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JPRS 84685

4 November 1983

USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1810

19990510 080

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4 November 1983

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1810

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

QUESTIONS OF MORALITY, STYLE OF WORK EXAMINED

Navigator's Misconduct Punished

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by Col A. Sorokin: "Not By Talent Alone"]

[Text] The missile attack plane in its automatic mode of operation is flying the combat route with perfect accuracy. In the corner of the radar screen is the target -- tiny pips on the screen. A convoy formation. The aircraft carrier stands out. The navigator, Sr Lt Ruslan Anikin, bit his lip from the tension until he tasted salt. It was his golden opportunity -- a missile strike against the "aircraft carrier," which must be absolutely accurate in order to finally rehabilitate Ruslan. More than a year had passed already since that ill-fated morning, but the past of Lt Anikin in no way had been erased from the memory of his unit buddies.

While still in school Ruslan had demonstrated an uncommon ability for oral counting. His bookkeeper father tried to compete with his "Wunderkind" son on an adding machine, but fell hopelessly behind. The happy parents made plans for the future of their only offspring, in which the university, post-graduate studies and "settling down" were merely intermediate stages. The spirit seized them and Ruslan as well.

But he soon grew lazy. Hard work was tedious to him. The schedule for his rise to the exalted heights of science was broken. And it's difficult to say what would have been the fate of this gift, had not the Anikins one day complained to a new neighbor about their tormenter-son who was "burying his future." The neighbor turned out to be a former long range aviation navigator. He talked with Ruslan, and, as his mother said hysterically, was the final straw in knocking their son, who had held great promise, from the true path of prominence.

Years passed, and now already a student at a higher navigation school, Ruslan Anikin amazes his co-students and teachers with his rapid route calculation regardless of difficulty. All repeat with one voice that he is a marvel. His head is slightly turned, and he chuckles over his comrades. The diligent he calls crammers, and the perserverant he labels dullards. His seniors do not rebuff him. Gifted Ruslan gets away with a great deal. He is not liked in the collective, and he returns the same feelings.

In the unit he conducted himself more modestly. But he stood out at the examinations and again became himself, i.e., conceited. Comments about his bragging he parried by saying why not brag if you have something to brag about. The squadron's komsomol members wanted to "bring the braggart down to earth," but Lt Col Ivan Tarasovich Sergiyenko, the unit's senior navigator and party committee member, intervened. He mildly rebuked the komsomol secretary, saying that this is not the way to bring him around.

Ruslan, feeling he had solid support, assumed a self-important air. After his success in the comprehensive exercises his circle of protectors became still wider. And when he was nearly the first to master the sighting and navigation system of the missile attack plane, and was the only one of the young navigators to participate in exercises, where he surpassed many long-time navigators in flying accuracy and tactical launches, he was called a "natural."

It is true that just prior to this Anikin had slipped up. Being the unit duty officer, he had "forgotten" to check the guards, who had been gone from the headquarters for a long time. Again the party bureau called him to its meeting. The squadron commander found out and became indignant. "His experience must be broadened, and they... They should be criticizing Steklov. There is a weak one. And from the same school as Anikin." The bureau members were required to publish a special edition of the bulletin, "The Sharpshooting Skill of a Young Navigator."

The caustic digs of his comrades did not affect Anikin. They were understandable, as his comrades could only envy him. Is it easy for the unsuccessful ones to see how the navigators of the squadron and the detachments were friendly with him. Captain Koren'kov, the aircraft commander, doted on him. Only Anikin went with this crew to the mountain. Of the senior officers Anikin disliked only Lt Col Kuznetsov. The unit political officer was not carried away with Ruslan, and one day Ruslan heard Kuznetsov say to Sergiyenko: "They have absolutely been burning incense to this lad. Don't be late in airing him out." But he was late.

Loneliness tormented Ruslan. He left the barracks and took a room. It was comfortable, but he did not hurry there in the evenings; it was empty. He had no friends. He had had a falling out with Steklov in school already. He had one friend, a technician, Sr Lt Gennadiy Rassokha. But he was married and wouldn't always stop by. It was good that he was a good listener. Today Ruslan suggested that they play some chess, if he was a good player. Gennadiy was even offended:

"I even played to a stalemate with a master!"

On the way Ruslan told how he had "taken these masters, thank you!" When they sat down to play, Rassokha understood that his friend had not exaggerated all that much. The black pieces very soon forced Gennadiy to give up. The whites nearly had a fool's mate, and easily blitzed Gennadiy. Then...Even more quickly -- only the triumphant exclamation was heard: "Checkmate, Comrade Grand Master Rassokha!" His guest repeatedly tried to leave but Ruslan flew into a rage:

"You say they might fly tomorrow? Nonsense! Sergiyenko didn't say anything to me. Tomorrow the flights are at two, you can sleep in."

They parted at three. It seemed to Ruslan that he had just dozed off when the siren began to wail. Half asleep, he barely woke up. The assembly!

The commander gave the mission: Conduct a strike against port facilities. The training target layout had been prepared on an unfamiliar range. The target was protected by surface-to-air missiles and fighters. Sergiyenko spoke about this in more detail. Anikin listened to the tactical briefing with a crooked grin. The last time that they said so much they had a paper exercise and stood down. "Eh, this time it will probably be like that too," he thinks, his consciousness enveloped in drowsiness. He can't help but give in to his drowsiness, and pretends to be figuring with his pencil. In his sleep he hears: "Time to report!" This means that time has run out. Now to quickly roll up the map and report.

"Are you ready?" Koren'kov inquired with a smile.

"Long ready," Anikin affirmed, and flinched when the commander said with feigned severity: "And if they check?" Insulted, Anikin shrugged his shoulders: "Well, if you don't believe me."

"O. K. I'll go report."

Having received the reports from the squadron commanders, the regiment commander barks out:

"Regimental Senior Navigator! Carefully verify the readiness of the flight documents."

Ruslan turned cold. That means they will fly after all. While they are checking the 1st Squadron he might be able to do something, but Koren'kov is pestering him: "The map, the map!" The lieutenant turns pale and doesn't move. What's with him? Already Sergiyenko is with the squadron's navigators and the detachment is approaching. Smiling at Anikin he asks: "Well, where is your calculation chart?" Ruslan was close to fainting.

"I don't feel good."

Sergiyenko was perplexed. The doctor had reported to the commander that all were healthy, and the squadron commander had said that all were prepared. But here...And Koren'kov!

"What is this, old fellow? Are you planning to take a sick navigator on this flight?"

Koren'kov was struck dumb. Sick? He had just been chuckling.

"He reported to me that he was ready. And so I accordingly..."

"Reported? And did you check?"

"I believed him as if it were myself!"

The regiment commander had already hurried over to the noise. With him was the one Anikin couldn't stand -- Kuznetsov. Well, steady now. Having learned what was going on, the colonel thundered:

"Ah, the rising star of aerial navigation! Didn't they sing your praises in the bulletin? To deceive and cause the mission to fail?!"

"Nothing like this has ever happened before," glumly confirmed Kuznetsov. He addressed the commander and said: "I have a suggestion." They walked off and the political officer started speaking fervently in a low tone.

The colonel's eyes still flashed with rage, but he stared at his watch. Then he turned around sharply and walked up to Anikin: "Can you complete the flight?" Ruslan silently thanked the political officer from his heart (He had not known him!) and answered aloud: "Comrade Colonel, I am ready!" The commander turned to Sergiyenko: "But someone said that he was not ready." They caught the joke and all laughed. Lieutenant Anikin prepared himself and, as usual, their crew fulfilled the mission well. The navigator left the cabin and sat down on the grass. Well, he thought, I got away with that scare, although it was not easy. That's talent! Had it happened with Steklov, for example, he would have been thrown out. But in this case everyone stepped on the brakes.

Koren'kov interrupted these thoughts. Walking away, he glumly tossed back: "I turned in everything required for your separation. No one can force me to fly with a man who has no conscience." Ruslan had not swallowed that pill when he received notice that the next day, instead of discussing Anikin's recommendation for membership, the party would discuss his personal matter. He was to be there on time! And that is not all. The regiment deputy chief of staff came up to him. He had been assigned to investigate the Anikin matter. Now Anikin for the first time experienced an unfamiliar mental block. Somewhere his ability to instantly give exact answers like a computer had disappeared. He blurted out that he hadn't slept much, that Rassokha had kept him up seeking revenge in chess.

Anikin was severely punished. The papers concerning his promotion and awarding of class qualification were held back. And he received a strict reprimand with entry in his registration card. As a matter of fact, everyone recommended his dismissal from the ranks of the Komsomol. But Lt Col Kuznetsov came forward. He praised the Komsomol members for their principles and straightforwardness. But in the end he asked why routine excellence in flight quality, which should be the norm and rule in our work, we call exceptional and proclaim a specialist who is doing his work well a "consummate master" and even a "rising star?" Could it not be because "permissible" deviations are becoming commonplace?

For a long time Koren'kov and Anikin were lost without each other. Ruslan, having been left completely alone, moved about quietly and unnoticed. He flew

little, and with whomever he was assigned. He was on duty details more often. At the same time, Koren'kov's crew lost the positions it had won. Its commander was glum. Not a single navigator could fly with him. He found out that a fellow flight commander was enticing Anikin and became agitated. Kuznetsov approached him and said: "I know that you will not get along with Anikin. I will talk to him. We will help him become a real officer and a good person."

Dissension in Military Faculty

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by KRSNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Lt Col V. Ryazantsev: "Conflict"]

[Text] The waterspout struck suddenly.

For several seconds all around was quiet. Patches of sunlight danced gaily on the calm, serene water, and the reflections of the birch trees and the bushes on the bank shimmered slightly. And suddenly there was a sharp gust of wind and a thick ripple on the water. Out of who knows where there appeared a column of dust and debris, revolving furiously, which just as suddenly flew up and away and disappeared.

It is quiet all about as before. But here, there and everywhere are dry leaves and scraps of paper on the water. The inverted reflection of the bank, which has become shaky, is split up and disappears. A feeling of foreboding remains.

This picture frequently arose before my eyes during my trip to the Leningrad Higher Military Engineering Construction School imeni General armii A. N. Komarovskiy. Much of what I saw and heard in the Faculty of General Tactics and Combat Engineer Support caused "post-tornado" like feelings.

We were speaking unhurriedly, thoughtfully and apparently openly about the letter to the editor which had caused me to come here, and about the state of affairs and the situation in the faculty. Yes, Col V. Golovan', the author of the letter, was entirely justified in indicating that existing faculty relations did not facilitate a good creative environment. Yes, Col E. Zmachinskiy, the Faculty Chief, is not a man of mild disposition and can be unrestrained. But just the same all the conditions and opportunities necessary for normal and fruitful educational and scientific work are present in the collective. All that is necessary...

I was not able to find out on this occasion precisely what was necessary. Suddenly, like a tornado, an outburst of passion fell upon the instructors' lounge. The conversation became nervous and irritable. Kut'in blames Golovan' for attempting to undermine sole direction. Sidorchuk criticizes the subservience of Perepech and loudly describes the relationship of Morozov and Belov. Who is right and who is wrong? No one is listening to anyone else. Each is intent upon speaking out himself.

It is unpleasant to recall this. It was even more unpleasant to see and hear respectable people, whose zeal deserves to be better used, turn the most hidden

recesses of their own memories inside out in order to wound one another more deeply. It is hard to say what would have happened if it had not been for the words pronounced softly but distinctly by Reserve Colonel N. Tokmakov:

"But doesn't it seem that all of this is too petty? We are confusing the causes with the results, and are forgetting about our own responsibility."

Immediately it became quiet in the room. Everyone felt somehow uncomfortable. The instructors one after another left the office under various pretexts.

Having been left alone for some time, I was able to examine more closely the numerous photographs on the stands and tables, and the captions on these photographs, and thus to some extent become familiar with the past history of the collective. Here is an interesting group photograph of the entire faculty, including its former chief, Doctor of Technical Sciences Professor Colonel I. Sorokin.

That had been a time of professional and inner unity and kinship of all those working in the faculty; a time of flourishing creativity, intellectual search and discovery I was told later. Of course, even then there were "knots and hitches" in the work -- that is simply life. But all tensions were easily eliminated because of one main thing -- the desire and ability to understand a person and accept his views and opinions. And of most importance, the interests of the work at hand were always placed first.

And now? Everything seems the same as before. But at the same time, as in an inverted and distorted reflection, everything has been stood on its head. It is not clear to me even today what caused the skirmish in the instructors' lounge. Or, rather, as was explained in the school's political department, the officers themselves and the situation in the faculty are such that anything might serve as a pretext for dissension -- a promotion, an assignment to a duty position, a word dropped in passing, a glance seemingly not friendly enough, or an ordinary rumor, even if it has an obvious "odor" about it.

Someone told someone else that for personal gain Lt Col V. Sidorchuk accepted a test outside of his subject area from a correspondence student. The rumor got to the faculty chief. It would have been natural to have looked into everything deliberately and tactfully, not offending the man with suspicions. Eduard Vladimirovich punished the officer without a second's hesitation. He protested and the military prosecutor overturned the punishment.

Did everything get back to normal? Outwardly yes. But the man had been subjected to moral trauma, and Zmachinskiy himself made a "notch" in his memory: Sidorchuk now understood that he could oppose Zmachinskiy and even give others cause to do so; therefore it was necessary to "pressure" him. And Zmachinskiy pressured him for the slightest reason, or without any reason. It is too bad that Eduard Vladimirovich did not realize then or earlier, and very likely doesn't realize even now, that the appearance of the leader and the subordinates' impression of him is formed from such details. And had he thought about it he most probably would have understood that it was mostly his fault that the atmosphere in the faculty had changed for the worse.

The arrival of a new individual in a collective, especially a leader, almost never goes unnoticed. But in some cases becoming acquainted and drawing together takes place as a process of mutual comradely enrichment of like-minded people with knowledge, thoughts, ideas and experience. In other cases it goes unevenly with irritation and difficulty, and at times years are required to smooth the rough edges of personalities, and make tastes, habits and positions compatible. Much depends on "how the new broom sweeps."

Eduard Vladimirovich began by deciding to make it clear "who is who." Initially this meant that each officer had to precisely and clearly specify whether he was prepared to support the big plans of the new chief for improving the work of the department. The categorical nature of his demands surprised them, but as long as they truly concerned innovations -- the development of a methodology for conducting specialized tactical exercises (for the first time in the school), and the creation of leadership classes -- they supported him. Although some of Eduard Vladimirovich's favorite expressions and his too frequent use of "I" already grated on many. They did not like his pretensions to the absolute truth of his opinions, or his partiality towards conversations of the "just between us" sort. It became known that he was not sparing in promises to those who were prepared to support his side.

All this came unexpectedly to people who were accustomed to solving most questions and problems together, in an atmosphere of open exchange of opinions, as it must be in a creative collective. More and more often comments were heard at the party meetings and sessions of the faculty Party Bureau to the effect that the moral climate in the collective was changing for the worse, and that the style of work of Communist Zmachinskiy was far from perfect.

Did the school's command and political department know about this? Of course. And measures were taken, such as participating in the work of the Party Bureau sessions and party meetings, and conversations with Zmachinskiy and Party Bureau Secretary Col V. Golovan and other officers. But no one had time to deal with the difficult existing situation more thoroughly or deeply.

Eduard Vladimirovich assessed the passivity of the political department as consistent with the position which it had taken and as a recognition of the correctness of his own position. He intensified his pressure and demanded that the work and conduct of people whom he named be discussed at the Party Bureau sessions and the party meetings. The members of the Party Bureau and its secretary could not agree with this. The situation in the collective heated up still further.

This was the picture drawn from the letters and conversations, and from what I had seen prior to my meeting with Zmachinskiy, a man who was thoughtless, coarse and despotic, and lacked the respect of his subordinates according to the letter's author. He was presented as a gloomy and introspective person. But he entered the instructors' lounge in a grand and sweeping manner. He had an open smile. His eyes sparkled cordially. True, deep within them there was either a hidden question or doubt, one could not tell immediately, and the gaze of Eduard Vladimirovich did not long remain in one place. His handshake was firm and he was so evidently prepared to put in order the "misunderstanding."

I think that during those minutes Zmachinskiy very much wanted to and possibly even succeeded in rising above these petty squabbles.

During those minutes...But then we sit in the office of the faculty chief. Eduard Vladimirovich conducts an offensive. Or is he on the defensive? On the table appear his monograph, "Pedagogical Notes of a Regiment Commander," copies of reports, and so-called personal letters to the school command. Retired Col P. Prokhorenko -- the "right arm" of the faculty chief in the conflict according to one of the instructors -- is invited from home. Extracts from presentations at the school soviet are read at length which, of course, depict Zmachinskiy in a favorable light. Judging by all this Eduard Vladimirovich is well prepared for our conversation.

I read the documents and listen to the discussants, make notes, and with each passing hour feel a resounding void more sharply where I had hoped to see a clear answer to the question: "Why, on what fundamental basis, did the disagreements arise?"

The more facts and details became known, the more clear it became that there was no such fundamental basis in the first place for the conflict in the faculty. It was created by brazenly and crudely destroying what seemed to Eduard Vladimirovich and some of the new instructors to be an excessively mild style of working with people. Trust was replaced with suspicion, principle and honesty with subjectivism and use of informants, respectful attention with flattery and toadying. As usually happens in cases when sincerity and straightforwardness are replaced with servility and time-serving, the interests of the cause at hand more and more often began to take second place under the pressure of energetically striving to extract maximum primarily personal benefit. Of course this is not advertised. To the contrary, it is carefully concealed in the appealing garment of a struggle for fairness.

The conflicting parties compete for the support of those co-workers who are distinguished by honesty and high exactingness toward themselves and others. The moral maximalism of colonels V. Golovan' and V. Belov and other instructors in assessing certain facts and events does not always help the process of reaching a general conclusion, and frequently simply further rouses passions. The faculty was split in two.

And the political department knew about this. It knew by name who supported Zmachinskiy and why, and who did not. It knew that not only personal sympathies or antipathy lay at the basis of the conflict, and that it was necessary to seek the reasons for the conflict more deeply, in people's relations toward their work, toward fulfilling their professional and party duty, and in the position of each communist, especially in solving critical issues. And the political department in no way resolved to act to improve the collective, which meant primarily improving the content and methods of party work, and increasing requirements placed upon the leadership.

Returning to my hotel, I intentionally took the long way around and soon came to an already familiar bend in the river. It was overcast, and now and then there was a ripple on the clear water. Nowhere were there any traces of the

past waterspout. Only in the sand at the bank itself, right in the place where its inverted reflection began, was there a dark, narrow strip of old leaves and pieces of paper which had washed up. The river had cleansed itself of them.

And how will the conflict in the faculty be resolved? How will everyone come out of it who participated actively or was merely touched by it?

Corrupt Submarine Officers Punished

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Capt 1st Rank A. Buylov: "Political Organs: Style of Work -- Attitude Toward Shortcomings"]

[Text] Following the meeting of the party committee of the Navy Political Administration, Capt 1st Rank V. Butorin again and again asked himself the question: How could a situation have arisen leading to such a sharp discussion, and causing a reprimand with entry in his registration card?

For a long time matters in the collective seemed to be going along normally. In the main the submariners were carrying out their socialist commitments, and much was being done further to strengthen military discipline and adherence to regulations. Of course, there were also shortcomings. But people who permitted violations and made errors were not left unpunished. Guilty parties were subjected to party and disciplinary punishment, and individual educational work was carried out with them.

If at times certain negative incidents went unnoticed, this was explained by the intensity of the training process. And serious attention was simply not paid to some facts; in some cases they were considered trivial and in others they were set aside "for later."

One day the political department learned that Capt 1st Rank I. Pavlyshin, commander of submarine "N," had purchased three Zhiguli automobiles over a two year period, and that the sailors under his command were being involved in work at civilian enterprises. Was this a reason to become interested in the state of affairs on the ship? Of course.

But Capt 3d Rank V. Dem'yanenko, the submarine deputy commander for political affairs, always made the same placating report to the political department -- everything was fully in order on the submarine; missions were being accomplished successfully; and the morale of the crew was high. Dem'yanenko was considered a promising political officer. Why should Butorin express lack of trust toward a good man by checking up and exerting excessive control?

And who knows how long this "confidence game," to put it mildly, would have continued had not several unseemly episodes from Pavlyshin's life and far removed from his official interests not become known to the political administration. These included in particular such incidents as the sale of two of the three Zhigulis which he had acquired, one in his own garrison and the other in far off Odessa. It was also necessary to deal with the "cordial" relationship

between Pavlyshin and the local trade director at whose request the submariners were frequently sent to various trading places as dock workers.

From careful checking conducted by the Navy Political Administration it became clear that a virus of a serious illness -- indifference -- had entered this collective. Could the party organization really not have known about the dealings, or, more directly, the machinations of I. Pavlyshin? Of course they knew. But lack of principle and fear of spoiling relations prevented Capt Lt Yu. Borisov, former party organization secretary, and other party activists from sharply questioning the moral appearance and style of work of Pavlyshin, and their consistency with the high rank of communist leader.

Of course, such a unique, to put it mildly, attitude toward the quirks in the behavior of certain comrades did not take shape immediately. Once they kept silent, another time they "didn't notice," yet another they did not report to their higher officials. And this became the rule, the norm. Those who still tried to act according to principle were simply advised to think before expressing their opinion. Gradually it became customary on the submarine to "not see" shortcomings, and they stopped speaking about them directly and publicly. I believe this constituted the greater harm inflicted upon mutual relations in the collective. Coming up against a stone wall of silence, people began to lose faith in the possibility of correcting the situation. Not obtaining support, the communists began to back away from their struggle against shortcomings, to grow tired of expressing their grievances within their little circle, and to reason: If the commander doesn't care, then why should I. In this way frequently either conditions are created for innuendo and gossip, and as a result for sharp conflict, or criticism and self-criticism are totally suppressed, resulting in complacency and an all-forgiving attitude. And in the final analysis, both lead to serious consequences.

Now, when Pavlyshin and Dem'yanenko have been severely punished, would seem to be the very time to speak about the formation of a new, principled, critical and self-critical attitude toward negative phenomena by the submarine's party organization and the political department. But, unfortunately, it is now necessary to discuss moral and educational consequences of passivity in the struggle against shortcomings. The great impact of the moral example of a communist, especially of a communist leader, is well known. His actions radiate educating influence like ripples on the water. Any shortcomings in one way or another bring undesirable consequences. These consequences will be still more significant if indifference and lack of principle reign in the collective. Therefore, the attitude toward shortcomings is not only an organizational question, but also a political and moral question.

The June 1983 CPSU Central Committee plenum noted that educating the new man is inseparable from the energetic struggle against shortcomings. And it would be incorrect to see in these shortcomings merely "survivals of the past." Reasons for many of them should also be sought in our present day practice and in poor educational activity.

Party rules require that the conduct of each communist receive a principled assessment, and that in each case a strictly individual approach to studying

the motives of a given deed be ensured. In any case, behind any decision and action there stands a living human being, and the collective opinion about him must be completely justified and carefully checked against the high measure of our party principles. Only in this case can we speak seriously about the effectiveness and precision of reactions toward shortcomings, errors and deviations from accepted norms, and about the consistency and activeness of work to eliminate them -- in short, about a systematic and comprehensive approach in the struggle against any and all negative phenomena in our military life, and about a truly high level of party demandingness.

Of course there are shortcomings and there are shortcomings. We must not lump together errors committed out of ignorance or inability with misdeeds which go beyond the bounds of our morals and morality and our understanding of the role, mission and place of a communist in the military collective. But it is always necessary to remember that misuse of one's official position, moral degradation, and stealing all begin with small, seemingly insignificant departures from regulatory provisions, self indulgences, elements of formalism and attempts to color the true state of affairs.

When there was an attempt to embellish the state of military discipline, and reduce the number of minor violations and punishments announced on one of the ships of the unit in which Capt 2d Rank V. Mastryukov is chief of the political department, the commander, staff officers and political department reacted to this as to an Extraordinary Event. They investigated in the most careful manner from whom and why the very idea of such eyewash had come, and what enabled it to be sanctioned and develop. The occurrences became a subject for a major discussion at on-duty meetings and party and Komsomol meetings. The questions were sharp and frank: Why was this possible? Who specifically was at fault and to what extent? And how can it be corrected? Efforts to nip shortcomings in the bud, to foresee the very possibility of their appearance, and to react in a principled and timely manner are part of the many-faceted work of ships' political organs and party organizations. That is why the activity of this political department is also distinguished primarily by objectivity, efficiency, a clear knowledge of the situation in the collective, and thoughtfulness and balance in measures adopted.

At the initiative of the political organ, recently a number of cadre reassignments have taken place on the ships, which have had a favorable influence on the state of affairs. Assignment of principled and demanding comrades has quickly influenced the moral climate in the collectives. Timely adoption of energetic measures to root out and prevent the smallest errors has noticeably improved the activeness of the sailors and their aggressive spirit in the struggle for new successes in socialist competition.

Attitude toward shortcomings...It is not accidental that the party is directing our attention to this. Our entire way of life and the atmosphere in the party and the country enable us to successfully struggle against that which interferes with our progress, and insistently demand that each communist be an active participant in this uncompromising struggle.

Anti-social Military Doctor Punished

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Capt 2d Rank A. Zlydnev:
"Overboard"]

[Text] The wind wrinkles the mirror calm surface of the bay and strains the ship's anchor chain. The thread of our conversation is also strained and nearly broken.

The man I am speaking with, Lt Med Svc Vitaliy Amiyev, is extremely courteous, polite, outwardly calm and silent. The clamorous gulls rush back and forth above the bay, concerned only with one thing -- how to enrich themselves. And this simple picture suggests an analogy. On the ship the opinion had also formed that Amiyev was a man of very narrow interests -- to provide for his own well-being and to be completely undisturbed in his work. But Vitaliy, at least lately, seemed indifferent to what those around him thought. He was also indifferent about his expulsion from the ranks of the Komsomol, and conducted himself extremely calmly at the young officers' comrades court of honor, where he acknowledged no guilt in anything and did not wish to converse with anyone.

Only once, they told me on the ship, had he been startled and upset. That was when the court decreed to petition the command about the transfer of the former Komsomol member to a new duty station, and did so with the significant qualification: "to a no privilege area." Amiyev himself, unexpectedly, also undertook to make this comment:

"They disavow me as you see. I don't suit them. 'Ballast' they call me. What a collective I ended up in."

Later I am told that he is insincere in his statement. It was he himself who had first, and much earlier, repudiated his comrades. But on the other hand, the collective also warrants reproach, as it was not able to exert the necessary educational influence on the young officer and Komsomol member.

The ship had waited impatiently for a graduate doctor. They welcomed him heartily. They presented the crew, and spoke in detail about urgent and personal matters. Everything will work out well for you, lieutenant. Real deeds await you!

In the beginning the young officer willingly went about fulfilling his duties. At the scheduled time he received patients and gave them outpatient care. He concerned himself with replenishing the medicine chest. A doctor has much to do and many concerns! The electoral campaign began, and the Komsomol members of the services and commands elected him to the Komsomol Bureau. The navy men placed great hopes in the well educated young officer. Who, more than he, would bring new creativity to the work of the Komsomol? Sr Lt. A. Mitronov, member of the ship's Komsomol Committee, shook Amiyev's hand and repeated:

"Well, Vitaliy, we will work together wonderfully!"

But they waited in vain for interesting ideas and suggestions from him. It was explained that Amiyev long could not stand them. More and more he began to be concerned only about personal matters. And the Komsomol Committee and Bureau, coming up against the passivity of the lieutenant in whom they had placed their hopes, unexpectedly gave up on him. Soon everyone became accustomed to his absence from bureau sessions and meetings and his shirking of assignments. The "magnanimous" attitude toward him displayed by the Komsomol leaders in its own way inspired Amiyev. And in conversation in the cabin of Sr Lt O. Floresko, assistant ship's commander, he talked about his unique role in the life and service of the crew. It turned out that he thought this gave him special rights as well:

"Take into account that I, after all, am a doctor, and general duties, alerts and training exercises, frankly speaking, are not entirely in my line of work."

The views of the ship's doctor pricked up the ears of Sr Lt Floresko, but he did not place significance in what he had heard. He decided that in time the lieutenant would change his mind and understand that a military doctor is not only a specialist, but is also an officer and teacher for whom the tenor of life of the military collective, its work and its cares must be of close concern.

Amiyev himself interpreted the complacency of his shipmates in his own way. He thought that they understood that a special approach must be taken to a doctor. It turned out that he became seasick even in calm weather. Furthermore, Amiyev's indisposition lasted for several days, and his absence from the sick bay of course was felt. Amiyev himself decided that he had gained an initial, if small, victory in demonstrating that he was irreplaceable after all. Therefore, he made an unspeakably astonishing request of the ship's commander. Amiyev had decided to obtain an automobile immediately, and wanted to enlist the commander's authoritative support.

"Perhaps your duty is the first matter and a Zhiguli will come later," answered the commander, not concealing the irony. "As far as I am aware you are not overly zealous in your duties. Is that not so?"

They teased him good-naturedly, reminding him about rust, which would ruin an automobile as soon as its owner went away on a voyage. But no one tried to comprehend the alarming essence of what had taken place -- that the spirit of their comrade was already eaten away with the rust of egoism, conceit and striving for special favors.

When the ship reached the training area Amiyev again became seasick in mild waves. This was not overlooked by the collective, and the Komsomol secretary finally decided to speak with him frankly. It did not help. Amiyev parried all reproaches of unconscientiousness and irresponsibility with the phrase:

"What do you want from me? I pay my dues regularly."

In the opinion of the young officer this was enough to demonstrate his membership in the Komsomol. And a strange thing happened. The activists, as if

agreeing with him, decided no longer to annoy him with excessive concerns about his acts and behavior. Amiyev continued to be true to himself. He began to appear unshaven, unkempt and slovenly attired, and blamed everyone imaginable besides himself. And when the ship returned to home port his behavior brought many infractions to the collective. For starters he abused alcohol. Then he went ashore without authorization. And finally he was very late in returning to the ship.

It was necessary to take special measures.

They amounted to the following: Lieutenant Amiyev was not recommended for promotion, and, as was already stated, he was expelled from the Komsomol and his behavior was examined at the officers' comrades court of honor. There is no doubt that these are severe measures. Even each separately can be a turning point in a man's life. Unfortunately, even altogether they did not make the necessary impression on the young officer. They had been too late in seeing the "worm-hole" in his spirit. In the end egoism, conceit and materialism had taken deep root in his character.

But all this need not have happened to the young officer. Of course, his behavior can in no way be justified; there is also no need to be indulgent with him. Amiyev was decidedly to blame for the fact that his military service did not turn out. But those who were around him also played a far from unimportant role. It is precisely true that they were "around him." They met, exchanged greetings and news, and departed. And they were little interested in the life and strivings of him as an individual. For Amiyev's shipmates say all manner of things in their own justification (e. g., he is a grown man; he himself must understand what is good and what is bad; it is time for him to get by without a wet-nurse), but they cannot escape the fact that the young officer and Komsomol member ended up "thrown overboard" from their attention and involvement. By the way, Capt Med Svc A. Kruptsov, the unit's chief doctor, and Capt G. Kolesnikov, an officer of the political department, reminded the collective of this at the court of honor. As they justly noted, many on the ship saw that Amiyev was inclined toward pursuing personal comforts and immediate pleasures, but turned his back on general interests. They understood but did not hasten to correct him.

One of the speakers at the court of honor called Amiyev "ballast." And, of course, there was truth in this statement. But not only logic was behind the crew's decision to petition for the young officer's transfer to a new place of service. Certainly this solution was convenient. But it was far from quieting -- for the consciences of those remaining on the ship.

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CSO: 1801/486

ARMED FORCES

INTERVIEW WITH SGF COMMANDER COL GEN KOCHETOV

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 17, Sep 83 (signed to press 15 Aug 83)
pp 4-5

[Interview with Col Gen K. A. Kochetov, commander of Southern Group of Forces, by SOVETSKIY VOIN special correspondent: "Ahead of the Border Outposts"; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] Correspondent: Comrade Colonel General, the summer combat training of our Armed Forces presently has entered its final heated phase. Please tell us about the missions facing personnel of the Southern Group of Forces for the summer training period and how these missions are being accomplished.

Col Gen K. A. Kochetov: The Communist Party, Soviet government and the USSR minister of defense demand that Soviet Armed Forces personnel comprehensively improve vigilance and combat readiness for repulsing aggression and for a resolute defeat of the enemy under all conditions of a war he unleashes and conducts. It stands to reason that we are accomplishing this primary mission in close coordination with the armies of fraternal countries of the socialist community.

Being on the forward lines of defense of socialism's achievements, Group personnel deeply realize the high responsibility which the party and people have placed on them. To perform our patriotic and international duty with honor we steadily improve vigilance, strengthen discipline and efficiency, and persistently teach the troops what is needed in war.

Previous months of summer combat training have shown that the tactical and weapons training of the majority of Southern Group of Forces units and subunits has risen to a new and higher level. Personnel actions in various kinds of contemporary combined-arms combat have been practiced during the problems and tactical exercises. There has been an increase in the ability of commanders to orient themselves correctly in a tactical situation and to control their own, attached and supporting subunits. Problems of coordination, reconnaissance, mopping up the aftermath of the enemy's use of mass destruction weapons, restoring combat effectiveness and so on are being accomplished better. Primary credit here goes of course to our officer cadres. Having high professional training and foremost methodology, the majority of commanders skillfully arrange the training and indoctrination process and see to the accomplishment of all assigned missions.

Matters are going well in the tank regiment where Officer A. Ipatov serves. Having been the initiators of socialist competition in the SGF, the personnel are bending every effort for complete fulfillment of their pledges. Much has been done and is being done here for further improvement of the training facility, and concern is being shown for an increase in the methods proficiency of officers, warrant officers [praporshchiki] and NCO's.

It should be noted, however, that in improving the special, tactical-weapons and technical training of Group personnel in the summer training period we primarily are striving for a further improvement in the work style, efficiency, initiative and independence of commanders and staffs and we are teaching them the stable and flexible control of subunits under the most difficult conditions and the ability to estimate the situation quickly, make the correct decision and immediately implement it.

The basis of troop combat readiness is their field schooling, with the personnel's tactical-weapons training being the primary element of it. We prepare soldiers for active, resolute actions day and night, on mountainous woodland, under conditions of the enemy's use of nuclear weapons. We teach troops to make long marches, rapid realignments and maneuvers, and to assault water obstacles. Tankmen, motorized riflemen, artillerymen, missilemen and aviators try to hit targets with the first round, launch or bomb at maximum ranges and in a difficult tactical situation. That is just how matters stand in the majority of our units and subunits, but unfortunately this is not yet the case everywhere. In places there are instances of oversimplification and indulgence: Distances to targets are shortened and at times the target situation does not correspond to the organization and operating tactics of the probable enemy's subunits... We of course are fighting this and will continue to fight it.

We pay much attention to the soldiers' most rapid, quality mastery of combat equipment and weapons which, as you know, are constantly improving. We are trying to ensure that the motto "A higher level of mastery for new combat equipment" becomes an inner conviction and need for action and for improvement of combat proficiency for every specialist. Where the commanders, staffs and party organizations accomplish these matters persistently and purposefully, the soldiers' technical culture usually is high, which allows successful accomplishment of the missions facing units and subunits.

In training drivers and driver-mechanics we see to it that they are able to handle the equipment under conditions of rugged terrain and mountainous woodland and as applied to the combat situation. They must take an active part in combat actions and create for the firers all conditions for conducting accurate fire.

I have to say that the training of specialists in reconnaissance, combat engineer, signal and chemical defense subunits improved significantly by the end of the summer period of combat training.

I would like to direct attention to what is in our opinion one other very important problem of troop training. I have in mind the personnel's march

training. Attainment of victory in modern combat is inconceivable without high speeds, a high rate of advance, endurance, and the personnel's ability to conduct active combat actions on the march, to reform into combat formations quickly and to oppose surprise enemy attacks effectively. Our commanders and political officers take all this into account in classes with subordinates.

Summer combat training is in full swing. SGF soldiers on the tactical training fields, firing ranges, tank training areas, moving target gunnery ranges and airfields are persistently mastering the science of winning and they are strengthening combat readiness and combat effectiveness of their subunits and units. They are sparing no effort for successful fulfillment of socialist pledges made in competition under the motto "Improve vigilance and reliably ensure the Motherland's security!"

In my view the article by Mar SU V. I. Petrov entitled "Combat Readiness" published in the fifth issue of your journal discusses these and many other matters in a well-reasoned and profound manner.

Correspondent: Comrade Commander, tell about the foremost officers in the Group and the right-flankers of combat training and socialist competition in the current training year.

Col Gen K. A. Kochetov: The majority of Group officers are skilled commanders, political officers and specialists. They have good professional knowledge and skills, high methods proficiency and a feeling of responsibility for the assigned job. This job--the training and indoctrination of steadfast, courageous armed defenders of the homeland--is no simple one. It requires a great effort of will, determination, diverse knowledge and profound ideological conviction.

In my line of duty I often have occasion to be present at exercises, various field problems, in motor pools and training classrooms of Group units and subunits. In observing the actions of a particular officer I often experience a feeling of pride in our command and political personnel. I am convinced that the combat glory, experience and combat traditions of frontline commanders will continue to be augmented by the present generation of officer cadres.

I already mentioned here unit commander Lt Col A. Ipatov. He is a well trained officer and capable organizer who has a strong-willed character and an ability to find an approach to people. He constantly shows concern for subordinates. Together with personal example in executing his official duties these qualities are producing good results. The tank regiment commanded by Officer Ipatov is one of the foremost in the Group.

Or take for example Sr Lt A. Mel'nikov, commander of a motorized rifle company. This person is in love with his profession and is dedicated to it. I also saw him at work, as they say. In exercises the officer acted resolutely and competently. The difficult tactical situation did not trouble him but, to the contrary, it seemingly egged him on and prompted him to take immediate actions. The company took an "enemy" strongpoint with a daring attack and accomplished the assigned mission successfully. I believe this young officer has great command prospects.

I will mention one other officer, Officer V. Podashov. He has excellent tactical thinking. The personnel he commands coped brilliantly with an assigned mission in a recent exercise. The officer skillfully used attached and supporting subunits. Maneuverability, precise coordination and a knowledge of the "enemy" ensured him as commander success in combat.

It would be possible to mention many other officers who perform their military duty in exemplary fashion and who themselves do not cease to learn and to teach others.

Correspondent: Our journal's readers would be interested to learn about the grand combat traditions of SGF personnel. Please tell us about them.

Col Gen K. A. Kochetov: Our country, the first socialist state in the world, is called a land of heroes. It can be said that we are accustomed to mass heroism, of course in the broad sense. We never cease to admire a display of heroism, and not only admire it, but preserve it in our memory, take pride in the person who performed an exploit, and to synchronize and measure our acts based on him.

The SGF also has abundant combat traditions. During the Great Patriotic War many of our units routed the fascist invaders on the battlefield. One of them, Quadruple-Order Guards Motorized Rifle Unit "X", recently celebrated its grand jubilee. Its combat path began from Stalingrad. The Motherland gave a salute in its honor after the liberation of Belgorod, Kharkov and other Soviet cities. The personnel of this famed unit were among the first to move to the USSR's state border and successfully rout the hated enemy on the territory of Romania, Hungary, Austria and Czechoslovakia, bringing freedom to the nations of Europe. The personnel received 19 commendations of the Supreme Commander. Nineteen Heroes of the Soviet Union were brought up here, with Gds Sgt G. Ozhmegov among them. By order of the USSR minister of defense the soldier was listed in perpetuity on the rolls of one of the unit's companies for the exploit he performed.

Many other units also covered a grand combat path. They conducted fierce fighting in late 1944 and early 1945 on the territory of Hungary as well. More than 140,000 Soviet soldiers gave their lives here.

Next to the traffic control point of the Volnovakha Twice-Honored Red Banner, Order of Suvorov Guards Motorized Rifle Regiment there is a monument to HSU Gds Sr Lt N. Yevsyukov, who died the death of the brave in late 1944 in combat for a Hungarian city. Soldiers come here during festivals and on holidays as well as on days when great military work lies ahead.

The time is not far off when our country will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. SGF soldiers also are preparing to celebrate this holiday worthily. While augmenting the unfading combat traditions of countrymen by determined military labor they are drawing from them strength, inspiration and persistence to master the complex science of winning. Today's defenders of the Motherland learn from Great

Patriotic War heroes an allegiance to military duty. Orders were conferred on officers N. Yastrub, V. Podrez, N. Malyshev and others for high results achieved in training and service. Among those presented with state awards are Sr Lt S. Kocherga, Sgt Yu. Kostin, Sr WO [praporshchik] N. Popel'skiy, Jr Sgt N. Krapivin, Pfc Yu. Dotsenko and many other soldiers.

In augmenting the combat glory of their fathers and grandfathers, SGF personnel are fulfilling their sacred duty to the Motherland with honor and are standing vigilantly on guard over socialism's achievements by performing service, figuratively speaking, ahead of our border outposts.

Correspondent: Comrade Colonel General, tell in more detail about the combat friendship and cooperation of soldiers of the two fraternal armies--the Soviet and Hungarian People's armies.

Col Gen K. A. Kochetov: The SGF constantly devotes much attention to further strengthening of the combat cooperation of personnel of the Soviet Army and the Hungarian People's Army, and this is understandable. Under conditions where aggressive forces of imperialism are working up the arms race and unleashing military conflicts in various regions, including near the borders of the socialist states, monolithic solidarity of forces of fraternal armies is especially necessary. Soviet and Hungarian soldiers are united by common goals and missions. They stand in a single combat formation.

The international indoctrination of soldiers conducted by commanders, political officers and Komsomol activists is of exceptionally great importance. They constantly keep this important sphere of ideological work in focus, bringing up personnel in a spirit of Soviet patriotism and proletarian internationalism and allegiance to ideas of Marxism-Leninism. T/O&E and non-T/O&E propagandists tell the soldiers in pithy lectures, briefings and talks about our strengthening political, economic and military unity and about successes of socialist states in building a new society and reinforcing the defensive ability of Warsaw Pact member nations.

Propaganda of the exploits of Soviet soldiers in liberating Hungary from the yoke of fascism is an important direction of international indoctrination. There was fierce fighting here in late 1944 and early 1945. A magnificent Freedom Monument rises on Mt Gellert in Budapest as an eternal symbol of the Hungarian people's gratitude to the Soviet Army.

Every year on days of national celebration Soviet soldiers together with Hungarian brothers in arms and workers of the republic lay wreaths and live flowers at the monuments and graves of heroes. The SGF history museum and unit museums and combat glory rooms are active propagandists of combat traditions of Soviet soldiers-internationalists.

Joint exercises and field problems are held regularly. Before they begin there usually are rallies and reviews of equipment and weapons in which generals and officers of the SGF staff and political directorate and VNA [Hungarian People's Army] leaders take part. It has become a good tradition in the majority of posts to organize and conduct ceremonial meetings and other political activities jointly with Hungarian soldiers.

A firm friendship and indestructible combat alliance help Soviet and Hungarian soldiers in the successful accomplishment of the historic purpose of socialist armies to defend peace on earth and reliably safeguard our nations' creative labor.

Through the fault of imperialist countries the world situation now is as strained as never before. "The threat of war and the threat of aggression," as emphasized by CPSU Central Committee Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, "is a stern reality of our days. It requires of us doubled, trebled vigilance, steadfast daily work to strengthen national defense and an increase in the combat might and combat readiness of our Armed Forces." This is why the sons and grandsons of frontlinesmen, like their fathers and grandfathers, always are ready to defend the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and socialism's great achievements skillfully and selflessly.

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6904

CSO: 1801/014

ARMED FORCES

IMPORTANCE OF NIGHTTIME TRAINING DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Sep 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Nighttime Troop Training"]

[Text] In the situation today, when the combat capabilities of the units and formations have grown immeasurably and the nature of the combat has changed, there is increased need for camouflaging the forces, and it has become important for the personnel to be able to operate at night. The fact that the forces possess artificial lighting equipment, night vision devices, radar and other technical equipment permits us to take great advantage of the dark hours to assure that combat operations have the element of surprise and are carried out vigorously and without letup. We also need to consider the fact, however, that the enemy will attempt to do the same. This is why one of the most important tasks of commanders and staffs consists in persistently perfecting the art of organizing nighttime combat.

Careful attention is given to nighttime training, for example, in most subunits and units of the Guards Motorized Rifle Proletarian Moscow-Minsk Division. Fightingmen in all the specialties there learn to operate at night by daytime norms, to use lighting equipment and night vision devices, to get their bearings in the dark in woods and swamps, to move by azimuth, conduct reconnaissance and use the equipment and weapons effectively. This is having a positive effect upon the personnel's training.

Nighttime training for the personnel is still underestimated in some places, however. In some units it is conducted without proper consideration of the nature of modern combat. The drills, classes and exercises in which nighttime operations are supposed to be perfected are frequently conducted in simplified situations. Improvement of the methods used for training the personnel to operate in limited visibility is not an object of constant concern for all the commanders or staffs. In many cases we find shortcomings in the officers' training for nighttime combat. Among others, we can reproach certain commanders of subunits in tank regiment "X," including Captain N. Kirzyakov, a battalion commander. A recent exercise demonstrated that the officers in that subunit have still not adequately mastered skills in organizing nighttime combat, which was one of the main reasons for the low rating received in the exercise by the battalion.

Some subunits are not working with adequate purpose on switching from daytime operations to nighttime combat and vice versa. Lack of concern is sometimes in evidence. Upon leaving a nighttime battle, some commanders do not concern themselves with organizing reconnaissance, securing the flanks of their subunits, replenishing stocks of materiel, reinforcing the antiaircraft defense, and so forth. In actual combat such things could result in unjustified losses. We need to resolutely combat all manifestations of carelessness and hold more strictly accountable those commanders who permit various kinds of indulgences and simplifications in the training of their subordinates.

Nighttime combat, whether it be an offensive or a defense, has its own specific features. It is the duty of every officer to know them well, to be able to use those advantages afforded the troops by the darkness. The organization of nighttime combat, control of the men and equipment, and utilization of the weapons and equipment should have an appropriate place in the officers' professional training system. The training is being conducted properly where a significant part of the drills, group exercises in the field, tactical drill and other exercises for the officers are conducted at night. The study of the field manuals defining the operating procedure for subunit commanders for organizing and conducting nighttime combat should have a big place in their training. We must strive persistently to make certain that every commander has a good knowledge of those manuals, creatively uses them in the practical work and demands the same of his subordinates.

The improvement of nighttime training for the troops is inseparably linked with the continued enhancement of the methodological training of both the officers and the warrant officers and noncommissioned officers. Assemblies, classes on instructional methods, demonstration classes and exercises and briefings should be actively used for this purpose. At the same time, we must establish strict and daily control over the independent methodological training of the exercise directors in each subunit and arrange for qualified assistance for those who need it.

Faultless combat coordination, organization and discipline on the part of the personnel constitute an essential condition for the performance of nighttime combat missions by a subunit or unit. All of this is developed in the process of the troop training, as well as by the structure of their daily life. As a rule, the subunit or unit with the best order is successful in nighttime combat. This was borne out by the frontline experience. It is the duty of commanders, political organs and staffs to use this experience actively and creatively to develop in the personnel the good moral qualities, fighting efficiency and psychological stability essential in nighttime combat.

Striving for good nighttime training for the personnel means constantly working to see that the items making up the training materials and equipment base are always provided with lighting and signalling equipment and devices making it possible to create a complex tactical situation for the trainees, ready for action. This is all the more important now, in the final phase of the training year, when the intensity of the training is especially great. Effective use of the training base and the training of specialists in the various branches of

troops will depend in great part upon the commanders' ability to organize the competition for nighttime training by task and norm. They need to be taught this very purposively and actively provided with the know-how of the outstanding.

Great vigilance, boldness and preparedness to operate in any modern combat situation--these and other qualities essential to the fightingmen are developed with daily and purposive party-political work. Political support for each nighttime class and exercise must be thoroughly planned. It is important to give special attention to developing in the soldiers a high level of vigilance, boldness and preparedness to operate under difficult conditions, to assure that the communists and Komsomol members set a good personal example in the nighttime combat. The training of the personnel for nighttime combat should be extensively discussed during the report-and-election meetings in the party and Komsomol organizations.

Persistent perfection of the nighttime training of the troops is one extremely important requirement set for the continued enhancement of their combat readiness and the successful accomplishment of the difficult and responsible tasks facing the Armed Forces of the USSR.

11499

CSO: 1801/516

ARMED FORCES

OFFICERS' WORK STYLE CRITICIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Aug 83 p 4

[Article by Capt 3d Rank A. Tkachev: "Man Creates the Situation"]

[Text] Some letters simply emanate happiness.

The sailor had visited his home, spent the leave time he had coming and returned to the Pacific Ocean. A letter flew to Moscow from Tamara Andreyevna Gorshunova in Barnaul. She wrote that Seaman Yevgeniy Gorshunov serves on the ASW cruiser Minsk, that he is satisfied with his service. The most important thing, however, is what the seaman told the people at home.... "They have a very good commander! My son said that he is such a fair person, the best there is. I would very much like for you, dear editors, to thank commander Samozhenov for his work and for his fairness and goodness as a commander."

Dear Tamara Andreyevna, we considered both your request to the editors and the additional information that your older son had served in the Pacific Fleet, also under very good officers, to be of public significance.

Since you mentioned Captain 1st Rank Samozhenov, Tamara Andreyevna, it is easy to determine what your sons meant by "good commander" and "good officer." Veniamin Pavlovich Samozhenov is known in the fleet as an experienced ship's commander, as a demanding and determined officer with good party qualities. He indulges no one in the service. How does Veniamin Pavlovich win the hearts of his subordinates? To an enormous degree, precisely with his uniform demandingness, which makes no exceptions for anyone, with his self-control as a commander and his concern for the men--in short, with his profession caliber, which incorporates an infinite number of things, from the best traditions of the fleet to his extensive personal spiritual experience.

Another letter, from soldier's mother Valentina Aleksandrovna Babayeva. She traveled 1,000 kilometers by train, from the city of Volzhskiy in Volgograd Oblast, to see for herself what kind of people her son was serving with. This letter should be quoted, because if we paraphrase it we lose some of the force of the feelings expressed therein: "When I saw my son off, I wanted him to be the same in the army as he was at home--honest, sensitive and conscientious in all things. My heart ached! What kind of people would be in charge of my son and what would he be like when he returned from the service?! And then my son wrote me: 'Mama, do you know what kind of people these are? They are like

second parents. They understand everything, see everything and are aware of everything. They are properly demanding and they punish when this is correct-- It would be impossible without this. This is the kind of people our commanders are."

Upon visiting the military unit, Valentina Aleksandrovna became convinced that her son's every word had been true. The letter contains expressions of most fervent gratitude for Private Babayev's commanders and chiefs. She answers her son: "My son, you must do everything demanded of a soldier, for the sake of our mighty and beautiful homeland!"

Every such letter and their very numbers indicate how rich our Armed Forces are in real commanders, commanders whom the men will follow into combat, into the ocean expanses, into the freezing heavenly heights--and they will win! And everything demanded by the soldier's duty, he will carry out at the commander's order for the sake of our Soviet homeland.

It would be incorrect, however, to state that absolutely all of the commanders consider the great value and appreciation attached to their deeds. Unfortunately, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA also receives reports bathed in the breath of insult and offense....

One such letter mentioned the name of Senior Lieutenant V. Ryabtsev. At the editors' request the facts stated in the letter were checked out by a commission. Its conclusions were reported to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA by Lieutenant General I. Kamyshan. By order of the superior chief, Senior Lieutenant V. Ryabtsev, company commander, and Lieutenants V. Yermakov and A. Shmakov, company officers, were relieved of their positions, and a number of their immediate chiefs at the regimental level were severely disciplined.

How did the strife begin? It began when the company officers, and we cite the commission's finding, "replaced purposive political and indoctrinational work with the personnel with crude bureaucratic rule...."

Warrant Officer A. Klimchuk also struggled in his own way to establish order in the company (we refer to another incident in a different company). Once, as he was sitting at the dinner table late one evening in his home, he suddenly remembered that he had seen two of the privates with improper haircuts. He did not put off such an extremely important matter until the following morning. The warrant officer went to the barracks and "lectured and indoctrinated" the personnel until the intoxication had passed....

Take the following incident: In the commandant's office on one of the bases in the Northern Fleet, arrested servicemen were not handled in accordance with regulations, and officer R. Galyadkin, garrison commandant, did not respond to the complaints and requests. The situation ended with Galyadkin's expulsion from the party and his discharge from the Armed Forces.

One cannot fail to notice a certain similarity in these incidents. The facts demonstrate that some officers go beyond the limits of their regulation authority and official rights in their attempts to establish regulation order. And it

is perfectly natural that such unsanctioned innovations would bring the "innovators" to inevitable punishment. It is also clear, however, that intervention from above constitutes the unraveling of complications. The task is one of preventing the development of complications. How is this goal achieved?

In general terms, this question can be answered simply. Regulations are the law governing military life. Where those in charge observe the spirit and the letter of the regulations there is little likelihood of problems. Every serviceman, especially the officers, in the army and navy know the regulations; they take tests on the regulations and report on their fulfillment of orders and directives.... Now and then, however, we still find an official who has forgotten his purpose, for whom the military regulations and the laws themselves are not a mandate. What causes this?

A great deal becomes abundantly clear when we think about the official response to the emergency measures recommended and approved by the commission for normalizing the situation in the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Ryabtsev. The response contains 11 points, two of which are mentioned above. The other points have to do with the restoring of that very purposive political-indoctrinational work with the personnel which Ryabtsev defiantly ignored. These points contain nothing special: the satisfaction of certain everyday needs of the soldiers, the elimination of special allowances made for some of them, mobilization of the company Komsomol organization to assure that the Komsomol members set a good personal example in their service, and measures to develop aware discipline in the fightingmen. Every company commander is obligated to do all these things by his regulation duties. Only one thing is needed--to work conscientiously, thoughtfully and hard.

Ryabtsev did not want to work this way, however!

The misconception that rudeness is sometimes good, when it is applied "in the interest of the cause," still exists in some places. Some commanders literally forget about Article 39 of the Internal Service Regulations of the Armed Forces of the USSR, which states: "All military personnel must always be polite and restrained in their dealings with each other."

...Don't close your eyes and stop up your ears! Sometimes, when you find yourself unwillingly witnessing an unpleasant scene, you ask the official why he places such stress on nonregulation procedures in the performance of his service duties. The answers are not outstanding for their diversity: "They don't take offense at what I say. It is for the good of the service"! Or: "I don't do this with malice, and they know that." Or even: "Service in the Armed Forces is not a game of jackstraws."

No matter which explanation we take, we find that it stretches the point, that it is based on excuses or hypocrisy. I have never met an official who would listen to rudely expressed admonitions from his own superiors without being offended. It always turns out that the official himself is extremely sensitive. Frequently, it is not just the words which pierce him to the depth of his soul, but even the intonation, even the look, when the look is from a superior. For some reason, however, that same official considers his subordinates to be made

of different material and assumes that he cannot get through to them with the normal manner of speaking.... And such instances can only be attributed to the individual's lack of moral demandingness of himself.

One frequently sees an absolutely amazing "hypostatic" stratification in an official. As a graduate of a military school or even an academy, the official is familiar with the fundamentals of Soviet military pedagogics and psychology and knows very well that no one has ever taught him to be arrogant, conceited or rude, after all.... As a member of the Soviet society, as our contemporary, he is aware of the improved cultural level of the Soviet Union, of the strong sense of personal dignity in his fellow citizens and of the constitutional guarantees of this dignity. If necessary, I have no doubt that the official could come up with his own conspectus containing facts and figures to illustrate this premise.... I am equally certain that at any meeting, whether it be a Komsomol or a party meeting, the official, as a member of the Komsomol or the party, is capable of precisely describing in black and white what we are taught about this matter and what specific shortcomings exist in the life of a given military collective, which need to be criticized and eliminated.... The extensive theoretical training of the officials is truly adequate!

The effect of this theoretical training is sometimes little felt in the service practices. The June 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee brought acutely and directly to our attention in the party manner, this unacceptable gap between "words and deeds," "theory and practice," which is dangerous to the society. It defined as an extremely important ideological task the work of achieving unity of ideological-theoretical, political-indoctrinational and organizational work.

Such unity cannot be achieved in the Armed Forces without fully observing, among other things, the requirements set forth in the regulations for the work of commanders and chiefs. It is precisely the observance of these requirements which places the entire process of military indoctrination and the organization of the service onto a truly solid foundation.

This reminds me of a situation on the escort vessel Druzhnyy, when it was commanded by Yuriy Aleksandrovich Albuzov. The crew would win over the strictest of inspectors with the precisely organized service and training of the fightingmen, the focused nature of the socialist competition and the successes achieved in the combat and political training. Outwardly, all of this was expressed in a certain unusual, to state it frankly, and initially amazing calmness, so to speak, with which the work on the ship was carried out. Instructions were issued by the watch officers over the intercom in a quiet, calm voice, but there was never any need to repeat the commands. Everyone who was supposed to hear them, heard them very well and all the orders were carried out rapidly, with even a sort of excitement.

It was honestly impossible not to admire the commander as he stood on the bridge! There were situations involving risk: difficult moorings, the traversing of difficult channels in fogs. Albuzov never once lost his self-control or his outward calm, however. The watch was organized with maximum efficiency and order even at the main command post, but no sort of "abnormal tension" was felt. Did he have nerves of steel? Albuzov explains it with no ostentation:

"When I was young I was deeply offended by the lack of restraint of certain commanders. I would sometimes suffer several days from something said, fleetingly but in a raised voice, which the chief would have forgotten a minute later. I vowed at that time that I would remember this if I ever became a commander."

These then are the "nerves of steel."

With respect to zeal and enthusiasm, it is clear from the above that Albuzov did not develop them in his men in bounds or by dressing the men down, but to an enormous degree with the charm of his personal example. The manner in which the watch officers issued commands calmly and in a lowered voice is one manner of Albuzov himself. Naturally, he has not intentionally forced this upon anyone. It is simply that the climate which the commander has maintained in the crew and on the bridge would make it absurd or impossible for a watch officer to permit himself that which the commander himself does not do.

It would be extremely to the point to note that this work style helped Albuzov advance in the service. He graduated from the Naval Academy. He has been appointed to a responsible position and has reached the level of captain first-rank.

No one has ever found the commander's burden to be an easy one. The vast majority of commanders bear it with dignity and honor, recognizing their great responsibility. This is precisely the sort of thing, however, in which there must be no exceptions, even isolated ones!

11499

CSO: 1801/505

ARMED FORCES

OFFICERS' DRINKING PROBLEM SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Maj O. Falichev: "There Is No Such Thing As Someone Else's Problem"]

[Text] It would be difficult to say what was going on inside him just then: A surge of joy and lingering elements of alarm, a feeling of gratitude and a desire to demonstrate what he could do....

Guards Captain V. Romanov firmly closed the door of the unit commander's office behind him and emerged onto the street. Washed by a recent rain, the trees and grass had an aura of freshness about them.

His wife opened the door for him. She looked at him with concern, worried that the commander had summoned him because something had happened.

"Everything is OK," he told his wife with a smile.

They sat down at the table. Tat'yana poured her husband a cup of tea and listened to his story.

"So they want to promote you?" she asked to be sure, after he had finished telling her about it. Receiving an affirmative answer, she added: "You do your best...."

The subunit to which Guards Captain Romanov was being assigned as deputy commander was almost right next to the one where he had been serving. The officers performed the common tasks facing the unit and they always knew how things were going for their neighbors. Naturally, they all knew about Romanov's past errors, for which he had been brought to strict accountability along both service and party lines. Time had passed, however, and he had straightened out his life and earned trust. And now they were promoting him. Would all of the officers correctly understand his promotion, however? This thought kept Romanov awake.

The next morning Guards Lieutenant Colonel P. Gafarov, subunit commander, introduced his deputy to the personnel and wished him success in his job. When they were alone, he said:

"I'm glad I didn't make a mistake about you that time, Viktor Yegorovich. I hope that things will go well for you, although you are bound to have some difficulties at first...."

Romanov had known Guards Lieutenant Colonel Gafarov when he was still a captain. At that time Gafarov was deputy commander of a subunit and secretary of the party organization, while Romanov was in charge of a crew. There was nothing between the two except their service, however. Furthermore, Romanov felt a certain dislike for Gafarov because of the latter's demandingness, which seemed at that time to be a sham. It probably started the day Gafarov saw Romanov slightly under the influence on his job. "Today is my birthday," Romanov explained. Gafarov wished him a happy birthday. At a meeting held soon thereafter, however, he recommended that Romanov be punished for drinking during duty hours.

After Romanov had repeated the infraction numerous times, Gafarov brought up the question of strict punishment.

Another of Gafarov's acts seemed all the more surprising to Romanov because of this. Romanov's conduct was being discussed at an officers' comradely court of honor. Many of those present expressed the opinion that Romanov did not belong in the Armed Forces. Gafarov rose to speak. "Now I've had it," the thought ran through Romanov's mind. Much to his surprise, the party organization's secretary stated that Romanov was not lost to the army. He then defended his viewpoint in a discussion with the superior chief.

"Thank you for everything, Timur Makhmudbekovich," Romanov told his commander, thinking about how fate had brought him together with such a remarkable man.

The equipment in the subunit proved to be somewhat unfamiliar to Romanov. He had completed the military school before it was a higher school. In the intervening years, of course, he could have acquired a higher military education. He dreamed about this. Well, it's my own fault, he would say to himself, wiping out his own dream. Now he would have to make up for lost time.

When he read the personal files of his subordinates, Romanov noted that all of the officers had a higher education. On the one hand, this would make his job easier. On the other, it would demand great competence of him. "I have to further my knowledge." This is what he decided to stress in his personal preparation.

Guards Captain Romanov planned the classes thoroughly and took a serious attitude toward them. He spent a great deal of time at the work site and carefully studied the work of the veteran specialists. Guards Lieutenant Colonel Gafarov, Guards Major V. Amelin, the political worker, and the other officers shared everything they knew with him. And Romanov himself was not ashamed to ask for help. Not only of the experienced officers: He also adopted a great deal from the warrant officers, particularly Guards Warrant Officer A. Pavlushchenko, one of the best specialists in the subunit.

Romanov thoroughly mastered everything within the range of his functional duties. And he was very proud when Guards Lieutenant Colonel Gafarov told him after his tests: "The main thing now is to practice, Viktor Yegorovich."

Soon after that the subunit went out to the range. Romanov's men rapidly prepared the missiles for combat and set up the monitoring and measuring equipment. Everyone seemed to be working rapidly and confidently. Romanov soon noticed that Guards Warrant Officer Pavlushchenko had not completed one of the operations, however.

"I'm saving time. Otherwise, we will not meet the norm," Pavlushchenko explained.

"Some of the men are only working at half-capacity then," Romanov concluded. After scrutinizing the actions of the specialists he determined that it was the crew of Guards Lieutenant Ponomarenko.

He had noticed this officer out of all the others, long ago. Excellently trained and resourceful, Ponomarenko never lost his head in a difficult situation. He never missed a malfunction in the equipment. More than once they had worked side by side and frankly, Romanov had simply admired the other's refined handling of the equipment. Why was he not performing efficiently now, at this time of responsibility? Romanov simply could not understand it.

"Couldn't you work a little faster?" he asked Ponomarenko in a loud voice. "It would be a shame if your crew were to pull the entire subunit down."

Ponomarenko raised his head, and Romanov could see from his eyes that he was offended. There was an inquiring look on his face: Can't you see that most of the men on my crew are new ones? Yes, Romanov had perhaps not taken this into account. He should have helped Ponomarenko train the newcomers for the difficult test.

After that Ponomarenko began avoiding Guards Captain Romanov. Sometimes, during the classes, he would ask Romanov especially complicated questions, as though to put him into an embarrassing situation.

Once, during a drill, Romanov noticed Ponomarenko checking the secondary electrical circuits. He was only going through the motions of connecting the measuring instruments to the missile's systems.

"It doesn't look good for a knowledgeable specialist to omit an operation," Romanov commented to the warrant officer.

The latter simply shrugged his shoulders and said: "This is just a drill."

"I don't have to explain to you what can result from that sort of thing in the combat work," Romanov said, and there was a note of reproach in his voice. "Take the trouble to do everything the way it's supposed to be done."

Once, Ponomarenko came to work under the influence of alcohol.

"That's not the way to begin your service career, Comrade Guards Lieutenant," Romanov told him in as firm a voice as he could muster.

Ponomarenko raised his head and looked at Romanov with offense in his eyes.

"I make my mistakes, I'll answer for them," he said in a hollow voice. "As far as alcohol is concerned, they say that you also had a weakness for it."

Romanov was beside himself. His first impulse was to put the lieutenant in his place. He restrained himself. He understood that he needed to have an important, frank discussion with the lieutenant, that no brief retort would do.

Right there in the radar shack Romanov sat down on a metal chair and invited Ponomarenko to take a seat.

"I can't return to the past," he said in a low voice. "Like you, I considered my mistakes to be a completely personal matter. In the military family, however, there is no such thing as someone else's problem."

Slightly emotionally, as though reliving everything which had happened to him in the past, he began to tell Ponomarenko about himself. He told him how he had developed a weakness for alcohol without even noticing it. He told how the men in the collective had fought for him, how his wife had gone to the neighbors because she was unable to do anything about the situation....

Ponomarenko listened, at first absent-mindedly. His facial features gradually relaxed, however, and his look became warm. It was as though he was seeing a different side of Guards Captain Romanov now....

There was silence. They could hear the hand of the electronic clock moving steadily around its circle, ticking off the time. How long did they sit there together? One, two hours? The time was not wasted, however.

A week later Guards Lieutenant Ponomarenko came to see Romanov on his own.

"I have some good syllabuses for the special training," he said in a slightly embarrassed voice. "Maybe they will be of some use to you."

It is doubtful that the student syllabuses would have been of any use to Romanov. Especially now, when he had thoroughly mastered the equipment and developed solid skills in operating it. He understood what had prompted the lieutenant to offer them, however, and he said:

"Thank you, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. I'll take a look at them."

It was later announced that Romanov would be attending officer courses. As it happened, his battalion was to be tested in the field before he left for the courses. Romanov was anxious, as always, for all his men. He was especially concerned about Guards Lieutenant Ponomarenko, however. The officer had changed markedly for the better. How would his team cope with the difficult training tasks?

According to a hypothetical problem assigned by the tester, a valve lining "blew out" in Guards Lieutenant Ponomarenko's area. It would not be easy to figure out what to do immediately and adopt the correct decision. Ponomarenko hesitated briefly, losing several seconds of time. He then made up for them as he repaired the "malfunction," however. This is where his personal training and the improved special training of his subordinates make themselves felt!

...Several weeks later the unit received word that Romanov had received his regular promotion to Guards major. He was still attending the courses at that time. The first to congratulate him in a letter was Guards Lieutenant Ponomarenko. The letter contained a post script: "The Komsomol members have elected me their secretary. It will not be easy, but I am going to try to handle the job." Romanov read the post script, and then he read it again.... These were perhaps the most precious, the most joyous lines in the letter for him.

11499

CSO: 1801/515

ARMED FORCES

INTRODUCTION OF NEW THERMAL HYDRAULIC SEAL DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 83 p 1

[Article by Lt Col Z. Veretko, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "In Creative Quest"]

[Text] Silence reigned in the hanger, and the gazes of the officers, engineers and employees of the Soviet Army were focused on a mixer mounted on a dolly. It reminded one of a cement mixer.

"Pour the solution into the mixer," engineer Aleksandr Shokhirev give the order. "Turn on the motor!"

A clockwatch clicked in the engineer's hand. He then had the mixture poured into a mold. The cable from the electric wench grew taut, and the dolly and mixer moved smoothly down the rail, alongside a mold in the form of a cylindrical case mounted on supports, into which the foaming brown substance was poured through a metal chute. As soon as the substance, hissing and bubbling, covered a pipe which had been laid into the mold, the "case" was latched shut.

"All of you come back in 40 minutes," A. Shakhirev said. "We can see the results of two years of work by the innovators...."

Two years ago Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel V. Torunov had learned about a new type of thermal hydraulic insulation for heat pipes, which was awarded a gold medal at the VDNKH [Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy of the USSR]. While on a temporary duty assignment in the capital, Valeriy Mikhaylovich looked the innovation over and immediately recognized its merits.

During his 20 years of service in the Central Asian Military District, officer Torgunov has learned that in the highly saline soil there the conventional heat line has to be replaced every 10 years.

With the adoption of the new type of thermal hydraulic insulation the service life of a pipeline would increase to 25-30 years. In addition, there is no longer any need to lay down a concrete trough for the pipe, to remove rust from its surface or to cover it with a thick layer of glass wool. The new insulation consists of a layer of the new substance a few centimeters thick.

Basically, the technology for producing the insulated pipe is the following: a special mixture is poured over the pipe, which hardens very rapidly and becomes an impenetrable barrier to moisture and consequently, to corrosion. In addition, it is highly resistant to heat, has great mechanical strength and is resistant to the jolting and the blows inevitable in the process of transporting and laying the pipe. Essentially, such a pipeline is built by laying the prepared, insulated pipe sections into a trench and connecting them.

Valeriy Mikhaylovich has calculated the economic effect from the use of the innovation. The pipeline builders receive 15,000 rubles for each kilometer of pipeline, while the state saves 50,000 rubles (as a result of reduced heat losses into the environment and reduced outlays for fuel, servicing and repair of the line).

Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel V. Torunov was the first of the military construction workers to begin using this new type of thermal hydraulic insulation, and it is not surprising that he and his colleagues had to resolve numerous organizational and technical problems. For example, it was not such a simple matter to find all the ingredients essential for preparing the insulation compound and have them delivered to Alma-Ata from various parts of the nation. One of the ingredients was produced by only one unit in the nation, and that was an experimental unit. A plant was being prepared to begin producing the ingredient, but time would be wasted if they waited for it to begin operating. Valeriy Mikhaylovich had to work long and hard to convince the producers of the substance to let him have at least a small quantity of the powder for his experiments.

His determination and persistence gradually produced the desired results: The ingredients necessary for producing the compound had been delivered to an empty hanger on the outskirts of Alma-Ata, where the innovators led by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel G. Mironov were setting up the processing equipment.

Gennadiy Petrovich found an assistant--Fedor Fedorovich Gusakov, an employee of the Soviet Army and deputy chief of the UNR[work supervisor's section] production section. He has been working on military construction projects for a long time and cannot imagine his job without creative quest. He is the one who introduced at the work superintendent's section the plasma cutting of metals and mastered the technique of welding in a carbon dioxide medium. He is the one who drew machinist Vladimir Snatkin, welder Anatoliy Sherstobayev and Sergey Chevonev, veteran specialists, into the new project, and work got into full swing in the hanger.

When the equipment was ready for covering the pipe with the new insulation, at V. Torunov's request the scientific research institute which had developed the new type of insulation sent a group of specialists headed by Aleksandr Shokhirev, chief engineer of the polymers laboratory, to help the army innovators. They helped turn out an experimental batch of pipe with the new insulation and taught local specialists the advanced technology.

...It was time for the insulation to have hardened. At the engineer's instruction, the specialists opened the mold and saw the pipe enclosed in a glossy, dark-glossy shell. The test was successful.

The innovators are continuing their creative quest.

ARMED FORCES

PAPER'S CONCERN FOR ACCURACY QUESTIONED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Lt Col V. Shevchenko, Red Banner Odessa Military District: "On Newspaper Topics: When the Sense of Responsibility is Dulled"]

[Text] After the appearance of the report entitled "The Soldier's Heart Responds" in the district newspaper ZASHCHITNIK RODINY, the "hero" of this article, Lt S. Manayenkov, tried not to meet colleagues for several days so as not to catch the open mockery in their eyes or not to hear a biting remark. The officers had grounds for such actions. They knew that Manayenkov was distinguished neither by zeal in service nor by high discipline. He had a dozen punishments from a reprimand to an officers' comrades' court of honor. He also was given a strict reprimand through Komsomol channels. He was poorly trained in the professional sense and worked little on indoctrinating and training subordinates. Then suddenly a report appeared in the newspaper in which he, S. Manayenkov, was shown as a foremost officer and capable indoctrinator of subordinates.

In spite of the facts the report's author, Lt S. Bel'fer, correspondent and organizer of a large-circulation newspaper, informed the readers about Lt Manayenkov's great zeal in service, that the officer had taken a previously backward platoon into the ranks of foremost and that the young lieutenant was giving his all to individual indoctrination work.

The readers' reaction to this newspaper article was fully understandable. Gds Lt Col R. Khasanshin, Lt Manayenkov's immediate superior, wrote a letter to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in which he quite correctly reproached the district newspaper for a lack of objectivity and noted that such reports only do harm to the work of indoctrinating young officers and add no authority to the printed organ.

The letter's author asks why articles appear in the pages of the district newspaper which undeservedly praise violators of discipline. Why are facts of critical articles checked out, and those of laudatory articles not? And he draws an absolutely correct conclusion: There is great harm from undeserved praise.

The editors of ZASHCHITNIK RODINY are inclined to believe that Lt Bel'fer let the newspaper down by not checking out the facts which he decided to publish without showing an interest in the opinion of senior officers about the "hero" of his article. There is no question that the report's author is guilty. Such flaws are inadmissible in the work of a graduate of the journalism faculty of the Lvov Higher Military-Political School. But no less blame for this lies also with journalists of the district newspaper's combat and physical training department, particularly Sr Lt O. Vachayev, who prepared Bel'fer's material for press, and the department chief who did not require subordinates to make a strict check of every fact cited in the reports. Apparently an atmosphere of high exactingness in work and intolerance of a superficial approach in preparing articles for the newspaper also are not being created vigorously enough in the editorial collective as a whole.

All this led to the fact that some readers had doubt as to the truth of articles being published in the district newspaper. The editorial collective should take a stricter approach to fulfilling its official and party obligations and always remember the demand of the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum that every article must attract and persuade by its depth of penetration into life, the well-reasoned nature of arguments and freshness of thought and word, and that press workers must be distinguished by high ideals, competency and faultless journalistic ethics.

6904

CSO: 1801/018

ARMED FORCES

MOTORIZED RIFLEMEN, HELICOPTER CREWS, DRIVERS IN AFGHANISTAN

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Skrizhalin: "People of Great Duty--in the Land of Afghanistan"]

[Text] Soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers and officers of the Limited Contingent of Soviet Forces in Afghanistan are demonstrating that they are true internationalists, worthy heirs of the frontline fighters. Today we are discussing representatives of three of the military specialties.

Motorized Riflemen

The old truck rumbled up to the Soviet road security post. Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Shagimuratov, deputy company commander for political affairs, and the motorized riflemen around him watched as two men got out of the cab. They were carrying blood-covered children.

They always take that same road to the spring for water. The enemy (dushman) had mined it. Some local residents had walked onto a mine. A man was killed, and the little boys walking beside him were seriously wounded.

Sergeant R. Ziganshin, NCO in charge of the medics, immediately examined the wounded children and bandaged them up. The motorized riflemen then sent the victims to the medical battalion at their military post. The lives of the young Afghans were saved.

There would appear to be nothing surprising or out of the ordinary for a Soviet person in this incident. A readiness to come to the aid of one in trouble is a law of life for our society. It is manifested especially clearly here, far from the homeland. It is precisely the solidarity, the mutual assistance and preparedness to offer one's shoulder to another which instill in the Soviet fightingman in the most difficult situation, confidence in those who stand beside him and help him to stand firm at a critical moment.

I was recently present at a ceremonial formation of the unit, when Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Shagimuratov, Guards Sergeants K. Abdualimov and A. Dzhemula and Guards Private V. Kostyuk were presented state awards. This honor was conferred

upon the motorized riflemen for their great military skill in the performance of their assigned missions and their international duty, for courage and humaneness demonstrated while assisting the residents of this friendly nation.

Helicopter Crews

Helicopters perform all kinds of jobs in Afghanistan and fly to all sorts of places. Things like this happen: During the period of intensive thawing of the snow an emergency trip had to be made to haul the people out of Anar-Dara Canyon. The bottom of the canyon had turned into a swamp by this time, dotted with tiny islands. There was practically no place for the heavy aircraft to land. The crews of Captains V. Gritsyuk and V. Magdalinov managed to land, however. The helicopters sat down, the people were taken aboard and delivered to a safe place. The regimental colleagues shared the stress of that risk-filled trip equally, just as they should. With one exception, to be sure: Captain Gritsyuk's crew, in the lead, left Captain Magdalinov's crew behind, the most convenient of all the little islands. This is the law for the helicopter crews--a veteran pilot, the leader, always takes on the most difficult job.

The helicopter crewmen are linked to Afghanistan not just by the sky in which they fly, but also by bonds of combat fellowship with the people of that country, especially the airmen. The Soviet airmen are imparting their know-how to the Afghan friends. Recently, for example, Major G. Fursov, Captains V. Gritsyuk and A. Raylyan and Senior Lieutenants A. Ivanov and O. Postovoy visited an Afghan helicopter subunit. They discussed the best ways to employ the "air cross-country vehicles" in mountains and dessert. The Soviet specialists give the Afghan airmen practical lessons in piloting techniques and the procedures for servicing the most complex systems on the rotary-wing machines.

The Soviet fightingmen fulfill their international duty in various ways. Helping the Afghan airmen into the air is one of them.

Motor-Vehicle Drivers

The military driver's job in Afghanistan is a heroic one. The main burden of all the hauling falls to the military drivers. And bandits mine the roads and attack the columns in attempts to paralyze the system for providing the nation with everything necessary for a normal life.

Senior Lieutenant I. Amirov, commander of a motor-vehicle company, will never forget that 400-kilometer trip to a remote area. They were hauling food, medicine and fuel. Conditions were very bad--torrid air and dust. The drivers had to wear respirators. And then the vehicle driven by Private M. Aliyev ran onto a mine. Fortunately, the driver was not killed. It was especially difficult for the column's technical maintenance echelon, of which Senior Lieutenant S. Yur'yev and Privates S. Chernyayev and R. Mutigulin were members. The vehicles did not always hold up under those conditions. A strictly defined amount of time is allocated for spotting and correcting malfunctions in a motor-vehicle column in the conditions of Afghanistan. If the vehicle has not been repaired by the time the period has elapsed, it is towed to the nearest point with repair facilities. This rule has been established so as not to hold up the entire column on a trip.

During the long hours of the trip, however, Senior Lieutenant Amirov did not have to evacuate a vehicle. The specialists in the technical maintenance echelon headed by Senior Lieutenant Yur'yev proved themselves to be real experts. They eliminated malfunctions confidently and promptly. All of the cargo was delivered to the remote area high in the mountains on time.

The work of the Soviet fightingmen in Afghanistan is complicated, difficult and sometimes, dangerous. No matter what trials fall to their lot, however, they never forget that being a real patriot of their country means always remembering its friends, and that helping them is to be an internationalist.

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CSO: 1801/505

ARMED FORCES

FAR EAST MILITARY DISTRICT PREPARES FOR WINTER

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Aug 83 p 4

[Article by Lt Col A. Gudnyak, deputy chief of the political section for the district rear service staff, Maj M. Goryanny, senior officer in the district bill ting directorate, and Col P. Chernenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, Red Banner Far East Military District: "One Does Not Tell Winter: 'Wait'"]

[Text] The calendar shows that it is the last day of August. Fall will be here before we know it. Cold weather and snow storms are just around the corner--a serious test for all those who provide support for the training and the life of the personnel. People in the vast majority of units and sub-units know this very well and are making intensive preparations for winter. They are repairing housing and service buildings, warehouses and other storage facilities, putting the vehicle pools, heatlines and roads into order....

A KRASNAYA ZVEZDA inspection team reports on how preparations for winter are proceeding in a number of units in the Far East Military District.

Their very first steps on the military post of the motorized rifle regiment, in which Captain V. Belokhvost is acting deputy commander for rear services, began to convince the members of the inspection team that serious preparations are being made for the winter there. The results of the work already performed were in evidence everywhere: in the barracks and at headquarters, in the mess-hall and in the motor vehicle pool, in the boiler room and at the vegetable storage facility. Buildings have been repaired, roads and sidewalks have been asphalted. Wherever you look, there is cleanliness and order.

Warrant Officer A. Gross reported that of all the work specified in the plan of preparations for the winter, the only thing left was the stocking of potatoes and other vegetables. He pointed to containers lined up in even rows near the storage facility. The vegetables would go directly from the field to the bins, without transshipment. They knew who would handle this important job and when it would be completed.

"Winters are severe in our parts," Major S. Korsunskiy, member of the regimental party committee, told us. "It frequently arrives not according to the calendar

but much earlier. This is why we always prepare for winter in advance. Everything you see was done by the soldiers and NCO's. The fightingmen led by Captain B. Kozlov, Warrant Officer A. Gross, Senior Sergeant S. Chernyayev and Sergeants P. Sukhachev and V. Shirokobokov worked conscientiously in their sections."

It should be noted that this matter has already been discussed at a meeting of the party committee. A thorough plan was compiled in the regiment. The officials and the party activists have strictly monitored its implementation and taken prompt steps to eliminate various discrepancies.

Members of the inspection team found an entirely different situation in the garrison where fightingmen of the separate airfield technical maintenance battalion live. And last winter the district political directorate and billeting directorate received complaints from there about poor heating, unsatisfactory condition of the bath and disruptions in the water supply. One would have expected those in charge of these matters to derive some conclusions from that bitter experience and thoroughly prepare for this winter. Unfortunately, they have not done so at all.

First of all we inspected those facilities about which the complaints had been registered--the messhall, the bathhouse and boilers. We were forced to say that little had changed there since last winter. A lock was on the door of the bathhouse, and we were told by the airmen that there was no end of work to be done there. The same could be said of the soldiers' messhall. Only one of all the shops was operating, that in which meat and fish are processed and potatoes are peeled. The messhall for the flight and technical personnel was also in need of repairs.

From all indications, work was being done on the boiler room. Specialists of the billeting unit headed by A. Kolomil'tsev were replacing the steam boilers. On the day the inspection was made, however, the repairwork had actually come to a halt for lack of cement.

"Major Polyakov promised to bring us the cement, but he apparently forgot," we were told. The heatline at the garrison had also been forgotten. They had dug up the line two months prior to that (a long bank of earth ran through the post), but the repairwork had not been started.

It would seem then that last winter had taught those in charge of the garrison nothing? It would seem so. Some of them act as though they are simply sideline observers. When we asked Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Dzyubenko why, for example, he snapped: "You have come to inspect, you figure it out." He then drove off somewhere.

Our inspection ended in the regiment. We found more than 20 discrepancies in the soldiers' messhall alone: The wiring was damaged, switches and valves were broken, the potato peeler was not working.... The boiler room, the storage facility and roads were in an unsatisfactory state.

Major V. Avilov cited objective reasons to justify the situation. Obviously, however, the situation was due not to these "causes" but to the attitude of certain unit officials toward the fulfillment of their duties.

...Winter is just around the corner, and one cannot tell it: "Wait." One must be totally prepared for it. The morale of the men, their success in the military work and in the final analysis, the combat readiness of the units and subunits will depend upon this.

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CSO: 1801/505

ARMED FORCES

MILITARY JOURNALS REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 83 p 2

[Article: "To Actively Publicize Progressive Experience--a Review of Military Journals"]

[Text] In recent years, guided by decisions coming out of the 26th party congress and plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, our military journals have raised the scientific level of their articles markedly. They are attempting to thoroughly explain urgent problems of Marxist-Leninist doctrine on war and the army and to indoctrinate the Soviet fightingmen in a spirit of patriotism and internationalism and instill in them a sense of great responsibility for protecting the security of the homeland, that of the entire socialist commonwealth. Their articles on matters of perfecting the training and indoctrinational process, strengthening military discipline, organization and order, and mastering the new equipment and weapons are more timely and effective.

The performance of the journal TEKHNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE is worthy of attention in this respect. In articles published in the column "For Good Combat Readiness and Firm Military Order," it points out ways to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the combat and political training for the fightingmen and the concern demonstrated by commanders, staffs and party organizations for intensifying the training process and creating a situation measuring up to the demands of modern combat in the drills.

The articles "For Good Combat Readiness" by Guards Marshal of Artillery V. Tolubko, "Expertly Master the Combat Equipment" by Army General G. Salmanov, "The Naval Officer's Special Training" by Vice Admiral N. Yasakov, and "Perfect the Airmen's Training" by Colonel General of Aviation S. Golubev, for example, stand out for their formulation of the problems, their clarity and specific nature. These and many other articles clearly reflect the idea that greater success is achieved in those units and subunits in which the modern achievements of science and military know-how are introduced into the practical training and indoctrinational process, where the number of specialists with the higher ratings steadily increases among the officers.

The editors demonstrate the role of engineering and technical personnel in the improvement of the fightingmen's field, air and naval training. Articles and reports tell about the progressive experience of military engineers and technicians in assuring that the units and ships are at a high level of combat

readiness, analyzes their efforts to perfect the logistical base for the training process and to assure that the fightingmen thoroughly study and master the combat equipment and weapons, and describe the methods used for preparing highly rated specialists and masters of the military work. The journal attempts to describe the progressive experience in a well substantiated manner, providing specific calculations and illustrating the price at which the good results are achieved.

Take the article "Skilfully Operate the Ship's Machinery" by Engineer-Admiral V. Novikov. It describes the work performed by engineers and technicians to enhance effectiveness in the naval training. This article will unquestionably benefit the specialists, since it describes the complexity of the military work and the need to prepare the sailors for combatting a powerful, technically well-equipped and treacherous enemy.

The work performed by the innovators and inventors is constantly discussed in the journal *TEKHNICA I VOORUZHENIYE*.

The Soviet fightingman is not simply a consumer of new things; he expects the press organs to provide serious, effective and substantive discussion and he wants to see articles which thoroughly investigate the subjects covered therein, worthwhile summaries and conclusions and specific recommendations. Many articles carried in the journal *AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA* measure up to these demands. They are written on a good scientific, ideological and theoretical level and delve deeply into the life of the air units and subunits, into the process of the intensive work performed with the personnel in the classrooms, on the simulators, at the airfields and in the air.

Beneficial experience, which furthers the successes of flight, engineering and technical personnel, is described in articles published in the columns "For a High Level of Combat Readiness," "From the Life of the VUZ's," "Modeling in Flight Practices," "Flight Work and Psychology," "The Experience of the Best-- Into the Combat Arsenal" and "Those Out Front." Various genres are used for this: articles, reports from correspondents and other reports, outlines and round-table discussions.

The articles "The Support Point" by Lieutenant Colonel A. Koshchavka, "Military Cunning" by Colonel A. Krasnov "...And the Aircraft Became an Excellent One" by Major Yu. Andronov, for example, described experience in developing in the airmen solid practical skills in organizing combat operations in a difficult situation and with a rigid time limit. The mastery of the entire gamut of tactical procedures in combination with fire training constitutes one of the main tasks in the development of steadfast, fearless air fighters.

The journal took the proper approach when it drew the readers' attention to the fact that firm military discipline, organization and order in all areas, at all levels, is an absolute condition for enhancing the air training. This includes the unquestioning observance of regulations, orders and instructions on flight modes, the absolute fulfillment of combat and political training plans and programs, class schedules and daily routines, well-coordinated service for the troops and personal discipline. The ignoring of these things can result in

undesirable consequences. This was eloquently illustrated in the articles "What Was the Error?" by Major N. Litvinchuk, "He Strayed Off the Route" by Colonel N. Loshkarev and "They Lost... Speed" by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel I. Mel'nik and Engineer-Captain V. Gushchin.

The readers note and willingly take up collective discussions carried in the journal on the more urgent issues. The subjects have included flight work discipline and the development of fighter tactics. Immediately after publication of the article "Have All the Reserves Been Exhausted?" by Lieutenant Colonel V. Kroshka, unit commander, a substantive discussion was initiated about the fact that in the army situation the economy must be economical. The articles "A Ton Is Made Up Of Kilograms" by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel V. Dorofeyev, "Economic Work in the Units" by Major General of Intendance Service S. Glamazda, "With Zeal, With Thrift" by Colonel N. Minakov and other responses to the article discussed thrift and zeal, described progressive experience in the operation and combat employment of the modern aircraft systems and indicated ways of further enhancing the combat readiness of the units and subunits. A noteworthy aspect of this is the fact that the journal has consistently held to the line that economy is possible where the personnel know their jobs and the combat equipment to perfection and are capable of operating it competently.

A study of the journals TEKHNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE and AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA, however, has shown that their editorial staffs must work persistently to further improve the ideological, theoretical and journalistic level of the articles and make them more effective. They are still rarely carrying articles discussing problems of the man-machine relationship at the modern stage of development of military affairs or consistently severely combatting indulgences and simplifications in the training and indoctrinational process, in the methods used for conducting the drills, flights, naval cruises, exercises, firing and driving practice. The journals are still doing little to publicize experience in operating the equipment and weapons in mountains and dessert, at night and in the troop exercises.

TEKHNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE was unable to convincingly show what new things have emerged in the socialist competition with the slogan "For the New Equipment-- a Higher Level of Mastery!" or the end results of many patriotic initiatives aimed at enhancing the combat readiness of the forces. The journal sidesteps instances of formalism and indifference frequently demonstrated in the organization of and in the course of the socialist competition. The articles make no mention of the moral aspects of the competition or of questions pertaining to the development of military comradeship in the collectives.

AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA no longer carries the column "On the Tracks of Our Articles." As the June 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee stressed, however, critical articles are not a matter of sensation for us but a signal, the real significance of which is to correct deficiencies.

The journal also needs to deal with such matters as discipline in the operation and servicing of the equipment, discipline of the periodic technical servicing, technological discipline and the specialist's discipline, which is thought of as a condensation of one's knowledge of the job, self-discipline and the ability to get from the equipment everything it has to offer. The printed media have

not succeeded in revealing the make-up of the modern engineer and technician on a broad scale or in demonstrating the development of his theoretical perspective or his quality as a leader and indoctrinator.

The two journals frequently carry articles on progressive experience. What about the final result, however? And have people followed up on these and studied and adopted the innovations described therein? Reports on these matters rarely appear in the journals. It is important to do more than simply find the best examples from the training and indoctrination of the fightingmen and skillful management, after all. We also need to see that the positive examples of army and navy work, the acceleration of scientific and technological progress and demonstrations of thrift and conservation are rapidly adopted and universally disseminated.

Orienting the people to perform the job, resolutely combatting sham and superficiality constitute an important task of the military journals.

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CSO: 1801/511

ARMED FORCES

AUXILIARY AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE EXCEEDS NORMS

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Aug 83 p 1

[Article by Col Vet Serv A. Zhmulyukin, chief of the veterinary service for the Red Banner Kiev Military District: "Taking Progressive Experience Into Account"]

[Text] I recently visited the auxiliary agricultural operation for which officer Ye. Novikov is responsible. For a number of years now this farm has achieved good results in meat production and has exceeded the established norms by a third or more. Everything is a pleasure to look at--an enclosed feed preparation unit, the solidly built premises for the hogs. Even the animals themselves, kept in groups, are fat and well cared for.

Hog tender T. Ryazanova keeps the facility clean. I asked her:

"Don't you wash down the premises with water"?

"We really have few small-scale mechanization means," Tamara Mikhaylovna said. "Cleaning the floors with water is easier than working with sawdust, of course. It would be cold and damp, though. The veterinarians do not recommend this method, especially in bad weather."

In my opinion, these simple words illustrate an especially important detail: The farm workers listen carefully to the opinions of the experts and perform the work in strict accordance with the demands of veterinary science.

In addition to workers with the district veterinary service, specialists from neighboring kolkhozes and sovkhoses frequently visit the operation. The visitors give talks on the prevention of animal diseases and on the hygienic norms for caring for the animals. Their talks also contain a great deal of useful information on feeding and reproduction of the animals and the prevention of poisoning from the feed.

Hog tender T. Ryazanova, Warrant Officer Ye. Lemeshev and Privates V. Stasinus and V. Urbanovichus, livestock specialists by training, who give the farm a great deal of help, undeviatingly follow the advice and recommendations of the specialists. This is obviously why the harmonious collective achieves excellent results from its work.

This example convincingly illustrates the fact that the auxiliary agricultural operation simply cannot get by without precisely organized and thoroughly conceived veterinary support or the use of progressive methods of caring for the livestock.

This work is clearly too much for workers with the district veterinary service, of course. Because of this there is an acute need for specialists to work in the auxiliary agricultural operations. I recall that this was precisely the reason given by officer I. Belous to justify the low level of productivity for the livestock in the auxiliary agricultural operation of one of the units.

"There is no one qualified to perform this work," many others say, and throw up their hands. When you enquire about what sort of specialists are among the new men coming into the unit, however, you always find many soldiers and NCO's with agricultural training. Ordinarily, they are willing to help with the auxiliary agricultural operation, but nobody asks them to do so.

The solution to the problem, which can be found in progressive practices, is very simple. Soldiers with specialized training are appointed as supernumerary veterinarians for the auxiliary agricultural operations by a unit order. They can then work in their specialty on a legal basis, so to speak.

Professional training for workers in the auxiliary agricultural operations is another important problem. This year such training is being provided at assemblies in the garrisons for the district units. In addition, individual training is frequently needed for those soldiers enlisted to work in an auxiliary agricultural operation, who have no special training for the job.

Veterinarian Lidiya Grigor'yevna Afonikhina, who has worked in one of the garrisons for more than 20 years, has some good experience in this sort of training. It is an inviolable rule in this operation that no worker who has not received a specified minimum of training from Lidiya Grigor'yevna is permitted to care for the animals. Even after they have reached this training level, the veterinarian keeps an eye on the new workers, helps and shares her extensive experience with them.

A comparison of the work carried out in our progressive auxiliary operations shows that they have a great deal in common. They are constantly improving the feed base, they look after the animals well and strictly observe the hygienic norms for caring for the animals, veterinary and sanitation rules. We try to spread this experience to all the district units, so that our auxiliary agricultural operations completely fulfill their planned assignments for the production of animal husbandry products and make their contribution to the fulfillment of the Food Program.

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CSO: 1891/505

ARMED FORCES

AUXILIARY AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Lt Col I. Pantak: "Joining Efforts--Fulfilling the Food Program"]

[Text] One can approach any job in various ways. One can approach it along the beaten path and do just enough to avoid being reproached for inaction.

"One can and one should," Engineer-Colonel A. Tsepitsin, chief of the military construction organization, elaborated on the idea, "approach even the smallest job with initiative and try to incorporate today's demands in it. When we began developing our auxiliary agricultural operations, some of the commanders regarded them as something on the order of an unavoidable job. All doubts were dispelled by the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The personnel understood that what we are doing is our contribution to an extremely important national cause."

"Auxiliary farms are ordinarily created for every unit. We decided to do it differently, to organize them for groups, that is, one for several military construction detachments. This made it possible to put meat and vegetable production onto a solid industrial basis during the first months. A sort of cooperative was created. It began to develop especially rapidly in June of last year. The rear service workers began to think not only about producing as much farm products as possible, but also about how much they cost. They began to establish more and more firmly scientific methods for maintaining the livestock and raising the potatoes and other vegetables.

"Last year we purchased around 300 head of purebred pigs, calves and colts from neighboring sovkhoses. We had built pigpens, a cowshed with a calf pen and a stable. By fall we had gathered 115 tons of hay from abandoned land and areas difficult to farm and had purchased more than 200 tons of substandard potatoes, beets and other rootcrops on sponsored sovkhoses. As a result of all this the military construction workers sold the state 42.5 tons of meat last year."

"This success did not just happen," Colonel of Intendance Service N. Voronin, chief of the rear service section, said. "We have many real enthusiasts among the commanders of the farming subunits. They include Lieutenant V. Mikhaylov and Senior Warrant Officers V. Maydanets and S. Gafarov.

"They lacked experience in the beginning, of course, and could not find specialists in the required fields. Things began to improve when Private Yu. Arnol'd,

a graduate of an agricultural academy, came to serve in the unit. He set up a system of regular veterinary and anti-epidemic measures and emergency veterinary treatment. He was just discharged into the reserves in May of this year. His place had been taken by Privates S. Lungu and N. Kondrashov, former veterinarians, and Private First Class S. Tsybul'nik, livestock specialist by training. The balanced rations and the good care of the livestock are making it possible to achieve average daily weight gains of 500 grams."

Remodeling of the hogpen and farrowing section and the construction of a mixed feed storage facility were recently completed there. The auxiliary farms now have around 900 hogs. Senior Lieutenant I. Lambrekht, a livestock specialist by training, supervises the hog operation and monitors the selection and replacement of the animals, in order to preserve the purity of the animals. The military construction workers plan to sell the state 56 tons of meat in 1983. And this is a realistic figure.

The unit's auxiliary farm operations make an annual profit amounting to tens of thousands of rubles. It is used to improve the living conditions and the diet of the military construction workers and to develop the auxiliary farm operations themselves. The good income has also made it possible to resolve another problem, that of milkers. Z. Chekurova and V. Rozhnova work on the dairy farm. They obtained 34 tons of milk from their brown cows during the first half of 1983 alone.

The collective's farm workers demonstrate skill and enterprise. They have built hay sheds and two vegetable storage facilities with a capacity of 100 tons each. Preparations for the winter have also been completed; another cowshed has been erected and an adequate supply of course fodder has been laid in. Around 15 tons of vegetables and greens were harvested this year in the first three of the hothouses being built.

Competition has been organized among the three sections: The results are summed up for each quarter, and the best workers receive both moral and material rewards. The section headed by Senior Warrant Officer V. Maydanets was the winner for the second quarter, for example.

The leaders of the organization consider what has already been accomplished to be only the beginning. In the future it is planned to further develop the hog raising operation and to build a new hogpen for 500 head of hogs. Meat production will be increased significantly as a result.

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CSO: 1801/511

ARMED FORCES

IGNORING REGULATIONS CAUSES HOUSING CONFLICT

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Col Justice A. Shitikov, Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District:
"A Housing Conflict--a Case From the Legal Practice"]

[Text] Senior Lieutenant I. Bidnyk was planning to marry. Since he had been living in the officers' quarters, he naturally went to the commander to see about obtaining other housing. He was promised that a one-room apartment would be assigned to him as soon as his wife arrived at the post. The wedding took place, and the wife arrived. Just at that time a one-room apartment was vacated in the camp. The newlyweds immediately moved in.

It was soon learned, however, that the family of another officer had claims on the same apartment. The housing commission with jurisdiction over the apartment had issued the decision and the order had already been made out. It is not an easy thing to give up living quarters to which one is just becoming accustomed. In addition, there had been an explicit promise that an apartment would be provided for Bidnyk's family! To make it short, the young people refused to vacate the apartment.

The conflict was properly reported to the garrison's judge advocate. This was done because citizens can only be evicted from their living quarters with the judge advocate's authorization or by decision of a court. Where did the representatives of the law focus their attention? Primarily on the way in which the officials had expressed their promise to provide the newlyweds with housing. They had done so by placing Lieutenant Bidnyk on the waiting list. That was all. Nor did the young people have any sort of legal right to be placed at the head of the list for housing or to be provided with housing out of turn. The other family had the order, however, the only document providing authority to move into housing.

Under the circumstances there was clearly only one decision possible for the judge advocate. He issued authorization to evict those had occupied the housing on their own. The judge advocate also considered it necessary to direct the attention of the unit officials to the need to strictly observe the housing laws and to publicize these important laws. After all, the rash promise of an apartment for the young officer produced some major difficulties. And he could

not be assigned an apartment, if only for the reason that there was already a waiting list of people in need of better housing in the unit, and there was no way that Senior Lieutenant Bidnyk could have been first on the list.

The judge advocate's reminder seems all the more appropriate since we still have frequent attempts by certain officials to distribute housing in a manner contrary to the law, "at their own discretion." Naturally, both state interests and those of the citizens suffer considerably as a result of this, as does the authority of the officials themselves.

The following is a fairly typical example. Another request was made of the garrison judge advocate for authorization to evict some individuals who had occupied housing without the right to do so. This incident involved civilian S. Martynov, who moved into a room vacated in a communal apartment. It was adjacent to the one in which he lived with his family. The petition for the eviction was signed by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel I. Bura, chief of the billeting unit.

A fairly interesting situation developed, when all of the necessary documents were assembled during the judge advocate's investigation. For one thing, there were two other petitions along with that from the billeting unit. The director, the secretary of the party bureau and the chairman of the trade union committee at the enterprise where Martynov worked requested that the same billeting unit chief provide the conscientious worker with improved housing. And the rayon military committee added weight to the request by indicating that Sergey Pavlovich Martynov is a Great Patriotic War veteran and has state awards.

What was there to prevent the individual from exercising his unquestionable rights? Essentially, nothing. The matter of the vacated room was not even discussed in the housing commission. Judging from all the papers, there were no claimants for the room. There are few people at this garrison who would be satisfied with 11 square meters in a communal apartment.

But perhaps the addition of these square meters would give the people a significant excess of living space? Even this was not so. At the time each member of the veteran's family had 9.5 square meters of housing space, which conforms to the norm.

In short, although the people hastened to claim their rights, the complaints against them by the officials could not be called justified. Furthermore, one had the impression that the billeting unit workers wanted the vacated room as a sort of "personal reserve." Our housing belongs to all the people, however. It is to be distributed in strict accordance with the law. With all this in mind, the judge advocate refused to issue authorization for the administrative eviction of Martynov's family from their room. He proposed that the billeting unit workers either make the people's occupancy of the room official by the proper procedure or try to win support for their demands in a court.

The housing problem is still extremely acute in many places. Experience has shown, however, that conflicts arise only where specific points of the housing laws are violated. It is thus very important for those who are awaiting better housing to proceed strictly according to the law. This also applies to those to whom this responsible function is entrusted.

ARMED FORCES

MILITARY COMPOUNDS NEED APPROPRIATE SCULPTURE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by Col V. Filatov: "The Aesthetic Begs to Be Brought Into the Barracks"]

[Text] Today no one is surprised by the grandeur of an officers' club or a unit club with a stately foyer, a spacious auditorium, numerous rooms for various group activities, a combat glory room, even a museum.... Almost every garrison and every regiment now has these. A situation has now been created in which all of these things can contribute to the aesthetic and spiritual enrichment of the servicemen and their families.

There is such a club, for example, in the order-bearing communications regiment of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. Externally, it looks like all the others of its kind. This is not surprising; it is the standard design. The treasures which have been assembled there need to be mentioned separately, however. Real paintings by well-known Soviet artists embellish the foyer and the auditorium, the rooms for group activities. Not one, not two, but literally dozens of works of art. Several perfectly executed sculptures of marble, bronze and wood are also on display there. The themes of the paintings, graphic art works and sculptures are Lenin, the defense of the socialist homeland, the beauty of the native country, the creative work of the Soviet people....

In such a club the soldier and the officer not only become familiar most constructively with the very best works of art, not only learns to distinguish between genuine and ersatz art--here, before these talented creative works, they are indoctrinated as citizens, as sons of their people, as fightingmen, armed defenders of the homeland.

There is also a pleasant surprise for one in the lanes of the military post. One suddenly confronts elegant sculpture--one, two, three.... All of them are mounted on attractive pedestals, surrounded by viewing space. The themes of the sculptures are the revolution, the civil and Great Patriotic wars, heroism....

I recall another garrison--an airfield garrison. There on the pleasant post I saw a sculpture of enormous size. A medium tank could easily be placed onto its pedestal. Two figures stand there in the enormous space. The old-timers explained that they were two pilots looking skyward. A local "sculptor," a warrant officer, created the marvel. Naturally, with permission and approval.... The sculpture consumed an enormous amount of concrete, construction and other materials.

Where did this communication regiment, located in the middle of a forest, get its works of art, however?

"They were presented to us by Leningrad artists," Lieutenant Colonel A. Pyatigorets, a political worker, explained.

Yes, this sort of cultural patronage exists. I was told in the USSR Artists' Union that a commission for the preservation and use of exhibition works of art has been created in the Moscow Division of the RSFSR Artists' Union, as an example, which engages in the sort of gift-giving described by Lieutenant Colonel A. Pyatigorets. This commission had recently been selecting paintings for the Military Political Academy imeni V.I. Lenin and for other military academies and schools, garrison officers' clubs and unit clubs--naturally, those which can properly care for the paintings.

How does it all begin? With a letter of guarantee to the local division of the Artists' Union. In other words, the initiative must come from the command of the unit, the academy or school. The Artists' Union is interested in establishing such relationships with the military collectives. The storerooms of some of its divisions contain paintings which have long waited to be viewed. Proper initiative is not being demonstrated in this matter by the command at certain military units and military educational institutions, however. In the USSR and RSFSR Artists' Unions I was told that their commissions are not exactly swamped with requests for paintings, graphic art works or sculpture from commanders and political workers. That is a pity. They are passing up a very good opportunity for the aesthetic indoctrination of the fightingmen.

In many of the officers' clubs and unit clubs and in the barracks and messhalls today, unfortunately, there are mostly far-from-perfect paintings by amateur artists and simple or even primitive wood chiselings and cuttings.... And there are real works of art nearby. The people have open access to them. One might say that they simply beg to be brought into the barracks. The only thing needed is initiative on the part of commanders and political workers.

When we say that the army is a school of life, a school of indoctrination, we must also bear in mind the aesthetic facet.

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ARMED FORCES

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On the cover: photo of A. Romanov

Inside back cover: Article by G. Makarov on the "Installation for Checking Phase-Meters"

Back cover: drawing by O. Shmelev.

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CSO: 1801/447

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNIT'S TRAINING FOUND INADEQUATE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Maj V. Shchadov, deputy chief of staff of surface-to-air missile (SAM) unit, Order of Lenin Moscow Air Defense District: "Effectiveness and Quality are Primary: Behind the Overall Indicator"]

[Text] SAM Unit "X" four times was awarded the Challenge Red Banner of the Moscow city committee of the CPSU and the executive committee of Mossovet [Moscow City Soviet of Workers' Deputies] for successes in combat and political training and for high indicators in socialist competition. Unit personnel now are working intensively to fulfill socialist pledges made for the summer training period. Much of what has been planned has been carried out, and recently the missilemen received an outstanding grade in a tactical field fire exercise.

But the successes achieved do not mean that all reserves of combat improvement already have been fully used. An analysis showed that behind the overall satisfactory indicator of one of the unit's subunits lay omissions in the organization of the training and indoctrination process and of competition.

Two of our subunits competing against each other took part in the tactical field fire exercise. The first, commanded by Officer G. Ulasovich, wearer of two orders of the "Emblem of Honor," received a high grade for all elements of combat work. The second subunit, commanded by Officer N. Polyakov, accumulated several tenths of a point less. These results determined the unit's overall indicator, which is rather high, and the missilemen rightly are proud of the success. But there is one circumstance here which leads one to reflect. The subunit headed by Engr-Maj Polyakov outstripped its rival noticeably in almost all basic indicators at the beginning of the training year, but now it has conceded first place and was short those tenths of a point which permitted Officer Ulasovich's subordinates to pass up the leader.

In competition very much depends on well-conceived organizational work aimed at improving people's initiative and determination and at assuring all conditions for complete pledge fulfillment.

I have had repeated occasion to be at classes and drills in both subunits. I noticed more than once the well-conceived and methodologically grounded way that Officer Ulasovich arranges his subordinates' training. The plan for the next drill usually was discussed thoroughly with platoon and crew commanders. Everything rational and valuable that was proposed was tested immediately in practice and adopted. It became the rule in the subunit that any work on the equipment, whether it be an ordinary drill or routine technical servicing, is performed with maximum benefit for all specialists and a situation is created which would contribute to an improvement in proficiency, temper characters and polish the qualities needed for combat.

Once I had occasion to observe a drill by soldiers of the platoon commanded by Lt O. Bzhezanovskiy. The launcher personnel covered the distance from the shelter to the launchers no less than ten times in a row and readied the equipment for combat. The officer only held brief breaks to point out mistakes and give a recommendation and advice. Much effort was spent that time (by the way, such drills are not the exception here), but then the results are apparent: The launcher personnel bettered the normative time by almost a fourth, and without a single mistake! I will note that it was this platoon that set a record in speed and quality of servicing equipment and received the highest grade in the field fire exercise. And how were the missions accomplished in the subunit commanded by Engr-Maj Polyakov? Here's a typical example. A drill was being held to repulse an attack by the air "enemy." The operator was tracking a maneuvering target when suddenly its blip disappeared in a dense field of interference. Then, at the command of drill instructor Capt A. Marychev, the operator began to act contrary to the instructions.

"We are using our own methodology," explained the officer, seeing our bewilderment.

It must be admitted that neither I nor other unit staff officers found anything rational in that methodology.

"But aren't we staff officers making a mistake?" was the doubt that was born. "Perhaps the methodology really is better than the existing one and its use produces a significant effect?" We decided to hold an experiment. Lt Panarin was assigned the mission of detecting and conditionally firing on a high-speed target using his own methodology. Another officer received the very same mission simultaneously, the only difference being that he was to act according to existing methodology, with consideration of recommendations developed by members of the unit methods council. The experiment convinced us that the proposed innovation produced poorer results and reduced the quality of combat work.

This incident forced us to analyze the organization of training in the subunit more attentively. It turned out that not all officers knew the instructions or methods recommendations thoroughly. At the same time, they were using training techniques which are faulty in mistakes and violate the training sequence.

As a result the omissions in specialist training showed up in the conduct of missile firings. Lt Panarin and other officers did not function there in the best manner. At the most important moment Sr Lt V. Polyakov simply was late when a deviation of some parameters from the norm occurred in the gear. The situation was saved by Capt A. Zavadskiy, who was nearby. He instantaneously adjusted the unit (it is not by chance that he wears the emblem of a master!). The air target was picked up for tracking and destroyed, but Polyakov's indecisiveness gave the subunit an extra minus.

And so the results reached at the range proved lower than expected. The reason was a reduction of intensity in work, self-complacency and an absence of a wide search for truly effective ways of improving combat training and competition.

It cannot be said, for example, that supervision over pledge fulfillment in the subunit was weak. As prescribed, results were summarized and questions of improving competition effectiveness were discussed at party and Komsomol meetings. The trouble, however, lay in the fact that the concrete work of people often was lost behind the dry, common phrases and figures and their zeal and initiative rarely were noted. This was what put out the spark of competition and reduced its effectiveness.

Life and service in the subunit took their course. The missilemen continued to demonstrate firm schooling, cohesiveness and an ability to act confidently in a difficult situation in the drills, but gradually the subunit slowed the rate of movement and lost the positions it had won one after the other.

I met Officer Ulasovich not long ago. He was concerned with something. It turned out that he was troubled by the behavior of Sr Lt N. Bozhko, who knew the equipment and serviced it well, but worked on indoctrinating subordinates only on occasion and displayed carelessness.

"I tried to persuade him that if you don't draw yourself up you won't genuinely indoctrinate people and will lag in competition. It is always harder to make up for lost time," said Ulasovich, sharing his anxiety. "Bozhko seemed to ponder, but did he understand and draw conclusions? I am far from convinced of this..."

The commander himself and other officers in the subunit constantly keep all soldiers without exception in their field of view. When competition results are summarized the floor first is given to the junior commanders, who evaluate the training and service of each of their subordinates briefly and in a businesslike manner. Right here they are given assignments for the next month. Then the soldiers leave and the officers and warrant officers [praporshchiki] analyze the successes and deficiencies of their subordinate NCO's. Each one thus is given a grade for all parameters.

Competition results are covered regularly in the wall newspaper and in radio newspaper productions. Party and Komsomol members periodically give accounts before members of their organizations about pledge fulfillment. Subunit personnel are characterized by mutual exactingness, strict supervision and a heightened sense of responsibility for the fate of pledges.

There is no question that an improvement in the quality of the personnel's schooling depends largely on us staff officers. It must be admitted that we do not always show efficiency in generalizing and disseminating foremost experience, or show party principle in analyzing affairs in the subunits. It is also unquestionable, however, that our help only produces a maximum effect when competition and the training and indoctrination process are organized in a genuine manner in the subunits. The friendly and coordinated efforts of staff and subunit officers give rise to success above all where people work with constant dissatisfaction over what has been achieved and where every training minute is used prudently, with greatest benefit for improving combat readiness and strengthening efficiency and discipline.

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CSO: 1801/018

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

MAR AVN KIRSANOV ON KAL INCIDENT

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Mar Avn P. Kirsanov: "The Facts Expose Washington"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] The Soviet government announcement dated 6 September of this year, the irrefutable documentary data presented during the press conference held by the Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, as well as the testimony of numerous foreign specialists revealed with exhaustive completeness and authenticity the true state of affairs concerning the major military-political provocation committed by special services of the United States of America in the Soviet Far East on the night of 1 September of this year.

Its nature, the chosen method, the moment of conduct and the clearly incited antisoviet campaign which followed immediately after this leave no doubt that this was a deliberate, carefully organized criminal act which pursued an entire set of strategic and political goals. It was accomplished in the form of a large-scale intelligence operation which was concealed and supported by numerous services and resources, including from the U.S. Air Force and Navy.

It is impossible to imagine that such an operation was developed by the U.S. special services without an appropriate sanction. It was unquestionably being prepared over a lengthy time with the approval or on the direct assignment of the American administration. Nothing else can explain the bitterness with which President Reagan immediately joined in the antisoviet campaign intended to whitewash the American special services and try to place the blame on the USSR for what happened and for the deaths of wholly innocent people who were consciously sacrificed for dirty interests.

Washington now is applying special efforts to cover up the direct connection of American intelligence services with the South Korean airline company. The most severe censorship has been introduced for these purposes on all materials published on this matter. The American mass media are trying in vain to depict the CIA in an innocent light although the entire world is quite familiar with the criminal hand of this organization. In sending the South Korean aircraft into USSR airspace the U.S. special services were trying to carry out a major intelligence operation and, if it were stopped, to turn this operation into a large-scale provocation.

American special services have been showing greatest interest of late in the very important areas for basing the Soviet Union's strategic nuclear forces and groupings of our Air Forces and Navy, as well as in the air defense system and state and military control facilities. The United States also conducts constant active reconnaissance in the Far East.

We will not return to those obvious facts which already are known and have been published in the press. New data now are appearing which additionally indicate that the South Korean aircraft not only was on a reconnaissance assignment, but also was only one of the elements in an overall system of major reconnaissance actions being conducted using the most diverse means from Soviet Chukotka to the Primorye.

Here are a few additional facts which have come to light recently.

FIRST OF ALL. It has been established positively that the KAL Boeing 747 took off from Anchorage, Alaska, where there is an airfield for enroute landing, 40 minutes later than the usual schedule. The airline representative explained this delay as "a need for additional check of flight equipment," although no malfunctions had been established. But now something else has been uncovered. That delay was needed in order to strictly synchronize the time of the aircraft's approach to the shores of Kamchatka and Sakhalin with the flight of the American Ferret-D reconnaissance satellite.

This satellite is intended for performing electronic reconnaissance in a wide range of frequencies on which the Soviet Union's electronic means operate. It is capable of discovering these means in a terrain strip some 3,000 km wide. The period of its orbital revolution about the earth is 96 minutes.

As can be seen from the diagram, on the night of 1 September the Ferret satellite appeared over Chukotka at 1845 hours Moscow time and flew for approximately 12 minutes east of Kamchatka and the Kurile Islands. On this pass the satellite had an opportunity to monitor Soviet electronics on Chukotka and Kamchatka operating in the routine operational readiness mode immediately prior to the South Korean aircraft's intrusion into USSR airspace and update their position and level of activity, thus supporting the first stage of the intruder aircraft's flight.

On the next pass the Ferret appeared over the Soviet Union at 2024 hours and at 2030 hours Moscow time on 31 August, i.e., exactly at the moment the intruder aircraft violated Soviet airspace, it was over the Kamchatka area, when the second stage of the South Korean aircraft's reconnaissance flight began over Soviet strategic facilities in the southern part of the Kamchatka peninsula.

The air border violation naturally forced an approximate doubling of the operating intensity of our radio and electronic means, which is what the organizers of the provocative flight counted on in their plan. All this was registered by the Ferret spy satellite. It is important to note that at this

SECONDLY. The flight of the South Korean intruder aircraft was carried out for its entire extent not only in the zone of air traffic control radiotechnical services, but also in the operating area of the American Loran-C radio-navigation system, which permits determining the true coordinates of an aircraft with high accuracy and at any moment.

This circumstance is being concealed carefully by the American side, which is trying to prove that it is entirely a matter of a chance input of erroneous flight coordinates into the aircraft's flight computer. It is held back, however, that such a stable deviation from course for $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours could occur only if the mistake was made not on one, but at least seven control points along the route. It is clear that this is impossible and absolutely precluded and if this nevertheless did happen, it was only because the "mistake" was introduced fully consciously and deliberately by those who prepared and organized this provocative reconnaissance flight.

Such a conclusion also follows from the investigation made by specialists of the British National Civil Aviation Board, results of which were announced over British television on 14 September. This television report stated that a simulation of the entire flight had been made using an EVM [electronic computer] and a Boeing 747 aircraft simulator and that 27 versions of the conditions for accomplishing it had been examined. It was learned as a result that there was an absolute impossibility of such a large deviation of the aircraft from the prescribed route either in case of malfunctions in the navigational system or the incorrect input of the flight assignment into the aircraft's computer. It is also emphasized that the crew commander immediately could identify the aircraft's deviation from the route using the flight radar and comparing the terrain with the map.

All actions by the intruder aircraft confirm that it was being controlled precisely in all instances. Only this can explain its maneuvering in course, speed and altitude. The crew saw the warning maneuvers of Soviet air defense aircraft and tried to evade them although they realized that this threatened the use of weapons.

Such actions convincingly demonstrate that the aircraft was carrying out an order from the ground. With special reconnaissance equipment aboard it of course did not wish to land on Soviet airfields, since it would be caught red-handed.

THIRDLY. Prior to and during the South Korean aircraft's violation of USSR airspace there were other means in its operating area in addition to the aforementioned RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft. One other RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft was patrolling along the Kurile Ridge, an Orion aircraft was over the Sea of Okhotsk north of Sakhalin, and a second aircraft of the same type was in the Sea of Japan. The U.S. frigate "Badger" was on combat duty in the vicinity of Vladivostok. There also are other persuasive data which provide a basis to state that an E-3A (AWACS) aircraft was operating in the zone where the violation of Soviet airspace occurred, monitoring flights both of the intruder aircraft and of our fighters.

In short, from 31 August through 1 September an entire reconnaissance system was deployed and functioning in the vicinity of the Soviet Far East, which included a Boeing 747 aircraft fitted out with appropriate electronic intelligence means; several special reconnaissance aircraft; a number of U.S. Navy ships; ground tracking stations in the Aleutians, Hawaiian Islands, Japan and South Korea; and, finally, the Ferret electronic intelligence satellite. All these means were targeted to obtain maximum complete data about the Soviet air defense system in the Far East, especially in zones of important strategic facilities located on Kamchatka and Sakhalin as well as about these facilities themselves.

Certain other at first glance "strange" but in reality fully explainable circumstances also draw attention. A Boeing 747 crew with servicing staff usually consists of up to 18 persons. In this case it included 29 persons. Just who were these additional 11 persons? Of course, these were specialists working at the reconnaissance gear installed in the aircraft. Finally, it was not by chance that flying of the aircraft was assigned to one of the most experienced pilots--South Korean Air Force Reserve Colonel Chan Ben In, who is known not only for the fact that he is the best pilot in the South Korean airline company, but also for his ties with American intelligence. Cooperation of the copilot of the intruder aircraft--South Korean Air Force Reserve Lt Col Son Don Vin--with U.S. special services also is not concealed.

Against all this background it is not difficult to imagine the price of hypocritical statements given without a day going by by Reagan, Weinberger, Shultz, Kirkpatrick and others in accusing the Soviet Union. But there is a well-known saying which immediately puts everything in place in this "mysterious" happening: WHO BENEFITS? Once this question is asked it becomes clear in whose interests this "incident" was created and who wanted to warm their hands on it.

The goals of the foul provocation organized by Washington are obvious and cannot be hidden by any subterfuges. The facts fully expose Washington. It isn't necessary for the U.S. president and his entourage to place themselves in the role of defenders of humanism, for if the facts cited are not enough, others will be found. Isn't it time to put an end to hypocrisy? It is impossible to hold out for long on this.

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CSO: 1801/018

NAVAL FORCES

PROMOTION CAUSES RIFT IN FRIENDSHIP, COMMAND PROBLEMS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Aug 83 p 2

[Article by Capt 3rd Rank S. Turchenko, Red Banner Northern Fleet: "The Moment of Trim"]

[Text] Previously, when they had served on adjacent crews, everything was simple. They were sincerely interested in each other's affairs. When they met they would have long talks on the most diverse subjects, and they always found pleasure in this equal, unpretentious communion, that pleasure inherent in a relationship between comrades who were classmates at the school and who are moving forward hand in hand, so to speak, in the service.

Then a commander's position became vacant in the electrical and engineering department (boyevaya chast') on the nuclear-powered submarine on which Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Ye. Alanichev was in charge of the damage control division (divizion). As the most experienced engineer-mechanic on the submarine, Alanichev naturally considered himself to be the first candidate for the position, all the more since many of the crew members felt the same way. And then Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank V. Povilaytis, his former schoolmate, was named commander of the electrical and engineering department.

One could not say that a black cat passed between the two comrades after that. Alanichev behaved as though nothing had happened and even tried to convince himself that he was happy for his former schoolmate. An unpleasant feeling of envy and resentment began to gnaw at the depth of his soul, however. This feeling might soon have disappeared, but the new commander of the department was too cool during their very first conversation after his promotion.

"Don't expect any special consideration. I will be as demanding of you as I am with the others, maybe even more so."

That was only proper. Alanichev himself would not have wanted their service relationship to be based on anything else. The underscored warning hurt him, however. The officer even began to doubt the correctness of command's decision, seeing no real reason why Povilaytis should have been selected over him. They had the same length of service, the same experience and approximately the same performance ratings, while Alanichev's crew unquestionably knew more about the submarine than the other crew. **Unintentionally** and with increasing **bias**, Evgeniy Alanichev began to scrutinize the new department commander, to notice

his shortcomings and to mentally picture himself in the other man's position. In his practical relationship, however, the officer did not permit himself to sink into petty grudges. He tried to be a loyal assistant to the new department commander, as befits a division commander. Despite his spiritual ambivalence, he could not help wishing his former schoolmate success in his development.

At that time the submarine was preparing for a long cruise. The seamen in the electrical and engineering department had a great deal to do. All of the jobs could be performed well and on time only with precise organization and firm discipline. From the very first the new department commander showed himself to be a determined enforcer of great discipline. Since there was not much time, he began to implement his line fairly rigidly. This caused a certain amount of confusion in the department. The former commander of the engineering and electrical department had been mild, sometimes excessively so. The seamen had respected him in their own way, but they had still let him down at times. They had done so not by design, but because of inadequate precision and organization. Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Povilaytis's increased demandingness necessitated a drastic mental reorientation, first and foremost in the officers and warrant officers. Not all of them were ready for this, however, and not all of them liked the new commander's principle and firmness.

This first came into the open in the case of Warrant Officer V. Goloded. Every day, when he inspected the areas in the charge of his subordinates, Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Povilaytis always found something wrong in the warrant officer's area. He would give the warrant officer a deadline for correcting the situation. He would check to see that his instructions had been carried out. Then he would set another deadline. He would make another inspection. The warrant officer's area was greatly neglected, however, and it would take time to put it into proper order.

Once, in a fit of anger, Goloded said that he found it difficult to adjust to the great demands made by the commander of the engineering and electrical department and that he was going to request a transfer to another submarine. Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Povilaytis summoned the warrant officer and gave him a sheet of paper:

"Write out your request. We can transfer you if the job is too difficult."

Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Alanichev, who was present, was startled: Warrant Officer Goloded was an experienced specialist. How could they replace him? And they had the cruise ahead. No, Povilaytis was going too far.

When he saw the sheet of paper, however, the warrant officer suddenly lost his composure:

"I didn't think about what I was saying, Comrade Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank. I will do my job the way I should."

"In that case, we shall begin by testing you in your specialty," the department commander concluded. He then turned to the division commander and added:

"Report to me with the crew's petty officer at 1200."

The warrant officer did not pass the tests the first time he took them, and it was immediately clear why the area in his charge was not in order. The engineering and electrical department commander did not say anything that day to either the officer in charge of the damage control division or the crew's petty officer, but Alanichev still suffered a great deal of shame. Warrant Officer Goloded was stunned by his failure. The main thing was that he could blame no one but himself. The department commander had convincingly demonstrated that if one does not constantly review the textbooks and operating instructions, one can forget everything he has acquired during his years in the service.

Nonetheless, the warrant officer felt that the officer could have been somewhat easier on him. He had authority in the crew, after all. Alanichev was also disturbed by the lack of circumspection exhibited by Povilaytis. Demandingness is a good thing, but one must also consider certain personality factors and try to find a common language with one's subordinates. His former schoolmate, however (whom he thought about less and less frequently, incidentally), on the contrary, did not even listen to justifications when his rigid demands were not carried out. At least Alanichev had no trouble convincing some of those in his own division that Engineer-Captain 3rd Povilaytis had acted absolutely correctly and to achieve the irreproachable fulfillment of the instructions he issued to them.

Yes, Alanichev considered it his service and party duty to support the commander in all things, especially in such a difficult and essential matter as the strengthening of regulation order and discipline. Against his will, however, he began protesting inwardly more and more strongly by the day. After all, these were not machines they were dealing with, but people, and this should also be taken into account.

Once, the officer almost lost his patience. This was during the cruise. The department commander had detected some irregularities in the consumption of feed-water for the boilers. He immediately ordered the turbine tenders and the mechanics to begin measuring the water consumption and to compile a record. All of this "investigatory" work seemed impractical to Alanichev in the given situation. Other, lesser steps could have been taken to avoid burdening the tired seamen on the watch. The hours passed, and the submariners performed the tiresome, painstaking work, while Alanichev was burning up inside. When he was almost ready to tell the department commander everything he had on his mind, the latter came to him instead.

"The feed-water situation has bothered us for a long time. We don't know who is really to blame: The turbine tenders blame the mechanics, the mechanics blame the turbine tenders. If we compile a record of the irregular use, everything will fall into place. It may mean a lot of extra work today, but then we will resolve the matter once and for all."

It would have been difficult to disagree. The surprising thing was that the tensions in their relationship began to disappear immediately following that incident. Everything which Povilaytis had done after taking over the department

suddenly made sense to Alanichev, forming a logical system which deserved recognition: equal demandingness of all; strictness only toward those who are not thoroughgoing; relentlessness toward those who are remiss. Half way through the cruise the division commander began to notice that the seamen in the engineering and electrical department had begun to look sharper, that they were more cheerful and enthusiastic than those in the other departments, that they were spiritually drawn to the department commander as to a respected individual, a person of firm word and constant concern. How many times had he heard at the school and in the service that good organization, firm discipline and order make the service easier and not more difficult. He had never actually thought about the meaning of those words, however.

Upon seeing that the seamen had begun gravitating toward Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Povilaytis, he discovered that he himself had long sensed a need to talk with the latter as they had talked in the past, to learn his opinion on certain matters--and not just service matters at that.

As it happened, Povilaytis and Alanichev were sharing quarters on the cruise. They had almost never met there, to be sure--one or the other would be standing watch. Nor did they make any special attempt to get together there. Toward the end of the cruise, however, they began to meet in their quarters more and more frequently. It was as though everything was falling back into place. One thing kept Alanichev from overcoming the feeling of alienation which had developed in him. He still considered his comrade to be somewhat cold, somewhat callous. Then, after one of the exercises in which the seamen from the electrical and engineering department were given very high ratings, Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Povilaytis asked his subordinate reproachfully:

"Yevgeniy Vasil'yevich, why did you mention only **three** men from your division in the order of commendation? All those who worked conscientiously should be mentioned. Don't be stingy. Praise is good for morale."

Alanichev nodded his head in agreement. The thought suddenly came to him that the "stern" Povilaytis had not had to punish anyone seriously during the entire time. He had been demanding, monitored the work and seen to it that his instructions were carried out, but he had never acted impulsively. And when the men were deserving, he saw to it that they were commended.

"I would probably not do so well," Alanichev thought to himself. "So we were not exactly equally qualified for the promotion. And this is exactly why he is in charge of the department. I need to learn from him."

That day they looked each other straight in the eye. Each one felt relief in his heart. They were bound together by a profound respect for each other, as people who place the cause they both serve above all else.

The commander of the damage control division recalled how he had once been entrusted to trim the submarine on his own, while he was still new at the job. He had done this easily with the help of superiors, but this time he was unable to perform the operation. When filling the main ballast tank he failed to notice the horizontal rudders as they reached trim. It took a lot of effort to

level out the submarine. There are moments of trim in the service as well. He who senses them most subtly masters the skill of a commander and indoctrinator most rapidly. It is the duty of every officer to acquire this skill, however.

After that cruise Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Ye. Alanichev felt that the skill had come to him. It had come with the assistance of Engineer-Captain 3rd Rank Povilaytis, department commander.

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CSO: 1801/504

NAVAL FORCES

UNHEALTHY MORAL CLIMATE AMONG SUBORDINATES AT NAVAL BASE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Capt 1st Rank N. Remizov: "The Storm Arrived From... the Shore"]

[Text] In a UNR[office of the work supervisor] subordinate to the Leningrad Naval Base an unhealthy moral climate has been created and negligence has been permitted to develop, which are preventing the collective from carrying out its assigned tasks.

"We should be able to complete the quarterly plan," Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel A. Podkletnov, chief of the UNR, predicted. "Everything is looking up."

The quarterly plan was not fulfilled in all respects, however.

"What kept the plan from being fulfilled?" I inquired in the sector which is considered to be in the best condition.

"We were idle for a long time because we did not have the lumber," work superintendent N. Maslennikov said unhappily. "We have lumber in the outfit, but it takes a long time to have it sawed up."

Why is this so? N. Durnev, in charge of the subsidiary operation, explained that the lumber coming in to the sawmill is of poor quality. In addition, the military construction workers operating the sawmill are negligent in their performance, and the sawing equipment is obsolete.

"Our equipment gives us a lot of trouble in general," V. Yershov, another work superintendent, entered into the conversation. "Only one of six excavators is operating. And we have no place to get the others repaired...."

"Is all of this so"?

"Far from it, of course," Anatoliy Petrovich Podkletnov said with a smile in answer to my question. "The lumber is not very good, that is true, but it is perfectly usable. The people only need to work at it. Neither Comrade Durnev nor sawmill mechanic Mikhaylov has been able to work with the men. As far as the equipment is concerned, work superintendent Yershov has used that excuse for a long time. They are simply not yet taking a scientific approach to its application in the sectors, which calls for planning the operations."

Just why haven't they adopted that "scientific approach"? Why was the plan not fulfilled? What are the prospects for the future? The UNR chief sees the main cause of the problem in the fact that his men have lost their sense of responsibility for the assigned job.

Quite frankly, Anatoliy Petrovich's answer was not entirely convincing to me. If it is just a matter of someone's irresponsibility, then the matter should have been investigated in good time and steps should have been taken.

I feel that the real causes of the UNR's unsatisfactory performance go deeper than that. To understand them we will have to return briefly to the past.

This directorate was headed for many years by Colonel G. Grigor'yev, who had solid contacts and commanded a great deal of authority. He was replaced by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel V. Afanas'yev.

Comrade Afanas'yev began his management of the collective in an extremely strange way. The following are just a few of the features of his leadership.

Once, during a storm, a string of floating timber was torn away from its tow-boat. The UNR chief and L. Roytman, his deputy for MTO[technical material supply], were greatly disturbed. They took no immediate steps, however, although they knew that the entire 100-cubic-meter batch of timber had been driven against the shore near Petergof. While they were considering what to do, people began to steal the timber. What was left was swept out to sea. They attributed the loss to "stormy conditions," and that was the end of it. The loss of the lumber did not escape attention, of course. The procurator's office demanded that Comrades Afanas'yev and Roytman pay 1,159 rubles each for the loss suffered by the state.

There were other cases of careless, to put it mildly, treatment of state property. Rectified alcohol was written off for production needs in quantities exceeding the norms. The overconsumption amounted to 200 kilograms.

Dozens of meters of scarce cable, dozens of tons of cement and other construction materials simply disappeared, and such materials were used unlawfully. V. Fedorov and M. Yurchenko, carpenters for the UNR, used quality beams to build their own homes, instead of the waste lumber for which they signed. It was not until quite recently that they were held materially accountable: The judge advocate's office for the Leningrad Military District recommended that action be taken against them to recover the difference in the value of the lumber.

They recall another improper incident in the UNR, in which a shortage of plastic facing materials was discovered. The case was described in the records on the matter from an inspection by the judge advocate's office in the following manner: "...according to P.I. Afanas'yev, 63.9 cubic meters of the plastic facing material was obtained from the warehouse for repairing buildings belonging to the UNR.... Afanas'yev then instructed workers to haul the material to company grounds, but no one was appointed to look after it. Only 20 cubic meters of the plastic material was used by the military construction detachment, and 43.9 cubic meters was lost.... Afanas'yev was held materially accountable for the loss....

No proof was obtained during the inspections that Afanas'yev or any other individual had stolen the plastic."

Comrade Afanas'yev was demoted. His job was taken over by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel A. Podkletnov, who had been serving as the chief engineer for the UNR. Unfortunately, when he took over the collective, Anatoliy Petrovich did not take a precisely defined stance in the struggle against shortcomings and did not look carefully into the bookkeeping or the records kept on the materials.

The UNR did not perform outstandingly under his leadership. The plans were fulfilled with great effort, and then not in every respect. Like his predecessor, he demonstrated little concern for the moral aspects of the directorate or for the observance of the laws. For example, he up and dismissed "by personal decision" chief UNR mechanic A. Spirin, who was under investigation for shady dealings at the time, and foreman S. Afonin, discovered to be stealing lumber. There was a continuation of the bad practice of signing out construction materials for personal needs, which was being taken advantage of by dishonest people..

Frankly, Anatoliy Petrovich rarely visited the construction sites and performed indoctrinational work only sporadically. Relationships at the supervisory level worsened, sometimes reaching the point of actual altercations. The UNR chief himself and Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) M. Primazon, acting chief of the production section, were not speaking to each other. Nor were the collective's leader and Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel S. Korolev, chief engineer, on good terms.

The leaders in the marine engineer service at the base and workers in the political section should have thoroughly investigated affairs in the collective and its moral climate, of course. However, their assistance amounted to only rare and superficial visits and complaints against unnamed individuals pestering officials at various levels with their letters.

Since the "complaints" from the sites," were sometimes submitted with malicious intent, invariably mentioned management and financial failings in the UNR, Major (Retired) I. Kozlov, a finance service worker in the marine engineer service, was most frequently sent to conduct the inspections. He was engaged almost the year round in performing continuous auditing work in that directorate. When anyone would ask Engineer-Colonel A. Astapenko, chief of the marine engineer service, or Engineer-Colonel V. Popov, the chief engineer, about matters in the organization under their jurisdiction, they would invariably answer: "An auditor is working at the site. When the audit is finished, we shall take a look at the situation."

The auditor would complete his work, but the people would ordinarily not agree with his findings. Then came the next report of misconduct in the UNR. What had become of the carload of cement? What had become of 200 cubic meters of reinforced concrete piles? It was not so easy to answer these questions.

Yes, records had been neglected in the UNR. Records are one thing, but there were numerous other problems in the collective, and the neglected records were more than anything else simply a result of those problems. One had the impression that officials in the UNR were deliberately creating the need for a

"permanent "auditing operation--a sort of screen covering up inaction and lack of responsibility on the part of the officials. It was only after the entire base had begun talking about the bad situation in the collective, when the quarterly plan was not fulfilled, that the marine engineer service command and political section turned their attention to the UNR. Engineer-Colonel Simuni, deputy commander for construction at the Leningrad Naval Base, participated in the investigation.

Naturally, major failings were discovered in Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel A. Podkletnikov's work style, in his management of the operation and in the book-keeping operation directed by Lieutenant Colonel Intendance Service A. Kyun. Among other things, it was discovered that Comrade Podkletnov, while giving the outward appearance of tact, was sometimes inconsiderate of the men, that he nursed petty grievances against his subordinates and sometimes demonstrated a lack of restraint in his actions. At the same time, he was not firm or demanding enough. This accounted for the breakdown in management and the unhealthy moral climate existing among the leaders at the UNR level themselves. Labor laws continued to be violated, and there was poor labor discipline and numerous cases of drunkenness at the construction sites.

The party bureau, headed by Warrant Officer (Reserve) A. Dudchenko, and the trade union committee, headed by A. Artamonov, were not completely fulfilling their duties and were doing little to unite the collective or to influence production. Glaring deficiencies were also found in the "department" of L. Roytman, deputy chief for technical material supply of the UNR, who would sometimes not promptly record the incoming materials, sometimes list them twice.

...There are storms fairly frequently on the venerable Baltic Sea. The waves slam into the ancient granite shores, dating back to Peter's time, into the concrete and wooden births. The UNR workers counter the elements with determination and a desire to overcome the difficulties. People work near the water and in the water. They are swept by cold winds and cut by the salty spray. The work goes on, however. Once the sea has erupted, it does not soon return to calm. And then the "storm" blew up from the shore, also to last a long time. The collective was pounded by internal disorder.

The situation could clearly not be permitted to continue. The people in the base marine engineer service apparently understood this and took steps. Some progress has been made in the UNR. The 6-month plan was fulfilled, and certain specialists who did not fulfill their duties have been replaced. It is no doubt too soon to say that the trouble is over, however. A "storm" still blows up in the UNR from time to time. This means that the efforts aimed at correcting the moral climate in the collective and establishing proper order in the large and complex operation have to be pursued to the end.

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CSO: 1801/504

MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

COL GEN TANK TRPS DRAGUNSKIY ON 'VYSTREL'

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 17, Sep 83 (signed to press 15 Aug 83)
p 10

[Article by Twice-Honored HSU Col Gen Tank Trps D. A. Dragunskiy, chief of 'Vystrel' Courses: "The Higher Officer Courses"]

[Text] Gleaming on their colors are the orders of Lenin, October Revolution and Red Banner. They bear the name of famed military leader Mar SU B. M. Shaposhnikov. The "Vystrel" Courses have been forging command cadres for our Army for more than six decades now.

This oldest military educational institution in the country was created in 1918 at the personal direction of V. I. Lenin to train proletarian command cadres. RVSR [Revolutionary Military Council of the Republic] Order No 1151 dated 18 July 1919 specified: "Man the designated courses with Red Army personnel intended for regimental command and having combat experience but who require an addition to their store of military scientific knowledge."

The Courses successfully coped with this task under very difficult conditions of the Civil War. In 1928 Kraskom [Red Commander] Nikolay Ivanovich Saukin, a graduate of the Courses, commented as follows about training in the Courses in an essay published in the journal OGONEK: "While prior to the school I was able to command only a unit, now I already am capable of controlling it."

The "Vystrel" Courses earned respect and authority among the troops by their purposeful and productive work to perfect the training of military cadres both in the prewar years and during the Great Patriotic War. The knowledge, skills and ability acquired at the Courses helped graduates divine enemy intentions and anticipate the development of events on the battlefield. Making effective use of combat equipment and weapons and intelligently maneuvering available forces and means, they mauled elite fascist units. In describing the work of the "Vystrel" Courses, the Supreme Commander remarked in late 1943 that "a considerable portion of the company grade and field grade officers has gone through or is going through the school of the "Vystrel" Courses. . . . They return to the fronts after completing the 'Vystrel' Courses, having improved their military proficiency in order to defeat the enemy according to all rules of modern military science."

Students of the Courses at various times included Mar SU A. M. Vasilevskiy, Mar SU N. I. Krylov, Mar Armd Trps M. Ye. Katukov, army generals P. I. Batov, K. N. Galitskiy, I. I. Fedyuninskiy and many others.

The "Vystrel" Courses today are a multifaceted military educational institution of the highest profile. Staff officers, specialists of various services of units and combined units [chast' and soyedineniye] of the Ground Forces, and military teachers improve their proficiency here along with political officers and commanders. As before, these are no novices in military affairs who come to the Courses. They have a certain amount of service experience behind them. They have something to tell both the instructors and each other.

It is generally known that success of an engagement, no matter what its scale or spatial scope, is determined in the final account by the commanders' professional art. The collective of the "Vystrel" Courses sees the primary task to be developing students' skills to the maximum in working on the terrain and controlling the subunits and units in a difficult and dynamic combat situation.

The high technical level of the training facility and its continuous improvement and renovation permits the instructors to accomplish this mission successfully by making wide use of active training forms. Now this is a major, modern scientific-technical complex which includes auditoriums fitted out according to the latest word of science and technology, a television center, a simulator systems training center, as well as a training center with firing range, vehicle training area, tank training area, engineer compound and tactical training field...

At times "Vystrel" is called a "field academy." This probably is correct since a large portion of the activities (over 60 percent in tactical training, for example) as well as exams in tactics and weapon training are held in the field. Inasmuch as students have no combat experience, the skilled simulation of combat and the conduct of field problems in a tense and dynamic situation acquire great importance. There is but one principle: to create difficult conditions and crisis moments in the problems, or in other words to have them approximate actual combat conditions.

In addition to the use of targets, mock-ups and pyrotechnic equipment to simulate a near-real external picture of combat in group exercises, short tactical training problems, and command and staff exercises, use is made of loudspeakers with a recording of combat noises (firing, the whistle of bullets, and the flight and bursts of bombs and shells) as well as the set of control equipment which the battalion or regimental commander actually has at his disposal. Under such conditions the students "take root" better and more intrinsically in the conditions of tense and fast-moving modern combined-arms combat.

Student officers at the Courses not only perfect their command skills, but also become familiar with foremost training methods, and they have someone from whom to learn. Maj Gen Arty V. T. Lutsenko, colonels V. A. Belov, V. G. Grishin, A. K. Dyagilev, A. D. Ivashinin, V. A. Novoselov, A. A. Savel'yev,

V. P. Filippov and M. G. Fal'kovskiy, Lt Col V. D. Anan'yev and many other instructors put not only knowledge and experience, but also a bit of their hearts into their favorite work. They set for students an example of a demanding party approach to evaluating the results of their work and a critical attitude toward what has been achieved, and they teach students to focus attention on unresolved problems.

The many-sided military scientific work conducted in the Courses contributes to an improvement in the quality with which military cadres are trained, and in the level of party and scientific spirit of instructing social and military-technical disciplines. The heart of this work comprises questions of tactics, weapons improvement, and a generalization of Great Patriotic War experience in postwar troop practice. After being tested among the troops, a number of conclusions which originated during studies found reflection in combined-arms regulations and manuals.

We have created a unique mobile classroom fitted out in a series-produced bus. This mobile training point was developed and designed by rationalizers at the Courses. Equipment installed in it (a video tape recorder, slide projector, tape recorder and so on) permits conducting classes intensively not only while stopped, but in movement as well. Use of the mobile training point is especially effective since field schooling is the basis of our students' training.

Our collective also performs an important international mission of preparing military cadres for armies of socialist countries. We are proud of the fact that along with Soviet orders the Courses' colors display the Polish People's Republic Order of "Labor Banner" 2d Class, the German Democratic Republic Order "For Services to the People and Fatherland" and the Mongolian People's Republic Order "For Combat Merit."

In augmenting the good traditions, "Vystrel" personnel are doing everything to develop ideologically conditioned, highly skilled officers capable of performing their duty to the party and people courageously and skillfully.

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CSO: 1801/014

MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE FOR 'VYSTREL' CADETS

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 17, Sep 83 (signed to press 15 Aug 83)
pp 11-15

[Article by special SOVETSKIY VOIN correspondents Col N. Stasenko and M. Kliment'yev (photos): "The Field Academy"; word printed in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] A Steady Search

...When training department chief Maj Gen Viktor Nikolayevich Gromov briefed Col Gen D. A. Dragunskiy, chief of the "Vystrel" Courses about tomorrow's plans I found a moment to ask David Abramovich: "But is all this realistic? There is so much to show and tell the students and to practice in the field with them for some eight hours... As far as listening goes, they listen, but what good is it? How can all this be comprehended and remembered at once?"

The chief of the Courses silently picked up the telephone:

"Col Fal'kovskiy? Come in here!"

When the chief of the technical training equipment laboratory arrived the general said:

"The correspondent has some doubt. Show him what makes us wealthy..."

In a minute or two Mikhail Grigor'yevich and I were in a jungle of electronics and telemechanics mysterious for the uninitiated, as if we were somewhere at Ostankino or in an oblast television center. By the way, an oblast center would appear to be much more modest... I began to learn the meaning and purpose of all these consoles, monitors, screens, projectors and other ingenious things which filled several enormous rooms after just a half hour in the television studio, just from the telephone calls:

"Take an order for video recording fragment number . . . in auditorium number . . . for seventeen hundred hours..."

"The party-political work cycle requires a tape recording of the lecture..."

"We request that you plan a cartoon on offensive actions of a reinforced motorized rifle battalion..."

"The tactics instructors wish to discuss visual support of students' self-training for the upcoming field problem with you. By the way, is it possible to get the mobile training point for such-and-such a date?"

Mikhail Grigor'yevich gives instructions to his assistants on the spot. The laboratory as yet never has let anyone down.

The previously static, dead tactical diagrams came alive, began moving and breathed combat and immediately firmly riveted the students' attention to themselves. The students' participation in solving short training problems became dynamic, effective and creative.

How much time went previously for plotting just one tactical situation on a topographic map, such as for the defense or attack of a reinforced motorized rifle regiment? Many "sedentary" hours. The need for sweating over a map excessively now has disappeared. The light fades in the tactics training room and a colored map with situation already plotted flashes on the screen. At the instructor's command all students detail the mission, estimate the situation and make a decision simultaneously, substantiating their train of thought demonstratively.

Combat begins. A student acting as the commander sees with his own eyes the movement of combat formations and the "enemy's" opposition and immediately gives necessary commands. At some line the situation becomes more difficult and the students' attention is fixed on it by a series of visual signals... The productivity of such a class, which precedes a field exercise, increased several fold!

Col N. Vasin, Lt Col V. Podolyaka and Col (Res) A. Lovi have become enthusiasts at introducing cartoons to training, but Capt Nikolay Vladimirovich Borzdy probably worked most of all at this previously unfamiliar calling. He and his comrades did not leave the laboratory for days and nights on end in preparing manually and debugging the cartoon machine, a complicated, cumbersome and at the same time uniquely refined facility. They made thousands on thousands of witty pictures and simple but colorful diagrams and set them in motion so that students assimilated everything necessary for their combat schooling faster and more firmly.

But no matter what one says, television is generally a stationary matter. What is to be done when more than half of all classes at the Courses are held in the field and when a third of valuable time is spent unproductively just for movements from training locations?

"Again television comes to our rescue," said Col Fal'kovskiy persuasively.

"Television in the field?!"

But the bold idea already was formalized as a practical science task. Some time passed and mobile training points had been designed, built and outfitted at the Courses on the principle of the use of television. Now an instructor also actively works a topic with students during those hours when it is

necessary to ride over the range! Today the instructor no longer awaits recommendations and assistance from the training department and cycle chief. He himself imaginatively relieves the bottlenecks of classes which he gives in the field. The broadest initiative thus is born and encouraged and a taste for pedagogic exploration is instilled.

...Mikhail Grigor'yevich and I descend to the first floor of the laboratory.

"We have assembled here all the newest things existing in the Ground Forces' combat equipment, but of course only in the form of simulator systems."

...I lean over to an automatic device adapted to a sophisticated support, aim at a miniature target and squeeze the trigger. Compressed air fires a hissing "shot" and reloads the weapon, and the figure "5" lights up on a screen. Focusing on the target, this time I send the second laser "bullet" into the "10." And so, without spending a single state kopeck for cartridges, a trainee masters the art of accurate fire.

When we consider that tank, vehicular and other numerous simulators operate on this same principle, one can understand how high the economic effect of their use is on a mass scale. Moreover, all of them facilitate and accelerate the development of students' practical skills.

But the field is the field, and a soldier also cannot get by without spiritual food! After parting with the laboratory collective we looked in on a party-political work cycle. We were met by its chief, Col Nikolay Ivanovich Chebykin.

It must be admitted that we did not hope to find here, in the calm atmosphere of academic auditoriums, the very same telemechanics and electronics... It turns out that there probably are even more pieces of technical equipment in party-political work, the organization of which is persistently taught the students at the Courses, than in field schooling... Their purpose is one and the same: to focus trainees' attention on the most important and most essential.

But we won't forget that we are at the "Vystrel" Courses! The primary concern is to give students not only knowledge and skills, but also models for emulation in practical work among the troops. In this sense they are presented with abundant fare by the outfitting of the subunit reading room as well as mobile reading rooms for all instances of life in the field and in a combat situation.

Through the efforts of Nikolay Ivanovich, a former frontlinesman, and his subordinates the walls of the reading room seemed to have spread apart and its capacity increased by three or four times. This impression is given by interchangeable panels with visual agitation mounted on the walls as well as the room's saturation with everything needed for organizing productive political indoctrination work in the company and battery.

We will note that the elegant, capacious, colorful outfitting and arrangement is inexpensive in itself and accessible to all military collectives. This is why this type reading room has been recommended as a model not only for the Ground Forces, but for all units and ships of the Armed Forces.

This is how the influence of the famed "Vystrel" Courses is widening today!

Everything for Victory in Combat

An explosion thumped with a boom and the obstacle course flared up in an instant, sending up dense smoke and hindering the visibility of those who immediately run without reflection at the first obstacle. The first... There are several dozen of them on the path to the objective! Two fences, three trenches filled with water, a narrow log thrown across a deep antitank ditch, two semidemolished buildings, a system of barbed-wire entanglements, a set of rope obstacles, a monkey (swinging) ladder six meters high... All this is burning, thumping, crackling and howling in all the voices of modern combat.

Maj Sergey Aleksandrovich Afinogentov commands: "Forward!" And the motorized rifle squad dashes into the flame, firing submachineguns at the "enemy" on the move. They are running in view of hundreds of spectators for whom a demonstration problem on negotiating the course has been arranged. This is no small amount of additional psychological stress. Just try not to fall from the height of a three-story building when so many eyes are looking at you...

Not to fall, not to enter the cold water, and not get stuck on the prickly wire in a sea of raging flame is all half the victory. The most important is ahead--the fight with the "enemy." One must preserve sufficient strength and will for a resolute attack on his fortified weapon emplacements and for victory in combat. Darting out of the flame one by one, the squad concentrates on the attack line. Soldiers help each other beat the flame from clothing and footwear, then they daringly press against the pillbox, taking it by storm.

The all clear. We go up to Valeriy Shcherbatykh, a candidate for master of sport:

"Was it frightening?"

Valeriy shrugs his shoulders tiredly:

"We don't think about that. We are executing an operation order."

Frightening! Of course it's frightening... The mind notes an instinctive, natural fear of all living things for fire and water. And we know that you, Valeriy, a generally trained athlete, left the course at the very beginning of the route when you first set foot on it. That was a great disgrace both for you and for the entire subunit. You experienced this painfully until, having gathered your courage and concentrated your will, you again crossed all obstacles to the last one! This was a great victory over yourself, which subsequently gave you power over the "enemy" under any difficult conditions of field exercises. We recall the past not as a reproach, but in your praise, because it is genuinely frightening in the fiery hell.

Once our famed soccer team was present at such activities. Two of the honored masters of sport who had experienced many things in their time and who were good judges of psychological conditioning, decided that all this was fully within their reach. With the permission of coaches and commanders, they dashed into the flame and after 20-30 m of the route they fell in utter exhaustion...

It is also frightening in another sector where there now is practice in being driven over by tanks. The war left a firm notch in frontlinesmen's memory--fear of tanks. It took much time, carved from continuous fighting with the enemy, to teach people to overcome this extremely dangerous feeling and arm them with skills of fighting the armored monsters equipped with guns and machineguns and instill in them an immunity to the fear of tanks.

Now there are other times and other opportunities. The present-day generation has experience on its side! The "enemy" tanks dash from the forest edge and rush toward the motorized rifle subunit. Three hundred, then two hundred meters separate them from each other. The position is frozen and silent. Some 100 m remain to the onrushing vehicles when Capt Viktor Kalinin commands an open fire. At that very instant dozens of fiery traces from small arms criss-cross above the tanks' vision devices...

Antitank hand grenades fly at the tanks from a distance of 20-25 m and the antitank rocket launchers begin to strike even earlier with inert rounds. But the tanks keep coming! They are closer and closer... Then a soldier lies down in the path of a steel vehicle, pretending to be dead. It seems he will now be crushed by the tracks... No... In the immediate proximity the soldier coolly and adroitly rolls to the middle of the track and settles himself between the treads. Letting the tank pass over him, he immediately leaps up and hurls a hand grenade at the stern.

Another soldier fearlessly leaped on the tank from above from a hole in the wall of a burning, semidemolished building and forced it to stop by covering the vision devices with a rain cape. His neighbor on the left straddled another vehicle in the same manner and used a shovel to beat against the safety glass, completely blinding the crew...

Fearlessly, coolly, adroitly... This may appear to be nothing special. Don't be afraid, don't lose your head, and you will win under all circumstances. With almost these very words the senior classmen of a sponsored school, participants of the militarized "Orlenok" Game, expressed their attitude toward what they had seen and, under the supervision of senior personnel, they even sat it out bravely in trenches over which very real combat tanks dashed...

But that was the bravery of ignorance, the bravery of silly lads. It is uniquely more difficult for a person who knows the strength and capability of a tank. There was a moment when an experienced NCO who had taken a repeated part in being driven over by tanks, suddenly jumped up in front of the very bow of a tank and dashed aside. It seemed to him that the treads would slip from the beaten path... Although even in this case it was possible easily to avoid this, his nerves did not hold out.

Fire. Tanks. Moral-psychological conditioning. All these are missions of modern field schooling. They are developed at the "Vystrel" Courses according to all aspects of science and provide students not only with a graphic impression of the nature of a commander's actions, but also clear-cut practical recommendations on how to do everything in the subunit with minimum expenditure of resources.

"It is not only a matter of teaching the soldier to focus all his attention and all his feelings on the end goal of his actions--and this is a necessary condition for success in negotiating the obstacle courses and when being driven over by tanks," Sergey Aleksandrovich Afinogentov explains to us. "As experience shows, lengthy drills in an atmosphere of increased danger develop in soldiers a special psychological state where what seems to be impossible becomes achievable.

"Of course it is difficult to imagine the genuine picture of modern combat with use of mass destruction weapons. What we do at 'Vystrel' provides a certain approximation of it, but one thing is for sure: Moral-psychological conditioning arms soldiers with the methodology of self-improvement and development in themselves of qualities which for now they do not even suspect. We are firmly convinced of this," concludes Maj Afinogentov.

What the Alumni Get Out of It

Sr Lt Mikhail Shunayev...

This officer's career is interesting. His grandfather, a former major, fought as a tankman. His father, now a lieutenant colonel in the reserve, at one time served as commander of that same company in which Aleksandr Matrosov is listed forever on the rolls. Mikhail also began service in Matrosov's regiment and now, in completing studies at the "Vystrel" Courses, is returning there as chief of staff of the battalion which includes Matrosov's company... That's how everything intertwined!

Today Shunayev Junior is a party member and secretary of a primary party organization at the Courses. He has stern service behind him and the Order of Red Star on his chest.

As you see, Mikhail Shunayev did not come to the Courses with empty hands.

"I have the feeling that the circle has closed for me," Mikhail says pensively in a talk with me. "I came from military school to the unit full of optimism and optimistic expectations. They gave me a company and I felt it to be a real platoon! I was the boss, the one-man commander in it. I had the feeling that were they to give me a company or battalion I would make it! I had enough knowledge and even more strength and energy. But then I encountered the first real everyday and military difficulties. I saw that a platoon was not simply a platoon, but a group of people and suddenly I realized how little I knew of them! On whom could I rely and in what? Of whom should I beware in hard times? There began a reinterpretation both of life and of my own capabilities.

"I took over a company. No, things went rather slowly. There were so many people. I had to know everyone, be responsible for everyone and teach everyone to be soldiers. That knowledge and those command skills which I previously considered more than sufficient suddenly proved to be very, very meager. I had to sit down at the textbooks hurriedly and seek advice from my father more often... And when I was appointed battalion chief of staff I myself requested school. And now I am saying a sincere thanks to the 'Vystrel' Courses! I am getting much out of it, and above all the conviction that the surest path to command maturity is INDEPENDENCE, purged of harmful admixtures of excessive self-confidence and self-satisfaction. The Courses taught me to appraise my strengths and capabilities precisely and to understand people correctly. This is the most important thing."

It would appear that Mikhail Shunayev began his conversation with an analysis of relationships among people not by chance. In 1½ years of service his platoon did not simply become friendly, but it became intimate, a single family.

By the way, Mikhail Shunayev told about his command principles at a special conference arranged for the purpose of exchanging the experience of party-political work.

Lt Col Vladimir Vladimirovich Lesnyy, instructor of the tactics cycle, party member, and wearer of the Order of Red Star, said this about principles of training officers at the "Vystrel" Courses:

"We try to combine the theory of military affairs with personal practice accumulated by our alumni and to help them comprehend their own path which has been covered and to choose everything most necessary for the future. Herein lie the roots of our mutual understanding. Herein also is a stimulus for students and personal interest in productive studies. No one has to be urged on. The people themselves are drawn to concrete experience and go from theoretical generalizations to examples of actions at night, in the mountains, on the march and in controlling combat, especially in organizing support, where every detail is important and on which previously we dwelled least of all on resolving tactical matters... And there is communications in all phases of combat. Hand-to-hand combat. The training of guides. Even giving first aid and self-help! In short, problems and more problems... That's life. Real combat life with all its considerable and at times decisive 'trivia' without which it is impossible to get by. That apparently is why we are called a 'field academy'."

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