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TRANSLATIONS ON USSR MILITARY AFFAIRS

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GUIDE FOR INDOCTRINATION ON TASKS AND CAPABILITIES OF ARMED FORCES

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 12, Jun 77 signed to press
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[Article by Col I. Vydrin: "Armed Forces of the USSR in the Postwar Period"*]

[Text] Classes on this topic should promote profound comprehension by army and navy personnel of Communist Party policy in the area of military organizational development in the postwar period and their understanding of the essence of the scientific and technological revolution and its influence on the development of military affairs and the tasks assigned the Soviet Armed Forces at the contemporary stage.

Twelve hours are allocated for studying this topic. It is advisable to distribute this time as follows: allocate 4 hours for lecture, 4 hours for individual preparation, and 4 hours for a seminar (discussion).

The lecture should cover the following main items: 1. The Soviet Armed Forces in the first postwar years; 2. New stage in the development of army and navy; 3. Training and indoctrination of personnel. Enhancement of the role of socialist competition in the army and navy; 4. The 25th CPSU Congress on the necessity of further strengthening the nation's defense capability and improving the Soviet Armed Forces.

In his brief introduction the propagandist notes that our party unswervingly carries out Lenin's behests on reliable defense of the achievements of socialism and is concerned to ensure that the Soviet Armed Forces are adequately carrying out their historical function. Thanks to the tireless concern of the party, the army and navy are becoming even stronger, and the political and military indoctrination of the defenders of the homeland is improving. At the present time, just as all Soviet citizens, the men of our

* Material for political instruction classes on the topic "Armed Forces of the USSR in the Postwar Period. The 25th CPSU Congress on Further Strengthening of the Nation's Defense Capability and Tasks of the Soviet Armed Forces at the Contemporary Stage."

Armed Forces are successfully meeting socialist pledges in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and are implementing a most responsible task assigned them by the 25th CPSU Congress -- to guard the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and to serve as a bulwark of world peace.

1. Soviet Armed Forces in the First Postwar Years

In proceeding with the presentation of this item, it is important to note that the defeat of fascism and Japanese militarism in World War II and the victory of socialist revolutions in a number of countries in Europe and Asia accelerated world development. The revolutionary process initiated by the Great October Socialist Revolution reached a qualitatively new high: a world socialist system was formed. A radical change took place in the world balance of power. The general crisis of capitalism deepened considerably, its irreconcilable conflicts became more acute, and the struggle against exploitation and domination by the monopolies, for democracy and socialism began to assume a larger scale. Under the mighty onslaught of the national liberation movement, the colonial system of imperialism collapsed. Dozens of new, independent nations arose.

Following the the victory over the forces of fascism and reaction, our country was immediately faced with large, complex tasks. It was necessary to recover from the serious consequences of the war, in the course of which we sustained enormous losses. More than 20 million Soviet citizens were killed, and our country lost approximately 30 percent of its national wealth. The occupation forces destroyed tens of thousands of industrial enterprises and left millions of citizens without shelter.

On 15 March 1946 a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet ratified the first postwar five-year plan. Implementation of its urgent tasks demanded not only substantial material resources but also a large quantity of manpower.

As of May 1945 the army and navy totaled 11 million 365 thousand men. It was necessary to return a considerable number of these to peaceful labor, to their families. All the major measures connected with converting the army and navy to a peacetime status were completed essentially by 1948. Approximately 8.5 million persons were demobilized. The size of the Armed Forces was reduced to 2,874,000 men. The Soviet Union took these steps in the hopes that the Western powers would follow its example and would be guided by the ideals of preserving peace. But things worked out differently. Our former allies chose the path of aggravating the international situation and began to tear the bonds which had united the principal participants in the war against fascism, began establishing military blocs, and initiated a "cold war" against the USSR and the people's democracies.

In March 1946 former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill delivered an inflammatory speech in Fulton, Missouri, in the presence of President Truman. He called for a military campaign against the Soviet Union and the people's democracies. The United States stepped up the pace of production of atomic

and other types of weapons. A military bloc of capitalist nations was established in 1949, known by the name North Atlantic Alliance (NATO). In 1951 imperialist reaction formed another military bloc, ANZUS. The U.S. military adventure in Korea sharply intensified international tension.

In this complex situation the Soviet Union, continuing its persistent campaign to preserve peace, could not ignore the intrigues of imperialism. Remembering V. I. Lenin's statement that it is necessary to be on guard at all times and to preserve our socialist achievements as our most precious possessions, the Communist Party and Soviet Government displayed constant concern to ensure that the army and navy possessed everything necessary to repel an attack by any aggressor.

Successes achieved in growth and development of the socialist economy created real capabilities to furnish the Armed Forces with new equipment and further to increase their strength. By 1948 industrial output volume in the USSR had essentially reached the prewar level.

In view of the enormous threat to peace presented by the U.S. atomic weapons monopoly, the party Central Committee and Soviet Government took steps to ensure that our own nuclear weapons and reliable means of delivering them to the target were developed as quickly as possible. While the war was still in full swing, in the summer of 1943, a special laboratory headed by I. V. Kurchatov was established under the auspices of the USSR Academy of Sciences by decision of party and government. Thanks to the high level of Soviet science, the persistence and talent of our scientists -- physicists, mathematicians, chemists and design engineers, the first Soviet atomic bomb was tested in August 1949, and the first hydrogen bomb in 1953, ahead of the United States. This put an end to the U.S. monopoly on possession of this powerful weapon.

Initially aircraft were considered the vehicle to deliver atomic warheads to the target. But following the war, on instructions by the party and government, work began on development of missile weapons. The first ballistic missile, the R-1, was launched in October 1947. The improved R-2 missile was successfully tested in 1950. Academician S. P. Korolev, famous designer of Soviet rocket-space exploration systems, was in charge of the missile engineering project.

Alongside the development of nuclear weapons, the Communist Party and Soviet Government devoted constant attention to further development and improvement of all types of conventional weapons. Thanks to the correct economic policy of the CPSU, scientific and technological advances, and the labor heroism of the Soviet people, new and improved types of automatic weapons, tanks and artillery systems, radar and other advanced combat equipment were developed and became operational within the first seven to eight years following the war; the Air Force was also reequipped. There was an increase in the percentage weight of armored and mechanized troops. Their armament and organization were changed. In particular, the troops received the T-54 medium tank, developed by a team of Soviet engineers under the supervision of

A. A. Morozov. The line of demarcation between rifle and mechanized combined units was disappearing. Measures were taken to achieve further development of the Air Force and National Air Defense Forces, as a result of which by the end of 1953 they represented a considerably larger percentage share of the Armed Forces. The Navy also received considerable attention. In 1953 one third of its ships had been built since the Great Patriotic War. The percentage weight of the undersea fleet increased. Construction of nuclear-powered submarines began in the 1950's.

Thus in the complex situation of the first postwar years, the party and government succeeded in rapidly reequipping and reorganizing all branches of the Armed Forces and all arms, supplying them with new combat equipment and weapons.

2. New Stage in Development of the Army and Navy

Revealing the content of this topic item, the propagandist notes that in the 1950's the international situation continued to be tense. The aggressiveness of the leading imperialist nations, the United States in particular, increased. In 1954 the Western powers, supported by the revanchists in Bonn, signed an agreement calling for the remilitarization of West Germany. That same year the SEATO military bloc was formed in Southeast Asia. In May 1955 the FRG was accepted to NATO membership, which intensified the military threat in Central Europe. In response to this, the nations of the socialist community took decisive measures to strengthen their defense might. In May 1955 they concluded the Warsaw Pact of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance, the purpose of which is to defend in a reliable manner the interests of socialism. From the very outset the Warsaw Pact assumed an exclusively defensive character.

The Western powers, however, continued to build up their military potential and were making plans for a nuclear war against the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. Under these conditions our country was forced to initiate testing of new types of nuclear weapons and to take steps to increase the combat readiness of the army and navy.

At the beginning of 1954 the men of the army and navy began studying atomic weapons and modes of combat operations under conditions of employment of these weapons. By this time the troops possessed nuclear weapons of various power, including hydrogen bombs, as well as experimental data on the destructive force and lethality of the new weapons. A large-scale field exercise was held in September 1954, at which an atomic bomb was detonated for the first time. The Soviet Armed Forces entered a new phase of development, a stage of radical reforms in all areas of military affairs.

By the middle of the 1950's our country had developed and made operational missiles of various classes and types, possessing excellent performance capabilities.

The beginning of the 1960's in the development of the Soviet state was characterized by a further powerful flourishing of the economy and the

intellectual resources of the multinational Soviet people, and by the building of an advanced socialist society. The 22d CPSU Congress adopted a new Party Program, which defined the paths of building a communist society in this country. It noted that the imperialist nations do not want to accept the existence of a world socialist system, and have not given up their hopes of destroying it by military means. This obliges the Communist Party, the Soviet people and its Armed Forces to display unflagging vigilance against the aggressive intrigues of the enemies of peace, to stand guard over peaceful labor at all times, and to be constantly ready for armed defense of the homeland. The party proceeds from the position that as long as imperialism remains, there will remain a danger of aggressive wars.

The Party Program emphasized: "The CPSU views defense of the socialist homeland and strengthening of the defense of the USSR and the might of the Soviet Armed Forces as a sacred duty of the party and of the entire Soviet people, as a most important function of the socialist state." This once again confirmed that the military policy of the CPSU at the present stage, just as in the past, was and remains a component part of the overall program of building communism in the USSR, fully and entirely subordinated to this great goal and aimed at defending the socialist achievements of the Soviet people and the interests of the world revolutionary process.

This country's economic might and the achievements of scientific and technological progress made it possible to build a qualitatively new material and technological foundation for furnishing the army and navy with modern combat equipment and weapons, to effect genuinely revolutionary reforms in the Soviet Armed Forces, and to transform them into a potent force capable of crushing any aggressor.

In discussing revolutionary reforms in the army and navy, it is important to note that the following are the most important and decisive of the many factors characterizing the revolution in military affairs: development of nuclear weapons and furnishing these weapons to the Armed Forces, as well as development and adoption of operational-tactical and strategic missiles -- missiles of short, medium and intercontinental range. Together with nuclear warheads, missiles formed a totally new arms system -- nuclear missile weapons. The development of these weapons required a radical revision of all areas of military affairs and at the same time faced the army and navy with many vital problems which they had never encountered before. All former concepts on the pace of the phenomena and processes of war were toppled, and the role and significance of time and space in war were radically altered.

Major changes took place in all branches of the Soviet Armed Forces. It is advisable for the propagandist to describe each of them briefly.

The Strategic Missile Forces are the youngest branch of the Armed Forces. Their establishment was announced in January 1960 at the Fourth Session of

the USSR Supreme Soviet. The Strategic Missile Forces comprise the backbone of the combat might of our Armed Forces. They are equipped with first-class medium-range and intercontinental missiles as well as reliable means of control.

The strategic missile forces possess enormous combat capabilities as regards destruction and casualty-producing potential. A strategic missile carrying a thermonuclear warhead can release more energy on detonation than all the explosives utilized in both world wars. Soviet strategic missiles are distinguished by great range and high accuracy against any target.

The Strategic Missile Forces are forces with a high degree of combat readiness. In peacetime as well they perform a mission of great national importance. Missile personnel are on combat alert day and night, prepared in case of an enemy attack to launch unstoppable, devastating response attacks on the enemy.

The Ground Forces have acquired new combat qualities. This is numerically the largest branch of the Armed Forces and is the most diversified as regards weapons and equipment. Its firepower, striking power and mobility have increased greatly, in connection with which this branch has acquired even greater independence in the performance of combat missions.

Operational and tactical missile units comprise the nucleus of Ground Forces firepower. The missiles with which they are armed can hit any target accurately and reliably at ranges from several dozen to many hundreds of kilometers.

Motorized rifle troops have changed substantially. Today motorized rifle units and combined units are equipped with first-class means of locomotion and the most modern weapons, as a result of which their mobility, maneuverability, and firepower have increased sharply.

The tank troops have undergone qualitative changes. They are armed today with new and improved tanks, carrying heavier armor and weapons, capable of rapidly covering enormous distances, as well as amphibious tanks. Soviet tanks are propelled by powerful engines, possess increased endurance, as well as modern driving and fire control equipment. The tank troops are rightly designated the main striking force of the Ground Forces.

Artillery did not lose its significance with the appearance of nuclear missile weapons in the Ground Forces. Artillery and mortar units received new guns, howitzers, mortars, recoilless antitank guns, and rocket weapons which are superior in performance to the famed "Katyusha." Today's artillery is distinguished by a high degree of mobility, maneuverability, range of fire, and potent projectile. In addition to antitank artillery, a new, highly-effective means of combating armored targets underwent rapid development -- antitank guided missiles, which are capable of killing modern tanks.

Ground Forces air defense units have undergone substantial changes in recent years. There has been a substantial increase in their effectiveness and reliability in defending personnel against hostile air attack. Ground Forces air defense units are today armed with mobile anti-aircraft missile systems, multiple-mount anti-aircraft artillery, radar systems for spotting air targets, and automated fire control systems. They are capable of successfully combating various air targets.

An important role in modern combat is played by airborne troops. Airborne troops, with their characteristic valor and daring, are capable of inflicting substantial damage on the adversary both independently and in coordination with other branches of the Armed Forces. Airborne troops are armed with special airborne self-propelled guns, armored personnel carriers which provide fast locomotion for airborne assault troops on the ground, effective anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons, conventional and rocket artillery systems, potent automatic weapons, communications and control equipment.

The special arms have also become qualitatively new. The engineer troops, for example, are equipped with sophisticated road construction and excavation equipment, river-crossing equipment, mine-clearing tank attachments for clearing lanes through minefields, and various equipment making it possible to build shelters for troops in very short order. Chemical warfare troops are equipped with new gear, including instruments for conducting radiological survey. Signal troops are equipped with sophisticated gear which enables commanders and staffs to control troops continuously and effectively under conditions of a rapidly-changing situation. The National Air Defense Forces became an independent branch of the Armed Forces in the postwar period. They include anti-aircraft missile troops, missile-armed fighter-interceptors, radar and special units. Anti-aircraft missile systems and missile-armed fighter-interceptors comprise the backbone of their combat might.

The combat capabilities of the weapons with which the National Air Defense Forces are armed make it possible to destroy practically all modern defensive air weapons at maximum range, at high and low altitudes and at supersonic speeds.

The combat capabilities of the radar units of the National Air Defense Forces have increased sharply. The most advanced radio electronic equipment which they possess enables them to detect at great range all offensive air weapons, to identify them, to determine their coordinates and to provide prompt target indication to anti-aircraft missile forces and missile-armed air defense fighter-interceptors.

The airspace of the Soviet homeland is vigilantly guarded by air defense personnel. They stand guard as vigilant sentinels, constantly ready to repulse a hostile air attack.

Our Air Force is equipped with supersonic all-weather aircraft capable of delivering nuclear strikes, as well as the latest missile armament. The

speeds attained by combat aircraft have increased substantially in recent years, while the service ceilings of supersonic aircraft have increased to 30 km and more.

Development of VTOL aircraft as well as multiple-mission combat aircraft with variable wing geometry, developed by Soviet scientists and designers, represent a great achievement in the development of aviation. These aircraft are capable of flying extended missions, taking off and landing in areas of limited size, and can carry all types of modern armament.

The party and government devote constant attention to development of the Soviet Navy. Within a short period of time it was transformed from a coastal force to a blue-water fleet. Nuclear-powered submarines armed with various missiles and self-guiding torpedoes and equipped with modern means of navigation, control and communications today constitute the nucleus of the striking forces of the Soviet Navy.

In addition to building a powerful undersea fleet, there has occurred further development and improvement of surface means of combat, with excellent guided missile cruisers and fast attack craft, armed with long-range homing missiles.

The Navy also includes other modern equipment, enabling it successfully to perform the assigned missions. These include embarked missile-armed aircraft, shore-based missile and artillery forces defending the approaches to our shores. The modern naval infantry, a worthy successor to the famed heroes of the Great Patriotic War, was and is the pride of our fleet.

The Armed Forces Rear Services are continuously being improved, along with the Army and Navy. They have been fully motorized, which has increased the maneuverability and mobility of rear services entities. There has been further development of rail, motor transport and road repair and traffic control troops, as well as pipeline transport. Supply processes have become more mechanized, while medical and other troop support services are being improved. In organization and equipment, the rear services are capable of reliably performing the responsible missions assigned them.

Soviet military science has also successfully developed in the postwar period. Synthesizing and innovatively interpreting the experience of the last war, it thoroughly studies at the same time the major changes which have been introduced into the modes of conducting combat operations by the development of modern weapons and new means of combat. Today military science thoughtfully examines the potential character of wars in the contemporary era and solves root problems of development of the art of warfare and the general problems of improving the Armed Forces.

In spite of all the immense military-technical capabilities of the Soviet Army and Navy, people comprise their principal strength. Solidly ranked behind the Communist Party and totally dedicated to the socialist homeland and the great cause of communism, these patriots and internationalists constitute a model of socialist armed forces. Broad political knowledge, a

high degree of discipline, organization and efficiency, profound specialized knowledge and expert mastery of various types of weapons are inseparable qualities of our enlisted men, noncommissioned officers, warrant officers, officers, general officers and flag officers. Communists cement together army and navy ranks. Together with Komsomol members they comprise the absolute majority of Soviet military personnel.

Completing presentation of the material of the second topic item, the propagandist emphasizes that thanks to the presently achieved level of development of our country, the enormous successes of the scientific and technological revolution, and the selfless labor of the Soviet people, genuinely revolutionary changes are taking place in our Armed Forces: their mobility, striking force and firepower, fighting efficiency and combat readiness are increasing. Today the army and navy are equipped with all modern means of waging war and have achieved a new level of qualitative improvement.

3. Training and Indoctrination of Personnel. Enhancement of the Role of Socialist Competition in the Army and Navy

Constantly concerned with technical equipping of the Armed Forces, our party devotes paramount attention to the training and indoctrination of personnel, for even the most modern weapon can be a powerful means of defense only if the military man -- and he plays the main role in gaining victory over the enemy -- is deeply aware of his great responsibility to the people, possesses a consummate mastery of the equipment and weapons entrusted to him, and is firmly aware that he is performing a deeply humane, just mission -- defending the socialist achievements of the people and the peaceful labor of Soviet citizens, who are building communism.

Those profound changes in the spiritual countenance of Soviet citizens which have taken place in connection with building advanced socialism have logically been reflected in qualitative changes in army and navy personnel. Today the Soviet Armed Forces contain politically mature officer cadres who are dedicated to the party cause, to the people, and who are well trained in a military and technical respect. Establishment of the institution of warrant officer constituted a manifestation of the party's great concern for strengthening command personnel.

Rank and file personnel have changed considerably. The Army and Navy are receiving well-educated, technically knowledgeable and physically-fit young people. In the Armed Forces as a whole, 100 percent of Soviet fighting men possess at least an 8th-grade education, while military personnel with higher and secondary education comprise approximately 80 percent of the total; they represented only 12 percent on the eve of the Great Patriotic War.

Qualitative changes in personnel expanded possibilities for further strengthening the political-moral state of the troops, for the men to master the complex combat equipment and weapons in a shorter period of time, and for achieving additional success in improving combat readiness.

Of paramount importance in troop training is their tactical, weapon, technical, and special training. A high degree of comprehensive troop training is one of the decisive preconditions for a high degree of Armed Forces fighting efficiency and combat readiness. Training of personnel is inseparable from their military indoctrination. The end goal of training and indoctrination in the army and navy is to prepare military personnel as experts in their occupational specialty, possessing excellent moral-political qualities -- profoundly conscientious patriots and internationalists, dedicated to the cause of the party and the Soviet people, capable of surmounting any and all difficulties, and prepared to give everything, including their very life, for the sake of defending the socialist homeland.

The propagandist then notes that one of the characteristic features of development of the Soviet Armed Forces is an increase in the leadership role of the CPSU in the area of military organizational development and increased party supervision in the army and navy. This is dictated by the complexity of the international situation, which dictates the necessity of a thorough analysis of the world political and military-strategic situation; by the importance of the military, economic and sociopolitical problems of military organizational development, which require comprehensive consideration of the capabilities and development prospects of the Soviet state; by the necessity of continuous development of innovative activeness on the part of Soviet military personnel and intensification of their communist indoctrination; by increased responsibility for carrying out the internationalist tasks facing the Soviet Army and Navy.

All party decisions pertaining to the army and navy are implemented by the USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, the military councils, commanders, political agencies, party organizations, and Communist Party members.

The Communist Party displays constant concern for improving party political work in the Armed Forces. Beneficent influence on life in the army and navy is exerted by the CPSU Central Committee decree dated 21 January 1967, entitled "Measures to Improve Party-Political Work in the Soviet Army and Navy," as well as the Statute on Political Agencies and Instructions to CPSU Organizations in the Soviet Army and Navy, ratified by the CPSU Central Committee. These documents contain basic instructions from the CPSU Central Committee on organizing party political work with personnel under present-day conditions.

An important role in strengthening the Armed Forces was played by the Universal Military Obligation Law, adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet on 12 October 1967. This law reflects the significant sociopolitical and economic changes which have taken place in the Soviet society over a period of almost 3 decades, since the promulgation of the previous law.

Commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations, guided by the demands of the CPSU, vigorously and purposefully form in military personnel a Marxist-Leninist philosophical outlook and indoctrinate them in a

spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, class hatred toward the imperialists, implacable opposition to bourgeois ideology, in a spirit of communist morality, firm military discipline and unrelenting vigilance, as well as unshakable loyalty to the laws of military comradeship. They mobilize army and navy personnel to campaign for excellent results in combat and political training and for maintaining a high degree of combat readiness. Of great importance in this regard were the Armed Forces Conference of Party Organization Secretaries (March 1973) and the Armed Forces Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries (March 1974), the Armed Forces Conference of Ideological Workers and the Armed Forces Conference of Excellent Performers in Combat and Political Training (1975), as well as the Scientific-Practical Conference of Top-Echelon Army and Navy Political Workers (July 1976). The conferences synthesized the amassed experience of party-political work in the military and helped make all positive experience common property, which promotes strengthening of our Armed Forces and a further upswing in their combat readiness.

Most important conclusions for comprehensive improvement of party political work in the army and navy proceed from the materials and resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress. They contain fundamental principles and points on all problems of ideological and party organizational work.

Increased effectiveness and improved quality of personnel combat training is promoted by socialist competition, extensively developed in the army and navy. It is taking place this year under the slogan of persistent implementation of the resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress and preparations to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Leading units of the Armed Forces branches constituted initiators of competition. The patriotic initiative of these military collectives has been unanimously supported in all military units and on all naval ships.

Competition in the army and navy is today acquiring qualitatively new traits and features, and its role is being enhanced in improving the entire training process. Today competition is inseparable from the scientific and technological revolution in military affairs; it is becoming increasingly concentrated around the problems of effectiveness and quality of military labor and is more actively influencing achievement of optimal results in training and service. Competition is elucidating everywhere today, not only leaders, winners, but lagging performers as well. This obliges military collectives to concentrate their efforts on eliminating shortcomings, on pulling up lagging areas, and working persistently to achieve high-quality performance of the combat and political training schedules and programs.

Socialist competition is aimed primarily at further increasing vigilance and combat readiness, improving the quality of performance in the field, in the air and on the sea, and at improving the effectiveness of the entire process of combat and political training. A vigorous campaign is in progress in the units and on naval ships to achieve excellent performance on each and every training topic, exemplary performance of each and every exercise, each and every assigned task. Particular attention is focused on mastering modern

equipment and weapons, and full utilization of their combat capabilities. Competition is also being conducted in the area of strict observance of standards of communist ethics and morality by all military personnel.

Communists and Komsomol members are in the vanguard of Armed Forces socialist competition. Army and navy party and Komsomol organizations are extensively disseminating know-how and are boosting the prestige of outstanding performers in training, are seeking and implementing unutilized reserve potential for further increasing combat readiness. They are mobilizing all military personnel to honor in a worthy fashion the 50th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, as well as successful performance of the tasks assigned to the Armed Forces by the 25th CPSU Congress and the October (1976) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Recently there have been many valuable patriotic initiatives started in line units. Military personnel are campaigning for boosting proficiency ratings, surpassing combat training standards, achieving mutual interchangeability on weapon and vehicle crews, economy and thrift, and extension of combat equipment operating time between repairs. Outstanding performers in training, Komsomol activists, having mastered their military occupational specialty, are helping their young comrades achieve high results and are actively assisting commanders and party organizations. The number of excellent-rated squads and crews in the Armed Forces is steadily growing. More and more companies, batteries, ships and regiments proudly bear the title of excellent.

Vivid evidence of the party's concern for the Soviet Armed Forces is the award of decorations to military personnel for success in combat and political training, for mastery of new combat equipment, and establishment in October 1974 of a new decoration -- "For Service to the Homeland in the USSR Armed Forces," 1st, 2d and 3d class, and the "For Excellence in Military Service" medal, 1st and 2d class. Many army and navy personnel have already been awarded these coveted decorations for services to the homeland.

New general military regulations ratified by Ukase of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on 30 July 1975, also promote further strengthening of the Armed Forces. Working to master military affairs as the new regulations demand, and unswervingly following the demands of regulations in training, service and in their daily lives, Soviet military personnel are helping increase army and navy combat readiness and are faithfully serving their homeland.

In the postwar years our army and navy personnel have demonstrated time and time again their combat skill, excellent moral-fighting qualities, courage and stamina, dedication to the Communist Party and love of the socialist homeland at many field exercises and maneuvers, as well as at joint exercises of the Warsaw Pact member nations.

Discussing with satisfaction the results which have been achieved, the propagandist emphasizes in conclusion that we are focusing our attention on that which still remains to be accomplished. We must successfully complete

the training year in full measure, making it a year of further growth of all qualitative indices in military labor, approaching with honor that historic date -- the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

4. The 25th CPSU Congress on the Necessity of Further Strengthening the Nation's Defense Capability and Improving the Soviet Armed Forces

Proceeding with presentation of this final topic item, it is important for the propagandist to make his audience deeply cognizant and aware of the conclusions of the 25th CPSU Congress on the necessity of further strengthening the nation's defense capability under present-day conditions. He must stress that the international activities of the Communist Party and Soviet Government are taking place under the slogan of implementation of the resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, and the program adopted at the congress, calling for a continued campaign for peace, international cooperation, for the freedom and independence of peoples. It continues and further develops the Peace Program adopted at the 24th CPSU Congress (for more detail on this, see KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, No 5, 1977, pp 82-84).

The political atmosphere in the international arena is improving under the powerful influence of peace forces. For a quarter of a century now our people have lived under conditions of peace. Détente has become the leading trend of contemporary world development. The May (1977) CPSU Central Committee Plenum discussing the report of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Constitution Commission, entitled "On the Draft Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics," stressed that there has appeared today a real possibility of averting another world war, although this demands continued strong and persistent efforts. Our country constantly and continuously puts out such efforts. In recent years the Soviet Union has introduced more than 70 concrete proposals aimed at détente, at securing peace, at disarmament and improvement of relations among nations.

At the same time one cannot help but see difficulties and obstacles on the path of consolidation of détente and reorganization of international relations on a foundation of strict observance of the principles of peaceful co-existence and the agreements reached in Helsinki. The immediate threat of war has been lessened, but the danger of war has not yet been eliminated. In addition, recently the most aggressive circles in the leading imperialist powers have significantly stepped up their militaristic subversive activities, endeavoring to lessen and if possible thwart détente, to turn the world back to "cold war" times.

Aggressive circles in the capitalist world respond to their defeats in social battles, to the loss of colonial possessions, to the departure of more and more countries from capitalism, to the successes of world socialism and growth in the influence of Communist parties in bourgeois nations with feverish initiation of war preparations. Imperialism seeks to create for itself "a position of strength" and, supported by that position, to hold the capability, which is slipping out of its hands, to command other countries and peoples.

The arms race, which has encompassed the leading capitalist powers, is accompanied by shameless propaganda of anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. They are spreading vicious lies about a so-called "Soviet threat." Finding concealment behind this anti-Soviet campaign of slander, the military-industrial complex in a number of capitalist countries, the United States in particular, and NATO leaders are swelling their military budgets and are intensifying material preparations for another war. For example, in 1945 the U.S. military budget totaled 12 billion dollars. Today it is almost 10 times as much. The Pentagon has spent a truly astronomical sum on military preparations in the last 30 years -- 1.6 trillion dollars! NATO strategists are openly drawing up plans of nuclear attacks on the USSR and the other socialist countries. The December 1976 meeting of the NATO Council rejected an appeal by the Warsaw Pact nations for the nations participating in the Helsinki Conference to pledge not to employ nuclear weapons against one another. At the top-level NATO Council meeting held in London in May 1977, there were once again appeals for even greater unity within NATO, for further intensification of the arms race, and there was continued intimidation by reference to a non-existent Soviet threat.

Aggressive imperialist circles undertake extensive military demonstrations. In the summer and fall of 1976 the NATO generals held a record number (27) of military exercises, which were unprecedented in scale and duration. In an immense area running from Northern Norway to Eastern Turkey NATO troops worked on techniques and methods of employment of modern weapons and played out different variants of combat operations against the socialist nations.

The imperialists have not given up intervention in the internal affairs of many countries or attempts to expand existing and put together new military blocs. In a number of parts of the world, particularly in the Near East, the situation is still highly explosive. Imperialist forces brazenly intervene in events in Zaire, desiring to deprive the people of Zaire of the right of independently determining their domestic affairs, "Imperialism," notes Mar SU D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Defense, "was and remains a source of war threat. That is its class nature. Ruling circles in the capitalist countries are now compelled to face the total hopelessness and senselessness of counting on a military victory over socialism. In spite of this fact aggressive imperialist forces are escalating the arms race, are making every effort to impede détente, are stepping up anti-Soviet propaganda, and are attempting to meddle in the internal affairs of the socialist countries."

Thus the world situation, in spite of positive changes, remains complex and contradictory. Under conditions of a continuing arms race and the existing threat of war, the Communist Party and Soviet Government display unabating concern for maintaining our homeland's defense at an adequate level and for improvement of the Soviet Armed Forces. This is an objective necessity.

The role of the Communist Party in directing all activities of the Armed Forces is continuing to become enhanced. The party thoroughly analyzes development of the world military-political situation and in conformity with

this determines tasks connected with strengthening our nation's security. It elaborates and carries out concrete measures aimed at ensuring that the army and navy remain at the level of present demands, as regards equipment and organizational structure, degree of training and indoctrination of personnel. The 25th CPSU Congress, assessing the state of the Armed Forces and the work performed by the party in recent years to strengthen them, noted with satisfaction that the Soviet people can be assured that the fruits of their productive labor are being reliably protected.

Placing particular stress on the responsible missions of the men of the Soviet Armed Forces under present-day conditions, it is advisable to discuss during the lecture disclosure of the essence of combat readiness and demands on it.

Combat readiness is a fusion of adequate equipping of troops, their military performance skills, moral-political, psychological and physical conditioning, organization and the willingness of each Soviet fighting man to perform a deed of valor for the sake of carrying out his military duty to the homeland. Characterizing troop combat readiness, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated graphically and very accurately that combat readiness concentrates, as in a focal point, enormous efforts and material expenditures by the people on equipping the armed forces, awareness, combat efficiency and discipline of all military personnel, the skill of command personnel in troop control, plus many other elements. In the final analysis this is the crowning point of troop combat skills in peacetime and the key to victory in war.

The importance of a high degree of combat readiness has particularly increased today, when the development of nuclear missile weapons and other potent weapons creates a real danger of their sudden and unexpected employment by an aggressor. In the recent past this demand was imposed chiefly on troops deployed in the immediate vicinity of the borders, while today it applies to the entire Armed Forces.

All components of combat readiness are in a close interrelationship and should be viewed as a system. Improvement of combat readiness is a continuous process. There can be no maximum here, since military affairs are evolving and becoming increasingly complex, with constantly growing demands on combat proficiency, organization and discipline. The main thing is unswervingly to improve the combat readiness of combined units, units and naval ships, to improve their tactical and specialized training, and to reduce the time required to bring troops into a state of readiness to perform assigned combat missions under complex conditions. It is necessary to achieve a level of troop training whereby each man will possess a total mastery of modern weapons and combat equipment.

In revealing the essence of combat readiness, it is advisable to cite concrete examples from the experience of the subunit, unit, and naval ship. One should name the top individuals -- excellent-rated in training, and proficiency-rated specialists. It is important to explain to the men that

Armed Forces combat readiness is comprised of the combat readiness of subunits and crews, and in the final analysis depends on each individual. In this connection it is necessary to show what harm is done to the common cause by the lack of discipline of a few individuals, a negligent attitude toward mastering one's military occupational specialty, and violation of standards of military comradeship.

This present training year is the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the year of preparations to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the valiant Soviet Armed Forces. As all Soviet citizens, the men of the army and navy are resolved to honor in a worthy fashion the glorious jubilee of the October Revolution. Under the tested leadership of the Leninist Party, the Soviet Army and Navy will continue in the future faithfully guarding the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and constituting a reliable bulwark of world peace.

During hours of independent preparation, the men study V. I. Lenin's "The 22 December Report of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and Council of People's Commissars on Foreign and Domestic Policy" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 42, pp 130-131), and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's "CPSU Central Committee Report and Current Party Tasks in the Area of Domestic and Foreign Policy" ("Materialy XXV s'yezda KPSS" [Proceedings of the 25th CPSU Congress], Politizdat, 1976, pp 5-34, 75-76, 83, 154), as well as the textbook "Na strazhe Rodiny" [Guarding the Homeland] (Voyenizdat, 1974, pp 103-118). In the evening one can organize a showing of the news-documentary films entitled "I Serve the Soviet Union" and "Faithful Sons of the People," as well as the filmstrip entitled "Always Maintain Combat Readiness." It is advisable to employ the visual aids folder entitled "25th CPSU Congress on Strengthening the Defense of the USSR" (Voyenizdat, 1976, sheets 1, 5, 8-15).

It is useful on the eve of political classes and in the process of studying the topic to organize get-togethers between the men and veterans of the units and naval ships who were direct participants in and witnesses to the radical changes in the army and navy in the postwar period.

It is advisable to discuss the following items at two seminar classes on the given topic (2 hours each): 1. Concern of party and government for strengthening the nation's defense capability in the first postwar years; 2. The revolution in military affairs and its significance for further strengthening the Soviet Armed Forces; 3. Description of development of the branches of the Armed Forces; 4. Qualitative changes in army and navy personnel; 5. The 25th CPSU Congress on the need for further strengthening the nation's defense capability and improving the Armed Forces; 6. Essence of combat readiness and demands imposed on it. The components of combat readiness. Tasks of subunit, unit, and ship personnel for maintaining unabating combat readiness.

Literature for Propagandists

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COMMENTS ON ANTICOMMUNIST INDOCTRINATION OF NATO FORCES

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 12, Jun 77 signed to press
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[Article by Col V. Katerinich: "Under the Decrepit Banner of Anticommunism:
on Brainwashing of Military Personnel of the NATO Nations"]

[Text] Anticommunist, anti-Soviet propaganda has recently been greatly
escalated in the member nations of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc. It
has become more sophisticated and resourceful and is coordinated in content
and frequently also in forms and methods in all the countries of the bloc.

What is the reason for such sharply stepped-up efforts of the NATO propaganda
machine? There are several causes. Reactionary circles in the NATO countries
are attempting with the aid of ideological counterattacks to halt the social
progress which is taking place on our planet and to impede the victorious
advance of the ideas of socialism and peace, to weaken the influence on the
public in the West by the outstanding achievements of the Soviet Union and
the other nations of the socialist community. Imperialist strategists are
concerned by the process of general strengthening of leftist forces in the
capitalist countries and the increasing political activeness of the masses
under the influence of the historic successes of practical socialism.

It is not surprising that NATO periodicals have been discussing with clear
concern a "Communist penetration on the ideological front," "erosion of the
spiritual foundations" of the capitalist world, and "dangerous changes" in
the consciousness of the citizens of NATO countries. Typical in this regard
is a statement made by (Dzh. Krichli), chairman of the Defense and Arms Com-
mittee of the assembly of the Western European alliance, in the London news-
paper DAILY TELEGRAPH. Discussing trends in the attitudes of the Western
Europeans, he concludes that the West "needs moral fiber in order to fight
communism." Quoting the author, "dramatic changes have been observed in the
imperialist countries in the postwar years, which have "weakened the West,"
there has occurred a "decline in such spiritual values as willingness to
serve and to sacrifice," people have begun to take an interest in social
problems and "are inspired by Marxism," "the importance of religion has
diminished," "patriotism has become exhausted," "history has depreciated,"
etc. (Krichli) is most concerned by the fact that in spite of all the

efforts of bourgeois propaganda, broad segments of the public "are beginning to believe that capitalism is morally inferior to socialism."

Even such an enemy of socialism as U.S. General Haig, commander in chief of joint NATO forces in Europe, is compelled to acknowledge: "Whether we like it or not, in the last 10 years the Marxist system has acquired considerable attractive force in the eyes of the people of the Western world."

Lively discussions are in progress in the ideological centers of imperialism, chiefly on the question of how "to weaken the monstrous dynamism of communist ideology" and how to develop "immunity" against its influence in the personnel of imperialist armed forces.

The present anticommunist hysteria in the NATO countries and their armed forces is an expression of the deepening general crisis of capitalism. The ideological rivalry between the two social systems is taking place on the whole in a situation which is disadvantageous to capitalism, under conditions not only of an acute economic crisis but also intensification of the ideological-political crisis of bourgeois society. The ideological crisis is accompanied by a moral crisis. Contemporary capitalism, with its predatory laws of greed and indifference to the fate of others, is increasingly turning people away, particularly youth; it morally corrupts and devastates people.

Awareness of the spiritual poverty and moral degradation of the exploiter system is being increasingly more frequently reflected in the western press and in statements by bourgeois ideologues. British professor (Andreski), for example, states: "Western capitalism is an example of a system which has not only entirely turned away from the moral education of people but utilizes its vast means of persuasion, which possess unprecedented power, for the purpose of destroying customs, standards of behavior and ideals which are essential in order to survive. It instills in people's minds antisocial views which are incompatible with any social order. It will be a miracle if a social system which turns minds against society on such a mass scale does not destroy itself."

By means of anticommunist propaganda the ideologues and politicians of the imperialist powers endeavor to make up for the spiritual poverty of capitalism, to unify the population behind the ruling classes by frightening the masses with slanderous anticommunist and anti-Soviet fabrications. Whipping up an anticommunist hysteria, imperialist reaction attempts to thwart further progress of détente and to create a climate which would promote continuation of the arms race, which generates enormous profits for the military-industrial complex.

Militant imperialist circles have not yet rejected war as a means of carrying out their aggressive policies. They are redoubling their efforts to indoctrinate the people in the capitalist countries in a militarist spirit. They are implanting among the personnel of imperialist armed forces views which would make them willing to fight for the interests of monopoly capital.

The strategists of imperialism realize that under present-day conditions open propaganda of war is a highly risky thing. Therefore such propaganda is conducted in the West in a concealed, sophisticated manner, camouflaged with phony anticommunist, anti-Soviet fabrications and peace-seeking defensive phraseology. The NATO countries are portrayed as the "innocent victim," the target of alleged imminent "aggression" on the part of the Soviet Union. By these means imperialist propaganda seeks to instill in people the idea of the "possibility and probability" of war against the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community, on the necessity of preparing for such a war, and justifies enormous spending by the NATO member nations on the arms race.

We must note that the process of détente is exerting appreciable influence on the policies of some NATO countries. Détente is sowing seeds of discord in the ranks of the wealthy bourgeoisie and those groups in power. Sober-minded Western leaders are in favor of development of normal relations with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community and for increasing détente. Reactionary imperialist circles, closely linked to the military-industrial complex, favor a continuation of a policy "from a position of strength" and further escalation of aggressive military preparations. These circles play an important role in the affairs of the imperialist nations and exert decisive influence on matters connected with military organizational development and brainwashing of the civilian population and armed forces personnel of the Western powers.

Brainwashing of the personnel in the armed forces of the NATO member nations is conducted in a spirit of "cold war." It is of a clearly-marked anti-Soviet, anticommunist character. All propaganda in the NATO Armed Forces is based on the false concept that peace on earth is possible only by ensuring the military superiority of the imperialist nations over the socialist countries. All peace initiatives by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, aimed at limiting the arms race and at disarmament, are ignored or interpreted as a dangerous step allegedly aimed at lulling the vigilance of the NATO member nations, at weakening their military might and subsequently "enslaving them" or at least subjugating them to the will of the Communists.

The tone in propaganda of this kind is as a rule set by NATO political and military leaders. U.S. General Haig, commander in chief of NATO forces in Europe, states, for example, that "the Soviet threat is greater today than at any time in the past" and that if urgent measures are not taken to strengthen NATO, "it will be impossible to hold back the Russians." This story is repeated in different variations by NATO Secretary General Luns and highly-placed NATO generals and staff officers.

CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev gave a worthy reply in his Tula speech to the NATO shouters about the "Soviet military threat." He characterized as ridiculous and totally unfounded claims that the Soviet Union is going further than defense adequacy, that the Soviet

Union seeks superiority in arms, with the objective of "striking first." "It is not we but rather certain forces in the West," stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "who keep escalating the arms race, particularly in the area of nuclear arms. It is not us but those forces, casting hundreds of billions into the bottomless pit of military preparations, which are the initiators of the swelling of military budgets. It is precisely these forces, acting under the phony excuse of a 'Soviet threat,' which represent the aggressive line in international politics today."

Under the cover of anti-Soviet fabrications, military personnel in the West are being inculcated with the idea of the necessity of bringing NATO forces as close as possible to so-called "forward positions" -- the boundaries of the Warsaw Pact nations, and on the permissibility of employing nuclear weapons in war against the Soviet Union, etc. West German General Steinhof, referring to the totally-fabricated "threat of Soviet military aggression," claims that the main dilemma facing the imperialist powers is not the choice between peaceful coexistence and preparations for war but rather a decision on what kind of war they must prepare for -- conventional or nuclear.

Some NATO generals claim that since the Soviet Union allegedly possesses superiority in conventional arms, the "threshold" for employment of nuclear weapons should be as low as possible, and perhaps "the NATO countries will be compelled to employ nuclear weapons first, for defense against aggression." Even the demand that military leaders be empowered to make the decision to employ nuclear weapons is advanced. In particular, this demand was stated by Danish General Torsen, commander of joint NATO forces in Jutland and Schleswig-Holstein.

Characteristic of anti-Soviet propaganda methods presently being employed by NATO are continuity and gradually stepped-up efforts with periodic, very insignificant declines, followed by sharp upswings. One anti-Soviet fabrication is threaded upon another, forming a continuous chain. The standardized and coordinated anti-Soviet theses as a rule emanate from various sources, creating the illusion of a universal opinion. Thus an ideology which is hostile toward the Soviet Union is gradually and increasingly more intensively implanted in the civilian population and armed forces personnel of the imperialist countries. An American expert on brainwashing named (Ellyul') calls this method "diffused propaganda." In his book "Propaganda, the Shaping of People's Views" he writes: "Such propaganda is rarely conducted with the aid of slogans or clearly-expressed intentions. It is more frequently based on the creation of a general climate, an atmosphere which exerts an imperceptible influence on people. As a result one perceives new criteria, judgments and decisions as if one chose them spontaneously."

As a rule one and the same anti-Soviet materials are published simultaneously by military and civilian publications of NATO and individual NATO member nations, are contained in speeches by military and political leaders, and are

broadcast by radio and television. The avalanche of misinformation ultimately makes its way into people's consciousness.

In November-December 1976 a noisy campaign was initiated in the United States, Great Britain and other NATO member nations, dealing with civil defense in the USSR, which allegedly places the United States and the other NATO member nations practically under a threat of "nuclear attack." This overblown, slanderous campaign served as justification for the Pentagon to draw up a "plan for evacuating the civilian population from areas considered to be Russian nuclear targets." A noisy propaganda campaign was conducted in turn around this plan, in the course of which the Soviet Union was portrayed as a potential aggressor, "which does not consider nuclear war to be improbable."

Some time later more phony propaganda appeared -- about an alleged "threat" to the oil producing operations in the North Sea by the Soviet Union. This fabrication was followed by another one -- "on the dangerous buildup of Soviet naval power." And of course NATO propaganda began drumming home the necessity of strengthening the NATO naval command in order to "increase capability to defend naval lines of communication." Then the entire NATO press, referring to some nonexistent "intelligence dossier," chimed in as if on command with the following charge: "There is evidence that Russia is moving toward total war and that the Kremlin may utilize nuclear blackmail in order to force political concessions from the West in coming years."

Abundant food for whipping up anti-Soviet hysteria was served up at the next session of the North Atlantic Assembly, at which hot debates raged on the subject of that same "Soviet military threat." The very topic of the keynote report at the session speaks for itself -- "The Growing Capability of the Warsaw Pact to Launch an All-Out Sneak Attack." Naturally this "report" was followed by hypocritical complaints about the "inadequate military strength" of the principal imperialist bloc and "poor readiness for major troop redeployments to strengthen the NATO forces in Europe."

The anti-Soviet "relay baton" was taken from the assembly by the British newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH. At the end of last year it printed an article, with reference to "reliable sources," that "the British Royal Air Force is concerned by Russia's intentions to employ chemical weapons against air bases in Western Europe."

The propaganda agencies and services of the imperialist nations endeavor in brainwashing armed forces personnel to resort to maximum clarity, "concretization" of anti-Soviet and anticommunist fabrications, tying them in with troop combat training. The magazine ARMY, for example, which circulates in the U.S. Ground Forces, even published a scenario entitled "Russian Invasion of Europe" for more "convincingness" and "comprehensibility" of anti-Soviet fabrications. The United States Air Force and Navy have established special schools which train pilots "methods of downing MiGs." The teaching is done by instructors who "fought MiGs in Vietnam." Air combat is practiced against aircraft which in performance characteristics and configuration are reminiscent of the MiG-17 and MiG-21. A pilot graduating from this school is given a certificate attesting to his ability to engage MiGs and a chevron indicating

that he is the "best fighter pilot in the world." These schools train U.S. pilots as well as pilots from the FRG and other NATO member nations, as well as Israel.

Similar aims are pursued by training manuals for the various armed services. A "Manual on Soviet Small Arms" and a "Manual on Soviet Ground Forces" have been published for the U.S. Army, for example. The preface to one of these states: "Good knowledge of the adversary helps develop a feeling of confidence and superiority in case of a real confrontation with the enemy in combat." A British company called Airborne Industries turns out "inflatable models of Russian armored combat vehicles" for use in troop combat training. The magazine ARMY QUARTERLY, advertising this new product, stated: "You can buy a 'Russian' tank for 1,500 pounds and blow it up as many times as you wish."

The West German magazine STERN contained an article entitled "The Bundeswehr Academy -- Higher School of War." The article states that studies at the academy consist in developing combat operations against "mass Russian tanks." In battles played out on maps, one group of students always plays "the Russians." At field exercises the side portraying the enemy sometimes wears uniforms "reminiscent of the Soviet military uniform."

Fabrications about a "threat of Soviet aggression" are invariably accompanied by slander against the Soviet social and political system, against the domestic political situation in the USSR, and against socialist realities. Recently bourgeois ideologues have been particularly eagerly resorting to the services of various renegades, dubbed "dissidents"; their statements appear in the press, are broadcast on radio and television, and they make personal appearances. The main thesis presented by the "dissenters" "to the public" is that it is allegedly impossible to strengthen détente and eliminate the threat of nuclear war without changing the internal system in the Soviet Union in the direction of "democratization," that is, imposition of a bourgeois order in the USSR.

On the threshold of the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution the efforts of imperialist propaganda are being increasingly directed toward discrediting the ideals of the Great October Socialist Revolution, at falsifying its history and the leadership role of the Leninist party, and at depreciating and belittling the successes of building socialism in the USSR. This is dictated by the class interests of the imperialist bourgeoisie, which is frightened by the growing influence of the liberation ideas of the October Revolution, by the fact that the socialist world is growing stronger year by year, and that the ideals of détente, disarmament, and cooperation among nations with differing social systems are constantly winning over additional billions of rank-and-file citizens in the West.

Imperialist slander against the Soviet Armed Forces is of a vicious, unbridled character. They are accused of "preparing for aggression" and of the desire to "enslave other people." At the same time NATO propaganda,

obviously afraid of excessively frightening NATO military personnel, seeks to convince them that the USSR Armed Forces, while possessing considerable military might, also show certain "weaknesses." In the past imperialist propagandists sought these "weaknesses" chiefly in the quality and quantity of arms and in combat training; recently they have been endeavoring to find "deficiencies" in the area of social relations and in characterization of the Soviet soldier as a fighting man, as an individual. The Soviet fighting man is portrayed as lacking initiative, technically ignorant and limited, lacking culture and inherently savage. NATO ideologues, seeking to cast a shadow on a clear day, endeavor to prove that the "weak spot" of the Soviet Armed Forces is their multinational character, that there allegedly exist in the Soviet Armed Forces "conflicts" between officers and enlisted personnel, between command and engineer-technician personnel.

One of the principal missions of imperialist propaganda is to glorify the bourgeois system, to demonstrate to the personnel of the armed forces of the NATO nations "those values which are worthy of defending."

Capitalism by its very nature is unable to eliminate crises, political and economic inequality, poverty, oppression, and toiler uncertainty about the future. The policy of arms race, pursued primarily in the interests of the military-industrial complex, aggravates social conflicts in the NATO countries. Under these conditions there is growing among the masses, particularly among young people in the capitalist countries, dissatisfaction with the system in the bourgeois society, and there is developing an increasing interest in socialism. These moods also are affecting military personnel. Therefore the apologists of monopoly capital are forced to take measures to conceal the evils and flaws within the capitalist system, to give it the appearance of democracy and freedom, to "give capitalism," as the British conservative newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH put it, "an acceptable face." These measures, usually dubbed "constructive propaganda," are aimed at forming in military personnel a distorted social consciousness, a false comprehension of social duty, to create in military personnel illusions about the possibility of "acquiring capital," of "setting up one's own business," of moving upward, encouraging a propensity for accumulation of material goods, greed, and indoctrinating bourgeois morality and ideology.

Day after day the idea is instilled in the military personnel of imperialist armed forces that society is unable to develop without rich and poor, since allegedly only the rich are able to invest funds in expanded reproduction and thus to be concerned with the future of all the members of that society. If national income is distributed equally among all the members of society, claim the advocates of imperialism, it will be totally consumed, and society will perish. From this false premise is drawn the conclusion that "inequality in distribution of wealth is inevitable" and that those who demand equality "are impeding the development of society and progress."

This myth is also importunately disseminated in the armed forces of the imperialist nations. Allegedly high but not full employment is the standard for development of a "free economy." Full employment is an illusion,

characteristic, they say, only of "totalitarian" regimes. Therefore unemployment is an entirely logical and just phenomenon. And if it increases, allegedly the workers themselves or the trade unions are at fault, since they demand "excessively high" wages, and the entrepreneurs are "forced to cut back production."

It is also claimed that characteristic of contemporary capitalism is not the domination of monopoly capital but rather a "pluralistic system," whereby "a free society freely builds its economic business." Thus, failing to mention the monopolies, which control not only all economic but also political power in the capitalist world. imperialist propaganda seeks to convince military personnel that they want to "defend freedom," they must defend capitalism. With the aid of a demagogic verbal juggling act, a persistent effort is made to convince military personnel that they "are defending the most perfect democracy," into which today "even the armed forces are integrated." Therefore, loudly proclaims imperialist propaganda, armed forces in the West "have lost their caste character," and military personnel have become simply "citizens in uniform."

An important role in brainwashing personnel of the NATO member nation armed forces is assigned to justification of the arms race. In the contemporary era, claim bourgeois propagandists, when there exist in the world two opposing social systems, "economic prosperity is possible only through arms." It allegedly "guarantees security" and "provides work for the masses." An effort is made to convince military personnel of the inevitability and even usefulness of the arms race and increase in the pace of militarization.

NATO propaganda invests a considerable effort to instill in military personnel the idea that it is essential to maintain "class peace" in their countries for the sake of the profits of monopoly capital. The ideologues of imperialism claim that the only way out of the acute crisis presently being experienced by the capitalist system can be found through "coordinated action" by the government and all classes and strata in society. Those who take part in strikes and demand higher wages "are acting contrary to the interests of the nation and people and are complicating efforts aimed at recovering from the crisis."

Bourgeois propaganda closely combines sanctimonious talk about "class peace" with preparedness of the personnel of imperialist armed forces to fight "domestic enemies," that is, the toilers of their own countries. Savage suppression of antimonopolist demonstrations by toilers in the capitalist countries, including the employment of weapons, is considered a fully "democratic," justified measure aimed at strengthening "law and order." They are counting on forming a military man who will be capable, as the Japanese Communist newspaper AKAHATA put it, of "unconcernedly aiming a rifle at the heart of his people."

The phoniness and hypocrisy of talk about the transformation of the military personnel of today's imperialist armed forces into "citizens in uniform" are quite obvious. Today, just as in the past, imperialist armies serve as

an instrument of aggression, "the servant of capital in the struggle against labor, oppressors of popular freedom" (V. I. Lenin: "Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 12, page 113).

Propaganda of militarism, aggressive military-political blocs, a policy of expansion and interference in the internal affairs of other countries is a component part of the brainwashing of armed forces personnel in the imperialist countries. Concerned primarily with increasing the strength of the main imperialist military bloc -- NATO -- bourgeois propaganda appeals for strengthening the notorious "Atlantic solidarity," inasmuch as the armed forces personnel of the NATO member nations will allegedly "be fighting shoulder to shoulder in a coalition war." For the sake of this, they tell personnel, one should forget wrongs and injuries and unite under the aegis of U.S. and NATO leaders. Otherwise, ominously warns the U.S. magazine MILITARY REVIEW, "without NATO the Europeans will be red or dead."

NATO leaders are seriously troubled by the growth of class, national, inter-governmental and other conflicts which are tearing apart the NATO alliance. "Those countries which provide NATO with the largest number of troops," complains the military observer of the newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH, "are the least reliable. They could not only go to war with each other but also enable the enemy to take the fortress from within, handing the Communists responsible government posts." Faced by existing sharp conflicts, NATO propaganda is doing everything possible to boost so-called "corporative fighting efficiency," to preserve the illusion of "unity of aims" and to maintain the fighting spirit of the military personnel of the NATO member nations.

The Armed Forces of the United States and the West German Bundeswehr are portrayed by imperialist propaganda as a unique nucleus of the NATO war machine, "a model to emulate."

The NATO press loudly publicizes U.S. military preparations, justifies the recent aggressive actions by U.S. imperialism in Indochina, and praises the Bundeswehr for "faithfulness to the traditions" of the Wehrmacht and for intensive combat training. One would seek in vain to find in NATO military publications condemnation of the monstrous crimes committed by German-fascist troops during World War II. Today's NATO leaders are interested in something else: the experience of the officers and general officers of Hitler's army who fought against the Soviet Union and the Soviet Armed Forces. This experience is declared to be of the "greatest value," and those who possess this experience are depicted as heroes, courageous individuals, "worthy of emulation."

"The fascination with World War II," states the British military magazine ROYAL AIR FORCES QUARTERLY, "applies to a considerable degree to Hitler and Germany's armed forces. Perhaps even too many books have been written about Hitler, and there are indications that we are beginning to suffer a kind of indigestion, but books on the German army, navy and Luftwaffe continue to sell in enormous numbers." The Bundeswehr invites former Nazi officers and general officers to speak to units and combined units, who are given warm receptions.

A considerable portion of the daily spiritual "rations" of the personnel of imperialist armed forces comprises sermons on violence, cruelty, and greed. The U.S. Navy newspaper NAVY TIMES admitted that military personnel frequently commit "stupid, unjust and unnecessarily cruel actions." But the newspaper immediately excuses these actions with the statement that "the job of military personnel is to learn to kill." Thus murder, elevated to a goal and aim, is transformed into an ordinary trade. This is one of the manifestations of the immoral and inhumane essence of capitalism and the military which serves its interests. An army which performs functions of an instrument of power by an infinitesimal minority over the majority is immoral in its purpose. Also immoral is an ideology which justifies the inhuman actions of such an army. There even exists in bourgeois "social science" a special area of study -- "violencology" -- the science of violence. Admitting that violence has become an inseparable feature of the "Western way of life," bourgeois ideologues attempt to present it as a tendency which is fatalistically inherent in the contemporary era and in society as a whole.

* * *

The armed forces of imperialist nations to a certain degree reflect those complex processes which are taking place at the present time in the capitalist society. In spite of measures taken by ruling circles and the command to brainwash personnel and to isolate them from the people to a maximum degree, proletarian ideology is penetrating into the barracks. It is quite obvious that bourgeois armies are not some kind of motionless organism. They contain class antagonisms, antiimperialist and antimilitary attitudes, dissatisfaction with one's situation, and protests by soldiers against army ways. This is particularly noticeable in periods of aggravation of crisis situations in the capitalist world and intensification of the democratic movement, revolutionary and political activeness on the part of the masses.

At the same time one cannot help but see that in the struggle between the proletarian and bourgeois ideologies which is taking place in the capitalist world, their status is far from equal, for the mass media, scientific research institutes, universities and other centers for the "production" of ideas are in the hands of the imperialist ruling circles, which create a moral and psychological climate which is advantageous to them. Day after day the press, radio, and television influence the consciousness of millions of persons in the capitalist countries in an anticommunist, anti-Soviet spirit. Whipping up an anticommunist hysteria, imperialist reaction uses all means at its disposal to combat democratic, progressive movements. The monopoly bourgeoisie also extensively resorts to the direct bribery of military personnel, conducts a careful political selection process in recruiting for the armed forces, is converting armed forces over to a professional basis, and is transforming them into mercenary armies. As is indicated by the behavior of the personnel of imperialist armed forces taking part in aggressive actions against foreign countries and in punitive operations against their own people, the majority have reactionary attitudes, have blind belief in imperialist propaganda and obediently carry out the will of the ruling classes.

Under conditions where the forces of reaction and aggression, under the cover of slanderous fabrications about a Soviet "military threat," attempt to impede positive changes in international relations, escalate the arms race, increase military budgets, and aggravate areas of tension in various parts of the world, the CPSU, Soviet Government and all Soviet citizens keep vigilant watch over the intrigues of the enemies of peace and display constant concern for strengthening the defense capability of our homeland and its Armed Forces. Soviet fighting men, together with the personnel of the armed forces of all the nations of the socialist community, are vigilantly standing guard over the achievements of socialism, world peace and the security of peoples.

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"KARPATY" [THE CARPATHIANS] MILITARY TRAINING EXERCISE

General Information on Exercise

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Vukovich and V. Gal'tsev, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "The Red Banner Carpathian"]

[Text] As previously announced in the press, the troops of the Carpathian Military District will conduct an exercise 11-16 July in the Lutsk-L'vov-Rovno area. The exercise is codenamed "Karpaty" [The Carpathians]. Exercise "Karpaty" will review the combat and political training and the field training of the troops.

Today we will familiarize our readers with the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, one of the leading military districts of the Soviet Armed Forces, and with its glorious traditions and combat history.

The Red Banner Carpathian Military District was created in the victorious year 1945. It was formed from formations and units [soyedineniya i chasty] which earned their glory during the Great Patriotic War years. Many of them actively participated in the liberation of the fraternal peoples of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Rumania.

Marshal of the Soviet Union L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CC CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, did a great deal towards establishment and strengthening the Carpathian Military District. He was the first chief of the district's Political Directorate. The name of L. I. Brezhnev is linked with the successful accomplishment during the war years of a number of combat operations to liberate the oblasts of the Ukraine from the fascist occupiers. The district's troops are now stationed in these same oblasts.

During the postwar years, leading Soviet military leaders, such glorious commanders as Marshals of the Soviet Union I. S. Konev and A. I. Yeremenko and combat generals K. N. Galitskiy, P. I. Batov, A. L. Getman, and P. N. Lashchenko, directed the combat and political training of the district's troops.

Continuing the glorious combat traditions of their fathers, the district's troops steadfastly strive to maintain high combat readiness and insure excellent assimilation of combat equipment and weapons. The successes of the units and formations have been recognized by Memorial Banners, Jubilee Badges of Honor of the CC CPSU, Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and USSR Council of Ministers, and by Leninist Jubilee Diplomas of Honor. Some units have been awarded Pennants of Honor of the USSR Minister of Defense.

The district's troops are deeply involved in socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of October. The initiator of the pre-October socialist competition in the Ground Forces, the motorized infantry regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel V. Zherebyat'yev, is successfully fulfilling the pledges it made. The regiment contains two excellent battalions, eight excellent companies, 25 excellent platoons, and every third soldier in this unit is an otlichnik in combat training.

In accordance with the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, military observers from 12 states have been invited to Exercise "Karpaty." All states which participated in the Helsinki Conference have been notified as to the number of troops to be involved in the exercise.

Colonel General Valentin Ivanovich Varennikov, the commander of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, will direct Exercise "Karpaty." He took part in the Great Patriotic War. During the postwar years, General Varennikov graduated from the Frunze Academy, the General Staff Academy, then occupied a number of responsible command positions. He has commanded the Red Banner Carpathian Military District since 1973.

High combat momentum, enthusiasm, and political vigor reign in the troop units. The troops are attentively and with interest studying the draft of the new USSR Constitution and materials devoted to the 60th anniversary of the October socialist revolution.

Training combat lies ahead. Ahead awaits a responsible combat test.

Pre-Exercise Troop Indoctrination

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents Lieutenant Colonels G. Kashuba, V. Moroz, and V. Bogdanovskiy: "A Charge of Energy"]

[Excerpts] Letters from home . . . They are always dear to a soldier's heart. It is doubly pleasant to get news from home on the eve of a forthcoming

exercise. Let the familiar unit mailman deliver the mail but it seems as if it was delivered by that "field post" made famous in song, that was always such a welcome guest for their fathers at the front.

The unity of the army and the people . . . You encounter the most varied phenomena in the units and subunits [podrazdeleniye] which will take part in Exercise "Karpaty." The indissolubility of the bonds which join the army and the people are best illustrated by the appearance before the troops of the leaders of local Party and Soviet organs, the joint meeting in front of the monument to those who fell at the front, and the concert given for the troops by the amateur artists from the affiliated kolkhoz.

As the draft of the USSR Constitution puts it: "It is the duty of the USSR Armed Forces before the people to reliably defend the socialist Fatherland, to be in constant combat readiness which insures the immediate rebuff to any aggressor." This constitutional decree greatly determines the content of the mass agitational work done in the troop units.

Today we visited the soldiers from a variety of branches of troops who were preparing for the forthcoming test. Take as an example the battalion commanded by Captain S. Glazkov. The battalion commander had just returned from the motor pool where the readiness of the equipment was checked.

"The exercise will be held during a special time," he said as he shared his thoughts with us. "National debate over the draft of the new USSR Constitution is underway and the draft contains articles replete with in-depth content about us, the defenders of the Fatherland. Political information is disseminated in the regiment, lectures are presented, an open Party meeting was held. But, this has only provided the initial impetus for the discussion of this historic document. You see and you sense that the people live by them and base their actions on them. Each looks upon his participation in the forthcoming exercise as a test before the Party and the people during the year of the 60th anniversary of Great October."

Special guests, veterans from the regiment, visited one subunit.

As Major M. Ryazantsev, the regimental deputy for political affairs, put it: "These are the real fruits of this visit. We established prizes named for heroes. We will award them to the battery and platoon which achieve the highest indicators during Exercise 'Karpaty'."

Everywhere we went today we encountered intense work and sensed the high momentum of the socialist competition. The aviators from the regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel V. Telegin also seriously and responsibly prepared for the forthcoming exercise.

The high patriotic enthusiasm which now reigns in the units and subunits was discussed at a meeting with journalists held by Colonel General V. Varrenikov, commander of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, and Major General N. Shevkun, member of the Military Council and chief of the district's Political Directorate. The decisions of the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum, the results of the work of the 6th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, replete

with the deep meaning of the words of the draft of the USSR Constitution have passed through the consciousness and heart of every officer, warrant officer [praporshchik], sergeant, and soldier. They have created that charge of internal energy which will help the troops solve with high quality those tasks levied upon them at the forthcoming Exercise "Karpaty."

[Photo caption: "The troops of the motorized infantry battalion preparing for Exercise "Karpaty" always stay on top of events in the country and overseas. To a great degree, this is due to the work of political worker Captain B. Kuz'min. He systematically holds talks with the motorized infantrymen and tells them about the great deeds of the Soviet people in the Tenth Five-Year Plan, about the broad discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution." Pictured is Captain B. Kuz'min talking with the troops.]

Pre-Exercise Training Activities

Moscow TRUD in Russian 10 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by TRUD special correspondent Yu. Dmitriyev, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "March in the Mountains"]

[Text] The combat training alert signal which sounded at midnight did not fluster the motorized infantrymen commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Viktor Zherybat'yev, an experienced resolute commander. The troops ran to their weapons and to their combat vehicles. A few minutes passed and the subunits vacated their garrison area which was enshrouded in night fog. Ahead was the march, a march over complicated mountain roads. The driver-mechanics in the infantry combat vehicles [BMP] distinguished themselves through special mastery. They had to exactly maintain their speed and movement interval and excellently orient themselves on the terrain.

Then came responsible firing under complex conditions which the senior chief evaluated with a high grade. This is only one of the lesson episodes for the Carpathianite troops at the start of summer combat training.

The young Carpathianites are proud of the history of their glorious district. It was created in that victorious year 1945 and has stood for more than three decades on guard over the western and southwestern borders of our Motherland. It is made up of units and formations which liberated the fraternal peoples of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Romania from the fascist yoke. The first chief of the district's Political Directorate was Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev with whose activities are linked the successful accomplishment of a number of operations to liberate our western oblasts, the organization, and the improvement of the forces after the Great Patriotic War.

The young soldiers with great interest learn from army political workers about the glorious units of their district and primarily about the famous and the Soviet Armed Forces' oldest unit, the Motorized Infantry Samara-Ul'yanovsk Berdichev Iron Thrice Red Banner Orders of Suvorov and Bogdan Khmel'nitskiy Division. Its very name speaks to the legendary combat path

and deeds before the people. Thousands and thousands of Soviet soldiers performed combat feats beneath the combat banners of the district's units and formations. Of this number, 700 were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Carpathianite troops are prepared to pass this responsible combat examination with honor. They recall that they are taking it in the 60th anniversary year of Great October. The troops are discussing the draft of the new USSR Constitution these days with deep-seated interest. Warmly approving it, they are proclaiming their decisiveness to even better fulfill their duty as defenders of the socialist Fatherland.

. . . The order from the exercise director, Colonel General V. Varrenikov, commander of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, to initiate "combat" operations has still not been issued. The guns and rocket launchers remain silent and the supersonic aircraft and helicopters have not yet taken off to inflict destructive and surprise strikes. But, the troops are in motion. Their planned concentration at the assault lines assigned by headquarters is underway.

The endless heavenly blue extends above the green Carpathian ridges. It is silent. The soldiers await the order for the start of the exercise.

Pre-Exercise Preparations Described

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents Colonel V. Izgarshev and Lieutenant Colonel G. Kashuba: "High Patriotic Enthusiasm"]

[Text] The troops assigned to Exercise "Karpaty" have departed for their assault lines. The "North-erners" and "Southerners," as the two opposing sides will be called, are concluding their preparation for active combat operations. Everywhere one senses the high momentum of party-political work.

Red poppies . . . How many there are along the roads in the exercise area! It's as if someone's concerned hand planted them here on the land singed by war, which ran with the blood of the Motherland's defenders. Red poppies in the forest glades, red poppies flaming near obelisks literally giving witness to the reverence of the sons for their fathers' feats.

The traditions and experience of the Great Patriotic War do not retire. The districts' veterans made an appeal to the exercise participants to pass the responsible examination before the people in a worthy manner. Pennants named for unit heroes have been instituted in many subunits for award to those who excel. Numerous flyers and posters appeal for participants to pattern themselves after those who fought at the front. Just one more example of the

indissoluble unity between the army and the people is the letter from the workers of the Order of Lenin L'vovskaya Oblast' to the exercise participants in which were recounted the battles which raged in Carpathia.

"Preparing for the exercise," said Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Nechitaylo, chief of the Political Section of the Motorized Infantry Samara-Ul'yanovsk Berdichev Iron Division, "we placed special attention on studying front-line know-how. We organized meetings between the troops and front-line veterans, studied memoirs, and examined newspaper files from the war years."

A special place among the displays in the glorious formation's museum is devoted to documents and photographs which describe the multifaceted activities of L. I. Brezhnev as chief of the Political Section of the 18th Army of which the Iron Division was a part. Leonid Il'ich often visited the formation and was well acquainted with many commanders and political workers. The Carpathianite troops are proud of the fact that the General Secretary of the CC CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Marshal of the Soviet Union L. I. Brezhnev was chief of the district's Political Directorate.

The reports reaching the divisional political section daily are laconic like front line reports. Varied in content and form, they are similar in one respect because each contains lines which reflect the great patriotic enthusiasm which has been elicited in the troop units by the national debate of the draft of the USSR Constitution. The words from the Fundamental Law of the state on the high assignment of the Soviet Armed Forces, about the sacred duty of the Soviet soldier to defend the socialist Fatherland resound with an appeal from the displays in mobile Lenin rooms and from the pages of wall newspapers and combat leaflets. "Exercise 'Karpaty' -- Our Combat Report to the Party and People in the 60th Anniversary Year of Great October." Every Carpathianite soldier is prepared to place his signature beneath these lines in a dispatch prepared by Captain G. Buzulyuk, deputy battalion commander for political affairs.

Instruction of drivers at a bivouac, a conversation on safety measures. Organization of meetings of troops from combat and support subunits. Delivery of thank-you letters to those who distinguished themselves on the march . . . All means and forms of party influence directed so that the combat enthusiasm for the exercise does not lag for even a moment, so that every soldier operates consciously and vigorously.

The artillery battalion commanded by Captain N. Sadovoy, which was awarded the order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" Third Degree, pledged to become an excellent battalion prior to the 60th anniversary of Great October.

"We are striving," Captain Sadovoy said sharing his thoughts, "so that the fire of competition will burn brightly during execution of every mission."

The battalion has instituted the "Best Crew" pennant and competition is underway for the title of best specialist. For instance, everyone knows who

from among the gunners demonstrated record results at the last drill. The personnel records of every soldier and sergeant contain a document enumerating the specific pledges for the exercise. Summing up is done daily. The winners receive thank-you letters and often get a bouquet of red poppies also.

A meeting is underway on the ramp where the mighty supersonic missile-equipped aircraft are parked. Military Navigator First Class Lieutenant Colonel A. Belyankin is speaking. His appeal to his combat comrades to operate in the front line manner with maximum accuracy, to destroy the target on the first pass, demonstrate high vigilance, discipline, and organization on the ground and in the air is deeply understandable to each listener. The exercise is a real test for all the troops just as it is for all personnel. The aviators' comradely inspiration is one of the convincing manifestations of their concept of the high responsibilities of a USSR citizen described in the draft of the Fundamental Law of our state.

"The decisions of the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum, the 6th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet's ninth convocation, and the draft of the new USSR Constitution have a great mobilizing effect on exercise participants," says Major General of Aviation V. Dotsenko, chief of the Political Section of the district's aviation.

The propagandists, agitators, political information personnel, editors of combat leaflets, and other activists in every unit and subunit have received their instructions. The district's Political Directorate and aviation Political Section have provided them with the necessary literature, reference materials, and handbooks. Mobile Lenin rooms have been set up at airfields, making it possible to read fresh newspapers, hear up to date radio reports and, in some locations, follow events via television.

All the communists in the excellent fighter interceptor regiment commanded by Military Pilot First Class Lieutenant Colonel V. Telegin are active propagandists and agitators. The deputy for political affairs Lieutenant Colonel G. Nikitin, party committee secretary Major B. Veretyushkin, free-lance propagandists Military Pilot First Class Captain V. Cherenkov, Sniper Pilot Major Ye. Kravtsov, Captain of Technical Services S. Postnikov, Major N. Yemtsov, and other comrades daily speak before the personnel on political themes and flight safety. They organize exchanges of opinion among masters of aerial combat and the best specialists.

The personal example of communists is the basis for the high activities of party and political workers at the exercise and the comprehensive strengthening of the party influence on peoples' minds and hearts. Open party meetings were held in all party organizations in the aviation subunits and the question of the personal example of CPSU members and candidate members was discussed.

Party and political work at the exercise is enriched by the active participation by the leaders of local party and Soviet organs. Oblast' and city committees of the Ukrainian Communist Party, oblast', city, rayon, and rural

Soviets of Workers' Deputies in L'vovskaya, Rovenskaya, and Volynskaya Oblasts organized amicable gatherings of workers and soldiers. Collectives from enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses, and knowledgeable people from these oblasts made their requests of the exercise participants. They found a warm response in the hearts of all the soldiers.

The amazing fruits of the labors of the farmers of Carpathia are clearly visible from above from an aircraft cabin. The wheat and barely are ripening

And suddenly one sees a forest glade or a meadow covered with red poppies. How good our land is! And, the person charged with reliably defending this beauty of the fields, all these riches of his native land and the welfare of its people, grasps the aircraft controls more firmly and his gaze becomes keener.

[Photo captions, left: "The motorized infantry company commanded by Lieutenant S. Fil' on the march." Right: "Company commander Lieutenant V. Domodyko reports subunit readiness to fulfill the combat mission to the battalion commander. On the left -- Private V. Demedyuk." Photos by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special photo correspondents N. Yerzh and G. Shutov.]

Soldiers' Views on Exercise

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jul 77 p 6

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Vuckovich and V. Gol'tsev, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "Soldiers' Universities"]

[Text] The troops are now attending soldiers' universities in a situation approximating combat to the maximum. Everything they studied and assimilated under their commanders' direction in classroom, on the range, and at tank ranges is being strictly checked by means of practical actions.

One of the most important missions of Exercise "Karpaty" is to improve the troops' field training. This responsible combat examination is being taken by the young soldiers who joined the units after the spring draft, as well as by the more experienced soldiers. They are fulfilling the responsibilities of drivers of transport vehicles, loaders in tank crews, infantrymen, and machine gunners.

We observed their work at the exercise and were pleased to note that the young soldiers, with help from experienced soldiers, sergeants, and officers, are confidently fulfilling their complex responsibilities.

A group of Heroes of the Soviet Union, veterans of the Great Patriotic War, wrote to the troops participating in the exercise. Their letter contains these lines: "You will be passing an examination on combat maturity in Volynskaya, L'vovskaya, and Rovenskaya Oblasts where the troops of the First Cavalry Army fought, where in 1941 the units of the Southwestern Front took

the first blow of the Hitlerites, where the soldiers of the First Ukrainian Front battled during its offensive westwards."

This letter was warmly received by all exercise participants. They are proud of the fact that they have been given the great honor to multiply the combat glory of their fathers and grandfathers. The young soldiers are worthy continuers of their combat valor. These politically educated technically trained people, as a rule, have a secondary education. We do not stress this detail by accident. Today's complex modern equipment with which the Armed Forces are equipped can only be skillfully put to use by individuals who are on a first-name basis with mechanics and mathematics, with electronic equipment and electronics. The technical knowledge acquired by young people prior to call up and in the ranks of the Armed Forces assists them in becoming specialists qualified in military affairs.

Private Dmitriy Olarash is from Moldavia and studied at an automobile technikum. He continued to study while in the army to become an experienced operator.

"The actions of the combat vehicle's entire crew depend upon the accuracy of my calculations," he says. "Of course, the know-how does not come immediately. I now am a specialist second class but am doing everything required to make first class"

They remember Aleksandr Antonovich at the Minsk Automatic Lines Plant. Back when he was in school he dreamed of becoming a driver. The dream came true in the army. Private Antonovich is the senior mechanic on a BMP.

Aleksandr doesn't hide his pride in his military specialty:

"It is important that we mechanics 'feel' the vehicle. By this I mean both a fine knowledge of the equipment and the ability to skillfully overcome various obstacles during a training battle, such things as posts, pits, ditches . . . Each of us must exactly know his mission, his role and place in the overall structure."

And one more individual we talked with, Junior Sergeant Aleksandr Blagovernyy. Prior to being drafted he worked at the "Hammer and Sickle" Plant in Khar'kov on a production line where tractor engines were assembled. He received the specialty of gunner when he came into the army.

"I had no idea how much a gunner has to know!" he said. "Fire accuracy and successful mission accomplishment depend upon the speed of my calculations. I am sure I won't let my comrades down. We decided to get excellent evaluations at the exercise."

Senior Sergeant Vladimir Tsapeynikov continues the conversation. His pre-army biography is very short. He worked as a radio repairman at the Kotlas Cellulose Paper Combine after finishing high school. He is now commander of a self-propelled artillery piece. Two red stars decorate the gun's turret. We recall that it was the same on the vehicles of those who travelled westwards along the front line roads during the war years.

"We earned these stars through skillful actions during a tactical exercise. I am sure that new ones will appear there too," says Tsapeynikov.

. . . Soldiers and sergeants, creators of victory at an exercise. Fittingly continuing the traditions of the heroes of the Great Patriotic War, the young troops are deeply cognizant of their soldierly responsibilities to defend the socialist Motherland and strive to fulfill their assigned missions in an excellent manner.

Forced Crossing by "Southerners"

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents Lieutenant Colonels G. Kashuba, V. Moroz, and V. Bogdanovskiy: "At the River Line"]

[Text] Active operations by the sides began at the exercise yesterday. The "Southerners," somewhat superior in forces and means, are developing an offensive. The "Northerners," trying to buy time to bring reserves up from the depth, are resisting stubbornly. They are steadfastly holding advantageous lines. The day culminated with the "Southerners" making a forced crossing of a water barrier.

A forced crossing . . . What that concept conjures up in the mind of a military man! A forced crossing is a fast-moving irrepressible push across a water barrier which in and of itself is a serious obstacle. It is a move taken when the enemy actively counteracts and done under his fierce fire. A forced crossing has always been a complex type of combat operation. Today as well it is a difficult test for troops during which, based on a special scale, they check out the substantiation of commanders' decisions, accuracy of staff calculations, and the viability of party-political work called upon to instill in the troops' hearts an inflexible belief in victory, an untameable offensive spirit.

The "Southern" command made the decision to overcome the water barrier from the march and occupy a bridgehead required for further development of the offensive. Only fast-moving operations insured their maintaining the initiative. Aerial reconnaissance was convinced that the "Northern" defense on the opposite bank would become more and more stable and saturated as time went on.

H-hour draws near. General of the Army V. Petrov, First Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Forces, and Colonel General V. Varennikov, director of Exercise "Karpaty" and military district commander, arrive at the forced crossing site.

Also there are the observers from a number of states which participated in the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe who were invited to the exercise.

The sides continually conduct aerial reconnaissance. The "Southern" aviators led by Military Pilot First Class Guards Captain M. Yarullin, deputy squadron commander, gathered some valuable information. A fire fight erupted. "Southern" reconnaissance subunits are dashing towards the water barrier. Lieutenant V. Sychev's subordinates skillfully employ the folds in the ground and natural cover. They are the source of the much needed information now on the "Northerners," the nature of their battle outpost, and their fire plan.

The "Southerners'" advance party approaches the river line without delay. Deploying, it engages the "enemy" outpost in battle and attempts to destroy it. It is successful in doing so only after committing the advance guard, a motorized infantry battalion commanded by Captain S. Glazkov reinforced by artillery and with attached tanks.

The sides' artillery and aviation are actively operating. "Northerners" are bombing the "Southern" advance guard subunits and their artillery positions. The "Southern" fighters and ground-based air defense assets strive to reduce the effectiveness of the defenders' aviation. But, the advance guard's attempt to force the water barrier from the march did not succeed. Only individual vehicles from the reconnaissance subunits broke through to the opposite bank. The reconnaissance troops continue to supply the "Southern" command with data required by artillery and aviation.

The crews of the self-propelled howitzers from the subunit commanded by officer N. Bakhtiyarov lay down intensive fire from concealed firing positions. Tanks moved forward for direct fire conduct aimed fire against reconnoitered targets.

The reconnaissance troops and combat engineers are carrying out an important mission. They are clearing paths through a "Northern" minefield using explosives.

The main "Southern" forces are dashing towards the water barrier. They are given cover by aviators led by Military Pilot First Class Major V. Shul'dov. The experienced flier with more than 1,300 flying hours leads young pilots training during this jubilee year to raise their class rating.

The first wave of motorized infantry subunits breaks through to the water's edge. Squat and literally lying flat against the ground, the BMP fire while dashing in concert into the dark water covered with foam churned up by the tracks. The forced crossing is accomplished on a wide front.

At this decisive instant, you feel with all its force what the term reliable air defense [PVO] means to the troops today, you see that the rise in the combat capabilities of aviation and helicopters also induced stormy PVO development. There are anti-aircraft installations of the most varied purpose on wheels and on tracks. The PVO subunit commanded by officer V. Turkin does not lag behind the motorized infantry and tanks. The combat training of the anti-aircraft troops was checked at the range not too long before this

exercise. Firing against fast, radio-controlled targets, the subunit's personnel earned an excellent evaluation. Officer Turkin credits socialist competition as being one of the major reasons behind this success.

The troops move towards the water barrier like a steel avalanche. You look upon this mighty stream and involuntarily recall the lines of the draft of the USSR Constitution that are replete with deep meaning: "The state insures the security and defense capability of the country, and equips the USSR Armed Forces with everything necessary."

Yes, Soviet soldiers have everything necessary for the reliable defense of the Motherland!

One of the most important tasks of party-political work is indoctrination of personnel with a love for equipment and a desire to masterfully assimilate it. How is this accomplished?

"We use the most varied forms and methods," said Captain G. Arbuzov, artillery battalion deputy commander for political affairs. He named technical conferences to remind the personnel and evening question and answer sessions. "But at an exercise the chief mobilizing means is the personal example of communist officers, masters of fire," the political worker underscored.

That is how it is everywhere, in any subunit, on the march, in a position, or on the attack. Everyone lines up on the communists. The agenda of a party meeting conducted in one battalion prior to the forced crossing is an example. "On the Responsibilities of Communists For the Overcoming of a Water Barrier." Short and specific, just like at the front.

The "Southerners" are building up their forces. Helicopters hugging the ground are audible above the right flank. The squadron commanded during the exercise by Major V. Shapovalov is landing an assault force on the opposite bank. The growing might of the strike by the motorized infantry subunits which are forcing the water barrier is being amalgamated with the strike by an assault landing force.

Tracked self-propelled ferries [GSP] and amphibious transporters with gun crews and mortars on board are already approaching the river line. The personnel of the assault crossing company led by Captain V. Leventyuk is operating skillfully. The crew of the ferry where driver-mechanics Sergeant F. Simonin and Private A. Vishnyakov are assigned exceeds the established norm by 150 percent. Corporal M. Zarichanskiy, driver-mechanic of an amphibious transporter, is the first to land a gun crew on the opposite bank.

The personnel in the smoke company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Parnenko skillfully executes their mission in unfavorable weather conditions. The troops use the smoke generators to lay down a dense shroud of smoke which screens the approaches to the water barrier.

The activities of the defenders also increase. Having brought up reserves, the "Northerners" are undertaking a counterattack. An intense battle ensues.

Newer and newer "Southern" forces are participating as the conveyor line over the water works without ceasing. Heavy equipment is ferried across on the large ferries. The pontoniers from Senior Lieutenant V. Didkovskiy's company assemble ferries in rapid order. A tank platoon is moved across on a ferry assembled by Lieutenant A. Vasil'yev's subordinates.

Tank subunits also surmount the water barrier independently. Tanks from the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant B. Bobrovskiy move out of the hermetic sealing area. The armored vehicles with long snorkels cross via the bottom of the river. This is a routine affair for Soviet tankers, since they were the pioneers of this tactic as early as the Great Patriotic War years.

The outcome of the battle at the river line is not in doubt. The leading "Southern" subunits succeeded in digging in on the occupied bridgehead and insured the success of the forced crossing by the main forces. They did not lose the combat initiative and continue to develop offensive operations.

[Photo captions: "Exercise 'Karpaty'. Above, left: Self-propelled artillery pieces are overcoming a water barrier. Above, right: Military Pilot First Class Major V. Goncharov, commander of an excellent flight. Below: Motorized infantry on the attack. Foreground -- Lieutenant S. Dolgov, platoon commander."]

Arrival of Military Observers

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 1

[TASS article]

[Text] On 12 July foreign military observers from states which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe who were invited in accordance with the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference arrived in the area where the troops of the Carpathian Military District will participate in Exercise "Karpaty."

Military observers came from the Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Austrian Republic, People's Republic of Bulgaria, French Republic, Hungarian People's Republic, Italian Republic, Polish People's Republic, Socialist Republic of Romania, the Swiss Federation, Czechoslovakian Socialist Republic, and Socialist Federated Republic of Yugoslavia.

The military observers visited Exercise "Karpaty" the same day.

Tanks Cross Water Barrier

Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 3

[Special correspondent Yu. Dmitriyev report from the Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "Tanks Travelling Underwater"]

[Excerpts] Continuing their offensive in the L'vov direction on 12 July, "Southern" troops reached the "Northerners'" defense line this afternoon. There, after fierce "fighting," they were stopped. However, in certain directions the "Southerners" continued to develop their offensive, reached a river line, forced it, and captured bridgeheads on the opposite bank.

That, in brief, is the combat situation prevailing toward the evening of 12 July in the region of Exercise "Karpaty." Foreign military observers from a number of states which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe who were invited in accordance with the provisions of the Helsinki Conference Final Act have arrived here.

. . . The day before it had poured with fine, cold, penetrating rain. But then the sun appeared and nearby bushes and ravines were dappled with green. Several tracked vehicles emerged unexpectedly from the forest. They are the "Southerners'" reconnaissance subunits. They dash towards the water obstacle and outflank the "Northerners'" battle outposts. The shock subunits of the advanced guard follow them. They are also dashing for the river. We hear the roar of jet engines. Reconnaissance aircraft are overhead. One of the supersonic machines is piloted by Captain Grigoriy Balyuk, Military Pilot First Class and commander of an "excellent"-rated flight. Along with him is Senior Lieutenant Yuriy Danilov, a young but experienced pilot.

The "Northerners'" battle outposts attempt to prevent the "enemy" from reaching the river. Then the "Southerners'" command commits tank subunits. The tanks -- heavy, squat, with long gun barrels -- fire on the move. The platoon commanded by young Lieutenant Yuriy Popov skillfully and swiftly deploys into an extended line. I visited this platoon on the eve of the attack. The lieutenant introduced me to the soldiers of his crew: Private First Class Vadim Diskurskiy, the driver-mechanic, Senior Sergeant Andrey Popov, the gunner, and Volodya Yurin, who has only just entered the army but who already mastered the speciality of loader quite well. It is a skillful, harmonious collective. The commander himself was born in Perm' and graduated with distinction from the famous Guards' Tank School in Ul'yanovsk. Lyudmila Vladimirovna, Yuriy's mother and a doctor and therapist in the city polyclinic, participated in the Great Patriotic War and was awarded the Order of the Red Star.

Lieutenant Popov's platoon earned a high assessment in the exercise. When the tracked self-propelled ferries reached the river, his tanks were the first to be ferried to the opposite bank under "enemy" fire.

Tanks which do not need to be ferried are also participating in the exercise. They force the river from the march under water. Along with the other soldierly qualities, high moral and psychological tempering is required of the soldiers who drive such vehicles. The tank crewmen of the subunit commanded by Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Korikov possess it in full measure.

. . . Korikov's subunit reached the river line and the combat vehicles rushed into the water which was seething from bomb and shell explosions. In a short time the tanks had forced the river and immediately joined battle on the opposite bank.

An airborne assault force lands on the bridgehead held by the troops who had been ferried across. Without losing a second, the soldiers join battle. There is not a second to lose since the "Northerners" are counterattacking continuously. They are preparing a retaliatory attack. . . .

Exercise Director Comments

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 6

[Article by special correspondent L. Sotnik: "The Iron Division Attacks"]

[Text] /Exercise "Karpaty" is underway involving the troops of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District in the L'vov-Lutsk-Rovno area./ [bold face in original]

It is raining heavily in Carpathia. The sky is laced with gray clouds so that the horizon is obscured. The tracks are swollen and wet, the rivers are full. But nothing can hinder the mighty soldier's march.

The troops move furtively along the forest roads. Motorized infantry, tank, and artillery units are approaching the assault lines. Aircraft and helicopter pilots are preparing their ships for takeoff. Engineer units have set to work. Rear areas are moving up. PVO systems are deployed and ready to repulse strikes by aviation at any moment.

This all could be called a parade of the technical might and combat training of our Armed Forces but there is no parade here. The exercise is being conducted under conditions which are similar to a combat situation. Here every subunit, every unit is being checked "for strength," here every soldier, sergeant, and officer is taking an examination on their military maturity.

Speaking to the journalists accredited to the exercise, the district commander Colonel General V. Varennikov reported to us in his characteristic calm and business-like manner:

"These are planned exercises. Very ordinary. The main goal is to work out tactical missions and coordination of varied branches of troops."

Yes, ordinary exercises. A business-like atmosphere ruled in the units I was able to visit prior to the start of "combat" operations. But, all the same, Exercise "Karpaty" has its special features. The exercises are being conducted during the year of our Motherland's glorious jubilee and are dedicated to the 60th anniversary of Great October. It is interesting that several units are participating that were formed in the first years of Soviet power and were the first to come to its defense. Among them is one that earned glory on the fields of the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars, the Thrice Red Banner Samara-Ul'yanovsk Orders of Suvorov and Bogdan Khmel'nitskiy Iron Division. I write these lines while located in its military garrisons.

There is another special feature of Exercise "Karpaty." This is the first time in many years that so many foreign observers have been represented at

exercises held in our country. The socialist countries sent their representatives and military delegations have arrived from Austria, the FRG, Italy, France, and Switzerland. Such broad representation was made possible thanks to the Soviet Union strictly carrying out the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference.

What is Exercise "Karpaty" like in general terms? The troops are divided into two groupings, north and south. The "Southerners" are attacking and the "Northerners" are conducting an active defense. Here you will be able to see motorized infantry, tank, and artillery units in varied types of combat and subunits from other branches of troops.

Our correspondent decided "to advance" along with the combat engineers attached to the division for the forced crossing. Who could forget the many fine words said about these modest workers during the past war? When I asked the deputy commander of the combat engineer subunit Vladimir Timoshinov to say a few words about the special features of service, he answered briefly:

"Our service is labor. Daily and hourly labor. The less the work of the combat engineers is noted, the better their work."

I became convinced of the truthful nature of those words at the outset of "combat" operations.

. . . At the appointed time the troops in the advance guard group approached the attack assault line. Somewhere up ahead the sound of automatic weapons fire rang out and grenades could be heard exploding. This was the battle outpost engaging the "enemy" reconnaissance. The motorized infantry was building up in the small woods and near the lake. Skillfully using the folds of the terrain and with engines roaring the BMP came up from the rear area and prepared for a decisive dash.

"The motorized infantry will begin," Timoshinov said as he put his tanker's helmet on. "We follow them."

"We" was several dozen GSP and amphibious transporters. Our mission was to follow the motorized infantry and at maximum speed force the river line, first having loaded the ferries and transporters with tanks, mortars, and artillery systems. If the combat engineers are slow or disorganized, then the BMP that crossed to the opposite bank end up one on one with the enemy artillery and tanks. Although the BMP is a good vehicle, it will be tough for the motorized infantry without powerful fire support.

Then the command "Forward!" finally came. In a second the agile BMP and tanks ready to snorkel the water barrier moved out and, firing on the move, dashed for the steep bank. But the "Northerners" were not dozing. The firing points which survived the artillery raids and the softening up from the air came alive again. Fire from both sides increased and the field of battle was enshrouded in smoke.

Then our turn came. Engines roar. The artillery troops skillfully roll the cannon onto the amphibious transporters. Mortars, trucks, and prime movers are being loaded. A spring literally compresses the time.

The vehicles bellow along terrain turned to muck by the rain and "plowed" by shells. It "shakes" like in a storm. It is a wonder that such a huge vehicle as this transporter with a heavy prime mover on its "withers" can jump across humps and ditches just like motorcyclists jump at races.

Our subunit moves to the bank at a furious speed but the assigned formation still is carefully maintained. Tanks are advancing a bit to the left. Almost simultaneously with the tanks we topple into the water from the high bank. The tanks travel under the water but our vehicles from the combat engineer battalion are converted in several minutes into boats.

Speed increases. A wave sweeps over the windshield. Driver Valeriy Kazakov, a driving ace, rises up slightly in his seat so as to get a better view of the edge of the bank. His hands confidently grasp the controls. His lips are tightly pursed.

Bump. The tracks touch ground and there is a lurch along the sandy soil. A sharp turn. Then the guns and mortars are rolled off the transporters, the combat formation is assumed, and they immediately open fire on the "enemy."

The GSP are unloading tanks. . . .

The mission has been fulfilled. It is time to return to the rear area.

But the battle continues. The "Southerners" are vigorously attacking. Foreign representatives are attentively monitoring the operations of both sides from the observation point.

Air Support Activities

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Vukovich and V. Gol'tsev: "No Barriers Exist for the Skilled"]

[Excerpts] Active combat training operations have begun at Exercise "Karpaty." The "Southerners" advancing in the L'vov direction have conducted reconnaissance since morning using aviation and motorized infantry subunits to try and discover vulnerable points in the "Northern" defense.

The skillful operations by reconnaissance aviation merit special mention. In spite of the rain and low clouds, the aviators successfully coped with their assigned missions.

We were able to monitor the activities of the reconnaissance groups of the "Southern" forward detachment successfully commanded by officer P. Zavgorodnyy.

Lieutenant A. Puchkov's march security succeeds in pressing the "Northern" security back and pushes them into the water. The advance guard joins the battle. The "Southern" offensive grows with each passing minute.

And aerial combat boils in the heavens. Aviation from both sides is involved. Fighter interceptor pilots making head-swimming banks try to prevent the "Northern" aircraft from reaching the area of deployment operations. Fighter bombers flying at exceptionally low altitudes above the treetops destroy such ground targets as artillery batteries, tanks, command, and observation points and strike the approaching reserves.

Under the cover of aviation and powerful artillery fire, especially that from self-propelled artillery which moved in combat formations, the main forces of the deploying forward detachment reached the water barrier and began the crossing.

A tactical assault force was landed at the river line in the defenders' rear. The assault force was brought in by Major V. Shapovalov's helicopter crews. The force assisted the forward detachment in occupying a bridgehead on the opposite bank. . . .

Political Indoctrination Activities

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by PRAVDA UKRAINY special correspondent I. Korbach: "Communists, Forward!"]

[Text] "I want to go into combat as a communist." Thousands upon thousands of such requests were received from soldiers and commanders during the war years. They were written on the eve of decisive attacks, responsible missions, the storming of enemy fortifications. Such requests came to party organizations from many soldiers participating in Exercise "Karpaty." During its initial days, Senior Lieutenant P. Oslavskiy, Private First Class F. Voytukh, and Private Sh. Gaydarov became communists. And they immediately were given the party assignment to actively conduct party-political work among their cohorts and attract them through personal example.

Communists and Komsomol members are to be found in the most important and responsible sectors. Many are editors of combat flyers and agitators, secretaries of party and Komsomol organizations, and party and Komsomol group organizers. They all actively mobilize the troops for successful fulfillment of exercise missions.

The atmosphere of political and labor enthusiasm engendered among the Soviet people by the decisions of the May CC CPSU Plenum, 6th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and nationwide discussion of the draft Constitution finds bright reflection in the daily party-political work conducted among Exercise "Karpaty" participants. This is that charge of internal energy which will aid the Carpathianite troops to fulfill with high quality those missions ahead of them.

Political workers function as organizers and inspirers of all party-political work in units and subunits. They have those from which to learn, there are those who set an example to be followed.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev was the first chief of the Carpathian Military District's Political Section. His participation is linked with successful accomplishment of a number of combat operations during the liberation from the fascist occupiers of the Ukraine's western oblasts, those areas where the exercise is now underway. During the fierce battles near Kolomyya, when the enemy attempted at all costs to halt the Soviet offensive and conducted vigorous attacks, Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev continually remained with the forward units and personally organized party-political work in troop units. In foxholes and trenches, he talked with the soldiers and commanders, instructed the party and Komsomol aktiv, and inspired the front-line soldiers prior to battle. Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev often visited the units of the Iron Division, spoke before its personnel, and showed concern over the division getting timely supplies of food and ammunition.

Today's political workers also fulfill their multitude of responsibilities using the front-line approach, in the party manner. I have had occasion to get to know many of them during this exercise. I am struck by the youth of the majority of the unit and subunit deputies for political affairs. But these are politically trained and skillful indoctrinators. One such individual is Major G. Gorelov, motorized infantry regiment deputy commander for political affairs. It is struggling during this 60th anniversary year of Great October to be chosen as best unit in the Ground Forces.

Participation in Exercise "Karpaty" is a serious examination for personnel and the year's main pledge. Excellent ratings will be the best gift to the Motherland and every officer and soldier understands that. About 15 percent of the unit's personnel are communists and the remainder are Komsomol members. Political workers and the party aktiv employ numerous forms and methods to influence personnel. These include meetings, individual and collective talks, exchanges of service know-how, meetings with war veterans, reading of soldiers' letters containing parents' mandates, etc.

Special attention is now placed on discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution and its articles about the Fatherland's defenders. The troops live in thoughts and deeds with the entire country, with its interests and concerns and each individual looks upon his participation in Exercise "Karpaty" as a test before the party and people.

The communists set the example here. By the way, as Major General N. D. Shevkun, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Carpathian Military District, reported at a press conference for the journalists accredited to Exercise "Karpaty," approximately 95 percent of the 27,000 participating troops are communists and Komsomol members.

There is a 3-man party group in Captain Yu. Bogachev's artillery battery. It consists of the commander himself, gun commander Senior Sergeant R.

Orunbayev, and gunner Private First Class Kh. Tsaryyev. The group's influence on the life and combat training of the battalion is notable. Prior to the artillery support for the offense, the three communists met briefly to discuss their tasks and split up the party responsibilities during the battle. The gun crews were to operate independently on wooded terrain after the breakthrough of the "Northern" defense lines and the communists decided to place the special attention of battalion personnel on business-like initiative in combat, rendering assistance to young troops, and maintaining close coordination. And so it was in each subunit.

[Photo caption: "Senior Lieutenant Boris Ditrikh, deputy subunit commander for political affairs, instructs the Komsomol aktiv." Telephoto by N. Akimov and V. Peslyak (RATAU) [Ukrainian News Agency]]

Reconnaissance Unit Activities

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA special correspondent Boris Pilipenko: "Scouts Lead the Way"]

[Text] Yesterday "Southern" subunits overcame stubborn "Northern" resistance and made a forced crossing of a water barrier. Our special correspondent Boris PILIPENKO discusses how the reconnaissance groups of the advancing forces facilitated successful accomplishment of the combat mission.

The wind heaves the sail-like, wet, yellowish-brown camouflage nets covering the staff tents, combat vehicles, and equipment. Everything that will go into motion in a few minutes is hidden from the "enemy's" eyes.

Somewhere up ahead several kilometers from our observation tower "Southern" reconnaissance groups probe forward furtively, using every depression, every fold of the earth as they moved.

Several hours prior to this important and very responsible episode in the exercise I visited the scouts, got to know the officers and soldiers, sensed the impatience with which they awaited this day.

Officer Sergey Davydov sketched a diagram of the forthcoming clash in my notebook and delineated the operations of the reconnaissance groups. They steal up to the water barrier from the flanks and through the center, bypassing "enemy" patrols and posts. Never under any circumstances showing themselves and not engaging in battle, the scouts must assess the "enemy" force and determine convenient approaches for a forced crossing of the river line.

"By the way, you can chat with them yourself," Davydov smiles. "they are nearby."

The scouts appeared from behind me and were a real surprise, but of course scouts are supposed to do such things! Senior Lieutenant Viktor Yur'yev commands one reconnaissance group. He is terse in his description of himself. A Muscovite, he graduated from school and from the higher military school. But when the discussion turned to what the scouts will do during the exercise, Viktor is transformed. That he is inspired by the pending exercise is evident. The reconnaissance group is equipped with combat vehicles, radios, and the most modern weapons.

Yes, these are the people who are faced with being the first to step onto the "enemy" bank, i. e., to step into the unknown and they must be prepared for anything. Therefore, the reconnaissance group's "TO&E" includes not only drivers, and combat engineers, and radio operators. . . .

Bogdan Nych, commander of a scout section, is an ordinary soldier. He and his guys must cover a combat engineer group and permit them to peacefully dope out what surprises the "enemy" has prepared on the bank. And, in his own turn, gunner-operator Aleksandr Sheyn must aid the scouts by covering them in the event of an attack, support them with fire, and support the crossing. In other words, this also is coordination of various specialists in its most basic form. And, the basic goal of Exercise "Karpaty" is coordination of units and subunits, as Colonel General V. I. Varennikov, military district commander, emphasized at the press conference.

The details of the reconnaissance groups' offensive cannot be discerned from the observation tower. The movement of the reconnaissance groups is a small episode in yesterday's scenario. It is a necessary condition for the successful forced crossing of a water barrier and movement of artillery pieces, tanks, and armored personnel carriers. This is an important line in the biography of the young Carpathianite troops.

The exercise continues.

[Photo caption: "Political worker Senior Lieutenant B. Ditrikh instructs the battalion Komsomol aktiv."]

Example of Battlefield Coordination

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents Lieutenant Colonels V. Moroz and V. Bogdanovskiy: "The Iron Division Advances"]

[Text] Yesterday the exercise was distinguished by special enthusiasm. After the successful forced crossing of the water barrier, the "Southerners" reached the "Northern" new well-prepared line of defense. Regrouping forces and bringing up reserves, they went over to the offensive. The "Northerners" defended themselves stubbornly and mounted decisive counterattacks. Aviation was active.

There is something symbolic about the fact that especially responsible missions have become the lot of the legendary Samara-Ul'yanovsk Iron Division, which is included in the "Southern" forces during this exercise. During the Great Patriotic War years, the formation's troops earned their glory during the liberation of the Ukraine's western oblasts. Given the honorific designation Berdichev, the division then added to its combat awards the Order of Suvorov for the capture of Chernovtsy and the Order of Bogdan Khmel'nitskiy for leaving the country's borders . . . In these same battles, Private V. Mayborskiy emulated Aleksandr Matrosov's feat and battery party organizer Sergeant P. Makarov gave his life blocking fascist tanks. The combat order issued yesterday by division commander Colonel I. Rodionov bears a close resemblance to combat orders that were issued at the front.

The main burden of breaking through the well-prepared deeply-echeloned "Northern" defense fell to the Iron Division. An attempt to split the defense by the forward subunits was unsuccessful. The mission could only be accomplished by employing the formation's full might.

Artillery preparation commenced after the active operations of reconnaissance aviation from both sides. The tanks from Senior Lieutenant V. Brodskiy's company moved rapidly for direct fire. A hail of fire was brought to bear against "Northern" strong points by batteries from the artillery battalion commanded by Colonel Ye. Kisin. One battery is commanded by Senior Lieutenant L. Dobryanskiy, nephew of Hero of the Soviet Union Senior Lieutenant V. Podnevich, who commanded this same battery during the past war.

The first echelon subunits deploy into combat formation under the cover of artillery fire and air strikes. At the apex of the attack are the motorized infantrymen from the battalion commanded by Captain V. Kundyukov. The fire is skillfully combined with the movement of the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant B. Polyakov, son of a front line soldier. This is an excellent company, as is the company advancing on the right commanded by Captain V. Samborskiy.

The "Northerners" conduct powerful fire against the attackers. But the "Southerners" concentrated their main forces in a narrow sector and achieved a significant superiority there. The wedge of armor and fire splits the forward edge and cuts deeply into the defense.

Moving up reserves, the "Northerners" go over to a counterattack. The "Southerners" also commit their antitank reserve without delay. Young commander Lieutenant G. Nitchenko skillfully leads his antitank guided missile battery. The motorized infantrymen from the battalion commanded by Captain N. Petruk, Cavalier of the Order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" Third Degree, strike the flank of the counterattackers. It seems that combat helicopters will bring about a turning point in the progress of the battle. They appear by surprise from behind the woods, rapidly rush over the flank of the counterattacking subunit, bringing a potent guided and unguided missile strike to bear against it. To intensify their efforts in the same area, the "Southerners" bring up their second echelon

and reserves and commit fresh subunits. There are many tanks in their combat formations. The artillery changes position, moving closer to the center of events.

But the outcome of the battle still remains unclear. After all, the "Northerners" retained considerable reserves and are as usual putting up stiff resistance. A wall of earth and smoke rises in front of the "Southern" tank subunits. The defenders built an antitank ditch using the explosive method. How can it be overcome?

Tanks with mounted engineer equipment go into operation. The company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Roslyakov is the first to break through across the obstacle and the offensive continues. This is not the only obstacle in the defense plan. Captain A. Shchipov, chief of the regiment's engineer service, and Warrant Officer V. Golovan', technician from the combat engineer company, are forced to work with no holds barred. Commanders need their advice and recommendations very badly.

The "Northerners" actively use incendiaries, putting up strips of fire that are difficult for the advancing troops to overcome. A lot of courage is required to head a combat vehicle into a blazing fire, all the more so to do this in a skirmish line. And it is no accident that the first to storm the fiery barrier is Lieutenant B. Rosnovskiy, secretary of a company party organization. The commander's personal example is no less striking during peaceful training days than during wartime.

Striving to develop the offensive at a high rate, the division commander decides to land an airborne assault force in the "Northern" rear area. He selects Captain I. Boyko's battalion since this subunit succeeded in distinguishing itself during the offensive's first stage. A depression behind a hill was designated as the landing zone and artillery fire was concentrated in that sector.

A formation of rotary-wing aircraft appeared above the woods. Skillfully employing terrain masking, they approach the landing zone. Fighter bombers support the passage of the landing force. In coordination with the artillery, they reliably suppress the "Northern" anti-aircraft assets.

The decisive operations of the assault landing force turn the tide of the battle. The "Southern" success is now evident. And although the "Northerners" continue their resistance, the offensive begins to turn into pursuit. The battle moves deeper into the depth of the defense. The division continues to carry out its assigned mission.

Colonel General V. Varennikov, exercise director and military district commander, cited a number of personnel for skillful actions during the training battle. They were battalion commander Captain N. Glazkov, battalion technical supply officer Senior Lieutenant I. Vishnevskiy, artillery battery commander Senior Lieutenant V. Ikunev, company deputy political officer Lieutenant V. Marchenko, and a group of sergeants and soldiers.

Air Support Activities

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondent Colonel V. Izgarshev:
"Air Strikes"]

[Text] On the eve of active combat operations, the troughs of the heavens opened up and slanting downpours descended upon the ground. The aviators ran to the duty forecasters "begging" for a good forecast for tomorrow. No, they were not afraid of the poor weather. Our aviation has been all-weather for a long time. But each wanted to not only be able to make the sortie but fly it in such a way that the air strike would be accurate, inevitable.

The forecasters did not err. A rare frost set in during the morning and by noon the weather really let go.

. . . Zaozernaya Hill. The "Northern" forward edge of the defense is on the opposite bank of the river line, while on "our" bank the forward "Southern" detachment was somewhere on the approach. I am on the observation tower, like everyone else impatiently looking at my watch. It will start now . . . There come the first aircraft above the field of battle, the "Southern" aerial reconnaissance birds. The heavens above the observation tower are rocked by the roar of turbines. Flight after flight of the supersonic bombers dash rapidly past at low altitude. Fighters provide cover. The excellent flight commanded by Military Pilot First Class Captain V. Golubtsov makes a bomb strike. Navigator Second Class Senior Lieutenant G. Kovylin flies aboard the command aircraft as navigator.

This flight can rightfully be called youthful. Lieutenants form the crews of the two other aircraft. Aboard one aircraft is Komsomol member Lieutenant V. Ivashchenko, pilot and flight Komsomol group organizer, with his navigator communist Lieutenant M. Bikeyev. The pilot of the other is communist Lieutenant V. Chechamushkin and the navigator is communist Lieutenant G. Baydenbakh. Both crews are rated excellent, as is the command crew, in spite of the officers' youth. You become rapidly convinced of this when you see the mastery displayed as the aircraft execute an anti-PVO maneuver at enormous speed, then take up the bomb run with a jeweler's accuracy and engulf the target in bombs.

The air situation increases in complexity as each minute passes. The "enemy" commits fighters which go to intercept the bombers. But the covering fighters break up the interceptors' attack.

From a turn the fighters note the "enemy" interceptors and engage them in aerial combat. Sniper Pilot Major Ye. Kravtsov flies lead and Military Pilot First Class communist Major A. Monakhov leads a pair of interceptors. Aircraft in afterburner soar like a candle into the heavens while those in a dive streak like an arrow towards the ground. Zoom climbs, combat turns, loops . . . The sky seems crowded for this enormous vertical carousel. The aerial clash of the fighters runs at a rapid pace. The aircraft instantly fade away.

The air again rings with the roar of turbines. Another group of bombers streak towards "enemy" installations. I know commander Military Pilot First Class communist Major P. Timofeyev, who is flying lead in this group, very well.

"A high class-rated master," Lieutenant Colonel A. Belyankin said to me the previous night in reference to this pilot. "He flies day or night in any conditions. He will seek out and find any kind of tiny target."

Timofeyev's wingmen are pilots from the excellent squadron he commands. The group approaches the target at low altitude and at high speed. Already the invited guests are applauding the bomb strike which is destructive in power and accuracy.

The battle rages on. Ground troops on both sides, carrying out the commanders' desires, successfully accomplish their missions. The valiant aviators reliably support them from the air, demonstrating while doing so their high skills, courage, initiative, and decisiveness.

Yesterday's combat operations saw hundreds of sorties flown by the aircraft and helicopters from both sides. The strikes by the fighter bomber groups led by communists Major L. Yangayev and Captain G. Rusanov were accurate. The transport helicopter subunits commanded by communist Lieutenant Colonel V. Gorshkov successfully supported the landing of a heliborne assault landing force. The mining operation conducted from the helicopters in the subunit led by Captain A. Andreyev was faultless. The aviators successfully accomplished many other combat operations.

Major General of Aviation E. Tsokolayev, Commander of Aviation in the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, gave a high rating to the operations accomplished by the pilots, navigators, and engineer-technical personnel during the first days of combat in Exercise "Karpaty."

[Photo captions: top -- "Landing of the motorized infantry battalion commanded by Captain I. Boyko from helicopters in the "enemy" rear area." bottom -- "First Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Forces General of the Army V. PETROV and Commander of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District Colonel General V. VARENNIKOV among the military observers of a number of states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe who were invited to the exercise in accordance with the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference." Top photo by special photo correspondent G. SHUTOV, bottom photo by special photo correspondent N. Yerzh.]

Dynamic Nature of Combat Stressed

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jul 77 p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Vukovich and V. Gol'tsev: "Flowers on the Armor"]

[Excerpts] Modern combat is unusually dynamic. Reconnaissance, fighter, and bomber aviation operate at high speeds. Tank and motorized infantry units and the self-propelled artillery move around rapidly on the fields of battle. Troops in combat overcome in minutes the space that required hours to overcome in the last war. Yes, the rate of advance is very high! It requires from every soldier and officer exceptional physical and psychological tempering, agility, and aptitude.

Officer P. Zavgorodniy's subordinates displayed all these qualities. Having successfully overcome a wide deep water barrier, they rapidly broke through the "Northern" defensive formations. The forward detachment penetrated deeper and deeper into the heart of their defense. The "Northerners" defended themselves with enviable stubbornness and skill.

All the same the "Southerners" possessed a superiority of forces. The "Northerners" conducted a tank counterattack to stem their movement.

Having deployed the tanks on line, Captain Yeremchuk unexpectedly struck the forward detachment's flank. The tank companies of Lieutenant M. Simchuk and Senior Lieutenant P. Kolpakov stealthily approached the attack position and struck the forward detachment's advancing subunits. The enemy had to halt and go over to the defense. Reinforcements soon arrived. "Southern" tank subunits repelled the "Northern" counterattack and, having crushed their defense, broke through into operational depth.

As usual the aviation from both sides operated actively.

. . . Exercise "Karpaty" participants are being warmly greeted in the villages of Carpathia. Residents bedecked the combat vehicles with bouquets of flowers.

Just as yesterday the foreign military observers monitored the operations of the troops participating in Exercise "Karpaty."

The combat training continues.

[Photo caption: "Lieutenant G. Ivan'ko's platoon prepares for a water barrier crossing."]

Combat Engineer Operations

Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by TRUD special correspondent Yu. Dmitriyev: "Combat Engineers Go into Combat"]

[Excerpts] . . . We are in the combat engineer subunit's command post. The combat engineers are now carrying out the very important mission of clearing paths through "Northern" mine fields. This is no simple task. Major Engineer Ivan Kozachek's subordinates are operating directly under "enemy" fire. He is a recent graduate of the V. V. Kuybyshev Military Engineering Academy. Over there are Captain Mukhadin Mairov who was born in mountainous Kabardino-Balkariya, section commander Junior Sergeant Vasiliy Zastavnyy, Private Oleg Kuptsov, and others.

I hear Major Kozachek give commands using the megaphone: "Zaryad-2, this is Zemlya." And then explosions ring out one after the other above the heavily fortified "Northern" positions. This is the combat engineers masterfully making paths in the mine fields with the aid of special elongated charges. Combat engineers, forward! Fearless soldiers whose service usually remains in the background stream towards the "enemy" positions.

. . . Since this morning the enthusiasm of the battle stepped up sharply. As usual the "Southerners" are pressing the "enemy." However, the "Northerners" retain their reserves in the depth of the defense and continue to put up stiff resistance. They commit tanks to the attack. Then the "Southerners'" antitank artillery enters the battle. The "Southern" command then sends helicopters airborne, seeing that its forces are unequal. Rapidly coming from behind the woods and making a combat turn, the literally front line dive bombers unleash powerful fires on the tanks.

Today we also watched helicopters carry out the no less responsible mission of laying mines from the air. This is done in those situations where time is of the essence and positions are in urgent need of cover. The "ground-based" combat engineers are unable to reach the assigned area in time in these cases.

Then came the culmination of the battle! The advancing "Southern" subunits linked up with the airborne assault force that was masterfully landed by the helicopter squadron commanded by Major V. Shapovalov. The landing force deployed the equipment that was dropped from the sky and advanced into battle from the march. They bust through into the flames and extinguish them with their organic equipment. This was the "Northerners" defending themselves by using incendiary materials to put up a strip of fire in front of the advancing troops. This is what one encounters in combat. But a soldier is a soldier and he goes through fire and water.

Visiting Exercise "Karpaty" are V. F. Dobrik, member of the CC CPSU and First Secretary of the L'vov obkom of the Ukrainian Communist Party, and General of the Army V. I. Petrov, member of the CC CPSU and First Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Forces.

Logistical Support Activities

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents Lieutenant Colonels G. Kashuba, V. Moroz, and V. Bogdanovskiy: "Rear Services Readiness"]

[Text] Yesterday the "Southerners" broke through in a number of sectors of the "Northern" defense and pursued the withdrawing "enemy." The "Northerners" didn't have sufficient forces in the given direction and tried to destroy the advancing forces by having aviation strike the advancing march columns to hold them up, thereby gaining time to move operational reserves from the depth.

"Say a good word about rear services workers," was a request we heard from the motorized infantrymen, tankers, and aviators. . . The request was supported by the formidable argument that without strong mobile rear services the battle cannot be won.

Aircraft, tanks, armored fighting vehicles, and APC's all require fuel and in large quantities. Here is a field fuel and lubricants depot, one of the troop support centers. It is headed by Major B. Surovtsev and is located in the woods. The trees carefully screen the bladders that look small from the outside but which have a high capacity. Tank truck traffic hardly ever stops here. One hauls fuel in while another takes on fuel which it will deliver to subunits. A unique type of conveyor line is in operation here. An integral part is the supply platoon commanded by Lieutenant S. Romanenko.

"I just saw a column on the road," he shares his impressions upon returning from a run. "It is an engaging picture of technical power! It would seem that the pipelines extend to each combat unit, to each engine."

Several vehicles can be simultaneously refuelled at the field depot. At the same time tank trucks take on fuel here for subsequent delivery to a consumer. Further on the rear services workers from the regimental and battalion link come into play.

VVS [Air Force] units and subunits are also distinguished by their well-organized fuel and lubricants supply system. A tank truck parked next to an aircraft is the normal scene. Several minutes later the threatening missile-equipped aircraft with full tanks is again ready to leap into the sky. And so it is, sortie after sortie, day after day. The aviation rear services troops are standing their difficult watch.

A flag with a red cross shines whitely among the trees. A mobile field hospital has been deployed here. Sterile cleanliness and comfort are found in the roomy tents set aside for different types of sections. The hospital has the most modern equipment and is capable of meeting a broad range of tasks.

"It goes without saying that we have everything required to render first aid," relates Captain of Medical Services M. Pakholkov. "Our qualified specialists and equipment allow us to do quite complex operations at any time."

Dental surgeon Mariya Makarovna Osipova and senior OR nurse Evgeniya Petrovna Yezhova are accustomed to the field.

"Medics like everyone else don't like to just sit around doing nothing," says Evgeniya Petrovna with a smile. "But that is the nature of our profession. When no one comes to you, that means everyone is healthy. We have few concerns at this exercise. In the field soldiers receive not only a charge of courage but health and physical tempering as well. I consider it my duty to stress that for the mothers so that they won't worry."

We met Captain of Medical Services V. Revvo, chief of the unit medical service, at one regiment's field camp. Carrying out one of his prescribed jobs, he

had just made a tour of the area where the regiment was located. He seems satisfied with the sanitary condition of the area. And actually things were in model shape everywhere as if the regiment had been there for a long time. But this was only a temporary situation. We did not see a single scrap of litter. A detail, yes, but it says a great deal about the culture of the people, about their relationship to nature.

The field bakery plant was not as clearly designated as the hospital but it isn't hard to find. The aroma of fresh bread takes care of that. The loaves in the field are amazing in their lightness and golden brown color. And what flavor! Not every city bakery can match this product.

One of the persons producing these loaves is Warrant Officer N. Kharitonchuk, bakery plant technician. He has come to love this job. He was a baker at such a plant when he served his mandatory service period, learned the trade, then returned, but in a new role.

A great deal also depends on bakery section chief Junior Sergeant V. Lazerenko, who received his military specialty in the district training bakery.

Special vehicles continually arrive at the bakery plant warehouse. The bread is headed for the troop units supported by the bakery plant. And how much it means for a soldier to get a hunk of warm fragrant bread at the appointed time! It doesn't just contain calories. It is living memory of the wheat fields, homes, everything that the soldier is entrusted with defending.

The food services link is the closest to the soldier -- if you will, this is the battalion food and clothing supply point [PKhD]. We visited one and the first thing that hits you is the cleanliness and order. You don't see smoke above the kitchens as was so characteristic in pictures from the front years. They now operate on liquid fuel rather than the wood used previously. Warrant Officer V. Lyuty, commander of the supply platoon, manages the PKhD. He has drivers and cooks subordinate to him. Three times a day without fail they serve hot food to the troops.

Mobile military stores often visit the battalions and divisions, supplying the most varied items that a soldier requires in the field.

A soldier's appearance is not ignored even under field conditions or at an exercise. If an individual needs to clean his uniform or shoes after a torrid battle this presents no problem. Each unit has a uniform and equipment repair shop.

"We will do everything quickly and well," says Private Yu. Chebotar', putting aside freshly soled boots. "We repair torn trousers and replace heels."

A repair shop, the ubiquitous military store, field bath, bakery plant, fuel depot -- these are only some of the elements of troop rear services. The road builders, troops from transportation subunits, all the workers in Ground Forces and Air Force rear services units deserve kind words. At an exercise you especially sense the enormous role of the rear area in modern combat, its

ever increasing capabilities. Modern rear services support to the troops is just more testimony of the concern of the party and the people to supply the Armed Forces with everything required. Intensification of efforts to explain the enormous role of rear services in modern combat and indoctrination of the personnel of rear services subunits with pride in their military specialty became an important component of the preparation for Exercise "Karpaty."

As Lieutenant General I. Kolomiytsev, Deputy Commander for Rear Services of the military district, said: "During the first days of the exercise rear services subunits on both sides selflessly accomplished their assigned missions. During these key days the socialist competition among the personnel for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of Great October has expanded. I would like to note the great attention placed by commanders, political workers, and staffs on questions of rear services support."

Exercise "Karpaty" continues. Rear services troops, like the personnel of all participating units and subunits, are taking an examination on combat maturity.

[Photo captions, top to bottom: "1. Having broken into the "Northern" defense, the "Southerners" rush into the gap. Captain N. Glazkov's subordinates are operating decisively. Aviators led by Major V. Vladimirov actively support the tankers and motorized infantrymen. 2. The day's results have been summed up. Squadron commander Major Yu. TOMAREV presents the travelling pennant to the victor in the socialist competition -- to the combat helicopter crew commanded by Captain N. VALYAEV. 3. Motorized infantry battalion deputy commander for political affairs Senior Lieutenant B. DITRIKH instructs the Komsomol aktiv." Photos by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents N. Yerzh and G. Shutov.]

Helicopter Gunship Operations

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondent Colonel V. Izgarshev: "Helicopters Are Firing"]

[Text] Combat is raging on land. And you can barely hear the chug of the combat helicopter engines in the crash of shots and explosions and whine of turbines. Four modern highly-maneuverable aircraft hugging the sloping sides of the hill approach the forward edge of our troops unnoticed.

The foursome is led by Captain R. Zakirov, the commander of an excellent flight and secretary of the squadron party bureau. He pilots his combat helicopter masterfully. His subordinates barely have to take a back seat to him as far as piloting skills go. They are Komsomol member and young pilot Senior Lieutenant V. Ternovskiy, secretary of the squadron Komsomol bureau, and communist Captain Fedorov, also a Komsomol activist.

As if stealing out from ambush, the helicopters make a sharp "pop up" above the ground subunits' combat formations and at the identical second a hail of

rockets engulfs the "enemy." The helicopters then make an antimissile maneuver, descend steeply in a sharp left turn, and leave the field of battle. And at the limit of firing range, the next flight of combat helicopters appears.

The commander of the motorized infantry unit which the helicopter subunit is supporting from the air directs the lead helicopter to solution of a new fire mission. A group of helicopters led by Military Pilot First Class communist Major Yu. Tomarev appears over the field of battle. He has long been recognized as a skillful airman with initiative. Tomarev now commands a squadron.

Having made high pledges in the competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of Great October, the squadron's helicopter personnel are working at full speed to improve their skills in combat employment of unguided and antitank guided missiles and firing the machine guns at ground targets. They are honing their mastery as pilots, coordination in combat formation, and tactical training. Their skillful actions at Exercise "Karpaty" is bright confirmation that their conscientious labor and steady training is being repaid a hundred-fold.

The night before Military Pilot First Class communist Lieutenant Colonel V. Vorob'yev told me about the pending combat helicopter operations and drew diagrams of the flight. Carpathia is now a rainy area with unstable weather. For that reason different variations of rotary wing aircraft operations were envisioned. Judging from the way Major Tomarev's subordinates are attacking it is not difficult to surmise that as usual preliminary training is underway full tilt in the subunit. They are banking here only on an excellent evaluation.

"There was a time when the last aircraft in the first foursome didn't always maintain the established distance," says the regiment commander. "But now that element too has been worked out as required."

Major Tomarev orders his subordinates by radio to "pop up." The helicopters immediately occupy the new altitude and fire on the targets. The squadron exits to the right, the helicopters point their sharp noses downwards, and barely above the ground, blend their paint schemes in with the varied field colors as they rapidly depart for the rear area. This air strike badly crippled the "Northern" tank subunits. The commander of the motorized infantry troops thanks the helicopter personnel for their masterful and effective fire support from the air.

This is one small but instructive episode in an exercise which is spreading over an enormous area. And aviation is exhibiting a great deal of activity at all stages of the sides' military operations. Yesterday, for example, when "Southern" ground units pursued the "enemy" withdrawing from combat to the north, aviation from both sides flew in excess of 100 sorties. Colonel General V. Varennikov, exercise director and Commander of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, gave a high evaluation to aviators' activities, noting their ability to coordinate with ground-based troops.

"Southerners" Develop Attack

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 6

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Vukovich and V. Gol'tsev:
"Combat Examination"]

[Text] Modern offensive combat operations are distinguished by their scale and pace. They have as their goal breaking through the enemy defense to its entire depth, bringing troops to operational depth, and not allowing the defenders to commit fresh reserves to the battle.

Thus it was at Exercise "Karpaty." The "Southerners" broke the "Northern" defense along the water barrier, successfully overcame the previously prepared defensive zone, arrived in the deep rear area of the enemy, and dashed forward.

If earlier the "Southern" subunits in combat formations had driven the "Northerners" back, they now gathered together their tanks, BMP, APC, and self-propelled artillery and formed them into columns. Hundreds of combat and transport vehicles moved via the roads, kicking up clouds of brown dust.

A pursuit march! Its success depends upon the careful work of the staffs which organize the troop movements, traffic control services, and of course on the mastery, skill, and physical tempering of drivers. The vehicles must be driven in complete darkness without headlights while maintaining strict distance and assigned speed. It is a pleasure to note that all drivers, the experienced and the young, successfully coped with this difficult task.

The "Southern" short forced march had air cover provided by fighter interceptors which battled "Northern" bombers.

Aerial clashes raged continually in the heavens. A pair of "MiG's" worked like virtuosos. Sniper Pilot Major Ye. Kravtsov flew lead and his wingman was Pilot First Class Captain P. Kiryakin. They struck by surprise from out of the clouds and attacked the "Northern" bombers.

By day's end the "Southerners" had moved several hundred kilometers and clashed with forward march security detachments which appeared from the depth of the "Northern" reserves. Combat began anew. This time it was a meeting engagement.

Foreign military observers are following the course of Exercise "Karpaty" with great interest.

The representatives from 12 states, including capitalist states, are here. This gives witness to the fact that the Soviet Union supports the corresponding provisions of the Helsinki Conference Final Act with deeds rather than words.

Lieutenant General Panayot Karakachanov, military attache from the People's Republic of Bulgaria who is a military observer here, said: "Everyone on earth knows the peace-loving policy of the Soviet state, its steady struggle for the security of peoples. The Soviet Armed Forces stand on guard of the conquests

of October, of the great achievements of all the nations of the socialist community. Observing the operations of the troops in this exercise, you will be convinced with your own eyes that the Soviet Army possesses everything required to fulfill its historic mission. Its troops are excellently assimilating modern weapons and are able to successfully operate under the most complex conditions of modern combat."

Exercise "Karpaty" continues.

[Photo caption: "Lieutenant A. Khludov, commander of a motorized infantry subunit, converses with his troops."]

Helicopter Assault Landing

Kiev RABOCHAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by Senior Lieutenants P. Gren' and Ye. Sklyarenko: "With an Attack from the Sky"]

[Text] The exercise began as a serious test of the combat maturity of the aviators of the squadron in which Major V. Savchenko serves. A tactical airborne assault force had to be landed in the "Northern" rear area. Ahead was a difficult flight with a landing in an unknown area on hilly terrain.

We climbed aboard a rotary wing aircraft to monitor the work of the helicopter personnel. We were eyewitnesses to what transpired.

The helicopters tear away from the ground almost simultaneously and take off in a dense stream.

Major V. Savchenko confidently pilots the aircraft. He is deputy squadron commander, Military Pilot First Class, and a student at the Yu. A. Gagarin Air Force Academy. Conversations aboard the aircraft are very laconic and strict. The personnel understand each other implicitly. The formation flies under complete radio silence.

The closeness of the helicopter formation is visible from the pilot's cabin. What will, self-control, and mastery are needed to maintain the assigned combat formation!

But now the helicopters are headed for a landing. Already waiting there are the motorized infantry who must urgently be delivered to the landing zone.

All those assigned to the landing force diligently prepared for this moment. Just 10 minutes before they were led by Warrant Officer Roman Pidsudkevich, secretary of the Komsomol organization, in a lively discussion of the appeal from Great Patriotic War veterans to the troops of the Carpathian Military District participating in the exercise.

"When I say the word 'veterans'," said the Komsomol leader, "I seem to see the

very Feat myself. And for me a veteran's every word is like an order. And here is a complete letter, an appeal to us! Therefore, let's accomplish our mission as an assault landing subunit in such a manner that the veterans will say to us -- Way to go!"

. . . The squadron is airborne. The main task now is to strictly maintain the assigned altitude so that the opposition PVO assets will not detect the group. The crews "tune in" above the terrain, often changing flight mode. Through the open blisters the motorized infantrymen ready for combat vigilantly look for the range overgrown with blackberries . . . A flight of fighters passes by with lightening speed. This is the air cover for the landing force.

The "Northerners" only detect the helicopters on their approach to the landing zone. But it was already too late . . . The aircraft gear softly touch down onto the ground.

The ground greeted them un hospitably. Thorns rip uniforms and branches slap the hot faces of the troops

"Forward!"

Immediately after the landing the helicopters disappeared behind a nearby hill. The motorized infantry must take an important area of terrain at all costs and hold until the main forces arrive.

The "Northerners" strive to destroy the landing force. Lieutenant Anisov's platoon forced its way to a small hill, crawling part of the way and running the rest of the way. Under a hurricane of fire, they dig in and camouflage themselves.

Sergeant Georgiy Starosty chose a lucky position. He can see and hold the entire depression in his sights from behind a moss-covered boulder. Next to him is Private Kochergin and a bit farther on are Privates Vasilevskiy and Tyshko.

Empty cartridge cases are littered like a fan through the green grass. Private Stupnikov is firing accurately. One round, a second . . . No, it is not that simple to destroy an assault landing force that is already in place!

The sun beats down unmercifully but there is nowhere to go to get a flask. Pungent smoke spreads over the ground. Grenade bursts ring out. One attack, a second, a third is beaten back

Somewhere other subunits have broken through the defense and are en route to aid the landing party. Each individual knows this. Now the most important task is to insure that the strikes from the front and from the rear are merged together. The motorized infantry subunit carried out this mission in an excellent manner.

The motorized infantrymen formed up after the battle on the forest's edge. The commander names the outstanding individuals, including Sergeant Georgiy Starosty and Privates Aleksandr Kochergin, Mikhail Vasilevskiy, Vitaliy Tyshko, and Gennadiy Stupnikov. He thanks them for their service.

And then the motorized infantrymen received yet another heartfelt "thank you," this one from the veterans.

[Photo caption: "The first meters of the assault landing"]

Division Commander and Observers' Comments

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 6

[Article by PRAVDA special correspondents V. Vasilets and P. Studenikin: "Developing the Success"]

[Text] Tense training battles continue in Carpathia. On 12 July the "Southerners" advanced in the L'vov direction. "Northern" fighter bombers worked ground targets and bombed "Southern" reserves. All the same the "Southerners" were able to make a forced crossing of a water barrier and occupy a bridgehead on the river bank.

On 13 July the "Southerners" regrouped their forces during the night and continued their offensive. The "Northerners" often went over to counter-attacks.

On 14 July "Southern" regiments went over to the pursuit in the Rovno direction, having overcome the active "Northern" defense.

During these days Colonel Igor' Nikolayevich Rodionov, commander of the Samara-Ul'yanovsk Iron Division, has changed command posts several times.

High mobility is a law of war. The motorized infantrymen and tankers, the gunners and pilots, the missileers and pontoniers here in the field, in a constantly changing situation, operate with the coordination of a symphony orchestra.

The enemy is conditional but the water barriers, engineer defensive structures, and compressed time norms are all real.

Here, for example, is how "Southern" units and subunits forced a water barrier.

After careful aerial and ground reconnaissance, the division commander Colonel I. Rodionov committed the first echelon into battle. Wave after wave of armored vehicles was on the move. Aviators commanded by Major V. Shul'dov covered those who were advancing. The forward "Southern" subunits were already at the water's edge and more and more columns of tanks and APC appear.

A vehicle with the number "41" on the turret appeared in the binoculars. It is driven by Private First Class Vasiliy Voloshin. We met him the previous evening at the field medical battalion. The doctors hovered over their

solitary patient in a friendly way. But in the morning with his doctor's consent Voloshin was again with his company . . . Vasiliy drives his vehicle beautifully.

The division commander calmly directs the battle, from time to time giving instructions into the phone: "'Sokol,' forward! 'Grad,' look around, don't rush, increase your fire!" These are instructions to his young battalion commanders operating in the advance guard.

The "Northerners" are defending stubbornly. When the advancing forces crossed the river and wedged into their defense, the "Northerners" made a flank counter-strike with tanks . . . Then the "Southerners" made a swift countermove. Their helicopters landed an assault force in the "Northern" rear area. The "Southerners" could not be dislodged and pushed into the water.

The clash flared up with new intensity the following day. Both sides committed their second echelons. The fate of the battle was decided after more than 5 hours of hard combat.

"Victory in combat depends upon many factors," Igor' Nikolayevich Rodionov said to us as the battle stilled somewhat. "It is found in the fine points and is achieved by every soldier. The success of the motorized infantry battalion commanded by Captain V. Kundyukov which operated at the point of the attack was preceded by the skillful operations of platoons . . ."

For decisiveness and high comradely mastery, the military district commander Colonel General V. I. Varennikov expressed his thanks to battalion commander Captain N. Glazkov, battery commander Senior Lieutenant V. Okunev, other commanders, and to a large group of soldiers and sergeants.

Foreign observers were invited to the exercise from Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Italy, Poland, Rumania, France, Czechoslovakia, the FRG, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia in accordance with the Helsinki Conference Final Act.

Brigadier General Franz Hubbel (Austria) stated in a conversation with Soviet journalists that "it is pleasant to note that the contacts between the European states which signed the Helsinki Conference Final Act are being strengthened and expanded."

"In the name of my government I wish to announce that the invitation to observers from various countries to the exercise fully and completely corresponds to the spirit and the letter of the basic provisions of the Helsinki Conference," noted Colonel Giovanni Valdi (Italy). "The personnel participating in the exercise are operating superbly and demonstrate a high level of training, discipline, and sense of duty. I think that commanders at all levels, regardless of what country they are from, would be glad to have their subordinates operate in such a manner."

Brigadier General Jacques Rene Bresson, French Army, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to visit such a serious exercise.

"The abundance of resources, the way the training area is equipped, and the splendid employment of helicopters in combat are amazing," he said.

Lieutenant General P. Karakachanov, Bulgarian People's Army, announced:

"The abilities of the Soviet troops are astonishing. In fraternal unity with the troops of the armies of the socialist countries, they are reliable guardians of the great conquests of our peoples."

The workers in Rovenskaya, L'vovskaya, and Volynskaya Oblasts greet the troops cordially, with bread and salt. As the appeal of the workers in L'vovskaya Oblast' to the exercise participants states: "The Soviet people love their Army and are proud of it. It is indoctrinated with a spirit of deep dedication to the socialist Fatherland, to the ideals of peace and internationalism, the friendship of peoples."

Troop Exercise "Karpaty" continues.

[Photo caption: "Forced crossing of a water barrier."]

Meeting Engagement

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondents Lieutenant Colonels G. Kashuba, V. Moroz, and V. Bogdanovskiy: "Meeting Engagement near Rovno"]

[Text] Having broken through the defense, the "Southerners" pursued the withdrawing "enemy" for many hours. The pursuit was accomplished in several directions, on a wide front, and at a rapid pace. The "Northerners" brought up their reserves from the depth in order to stop the advancing troops. A meeting engagement evolved near Rovno. It also served as the finale to the sides' active operations.

As a rule, subunits of the security join in the meeting engagement. Using data from scouts operating ahead and occupying advantageous lines from the march, they skillfully close with the enemy, submit him to their will, and deprive him of the freedom to operate.

That is how events developed yesterday near Rovno. The sides conducted active reconnaissance. The scouts commanded by Lieutenant A. Popov from one of the "Southern" subunits accomplished their mission with tactical skill. Without the data they supplied, the advance party which included Senior Lieutenant V. Lubyagin's subordinates would have had a difficult time precluding the "enemy" security from deploying. Lubyagin is an experienced officer and his company has achieved high results in training and competition under his lead for 3 years. The fact that he was the one ordered to take the point testifies to this young officer's authority.

The "Southern" advance party is pressing the "Northern" security. Artillery opens fire first from the southern side. The combat formation of the leading subunits is flexible and mobile. Maneuvering continually, they strive to create conditions more advantageous for deployment of the main forces.

Plumes from explosions pop up in the "Northern" positions. The fire from the self-propelled guns in the "Southern" battery commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Lebedev is accurate. This is the best subunit in the unit. The gunners fired with an excellent rating at all firings last year.

Sudden and major changes in the situation are the essence of the meeting engagement. The advance party moves successfully forward but the rate of their advance does not suit the "Southern" commander. A very great deal depends on who is the first to occupy an advantageous line, who can create conditions that are best for deployment of the main forces and space for maneuver. The decision is made to employ an airborne assault force. "Crawling," as one of the helicopter personnel termed it, over the very earth, the rotary wing aircraft head for the landing zone.

The scale of combat rapidly and unceasingly rises. New subunits go on the attack and they are supported by the artillery, whose fire becomes ever more powerful. But one still cannot say that the initiative has gone over to the "Southerners." The "Northerners" are also carrying out appreciable strikes. In a meeting engagement, the successful operations of even a small subunit, the slightest miscalculation by one of the opposing sides, and the situation can radically change.

"Southern" BMP are flying across the hollows over the sandy plateau covered with bushes. In a semi-circle they occupy a small hill important in the tactical sense and they break through to its reverse slopes. Success, it would seem, but

Vehicles with a white stripe on the armor appear from the woods on that small hill. This is a "Northern" battalion commanded by Captain K. Gurskiy who decided to make a surprise strike against the "enemy" subunit's exposed flank. The battalion is supported by artillery. The tanks move like a steel ram and the situation becomes critical for the "Southerners." The situation gets more complicated by the minute. The "Northerners" have found a weak point, the "Southern" left flank, and rapidly increase their efforts here. Did the "Southern" reconnaissance note that danger?

The developing events showed that the answer is yes. Reconnaissance provided the commander with timely and accurate data. The "Southerners" are deploying their main forces and aiming the strike on the "enemy" right flank in the area where he was having success. The "Northerners" take measures without delay and prepare to repulse the strike. Their tanks and combat vehicles hurry to occupy favorable positions and to employ terrain masking. A powerful strike from the air suddenly rains down on the "Northern" combat formation. "Southern" combat helicopters conducting accurate fire against the armored targets ruin subunit coordination and create breaches in a number of directions. At the same time the "Southern" main forces are deploying. They are in a favorable position in respect to the "enemy." They now have clear superiority on their side.

Combat goes on over an enormous area. Its main hero, of course, is the motorized infantry. But can it be victorious without the close and continual coordination with the tankers, gunners, combat engineers, communicators, without the troops from the various branches? Victory is impossible without the crushing strikes by the aviators, without their reliable air cover. Coordination is the basis for success in any battle. But in a meeting engagement a great deal depends upon the precision of the coordination.

In this battle the individual hand, if one can use the term, of the organizer of the combat operations in the complex and until the very end murky situation, the commander's tactical mastery, his ability to make decisions which show initiative and which are a surprise to the "enemy" all are clearly manifested. Here you see with the most clarity the degree to which a commander uses the capabilities of his own, the attached, and the supporting subunits, how he employs the combat potential of modern weapons and equipment.

Just as during the first days of Exercise "Karpaty," during the meeting engagement near Rovno officers demonstrated high professional training, firm organizational skills, and hard will. Motorized rifle battalion commander Captain M. Suvorov, artillery battalion commander Major E. Chukhnov, and mortar battery commander Captain N. Tsvetkov distinguished themselves by the maturity of their decisions. The commands of the opposing sides and the exercise director gave high evaluations to the activities of quite a number of young officers, the commanders of the company and platoon link upon whom a great deal depends in the rapidly moving highly-maneuverable battle.

Subunits from both sides operated effectively in the combat operations which took place near Rovno. The "Northerners" quite effectively employed their reserves brought up from the depth and it would be unfair to explain the unfavorable conclusions of events during the meeting engagement as being tactical errors alone. The key point was the "Southern" superiority in resources and the fact that they maintained the combat initiative for a long time. The bright spot of the meeting engagement was commanders' creative approach to the selection of tactical drills, flexible decision making, and the desire to employ all available resources with maximum effect.

The struggle for masterful assimilation of equipment and further improving the quality of combat skills is the main trend of socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of Great October. One cannot fail to note that among those who especially distinguished themselves during Exercise "Karpaty" the names most often heard were of those who have already excelled in competition so far this jubilee year, those who have been awarded pennants and prizes. The hot pulse of competition was also felt in the dynamics of the exercise. A struggle went on for model accomplishment of every training mission.

The exercise became a serious check of the moral-volitional qualities, physical agility, and psychological tempering of personnel. Behind those who fought in the meeting engagement were those very tense days of preparation. But they didn't lose their decisiveness, daring, and skill. The moral force which inspired personnel was the sense of responsibility to the party and to the people.

This is a result of party-political work which is distinguished by its variety, richness of forms, and high degree of viability.

Ahead lie a detailed analysis of each episode of the training battles and a dissemination of lessons learned. Troops return from the exercise enriched with new knowledge and skills. The emotional meetings with the populations of Carpathia's villages and towns remain in the memory of those who participated in the exercise. The roads were literally covered with flowers in areas where routes and tactical trails crossed. All the vehicle had to do was to stop somewhere and the local inhabitants hugged them and handed them bouquets of poppies and camomiles. Hurriedly scribbled signs tacked to trees with inscriptions such as "We are with you, loved ones" were touching. The meetings in the villages in Yavorovskaya and Nesterovskaya Rayons and in Busk were very friendly. This is the land where, in June 1941, the troops of the 17th Border Detachment and the 41st Rifle Division fought heroically, where many units brought glory to their combat banners.

The meeting engagement near Rovno became yet another convincing confirmation of the troops' combat readiness, that readiness which, as Article 31 of the USSR draft Constitution states, must insure the immediate rebuff to any aggressor

[Photo captions, top left: "Gunners fire. In the foreground is the excellent gun crew commanded by Senior Sergeant A. Lyashenko.: Top right: "Meeting engagement. Tanks in the platoon commanded by Lieutenant A. Goncharov are rapidly attacking." Bottom: "Friendly meeting between tankers and the workers from a kolkhoz."]

Air Support Activities

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA special correspondent Colonel V. Izgarshev: "The Accuracy of Air Attacks"]

[Text] The first thing that strikes you when the aircraft from both sides appear over the battle field is the exceptional accuracy of the flight in to the targets by groups of aircraft and helicopters both in time and in place.

An observation tower on a road sector between L'vov and Rovno. The columns of "Southern" troops pursuing the withdrawing "enemy" must pass by here. In my hand is flight plan schedule which shows that the first four "Northern" aircraft will pass abeam the tower at 1000 hrs. They are to attack a "Southern" column. Accurate timing signals ring out from the transistor on the table of the military district's commander of aviation. The final time signal is inaudible because it is drowned out by the roar of turbines. The aircraft appeared at the assigned place on the second.

"You can set your watch by the aviation," the officers in the tower note with satisfaction.

So it is with every flight. If the schedule, for example, calls for bombers

to strike at 1107, that means the first explosion will not be at 1106 nor at 1108. It will occur at precisely 1107.

The same time accuracy characterizes the level of coordination between the ground troops and aviation. One would think that there is no necessity to explain the importance in modern combat of not being early or late when you strike a strong point, tanks, or other enemy targets.

The second point that cannot be overlooked is strict discipline in the air. Every day of the exercise means hundreds of sorties on combat training missions. There also were instances where bombers, fighters, and helicopters all were over the battle field at the same time and all were flying at low altitude.

Flight after flight of high-speed bombers pass by. Fighter cover patrols above them. Helicopters transporting an assault landing force move via the depressions over the tips of trees. What flight organization, firm discipline, and constant watchfulness everyone needs so no one hinders anyone else trying to accomplish their assigned mission! Besides that, man's psychology is such that if you praise him for a job well done he goes out and tries to do better the next time. But praise is not always useful in aviation. A pilot can, as they say, overdo it. I recall one pilot describing to me how after a successful attack against ground targets at low altitude he wanted to fly lower and faster on the second pass. But this becomes unsafe. Only a sense of responsibility and self-discipline will assist him in overcoming such a desire.

As commanders teach pilots, if you want to do better than you have done in the past, hone your mastery, use the entire capability of the aircraft to make a crushing strike on the first pass, with the first missile, with the first shell. But never strive to amaze anyone with unnecessary bravado. Discipline is the primary thing for a pilot. And this volitional quality of aviators manifested itself with absolute clarity during the exercise.

But the intensity of the battles does not slacken. The "Northerners" made their final attempt to hold up the "Southern" onslaught. The roar of engines, clank of tracks, and thunder of explosions. The roar of turbines didn't let up either in spite of the fact that low clouds again appeared over the battle field and it began to rain. There go bombers en route to targets. Their combat formation is led by Major P. Timofeyev. Pilots led by Lieutenant Colonel V. Telegin strike the "enemy." Combat helicopters strike tanks with PTURS [antitank guided missiles]. The clash boils on the ground and in the air

At my request Lieutenant General P. Bazanov, participant in the Great Patriotic War and who has more than 20 personal aircraft kills to his credit in 60 air engagements, made a preliminary assessment of the aviators' operations during the exercise. "They are operating in the front line manner, skillfully, decisively, and they accurately and fully merit a high evaluation."

Post-Exercise Comment

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 77 p 4

[Editorial comment]

[Text] The exercise by the troops of the Carpathian Military District in the Lutsk-L'vov-Rovno area ended on 16 July.

The goals of the exercise were met.

The troops which participated in the exercise have returned to their garrisons.

Exercise observers from the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Austrian Republic, People's Republic of Bulgaria, French Republic, Hungarian People's Republic, Italian Republic, Polish People's Republic, Socialist Republic of Rumania, the Swiss Confederation, Czechoslovakian People's Republic, and the Socialist Federated Republic of Yugoslavia have departed the Soviet Union.

Political Officer's Comment

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA special correspondent Boris Pilipenko:
"'Karpaty' Teaches Courage"]

[Excerpts] /At the request of our special correspondent Boris Pilipenko, Major General Nikolay Dmitriyevich SHEVKUN, member of the Military Council and Chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Carpathian Military District, shares his impressions of the recently concluded exercise with us./
[bold face in the original].

The training battle has died away. Troops are returning to their permanent garrisons, exercise results are being summed up, combat equipment is being put back into order

But commanders, political organs, party, and Komsomol organizations will look back for a long time on the events of these difficult and emotional days. We will carefully analyze know-how in combat and party-political work accumulated at Exercise "Karpaty" and extract for subsequent introduction into military practice everything that assisted units in accomplishing their assigned tasks.

If you speak of the main prerequisite of the skillful and effective troop operations, it is the enormous political upsurge, combat mood, and real enthusiasm which now envelopes the district's personnel. The Carpathianite troops like all our people are striving to fittingly mark the 60th anniversary of Great October. Socialist competition was widely unfurled during the exercise using this as its slogan. Preparation for the responsible examination on combat maturity coincided with study in the troop units of the decisions of the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum, the 6th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and with the national discussion of the draft Constitution. This all created that combat mood which multiplied the troops' strength and let them fully demonstrate their high combat, moral-political, and psychological qualities.

[New paragraph] Comprehensive training of the command staff, political organs, staffs, each individual soldier, the entire mass of modern combat equipment is in my view one of the most important factors which guarantee skillful execution of the complex mission of modern combat. During Exercise "Karpaty" in all its stages goal-oriented, viable, creative party-political work showing real initiative was conducted in units and subunits. The work was directed towards raising combat spirit, bringing into play the entire spiritual, moral, and physical potential of soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers. The exercise was played on territory which during the war years became an arena of cruel battles and mass-scale heroism of the troops of the Soviet Army. The troops brought in for the exercise have a glorious combat history and several units participated in liberating L'vovskaya, Volynskaya, and Rovenskaya Oblasts from the Hitlerites. As is known, the glorious Samara-Ul'yanovsk Berdichev, Iron Thrice Red Banner Orders of Suvorov and Bogdan Khmelnitskiy Division was included in the "Southern" forces.

Many of the division's veterans visited units during the exercise and met with the troops.

On 13 July the order-bearing regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel V. Zherebyat'yev especially distinguished itself (by the way, this regiment was the initiator within the Ground Forces of pre-jubilee socialist competition).

The party-political work included many forms, methods, and resources which have been proved during the years of the Great Patriotic War and at previous large troop exercises. Meetings and party and Komsomol conferences prior to the start of a combat operation, mobile visual aids sets, speeches by outstanding troops and propaganda of their know-how, all these forms of propaganda work were put to use by political workers and by party and Komsomol activists. The main influencing force on the troops here, besides ardent party words, was the personal example of communists and Komsomol members.

Cultural agitational brigades from district and garrison officers' clubs, mobile clubs, and libraries operated right in the exercise area.

One must not forget the friendly meetings held in the exercise area. They certainly inspired the troops just as much as they did the workers.

I would like to say in conclusion that the missions assigned to the exercise participants were carried out successfully and in a quality manner. The Carpathianite troops made a real contribution to fulfillment of their socialist pledges in honor of the 60th anniversary of Great October.

Participants' Post-Exercise Comments

Moscow KRASNAYA AVEZDA in Russian 17 Jul 77 p 1

[Introductory note and participants' comments: "School of Courage and Mastery"]

[Text] Thus, Excercise "Karpaty" has ended. It was a school of courage, a

school of mastery for all who participated. The troops acquired know-how in operating in a complex tactical situation during the training battles. This will serve to further improve the quality and effectiveness of the training process and the viability of socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of Great October.

Lessons in Coordination

Our battalion had to carry out a variety of tactical missions, including an advance in the first echelon, a landing in the "Northern" rear area Ahead is in-depth analysis of the battalion's operations. I only want to now share my first impressions.

What do I especially remember? First, the spatial scale of training combat, its dynamism, and of course the close coordination between the Ground Forces and aviation.

I recall the assault landing in helicopters in the "enemy" rear area. We did not go in via a direct route. The squadron led during the exercise by Military Pilot First Class Lieutenant Colonel V. Gorshkov followed a complicated route and used every fold of the earth for camouflage. The pilots demonstrated a high degree of flying and tactical mastery.

I am also proud that my cohorts Senior Lieutenant A. Mikhaylov, and Lieutenants V. Domodyko, V. Semenov, and others demonstrated firm skills in organizing combat coordination. The exercise again convinced us of the correctness of the path that we are following in commander's training. The ability to get everything possible out of weapons and equipment, to precisely coordinate with attached subunits, and employ air strikes without delay form in my view the basis for an officer's tactical maturity.

We had an opportunity to meet with veterans of war and labor, with those who have participated in large-scale exercises. The troops listened to them very attentively, extracted all the nuggets from these meetings, then strived to employ their know-how when on the offensive, defense, or in an assault landing force in order to accomplish the assigned mission in a quality fashion.

In a word, Exercise "Karpaty" was a great school for each of us. The tense training battles enriched each individual with knowledge and know-how. It pointed up what needs to be done in the future to make greater improvements in field training skills and to fulfill jubilee pledges with honor.

Captain I. Boyko, commander
of a motorized infantry
battalion

Spiritual Basis

Analyzing our artillery battalion's operations at the exercise, you clearly see the components which allowed the troops to successfully accomplish all the missions which faced them. This is primarily the high moral spirit

among the personnel brought about by the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum decisions and by discussion of the draft of the USSR Constitution. Consciousness of participation in the concerns of the country and the party's plans is the inexhaustible source which provides personnel with new strengths and inspires them to selfless comradely labor.

I went shoulder to shoulder with soldiers and sergeants during all stages of the exercise. The complex tactical situation required of them masterful assimilation of equipment and weapons and the ability to overcome great moral and physical loads. It is that much more pleasant to note that the gunners passed the exam with honor.

This is a manifestation of that large amount of work on the part of commanders, political workers, party, and Komsomol organizations conducted during the course of the entire exercise. This effort was directed towards indoctrinating the troops with a sense of responsibility for carrying out their duty to the Motherland. The personnel lived with the concerns of the entire country and looked upon Exercise "Karpaty" as a responsible combat examination in the 60th anniversary year of Great October.

I would especially like to mention the communists. They strove to keep each soldier and sergeant in their field of view and set a personal example in combat.

New responsible missions await us. The draft of the USSR Constitution states that the duty of the USSR Armed Forces before the people is to reliably defend the socialist Fatherland and to be in constant combat readiness to insure the immediate rebuff to any aggressor. The efforts of all troops are directed towards carrying out this sacred duty with honor.

Major Yu. Ptitsa, deputy
artillery battalion commander

The Best Into Practice

Prior to the exercise the regimental commander reminded us to place a great deal of attention on working out a maneuver to counteract "enemy" PVO. But, I must say that the flights during the exercise also introduced many corrections in our training.

We of course had some idea of the anti-aircraft resources possessed by the ground troops. But we were somewhat mystified by what we saw with our own eyes. During the exercise we had to do a great deal of thinking about how to more effectively employ the speed and maneuvering qualities of the aircraft to more successfully counteract "enemy" PVO and avoid entering danger zones.

My wingman Captain Yu. Kiryakin and I had opportunities in the past to attack and destroy ground-based targets and "enemy" strong points. That was not so tough to do in drills. But, this mission became more complex during the exercise when the battle field was shrouded in dust and smoke from mine, bomb, and shell detonations. This also introduces a psychological effect to a known degree. To be frank, I was somewhat apprehensive on the first sortie.

How can I avoid missing the target in this smoke and will I be able to attack it in a timely manner? It was only on the second sortie that I became accustomed to the unfamiliar situation and was able to freely orient myself.

My wingman and I had occasion to participate in several long-range and short-range aerial battles using missiles and we did not always clash with like types of aircraft. I must admit that good training resulted from these battles.

During this time all of us were enriched by know-how in effecting coordination and joint solution of tactical missions with ground units.

All of this is a concise statement of my overall impressions. Ahead is careful study of the operations at the exercise, dissemination of the positive things learned, and very rapid introduction of this valuable know-how into the practice of training and indoctrinating aerial warriors.

Major E. Kravtsov,
Sniper Pilot

[Photo captions, top to bottom: "1. The missileers of the Ground Forces PVO subunit commanded by Guards Lieutenant V. Zaytsev operated precisely and in a coordinated manner during Exercise 'Karpaty.' Among those who excelled was the crew headed by Guards Sergeant A. Mekhonoshin. 2. Captain V. Kundyukov, son of a front line artilleryman and commander of a motorized infantry battalion, skillfully led his subordinates in a complex combat situation. 3. Lieutenant P. Makshakov, navigator on a bomber crew, controlled the aircraft with great accuracy when performing an air strike. 4. The troops of the motorized infantry company commanded by Lieutenant B. Aleynikov demonstrated growing mastery during the exercise. They skillfully combined fire with maneuver and successfully accomplished the assigned combat training mission. Left to right: Lieutenant B. Aleynikov, Privates A. Baryshnikov, A. Kul'nev, Junior Sergeant S. Koryagin, Sergeant A. Boratinskiy. 5. The combat engineer divers commanded by Warrant Officer N. Petrukh' excelled at the exercise. Combat engineer diver A. Vasil'yev is pictured."]

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labor collective must strive for the highest possible labor productivity, to strictly observe production discipline and the policy of economizing and to improve from day to day the quality of his work and the quality of production which is turned out."

Following these directions of the party, soldier-aviators are competing to attain the best results with the least expenditure of time, labor and material resources while providing complete and exact mission accomplishment. They are striving so that each hour of study in the classroom, in aircraft and in the simulators, each hour of flying time, each missile launch, bomb release and firing pass will be of maximum benefit to combat training. More and more specialists are taking part in the competition for aircraft excellence, for exemplary care and preparation of equipment for flight. The work of party and Komsomol organizations, which are the true soul of competition in the TMU [technical maintenance units] and other AES sub-units, has a great mobilizing value.

The inseparability of the concepts efficiency and quality is becoming particularly apparent under the conditions of scientific-technical progress; their capacity and versatility and their influence on all the elements which make up combat readiness are increasing immeasurably. AES specialists are currently preparing equipment for flight on a team basis. A violation of the norms and rules for aircraft or helicopter maintenance and repair by just one of them can lead to serious consequences. That is why the struggle for high quality work at each work position while accomplishing any operation connected with aircraft (helicopter) preparation or repair has taken on enormous significance today. Permitting an error when entering the flight program in the on-board digital computer is enough so that the missile-armed aircraft will not arrive at the assigned area and accomplishment of the mission assigned to the crew will be jeopardized.

The saturation of modern combat aircraft with diverse and interdependent systems also leads to a sharp complication in control and test equipment used for aircraft equipment maintenance and repair. In order to determine an aircraft's serviceability, AES specialists must now measure several hundred parameters. This means that one must be able to actuate and use equipment which frequently is not second to aircraft and helicopter on-board systems in its range and cost.

There are two other important design features characteristic of the new equipment which have to be considered when working on it. First is the significantly increased degree of micro-

miniaturization of on-board equipment. At the present time, a number of articles on the aircraft are completely made on a microelectronic basis; this raises new, specific requirements in methods and means for their maintenance and restoration. Second, the widespread use of high alloy steels and titanium alloys in airframe structures, subassemblies and joints complicates airframe checks and repair of aircraft equipment. Among these, it is precisely reconditioning methods which have the greatest specificity.

Supplementary measures for establishing and maintaining special conditions in work facilities, which exclude, for example, the influence of electric and magnetic fields, fluctuations in temperature, humidity and pressure and dust in the surrounding air, are indispensable for organizing repair of third generation aircraft weapons and equipment.

High quality repair of the new models of aircraft equipment is provided, as a rule, in aircraft repair facilities which today are already on a par with aircraft plants in on-hand equipment and in the introduction of a broad range of progressive technological processes and personnel skills. This is why it is important to be concerned that our aircraft maintenance men are in step with the development of aviation knowledge, steadfastly strive for a high work culture and advanced technology and constantly increase the quality and efficiency of their labor.

While attaching a great deal of significance to providing technical equipment to the Soviet Armed Forces, including the Air Force, the Communist Party teaches that man was and is the main force in war--the staunch, ideologically convinced warrior who expertly masters his equipment and is capable of making full use of its combat capabilities. The qualitative level of personnel training is now one of the most important criteria of combat readiness and it must, first of all, be converted into a high level of tactical, firing and technical expertise. Along with the ideological tempering of aviators, an in-depth knowledge of weapons and combat equipment is necessary. No matter how menacing and perfect a weapon is, it still does not, by itself, guarantee successful accomplishment of combat missions. The maximum capabilities of third generation aircraft and helicopters can only be realized in the capable hands of the pilot (crew), in the perfect mastery of combat equipment, aerodynamics and tactics.

Mastery of new equipment in the forces is a multidimensional process. The problems of retraining are only the first step which gives the specialist the right to work independently.

IMPORTANCE OF EFFICIENT AIRCRAFT SERVICING STRESSED

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 7, Jul 77 signed to press 31 May 77 pp 1-3

[Article by Engr-Col Gen V. Skubilin: "Efficiently Master New Equipment"]

[Text] While consistently implementing the far-reaching socio-economic program which was elaborated by the 25th CPSU Congress, the Soviet people are strengthening the economic might of the socialist Fatherland by their selfless labor. They are filled with resolution to honorably implement the majestic plans for communist construction.

The entire life and training of Soviet soldiers passes under the influence of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the CPSU Central Committee decree "On the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution," the decisions of the May CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the report of L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, "On the Draft Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

Each day aviators are spreading socialist competition ever wider and they are striving for a further increase in combat readiness and for attaining new frontiers in combat and political training. Soldiers of the Aviation Engineering Service (AES) indefatigably insure that weapons and equipment are always in good working order, in complete operational readiness and that all units and systems are working smoothly. This creates the conditions for the most successful and efficient utilization of the tactical and technical capabilities of new generation aircraft and helicopters in all phases of combat training.

In his address at the October 1976 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, comrade L. I. Brezhnev emphasized: "The struggle for efficiency and quality means that every Soviet man and every

The principal and basic form of training in a line unit was and is independent work which is conducted during duty hours under the control of the direct supervisors. The practice of individual assignments for officers has also proven its value here. It is also important for the superior to help the subordinate by explaining the crux of the task and the time limits for its accomplishment and by creating favorable conditions for independent work. The result must be the achievement of a level of training which will enable the soldiers, on the basis of a profound mastery of the equipment entrusted to them, to get everything from it that it is capable of.

AES supervisors play a large part in this great work. They must be active fighters for a high level of technical culture, capable teachers and educators of subordinates and investigators who are capable of analyzing existing methods and finding new efficient methods of fixed and rotary-wing aircraft maintenance.

The role of AES specialists is not just one of maintaining aircraft equipment quality at the level established by industry. At the same time that new equipment is being mastered in the units and subunits, the process of its improvement, modernization and modification is going on. Pilots, navigators, engineers, technicians and other specialists are active participants in this process. This increases their role and responsibility and develops their creative thinking.

The practice of mastering new aircraft equipment has shown the special importance of a thorough knowledge of all its characteristics and their check-out, beginning with acceptance at the plants. And after the equipment enters units, AES personnel are responsible for the organization and qualitative accomplishment of a wide range of measures aimed at maintaining its high level of operational reliability and at insuring flight safety and constant combat readiness. High quality flight preparation of each aircraft, its equipment and armament is the basis for this work.

The quality of maintenance for aircraft and helicopters and their complex on-board systems and equipment, as is well-known, is composed of a number of interdependent elements, chief among which are: the thoroughness of equipment check-out and technical discipline in carrying out all work, irreproachable performance and organization in all AES units and the efficiency of all preventive measures. Control is assigned a large part in this system today. This is achieved, first of all, by skillful use of control and test equipment and of integral control and diagnostic systems, by an in-depth analysis of

data from the on-board flight parameter recorders and by an attentive and detailed post flight mission debriefing of crewmembers.

It is necessary for AES supervisors to keep in mind that today one cannot achieve efficient control by just increasing the number of inspections. In the first place, a truly scientific approach and vigilant and thorough tests are required. Results are significantly improved if control is conducted without hustle and bustle, in conditions which enable one to concentrate and thoroughly analyze the instrument readings. This is why many combat collectives observe a strict procedure which prohibits absolutely anybody from distracting personnel during an aircraft equipment inspection, from interrupting it and beginning correction of defects until the inspection is entirely completed.

The efficient interaction of specialists in different fields is also very important when checking the status of integral, on-board systems. This is dictated, first of all, by the complexity, diversity and degree of connection between separate devices on the airplane or helicopter. Therefore, the efficient utilization of control and test equipment depends to a great extent on the combined efforts of specialists in different fields.

All operations on aircraft equipment have their peculiarities. Strict observance of technical discipline is the common guarantee of their high-quality accomplishment. This is aided by technical manuals for all phases of work. They are becoming just as necessary for each specialist as instruments and control and test equipment. One should not be ashamed to look in the technical manual frequently, even if he has many years of experience and recognized competence behind him. Furthermore, the constant use of different types of documentation and checking one's actions against it is the sign of high professional maturity in an AES specialist, a sign that he sets high standards for himself.

We would like to direct the attention of AES personnel to the necessity for an integrated utilization of ground and on-board check-out systems. As experience has shown, an analysis of the recordings received from the on-board recorders has a great effect on between-flight analysis of aircraft equipment status, on operational crew evaluations and also on determining the status of separate systems. All objective information should be more widely used in evaluating in flight aircrew operations and aircraft equipment serviceability.

In connection with this, the significance of technical engineering training is constantly increasing. Group lessons and purposeful individual training for each specialist must be supplemented with drills and instructive demonstrations of procedures for accomplishing those operations where permitting mistakes and violations can lead to serious consequences (work on ejection seats, with armed weapons, with balloons and vessels under pressure, etc.). It is important to explain to everyone that it is not enough to know the equipment; they must be able to accurately and correctly accomplish all operations on the aircraft in their functional area with their own hands.

Drills with AES personnel play a large role in perfecting their knowledge, if, of course, they are conducted in an interesting and instructive manner. It is not correct to think that AES specialists do not need drills since they are training every day. The lack of these lessons leads to a situation where, from time to time, technicians and mechanics get used to doing a particular job on aircraft equipment incorrectly. It is precisely during drills that serious mistakes and omissions in specialist training are uncovered. It is paradoxical, but there have been instances when a technician has worked on the same job for a long time without control drills and has become so accustomed to incorrect procedures that he lost his former habits. One should also not forget that technical personnel do not do the same work everyday and that every operation requires a creative attitude, a high level of expertise and an exceptionally well-developed sense of responsibility.

A large part is assigned to aeronautical engineers in improving the technical knowledge of flight personnel and AES specialists. Under contemporary conditions, the engineer must be, first of all, a quality specialist since he is the last link in determining the completeness and efficiency of work accomplished on aircraft equipment. However, this does not exhaust his activities. At the same time, he must be an engineer-mentor, an organizer of training and education, an excellent teacher and methodologist--an advocate of high technical culture. For this, he must be able to objectively evaluate the actions and knowledge of his subordinates. Today, a lack of interest in such a responsible matter is simply not permissible. Inflated ratings and a superficial test of knowledge breed complacency and conceit; they confuse the aviator and render him helpless when confronted with difficult circumstances on the ground and in the air. And in all this work, the engineer must constantly support the initiative and creativity of advanced specialists who have achieved the best results in mastering new equipment and he must summarize and introduce their experience into AES practice.

At the present time, all unit technical and engineering training must be conducted by using different forms and methods of training with maximum utilization of simulators, action mock-ups and other visual training aids. It is well-known that the greatest effect from studies is achieved when there is a well equipped material training base for technical training. Over the past years, radical qualitative changes in this area have taken place in the Air Force. Manufactured equipment for training classrooms is entering the force; outstanding simulators, action mock-ups and testing units are being made by soldier-innovators. Classes in Air Force line units and VUZ's are acquiring a maintenance orientation; these classes are constantly improving and frequently have no peers in their area.

Officers A. Kiselev, M. Tolok, G. Goncharov, P. Petrik, A. Verezhchagin, N. Tsilinko, G. Istratov, G. Chechev and others are displaying valuable initiative and creativity in improving the training base. Thanks to their concern and organizational work, classes are being equipped with all the necessities and the most favorable conditions for training are being created.

An All-Arms inspection of the utilization of scientific-technical achievements, inventions and work-improvement suggestions of Army innovators is now being held in the Armed Forces under the motto "For Efficiency and Quality." One can already state that the activities of our innovators have significantly increased. The innovators and inventors of Air Force aviation units, military educational institutes, scientific research institutions and aircraft repair facilities are actively participating in the All-Union and All-Arms inspections and competitions; this enables a more efficient solution of the problems of increasing combat readiness, flight safety, mastery of new aircraft equipment, increasing labor productivity, saving money and material resources and improving the training process.

Lately, special purpose competitions on subjects which are most critical for aviation units and subunits are being conducted on a large scale and they have completely proven their worth. For solving complex problems, entire teams of experienced specialists are brought together. They have already made the most complex simulators, training classes and areas, action test units and mock-ups, devices, ground equipment and instruments.

One can cite as an example the organization of work-improvement activities in the Orders of Lenin and the October Revolution, Red Banner Air Force Engineering Academy imeni Professor N. E. Zhukovskiy. One of the schools appealed to all personnel to

accept increased socialist obligations and celebrate the 60th anniversary of Great October by developing and introducing work-improvement suggestions which would be of practical value to the troops. Military engineers V. Petrovskiy, S. Lysenko, V. Galkin, N. Sviridyuk, G. Deordiyev, V. Mineyev and others proved themselves to be tireless innovators and good organizers in the units.

At the present time, the widest dissemination and utilization of the achievements of inventive and work-improvement thought for further improving maintenance and increasing error-free operation of aviation equipment is an important task.

While preparing a befitting welcome for the glorious anniversary--the 60th anniversary of Great October--AES personnel and all soldier-aviators are persistently improving their expertise, strengthening the combat power of our aviation and fulfilling their patriotic duty before the Motherland.

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COMBAT TRAINING OF HELICOPTER GUNSHIP SQUADRON DESCRIBED

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 7, Jul 77 signed to press 31 May 77 pp 24-25

[Article by Sr Lt N. Noskov: "Attack From Flight Formation"]

[Text] Systematic combat training goes on from day to day. The aviators of the squadron commanded by pilot first class Maj N. Borovik are improving their combat expertise and firing training.

TFE [tactical flight exercise]. The order is received: "Helicopter gunships are to destroy the 'enemy's' tank column which is moving in the direction of the strong point." The squadron CO assembled the personnel and clearly set forth the mission for each flight. The pilots immediately began preparations. The ingress routes to the strike target, the techniques for penetrating "enemy" air defenses and target attack techniques are ascertained and calculated. At the same time, technical engineering personnel are rechecking the serviceability of the rotary-wing aircraft and the combat armament load.

Then the command "to the aircraft" rang out--and the air warriors take their positions in the cockpits. Take-off! The group takes off and sets out on its course. The flight leader, military pilot second class Capt V. Nikolayev, is functioning calmly and confidently. He has accomplished missions under complex tactical and weather conditions on more than one occasion. Recently, the advanced aviator was decorated with the order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces," third degree.

The helicopter group arrived in the designated area at the planned time. And there is the target. "Attack from flight formation!"--the flight leader commanded.

DOSAAF AVIATION SPORTS CLUB IN KURGAN SHORTCOMINGS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRYL'YA RODINY in Russian No 7, Jul 77 signed to press 14 Jun 77 pp 14-15

[Article by I. Zharkovskiy, KRYL'YA RODINY special correspondent: "Removed From Flying Status"]

[Text] Such an order was issued by the chief of the Kurgan Aviation Sport Club and referred to young instructor pilot Anatoliy Gaponov, a recent graduate of the Volchansk Aviation School. He was removed from flying status for 6 months. Sportsman A. Kudel'skiy, a participant in the flying incident, was barred from the aviation sports club.

What Led Up to the Order?

That day Aleksandr Kudel'skiy, a fairly experienced sportsman with about 150 flying hours, was to make a solo navigational flight. You couldn't have asked for better weather -- the high overcast at an altitude of 300-600 meters would in no way hinder the flight. Instructor Gaponov was aboard the aircraft to monitor the sportsman's actions while airborne.

Master of Sport N. Chashchina, the club's deputy chief for flying training, was the flight director and received the first report soon after the aircraft took off. The report indicated that the sportsman had begun to execute the mission. Not a word was said about the altitude. Unfortunately, Chashchina took no note of this.

As was subsequently learned, a descent was initiated from 300 meters down to about 20 meters. The tip of a birch tree was nipped off and jammed tightly into a strut. A bit more and there would have been disaster. The aircraft somehow landed in a forest clearing from which it turned out to be impossible to take off. The ill-fated birch branch was removed. They began to search for a more suitable area and finally found one. They taxied over there and took off.

The tanks are in the sights. A short, heavy barrage fell upon the column. The "enemy" suffered substantial losses. Sr Lts O. Agafon, S. Kolodeshnikov and O. Antipov especially distinguished themselves in this raid.

...The air attack was brief. But, behind these victorious seconds are days, months and years of persistent combat training and painstaking work by all squadron personnel. A spirit of competition, comradely mutual assistance and firm military discipline promote the growth of the aviators' flight training and those successes which they achieved in the first phase of training.

In the socialist competition which is unfolding in honor of the 60th anniversary of Great October, the helicopter crewmembers are attempting to accomplish the subunit's assigned missions with a high level of quality and are striving for efficiency in each sortie and error-free operation of aircraft equipment. The number of combat and political training experts and the number of rated specialists is steadily increasing in the squadron. The soldier-aviators are doing everything in order to completely fulfill their socialist obligations and to raise still further the subunit's combat readiness.

In the photographs:

Commander of an excellent helicopter, combat employment expert, Sr Lt O. Agafonov.

The aviators listen with interest and attention to Maj V. Parfenov, the deputy commander for political affairs. The advanced political worker's certificate for outstanding flight expertise is a valued gift from the Air Force commander in chief.

Maj N. Borovik, who was decorated with the order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces," third degree, and is the commander of an excellent squadron of combat applications experts, is giving final instructions before the sorties.

The combat and political training experts, pilot-operator V. Reykh and WO (praporshchik) V. Matuzov, are carefully studying the data from the objective control equipment. The target was destroyed.

There are new flights and new missions ahead. Military pilot first class Maj V. Aleksandrov, the squadron deputy commander, is conducting preliminary preparation.

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But time inexorably ticked on. The sportsman reported passing the first turning point without ever being there. Convinced that they would never be able to make the second turning point at the assigned time, they headed straight for the airfield. The instructor made no attempt to stop such a violation. The aircraft landed at the airfield ahead of time. This to some degree bothered the flight director but she did not try to clear up the reason for the early return, absence of reports on flight altitudes, and no mention of passing the second turning point.

A. Gaponov and A. Kudel'skiy were obligated to report what occurred after their arrival at the airfield. They did not do so and attempted to hide the potential accident cause.

But it could not be covered up. During his inspection, technician Leonid Zubairov noted a clump of dry grass stuck to the aircraft. Where did that come from? There is no grass like that on the airfield. He reported this to the flight director and to the engineer. If he had been more attentive, Zubairov would also have noted a dent in the propellor and a cut in the aircraft's skin.

Meanwhile the instructor and the sportsman clammed up. That is how it went the first day and the subsequent day. It was as if the explanations required from them by Yu. Yakushin, chief of the aviation sports club, had been dictated. The two texts were virtually identical.

Finally, on the evening of the third day instructor A. Gaponov arrived at the club chief's apartment. His face was earthy, his eyes were sunken, and his pupils shone.

"Yuriy Aleksandrovich, believe me that if you will trust me to fly again, I will never do anything like that again"

The instructor left Yakushin's apartment at 1 a.m.

"It is the law that you follow regulations, no one has the right to violate them," the club chief said.

Almost 2 months have passed since this correspondent spoke with Anatoliy Gaponov. The hurt has been somewhat blunted. However, you wouldn't say that if you saw the young instructor. Only after a long talk did he look up from the floor.

"I was punished justly," were his first words. Here is what happened. He went to the mobile command post to own up but couldn't do it. He sat there a half hour and left

Now that we can discuss the details of what exactly happened, we need to analyze the essence of the potential accident cause. It boils down to the fact that the club lacks an atmosphere of intolerance to deviations to procedures established in aviation. The instructor no sooner gets on his feet

and the sportsmen that he is to train, themselves possessing almost the same number of flying hours or perhaps even somewhat more, do not always accept his instructions as being obligatory, to be carefully complied with. Club leaders paid no attention to this. During the flight in question, the instructor mentioned the inadmissible aircraft descent which threatened flight safety to the sportsman but was unable to decisively demand that the required altitude be maintained. Why?

The reason is quite simple. A lack of discipline and elements of familiarity exist in the local club. Being on a first-name basis with your mentor is a common phenomenon. The sportsmen rarely report to their instructor when completing an exercise as the regulations stipulate so they can then be critiqued and receive further guidance.

As is known, the primary mission of the Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Air Force, and Navy is to train specialists for the Armed Forces. The task is to not only train specialists, but people who are disciplined, morally stable, and for whom the instructions of a senior comrade are strictly obligatory. Unfortunately, an analogous situation still does not exist here.

Several factors having important significance for training quality and flight safety merit mention. First, as is required, a chase aircraft from which a sportsman's actions can be easily observed should be dispatched to monitor a solo flight; second, objective monitoring is required and a barograph is mounted on the aircraft for that purpose. It turned out that it had not been turned on in time. By the way, this was not the first instance when the barographs were inoperative during flight. Third, it is never normal for no tape recordings to be made during a flight.

It would be well to say a few words about the conditions under which the Kurgan Aviation Sports Club operates. They are not bad. The club is located in the city in comfortable classrooms which are completely satisfactory. Only the auditorium equipment is left wanting. We are primarily talking about the visual aids, about the modern teaching equipment that many of our organizations have. The club has a pretty good airfield. A lot has been done with an empty area in 6 years. With their own hands they have built several buildings to house the flying training classroom, control tower, maintenance area, dining room, and shop. A room to rest up in before jumps or flights has been set up in one building. The parachute shop has everything required.

Club chief Yuriy Aleksandrovich Yakushin has passed through all levels of development. He began to fly a glider back in 1954, became a master of sport, then learned to fly an airplane. He served in the Soviet Army. He again became a sportsman when he returned to his old club, then an instructor, deputy club chief for flying training, and in recent years the club director. But, nonetheless, you cannot overlook the substantial shortcoming -- lack of insistence on high standards which naturally does not promote high discipline, organization, work precision, and sports results.

Let's look at the facts. The year before last the sportsmen from Kurgan took seventh place (out of eight teams) in the parachute competitions in the Ural zone. Last year they took sixth place. Just 5 years ago the club's sportsmen achieved notable successes. Socialist competition is poorly organized at the club. Just short of half of the club's workers do not participate in them. Errors in indoctrinational work are keenly felt. This is explained to a considerable degree by the absence of a real club deputy chief for political affairs. O. Drobyshev, who served many years in military aviation and is a pilot first class, only recently began to take on these important responsibilities. He has jumped into the job and you couldn't replace his experience and ability. You sense this everywhere, in what has been done and in what is intended.

Just recently a commission from the Aviation Training and Sports Administration of the CC DOSAAF USSR visited Kurgan. It not only uncovered deficiencies, and substantial ones at that, but also pointed out how to eliminate them.

The aviation sports club has already accomplished a great deal to correct what was written up. But there is a large amount of work ahead. The main task was and remains to instill in all club workers, all sportsmen, the concept that honesty, veracity, and high discipline are the guarantee of flight safety and safe parachuting.

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DOSAAF PARACHUTE TRAINING REGULATION VIOLATIONS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRYL'YA RODINY in Russian No 7, 1977 signed to press 14 Jun 77 p 21

[Article by V. Smirnov, senior inspector-pilot, CC DOSAAF USSR: "Rules Violation -- Direct Path to an Incident"]

[Text] The following took place once at the Ufa Aeroclub. The main canopy failed to open because the safety device was not connected to the D-5 parachute's double-bevel catch. The sportsman was making his first jump, he got rattled, and did not know what to do when the emergency situation arose in the air.

The jumper descended for a long time on his stabilizing canopy, holding on to the rip cord ring. At 400 meters altitude, the safety device engaged and opened the spare chute pack. Hearing the noise from the safety device, he used his left hand to help the spare chute deploy normally.

In January a sportsman making his first jump with the Novosibirsk Aeroclub got hung up on the AN-2 aircraft. During separation, the stabilizing chute lodged between the rear edge of the exit door and the side of the aircraft. The sportsman was hung up on a connector. After 5 seconds the safety device engaged and opened the double-bevel catch. The main parachute shroud lines and canopy left the container and deployed. An attempt to pull the guy into the aircraft was unsuccessful. The instructor passed down a knife on a shroud line but it was torn out of the trainee's hand by the air stream. The shroud lines got twisted as the flight continued.

At the instructor's command, the student disconnected the safety device to preclude the spare chute from automatically deploying. The aircraft descended. At the moment the sportsman touched the snow cover the jumpmaster cut the parachute connecting link. The lad was not injured.

There are many similarities in these two examples and the basic reason is the same -- violation of regulations governing the organization and conduct of parachute jumps in DOSAAF aviation organizations.

At the Ufa Aeroclub they arbitrarily cut the training time. Also, they violated instructions on packing landing parachutes since the trainees rather than the instructors installed the double-bevel catch.

The tangling of the jumper outside the aircraft in Novosibirsk occurred as a result of a violation of the instructions on using the D-5 parachute. The AN-2 was not fully equipped with extenders for the D-5 parachute. The jumpmaster attached some of the snap hooks on the stabilizing chute packs not to the extender but directly to the cable and conducted the drop

Statistics show that in the main potential accident causes result from violation of regulations governing the organization and conduct of parachute jumps.

Workers from the CC DOSAAF USSR sum up the work of aviation organizations when club chiefs and parachute link commanders meet annually. All potential accident causes and ways to avoid them are discussed in detail. In addition, all clubs have the governing documents which, if used, would avoid accidents. But the instructor staff often gets a bit complacent when a long time passes without an incident. Their professional vigilance disappears and this can lead to potential accident causes.

Avoidance of instructor staff complacency depends to a great degree on the chiefs of aviation organizations. Correct methodological work in the clubs during parachute training, a timely and precise review of the jumps, in-depth analysis of deficiencies in flight organization and conduct, and timely dissemination of CC DOSAAF USSR regulations are a guarantee of accident-free flying and parachute operations.

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DOSAAF AVIATION MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND RESULTS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRYL'YA RODINY in Russian No 7, Jul 77 signed to press 14 Jun 77 pp 32-33

[Article by I. Korovin, Chief of the Aviation Equipment Operation Division, CC DOSAAF USSR: "Aviation Equipment Reliability"]

[Excerpts] Guaranteeing the reliable operation of aviation equipment is one of the most important missions of DOSAAF training organizations. Flight safety, efficient equipment employment, and reduction of operating costs depend to a great degree on equipment reliability.

The Communist Party and the Soviet government attach primary significance to problems of raising production efficiency and product quality. The Tenth Five-Year Plan was referred to during the 25th CPSU Congress as the five-year plan of efficiency and quality. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated in the CC CPSU Accountability Report to the Congress: "The orientation of all sectors of the economy, the work of each ministry and department to decisively improve efficiency and quality -- this, comrades, is now the most important thing."

The decisions of the Congress as well as of the October (1976) CC CPSU Plenum became the program for all the actions of DOSAAF aviation training organizations and repair enterprises to improve the quality of preparing aviation equipment for flight and to raise its operating reliability and employment effectiveness.

Practice shows that aviation equipment reliability greatly depends upon how it is operated. Consequently, the better the flying, technical, and maintenance personnel are trained, the better the preventive maintenance and equipment storage are organized, the longer and more reliably the equipment will serve.

In recent years a great deal has been done in DOSAAF aviation sports clubs to equip training classrooms and laboratories, to improve the knowledge of the flying-technical personnel and the technical culture during aviation equipment maintenance. The collectives in the aviation sports club engineer aviation service [IAS], with the active assistance of DOSAAF committee aviation specialists, in 1976 in the main successfully coped with supporting

flying operations. To do so demanded better organized preparation of the aviation equipment for flight and strict adherence to requirements and regulations from the engineer-technical club staffs. Special attention was placed on raising the personal responsibility of each aviation specialist for execution of his service obligations.

Last year, the IAS collectives from many clubs coped well with their assigned missions.

The IAS in these aviation training organizations were characterized by high labor organization, skillful operation of aviation equipment, and constant improvement in the forms and methods of aircraft, helicopter, and glider technical maintenance. The slogan of the engineers, technicians, and specialists of all the services in these clubs was complete elimination of aviation equipment failures in the air.

Achievement of failure-free aviation equipment operation in flight is possible given precise planning of all forms of equipment preparation, punctual execution of the requirements of technical maintenance regulations, and a well-coordinated system of monitoring work execution. As is known, the basic type of preparation of aviation equipment for flight is preliminary preparation conducted as a rule the day before the flying day.

Periodic servicing and preventive maintenance conducted at specific times play an especially important role in guaranteeing aviation equipment reliability and preventing failures and potential accident causes. DOSAAF aviation sports clubs have accumulated vast experience in organizing and carrying out such work. Special laboratories have been set up and are functioning in many aviation sports clubs. They are equipped with a variety of test benches and check-out gear which allow them to check out assemblies and connections, plus make instrument checks on units, instruments, and complete systems.

Well-coordinated record-keeping on malfunctions is of great significance for guaranteeing high aviation equipment operational reliability. Information as to their number and nature is exceptionally valuable for subsequent engineer analysis. The basic purpose of such analysis is to establish trends and objective reasons for malfunctions based on in-depth study of the circumstances and reasons why the malfunctions occur. This is followed by working out and in a timely manner taking effective measures to raise operational reliability and to improve methods of technical operation and organization of the work of the engineering-technical staff.

Preparation of DOSAAF aviation sports club equipment for flight has become more precise. The number of failures in the air in 1976 is one-third the 1975 figure. The labor of many collectives stands behind that indicator. However, the record-keeping and analysis of malfunctions is unsatisfactory and done in an unqualified way in several aviation sports clubs. The engineer-technical staff in a number of clubs is to blame for the many failures and potential accident causes. This primarily applies to the Kazan' Aviation Sports Club, Frunze, Gor'kiy, Chelyabinsk, Volgograd, and several other clubs.

Ignoring regulations, reducing work volumes when preparing aviation equipment for flight, technical ignorance, and lack of mutual high standards led to the fact that in 1976 there were several cases of aircraft being launched with partial fuel loads resulting in emergency landings. Such violations occurred in the Gor'kiy, Frunze, Chelyabinsk, and Donetsk Aviation Sports Clubs. Complete contempt for rules covering aircraft pre-flighting led to link commander Ye. Martynov from the Kumertau Aviation Technical Sports Club trying to take off in a YaK-12M with the control stick pin not removed. This case ended with a collapsed gear and broken prop.

There are not nor can there be irrelevant items when aircraft equipment is prepared for flight. Everything is important. Every time an aviation specialist tries to take some sort of shortcut or neglect something he as a rule will become the guilty party in a potential accident cause. Where you find a lack of the required exactingness, where workers fulfill their responsibilities negligently, potential accident causes are repeated for the same reasons. For example, an engine was throwing oil in flight at the Buzuluk Aeroclub. A check established that the oil cap was not tightly closed after a refueling. It would seem that this instance should serve as a signal to determine the reasons for the potential accident cause and take measures to preclude such errors in the future. Unfortunately this was not the case. The error was repeated soon thereafter.

IAS collectives in the lagging clubs must critically look to the results of their work and do what is required to guarantee aviation equipment reliability. They have all the required capabilities to do so. A training methodology meeting of aviation sports club engineers was held in late 1976 at the Sevastopol' and Simferopol' Aviation Sports Club base. The engineers exchanged know-how in flight support operations, traded opinions, and discussed examples of how to raise the quality of aviation equipment preparation and more effectively employ it. Engineers B. Repetilo (CC DOSAAF UkSSR), P. Pervushin (Moscow), and Ye. Osopov (Orel) gave interesting reports. Good specialists and organizers, they discussed how equipment is operated and its reliability guaranteed as they search for and put to use hidden reserves. The meeting was very useful and was a good school for all participants.

In all clubs competition has been widely unfurled for fulfillment of the socialist pledges made in the second year of the Tenth Five-Year Plan. In each club the IAS workers are conducting a stubborn struggle to improve equipment reliability, to have the aircraft they maintain designated "excellent aircraft," "excellent helicopter," or "excellent glider." There is no doubt that all the collectives in DOSAAF aviation organizations, preparing a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the Great October socialist revolution, will achieve even higher indicators in their job of training aviation sportsmen.

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