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No. 1305

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NAVAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Ocean Training

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] Red Banner Pacific Fleet--While out at sea, Capt-Lt V. Zheleznyakov, commander of an outstanding missile boat, received a radioed order to seek out and destroy an "enemy" warship. For the officer, the forthcoming missile attack was his first independent attack. Soon, one of the fleet's best specialists, WO V. Olishevskiy, reported on the location of the "enemy" ship. WO I. Karnaukhov, master of military proficiency and petty officer in charge of the team of operators, functioned excellently. The missile slid from its guiding tracks with a threatening roar and sped off toward the target and accurately destroyed it. The crew of the outstanding ship demonstrated high combat skills during the tactical exercise.

Proficient Gunners

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] Red Banner Pacific Fleet--The airborne target sped along at the very edge of the low clouds and could be barely distinguished against their white background. Another instant and it would be concealed so that it could later attack the ship from an advantageous angle. This, however, did not take place. The fiery trace of the antiaircraft artillery mount reached out to the "enemy." This was done by the outstanding gunners headed by WO V. Kazakov. They worked smoothly, efficiently. At this time, WO V. Kazakov, a master of military art, was performing the duties of division commander and coped with them successfully. This success was the result of the considerable work done aboard ship and in the artillery department in the matter of mutual replaceability of personnel.

Vigilance, Discipline

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] Red Banner Baltic Military District--The regularly scheduled session of the district's military council was devoted to the matter of strengthening military discipline and raising vigilance. The activity of commanders and political officers in strengthening prescribed military discipline and raising vigilance and combat readiness was thoroughly analyzed in the speeches of Col Gen A. Mayorov, the commanding general of the district, and other generals and officers. The commanders and political officers of those units (chast') and subunits (podrazdeleniye) in which there still are instances of deviations from prescribed order were subjected to sharp, partylike criticism.

Predeploy Preparations

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] The sailors of the atomic powered missile submarine live an intensive life both at sea and ashore. The service not only requires that they have a high degree of technical training but also the ability to act decisively, efficiently, and boldly in the most difficult conditions of modern battle. The submariners polish all of these qualities long before they put out to sea--during exercise-training complexes. One such aspect has been caught in the photograph [not shown]--during an exercise in the swimming pool on scuba training. Here also, in their home base, they perfect their special skills as submariners, psychological training, and the technical facilities of the boat. It is no wonder that they spend so much time in the laboratories, shops, and fleet efficiency expert classrooms. Shown in the photo [not reproduced] are Capt-Lt V. Yeres'ko, commander of the boat's outstanding department, PO2c P. Zverev and PO2c G. Krinitsyn as they carry out a scheduled technical assignment. And so the day arrives when the crew and boat take their main test--the test at sea. The submarine commander, Capt 1st Rank A. Kazakov, has confidence in his subordinates: the days at the base were not spent in vain. Each one was filled with study, with creative searching. The crew of the atomic powered missile submarine, initiators in the navy of socialist competition for a worthy welcome to the 60th anniversary of the Great October, build up their combat skills day after day.

Target Destroyed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet--"Enemy appeared in the Nth quadrangle of the sea. Destroy target," that was the mission assigned by the commander to the coastal missilemen. The men of the outstanding launching battery, commanded by Sr Lt V. Pyatenko, readied the weapon for battle promptly and with high efficiency. Soon the roar of a missile was heard over the sea:

the target was destroyed at extreme range. The success of the missilemen is quite logical. They participated in the traditional contests on fire and special training for leadership in the navy and were prize-winners. The prize for best missile training in the fleet is also kept in the subunit. The missilemen achieved these great successes by virtue of the widespread socialist competition for outstanding fulfillment of tasks and norms. The men of the leading collective are filled with resolve to attain even higher results in combat training.

Sea Duel

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] Red Banner Northern Fleet--The enemy submarine was maneuvering and putting out intensive interference. But it was not able to hide from the winged antisubmariners. The aircraft piloted by communist military pilot first class I. Shatilo laid out a barrier of radiohydrosonic buoys. Using their data, navigator Maj A. Korolev errorlessly classified his contact with the enemy submarine and the specialists defined the parameters of its movement with great accuracy. This is not the first year that the crew headed by Lt Col I. Shatilov has worn the title of outstanding.

At Maximum Range

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jul 77 p 1

[Text] The submarine dives, tearing up the water with its screws. Its mission--to find a detachment of "enemy" ships and attack them. The sonar-men stand their watch vigilantly. A report comes from their compartment: "Screw noises of surface ships can be heard." It is not an easy matter to attack modern ships which have high speed. However, the submarine commander, Capt 3rd Rank F. Gnatusin, executes a rapid maneuver, draws near, and selects the main target for attack. Two torpedoes, bursting out of the tubes, speed forward and destroy the "enemy" ship.

11841

CSO: 1801

AIR DEFENSE MISSILE BATTALION COMBAT TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 77 p 1

{Article by Capt A. Mitronov, Order of Lenin, Moscow Air Defense District: "When Time Is Short: The Main Thing Is Efficiency and Quality"}

{Text} Alarm rang out in the report of the guidance officer, Capt Z Bogdan. Only a few of the missilemen knew that the system malfunction was introduced by order of the inspector. A tense silence settled over the van. Just a few seconds ago the battalion's combat performance was proceeding normally. The missilemen acquired the air "enemy" at maximum range. The four small blips, which appeared on the lower section of the remote PPI scope, were getting closer and closer to the border of the launch zone. Then two targets abruptly changed their course and the remaining ones increased their speed.

The fire control officer, P. Grishchenko, gave the command to destroy the lead "enemy" aircraft. The missile was launched with a roar that resounded above the launcher. On the scope, we could see the target blip jerk as though it had run into an insurmountable obstacle and then it began to quickly disintegrate.

The command to transfer fire followed. And, suddenly extremely dense ripples of jamming flared up. It was at just this moment that the guidance officer's alarming report rang out.

The current situation demanded immediate action. Of course, in a normal situation it would not have aroused any special complications. When time is not especially short, it is possible to analyze the causes of the trouble and conduct a supplementary calibration of the system. But, that is in a normal situation. But, it's an entirely different matter under live firing conditions. There's the target! Just a few seconds and the "enemy" aircraft may be out of reach. Will the crew be able to find a way out of this situation?

In these few seconds, compressed to the limit, not just Capt Bogdan and his subordinates are undergoing a crucial trial. I think the battalion's entire missileman training system--which is aimed at training the soldiers to act aggressively when time is short--is undergoing a strict test.

Life itself forced us to solve a similar problem. It all began when battalion personnel did not cope well with their assigned mission in the tactical exercise which took place at the end of the past training year. One of the main reasons for the low rating was precisely the fact that the specialists, operating under a definite time limit, became flustered and allowed errors; the greatest number of errors was in those areas which do not require special training and ingenuity.

What would seem to be difficult about covering the semi-trailer that the radar antenna is folded on? Put up the ribs, pull the canvas tight--and it's done. Sr. Lt V. Kovalyuk's subordinates usually handled this work with complete confidence. But, during the exercise the necessity arose to reduce the time required for closing down the site. It was as though somebody had replaced the people. A commotion sprang up around the semi-trailer; the missilemen were nervous and mutual recriminations were flung about. It was suggested at the subunit party meeting that more equipment training be conducted. At first glance the idea is indisputable. After all, if specialists practice their duties more frequently, then their professional skills will improve and the causes of disruptions will decrease.

Here's what they did to begin with: They increased the amount of training; every spare minute was used for combat equipment drills. But, the first test showed that an appreciable improvement was a long way off. Furthermore, after some success the time arrived when the indexes "reached a plateau." This means that the amount of training alone is not solving the problem. It is necessary to look for other efficient ways. But, what are they?

Once, I attended drills which were being conducted by Lt R. Ibragimov. The missilemen were practice-loading the missile launchers. The gearbox ground away as usual and the missile's narrow shadow crept swiftly across the ground. In short, extremely satisfying training was underway. When it was finished, the soldiers moved toward the barracks in formation. They walked slowly, in a sort of unhurried, disorganized manner. I couldn't believe that just a few minutes ago they were bustling about the transporter-erector vehicle with enviable energy and hustled around the missile launcher in a productive manner. What happened?

"Well, after all, the drill is over," calmly stated the platoon leader.

So that's it. Does it turn out that the ability to save time is only required during training and once you leave the training class or position, it is no sin to neglect time? Isn't the hidden clue here the fact that some soldiers have a poorly developed sense of responsibility for their professional training?

I shared my thoughts with the political officer, Capt N. Babiy.

"Yes, I think there is a grain of truth in this," he said. "I have seen it myself: some of our officers are exacting only during combat work, and they pay little attention to the fact that their subordinates are rather lazy during physical training and show up late for formations. Things must be organized so people become accustomed to the fact that all their activities--be it loading the missile launchers or policing up

the area--must be accomplished in the minimum amount of time. It is evident that only in this manner is it possible to mold a high level of firm emotional qualities in soldiers."

We talked a long time that evening. The battalion commander supported our suggestions. Control over the strict observance of the daily schedule increased and the level of officers', warrant officers' and sergeants' exactingness toward subordinates increased. Cases of deviations from generally accepted requirements began to be analyzed more deeply and conscientiously. The party organization did not remain on the sidelines in this matter.

The missilemen were reminded about the discussion "The Value of a Single Second" which was conducted by the combat-qualified expert and communist, P. Gaishchenko. Based on examples from the subunit's life, the officer convincingly demonstrated how this seemingly, extremely small slice of time influences the level of combat readiness.

In the subunit's Leninist room, the party activists set up a stand which tells about the experiences of the best soldiers, such as Sr Sgt Yu. Dyagichenko, Sgt Sh. Gil'manov and Pvt V. Kapysta; they make intelligent use of every minute of their time and achieve a maximum return from it.

The struggle for saving time in our everyday affairs has forced us to take another look at our subordinates' combat training. For example, the missilemen have to master the tear-down of the antenna subassembly. But, it can only be worked on at specific times. How can it be done? They found a way: work on it piece by piece. Without turning off the antenna, they trained on use of the jacks and mastered skills for uncovering the base and attaching the instruments. Day by day, the soldiers are convinced that with a well-planned organization of drills and with the accuracy and persistence of each of them, the amount of training derived from each training second will increase. Their confidence in the fact that even extremely compressed time periods do not interfere with the accomplishment of the assigned mission is even stronger.

The subunit pays a great deal of attention to ensuring firm emotional stability of the specialists in a complex, sharply changing situation. In order to mold a high level of combat qualities in the soldiers and to develop an expectation of the unexpected in them, it is necessary to regularly create situations which are possible, though not very likely, under actual conditions. For this purpose, Sr Lt V. Kovalyuk used different inputs to simulate unexpected events: an assault by "enemy" diversionary groups, taking leading specialists out of an operation, a fire at the station and equipment malfunctions.

Surprise operator training--which was used by Capt Z Bogdan--also had a good effect. They were conducted at the least expected time: in the evening, during duty watch and, at times, on days off. The operators became accustomed to the idea that they must improve their expertise not just during the hours strictly set aside for training, but at any moment, under the most diverse situations.

They began to conduct more drills and training in the battalion at night and during bad weather; they are more actively using the simulation equipment, which enables them to simulate different combat options. The specialists' level of training increased everyday and their psychological tempering increased. The missilemen learned to successfully operate under extremely rigid time limitations.

...The malfunction is cleared up. The guidance officer gave the command to the manual tracking operator:

"Follow it on the radar!"

Just a few seconds are left till missile launch.

9001

CSO: 1801

MILITARY NEWSPAPERS' EFFECTIVENESS ON DISCIPLINE INDOCTRINATION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 77 p 2

[Article: "The Foundation of Combat Readiness: A Press Review"]

{Text} Accompanied by the high level of political activity which was aroused by the decisions of the May 1977 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the 6th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the public discussion of the new Draft USSR Constitution is underway in our country.

When contemplating our nation's historical accomplishments which are vividly reflected in the Draft Basic Law and when thinking about the rights and responsibilities of a citizen of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the soldiers of the Army and Navy think chiefly about how they can better fulfill their sacred duty to the Motherland: to reliably defend socialism's accomplishments. They are writing about this in military newspapers, which are widely illuminating the course of the public discussion of the new draft constitution.

Here is one of the issues of the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District newspaper KRASNYY VOIN. Articles on matters of most importance to a military person--his duty, discipline and how Soviet soldiers fulfill their obligations in specific life situations--are published in it.

Guards Lt N. Elenevskiy begins his article "Five Minutes After Retreat..." with this fact. The subunit duty officer, W O {Praporshchik} Yu. Turkin found out that Sgts Sharavov and Krivenko--very disciplined soldiers--had not returned from town pass on time.

"What could have happened?" the warrant officer asked himself with alarm. It turned out that the sergeants were late because, while returning to the unit, they arrested an armed thug who was trying to rob a woman. A phrase from the draft constitution is cited in the article: "A citizen of the USSR is obligated...to be intolerant of antisocial acts and to assist in the safeguarding of public order in every way possible."

Strengthening discipline and maintaining prescribed order in units and on ships are the constant concern of the military press. It is good that now--while the public discussion of the Draft USSR Constitution is in progress--the newspapers are widely popularizing and explaining the Leninist heritage and the requirements of the oath and regulations to the Motherland's armed defenders.

After the publication of the new combined arms regulations, the military newspapers did a lot toward popularizing and implementing their requirements. Those editorial collectives, which are not decreasing this work now, are proceeding correctly. The Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District newspaper LENINSKOYE ZNAMYA displayed a worthwhile initiative by organizing a contest for experts on the regulations in its pages; this immediately attracted the attention of soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, military institute cadets and officers. They are actively participating in the contest and are willingly answering the assigned questions.

A comforting trend, as an analysis of newspaper publications shows, is the fact that editors are trying to illuminate the problems of strengthening military discipline on an overall basis, closely connected with practice and with the daily life of personnel. They are reinforcing propaganda on the requirements of the oath and regulations with a detailed review of the actions of specific servicemen in concrete situations.

The Red Banner North Caucasus Military District newspaper KRASNOYE ZNAMYA can serve as an example of this. It is carrying the problems of strengthening military discipline and maintaining prescribed order along several axes. One of them is propaganda on loyalty to combat traditions and military duty. These articles are published in the columns "Discussions on the Oath and Regulations," "Implement the Requirements of the Combined Arms Regulations!" and others. One of the newspaper's pages is devoted to the Combat Banner of a military unit. The article enjoyed an emotional and sensational reception due to its close contact with life. The story is about a Combat Banner which was saved by Sgt V. Popov, now a reserve warrant officer, in March 1945. The warrant officer's story about the memorable battle was carried in the newspaper and it told how young soldiers are still serving under this Combat Banner and increasing their fathers' fame.

The newspaper devotes a lot of attention to summarizing and disseminating the progressive methods of sergeants, warrant officers and officers--the capable educators and advocates of prescribed discipline. These problems are raised in the articles: the struggle for unity in military collectives and for strengthening friendship and troop comradeship. Commanders, political officers, party activists and combat and political training experts regularly publish articles in the columns: "You and the Collective," "For a High Moral Climate in the Collective" and "The Commander and Military Collective Unity." The newspaper introduced "A Column for NCO's" in which the young leaders share their experiences, plans and thoughts. Here are the topics of past "columns": "Your Subordinate's External Appearance," "Who Are You Leading Into Battle," and "The Commander Sums Up the Results."

All of this is the foundation of good experience. But, unfortunately, the illumination of the problems of an overall approach in strengthening discipline and maintaining prescribed order still has not become the leading trend in many newspapers. They limit themselves to a general explanation of the regulation's provisions, poorly analyze the disciplinary conditions

in units and subunits and do not reveal the causes of specific violations. For example, judging by the articles in the Red Banner Far East Military District newspaper SUVOROVSKIY NATISK, one can conclude in the units and subunits there, there is no positive experience which deserves to be disseminated and there are no isolated violations of discipline which should be subjected to conscientious criticism. It is true that the expressions "military discipline" and "prescribed order" do appear in many of the articles. But, that is not the problem; the problem is to widely depict progressive commanders who are capable of implementing prescribed order and to depict the experience of party and Komsomol organizations in indoctrinating soldiers in a spirit of accomplishment, in a spirit of conscious fulfillment of their military duty. One can only regret the fact that now, during the public discussion of the new draft constitution, the newspaper is publishing few current, profound articles on the responsibilities of the armed defenders of the Motherland, on their lofty and honorable duty.

It's true, the newspaper does write about the requirements of the oath, regulations and Soviet law. For example, it regularly publishes articles in the columns: "The Oath and Regulations Are the Laws Governing the Soldier's Life" and "Appearances by the Attached Department for Legal Education." But many articles in these columns suffer from a lack of contact with real life and bear a "missionary" nature. And at times it is hard to understand for whom they are intended; to whom are they addressed?

The struggle for strengthening military discipline and prescribed order is a complex, multidimensional topic. In order to profoundly and instructively evaluate it, one must know troop life well, must react efficiently to all events and happenings and must skillfully master the art of journalism. Personnel of the military press must try to ensure that this topic is always in the center of the newspapers' attention, to ensure that each of their articles hits the target and facilitates indoctrination of soldiers in a spirit of strict fulfillment of the requirements of the oath and regulations.

LENINGRAD M.D. COMMANDER COMMENTS ON DRAFT CONSTITUTION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jul 77 p 2

{Article by Col Gen M. Sorokin, commander in chief of the order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "The Highest Duty"}

{Text} Summer combat training is the busiest time in the life of the troops. And this year it is especially busy. At the peak of the combat season, a widespread discussion of the new Draft USSR Constitution is unfolding in units and large units. This has stirred up the high level of political and businesslike enthusiasm which now reigns in every military collective.

"The USSR Armed Forces' duty to the people," says article 31 of the draft constitution, "is to reliably defend the socialist Fatherland and to maintain constant combat readiness, guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any enemy." The enthusiastic desire to honorably carry out this sacred duty, to achieve a high level of quality and efficiency in military labor, to worthily welcome the 60th anniversary of Great October -- these are what determines the basic position of each soldier. This position is displayed especially vividly on the fields during tactical drills and exercises and during execution of complex combat training missions; this is where combat expertise is forged, where the fate of socialist obligations for the jubilee year is decided.

Recently, at one of the tactical exercises, I happened to observe the activities of a tank battalion commanded by Guards Capt Yu. Tatarenkov. I enjoyed watching the harmonious, well-coordinated combat activity of the guardsmen. They caught the meaning of their commanders' orders at once and accomplished them, as the saying goes, in a flash. It was precisely military inspiration, multiplied by a high level of expertise, which helped the tankers achieve outstanding results in spite of the fact that they had to carry out the combat training missions in unfamiliar surroundings, under the difficult conditions of the North.

The sources of the official zeal and the high combat mood of the soldiers of this battalion, and also those of other units and subunits in the district, are visible in the work which unfolded among the troops after the new Draft USSR Constitution was published. The soldiers of the Leningrad Military District greeted the decree of the sixth session of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the election of comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet with a feeling of enthusiastic approval, as did all Soviet people. Study and discussion of the draft constitution and the decisions of the May 1977 CPSU Central Committee Plenum unfolded everywhere. Commanders, political bodies and staffs are doing everything possible to direct the troops' enthusiasm toward a further increase in vigilance and combat readiness, and in ground and air training, toward a strengthening of discipline and prescribed order and toward the complete and high quality execution of training plans and programs, of socialist obligations.

The creative search for the most efficient ways and methods of training and a sense of urgency and purposefulness in the struggle for a high level of quality in each drill and training session -- these are the characteristic traits which define the work style of our commanders. Their relationship to duty serves as a good example for subordinates. Personnel of units and subunits are actively engaged in the search for new reserves to increase combat expertise. Specifically, the

innovators in one of the regiments headed by Lt A. Boltovskiy have fruitfully labored in this area. They made a special device for training snipers and did a lot so that the units' training facilities for firing and other types of combat training completely respond to the demands of contemporary combat. It is possible to name entire military collectives who are advancing with worthwhile initiatives these days.

All of this is the natural result of the organizational work of commanders, staffs, political bodies, party and Komsomol organizations. Its goal is to bring to the awareness and heart of each soldier the profound meaning of all the provisions of the basic law of the land. Especially those which directly formulate the responsibilities of Soviet citizens in defense of the socialist Fatherland. We are trying to achieve this through widespread discussions of the draft constitution; during these discussions, its provisions are examined in the light of our State's great accomplishments and in light of the qualitative changes which are taking place in the life of the Soviet people and its Armed Forces during the years of socialist construction. Thus, the preparation for the 60th anniversary of Great October and the discussion of the new draft constitution are intrinsically connected measures which complement each other.

The defense of the socialist Fatherland is the entire nation's business. This is readily apparent in the example of the combat history of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. It includes vivid pages from the annals of the nation's exploits and it now serves as a useful foundation for indoctrinating sturdy defenders of socialism's accomplishments, true Leninists. Our socialist State was born here, in the city on the Neva. The foundations for the first large Red Army formation were laid here under the leadership of V. I. Lenin. The popularization of the revolutionary and combat traditions of the Soviet people, the Armed Forces and the district is an inherent part of all our indoctrination activities.

There are still many famous military units in the district. The oldest is the Red Banner, Order of Kutuzov Leningrad Motorized Rifle Training Regiment imeni Leninskiy Komsomol which was born during the battles for the young Republic of Soviets in the menacing year of 1918. Ya. Fabritsius, a Civil War hero, organized it. Many of this unit's soldiers became Heroes of the Soviet Union during the Great Patriotic War. Is it really possible to talk without emotion about the subunit which went down in history as the Honor Battalion! In January 1945 all its soldiers and sergeants were decorated with medals of honor for their courage and valor.

Indoctrination in revolutionary and combat traditions is a many-sided process. It is not enclosed within the time limits set aside for mass political work, but continues in the field, on the very same deployment lines where battles once rang out. There are many memorials to the defenders of the Fatherland on these spots. The story of their fathers' deeds and meetings with heroes of the revolution and wars inspires Army youth to military labor. Each young soldier feels his responsibility for continuing the glorious traditions of the defenders of the Motherland especially sharply at these times and he tries to act in a military manner during everyday training activities. For example, the soldiers of one of the units acted precisely in this manner recently after N. N. Kuznetsov -- a veteran of the Communist Party and a participant in the Great October Socialist Revolution who had the good fortune of personally seeing and hearing the leader of the revolution, V. I. Lenin -- appeared before them in the training area.

Preparation for the October jubilee and discussion of the new Draft USSR Constitution are being conducted in close coordination with local party and Soviet agencies in the district. For example, meetings of party activists -- prepared together with the oblast party committees and devoted to this important task -- took place in a number of garrisons; concrete ways for activating joint mass-political work were planned at them.

The district Officers Club imeni S. M. Kirov is making an outstanding contribution to this work. Joint propaganda teams are giving lectures in units and subunits; they are composed of scientists, specialists in different areas, war heroes and advanced industrial workers. Just recently, Professor Col N. Tomashevskiy, candidate of History; Associate Professor Col N. Voroshilov; Heroes of the Soviet Union Lt Gen (Ret) D. Medvedev and Capt (Ret) A. Ivanov and other distinguished people from our kray have appeared before the troops.

The soldiers of the Army and Navy are the full and equal masters of their country, as are all the Soviet people. They are sparing no efforts to further strengthen the Motherland's defensive might; they are relentlessly improving their combat training. Dozens of reports on the glorious deeds of soldiers are received daily by staffs and political bodies. The suggestions and comments being received from units and subunits are also interesting. The soldiers talk with emotion about the unparalleled path traversed by the country in 60 years; they tell about the achievements of their fellow workers in military, labor, analyze the omissions and deficiencies in the organization of the training process, and they are sharing their thoughts on how to eliminate them and how to conquer new, higher frontiers in socialist competition. Staffs and political bodies are efficiently responding to personnel suggestions, are giving well-reasoned responses to questions which arise during discussion of the draft constitution and are ensuring the elimination of deficiencies based on each well-founded, critical sign.

Following the Leninist tradition of constant and obligatory participation of leadership personnel in troop political and military indoctrination, the officers and generals of the district staff and political directorate frequently meet with soldiers, discuss the draft constitution with them and present lectures and reports.

The discussion of the new Draft USSR Constitution is acquiring even greater scope. Much has already been accomplished. But

there is still more to be done. To conduct matters so that the discussion of the draft constitution is inherently combined with the solution of specific tasks of combat and political training -- means to achieve new successes in socialist competition for a welcome worthy of the 60th anniversary of Great October, to honorably fulfill our highest duty.

9001

CSO: 1801

INDIVIDUAL APPROACH TO TRAINING AND INDOCTRINATION RECOMMENDED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jul 77 p 2

{Article by Lt Col E. Korotkov, Candidate of Teaching Sciences: "See Everybody and Work with Each One: Pedagogical and Psychological Topics"}

{Text} The troop replacement has poured into units and sub-units, introducing the young soldiers to combat formations, teaching them their military specialties in a compressed time period, molding ideologically tempered, disciplined soldiers and all-round trained defenders of the socialist Fatherland -- this is the task before the officers.

Success in training and indoctrination depends on many factors. One of the most important is the commander's ability to find an individual approach to each of his subordinates and to more fully consider and use his desires, capabilities, character traits and temperament in the service interest. The individual approach, as the most efficient, is dictated by the very essence of our way of life and by the tasks of communist indoctrination. This is heavily stressed in the Draft USSR Constitution: "In accordance with the communist ideal: 'The free development of each is a condition for the free development of all'" the Soviet State sets as its goal the expansion of all real possibilities for developing and applying the creative forces, capabilities and talents of its citizens and for all-round individual development. "It is difficult to over-rate the contribution made by military service -- which was called the school of stamina and discipline, the school of life, at the 25th congress.

In the final analysis, the formative period for young soldiers and sergeants, their "acclimatization" and their success in mastering equipment and weapons depend on how quickly the commander is able to learn their individual traits. Effective work on averting infractions of prescribed order and on strengthening discipline is impossible without an in-depth knowledge of people.

The information the commander receives about subordinates in the first days and weeks of their service is especially significant. It constantly exposes some sort of new, and at times unexpected, traits of the person and helps to more fully discover his capabilities, proclivities and the qualities of his will. During this time the officer must be doubly careful in analyzing each fact, in ignoring chance events and in not jumping to conclusions and evaluations.

When joining a new collective and becoming accustomed to the conditions of military service, the young soldier does not disclose his entire character. Many positive and also negative aspects can appear later, after his complete adaptation to the situation. A special understanding -- which comes with experience and results from a persistent improvement in his knowledge of military pedagogy and psychology--is required of the commander.

In order to develop a correct, overall view of the soldier, one must observe him in diverse situations: during drills, on combat duty, on details, during personal time, while accomplishing social assignments, etc. The process of acquiring knowledge of a soldier's personality traits presupposes an overall, systematic collection of data about him.

Studying subordinates is impossible without individual conversations with them. When evaluating this form of indoctrination, some young officers perplexedly shrug their shoulders: they say, but I talk with the sergeants and soldiers everyday. Each of the commander's words, even those in passing, truly carries an educational charge. But, the problem here is one of conversations for a specific purpose: the tasks are to study the personality, to establish closer contact with the

subordinate and to discuss his specific behavior. Preliminary preparation is frequently required for such a conversation. In any case, the experienced commander and political officer will not ask the subordinate about things that can be found out from his records. On the contrary, he will try to show that he already knows a lot about his co-conversationist and that he invited him for a talk which exceeds the limits of "biographical" data. Benevolence, a relaxed atmosphere, a genuine interest in the person's life and activities before he entered the service -- these are the grounds for a conversation which becomes both a means of indoctrination and a source of information.

During his term of service the commander naturally finds time for more than one detailed conversation with the subordinate. It is important that during these conversations he should skillfully use the information he obtained during previous conversations and he should emphasize by the content of the conversation that he remembers everything he was told. It is enough to reask one question which was already explained or to get something mixed up and the conversation will no longer be sincere and the subordinate will lose confidence in him.

The commander's task is not limited to a study of the soldier's individual personality traits. It is broader and more complex. The commander is obligated to develop and strengthen all the positive traits in his character, to help him eliminate shortcomings and to constantly create conditions which strengthen his will and self-improvement. If the officer has deeply studied the subordinate, then the selection of measures for influencing indoctrination will be more precise. Methods which were effective in relation to one person may not be worthwhile under other conditions. The indoctrinator's work is creative. Each victory in indoctrination work is unique.

A young soldier, Pvt M. Mamedov, started to get a reputation as a hot tempered, unstable person who was argument prone. But, the unit deputy commander for political affairs, Lt P. Neznamov, also noticed his other traits: he was energetic, reliable and industrious. There was a lot of convincing data that he was not

by any means indifferent to his commanders' and coworkers' opinions of him. It was necessary to help him display his qualities. The first assignment was easy. The officer requested Mamedov to help his countryman, Pvt N. Akhundov, master the Russian language. Akhundov quickly excelled in political studies. Mamedov was also praised for this. The first time in his relatively short service career. Of course, the soldier did not immediately change his attitude toward the service. But, it is precisely this praise which can be considered the point of departure for Pvt Mamedov's first successes.

Pedagogical culture presumes not just the ability to uncover the deep-seated reasons for a person's negative behavior, but also the ability to find those positive inclinations which can be built upon. One should not expect quick results in indoctrination work. Patience and consistency are required. The subordinate usually will not immediately bare his soul and submit his innermost thoughts and opinions to the commander's judgment. Only the officer's tact and consideration will enable him to establish friendly contact with his subordinates.

Pvt A. Vasil'yev was transferred to one of the subunits. He was considered an "incorrigible" violator of military discipline at his former duty station. The soldier thought that in his new company his acquaintance would begin with a "sermon" and that his service record would inevitably be lying on the commander's desk. But, everything turned out differently. The company commander said a few words about the difficulty of future missions; he said that everybody in the collective could be counted on and that they also had great hopes for him, Vasil'yev. There also were no pressing questions about his former service from the soldiers and sergeants. The psychological pressure which Vasil'yev felt subsided. Gradually, with time, he found his place in the collective and did not once undermine it.

See everybody and work with each one... To understand the essence of this principle and to steadfastly master the art of its application means to steadily increase the efficiency of the commander's difficult work.

DIFFICULTIES NOTED IN SUGGESTION AND INNOVATION PROGRAM

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 77 p 2

{Article by Maj N. Kalmykov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent:
"Is It Impossible Without the Costs?: Observations on the
Organization of Innovative Activities"}

{Text} At first, one of my officer friends, a person whose interest is in creating technical projects, was not very lucky. He spent weeks and sometimes months concocting innovative suggestions, but when he sent them to the higher headquarters for review, it frequently turned out that his innovation was not an innovation at all, but no more than a copy of equipment already in existence. "Is it really impossible to create a situation where the innovator is not in the anecdotal position of reinventing the wheel?" He flung out once in a fit of temper after his usual failure.

I must confess that I didn't attach any special significance to his words then. But recently, while I was at X radio-technical unit, I saw a whole list of soldiers whose suggestions were turned down for similar reasons. A. Stuplin, V. Ogarkov, N. Karmanov, A. Tarasov and many others were in the position of "wheel inventors."

Failures are possible in innovators' creative work as in any other area. Not every idea can be successfully implemented. It happens that the innovators suggest frankly poor engineering solutions and equipment and instrument designs which are

economically unsound. And the final result is that the painstaking work goes for naught. But, now we are talking about cases of a completely different nature. These are cases where the cause of the failure is the appearance of an idea already introduced by somebody else.

Is it really true that it is impossible to protect innovators from these miscalculations? The unit deputy commander, Maj N. Matyushenko, uncertainly shrugged his shoulders when this question was brought up:

"We probably can't do away with these costs. After all, innovation is a spontaneous process."

Is it spontaneous or has it been turned into a spontaneous process for some reason? Let's try to delve into this.

How does organization of innovative work begin in the forces?

Before the training year begins, an estimated list of technical tasks, the so-called technical subjects, is developed in the units. By this very action, the innovators' creative work is placed somewhat on a planned path. However, in many cases the planning is only of an approximate nature in as much as the proposed subjects are not obligatory and serve only as a sort of reference point for technical thought. What is the explanation for this? First and foremost is the desire not to limit the servicemen's range of creative research and the desire not to stifle their initiative.

As experience shows, this has not only a plus side, but a negative one as well. Deprived of control and without any connection to a specific subject, the innovator in the sub-unit usually looks for a technical problem on his own, performs the calculations and converts it into a design solution by himself. The unit commission finds out about the device when it is already made and it is too late to correct anything.

But, perhaps, the innovators' creative work does not lend itself to planning in general. However, the experience of progressive collectives convinces us of the contrary. The accuracy and reality of plans compiled here is due to the fact that they consider the needs and suggestions of the innovators, their research and findings.

For example, unit X proceeds precisely in this manner. Before the year begins, they study the soldiers' personal suggestions, make recommendations and plan economic support for innovative work. Besides this, new subjects and ideas--which arise in the process of analyzing training and combat work--are proposed for subunits, with due consideration for the type of work performed by their personnel and the nature of the missions they perform. Contests for the best suggestion are announced in the unit in order to solve the most important and complex problems. In this way, the activity of each innovator is visible; he is free of the necessity for working at his own risk when putting an idea into practice.

But, doesn't this stifle their initiative? After all, it's as if the innovator is "tied" to the given subject and frequently implements an idea which he cannot tolerate. No, it does not stifle them. This is the procedure: if a specialist develops a personal suggestion which merits attention, then it will be efficiently considered, included in the plan and he will be given the "green light."

Once a group of innovators, headed by Sr Lt A. Kuzakov worked on introducing a system for decreasing the time required for passing information to the higher command post. The idea was born at work: what if the "high" voltage connecting circuit was tapped right at the radio operator's key? He presses the key--the signal is transmitted; he releases it--the transmitter is turned off. Sgt V. Soltys, who thought up this idea, shared his opinion with the officer. They performed the calculations together and drew up a diagram. The commission gave an immediate "okay" to the introduction of the new suggestion, included it in the plan and helped implement the project. The unit commissions for developing innovations accumulate a multitude of innovator

suggestion forms every month. And this is good. This attests to the constantly increasing level of our soldiers' education, to the broadening of their technical horizons and to the increase in their awareness and activity. The amount of suggestions, which enable a more successful solution to the problems of increasing troop combat readiness, are increasing from year to year. Naturally, the process of implementing them must correspond to the demands of the time: first and foremost it must be characterized by efficiency and a clearly established communication system; it must ensure the supply of necessary materials, components and working plans. But, meanwhile, it is necessary to overcome the obstacles on the path of introducing innovations.

Sr Lt's N. Gorbatenko and V. Zotin developed a device which makes it possible to expand the range of radar equipment employment and Lt A. Girenko developed a device for speeding up transmission of information. It would seem that both of these worthwhile suggestions would be introduced in all the unit's subunits. But, for the present, they are only being used in those companies and battalions where they were made. They do not have even a suspicion of their existence in the unit's other subunits. It is necessary to point out that about 200 different innovative suggestions, which were implemented over the past years in the unit, have only been accomplished in single editions. In single editions, even though some of them merit the widest possible dissemination.

As we saw, the problem rests upon poor communications. Of course, the innovative commissions and bureaus are at fault to a great extent. Instances where it takes several years for an innovation to go "up the chain" and back are still frequent. During this time, many of them become practically obsolete. Such was the case, for example, with a number of Sr Lt N. Frolov's suggestions. The officer is in his third year of waiting for an answer to one of them. The lack of reproduction machines for copying the descriptions and diagrams of the innovators' suggestions and inventions also has a negative effect; without them, it is difficult to organize efficient publication of technical bulletins.

There are still many problem areas in innovators' creative work which demand solutions. It is important to fully utilize the large reserves and possibilities which innovation provides to the cause of increasing the efficiency of socialist competition and strengthening troop combat readiness.

9001

CS0: 1801

TROOP TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2-7, 9-13, 16-28, 30, 31 Aug 77

[2 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption -- photos not reproduced for this series] Northern Group of Forces. The motorized infantrymen commanded by Gds Lt V. Sergiyenko exhibited good training and organization at recent tactical exercises. This success is not accidental. The subunit [podrazdeleniye] has been rated excellent for several years now. The motorized infantrymen are successfully fulfilling their socialist pledges in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary. The photo shows them at tactical exercises.

[3 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. The troops of the excellent platoon commanded by Lt B. Sheyman made high gains in combat improvement. The recent tactical exercise served as their examination in combat maturity. Lt B. Sheyman made an excellent decision in a complex situation. Employing terrain features, the motorized infantrymen made a rapid maneuver and struck the "enemy" flank. In the photo, the motorized infantrymen are attacking.

[3 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt M. Malygin, Red Banner Turkestan Military District : "Agile Personnel in the Mountains"]

[Text] After the assault landing, the company headed by Gds Sr Lt V. Nikiforov completed a march to the foothills, overcoming rocky ledges and steep mountainous slopes. The rapid movement to the target facilitated the sudden and bold attack.

During the exercise the airborne troops demonstrated high physical tempering and agility. Gds Capt V. Nikiforov set an example for his subordinates. He places continual attention on the physical training of his personnel, a very important condition for high field skill. The majority of his subordinates

carry the first-class rating in various types of sports, while the commander himself is a USSR Master of Sport.

[3 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt A. Borovkov, Red Banner Odessa Military District: "Demonstrated Resourcefulness"]

[Text] The combat engineer platoon commanded by Lt A. Pankin during tactical exercises was assigned the mission of making lanes in front of the "enemy" main line of resistance. The combat engineers had to labor under difficult conditions in a downpour. However, they accomplished the mission in the time allotted.

But they encountered yet another obstacle beyond the mine field, dragons' teeth, which could neither be overcome nor bypassed. Lt Pankin then made the brave decision to blow up the obstacles using the mines they had just removed. Crawling and camouflaging themselves with local objects, the combat engineers rapidly placed the mines next to the concrete columns, installed the wiring, and demolished the obstacle. The BMP dashed through the resultant lanes.

[3 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Puzanov, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Following a 'Nuclear' Strike"]

[Text] Successfully completing the intercept mission, Military Sniper Pilot V. Kotlubayev returned to base. As he approached the far beacon he was ordered to land at an airfield "contaminated" by radioactivity.

After the landing the pilot, wearing his gas mask, carefully exited the aircraft. While the officer underwent decontamination in a safe area, the technician and mechanic decontaminated the aircraft.

Many pilots received a similar command that day. They demonstrated the skills of confident actions after "enemy" employment of "nuclear" weapons.

[3 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col V. Bogdanovskiy, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "Batteries Compete"]

[Text] The artillery batteries commanded by Sr Lt A. Lebedev and Lt M. Boyko have been competing with each other for a long time. A sharp struggle for first place in socialist competition is underway in classrooms, on the range, and on the drill field.

An uncompromising sharp struggle for first place also occurred between these collectives at a recent tactical exercise. On the march and during the lessons

at the firing positions, the subordinates of Lebedev and Boyko competed in rapid and accurate norm fulfillment. At first, Sr Lt Lebedev's subordinates were ahead. However, Boyko's subordinates demonstrated higher coordination and organization at the concluding stage. They were the victors.

[3 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Dzhun'ko: "The Mission Accomplished Excellently"]

[Text] We were at Range "X." A light breeze brought in the scorching breath of the steppe, the odor of the polynia. The missileers are standing next to a display entitled "The Motherland's Skies Will Be Clear!" It contains leaflets describing the troops' great patriotic enthusiasm engendered by the nationwide discussion of the draft of the country's Constitution. Also found there are photographs of the best specialists -- the communists and Komsomol members, the socialists pledges of the personnel in the competition for a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary.

. . . A check of the missileers' knowledge of technical disciplines is underway in the classroom. Guidance officer Sr Lt A. Smirnov calmly and confidently answers the instructor's questions. Sr Lt G. Buravlev explains in detail the arrangement of one of the schematic's stages.

At the same time launch crew personnel conduct an intense struggle for excellent norm fulfillment. Officer Ye. Proskurin is satisfied with his subordinates who certainly deserve high grades.

The agitators tell their coworkers about the excellent troops right there during the break.

Evening came. Clean cloudless skies actually cleansed well by rain stretched above the range.

Guidance officer Sr Lt Smirnov and the operators were at their posts. The commander's calm quiet voice is heard:

"Attention! We are carrying out a mission. . . ."

Sr Lt Smirnov is accomplishing field firing at the range for the first time but not the slightest signs of emotion are evident in his actions. The guidance officer accomplishes the necessary operations and passes commands to the operators. They catch his instructions at once and operate with no mistakes.

And then at the end of this intense work came the launch of a missile at a high-speed maneuvering target aircraft. A roar shook the ground with deafening force. The needle on the stopwatch counts the seconds. A report is received via the loudspeaker: "Target destroyed!"

[4 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Far East Military District. Summer combat training is in full swing. High patriotic enthusiasm engendered by the discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution and preparations for Great October's 60th anniversary reigns in the district's units [chast'] and subunits. Soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers [praporshchik], and officers are achieving high results in combat and political training. The missileers of the excellent platoon commanded by Lt A. Letun (photo above) demonstrated good field skill and coordination at the exercise.

The successes of the troops in the combat engineer subunit commanded by communist Gds Lt V. Nordgeymer are known far beyond the boundaries of Unit "X." At a recent lesson they successfully accomplished a mission involving the engineer preparation of a strong point (photo, bottom right).

The lessons just ended. Gds Capt S. IGNATYUK, excellent battalion deputy commander for political affairs, converses with the troops (photo, bottom left).

[4 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj Yu. Glazkov: "They Kept Their Word"]

[Text] Order of Lenin Moscow Air Defense District. On the eve of a tactical exercise with field firing the missileers from the subunit commanded by officer T. Kachalkin made higher socialist obligations. The troops gave their word to pass the important examination with a high rating by destroying the target with the first missile.

The range greeted the missileers with a dry sultry heat. All specialists had to work under difficult conditions but an especially heavy load was placed on the operators commanded by Lt V. Shastin. The aerial "enemy" strived to strike the target from low altitudes under ECM [electronic countermeasures] cover. The radar screens were covered with dense ripples through which the target blip was tough to find.

In spite of the complex situation, officer T. Kachalkin's subordinates masterfully destroyed the fast low-flying target.

[5 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] "From the air -- into combat!" is the slogan to which troops of the airborne platoon commanded by Gds Sr Lt Yu. Bolotskiy are always true. Very little time has elapsed since the moment the platoon, formed as an assault landing force, took its place in the airliner and flew to the drop zone. Then, having landed, the guardsmen are already carrying out the mission to seize and destroy an "enemy" installation. Their onslaught is rapid and irrepressible. The photos show: 1. The aircraft is being loaded. 2. The subunit commanded by Gds Sr Lt Yu. BOLOTSKIY (foreground) carries out the mission in the "enemy" rear area.

[5 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt Yu. Ivanov, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Combat Engineers Move Forward"]

[Text] The "enemy" set up a strong point on an advantageous line. He linked his fire plan skillfully with the terrain and fortified it with mine fields and engineer structures. However, the advancing forces' reconnaissance detected these obstacles in time.

The combat engineers moved forward during the night. By dawn they had made several lanes for the infantry and tanks. Combat ensued. The attackers succeeded in driving the "enemy" back but the latter was able to dig in beyond a water barrier. An urgent crossing had to be made.

The combat engineers headed by Lt Ye. Vavarenko determined the condition of the river's bottom and banks. Then the tracked ferries and amphibious transporters arrived on the scene. The crossing began without delay. Landing on the opposite bank, the assault landing force from the march attacked the defenders and drove them out of their occupied positions. The offensive continued but already in the depth of the defense the tanks' path was blocked by an anti-tank ditch. In a very short time the combat engineers erected a bridge across the obstacle.

[5 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Maj A. Bedzhanyan, Red Banner Baku Air Defense District: "In the Front Line Way!"]

[Text] A picture depicting the front line years hangs in the Combat Glory Room at Fighter Aviation Regiment "X." It depicts a battle against fascist aircraft by the pilots of the squadron led by Hero of the Soviet Union Maj K. Sobolev.

The second squadron is now the best in the regiment, as was the case during the war years. All combat training missions are accomplished here with high quality and the socialist pledges made by the aviators in the competition for a worthy greeting for Great October's jubilee are being fulfilled. Lt Col V. Sopov, Capt G. Solovyanskiy, and other aviators operated in the front line way at a recent tactical flying exercise. In spite of the fact that the air situation was complex and the "enemy" employed ECM, all targets were intercepted by the squadron's pilots at the assigned lines.

[5 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt A. Manushkin: "Master of Missile Strikes"]

[Text] The fast aerial target maneuvered, employing passive and active ECM. In spite of this, the missileers detected the aircraft target in time. The command to "launch" followed. The missile destroyed the target at optimal range.

The missileers owe a good share of their success to Sr Lt N. Bazanov, deputy SAM [surface-to-air missile] battery commander, a master of missile strikes.

[5 Aug 77 p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt S. Ochkovskiy, Southern Group of Forces: "They Steadfastly Held the Bridgehead"]

[Text] The "enemy" strongly fortified the river banks and set up a continuous fire plan, intending to impede the motorized infantrymen's charge across the water barrier. The commander decided to employ a tactical airborne assault landing. The company led by Sr Lt S. Konovalov was tasked to operate as a part of the landing force. This is a skillful officer and his coworkers learn based on his know-how. Prior to departure for the exercise the motorized infantrymen pledged to excellently accomplish all missions. And this is one of the most complex — an assault landing in the "enemy" rear area.

The company's troops were landed by helicopter and furtively approached the defenders, unexpectedly attacked them, and seized a sector of the riverbank. Sr Lt Konovalov skillfully deployed this motorized infantry force. The troops steadfastly held the bridgehead and supported the attacking subunits which forced the water barrier. The assigned mission was excellently accomplished.

[5 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt Col I. Yakim, Northern Group of Forces [SGV]: "For Lesson Successes"]

[Text] Col Gen O. Kulishev, Commander of the Northern Group of Forces, and Maj Gen V. Sharygin, First Deputy Chief of the group's Political Directorate, visited the participants in joint field lessons -- the troops from an SGV motorized infantry company and those from an infantry company from the Polish Armed Forces.

The commander spoke to the personnel in the flying club. Col Gen O. Kulishev awarded the best troops of the Soviet and Polish subunits wrist watches and other valuable presents for great successes in combat and political training during the lessons.

[6 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt V. Rakhmanulov, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Through a Curtain of Fire"]

[Text] The company commanded by Gds Sr Lt V. Shnyakin energetically attacked the "enemy" who had fortified himself on a hill.

Suddenly a curtain of fire arose in front of the attackers as the "enemy" employed incendiary materials. However, the motorized infantrymen did not panic. Gds Pvt V. Likhmanov, Gds PFC A. Larionov, and other troops in the

subunits acted decisively and bravely. Skillfully eliminating the fires, they continued the attack. In a short time the "enemy" strongpoint was seized.

[6 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col F. Semyanovskiy, Order of Lenin Moscow Military District: "Helicopters Lay Mines"]

[Text] The "enemy" was prepared to go over to the offensive. In order to avoid an enemy tank breakthrough, the senior chief ordered that mines be emplaced from helicopters on the axis threatened by the tanks.

The first to take off to accomplish the mission were squadron commander Lt Col S. Kuznetsov and Capt Ye. Azeyev, his deputy for political affairs. Both are first-class specialists and masterfully handle the mine-laying equipment. Right on the heels of the first pair, first-class specialists Majs V. Kobelev and other squadron pilots masterfully laid mines.

[6 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt A. Petrov, Red Banner North Caucasus Military District: "A Clash With a 'Diversionary' Group"]

[Text] The artillery battery commanded by Sr Lt V. Frolov prepared to change position. An "enemy" diversionary group unexpectedly broke through to the battery position. The gunners did not panic in that complex situation. Sr Lt Frolov immediately ordered them to take up a circular defense and repulse the attack. The commander himself, Sr Sgt A. Krivovitsa, Jr Sgt A. Figurin, and other troops killed the attackers with accurate bursts from their automatic rifles.

The "enemy" attempt to suddenly take the battery positions failed.

[6 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by Capt V. Osipov, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Everything Like at the Range"]

[Text] Young replacements have been brought up to par ahead of the established time during the summer training period in the company commanded by Sr Lt Yu. Baranov. All of the troops from the May call-up are already carrying out the responsibilities of chemical reconnaissance personnel. This is mostly due to effective employment of training facilities.

. . . After the "enemy" employed weapons of mass destruction, the senior chief ordered the chemical warfare [CW] troops to determine routes of passage through sectors with the lowest radiation levels. Several minutes later Baranov began to receive reports by radio from the CW scouts. Soon a new route was plotted on the map for the subunit to follow in order to again

engage the "enemy" and preclude him from consolidating on an advantageous line.

The CW scouts did this in a classroom simulator equipped with the latest teaching aids rather than at the range.

The classroom simulator, on which officers V. Grisyuk, Yu. Baranov, I. Demkov, and V. Klimenko worked hard, establishes a training situation which approximates combat to the maximum, permits savings in vehicle resources and instruments, more effective use of training time, and precise organization of competition at every lesson on fulfilling norms and missions.

[7 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt G. Kosenkov, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Command and Control Was Continual"]

[Text] The tactical lessons were in their final phase. The "enemy" committed new powerful aviation forces to the battle. The volume of information on the air situation which reached the command post in an unending stream rose sharply. Because of the umpire's inputs, various gear broke down and specialists were put out of action. However, the shift supervised by Lt Col A. Bogomazov, Master of Combat Qualification, confidently did its work. Command and control of the subunits and airborne aircraft was not lost for even a minute.

[7 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Kiev Military District. The motorized infantrymen from the battalion commanded by Gds Capt G. Kirindas', in coordination with the tank subunit commanded by Gds Lt Ye. Kolkayev, made a concerted attack on the main line of "enemy" resistance. The troops demonstrated good teamwork and tactical mastery in the training battle. Success in accomplishing the assigned mission was insured by the skillfully organized coordination. The photo shows the motorized infantrymen and tankers at the lessons.

[7 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt N. Kikeshev, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District: "Crossing Made On Schedule"]

[Text] Striving to delay the advance of the motorized infantrymen, the "enemy" blew up the bridge over the river as they withdrew. The high steep banks and silty bottom were obstacles to fording the water barrier. The combat engineer company commanded by Sr Lt A. Karleyev was assigned the mission to erect a bridge in the shortest possible time.

The engineers set to work in unison and soon erected up a new span capable of accomodating heavy equipment traffic.

Pvts M. Zukhurov and V. Sukhotin labored with special diligence and WO I. Barevtsev did a rapid and high-quality job of welding. The bridge was ready for use by the main motorized infantry forces.

[7 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] The helicopter crew commanded by Military Pilot 2d Class Sr Lt S. Kozlov operated precisely and with teamwork at recent tactical flying exercises. Above the battlefield, the helicopter crew skillfully overcame the opposition of the "enemy" PVO [air defense] and made timely and accurate strikes from the air against ground-based targets. Regular lessons and simulations plus diligent preparatory training greatly facilitated this success. The crew has maintained its title of excellent for 2 years in a row. The crew is shown prior to take-off on the mission.

[9 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Completing a march many kilometers long, the missileers reached the assigned area exactly on time. The troops successfully accomplished all training missions and demonstrated good field skills, teamwork, and precision. A great deal of credit for this success goes to the subunit commander Lt Col B. Pishenichnikov, specialist first class and a master of training. The photo depicts the missileers at lessons in the field.

[9 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt V. Postriganov, Red Banner Kiev Military District: "Precisely and With Teamwork"]

[Text] Officer A. Glushchenko's subunit has held the title of excellent for 3 years running. Preparing for a worthy reception for Great October's 60th anniversary, the troops are intensely improving their combat mastery.

Evidence of this are the recently conducted tactical exercises at which the missileers accomplished all tactical training missions with high marks. On the march and when transferring and arming the missiles, they operated precisely and with teamwork, exceeding the norms. The launch crew led by communist WO V. Mel'nik demonstrated especially high mastery.

[9 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Far East Military District. The company commanded by Sr Lt V. Konovalenko successfully coped with its mission at recent tactical exercises. The young officer steadfastly teaches his subordinates the ability to act decisively and in a tactically skillful manner. The picture shows company commander Sr Lt V. KONOVALENKO (right) and Lt V. TYRSIN at lessons in the field.

[9 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent in the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District: "Helicopter Crews Attack"]

[Text] Motorized infantry and tank subunits prepared to go over to the attack. Fire support commenced. And, at that same time, helicopters appeared over the battlefield. They launched missiles at the "enemy" armored targets. All targets were destroyed. The actions of the crews led by Capts Yu. Smirnov and V. Kuprishkin received high marks.

[9 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj M. Gordiyenko, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "The Tankers' Maneuver"]

[Text] In spite of fierce "enemy" resistance, his defenses were breached. The tank battalion commanded by Maj M. Kuz'mich rapidly developed the offensive. Nonetheless, the battalion commander distinctly understood that it was too early to celebrate victory. His hunch that the "enemy" had a powerful reserve was soon confirmed by reconnaissance data.

In this complex tactical situation, Maj Kuz'mich proved to be a skilled, creatively thinking commander. The tank company commanded by Lt I. Buadze was ordered to move furtively along forest roads to the line of probable encounter with the "enemy" reserve and be ready to strike his flank.

The commander's calculation was correct. As soon as the battalion was counterattacked, Lt Buadze's company raised the full might of its fire against the "enemy" from the flank. The tankers' skillful maneuver decided the battle's outcome.

[10 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption: "Surprise, Fire, and Maneuver"] The flight of combat helicopters where Sr Lt V. Litvinov is navigator was given the mission to strike the "enemy" reserves which were moving up. There are the rotary-wing aircraft in the area of combat operations. Skillfully employing terrain masking, the aviators accurately reached the targets and, in just seconds, launched PTURS [antitank guided missiles] at the "enemy" tanks that were preparing for a counterattack. Great credit in insuring the surprise of the attack by the combat helicopters goes to the flight's navigator Sr Lt V. Litvinov, son of a front-line officer. Litvinov is in the photo at the left. The right-hand photo shows the helicopters over the battlefield.

[10 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Puzanov, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Exceeding the Norms"]

[Text] The signal to assemble suddenly came from the command post. It took just a couple of minutes for Sr Lt of Technical Services M. Yevteyev, Jr Sgt A. Rogovtsev, and Pvts N. Vasil'yev and S. Yerevin to prepare the aircraft for takeoff. Operating with confidence and initiative and exceeding established norms, the aviators in an extremely short time prepared the equipment for combat employment.

Military Pilot 2d Class V. Osipenko also demonstrated firm skills. Exactly carrying out the commands of the GCI [ground controlled intercept] controller Lt Ye. Pavlov, the pilot detected and attacked the test target.

[10 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt M. Snigur, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "A Formation of the Excellent"]

[Text] The motorized infantrymen developed the offensive successfully. Coordinating closely with the tankers, they made a rapid attack and occupied important "enemy" strong points. But the "enemy," having consolidated on an advantageous line, pulled its reserve from the depth of the defense and employed a tank counterattack.

An artillery battery commanded by Sr Lt Yu. Tykmayev immediately moved up to the threatened axis. The gunners took up a combat formation on the move for direct fire. Lt O. Goloshekov's subordinates were especially skillful.

Hero of the Soviet Union Guards Sr Lt I. Shuklin is carried in perpetuity on this battery's roster. The troops are proud of this fact and never let up in their drive to achieve combat mastery. The subunit has borne the title excellent for 12 years.

[10 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj B. Kozyr', Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "Across a Water Barrier"]

[Text] The withdrawing "enemy" succeeded in breaking off from the pursuit and consolidated on a tactically advantageous line -- on the opposite slopes of a hill at a fork in the road. Swamps made an approach to the road difficult from the right flank, while the left flank was well guarded by a water barrier. To achieve success, the battalion commander made the decision to overcome the water barrier with the forces of one platoon and simultaneously take the hill with an attack from the flank and the front.

Covered by terrain folds and bushes, the troops of the platoon headed by Lt N. Bekrenev reached the water. As the troops prepared to swim across, the officer ordered experienced swimmer Sgt A. Chemodanov to take a machine gun to the opposite bank. The sergeant soon signalled "everything is OK." The troops of Lt Bekrenev's platoon silently swam across the river.

The maneuver was a success. The surprise strike from the flank with support from the front concluded with rapid seizure of the hill. This was possible thanks to the creative approach taken to accomplishment of the combat mission.

[10 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Drozdov: "Thanks to the Pilots"]

[Text] The squadron commanded by Military Pilot 1st Class Lt Col V. Gudov provided air cover for motorized infantry subunits at a tactical flying exercise.

Patrolling over the battlefield, the pilot effectively repulsed attacks by "enemy" aviation when, suddenly, a portion of the force was required to strike a number of ground-based targets. Headed by the squadron commander, the crews descended and, at a low altitude, rapidly and audaciously attacked one of the large strong points.

Thanks were transmitted from the ground forces command post to the pilots for their reliable air support.

[10 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption: "And the Banks Were Connected"] Red Banner Odessa Military District. The exercise was in full swing. Breaching stiff "enemy" resistance, the troops reached the river. They had to cross the barrier and continue the battle.

The pontoniers from the company where communist Sr Lt L. Papir is deputy commander set to work. At his command the drivers of the powerful vehicles, maintaining distance, headed for the assigned spot. The troops began to lay the bridge. Organization and precise rhythm were evident everywhere. The pontoniers operated skillfully and helped each other out when necessary.

And now both sides of the river are linked by the metal bridge. Personnel and combat equipment move rapidly across it, sent on by the pontoniers who experience satisfaction over their intense labor. The bridge was laid ahead of the deadline set by the commander. Photo 2 shows the pontoniers approaching the crossing area.

[11 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Col P. Kolodiy, Red Banner Volga Military District: "In a Complex Situation"]

[Text] The offensive developed rapidly. However, the attempts by the motorized infantrymen and tankers to take the "enemy" strong point were unsuccessful.

Sr Lt A. Chistokhodov, tank company commander who exhibited resourcefulness and military aptitude, excelled in this complex situation. Completing a

complicated maneuver, the company attacked the "enemy" from three sides. The strong point was taken.

[11 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt S. Trefilov, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Strike From the Flank"]

[Text] Striving to preclude further movement of the advancing subunits, the "enemy" committed his reserve. Tank battalion commander Capt V. Voznyuk made the decision to immobilize the "enemy" with the fire of one company and send another company, the one commanded by Capt A. Kantserov, via a bush-covered depression to attack from the flank. The maneuver was successful and the "enemy" withdrew.

[11 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt A. Lazerev, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "At Maximum Range"]

[Text] At one stage of the exercises, an input was received -- "The weather post has been put out of action." A few moments later, the gunners received the mission of firing upon the concentration area of the "enemy" reserves.

The target was at maximum range. Absence of weather data precluded rapid registration. Battalion commander Lt Col A. Kondaurov decided to adjust from a registration point located at a considerable distance from the target, then shift the fires. The complex calculations were made with great accuracy. The first volley roared.

The surprise and accuracy of the artillery attack was given a high evaluation by the umpire.

[11 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] The motorized infantry platoon commanded by Gds Lt S. Osipov operated successfully at a recent exercise. The troops exhibited good firing skills and the ability to coordinate with tankers, gunners, and combat engineers. The troops of the platoon achieved high results at all stages of the exercise and operated decisively and with initiative. Well-organized competition greatly facilitated the subunit's success. The photos show the motorized infantrymen prior to the march and while attacking.

[11 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. During tactical exercises the tank battalion commanded by Gds Capt A. Batenev, Master of Combat Qualification, was assigned the mission to make a multikilometer march, reach the defending "enemy" flank, and attack from the march. Operating bravely and decisively, the tankers, in close coordination with the troops of the

motorized infantry company commanded by Specialist 1st Class Sr Lt N. Borovskiy, successfully coped with the task.

[11 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Eng-Capt N. Kochetov, National Air Defense Forces: "School of Reconnaissance Masters"]

[Text] Masters of radar reconnaissance met at Unit "X" to determine through competition who best employs modern equipment in a complex ECM environment. The subordinates of Capt V. Kondrat'yev, Sr Lt N. Shamzdinov, and Lt A. Lenkevich emerged victorious. Their crews detected aerial targets at maximum range and provided error-free tracking.

After working at the equipment and fulfilling norms, the radar operators took exams on tactics and special training. Similar contests and exchange of leading know-how have become a tradition.

[12 Aug 77, p 1]

[Unattributed: "Important Tasks for Political Workers"]

[Text] A meeting was held of the chiefs of Ground Forces political organs. Participants heard and discussed a report on improving organizational and mass political work to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum and mobilization of personnel for a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary. Arm Gen S. Vasyagin, member of the Military Council and Chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate, gave a report on this subject.

The chiefs of political organs also heard a speech by Arm Gen V. Petrov, First Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Forces, lectures on the draft USSR Constitution, and exchanged know-how on working to implement the requirements of the 25th CPSU Congress on an integrated approach to setting up ideological indoctrination. Questions concerning work with cadres of political organs and party organizations to improve the selection for CPSU membership and indoctrination of young communists, and strengthening the leadership of Komsomol organizations were examined.

Arm Gen A. Yepishev, Chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, spoke to meeting participants.

[13 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt Col V. Seledkin, Order of Lenin Moscow Air Defense District: "In Combat Formation"]

[Text] A reception for graduates of military academies was held at the district's Military Council. Col Gen Avn B. Bochkov, district commander, emphasized that they are joining the combat formation during the notable

period when Soviet troops are discussing the draft of the USSR Constitution and preparing to properly greet Great October's 60th anniversary.

Majs V. Mironov and S. Pisarev spoke for the jubilee year's graduates. They assured the district's Military Council that they will give their all to make a contribution to accomplishment of the important tasks facing the units and subunits at the concluding stage of summer combat training.

Lt Gen Avn V. Ponomarev, member of the Military Council and Chief of the district's Political Directorate, spoke to those gathered.

[13 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt G. Deynega, Red Banner Ural Military District: "Graduation at WO School"]

[Text] Regular graduation took place at the district WO school. WO V. Fedorov, A. Deryabin, G. Smagin, A. Yankov, and others were among those who had excellent results in their training.

Platoon commanders Capt A. Zubakhin and Lt V. Kuznetsov labored well this year of Great October's 60th anniversary. Based upon graduation results, the subunits they command turned out to be excellent.

[16 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Maj A. Yurkin, Red Banner Siberian Military District: "Along the River Bottom"]

[Text] Pursuing the withdrawing "enemy," Tank Regiment "X" reached the bank of a swollen river. After engineer reconnaissance, the decision was made to overcome the water barrier via the rocky bottom of the channel.

Work to prepare the tanks for the crossing was in full swing in the woods along the bank. In the heated competition, the company commanded by Sr Lt V. Kirilko had the best time, with Sr Lt A. Mikhaylenko's subordinates coming in second. These officers also led the first tanks across the river bottom.

[16 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Engr-Maj O. Yarets, Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "During the Battle"]

[Text] The engineer subunit commanded by Capt G. Rallo was assigned the mission of preparing a crossing in a short period of time. Reconnaissance of the water barrier showed that the combat engineers could not use in its entirety any of the standard bridge designs. Then the subordinates of Sr Lt V. Kucheruk and Lts V. Vorotilov and A. Chayka made preliminary preparations to assemble the table of authorization components. Other specialists developed and adapted the new design to the terrain, using the technical specifications

fully. The bridge construction was completed with almost 25 percent over-fulfillment of the time norm.

[16 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Baltic Military District. This is a flying day for the pilots of Unit "X." The roar of turbines drowns out everything nearby. One after another the aircraft taxi to the main runway and take off in pairs or flights.

That day, as usual, the pilots of the flight commanded by experienced aviator Maj A. Levchenko -- Lts P. Maslennikov, A. Mikhno, and D. Kudris -- successfully accomplished their flying assignment. Last year the young officers finished the Lenin Komsomol Chernigov Higher Military Aviation School for Pilots and, with the assistance of senior comrades, are steadfastly improving their flying mastery. They are greeting USSR Air Force Day with good indicators in combat and political training and successful fulfillment of their pledges in socialist competition. The lower photo shows fighters departing on a mission.

[17 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Kosov, Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "First Solo"]

[Text] Sr Lt V. Shalayev, who had just completed his first solo bombing mission was warmly greeted by his coworkers. The young navigator was presented cut flowers. The squadron commander and experienced specialists had kind words for him.

Unit "X" has made it a tradition to ceremoniously mark every first solo flight by pilots and navigators. This ritual, along with diligently training youths for flights, plays an important role in novices' combat formulation.

[17 Aug 77 p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt V. Usol'tsev, Central Group of Forces: "Surpassing the Suspense"]

[Text] The aircraft arrived at the TECh [technical maintenance unit] for an engine change. The troops of the excellent periodic technical maintenance group led by Capt of Technical Services A. Korchenko, a first-class specialist, were assigned this responsible task. All of their periodic technical maintenance is rated only as excellent and good.

They did not deviate from the rules this time either. They accomplished the engine changes and periodic technical maintenance much earlier than the established deadline and their labor received a high mark. First-class specialists Sr Lt of Technical Services V. Zaytsev and WO V. Shilin especially excelled.

[17 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Engr-Capt A. Kharchenko, Order of Lenin Moscow Air Defense District: "Under Difficult Conditions"]

[Text] RPM's decreased and then numerous motors also stopped. Indicator lights on equipment panels went out. The compartment was bathed in darkness.

The next input was received from the command post. The "enemy" made a "nuclear" strike against our communications. External power lines have been knocked out.

Without an instant's delay, officer Yu. Solov'yev gave the order to switch to the autonomous electric power source.

Diesel and substation crews rapidly went to work. The emergency group departed without delay. The troops carried out their functional responsibilities precisely and in a coordinated manner.

The power plant subunit personnel commanded by officer Yu. Solov'yev have achieved significant successes in recent years. En route to the glorious jubilee of Great October's 60th anniversary, this combat collective's specialists month after month are increasing the pace of their assimilation of the complex combat training program and are fulfilling their socialist pledges in a quality manner.

[17 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col A. Pinchuk, Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "Party Concern for Officer Cadres"]

[Text] An exceptionally important role in insuring the security of the socialist state falls to military cadres. A meeting of the district's party aktiv was devoted to questions of their indoctrination, proper selection, and distribution. Lt Gen V. Novikov, member of the Military Council and Chief of the district Political Directorate, gave a report.

Communists V. Demin, V. Natal'chenko, V. Yerevin, A. Kononov, N. Badeykin, A. Klubkov, and others who took part in the debate analyzed the practice of working with officer cadres and made suggestions on how to improve in this area.

Col Gen M. Sorokin, district commander, spoke at the meeting of the party aktiv.

[17 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] The missile troops of the subunit commanded by Capt G. Vitchenko are successfully assimilating new missile equipment. The subunit collective is battling for effective use of training time and is training

actively and purposefully. Lt A. Yefimov, a young officer and deputy sub-unit commander, puts a great deal of effort into training his personnel. He has fully assimilated the new equipment and steadfastly passes his knowledge on to the missileers. The photo shows deputy subunit commander Lt A. YEFIMOV (left) and Pvt L. SUKHANOV, otlichnik in combat and political training and rocket launcher driver-mechanic.

[18 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. The rocket launcher battery commanded by first-class specialist Gds Capt S. Meshcheryakov rightfully is considered on the right flank in the socialist competition for a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary. The teamwork of the crews, the confident mastery of the combat equipment, always brings the guardsmen success during lessons on the range. It has been the rule here for a long time to get only a high rating on firing missions.

[18 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by Capt A. Kolpak, Red Banner Siberian Military District: "Legal Knowledge Class"]

[Text] The agitational-propaganda group in Unit "X" does a lot of work on propagandizing legal knowledge. Communists Maj V. Borodulin, Capts A. Tyushlyaev, and B. Nikitenko, and other party activists give lectures and reports and broadcast over local radio. Meetings are regularly held in the subunits with the garrison's legal personnel and administrative workers from the district staff.

A legal knowledge class has been set up in the unit at the party bureau's initiative. Staff officers who provide consultations and hold discussion periods pull duty here.

Movies which explain Soviet laws are shown every 10 days in the unit, with a member of the party bureau leading off the show with a speech. All this work gets positive results. The life of the military collective strictly follows regulations.

[19 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Personnel of the subunit commanded by Maj V. Sukhin are confidently assimilating the missile equipment. The missileers have retained the title of excellent collective here for 4 years. A lot is done here for thorough study of the equipment and its masterful employment. The result is only just -- again confirmed as competition leaders, the troops honorably passed a tough test recently. The training launches were accomplished with an excellent rating. The photo at left shows the missileers at the lessons.

[19 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Carpathian Military District. Lt V. Odintsov, graduate of the M. V. Frunze Sumy Higher Artillery Command School, has during his years of service in Unit "X" been noted as a painstaking, creative officer and a good methodologist. The training process in the reconnaissance platoon he commands is well organized and the know-how of the leaders in socialist competition is fruitfully used. The right-hand photo shows Lt V. Odintsov (foreground) and Pvt L. Mel'nikov at lessons in the field.

[19 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col A. Pimenov, Northern Group of Forces: "A 'Five' for Ingenuity"]

[Text] The commander assigned young pilot Lt G. Pasharin the mission of intercepting a fast, low-flying target. The "enemy" aircraft employed a variety of tactical dodges but still was unable to reach the target. Lt G. Pasharin intercepted it at the assigned line.

Lt G. Pasharin is a young pilot serving his second year in the regiment but he still has a reputation as a skillful innovative aerial warrior. The following happened recently. He was called upon to land on a sod strip in a complex situation and did so courageously and calmly. He was awarded a valuable gift by Lt Gen Avn V. Barmin, commander of SGV aviation.

The young pilot is now successfully fulfilling his socialist pledges made in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary. The excellent evaluation for the skillful intercept of the aerial target is his gift to USSR Air Force Day.

[19 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Far East Military District. The specialty of missileer is complex and honorable. One must master deep theoretical knowledge, firm skills, exceptional attention, concentration, courage, and agility to be a real master of one's affairs. The troops of the platoon commanded by communist Lt V. Medvedev possess all these qualities. They operate skillfully and with teamwork at tactical lessons and rapidly prepare the launchers for a training launch. One picture shows a rocket launcher at the firing position.

[20 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt N. Kikeshev, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District: "Bombing Master"]

[Text] Air reconnaissance detected the "enemy" commander's observation post. Using the mountainous terrain to mask him, Sniper Pilot Maj V. Storozhuk accurately reached the target and bombed from minimum altitude. The accurate hit on target assisted the squadron's remaining pilots to successfully carry out the combat training mission.

[20 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt V. Paramonov, Red Banner Ural Military District: "Target Destroyed"]

[Text] The small radio-controlled target changed altitude and course. However, the radar station operators tracked it steadily. The GCI controller vectored the fighter interceptor to the target.

Military Pilot 1st Class Capt V. Mishura was at the controls. He detected the target when it went to low altitude and dove to the attack. The missile he launched accurately destroyed the "enemy."

[21 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] The Guards Air Volgograd Order of Lenin Twice Red Banner Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov Fighter Bomber Division has travelled a long and glorious path. The aviators demonstrated iron steadfastness and unwavering courage in battles with the fascist occupiers.

And the division's combat glory is also being multiplied during peacetime. True to the traditions of the front line warriors, the aviators year after year achieve high results in combat training. The guardsmen exhibit good aerial skills and the ability to excellently carry out assigned missions.

[21 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col V. Bogdanovskiy, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "Good Reputation"]

[Text] Military Navigator 1st Class Maj N. Apenyshev has a good reputation in Unit "X" for skillful indoctrination of youth. He has been awarded the Order of the Red Star and the Order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" Third Degree for his comradely labor. He exerts a great deal of effort and energy to the noble job of indoctrinating youth with knowledge and acquired know-how. Using the experienced aviator as their foundation, many young navigators have in a short time become qualified specialists.

[21 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] National Air Defense Forces. Capt R. Odintsov, deputy squadron commander and Military Pilot 1st Class (left), and Sr Lt V. Chuklanov, Military Pilot 3rd Class, greet USSR Air Force Day in a good mood. Many dozens of flights to intercept, irrepressibly attack, or accurately launch missiles are to the credit of the former. He is rightfully considered one of the unit's best aerial warriors. Lt V. Chuklanov is confidently joining the formation. He recently returned from the range where, for the first time, he participated in tactical flying exercises involving combat missile launches. The young officer intercepted the fast maneuvering target at the assigned line and destroyed it on the first attack.

[21 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Carpathian Military District. The aviators in the helicopter squadron commanded by Military Pilot 1st Class Maj Yu. Tomarev are successfully fulfilling their socialist pledges during the summer training period. Flight after flight, they steadfastly improve their aerial and tactical skill and learn to accurately destroy ground-based targets. The subunit has maintained its title of excellent for 3 years in a row.

The photo at left was taken at one of the tactical exercises from aboard a helicopter piloted by Military Pilot 3rd Class Sr Lt N. Frolov at the moment the aviators struck "enemy" tanks from the air.

[21 Aug 77, p 4]

[Article by Col V. Makeyev: "Awards for Mastery"]

[Text] /The cadets at the Lenin Komsomol Chernigov Higher Aviation School for Pilots are successfully assimilating aviation equipment. Recently cadets communist V. Lastovskiy and Komsomol members V. Rudoy and V. Aleshin, flying solo in modern aircraft, demonstrated high flying mastery./ [bold face in original]

Chief Marshal of Aviation P. Kutakhov, Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Air Force, awarded cadet Lastovskiy a valuable present for excellent mission accomplishment and demonstration while doing so of high moral-combat qualities. Cadets Rudoy and Aleshin received an analogous award from Col Gen Avn A. Andreyev, commander of the military district's aviation.

[23 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Belorussian Military District. The combat training of the battery commanded by Sr Lt Ye. Borksov is underway with precise rhythm. High patriotic enthusiasm engendered by the preparations for Great October's 60th anniversary and discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution reign now in this multinational collective. The subunit's commander and party organization skillfully guide the enthusiasm of the personnel towards accomplishment of combat and political training tasks, and complete fulfillment of socialist pledges.

The gunners demonstrated excellent firing skill and teamwork at recent tactical exercises. The night firing against an "enemy" tank column was given a high mark.

Political worker Capt V. Yuras skillfully organizes and leads explanatory sessions on the decisions of the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum and the draft of the USSR Constitution. The top photo shows the gunners at the firing position.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt M. Lishnyy, Red Banner Ural Military District: "In Honor of the Excellent Platoon"]

[Text] During a tactical exercise the combat engineer platoon commanded by Sr Lt V. Shirokov was given the mission to establish an antitank mine field. Based on data from scouts, the "enemy" had concentrated his tank reserves to carry out a counterattack. The combat engineers furtively set out the mines in a very short time in front of the main line of "enemy" resistance.

Just as was supposed, the "enemy" soon launched the counterattack. However, his tanks "fell upon" the mines. Combat formations became confused, any capability to maneuver was lost, and they fell under the fire of the advancing forces.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt A. Vetakh, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District: "Target Is Detected"]

[Text] During a tactical flying exercise, information was required on the disposition of "enemy" missile sites so a counterstrike could be flown. This task was assigned to the crew of the supersonic reconnaissance aircraft commanded by Military Pilot 1st Class Maj N. Yeremeyev. During the preflight brief, the pilot and navigator carefully studied the proposed search area. They reached the target from out of the sun to make detection of the aircraft difficult. The tactical ploy succeeded. The crew remained over the estimated area a minimum amount of time. The navigator Sr Lt V. Bayev photographed the "enemy" missile battery on the first pass.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj M. Gordiyenko, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "Via a Complicated Route"]

[Text] The command "Gas!" rang out at the moment the last vehicle exited the woods towards the field track. The young drivers in the motor transport battalion commanded by Capt V. Beresnev were unaccustomed to an abrupt change in the situation on the march. During practical driving lessons, they often trained in operations based on varied inputs. And now here, without stopping the vehicles, the troops rapidly donned the protective gear and continued driving through the contaminated sector of terrain, increasing their speed and the distance between vehicles.

During the long march the powerful "Urals" overcame steep grades and descents, water barriers, and other natural obstacles without stopping. The drivers from the company commanded by Lt Ye. Chukhlomin demonstrated especially high ability and firm vehicle driving skills. The battalion reached the assigned point on time with a full complement.

The diligent preparation of the vehicles and the training of the drivers facilitated the success of the march.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Tolstoy, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "The Missileers' Lofty Goals"]

[Text] The subunit commanded by Maj N. Nitiychuk bears the title excellent for the fourth year. Preparing a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary, the troops gave their word to not only maintain the goals won but achieve new successes as well.

Already, 73 percent of the subunit's personnel are first- and second-class specialists and almost every second soldier possesses one or two related specialties.

Sr Lt A. Shpilevoy demonstrated high skill, the ability to competently assess the situation, and make correct decisions in the most critical situations during a recently concluded tactical exercise.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt Col V. Yakimenko, Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "Stars on Tanks"]

[Text] Discussing and warmly approving the draft of the USSR Constitution, the troops of the excellent tank battalion where Sr Lt N. Ishkov heads the party organization decided to increase their socialist pledges in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary. A supplemental point on bolstering the struggle for economy and thrift, accident-free equipment operation and extension of equipment service life, has been added to them.

Red stars are placed on the turrets of tanks with a time-between-repairs period which has been increased by 300 or more kilometers. The party bureau generalized and is actively disseminating the equipment operation know-how of Masters of Combat Qualification WO's S. Zakharov, I. Krasnichenko, and other leading troops to further develop the tankers' good initiative.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt V. Nikanorov, Order of Lenin Transbaykal Military District: "Reference Point -- The Rolling Barrage"]

[Text] The artillery battalion was tasked to support a motorized infantry battalion breakthrough. The scouts from the platoon commanded by Lt A. Kotov stealthily approached the main line of resistance and learned that the "enemy" had changed the combat formation by setting up an inverted arrowhead defense. If the motorized infantrymen advance with their main forces, as was intended, on center, they could wind up in a "pocket" of fire. The

officer reported on the evolving situation and noted that the left flank was the most vulnerable place in the defense.

The battalion commander realigned the point of the main blow on the axis suggested by the lieutenant. Following the rolling barrage, the motorized infantrymen rapidly attacked the "enemy" and won the victory.

[24 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Communist Gds Lt Col V. Bulatov is a first-class specialist and knowledgeable indoctrinator of subordinates. He passes on all his vast know-how to the antiaircraft gunners, indoctrinating them with a respectful attitude towards equipment and the ability to operate decisively and creatively under the most complex conditions of modern combat. Photo one shows Military Specialist 1st Class Gds Lt Col V. BULATOV while photo two depicts the anti-aircraft gunners firing on an aerial "enemy."

[24 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Baltic Military District. Lt V. Laykovskiy is a graduate of the S. M. Kirov Leningrad Higher Combined-Arms Command School. Commander of an excellent training platoon, he has trained many good specialists in 2 years of service in Unit "X." The young officer conducts each lesson in the field in an interesting and instructive way in a situation as closely as possible approximating combat. He guides the troops' efforts towards high-quality accomplishment of combat training missions. The photo shows him giving a lesson in the field on conducting reconnaissance.

[25 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Baltic Military District. At tactical training lessons the troops of the motorized infantry training company commanded by Gds Capt A. Skripnik operated just as if in real combat. They attacked skillfully and decisively. The carefully organized lesson conducted on a high methodological level was of great aid to the young soldiers and facilitated their acquisition of good practical skills.

The company is one of the best subunits in Unit "X." The troops are successfully fulfilling their pledges in the socialist competition for a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary. The picture shows the troops at a lesson in the field.

[25 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt Col A. Belikov, Red Banner North Caucasus Military District: "Duel"]

[Text] The artillery battery commanded by Sr Lt V. Zhukov moved furtively at night to the foothills of the mountains and occupied a firing position. But at dawn they learned that the "enemy" had managed to detect the battery's position and was preparing to bring an artillery attack to bear against it.

Success in the battle depended on who opened fire first, who was precluded from doing so. Sr Lt Zhukov operated in an excellent manner. Employing various devices manufactured in the subunit, he made complex computations with a high degree of accuracy. The roar of artillery rounds echoed in the mountains. The plumes from the rounds rose into the air in the depression where the "enemy" battery was located. Sr Lt Zhukov's subordinates won the duel and exhibited high firing skill.

[25 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt M. Malygin, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "At Maximum Range"]

[Text] The motorized infantry company commanded by Sr Lt V. Romanenko was conducting combat in the desert. The wind blew sand in from the sand dunes and raised dust. Observation of the terrain was difficult. However, on this occasion too, the motorized infantrymen destroyed "enemy" tanks at maximum range.

Romanenko's company devotes a great deal of attention to improving the firing skill of the personnel, to skillfully employing weapons and equipment in the dynamics of modern combat.

[25 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by Sr Lt S. Bogomolov, Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District]

[Text] The VLKSM bureau led by Sgt A. Babaliyev provides perceptible assistance to the training battalion commander in further accomplishing rationalization work. The activists in each platoon set up creative groups joined by troops possessing a technical education. The groups are headed by experienced specialists and Komsomol members Lts A. Alekseyev, Yu. Smagin, and WO V. Lobanov.

They familiarize the young rationalizers with the characteristics of forthcoming technical research and aid them in determination of new work trends. The rationalizers have recently introduced six proposals which assist in materially improving lesson quality and specialist training.

[25 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by Maj A. Bedzhanyan, Red Banner Baku Air Defense District]

[Text] The Komsomol members of SAM Unit "X" make a large contribution to accomplishment of combat readiness missions and insuring complete interchangeability among crews. Thus, contests for the title of best specialist, technical quizzes, and competitions are regularly held in the battalion where Lt. V. Sil'yanov is a member of the VLKSM bureau. A majority of VLKSM members has one or two related specialties. Lt Sil'yanov demonstrated truly brilliant mastery during accomplishment of an important combat training mission.

A happy event recently occurred in the life of the missileers. The unit's Komsomol organization was awarded the CC VLKSM Travelling Red Banner for excellent successes in combat and political training.

[25 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption: "Masters of Firing"] The excellent rocket launcher battery commanded by Gds Sr Lt A. Burdasov is successfully fulfilling its socialist pledges made in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary. This is an experienced officer who has fully mastered the missile equipment and who steadfastly works hard to improve his mastery as a commander. Photo two shows the rocket launchers firing.

[26 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] National Air Defense Forces. First-class specialist Sr Lt N. Dubitskiy has several accurate missile launches to his credit. The guidance officer accomplishes tactical missions only with high marks.

The missileers were at the range recently. They irreproachably accomplished a complex field firing at a fast maneuvering target. No small credit here goes to the guidance officer who precisely and calmly directed the operators' actions and who confidently solved the scenario. The unit commander praised the leading troops for skillful actions at exercises. The left photo shows the launch position and the photo on the right shows personnel at a drill.

[26 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt N. Sokol, Northern Group of Forces: "Drivers Firmly Keep Their Word"]

[Text] Carrying out their mission of transporting cargo, the drivers from the company commanded by Lt V. Dolgov spent several days on a long trip. The military drivers were called upon to work under difficult conditions but they successfully coped with the assigned task without a single violation of Traffic Regulations.

Lt Dolgov took over the company a year ago. This was not one of the easiest subunits the young officer could have taken over. Certain drivers had committed disciplinary violations and there had been some accidents. Depending upon the officers, sergeants, and the Komsomol organization, the young commander energetically set about bolstering regulation procedures in the company and organized driver technical training well. Beginning the year of Great October's 60th anniversary, the troops pledged not to have a single vehicle accident. They are firmly keeping their word.

[26 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Maj L. Golovnev, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Leading Know-how -- Into Practice at the Unit Level"]

[Text] The personnel of the subunits in the motorized infantry regiment commanded by Lt Col V. Mironov had to advance in the desert, then in the mountains, during tactical exercises. Operating bravely and decisively, the troops succeeded in seizing the mountain pass in a short period of time.

Creative employment of leading methods of conducting combat in mountainous and desert terrain in this and other of the district's units, as well as the state of military-scientific work and introduction of theory into the practice of tactical exercises were examined by the district's military council. Col Gen S. Belonozhko, district commander, placed special attention on improving the guidance and command and control of units and subunits, employment of the combat capabilities inherent in modern weapons and equipment, the search for and implementation of new drills in tactics, and introduction of leading know-how into training.

[26 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by WO Yu. Polezhayev, Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "For Deeds and Honor"]

[Text] It somehow happened in the regiment that, from the start, it was said about Lt Karasev that "no, he isn't an aviation person . . ." But the young officer paid no attention to the comments and went to work. Stubborn, he spent long hours studying the design of aircraft and engines. Now, they are saying something different about Karasev. "A real aviator! . . ."

Successfully fulfilling his socialist pledges made in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary, senior aircraft technician Karasev, now a senior lieutenant already, maintains the aircraft in a faultless condition and continually improves his knowledge.

Communist officer Karasev was awarded the "Badge of Honor" for successes in service and in assimilation of new aviation equipment.

[26 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj A. Ozmitel', Red Banner Siberian Military District: "With the Evaluation 'Excellent'"]

[Text] The gunners received the order to move out at night to a mountainous area and, using gun fire, cover a pass towards which "enemy" tank columns were moving. The subunits made the difficult march and rapidly prepared firing positions. As soon as the armored targets appeared at the pass, they immediately came under withering fire. The tanks were unable to break through.

Capt I. Fedoruk, commander of a leading battalion, and Capt N. Parkhomenko, commander of an excellent battery, stood out due to their mastery. The gunners accomplished the assigned mission with an excellent mark. The successful field firings in the high mountains affirmed the high professional training of the troops prepared to properly greet Great October's 60th anniversary.

[26 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Belorussian Military District. The PTURS subunit commanded by Gds Lt P. Chernyshov has been awarded the title excellent. Lessons and drills with the gunners are conducted purposefully and effectively. They accurately destroyed targets at recent tactical exercises, deserving of a high evaluation. The photo shows personnel at a drill.

[26 Aug 77, p 2]

[Photo caption] Red Banner Carpathian Military District. The supersonic bombers return one after another from the range. The birds taxi to the parking place where the technicians and mechanics ready them for a repeat sortie. Competition is underway between flying and maintenance personnel for high-quality preparation of the aviation equipment and for excellent accomplishment of aerial missions. The names of those who excelled at tactical flying exercises are already known. All aviators need to be informed about their know-how. A conversation about this is now in progress among Maj V. OVSYANNIKOV, squadron deputy commander for political affairs, Sr Lt of Technical Services A. SAMIYLENKO, flight agitator, Lt P. Ben'kovskiy, editor of the combat leaflet, and Sr Lt A. GORBUNOV, secretary of the squadron party organization (right to left in the photo).

[26 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by Lt Col Yu. Babichev, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Pontoniers Surpass the Norms"]

[Text] The order was terse -- by morning, prepare a crossing for one of the tank subunits.

The troops from the ponton company worked all night. The most responsible task was launching and connecting the spans. The slightest error immediately affected the quality of mission accomplishment. But the crews worked confidently and precisely. Already the shore, end, and center sections were connected.

Assembly of the ferry was finally completed. Sr Lt V. Dyudyakin, deputy company commander for political affairs, sums up the crew competition. Pvt M. Bakharev's subordinates took first place, while the crews led by Sgt P. Pavlov and Jr Sgt A. Sheker tied for second. And, as a whole, the company surpassed the norm for an excellent rating.

[27 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt A. Yasinskiy, Order of Lenin Baykal Military District: "Intercept in the Night Skies"]

[Text] Radar operators detected an aerial target at the distant approaches to the defended installation. The commander ordered young pilot Lt V. Loban to intercept and destroy the target. Soon his aircraft, emitting a bright

flame from the afterburner, tore itself off the concrete strip and disappeared in the night skies.

The "enemy" turned out to be experienced. Attempting to escape pursuit, he maneuvered skillfully and used the dense clouds for cover. However, this didn't confuse Lt Loban. Determining that the "enemy" had begun a new maneuver -- now already in the vertical plane, the pilot skillfully selected the attack position and "drove" the target blip into the electronic circle. An accurate launch followed.

At the airfield, the commander and coworkers sincerely congratulated Lt Loban for the victory in his first night battle.

[27 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Gds Sr Lt S. Gorevalov, Southern Group of Forces: "Stable Communications"]

[Text] The communicators completed the march. Unexpectedly, the order arrived to deploy radio-relay stations and establish communications with the command. The platoons commanded by Gds Lts V. Barantsev and A. Kryuchkov were tasked to respond to the "input." The troops deployed the radio-relay stations more rapidly than stipulated by the norms.

Soon the communicators had to undergo yet another test. Gds Lts Barantsev and Kryuchkov were "wounded" and evacuated from the battlefield. They were replaced by Gds Sgt Ye. Pavlov and senior radiotelephone operator Gds Pvt A. Stezhko. They confidently guided the crews' work and maintained stable communications with the command.

[27 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col V. Seledkin, Order of Lenin Moscow Air Defense District: "Important Mission"]

[Text] The missions of political organs involving preparation and conduct of reports and elections of party organizations and further improvement in the guidance of primary party organizations were examined at a seminar of the chiefs of unit political organs which was held at the district's political directorate. Lt Gen Avn V. Ponomarev, member of the Military Council and Chief of the district's Political Directorate, gave a report.

Seminar participants exchanged work know-how and discussed measures to further improve the activeness and verve of primary party organizations. They discussed strengthening their role in bringing to fruition the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, bolstering unit and subunit combat readiness, and the latter's fulfillment of socialist pledges made in honor of the 60th anniversary of the October revolution. Also examined were questions concerning improving organizational-party work in connection with upcoming reports and elections.

[27 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] The airborne troops stand in precise formation by the aircraft. The command rings out and they take their places in the air ships. And now, final instructions from the battalion commander Gds Maj I. GOLIK (lower photo). Ahead lie a long flight to the assigned area, the airborne assault, and combat operations in the "enemy" rear area. Prior to take-off for the mission, the battalion commander met with the aircraft commander Military Pilot 1st Class Maj V. Teselkin to again check the route and the airborne assault's special features (upper photo).

[27 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj V. Borodulin, Red Banner Siberian Military District: "They Study Leading Know-How"]

[Text] The motorized infantry company commanded by Capt V. Rozhko, Cavalier of the Order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" Third Degree, is maintaining its title of excellent for the sixth year and is in the advance guard of those competing in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary. Know-how in organization of lessons and socialist competition in this subject was the topic of discussion at a scientific-practical conference in the unit conducted at the communists' initiative.

After practical lessons, Captain V. Rozhko and platoon commanders Lts S. Alferov and V. Nikolayev told the unit's officers and sergeants about the methodology of training and indoctrinating subordinates and of organizing party-political work and socialist competition in the company.

[27 Aug 77, p 2]

[Article by Maj A. Bureyev, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District]

[Text] Preparing to properly celebrate October's 60th anniversary, the troops of the battery commanded by communist Sr Lt Ya. Pavlyk pledged to affirm the title of excellent subunit. Komsomol activists set the example for model training and service. Thus, for example, VLKSM committee member Sr Sgt Nikolay Shlyaktin became the battery's best gunner and a specialist 2d class. Shlyaktin is an active participant in the competition for the right to sign the Lenin Komsomol's report to the CC CPSU for Great October's 60th anniversary. In step with Nikolay is Komsomol activist and class-rated specialist Sgt Vasilii Mikheyev, awarded the "Soviet Army Otlichnik" badge.

The battery recently participated in tactical exercises. The senior chief gave the gunners' actions a high mark.

[28 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt M. Mosolkov, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "The Commander's Thanks"]

[Text] Completing the multikilometer march, the launch battery commanded by communist Capt B. Mel'nikov reached the assigned area. As the missileers occupied the launch position, the command to make a missile strike against "enemy" reserves was received.

The missileers set to work. Precise coordinated actions by all the specialists facilitated the missile being rapidly readied for the launch. Sr Lt V. Popov's subordinates especially excelled. They surpassed the norms by almost 100 percent. The missile was launched exactly at the assigned time and accurately destroyed the target.

Arm Gen N. Lyashchenko, district commander, gave the missileers a high evaluation and passed his thanks on to all personnel.

[28 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] Combat training of the troops in the artillery subunit commanded by Gds Maj N. Omel'chenko was in full swing. The gunners continue to increase the vitality of socialist competition, achieving high indicators in combat training. The photo shows self-propelled artillery mounts in a firing position.

[28 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Engr-Capt G. Belostotskiy, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Operator Vigilance"]

[Text] The battle stilled. Officer V. Stefanov's subordinates provided the subunit command post uninterrupted accurate radar information.

But just when it seemed that the "enemy" capabilities were exhausted, PFC N. Petrov's report reached the command post. He detected an "enemy" aircraft where no one expected it to be -- in the mountains. Skillfully using the complex terrain relief, the pilot tried to hide the aircraft from the radar beam.

And other radar operators that day demonstrated high mastery. The collective led by officer V. Stefanov confidently heads for that notable goal intended in the competition for a fitting greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary -- the title of excellent subunit.

[28 Aug 77, p 2]

[Unattributed: "Legal Indoctrination Diary"]

[Text] A 3-day methodological-training meeting for military lawyers from the Siberian, Far East, and Central Asia zone was held. Deputy Chief Military Prosecutor Maj Gen of Justice V. Novikov gave a report at the meeting on bolstering socialist legality in the USSR Armed Forces in light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. Participants exchanged know-how in

working towards further strengthening socialist legality and propaganda of the draft of the USSR Constitution during its nationwide discussion.

A scientific-practical conference on the theme "The 25th CPSU Congress On Improving the Role of the Command and Society in Further Strengthening Socialist Legality and Discipline" was held in the Kalinin Garrison. Commanders, political workers, and the legal aktiv participated. Col of Justice S. Sychev, garrison Military Prosecutor, gave a report.

Legal Propaganda Day was held in one of the units of the Carpathian Military District. Maj Gen of Justice N. Sankarevskiy, Col of Justice A. Yasnov, Maj of Justice G. Gorbenko, and others spoke to the troops. They discussed the responsibilities of the troops to defend the socialist Fatherland and improve combat readiness and vigilance, as flow from the draft of the USSR Constitution. Films on legal subjects were shown at the conclusion of the day.

[30 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Capt Yu. Makarov, Red Banner Baku Air Defense District: "Experienced Methodologists"]

[Text] Officers S. Chizhik, I. Kozlov, and WO T. Vyshlov serve at a remote "site." All are Masters of Military Qualification who intimately know the intricate radar equipment and who possess no small degree of know-how in training subordinates. It is no accident that young troops who come to the subunit quickly become skillful specialists and reliable defenders of the Motherland's skies.

The basic method of training specialists is for soldiers to learn theory along with assimilation of practical drills on the equipment. This allows the young troops to be much more rapidly trained to independently stand the combat watch. The subunit confidently leads in socialist competition for a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary.

[30 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col A. Pimenov, Northern Group of Forces: "Tankers Are Attacking"]

[Text] The rushing river swollen by heavy rains was a serious obstacle in the way of the advancing tank subunits. Sr Lt A. Shayekhov, acting tank company commander, received the mission to force the river from the march and attack the "enemy" in a strong point.

The company moved furtively via a forest trail to the river and the tanks were rapidly loaded aboard amphibious equipment. The ferries ran aground on the sand near the opposite bank. The company commander ordered the vehicles prepared for underwater movement. Then the tanks, leaving the ferries, dashed to the bank underwater. The tank attack, supported by powerful

artillery fire, was concerted, rapid, and ended with the complete rout of the "enemy."

[30 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Gds Lt Col I. Uretskiy, Southern Group of Forces: "Assist Your Neighbor"]

[Text] During the heat of battle Gds Sr Lt A. Putov, motorized infantry company commander, learned that his neighbor on the left had been stopped by an actively operating "enemy" and is suffering heavy losses. How could he help? He decided to have a portion of his forces bypass the strong point and strike its defenders from the rear.

This task was assigned to Gds Lt G. Skorokhodov. The young platoon commander operated bravely and creatively. He stealthily executed a maneuver and unexpectedly attacked the "enemy" from the flank and rear. Developing the success, the troops from the neighboring subunit also renewed the offensive.

[30 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by correspondent Lt Col V. Shevchenko, Red Banner Odessa Military District: "Leaflets About Staff Officers"]

[Text] District staff officers Cols Ya. Zav'yalov, A. Semov, and I. Gusev, and Lt Col V. Bondarenko creatively, skillfully, and intelligently accomplish complex tactical missions. Possessing high staff efficiency, good organizational capabilities, and a deep knowledge of the nature of modern combat, these officers make substantiated decisions and precisely relay them to subordinates. The staff political section and district directorates published leaflets which describe the work know-how of these officers.

[30 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption] The troops of the missile battery commanded by Maj V. Sazhin are successfully fulfilling the pledges in the socialist competition for a worthy greeting for Great October's 60th anniversary. They recently conducted a field missile firing with an excellent evaluation at the range, demonstrating good knowledge of the combat equipment and weapons and growing mastery. A majority of the subunit's troops are class-rated specialists. The commander sets an example for his subordinates. He is a skillful indoctrinator, experienced methodologist, a Master of Combat Qualification. The picture on the right shows Maj V. SAZHIN at the control point while that on the left shows the launchers at the launch position.

[30 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Maj M. Gordiyenko, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "Bridge of Friendship"]

[Text] Stable friendly relations have been established between officer G. Bezrukov's subordinates and the pontoniers from a GDR National People's Army subunit. At recent joint combat training lessons, a ponton crossing had to be prepared through their joint efforts.

The mission assigned, the Soviet and German pontoniers set to work without delay. A competition to surpass the norms immediately ensued.

Pontoniers Pvts V. Sorokin and N. Tsiklauri, and motor launch operators Pvts A. Bogdanov and V. Starilov especially excelled. Capt Yu. Bode's subordinates were in the thick of things. Jr Sgt [feldwebel] K. Mueller and Corporals K. Lothar and V. Danneberg operated faultlessly.

Soon the steel bridge laid by the comrades-in-arms reliably linked the banks of the water barrier.

[31 Aug 77, p 1]

[Photo caption, Red Banner Carpathian Military District] The troops of the battery commanded by Capt V. Platov are successfully fulfilling their socialist pledges made in honor of Great October's 60th anniversary. The gunners demonstrated high firing and tactical mastery at one of the exercises. Under difficult conditions they completed a multikilometer march and reached the assigned area at exactly the appointed time. During the exercise the subunit was often called upon to change firing positions and conduct intense battles. Advancing, the motorized infantrymen did not encounter serious "enemy" resistance since the gunners had destroyed many targets with great accuracy. The left-hand photo shows Capt V. Platov and Pvt V. Mul'tan at the battery commander's observation point while the right-hand photo shows the gunners conducting fire.

[31 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Sr Lt V. Usol'tsev, Central Group of Forces: "Without Any Vehicle Accidents"]

[Text] A regular technical conference on traffic safety was held in one of the garrisons.

Problems of vehicle operations and adherence to traffic regulations in the Czechoslovakian SSR were discussed and the work of the best drivers was generalized at the conference, which was arranged by officers N. Sizov, Ya. Baydyuk, and other comrades.

Such conferences, and there have been five in this garrison since the beginning of the year, facilitate vehicle accident avoidance. Accidents are avoided entirely in many subunits.

[31 Aug 77, p 1]

[Article by Lt V. Nikitinko, Red Banner Central Asian Military District:
"Strike From Ambush"]

[Text] In the heat of battle, when the scales were more and more shifting to the advantage of the attackers, the tank company commanded by Lt O. Yemel'yanov, then located in the reserve, was assigned the mission of organizing an ambush on the route of the probable "enemy" withdrawal. The tankers approached the assigned area in a rapid forced march.

At that same time, the "enemy" began the withdrawal and on that very axis where the tankers were concealed. When the main "enemy" forces began to be drawn into the depression, the tankers rained down the full power of their fire on them. Attacked on two axes, the "enemy" suffered defeat.

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ACADEMY CHIEF RELATES HISTORY, ROLE OF TANKMEN

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 8, Aug 77 pp 2, 3, 6

[Interview with Marshal of the Armored Troops O. A. Losik, Chief of the Armored Troops Academy imeni Malinovsky, by Lt Col N. Yelshin]

[Text]

Comrade Marshal, the officers and men of the Soviet Armed Forces celebrate Tankmen's Day this year in an atmosphere of great political and labour upsurge caused by the preparation for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. What is the contribution of the Soviet tank troops to the defence of the world's first socialist state?

The young Soviet Republic had to repulse attacks of its numerous enemies with arms in hand from the very first days of its existence. Counter-revolutionary forces and foreign interventionists possessed at the time the latest weapons and equipment including tanks. The Red Army had only few armoured trains and armoured cars. The task of forming tank units and subunits in the Red Army, therefore, turned out to be very urgent. On Lenin's instruction the designing of tanks was started in 1919. In August 1920 the workers of the "Krasnoye Sormovo" Plant made the first Soviet tank named "Comrade Lenin—Fighter for Freedom." Later fourteen more vehicles were made. The production of tanks was also organised in other plants.

The first battle of Soviet tankmen was fought on July 4, 1920, in the Polotsk area. Supported by the fire of an armoured train and field artillery, tanks together with infantry broke through the enemy defences. The blow dealt by the tanks and infantry was then exploited by the cavalry and armoured cars.

After the Civil War the mission of defending the Soviet state from the imperialists' encroachments still remained urgent. Therefore tanks were improved simultaneously with other fighting arms of the Red Army. In the 1930s the armoured and mechanised troops became an independent fighting arm.

During those years the Soviet Armed Forces had to fight to defend the socialist Motherland from the imperialist aggressors. Soviet tankmen distinguished themselves in these combat actions too. I should like to recall their skilful and decisive actions against the Japanese militarists in the fighting on the Khalkhin Gol River in 1939.

Soviet armoured and mechanised troops played a great role in routing the nazi invaders in the Great Patriotic War (1941-45). They dealt devastating blows to the foe in the battles of Moscow, Stalingrad, Kursk and Berlin, in liberating Prague and in other battles. In all offensive operations of the Soviet Army, armoured and mechanised troops were used to break through enemy defences and as the most effective means of rapidly exploiting success in the operational depth.

During the Great Patriotic War 250,000 tankmen were awarded Orders and medals and 1,142 of them were honoured with the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. Sixteen tankmen became Twice Hero of the Soviet Union.

Taking into consideration the great role played by the armoured and mechanised troops in the Great Patriotic War and the merits of those who equipped the Armed Forces with armoured vehicles the Presidium of the

Supreme Soviet of the USSR introduced Tankmen's Day in 1946 and it is now celebrated every year.

Over thirty-two years that have elapsed since the end of the Great Patriotic War the Soviet tank troops have changed radically. Thanks to the increased economic might of the Soviet state and the achievements in science and technology they are equipped with the latest weapons and materiel. Possessing great fire power potential, high manoeuvrability and reliable armoured protection, the tank troops, as the main strike force of the Land Forces, can carry out any mission in the course of combat actions.

But their combat power depends not only on high-quality materiel. It depends on the men who handle this materiel. Soviet tankmen are well trained and their commanders possess reliable military and technical knowledge.

Comrade Marshal, will you please tell us about the role of the Academy in training cadres for the tank troops?

The history of the Armoured Troops Academy is closely connected with the history of the development of the Soviet Army tank troops. The rapid development of the armoured troops in the 1930s required a more extensive programme for training command and engineer cadres for these forces. For this purpose the Red Army Mechanisation and Motorisation Military Academy was organised and in August 1933 the first graduates completed the course of the command faculty.

By the beginning of the Great Patriotic War the Academy had trained quite a few officers and military engineers for the tank troops. In the battles against the nazi invaders the Academy graduates proved to be skilful commanders and experts in their trade showing gallantry, courage, combat skill and boundless devotion to the socialist Motherland.

In the postwar years many thousands of officers of the tank troops graduated from the Academy. They successfully fulfil their duties in the forces enhancing their combat readiness. At the same time the Academy is a real scientific centre of the tank troops.

Who can become a student of the Academy? What are the conditions for applicants and what scope of knowledge do students get while studying at the Academy?

Our Academy, as well as other military academies, is staffed with officers who, as a rule, have completed higher military schools and served in the forces for a certain time.

Officer-students study the social sciences, the art of operations, general tactics, the tactics of the fighting arms and special troops, the history of wars and military art. Considerable attention is paid to technological and physical training, marching drills and the study of foreign languages. Graduates consolidate their varied theoretical knowledge during probationary periods in the forces.

The ideological education plays an important role in the system of training officer cadres. Students obtain sound knowledge of the Marxist-Leninist theory at lessons on the history of the CPSU, Marxist-Leninist philosophy, political economy, scientific communism. The command and teaching staff and Party organisations pay constant attention to ideological work, to forming in students firm communist convictions, high moral and fighting qualities.

As you have already noted, radical changes have taken place in the Soviet Armed Forces during last decades. To what extent have they influenced the system of training students at the Academy?

The requirements concerning the level of training military cadres have considerably increased owing to the post war scientific and technological progress which has caused radical changes in military science. The Academy has therefore changed the plans, methods and practice of its entire training and educational work. The programme of training students and themes of scientific work developed by the Academy have been brought in line with the changes that have taken place in military science. Laboratory and field training bases are being continuously perfected. Modern technological means, including electronic computers, modern equipment for the automatisisation and mechanisation of troop control are being introduced in the training process. The Academy's scientific-pedagogical collective elaborates the methods for intensification of a training process, finds new forms and methods of conveying scientific information to the students and using automated control systems and programmed instruction elements.

A continuous rising of the level of operational-tactical, special and field training is one of the Academy's main missions. Therefore training lessons are frequently conducted in the field in conditions closely resembling real battle. Only a close combination of high field training standards with practical, professional, methodological and theoretical training can ensure the education of highly-qualified specialists.

During the Great Patriotic War the Soviet tank troops acquired extensive combat experience. How does this influence the training of command and engineer cadres in modern conditions?

The rich combat experience of the Soviet Army is our precious patrimony, one of the most important sources in developing the theory and practice of building the Soviet Armed Forces, of perfecting the forms and methods of educating and training officer cadres. Although more than 30 years have elapsed since the end of the Great Patriotic War, this experience hasn't lost its importance nowadays.

Let us take the moral and political aspect. The courage and mass heroism displayed by the Soviet people and their fighting men in the struggle against the nazi invaders are a living and unfading example of loyalty to the communist ideals, to the socialist Motherland for the present and future generations.

It should be pointed out that many of the tactical methods used in the last war remain valid in modern conditions too.

But it is not a matter only of directly applying combat experience. Its study helps officers conceive the laws and tendencies in the development of military art which is necessary for understanding the urgent problems of military science as well as for defining the prospects of its development.

We take into account, first of all, the great influence of combat experience on developing creative thought, initiative and broadening the officers' outlook. When analysing an operation or a battle, the instructors strive to show the specifics of their preparation and conduct as well as the purpose of the commander's decisions. The concrete study of combat experience helps officers acquire initiative and independence, and develops in them a sense of responsibility for their decisions and persistence in achieving their goals, an unbending will to victory.

The teachers and professors, officers of the political department and Party organisations take part in studying and popularising combat experience. This process is not limited to lectures and seminars. It is further developed in the groups of a military-scientific society, at military-historical and theoretical conferences. Students in their course and diploma works, teachers in their theses and other scientific works study the experience of past battles in close connection with modern problems of military science. For example, the book "Soviet Tank Troops — 1941-45," written by professors and teachers of the Academy, was highly assessed by specialists.

Trips to the battlefields of the Great Patriotic War also help students study combat experience. The analysis of the decisions of tank and mechanised units' and formations' commanders directly on the site of past battles has become one of the effective forms of studying combat experience.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that the Academy's staff does its best to ensure that the tank troops continually receive highly qualified commanders and engineers capable of worthily contributing to the fulfilment of the important task of the Soviet Armed Forces — to safeguard the peaceful creative labour of the Soviet people, to be the bulwark of world peace.

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BOOK EXAMINES MILITARY, POLITICAL ASPECTS OF NATO ALLIANCES

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 8, Aug 77 pp 36-37

[Review by Col G. Arzumanov of the book "Voyennyye Bloki Imperializma" [Imperialist Military Blocs] by R. G. Simonyan, Moscow, Military Publishing House, 1976]

[Text]

The Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community are leading the struggle for the materialisation of détente. Their efforts are relentlessly resisted by world reaction. Just as in the days of the cold war the most rabid opponents of détente are the militarists of NATO and the other imperialist military groupings. It is they who, inflating the myth of a growing "Soviet threat," are feverishly preparing for war and pushing up their military spending. The appropriations of the NATO member countries for military purposes amounted to the astronomical sum of two billion two hundred and sixty-eight thousand million dollars for the period from 1949 to 1976. In the fiscal year of 1977-1978 the war spending of the NATO member countries will continue to soar. In the USA it will reach the unprecedented figure of 120,300 million dollars. The outlays of the other NATO countries for military purposes will also increase. The course of continuing the arms race is in keeping with the interests of the opponents of détente. Its purpose is to satisfy the appetites of the military and industrial complex and to wreck the results of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe held at Helsinki.

In this context the book * by Major-General R. Simonyan, D.Sc. (Military), is of considerable interest. It deals with the military-political essence of the imperialist blocs, their aims, actual potentialities and prospects.

In analysing the character of NATO activities, as well as those of the imperialist military-political groupings in Asia, the Pacific and Latin America, the author establishes a series of general laws inherent in the strategy of imperialism at the current stage. The most important of these is wholesale use of anti-communism as an ideological

logical weapon for increasing international tensions and accelerating the arms race.

To this end the psychological warfare services of the aggressive blocs plan and carry out various ideological actions against the socialist countries and the developing states which have embarked upon the path of independent development. The propaganda machine of the imperialists resorts to lies, falsifications, blackmail, bribery, rumours, sabotage of trade, transport and production, acts of terrorism, incitement of national strife and interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The author quotes a typical statement by one of the leaders of the psychological war waged by NATO who said:

"In the ideological struggle against communism what we need is not the truth but subversive action, in a war like this we will need all the cut-throats and gangsters we can lay our hands on one way or another."

In the recent period the NATO propaganda machine has stepped up its ideological onslaught on the socialist countries, the Soviet Union above all. It has been piling up slanders against the policy pursued by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government, which is a policy of vigorous defence of peace. The bourgeois propagandists have tried to represent it as a policy of enslaving Europe and winning world domination. It is from these positions that they considered the results of the European conference at Helsinki. The reactionary circles of NATO regard these results as an attempt to undermine Atlantic solidarity and as a threat to their far-reaching plans for the further militarisation of the capitalist countries of Europe.

The book justly describes the ideological sallies of NATO as an attempt to return the world to the period of the cold war.

Latter day anti-communism is a political and ideological basis for the imperialist strategy of military blocs.

* R. G. Simonyan, *Imperialist Military Blocs*, Moscow, Military Publishing House, 1976 (in Russian).
Р. Г. Симонян. *Военные блоки империализма*. М., Воениздат, 1976 (на русском языке).

This is the logical conclusion the author draws from his findings.

The capitalist monopolies form the economic basis of the aggressive blocs. The book reveals the insatiable thirst of the national and multinational monopoly associations for expansion and intensive militarisation of the entire economic mechanism and of social life. In pointing this out, the author draws the reader's attention to the activities of the military and industrial complexes. Among the forces shaping US home and foreign policy this alliance of the monopolies and reactionary war-lords has become the most influential. The militarism which has been forced on the country by the ringleaders of the military and industrial complex has developed, as the Americans themselves put it, into a national disaster. Approximately 90 per cent of the output of the aircraft engineering and rocket building industries, 60 per cent of that of the shipbuilding and 40 per cent of that of the communications industries is being used for war purposes in the USA. One out of every three scientists in the USA is working for the Pentagon. This is happening at a time when millions of unemployed are living in poverty and the country lacks the funds for satisfying the most acute social needs of the working people.

The US military and industrial complex is largely responsible for the tensions that still exist in different parts of the world, for the centres of dangerous conflicts and unsolved international problems.

The economic and military integration of the imperialist forces within the framework of bloc strategy is not going smoothly. The fight for spheres of influence, the fierce clashes between the monopoly groupings in the field of trade, the competition in industrial production, export and investment of capital have given rise to differences, contradictions and rivalry between the imperialist powers.

The book quotes numerous facts, such as the withdrawal of France and Greece from NATO's military organisation, the collapse of SEATO, the withdrawal of Malaysia from the Asiatic-Pacific Council, confrontation of the USA and the Latin American countries in the Organisation of American States and the refusal of the absolute majority of the member countries of the imperialist blocs to take part in America's adventure in Indochina, which have indisputably proved that the imperialist policy of blocs is in the grip of a crisis.

A special section of the book is devoted to the policy of the USA in Latin America. Over a period of many years its purpose was to enslave the countries of Central and South America under the guise of "pan-American cooperation" within the framework of the Organisation of American States. The author lays special emphasis on the role of the revolution in Cuba, which has proved a prologue to a broad liberation movement of the Latin American peoples. He says that the success of this struggle will depend on the unity of all the anti-imperialist and patriotic forces of the South American continent.

In studying the bloc policy of imperialism the author justly points out that the reactionary forces are still staking mainly on military blocs. In this context he notes that NATO, the main military bloc of imperialism, and its branches both in the Western Hemisphere and in Asia, as well as in the Pacific, have stepped up their activities. Some time ago the Association of South East Asian Nations to which the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia are affiliated, came out with a proposal to turn South East Asia into a "zone of peace, freedom and neutrality." The peoples of the world responded with sympathy to this initiative. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, described the idea of neutralising South East Asia as an "interesting initiative inspired by the concern for Asia's peaceful future."

But, the author emphasises, the reactionary forces have to a large extent managed to resist the all-round implementation of this initiative. The military and industrial monopolies of the USA have increased their arms deliveries to the ASEAN member countries and have been persistently trying to force on them military cooperation with Australia. The latter is known to be a member of ANZUS, in which the commanding heights are held by the Pentagon generals.

The book cites a host of interesting facts on imperialist attempts to make massive use of methods of ideological and political sabotage in preparation for war. The purpose of this line is to cause confusion in the enemy camp. To secure this goal the ringleaders of the imperialist alliances have deployed in the system of military blocs combined centres and subunits for waging psychological warfare and anti-guerrilla warfare. Thus, to coordinate the fight against the national-liberation movement the USA has set up a council for "insurrection control." This body is dominated by high statesmen, agents of the CIA, USIA and international development administration which deals with matters of foreign "aid." The council determines the more promising forms and methods of struggle against the national-liberation movements and recommends measures for thwarting the efforts of the progressive organisations in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

For instance, one of the US plans for fighting the democrats and progressives in the South American countries is known as Operation Centaur. Among other things this plan provides for organising coups d'état, assassinating politicians, encouraging "black markets," economic dislocation, provoking strikes against progressive governments, etc.

In exposing the aggressive essence of the imperialist blocs the author quotes numerous facts testifying to the Soviet Union's purposeful efforts to realise the Peace Programme adopted by the 24th and extended by the 25th Congresses of the CPSU. The efforts of the USSR and the other socialist countries are concentrated on achieving détente, disarmament and the elimination of the tension centres in the world.

TIME FACTOR AND SERVICEMAN'S PSYCHOLOGY

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 8, Aug 77 pp 42-43

[Article by Colonel A. Kitov, M.Sc. (Psychology)]

[Text]

A typical feature of modern warfare is the necessity to work persistently to cut down the time needed for a given job, regardless of the difficulties this entails.

Today the time factor operates in every sphere of military activity. Here is a case in point.

A motorised infantry company was carrying out an exercise in fighting "enemy" tanks. The men in the trench would meet the armoured fighting vehicle with grenades and if it was able to crawl over the trench, they would simulate the destruction of the crew with sub-machine-gun bursts (blank charges) as the "enemy" tried to abandon the burning vehicle. While the tank speeds were more or less moderate the infantry acted with due effect. But it was a different matter when the commanding officer ordered the tank to proceed at top speed. Fewer grenades scored hits on the target. Some of the younger men did not attempt to hurl grenades after the tank had passed over them and only tried to "destroy" the crew with submachine-gun fire. Others would throw a grenade but then forgot to use their small arms.

Why did this happen? Above all because the psychic processes regulating man's actions operate at a definite speed. If they happen to be disrupted the men get confused, tend to make bad blunders and fail to accomplish the mission. But in real combat they have no right to lag behind events. The criteria of readiness for combat rigidly fix the limits within which a set of operations has to be carried out.

Let us take approach time, for instance. From the moment radar spots an air target till it comes within range, say, of the antiaircraft missiles, a certain time elapses during which the entire Air Defence System has to be completely alerted. These few seconds are an objective factor independent of the will or desire of the Air Defence Forces.

This is not only the case with the Air Defence Forces.

In fact in every unit time has to be counted in seconds today.

The problem of increasing the speed of work is of special importance for the Army and Navy also because at present it is becoming increasingly difficult (and sometimes absolutely impossible) to compensate for lost time. Every job has to be fulfilled within the time limit allocated, cost what it may. The slightest delay in anything may jeopardise the whole mission.

It follows that the demands made on servicemen in conditions of rigid time limits are extremely exacting. But, man's potentialities are practically unlimited. It is possible to establish and use them only if the commanders, political workers, Party and YCL organisations carefully study the individual psychological features of each individual man and accordingly teach the entire complement to act effectively in the context of rapidly developing combat.

In this respect the motorised infantry company under Senior Lieutenant Ulybin has accumulated a certain amount of experience in Party-political work. Lieutenant Semyonov, a political worker of the subunit, actively assists the commanding officer in organising lectures, reports and talks to explain to the personnel the role played by the time factor in modern combat. The men were particularly impressed by an episode that took place at a tactical exercise when a battalion managed to gain a lead of merely a few minutes during deployment for the assault. As a result the battalion secured a victory in a meeting engagement which was of special importance for the subsequent attack of the main body of the formation.

Another point. The YCL activists exhibited in the Lenin Room a display stand entitled "Price of a Single Minute." The facts they collected showed how this seemingly small lead in time, if achieved by every single man in the course of an hour, affects the general level

of readiness for combat. On the initiative of the YCL activists duly supported by the company commander, a motion film was taken of two emulating sections as they mounted and dismounted from an armoured personnel carrier. The stills enabled the men to take a look at themselves from the side, so to say, to establish the untapped reserves in improving their performance.

The everyday life of the subunit is organised with account of the time characteristics of the men's performance. Reveille, running to the sports ground for morning exercises and daily parades are designed to develop in the men the ability to live by seconds. By carrying out every job quickly and efficiently the serviceman, so to say, builds up a psychological reserve for raising the combat readiness of the subunit.

The very fact of setting the task and establishing rigid time limits produces a different effect on each man. Some immediately concentrate every bit of effort on accomplishing the task, while others tend to become confused and lose all confidence in their abilities. Of course, a lot depends on the degree in which the time limits have been compressed. However, the decisive role is played by the individual qualities of the men, by their emotional stability and purposefulness in pursuit of the task assigned to them. To build up emotional stability the drills should be designed to increase the load on the mind gradually. A sudden decrease in the time limit may produce an effect opposite to the one expected. It is particularly important to bear this in mind in training young servicemen. Experienced organisers of the instruction process consider it necessary to look into every detail in mastering time limits for servicing combat equipment. This is particularly important for improving the men's combat skill.

It has been noticed that soon after a serviceman shows relatively good reliable performance in decreased time limits as a result of a carefully thought out system of drills, there follows a "lull" period before they can proceed to achieve new successes. Psychological investigations have shown that the condition of the serviceman is similar to that of an athlete before he gets his second wind. A further step forward calls for additional will power. The commander and political worker must pay careful attention to the serviceman to be able to inspire him with confidence in his potentialities.

The men's emotional stability is moulded in conditions of limited time in the course of combat training. The subunits in which the commanders and political workers meticulously plan and conduct effective lessons and drills in work on time standards secure better results. The time allocated for drills and lessons in training grounds and simulators is determined by the staff and is limited by a rigid framework. It follows that you cannot rely only on an increase in the number of drills to improve the men's combat performance. Experienced methodists will normally draw up a list of drills before the beginning of the combat training year. They will establish the interconnection between the exercises and take into ac-

count the level of training of different groups of men. This will enable the commander and political worker to see the prospects, to lay down definite assignments in the training of every crew and section. The overall prospects in mastering the time limits are made known to every soldier in the form of an individual assignment. These assignments form an excellent basis for emulation in tasks and time limits. At the critique the commanders will analyse the way the time was spent from the standpoint of achieving high speed performance.

It is vital to teach the men to act effectively in the face of surprise. The following circumstances must be taken into account. In one case a soldier may know what event is about to take place. Then he will have a prepared programme of action which he is ready to carry out at any moment. The only unexpected element here will be the time when a given situation will set in. For instance, the alert signal for the company duty officer will be a "surprise" of this kind. He knows exactly what he must do, the sequence of the jobs to achieve good performance in the execution of his duties.

The situation is totally different when a sudden event takes place which the man for one reason or another cannot foresee. For instance, if an unusual target appears on the radar screen, one that has never been observed before, it is not only the time of the event, but also its character that is unexpected. Here the serviceman cannot rely on a pre-arranged programme of action. First he must immediately establish what has actually taken place and lose no time in reporting it through the appropriate channels. Then he will resume his observations. Experience shows that in such cases the element of confusion is more probable. To ensure emotional stability in such a situation it is important to mould in the men specific qualities based on a system of knowledge of all theoretically feasible situations which, though highly improbable, are nevertheless possible. Sudden narratives at drills and exercises which model highly improbable events have been found to be effective.

An important precondition for the successful action of the men is mutual confidence. It unites the men, makes their actions purposeful and increases their powers manifold. The assurance that a member of the crew is competent and will do his utmost to fulfill the mission builds up cohesion among the men and creates a team spirit which contributes to the performance of the group and every individual member of it. It should also be noted that coalescence of the crews is best where mutual assistance and interchangeability form elements of the team spirit. When one comrade-in-arms knows the duties of another, when all have learnt the details of each other's military trade, you can always count on a piece of good advice. Besides, the very presence of a trained comrade-in-arms inspires resolve, because every crew member knows he has a standby.

All these questions are the constant object of attention on the part of the commanders and political workers of subunits.

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NEW RUSSIAN LANGUAGE EDITION, SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 9, Sep 77 p 17

[Text]

Dear readers,

From January 1978 the magazine **SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW** will be also published in Russian. This edition is intended for those who know or study the Russian language. The new edition will allow you to read the published materials in the original, to enrich your knowledge of the Russian language.

Like the foreign languages editions, the Russian edition will pay the main attention to the military theme. An important place in the magazine will be occupied by materials elucidating the problems of theory and practice of contemporary military construction, the art of war, the heroic history and combat traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces, questions of combat and technical training, political education and moral steeling of the personnel, military pedagogy and psychology, mass-cultural work, the life of the Soviet Army and Navy, and sports activities.

In the magazine the readers will find articles on international problems, reviews of military publications appearing both in the Soviet Union and other countries. The section of military literature and publicism, novelties of Soviet poetry and prose, memoir literature will be more widely presented in the Russian edition. The editorial staff will systematically publish materials to help those who study the Russian language.

The contributors to the magazine will continue to include noted Soviet military leaders, generals and officers, scientists, journalists and writers.

You can subscribe to **SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW** in your country through firms dealing with the Soviet "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga" organisation. [V/O "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga," Moscow G-200, USSR.]

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SHIP PREVENTIVE INSPECTIONS, MAINTENANCE

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 9, Sep 77 pp 28-29

[Article by Captain 1st Rank Engineer M. Tsiporukha]

[Text]

To keep a ship's armament and equipment in constant combat readiness, preventive inspections and maintenance (PI&M) must be carried out by the ship's crew at regular intervals. The purpose of PI&M operations is to eliminate the possibility of excessive wear of the ship's mechanisms and devices, which may deteriorate the tactical characteristics and specifications of weapons and thus cause their failure in operation. When performing PI&M operations the ship's crew reveal all the faults and defects of the ship's equipment and eliminate them. They also check the condition of instrumentation, safety devices, automatic and remote control systems.

The experience gained by the Soviet Navy during the many years of ships' operation shows the high effectiveness of the PI&M system. If properly planned it can ensure perfect operation of ships' equipment and hence their high combat readiness.

PI&M are carried out according to annual and monthly plans. Worked out by the heads of departments and the chiefs of services these plans are agreed upon with staff specialists and approved by the ship's CO. When elaborating such plans a ship's officers take into account the state of the weapons they are in charge of and the likely intensity of their use. PI&M operations are divided into daily, weekly and monthly, depending on the kind of work to be done and its volume. All the ship's specialists including sailors, petty officers and officers bear personal responsibility for a definite kind of PI&M work. The amount of work performed, the faults detected, their remedies and the number of parts replaced as well as the names of those engaged in stripping, inspecting and repairing the ship's mechanisms must be entered in the equipment logs. The persons in charge of stripping and inspecting the definite mechanisms and assemblies are determined by the PI&M rules. As a result of PI&M work it becomes possible to specify the lists of

mechanisms, devices and their assemblies to be subjected to yard repairs. The data thus obtained are registered in the equipment logs to be further used as a basis for drawing up repair records.

PI&M must be performed strictly according to the relevant instructions. Neglecting so-called trifles may lead to a serious breakdown of the ship's mechanisms. The following accident illustrates this. Once, when checking the ship's mechanisms after they had undergone the monthly PI&M procedure the specialists heard a violent knocking in the crankcase of the auxiliary diesel generator. The diesel engine was stopped immediately. Upon inspection it was found that the oil pump had been displaced because its fastening lugs had been broken. This was caused by a piece of a broken lock washer which had penetrated between the gear meshes. Later on it became known that the person in charge of the diesel generator had failed to find this splinter when replacing the damaged lock washer.

Daily inspection and turning-over of weapons and equipment play an important part in the PI&M procedure. Experience shows that the quality of the inspection and turning-over of various mechanisms largely depends on petty officers' skill in controlling their subordinates. I can't help remembering Starshina 1st Class Ivan Khrennikov, the mechanical detachment commander of a control submarine chaser (of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet), who carried out this work in an exemplary manner. As soon as the watchman signalled the beginning of the inspection procedure he lined up his subordinates, set them their tasks and gave the order to proceed to inspect the ship's mechanisms. Paying particular attention to the condition of the fuel system and the engine lubrication system he himself checked the drainage of the fuel residue from both the feeder tank and the main engine fuel filters. Then the starshina 1st class measured the oil level in the circulation tank and in

the oil pump baths of the turbo-blower. After that his subordinates proceeded to crank the engine by means of a barring gear and to turn over the auxiliary mechanisms by hand. The sailors worked in pairs: one man of each pair turning over mechanisms while the other primed them with oil, checked whether the bearings were properly lubricated and made sure that the mechanisms were in good working order by using a stethoscope. After having been reported the results of the manual turning-over procedure Khrennikov gave the order to turn over the ship's mechanisms by using electric drives. This daily inspection and turning-over routine enabled Starshina 1st Class Khrennikov to operate the ship's equipment without failure.

It is advisable to make out for every sailor and petty officer a list of their daily tasks according to the inspection and turning-over procedure and paste it in their Crew Member service book in order to remind them of the duties in this respect.

The most difficult task is to organise daily inspection and turning-over of the mechanisms located throughout the ship. This concerns, in the first place, electricians and engine drivers. It is a good practice for such specialists to inspect their equipment part by part so that they can cope with their work in a week. Every section or team commander must organise his work so that one week is enough for him to check all his subordinates' equipment. To increase sailors' responsibility for their work, every experienced petty officer holds a critique at least once a week to discuss his subordinates' actions in inspection and turning-over procedures.

To perform their monthly PI&M procedures successfully, the officers and petty officers of various teams specify the volume of the day's work, its sequence and inspection procedures. They also take measures to provide their subordinates with everything necessary including cotton waste, cleaning cloths, sealing material, gaskets and repair tools.

Particular attention should be given to the preparation and usage of preventive inspection charts. Widely used by the ships' crews, these charts are usually kept in special cases as a card-index. Each chart is accompanied by a text indicating the amount and period of inspection work on this or that mechanism, device or system. The text also specifies safety rules, the necessary tools and devices as well as the fixing points and diagrams of hoisting devices to be used during inspection. These charts are issued to the personnel during their briefing to make their work more effective and easier to check up.

The results of the monthly PI&M operations must be written in the equipment logs and in the service logs of the various units and devices. Summing them up makes it possible to determine the volume of the forthcoming yard repairs and also to improve spare parts supply.

The PI&M system is an important means of keeping all the units and mechanisms in good repair. Its effectiveness can be raised by adequate organisation of all the inspection procedures.

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RYBKIN ON DANGER OF MILITARISM TO DETENTE

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 9, Sep 77 pp 40-42

[Article by Colonel Ye. Rybkin, D. Sc. (Philosophy), Professor]

[Text]

The consistent policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries aimed at removing the threat of world war and strengthening the peace has borne fruits. A historic switch-over from the cold war and military confrontation between states with opposite social systems to détente and consolidation of the principles of peaceful coexistence has taken place.

However, the opponents of détente, the supporters of brinkmanship and of military pressure on the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community are still active in the imperialist camp. More than that, they have been vigorously stepping up their activities. There is active propaganda of the ideology of militarism, an integral part of the ideology of imperialism.

The national forms of militarism are varied. The varieties of this ideology stem from the different historical features of the various countries, their social and state system, traditions, etc. It is highly important for the struggle against the advocates of war to have a clear idea of these varieties.

The ideological concepts of latter-day militarism are complex and contradictory. Its theoretical basis consists in the absolutisation of the role of force and violence in history in general and in international relations in particular. Bourgeois theorists have regarded and continue to regard force and violence as a phenomenon which is rooted in man's natural psychological impulses, in his inherent "destructive instinct," "pugnacity," etc. The ideologists of militarism have often declared violence and war to be the supreme arbiter in international law, a means for maintaining an "equilibrium of forces" or an instrument which is justified by the needs of one nation (state) or another.

In the recent past the concepts advanced by the ideologists of militarism were simple and relatively outright. For instance, N. Steinmetz, ideologist of German imperialism, asserted that it was war that had made man. He wrote:

"If primitive man had not been aggressive, he would not have grown out of his animal-like condition."

"The struggle between peoples has always been and continues to be an expression of their whole being, the chief undertaking of their life," therefore, war is a world court in which "historical justice is established."

The hitlerite ideology openly proclaimed Germany's programme of armed struggle for world domination.

In present-day conditions it is far more difficult to promote war in such outspoken terms. Therefore, the apologists of war are often compelled to resort to demagogic "defensive" camouflage.

Though a crushing blow had been dealt to fascism and militarism, the United States experienced a frenzied and sinister outburst of militarism as early as in the first few years after the Second World War. It seemed that there was only one mighty force—the Soviet Union—that stood in America's way to world domination. Under the guise of "defence against the Soviet threat" the militarists launched an anti-Soviet campaign of war psychosis which gripped the United States. The West issued frantic calls for another "crusade" against socialism. This was a period of active theoretical research on the causes of wars and elaboration of various militarist theories.

As a rule, military theorists, philosophers and sociologists distinguish between the root causes and immediate reasons of political conflicts which precipitate wars. They have declared that the root source and causes of

war stem from spiritual and biological factors inherent in "human nature." Proceeding from this premise Hanson Baldwin, well-known American military sociologist, claims in his book "Strategy for Tomorrow" * that conflicts between people and wars will continue to exist in the future in one form or another. Therefore, strategy should proceed from this thesis. He further declares that one of the profound causes of war under certain circumstances is the "lust for power," the "will for power," man's desire to gain the upper hand over his kind. The author describes military conflicts as the result of the aggressiveness of the "mob," as the result of the spontaneous movement of the masses.

At present the old militarist theories are being modernised and "new" ones are being invented. A typical work of this kind is the so-called "Report from the Iron Mountain." Prepared in 1967 by a special research group in New York it is a sort of programme document of bourgeois military thought on the nature of war as a social phenomenon. According to the report war is an essential factor of development and a society organised for war is characterised by greater vitality than a society seeking to maintain peace. The authors of the report say that it is dangerous to choose a "system of peace," whereas the "system of war" has proved its effectiveness from the beginning of history. They therefore draw the conclusion that militarisation is a cardinal stabilising factor of society.*

Theories drawing the conclusion that war inevitably arises from scientific and technological progress have gained wide currency. For instance, this view is upheld by O. Morgenstern, well-known American bourgeois scholar. The French sociologist E. Morin has declared war an inevitable product of industrial and post-industrial society. The Canadian Professor M. McLuhan, who specialises in the study of the effect of the means of communication on the development of society, asserts that the higher the level of development of civilisation the more violence there is in it.**

In the last two decades the neo-Malthusian doctrine of war in connection with the "demographic explosion" has been widely advanced. Certain quarters have made attempts to frighten the "man in the street" with the future "invasion of hungry hordes from the expanses of Asia, Africa and Latin America."

In their doctrines of war today bourgeois theorists have given prominent space to economic concepts and to "ideas" about the beneficial effects of war and the arms race on bourgeois economy, such as increased employment, etc.

The Marxists long ago exposed the aggressive anti-human character of such ideological conceptions and refuted their methodological foundations. V. I. Lenin wrote:

"Nothing is easier than to tack an 'energeticist' or 'biologico-sociological' label on to such phenomena as crises, revolutions, the class struggle and so forth; but neither is there anything more sterile, more scholastic and lifeless than such an occupation."

In exposing the various methods of distorting the essence of war Marxism-Leninism has revealed the real social roots of war and of militarist concepts too. The deep roots of war are embedded in the economic system of antagonistic society, in particular in private ownership of the implements and means of production. Firstly, the socio-economic interests of private owners make it necessary to supplement economic suppression of the oppressed classes with political, ideological and military means. Secondly, their rivalry gives rise to the need to resolve the resulting contradictions by means of armed force. The desire to enlarge capital, the urge for enrichment have prompted the private owners to expand their spheres of influence and their control, including military control.

In present-day imperialist society the socio-economic basis of militarist ideology, its inspirer and patroniser, is the military and industrial complex which has emerged in a number of Western states. It is vitally interested in the uninterrupted armaments race, because this is a source of fantastic profits. Therefore, the military and industrial complex is the main instrument aggravating international tensions. To build up these tensions it resorts to a wide range of means, including ideological means. The US military and industrial complex is especially dangerous, because it is the chief inspirer of imperialist military actions and the chief apologist of the militarist ideology.

Though the Marxists maintain that the fundamental causes of war are rooted in the socio-economic conditions and though they point to the key role played by the political reasons directly arising from the former, they do not overlook other factors, psychological factors in particular, which find their expression in the sentiments of the masses. However, as distinguished from the ideologists of militarism, they deny outright that the masses are characterised by "inborn aggressive instincts" which bourgeois theorists claim to be the cause of wars.

DÉTENTE AND MANOEUVRES OF THE IDEOLOGISTS OF MILITARISM

The relaxation of international tensions has aggravated the crisis of the ideology and policy of militarism. At the same time it has evoked a sharp response on the part of the opponents of normalisation of the international situation.

The supporters of die-hard militarism have responded to the changes which have taken place in the world with determined opposition to the new state of affairs. They have stated that they would not put up with the new si-

* H. Baldwin. *Strategy for Tomorrow*, N.Y., 1970, p. 8.

* Report from the Iron Mountain on the Possibility and Desirability of Peace. New York, 1967, p. 30.

** M. McLuhan. *Culture Is Our Business*, New York, 1970, p. 92.

tuation. Roland Paul, author of *American Military Commitments Abroad*, is among these rabid apologists of war. He upholds the idea of "American exclusiveness" and the right of the USA as the only "global power" of the capitalist world to defend other countries which belong to the same political system and law and order. He states that the USA must take part in different wars.*

Luns, Secretary General of NATO, has spared no pains to frighten the members of the bloc with the inexistent "Soviet threat." Leber, Minister of Defence of the FRG, is an active promoter of militarism. The mass media of the capitalist West invent all sorts of insinuations about the USSR being an aggressive power. Thus, *Die Welt* printed in March 1976 a series of articles by retired General Steinhoff under the title "The Russian Offensive." The Munich magazine *Quick* provocatively states: "The Soviet divisions are already deployed for an attack on Western Europe."

Writing for the *Spiegel* the Belgian General Clause drew a grim picture of a Soviet "Blitzkrieg." According to his frenzied script the Soviet armoured troops will launch a surprise attack to break into the FRG and emerge on the Rhine 48 hours later. In another article printed in the same issue of the *Spiegel* (August 1976) reporting on an interview with General Haig, Supreme Commander of the NATO Armed Forces in Europe, the latter gives an appraisal of Clause's "research."

All these things are not fortuitous. The mounting flow of anti-Soviet slogans and demands is an indicator of the rising activity of militarists of all hues and extreme reactionaries. Acting on their orders the intelligence agencies and institutes in the West compile voluminous reports and papers misrepresenting the Soviet Union's policy and the measures it is taking to build up its defence capacity.

The outburst of war psychosis in the West is not limited to a propaganda hullabaloo. In autumn 1976 NATO conducted its biggest manoeuvres. It was reported that up to a quarter of a million servicemen, 1,500 aircraft and over 400 fighting ships took part in them. It is worth noting that the manoeuvres were not spearheaded against an abstract enemy. The NATO leaders did not conceal the fact that they were directed against the Soviet Union and the other member countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation. The plans of the manoeuvres proceeded from the description of a situation assuming that the Soviet Union had started hostile activities against a number of NATO countries which in some cases resulted in armed clashes. Commenting on the preparations for the manoeuvres US General Haig, Supreme Commander of the NATO Armed Forces in Europe, said he was alarmed by the "perennial complacency" of the armed forces of Western countries. The NATO ringleaders are trying to overcome this "complacency." In actual fact they have substituted "complacency" for the beneficial spirit of détente which is becoming increasingly established since the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe held in Helsinki. It is precisely détente that has anger-

ed to the extreme the imperialist circles expressing the interests of the military and industrial complex.

The Soviet people and the Government of the USSR resolutely reject all the fictions about the "Soviet threat." The USSR is threatening nobody, nor does it intend to attack anybody. The 25th Congress of the CPSU advanced a programme for the further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for freedom and independence of peoples. The CPSU is persistently and purposefully implementing this programme. The socialist countries are aware of their might and nobody will compel them to waive their defence interests. At the same time they consider it both reasonable and necessary to search for ways that would make it possible to lower the level of military confrontation of states with different social systems and to proceed with disarmament. This would help make détente irreversible. In his speech in the Hero City of Tula on January 18, 1977, L. I. Brezhnev said that the Soviet Union would never embark on the road of aggression, will never raise the sword against other peoples. He declared: "Not a course at superiority in armaments, but a course at reducing them, at lessening military confrontation — such is our policy."

The American Professor W. Nutter frankly writes about the true reasons for the mounting activity of Western militarists. He says that the atmosphere of détente will cause the military budgets to shrink and their alliances to collapse. However, after that the professor himself slips into the positions of the militarists. To preclude these dangers he proposes above all to restore the healthy condition of alarm based on the realisation of external dangers which threaten the Western way of life. As he puts it, this will boost the morale of the West, strengthen NATO and rebuild the crumbling bastions and alliances. Herein lies the true reason for the zeal displayed by the ideologists of militarism. The spirit of détente is a source of danger to them, because it may undermine their military budgets and alliances. It follows that the removal of the war psychosis saps the positions of the most reactionary forces of international capital.

The ideology of militarism is in prey to a severe crisis sparked off both by internal and external factors. If the external factors are manifest in a less favourable balance of forces in the international arena for those who uphold the policy of violence and aggression, the internal factors are embodied in the further decay of the social system of imperialism, which is no longer capable of advancing ideas that can win over the masses for any length of time.

Still, it would be wrong to underestimate the danger of militarism and its ideology. The position today is this: either the arms race will jeopardise the further advance of mankind along the road of progress, or the combined efforts of the peoples will break up the dangerous course of the arms race, thereby putting a stop to the material preparation for war. The Soviet people are sure that the noble ideas of peace will ultimately become reality.

* R. A. Paul, *American Military Commitments Abroad*, New Brunswick, 1973, pp. 11, 147.

BRIEFS

MILITARY SCHOOL HONORED--The name of twice HSU Chief Mar Avn A. A. Novikov was appended to the Balashov Higher Military Aviation School of Pilots. A solemn meeting was recently held at the school. The aviation commander of the Red Banner Volga Military District, honored USSR military pilot Maj Gen Avn A. Parfenov, and the chief of the school's political department, Col Yu. Kulikov, spoke to those assembled. Lt Col-Eng T. P. Novikova, wife of A. A. Novikov, addressed the assemblage on his life and activity. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jul 77 p 4] 11841

STRATOSPHERIC COMBAT--Order of Lenin Moscow PVO District--A complex mission was assigned to the subunit (podrazdeleniye) pilots during a recent tactical exercise. They were to combat airborne targets attempting to deliver a strike against the target from various directions and altitudes. The commander assigned one of the more difficult tasks to a young officer, Sr Lt A. Borisenko. He was given the mission to destroy an "enemy" aircraft flying in the stratosphere. The fast-moving combat at extreme altitudes requires a pilot to have keen proficiency, thorough knowledge of the capability of the aviation equipment, and considerable poise. Demonstrating these qualities, Sr Lt A. Borisenko confidently engaged the "enemy" in a duel. The target was destroyed on the first attack. The young pilot was one of the first in the regiment to earn an outstanding mark in the exercise. For his successful actions in accomplishing the complicated mission, the officer was commended by Col Gen Avn B. Bochkov, commanding general of the district. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 77 p 1] 11841

SCIENTIFIC-THEORETICAL CONFERENCE--A scientific-theoretical conference, "The Soviet Armed Forces in defense of the conquests of the October," was conducted in the USSR Civil Defense headquarters. Col Gen B. Ivanov, first deputy chief of the USSR Civil Defense, presented the main report. Using convincing examples, the conference members portrayed the outstanding role of the Communist Party in building and strengthening the Soviet Armed Forces and the embodiment of the Lenin concepts on protecting the socialist fatherland. There was a businesslike discussion at the conference on how best to carry out the requirements of the CPSU and the Soviet government on further strengthening the country's defense capability. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jul 77 p 4] 11841

WARSAW PACT MANEUVERS--In accordance with the plan of the unified command, an exercise was held in the southern part of the Baltic Sea by the operational headquarters and naval forces of the GDR, Poland, and USSR. The maneuver director was the commander-in-chief of the unified armed forces of the Warsaw Pact countries, Mar SU V. G. Kulikov. Coordination in executing joint tasks by the fleets was worked out during the exercise. The exercise demonstrated the increased level of operational-tactical training of the staffs and the high special training and naval skills of the forces participating in it. It facilitated a further strengthening of the combat cooperation of the fraternal armies. [Text] [Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 8 Jul 77 p 4] 11841

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