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MILITARY INDOCTRINATION ACTIVITIES OF ZNANIYE SOCIETY DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Academician I. Obratsov, deputy chairman of the board of the All-Union "Znaniye" Society: "A Lecture Hall for Millions: The 'Znaniye' Society is Thirty Years Old"]

[Excerpts] A great deal of propaganda work is performed by the Order of Lenin All-Union "Znaniye" Society, which has more than 3 million members. Among these are 2,000 academicians and corresponding members, 171,000 doctors and candidates of sciences, professors and docents, 481,000 specialists from the national economy and more than a million teachers... each year 24.4 million lectures (an average of 67,000 a day) are delivered within the society on various topics of policy and economics, science and technology, culture and art.

This work, of such vast scale and all-embracing encyclopedism, demonstrates the importance of the "Znaniye" society within the system of communist indoctrination and education of the Soviet people and in the party's ideological work. The publicizing of achievements of the developed socialist society occupies a prime place in the ideological-indoctrinational work of society organizations. Unremitting attention is devoted to questions of CPSU economic strategy and policy, to explanation of the leading role of the working class, propaganda of the Soviet way of life -- the most important result of the historic accomplishments of socialism following the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and to demonstrating our Leninist party's struggle to strengthen peace and international security. In this work an important place is assigned to matters of proletarian internationalism and to the demonstration of the socialist nations' successes and achievements.

The lectures acquaint the broad masses with aspects of law, atheism, pedagogics, natural sciences, medicine, esthetics and so forth. In their explanation of all these questions the lecturers attempt to shed light on the Weltanschauung and ideological aspects.

Our students demonstrate extraordinary interest in events of foreign policy and in the purposeful work carried out by the party and government to implement the program of continued struggle for peace and international cooperation, for the freedom and independence of nations. More than 5,000 lectures are delivered each day on the subjects, a total of more than 2.5 million a year. "At The Round Table" gatherings and "The World of Today," "The Soviet People, A New Historical Community of People" and "I Am a Citizen of the Soviet Union" discussions are regularly conducted in the House of Science of the Uzbek SSR and in the central lecture halls of Riga, Vil'nyus, Kishinev, Karaganda and many other of the nation's cities.

As they explain the nature and importance of the peaceful offensive by the Soviet Union and nations of the socialist commonwealth lecturers of the "Znaniye" Society take into account the fact that imperialism's aggressive groups are continuing to build up their armaments and attempting to upset the process of detente. The role of military-patriotic indoctrination of the workers, especially the youth, is increasing considerably in this situation.

The propagandizing of military knowledge occupies a significant place in the development of Soviet patriotism. Explanation of the military-theoretical legacy of V. I. Lenin, the role of the CPSU in the direction of the USSR Armed Forces and the great feat accomplished by the Soviet people during the Great Patriotic War is closely integrated with the tasks of the Soviet Army and Navy in defense of the accomplishments of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Suffice it to say that there were 946 people's universities and schools for the future soldier, officer and reserve officer in 1973-74, whereas the number has grown to 1,676 with more than 400,000 students in 1975-76.

It is not just the growth in numbers which is gratifying. The main thing is that those forms of propaganda lecturing, calculated to have a prolonged ideological effect, are being employed far more extensively. The lecturer's word is becoming a great help to the national cause. I shall give an example dear to the hearts of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers. Most people know that the frontier troops are sponsoring construction projects in Tyumenskaya Oblast, and our lecturers visit both the frontier posts and the enterprises and construction sites. In their lectures on the development of the nation's productive forces they do not fail to tell the construction workers about the life and service of the frontier guards and in their meetings with the tamers of the oil-bearing virgin land, about the need to guard our peaceful, creative work vigilantly. Is there any need to explain the indoctrinational effect of such discussions or how they strengthen the monolithic unity of the Armed Forces and the people.

The society's active members include many representatives of the Armed Forces, reserve and retired generals and officers. I shall name only one of them: Hero of the Soviet Union, Lieutenant General of Aviation (Retired) F. Kotlyar. A combat pilot in the past, he prepares for each presentation thoroughly, as though for a combat sortie. Gratitude for his services in cultural-sponsorship and propaganda work has been expressed in an order issued by the USSR Minister of Defense.

There are thousands of such lecturers in the "Znaniye" Society's active membership, and they are the ones who set the tone in the military-patriotic indoctrinational work. Extensive use is made of lecture halls and film-and-lecture halls, talks on special subjects and group visits by lecturers to industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, sovkhoses, educational institutions and military units (chast). Combat glory evenings and meetings of three generations have become traditional. New forms of work are also catching on, including the Week in Honor of Heroes, festivals celebrating streets named after heroes, and so forth.

"Znaniye" Society organizations are participating more and more extensively in the conduct of lessons on courage designed to further the military-patriotic indoctrination of school children. This constitutes something like a counsel, a talk by an older comrade, an awakening of the feeling of personal responsibility for the state and security of the homeland. A fragment of the documentary film "Artillery in the Battles Near Moscow" was shown at one such lesson in the city of Lobnya, Moscow Oblast. And it is not difficult to imagine how excited the children were when they learned that the lecturer invited to speak to them had taken part in those battles, that his observation post had been right there in their own school building.

The feat of the older generation serves as a powerful example for our youth. Our lecturer-propagandists attempt to reveal it thoroughly, especially during this 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, to explain the revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the Communist Party, the Soviet people and their Armed Forces. "After all, our present is based on that which was created, won and defended by previous generations...", said Comrade L.I. Brezhnev at a formal meeting in the city of Tula. "By resurrecting the difficult war years in our minds we are giving proper credit to a fighting people, a conquering people, a people who have converted their homeland into a mighty and flourishing power during the three postwar decades."

The board of the All-Union Society is constantly strengthening its links with the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, the Soviet Committee of War Veterans, the Institute of Military History of the USSR Ministry of Defense, with the staffs and political organs of military units, military commissariats and military educational institutions.

The scope of the "Znaniye" Society's work is expanding and increasing demands are being made of the quality and efficiency of the propaganda. All of this requires constant improvement of our organizational work, the introduction of scientific methods of control of the propaganda lecturers and further development of the public principles. The 7th Congress of the All-Union Society, which took place in Moscow in May, defined specific recommendations on this matter.

Two leading themes are organically interwoven in the presentations of our lecturers today: preparations for the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and discussion of the draft of the new

USSR Constitution. All of this propaganda lecturing is aimed at further stimulating the nation's public life and at the successful implementation of decisions of the 25th party congress. May the millions of lectures delivered by us strengthen communist ideological consciousness in millions of people, an amalgam of knowledge, convictions and practical action. This is our motto.

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BOOK STRESSES PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT OF COMMANDER'S BATTLE DECISIONS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jul 77 p 2

[Book review by Maj Gen Arty G. Biryukov, doctor of military sciences, professor, of the book "Psikhologiya resheniya komandira" by V. D. Ryabchuk and V. I. Kovalev, Voenizdat, 1976, 208 pages]

[Text] Problems of improving the quality and effectiveness of troop control and its central element, the development of the commander's decision, are acquiring special urgency in the situation created by the modern revolution in military technology. These complex problems are set forth in this book on the psychology of the commander's decision, published by Voennoye izdatel'stvo.

On the basis of an in-depth analysis of modern warfare the authors draw a conclusion on the commander's increased responsibility for the timeliness and substantiation of his decisions. They stress the need for a commander to systematically improve his cognitive sphere, that is, to constantly improve and expand his knowledge of the situation and to take into fuller account in the process of making a decision the psychological patterns of this work and the peculiarities of psychic, cognitive processes. The book discusses the need for officers to have a more thorough understanding of the military-psychological sciences, permitting the commander to make optimum decisions in a modern battle. The importance of this is obvious. The authors correctly stress the fact that in former times it could be considered that the ability to make the most expedient decision in a battle would develop by itself as the individual's combat experience expanded, by the "trial-and-error" method. The ("learning from one's mistakes") approach is absolutely inadmissible today, because the price of each "trial" and each "error" is too great. With this in mind the authors devote special attention to the need for thorough preparation for a modern battle, for efficient cognitive performance in combat.

The book properly notes that a knowledge and consideration of the patterns of cognitive processes serve as an important factor for improving efficiency in the direction of a battle, involving an enormous quantity of complex combat equipment and personnel with various skills and various degrees of training. Development of the cognitive processes, primarily in field training and exercises, is of paramount importance in this matter.

Individual chapters of the book thoroughly analyze the essence of a commander's cognitive action. It gives a historical analysis of the degree of complexity of the commander's work, how it is affected by the ever increasing scope and complexity of combat operations and the reduced amount of time available for making a decision, and stresses the need to improve the individual's psycho-physiological capabilities with respect to extent and timeliness for processing information of a rapidly changing combat situation.

Regarding the commander's decisions as a mental model of an impending battle and relying on the experience of the Great Patriotic War and military exercises of recent years the authors analyze the methods and psychology involved in making a decision and consider the nature and substance of foreseeing future events, ways and methods of developing foresight in the commander.

The book presents the fundamentals of heuristics as the science of creative thinking. Based on the combat training experience of the troops the authors examine aspects of the commander's heuristic activity in forming the battle plan and prospects for the use of heuristic methods in military practices. The book deals with the interesting questions of the use of electronics and mathematics in the commander's decision making process. The book illustrates how methods of modern mathematical logic and automation equipment help the commander to make the collection, processing and issuance of operational-technical information more efficient, to make optimum decisions based on calculations. Practical recommendations are given as to where, how and for what purpose electronic computers should be drawn upon, how the commander himself can make calculating charts and use them to simplify and accelerate operational-tactical calculations and the purposes for which the mathematical system of the theory of the study of operations should be used as an instrument of quantitative substantiation for decisions.

The issues set forth in this book are important and current. They are analyzed on the basis of modern scientific concepts. In addition, the authors make extensive use of information from both the military and psychological sciences, as well as military psychology.

The structure selected by the authors for this book made it possible to reveal the main aspects of the psychology of a commander's decision and to comprehensively consider ways of increasing the effectiveness of the commander's cognitive activity in the process of making a decision, using modern scientific methods and technical equipment.

We feel that the authors have succeeded in setting forth on the proper scientific and theoretical level a number of valuable practical recommendations to improve the complex system by which the commander works out the battle plan, recommendations which will prove useful both to field officers and students at military educational institutions.

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CASE OF HOOLIGAN-SOLDIER REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by Lt Col V. Filatov: "A Court of The Conscience"]

[Text] "I have been in a disciplinary battalion for a year now. My term will be up quite soon. Neither my mother, my father or my girlfriend or anyone at work knows that I am here. One does not brag about the fact that he is in a disciplinary battalion. Everyone thinks that I have been on regular duty since I left for the service ... I had hoped that no one would learn about this. But here I am writing you myself and requesting that you publish this letter ...". This is how Private S. Nikitich began his lengthy, sensible letter to the editor, a letter in which one has to read between the lines. It was clear only that the individual was requesting something and not telling all, and the decision was made to pay him a visit.

At the military tribunal of the district in which the disciplinary battalion is located I was shown the file of Nikitich. He is serving a sentence under Article 206 of the RSFSR Criminal Code for malicious hooliganism. Stated more simply, he is being punished for forcing a young soldier to work for him and of beating him cruelly when the soldier refused. The first-year soldier ended up in the hospital and Nikitich ended up in the disciplinary battalion.

After familiarizing myself with this case I suddenly realized that it reeked of something alien, even hostile. It was difficult to believe that something like this could happen today. A full 60 years ago the revolution had wiped out the agents of these barbarous morals with a single sweep and had plowed up all of the roots nurturing such morals. The entire structure of our present life has no place for even isolated cases of this nature, and especially in the military.

We were sitting together in one of the offices of the emptied disciplinary battalion headquarters. Evening was approaching. Nikitich, together with the others, had just been returned under escort from the worksite.

There was a lengthy, oppressive silence. Nikitich seemed preoccupied with his hands as though inspecting them. They were shaking and he squeezed first one and then the other between his knees. I was scrutinizing Nikitich himself. A strong fellow, broad-shouldered, he straightened his glasses with an index finger with a broken nail. I also began to look at his hands: after all, these were the hands with which he beat his comrade ...

"During my year in the disciplinary battalion, I have simply fallen to pieces," Nikitich began speaking, unable to restrain a quiver in his voice. "I wrote my comrades at work that I am a sergeant. I wrote my girlfriend that I might possibly be held up in the army because, I said, I do not have a replacement yet. I wrote my mother and father that I am studying in a special school...

"I have written a letter to each of the fellows at our plant," continued Nikitich, "but I have not received a single answer. The main thing for me now is to have Yura and the fellows forgive me."

He suddenly began crying, his sobbing reflecting deep-felt misery. I was prepared for anything but not for this. I looked at the sobbing Nikitich and thought that I should certainly do something to comfort him, but I felt that I did not have the right words, that I did not even have a desire to comfort: the sentencing document was in front of my eyes, which described this man's crime in detail.

Abnormal relations... they can no doubt start with something very small, with a word, for example: a crude answer, a sharp comment, treatment not according to regulations... this extremely small thing, a word, however, leads to an act, to a breach of regulations.

We frequently speak of the wisdom of the Code and always link this with that common goal set for the soldier and officer, for the sergeant and general. It, this goal, is the welfare and security of the homeland. There is no more important goal.

Didn't Nikitich comprehend this? It is for every one to discover and rediscover all of the truths. Did Nikitich understand the fact that he was a defender of the homeland, that he had to prepare himself for military work, that in order to achieve victory in a battle he had not only to learn how to destroy a target but also to become profoundly imbued with a feeling of military camaraderie, to strengthen his willingness to risk his life, if necessary, for a comrade in arms? Those who were able to overcome the enemy in the most savage of all wars, the war against fascism, demonstrated this, demonstrated the moral climate in which they had developed and were indoctrinated by the entire structure of our life.

The following morning the chief of staff of the disciplinary battalion showed me a file of neatly arranged papers.

"We are considering recommending Nikitich for early release," he explained. "His behavior warrants no reproofs. And he is becoming a reformed person. He exceeds the shift assignments by 50 percent. We have no complaints about him ...".

So, there were no more complaints about Nikitich in the disciplinary battalion. This was true. The indoctrinators there are experienced, and they had a great deal to do with the fact that he did indeed write the letter of remorse to the editors. They could see through Nikitich, so to speak, and something was taking place with him, something which led them to consider applying for the soldier's early release.

I met with Nikitich several more times and then left, not to see the editors but to the unit (chast) in which he had served before entering the disciplinary battalion.

I arrived in the company in which he had once served and found a readers' conference in session. All the seats in the company's Lenin room were taken. They were discussing the book "Preyemstvennost'" [Succession] by the well-known literary critic Boris Leonov. I began listening closely to the speeches and understood that they were speaking in the Lenin room about the nature of military work, the meaning of a military feat, the sources of heroism, the military fellowship which provided the strength of heroes Nikolay Ostrovskiy, Dmitriy Furmanov, Vadim Kozhevnikov, Ivan Paderin and Yuriy Bondarev. In their discussion of literary heroes almost every speaker included the name of someone with whom he was presently serving, with whom he had been brought together by his service in the army. The speakers found both a connection in time and common features in the literary heroes known to everyone in our nation and those who served alongside them, with whom they shared the burdens and joys of the service.

I also heard comments about Nikitich by his former colleagues in service. They found individuals like him among the literary characters depicted in a far from positive light. They also talked about how senior personnel know the junior members, how well they understand each other. Someone suggested that it would be good for each new soldier to have kind and responsive comrades from among the older members. They recalled in this connection the famous "Kak zakalyalas' stal'" [How the Steel was Tempered], and its heroes Zhukhray and the young Pavka Korchagin. These were people who pondered over things and understood themselves and their military duty.

The degree of interest and emotion displayed in the discussion of the book reflected the soldiers' desire to be better, the desire to see the "moral ideal of the people made into a reality" -- these words of the author were quoted by the secretary of the Komsomol organization.

At the end of the conference I approached him and asked him about Nikitich, about his unanswered letters. The secretary, became a different person, he became sullen and a caustic look came to his eyes.

"We expelled him from the Komsomol," he said with distaste in his voice.

In the meantime, almost the entire company had gathered around us. I addressed a question not to the secretary but to those standing around us:

"Was there really not a single friend among those to whom Nikitich wrote who could answer with at least a couple of lines"?

I received the same answer from those standing around me as Nikitich had received -- silence.

"It is even dangerous to be alone with such an individual," a quite young soldier let fall pensively.

"We tried to compose an answer but could not find any good words for him," said a private first class.

"They said everything to him in the court," the person next to him added...

The last to comment was the secretary of the Komsomol organization:

"Since he understands and realizes his error we cannot remain indifferent."

No, they have not forgotten Nikitich there. He is mentioned quite frequently just as he was at that readers' conference. They mention him at Komsomol meetings, during investigations of personal cases, in conversations when the talk turns to something unworthy, something which discredits the good name of the Soviet soldier. The name Nikitich has taken on a negative connotation in the company. This unanimous, and lasting condemnation reflects a great deal of work by commanders and political workers.

I was not able to meet Yuriy, the soldier beaten by Nikitich: he had already been discharged into the reserve. They said that he was a good fellow, he drew well and helped to decorate the Lenin room... he is remembered and loved there, he receives letters regularly and answers them promptly. Yuriy lives in Central Asia. They received a package from him in December. They opened it to find that it contained apples.

Where do people like Nikitich come from? After all, he also went to school, worked somewhere and had parents. Once again I did not visit the editors but bought a train ticket and arrived at the city in which Nikitich was born.

From a perusal of the documents I learned that prior to entering the army Nikitich had worked at a plant, in a brigade of lathe operators. I visited that brigade. The shop was crowded with machine tools and electric dollies rushed along the aisles, bringing in blanks and hauling out finished articles. I was shown the seven machine tools at which the brigade worked. Fellows in identical light-blue coveralls, stylish and attractive, stood at the lathes. The fellows were so involved in their work that they appeared to see nothing and hear nothing except the noise of their lathes. I initiated a conversation with them during the lunch break.

The brigade leader was around 30 years of age, the other members 25 or so. Only one of them seemed like just a boy to me. We began talking. It turned out that with the exception of that one boy they were all former soldiers or sergeants. Prior to entering the army they had worked in this very brigade. They had returned. Their jobs had been held for them. And this is not the only brigade in which that is the rule. I asked them about Nikitich. The brigade was embarrassed: the fellows went into their pockets for cigarettes. I understood that they knew where their comrade was. The brigade leader confirmed my guess:

"The commander wrote and told us everything. We thought about what we should do? We were holding his job. We were fulfilling the plan for him. That is our tradition. When he wrote telling us he had been promoted to sergeant we knew that he had taken to lying. And so we hired Igorek," the commander put his arm around the individual who had seemed just a boy to me.

"Did Nikitich have any absenteeism on his record? He did," the brigade leader made a hopeless gesture with his hand. "We thought that since he was young he would recover. Who could have supposed that it would come to this," he seemed to be justifying himself. "He asks for forgiveness, does he?" the brigade leader laughed bitterly. "It is a good thing if he has found out. He has the right to visit the brigade."

"Well, I would forgive him," Igorek suddenly said. "After all, he has done nothing bad to any of us personally."

The brigade leader looked at the young fellow for some time.

"Well, am I right?" the young man blurted out.

"No, you are wrong," the brigade leader cut him off. "He has done something to us personally. We were personally counting on him personally."

The brigade leader kept glancing at Igorek as though he had noticed something in him for the first time. He fell to thinking, about Nikitich, it appeared to me, and about the newcomer for whom everything was just beginning and whose army service was ahead of him...

To raise one's hand against a brother-soldier is alien to the entire nature of our relations, our morals. It is recreancy. You can't call it anything else. The brigade leader also mentioned the binges which Nikitich went on, rarely, to be sure, but a fact nonetheless, and his casual buddies. At that time it had seemed like just a passing thing, that it would simply go away. It did not go away, however, but only became worse.

The bravado, the desire to stand out, to lord it over others had developed into ruthlessness.

I walked across the square toward the entrance-gate and experienced the same feeling I had felt when I walked across the drill square toward the unit command post following the conversation in the company...

I simply could not leave the city without visiting the parents of Nikitich. The door was opened by a woman who could still not be considered old. The three-room apartment was furnished with good furniture and a color television set stood in the corner. I also met the father of Nikitich. When I told them that I had seen their son quite recently the mother began crying softly and the father seemed to become petrified. There was something of the guardsman in this individual, a participant in the Great Patriotic War -- a big chest, a forelock pushed to the side... he kept averting his eyes, though. It was obviously difficult for him.

"He is our only son," said the mother. "He had everything. What did we overlook? It is beyond us. The commander wrote and told us everything. We tell everyone that he is still on the regular duty. Such a disgrace!"

She continued through her tears:

"Irochka, his girlfriend, stopped coming here when she found out. She has not been here for a whole year now. She was recently married..."

And I suddenly understood the sorrowful tears shed by Nikitich in one of the offices at the headquarters of the disciplinary battalion. I now understood the remorse which those tears reflected. I now understood the words which he had blurted out through the sobbing: "I am ready to fall down on my knees in front of everyone..."

There was no way I could comfort his parents -- that was the situation ...

I had made the rounds of all the people who knew Nikitich and knew what he had done, and I found no sympathy in any of them, no pity for him...

They have not forgiven him. Who can blame them? This is not an easy thing for people to do. It will not be a simple thing for Nikitich to earn their forgiveness.

Exceeding the output plan by 50 percent a day is not enough. It is not the power in one's hands which is being tested, but his conscience, conviction and sincerity. They will ultimately take him back into the brigade, into the company as well. But can they accept him as one of their own, can they stop the wondering and shunning, will they be able to lose their apprehensions? They still do not believe him. Nikitich lied to the very end, even from the disciplinary battalion. Has Nikitich actually reformed? -- he still has to prove this. People are severe, uncompromising and so harshly demanding of him because that which Nikitich has done is profoundly alien to all our morals, our entire way of life, our entire system. Furthermore, there is too much at stake in the Soviet soldier today, too much entrusted to him for him not to conform to our communist ideals.

TECHNICAL TRAINING OF MISSILE UNIT OFFICERS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Eng-Capt G. Belostotskiy: "The Method and the Result"]

[Text] I first heard of the method of comprehensive mastery of the equipment by officers when I was in the unit (soyedineniye) political section and the discussion turned to the subunit (podrazdeleniye) commanded by Major-Engineer V. Yurpol'skiy. The initiative was born in competition and has been tested in practice, the chief of the political section said. The results have been magnificent: many of the battalion officers are master specialists and the absolute majority of technicians can operate all of the systems of the missile complex. As though to emphasize the importance of this the political worker produced an example.

At the very height of a training battle involving a special hypothetical situation Lieutenant V. Mikhailin was put out of action. A few seconds later his position, one of the most lively, incidentally, had been taken over by Senior Lieutenant V. Poliyektov. Thanks to his precision actions the rhythm of the combat work was not broken. A new hypothetical situation was introduced just when the missiles were to "plunge" to meet the "enemy": a unit on which the functioning of the entire complex depended was put out of commission.

One does not require a knowledge of the fine points of the equipment to imagine what a difficult task the officer faced. Especially in view of the fact that the "malfunction" was not in his own system. The senior lieutenant did not lose his head, however. It was a matter of seconds before he determined the problem and corrected it. The subunit received an excellent score.

Soon after that I visited the battalion and talked with many of the officers who had mastered the combat equipment by the comprehensive method. I could see that they were putting the knowledge and skills obtained to practical use. I witnessed a technician servicing several systems and the interception controller performing the duties of the launcher control officer. I was present at an exercise, when the crew members assumed highly diverse roles depending on the current situation.

All-around training of the officers to conduct combat operations and the ability to confidently perform duties at all of the key positions constitutes the idea behind the struggle for comprehensive mastery of the missile equipment.

The following incident comes to mind. Personnel of one of the battalions had accepted socialist commitments. An analysis of the commitments showed that not a single missileman had committed himself to mastering a related specialty of interception controller. The commander then suggested that this point be included in the commitments of Senior Lieutenant V. Posokhov. The latter objected, however: after all, there were more than enough concerns involving his own system. The commander did not agree with his arguments, however.

Posokhov mastered a certain body of knowledge and skills. A checkmark was made in his records. The fact that Posokhov had never been seriously tested, however, and had not been entrusted with the post of interception controller was of little concern. The formality had been observed, after all, and the required percentage of specialists with related fields in all of the specialties had been achieved.

The following is also sometimes the case. When commitments are being discussed everyone is in favor of the highest indicators, of insuring complete interchangeability among the crew members. Prospective plans are drawn up, taking into account the number of additional launcher control officers, interception controllers and technicians needed to be trained, and recommendations are made as to exactly who should master this or that specialty. After this, everything is allowed to just take its own course. Special training sessions and drills are rarely conducted with the fighting men and control over the mastery of related specialties is relaxed. It is as though the commanders forget about the fact that successful fulfillment of the commitments depends not only on the desire and persistence of those competing but also on the conditions created within the collective, on the extent to which these conditions make it possible for the men to develop their individual ability.

Of course, a conscientious individual will not pass up the opportunity to practice on a related system. This is not always possible, however, and the training has to be accomplished mainly during the individual's free time. There can be no talk of a systematic approach to training in related specialties under these conditions. And without this it would be difficult to count on thorough knowledge and experience. Even when an officer masters a related specialty, however, he does not frequently have the opportunity to test his abilities during a period of tactical exercises or important training sessions. Some commanders take this approach: "Entrust a key position in a related specialty to an individual and he may make an error, and points are lost needlessly ...".

Is this not the reason why some missilemen accept the simpler tasks in competition and master that related specialty which is easiest for them. This gives rise to a situation in which many officers in a subunit have mastered related specialties but complete interchangeability among crew members has not been achieved.

The situation in the subunit commanded by Major-Engineer V. Yurpol'skiy is entirely different. The incident involving Senior Lieutenant Poliyektov is the rule rather than the exception. And other young officers are confidently mastering related specialties.

During his very first talk with Lieutenant V. Tumashov Major-Engineer V. Yurpol'skiy mentioned the fact that he should begin thinking about a related specialty. The young officer expressed surprise, believing that it was still too early. A few days later, however, after getting a good look at the life of the subunit the lieutenant began to think seriously about what the commander had said.

"Naturally, one should first master the system assigned to him to perfection," Tumashov thought. But one should not procrastinate with the study of related specialties either. Senior Lieutenant Anatoliy Marnykh was perhaps right when he announced during the very first meeting with Tumashov that without a detailed knowledge of the functional interdependence between the systems it is hardly possible to master any of them to perfection.

They developed a rapport from the very first. Once, when he was checking a system, Tumashov felt that he lacked confidence in his work. He looked around to see whether anyone had noticed. A few minutes later Senior Lieutenant Marnykh approached.

"Would you like for me to show you a more efficient way to use the oscillograph?" he asked. And he performed several operations without waiting for agreement. "This is how you perform the operation. Now here is a different method... it is both easier and quicker."

In the future, when the lieutenant experienced difficulties with something, Marnykh came to his assistance. He explained and demonstrated things. Yesterday's cadets also benefitted greatly from the joint checking of parameters. Working with the specialist 1st-class Tumashov adopted progressive methods of servicing the equipment.

Almost a year passed and Lieutenant Tumashov became a highly rated specialist, capable of successfully performing duties in a complex situation. When he passed the test for a higher rating he also became authorized to service a related system. And without wasting time he set about studying a new system.

We see that a campaign is under way in both battalions for the officers to master related specialties. The goal is the same but different approaches are taken. And the results differ.

The training process in the subunit headed by Major-Engineer V. Yurpol'skiy provides the missilemen with the opportunity for practical improvement of their knowledge and skills in related specialties. Furthermore, it is based on a sequence and involves those specialties which make it possible to thoroughly master a number of interrelated systems in the complex with a view to mastering

the equipment in the battery as a whole. For this purpose various situations occurring in actual combat are modelled in the training and exercises, and optimum decisions are sought. Each young officer, assisted by his immediate superior, compiles a work plan for the month. It defines the subjects and the time to be devoted to the training, literature, training aids and the method and sequence for mastering the specialty.

Theoretical conferences devoted to the study of the equipment are regularly held in the subunit, and the best specialists share their experience. Quite recently, for example, Senior Lieutenant A. Klemm showed his comrades how he had managed to considerably reduce the time required to perform one of the complex testing operations.

The experience of this battalion has shown that the comprehensive mastery of the armament develops in the servicemen a desire for self-improvement, a desire to improve the overall technical caliber and helps them to understand their role on the combat team. As a result the subunit successfully performs its tasks in all situations, even the most difficult, and is preparing to greet the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution with successes befitting the occasion.

11499
CSO: 1801

U.S. COMPUTER INFORMATION-LEAK PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 77 p 3

[Article* by Col-Eng A. Zhovanik, candidate of technical sciences: "With Electronic Jimmying -- 'Clever' Cheats and the Information Leak From Electronic Computers"]

[Text] The experts of one of the affiliates of an electronic computer corporation, assigned the job of protecting communication channels in the Pentagon against possible information leaks, were doing their utmost. They had used clever scrambling system and codes, sophisticated electronic jamming devices and tapping alarm systems, in short, every conceivable technical device. And to make it even more convincing they had suggested that the clients conduct an experiment, an attempt to overcome the protective measures they had come up with, to intercept information passing through the communication channels.

The experiments ended fairly rapidly and with total embarrassment for the company. Within a day representatives of the client presented a copy of one of the electronic computer corporation's secret development plans, which they had been able to extract from the storage system of an electronic computer at the company's computer center. A standard subscriber's device had been used as a sort of "electronic jimmy."

It should be mentioned that the foreign press had previously reported about this type of invulnerability of machine information. Furthermore, it had noted the appearance of a new category of hunters of other people's secrets -- experts in "breaking into" computers. From time to time scandals involving industrial espionage are brought to the public's attention in foreign countries. These cases involve "computer experts turned thieves." The West German magazine SPIEGEL, for example, reported that these "clever" thieves, so to speak, are potentially more dangerous "than any safepickers, saboteurs or robbers, since they can cause enormous harm to an organization, an individual branch of industry or even an entire nation by stealing or destroying valuable information stored in an electronic computer's memory bank."

*Based on material published in the foreign press.

The majority of foreign experts feel that such fears are entirely justified. The fact is that the development of modern computer equipment has led to an unprecedented concentration of enormous blocks of information, and it continues to grow with amazing speed. Whereas it is now possible to place more than 120 million bits (standard units) of information on a magnetic tape less than half a cubic meter in size, in the near future memory devices based on the holographic principle will make it possible to record almost the same amount of information on only a cubic centimeter of carrier. It is not difficult to imagine the consequences of distortion or loss of information stored in the memory bank of an electronic computer as the result, let us say, of a malfunctioning of the equipment or errors on the part of operators or programmers, or as a result of accidents or premeditated acts. It was reported, for example, that when a fire occurring at the U.S. Air Force computer center in 1959 resulted in the loss of equipment, information stored in the memory bank of electronic computers and computer software it took several years to completely restore the center.

In addition to all of the above dangers for machine information the American magazine COMPUTER AND AUTOMATION also mentions the "real possibility of malicious destruction or theft of information by personnel of computer centers, operators of automatic control systems and other users of electronic computers." It is precisely this group, the foreign press suggests, from which the "digital computer agents" and "computer experts turned thieves" emerge.

For whatever reason the vulnerability of machine information has forced foreign designers of electronic computers to seek special ways of protecting it, including organizational measures, the use of cryptographic methods and the development of equipment and programming means.

Foreign experts feel that organizational measures constitute the most expedient method, since, as a rule, they require insignificant material outlays and expenditures of time. These include the following: organizing a study of problems of protection, the selection, placement and training of cadres, control over the observance of rules governing access to materials and the protection of secrecy, the prevention of unauthorized tapping of communication lines, security of buildings, documents and information files, fire-prevention and other measures.

The following is an example of effective organizational measures aimed at preventing the loss of information because of poor quality mathematical software, which was printed in the magazine BUSINESS WEEK. The Boeing Company conducted a check which revealed that only 95 of 687 programs had been completed without breaks. Naturally, the quality of the mathematical hardware was declared unsuitable for practical use. The reasons were significant deficiencies in the training of programmers and supervisor-processors, poor control over the use of programs and poor-quality documentation.

In order to eliminate the deficiencies the company's experts proved training programs and methods and methods of controlling program quality based on specific criteria, appointed individuals responsible for receiving, recording and issuing programs and established a mandatory list of documents. The magazine reports that as a result of this it was possible to cut the number of programs in half and insure information processing without breaks.

Despite certain results obtained from organizational measures, however, the foreign experts stress that it is not possible to resolve the problems by means of organizational measures alone. The prevention of information distortion in the transmission process, setting off leaks of valuable information through emissions from communications channels and processing devices, the establishment of rules of access to information files and a number of other tasks, the foreign experts note, can only be accomplished through the comprehensive employment of organizational, program and cryptographic methods and information protection means.

Discussing these problems on the pages of technical publications foreign observers note that the danger of information distortion is greatest during its transmission through communication channels. Errors most frequently occur in those channels due to the effects of atmospheric and industrial interference, brief losses of contact and violations of rules governing use of the equipment and for a number of other reasons. Errors may also occur, but less frequently, in the process of storage at processing points and, during its recording and read-out. Errors are found, although even more rarely, during the immediate processing of information in electronic computers. After all, algorithms providing protection against information errors are always employed when electronic computers are used for processing information. This is why foreign experts feel that cryptographic methods are the main means of preventing information leaks from automatic control systems. In other words, methods of encoding both information transmitted over communication channels and information stored in a machine's memory bank. These methods are especially extensively employed abroad in military control and communication systems.

Cryptography, the science concerned with the methods and paraphernalia employed in secret communications, has developed over the centuries but only a small number of its methods can be used in automatic control systems. The fact is that the methods and codes used in these systems must be employed with adequate simplicity by means of electronic computers, at the same time insuring essential dependability of classification security. However, a user located a long way from the processing center is forced to encode information manually or resort to open transmission of information over connecting lines. In order to eliminate this American specialists, for example, have developed a special coder for use on communication lines between electronic computers and subscriber facilities. According to reports published in the American press, particularly in the magazine *COMPUTER AND AUTOMATION*, this coder has demonstrated good operational qualities and is extensively used in information exchange nets.

In addition to classifying information foreign experts consider that it is essential to protect information in the memory banks of electronic computers in shared systems against erasure (destruction), in other words, against those "clever thieves." Judging from reports in the press this task is being accomplished abroad by limiting the subscribers' access to secret blocks of information, breaking the blocks down by zones and pages and by assigning them to the appropriate users. Users are identified and permitted access to memory banks by means of special programs and password lists. In order to enter a

computer system, let us say, each registered subscriber is given a password, a certain code combination. The passwords are kept in a separate, specially protected data file in the memory block.

A subscriber feeds his password into the electronic computer each time before using the memory bank. A special subscriber identification program compares the password with the existing sample and when they coincide, connects the subscriber's unit to the computer system. Another program controller records the subscriber's use of the main memory bank and keeps a log on the use of secret information. When a subscriber makes changes in an information block the program records the information before and after the changes are made. The authors of the system feel that this makes it possible to prevent both unintentional distortion and malicious destruction of information.

The majority of foreign observers do not share this optimism, however. In the situation of fierce competition among firms and monopolies, when all methods are employed, even to the point of bribery and blackmail, the electronic computer "burglars" will not stop looking for ways to acquire the secrets of others.

11499
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SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN PHYSICAL TRAINING OF COMBAT TROOPS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by Maj. V. Yamkovoy, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany [GSFG] :
"Not Unified Training"]

[Text] The range greeted Captain V. Kuzov's subordinates in an unfriendly manner. Since morning a gusty wind had clouded the sky over with heavy clouds and now it sharply threw a cold drizzle into their faces. But the missileers' thoughts were occupied with the forthcoming combat work rather than the bad weather. This work had turned out to be intense. The rocket launcher crew chiefs barely succeeded in reporting accomplishment of one training mission when a new input was received. By the time the complex lesson was over, many of the soldiers, especially the young ones, were noticeably tired. At the final moment when the requirement arose to operate while wearing protective equipment, the crews were unable to fulfill the norm when shifting the launch position, regardless of how hard they tried. Besides that, all crew members had let out all the stops. They simply did not have the endurance.

"We proved to ourselves today in practical terms," Captain Kuzov emphasized at the lesson critique, "that modern combat requires missileers to have strong muscles."

Later the officer convincingly demonstrated that a single morning physical training [PT] session and several lessons were insufficient to improve the tempering of launch crew personnel. They need more training on the obstacle course since their combat work calls upon them to rapidly change positions and sometimes manually activate several mechanisms. And, for the weapons layers, taking into account the operations they perform, it is advisable to increase the number of drills involving gymnastic build-up exercises and routines with dumb-bells and weights. The surveyors and geodetic specialists and communicators also need their own "pet subjects." The main thing they need is endurance and consequently cross-country races and forced marches must be conducted regularly.

That field lesson took place a long time ago. But the example lesson life itself presented the missileers at that time has not been forgotten. And

every young soldier beginning his service here works on his physical improvement with a great deal of interest and desire. Taking into consideration the specific nature of their profession, youths actively participate in dumb-bell, weight lifting, and light athletics sections. Additional drills and contests in gymnastics, cross-country runs, and militarily-applicable types of sports are often arranged during the large-scale sports program in this outstanding subunit [podrazdeleniye] and combined relay-races are held. Such a goal-oriented approach to physical tempering leads to fruitful results.

A recent tactical exercise confirmed this. Captain V. Kuzov's subordinates passed the difficult test in spite of heavy psychological and physical loads, unfavorable weather conditions, and the complexity of the continually changing situation. More than 10 missions were carried out by them with a high evaluation and the basic norms were significantly overfulfilled while doing so. The field exercise was concluded with a successful field rocket launch.

There are many subunits where a great deal of attention is placed on special physical training approaches. Take the reconnaissance company commanded by Lieutenant A. Fomin, for example. Systematic physical training lessons, concomitant drills, and sports contests here are subordinated to the common goal of effectively influencing the quality with which the troops assimilate their specialty, to develop among them to the maximum degree those physical and psychological qualities and skills which scouts require in combat. These include endurance and strength, powers of observation, bravery and resourcefulness, and the ability to take a calculated risk.

Along with the morning PT session, which the commander by the way decided to extend to 50 minutes, and PT lessons, the subunit conducts a daily 2-hour lesson during the self-study period.

The company emphasizes accelerated movements. To these ends, forced marches, cross-country runs with firing and grenade throwing, and multi-kilometer hikes are regularly conducted. This is done as a rule in roadless areas, via unfamiliar heavily broken terrain, and furtively.

Concomitant drills are also used skillfully in the subunit. During movement to field exercises, the firing range, or the training area, company officers train the personnel to overcome artificial and natural obstacles, carry out tactical drills, and run while wearing protective gear.

The heavy loads placed on scouts at the PT lessons are supplemented by team and section drills. First-grade Sportsman Lieutenant P. Medvedev and Master of Sport Private V. Vorob'yev lead the unarmed combat section and train the soldiers to accomplish drills in the attack and self defense. The company commander, himself a candidate Master of Sport, and First-grade Sportsman Senior Lieutenant S. Broverman work with boxing enthusiasts. Their charges S. Primak and I. Abidzhanov have already proclaimed their seriousness. Both placed at the last GSFG finals and have become sportsman. All personnel have been drawn in in the full sense of the word to the sports lessons. Everyone in the company is a qualified sportsman, while 60 percent have reached the

first or second level rating. And it is no surprise that the scouts are retaining the title of best company in mass-scale sports work. The excellent physical tempering has a positive effect on their combat training. Almost all the troops in the subunit are first class specialists who succeed in training and service.

They take an identically creative approach to PT in another leading company, the one commanded by Senior Lieutenant Yu. Karyukin. Emphasis on such militarily-applicable types of sport as firing, the 3-kilometer militarized cross-country race, the 6-kilometer forced march, grenade throwing, the obstacle course, and so on is the watchword in the training of BMP [infantry armored fighting vehicle] gunner-operators, driver-mechanics, and commanders. Integrated drills are alternated with sports games, which aids the troops in shaking off fatigue and nervous tension. This all impacts upon the company's success in combat training. The company firmly retains its title of excellent year after year.

However, one unfortunately still encounters in some places the antiquated habit of looking upon the physical education of personnel as a secondary matter. As a result, questions of an integrated approach to tempering the troops, taking the specifics of their profession into account, are consigned to oblivion and all work is restricted only to morning PT, infrequent PT lessons, and a way to mark sports holidays.

The example of the unit [chast'] where Senior Lieutenant V. Khromov is a member of the sports committee serves as a convincing example of what this leads to. Several of the subunits in this unit demonstrated weak training at the spring inspection. Low results, especially in the cross-country run, execution of the strength exercises, and running the obstacle course, were noted in the motorized infantry company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Akulov and in the drivers' subunit where Lieutenant A. Boyev serves. Meanwhile, all the capabilities are present in the unit for fruitful work in tempering the personnel. There are three sports areas, two obstacle courses, an open and an enclosed swimming pool, stadium, several volleyball and basketball courts, and a well equipped grenade throwing course here. Many units envy such sports training facilities. But this complex is not fully put to use.

In a word, success in this matter primarily depends on how a particular unit sets up its troop physical education program. The criterion for evaluation of this work must be not only the number of pull-ups at the bar during morning PT but rather skillful actions on the march and at tactical exercises, as well as masterful assimilation of weapons and equipment.

7869
CSO: 1801

NEED FOR STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 77 p 1

[Article: "For Strick Compliance With Regulations"]

[Text] Many problems in the life and activities of the troops are being touched upon during the widespread and business-like discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution throughout the Armed Forces. This also includes problems of discipline and maintenance of firm compliance with regulations as the most important factors in the constant combat readiness of subunits [podrazdeleniye], units [chast'], and ships.

These problems are being more successfully solved in units and aboard ship the better the organizational and indoctrinational work by commanders and political workers and party and Komsomol organizations has been established, the deeper and more specifically they delve into the troops' training, life, and living conditions. It is here one finds the solution to why in one regiment the business of organizing training and service, internal order, and military discipline are fine and are conspicuous for their enviable stability, while in another you find a picture leaving you to wish for something better.

The entire life of the troops as is known is organized and regimented in strict accordance with the requirements of military regulations. In the majority of military collectives a firm knowledge of regulations and strict conformity with them is being achieved with the servicemen and high demands are placed upon each one without exception. Thoughtful indoctrinational work, daily monitoring and checking on execution, and an exacting attitude on the part of commanders and staffs make it possible to affirm respect for regulations, to aid those in need of assistance, and nip in the bud the slightest disorganization and laxity. Living in accordance with the regulations in such a military collective becomes natural and habitual. One can construct a strong building of military law and order on such a foundation, rule out non-regulation relations between servicemen, and precisely organize troop service. The know-how of many subunits and units in the Leningrad, Belorussian, and other military districts gives witness to just what this is.

But this is not always the case. It was discovered in one unit in the Transcaucasus Military District, for example, that several young officers,

even some with a lot of service time behind them, had a weak knowledge of the requirements of combined-arms regulations. Naturally, they did not possess the skills to prevent violations of discipline nor knowledgeably solve problems of organizing service, internal order, and disciplinary practice. And it is no accident that in several subunits, in particular in the battalion commanded by Captain P. D'yachenko, at times the daily routine is broken, personnel on the daily detail have a weak knowledge of their responsibilities, and they don't always precisely carry them out. This all negatively impacts upon achievements in training and on pledge fulfillment in socialist competition.

Sometimes commanders and political workers assuage themselves by the fact that personnel passed the tests on knowledge of the combined-arms regulations on time. They forget a simple truth here. Work involving conduct and maintenance of compliance with regulations is not a matter of a campaign, it is not seasonal. It requires close and daily attention.

In the struggle for strict compliance with regulations, some are attracted by a love for paperwork, for holding various conferences, and placing viable work with people directly in the units and aboard ship in the background. No one, of course, can belittle the usefulness of periodically held conferences as an instrument of operational management, to instruct people, or for exchanges of opinion. But the real job only begins with meetings and conferences. The main thing is viable organizational activities, the skill to plan in the best way, identify the key issue, select the doers, and set up effective assistance to check on execution. No conference can replace daily labor in training and indoctrinating people, in assisting young officers and warrant officers [praporshchik i michman], sergeants, and petty officers, in studying the real state of affairs in the company, battery, squadron, or aboard ship.

We need to more actively and in a more goal-oriented manner use the invigorating force of competition for a fitting greeting for the 60th anniversary of Great October, to increase combat readiness and the ideological-political tempering of the people, to bolster a spirit of comradeship, mutual assistance, and high conscientious discipline in the troop ranks. A great deal can be said about the importance of precise internal order, strict execution of the daily routine but if words are not supported by deeds, if the personal responsibility of all responsible individuals, of the entire composition of the daily detail -- from the company orderly to the regimental duty officer -- is not guaranteed, if the lesson schedule and daily detail as concerns of commanders, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations do not become the law for one and all, the best wishes can remain empty sounds. And no extraordinary measures, no "responsible" persons who in some places are assigned to help out, to be frank, to replace the personnel in the daily detail, will help. "Cavalry charges" or emergency measures cannot replace logical planned organizational and indoctrinational work with which commanders, staffs, and political organs with their intrinsic methods must become occupied. This has been proven in practice and been so proven more than once.

Recently, workers from the division staff and political section visited the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany's Guards Tank Novgorod-Berlin Thrice Order-bearing Regiment. The comrades, headed by the division commander, established as their goal to fundamentally familiarize themselves with life in the regiment and provide practical assistance in improving the training-indoctrinational process and internal order. Each knew what he had to do. The officers worked right in the subunits, many spoke to the personnel and led political lessons on study of the draft USSR Constitution. Such a method of management and assistance is proving itself and finding broader practice. It makes it possible to shift the center of gravity to work in the company, battery, in the barracks, to better know the mood and desires of people, to more rapidly overcome negative phenomena and shortcomings, to achieve a high degree of organization and strict compliance with regulations in every sub-unit.

Firm military order and strong discipline are the primary conditions for successful fulfillment of training plans and programs and of pledges in socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of Great October. To be indefatigably concerned about maintenance of compliance with regulations and further bolstering military discipline means to facilitate a further growth in the combat might of the Armed Forces -- the reliable guardian of our socialist Fatherland.

7869

CSO: 1801

AIR DEFENSE UNIT RADAR OPERATOR TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Maj A. Ozharenkov: "Accuracy and Speed"]

[Text] The targets moved in the jamming, skillfully employing terrain masking. From the first reports received at the command post, Captain N. Krasnyuk understood that it was going to be difficult to duel with the aerial "enemy." Issuing commands habitually, he involuntarily thought about the fact that young specialists had recently been added to the crew. And although all are distinguished by their diligence, their professional level was still far removed from the mastery which guarantees unconditional success in any situation. He would have to remember that, just as he would have to remember that he, as crew director, has a special responsibility.

The first minutes of the combat work went by. The scopes were covered with target blips. The nature of the strike against the defended installation was more or less sketched out. However, something still kept the officer from making final conclusions. The know-how of the first-class specialist and tactical intuition suggested that the main events were still forthcoming -- both surprise maneuvers and "enemy" attempts to accomplish his intention which, as is evident, Krasnyuk still had not fully understood or guessed. The officer knows full well that they had to win with skill and oppose the strength and cleverness of the enemy through the use of a sober crew and composure.

Captain N. Krasnyuk primarily directs the troops' attention to this facet during lessons and drills. He emphasizes and teaches them to think for themselves and for the enemy. More accurately, for the enemy and for themselves.

So it was, for example, when Senior Lieutenant A. Belobryvchik joined the outfit. This was a diligent officer. But he often got mixed up in a complex situation and made decisions along conventional lines. Visiting a drill conducted by Belobryvchik once, Krasnyuk had an imposing list of write-ups. They were later plotted on a unique graph depicting the process of the training battle down to the minute and even down to the second. Belobryvchik looked with embarrassment at the two broken lines, one which graphically

depicted the results of his work and the other which plotted the captain's well-founded variations of the most advisable actions. He mentally counted his minor successes and significant lapses. The correlation of the two was not in his favor.

"In a month or two we will 'play' an analogous variant. I am sure that the outcome will be different," said Krasnyuk when the errors were sorted out. "But that means some studying has to be done. Let's work out a self-study training plan. . . ."

The plan consisted of a good 50 items with the terms "study," "assimilate," "accomplish" . . . Plan completion brought appreciable results.

. . . Data continued to flow into the command post without ceasing. The maneuvers of each target were monitored along the entire flight route and only the blips on the screen along with the short reports about jamming reminded one how difficult it is for radar operators to acquire this uninterrupted information. Captain Krasnyuk had already mentally noted that the crew is working with a touch of inspiration. And he recalled with warmth Lieutenant M. Borblik and other party and Komsomol activists who had not long before the training started conducted an emotional talk with the troops about the necessity for constant vigilance, about the sacred duty of the armed defenders to the people as contained in the draft of the new USSR Constitution.

The role of the moral factor, of the psychological tuning of people in combat training and when carrying out functional responsibilities is extraordinarily great. Communist Captain N. Krasnyuk continually remembers this. And he himself, when the situation permits, holds talks with command post specialists to explain the decisions of the May (1977) CC CPSU Plenum and the draft Constitution. And he now knows that during these minutes activists at their places of work are doing their externally unnoticed but very important and necessary work. Through word and personal example, they are inspiring the troops to carry out their assigned tasks.

The lead target, which had descended, sharply changed course. What is that, an element of the main intent or a diversionary maneuver? Are the others following the first aircraft? The captain increased his concentration. He has to be prepared for any eventuality. It is fully possible that the moment will come when the "enemy" will finally reveal his cards. It is important not to lose him, not to delay. The outcome of the duel will greatly depend upon this. And on how correct his decision turns out to be, on how precisely and rapidly the crew members react to his commands. Accuracy and speed -- Captain Krasnyuk knows their price well. He is continually reminded of this by his personal watch, a present from a senior chief for resourceful and decisive actions at a tactical exercise.

Again a maneuver. Now it is already a group target. An instant or two to evaluate the situation and precise instructions are again issued.

Subsequent events affirm the correctness of Captain Krasnyuk's decision. Now the main thing is to insure urgent passage of data. A dull light flashes on one of the illuminated displays. Captain Krasnyuk breathes a sigh of relief. Now the "enemy" cannot escape the destructive blow.

7869

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MOTORIZED INFANTRY COMPANY SHORTCOMINGS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Col E. Grebenshchikov, senior officer in the Main Combat Training Directorate, USSR Ground Forces: "In Isolation from Tactics"]

[Text] Having completed a prolonged march, the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Kazachkov arrived at the field firing area exactly at the appointed time. Loading of ammunition was accomplished and the approach began to the main line of "enemy" resistance strictly according to the schedule approved by the exercise director. Attached and supporting subunits [podrazdeleniye] operated precisely and in a coordinated manner.

Subunit personnel diligently prepared to carry out the important combat training mission in the days preceding the field exercise. The most complex problems were worked out with all categories of specialists at tactical drill lessons. The firing done in platoons demonstrated growing firing skill.

There were no doubts about the firing mastery of the motorized infantrymen. But there were gaps during the tactical training, especially in the skills of the commanders, and these couldn't be eliminated in a short time. You don't achieve anything in tactics through "coaching." The troubles seeped down to the company immediately after it went into the attack.

The "mine" field was the first thing that put the motorized infantrymen in a difficult position. It was discovered unexpectedly. The company commander and other officers did not immediately orient themselves in the deteriorating situation. Their lack of confidence was also transmitted to their subordinates, all the more so since the company had virtually never before been trained to overcome "enemy" antitank and antipersonnel "mine" fields.

Having lost a lot of time in the obstacle sector, Senior Lieutenant Kazachkov attempted to make up for lost time by making a rapid assault against the main line of "enemy" resistance. The assault was successful. The driver-mechanics of the armored fighting vehicles [BMP] and tanks maintained the high speed assigned by the commander without breaking the subunit combat formations. But this did not lead to success, nor could it because the subunits went on

the attack without considering "enemy" fire power. In actual combat this could lead to heavy losses.

The speed of movement turned out to be so high that the company reached the attack line earlier than had been planned when the battle was set up. They had to stop and wait until the supporting subunits moved up. The tempo of the offensive slowed and the company was unable to carry out the immediate mission by the assigned time. The fire was barely effective also. Employed in a straight line without considering "enemy" tactics, the subunit was unable to effectively employ the speed and maneuver capabilities of the equipment, the firepower of the organic weapons, and that of attached and supporting forces.

Fire and tactics . . . The example presented again convinces one that fire-power in modern combat is indivisible from a commander's skill in organizing combat in a tactically competent manner.

This skill has still not been competently developed in all officers, warrant officers [praporshchik], and sergeants. We were convinced of this in particular after visiting tactical exercises with field firing in several subunits in the Red Banner Baltic Military District.

In order to firmly direct fires, a commander must continually be on top of the situation, accurately know the location and activities of subunits entrusted to him, support weapons, and neighboring units, and maintain coordination.

Here is where the bulk of the difficulty lies. Fire is often conducted not at the commander's signal but at the initiative of soldiers, sections, teams, and crews themselves. At times the tempo of the attacks slows in the pursuit of the number of targets destroyed and firing is allowed from inadmissibly close ranges. Personnel forget about the need to destroy the most important targets with the first round.

The reason for similar shortcomings is evident. Preparing for tactical exercises with field firing, some commanders ignore questions of tactics. The firing for them becomes a goal in itself.

The director who primarily concerns himself with development of tactical thinking on the trainees' part and indoctrinating them with combat initiative and independent decision making is the individual who achieves the greatest effect at an exercise with firing. It is advisable to plan the firing during an offensive from the march, in a meeting engagement, when forcing water barriers, repulsing "enemy" counterattacks, and so on in order to have the applicable situation at the exercise.

You can also judge the effectiveness of a planned exercise with field fire by the area in which the exercise will be conducted. It is not permissible to conduct field firings in the identical place, all the more so because it is easy when training subunits to employ portable targets and avoid the inclination towards the permanent cable harness.

A tactical exercise with field firing is the highest form of subunits' combat arrangement. Both the positive and the negative aspects in the field training of personnel, officers in particular, are reflected in such an exercise, almost like in a mirror. In the company whose exercise was discussed above, the platoon commanders retained the detected "enemy" firing means on their working maps for an unjustifiably long time and determined the initial firing data. Several of them, as it turned out, were unable to employ the communications facilities in the dynamics of combat or orient themselves on the terrain with the combat vehicle hatches closed. As a result, the commands to destroy "enemy" firing means and personnel and to concentrate the fire against the most important targets were late getting to the crews. Questions concerning engineer support to the battle turned out to have been forgotten.

One cannot say that the company's officers operated without initiative. Platoon commander Lieutenant V. Varennikov, for instance, encountered a strong point in the depth of the "enemy" defense and independently made the decision to bypass it and attack the flank. But the company's poorly organized reconnaissance brought the significance of this maneuver to naught. Many "enemy" firing means, including a reserve group of targets erected at the exercise director's command, remained undestroyed along the axis of the platoon's attack.

The troops did not fulfill their socialist pledges made during the exercise period because of errors in daily training organization. The lessons and drills were conducted there in isolation from the tactics of modern combat. More was said about an integrated approach to training personnel and subordination of all subjects to the interests of tactics than was demonstrated in practice. It would be unfair to blame only the officers in the company link for this. Workers from the higher headquarters and the chiefs of services and branches of troops poorly participate in lesson organization. Several of them are rare visitors to the firing range and the tactical training area, there where the comradely mastery is forged, where the fate of the pledges made in the jubilee year by the personnel is decided.

The unit has good training facilities. Everything required to insure a high quality training process is present but extant capabilities are not fully employed.

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HARMFUL EFFECTS OF ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT LETTERS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by Col A. Drovosekov: "The Bludgeon of the Anonymous Author"]

[Text] A dacha intended for reception of high-ranking guests and members of a different type of commissions, it was obvious from the letter, rose up right on the shore where the unceasing waves splash and the ancient pines rustle. It was built by sailors with state funds. The rooms are furnished with modern furniture and the place is guarded by three people. To the uninitiated the dacha is referred to as a sloop base where sailors supposedly learn the mysteries of naval science.

The signatures of three warrant officers [michman] were on this letter which also presented other facts. They reported their forthcoming release into the reserves and firm resolve to speak the entire truth. It would seem to us there is nothing to fear now.

It then was a case of visiting the dacha to check out the letter. A guard in the regular uniform of militarized security answered our knock. The garrison deputy military procurator and I entered the protected area and saw a small launch that looked like it had just come from the factory. This surprised us and caused us to think. The conclusion was that the unit [chast'] commander is a person with imagination who built a dacha and acquired a pleasure boat. But how had he gone about getting it? That is a launch rather than some sort of boat or small sloop! That means one of two things. Either the unit commander is the sharpest fellow the world has ever seen or the launch was legally acquired for legal purposes.

Leaving that decision for the future, we continued to inspect the dacha. It turned out that the place was not yet finished. The extent of the modern furniture was a rickety prewar vintage stool and dilapidated closet for the guards' belongings. There was no servant with silverware, no refrigerator, no television, none of the things described in the letter. There was a variety of text books not mentioned in the letter lying about near the walls.

We had not succeeded in forming our first impressions when we learned that a group of officers from the Main Staff of the VMF [Navy] headed by an admiral had arrived at the unit. To our amazement we found out that they had come to check out a letter too. A letter identical to that received by the editorial board, line for line, letter for letter, written by the identical hand and signed by the same individuals.

Closely coordinating with our naval comrades, we checked everything that could be checked, talked with dozens of people, and came to the conclusion that everything in the letter was a base lie. Thus the dacha in particular turned out to be actually a sloop base with classrooms built in accordance with instructions of the senior chief on the most legal bases. The unit commander's reputation remained spotless.

I must say that it is always nice when you become convinced of the honor of a person above whom a cloud is raised. There is an even greater desire to throw the book at the individual who casts the shadow on someone's good name, who discredits him. However, there was no one to throw the book at. The warrant officers whose names were signed to the discrediting letter had as much to do with that letter as they did to the letter sent to the Turkish sultan by the Zaporozh'ye Cossacks. An anonymous author, a slanderer and faultfinder hid behind them. Oh, how I would like to look him in the eye and ask how he had come to such a life, where he had lost his conscience.

But there wasn't anyone to ask and things couldn't wait. A new letter sent me on my way again. It stated that the chief of a garrison hospital located in the North Caucasus Military District and his deputy for political affairs are involved in various nefarious deeds. In general, concluded Senior Nurse P.'s letter, she had never seen such goings-on in over 20 years of service at the hospital. And we even call ourselves a communist labor collective. . . .

Here I am at the hospital talking with Senior Nurse P., a young-looking and sympathetic woman. She has received a governmental award for long and conscientious labor. Her portrait graces the board displaying victors in competition. When the letter was brought up, she knit her brows with surprise.

"What letter? I wrote no letter to the editorial board."

The investigation showed that the letter, start to finish, is a vile invention. The hospital collective was extremely agitated. What a base creature and what a supply of bile one would have to possess to vent on people devoted to their job, the vilifier. Here are just two examples characterizing the activities of these people. The hospital is one of the best in the district based on all indicators. They saved approximately 18,000 state rubles last year due to their wise management. This is reflected in the certification following a recent inspection conducted by the Central Military Medical Directorate.

And now, evidently, it is time to turn to conclusions. They are that in place of the everyday familiar anonymous author who doesn't sign his letters

we have come to one more subtle and more socially dangerous. The fountain pen in his hand is a heavy bludgeon of great slaughtering force which strikes with one end the individual chosen for the calumny and with the other hits the person whose name the anonymous writer hides behind. Both must prove their innocence, like it or not.

But that is still not the end of it. The anonymous author is looking further. It is not enough for him to oversalt his selected victims. He wants to destroy the relations between them. The shadow of suspicion even falls upon the reputation of the person whose name is signed to the letters. And note must be taken of this fact also. The anonymous author signs the anonymous letters with the names of the best, most authoritative people in the collective. The intent is clear. Somehow or another attempt to discredit them. Why is that? Is it due to malice or due to envy?

It is difficult to say. But one thing is clear. The anonymous author is convinced that he won't be unmasked. He hopes to get off scot free. But in vain. A secret always becomes known. Not too long ago the commander of unit "X" where the sloop base is located called and told me that they had found the author of the slanderous letter.

I did not use real names for fear of casting a shadow on the faultless reputation of the people about whom the calumny was written or of those whose names the anonymous author signed to the letters. On the other hand, it is not without a sense of satisfaction that I now name the author of the snappish lampoon. He turned out to be the chief of the militarized security detachment, now already the former chief, M. Yurov, a person who it was discovered was notorious for such conduct. He was well known as the composer of anonymous letters in the rayon military commissariat and the rayon social security department where he had previously worked. A. Voskoboynikov, Yurov's deputy, assisted him. A person lacking will and principles with a craving for alcohol (he even drank on the job), Voskoboynikov was completely under his chief's influence. Someone named B. Korney, who previously had been convicted for unseemly acts, wrote the letter they dictated. As we see, the company selected what was needed. One deserves the other.

"How did Yurov and Voskoboynikov conduct themselves after being discovered?"
I asked my distant caller.

"They quit in a real hurry after they were unmasked."

"Was any penalty imposed?"

"No. But you wouldn't want to be in their shoes. If the time comes for them to leave the city, people will put the finger on them."

Well then, it serves them right. But, it seems to me that we can't let Yurov and Voskoboynikov off peacefully. It should be done in such a way that not only they but anyone else who likes to write anonymous letters learns a lesson. Those who ruin peoples' nerves, who hide behind false names and

wave lies and slander like a bludgeon, those who cause state time and money to be wasted should be talked to in the language of the law.

This is what must be done with the slanderer from the garrison hospital. Sooner or later his name will become known. There can be no doubt about that.

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END