcher] and a recoilless gun. The crews rapidly detected them. Orders were given to open fire. At that moment, however, a new target, a helicopter, appeared slightly off to the side. Lieutenant G. Smorodinov, platoon commander, watched closely to see when the crews detected the more dangerous target, when and how the orders were issued for transferring and opening fire, and whether the antiaircraft machine gun was ready for firing. He then made a critique of the tankmen's performance. A different version was run through a short time later.

The fire missions are all different, and the crew members are therefore forced to observe constantly, to rapidly measure the distance to the targets, to assess the situation and issue new target indications and commands. In this way, the tankmen develop skill of action and psychological stability.

In another unit, the company commanders skilfully drill their subordinates in firing at antitank weapons at maximum ranges, including firing at them with concentrated fire.

Senior Lieutenant Yermolayev, commander of a motorized rifle company, uses the following method for teaching this subject. He plans the fire missions for destroying antitank weapons with all of the platoon's weapons simultaneously at the end of firing practice. During practice in controlling subunit fire, he teaches the crews of infantry combat vehicles, riflemen, machine-gunners and grenade-launcher crews to operate jointly.

We would point out that both commanders attach particular importance to the coloring (camouflage) of the targets and simulation of their fire--that is, they attempt to bring the situation into the closest possible conformity with actual combat. In our opinion, this too is a good psychological factor in the preparation of those who do the firing. They devote serious attention to training their subordinates to fire accurately at low-flying targets such as helicopters outfitted with antitank guided missiles.

Attractively and thoughtfully done scout's areas, the exchange of know-how of the subunit's best shooters and its dissemination have had a substantial role in the training of NCOs in the motorized rifle battalion commanded by Captain Chudinov, for example. The practice of training the fightingmen on the basis of their combat specialty has proved to be a good one. Assemblies of snipers, machine-gunners, grenade-launcher crews and gunner-operators conducted by the most experienced and well-trained officers are on a high level, for example. Some of the classes are always conducted by the battalion commander himself.

The final phase of training for the personnel of motorized rifle, tank and artillery subunits in combatting antitank weapons consists of tactical exercises with live firing, as we know. In these exercises, the crews (teams) have the opportunity to reinforce their skills in performing fire missions in circumstances approaching actual combat to the maximum possible degree. And the subunit commanders actually direct fire for destroying various weapons on the opposing side, and improve their skills in organizing and maintaining close interaction with adjacent forces, attached and supporting subunits.

Special pamphlets similar to those issued to our fightingmen for combatting fascist tanks in the Great Patriotic War are of considerable help in training the personnel to combat enemy antitank weapons.

When the soldiers and NCOs read these pamphlets, they are reminded once again of the most typical identification features of antitank weapons, their possible locations in a defense and their effective firing range. The pamphlets indicate which locations in the area should receive particular attention when observing the battlefield in order to promptly detect antitank weapons, what weapons should be used for destroying them, how to apply the target indication methods, standard commands, and so forth.

In conclusion, we would say that only a well-conceived and comprehensive approach to the training of the personnel for combatting antitank weapons will increase the subunit's combat capability. This is precisely the way the classes are organized in the above-mentioned subunits. Their commanders spend a great deal of time and effort teaching their subordinates how to meet an urgent demand of the times--how to destroy all targets with the first shot, the first round.

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11499

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GROUND FORCES

1987 SOCIALIST COMPETITION CHALLENGE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Dec 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Vigilantly Standing Guard Over October's Achievements -- An Appeal from Personnel in a Thrice-decorated Guards Tank Regiment that is part of the Kantemirov Guards Tank Division imeni Yu. V. Andropov"; first three paragraphs are KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] This Guards tanks regiment has a glorious history. It has three decorations on its battle flag. And the soldiers of the 80's are continuing its heroic traditions in a worthy manner. During the past training year the Guards soldiers achieved excellent results in military and political training, results which will provide an excellent foundation for achieving new heights in military competition. The tankers' desire to make their weighty contribution to carrying out the missions that the 27th CPSU Congress assigned the Armed Forces and to raise their vigilance and combat readiness even higher was clearly manifested at a meeting of regimental personnel where new socialist obligations were discussed and adopted.

Guards Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Pakhomov, Guards Major A. Sherstyuk, Guards Captain N. Smirnov, Guards Sergeant M. Yakin and others who spoke at the meeting called for their brother-soldiers to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Great October with shock military work.

The tankers have appealed to all Ground Force soldiers to conduct socialist competition in the 1987 training year under the motto, "We Will Fulfill the Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and Will Mark the 70th Anniversary of the Great October with Selfless Military Labor!"

Dear Comrades and military friends!

The Soviet people, under the leadership of the Communist Party, are actively and fruitfully working to realize the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and are preparing to greet the 70th Anniversary of the Great October in a worthy manner. Our people must resolve the strategic task of accelerating the country's socialist-economic development, a task that was proposed by the party, under increasing aggression from reactionary imperialist circles in the U.S. and its allies in the NATO Bloc. Under these conditions the CPSU and the Soviet Government are consistently advancing the

peace-loving Leninist foreign policy and are persistently striving to eliminate military danger, take effective measures to strengthen the economic and defensive might of the Motherland and increase the combat readiness of the Army and the Navy.

The requirement advanced by the 27th CPSU Congress that our Armed Forces be at a level that would rule out strategic superiority by imperialist forces is basic for us, the armed defenders of the Fatherland. We soldiers of a Guards Tank Regiment that has glorious military traditions will strive to answer this party demand through our deeds. During the last training year subunit field training was elevated to new heights, the ranks of excellent and class-level specialists were filled out and discipline and order in units became stronger. Communists and Komsomol members set the example in training and service.

Entering the new training year with a deep understanding of our personal responsibility for the Motherland's security, every one of us is resolved to attain excellent final results in every exercise and to greet the 70th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution with even more important achievements in military labor. Verifying our affairs and plans with party directions and with the tasks that the Ministry of Defense has assigned for the new training year, we are supporting the initiative of soldier-rocket troops and are appealing to all Ground Force servicemen to begin socialist competition in 1987 under the motto "We Will Fulfill the Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and Will Mark the 70th Anniversary of the Great October with Selfless Military Labor!"

We are adopting the following socialist obligations:

- while continuing our active and expedient work to put the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress into practice, we will carry out the tasks of the 1987 training year at a high qualitative level and will gain the rank of Excellent Regiment by the Anniversary of the Great October. We will increase the number of students "excelling in military and political training" by 35 percent and the number of outstanding subunits by 55 percent. We will tirelessly increase vigilance and decisively eliminate carelessness and complacency. We will reduce the time for bringing regimental subunits to full combat readiness by 10 percent;

- we will persistently study Marxist-Leninist theory, the works of V. I. Lenin, documents from the 27th CPSU Congress and the heroic history of our country, party and Armed Forces. We will indoctrinate ourselves with a high degree of political conscientiousness, the qualities of a Soviet patriot-internationalist and vigilance toward imperialist intrigues; we will learn to interpret our ideological and political knowledge in resolving the practical tasks of military training and strengthening discipline and order in the unit;

- every soldier, sergeant, warrant officer and officer will resolve to work in a new manner, in an accelerated rhythm, i.e., will value training time and will not be satisfied with yesterday's achievements and even excellent results, but will certainly go further and achieve more. We will tirelessly improve field training and actively master the new, difficult forms of combat operations under conditions where the enemy has employed both conventional and

nuclear weapons. All tactical exercises, to include those at night, will be conducted at the "excellent" and "good" levels and those with live firing will be conducted only at the "excellent" level. We will learn to destroy targets day and night with the minimum expenditure of time and at maximum ranges with the first shot or volley. We will decisively elevate the quality of movement training. We will reduce the time for accomplishing military training norms by 10-15 percent on the average;

-- we will intensify military training and more fully use the capabilities of the regiment's material and technical training base and also competition at exercises and training, and will persistently assimilate advanced experience that has been amassed in this area. We will intensify competition among crews for the right to take part in competition for the championship of the Ground Forces;

-- every Guards soldier will consider it a matter of honor to strengthen military discipline and regulatory order tirelessly, maintain a healthy moral atmosphere in the regiment and unite the military collective of many nationalities in subunits. They will safeguard military comradeship and assist one another in learning military affairs and developing high moral and military qualities;

-- we will skillfully use and maintain our equipment and weapons at a constant state of combat readiness and will increase class qualifications. By the end of the training year we will increase the percentage of high-class rated specialists by 70 percent and every serviceman will master one or two adjacent specialties. We will increase the operating time between repairs for tanks by 7 percent and for wheeled vehicles by 10 percent. We will actively struggle for prize-winning positions in review competition for a better Ground Force fleet. And we will introduce no less than 15 efficiency suggestions.

-- all officers, warrant officers and sergeants will persistently master the foremost methods for training and educating their subordinates and improve their skills for controlling their military collectives. During planned command training and independent study they will educate and indoctrinate themselves with creativity and initiative on the need to get close to their people and to have constant spiritual contact with their subordinates. They will combine their regulatory demands on their personnel with a concern for their life, their needs and their inquiries;

-- we will have an exemplary, smart appearance. We will put special attention on increasing our physical conditioning. We will prepare ourselves for extended, intense operations under difficult conditions. We will improve our sports and mass-cultural work; 95 percent of our servicemen will become officially-rated sportsmen and 91 percent will become VSK [military sports complex] medal holders;

-- we will make efficient use of military and state property. We will struggle for a high cultural level in our military post and will maintain the fleet, service buildings, training sites and the barracks in exemplary order. All regimental subunits will be included in the competition for the right to

be called "thrifty subunits." We will reduce electrical usage by 10 percent and fuel and lubricants, motor resource and tire usage by 5 percent.

Communists will be at the forefront of competition. In going out to meet the 20th Komsomol Congress, Komsomol members will set the example in the fight to resolve all military training and educational tasks qualitatively, and in the work to accomplish their obligations. When taking part in the All-Union Patriotic Action "We will Take a Revolutionary Step!" regimental Komsomol members will persistently fight to put into practice the CPSU Central Committee's instructions on increasing the activity and example of members of the Komsomol in socialist competition.

Soldiers of the Ground Forces!

We appeal to all of you to get actively involved in socialist competition and mark the 1987 training year, the 70th Anniversary of the Great October, with new successes in fulfilling the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, further improving combat readiness, increasing the quality of military and political training and strengthening military discipline and order.

12511

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GROUND FORCES

HELICOPTER FIRE SUPPORT FOR TROOP LANDING BEHIND ENEMY LINE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Dec 86 p 1

[Article by Senior Lieutenant V. Popov, Red Banner Volga Military District:
"In A Tactical Assault"]

[Text] The "enemy" was staunchly holding the defensive line that he was occupying and had committed fresh reserves to the battle. The decision was made to make a tactical assault in the rear of the opposing side in order to support the success of the attacking subunits. Helicopter pilots provided fire support for its operations.

Preparing for the flight, flight commander Military Pilot First Class Major V. Tolmachev and crew commanders, Pilots First Class Majors V. Shaprynskiy, N. Gerasimov and V. Porshnev carefully studied the situation and reconnaissance information. The aviators' attention was drawn to the fact that the "enemy's" forward edge was saturated with air defense assets. It was possible to avoid the air defense coverage, but that would take too much time.

Major Tolmachev made his decision. He would attack in groups. One would suppress the air defense assets and the other would follow behind the first at a set distance and be prepared to support their comrades with fire. The flight commander also decided to use the motor riflemen who were on board the helicopters to suppress the "enemy."

When there were just minutes left until they reached the target Major Tolmachev gave his supporting aircraft the command: "728 in formation. Prepare for action."

Flight Pilot-Navigator Senior Lieutenant O. Mikhalev adjusted the flight speed and course. He had worked out various methods for approaching the target while he was still on the ground and was therefore operating confidently.

"Commander, use variation..." Mikhalev reported.

Major Tolmachev gave his crews the order. The pilots began to maneuver along the route. Tracers reached toward the combat vehicles from the broken line of trenches on the ground. The assault forces used their automatic weapons and machine guns to fire on the "enemy" through the open ports.

At that moment in the battle Major Tolmachev noticed that camouflage nets had been deployed on one of the hills and that antennas from a radar site were rotating. Aimed air-defense fire had to follow immediately.

"728 here. I am attacking the first target. 729 -- attack the second."

The flight commander began the attack. The "enemy" command point was hidden in the rocket explosions. The helicopter pilots continued the attack and fired at the air defense launchers with their on-board weapons. "Cutting" a corridor through the enemy's defense with their fire, the flight swiftly flew over the enemy's combat formations and was hidden behind a small grove. They plotted a course toward the assault area.

The helicopter pilots used terrain folds and arrived precisely at the assigned assault landing sites. According to the exercise setting they had to make the assault using the hovering method. The flight commander noted with satisfaction that the crews were operating clearly and with initiative. Flight technician Senior Lieutenant V. Vasilyev didn't hesitate, but got quickly involved in the work. While carrying out the necessary operations he reported, "The motor is operating normally and the fuel system is in the automatic mode."

And a report from navigator Senior Lieutenant Mikhalev was also coming in. "Course..., the mark for us to reduce flight speed is..."

The helicopters hovered over the earth. Motor riflemen quickly left the helicopters and rushed the heights that the "enemy" was defending. When the "enemy" realized that an air assault had been made in its rear area, the "enemy" quickly regrouped part of its fire support assets and met the attackers with mortar fire.

And the helicopter pilots made another impressive contribution. After completing the assault maneuver Majors Gerasimov and Porshnev attacked the mortar positions with rocket volleys.

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CSO: 1801/101

NAVAL FORCES

DIFFICULTIES OF SUBMARINERS' FAMILY LIVES NOTED

Moscow PRAVDA Second Edition in Russian 9 Dec 86 p 6

[Article by V. Verstakov, special correspondent for PRAVDA: "Unlimited Cruise: Letters from the Pacific Fleet"]

[Text] It was not late yet--a quarter to nine in the evening when, arriving from the submarine base, I entered one of the residential buildings of the submariners' garrison. The manager of the apartments who remained at the base (the submarine again departed on a cruise in the morning) warned that matches and self-control would be necessary. I thought that he was joking but I looked for the elevator only with the aid of matches (I looked in vain, here they turn it off in the evenings) and I reached the ninth floor without trauma. There has been no light on the staircases and in the doorways for a long time, for more than a year. I would have scolded the male residents, but I hear only children's and women's voices from all the apartments.

Having worked out an exercise on the side of the "souths," the submarine remained at sea and "ran" to a new area where she herself had already played the role of target--for our antisubmarine warfare [ASW] ships. Many hours and even greater emotions were spent on all this, and the submariners returned to the base tired and exhausted. Perhaps, this is why the parting with the crew proceeded calmly, almost indifferently. And perhaps, the matter was that we were separated by a gangway which had been thrown, as I had already understood, not simply from the boat to the pier, but from the sea to the shore.

Last year, it was recommended to the submarine officers that they submit proposals: in their view, what measures are needed to increase the efficiency and quality of service? By nature, submariners are collectivists; therefore, one proposal was submitted for all; it was prepared and discussed together. It contained 18 points and they all pertained to shore problems. The proposal did not proceed "upstairs;" someone on the shore did not consider it to be serious.

...The apartment on the ninth floor of the garrison building was empty. Up to now I don't know exactly: did the officer's wife leave it altogether or only temporarily? I'm afraid that her husband does not know this himself. There was no hot water but the stove worked. The tea boiled up, and I began to leaf through my notebook. I now skipped the underwater exotics: returning from a cruise, you understand that the most interesting things in the submariners' service--is they themselves.

Lieutenant S. Skurikhin is a signal officer. He arrived on the boat last year, immediately after school. So immediately that he did not even complete his first officer leave. Laughing, he recalls the face of the commander during that unexpected meeting: as in the picture, "They Did Not Wait...." Receivers, transmitters, and electronic devices so encumbered the signal compartment that there was even no place to stand: I spoke with Sergey sitting on the same chair. Therefore, at first I considered his phrase about the shore, "I rent half a bunk," to be a joke. It turned out, he was serious: he successfully rented a room, but the landlady broke the agreement and sublet to a second tenant; here you don't argue with landladies.

Here is Captain-Lieutenant S. Cherkasov. Broad-shouldered, powerful, a former boxer. An outstanding specialist; even on cruises he finds the time to occupy himself with science and has been recommended by the command for postgraduate work at a military college. It is not a frequent event for officers of the sailing personnel, but now Sergey Vitalyevich does not think of this: recently, finally, he was given a two-room apartment, but still he never moved his wife and daughter there. "In addition to them, perhaps, there are already three: my wife is in her ninth month."

Here is Captain 3d Rank S. Korotkiy. He is quite a newcomer on the boat--he just arrived from the academy. Prior to this, he was a surface sailor and, by the way, one of the few political officers who was given permission to control a ship independently. Once in the Mediterranean, when the commander of his minesweeper took sick and was removed to a hospital ship Korotkiy personally controlled the ship. He was awarded the medal, "For Combat Services."

I don't remember the compartment on the boat, and in the compartment--the room, battle station, "skerries,"--on the days of the cruise I met Sergey Vladimirovich everywhere. Even in the cabin where we lived together there was no quiet for the political officer: seamen, warrant officers [michman], and officers continually dropped in--for Whatman drawing paper and ink, for books from the ship's library, for advice on how to proceed in one or another difficult situation on board or, more often, on shore. With all of them Sergey Vladimirovich was dignified, benevolent, and full of understanding and optimism. But when we were left in private, the political officer looked a little melancholy. The reason came to light toward the end of the cruise when we had become friends and had begun to speak frankly.

"You understand, all my studies, lesson plans, posters of the probable enemy, various necessary trivia for the wall press--I specially made them in the academy and collected and bought them--all this was left in a container, but I have no place to unload the container. So far, they haven't given me an apartment or even a dormitory; thankfully, one old friend let my wife and child have a room and he himself spends the night with friends. But, first, his wife will join him soon and, second, it is already cold outside, and I am simply afraid to think of how my family will get along on the shore without warm things.

...I wanted to tell the readers how interesting the submariners are--but it turned out that I would tell how it is rather difficult for them to live on shore. By the way, it is not by chance, most likely, that this happened: for the first point in the officers' collective proposal which has already been mentioned

concerned quarters. Yes, the submariners themselves are ready to give and they give everything to service, but it is difficult for them to feel themselves guilty for the unsettled lives of their wives and children. Even if this is a subjective feature, it affects the quality of service objectively.

And this is not only my opinion. Prior to the cruise, I spoke with the chief of the political department of the submarine force. It's a pity, but I cannot transfer to paper the bitterness of his voice when the captain 1st rank cited figures concerning the lack of quarters: more than one-fifth of the married submarine officers do not have housing.... But, perhaps, we should reproach the political department and the command: why, they say, shouldn't they build them themselves, by their own efforts? They should not: the submariners do not have such competence--their service is too strained and, what is more, they do not serve ashore.

Is there a way out of the fleet's shore problems? Yes, there is, and it was formulated in the decisions of the party congress. The only difficulty is to creatively apply these decisions to the specific situation which has developed. The sailors have already begun to do this.

Let us return once again to the shore, to the submariners' base. Piers, barracks, buildings of the political department and the headquarters, warehouses, repair shop, training center.... It is namely to the last facility that I was invited with special persistence by the rear admiral whom I shall call Edward Nikolayevich here. In my opinion, he was slightly worried then, fearing that he would be incorrectly understood. The essence is that although there are many simulators in the training center, they are almost all home made, done with enthusiasm and in the best case with the use of elements of equipment removed from old submarines which have been dropped from the inventory. In any case, in the words of the rear admiral, the simulators are useful--otherwise the crews would not come here even on their rare days off. Well, and if we deliver to the training center a new generation of equipment with a set of computer equipment, the comparatively small expenditures will turn into a real savings connected with the ships' combat training. The rear admiral also fought for quality, more improved equipment for the shipyards. He showed by figures rather than by words that the investment of funds will be recovered by shorter repair times and the return of the submarines to service.

I believe that the final conclusion is clear: both the delivery of new equipment to the training centers and the replacement of the extensive path of development by the intensive path--these requirements which follow from the general decisions of the party can and should also be used in the strengthening of the defensive capability.

It is also time to consider social and domestic questions not theoretically and aesthetically, but specifically, and in a businesslike manner, considering everything including rubles. That is why I stressed the housing problems of the submariners and saw at sea how concentration and faith that everything is normal on the shore are vitally necessary for them for reliable, accident-free, and triumphal service.

Last night of my trip with the Pacific Fleet, the small apartment of the submarine officer which was kindly given to me for this night, the notebook with notes of events, problems, and fates is open. Yes, it is most

interesting to reread about the seamen and recall them. But that is for me, and what about the readers? For we have all met and are meeting many good people, and our special attachment to them is hardly determined by their profession. How do I explain what motivates me, what I say namely about the submariners?

Perhaps, all the same, by the fact that their service is especially difficult and especially necessary to the country today. The submarine forces of the Soviet Navy are an important deterrent force for those madmen who threaten the world with war. But in my journalistic selection there is also a personal aspect. Guilty perhaps are the closed space of the submarine, the involuntary isolation from the sky, sun, and land, or the dangerous proximity of the surrounding dark depths, but nowhere and never before did I see at once so many beautiful people as in the crew of submariners. They showed themselves to me as people of the future, people of communism.

A physically beautiful but poorly trained person simply would not withstand the loads which befall him. Beautiful in work--they calmly and confidently control inconceivably difficult equipment. Spiritually beautiful--a spiritless person does not voluntarily select such a fate. At sea or on a cruise these people do not let you down.

And as regards the shore problems--they will be solved. Now is not the time to make it seem that they don't exist.

6367

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SPECIAL TROOPS

ARTICLE NOTES ACTIONS OF CHIEF OF CHEMICAL TROOPS AT CHERNOBYL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Colonel V. Moroz, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent under the "Military Bearing" rubric: "Area of Responsibility"]

[Text] The news about the accident at the Chernobyl AES [Nuclear Electrical Power Plant] found Chief of Chemical Forces for the USSR Ministry of Defense Colonel General V. Pikalov in the Carpathian Military District on service business. While Vladimir Karpovich was coordinating urgent matters with Moscow, a helicopter was warming up its engines nearby. At that same time at one of the airports, transport airplanes were being loaded with radiation and chemical reconnaissance subunits that were responding to the alarm.

Pripyat, where Colonel General Pikalov was visiting and where new experts were being added every hour to this intense work, was under a major alert. After asking that some communications equipment be set up in one of the party gorkom offices, Vladimir Karpovich decided to inspect the radiation situation personally. This kind of reconnaissance is called a command reconnaissance to stress that it is especially comprehensive and reliable. The general did not wait for the arrival of an armored vehicle as it was still being unloaded from the airplane. He used a standard automobile that had dosimetric equipment.

The next day this city of energy specialists was empty. The population had been evacuated. It was impossible to wait until the radiation situation in the city became dangerous to the population's health, and this depended on the reactor's behavior. There had been no talk about relieving the situation at the station and at the fourth reactor block. On the contrary, it was becoming more alarming. The government commission was constantly asking for information on how the situation was developing. Radioactive contamination at the station and in the area around it was increasing.

The Chief of Chemical Forces was involved in every single session of the government commission. His knowledge and experience were necessary during the development of more than two hundred difficult operational, organizational and technical decisions. Moreover, Colonel General Pikalov had to make a lot of the practical decisions for the AES and area around it. These were primarily in the area of setting up reconnaissance, dosimetric services and measures to protect the civilian population from radiation danger. Initially

patrols inspected the Right Bank, were able to get close to the broken reactor and got invaluable information on the situation. Reconnaissance personnel then set out to cover the left bank of the river that was adjacent to the station. There they disembarked from their helicopters and cutters. A map of the radiation contamination, drawn in blue, green and black, gave a rather extended and total picture of the situation that had developed. Naturally there were more than just chemical warfare troops acquiring data, but in this area, they had authority behind what they were doing.

The broken reactor was then in the center of attention. Radiation reconnaissance was done right over the break-down and this allowed the aviators to begin to throw sand, lead, boron and rubber into the reactor. Valuing the minutes, scientists looked for methods for gathering information at a distance. Moreover, it was important to find ways to get near the broken reactor.

Colonel General Pikalov himself decided this immediate task. To be more precise, he set out to find an approach to the reactor. Of course, he did not do this by himself, but relied on recommendations and the collective mind of many experts. But all the same, an awful lot depended on his will and his convictions in success and, finally, on his personal example. They determined the most suitable avenue for getting to the reactor. And they got in to the reactor. It turned out that this difficult and dangerous work would not produce any results. They would have had to destroy a wall with explosives and an explosion, even a controlled directional explosion, was risky in that area, so they had to give up that idea.

The next day they tried to move in from the north. This also resulted in failure. And the general, not a young man, was at the forefront, personally directing the actions of the volunteer group. There was certainly no one better than he, a man who had devoted dozens of years to the study of radiation, at realizing the level of risk. Even work of short duration in this extremely strong field of radiation would leave its mark on a man. But in those busy days people gave no thought to themselves and their personal safety.

Engineers went through the "corridor" that chemical warfare troops had blazed to the reactor. Then they began to cut through to the shaft entrance on this avenue. The reactor foundation was reliable reinforced.

There was another episode that caused everyone to talk not only about his professional intuition and organizational talent, but also about the Chief of Chemical Forces' dedicated selflessness. As we have already stated, it was difficult, very difficult to get the scientists remote information about the condition of the broken reactor. It was extremely enticing for everyone to use the normal monitoring and recording equipment in the forth reactor block. But was the equipment that these leading experts needed still in operation? And how could they evacuate these needed instruments from the high radiation zone? Many people said that this task could not be done--many, that is, but not General Pikalov. Vladimir Karpovich was sure of success and, despite the doses of radiation that he had already received, he again decided to head the group of daredevils personally. It was impossible to foresee and plan for

everything and the work developed far from the way it had been planned. Nonetheless they succeeded, figuratively speaking, in snatching this valuable equipment out of the "fire" and out of the inaccessible area and making it available for the scientists.

Was it really necessary for a leader of such a high rank to take part in accomplishing such a critically important and immediate task, but one that was obviously within the power of other experts? Certainly not, but it showed the character of the man and his personal credo for life.

"I cannot send a soldier someplace that I cannot go myself. I lived by this principle at the front," people heard the Colonel General Pikalov say during those days.

Vladimir Pikalov, the son of a man who had been a red commander from the Civil War period and a communist since 1918, met the Great Patriotic War as a cadet in the 1st Rostov Artillery Academy. By the way, he became a cadet by exception. He was not seventeen by the summer of 1941. Lieutenant Pikalov joined the active army in February 1942 and was on the Southern, Western, Don, Stalingrad, Steppes and the 2nd Belorussian Fronts. He commanded an anti-tank weapons platoon and an artillery battery and was a reconnaissance officer for the 684th and 331st Howitzer Regiments. He was wounded three times. The last was the most serious and was during the approach to Berlin.

One could have counted the number of front-line veterans on one's fingers who were in that relatively small group of experts that was dueling the broken reactor in the first days after the accident. Vladimir Karpovich never forgot for a minute the special situation and his rank of front-liner, a rank that had been decided by fate itself, and especially about the moral responsibility of a man tested by war.

Another of General Pikalov's traits, the ability to work with foresight and perspective, was visibly manifested in those days and sleepless nights before the broken reactor had been quieted and brought under control. Far from Chernobyl, chemical defense subunits were purposefully preparing for the second stage of work to eliminate the after-effects of the accident. This second phase required significantly more forces. Chemical warfare troops with all the necessary equipment were decontaminating the station and especially the first and second nuclear reactor blocks, the populated areas in a thirty-kilometer zone and lines of communication and were collecting and disposing of radioactive products that had been thrown off. They were working shoulder to shoulder with military aviators, subunits of other arms of service that were closely related in spirit and capability, with personnel from the station and with experts of all types. And if the AES's first and second reactor blocks exist and operate today, supplying the country with energy, one can see in this victory the heroism of those who buried the broken reactor. And, less noticeable, but no less impressive was the supportive work of those who used the dust-suppressing solution to process the millions of square meters of territory, who, calling themselves chemical construction workers, decontaminated the station's enormous structure, who removed the thousands of containers of contaminated earth to safe locations... This is work that can be defined by only one word -- a victory.

Among those who organized and directed this selfless work done by thousands of experts was Colonel General Pikalov. People told me that Vladimir Karpovich spent forty-nine days at Pripyat, Chernobyl and in the AES itself --as the saying goes, at the very forward edge. And when business took him to Moscow he remained in that special area in his thoughts and his spirit. While in Chernobyl I had occasion to witness a telephone conversation between the Chief of Chemical Forces and his first deputy, Lieutenant General Yu. Malkevich. This was a long, detailed conversation between people of responsibility, people for whom the world had for a time become the area which more than anything else needed their knowledge, experience and, if you will, their personal example. After the conversation there were several lists on his work table near the topographical map and the large schematic of the Chernobyl AES, near the decontamination equipment with its ruby-colored numbers. These lists were the notes that Yuriy Stanislavovich Malkevich had written down as Colonel General Pikalov had given orders for the next stage of work. He had taken notes and had sighed: General Pikalov was then in Moscow at his doctor's insistence. But as it turned out, he was not able to rest.

The Chernobyl incident brought people whose names are known to the country and also the common people who took part in eliminating the after-effects of the accident -- the officers, sergeants and soldiers, including those who were called up from the reserves, the engineers and technicians, the workers -- together into one collective and combined their efforts toward a common, united goal. Understandably, not all of them had the chance to have direct contact with the Chief of Chemical Forces and, as the saying goes, operate in the same close-knit unit at the fourth reactor block and at the other especially dangerous areas. But many people came in close contact with him. I often had occasion to hear a good, respectful word about Colonel General Pikalov, about his nobleness and his extensive business and moral qualities, his extensive scientific learning, his irreproachable professional competence and his ability to catch the essence of a theoretical premise or a scarcely designated hypothesis with half a word, transpose it into the language of the problem at hand and transform it into a specific, practical task. Discussions would turn to the General's readiness to talk with subordinates openly and directly and also to his desire to support reliably any unsafe undertaking with party and political means. And regardless of where the conversation turned, those involved in the discussion did not forget to note the personal courage of communist Pikalov. Courage is natural for a military person and is an inseparable part of the profession of defender of the Motherland.

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MILITARY HISTORY

GEN ARMY IVANOVSKIY RECALLS MSU K. K. ROKOSSOVSKIY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by General of the Army Ye. Ivanovskiy: "The Talent of a Military Leader -- The Ninetieth Anniversary of Marshal of the Soviet Union K. K. Rokossovskiy's Birth", first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovskiy was born 21 December 1896 in the city of Velikiye Luki. His father was a railroad worker. Orphaned early in life, he began his own work career at age 14. Great October forced Rokossovskiy into the trenches of the First World War. He unconditionally accepted the revolution and on 1918 entered the ranks of the Red Army. In spring 1919 he became a member of the Communist Party of Bolsheviks. At the end of the war he was in command of a cavalry regiment. During the Great Patriotic War K. K. Rokossovskiy commanded a mechanized corps, an army and fronts.

The name of Marshal of the Soviet Union Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovskiy, a faithful son of the Motherland, military-communist, patriot and internationalist and twice Hero of the Soviet Union, has a visible position in the ranks of the glorious Soviet military leaders who emerged during the Great Patriotic War. Smolensk, Moscow and Stalingrad, the Kursk Bulge and the Bagration Battle [code name for the 1944 Belorussian Operation] in East Prussia and Pomerania and the Berlin Operation are the primary landmarks of his career as a military leader.

The victories that forces under Rokossovskiy's command won in these and other battles, his organizational abilities, personal courage, enormous efficiency, honesty and principles and his high level of exactingness combined with his concern for people gained him the love of his subordinates and the respect of his military companions-in-arms. As Marshal of the Soviet Union A. Vasilevskiy noted, the charm of this glorious military commander's personality, his intelligence, simplicity and accessibility and his neat appearance (he was tall, had exceptional bearing and a handsome face which was lit with a kind smile) all made Rokossovskiy a general favorite of the Red Army.

I consider myself lucky, for my military service was arranged in such a way that for a long time I fought on fronts that were commanded by

K. K. Rokossovskiy. I remember the summer of 1942 with happiness. We, soldiers and commanders alike, had received the news that he had been appointed commander of our Bryansk Front. We had already heard a lot about Rokossovskiy, for his name had been mentioned many times in the Soviet Information Bureau. The soldiers' "telegraph" also reported other details: he was a former dragoon, had a "George" and was a hero in the Civil War. They especially stressed that K. K. Rokossovskiy had earned his fourth Order of the Red Banner as early as the beginning of the second month of the war. This told us many things, as these were not often awarded in those days, for we were still falling back.

We also knew that Rokossovskiy had especially distinguished himself at Moscow while commanding the 16th Army.

We immediately believed in our commander in that summer of 1942. The soldiers would say that with this commander even the devil himself could not scare us. Rokossovskiy would come out a winner in any situation. I must note that such faith is a great stimulus for soldiers, for it multiplies their efforts many-fold and strengthens their spirit.

From his first days we, the commanders at all levels, felt Rokossovskiy's confident hand commanding and controlling the frontal forces and we saw his desire to use new forms and methods for conducting combat operations, methods that were unexpected by the enemy. While developing operations, the commander always listened to the opinions of his deputies and subordinates. And if their recommendations went against his concept, but their reasons were convincing, he agreed. One thing that he would not tolerate was working by rote.

As is known, artillery was first fired in moving barrages to support an attack during the battle for Stalingrad. And two years later Rokossovskiy employed the barrage-in-depth in the Bobruysk Operation. At the Kursk Bulge he made the very daring and critical decision to fire a counter-preparation against enemy shock groups that were prepared to attack. As a result the enemy suffered significant losses.

Konstantin Konstantinovich always considered the very strict observance of discipline, military order and subordination as his responsibility. At the same time he staunchly defended his point of view and his own opinion without worrying whether or not it pleased his senior chief.

We know that when the Supreme High Command was discussing the plan for the Bagration strategic operation, the majority of attendees, to include I. Stalin, were critical of Rokossovskiy's concept of the operation which had forces of the 1st Belorussian Front attacking on two avenues that were remote from each other. Actually this was contrary to the established views for setting up forces for any type of operation.

The Supreme High Command twice sent Rokossovskiy to the next room to think, but his was firm in his opinion. His concept was studied from all sides, adjusted and finally approved. Frontal forces achieved a major success. It was during this operation that Rokossovskiy was awarded the ranks of Marshal of the Soviet Union and Hero of the Soviet Union.

I can say with conviction that the Supreme High Command sent Rokossovskiy to the most difficult and critical sectors of the Soviet-German front. They counted on him and believed in his experience and military leadership skills. They knew that Rokossovskiy could manage where others could not. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Order that awarded him the Order of Victory noted that this award was conferred upon him "for his skillful control of large-scale operations, from which resulted outstanding successes in routing German Fascist forces."

The experience in preparing for and conducting these operations are to a great degree still important under contemporary conditions and they have become a part of the golden reservoir of Soviet military science. Ground Forces as well as other branches of our Armed Forces are constantly going through the process of trying to understand and master the extremely rich experience of the Great Patriotic War. It is difficult to overestimate the military leadership contribution that K. K. Rokossovskiy made to this experience.

The fact that it was Konstantin Konstantinovich who was entrusted to command the historic Victory Parade was recognition of his great services on the fields of battle. He led the combined regiments through Red Square and past the walls of the Kremlin and the Mausoleum.

Twenty years later Konstantin Konstantinovich wrote, "Victory is a great piece of good fortune for a soldier. It is the knowledge that you have helped your people beat the enemy, defend the freedom of the Motherland and return peace to her. It is the knowledge that you have fulfilled your soldier's duty, a duty that is painful and beautiful and a duty that has no equal on earth!"

Marshal of the Soviet Union Rokossovskiy entitled his memoirs "Solsatskiy Dolg" [A Soldier's Duty]. He himself was a soldier in the highest and most noble sense of the word. He considered his most important duty to be that of providing a personal example for his subordinates -- an example of courage and steadfastness in battle.

When developing operations, he himself would recognize the danger and yet often go out to the forward edge so that he could be on-site personally to make sure that his concept was correct and refine problems of the up-coming combat operations. Even under the most difficult conditions, Rokossovskiy displayed great self-control in battle and was always there where his presence was needed.

Everyone who knew K. K. Rokossovskiy and fought together with him rendered his military leadership talents their due and especially noted his purely humane qualities.

Marshal of the Soviet Union G. Zhukov on Rokossovskiy: "It is difficult for me to recall a more thorough, efficient, industrious and, by all accounts, gifted man."

Marshal of the Soviet Union A. Vasilevskiy: "Konstantin Konstantinovich won himself exceptional respect and ardent love through his persistent labor, great knowledge, courage, bravery, extreme efficiency and unchanging concern for his subordinates."

Marshal of Armored Forces M. Katukov: "I never ceased to be amazed by the exceptional self-control of this man and his irreproachable courtesy towards everyone, from private to marshal. While demanding, Konstantin Konstantinovich respected people, regardless of their rank and position."

And I could sign my name to these words. As chief of an operational detachment of a tank corps and then the commander of a heavy tank regiment, I often had occasion to meet with K. K. Rokossovskiy under very diverse conditions. And I never heard the front commander raise his voice to anyone. His was simple, accessible, attentive and, I would say, delicate in his relations with everyone. He was able to rebuke and scold in such a way that he would not offend a subordinate's self-respect or dignity. He was on a "Vy" relationship with everyone, from soldier to general, and this created an atmosphere of mutual respect and calm efficiency.

And how the private soldiers loved and admired their commander! We in the 2nd Belorussian Front had a very popular song which went:

A terrible thunder -- it is a Moscow salute,
It has pealed more than once in our honor.
Brave Marshal Rokossovskiy
Always led us to victory.

Konstantin Konstantinovich was able to find a common language with soldiers. And he met with them often and willingly. He always asked, "Are you eating well, are you getting tobacco?" He would encourage them and give them good advice.

Yes, K. K. Rokossovskiy loved the soldier and really knew his needs and wants. He always stressed that if one commanded soldiers in a fatherly manner (and precisely in a fatherly manner!), any problem could be resolved. Even before the war when he was a division commander he issued an order which discussed the importance of thoughtful disciplinary practices for commanders and the need to be able to combine regulatory strictness with respect for the dignity of the person who bears the honored rank of defender of the Soviet Motherland. At the same time division commander Rokossovskiy paid attention to the fact that he could not allow military discipline to weaken. He maintained that a commander must be a commander to the end and must be demanding, persistent and decisive in strengthening the military readiness of the army.

These thoughts are also in keeping with our times. Army life confirms that only commanders who are demanding of themselves and their subordinates, who are fair and basic and are close to their people will achieve constant successes in military and political training.

A real patriot of his Motherland, Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovskiy was a military-internationalist. After the war he was assigned as commander of

the Northern Group of Forces. In 1949 during the height of the Cold War, at the request of the Polish People's Republic and with the agreement of the Soviet Government Rokossovskiy was appointed Minister of National Defense and Deputy Chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers. Konstantin Konstantinovich carried out his international duty in this fraternal country for seven years and did a lot to increase the military preparedness of Polish forces and solidify friendly ties between the two fraternal peoples -- the Soviet and Polish.

After returning to the USSR Marshal of the Soviet Union Rokossovskiy was active in party and state activities. He was selected as a candidate for membership to the CPSU Central Committee and worked in the position of Deputy USSR Minister of Defense and Chief Inspector for the USSR Ministry of Defense. Up until the day he died (3 August 1968) K. K. Rokossovskiy devoted all his energy, experience and knowledge to strengthening further the defensive capabilities of our Motherland.

The life and affairs of military-communist Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovskiy are a clear example of selfless service to the Socialist Fatherland.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

JAPANESE DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH U.S. EXAMINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 3

[Article by V. Vinogradov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reviewer: "Japan -- The Course of Militarism", first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] What did the old memorandum reveal? For Washington. Not in the interest of its own people.

In alluding to U.S. State Department documents that had become available to them, a section of the Japanese Kyodo Information Service in Washington recently sent out a report. In 1953 one of the deputies from the Japanese Parliament who was visiting the U.S. handed over to the State Department a "Memorandum on Japanese Self-Defense." This document which consisted of four typed pages in English specifically established the need for close allied relations between Japan and the U.S. and called for the revision of the Japanese Constitution to give the country the ability to remilitarize and create its own armed forces.

There was nothing generally sensational in the content of this document. But one thing that was curious was that its author was none other than Y. Nakasone. He was then a low-ranking parliamentary deputy from the Reformist Party and he is now the Prime Minister of Japan. The Kyodo News Service report also noted that during his visit to the U.S. soon after his election to the post of prime minister, Y. Nakasone characterized Japanese-American relations, especially in the military arena, as "vitally important." In the words of the news service, such a statement must be seen as support for the prime minister's political credo contained in the memorandum of thirty years ago.

Yes, having become chief of the Japanese Cabinet of Ministers, Y. Nakasone proved that he has certainly not forgotten what he wrote three decades ago in his "Memorandum on Japanese Self-Defense" or forgotten about strengthening military relations with the U.S. and expanding Japan's own militaristic preparations. We will begin with Japan's expansion of its militaristic preparations. Frankly speaking, it is moving at an accelerated pace. In the last four years alone, the time which Nakasone's cabinet has been ruling, the country's military budget has increased by almost 22 percent. And according to the rough draft for the new fiscal year that begins 1 April 1987, the

Japanese Defense Agency (JDA) plans to get more than 3.5 trillion yen for its use. This is more than a 6.3 percent increase over the present year's level.

A significant part of the assets that JDA asked for are to be spent on setting up space communications between bases, the navy and aviation, for purchasing the latest weapons and also for strengthening its air defense system. They are specifically planning to get the "Self-defense forces" 16 F-15 fighter-interceptors, 12 P-3C anti-submarine airplanes, three squadron torpedo boats and the Patriot Air Defense Missile System.

Japanese newspapers themselves are noting that with the acquisition of these weapons the "Self-defense Forces" will reach practically the same technical equipment level as was planned for them in 1976. The "Basic Trends in Japanese Defense Policy" was adopted in that year. It is hypothesized that when the "Basic Trends" is accomplished, the Japanese Armed Forces will be at the "minimum level necessary to repulse limited aggression using its own forces" and Japan will no longer have to go through further military preparations.

However times change. And people in Tokyo, and not just in military circles, are directly stating that they do not want simply to reach "minimum levels of defensive capabilities" and are openly talking about the unavoidability of examining "old defensive concepts," meaning not only the "Basic Trends" of 1976, but also the Japanese Constitution. The chairman of the LDP [Liberal Democratic Party], Prime Minister Nakasone, is setting the tone of this attack on the basic law of the country. At every convenient instance the head of the government says that he himself is for abolishing the existing constitution. And other officials who are convinced that Japan's constitution contains "a number of unnecessary provisions," clearly meaning Article 9 which enunciates the repudiation of war and armed forces, are identifying themselves with the Prime Minister's statements. Everyone in Tokyo is being more persistent in announcing that the limit of military expenditures that was established ten years ago at one percent of the gross national product is outdated and must be eliminated.

And they are doing more than just announcing this. The next five-year plan (covering 1986-1990) for modernizing the "Self-defense Forces" outlines 18.4 trillion yen, more than one percent of the gross national product, to be spent on weapons. Thus a repudiation of the existing limitation on military appropriations has actually been planned.

Modern naval ships and supersonic fighters with the symbol of the Land of the Rising Sun on their fuselage, marching soldiers in camouflage fatigues -- this is how the American weekly U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT illustrated its article about Japan's growing military potential in one of its recent issues. The article cited with satisfaction, "Japan is clearly, although still at a limited scale, expanding its Self-defense Forces."

The U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT also notes that the strength of the units and major units that are deployed on the island of Hokkaido where one-third of Japan's Ground Forces are stationed, is expanding at an especially rapid pace. According to the magazine, in the near future the four divisions that are

stationed on Hokkaido (three infantry and one armor) will receive 250 tanks, more than 300 armored transporters and 43 helicopters and will be equipped with anti-tank assets. In addition the Japanese Defense Agency intends to position a large part of the 63 F-15 fighter-interceptors which it plans to buy on Hokkaido.

The reasons for developing such a powerful military concentration on the most northern of Japan's islands are certainly no secret. As the U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT indicates, "Soviet territory is visible from the shores of Hokkaido." It is no accident that the island is more and more often becoming the arena for joint Japanese-American military demonstrations. For example, large-scale maneuvers were held this fall on Hokkaido and they included Japanese and American ground, air and naval forces. As Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Japan's "Self-defense Forces" General S. Mori stated, the goal of these maneuvers was the practical development of joint combat operations by the armed forces of the two countries.

When Chief of the JDA Y. Kurihara visited the U.S. in September of 1986, people in the Pentagon again confirmed the U.S.'s consistent course toward transforming Japan into a real participant in Washington's strategic military plans in the Asiatic-Pacific Ocean Region. As is known from statements by American officials, in the event of a conflict in Europe the armed forces of the U.S. and its allies must open a "second front" in the Far East. And the "Self-defense Forces" have an important role in these aggressive plans.

We should stress that as before, the Japanese Archipelago remains one of the most important military beachheads for the U.S. in this region. By the way, despite the officially stated "three principles precluding nuclear involvement," Japan is being drawn deeply into Washington's global nuclear strategy. There are C-141 military transport airplanes stationed on Kadena Air Base (on Okinawa) that can be used to deliver containers with nuclear warheads. That same air base has KC-135 tanker aircraft which can be used to fuel B-52 strategic bombers so that they can fly from Guam to the Soviet Far East. And the B-52's themselves, by the way, have almost become regular guests on Kadena since they regularly land there under the "bad weather" plan that has been devised.

The newspaper AKAHATA calls Misawa Air Base, situated on the northern part of Honshu and where preparations are in full swing for the next shipment of U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter-bombers able to carry nuclear weapons, the Pentagon's "nuclear lance" over the Far East. According to the newspaper's information the construction of yet another runway and also underground fuel and ammunition warehouses is being completed. Misawa presently has 27 F-16 aircraft and early next year this number will increase to 50.

At the same time ships of the 7th U.S. Fleet that regularly visit Japanese ports are still being equipped with Tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles. And as a former commander of one of the attack nuclear submarines, G. Bush, recently stated in an interview with ASAKI newspaper, U.S. naval ships that visit foreign ports are in a "state of combat readiness." He said, "I do not know of a single case when nuclear weapons were removed prior to such a visit."

Thus Japan is being transformed more and more into the Pentagon's nuclear hostage. At the same time, as the Pyongyang newspaper MINCHU CHOSON is stressing, Japan, operating in unison with the U.S., again wants to become a "military power" and achieve its old militaristic and expansionistic plans in Asia. The newspaper continues to say that Tokyo's involvement in the Pentagon's nuclear plans is fraught with great danger to the world, and also promises to increase the suffering of the Japanese people themselves.

The Soviet Union is intently focusing its attention on the state of affairs on the Asian Continent. The Soviet position in the Asian-Pacific Ocean Region, as formulated in a speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M. S. Gorbachev in Vladivostok and embodied in the Delhi Declaration, is closely tied to the program which the Soviet Union advanced, calling for the cessation of the arms race and the elimination of the nuclear threat to mankind. Its goal is a stable and just peace in Asia and in the entire world. The Soviet Union is for the joint development of new, even relations in Asia and in the Pacific Ocean.

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CSO: 1801/101

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

MILITARY VIEWS OF CDU/CSU NOTED PRIOR TO FRG ELECTION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Nov 86 p 3

[Article by I. Rozhkov and S. Starodubtsev: "A Prisoner of Militaristic Thought -- The FRG: Military Problems in Pre-election Battles"]

[Text] The CDU/CSU-FDP [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union-Free Democratic Party] coalition has been at the helm of power in the FRG for about four years. This coalition's foreign political and military activities indicate very active support for the American policy toward achieving military superiority over the USSR. Bonn's ruling clique is making every effort to become the U.S.'s equal partner in the system of militaristic preparations.

There are 156 American first-strike nuclear missiles deployed in West German territory. NATO's Northern and Central Groups of Forces are also in that country, as are two major tactical aviation commands. The FRG's military-political leadership has agreed to participate in the American Star Wars Program and has begun accelerating work in the area of the European Defense Initiative (EDI). With Bonn's agreement, the Americans plan to add new missiles with binary warheads to their arsenal of chemical weapons in FRG territory.

Turning the country into a military beachhead, a storehouse for chemical weapons, a powder keg and a nuclear magazine is causing serious concern among the West German population. It is becoming more and more obvious that pulling the country into the quagmire of militarism and following the U.S. into the channel of its adventuristic course have led West Germany into a military dead-end, for the FRG can only destroy, and not defend, itself with the military hardware that it has stockpiled.

And this is why today, when the FRG is approaching its regular parliamentary elections which are set for 25 January 1987, the military problems are becoming especially acute. The ruling political parties of the CDU/CSU-FDP are in a race for the elector's votes and are trying to prove that their policies on military issues conform to national interests. At the same time the leading opposition party, the German Social-Democratic Party (GSDP), is offering its own alternative policy on military issues in the event it comes to power.

According to the the leaders of the ruling coalition, the alternative that is being advanced by the GSDP would be catastrophic and would cause the FRG to lose its security. The opinion recently expressed at a pre-election meeting of Christian Democrats in Mannheim is very typical in this regard. By manipulating delapidated dogma, CDU leaders are frightening the voters with the fact that a GSDP victory in the elections would mean that anarchy and chaos would rule in the country.

What do the Social-Democratic's military proposals really mean? They were expressed as long ago as April at a GSDP meeting in Nurnberg and then again reaffirmed at a special party congress in October of that year and are essentially a new approach to solving a number of important international and military problems.

The Social-Democrats in their time gave the "green light" to the deployment of medium-range American nuclear missiles in the country. They are now coming out against their further deployment and are demanding that American nuclear missiles be removed from FRG territory. They consider their primary task to be fighting for a stop to nuclear testing.

The GSDP has declared itself to be an adherent of a nuclear-free corridor in Central Europe, considering this the first step toward a nuclear-free Europe. The Social-Democratic's demands that the FRG's territory be freed of chemical weapons has found increasing understanding in the masses. In the event the GSDP comes to power in the FRG, it is committing itself to annulling the existing governmental agreement with the U.S. on SDI and moving to freeze the EDI program. It is also promising that the law increasing the length of army service will be changed and the Bundeswehr itself will be subject to reorganization in accordance with the concept of a "non-offensive-defense."

Social-Democrats are calling to question NATO's military doctrine and specifically its stand on the first-use of nuclear weapons. They are also stressing that this would mean nothing less than the destruction of the FRG. There are indications that "the NATO Bloc will suffer losses if its leading power (the U.S.) achieves superiority and conducts its Great Power policy without considering the interests of its 'European allies'." The GSDP is reproaching the federal government for attempting to secure its own nuclear weapons and is reminding the country of CSU President' Straus's declaration that "it is an unchanging principle that the country must have nuclear weapons for its sovereignty."

However the inconsistency of the Social-Democrats and their concern for further strengthening the FRG's position within the NATO framework, the factual support of the false thesis of the "Soviet military threat" and of the sides' equal responsibility for the arms race, its anti-communist bent and the vagueness of its own economic program are all making the GSDP's position difficult in its pre-electoral struggle for a place in the Bundestag.

The contradictions that exist in the pre-electoral FRG situation are aggravated to a great degree by the fact that the CDU/CSU-FDP camp is "making corrections in its own activities in the international arena and in the military sphere." The ruling clique has to consider the growing political

activity of the masses and the activities of the anti-war forces which are becoming progressively more systematic and organized. However the prevailing aspects of the right-center coalition's practical activities still bear the inertia of militaristic thought.

In particular, official Bonn has totally taken on Washington's position in evaluating the results of the Soviet-American Summit Meeting in Reykjavik. Kohl's government clearly changed its attitude toward the ABM Treaty and adopted the American argument to please its senior NATO partner. It also renounced its previous position on issues of disarmament and especially on demanding the total cessation to all nuclear testing. And the reluctance to part with American medium-range nuclear missiles that was recently expressed by representatives of the Bonn government will not withstand any criticism.

The communist position has an important role in further developing events in the FRG's political arena. A statement by the German Communist Party Presidium entitled "The Meeting in Reykjavik" stressed that it is now more important than ever before that the FRG government make a constructive contribution, full of initiative, toward healing the international situation, one which would put pressure on the U.S. administration and one that would work toward eliminating the American chemical arsenal on the country's territory, stop nuclear testing, remove medium-range nuclear missiles that are deployed in West Germany and give up plans to militarize space.

The communists see the primary goal of the upcoming elections not as a struggle for the number of deputy mandates, but rather as a fight for developing a new FRG policy, one that corresponds to the nature and specifics of our times, a time when the question of "to be or not to be" is more critical than ever before.

With the situation that has developed it would be rash to make a forecast and calculate exactly which FRG political party will emerge victorious from the pre-electorate battles. Who will lead official Bonn in the upcoming years is a question that only West German voters themselves can answer. But the course of the pre-election campaign shows that there is a perception in the country that they must find new approaches to resolving military problems and that the policy according to which the FRG is a beachhead for imperialist aggression is outdated.

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CSO: 1801/89

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

W. GERMANS SAID TO SUPPLY S. AFRICA WITH SUBMARINE DATA

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 9 Jan 87 p 3

[Commentary by Aleksandr Kuznetsov: "A Deal with Racists"]

[Text] The notorious political scandal that has developed in the FRG in connection with the illegal sale of drawings and technical documentation for a submarine of the latest design to the criminal regime in Pretoria by the West German firm of Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft, is surrounded by newer and newer details, and is entering a decisive stage. An investigative commission of the Bundestag, created at the initiative of the opposition parties, arrived in Bonn yesterday to investigate the circumstances surrounding the affair.

When at the very beginning of the "secret" operation the very fact of a deal with the racists in the sum of 46 million DM became known, for a time the Social Democrats and the Bundestag deputies from the CDU/CSU-FDP [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union-Free Democratic Party] were unanimous in their evaluation of what had happened. "This is more than a scandal. This is an economic crime," they declared. The joint "wave of indignation," however, could not continue for long: the initiator of the deal--Bavarian Prime Minister F.-J. Strauss--hurried to place part of the responsibility on Chancellor H. Kohl. And this turn could not suit the ruling cabinet. Those who had been "indignant" from among those now in power from the CDU/CSU-FDP parties tried to recede quickly into the shadows, while the federal government continues to maintain a stubborn silence. How long it will continue depends on the activity of the commission. It is not difficult to predict, however, that the ruling coalition will try to delay the course of investigation in any way possible or even "put on the brakes" in the period leading up to the Bundestag elections on January 25.

The latest unscrupulous speculation of official Bonn has aroused dissatisfaction in the country. Dealings with the racists, carried out notwithstanding the well-known UN Security Council Resolution on a trade ban with South Africa, and even in circumvention of the laws of the FRG on the limitation of exports of military technology, can give a "green light," in the opinion of the opposition, to the unrestrained proliferation of arms with the trademark "Made in the FRG" abroad. And nonetheless this current scandal on the banks of the Rhine has demonstrated only a small portion of the multifaceted and close contacts of the FRG with South Africa. It is no accident that Bonn is among those Western capitals that are actively against the imposition of broad-scale sanctions with regard to the apartheid regime, in that manner rendering them the most direct support.

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

LAUNCHING OF SSBN 'TENNESSEE' NOTED--As already reported in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, the next Trident-system nuclear submarine was launched in Groton, Connecticut. The Tennessee is the ninth submarine of this class and the first that will be armed with the Trident-2 (D-5) nuclear missile. The U.S. has thus further exceeded the limit established by the SALT-2 Treaty for the number of launch platforms for ballistic missiles equipped with independently targetable warheads. The Trident nuclear-powered submarine system has a water displacement of 18,700 tons, is 170.7 meters long and carries a crew of 133. It is armed with 24 Trident (C-4) missiles. According to Reagan Administration plans the Trident submarine system must be equipped with the more powerful Trident-2 (D-5) missile with its 10-15 warheads beginning in 1989. The D-5 has 1.5 times the range of the C-4 missile, carries almost twice the payload and is 4 to 5 times as accurate. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 p 1] 12511

TESTING OF AGM0130A NOTED--The weekly AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY reported that flight testing has begun on a new model of a guided aviation weapon, the AGM-130A. It is designed for bomber strikes without the airplane carrying the weapon (for example an F-4E or F-111) having to enter enemy air defense zones. The AGM-130A is a GBU-15 guided aviation bomb with a television or infra-red homing head, a 907-kilogram warhead and a rocket engine. Thanks to this, the range is doubled when it is fired at low altitudes and is extended to 25 kilometers. Other differences between the GBU-15 and the AGM-130A are that the latter has an improved guidance system with a radio-altimeter which allows it to fly map-of-the-earth. The AGM-130A (which weighs 1330 kilograms) is dropped from an airplane like a normal bomb. When its speed reaches M 0.55 the rocket engine ignites. After it is dropped, the bomb flies at a constant altitude above the surface of the earth, at 300 or 600 meters. The U.S. Air Force plans to acquire 2000 of these bombs. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Nov 86 p 3] 12511

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AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW RADIO COMMENTS ON U.S. STINGER DECISION

LD101743 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0030 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] THE WASHINGTON POST has reported that the United States intends to send a new batch of Stinger portable antiaircraft missiles to the Afghan dushmans. A commentary from Vladimir Fadeyev.

[Fadeyev] Let me remind you, comrades, that the first batch of Stinger launchers, 150 items each equipped with two missiles, was handed over to the dushmans in last spring. It is well known that a group of U.S. military advisers is training the dushmans to handle the Stingers in special camps on Pakistani territory. After their course, the saboteurs cross the Afghan frontier where they hunt down helicopters and planes, including, as has now been precisely established, civilian ones. A report has just come through to the effect that today, over the town of Khost, an Afghan AN-26 with 30 passengers on board, women and children included, was shot down by a missile. It is possible that this was done with the help of a Stinger. It makes no difference to the dushmans what they report to their U.S. mentors--the reward for a killing is paid out by one treasurer--the CA.

As THE WASHINGTON POST points out, the U.S. military are distrustful regarding the dushmans' tales of the number of planes they have brought down. Indeed, the dushmans like exaggerating their so-called victories. I've flipped through the military journals of several gangs, which contain reports of their victories over government troops. It is intriguing that the heads of gangs sentenced to prison did not even make an attempt to destroy these apparently compromising documents. The rewards were once again included in the accounts. It is, however, possible to reassure the doubtful military figures and representatives of the U.S. State Department. The dushmans do not fire the expensive Stingers into the ground. Incidentally, each missile comes to \$75,000 for the American taxpayer. The dushmans are trying very hard to justify the trust placed in them. Not long ago, in Kabul, Western journalists were shown Stingers captured from Dushman motorcyclists who were trying to get through to the Kabul-Kandhar flight route. Kandahar is the second largest city in Afghanistan so you can imagine the damage the dushmans would have done had they not been rendered harmless by Afghan border guards.

All these facts are, I'll say openly, a blatant challenge to the people's government's course of national reconciliation. Within a mere 3 weeks since the cease-fire began, dozens of gangs, totalling more than 10,000 individuals,

have refused to act against (?their own) people. More than 20,000 people have returned from Iran and from Pakistan to their homeland. Only the instigators of the dushmans are holding out. They are trying to inhibit the implementation of Kabul's humanitarian policies in all possible ways.

Evidently, in Washington, the possibility of the war in Afghanistan coming to an end seems quite unthinkable. How else can the appeals to the heads of the counterrevolution to continue the war down to the very last Afghan, which are coming from Washington, be explained? The same WASHINGTON POST also reports that in the current financial year, Congress has allocated \$600 million for secret aid to the dushman gangs, that is 30 million more than last year. How is all this to be reconciled with the current U.S. Administration's utterances about the need for a political resolution of the problem surrounding Afghanistan?

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CSO: 1801/106

AFGHANISTAN

TURKMEN PAPER ON TANK UNIT WITHDRAWAL

Regiment Feted in Gushgy

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 19 October 1986 carries on page 1 a 500-word Turkmeninform report on the parade through Gushgy of a Soviet tank regiment returning from active duty in Afghanistan; the division is commanded by Yu. A. Puzyrev, who submitted his report to Colonel General N.I. Popov, commander of the Turkestan Military District, who was reviewing the parade. Speakers at the celebratory meeting included Ch. Gijenov, first secretary of the Mary Obkom, M. Mollayeva, secretary of the CC TCP, and a number of war veterans. A. Bayramgeldiyev, a twice-decorated Turkmen soldier of the division, said that "now, we have returned to the Fatherland. But if our southern neighbor's situation worsens, we will not abandon her in her day of need!"

Veterans Interviewed

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 21 October 1986 carries on page 4 a 600-word article by G. Bayramov and J. Khommatdurdyev on celebrations accompanying the arrival in Gushgy of a Soviet tank regiment returning from Afghanistan. They report that "there are representatives of various nationalities among the soldiers and those greeting the tank regiment. The internationalist soldiers Ruslan Yuzikayev, Rejebali Nabiyeu, Bashim Shukurov, Durdygylych Akhmedov and others discussed the kind of help they gave to the friendly Afghan people in defending the achievements of the Afghan revolution." [NB: Names of the 'internationalist' soldiers all indicate Muslim backgrounds]

Soviet Role Explained

[Editorial Report] Ashkhabad SOVET TURKMENISTANY in Turkmen 25 October 1986 carries on page 2 a 600-word Turkmeninform report filed from Gushgy where a tank regiment returning from Afghanistan was feted by the local population. A Turkmeninform correspondent asked V. Pogodin, deputy commander of the division, "with what kind of feelings are you returning from Afghanistan?" He answered: "We have come home in the hope that the imperialistic intervention from abroad will be ended and that, in the final analysis, the Afghan people will be able to fully build a new life on their soil."

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CSO: 1835/408

AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW TV ON PROBLEMS OF AFGHANISTAN VETERANS

OW091301 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 2310 GMT on 7 February, in its "I Serve the Soviet Union" program, carries a feature entitled "I Want to Understand..." with writer Aleksandr Prokhanov, dealing with problems of veterans of the Afghanistan war. The feature begins with the same introduction shown in an earlier program carried by Moscow Television Service in Russian at 2310 GMT on 31 January 1987 dealing with the same topic. It shows AN-22 aircraft dropping airborne troops and material cutting to shots of paratroopers, BMD vehicles, twin antiaircraft guns, and ASU-85 assault guns in action. This is followed by shots of Afghanistan veteran Fotyev and Major V. Radchikov meeting civil engineer Karelin, and still photos of Soviet soldiers and equipment in Afghanistan.

Video cuts to shots of Prokhanov sitting at a table with Fotyev, Fotyev's friends Nikolay Prokhorov and Igor Bratchuk, and Fotyev's wife and child. Prokhanov asks Fotyev whether he keeps in contact with Afghanistan veterans. Fotyev says that he has received letters from veterans following his appearance in the "I Serve the Soviet Union" program, that he had lost contact with his friends since they were demobilized before he was released from the hospital and demobilized, but adds that he has found old friends after the TV program. Speaking about the mail he received from his former deputy commander for political affairs, Fotyev says he has taught soldiers how to relate to people and cope with all kinds of difficult situations, and then adds that he has remained with airborne troops despite having lost a leg.

Answering Prokhanov's question about Afghanistan veterans wanting to go back to Afghanistan, Nikolay Prokhorov says that many veterans have said they badly wanted to return in the first 3 months after demobilization, "because things were simpler there" and one had one's friends' support, and then adds "you knew that you could always count on the support of your comrades, friends and commander." Prokhorov then speaks about his being rescued by friends under fire while he lay paralyzed after being wounded in the spinal area.

Prokhanov says: "Our people here have different attitudes toward soldiers who have come from Afghanistan. There is a fairly elaborate set of relations. What can you say in this connection." Prokhorov answers: "Many of our Soviet people are sincere, well-intentioned, and good. But there is a category of

people who do not understand, do not know us, and see us as young people with negative and positive sides. We do not demand any kind of extraordinary privileges, or attention. Attention comes by itself for the small number of young people who have gone through tests which even mature people do not undergo in peacetime. There are also envious people. They envy our awards without having a inkling as to what they represent. I do not want to.... We all performed our duty. We do not think that we are super-heroes, that we have done something supernatural. We performed our duty as set forth in the country's constitution, our basic law."

Fotyevev says that he has known Prokhorov for 2 years and that they have discussed conflicts they encounter at work, and then adds that the envy of some people seems to make it appear "as if we had gone there on our own to get an award, as if we had been told that there would be a sort of an awards auction and we could get any award we liked."

Speaking about problems at work, Fotyevev says: "When there is pressure and control over you, you do not feel at ease. All kinds of checks are being instituted. You do not notice them but they are enforced. You are constantly being watched."

Igor Bratchuk says: "I was told, 'You have come from Afghanistan. So what, you are young, you are not old enough to complain,' and then they add, 'Others do not complain, why do you have to.' That annoys you sometime." He continues: "When we were in Afghanistan we could say anything we wanted. Although he was your commander and you were a subordinate, you could say anything, and no one would get offended. Everyone would understand. Here you have to think twice about what you are going to say sometimes. Some tell us, you may have been there but have you ever heard a shot there."

Bratchuk says: "Some do not understand and say, 'You have lived well, were fed well, and were provided everything. You have not taken part in the war, you have not seen anything there.' People do not believe anything you tell them."

Answering Prokhanov's question about the Afghanistan veterans' tendency to stick together, Prokhorov says that the Komsomol organization should play a direct role in this connection because veterans' meetings are watched by young people, Komsomols.

Fotyevev says that on 9 May, Victory Day, he and a friend went for a walk and an old man of about 70 came up to them and told them, "Sons, are you not ashamed of wearing those awards."

Speaking about his meetings, contacts, and dialogues with difficult teenagers in his position of Soviet deputy, Fotyevev says: "I think that it is our fault after all. The schools, colleges, and parents have failed in some respect," and then adds, "Young people's leisure time is not being properly organized."

Fotyeve's wife Yelena says that Afghanistan veterans appreciate life more, and everything, in life.

The feature ends with shots of servicemen in Afghanistan against a background of BMP vehicles and trucks; servicemen operating artillery guns, and distant shots of tanks; shots of infantrymen, BTR-60 vehicles, tanks, and artillery guns taking part in an operation against an enemy position in the hills; shots of a convoy of BTR-60 vehicles, and of soldiers wearing medals.

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CSO: 1801/106

END