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TRANSLATIONS ON USSR MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY HISTORIANS COOPERATE

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, 1977 pp 165-167

[Article by A. Antosyak, candidate of historical science, chief of the Department of Military History of Socialist Countries of the Institute of Military History: "Creative Links of Military Historians"]

[Text] The collective of the Institute of Military History of the USSR Ministry of Defense is making its contribution to scientific cooperation of Soviet historians with scholars of the fraternal countries.¹

Established in Moscow in November 1966, this institute conducts research on methodological problems of military history and the military-historical heritage of the founders of Marxism-Leninism, and summarizes the experience of the CPSU in building the Soviet armed forces and strengthening the fighting cooperation with armies of other member nations of the Warsaw Pact. The struggle against bourgeois falsification of military history is an important direction in the institute's work.

The attention of the institute's scholars is centered on the history of the armed defense of the achievements of Great October in the civil war, the history of the Great Patriotic War, and the common struggle by the nations of the world against fascism. In slightly more than 10 years the institute's scholars have prepared and published more than 80 monographs.

The Institute of Military History of the USSR Ministry of Defense has been charged with coordinating military-historical research on a nation-wide scale. The USSR Academy of Sciences exercises methodological leadership over the institute's scientific activity.

¹Concerning this cooperation see: Ye. Dudzinskaya, "Scientific Links of Historians," OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI, No 4, 1977.

The indicated directions of the institute's activity also determine the content of its creative links with military-historical institutions of the fraternal countries. These links are very extensive and take the most varied forms: exchange of experience in scientific research work, preparation of joint works, participation in conferences and colloquia, assistance in translations of works, scientific consultations and mutual criticism of articles and other materials, delivery of reports and lectures, publication of articles in the periodical press, assistance in the preparation of dissertations, exchange of military-historical literature, and participation in the work of joint commissions of historians and so on.

About 200 delegations and individual scholars from socialist countries have been received at the institute during its time of existence. Scientific contacts with military historians of Yugoslavia, Cuba and Vietnam have normalized in recent years. Questions of Marxist-Leninist methodology of military history, organization of scientific research work, basic directions in the development of military-historical science and the strengthening of scientific cooperation are discussed during bilateral meetings and reciprocal visits.

The preparation of joint works is occupying a larger and larger place in this cooperation. For the 30th anniversary of the victory over fascism our institute, together with the Military-Historical Institute of the Polish People's Republic, created the work "Bratstvo po oruzhiyu" [Brotherhood in Arms], which was published simultaneously in Moscow and Warsaw in Russian and Polish respectively, and together with the Military-Historical Institute of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the work "Na vechnyye vremena" [Forever] (which was likewise published in both countries--in Russian and Czech). The book "Bratstvo po oruzhiyu" was awarded a first class certificate by the Ministry of National Defense of the Polish People's Republic, and the work "Na vechnyye vremena" was noted by a certificate of the Military Publishing House of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic as the best military-historical work of 1975.

As experience shows, the joint development of works makes it possible to multiply the strengths, knowledge and experience of historians of various countries, to find effective forms and methods of researching complex scientific problems, to create important monographs in short periods of time and, most importantly, to more fully utilize national scientific potentials.

The institute is presently preparing four joint monographs with scholars from fraternal socialist countries. The work "Vekovaya družba" [Age-Old Friendship] is being created with historians of the People's Republic of Bulgaria for the 100th anniversary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman yoke. "Krizis blokovoy politiki imperializma" [The Crisis of Imperialism's Bloc Politics] with historians from the German Democratic

Republic, "Sovetsko-mongol'skoye boyevoye sodruzhestvo" [Soviet-Mongolian Fighting Cooperation] with historians of the Mongolian People's Republic, and "Muzhestvo i steystkost'" [Courage and Steadfastness], concerning the heroic struggle of the Cuban people and their armed forces for freedom and independence, with historians from Cuba. Historians of the Institute of Latin America of the USSR Academy of Sciences are also participating in writing the latter work.

The creation of the 12-volume "Istoriya vtoroy mirovoy voyny 1939-1945 gg." [History of the Second World War, 1939-1945] jointly with other USSR scientific institutions is the most important work of the institute's collective. (Eight volumes of the edition have been published so far.) Durable scientific contacts have been established with scholars and publishing houses of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, which are bringing out translations of this work. For each volume meetings and consultations are organized, and questions connected with reprinting are clarified and coordinated.

Such a productive form of scientific cooperation as mutual criticism of works and consultations on their concepts and on other questions of mutual interest has come to be practiced in recent years. Thus, during the preparation of the Soviet studies "Zarozhdeniye narodnykh armiy stran-uchastnits Varshavskogo Dogovora" [The Origin of the People's Armies of the Warsaw Pact Countries] (Moscow, 1975) and "Boyevoye sodruzhestvo bratskikh narodov i armiy" [The Fighting Cooperation of Fraternal Peoples and Armies] (Moscow, 1975) appropriate chapters and sections on the history of fraternal armies were sent for criticism to military-historical institutes of these countries. This form of cooperation is of great significance both for the elaboration of general points of view on complex main questions of military history and for the elimination of individual factual inaccuracies in published works.

The traditional form of exchange of scientific achievements which remains the most effective--the delivery of lectures and reports--is being used more and more actively. In recent years Soviet military historians have given about 100 lectures in fraternal countries. At the same time military historians from the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and other countries have spoken in the USSR on problems of the antifascist resistance movement, fighting cooperation of the socialist countries and the building of their armies.

The Institute of Military History and its personnel systematically participate in multilateral international scientific meetings. Based on our institute, a military history section was created in the National Committee of USSR Historians. Section personnel are members of the International Committee of the History of World War II and the International Commission on

Military History attached to the International Committee of Historical Sciences. Soviet military historians, together with colleagues from the fraternal countries defend the Marxist-Leninist positions in historical science and give a decisive rebuff to bourgeois falsifiers at world scientific forums.

Institute scholars have participated in more than 30 multilateral and bilateral conferences and colloquia of scholars of socialist countries. In the first half of 1977 these included a meeting in Moscow with historians from Poland and Hungary, which was devoted to the 60th anniversary of Great October, and a session of the Commission of USSR and Bulgarian Historians in Kishinev, which was devoted to the 100th anniversary of the liberation of the peoples of southeastern Europe from the Ottoman yoke.

The experience in international scientific cooperation, which was gained by the collective of the Institute of Military History, has demonstrated its exceptional importance, topicality and mutual benefit. The tasks set before Soviet social scientists by the 25th CPSU Congress require the further expansion and deepening of this cooperation and a transition to the comprehensive development of the most important scientific problems by the combined efforts of scholars of the fraternal socialist countries.

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NAVAL TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Sonar Operator Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Sep 77 p 1

{Article by SrLt V. Mel'nikov: "Contact!: Asea in a Combat Manner"}

{Text} The stewards have set up and then cleared away the dining gear in the wardroom twice already. The command: "Change watch crews!" has rung out many times, and completing its daily journey, the hot sun is ready to set. They have scoured and scoured this ill-fated quadrant, now and then changing course and speed. At times the ship almost comes to a complete stop; at times it recklessly dashes forward; however, the "enemy" has not given himself away.

"Yes, he's a hard nut to crack," the navigator has said many times, while tearing himself away from plotting for a second to put his sweat-covered face in the fan's breeze. The drawn-out pauses create an agonizing silence in the room. His senior assistant barely perceptibly shrugged his shoulders when the report from the sonar operators was received again:

"Sector search completed; there are no targets!"

SrLt O. Kirchanov, chief of the underwater ordnance and torpedo department, became more and more dismal. It's possible to understand him. The collective headed by him

deservedly was one of the first on the ship to attain the title of outstanding. In the senior chiefs' unanimous opinion, the subunit is the best in the unit. Take just the last extended voyage to the Mediterranean Sea from which the ship just recently returned. The torpedomen completed each training hunt with a confident, inescapable "blow."

It would seem that here--in their own training range--the sailors would put on a highly-skilled performance after their tempering on an extended voyage. They confidently talked about this while discussing the new USSR draft Constitution. The soldiers promised to accomplish all exercises only with a high degree of quality. That same confidence in success was also felt in the beginning of the hunt when the ship set out to sea on a quiet morning.

"It's a matter of a few hours," the sailors thought. "A normal hunt. This is not the ocean!"

"But, there really isn't a normal hunt," SrLt Kirchanov again thought with annoyance.

These "few hours" turned out to be very difficult for the sonar operators. "We simply aren't lucky," decided PO 2nd Class P. Korzh.

The section chief felt the fatigue beginning to tie his hands; he felt it depriving his fingers of their needed flexibility; he felt it deadening his attention...A return... A transmission...A return...Alas, nothing again! Each time the depths respond with emptiness.

"No, I can't relax like this!" Korzh checked himself. He looked around. His rival in the competition, PO 2nd Class V. Serov, was standing next to him. His eyes were looking hopefully; it was as if they were approving and at the same time asking, "Well, how's it going? Keep trying! After all, if not you then who?"

Wiping away huge beads of sweat, Korzh repeatedly listened to the tone of the echo returning from the depths, but he

did not catch the long-awaited, characteristic metallic tinge in it.

After all, there was a contact already! When PO 2nd Class Korzh relieved the previous operator at the set's console, he suddenly succeeded in "finding" the submarine with the sonar waves at the maximum detection range. But, having sensed the pursuit, the "enemy" immediately employed all his resources to break away. The sharp change in course, depth and speed and also the jamming played their parts. It was as though the submarine melted in the sea.

The sonar operators' team chief, WO V. Pakhomov, also began to worry. Right now he is going over all the preceeding preparations for his subordinates in his mind, trying to uncover a weak link. It seems that everything was taken into account. As prescribed, a great deal of attention was devoted to thoroughly checking-out and tuning the sonar sets before departure. Pakhomov knows from his experience that the slightest omission in this important matter--even an insignificant deviation from the instructions--can have a negative effect on the outcome of a sea battle. Therefore, Pakhomov, together with WO N. Dement'yev, checked the entire system in the most thorough manner the evening before. The other specialists also checked the equipment just as thoroughly before the hunt. After all, a poor connection, lowered insulation resistance or a broken ground can cause acoustic and electrical interference and they make the work more difficult; they can even affect the detection range and the quality of identification. No, the equipment shouldn't be letting us down!

Perhaps, the operators' performance is not at its best right now. Pakhomov attentively kept an eye on the operators' actions. Many times during exercises, he had repeated that the guarantee for success is each person's composure and vigilance on duty. Many times he put them on guard against blunders and miscalculations. Are there really still imperfections in their skills?

Then, as if in answer to the warrant officer's thoughts, PO 2nd Class Korzh suddenly braced himself, leaned closer over the scope and very slightly turned the knob on the set. And then his optimistic report rang out:

"Contact!"

Everything on the ship immediately flew into rapid movement. The ship's ASW team quickly worked out the optimal alternative for pursuing and destroying the "enemy."

The pencil, abandoned by the navigator on the plot of the combat course, jerks around. The turbines are whining; they have something in common with the wind...

With a soft crack, the torpedo rushes out of the tube toward the "enemy" hiding in the depths.

...When they returned to base, the violet twilight was already deepening over the shore. Music was heard from the direction of the park. And although nobody met them with flowers, everybody's mood was just as if each had been presented with a bouquet of roses.

"I told you there couldn't be any surprises," the sonar operator crew chief confidently said to a young seaman standing next to him. A normal hunt...

Naval Aviation Unit Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Sep 77 p 1

{Article by Engr-LtCol G. Stepkin and LtCol V. Kaz'min, the Red Banner Northern Fleet: "Born by Competition: The Main Things Are Efficiency and Quality"}

{Text} The soldiers of X aviation unit--which was awarded the USSR Minister of Defense's Pennant for courage and military valor--are accomplishing complex missions during combat

training. In their flights over the ocean--under conditions which maximally approximate those in combat--the ASW airmen are steadfastly training to hunt the "enemy's" underwater targets, to follow them and to develop tactics for destroying them. The high-quality performance of combat training missions and accident-free flights are to a great extent dependent on the high technical standards and the skillful and precise actions of Aviation Engineering Service specialists. The most experienced and leading aircraft specialists of the Technical Maintenance Unit (TMU) displayed commendable initiative in the socialist competition for a welcome worthy of the Great October jubilee. They decided to strive for the right to personally guarantee maintenance on a number of aircraft assemblies, subassemblies and components. By this time there was already a firm basis for implementing this idea in the collective. The number of highly qualified specialists significantly increased during the competition. Due to the widely developed innovative and inventive work, the TMU dispatcher operation and the test-monitoring equipment were improved. The workshops were set up and equipped in an outstanding manner.

The specialists in the radiotechnical equipment routine maintenance group are distinguished by an innovative approach to their business. A lot of the plans and suggestions voiced by them found a practical application later. Thus, based on the suggestion of the combat qualified expert, Technical Service SrLt V. Pit'kov, the power circuit of one of the aircraft ASW system's units was changed. Thanks to this, the equipment's operational reliability was noticeably increased. Komsomol member V. Pit'kov now has over 10 technical innovations to his credit.

The creative search of the specialists in the aircraft equipment routine maintenance group also deserves a good word. Thus, a mobile instrument monitoring workshop was built with the active participation of communists, Technical Service Maj. Ye. Zhukov and Technical Service SrLt I. Tikhonov. The mobile test-monitoring facilities are now in other units. This enables the airmen to perform routine aircraft maintenance with a higher degree of quality and to more efficiently conduct preventive maintenance on possible malfunctions.

In a spirit of combat competition, a contest between the specialists for the right to personally guarantee aircraft equipment maintenance was organized in the TMU. It is not easy to earn this right; well-founded theoretical knowledge and firm, practical skills are required. A strict and authoritative commission checks the soldiers' degree of training. Therefore, for example, in the group where Technical Service Capt P. Kolos is the chief--as, incidentally, in the other TMU groups also--only the most qualified specialists among the officer technicians received the "okay" to personally guarantee equipment maintenance. Among them was Komsomol member, Technical Service SrLt A. Davydov who performs his duties at the level of a combat qualified expert.

The force of personal example in the competition is such that today many--who have accepted his experience--are going along the path which yesterday was travelled by one person. Now, in the group headed by Comrade Kolos, all the officers--without exception--are performing routine maintenance and repair work on a number of aircraft engine subassemblies and assemblies with a personal guarantee. Based on their skill level, they have become first-class specialists, experts in their fields. The ranks of the innovators have been reinforced by warrant officers. The first-class specialist, WO P. Maystrov was among the first of them.

The initiative of the competition leaders took wing in all the routine maintenance groups. After all, at the present time 78 percent of the TMU personnel are first-class specialists; every sixth one of them has the title of combat qualified expert. The soldiers' high vocational training level has a favorable effect on the accomplishment of the missions assigned to the airmen. It is to the point to state that 37 percent of the subunit's specialists have already received the right of a personal guarantee.

While planning measures for further improving work processes and increasing technical standards, the officer-leaders, party and Komsomol activists are constantly showing their concern for the effectiveness of competition, for strengthening its role

in the soldiers' training and indoctrination and for reinforcing discipline and prescribed order. After summarizing the leading experience of a personal maintenance guarantee, the collective came to the conclusion that this project's potential is far from exhausted; it is necessary to disseminate the best after it has proven itself in practice. It is necessary to reinforce the ranks of combat qualified experts and to increase the units of aircraft equipment which are subject to guaranteed maintenance. This will promote a reduction in the time for bringing equipment up to combat readiness and it will promote its error-free operation.

A mobilizing force of the competition is also vividly demonstrated in the airmen's kind rivalry for the title of best technician and best mechanic. As established by the conditions of the competition, only high class specialists who set an example in training, work and observing prescribed order can be awarded this honor.

During the final stage of the training year, flights are being conducted at a combat pace. The soldier-airmen are increasing their efforts in training, work and in the competition for a welcome worthy of the 60th anniversary of Great October.

Submarine Crew Officer Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Sep 77 p 1

{Article by SrLt V. Kocherov: "The Navigator's Stars"}

{Text} The sea was swaying; the stars were swaying overhead. The northern sky is usually not so lavish with them; it does not frequently open the curtain of clouds enabling the navigators "to take a fix" on the star they need. It was all the more regrettable for CaptLt A. Smotrov to see the stars just now when he hasn't the slightest need for them... And when the need arises in a day or two--there won't be a single one.

During the submarine's last trip to the range this is precisely what happened. When Smotrov decided to check the ship's position with an astronomical fix there was not even an opening in the clouds which had gathered from Lord knows where. And although the method of determining your position by the heavenly bodies is far from the only way for modern submarines, not one navigator will fail to check the work of the ship's systems with the data "from the heavens": after all, the "mechanic" of the stars doesn't have breakdowns.

The mission had to be accomplished with data from the instruments. It was accomplished successfully, however, the chief of the navigation department, CaptLt Smotrov, didn't hear any praise for this. The staff officer directed attention to the fact that the chief of the electronavigational group, SrLt Bratkov, actually did not participate in the complex calculations. The young officer also did not function confidently enough on the training problem. Thus, Smotrov received a reprimand for poor work with his subordinate instead of gratitude for his personal expertise.

It was a pity but the navigator could not help but admit that the reproach was justified. How many times had it been the case that Smotrov, a first-class specialist, preferred to do everything necessary himself rather than trust even a part of the work to Bratkov since he had to correct his errors later.

Things were proceeding sort of smoothly in the navigation subunit with this division of responsibilities between the officers (Smotrov provides the operational directions; Bratkov frees the department chief from the accumulated "trifles" like correcting charts, tuning technical systems, etc.). But there was not a reliable reserve which is necessary for a combat situation, or, for example, for a long cruise with tense missions.

To Smotrov's credit, the officer drew the correct conclusions: he was able to change his methods. At the base, the chief of CD-1 {combat department-1} and his subordinate became frequent visitors of the training laboratory.

The officers devoted special attention to "blind" navigation--on instruments--when it is not possible to determine your position with radio beacons or with astronomical bodies. Dozens of navigational problems, a multitude of training sessions under unprogramed conditions--thanks to such intensive training, by the next cruise SrLt Bratkov had already noticeably improved in tactical preparations and in the speed of developing alternative solutions.

A short time passed. The ship again set out to sea. The navigators would have to work under complex conditions. The fact that the mission was a test added to CaptLt Smotrov's excitement; to a significant degree, the staff will judge the crew's accomplishment of their socialist pledges in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution by it.

So, at sea, the chief of CD-1 had to go through a difficult struggle with himself. While continuing to test SrLt Bratkov during the training alerts, CaptLt Smotrov now and then habitually tried to take the initiative on himself...But Bratkov functioned more confidently and precisely every time.

When the overall ship's rehearsal began, based on the staff officers' decision Smotrov was suddenly "put out" of action. In addition, according to the exercise setting one of the instruments was damaged.

SrLt Bratkov was on top of the situation: he was able to quickly calculate a correction to the course indicating system on the repaired instrument and to provide the ship's captain with accurate basic data.

In the depth of his soul CaptLt Smotrov only regretted that what he was seeing was just a rehearsal: if this happens when the mission is being accomplished then Bratkov will be more firmly established on the ship as a specialist.

The ship has arrived in the prescribed area. The chief of CD-1 was working in his room bent over a chart; pressed to

the eyepieces, the ENG chief was catching stars through the breaks in the clouds in order to check the calculated data.

Torpedo Recovery Operations

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Sep 77 p 1

{Article by Capt 1st Rank N. Remizov: "Military Affairs Experts: The Captain of a Torpedo Recovery Boat"}

{Text} Far off to the left a red signal light flashed above the night sea.

"Watch carefully!" WO V. Rybalkin, the captain of the torpedo recovery boat, warned his subordinates.

"Torpedo!" the lookout shouted clearly; having instantaneously evaluated the situation, the warrant officer gave the command to stop. When the ghostly white trail crossed the night sea alongside the torpedo recovery boat, the cutter went to the spot where the torpedo should rise to the surface after "destroying" the target.

A light flared up and immediately disappeared. But it disappeared only to the inexperienced eye. The cutter slowed down. The sailors were attentively looking at the water and shortly afterwards the torpedo recovery boat began to turn its stern to the spot where the torpedo was dancing in the restless water. In the searchlight beams it looked like a mysterious living being: now and then it jumped from the water then disappeared in the depths again, hiding the flashing light.

SrSmn A. Eglitis aimed a long rig with a semicircle on the end at the torpedo. This is how they put the landing net over the big fish. The semicircle was an invention of WO Rybalkin. In contrast to the generally accepted ring it automatically gives way if the torpedo is not successfully "engaged." On the second try the sailor ringed the torpedo, drew the loop around it and three sailors skillfully lifted the projectile

on board the cutter. The winch smoothly lowered the "catch" to the deck, into a nest of special pillows.

After this the warrant officer reported accomplishment of the mission to his senior chief by radio and said to the sailors:

"If they're all like this, we'll be home by dark."

All the sailors agreed with the captain--this is not work today but an outing. And the fact that the wind penetrated to their bones and sprayed them with an icy shower, well, they were used to this. In addition with its light draft the light cutter is tossed like a ball by every wave. However, the torpedo recovery boat's crew has no idea of what seasickness is. It's another matter if somebody goes to sea with them as a guest. For example, I quickly understood what everyday sea life means for this small crew. It is not by accident that both the senior chiefs and the commanders of large ships highly rate the seemingly unnoticed work of the torpedo recovery boat sailors.

I heard one of the submarine captain's opinions about the torpedo "hunters": "WO Rybalkin and his crew deserve the highest praise. They are courageous people; they know what risk is. After all, they have to look for torpedos in any weather. They work precisely and quickly."

Yes, the torpedo recovery boat is not very big, but if you could count up how many miles it has traveled, there would be enough to go around the Pacific Ocean twice. However, you will not see the tropical stars from the wavering deck of the cutter. It has shore duties; it is modest but irreplaceable. A torpedo is an expensive weapon and it should not be lost during training firings. Therefore, each time the submarines go to the range, the cutter-torpedo recovery boats hurry after them.

I took part in one of the torpedo recovery boat's sorties. I liked the cutter's captain, communist WO Vasilii Timofeyevich Rybalkin, at first glance. He is a man of few words, but he

is amiable, efficient, composed and sharp in naval matters. Without hurrying he efficiently prepared the cutter for the voyage and then took it out of the harbor in a businesslike and confident manner.

His seaman's grip seems innate but after all Rybalkin grew up in the steppes and worked as a brigadier at a kolkhoz...

Rybalkin entered service in the unit as a boatswain on a trawler and then, having passed the required examinations, he took over the torpedo recovery boat. Rybalkin has traveled almost the entire length and breadth of the Baltic in it. Thus the warrant officer has completed the practical sea university in full. But he never counted on just experience alone. Now it would seem he has a lot of experience but the warrant officer and manuals, textbooks and reference books are now inseparable. It was not by accident that Rybalkin became one of the first military affairs experts in the unit. And as required of a captain, the warrant officer is an outstanding navigator. His course plotting is always beyond reproach, even though Rybalkin knows all the ranges like the palm of his hand.

It is infrequent but it happens that the torpedo recovery boat goes out hundreds of miles into the expanses of the Baltic. And it happens that work also stretches out for several days in the coastal areas if a torpedo is suddenly lost. Either the current carries it away or a strong wave suddenly plays with it...The search is very difficult in these cases but, nevertheless, the most "cunning" torpedo does not successfully hide from Rybalkin.

...We could not count on good weather today. However, this did not bother the submariners: they were ready to fire under any conditions. But how would the torpedo recovery operation go?

The unit commander asked the warrant officer:

"Can you work?"

"How could I answer, that I can't?"

Vasiliy Timofeyevich shrugged his shoulders, while recalling this episode. "Although I know very well how hard it is to look for torpedos in such bad weather...However, we found the first one immediately; to make up for it the other torpedos gave us a lot of work. As bad luck would have it a thick fog set in: you could drive nails in it. We used the radar to sweep the horizon: navigating in fog is a dangerous business. And the torpedos--after all they will only be observed by the naked eye. Even the submariners--as they said later--began to have doubts about the search's success. But we could have no doubts. We had to find them. And we did."

The torpedo recovery boat has a tough crew. Everything is arranged throughly here: studies, socialist competition and the struggle for mastery of related specialties...The sailors' humor and a good song are appreciated on the cutter. The captain himself frequently spends time in the crew's quarters: he jokes and sings to the guitar music. The sailors live like a happy family. And they do not forget it after they are transferred to the reserve.

"All the torpedos hit the target; all have been recovered," this is how the results of successful firings are usually evaluated. And this phrase reflects the close naval cooperation of the large combat ships and the small cutter.

Importance of Watch on Long-Distance Cruises Stressed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Sep 77 p 1

{Editorial: "Bridge Watch"}

{Text} Day and night Soviet military ships are plowing the waters on long-distance ocean cruises. Their crews are working selflessly and with a high awareness of their military duty to the homeland. Now, during the national discussion of the new

draft USSR Constitution and during the final stage of the socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of Great October, the military sailors are devoting all their strength, skill, and expertise to the successful accomplishment of the assigned combat training tasks and to the complete fulfillment of their socialist pledges.

For the crews, each sortie at sea begins with the command: "Prepare the ship for combat and cruise." And no matter how long the military sailors have been at sea--days or months--they always remember that the ship must constantly be ready for battle and for any sudden changes in the cruise situation. A special type of ship's duty--the watch--ensures continual vigilance and the uninterrupted presence of specialists at combat stations.

Direct control of the watches is assigned to the watch officer. Manpower-wise the combat shift headed by him is essentially a minimal crew, but in its combat and professional skills it is fully manned. Only when combat training missions are being accomplished or during a combat alert does the entire crew report to their stations; the ship's navigation itself is ensured by the watch crews. The ship's successful accomplishment of its assigned missions depends on their unabated and constant attention to the situation and to equipment operation and on their ability to skillfully and precisely react to all changes during the cruise and to exercise situations.

A complex situation suddenly arose during the large ASW ship Smyshlenyy's passage through a channel: a ship which was overtaken by the large ASW ship did not slow down as required; it changed course and created the danger of a collision. Having noticed this in time, the watch lookout, SrSmn A. Kirichenko, immediately reported to the watch officer. After instantaneously evaluating the situation, SrLt A. Bashan understood that this extreme situation--which could not be delayed--demands his independent, decisive action. After giving the command to maneuver Bashan informed the ship's captain about this. The watch officer's energetic and correct orders enabled them to avoid a further complication in the situation.

Standing watch vigilantly and skillfully is the first condition for cruise safety. The role and responsibility of the watch under conditions at sea are constantly increasing. Soviet ships frequently conduct long-distance cruises in a complex situation: in stormy weather, in areas of active shipping traffic and under difficult navigational conditions. Moreover, the intensity of combat training is constantly increasing; the crews accomplish a large part of their routine combat training missions at sea. Therefore, when preparing ships for cruises, commanders, staffs and political agencies must first of all show an interest in the quality of training, the watch officer's practical experience and each sailor's high level of responsibility for standing watch.

During short-term cruises at sea, the ship's captains have the practical opportunity--while constantly on the bridge--to personally command the ship, while thoroughly supervising the activity of the watch officers. Under the conditions of long-distance ocean cruises the role of the watch officer on the bridge increases. Not only an in-depth knowledge and precise accomplishment of the requirements of the ship's regulations and the appropriate instructions and directions are required of him but also the ability--when necessary--to take upon himself complete responsibility for the successful accomplishment of the ship's assigned missions. This means that he must have an in-depth understanding of the situation at the combat stations; he must have a good idea of the esprit and physical condition of the sailors of his ship and their psychological state; and he must purposefully and actively manage socialist competition.

As experience shows, the crews whose commanders constantly, thoughtfully and purposefully prepare watch officers and show an all-round concern for improving watch duty feel more confidence in themselves during cruises and accomplish missions at sea more successfully.

The submarine commanded by Capt 3d Rank S. Poteshkin has made many long-distance cruises and the crew has invariably received a high rating for accomplishing cruise missions. At

the same time, the increased expertise of the submariners was also demonstrated in the quality of the watches they stood and in the precise and independent work of the watch officers.

From the first days of their service on the submarine, officers aim not only at accomplishing their official duties but also at passing the examinations to stand watch independently. During cruises, Capt 3d Rank S. Poteshkin strives with the utmost efficiency to utilize the actual cruise conditions for the watch officers' practical training, for developing in them a high sense of responsibility for managing the combat shift and for inculcating an affinity toward their work in the command center and on the bridge.

Standing watch independently is only entrusted to those military sailors who have sufficiently mastered their specialties and successfully passed the appropriate examinations. However, bridge watch is different from the sailors other spheres of official activities. It is not enough to be a good specialist here. The watch demands a high level of awareness, an acute sense of duty, constant vigilance and a readiness for the most decisive actions from the sailors, petty officers, warrant officers and officers.

The indoctrination of such an attitude toward watch duty is a complex matter which requires that commanders, political workers, party and komsomol organizations have a constant, active influence on personnel. In addition, indoctrination based on the ship's traditions and on the examples of the crew's best people is extremely important. Party and political work for increasing vigilance and the quality of bridge watch must be organized with consideration for the concrete cruise situation and of the missions to be accomplished.

Socialist competition must play a special part in increasing vigilance in the quality of bridge watch. During a cruise, commanders, political officials and watch officers must make the most effective use of socialist competition's strong points. When organized between combat shifts, it enables them to raise the intensity of competition higher and to more quickly

mobilize people to eliminate the uncovered shortcomings. Active, purposeful competition not only leads the sailors to new frontiers but it also arouses an upsurge of strength in them and a creative interest toward accomplishment of their watch duties; it contributes to a reduction of psychological and physical fatigue.

Military sailors are attending the school of courage and expertise at sea. While fulfilling their duty to the homeland, the crews are exerting all their efforts in order to achieve an even greater increase in the combat readiness of their ships and to successfully accomplish all the tasks of the training year which is coming to a close.

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CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Chita, Tashkent, Uzbek SSR, Tartu

Moscow VOYENNIYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press 12 Oct 77
pp 8-9

[Articles written by four readers: "On Time and Qualitatively"]

[Text] Leading enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes during the national socialist competition during October's 60th anniversary not only achieved high production indicators, but also successfully completed the training in the civil defense [CD] system.

Our readers tell us about this.

Following the Example of the Initiators

In our rayon, collectives from Vostochnaya Mine and the Central Electro-mechanical Shops were the first to stand the October watch. After setting up a reliable training facility, the miners made a good start. Lessons in the training village, at the training point, and in classrooms began in an organized manner at the appointed time.

We note that, at the initiative of the mine's collective and its director N. Vlasov, a deputy to the raysovet, a competitive review was conducted in the rayon for the best CD training facility and included enterprises, institutions, and educational institutions. The review played a large role in preparations for the training year. Following the example of the initiators, who were awarded first place when the results were tallied, many installations set up their own training villages, full-scale sectors, training points, and classrooms. Special mention must be made of the training points in ZhEK [housing operation offices] where the population not involved in production and maintenance (pensioners and homemakers) are trained, as well as at the production and repair enterprise, the Chernovskiy Reinforced Concrete Products Plant, and the machine tool plant.

The Central Electromechanical Shops also set up a good training facility. The party committee and administration here set the competition up in such a way

that production matters were closely tied in with CD measures and with all work involving the military-patriotic indoctrination of the workers. A task was levied at the meetings of the party, Komsomol, and trade union organizations. Each worker and employee must pass the norms for the universal and mandatory minimum knowledge program at the excellent and good levels, while the troops of the non-militarized formations are obliged to attentively study the drills and methods of operations in centers of heavy damage and in the areas of natural disasters. And, the decisions of the meetings were successfully brought to fruition. Everyone at the installation passed the norms and can correctly use individual and collective protective equipment. The non-militarized formations acquired firm skills in operating as they carried out the missions with which they were tasked.

We disseminated the leaders' know-how to all installations in the rayon. This was primarily facilitated by meetings of the directors' council at which the CD leaders exchange opinions on their work practices, as well as by the traditional CD monthly meetings. The latter is a review of the achievements in practical training of labor collectives and the personnel of non-militarized CD formations in the jubilee year.

Inspections of the state of CD organized by the rayispolkom exerted a great deal of influence on fulfillment of socialist pledges. By direction of A. Ivanov, rayon CD chief, all sections of the rayispolkom actively participated in this important work.

Party raykom workers, inspecting the activities of enterprise and institution primary party organizations, also analyze the forms and methods of CD guidance used locally and assist in elimination of deficiencies. Thus, G. Ineshina, secretary of the CPSU raykom, and instructor G. Prokopenko assisted the party organizations at the Chita GRES [State Regional Electric Power Plant] and the machine-tool and automobile assembly plants to improve CD propaganda and visual agitation and to elaborate plans for party-political work during the preparation for and conduct of integrated installation exercises.

We need to mention that the latter were conducted everywhere in an organized manner and exactly on time as established by the plan. Competitions of the medical teams, reconnaissance, rescue, and other formations, as a rule, preceded the exercises. This all facilitated the fortifying of practical skills.

V. Yemel'yanchikov, chief of the CD staff, Chernovskiy Rayon, city of Chita

During the Days of the October Watch

CD socialist competition was launched during the October watch between the shop and sector collectives at our plant. At first the pace setter was the mechanical-repair shop, which won the travelling pennant based on first-quarter results.

The workers and employees of this harmonious collective form the backbone of the installation's non-militarized formation and shop chief V. Usanov is its

commander. Practical lessons on the general and special training programs had good results here. Everyone passed the norms and each firmly assimilated his responsibilities. Each also demonstrated at a tactical-special exercise firm skills in operating in a complex situation.

Lessons conducted by communist A. Sosnovskiy were especially instructive. They competed here under the slogan "Not a Single Lagger Among Us." And, not only in the basic job, but also in assimilation of knowledge and skills required by every CD troop. The galena, carton, power, and other shops successfully fulfilled their pledges during further competition. And, the collective led by L. Danilova took first place that time.

M. Yeliseyev, chief of the CD staff, Tashkent Pharmaceutical Plant

They Passed the Exam

The Angren Order of Labor's Red Banner Coal Pit is a large coal-mining enterprise within the Sredazugol' production association. During Great October's 60th anniversary year, the pit collective is working with an especially creative attitude. Having made high pledges in socialist competition, the miners fulfilled them ahead of time and mined hundreds of thousands of tons of coal above the plan figure.

Pledges to improve CD have also been fulfilled. Workers and employees, troops, and commanders of non-militarized formations ended their training year with an integrated installation exercise. It became an important exam for the pit's entire collective.

Complex production matters did not impede the enterprise director and installation CD chief Ya. Grinblat and his staff from completely accomplishing the entire complex of preparatory measures. Special attention was placed on drills mainly covering the themes of the training programs which were insufficiently assimilated during practical lessons. This primarily concerned notification, assembly, and responses to CD signals.

Specialists such as chief engineer Yu. Antipin, mine surveyor Yu. Soglayev, chief power engineer A. Khoroshikh exerted a great deal of effort in preparation for the exercise. The party committee kept the work of communists in the non-military formations under its strict control. Commanders, political deputies, and agitators explained the missions of the upcoming exercise to the troops and published combat leaflets.

The exercise progressed successfully. Competing and cooperating among themselves, the reconnaissance group, combined team, fire-fighting team, medical team, and supply link led by their commanders V. Svechnikov, T. Zhurayev, Yu. Antip'yev, V. Ul'yanov, and Ya. Antsibor operated skillfully.

The installation CD chief as exercise director pointed up the positive aspects and at the same time focused attention on deficiencies uncovered, particularly

several lapses in training of formations and in working out certain CD norms with the workers and employees.

"We need to eliminate these shortcomings as we continue socialist competition," he said.

And, preparing for the new training year, the staff took the critique into consideration. Now the training facility is being added to at an accelerated pace and formations are being supplied with the table of organization items they are lacking. Workers and employees are being supplied with individual protective equipment. Stress is being placed on firmly strengthening skills in protection against modern weapons.

U. Zamanov, installation CD chief, Angren, Uzbek SSR

Excellent Troop

Kaye Uusen works as a lawyer for the Tartu Grain Combine. Along with fulfillment of her direct responsibilities, she actively participates in all CD measures, setting an example of zeal and practicality. She has been a troop in the CD communications link since December of last year.

During the pre-October socialist competition, K. Uusen pledged to attain the radio telegrapher specialty. And, word and deed coincided. Practical lessons and radio drills not only made it possible to learn the arrangement of a radio station well, but also to acquire firm skills in operating it.

It is no accident that Kaye ended up among participants at radio crew city competitions. Although appearing for the first time, she operated diligently and confidently and showed herself to be an excellent troop.

V. Sokol'nikov, installation CD chief, Tartu, Estonian SSR

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In a Civil Aviation Repair Plant

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press 12 Oct 77
pp 26-27

[Article by A. Kharitonov, CD chief of the Order of the October Revolution Aviation Repair Plant No. 402, Ministry of Civil Aviation: "The High Award Obliges"]

[Text] We trace our pedigree from 7 Nov 1931. Therefore, computation of the time marking the establishment and growth of our labor collective begins with the 14th anniversary of the Great October socialist revolution.

Great changes have occurred in 46 years. The plant has expanded, increasing the production capacities, and the engineering equipment and technological process have been continually improved. Along with the plant, the people have grown up, with many workers and engineering-technical personnel improving their education without giving up their work. Almost one-third of our collective's workers are studying in working youth schools, tekhnikums, and institutes.

Along with the plant's banner, upon which is fastened the Order of the October Revolution, one finds travelling banners won in socialist competition in various years in our Room of Combat and Labor Glory.

In 1973, we received the news of the award of the Order of the October Revolution to the plant with enormous joy and thankfulness to the Communist Party and to the Soviet government. This high award obliges us to do a great deal.

And now, the days of Soviet power's glorious jubilee, the days when after a national discussion the USSR Supreme Soviet passed the new Fundamental Law -- the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, we are reporting to our dear party and government on successes achieved in the pre-October socialist competition. Standing the October watch, aviation repairmen completely fulfilled their pledges.

Accomplishing their production tasks, members of the enterprise collective are stressing mass defense work and improvement of CD. The party committee, the plant committee, and the administration strive to carry out defense affairs in an integrated manner, in a single package, not separating them from accomplishment of other measures.

Veterans of labor and of the Great Patriotic War, leaders from production -- CD otlichniki and activists from the DOSAAF defense society, are represented in the Room of Combat and Labor Glory. Most often we see production leaders and activists in mass defense work side by side. Our personnel have taken the party requirements to heart -- that which has been created by the people must be reliably defended. They have assimilated well the articles of the Fundamental Law which concern the defense of the socialist fatherland.

The training year in the CD system has been completed successfully. And, this was greatly facilitated by the socialist competition launched on a broad scale under the slogan "For Effectiveness and Quality in Practical Training."

The leading shop based on production indicators, headed by V. Karpunin, is also considered the best in CD. Practical lessons on the 20-hour program were conducted here on a high methodological level and exactly according to schedule. All workers and employees passed or confirmed the norms. The CD formation set up on the basis of the shop accomplished the special training program and demonstrated firm skills at the special tactical exercise. Formation commander N. Ryleyev and his deputy for political affairs V. Lozovoy accomplished a great deal of fruitful work with the personnel.

We should also mention A. Abrashov's shop, the reconnaissance group (commander A. Minayev), and the communications group (commander V. Bol'shakov). They also accomplished their training programs completely.

We look upon the combined team as an excellent non-militarized formation. For many years now it has been led by its commander M. Uliderkin (designer-engineer) and its deputy for political affairs V. Gusev (deputy secretary of the party committee). It is characteristic that the troops and commanders of this formation have often had to employ their knowledge and skills in areas of natural disaster. In particular, they were called out to extinguish forest fires and

confidently coped with their assigned tasks. They used the know-how accumulated to improve drills and operations during further training.

We must not overlook our medical aid teams, which were combined into a detachment. It is commanded by Ye. Yakovleva, a medical orderly from the aid point. With her deputy for political affairs T. Vlasova, she has created a harmonious coordinated collective and high viability in socialist competition within the formation. One of the best medical aid teams (commander R. Krivonosova, deputy for political affairs L. Dmitriyenko) often participated in rayon and oblast competitions, winning cups and certificates. A wall newspaper is regularly published in the detachment and combat leaflets are compiled in the medical aid teams during lessons.

G. Besedov, our chairman of the Red Cross Committee, actively participates in the training of medical aid teams and he can often be seen at practical lessons.

A single day, Friday, has been set aside for CD lessons. This allows them to be conducted in an organized fashion and insures the requisite control, which is exercised by the installation staff, chiefs of shop CD staffs, chiefs of services, and by plant management. No other measures are planned for this day and the attention of the entire collective is focused on fruitful and quality CD training.

Plant management and the CD staff, which for a long time has been led by Major (Reserve) I. Ivanov, an active participant in the Great Patriotic War, place special attention on having all workers and employees pass the norms. An excellently accomplished norm is a criterion of readiness to protect against modern weapons and a trainee's chief evaluation. In the final analysis, it is also the evaluation of those providing the training.

After analysis of know-how from past years, we concluded that quality passing of norms can be achieved through competition between training groups. They are first held in the shops, then the victors receive the right to participate in installation contests. This is the way we did it this year. The result is before us. The number of good and excellent evaluations rose noticeably and significantly more people not only finished in the normative time, but exceeded the norm. There also appeared the interest and desire not to let your sector or shop down.

CD days and weeks, which we have conducted at our installation for many years, are a great help. This is an installation-wide measure guided by the party committee and in which the plant, Komsomol, and DOSAAF committees, the club, library, and party educational office actively participate. CD days are preceded by various competitions on military-applicable types of sports, passing the norms of the GTO complex (the CD section), conduct of special tactical exercises with the formations, and other mass-scale measures. Lectures are presented, films on defense themes are shown, and competitive reviews for the best shop CD corner and best wall newspaper are organized.

Until recently, we had noted a deficiency in the training on the universal compulsory minimum program of the family members of workers and employees not occupied in production and in the maintenance sphere (homemakers, pensioners,

and others). But during the just completed training year, we were able to achieve a measure of change here as well. The CD staff in conjunction with the ZhKO [communal housing department] selected and prepared training group leaders from among the housing administration workers. They also assisted in equipping training locations for lessons, including in extant protective structures. And, the project is now in motion.

The ZhKO chief A. Ovchinnikov, technician-inspector S. Belova and M. Osetrova, and staff worker reserve officer D. Talpiz should be given their just due. They continually participated in the preparation for and conduct of lessons. The task now is to multiply the accumulated know-how and properly organize the practical training in our residential sector.

Thus, the plant collective was able during the jubilee socialist competition to achieve noteworthy successes in mass defense work, as well in production matters. It is now striving with great creative enthusiasm to bring to fruition the historical decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, to fulfill the tasks of the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

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Plant Rescue Team Commander

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press 12 Oct 77
pp 28-29

[Article by K. Ogloblin: "Link Commander"]

[Excerpts] Vasily Sergeyevich Aleksandrov has been participating in CD for 17 years now at the Yaroslavl' Order of Lenin and Order of the October Revolution Motor Plant. At first he was a rank-and-file troop and then he was assigned as commander of the rescue link. It would seem to be a minor advance in service but, if you think about it, this is no minor job being commander of a link. Similar to how it is done in the army, where companies and battalions are formed from platoons, CD teams and detachments are formed from links. Successful operations by CD forces depend upon the coordination and training of each link, on the knowledge and know-how of the commander.

Vasily Sergeyevich well understands the role of his small but important cell in the overall system of installation CD. He goes about fulfillment of his far from simple obligations with all the responsibility of a communist and takes pride in the trust placed in him.

"In the new USSR Constitution," he says, "it states that the defense of the socialist fatherland is the cause of all the people. And, in particular, participation in CD measures is fulfillment of this sacred obligation, this constitutional duty."

There are eight rescuers in the link, people with stable moral-political and psychological qualities, well educated and trained. In their own time, V. Butenko, V. Pavlov, and the other troops went through the school of army tempering. In

production, they form the fitter's brigade for equipment repair in the shop which produces precision measurement tools.

Here is what is written about them in ZAVODSKAYA ZHIZN', the enterprise's multi-edition newspaper. "The brigade of fitters and repairmen led by Cavalier of the Order of Labor's Red Banner V. S. Aleksandrov, as a rule, does repairs on time and quality is excellent. There are no violations of labor discipline here, all members of the brigade successfully fulfill socialist pledges made for the jubilee year. This collective is noted monthly among the best in the 'October's 60th Anniversary -- Effectiveness and Quality' competitive review."

Brigadier Aleksandrov's picture is on the Board of Honor. He is a member of the party bureau of the tool and stamping wing, an active rationalizer, and a tutor of young workers. Vasilii Sergeyevich has trained more than 20 highly-qualified repair specialists. As a war and labor veteran, he appears on TV and radio, in the affiliated school, and does a great deal of indoctrinational work with teenagers. One can only be amazed. Where does a person find time for all of this? And, he successfully carries out his obligations involving CD as well.

The link completely assimilates the established training program each year and it strengthens and improves its skills at drills and exercises. And, the commander himself conducts practical lessons without fail.

This link is credited with doing a great deal both for production, as well as for improving installation CD. During exercises, based on the situation, it tore down old structures, laid the bed for new pipes, and installed equipment in the protective structure.

It has also had its "baptism of fire." Several years ago, fire broke out at an enterprise in the city. Aleksandrov's link along with others went to the assistance of their neighbors. Fortunately, no one was injured during the fire but, as Ya. Nemirovskiy, deputy general director for CD, tells it, there was plenty of work for the rescuers. During the battle against the fire, the troops removed highly flammable materials and finished products to a safe place and assisted the firemen. And, when the fire was defeated, they set about clearing debris and burned structurals. The rescuers received thanks from the chief of the oblast CD staff for their selfless skillful actions in putting the fire out.

Here is how P. Solov'yev, commander of the rescue team and deputy shop chief, answered the question of what characterizes Aleksandrov as link commander.

"He himself is a reliable person and his subordinates are the same. They never falter regardless of the situation. Take a recent example. The staff ordered that a rescue link be identified to give a demonstration lesson with the shop chiefs. All of our links are well trained, but Aleksandrov's was selected. And, they accomplished the mission with honor, receiving thanks from management. Tactics for accomplishing rescue operations by an individual and by a link as a whole were clearly demonstrated. Methods of using a jack hammer and operations in conjunction with a truck crane and bulldozer were demonstrated."

Think about such a fine reputation -- a reliable person. Certainly Vasilii Sergeyevich was not born with it. How did he get such a reputation, how was it formed? And, it undoubtedly would be interesting to find out, for youths

especially, how and with what do you win such a reputation, what are its sources? To find out not only for the recipe as much as for a more profound and clearer understanding of those enormous capabilities of spiritual growth which October revealed to each one of us, our socialist way of life.

Vasiliy Aleksandrov arrived at the motor plant in 1940 as a 15-year old. He wanted to become a worker faster than his mother and father had. Rephrasing a famous song, it could be said that "the harmonious plant family greeted the lad. . . ." A bit of time passed and he became a fitter third rank. He achieved the secrets of mastery with the passion and keenness of perception which are characteristic of youth. However, it took a great deal longer, until after the war, to assimilate the finest points of his beloved profession.

After the Victory Vasiliy Sergeyevich remained in the army 5 years. He reached the rank of master sergeant, assimilated artillery specialties, since he was transferred from a mortar to a gun battery. He taught young soldiers the comradely business, preparing to serve longer, but a wound suffered at the front bothered him. He returned to the factory from whence he had come.

For it was all this, the leavening of work, the severe school of war, the high responsibility of a patriot communist to his socialist fatherland, that formed his character. That is how his comrades at the plant know Aleksandrov today.

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Instructor Activities in Dushanbe

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pp 28-29

[Article by A. Demochkin, Dushanbe: "I Am Teaching, But Not in School. . . ."]

[Excerpts] If you were to leaf through the service record in the personnel folder of Colonel (Retired) S. B. Vol'fman and count his combat decorations, you would involuntarily feel respect for him, even though you had never met him.

But even then, the most interesting facts from the combat biography of Semen Borisovich Vol'fman, a communist with 50 years of service, presently the senior teacher in the Tadzhik SSR CD courses, will not provide a full representation of the veteran without discussing how he lives, what cause he is now serving.

His friends from the front always wrote him saying, Semen, let's get together. It was at Sevastopol', let's recall the old days, our comrades no longer with us.

But Semen Borisovich turned every offer down, citing that he was too busy, and he was actually heavily involved.

Then came the postcard from the veterans of the war with the white Finns and Vol'fman was invited to Vyborg. And, Semen Borisovich went. And, how could he not go? He was wounded for the first time in that war and that is when he received his first Order of the Red Banner.

"You know, we even shed tears of joy," Semen Borisovich relates. "Then we thought about friends, sang frontline songs. There were generals and scientists and writers there. Most of all pensioners. My comrades asked me 'what are you doing, Semen, you with two academies behind you?' 'As always, I am teaching,' I told them. 'Teaching?' 'Teaching. But not in school. I am teaching people to protect themselves against modern weapons.' And you know, my old friends approved of what I was doing."

. . . We are sitting in Semen Borisovich's modest apartment and are examining old photographs and documents faded from age.

"That is I, a student in the regimental school. Here I am receiving my ticket to life, I am completing the military school."

"And in this one?"

"In this photo they commemorate us, the young commanders who have just arrived in the Chapayev division."

Photos, credentials, letters, certificates. . . . It is as if they are living witness to the veteran's combat path.

Here is a copy of an award list dated 1940:

"By his selfless courage and initiative, having skillfully employed a brave maneuver, S. B. Vol'fman with a group of comrades, outnumbered, decided the outcome of a battle, liquidated the danger of a surprise enemy counterattack against the units [chast'] of the corps, captured a "tongue" which provided valuable information about the defensive fortifications of the Mannerheim Line and enemy defensive units. S. B. Vol'fman also demonstrated bravery and heroism in later battles."

During the postwar years, he headed the military department at the Tadzhik State University for a number of years. And, accepting his pension, he eagerly accepted the offer from the republic CD staff to become a teacher in the republic CD courses. Teaching methods of protection against weapons of mass destruction is also considered to be defense of the country.

Regardless of where Vol'fman is to be found -- in class or at the training point, in the political work section or at the full-scale sector -- there are always people around him. You can tell without fail from the students' faces. A creative atmosphere rules here. I have had a number of opportunities to visit the lessons Vol'fman conducts. It is as if he converses with the students, enthalls them, provides food for thought.

A. Saburov, chief of the installation CD staff, once noted:

"A lot is said at meetings about the importance of moral-political and psychological training of formation troops. But how do you develop the requisite qualities?"

"The specifics of CD," the teacher answered, "require the daily exertion of

moral and physical forces, the ability to control yourself, to accomplish the most complex mission at any moment. We will conduct a special lesson on this theme in the training village at one of the installations in Oktyabr'skiy Rayon during the exercise."

And such a lesson was soon held. Semen Borisovich analyzed the activities of the reconnaissance, the rescue and emergency restoration teams, fire-fighting detachments, and the medical aid teams.

"Of course," he said, "the main condition in the moral-political stability of our troops and commanders is their ideological conviction, their understanding of the significance of missions accomplished, the sense of duty and personal responsibility. To this must be added as well the purely psychological traits which are developed in the complex situation of the exercises, as the norms are being passed."

And, the director demonstrated how well the troops of the non-militarized formations operated as they accomplished difficult, even dangerous, work.

"That is how psychological stability is acquired. Many such examples could be cited," the teacher added. "You, I hope, will also find them in daily life. In addition, I advise you to use in your lessons convincing, clear-cut examples from the war. Relating combat traditions is a good method for use in the moral-political and psychological training both of the troops in the non-militarized formations and for the entire population."

Vol'fman is not only a teacher in the courses, but is also an active propagandist, a lecturer from the urban section of the Znaniye [Knowledge] Society. Red pathfinders from the schools in Dushanbe "attack" him often, especially before holidays. He corresponds with schoolchildren in Sevastopol', Kalinigrad, and Kremenchug.

Social profession sections operate in the Dushanbe Pioneers' Home. Young propagandists are active in them. Veterans, including Vol'fman, often visit the young people. A conversation once took place between Semen Borisovich and the kids on the main thing in life. It was a long and interesting talk and the respected soldier ended it in this manner:

"The main thing is to be an irreconcilable fighting man. Stand for truth honorably and until the end, hate your enemies, love the motherland of October."

Medical Aid Team in Orsha

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press 12 Oct 77 p 30

[Article by F. Kulakov, Orsha: "We Believe in Our Own Star"]

[Excerpts] It is always useful to heed the words of Galina Kolbasova. Her brigade was the first at the Orsha Meat-Packing Combine to accomplish the tasks of the Ninth Five-Year Plan 1 year ahead of time and is laboring with the same degree of confidence in the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

Along with her brigade, she heads the enterprise medical aid team. The medical

orderlies from various shops and shifts are in the main Komsomol members. The composition of the medical aid team varies and is replenished. This can not be avoided. And, every novice must be trained, convinced of the importance of her assigned task, imbued with a spirit of collectivism. And here, of course, you cannot get along without enthusiasts and socially active persons.

Take Nina Tikhonovna Ostrenkova, director of the aid station, for example. She is the one responsible for training the medical orderlies. And, her first assistant is commander Galina Kolbasova.

Medical aid posts have been set up in every shop in the enterprise due to the efforts and endeavors of the medical aid station and team. The medical orderlies function as instructors. Strict adherence to the requirements of sanitary hygiene at the meat-packing combine is the constant concern of the medical aid team and its commander. It would seem to be a trifle. Galina examines a first aid kit and it is not in order. She does not leave in peace the person who is responsible for this first aid kit.

But, there also are more serious matters. Let's say that the workers must be able to provide assistance to those injured in the event of ammonia damage, something that cannot be ruled out in such an enterprise. It happens that it is not a bit player who requires help, but someone who is actually injured. Everyone at the enterprise recalls one situation.

There was an accident on a conveyor in the packing shop. A worker seriously hurt her hand. The thing responsible for the injury can be determined later. At the moment the incident happened, everyone was deeply affected by the event. Medical orderly Irina Vavinskaya was close at hand. Not wasting a second, she tore off her kerchief and smock and rapidly made a tourniquet, fastened the hand above the elbow, dressed the wound, and helped the injured come to. The ambulance took her to the hospital. Only then did Irina slump down on a nearby box. Her hands shook. But, she was not afraid when she was giving assistance. She did as she had been taught at the lessons. And then a situation presented itself -- sad and unwanted -- and she did not panic, she went into action.

As an added comment, Irina Vavinskaya now is also an active member of the medical aid team, a harmonious close-knit collective where it is one for all and all for one. There are instances when an aid team is "formed" just prior to exercises or competitions. A group of girls is gathered together, they are briefed, a hurried demonstration is provided. . . as if only "to complete the measure."

"It is not that way with us," relates Galina Vasil'yevna. "Although we are in different shops and shifts, we conduct all CD-related matters in an organized manner. Even when we get together it is mandatory that we talk about our matters. Or take the donor program. Last year Pen'kovskaya gave blood twice, gratis. Dytseva, Chepikov, and Gurskaya three times, and Kovaleva four times. The medical orderlies also attract others to this beneficial program."

Normally Galina Vasil'yevna also carries out other social tasks, not to speak of her main job of leading her brigade from one labor victory to another. But, when the time for exercises or competitions comes. . . .

"To be honest with you, it gets tough," Kolbasova admits. "Moreover, you must

demonstrate both the high level of theoretical training and a skill to correctly and rapidly act in any situation. And, the situation gets even closer to the actual, as you know. At one exercise, the girls descended into a "destroyed" basement where the "seriously injured" man was located. Can he be brought out or not? What help does he require? And, the umpire is right there awaiting the decision and writing down the time. . . . If it is Taisa Parusova or Klava Belezynak, Galya Zinkovich or Zina Kolbushkina involved, then I am not worried," says the commander. "But I worry about the new girls, naturally. We are spending the most time with them and are bringing them up to the level of the best medical orderlies."

"At recent lessons," recalls V. Kuchinskiy, chief of the combine CD staff, "our team operated in a destroyed area in a situation very close to being real. Guys from the neighboring plant worked as rescuers along with the team. All without exception had gone through the army school. Everything turned out easily and skillfully for them. The entrance into the building was cleared. Galina Kolbasova selects the most experienced medical orderlies and they set to work. This provides confidence for the others and the medical aid team successfully copes with the mission. . . ."

"All of this is because we repeatedly worked out a similar situation," Galya explains.

A strong medical aid team with its stable composition at the silica products combine is establishing a permanent rivalry for these girls at competitions.

"They have," Galina rightfully admits, "had everything set up for a long time, beginning with the formation and marching songs. But, we are not giving up, we believe in our own star. Even now we are preparing for a 'clash' with our rivals, we are developing practical skills, and we are adjusting our equipment."

This conversation took place not long before the city's traditional CD day. Preparing for the competition, the girls studied several hours per day, for the sake of which the combine management integrated the medical aid team working shifts and created for them other conditions for successful lessons.

And then came the formation, the parade of the non-militarized CD formations and equipment on the city's central square, then the departure to the zone for the conduct of the rescue and emergency restoration work. It was the turn for the medical orderlies to demonstrate their skill and mastery.

It is difficult to compete with the girls from the silica combine and the tool plant, with those from the flax combine that is renowned for its Order of Lenin. But, Galina Kolbasova guides the activities of her team calmly, carefully, confidently. The results are a prize-winning finish. It is deserved, an award for diligence and difficult labor.

To the question of whether the girls are serious about exercises and competitions, since this is a game, a simulation, Galina answers with a question. "How could it be otherwise?" She actually does not even entertain thoughts that one could go about an assigned task without being serious, that one could work with partial effort. Of course, there are many conditional aspects, but the girls do not seem to notice them. Before them are "injured" persons who are undergoing suffering.

[paragraph continues] And, they must possess firm knowledge of how to assist them. Consciousness of duty is paramount.

And, it gives one cause to think. One can have full confidence in the hands and concerns of such women.

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RELIABILITY OF COMBAT MATERIEL DISCUSSED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press
12 Oct 77 pp 42-43

[Article by Colonel-Engineer V. Knyaz'kov and Colonel-Engineer
V. Rozhkov: "Reliability and Combat Readiness"]

[Text] Now and then we hear the phrases "reliable machine," increased "reliability" ("nadezhnost'") of a unit, the motor must be more "reliable," etc. And if, for example, we say that the VEF transistor receiver is "reliable" we know it is of good quality and that it will have a long and trouble-free operational life.

Readers in the second half of the 20th century have already got accustomed to the term "reliability" and generally speaking understand the proper meaning of the term. Strange as it may seem, however, even a comparatively short time ago this technical term was not as widely used as it is now. It was even missing from the last edition of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia.

Why is so much constant attention now being focused on reliability? The reason is that today's equipment is incomparable with, say, that in use at the beginning of the century. It operates at high speeds; high voltages and pressures; in different, sometimes extreme, modes; within a wide range of temperatures, etc. And the more complex the tasks man expects a piece of technical equipment to perform, the greater the number of parts and units required for its manufacture. The ordinary electric lamp consists of 60-90 parts; the "Moskvich" automobile is made of approximately 10,000 parts; but present-day electronic computers contain hundreds of thousands, even millions, of separate parts.

The question of the reliability of weapons and combat materiel is an especially pressing and important one. The great degree

of reliability of rockets and missiles, aircraft, ships, tanks, weapons, etc is a guarantee of the troops' constant combat readiness. That also means that the automatic weapon in the hands of the soldier must fire dependably.

Any piece of technical equipment demonstrates its characteristics only while it is in use. A machine tool--in operation; artillery piece--in combat, during firing. It must be emphasized that ratings (dependability, accuracy, performance, etc.), no matter how high, still cannot completely characterize the quality of an item.

Let us explain with an example. Let us suppose that two completely identical guns are being tested on the firing range. But from one of them no sooner had 10 shells been fired than the barrel had to be changed: the shell scatter considerably exceeded the permissible limits. However, after 1000 shells had been fired from the second the gunners continued to send shell after shell to the target.

Which gun is better? The second one, of course. Why? Its barrel was made of better-quality steel, and therefore over a long period of time the gun continued to fire with great accuracy. In other words, the second gun was considerably more reliable than the first.

What is reliability? Specialists give the following definition: reliability is that characteristic of a product which enables it to operate for a certain period of time while retaining its original technical characteristics within given limits. Sometimes a product's reliability is defined as its capability of trouble-free performance for a definite period of time under certain operational conditions.

Reliability is a characteristic required of any piece of technical equipment. But it is a special type of characteristic: it differs in an essential way from all other characteristics, which, generally speaking, are unrelated to each other. For example, a rapid-firing gun may possess a low degree of accuracy; an aircraft may be able to fly at high speeds, but at the same time it consumes much fuel, etc.

Reliability is mutually related to all characteristics of a product. Of course, it alone is no indicator of quality. An aircraft may be very reliable, but at the same time possess poor aerodynamic characteristics. Nevertheless, if the machine is unreliable, then all its other outstanding characteristics lose their practical significance.

Taking into consideration the requirements for and the principles of reliability, military specialists are creating rockets and missiles, tanks, aircraft, ships, gun mounts, and complex radar facilities which have to be ready for immediate operation in the most intense cold or heat, rain or snow.

But no matter how reliable a weapon may be as manufactured, it requires competent operation, attentive care, and timely preventive maintenance and repair. Otherwise it will fail sooner or later.

The high quality and reliability of a product manufactured in domestic plants may be illustrated by an example taken, not from the military area, but still specific enough. We are speaking now about one of our first sputniks. Its systems, units and assemblies consisted of a great number of different elements, including 241 electron tubes, over 60,000 transistors, approximately 800 electric relays and switches, 56 electric motors, and 880 plug-and-socket connections. The total length of the connecting wires equalled 15 km! And all this performed flawlessly in the highly unusual conditions of outer space.

Soviet military engineers and designers are devoting the most constant attention to the reliability of combat materiel. Thanks to their labors models of weapons and equipment with remarkable performance characteristics are being created. Our talented working class is manufacturing them and passing them into the hands of personnel of detachments, crews, and other subunits [podrazdeleniye]. The period of operation has begun.

What can affect the reliability of equipment during this period? There are many things; they may be divided into objective and subjective groups. The former includes flaws or defective workmanship, moisture, temperature, vibrations, dusty and polluted air, mold, radiation, electrical and magnetic fields, and an aggressive external environment of liquid, vapor or gas. The latter includes the violation or nonobservance of the instructions for operating and preserving the equipment.

It is impossible, of course, not to reckon with the objective factors. The same units or machines will behave differently under different climatic conditions. This affects above all their reliability and service lives.

Ask any driver how to start an automobile engine in cold weather. You can be sure that the overwhelming majority will answer with exactly what the instructions say. But the real question is whether they all adhere to them in practice. A driver should clearly visualize how starting a cold engine,

one that has not been warmed up, produces great wear on the working surfaces, particularly the cylinders, piston rings, pins, etc. In addition, persistent attempts to start an engine over an extended period of time with the use of the choke, as well as starting it with cold oil, which is of higher viscosity, have particularly destructive effects. That is why a driver should know that each starting of an engine in 10-degree cold produces the same wear as running an automobile with a warmed up engine for a distance of 150 km.

High temperature also shortens the service life of certain automobile units and assemblies. Thus, at environmental air temperatures of from +40 to +50 degrees the temperature under the hood of a truck engine sharply increases; and under these conditions the breakdown of high-voltage wire insulation is accelerated; short circuits in generator stators become more frequent; and breakdown of the distributor cap begins.

Military specialists who maintain a radar station have a very great deal of responsibility. And indeed, an electronic apparatus is more susceptible to the effects of climatic and other external conditions.

Temperature, for example. Radio-electronic equipment bears its fluctuations very "painfully." At low temperatures there are changes in the technical parameters of such radio components as resistors, capacitors, and inductance coils. Under especially unfavorable conditions these changes sometimes become so great that they may lead to irregularities in the normal operational modes of the apparatus as a whole.

At very low temperatures, when environmental air temperature reaches -40 degrees and lower, significant physical changes may occur in radio components; and some of them "refuse" to work. Aluminum electrolytic capacitors become ineffective. Crystals become deformed and frequently cease to oscillate. Electromagnetic relays function poorly; the phenomenon of their contacts' "sticking" is observed. Storage batteries run down quickly. Cables enclosed in non-cold-resistant rubber lose their flexibility and fail to function properly.

High temperatures have no less an effect on radio-electronic equipment. Electron tubes lose their vacuum; deterioration of the cathode is accelerated. The hermetic seal of capacitors and other elements is destroyed and the potting and impregnating compounds begin to leak out. The deterioration process in radio components is accelerated. The resistance of the insulation on wiring and other elements is decreased to a certain extent, and

the danger of malfunctions increases. As a result of the deterioration of the enamel insulation in transformers and various inductance coils short-circuited turns develop, which leads to a change in the electrical parameters of the equipment.

Moisture is one of the most insidious enemies of a piece of radio-electronic equipment. Above all, metal corrodes rapidly. Insulating materials absorb moisture. As a result, there is a decrease in specific resistance, surface and volume. Various leaks develop.

Radar station maintenance personnel must also fight the effects of mold, dust, and other external environmental elements. By knowing the mechanism by which they affect electronic components it is always possible to take effective measures which will assure the reliable operation of the equipment.

Detachment and crew members must know thoroughly and conscientiously follow all instructions and suggestions regarding care of equipment. This requirement may be illustrated by an example from actual experience.

A young radar station operator, Private Bogdan Kogut, was to clean the relay contacts in one of the equipment units with industrial alcohol, as specified in the instructions. However, the soldier decided to use the gasoline which was "handy." And then in the training session the circular-scan indicator screen went out. Bogdan was beside himself. But fortunately, his experienced comrades helped quickly locate and remedy the problem. The training problem was completed.

The subunit [podrazdeleniye] commander punished Bogdan severely. His service comrades criticized his actions, and rightly so. Not for nothing people say that a machine loves tender care, cleaning, and lubrication. It is in this regard that punctual, even pedantic, attention to these requirements for the employment of weapons and combat materiel acquires great importance. For instructions are not just a designer's whim; they are dictated by objective necessity, which takes into consideration the actual operational conditions of the most complex piece of equipment.

A mistake in combat often becomes a fatal one leading to needless human losses. One cannot look through one's fingers at negligence.

Incompetent use of combat materiel, negligence--these are criminal and inadmissible. Hence one can see how great are the responsibility and the importance of competence on the part of every team and crew member who operates a piece of the latest

military equipment, a distinguishing feature of which is the collective character of its combat employment. Not for nothing do many subunits service and maintain their equipment, vehicles, and other gear under the slogan "To Combat Materiel, a Komsomol Guarantee of Reliability!".

Accuracy, punctuality, expeditiousness, and a sense of personal responsibility for the success of the entire collective are the most important requirements imposed on servicemen. Without all these qualities the successful combat employment of the most complex equipment would be unthinkable. Each of them must realize that and develop these attributes. In this regard, there is only one rule for a fighting man in the Soviet Armed Forces: there are no trivial matters in war; everything is equally important and basic. They are all directed toward one thing: the sure defeat of an enemy in modern combat.

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KULIKOV ON WARSAW PACT TASKS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Moscow VOYENNO-ISTORICHESKIY ZHURNAL in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press
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[Article by Mar SU V. Kulikov, Commander in Chief of Joint Forces of Warsaw Pact member nations: "The Warsaw Pact -- a Military-Political Alliance of Brother Peoples and Armies"]

[Text] Sixty years have passed since a highly important event in world history -- the Great October Socialist Revolution, which signaled the beginning of a new era -- the era of transition by mankind from capitalism to socialism, an era of struggle for the liberation of peoples from imperialism, for putting an end to war between nations, for overthrowing the rule of capital, and for building socialism and communism.

The process of historical reforms begun by the socialist revolution in Russia is continuing to advance inalterably upward. The emergence of socialism beyond the framework of a single country and the creation of a world socialist system constitutes a great historical achievement of the international worker class. Today it constitutes a decisive force in the antiimperialist struggle, a bastion of peace and social progress. "Development of the socialist countries, growth in their strength, and strengthening of the beneficent influence of the international policy they pursue," CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed in his report to the 25th CPSU Congress, "this is what today comprises the main thrust of mankind's social progress."¹ The foreign policy activity of the socialist countries is holding in check the forces of imperialism, the forces of the past, which are attempting to preserve a system which has outlived its time, to sow seeds of enmity and conflict between liberated nations.

A determining role in holding in check the forces of imperialism is played by the community of socialist nations which are members of the Warsaw Pact Organization. The ideals of Lenin and the principles of proletarian internationalism are embodied in this alliance of brother countries and have received further development under new historical conditions. V. I. Lenin, leader of the proletariat, stated that peoples which have chosen the socialist path of development "mandatorily need a close military and economic alliance, for otherwise the capitalists... will crush and strangle us one by one."²

From the moment of its establishment, the Warsaw Pact signaled a qualitatively new stage in the development of diversified cooperation among the socialist countries: it created a solid foundation for their collective efforts in such vitally important areas as foreign policy and defense. The brother socialist nations placed their strength and unity against the forces of imperialism.

There has never been in the history of mankind a military alliance the influence of which on the fate of nations has been so substantial and the goals of which have been so noble as the alliance formed among the member nations of the Warsaw Pact and their Armed Forces.

The fighting alliance of the brother nations of the socialist community rests on a community of solid sociopolitical, economic, ideological and military-strategy principles. A community of governmental and societal system constitutes the sociopolitical foundation of the alliance. The nations of the socialist community have common class interests in building socialism and communism, in defending the achievements of socialism, and common goals in the struggle for peace and social progress, and against the threat of aggression on the part of imperialism.

A common socialist mode of production comprises the economic foundation for the alliance of the nations of the socialist community. This enables them to carry out comprehensive economic and scientific-technical cooperation, which is conducted on a basis of equal rights and mutual respect. It provides the opportunity fully to utilize the advantages of the world socialist system.

The ideological foundation of the alliance of socialist nations is the doctrine of Marxism-Leninism and devotion to the ideals of socialism and communism, and socialist internationalism. "Under the banner of internationalism," states the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution," "the October Revolution was victorious, the position of the first socialist state was consolidated, a world socialist system arose, a community of socialist nations is developing and growing strong, and the international Communist worker movement is growing and consolidating."³

The military-strategic foundation of the fighting alliance of the brother nations is collective defense in Europe, based on joint actions by the brother peoples and their armed forces to ensure the armed defense of socialism and communism. An important factor for successful cooperation by the socialist countries in the military area is a community of military-theoretical views based on Lenin's teaching on war and army.

The USSR, states the new Constitution, as a component part of the world socialist system and the socialist community, is developing and strengthening friendship and cooperation as well as comradely mutual assistance with the socialist countries on the basis of socialist internationalism.

As we know, the fighting solidarity of the forces of the international proletariat was vividly displayed as early as the period of struggle by the young Soviet nation for its existence. In addition to the moral and political support of the Soviet Republic shown by the worker class throughout the world under the slogan "Hands off Soviet Russia!", during the years of civil war and foreign intervention tens of thousands of internationalist warriors fought in the ranks of the Red Army and in partisan detachments: Hungarians and Poles, Serbs and Croats, Czechs and Slovaks, Bulgarians and Austrians, Germans and Finns, Romanians and Mongols, Koreans and Chinese, as well as representatives of many other nationalities.

In that difficult summer of 1918 the Warsaw Revolutionary Regiment, consisting of Polish volunteers, left Moscow for the front. V. I. Lenin spoke at a political rally prior to its departure. "Now," he stated, addressing the soldiers, "an alliance of revolutionaries of different nations is taking place, about which the finest people have dreamed, a genuine alliance of workers.... You have the great honor of defending sacred ideals with weapon in hand and, struggling together with yesterday's enemies in combat -- Germans, Austrians, and Hungarians -- of actual implementing an international brotherhood of peoples."⁴

Repulsing the onslaught of world counterrevolution, the toilers of the Soviet Republic and its Red Army, guided by the Leninist party, rendered all-out assistance in the struggle of other peoples against the forces of imperialism and reaction and always honorably carried out their international duty, in spite of difficulties and the complexity of the situation.

In March 1919, for example, when the young Soviet Republic was exerting all its energies to repel the latest campaign of the Entente -- Kolchak's offensive -- on the appeal of the party of Lenin Russian and Ukrainian internationalists were fighting in the ranks of the Hungarian Red Army, which was defending its own Soviet Republic.

In 1921 the People's Government of Mongolia requested that Soviet Russia assist in the struggle against the White Guardist gangs of Baron Ungern and domestic counterrevolutionaries. Red Army combined units and units were dispatched to Mongolia, which fought side by side with Mongolian soldiers and crushed the enemy.⁵

A vivid manifestation of international class solidarity was the fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union and revolutionary forces of other countries to Republican Spain in 1936-1939, when volunteer international combined units and units, which contained many Soviet citizens, fought against the insurgent troops of General Franco.

An important landmark in the development of proletarian internationalism and the fighting alliance of the brother armies was the joint combat operations by Soviet and Mongolian troops in 1939 against the Japanese invaders on the Khalkhin-Gol River. Here combined units and units of the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic, unified into a single army group under a

common command, crushed the Japanese 6th Army, which had invaded Mongolian territory.

Throughout the many years of struggle by the Chinese people for their national independence and freedom, the Soviet state rendered comprehensive assistance.

The glorious revolutionary traditions of proletarian internationalism were manifested with particular force during the years of the Great Patriotic War. The fighting alliance of the troops of the Soviet Army with Polish, Czechoslovak and Yugoslav combined units and units, and in the final period of the war with Romanian and Bulgarian troops, with Hungarian units and combined units was established and cemented in the course of this war. German antifascists fought fascism on the battle fronts together with the soldiers of the Soviet Army.

During the last war 19 infantry, 5 artillery and 5 air divisions, more than 30 different brigades and many other foreign units and subunits were armed and trained with the assistance of the Soviet Union.⁶

The fighting alliance became particularly strengthened in the concluding stage of the Great Patriotic War. Bulgarian and Yugoslav troops, for example, took part together with Soviet troops in the Balaton Operation, Polish troops took part in the Berlin Operation, while Czechoslovak, Polish and Romanian combined units and formations took part in the Prague Operation. Soldiers of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Army fought together with troops of the Soviet Army in the operation to defeat the Kwantung Army in August 1945.

Following the war the Soviet Army rendered vast assistance to the young brother armies in their establishment, development of military branches and arms, in mastering know-how in troop control and ensuring continuous troop combat readiness, as well as in training and indoctrination of personnel in a spirit of total dedication to the Soviet homeland, to the cause of socialism and communism. In addition, assistance was rendered in furnishing them weapons, combat equipment and other materiel.

Following World War II the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community did everything possible to prevent the establishment of aggressive blocs, which constitute the principal cause of international tension. Time and again the government of the USSR proposed to the Western powers an all-European treaty on collective security in Europe, with the participation of all European nations. However, these peace-seeking steps were not supported by the imperialist powers. In addition, the latter continued strengthening the aggressive NATO bloc, which they had formed in 1949, and undertook efforts to put together new military-political alliances and joint military forces. International tension became even more intensified with the signing of the Paris Agreement, which opened up NATO membership to the West German revanchists. This compelled the socialist countries to take appropriate measures aimed at ensuring their security and at preventing war in Europe and throughout the world.

As we know, during the first postwar years the security of the socialist nations was based on a system of bilateral treaties of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance. In the mid-1950's, however, in connection with stepped-up aggressive activities on the part of the imperialist blocs, alongside bilateral treaties there arose the necessity of establishing a system of collective defense of the nations of the socialist community. Therefore, in order to parry the NATO military threat, in 1955 the European socialist nations signed the Warsaw Pact, which constitutes a military-political alliance based on full equality, established on the foundation of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance of the nations of the European socialist community. Its principal goal is to ensure the security of peace-seeking nations and to maintain peace in Europe. It is an organization of self-defense, friendship and international unity of the socialist countries.

The Warsaw Pact made it possible to unify the forces of the socialist countries which had joined this defensive alliance, opposing the imperialist military coalition. It is not a closed organization such as NATO, but on the contrary, provides for participation by all European nations, independent of their societal and governmental system. The socialist signatory nations proclaimed extensive cooperation in the economic, political and military areas, as well as in the cultural affairs of the members of the alliance. "Reaffirming their desire to create a European collective security system based on participation by all European nations, regardless of their societal and governmental system..." emphasizes the Warsaw Pact, "the parties to this agreement declare their willingness to participate in a spirit of sincere cooperation in all international actions aimed at ensuring international peace and security and will fully endeavor to achieve these goals."⁹

With the signing of the Warsaw Pact, cooperation among the brother countries and their armed forces rose to a new and higher level, becoming multilateral and permanent. The countries joining the defensive alliance time and again undertook resolute and consistent steps aimed at preserving and consolidating peace on earth. Persistently implementing a policy based on the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence of nations with differing social systems, they achieved considerable success in resolving political problems, which helped attain positive changes in the international situation.

The significance of the fighting alliance of Warsaw Pact member nations is enormous as a factor restraining the forces of imperialism and aggression, ensuring the peace and security of peoples. International solidarity, comprehensive assistance and support of progressive forces struggling for their freedom and independence, as well as the firm position of the Soviet Union and the other socialist nations in the struggle against the intrigues of imperialists have time and again constituted a decisive force in thwarting the aggressive plans of the monopolist reactionaries. In the 1950's and 1960's, for example, the Hungarian people was given assistance in putting down a counterrevolutionary insurrection, aggression against Egypt and Syria was halted, and an imperialist provocation against the GDR and a conspiracy of international imperialism and domestic counterrevolution in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic were nipped in the bud.

The Warsaw Pact member nations gave fraternal assistance to the people of Vietnam and helped them not only stand fast in the struggle against American imperialism but helped them defeat it as well. They took active measures to prevent military conflicts in the Near East, in Africa and in other regions where an explosive situation was forming.

The Warsaw Pact member nations are waging a consistent campaign to implement the Peace Program adopted at the 24th CPSU Congress, a program which was further developed at the 25th CPSU Congress and which received the approval of the brother parties. Remarkable in this regard is the fruitful activity of the Political Consultative Committee (PCC) -- a collective body in which all Warsaw Pact nations are represented at the highest level. It examines key matters of policy and security of the nations of the socialist community in order to ensure a peaceful life for their peoples.

Such coordination promotes the elaboration of a coordinated policy, determination of a high-principled approach to the basic problems of European and world policy, and helps assure efficient exchange of information and joint search for ways to resolve a given concrete matter taking into account all factors, all situation nuances, and all details of the position of the interested nations.

In recent years coordination of the foreign policy activity of the socialist nations has risen to a qualitatively new level. Extremely indicative in this regard are the results of the Bucharest meeting of the Political Consultative Committee (1976). In an atmosphere of total unanimity, a declaration was adopted at this meeting, entitled "For New Achievements in International Détente, for Strengthening Security and the Development of Cooperation in Europe," and a number of concrete proposals were made, which serve the interests of peace. At the same time the conferees decided to establish a committee of ministers of foreign affairs and a Joint Secretariat as agencies of the PCC.

The peoples of all countries learned with approval of the results of the PCC meeting in Bucharest, which attested to the resolve of the Warsaw Pact member nations to continue their coordinated policy, aimed at strengthening peace and security in Europe, at deepening détente, and at affirming the principles of peaceful coexistence of nations with differing social systems.

In recent years the CPSU Central Committee, the brother Communist and worker parties have done enormous work which has led to some international détente and to strengthening of peace in Europe, to affirmation of the principles of peaceful coexistence of nations with a differing social system and development of cooperation among them. But the enemies of détente seek once again to aggravate the international situation and to complicate relations between nations. The arms race is being deliberately escalated in the imperialist countries, and military preparations are being conducted at an increasingly rapid pace.

Clearly evident in the policies of the Western powers which are members of NATO is a disinclination to face reality. This was reconfirmed by the results of recent meetings of top-level NATO bodies. Assessing the results of the London (May 1977) session of the NATO Council, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary L. I. Brezhnev stated: "Essentially what has happened is that the NATO leaders have agreed to a new increase in the bloc's offensive potential and have called for planning the arms race years in advance."¹⁰

Progressive forces in the European countries view the heightened activity presently being displayed by the imperialists as an attempt to turn the world back to the "cold war". Indeed, with their decisions the NATO leaders have not at all promoted strengthening of détente. On the contrary, these decisions have given the green light to a new round in the arms race and impetus toward further increasing the military budgets of the NATO member nations.

A decision was made to alter the character and procedure of planning the bloc's militaristic activities. Up to the present NATO plans have been drawn up on the basis of national programs elaborated by the governments of the member nations. Explaining the substance of the new planning procedure, U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown stated that now concrete NATO programs will be elaborated at the top "instead of being based on national programs as has been the case in the past."¹¹ The arms escalation is assuming a particularly dangerous scope in the United States. Contrary to widely-publicized assurances of their love of peace, the ruling circles in this country are steadily building up military, and particularly nuclear might, are giving every encouragement to the development and production of new types of weapons, including cruise missiles and neutron bombs, and are increasing military expenditures from 113 billion dollars in the last fiscal year to 118 billion in the current fiscal year, which began on 1 October 1977.

The socialist countries cannot ignore the fact that NATO is continuing to increase its military potential. This imperialist aggressive alliance has from the very first days of its existence been directed primarily against the socialist community and other peace-loving European countries. It has been and remains an instrument of building up tension, an organizer of military conflicts and provocations in practically every part of the world. "Position of strength" continues to remain the principal idea in the political arsenal of this bloc, in spite of its hopelessness and positive changes in the world. Efforts are being undertaken to achieve further strengthening of this pact, the military budgets of the member nations are being boosted, and measures are being taken which are directed toward increasing troop combat capabilities and achieving military and technological superiority over the Warsaw Pact. Forces stationed in the European theaters are being beefed up. The number and scope of field exercises and maneuvers by NATO joint forces are increasing year by year. They are being conducted constantly, from the northern coast of Norway to the Eastern Mediterranean, as a rule along the borders of the socialist countries, and are of a provocative character. In 1975 a decision was made to conduct exercises based on a unified plan. Exercises of this type include Autumn Forge-76 and Autumn Forge-77, held in 1976 and 1977 respectively.

The Soviet Union and all the nations of the socialist community are countering the increased militaristic activities of the NATO bloc with a persistent campaign to achieve an end to the arms race, to deepen détente, and to ensure firm international security. This highly-principled foreign policy is stated formally in major party and government documents of the brother countries. Vivid and convincing confirmation of this is the new USSR Constitution, which states quite plainly: "The USSR unswervingly implements a Leninist peace policy and advocates strengthening of the security of nations and extensive international cooperation."¹³

The Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member nations have been assigned an important mission in the defense of socialist achievements, in ensuring the security of peoples, since they are facing the main military force of the principal imperialist nations -- the members of the aggressive NATO bloc. If imperialism does not succeed in drawing nations into another worldwide bloodbath, the main credit for this must go to the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The military organization of the Warsaw Pact has become considerably stronger in recent years. The joint forces of the Warsaw Pact member nations constitute a powerful military organization of the socialist type. They are invincible because they are supported by the vast economic capabilities of socialism, the advantages of its political and governmental system, and maintain a high degree of combat readiness.

The main source of the strength and might of the armies and the entire fraternal alliance as a whole is the leadership of the Communist and worker parties. They indoctrinate armed forces personnel in a spirit of socialist patriotism and internationalism as well as total dedication to the great cause of communism.

The efforts of the Ministers of Defense Committee, the Military Council, the Joint Command, Joint Forces Headquarters and Technical Committee are aimed at increasing the defense capability of the allied countries, development of military cooperation within the framework of the treaty, and effective solution to problems of operational and combat training. The work of the military agencies is conducted in an atmosphere of total mutual understanding and fraternal friendship.

Conferences and consultations, which make it possible to elaborate common views and positions on matters pertaining to development and strengthening of the national armed forces and the Joint Forces, constitute a fruitful form of fighting alliance. Joint Forces training plans as well as various joint measures to improve the combat readiness of troops and fleets are discussed at conferences of top-echelon personnel of the allied armed forces.

Meetings by armed forces branches are held on a regular basis, as well as mutual consultations of experts on the most complex problems pertaining to adoption of new types of weapons and combat equipment, their utilization and maintenance.

Military-scientific conferences, seminars and other measures are held on a regular basis, for the purpose of elaborating a unity of views on fundamental questions of military theory and practice; possible ways to increase the combat readiness of the military forces of the Warsaw Pact nations, to improve rear services and technical support as well as other important items are examined at these conferences and seminars.

Cooperation among the brother armies in the military-technical area is expanding year by year. There is effected continuous coordination of scientific research and experimental design activities, exhibits of new models of equipment and weapons are organized, as well as exchange of mutual information and scientific-technical documents.

Cooperation and mutual assistance in training military cadres is of great importance. The Soviet Union is lending selfless assistance in this as well. A large number of officers and general officers of the allied armed forces are enrolled at higher military educational institutions in the USSR.

A special role in strengthening the combat alliance is played by joint tactical, fleet, special-tactical and command-staff exercises conducted according to plans of the Joint Command. At these exercises it is possible to work on a number of problems connected with preparation for and conduct of joint combat operations by troops of various national affiliation, under conditions maximally approaching actual combat. In addition, they promote increasing a feeling of internationalism and comradeship among the brothers in arms. They include such exercises as "Rhodope," "Oder-Neisse," "Brotherhood in Arms," "Shield-72," "Alliance-74," "Shield-76," and others. Ground troops, air forces, air defense forces, naval forces, control and rear services entities of all or the majority of the allied armed forces took part in these exercises.

This year, in conformity with the plan of the Joint Command, an exercise was conducted under the code-name "Alliance-77" [Soyuz-77], which once again confirmed the indissoluble moral-political unity of the brother peoples and their fighting men.

Exercises are highly important. They demonstrate the increased defense might of the socialist nations and mobilize personnel of the allied armed forces for defense of the revolutionary gains of our peoples. At the same time these exercises enrich the art of warfare of the socialist armed forces, promote improvement in operational training of commanders and staffs and increased troop combat proficiency, and make it possible to work with maximum effectiveness on problems of organization of coordinated action and troop control. They demonstrate the high degree of combat readiness of the allied armed forces, the reliability of their military equipment and weapons, the fine organizational abilities of commanders and staffs, and the military skill of personnel.

A close fighting friendship and fraternal mutual relations have been established among the fighting men of the national armed forces and the personnel of the groups of Soviet forces temporarily stationed on the territory of friendly nations.

Regular contacts between the political agencies of the brother armed forces occupy an important place in development of friendly relations. There is occurring a broad exchange of know-how in party-political work in the area of indoctrinating military personnel in a spirit of socialist internationalism, revolutionary vigilance, securement of a high level of troop combat readiness and improvement in moral-fighting qualities. Cultural and sports contacts are being successfully developed.

The basic foundation of all the achievements of the Joint Forces is close cooperation, unity and solidarity of the brother Communist and worker parties of the Warsaw Pact nations, grounded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. "Strengthening of the unity of the socialist countries," states the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution," "and deepening of the fraternal friendship between their Marxist-Leninist parties substantially increase the united strength and influence of socialism on the course of international events."¹⁴

The fighting community of brother peoples, the Warsaw Pact member nations, founded on the principles of socialist internationalism, today represents, in the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, a solid alliance of socialist countries united by close cooperation in the most diversified areas of activity. It constitutes a reliable guard over the revolutionary achievements of the socialist community and serves as a powerful obstacle in the path of the aggressive aspirations of imperialism.

"We are resolute opponents both of division of the world into opposing military blocs and of the arms race," stressed CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in his report to the 25th CPSU Congress. "Our position on this matter is well known. However, we must state with full clarity: as long as the NATO bloc continues to exist, as long as militarist circles conduct an arms race, our country together with the other Warsaw Pact member nations will strengthen this military-political alliance."¹⁵

FOOTNOTES

1. "Materialy XXV s'yezda KPSS" [Proceedings of the 25th CPSU Congress], Moscow, Politizdat, 1976, page 27.
2. Lenin, V. I. "Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Collected Works], Vol 40, page 46.
3. KOMMUNIST, No 2, 1977.

4. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 37, page 26.
5. "Istoricheskiy opyt bratskogo sodruzhestva KPSS i MNRP v bor'be za sotsializm" [Historical Experience of Fraternal Cooperation Between the CPSU and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party in the Struggle for Socialism], Moscow, Politizdat, 1971, pp 219-220.
6. "Osvoboditel'naya missiya Sovetskikh Vooruzhennykh Sil vo vtoroy mirovoy voyne" [Liberation Mission of the Soviet Armed Forces in World War II], Moscow, Politizdat, 1971, page 8.
- 7-8. Footnotes missing.
9. "Organizatsiya Varshavskogo Dogovora 1955-1975. Dokumenty i materialy" [The Warsaw Pact Organization, 1955-1975. Documents and Materials], Moscow, Politizdat, 1975, pp 5-6.
10. PRAVDA, 8 June 1977.
11. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 8 June 1977.
12. Footnote missing.
13. Constitution (Fundamental Law) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, page 28.
14. PRAVDA, 1 February 1977.
15. "Materialy XXV s'yezda KPSS," op. cit., page 8.

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DEVELOPMENT, CAPABILITIES OF THE ARMED FORCES

Moscow VOYENNO-ISTORICHESKIY ZHURNAL in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press 27 Oct 77 pp 19-29

[Article by Candidate of Military Science Lt Gen M. Gareyev: "Ever Guarding the Achievements of October"]

[Text] For almost 60 years the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union have vigilantly stood guard over the achievements of the October Revolution, worthily carrying out their historic mission. Our army and navy have performed and continue to perform complex and responsible tasks in the postwar period.

Following victory in the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people returned to peacetime constructive labor, began rebuilding the devastated economy at a rapid pace, and achieved substantial success. By 1948 industrial output volume had reached the prewar level. In the area of foreign policy our country undertook persistent efforts aimed at neutralizing the consequences of fascism, at strengthening peace and security.

While pursuing a peace-seeking policy, however, the Communist Party and Soviet Government could not ignore the fact that the governments of its former allies in the anti-Hitler coalition -- the United States, Great Britain, and France -- had retreated from the agreed-upon principles of the postwar world order. Fearing growth of the forces of socialism, international imperialism in the first postwar years took the path of open preparations for another war and pursuit of a policy "from a position of strength" in respect to the USSR and the other socialist countries. Under these conditions our country, totally engaged in peacetime construction, was also forced to strengthen the nation's defense capability and to increase the strength of the Soviet Army and Navy.

The process of development of the Soviet Armed Forces in the postwar years can be divided into three stages. The first stage (from 1945 to 1953), when the wealth of experience of the Great Patriotic War was extensively utilized and conventional weapons were improved. The second (from the end of 1953 to 1959) involved the development and adoption of nuclear missile weapons and other equipment in all branches of the Armed Forces. The

third (from 1960 up to the present) is characterized by adoption and subsequent development of new types of weapons as well as by radical changes in all areas of military affairs.

In the first stage our country was compelled to take into consideration the fact that the United States possessed nuclear weapons. As early as 1946 the United States established the Strategic Air Command -- a powerful strategic bomber grouping (approximately 2,000 aircraft), which was viewed as the principal means of delivering nuclear weapons. Strategic bombers were based not only in the United States but also on the territory of Great Britain, Germany, and Japan. The military forces of anti-Communist aggressive blocs (NATO, SEATO, CENTO, and others), as well as numerous military bases in Europe, Asia, the American Continent and Africa, and fleets scattered over all the seas and oceans were to serve as a means of exerting constant pressure on the USSR and the other peace-loving countries. In 1945-1948 the United States openly proclaimed a doctrine of "preventive war."

Under these circumstances the Soviet Union was compelled to increase its Armed Forces. By 1948 they had been reduced to 2,874,000 men,¹ while by 1955 it was again necessary to increase their numerical strength to 5,763,000.²

In the first postwar years the Soviet Armed Forces developed primarily through further technical improvement and more extensive equipping of army and navy with conventional weapons and military hardware, particularly tanks, artillery, air defense weapons and communications gear, new warships, engineer equipment, etc.

Reorganization of the Ground Forces was carried out, including their total motorization and mechanization. The number of tanks in combined-arms large units increased sharply. Tank and self-propelled artillery units were incorporated in rifle divisions, and mechanized combined units in rifle corps. Modern types of small arms, artillery pieces, mortars and rocket launchers, communications gear and engineer equipment were adopted. All this substantially increased the firepower and striking power of our Ground Forces.

A substantial part of the Air Force in the 1950's was equipped with jet-propelled and new piston aircraft. The National Air Defense Forces were designated a separate branch of the Armed Forces. Radar and radio navigation equipment went into extensive use in military aviation and in the air defense forces.

The Navy developed at a rapid pace. Naval forces were established which were capable of operating in the world ocean. Warships began to be armed with missile and new torpedo weapons, and nuclear submarine construction projects were under way.

Particular attention in the period under review was focused on developing Soviet nuclear weapons and more sophisticated means of delivering them to the target, since the United States was continuing to wield its atomic club.

During these years Soviet art of warfare developed primarily on the basis of thorough synthesis and assimilation of the wealth of experience of the Great Patriotic War, but taking into account the new organizational structure and increased technical equipping of the army and navy. New field manuals had been prepared and new general military regulations adopted by 1948.

The system of training military cadres was significantly improved at the first stage of development of the Armed Forces. The number of officers and general officers possessing military higher education had doubled by 1953, the number of engineers had tripled and the number of technicians had increased 50% over the prewar period.

While concerned with the security of our own country, the Soviet Government also rendered considerable assistance in organizational development of the Armed Forces of the people's democracies in Europe and Asia, selflessly carrying out its international duty. Many of our officers, general officers and flag officers shared their combat experience with their comrades in arms and assisted them in training personnel. Great quantities of weapons and equipment were given outright to the brother armed forces.

The second stage of postwar organizational development of the USSR Armed Forces also took place in a complex international situation. The Soviet Union was bolstering its peace-seeking policy with concrete deeds (relinquishment of the naval base on the Porkkala Peninsula, withdrawal of troops from Port Arthur, Austria, Romania, etc). The numerical strength of the Armed Forces was again reduced in the period 1955-1958 by 2,140,000 men. They now totaled 3,623,000.³

But the Western countries failed to follow our example. The imperialist nations on the contrary continued escalating the arms race. Armed Forces were reborn in West Germany and Japan, with the active participation of neo-fascists and revanchists. The American imperialists escalated the war in Korea, drawing into it a number of other capitalist countries, and threatened to employ nuclear weapons there.

In 1954 nuclear weapons were officially adopted by NATO. Missiles and nuclear warheads began to be brought into Europe. The United States was counting on only the European countries suffering in case of initiation of a nuclear war. Construction of missile bases was in progress on a large scale on U.S. territory and in other parts of the world. The imperialist nations adopted the doctrine of "massive retaliation." All this was being done not simply for purposes of intimidation. They were actually planning a nuclear world war against the Soviet Union and the nations of the socialist community.

Under these conditions the European socialist countries, in response to the establishment of NATO and the inclusion of the FRG in this bloc, were compelled in 1955 to create the Warsaw Pact, in order to strengthen their defense capability through joint efforts.

Thanks to the concern of the Communist Party and the efforts of the entire people, the Soviet Armed Forces became equipped at a rapid pace with the latest types of combat equipment and weapons. The high level of development of Soviet science and the ability of our scientists, designers and engineers made it possible to build and in 1949 to test an atomic bomb, and to develop ballistic missiles in 1947-1950. Teams of scientists headed by I. V. Kurchatov and S. P. Korolev played an outstanding role in the development of nuclear and missile weapons.

The principal feature of the second stage in the organizational development of the Soviet Armed Forces was the adoption of nuclear weapons and mastery of employment of these weapons by military personnel. By 1956 the army and navy possessed diversified atomic and thermonuclear weapons. In 1957 the world's first intercontinental ballistic missile was successfully tested. Of great importance were the development and adoption of diversified electronic equipment into all branches of the Armed Forces.

In addition to nuclear missile weapons, the Ground Forces received qualitatively new tanks, artillery, air defense weapons, engineer equipment, and communications equipment, which substantially increased their combat might.

The Air Force was being armed with improved long-range bombers, fighter-bombers, fighters, transport aircraft and helicopters.

The National Air Defense Forces underwent further development. They were being equipped with antiaircraft missiles, jet fighter-interceptors, and modern radar equipment.

A new direction in development of the Navy was definitively determined, with emphasis placed on the adoption of missile weapons and nuclear propulsion plants for submarines.

Beginning in 1954, Soviet Army and Navy personnel proceeded to study nuclear weapons and modes of combat operations under conditions of employment of nuclear weapons. The first large-scale field exercise at which an atomic bomb was detonated was conducted in September of that year.⁴

This constitutes the beginning of radical qualitative changes in troop organization, technical equipping of troops and modes of combat operations.

Important problems of a military-strategic character and methods of waging a nuclear missile war, ways to maintain a high degree of army and navy combat readiness under complex conditions, and methods of combat employment of new types of weapons were elaborated in these years.

A conclusion was drawn on the basis of a number of nuclear weapons tests and the experience of field exercises that nuclear weapons give the combined-arms engagement and operation an even more complex, resolute and high-mobility character. There arose the necessity of teaching the troops to accomplish such new tasks as conduct of combat actions with and without employment of nuclear weapons but under conditions of threatened nuclear

weapons employment; protection against mass destruction weapons and restoration of combat efficiency; performance of missions with limited forces; mastery of methods of combat employment of new, modern combat equipment; conduct of more decisive and vigorous combat actions with the objective of gaining victory over the adversary in the shortest possible time; the ability to operate in a dispersed fashion and concentrate swiftly to attack the adversary.

Soviet military science proceeded from the position that under conditions of enemy employment of mass destruction weapons and more sophisticated conventional weapons, combat operations will develop nonuniformly along a broad frontage and to considerable depth, with the formation of gaps between combined units and units. They will be distinguished by abrupt situation changes, a highly-dynamic character, continuity and intensity, a sharp contest to seize the initiative and gain time, and the endeavor to utilize the results of nuclear strikes as quickly as possible.

The complexity of organization of the engagement and operation, their swift and high-mobility character made it necessary to resolve anew problems of troop control. Commanders, staffs and political agencies of all echelons had to increase work efficiency and more boldly display innovativeness and initiative in solving problems pertaining to organizing and conducting combat operations.

It was becoming increasingly obvious that conduct of the engagement and operation under conditions of employment of nuclear weapons will demand of personnel unprecedented moral and physical energy, courage and valor.

The rôle of party-political worker increased immeasurably at the first and second stages. Mobilizing military personnel for excellent mastery both of conventional and new weapons, political agencies, party and Komsomol organizations began devoting more attention to problems of moral-political and psychological training of personnel. The new CPSU rules adopted in 1952 at the 19th CPSU Congress were of great importance in boosting the rôle of party organizations. It made it possible more extensively to expand party political work and to raise its level.

On the whole the strength and combat readiness of our Armed Forces increased substantially in 1953-1955. They reliably guarded the socialist nations against the aggressive aspirations of the imperialists.

The third stage of development of the Soviet Armed Forces took place under conditions of further flourishing of our country's economy and the intellectual resources of the Soviet people. Enormous success by the USSR and the other socialist nations in development of science, technology and the economy, change in the world balance of power in favor of socialism, and a persistent struggle by the CPSU and the Soviet Government as well as all progressive people throughout the world to prevent war led at the beginning of the 1960's to a certain international détente.

In view of this fact, as well as the qualitative growth of the combat might of the Soviet Army and Navy, the Fourth Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in 1960 adopted a law specifying reduction of our Armed Forces by 1,200,000 men. The Soviet Government appealed to the governments of other nations to do the same and to adopt coordinated measures toward further forces reduction. These proposals were not accepted, however. The leading capitalist nations continued a policy of adventurism and arms race, increasing their military budget year by year. In addition they undertook a number of aggressive actions against Cuba, the Congo, and Laos, and grossly violated our country's airspace, sending in reconnaissance aircraft, and aggravated and dragged out solution to the Berlin question.

In conformity with a strategy of "flexible response," which provided for waging wars of various types, the United States was building up its strategic nuclear forces at an accelerated pace and was building intercontinental missile bases. At the beginning of the 1960's the United States had built approximately 1,000 missile silos.

This compelled the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries to undertake corresponding response measures and temporarily halt the reduction of the Armed Forces which had begun in 1960.

The most important task of the Soviet Army and Navy during this period was to prevent a surprise nuclear attack and to ensure annihilation of the aggressor if he dared initiate a war against our country.

The CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Government made a decision to establish a new Armed Forces branch -- the Strategic Missile Forces, capable of hitting targets anywhere in the world. The Strategic Missile Forces, comprising the backbone of the combat might of our Armed Forces, became the principal means of holding the aggressor in check.

At the third stage there occurred a substantial increase in the mobility, striking power and firepower of the Ground Forces, which remained the numerically largest and most weapons and equipment diversified branch of the Armed Forces. Their principal mission was intelligently to utilize the results of employment of nuclear weapons and to ensure completion of the defeat of enemy forces in the continental theaters.

Operational and tactical missile units comprised the foundation of the firepower of the Ground Forces.

The combat capabilities of conventional weapons also increased. For example, the total number of automatic weapons in the modern motorized rifle division had increased 13-fold in comparison with the 1939 division, armored personnel carriers -- 37-fold, and tanks -- 16-fold. Its salvo power increased substantially. The organizational structure of the Ground Forces also improved. Motorized rifle divisions replaced rifle and mechanized divisions. There was an increase in the number of tanks in motorized rifle and tank divisions.

The role of air defense troops increased. They were required to destroy enemy weapon-delivering aircraft not above the defended targets but on the far approaches, before they fired their nuclear warhead missiles.

The combat capabilities of the National Air Defense Forces increased greatly when they began to be equipped with missile-armed long-range fighter-interceptors, radar equipment, and particularly antiaircraft missiles, which were swiftly guided to the target with the aid of automatic computers. This was graphically demonstrated in 1960. A U.S. U-2 aircraft, which had intruded into Soviet airspace, was downed with the first missile fired.

The Air Force was receiving increasing numbers of air-to-ground and air-to-air missiles, which substantially increased its combat capabilities. Ground attack aircraft were replaced by fighter-bombers, equipped with more powerful bombs, cannons, rockets and missiles. Supersonic fighters possessing a high rate of climb were developed. The long-range bomber force received missile-armed jet and turboprop aircraft. A large step forward was taken in development of helicopters. Transport aviation received aircraft capable of transporting airborne and other troops great distances. The excellent quality of our aircraft is eloquently attested by the fact that in 1966 216 out of 509 world aviation records belonged to the Soviet Union. In 1961 the Ye-66 aircraft reached an altitude of 34,200 meters, while in 1962 the Ye-166 flew at a speed of 2,678 km/h. The following became the most important missions of the Air Force: destruction of stationary targets -- enemy nuclear missiles and nuclear weapon aircraft on their launching pads, bases and airfields, and mobile targets -- aircraft in the air, missile forces on the battlefield, aircraft carriers and guided missile warships at sea. Air force missions pertaining to providing troops air cover, conducting air reconnaissance, airborne assault activities, etc became greater in scope and more complex.

The role and significance of the Soviet Navy in the general system of strengthening the defense capability of the Soviet State became even more enhanced. Thanks to adopted measures, it was very rapidly transformed from a coastal-waters to an ocean navy.

The following became its principal mission: delivery of nuclear missile strikes on military installations on enemy territory, destruction of carrier task forces and nuclear submarines, and combat on lines of communication with the objective of halting maritime shipping. It was necessary under more complex conditions to perform missions jointly with ground troops on coastal axes.

Development of our Navy proceeded with consideration of these missions; the Navy continued to be armed primarily with more sophisticated submarines, surface ships and aircraft armed with nuclear weapons and various types of missiles and homing torpedoes. Helicopters came into extensive employment in the Navy, utilized not only for supporting combat operations but also for performing various tasks as a component of ASW forces. On the whole the combat capabilities of the Navy increased substantially. The range,

speed and endurance of warships increased. In 1966 a detachment of nuclear submarines under the command of Rear Adm A. I. Sorokin accomplished an extended submerged circumnavigation of the globe.

Improvement of military transport aircraft and airborne assault equipment as well as equipping of airborne assault combined units and units with new models of air-mobile artillery, armored vehicles, antitank and other weapons substantially increased the combat efficiency of airborne troops.

Signal troops, engineer troops, chemical warfare troops, rear services units and establishments also received large quantities of new equipment.

Higher demands on troop control evoked the necessity of further improving communications and developing means of automating control, as well as computer hardware providing the capability to transmit large flows of diversified information. Long-range uhf radio and microwave relay communications experienced particularly extensive development.

The party and government displayed constant concern for improvement and fuller satisfaction of living and working conditions for army and navy personnel. The Armed Forces rear services became more mobile and better equipped technically, in conformity with the altered conditions of waging warfare. Totally new Strategic Missile Forces rear services were established, and the rear services of the National Air Defense Forces, the Navy and the other branches of the Armed Forces underwent changes.

Motor transport, railway, road repair and traffic control, pipeline, medical units and establishments and other special troops experienced further development.

During these years there was taking place the process of improvement of all aspects of troop training. Even greater emphasis was placed on field, air and sea training, the mastery of new modes of combat operations. Moral-political and psychological training of enlisted personnel, noncommissioned officers and officers occupied a special place in indoctrinational work.

Thus there occurred in the third stage radical qualitative changes in organization and technical equipping of the Soviet Army and Navy, and modes of waging warfare, training and indoctrination of personnel. Armed Forces combat readiness increased.

The tasks of national defense, which had become more complex under present-day conditions, demanded radical reorganization of local air defense. There arose the need to establish USSR Civil Defense as one of the most important factors aimed at organizing protection of the civilian population and the nation's economy during war against mass destruction weapons.

Of great importance for strengthening the Armed Forces was promulgation in 1967 by the USSR Supreme Soviet of a universal military obligation law, reflecting the vast sociopolitical and economic transformations which had

taken place in this country during the postwar years. At the same time reduction in term of military service from 3 to 2 years in the army and from 4 to 3 years in the navy demanded a certain reorganization of the entire system of combat and political training of military personnel and pre-induction training of young people.

The development of new weapons and radical changes in the technical equipping and organizational structure of the Armed Forces naturally were reflected in further development of Soviet military science. A number of major studies were conducted on the potential character of contemporary wars, forms and modes of combat operations, organization of control and communications. Much was done toward further development of the major points of operational art and tactics. Considerable attention was focused on problems of improving troop control and control of naval forces with utilization of automated systems and organization of comprehensive support of operations. Large-scale studies were conducted and are being conducted on determination and substantiation of the development prospects of arms and military equipment, on synthesis of advanced know-how, on seeking new forms and methods of training and indoctrination of personnel, ensuring improvement in qualitative indices in Armed Forces training.

On the whole scientific work in the army and navy is becoming more activated and is improving. Basic and applied scientific research has expanded, and its effectiveness has increased. Links between military theory and practice are growing stronger, and quality of planning is improving.

Soviet military science, just as the Armed Forces as a whole, is developing under the guidance of the Communist Party. The CPSU Central Committee, the Politburo of the Central Committee and Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Chairman of the USSR Defense Council Mar SU Comrade L. I. Brezhnev personally are making an enormous contribution toward elaboration of its most important theses and determination of the content of Soviet military doctrine. Synthesized in the addresses and articles of Leonid Il'ich is the experience amassed by the party in supervising military organizational development; his speeches and articles provide a profound analysis of the distribution and correlation of military-political forces in the world and reveal the principal areas of work to strengthen this country's defense might and boost the combat readiness of the Armed Forces. Such important items of military organizational development as improvement of our military under conditions of advanced socialism, the role and place of the various branches of the Armed Forces in the war of the future, the directions of their further development and technical equipping, training and indoctrination of personnel have been scientifically substantiated with his direct participation.

The CPSU Program states that "the party shall tirelessly show concern for the training of army and navy command, political and technical cadres who are totally dedicated to the cause of communism, comprising the finest representatives of the Soviet people."⁶ In conformity with this demand, considerable work was conducted during the course of all the postwar years

on training and refresher-training military cadres, improvement in their skills and ideological-political indoctrination. The overwhelming majority of officers, general officers and flag officers occupying top-echelon positions possess military higher education. For example, 90% of regimental commanders and all naval ship commanding officers of first and second rank are graduates of military higher educational institutions.

We should also note that at the present time almost 100% of military personnel possess higher, secondary and incomplete secondary education. Almost 90% of our military personnel are Communists and Komsomol members.

Introduction of the warrant officer grade constituted one of the manifestations of constant party concern for strengthening command personnel.

Year after year Soviet military personnel achieve high indices in combat and political training. As a result of extensive socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, there is an increase in the number of excellent-rated individuals as well as units and naval ships earning the right to the designation excellent. Ratification in 1975 by the USSR Supreme Soviet of the new general military regulations promotes in large measure further improvement in military indoctrination of personnel and strengthening of organization and military discipline.

Improvement in offensive weapons on the part of potential adversaries and the increasingly important role of the time factor at the outbreak of war have imposed particularly high demands on continuous improvement of the system of maintaining a high level of troop combat readiness, in which, as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated, is concentrated as at a focal point the enormous efforts and material expenditures of the people on equipping the army, the awareness, combat proficiency and discipline of all military personnel, the skill of command personnel in troop control, and many other items. In the final analysis this is the summit of combat skill in peacetime and the key to victory in war.

A special role in improving the field, air and sea combat performance of troops and naval forces and in increasing their combat readiness has been played by such exercises and maneuvers as "Dnieper" (1967), "North" (1968), "Neman" (1968), "Dvina" (1970), "South" (1971) and a number of others. They have constituted an important element in the overall system of troop operational, combat and political training. As a rule combined units and units of the Ground Forces, Air Force, Air Defense Forces, and Navy have participated in these exercises and maneuvers. Reserve military personnel and equipment from the civilian economy have been involved in some of them. All principal types of combat operations, joint and independent operations by the various branches of the Armed Forces, as well as coordinated action between branches have been elaborated in the course of these exercises and maneuvers, and new, more effective modes of combat employment of modern weapons and combat equipment have been sought.

The Soviet Armed Forces are accomplishing, together with the fighting men of the armed forces of the socialist nations united by the Warsaw Pact, the complex tasks of defending socialism, and securing peace. The fighting friendship and alliance of the brother armed forces are growing year by year. An important role in this is played by joint exercises: "Quartet" (1963), "October Storm" (1965), "Vltava" (1966), "Maneuver" (1967), "Rhodope" (1967), "Oder-Neisse" (1969), "Brotherhood in Arms" (1970), "Shield-72" (1972) and "Shield-76" (1976).

From a methodological standpoint these large-scale exercises and maneuvers have absorbed all the best which has been amassed by the Soviet Armed Forces and the armed forces of the socialist countries. They have constituted a comprehensive verification of the fighting efficiency of units and combined units and an important school of combat skill. The following have been their characteristic features: maximum approximation to an actual combat situation, increasing complexity of tasks and expansion of the range of items studied, rigorous consideration of the features of theaters of war, increase in the scale of combat operations, their high degree of saturation with live artillery and missile fire, etc.

Armed Forces life and activities at all stages of their development demonstrated the total dedication of officer cadres and all our military personnel to the Communist Party and Soviet Government.

In connection with the fact that in the postwar years tasks pertaining to strengthening national defense as well as international tasks became substantially more complex and broader, there has been an increase in the significance of the moral-political factor in war and of the leadership role of the CPSU in the area of military organizational development as a whole and Armed Forces organizational development in particular, with a strengthening of party influence on all aspects of army and navy life and activities.. The party views defense of the socialist homeland, strengthening of the defense of the USSR, and increasing the might of the Soviet Armed Forces as the sacred duty of the entire Soviet people and as a most important function of the socialist state. These points are formalized in the CPSU Program adopted at the 22d CPSU Congress and in the resolutions of succeeding party congresses and central committee plenums.

An important role in the life of the Armed Forces was played by the decree of the October (1957) CPSU Central Committee Plenum entitled "On Improvement of Party-Political Work in the Soviet Army and Navy," which emphasized that "further improvement of party-political work in the Soviet Army and Navy, the task of which is to strengthen the combat might of our Armed Forces, to unite personnel behind the Communist Party and Soviet Government, and to indoctrinate military personnel in a spirit of total dedication to the Soviet homeland, in a spirit of friendship of the peoples of the USSR and proletarian internationalism, acquires particular importance" in performing the missions assigned to the Armed Forces.⁷

Alongside further strengthening of one-man command on a party foundation, measures were adopted to enhance the role of military councils, political agencies and party organizations, and to improve all party-political work in the army and navy. In 1958 the CPSU Central Committee ratified a new Statute on Political Agencies of the Soviet Army and Navy, and in 1963 -- new Instructions to CPSU Organizations in the Soviet Army and Navy.

Of great significance to the Armed Forces was the 21 January 1967 CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On Measures to Improve Party-Political Work in the Soviet Army and Navy," which contains fundamental instructions on organization of party-political work in the troops and fleets. The positions of company deputy commander for political affairs were introduced in conformity with these instructions, and the network of military-political schools was expanded.

The CPSU Central Committee periodically convened armed forces conferences of party organization secretaries, which greatly promoted mobilization of Communists and Armed Forces personnel for successful accomplishment of their assigned tasks.

The 25th CPSU Congress devoted considerable attention to the matters of increasing the nation's defense capability and improving the Armed Forces. The party documents stated that the Soviet people can be confident that the fruits of their productive labors are being reliably guarded.

As a result of measures carried out by the CPSU Central Committee, army and navy party and Komsomol organizations have become even stronger ideologically and organizationally, and there has been an increase in the activeness and effectiveness of their work in performing the tasks facing the Armed Forces.

In recent years, thanks to consistent implementation of the Peace Program adopted at the 24th and further developed at the 25th CPSU Congress, as well as an actively-coordinated foreign policy of the socialist countries, the "cold war" front was breached, and international détente became more perceptible. There also occurred other important positive changes in the area of peaceful coexistence of nations with differing social systems.

The entire Soviet people, selflessly working to implement the resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, unanimously supports the peace-seeking foreign policy of our party and the Soviet Government as well as the indefatigable activities of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

Soviet citizens, however, constantly remember the party's warning: do not yield to complacency. The documents of the 25th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" emphasize that the present stage of world development is characterized by intensification of the class struggle.

Aggressive imperialist forces are escalating the arms race, which constitutes a serious threat to the peace and security of peoples, and are making every effort to impede détente. The entire history of development of the Soviet Armed Forces, including in the postwar years, graphically indicates that our measures to strengthen defense have always been of a compulsory nature, in response to aggressive preparations on the part of the imperialist nations. The facts of history totally refute the claims of bourgeois propaganda of aggressive intentions on the part of the Soviet Union and of the existence of a mythical "threat to the West." USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov has stated that our nation is forced to improve its defenses, as it is faced by a constant military threat emanating from circles in the imperialist nations which are hostile toward us.

Concern for further strengthening the defense capability of the Soviet state and increasing the combat might of the Armed Forces is also vividly reflected in the new Constitution. The special section entitled "Defense of the Socialist Homeland" as well as articles in other sections reflect the most cardinal points in the activities of the state in the area of defense and reveal the fundamental social function of the Soviet Armed Forces, government agencies, public organizations, officials and all citizens in the matter of ensuring the nation's security and strengthening its defense capability.

A new provision in the Constitution is formal specification of the major function of the Soviet Armed Forces and their duty to the people -- reliably to defend the socialist homeland and to be in a continuous state of combat readiness immediately to repulse any aggressor.

The Constitution more fully and precisely formulates the obligations of the state to ensure the country's security and defense capability and to provide the Armed Forces with everything necessary for them to carry out their missions.

Defense of the socialist homeland is proclaimed as the sacred duty of each and every citizen of the USSR, and military service in the ranks of the Armed Forces as the honorable obligation of Soviet citizens.

For the first time the Constitution contains a provision pursuant to which the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet is authorized to establish the nation's Defense Council and to approve its membership. It proceeds directly from the Leninist principles of defense of the socialist homeland and consolidates the historical experience of direction of the defense of the Soviet state in time of war.

The strength of our Armed Forces lies in its inseparable unity with the people. Such a link is quite logical for a socialist state and proceeds from the popular character of the Armed Forces. Therefore an important supplement to the functions of the local agencies of governmental authority

and administration specified in Article 145 of the Constitution is charging them with the duty to assist in strengthening national defense. This unquestionably will increase the responsibility of local agencies of government authority for higher-quality accomplishment of the tasks of preparing the civilian population and the nation's economy for defense, military-patriotic indoctrination of Soviet citizens and strict observance of the laws of the USSR pertaining to military matters.

The fighting men of the Soviet Armed Forces, demonstrating dedication and monolithic unity behind the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its Leninist Central Committee, dedicate all their energies to the cause of further improving the combat readiness of combined units and units, strengthening of military discipline, improvement of the quality of combat and political training, and successful accomplishment of the tasks assigned to the army and navy by the 25th CPSU Congress.

FOOTNOTES

1. "50 let Vooruzhennykh Sil SSSR" [50th Anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces], Voenizdat, 1968, page 479.
2. Ibid., page 500.
3. Ibid., page 501.
4. Ibid., page 502.
5. Footnote missing.
6. "Materialy XXII s"yezda KPSS" [Proceedings of the 22d CPSU Congress], Gospolitizdat, 1962, page 404.
7. PRAVDA, 3 November 1957.

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DOSAAB TECHNICAL TRAINING TASKS AND RESULTS

Editorial on Technical Training Tasks

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 30 Nov 77 p 1

[Editorial: "Train Mass Occupation Cadres"]

[Text] This country's kolkhoz fields.... By the end of the 10th Five-Year Plan there will be approximately 3 million tractors working in these fields, as well as a vast number of high-productivity combines. Let us imagine the automotive fleet of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes, which will increase by 23% by 1980, consider the power-worker ratio on the farms, and we shall see how many tractor operators, combine operators, and truck drivers will be needed to operate this equipment during planting and harvesting. Embodied in this machinery are the efforts of tens of millions of Soviet citizens. They represent an enormous force, for the total horsepower of all the grain harvesting combines alone is equal to the power generating capacity of all the hydroelectric power stations in the USSR.

"Plant and mines, blast furnaces and machinery, instruments and the most modern automated equipment," stated CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, "all that which we call productive assets, constitutes the people's vast riches. But one must be able to utilize these riches in a genuinely efficient manner."

L. I. Brezhnev's instructions also apply in full measure to increasing the intensity of operation of equipment, its intelligent maintenance and maximum work-loading. Here also the main factor is the people into whose care this equipment has been entrusted, as well as the training of skilled cadres.

One important and responsible task assigned DOSAAF by the party is participation in training for the nation's economy cadres of the mass technical occupations which are of applied military significance. This task was specified by a CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree entitled "On the State of and Measures to Improve the Work of the All-Union Voluntary Society for Assistance to the Army, Air Force and Navy of the

USSR (DOSAAF)." They became particularly critical following publication of the CPSU Central Committee decrees entitled "On Measures to Achieve Further Development of Agriculture in the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR" and "On the Work of the Rostovskaya Oblast CPSU Committee to Strengthen Agriculture With Cadres at the Middle Level, Farm Machinery Operators and Other Mass Occupations."

Guided by the resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the 8th Congress of USSR DOSAAF pledged DOSAAF committees, in coordination with interested ministries and agencies, planning bodies and soviets, to continue expanding and improving training of specialists for the nation's economy, particularly drivers of transport vehicles, radio specialists, farm machinery operators, as well as specialists for the construction projects of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

Responding to the Communist Party appeal to establish universal technical training, DOSAAF organizations have trained 2.8 million farm machinery operators. Every year thousands of truck drivers, electricians, operators, radio and marine specialists, who are trained in the training organizations, technical sports clubs and training courses of DOSAAF primary organizations, enter the work forces of industrial enterprises and construction jobs, kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Last year alone approximately 2 million specialists in mass occupations were trained, a figure which is 36% higher than that of the first year of the Ninth Five-Year Plan. The best results were achieved by the DOSAAF organizations of the Ukrainian, Georgian and Belorussian SSR, Chelyabinskaya, Kalininskaya, Moskovskaya, Ivanovskaya, and Kuybyshevskaya Oblast, Khabarovskiy Kray, and the city of Moscow.

However, in spite of certain success, there are a number of serious deficiencies in this work, which is of such importance to the nation. It was noted at the 8th DOSAAF Congress that the DOSAAF committees of Kamchatskaya, Kostromskaya, Astrakhanskaya, Kaluzhskaya, Pskovskaya and certain other oblasts are failing to meet their plan targets. Even today, however, the state of affairs in the indicated organizations is cause for concern.

Some training organizations are not operating with a full work load in training specialists for the nation's economy, particularly the automotive schools of Kirgizia, Altayskiy Kray, the Yakut and Buryat ASSR.

One of the important deficiencies hindering the training of high-quality technical specialists is inadequate attention on the part of some committees toward selection and indoctrination of cadres of STK [Technical Sports Clubs] chiefs, teacher and instructor personnel. In many areas not enough attention is devoted to strengthening labor discipline and maintenance of training equipment.

In order to mobilize unutilized reserves and to secure further improvement in the quality, effectiveness and profitability of work to train specialists

for the nation's economy, it is necessary to take measures to improve the organizational structure and methods of supervising training of specialists on a scientific basis. Union republic central committees, DOSAAF kray and oblast committees must closely coordinate this work with national plans and the requirements of local economic organizations, and must take into consideration the problem of labor resources.

The long-range plan for the period of the 10th Five-Year Plan calls for training more than 8.5 million specialists for the nation's economy. These are ambitious goals. In order successfully to accomplish them it will be necessary further to improve the training process, to achieve more efficient and thrifty utilization of the material and technological base, and to expand the network of training organizations, STK and courses. At the same time, as is demanded by the resolutions of the 8th DOSAAF Congress, genuine concern must be displayed for improving the qualitative composition of teachers, shop and defense training instructors, with particular attention focused on strictly meeting the demands of the training curricula pertaining to practical work with equipment, preventing oversimplification and unnecessary relaxation of demands in this area.

A powerful instrument for increasing effectiveness and quality in training specialists for the nation's economy is further development of socialist competition. It will make it possible to synthesize and broadly to disseminate advanced knowhow, better to assist development of technical innovations by DOSAAF members, particularly young people, and increases to an even greater extent the activities of efficiency innovators and inventors, as well as design offices developing new models of training devices.

The members of DOSAAF, as the entire Soviet people, inspired by the resolutions of the special Seventh Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the provisions of the new USSR Constitution; and by the ideas contained in the reports and speeches of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, will continue in the future working persistently to develop and improve their work on implementing the historic resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

Technical Training Results in the Ukrainian SSR

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 30 Nov 77 p 1

[Interview with Lt Gen A. Pokal'chuk, Chairman, Central Committee of Ukrainian SSR DOSAAF, by SOVETSKIY PATRIOT correspondent G. Chernomorskiy: "Main Point of Reference -- Quality"]

[Text] Performance goals of the jubilee year. What are they? In what do they exceed last year's results? How are the DOSAAF organizations of the Soviet Ukraine meeting socialist pledges in one of the most important areas of their work -- training of specialists for the nation's economy -- this is the subject of an interview by G. Chernomorskiy, a correspondent of the newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, with Lt Gen A. Pokal'chuk, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian SSR DOSAAF.

[Question] How can one define the contribution of DOSAAF members toward meeting the targets of this republic's national economic plans?

[Answer] I realize that numbers are boring, but each one represents concrete deeds, the labor of many individuals. Therefore I shall begin with numbers. In the first three quarters of this year Ukrainian SSR DOSAAF trained 1,200,000 specialists for the nation's economy. More than 200,000 drivers of all categories were trained during this period, while 17,749 persons have learned the occupation of tractor driver and combine operator this year; 14,941 persons have become radiotelegraph operators, and 6,393 -- arc and gas welders. The best results were achieved by the DOSAAF organizations of Donetskaya, Dnepropetrovskaya, and Cherkasskaya oblasts. For the republic as a whole, socialist pledges pertaining to training specialists for the nation's economy have been met in all indices. We are organizing all practical work pertaining to training cadres for the economy in conformity with the theses and conclusions contained in the speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the conference of party-economic activists of Kazakhstan and with the CPSU Central Committee decree on the work of the Rostovskaya Oblast CPSU Committee on strengthening agriculture with cadres of the middle level, farm machine operators and other mass occupations.

[Question] Could you please state the principal directions taken in DOSAAF work on training specialists in the mass technical occupations?

[Answer] First of all we are endeavoring to raise the level of the training-production process in technical sports clubs. In 1967 they accounted for approximately 35% of all specialists trained in the DOSAAF system, while now the figure exceeds 52%. At the present time there are approximately 1,000 technical sports clubs in the Ukraine, 500 of which have been set up under the auspices of large primary organizations. Among the best are the Nizhnegorskiy STK of Krymskaya Oblast, the Kremenchug in Poltavskaya Oblast, the Chortkov in Ternopol'skaya Oblast, and the Tsarichanka in Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast. A good job is being done by the STK of the primary DOSAAF organizations at the Mine imeni Bazhenov in the town of Makeyevka, the Zaporozh'ye Kommunar Plant, the L'vov Polytechnic Institute, the Kirovograd Krasnaya Zvezda Plant, and the Kolkhoz imeni Posmitnyy in Odesskaya Oblast.

[Question] Quite an impressive picture. But these are quantitative indices. How do things stand with quality?

[Answer] The quality of the training-production process in the STK still lags significantly behind the demands of the present day. This is why it is so important to boost our clubs to the level of training organizations. Without shutting down work on expanding the network of STK, we shall focus principal attention on strengthening those which already exist. Of course many of them will not receive such beautiful facilities as are possessed, for example, by the Dnepropetrovsk and the Radyanskiy Technical Sports Club in Kiev. There is as yet no possibility for this. But it is high time to think about standard STK. We realize that it will take time, and

considerable time, for things to move from drawing board to actual construction. That is why we are focusing everywhere on renovation and modernization of the old facilities. Training of instructor cadres is acquiring even greater importance in this plan. Today they are considerably inferior in qualifications to the teachers and shop instructors at training organizations. Here too our omissions are clearly in evidence. Painstaking work is being done with teachers and master production training personnel on further improving their methods skills. And yet this work is being done quite sporadically with instructors. In the future plans call for holding training methods conferences for them, at which particular attention will be focused on studying problems of education science and psychology. Only those instructors who pass the test will be permitted to work with young people. The work of training organizations to train technical specialists has become more purposeful. We should note that they are greatly assisting primary organizations in setting up universal farm machinery operators training. Good examples here are provided by the L'vov and Donetsk radio schools, the Vinnitsa and Kiev marine schools, the Nikopol' and Yevpatoriya automotive schools, and the Simferopol' and Kherson unified technical schools.

[Question] There are also many other excellent training organizations in the republic. But obviously there are also some which do not fully utilize their reserve potential for improving training of specialists.

[Answer] Every year equipment supply is improving. This year, for example, we received 800 passenger cars and a considerable quantity of other equipment by the general schedule of allocations of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF. But here is the problem. Not all organizations are yet achieving a full return. For example, in Poltavskaya Oblast 94 drivers are trained per car, while the figure is only 43 in Kievskaya Oblast. In Rovenskaya Oblast 26 drivers are trained on one truck, and only six in Kirovogradskaya Oblast. And yet conditions are similar everywhere. Only certain officials, receiving a plan target, show initiative and endeavor to carry out the assignment the best they can, while others waste effort looking in advance for reasons justifying their inactivity. Now a few words about production space. In the last 10 years production areas have increased 12-fold in STK and 20-fold in training organizations. But the number of specialists they have trained has only doubled. Why has efficiency declined? Because we have become unforgivably wasteful; we are not optimally utilizing every square meter of training area. Take our automotive schools, for example. Some of them stand idle hours at a time. And yet if planning were done right, one and the same classrooms could be training specialists for the Armed Forces and for the civilian economy. If a given rayon where a training organization is located has no STK, then it is advisable to set up special classrooms for training specialists in other areas of specialization.

[Question] There are schools which do not yet have sufficiently spacious facilities, and they will scarcely be able to assign an additional classroom for training in nonspecialization occupations.

[Answer] That is correct. However, there is an answer. In the Radyanskiy Rayon DOSAAF Committee in the city of Kiev they are training more than 3,000 specialists for the nation's economy. But only 1,200 of these are being trained at their own training facilities. The rest are being trained directly at enterprises. Of course in order to train such a large detachment of specialists, the rayon DOSAAF committee should have knowledge of the long-range growth and development plans of the enterprises and maintain good contacts with their management. And many STK operate precisely in this manner. In our opinion every encouragement should be given to the effort to bring training closer to production, to locate STK affiliates directly on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This will make it possible not only to train farm machinery operators but, what is no less important, to get them permanently employed on the farms. Following the example of our Estonian DOSAAF people, we are presently equipping mobile classrooms on trucks.

[Question] One can scarcely exaggerate the role of modern training facilities in training cadres for the nation's economy. But obviously work style plays a no less important role.

[Answer] Comprehensively appraising the contribution of DOSAAF toward training cadres for the nation's economy, we must admit that the activities of the DOSAAF committees and primary organizations in this area do not yet fully meet today's requirements. This happens because some of them are not operating at full capacity. Our concern is to raise the level of mass training of toilers, and particularly young people, directly in the DOSAAF primary organizations. Year after year targets are not being met in Vinnitskaya Oblast. The situation is bad in Volynskaya Oblast. Therefore it is the task of all DOSAAF committees in this republic to establish in the next 1.5-2 years technical study groups and classrooms in large primary organizations, to provide them with the requisite minimum quantity of equipment and visual aids, and to train instructors in advance. Adopting tough pledges and advancing fine initiatives, we do not always back them up with organizational work. In the spring of this year the Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee came forth with the initiative of organizing at large enterprises courses for farm machinery operators. But this initiative did not go beyond the verbal stage. A number of oblast, rayon and city DOSAAF committees do not always as yet organize work pertaining to expanding the variety and increasing the number of trained cadres of mass technical occupations, particularly such specialists as drivers for transport vehicles of all categories, tractor drivers, bulldozer operators, motor mechanics, electricians, radio operators, etc, although the capability exists to do so. These deficiencies are characteristic of the DOSAAF committees of Volynskaya, Voroshilovgradskaya, Zaporozhskaya, Khar'kovskaya, and Chernovitskaya oblasts. Naturally there is considerably more positive than negative in the activities of this republic's DOSAAF, but we are deliberately focusing attention on unresolved problems and deficiencies. Their correction constitutes an

important reserve for improving all our work. In conclusion I shall emphasize that the DOSAAF organizations of the Soviet Ukraine will unswervingly build upon their successes in comprehensive improvement of training of specialists for the nation's economy.

Technical Training Results in Khabarovskiy Kray

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 30 Nov 77 p 3

[Article by V. Zhmurko, Chairman of the Khabarovskiy Kray DOSAAF Committee: "Here in the Far East...."]

[Text] The words socialist competition entered our lives swiftly and with inspiration together with the first five-year plans. They acquired a particularly powerful ring during the days of preparation to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, as did their mobilizing significance in the patriotic initiative of the people of Naro-Fominsk -- "A Shock-Work Finish to the Jubilee Year!"

The working hours of the five-year plan are completing their second annual cycle. And we, looking back at the road which has been covered, compare what has been achieved with new tasks. We compare in order to calculate resources and figure reserve potential in achieving new performance levels.

For example, in the Ninth Five-Year Plan the DOSAAF committees and training organizations of Khabarovskiy Kray trained 71,000 technical specialists, which is considerably more than targeted. In the 10th Five-Year Plan we are counting on training 80,000 persons, but in slightly less than 2 years more than 30,000 persons have acquired technical specialties. Therefore there is every reason to state that the control figure of the five-year plan will be overfulfilled.

Questions pertaining to training specialists for the nation's economy continuously occupies the center of attention of the DOSAAF kray committee; they are thoroughly studied and analyzed by committee officials. These questions are discussed at least two to three times each year at meetings of the presidium. This promotes improvement in teaching method and increase in the completed training of truck drivers, tractor drivers, combine operators and persons of other mass occupations.

The model Khabarovsk United Technical School has become a genuine combine for training cadres for the nation's economy. In its 40 years of operation it has produced more than 30,000 specialists, and in recent years has been putting out 1,500-1,800 specialists annually. The school has been awarded on numerous occasions the challenge Red Banner of the Military Council of the Red-Banner Far Eastern Military District, as well as certificates of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF. Solid facilities and a high methodological level of teachers and production training instructors help increase year by year the number of technical specialists completing training.

The STK [Technical Sports Club] of the DOSAAF primary organization at the Plant imeni Lenin Komsomol in the city Komsomol'sk-na-Amure is well known throughout the Far East. Five rayon committees and STK of this kray, operating under difficult roads and climatic conditions, succeeded in a short period of time in creating the requisite base for training technical cadres for the BAM [Baikal-Amur Mainline]. The Verkhnebureinskiy Rayon DOSAAF organization has already provided more than 300 specialists for the construction project of the century.

In a period of 3 years more than 3,000 persons were trained in this kray for the BAM construction crews. Fine results were obtained by the STK of Solnechnyy Rayon and the DOSAAF committees in the city of Amursk and the community of Vanino. Statisticians claim that one out of every five specialists on the BAM received technical training in DOSAAF organizations.

Improvement of training facilities of the committees and STK is an item of particular concern on the part of the kray committee. By decree of the kray executive committee, with the aid of local party and Soviet agencies, in the last 2 years DOSAAF members in this kray have received facilities for 23 classrooms. STK were set up in the community of Chegdomyn, in the village of Leninskoye, and a military-technical training house in Sovetskaya Gavan'. Beginning next year, plans call for building DOSAAF facilities in Amursk and Khabarovsk, and work is continuing in Komsomol'sk-na-Amure.

We have received assemblies from new models of motor vehicles for technical and automotive school classrooms, while available motors and visual aids have been turned over to the STK and primary organization committees. Measures are being taken to improve motor vehicle maintenance and operation. Already today more than half of our STK have heated garages, which is extremely important in the Far East.

With the objective of increasing the training of technical specialists and improving the quality of their training, the DOSAAF Kray Committee has taken measures to determine the kray's actual specialist requirements, and procedures have been elaborated for training specialists for each STK; plans of economic enterprises have been coordinated with DOSAAF organizations.

We have achieved a great deal. However, we cannot close our eyes to existing difficulties and unresolved problems. For example, we have not yet achieved more effective work on training specialists in the technical occupations in all towns and villages. Unique local conditions hinder this. Main factors include the specific features of location of towns and settlements in the Far East. They are scattered across the taiga, sometimes hundreds of kilometers apart, and it is no easy matter to reach them through the trackless forest and along taiga trails. This applies in particular to the numerous forestry establishments, logging operations, geological field operations, and combines. And it is very difficult and sometimes impossible for us to set up full-fledged groups at one of these facilities.

Another of our problems is that the fleet of passenger cars in our STK is still small. On the average there is one per club. Therefore it is easy to imagine the efficiency achieved in practical training. In some places we receive the cooperation of enterprise managers, who permit use of their equipment, but again this occurs in big cities or large communities. But "depth" still remains virgin soil.

In addition, a lack of facilities in the Far East for servicing and repairs on Moskvich-412 cars leads to a situation where many vehicles stand idle in garages for long periods of time, awaiting repairs. And yet Sel'khoztekhnika, which is obliged to supply us with spare parts, is extremely unwilling about opening up its warehouses.

There are also other difficulties which are holding down the growth rate of training of cadres for the nation's economy. We know about them and are taking measures to mobilize reserves. When determining the plan for 1978, we submitted proposals to kray geology, consumer cooperative, forestry and agriculture administrations. We carefully studied the problem of supplying technical cadres to the BAM construction project. We hope that our proposals will be taken into consideration by this kray's planning agencies.

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