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35 YEARS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE SOVIET STATE

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35 YEARS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE SOVIET STATE

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On 23 February 1953 the peoples of our great Fatherland, the workers of the people's democracies and all the numerous foreign friends of the Soviet Union will be marking the 35th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. Created and guided by the party of Lenin-Stalin, the Soviet armed forces have a glorious record of battle and victories behind them, having earned universal recognition as staunch guardians of the attainments of the Great Socialist October Revolution, as true defenders of the country's interests and the security of our Fatherland.

The Soviet people are celebrating the 35th anniversary of their armed forces in an atmosphere of a new political and labor upsurge, evoked by the historic resolutions of the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The workers of our Fatherland, for the first time in the history of mankind, have built up a socialist society and have entered a period of gradual transition from socialism to communism. The Soviet State has become an indestructible bulwark of peace, progress and democracy. The 19th Party Congress has clearly demonstrated to the entire world such successes as never seen before which, in a brief period of history, have been achieved by the Soviet people under the leadership of the Party of Lenin-Stalin. "Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR", a new outstanding work by I. V. Stalin, published before the Congress convened, a great addition to Marxist-Leninist science and a programmatic document for building up a communist society in the USSR, the reports submitted to the Congress and its resolutions, and the speech by Comrade Stalin in the closing session of the Congress have thrown a bright light of Marxism-Leninism on the further path of the Soviet people and of all mankind, have opened up tremendous vistas before our people of peaceful constructive work and of the attainment of new victories in building up communism.

The Soviet armed forces, entering the 36th year of their existence, stand on guard over the national interests of the country of socialism. Inspired by the historic resolutions of the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, our warriors attend with honor to the execution of the task entrusted to them,

the protection of the peaceful, constructive work of the Soviet people, and the strengthening of the active defense of the country against aggressive actions of its enemies.

The Soviet Army and Navy have become larger and stronger in their capacity as the armed forces of the liberated workers and peasants by defending, in the fire of battle, the world-wide historic accomplishment of the Great Socialist October Revolution. The outstanding leaders of our Party and founders of the Soviet State, V. I. Lenin and I. V. Stalin, created the Soviet Army as an army of a new type.

On 25 February 1928, 25 years ago, Comrade Stalin, in a speech before the plenary session of the Moscow Soviet dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the Red Army, pointed to three features which constitute an inexhaustible source of power and might for our army as an army of a new type, radically different from all and sundry armies that have ever existed in history.

Comrade Stalin noted that the "first and basic characteristic feature of our Red Army is the fact that it is an army of liberated workers and peasants, that it is the army of the October Revolution and the army of the dictatorship of the proletariat."

The army of anyone of the capitalist countries defends the interests of the exploiters, is an instrument for the subjugation of workers and peasants, and a prop of capitalism. It is exploited by the ruling classes for the suppression of the revolutionary movement of the workers, as a force for dealing with the workers and peasants struggling for an improvement of their status and for their rights. V. I. Lenin wrote that the army of any bourgeois state represents "the most inveterate instrument for the support of the old regime, the most hardened bulwark of bourgeois discipline, of support of the domination of capitalism, and of preservation and cultivation of slavish meakness and submission to capitalism of the workers." Precisely such an army, for example, is represented by the armed forces of the United States of America. Being a tool of the dictatorship of the big bourgeoisie, it is utilized for the most merciless suppression of the democratic movement. Thus, for instance, during the period from 1886 to 1895, American troops participated in the suppression of 328 different uprisings of the workers. Under the leadership of the bloody executioner MacArthur, the Army of the United States cruelly suppressed, in 1932, the march on Washington [D. C.] of the unemployed veterans of World War I, who were trying to obtain the fulfillment of the government promises with reference to relief payments merited by them. Since the termination of World War II, the reactionary ruling circles of the United States have been using American troops with even greater zeal for the suppression of uprisings of the workers, and, especially, of the revolutionary movement.

It is quite natural that the anti-people actions of the American army, used by the magnates of American capital in their mercenary interests, invoke hatred against the army on the part of the working population. Such an army cannot rely on the support of the people and lacks solid backing.

In contrast to bourgeois armies, our army, being an army of the consolidation of the power of workers and peasants and being an instrument of the strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat, of the liberation of the workers, bulwark of socialism, and an integral part of all the people which it serves, heroically defends the socialist Fatherland. That is why our nation's attitude toward the army is one of exceptional love and care. The Soviet army has the most reliable support behind it. This is the source of its power and might. The tremendous revolutionary energy, imbued into the Soviet army by our people, makes it possible for it to wage battle successfully with any kind of enemies and invariably to achieve victory.

Comrade Stalin points out that "the second characteristic feature of our Red Army is that it, our army, is an army of brotherhood between the nations of our country, an army defending the liberty and independence of the nations of our country."

Bourgeois armies serve not only for the suppression of workers within the country but also for the seizure of foreign countries and the enslavement of weak nations. The American capitalists, for example, have always used their army for the suppression of democratic movements of the American people as well as for the enslavement of people of other countries, for the destruction of their national independence, and for their despoliation.

Ensuring the realization of the usurpation plans of the American capitalistic tycoons, the army of the United States barbarously exterminated the Indian tribes during a protracted period of time. For purposes of capitalistic expansion the United States waged war against Mexico and against countries of Central America. With its war of usurpation against Spain in 1898, the United States began a bloody era of imperialism. For the sake of the selfish interests of the American imperialists, the United States army took part in the First World War. The military intervention of the American imperialists against the young Soviet Republic in 1919-1920 was of an exclusively predatory and rapacious character. The armed forces of the United States have been frequently used for interventionist activities in China.

The predatory character of the activities of the American army was especially forcefully demonstrated after World War II, when the imperialists of the United States in their craving for maximal capitalistic profits and for world domination resorted to open aggression. Having increased the over-all number of their

armed forces by more than six times compared with 1939, the elite of Wall Street is compelling the American army to act as world policeman, as the suppressor of liberty everywhere where there is a mere chance to impose fascism. In West Germany, Japan and other countries that are under the heel of the American imperialists, the armies of the United States guard the interests of reaction and deal cruelly with the laboring masses. Unspeakable misdeeds are being perpetrated by the American hordes in Korea, employing chemical and bacteriological warfare and other barbarous methods of annihilation of the Korean population and exterminating unarmed prisoners of war.

The Soviet Army radically differs from the armies of bourgeois countries. Aims of conquest are foreign to our Soviet state by its very nature. The essence of the Soviet Army rests on the strengthening of the ties of friendship between the nations of our country, on the idea of the defense of liberty and the independence of the socialist republics constituting the Soviet Union. In our army, the moral-political unity of the Soviet society and the great friendship between the nations of the USSR finds its most brilliant expression. All the wars that the Soviet Army had to shoulder were justified wars of liberation. This is the source from which it derives its strength and might; this is the reason why it enjoys the full support of all the nations of our Fatherland.

Comrade Stalin points out that the third characteristic feature of our army is reflected "in the cultivation and fortification of the spirit of internationalism in our army, in the presence of the spirit of internationalism that permeates our entire Red Army." The Soviet Army "is being brought up, from the very day of its birth, in the spirit of internationalism, in the spirit of respect toward the people of other countries, in the spirit of love and reverence toward the workers of all countries, in the spirit of the preservation and strengthening of peace between countries."

The soldiers of bourgeois armies are being educated in an entirely different spirit. The rulers of capitalist countries imbue their soldiers with hatred toward the people of other countries, especially of the USSR and the countries of people's democracy. This is just the way in which, for example, the imperialists of the United States of America behave, bringing up their soldiers and officers in the spirit of aggression, chauvinism and racism, in the spirit of deep-rooted hatred toward democracy, toward everything that is advanced and progressive. They persistently inspire their soldiers and officers with the idea of the "red peril," with the "necessity" of war against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy.

In the Soviet Army, educated in the spirit of internationalism,

training and education is founded on the Marxist-Leninist theory, on Soviet ideology, on the teachings of Lenin and Stalin that, while the USSR is in the midst of capitalist encirclement, we must always be prepared for an armed defense of the socialist Fatherland. The entire system of training and education of the Soviet warriors develops within them, first of all, moral-combat qualifications of a type that are required for the fulfillment of the principal objective of the Soviet Army -- to reliably ensure the state interests of the Soviet Union and make our borders inaccessible to our enemies. In order to realize this task honorably, the Soviet Army has the support of the entire nation of our state and has numerous friends and allies among the workers abroad, who know our army as an army of liberation. In this lies the strength and force of our army.

During the 35-year period of its existence, the Soviet Army, in heroically defending the socialist Fatherland, has twice rescued our Fatherland from the threat of capitalist subjugation; it has freed the nations of Europe and Asia from the threat of the fascist yoke.

The Soviet Army has traversed a valiant historic path in defending the interests of the first socialist state in the world.

On 28 January 1918 the great Lenin signed the decree covering the organization of the Red Army of the workers-peasants. The Soviet Army dealt its first blow to the German imperialists who had assaulted our country. The day of destruction of the German usurpers by Soviet troops at Pskov and Narva -- 23 February 1918 -- became the birthday of the Red Army.

The young Soviet Army had to defend the liberty and independence of our Fatherland against numerous enemies under extraordinarily difficult conditions. But neither hunger nor cold nor economic difficulties, which beset our country, were able to break the revolutionary enthusiasm of the Soviet warriors and their indomitable determination to achieve victory. The Soviet Army achieved victory after victory in severe battles against the interventionists of 14 capitalist powers, among which the leading role was played by the imperialist of the United States and Great Britain. During the time of the civil war that extended over more than three years the Soviet Army smashed three expeditions of the Entente, cleaned up the Republic of the Soviets of internal and external enemies and maintained the honor, liberty, and independence of our Fatherland.

All the most glorious victories of our army on the civil war fronts are indissolubly linked with the name of I. V. Stalin, who was the mainstay of V. I. Lenin in the organization of the defense of the Soviet state.

Comrade Stalin was Lenin's deputy in the Council of Workers'-Peasants' Defense and was the originator of the most important

strategic plans; he was the leader in decisive operations resulting in the smash-up of the numerous enemies of the young Soviet republic.

As is stated in the Brief Biography of Iosif Vissarionovich Stalin, "wherever the fate of the revolution was being decided at the fronts, the party delegated Stalin to the spot. He was the originator of the most important strategic plans. Stalin guided the decisive combat operations. At Tsaritsyn and Perm', at Petrograd and against Denikin, in the west against nobility-dominated Poland, and in the south against Wrangel -- everywhere the iron will and the strategic genius of Stalin ensured the victory of the revolution. Stalin was the educator and guiding spirit of the military commissars, without whom, in the words of Lenin, there wouldn't have been a Red Army.

After the victorious termination of the civil war, it became possible for the Soviet nation to apply itself intensely to peaceful socialist construction. During two decades of peaceful constructive work, a socialist industry and a socialist agriculture were created in our country, science and culture flourished, and friendship between the nations strengthened. The Soviet people, however, never forgot the possibility of a new onslaught of enemies on our Fatherland. In complying with the legacy of the great Lenin -- to strengthen the Soviet Army and to improve its status -- Comrade Stalin and the Communist Party untiringly saw to a strengthening of the defensive power of the Soviet state.

As a result of the realization of the policy of industrialization of the country and of collectivization of agriculture in the Soviet Union, a powerful economic base was created which permitted to equip all the types of the military forces with first-rate weapons. Mighty armored-tank-equipped and mechanized troops, an outstanding air force and artillery and new instruments of engineering equipment made their appearance.

Comrade Stalin -- the organizer and leader of the armed forces of our country -- took incessant care, during the years of the prewar five-year plans, about the complete preparedness of the country for an active defense so as to enable the Soviet people and their army to save the liberty and independence of the socialist Fatherland in case of an attack by imperialist predators. An enormous amount of work was done by the Party and by I. V. Stalin personally in the preparation of command personnel for the army and in the strengthening of discipline and vigilance in its ranks.

Supremely devoted to the Fatherland, inspired by the great ideas of Lenin-Stalin, armed according to first-rate combat technology, the Soviet Army had turned into a mighty force of the great socialist state. High moral-combat qualities were exhibited by our valiant warriors in their struggle with the enemies, who attempted to test the stability of the borders of the Soviet state.

Ignominious failure followed the adventures of the Japanese imperialists on the Khasan and the Khalkhin-Gol' Rivers and the White-Finnish adventure on the Karelian Isthmus.

The Great Patriotic War was a tremendous test for the Soviet people and its armed forces. Hitler's Germany, having mobilized and utilized all the resources of the countries occupied by her as well as the armies of her satellites, treacherously and suddenly assualted our Fatherland.

The suddenness of the assault gave temporary advantages to the imperialists of Germany in the first stage of the war. Terrible danger overhung the Soviet country. The fate of our Fatherland was at stake in the Great Patriotic War, it was a matter of life and death for the Soviet state: either the Soviet Union was to retain its independence and the nations of our country were to remain free, or the Soviet Union was to turn into a colony, and the nations populating it were to become slaves of the German imperialists.

The war required the Soviet state to rapidly overcome enormous difficulties, caused by the sudden attack of Hitlerite Germany and her allies. The Communist Party and the Soviet government, under the leadership of Comrade Stalin, succeeded in attuning the entire national economy, all the work of the Party and state apparatus to a war status in the briefest period of time, placing it under the priority of the tasks for ensuring the fulfillment of war requirements. This was the foundation of the supreme strengthening and development of the continuously operating factors that decide the fate of war, and of overcoming successfully the temporary advantages of the adversaries, gained by them as a result of the suddenness of the assault. Under the immediate general guidance of the Supreme Commander, Comrade Stalin, as early as at the end of 1941, when the cocksure enemy believed the seizure of the Soviet capital to be just a question of a few days, our troops went into active offensive in a number of sectors of the enormous front.

At the end of 1941 the Soviet troops had smashed the German-Fascist hordes at Moscow and had disrupted the enemy's plan of encirclement and seizure of our capital, and at the same time the plan of blitzkrieg. In the great battle of Stalingrad that ended with the encirclement, smashing and imprisonment of an elite enemy army of 330,000 men, the beginning was laid for a radical turn-about in the course of World War II. The smash-up of the Hitlerite armies in the foothills of the Caucasus frustrated the enemy plans of a breakthrough to our petroleum regions and the plans for distracting the main Soviet reserves to the south. The battle of Kursk in 1943 confronted the Hitlerite army with a catastrophe: as a result of this battle the offensive strategy of the German-Fascist armies was terminated. Ten paralyzing blows by Stalin in 1944

ensured the transfer of military activities beyond the boundary lines of the Soviet Union. The brilliant operations of the Soviet troops in East Prussia, on the Vistula and Oder, At Budapest and Vienna and, ultimately, the occupation of Berlin in 1945 were the final phases of the enemy's destruction.

A considerable contribution to the defense of the socialist Fatherland, together with other types of troops, came from the Soviet engineers. In his historic orders and statements, the Supreme Commander, Comrade Stalin, highly praised the temerity, courage and military prowess of the warriors of the engineering units. For military exploits in the Great Patriotic War, 539 warriors of those constituting the engineering troops were awarded the honor of the title of Heroes of the Soviet Union.

Under the leadership of the great Stalin, our army gained a victory, of world-historic significance, over Fascist Germany and annihilated the main striking forces of imperialist Japan contrary to the insidious plans of the imperialists of the United States and Great Britain, who broke their commitments of allegiance and sabotaged, by every means, the opening of a second front in Europe.

Having been victorious in the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet Army has rescued the nations of our country from the threat of German-Fascist enslavement, has defended the liberty and independence of the socialist Fatherland, has liberated the nations of Europe from the Fascist yoke, and has saved world civilization.

The superiority of our armed forces over the Hitlerite military machine, the superiority of the Stalinist strategy and tactics over the adventurous strategy and tactics of the Hitlerite army emerged in all its greatness in the victories of world-wide significance of the Soviet Army. The highly gifted leader and strategist, Comrade Stalin, is the originator of Soviet military science and the creator of the victories of our army. He determined the contents of military science indicating that it comprises, apart from military skill, the economic and moral potential of the country, he supplied the theoretical foundation for Soviet military art as an integral part of Soviet military science and worked out the thesis of constantly operative factors which determine the fortune of war.

Stalin's strategic genius in anticipating the insidious plans of the enemy, in taking the proper measures in time that nullified all the contrivances of the adversary, in working out strategic problems, and in conducting battle operations characterized by creative originality and perspicacity of thought, manifested itself with amazing brilliance. The book by Comrade I. V. Stalin "On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union" is a genuine treasure of Marxist-Leninist theory, of Soviet military science and a model of highly inspired scientific foresight. In it

is summarized the gigantic experience of the activity of the Communist Party and the Soviet state under conditions of war, are disclosed the sources of our military, economic and ideological victory over Fascism, and the combat experience of the armed forces of the Soviet Union is described in it.

The book by Comrade Stalin "On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union" serves to equip all Soviet warriors with the guiding theses of Stalinist military science, points out the direction which combat and political preparedness should take in the Soviet Army and teaches the art of leadership of troops on the field of battle and of attaining victory over any sort of enemy.

The realization by the Soviet Army of its liberating mission raised the authority of our armed forces to an unprecedented height. The Soviet Army presented itself to the entire mankind as a first class army, equipped with the most up-to-date armament, possessing the most experienced staff of commanders and high moral-combat qualifications as an army of liberation.

The sources of the invincible power and might of the Soviet Army which ensured its victory, of world-wide historic significance, in the Great Patriotic War, spring from the social and governmental structure of the Soviets, from the noble aims of the war that was waged by the Soviet Union, from the characteristic features of our army as an army of the new type, from its support by the masses of the people, from the inspiring Soviet patriotism, from the moral-political unity of the Soviet society, and from the inviolable friendship between the nations of our country.

An inexhaustible source of the strength and might of the Soviet Army is the fact that it is guided by the Communist Party which during the war had united into one single channel all the efforts of the Soviet people and had directed them toward the common goal -- victory over the enemy. The Communist Party was untiringly strengthening the forces of the Soviet Army and raising its combat potential. Political organs, Party and Komsomol organizations of the army and navy inspired the warriors with a feeling of unlimited devotion to the Fatherland, to the cause of the party of Lenin-Stalin, explained the noble aims of the Great Patriotic War, and fostered the will to be victorious, a burning hatred of the enemy, and revolutionary vigilance.

The most important source of the power and might of the Soviet Army is the wise leadership by the great Stalin, who had prepared our country for active defense, had worked out the program for a smashing defeat of the enemy and personally placed himself at the head of the struggle of the Soviet people and its armed forces against the Fascist invasion. As inspirer and organizer of the victories of the Soviet Army in the Great Patriotic War, the great leader and highly talented strategist, Comrade Stalin,

led our nation through the fire of great trials to complete victory over the enemy with exceptional fortitude. As V. M. Molotov stated in his report on the 28th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution "we have been fortunate that, in the difficult years of war, the sage and experienced leader of the Soviet Union, the Great Stalin, was leading forward the Red Army and the Soviet nation. The glorious victories of our army will go down in world history linked with the name of Generalissimo Stalin."

In the post-war period, a new arrangement of political forces has come into being, and two camps have been formed; the camp of peace, democracy and socialism headed by the Soviet Union and the imperialist camp headed by the United States of America, which is the center of all the reactionary forces. The American monopolists are striving for a domination of the entire world. In forgetting the lessons of history dealt by their predecessors -- the German Fascists -- they openly embarked on the preparation of a new world war, primarily against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy. For this purpose the American imperialists are forging aggressive blocs, are resuscitating the armed forces of Western Europe and Japan, are creating armies of many millions, and are conducting an intensified arms race. The rulers of Wall Street are giving particular attention to the production of means of wholesale annihilation of people -- such as atomic, chemical and bacteriological weapons. In striving to strengthen their rear, the American aggressors are carrying out a fascistization of the United States and are implanting and supporting fascist regimes in other capitalist countries. The ruling circles of the United States have turned the Organization of the United Nations into an instrument of their aggressive policy. For more than two years they have been waging a predatory war in Korea, and they are carrying out acts of aggression against the Chinese People's Republic.

The Soviet Union, marching at the head of the democratic camp, counters the aggressive policy of the United States with its own peaceful policy, exposes the predatory plots of the American-British imperialists, forges together all the partisans of peace and democracy, comes forth in defense of the independence and liberty of nations and of their rights to an independent national existence.

The peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union, directed by the Communist Party and Comrade Stalin, by no means signifies military weakness of our country. The Soviet Army, a faithful bulwark of peace and security, stands guard over our country with vigilance, protecting the peaceful constructive work of the Soviet people and the interests of the socialist Fatherland. It is ready, at any given time, to repulse any aggressor.

In his order of 1 May 1946 Comrade Stalin declared:

"Now our Armed Forces are confronted by no less an important

task -- to protect convincingly the attained peace and the constructive labor of the Soviet people and to be a reliable bulwark of the interests of the Soviet Union.

A successful realization of this honorable task is possible only under the condition of a further growth of our military culture and the military skill of our warriors and of the commanders of our Army, our Navy and our Air Force.

The armed forces of the Soviet Union must raise from day to day, the level of their military prowess on the basis of their war experiences and on the basis of a development of military science and technology."

Comrade Stalin indicated that the prime condition for the fighting capacity of the Soviet armed forces is a strict military discipline founded, above all, on a high-level political awareness and education of the military officials. All commanders and superiors, in untiringly strengthening the military discipline and in laying down strict demands, are required also to carry out a daily education of their subordinates in the spirit of devotion to the Fatherland and in the spirit of conscientious fulfillment of military obligations and of personal responsibility of every warrior in the matter of defense of the Fatherland.

The Soviet warriors are clearly conscious of their obligation to the Fatherland. Guided by the statements of Comrade Stalin, the Soviet Army in the post-war period has been in a constant state of combat readiness; its soldiers, officers and generals are untiringly working on the improvement of their knowledge, are mastering the heights of military skill, are raising the level of their political preparedness, are lifting technological culture, are strengthening discipline, and are improving their vigilance.

In the raising of the combat training of the troops, in the strengthening of discipline, in the preparation of the warriors for a skillful, unselfish defense of the socialist Fatherland, the decisive role is held by the commanders of the Soviet Army, who are endowed by the government and the people with the vast right of commanders and one-man superiors. Our commander is the plenipotentiary leader of the unit entrusted to him, of its parts or their combinations; he is the representative of the Soviet state in the army who carries full responsibility for combat and mobilization preparedness, for taking care of material conditions and living conditions, for combat and political training and for the education and military discipline of his personnel. Commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol' organizations of the Soviet Army are engaged in the daily education of the personnel of the subdivisions in the spirit of Soviet patriotism, of Soviet national and military pride, and in the spirit of constant preparedness for the defense of the interests of the Soviet state.

Thanks to the continuous care of the Communist Party, of the

Soviet government and of Comrade Stalin personally about the strengthening and development of the active defense of our Fatherland, serious changes in the organization and combat equipment of our army have taken place, sharply raising its combat potential.

The successful realization of the post-war Stalinist five-year plan has made it possible to equip all types of the troops of the Soviet Army with new up-to-date armaments, which in quality considerably exceed the armaments of the Soviet Army of the Great Patriotic War.

The directives of the 19th Party Congress on the occasion of the Fifth Five-Year-Plan of development of the USSR for the years 1951-1955 embody the great strength of the socialist order and reflect the basic economic law of socialism -- to ensure a maximal satisfaction of the steadily growing material and cultural requirements of the entire population by way of an interrupted growth and improvement of socialist production on the basis of the highest level of technology. The fulfillment of the fifth five-year plan will still further strengthen the economic basis for active defense and, by the same token, all the conditions will be created for further continuous equipment of the Soviet Army with tools of first-rate battle technology, armament and military supplies, and in much larger quantities than during the time of the Great Patriotic War. On the foundation of a highly developed industrial technology, scientific workers will create still more improved models of military technology and armament.

Educated in the spirit of Soviet Patriotism, of supreme fidelity to the great socialist Fatherland, the Soviet government and the party of Lenin-Stalin, and in the spirit of friendship toward all freedom-loving people of the world, the Soviet Army, without let-up, is raising the level of its political and combat preparedness, is absorbing the Stalinist military science and is familiarizing itself with new techniques. In his speech before the 19th Congress of the party, the Minister of War USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union, Comrade Vasilevskiy, declared:

"The combat training of the Soviet Army is carried out on the basis of the guiding Stalinist principle -- to teach the troops that which is required in war. Thereby basic attention is paid to total mastery of the new combat technique. Our infantrymen, artillerymen and tank troops, our engineers and communications troops are being persistently trained in the tactics of maneuver and offense at a high tempo and in putting up tenacious, insurmountable resistance."

Measures carried out during the last few years by the Central Committee of the Party and by the Soviet government with regard to a further strengthening of the one-man leadership in the Soviet Army have had beneficial influence on the increase of authority of the commanders and on the improvement of discipline and order among the troops.

The 19th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union placed, before the Party and the state, as one of the principal targets, an increase in vigilance of the Soviet people, combat readiness of our armed forces, and a strengthening of the active defense potential of the Soviet Fatherland against aggressive actions by its enemies.

"Of course, the aggressors wish that the Soviet Union be disarmed in the case of an assault on her. But the Soviet Union does not agree with this and believes that an aggressor should be met with total armament" (I. V. Stalin).

Together with the entire Soviet Army, the engineering troops which constitute part and integral parcel of the armed forces of our state are persistently engaged in combat and political training. They study the experiences of war, familiarize themselves with up-to-date media of engineering equipment, master new methods of output of military-engineering works and further develop the military-engineering art. In improving the skill of teaching and educating their subordinates without let-up, the commanders of the engineering troops, leaning on Party and Komsomol organizations, have strengthened the discipline and have achieved an improvement in combat readiness of their units and sub-units.

Inspired by the historic resolutions of the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the engineering troops are filled with determination to devote all their powers to a further raising of the level of combat and political preparedness, to a strengthening of military discipline, organization and mastery contemporary military-engineering technique and an improvement in the methods of conducting military-engineering works, to a study of the overwhelmingly great experiences of the Soviet Army that have been accumulated over the period of the 35 years of its existence and incorporated in the military statutes.

The entire personnel of the engineering troops, assiduously striving for combat mastership, will fulfill the tasks placed before it with further increased energy and with a profound consciousness of its high responsibility toward the Fatherland.

The nations of our country, marking the 35th anniversary since the day of the creation of the Soviet Army and Navy are fully confident that the armed forces of the USSR, led by the Generalissimo of the Soviet Union, Comrade Stalin, treasuring devoutly their glorious combat traditions, will unselfishly, in the future too, defend the country's interests and the safety of our Fatherland and will serve as a trustworthy bulwark of peace around the entire globe.

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