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TRANSLATIONS ON USSR MILITARY AFFAIRS

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NO CONCRETE CLUES FOUND TO SOVIET CIVIL DEFENSE SYSTEM

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 7 Jul 78 p 13 DW

[Article by Gregor Krinsky]

[Text] The Soviet Union has plans for a comprehensive civil defense program-- at least on paper. To the naked eye of an unbiased observer, however, there is no visible sign that the country is preparing for a potential nuclear attack. Western military-and intelligence-service quarters had said recently that the Soviet Union has a massive civil defense program which reportedly swallows DM15 billion a year and provides for the construction of subterranean installations, the reinforcement and improvement of air-raided shelters and food storages, as well as frequent public alert exercises.

The clues to the existence of such a program probably come from U.S. reconnaissance satellites primarily. Western military attaches in Moscow cannot produce any proof of either the stepped-up construction of shelters and other subterranean facilities or of frequent civil defense exercises in and around Moscow. In other towns open to Western visitors, too, nothing can be seen of such civil-defense measures.

An amplifying debate in the West in general and in the United States in particular on the extent of the Soviet Union's civil-defense preparations has entailed an ominous theory under which a strengthening of the defense in reality is the overture for offensive intentions. Former U.S. undersecretary of defense, Paul Nitze, and others argue, for example, that as soon as the Soviet Union is convinced that it could survive a "first" nuclear strike of the other side, it might feel tempted to deal the first strike.

Soviet official quarters reject such considerations as fabrications invented to justify higher Western arms expenditures. At the same time, however, the Soviets do not deny that they are strengthening their civil defense. Officials propagandize more and more talks of the necessity of such preparations.

Many Western observers in Moscow are skeptical about how much the Soviet Government has really done to prepare the country for nuclear war. Thus, a Western diplomat says, for example: "In the past 8 months since these

reports have been appearing in the United States, all Western attaches have kept their eyes and ears open to discover evidence of civil-defense preparations. Apart from an occasional poster of the civil-defense organization they have not found anything."

Recognized U.S. specialist on Moscow, Leon Goure, in a study dating back to 1976 estimated that the Soviet Union during the past 10 years invested the equivalent of dm162.5 billion into a program which is to let it survive nuclear war. In the Pentagon these expenditures are estimated to be lower but still high. They speak of dm2.5 billion a year. The United States spends only dm206 million for this purpose.

If the Soviet Union actually spends huge amounts of money for nuclear protection, then the results are effectively camouflaged. Despite the traditional inclination of the Soviets toward secrecy and secretiveness, Western observers wonder how a program for the protection of 250 million people against an atomic attack can be kept so secret and yet be effective.

If one asks Moscow citizens what they would do in the event of an air raid they mostly reply that they would run into the subway. The famous metro system of Moscow indeed is quite far-flung and very deep in some parts of the capital city. Western experts, however, question its protective mission in the event of a nuclear attack. Some of them say quite frankly that it would turn out to be a death trap. Granted, there are some pressure gates in the metro, yet, as an observer maintains "If these gates burst, there is no longer any protection in the metro but only a death zone."

Nor are there any indications of a ventilation system in the metro which would be adequate for providing fresh air for great masses of people which would have to stay in there for an extended period of time. Soviet experts seem to draw similar conclusions. The 1979 handbook for civil defense does not contain any reference to the metro as a protection in the event of an atomic attack.

During sightseeing tours of the city the guides hint that there is a well reinforced and equipped shelter in the neighborhood of the Kremlin and Red Square which is to protect the Soviet leadership in case of emergency. But such preparations are standard procedure in most countries.

An evacuation of big towns is possible only if a warning period of at least a week precedes the actual atomic strike; but neither Soviet nor Western experts seriously believe that such a long period is realistic.

CSO: 1826

NAVAL TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Effectiveness of Staff Work

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Capt 3d Rank V. Skomorokhov: "With Growing Activity"]

[Text] The movement for progressive large unit and the struggle for first place between the units and ships have become an important mark of the present stage in the competition in the army and navy. The success of this movement depends a lot on an active attitude by the headquarters. Here in the headquarters, the duties of troop collectives and their performance are taken stock of. The staff has been called upon to be continually concerned with the organization of competition during the training process, to help subunits in working out obligations, to search jointly for reserves to raise the quality and effectiveness of combat training, and to use training time rationally.

In their socialist obligations for this year the flagship specialists of the N-skiy unit have provided for concrete and active participation in organizing competition between ship subunits, the dissemination and introduction of progressive experience from the training and indoctrination of seamen, and the mastery of weapons and equipment. The talk touched upon these points in the obligations during one of the meetings of the headquarters party organization. It got to this point not by accident. Not long before this it turned out that the competition between the related ship subunits which Capt Lts V. Bad'yanov and O. Smirnov command had gradually died down and had lost its mobilizing role. Of course, the department commanders, themselves, were primarily guilty in this.

At the same time serious reproaches were expressed addressed to the flagship specialist responsible for the training of these departments. Competition presupposes a continuous and business-like contact between the rivals and an exchange of experience. Who, if not the flagship specialist, is called upon to adjust these contacts between competitors? He better than anyone is informed about the state of affairs in the ship's departments under his jurisdiction and has the opportunity to fully compare the achievements and shortfalls of the competitors and the way obligations are being carried out.

Each flagship specialist has effective ways to "charge" competitors with energy. Let us say that it is necessary to make an analysis of the reasons for success in one subunit and of shortcomings in another and to counsel the department commander on adopting the experience of a neighbor who always manages to maintain weapons and equipment in excellent condition. There are many ways. One must know and skilfully use them. The headquarters communists discussed this during their meeting.

As a result it was revealed that, unfortunately, some staff officers had a superficial and one-sided understanding of their role in organizing competition on ships. They think it is sufficient to summarize obligations and fix them on paper and that it is possible to consider their mission ended. Such was the attitude of staff officer Capt 3d Rank A. Klyukvin. Carried away by the purely technical side of the matter, he moved vital organizational work with people to a rear position. Competition is not a campaign, it is necessary to engage in it constantly from day to day--to be engaged primarily with people, that is, to incline them to achieve new and higher frontiers in combat perfection. Without creating, if it is possible to express oneself this way, an atmosphere of competition in a collective, it is difficult to hope that people will achieve considerable and stable successes.

For the sake of fairness, let us point out that Capt 3d Rank Klyukvin spent quite a bit of strength and energy to improve affairs in the ship subunits under his jurisdiction, including those in the department which officer V. Bad'yanov heads. However, the number of deficiencies decreased more slowly here than one would have liked. Bad'yanov's subordinates did not have the fervor, enthusiasm and constant dissatisfaction with what had been achieved and which are inherent in people who are genuinely attuned to the struggle for the best subunit among the same type of departments. The staff officer bustled about the plan for training sessions, regulations and inspections but did not think about using the mobilizing force of competition for the successful carrying out of those plans and for improving the quality of servicing equipment.

The fundamental discussion during the party meeting aroused the command element to check on the activity of flagship specialists more carefully, point out shortfalls to them in a timely fashion, and help to correct mistakes. Based on the range of their duties flagship specialists primarily have dealings on the ships with officers--the immediate organizers of the competition for seamen in the departments where the success of the struggle to carry out obligations is resolved. It is necessary to say that flagship specialists have begun to work more systematically with subunit commanders and to arm them more energetically with progressive methods. Thanks a lot to this, competition has become more lively and combat training tasks have begun to be solved better.

The decisions of the 25th party congress and the December (1977) Plenum of the CC CPSU and the Letter of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions about spreading competition

during 1978 oblige us not only to expose thoroughly and eliminate deficiencies but also to pay attention constantly to all that is best, progressive, and deserving of wide popularization and incorporation.

For example, in the unit good and business-like rivalry was spread between the commanders of the navigation subunits. A solid and reciprocal contact on the most varied questions of combat training and service had been established among the officers of this specialty. They meet regularly and exchange experience before taking scheduled course assignments while training for long cruises. The subunit commanders themselves and their subordinates compete. Competitions on specific types of training such as navigational plotting, calculating tactical maneuvers, and solving astronomic assignments provides a great effect.

Capt 3d Rank V. Golovin, a staff officer and an expert in military affairs, takes an active part in organizing the competition between navigators and other specialists in ship subunits. He is able to notice in time the slightest appearance of formalism in competition. Let us say that the week's results had not been objectively summed up in one of the subunits. The staff officer immediately intervenes in the matter, corrects the mistake, pointing out in doing this the great importance of an objective evaluation when summing up the results of competition to the commander.

It is gratifying to note that now the majority of staff officers are trying to keep sight of and skilfully use the basic factors which determine the effectiveness of competition. The approach to the formation of obligations and the control of their fulfillment has become stricter. More concern is now being shown for the publicizing of competition, the comparison of its results, and the dissemination of progressive experience.

Let us take the following fact. Capt Lt V. Tonkikh began a new position. Naturally, his concerns immediately increased and in the flow of events he somehow overlooked the question of assuming personal obligations in competition. What do these frontiers mean for the formation of an officer? Primarily, they help him to see his prospects, and correctly distribute time and efforts. They arouse him to regard the results of his work critically. Staff officers helped Capt Lt V. Tonkikh to determine specific obligations and to plan the work of carrying them out. It is not surprising that his formation in the new position took place extremely successfully.

Staff officer Capt 3d Rank Yu. Sidorenko summarized the progressive experience from training fighting men in the leading specialties on a number of ships and worked up specific recommendations to improve instructional methods. Their incorporation permitted the quality of classes and training sessions to be raised. Having analyzed the obligations of the seamen on one of the ships, he convincingly proved that some fighting men had determined for themselves insufficiently high frontiers and therefore were working without a complete expenditure of effort. A check showed that the staff officer was correct. The situation was soon corrected.

During one meeting staff officers proposed a suggestion--to advise the seamen in a number of similar type leading combat posts on ships to learn not only an allied but also a second specialty. Many seamen responded to this call and entered an appropriate point in their socialist obligations. They are now studying persistently and helping each other. The rallying of troop collectives takes place more successfully in an atmosphere of competition and mutual help. It has already been noted: The training of seamen not only has grown in these subunits but discipline has become stronger and military order has improved.

Raising the effectiveness of competition is a complex question requiring the unremitting attention of the commander, the political organ, the staff and the party organization. It is impossible to maintain that all flagship specialists have already expressed their weighty words in improving the organization of competition. There still are reserves. However, in my opinion they have achieved the main thing here--staff officers are now taking a very active part in organizing competition on ships.

Non-Participation in Sports

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 4

[Article by Col (Ret) K. Viktorov, honored master of sports: "Is It Possible the Wrestlers in the Fleet Have Been Transferred?"]

[Text] In my view classic wrestling was born in our country and as an individual who has been connected with the navy and with naval sports for many years, it is pleasant for me that seamen have successfully performed on the mat and that the Leningrad combined team, for example, has for years almost half consisted of seamen. Capable athletes have appeared during the competition on ships. These tournaments are regularly conducted not only among classical-style wrestlers but also among weight-lifters, boxers, wrestlers, and "free-style" wrestlers.

However, now one can only remember about all this. Since the Olympic champion, Lt Col A. Roshchin left the mat several years ago, there are no wrestlers in the fleet capable of worthily defending the honor of the country's armed forces in crucial matches.

Seamen practically do not appear in serious tournaments where one can acquire experience and improve skill. Five city-wide contests for classical-style wrestlers were recently held in Leningrad; however, not one representative of the Leningrad military naval base participated in them. Is it possible the athletes have been transferred in the LVMB [Leningrad military naval base]?

Of course not. Strong and courageous youth are serving in the fleet. The trouble is that no one--at any rate in the LVMB-- is engaged in revealing talented wrestlers, boxers, and weight lifters among them and in seriously

helping them to improve their skill. The championship of Leningrad in classical-style wrestling took place quite recently among the seamen. I was convinced that the seamen and students in our higher military naval schools would pleasantly test their strength on the mat. However, no one was concerned about their participation. Thus, still another opportunity to reveal prospective athletes was missed.

All this is happening in all probability because these types of sports are related to those which are optional for development at the base. It also happens that those disciplines which help a seaman to become stronger and more hardy and to temper his will and character are not obligatory for him. I would like to direct your attention to the fact that I am talking about types of sports which are within easy reach and which do not require special conditions for organizing training sessions and competitions. This is extremely important, considering the specifics of service on submarines and surface vessels.

Because of such an approach, we, I am sure, lose many prospective athletes--those who would be able to continue the winning traditions of A. Roshchin and the other athletes trained at one time in the navy.

The LVMB directors of physical training and sports explain their cool attitude toward the development of classical-style wrestling, especially, by the absence of a base and trainers. Is this so? N. Kulagin, a wrestling trainer for the Leningrad SKA [Army Sports Club] says: "We will happily provide any support to naval sportsmen, we will help them to organize the training process, we are always ready to place our gymnasium at their disposal. However, not one of the sailors has turned to us on this question."

Thus, the reason is not the absence of conditions for classes and a shortage of specialists. The reason is another one: Evidently, LVMB physical training directors do not have the desire and necessary interest to develop classical wrestling and several other types of heavy athletics among personnel.

Patrol Boat Commander Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Capt 3d Rank A. Yegorov: "Reference Points for Lieutenants"]

[Text] The commanders of the patrol vessels, Capt Lt V. Lepayev and N. Fayzullin, described the nature of their mutual relations as follows: "We know each other as well as we compete." This was not said for the sake of witicism. This is how it is in actuality.

Lts Lepayev and Fayzullin arrived on the vessel six years ago--an antisubmariner and a navigator. They became rivals in competition from the first days of their service, having assigned themselves the goal of getting settled in their duties as rapidly as possible and leading the subunit to the ranks of progressive ones.

By helping each other, the young officers simultaneously reached the planned frontiers, advanced in service and now command the same type of ships. The competition between the officers is now augmented by the competition between the crews which they head. During the present stage the vessel which Capt Lt V. Lepayev commands is in front. Here is what he said:

"Each month an exchange of delegations which include department commanders, party and Komsomol activists, and two-three of the more experienced specialists from the warrant officers (michman) and petty officers takes place between our ships. The purpose of these exchanges is to adopt progressive experience and help the rival.

"Here is an example. On one of the cruises the radiomen of the allied vessel were late in entering communications. This did not go unnoticed and involved lowering the overall rating of the crew. But our signalmen--WO V. Nesterov and PO Second Class A. Khazov acted in an excellent manner. Upon returning to base they visited their neighbors and shared their experiences in working during the different stages of the cruise under "enemy" electronic counter-measures.

"During the past period we outstripped our rivals based on the majority of indicators. The basis for the success, in my opinion, consists of the fact that our crew is a united collective and this makes the formation of new men, including young officers, easier."

Actually the strength of the crew headed by Capt Lt V. Lepayev is based on solidarity. However, solidarity does not come by itself. The commander and the party and Komsomol organization skilfully perform individual work, instill a sense of collectivism in the seamen, and maintain an atmosphere of comradely mutual help and strict exactingness in the crew. And the main link in this work is the formation of young officers. Lts A. Kruptsov and O. Gorelov, young officers, arrived on the ship last autumn. The commander and all the officer collective greeted the new men with the traditional goodwill. Not a formal, as unfortunately sometimes happens, familiarization with the vessel but one which was based on the principle "Here is the cabin, here is the compartment" and repeated confidential discussions about the traditions of the crew and its strong and weak points and the tasks which the officers must value in the near future and in the long run attuned the lieutenants to the work rhythm.

However, it was beyond Gorelov for a short while. Whereas Kruptsov passed the tests prescribed by the regulation ahead of time, Gorelov barely managed it within the prescribed time. As it turned out, he was not able to plan his independent study and at times ignored the help of his comrades.

They talked sternly and at the same time kindly to the lieutenant during a meeting of the officers and then during a party meeting. They prompted him on how to plan his work day correctly, where to devote his attention primarily when studying the ship, and what part he should take in organizing competition. Things took a turn for the better. Together with the other officers, the lieutenants made a noticeable contribution to the struggle to carry out the crew's socialist obligations.

Now let us look at how matters took shape on the ship which Capt Lt N. Fayzullin commands.

He points out: "Of course, the struggle for first place supposes a winner and loser. However, we, alas, lagged far behind this time. True, there are, in my opinion, objective reasons for this. In the course of the month the political worker and a department commander left for a new assignment. I foresee the retort--a month is not much time but if regulation procedures are firm on the ship, there shouldn't be any such accidents. The retort is reasonable but the entire trouble was that our crew had still not distinguished itself by settled traditions.

"The state of affairs in the electrical engineering department worries all of us, Engr-Sr Lt A. Poshatayev who is temporarily performing the duties of the BCH-5 department commander is guilty of a lot. Technically, he isn't badly prepared; however, he has not learned to work with people, seldom visits the seamen's bunk room, and prefers to lead over the telephone. Having given instructions, he often forgets to check that they are carried out. All this leads to the fact that some seamen are indifferent about increasing their training, are rebuked for the maintenance of equipment and do not carry out their assumed obligations."

There is quite a bit of truth in Capt Lt N. Fayzullin's words. Actually, Engr-Sr Lt A. Poshatayev committed mistakes in his work, especially while he temporarily headed the department. However, it should have been possible to assume that the young officer would have been given concrete encouragement during this period. Both the commander and the party organization could have helped officer Poshatayev, a communist, to make him strictly responsible for the neglect of his duties. Unfortunately, neither one nor the other did anything in time. No one taught the young officer the art of working with people and of organizing competition or the ability to rely on warrant officers and petty officers and on the department's Komsomol organization. As a result it turned out that even such experienced warrant officers as N. Shevchenko and V. Manzhay stood aside from the seamen's indoctrination and regarded competition disinterestedly.

It seems that Captain Lieutenant Fayzullin refers in vain to objective causes. The lagging behind of the vessel is mainly explained by the fact that not all the young officers here happen to have accurate reference points in work and in organizing competition. Capt 3d Rank A. Pechkorin, a staff officer, came to this conclusion. Here is his judgment:

"Of course, the moral atmosphere in the collective plays an enormous role in the formation of a young officer. I can cite quite a few examples where lieutenants confidently performed their service because they found with their very first steps on the ship the encouragement of the commander and their senior comrades and were included in competition whose indoctrinational role is great. In this respect it is important to evaluate the work of the officer himself objectively and strictly and to teach him to evaluate the efforts of his subordinates just as demandingly.

Lt V. Lutsenko didn't begin his service on the vessel badly. They began to praise the new man and he became conceited. Everything, they say, is well with him and it is possible to be weakened a little bit. This "little bit" is not found in a commander's principled evaluation and gradually degenerates into a system. Lutsenko neglected affairs in the subunit and began to make mistakes in his personal conduct.

It is necessary to say that in orienting young officers on high criteria in evaluating and in arming them with experience in organizing training and competition, the active attitude of staff officers plays a very important role.

During one of the party meetings which discussed the progress of competition, the communists criticized Capt Lt N. Tsybul'nik, a staff officer, for his insufficient attention to the growth of the specialist's training in the ship's departments. Having correctly accepted the criticism, Tsybul'nik began to work more concretely on the vessels with the young officers and to teach them the ability to use the mobilizing force of competition. The matter was corrected.

Frankly speaking, if the ship which Capt Lt N. Fayzullin commands noticeably lags behind its rival today, the headquarters officers must assume a share of the guilt.

To truly evaluate and consolidate what has been achieved, to analyze in a timely fashion the reasons for the success of some collectives and the lagging behind of others, to develop accurate reference points for further combat improvement, and to follow them without lowering the strain of military work--this is a requirement of the times. This contributes to the slogan of the day proposed at the December (1977) Plenum of the CC CPSU by comrade L. I. Brezhnev: "To work better today than yesterday, and tomorrow better than today."

Lack of Sports Equipment

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 78 p 4

[Article by Capt 3d Rank A. Zlydnev, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "Why Obligations Have Not Been Carried Out"]

[Text] Spring in our kray came into its own. The time came to sum up the results of the winter training period. They are summing them up in the unit where Sr Lt F. Kargin--the author of a letter published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 12 January of this year under the heading "They Sent Skis But Forgot About the Poles."

Since the alarm signal sounded from the pages of the newspaper four months have passed. During this time it should have been possible to do a lot to carry out the socialist sports obligations which call for training 75 percent of the VSK [Military Sports Series] badge holders and 80 percent of

the rated sportsmen in the unit. Unfortunately, however, this did not happen. The socialist obligations of the majority of Sr Lt F. Kargin's colleagues remained on paper.

Why did this become possible? Who is guilty of the fact that there is still not the necessary amount of ski equipment in the unit and that because of this the seamen could not train, pass the VSK norms, and become rated sportsmen? Undoubtedly, it is primarily the chief of the clothing and equipment service of the unit, Capt 3d Rank A. Askerov. The seaman had waited for more than half a year when they were finally provided with ski equipment. It's as if the chief of the clothing and equipment service simply forgot about this one of his service duties. Even in September of last year Sr Lt F. Kargin offered to Capt 3d Rank A. Askerov statements about the worthlessness of the skis, fastenings and ski poles. The chief of the clothing and equipment service had only to send these statements in a timely fashion to the higher supply organ and the seamen would not have spent Sundays on the ships but would have trained on brand new skis, passed the VSK norms, performed the rating requirements, and spent their leisure time usefully and interestingly.

It is necessary to point out that for several years in a row the managers in general did not take an inventory of the sport equipment and comrade Askerov invariably answered the numerous requests of the amateur sportsmen: Your troubles do not concern me, they are your concerns. It turned out that there was now one pair of poles for every four pairs of skis.

In a word, officer Askerov was greatly guilty of the fact that the unit seamen were without ski equipment this winter. But was he the only one?

For some reason the situation which took shape little disturbed the members of the unit sports committee headed by officer G. Arkhontov. It goes without saying, comrade Arkhontov was a busy man; however, once during the winter the chairman of the sports committee should have found time to listen to the chief of physical training and sports with regard to the question of the sports logistics base and equipment and to help the sports organizers on the ships in providing the necessary equipment to the seamen--finally, to call upon the chief of the clothing and equipment service to strictly carry out his duties within the authority given to him. However, the chairman of the sports committee did not find time for this.

All this led to the fact that only a few in the unit managed the socialist obligations in sports; the remaining were simply cut off from ski classes because of the lack of equipment and the negligence of appropriate chiefs. Officer Yu. Savel'yev's subordinates were among the latter. In this subunit the percentage for performing the VSK winter norms, just as the training of rated sportsmen, was equal to zero. It is still good that boatswains went to meet the amateur sportsmen--they earmarked cables from their reserves. Now, the seamen have an opportunity to at least in a way try their strength. And right near by in the valleys of the hills, there is enough snow....

IMPORTANCE OF MILITARY TECHNICAL TRAINING STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 1

[Editorial: "Master Weapons and Equipment Skilfully"]

[Text] Thanks to the concern of the party, the government and all the people, our armed forces are constantly on a level with scientific and technical progress. During a meeting which took place recently with the fighting men of a missile unit near Novosibirsk, comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CC CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, emphasized: "The Soviet army has been equipped with new types of combat equipment and has been provided with everything necessary." The mastery of new equipment and weapons and of ways to employ them in combat is one of the central tasks of army and navy personnel and a very important condition for the high combat readiness of units and ships.

Soviet fighting men who are deeply aware of their duty to the people are steadily improving their combat skill and are learning to hit training targets at extreme ranges with the first round, launch and pass and to make complete use of the high speed, high altitude, maneuver, protective, and the other qualities of the new equipment. Socialist competition has been directed toward shortening the time to master equipment and weapons, forming in personnel the ability to take the maximum possible from them, maintaining each mechanism, machine and assembly in an exemplary manner. The obligations, adopted by the fighting men during the year of the glorious jubilee of the armed forces, provide for an increase in rated qualifications, the mastery of an allied specialty and all the organic weapons of the subunit, and the exceeding of established norms when working with the physical components. Their complete fulfillment will permit raising the technical training of each fighting man to a new and higher level.

The system of technical training for personnel, which has taken shape in the army and navy is being constantly improved and enriched with new principles and methods. It is taking into consideration even more fully the requirements of tactics and the peculiarities of modern combat and is acquiring a combined nature.

under such difficult conditions, the following questions sharply arise: How will they accept me in the company, what demands will they impose here? Our primary task is to create the most favorable conditions for young soldiers to become part of the formation and to see to it that they feel full and equal members of the collective as quickly as possible and trust in their strength.

About a year ago Pvt Vitautas Skachkauskas, a driver, arrived in our company. He was reticent and reserved. He had a poor knowledge of the Russian language. His inadequate technical training was having an effect. The duties of a driver at the site are complicated. He is a diesel operator, an electrical engineer and a battery man.

The very first night Lt Batyr Usmanov, the secretary of the party organization, announced to all the men that a Lithuanian fighting man had arrived in the company from the Baltic area and that now representatives of 12 nationalities were serving in the garrison beyond the clouds.

After some time Pfc Igor' V'yuzhanin, the secretary of the Komsomol bureau, asked Skachkauskas to tell his comrades about Lithuania, the sovkhos on which he had worked as a tractor driver, and his parents and friends. Before this there was an evening get-together devoted to the Ukraine and Belorussia. Vitautas carefully listened to the stories of Pvts Stepan Shumskiy and Demid Babich. The latter talked a lot about Lithuania. An assembler in an automobile plant, he visited a plant in Klaypeda. There he became acquainted with a girl whom he affectionately called Neyela and now corresponds with her. Pvt Babich helped Skachkauskas to prepare for the report. A friendship was started between the two soldiers which strengthened from day to day and which had a beneficial effect on the growth of their professional skill.

We analyze every day how the officers, warrant officers [praporshchiki] and sergeants instill in subordinates military comradeship, recommend more effective work methods and forms, and see to the elimination of shortcomings. During one party meeting the communists thoroughly discussed the work style of WO N. Maksimov in uniting the platoon collective and in developing in the fighting men a sense of mutual help during combat training. It was a useful discussion which enriched not only communist Maksimov but also other young commanders with valuable experience.

The radarman of the company maintain very close ties with the neighboring border guards. The friendship between subunits, the exchange of experience in indoctrinating fighting men, and discussions about the successes achieved in the collectives contribute to strengthening discipline and instilling in the fighting men pride in their work and responsibility for the performance of their duty. Recently we received them as guests. We prepared for this very carefully. Everyone who was free from performing the combat watch went to meet the border guards. Pfc V'yuzhanin held in his hand a large bouquet of tulips which had just blossomed. He started the welcoming speech but was

not able to complete it. The assembly signal sounded. The radarmen quickly took their combat posts. When I went into the cab of the radar, Sgt U. Khusniyarov and Pvt I. Zuyev were already working at their positions. Their faces were stern and intent. Short and accurate commands rang out. The strenuous combat work lasted for a half hour. The border guards stood near the sets and were understandably silent. They know that, although invisible, a border also passed through here.

Before the beginning of the amateur talent concert we announced the results of the competition for the week in the presence of our guests and presented the pennants, "For the Best Crew" and "For the Best Specialist" which the crew, headed by Sergeant Khusniyarov, and Private Zuyev had earned. The concert in honor of our guests was a glorious success. Everyone listened with pleasure to the Russian, Ukrainian and Uzbek songs, watched a fiery Georgian dance, and laughed at the "magic sorcery" tricks of Warrant Officer Maksimov. Then, everyone drank strong tea together and joked gaily.

The growing combat friendship of our fighting men is graphically displayed during classes, training sessions and exercises and while performing a combat watch--and also in special circumstances. Once Pvt Z. Khurtsishvili was seriously ill. He had a complicated operation. Soon the soldier required an urgent blood transfusion. Ivan Zuyev was the first to come to me. "Permit me to give blood to my comrade. I have the same blood type as Khurtsishvili". After a few minutes everyone who was free from performing the combat watch gathered in front of my office door. Each of the fighting men burned with the desire to give his blood to save the life of their comrade. I looked on the faces of my subordinates and thought: "What remarkable people you are, true military comrades. Any tests are within the capabilities of people like this!"

And many service tests, big and small, come to us on this high mountain site. Two months ago a severe storm burst in the mountains. It filled all the passes with snow and the powerful vehicles were not able to get to the site. I decided to assign the strongest and most experienced soldiers to bring fuel in cans. Lt Batyr Usmanov headed the group. The fighting men descended to the stuck gasoline tanker and, having filled the cans, climbed back up to the position along a rocky path covered with ice. Everything was going well. However, a rock suddenly broke loose under Pvt F. Maksutov's foot and the soldier, having lost his balance, began to slide below. Lieutenant Usmanov was able to grab him by the collar of his fur jacket and held him. The comrades who quickly ran up pulled both of them to a safe location.

Maksutov wrote his wife about what had happened and asked that if a son was born he be named Batyr. A telegram arrived from far-off Leningrad. Pvt Fedor Maksutov had become a father. A son had been born. He was named Batyr.

An Uzbek popular saying states: "Spring water is pure, the color of roses is beautiful, steel is strong--but purer than water, more beautiful than

flowers and stronger than steel is the friendship of the Soviet people." This saying also finds embodiment in our troop collective. Military comradeship, and a healthy moral atmosphere augment the striving of the fighting men to make as great a contribution as possible to raising the subunit's combat readiness.

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MOBILE PX SERVICES IN REMOTE AREAS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 78 p 4

[Article by Col (Ret) S. Skryabin, chief inspector of the Main Trade Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense: "One Trip of the Mobile Shop"]

[Text] Having passed a sharp turn our GAZ moved onto a small area and stopped. The weather which was acting up had made the mountain road impassable and prevented us from orienting ourselves.

Lt Col A. Sokolov, the Baku Air Defense District trade directorate's deputy chief for political affairs said: "We cannot go further. We have climbed almost 2,000 meters. Let us place the mobile shop, which is following us, here. A tractor will come to get the mobile shop."

Indeed, a powerful tractor soon descended from the mountain and then the mobile shop also moved to the area. Sokolov introduced me to the driver-- a communist shock worker--A. Akhundov and I moved to his vehicle.

While the tractor was pulling the mobile shop to the summit of the mountain-- to the remote garrison, Akhundov told me that he worked according to a schedule approved by the large unit's chief of rear services. He serves garrisons where there are no stores. In good weather he is on the road for four- five days and in weather like today, of course, more. He knows almost all his customers by first and last names, their tastes, what they need now, and what they will require in the future.

The driver salesman held out to me the pre-printed "Advance Order for Goods " In the space occupied by the name of Senior Lieutenant Sidel'nikov there appeared: "1. A child's coat for a five-year old girl, cost: 20 - 25 rubles, size 30; color: red with embroidery. Desired time for filling the order-- March. 2. Man's suit, cost: 100-120 rubles; size 50, height: 2, dark grey, single-breasted. Time for filling the order-- April. 3. "Rekord" television. Period for filling the order--May...." etc.

Akhundov continued: "I also deal in food. How can people be happy on a holiday, for example without a cake or sweets?!"

I gradually was filled even more with respect for this hard working individual. He had set up kiosks without salespersons in some remote garrisons. They have so-called soldier demand goods: shoulder-boards, emblems, stars, tabs, cigarettes, notebooks, envelopes, pencils, shoe polish, etc.

We are finally at the site. The children were the first to greet us on the approach to this small garrison. They surrounded Akhundov with happy cries and threw questions at him: about an athletic uniform, a football....

It seemed to me that a small holiday had come to the people with the arrival of the mobile shop. Almost all the inhabitants had gathered at the sales site ahead of time while the tractor was still moving below. There were smiles on their faces. Animated selling began without delay. First, items ordered on the previous trip were sold, then those from the standard stock of the mobile shop. A melody swam over the garrison. It was not for nothing that Akhundov brought a tape recorder with him.

The selling ended. New orders were taken. The subunit commander made a note in the mobile shop's log that the items brought to the garrison and their amount corresponded exactly to the accompanying documents of the military trade organization and we left on our return journey.

We descended to the sea. A boat had to pick us up near a small pier to carry us to an island. However, the sea was not quiet and it was apparently necessary to wait.

"How long?"

"A day perhaps, perhaps two...."

Akhundov was disturbed. How he would have liked to get to the next garrison today in order to begin selling tomorrow. But there was nothing to do, he would have to wait and would surely make his customers happy.

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COMMANDER AT REMOTE RADAR SITE PRAISES PERSONNEL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Capt Yu. Nikolayev, a radar company commander: "We Are on a High Mountain"]

[Text] A letter from Moscow from the Automobile Plant imeni Likhachev arrived not so long ago. Pfc (Res) Ivan Nikitin who had served in the company for two years had sent it. Nikitin wrote: "The army taught me to trust my comrades as myself. It is a true school of courage and combat comradeship."

Nikitin briefly told about himself and expressed an interest in how things were going with us, how the young fighting men were being assimilated and whether they were performing their service in a worthy manner. In reading his letter, I thought about how he had done his bit to unite the collective and strengthen troop comradeship. On his initiative a movement of the experienced and well prepared soldiers was started in the company under the slogan, "Everything that I know and can do-- to you, young soldier." Although Nikitin is not in our company formation any longer, they very often recall him in the collective with kind words. The man left a visible impression!

We read Nikitin's letter to all personnel and then sewed it into a special document case. There already were many patriotic letters like this in it. In addition, we correspond a lot with war veterans.

Our radar company is located high in the mountains. A small camp each meter of which was literally won from the rocks, several buildings, combat equipment in the positions--this is our entire garrison beyond the clouds. Service here is especially difficult. Under such conditions the importance of strong combat friendship and of the unity of the collective grows even more.

We pay special attention to the work with young replacements. The fact is that the process of a young man's entry into his new collective is not a simple process in itself and is complicated by the first impression about the isolation of the site and its remoteness from cultural centers. Along with doubts about whether he has sufficient strength to become a true soldier

For example, the fighting men of the Guards Motorized Rifle Rogachevskaya Division imeni the USSR Supreme Soviet are showing high skill and the ability to effectively employ all types of weapons when solving tactical tasks and operate equipment efficiently under any weather conditions. Here, they try to attach a research nature to many classes and orient themselves on the indicators of the best specialists. The technical conferences and inspections of the way the maintenance service is organized which are conducted in the division are noted for the correctness of their goals. Having achieved high indicators during the past training year, the personnel of the progressive large unit are increasing their efforts in combat and political training. The guards motorized riflemen honorably performed all tasks during the "Berezina" Exercise.

The successes in mastering equipment and weapons are primarily determined by the quality with which tactical, firing, technical, and special training programs are carried out and depend on the productive use of each training minute and the thorough logistical support of classes. During each field trip, flight, missile launch, and sea cruise it is also necessary to solve specific tasks on raising the technical training of fighting men and to create situations where an irreproachable knowledge of the construction of equipment and the ability to quickly determine the nature of damages and eliminate it in the minimum time are demanded from them.

The technical training of officers, especially the command link, deserves special attention. Without a thorough knowledge of the capabilities of the equipment and weapons in one's own, attached and supporting subunits and the combat systems of the other side, sound decisions and firm control of the battle are impossible. The tactical maturity and technical outlook of an officer are inseparably linked. Only a commander, who is capable of skilfully organizing for combat and achieving superiority over the enemy in the art of conducting it, can realize the full might of the equipment and the entire combat potential of the unit. The creative search for more effective ways to use weapons and combat equipment and constant improvement of the tactical armory must permeate the entire command training system. The interests of combat readiness require that the professional knowledge of officers in the area of tactics and technology always be rated against the high measure of combat.

Unfortunately, technical training still does not answer modern requirements everywhere. In some subunits commanders are trying to shift it completely to the shoulders of technicians. They consider the organization of servicing days a secondary matter. They throw together maintenance of equipment and the solution of the simplest tasks. It is necessary to struggle decisively against these shortcomings and increase the responsibility of commanders for the quality of their subordinates' technical training.

When organizing military technical training, commanders, staffs and the engineer technical element have been called upon to be constantly concerned about improving the training logistics base, making widespread use of

trainers and other auxiliary training systems, and seeing to it that each training installation corresponds to modern requirements and permits creating a situation which approximates combat as closely as possible. In order to increase the technical training of personnel it is necessary to use time as much as possible for adjustment operations and other ways of maintaining equipment.

An important direction in technical training in each subunit must be the study of instructions, manuals and hand books which define the rules for operating equipment, the frequency and scope of its maintenance, and procedures for adjusting and regulating electronic and hydraulic systems, automated mechanisms, sights and other important devices. The guarantee of the constant readiness of vehicles and weapons to function and of no accidents in their operation is in this.

Purposeful party and political work which is varied in its forms has been called upon to play a large role in mobilizing fighting men to thoroughly study weapons and equipment and the methods for employing them in combat. When conducting it, commanders, political organs and party organizations must achieve a further growth in the political awareness of the fighting men and an understanding by each one that success in combat is achieved by the one who employs weapons more skilfully and uses the capabilities of the equipment more completely. The duty of communists and Komsomol members is to be advocates of high technical discipline and to set an example of exemplary maintenance, the intelligent operation of equipment and weapons, and the careful use of each training minute. It is necessary to regard the military technical propaganda, directed toward instilling in the fighting men love for the equipment and pride for the achievements of the motherland, and the publicizing of the experience of experts in combat specialties and that of excellent soldiers in training, as an important component of political indoctrinational work.

Skilfull mastery of weapons and equipment is the high obligation of each Soviet fighting man and proceeds from the requirements in the Constitution of the USSR concerning the combat readiness of the armed forces. This is the most important task on whose solution the reliability of the defense of the peaceful creative work of the Soviet people depends.

8802
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OFFICERS' POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION IN SOUTHERN GROUP OF FORCES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Col N. Ktitorov, senior instructor in the propaganda and agitation section of the political directorate of the Southern Group of Forces: "Influence in a Composite Way"]

[Text] Capt M. Latushkin, the chief of the regiment's armored service behaved unassumingly during the seminar. He did not endeavor to express himself on the questions posed by the unit propagandist who was leading the seminar. When the propagandist nevertheless suggested that he speak, the captain uttered two or three sentences and fell silent. He felt that he was not prepared for the class. His notebook also testified to this. There were no abstracts of primary sources, the notes on the subjects being studied were fragmentary and not methodical.

He justified himself: "I'm busy up to here with the equipment."

True, Captain Latushkin spent quite a bit of time in the combat vehicle motor pool. However, in this regard he will always remain, as we say, in the position of a "narrow specialist." This cannot help but influence the effectiveness of the officer's indoctrinational work with the fighting men. People do not try to imitate him, they do not experience the desire to talk about events which are taking place in the world and in the country and to ask questions. Captain Latushkin is a communist; he is required to be a propagandist and to surely see the indoctrinational aspect in his service work. He must influence people with the force of his party words. However, the captain evades the performance of work duties. His supply of theoretical knowledge is rather small and his orientation toward events taking place in the country and in the international arena is insufficient. A direct connection between indifference to political training and passivity in public life and in the indoctrination of the fighting men is deployed in this manner.

What great attention the 25th party congress devoted to the question of developing an active and lively attitude in Soviet people is known. Of course, a CPSU member first of all must take such an attitude. The role of

communist leaders is especially being emphasized. The decree of the CC CPSU on oral political agitation and lecture-type propaganda also mentions the importance of their regular appearances and active participation in the ideological indoctrination of workers. A modern leader must integrally combine in himself party spirit with high competency and discipline with initiative and a creative approach to the task.

It has become such that, without serious ideological and theoretical training and the ability to connect the knowledge received with present-day problems and with the specific tasks which the collective is solving, it is impossible today to work with people and it is difficult to stir the hearts of fighting men. It is possible to say without exaggeration that a good propagandist, capable of thoroughly interpreting and explaining to fighting men the questions which interest them, begins his first steps as a Marxist-Leninist group student. He lays the foundation for his political learning during painstaking daily work on himself.

However, "working on himself" does not at all mean that an individual must be left on his own. A group student must constantly sense its attention on his ideological growth process. It is necessary to exert a favorable influence on this process from other sides and in a combined way.

Such an influence primarily proceeds from the group leader. He has been called upon to make a decisive contribution to the ideological training of an officer. This is how, for example, Lt Col V. Filatov whose group has achieved high results for a number of years does it. The desire to combine into a single whole all three links in the training of the students, the lecture, independent work and the seminar, is characteristic of Viktor Nikolayevich. However, it happens this way: One of the propagandists presents a lecture, the group leader concentrates his efforts on conducting the seminar but independent work is "surrendered wholly" to the student without any control.

Comrade Filatov arranged matters differently. During the lecture (if another comrade gives it, then after it is over) he invariably gives the students advice on how to work with primary sources and designates officers who will have to present papers. Then he takes a systematic interest in how the students study and make abstracts of the primary sources, party congress documents and the other recommended literature, helps them, and advises them. He took under his personal control the training of some comrades who had a habit of leaving the preparations for the seminar to the last day.

Having inquired about the successes of Lt V. Galkin approximately a week before the class, Viktor Nikolayevich did not detect in him any "signs" of preparation for the seminar. The lieutenant cited his work load but the group leader insisted and set the time for preparing the lesson plan. Then he once again checked on the officer's independent work. Galkin's talk during the seminar was thorough and interesting. The habit of systematic work is gradually becoming firmer for the young officer.

In this regard, Capt M. Latushkin whom I have mentioned was not lucky. Lt Col S. Bykov, who heads the group, has still not conducted a single seminar during this training year, turning them over to other comrades although it is accurately assigned in the training log. The "honorable" group leader lacks the time-- yes and even the desire is absent--to examine the students' independent work. It is understandable that such an attitude on the part of the group leader himself toward the task dampens the ardor of some. It gives others cause to cite their work load and prepare for seminars carelessly--at the last minute so to speak.

Such an attitude on the part of some officers toward their political training is also explained by the absence of the necessary exactingness by immediate chiefs who are required to be concerned with the ideological training of the officers subordinate to them. Lt Col V. Silov, the deputy commander for political affairs, to whom Capt M. Latushkin was subordinate, did not once find time to talk with him about his political training. Not that the situation was any better with Silov himself. He does not like to appear before the troops; at the same time he is listed as a member of the agitation and propaganda group. A student in the Marxist-Leninist training group, Silov has not once been present during a seminar this year. He also says he is busy. The deficiencies in ideological and theoretical training are having an effect on the effectiveness of the officer's indoctrinational work with the fighting men. It is not surprising that both in his personal work and in the work of the services subordinate to him there are quite a few errors for which he has been severely disciplined.

It is impossible not to mention here the reaction of the party organization to such facts. The members of the unit party committee are not showing the needed level of principle and exactingness to those who regard political training irresponsibly. True, a party meeting was held here during which they talked about the ideological training of communists. A detailed decision was made but they are not hurrying to carry it out and improvements for the better have not taken place. They will not assemble in the party committee and in the party bureau to listen to individual communists who do not take the trouble to perform painstaking work in raising their ideological level and do not conduct lectures and discussions with the men.

The following fact is no accident. Capt V. Tokarev, a member of the CPSU returned from leave in January. He continued to perform his duties for almost a month and only then it suddenly turned out: he has no idea of what group he should be engaged in.

I will return in this connection to the party organization of the unit where one of the groups is headed by Lt Col V. Filatov. The party bureau has discussed questions on the ideological growth of officers three times during recent months. A serious discussion was once held with Maj A. Shalabodov, a communist who had neglected working on himself. After the sharp party criticism, the communist drew correct conclusions and made up for what had been neglected. He is now active in seminar classes and regularly appears before the fighting men during political information hours and mass political work.

Incidentally, the party recommended that all officers have their own plans for political self-education which point out in particular what work must be studied by what time for a year's period. The activists were also concerned about disseminating the experience of officers who possess skills in working independently. In the bureau communist leaders also delight in listening to the following topic: How they are guiding the political training of officers who are directly subordinate to them.

It is understandable that in an atmosphere of high party exactingness not a single chief is apathetic if his subordinate ceases to worry about broadening his own ideological and theoretical mental outlook. When Capt V. Shenayev who had arrived in the unit displayed a superficial knowledge of theory, this did not remain outside the attention of his chief, Lt Col A. Bokov. It turned out that Shenayev did not trouble himself with work on original sources. From this came formally compiled lesson plans and not very interesting presentations during seminars. Lieutenant Colonel Bokov regularly took an interest in the captain's preparation for seminar classes. In this way he helped him to pull himself up. After some time the party organization began to involve Captain Shenayev in presenting information and discussions for the fighting men. This also prompted the officer to display maximum perseverance and helped him even more to improve his knowledge. He received a good rating during the final checkout.

It is important that the regimental command element sets an example of concern for the ideological training of personnel. The commander, his deputy for political affairs, and the chief of staff regulate the work load of the officers, especially the young ones. They plan classes, details and temporary duty so that the absence of group students from classes is kept to a minimum on Marxist-Leninist training days. Here, almost a 100-percent attendance at lectures and seminars has been achieved and time is invariably allotted for the independent study of the students.

Much depends on the Marxist-Leninist training of an officer on the officer himself, on his sense of responsibility, and on his ability to organize his independent work. However, of course, it is necessary to attune the student to high activity in this matter, to maintain it, and to help the officer constantly. It is also important that all avenues for such influence be used.

8802
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ATTITUDES TOWARD WAR VETERANS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Col of Justice I. Vashkevich: "Everything That Is in Our Power"]

[Text] Ivan Kirillovich Kravtsov, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, according to the law does not have the right to a special improvement in housing conditions. But the line of those needing well built quarters in the Zavodskiy Rayon of the city of Kemerovo--however great construction is there--is moving, alas, slowly. A simple calculation showed: The front line soldier would not be made happy with a new home in the near future. Nevertheless, he had such a hope. Based on the petition of the oblast military commissariat the executive committee of the rayon soviet took into consideration the fact that the front line soldier lodges with the widow of a soldier who died during the war. With the agreement of this family, he will move together with them to new quarters. It is possible this year.

In the article "Considering Capabilities" which was published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 20 January of this year, the talk concerned what preceded this decision of the rayon soviet, the sympathetic and hard-hearted people to whom Ivan Kirillovich addressed his request, and the sacred duty of each one of us to those who have defended the motherland.

The publication evoked a wide reader response. Letters imbued with ardent love for the people who defended the freedom and independence of our motherland in combat still continue to arrive in the editor's office. T. Kaygorodtseva from the Krasnodarskiy Kray, the daughter of a dead fighting man and mother of four children, expressed her feelings with these words: "I bow deeply to you, my dear ones!" Almost everyone who sent his comments to the newspaper considers it absolutely necessary to confirm it with an example from personal experience. Everywhere there are opportunities to express respect for a front line soldier and to meet his valid request.

Yevgeniy Mikhaylovich Tret'yachenko, a former paratrooper, reported how carefully Lt Gen I. Bliznyuk, the chief of the airborne forces' political

section treated his request: "This busy man found time to answer me. He wrote a petition to the Krasnodarskiy Krayispolkom and I was soon offered an opportunity to purchase a car." Mirsiad Valiyevich Sudeymanov is grateful to the workers of the Minskiy Oblast Military Commissariat for the fact that they restored documents lost by him during the war without delay. The veteran lives in Sarapul far from Belorussia and turned to the military commissariat while in Minsk on a trip. In the Tukumskiy Rayon military commissariat of the Latvian SSR a vehicle was found for Andrey Andreyevich Fokin who had arrived from Berdyanck and the opportunity to purchase flowers to place on the grave of his dead brother. The veteran was also touched by how carefully Latvian schoolboys had looked after the grave....

The stories are different, the people are different. The attitude--a respectful and interested one--toward front line personnel unites them. There was no political worker and no military commissariat officer, whom we mentioned above, who was required to do what he did by any instructions. However, besides a service duty there also exists the duty of conscience and the duty of memory. One should not forget about this even for an hour. So that an old soldier warmly becomes aware of our concern and takes heart, at times only a little bit is needed.

Konstantin Sergeyevich Gatilov was faced with an operation because of a wartime wound. Something delayed the summons from the Moscow hospital for disabled veterans. Perhaps they had already forgotten about the veteran from Orlovshchina? But no, they well remembered his feelings in the hospital. A letter arrived which the front line soldier still preserves. The manager of the section, P. Vayshenker, and the surgeon, S. Nezhdanov, wrote: "Dear Konstantin Sergeyevich! Forgive us because we are late in the summons. We have moved to a new building. But you needn't worry, everything possible will be done to relieve your ailment...." Soon the veteran was indeed in Moscow and the necessary help was given to him. However, the first healing bandage, so he considers, was placed on his wound when he received this warm and courteous letter.

Unfortunately, front line soldiers still have to run into other attitudes. Maj (Ret) I. Ladygin, despairing of receiving space in one Leningrad hotel, reported to the girl administrator that he had participated in the battles for this city. Evidently this changed matters, the administrator asked to be shown the certificate for the medal, "For the Defense of Leningrad." The veteran did not have a certificate; true, there was an appropriate entry on his military card. Alas, the entry did not satisfy the guard of the hotel's "reservations" and the front line soldier remained without a room.

Sr Lt (Ret) V. Lityashev did not receive such a firm rejection to his request for the installation of a home telephone. To make up for it, the signalmen of Armavir, as if in mockery of the elderly individual, suggested he himself install "one 8.5 meter pole impregnated with antiseptics." Even in December of last year the newspaper, SOVETSKIY ARMAVIR, wrote about this shocking fact;

however, the question of who would install the ill-fated pole (at the expense of the subscriber, of course) has still not been resolved. I. Mchedlishvili has been corresponding with various organizations for more than a year. The veteran is not about himself--but about the fate of a hospital for disabled veterans in Tbilisi. In 1974 it was decided to form it in the building of the Fourth City Hospital; however, the end to the capital repairs is not in sight. Do they know about the situation in the Georgian Ministry of Health? They do. The deputy minister himself, in answering the veteran, has repeatedly fixed the time for completing the work. Alas, the courteous words of the letters are at variance with deeds.

It is completely understandable that not these items determine the moral climate in which Soviet war veterans live. Nevertheless, there is a need to remember that party and Soviet organs, the work and troop collectives where front line soldiers work, the party and Komsomol organizations where they live, and military commissariats have been called upon to treat the front line soldiers with the maximum understanding and concern and to try to understand their needs.

Our party and state are showing constant concern for frontline soldiers. Various privileges have been established for disabled war veterans and the families of dead fighting men. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CC CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has emphasized that the suggestions, expressed by workers during the discussion of the draft of the Constitution of the USSR on further improving living conditions for Great Patriotic War veterans who took part in battles, including those who today are on a pension, deserve attention. During the days celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Soviet armed forces the country honored former Red Army men, participants in the civil and Great Patriotic wars, and partisans. They were awarded a jubilee medal, invited to festivals, and presented gifts, certificates and flowers.

Veterans feel our filial love not only on holidays but also everyday. They see a nation-wide recognition of their services. This is the Soviet way of life--to do everything that is in our power so that the life of front line fighting men will be happy, full-blooded and active.

8802
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EFFICIENCY OF DOSAAF PRODUCTION ENTERPRISES DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 21 May 78 p 1

[Article by G. Chernomorskiy: "In the Center of Attention -- Production Efficiency"]

[Text] The Ukrainian capital was the site of the All-Union Conference of Leaders of DOSAAF Production Enterprises. Stock was taken of the economic activities of plants and associations of the Defense Society over the past year, and tasks were set for the future. The conference was opened by the deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the USSR DOSAAF, Major General of Engineers V. Zemlyannikov. The floor was then given to the chairman of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian DOSAAF, Lieutenant General A. Pokal'chuk. He spoke to those assembled of the successes of the republic's workers in building communism and in defense work among the population at large. The report of the chief of the directorate of production enterprises of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, A. Ilyushchenko, and the speeches of other leaders noted successes achieved, named the winners of socialist competition, and disclosed shortcomings.

Quotas for production volume for two years of the tenth five-year-plan were fulfilled ahead of time by DOSAAF production enterprises -- by 27 November 1977. Production in excess of the plan was 4.0 million rubles. From production activities the Defense Society received approximately 30 million rubles in clear profit. In only two years for basic and other training organizations, hundreds of sporting boats were produced, along with thousands of pleasure craft, racing go-carts, mini-engines, millions of aircraft and ship model kits, and enough group driver training devices to equip over a hundred classrooms.

In the all-union competition among DOSAAF enterprises the best marks were achieved by collectives of the Shakhtinskiy Aircraft Repair Plant, the Leningrad Production Association "Patriot," and the production combine of the Khar'kov DOSAAF obkom.

The initiative of leading Moscow enterprises to complete the quotas for three years of the five-year-plan by the anniversary of the new USSR constitution -- 7 October 1978 -- was taken up by a collective of the Kiev Test and Experimental Plant of the Central Committee of the DOSAAF of the Ukrainian SSR. There is constant expansion of the movement for a communist relationship to labor. There has been an increase in the number of pacesetters and innovators in production. Of these, 240 have been awarded the badge of "Winner of Socialist Competition." By order of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet of 25 March 1978, 30 workers and foremen of DOSAAF enterprises have been awarded orders and medals of the USSR.

However, in the work of a number of labor collectives there are still many serious shortcomings. Growth in production volume resulting from the increase of labor productivity has not yet reached the levels projected and is now at 65 percent for DOSAAF enterprises. There is still poor use of existing production capacity and basic funds. The Gomel' plant, the Astrakhan, Volgograd, Dagestan, and Rostov production combines, and some other enterprises are not yet fulfilling their established quotas for returns on investment.

In a number of enterprises a decrease in planned profit and in the growth of labor productivity has been permitted. Plans for primary accumulation have often been overfulfilled by means other than the increase of production efficiency. The plan of the Astrakhan production combine for sales of finished production was not fulfilled at all, while the plan for profits was exceeded by 8.6 percent. A similar picture is presented by the Dagestan, Vilnius, and Crimean combines.

One of the main problems is to improve indicators of production quality. At present not one of the items produced at Defense Society enterprises has merited the coveted pentagon. Individual leaders at the enterprises have not given this problem the importance it deserves. It is sufficient to remark that 20 enterprises in 1977 did not fulfil their certification plans. For example, 28 items were to have been certified at the Leningrad Production Association "Patriot," but only 9 items were confirmed in all, and those after great delay.

In a resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers of 7 May 1966 it was noted that "Individual organizations are setting out to form enterprises which have no relation to the nature of the activities of the Defense Society." Twelve years have passed. The material base of DOSAAF has been strengthened immeasurably, but the thesis of the resolution remains as timely as it was then. For example, the output of production enterprises of the Dagestan and Astrakhan DOSAAF obkoms has no relation to the activities of the Defense Society. Production of goods of the correct type in the production association of the Central Committee of the Armenian DOSAAF constitutes only five percent of output.

Of course, production enterprises of the Defense Society have recently made considerable strides forward. But, as was emphasized by deputy chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee V. Zemlyannikov, those speakers were quite correct who paid particular attention to the weak points. It is the duty of a communist leader, he emphasized, to assume an uncompromising attitude toward shortcomings and to take all measures to eliminate them. V. Zemlyannikov set before the production leaders tasks whose resolution will aid the production enterprises of the Defense Society in reaching new heights.

In the work of the conference there was participation by executives of the USSR Gosplan and the Gosplan of the Ukrainian SSR.

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CRITICISMS OF DOSAAF TRAINING FACILITIES

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 24 May 78 p 3

[Review of readers' letters: "Along the Path of Least Resistance"]

[Text] In the city of Kotovsk in the Moldavian SSR a sports-technical club was formed. Young people were drawn into the courses and began to participate in various competitions.

Everything would have been fine, but disaster struck: the club is on the same territory as an incubation and poultry-raising station. As described in letters to the editors by comrades Egorov, Bonar', and Shelenko and other sportsmen, this combination of neighbors has caused great inconvenience both for the activities of the club and for the work of the station. The Kotovsk raykom of the Defense Society should have thought of a more convenient location for the club and turned for help to the Central Committee of DOSAAF of the Moldavian SSR and to local authorities. But this was not done in time.

And now there is contention between the leaders of the club and the station over who should remain on the territory. And indeed, the question of locations should be decided taking into account the interests of both sides.

For the teen-agers and young people of our country, palaces and stadiums, swimming pools and motor cycle tracks are being built. Under construction are buildings for schools and dormitories for DOSAAF military-technical training. The situation is somewhat worse in regard to premises for sports-technical clubs. Many of them are still located in old houses, and some classes have been held in basements. This phenomenon, of course, is temporary. The time will come even for these clubs to erect fine buildings. But in the meantime... In the meantime one must make full use of what one has. It is difficult to believe that nowhere in Kotovsk could other premises be found, old though they might be, which were not connected by a common roof to an incubation and poultry-raising station.

It is important to support young people in their urge to engage in military-technical forms of sport. Incidentally, as witnessed by mail to the editors, individual leaders are following the path of least resistance:

it has become crowded, let us say, and the decision is made to close the club. The chairman of the DOSAAF committee of the Institute of Plant Physiology of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Yu. Kutlakhmedov, writes us that the Moskovskiy rayon committee of the city of Kiev decided to close the sports-technical club and transfer its equipment to another rayon. The reason: troubles with the premises. "Closing the club is avoiding the problem, not solving it," concludes Kutlakhmedov. And he adds that the DOSAAF raykom and the club leadership should have brought the question of providing the necessary premises before higher organizations rather than make a rash decision.

"We live in the city of Torez in the Donetsk oblast," writes to us a comrade from group 29. We study in courses for radio operators at a sports-technical club. The classroom is dark, damp, and cold." A copy of this letter was sent by the editors to the Donetsk obkom of DOSAAF. The deputy chairman of the obkom Yu. Petrosov informed us that the oblast committee is applying to the Torez gorkom of the Ukrainian Communist Party and the gorispolkom for provision of other premises for the club. And in the meantime, the existing premises are being put in order and equipped with additional lighting. It would seem that this attitude toward critical warnings is the correct one. Not to brush aside a request or a demand, not to lock up the classroom, but to take the necessary measures, and without endless delays.

It also happens in some cases that the class premises are suitable, but that the quality of instruction is low and does not meet today's requirements. The reasons for this can vary. But most often those at fault are the club leaders, the instructors, and the skilled professionals.

Two letters have been sent to the editors from the city of Stakhanov in the Voroshilovgrad oblast. Their authors, V. Oleynikov and V. Zagudaylov, complain that courses in radio and television repair in group 23 are taught by a poorly trained instructor. Also roundly criticized is the state of the material and technical base. For example, there are no instruments for testing radio apparatus. Students must practice on obsolete models of television sets.

We assume that the club is not yet able to acquire new television sets. Still, the leaders of the club could establish closer ties with a television shop and obtain permission to conduct practical training in a collective of skilled experts and professionals.

Defense Society activists Z. Klyus, I. Sulayeva, and others (ten signatures in all) have informed us of the alarming facts surrounding troubles with DOSAAF driver training courses in the village of Yur'ya. The students, as a rule, undergo an incomplete course in practice driving, though the course hours are recorded as complete. As a result of this "instruction," from a group of 30 course graduates, the driving test was passed by only four.

Unfortunately, neither the chairman of the Yur'ya raykom comrade Smertin nor the chairman of the Kirov DOSAAF obkom comrade Baranov took measures in time to eliminate these shortcomings, though they promised to do this after they were turned to for help.

Technical courses established at an enterprise, an institution, a kolkhoz or a sovkhos require methodological and other help. Who should provide it? DOSAAF educational organizations and sports-technical clubs. Such a desire is expressed by G. Somov of Saratov in proposing that a local unified technical school, as well as the clubs "Volga" and "Sokol," assume overall methodological supervision for all DOSAAF courses preparing specialists for the national economy. This will undoubtedly aid in improving the quality of instruction.

What is right is right. In this country millions of teen-agers, young men and women, dream of mastering one or another technical specialty. And meeting them half way in this noble desire is our common duty, our direct and common obligation.

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SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN MILITARY-TECHNICAL SPORTS PROGRAM

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 28 May 78 p 1

[Editorial: "Real Leadership for Sports"]

[Excerpts] In recent years the Defense Society, under the leadership of agencies of the Party, and with the active participation of soviet, trade union, komsomol, and sports organizations, has achieved certain successes in the development of military-technical forms of sport. Mass participation in them has increased, and the trend toward the application of military skills has intensified. There has been a strengthening of the position of Soviet sportsmen in the international arena as well.

Still the overall level of development of military-technical sports does not yet meet the requirements set forth in the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers of 7 May 1966 "The status and measures for the improvement of the work of the USSR DOSAAF," nor does it satisfy the resolutions of the Eighth All-union Congress of the Defense Society.

The successful development of military-technical forms of sport depends in large part on how well thought-out is the leadership of this process provided by committees of the Defense Society. An example of this is the activities of the Central Committee of the DOSAAF of the Lithuanian SSR, where by agreement with agencies of the Party in close contact with trade unions and the komsomol, sports organizations, ministries, and government departments a long-range plan has been developed for improving defense-sports work. It was the object of painstaking consideration at a special conference in which there was participation by Party leaders, ispolkom chairmen, and a broad range of activists. The plan embraces all sides of the problem and provides for a clear-cut interaction of forces for the creation of a strong material base, for the training of personnel, and for expanding the network of sports-technical clubs and children's and young people's schools. And it is not by chance that the level of development of military-technical sports in this republic has increased considerably in recent years.

Unfortunately, this work has not yet been performed in all committees. The status of military-technical sports has not everywhere been subjected to detailed analysis at sessions of presidiums and plenums and meetings of party activists; in some defense collectives there has been no previous attempt to form a plan of comprehensive measures even for the immediate future. Moreover, individual leaders of DOSAAF committees treat problems of the development of sports as an insignificant matter.

In solving the problem of further improving defense-sports work, DOSAAF committees must first of all show concern for the development of military-technical sports in the primary organizations of the Society. People must be further drawn into the activities of hobby groups and sections of the main body of DOSAAF members and into the formation of permanent teams. Particular attention must be paid to introducing school children and teenagers to sports, and for this all measures must be taken to improve the activities of children's and young people's sports-technical schools and expand the net of collective radio stations and hobby groups for sports model building.

In recent years there has been a perceptible strengthening of the material-technical base for sports of the Defense Society. However, even in this important aspect there remains much for DOSAAF committees to do in searching out and making use of existing reserves. Parallel with accelerating the completion of projects under construction, it is necessary to make more effective use of existing sports structures and the material-technical base of DOSAAF educational and sports organizations.

For the practical implementation of all these tasks, DOSAAF committees must attract sports activists more widely, and, along with federations for individual kinds of sports, must arrange for systematic instruction of Society sports personnel -- instructors, trainers, and referees.

DOSAAF committees must improve the leadership of work in sports-technical clubs and the sports clubs of educational organizations. It is no secret that many sports-technical clubs are hardly concerned with sports at all, placing their primary emphasis on the paid training of personnel in mass technical skills. The goal of forming sports clubs in every technical school is still far from attainment. And it is these very clubs which are called upon to provide mass access to military-technical sports and growth in the skills of sportsmen, and to provide daily help to primary organizations in expanding defense-sports work. DOSAAF committees must energetically pursue work for the formation of sports-technical clubs, paying particular attention to rural collectives of the Society. In all educational organizations it is necessary to open sports clubs within the shortest possible time. DOSAAF committees should henceforth consider it the main task of all defense-sports work to carry out unswervingly the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers for drawing the broad masses of young people into participation in military-technical sports and to have Soviet sportsmen win world superiority in the most important forms of these sports.

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PRE-DRAFT FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM FOR VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 31 May 78 p 2

[Report of interview with Aleksey Nikiforovich Osipov: "The Field Examines. Basic Military Training for Young People"; date and place not given]

[Text] The school year is coming to an end in Soviet secondary, technical, and vocational-technical schools. Its culmination for ninth grade students studying at vocational-technical and technical schools is a five-day field training exercise -- an important step in consolidating their knowledge and skills in basic military training and in physically toughening future soldiers.

A correspondent of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT asked A.N. Osipov, deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR Council of Ministers on Vocational-Technical Education, to reply to a number of questions on field training for vocational-technical school students.

SOVETSKIY PATRIOT: Tell us, please Aleksey Nikiforovich, what tasks face participants in the five-day field exercises.

Osipov: Service in the army and navy requires of each soldier or sailor a high degree of ideological conviction, knowledge of the fundamentals of military science and the know-how to apply them in practice, and good physical toughening. These are the qualities we strive to develop in vocational-technical school students during their training for service in the USSR Armed Forces.

In performing this important task a special role is played by the five-day field exercises. Before the exercises begin, young people receive a certain amount of theoretical knowledge of tactical and weapons training and of regulations and military topography. But they still do not fully conceive how this knowledge is used in practice by a soldier in field conditions.

The field training program makes it possible for boys to study in practical conditions problems in tactical and weapons training, to reinforce their knowledge of military-wide regulations, to master the initial exercise in automatic weapons fire, and to learn to orient themselves to local terrain and move on assigned azimuths. It is also intended that the summer norms of the "Ready for Labor and Defense" physical training complex be passed.

It is clear that the field exercise program is quite strenuous. And in order for the exercises to produce maximum results, they must be seriously prepared for in advance.

In the vocational-technical training system the five-day field exercises with students are organized by three methods: by assembly based on host military units, in military-sports health improvement camps, and by daily trips from vocational-technical schools into the field for firing practice. Incidentally, it is recommended that the last form of field exercises, since it produces inferior results, be converted gradually to assembly in military-sports health improvement camps.

SOVETSKIY PATRIOT: Experience shows that five-day assemblies based on military units are the most effective. Could you tell us how widespread in the vocational-technical training system is the use of ties with host military units in conducting field exercises.

Osipov: It is true that the maximum of practice in the soldier's art is provided by five-day assemblies based on military units. This possibility is now offered to about one fifth of the students in the vocational-technical training system. Young people are fully absorbed into the routine of the military unit, and daily from reveille to taps they experience all elements of a soldier's life and observe established military regulations. The commanders make available to vocational-technical training institutions firing ranges, training grounds, and weapons and ammunition, and they assign officers and junior commanders to the students to conduct exercises and organize political-indoctrination and sports work.

This is how the exercises are held in Moscow's City Vocational-Technical School number 126. Each year the military supervisor, V. Antonov, in December and January coordinates with the staff of the host unit all questions of the organization and conduct of field assemblies. Schedules are drawn up for the exercises, along with a daily routine and plans for political-indoctrination and mass-participation sports work. The military unit makes available housing for the students, and for each platoon and squad appoints a commander from the unit who conducts exercises in tactical and weapons training and military topography. The exercises are held at a high teaching-methodological level, and the students under the leadership of experienced older comrades enthusiastically acquire an appreciation of the soldier's art. Clearly, in this case the military unit takes it upon itself to provide for all aspects of the assemblies, and the vocational-technical school is freed of many concerns.

But not all host military units can house the students on their own bases. These ordinarily assign officers and sergeants to aid the military instructor and make available firing ranges and training grounds. That is how five-day field exercises are organized with students of City Vocational-Technical School number 32 of Orel (military instructor V. Piskarev). The boys live in a tent camp which the school sets up near the military unit.

Along with the military instructor in the camp are experts in industrial training, the deputy director for training and educational work, the secretary of the komsomol organization, and the physical education supervisor. This form of organization for the exercises entirely justifies itself by assuring a high level of mastery of the program in field conditions.

SOVETSKIY PATRIOT: To what extent are defense-sports health improvement camps used for reinforcing knowledge gained from basic military training and for physically toughening future soldiers?

Osipov: Many vocational-technical schools are in rayons and oblasts where there are no near-by military units at all. Therefore in our system the form of conducting five-day field exercises at defense-sports health improvement camps has come into widespread practice, and starting in 1978 they will be conducted in labor and recreation camps as well. Such camps can be located at the holiday centers of base enterprises, at tourist centers of the "Labor Reserves" Voluntary Sports Society, and at rural vocational-technical schools. And they are being organized both for single educational institutions and for groups of schools.

Assemblies are being instructively carried out in camps and vocational-technical schools in Belorussia, Azerbaijan, and a number of other union republics. The State Committee on Vocational-Technical Training of the Azerbaijan SSR, for example, since 1973 has conducted student assemblies in two camps: in the village of Nabran' based on the "Labor Reserves" Voluntary Sports Society and in rural Vocational-Technical School number 136. In organizing and equipping these camps there was active participation by the komsomol Central Committee and the DOSAAF Central Committee of the republic.

There is no doubt that in these camps the students reinforce well in practice their knowledge and skills gained from basic military training and become accustomed to the army way of life.

SOVETSKIY PATRIOT: What recourse is there for schools which cannot organize exercises in camps and which cannot rely on the help of military units? What recommendations can you give to military instructors at these schools?

Osipov: In preparing to conduct five-day exercises by the method of daily trips into the country by foot or vehicle, of course, military instructors can encounter organizational difficulties caused by the remoteness of

educational institutions from firing ranges, exercise grounds, and sports buildings, by the lack of means of transportation for carrying students to the location of the exercises, and so on. Therefore, in choosing the method of conducting the exercises, it is necessary to weigh all these conditions well in order to select the optimum version in which the young people will receive as much practice in military skills as possible.

If, let us say, the students are living in the dormitory of an educational institution and the near-by country is suitable for conducting tactical exercises, then structuring field exercises and carrying out troop training can be done just as it would be in a defense-sports camp.

In this case it is necessary to strive to introduce a single daily routine. It is advisable to place all the students participating in the exercises in separate accommodations (or floors) by training platoons.

It is desirable that the military instructor, the platoon commanders, the physical education supervisor, and the basic military training instructors also live in the dormitory at this time and exercise direct supervision over the training and education. The question of means of transportation for carrying the boys to the exercises in the field must be resolved with the base enterprises, and also taking into account internal possibilities.

In these conditions the organizers of five-day field exercises must arrange for protracted military marches and games to provide practice for the mastery in the country of a soldier's actions in tactical and weapons training, in military topography, and in other portions of the program.

From the examined versions for the conduct of five-day field exercises, it is evident that their quality and effectiveness are determined by a large number of factors. But wherever they take place, success will depend on skillful organization and comprehensive preparatory work carried out by vocational-technical training agencies and by directors and military instructors of educational institutions.

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METHODS OF TRAINING FOR FIRING FROM HELICOPTERS DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 78 signed to press 22 Mar 78
pp 6-8

[Article by Sr Sgt P. Fedorov, commander of a motorized rifle squad:
"Firing From a Helicopter"]

[Text] I was very interested to read the article by Sgt V. Nesterov entitled "Hitting the Target on the First Shot," in which he shares his methods of teaching firing skill to subordinates. We motorized riflemen must also carry out numerous very diverse fire missions. One of them is firing from a helicopter against moving and fixed targets while hovering and while flying. It is our experience in accomplishing these missions that I would like to tell about in the journal.

It is not easy in a fast-flying machine with vibration and the noise of the props and turbines to carry on target reconnaissance and accurate fire through small observation ports against manpower and equipment. We have a specially equipped firing range for drilling on fire from a helicopter. Squad leaders conduct training periods with their subordinates at all training points under the observation of company officers.

Here is how our most recent rifle drill went.

At training point No 1 the men studied tactical-technical features and worked on questions of the arrangement of personnel in the cargo hold of a helicopter.

After forming up the squad I checked the roll and the appearance of my men, then announced the topic and objective of the training period and gave the trainees several check questions on the topic, which we had studied in the classroom. Pvt V. Barilov gave a technical description of the helicopter in which the squad was to operate and Pvt K. Sarkisov listed safety precautions during rifle firing clearly and precisely.

Then I briefly explained the plan and combat capabilities of the helicopter and moved on to the next training question. Here I pointed out to the trainees that, in addition to the usual safety precautions, the following must be observed: not to stand up or move around the cabin without the permission of the fire training leader; to set the gun on the firing bracket, load it, open and wage fire, and unload only on command. And all these operations must be done with the rifle secured on pins with the barrel outside the helicopter.

When they had assimilated the safety rules, I used a diagram to show them the arrangement of a landing party in the cabin and in the landing squad, where I determined the place of each trainee according to the battle team. On the command, "To the right, one at a time, dash to the cargo cabin of the helicopter — march!" the riflemen began filling up one row first, and then the second; the machine gunner came last and took the place by the door. Unloading was performed in the opposite order: the men dashed quickly away in the assigned direction to avoid getting under the tail rotor.

When the trainees had thoroughly assimilated the loading, arrangement, and unloading procedures I practiced their actions for speed. While giving the commands "To your places!" and "To the vehicles!" for unloading, I increased the difficulty, forming the squad 50-80 meters from the mock-up of the cabin each time. I insisted that the men cover this distance quickly and carry out the loading in an organized manner.

At training point No 2 we worked on procedures and rules for firing from a helicopter (a moving mock-up of a cabin) mounted on a high railroad platform. Before beginning the training I checked materials: four pin mountings, an orthoscope, a mirror, 20 blank cartridges per trainee, a safety belt, the regulation weapon, and the target. After this I announced the training question: rules for setting the automatic weapons and machine gun on the brackets and preparing them for firing, preparations for waging fire from different positions, drill on sighting and finding the sighting point, waging fire at a high tempo with blank cartridges.

On signal the squad gets on board. In slow motion I show them what to do on the command "Connect your weapons to the mounts!" Pvt S. Selezen' opened the observation port (blister) and secured it in the top position. Then he moved the strut to the combat position, secured it with a cotter pin, raised the handle, put the hand grip of the automatic rifle on a fold-out platform, and again lowered the handle. However, the soldier snapped in the belt of the gun along with the handgrip and therefore did not meet the standard. I called the attention of all the men to this mistake and ordered Selezen' to repeat the procedure. This time he did not make a mistake. But I noticed that certain soldiers were connecting the cartridge-collector incorrectly. I showed them how to place the tip of it exactly at the opening at the lug of the pin head and check whether it obstructs the

movement of the handle of the breech carrier. When it is necessary to raise the handle of the mounting pin head the automatic weapon or machine gun is moved forward or back slightly and the handle drops.

Procedures for mounting the light machine gun by the entry door were practiced just as carefully with Private Sarkisov. The trainee put on his safety belt and secured it to a strap on the cabin ceiling. Then, turning the beam to the necessary angle (90-120 degrees), he inserted the trunnion housings of the mounting pin head and secured them with clamps. With precise movement he attached the ammunition box and cartridge collector to the machine gun and, fastening it using a clamp on the small of the butt, he moved the beam controlling the machine gun into a battle position.

On the command "Prepare to fire!" the trainees took turns assuming the position for firing prone, kneeling, and standing, trying to find the most advantageous and stable position depending on the conditions given; they also carried on observation through the observation ports.

For example, when firing kneeling it is necessary to find a stable position and, resting the right leg on the floor of the cabin, put the left knee on a folding seat and hold the butt tightly against the shoulder. To check the stability of the position the trunk of the body should be moved slightly to the side or upward.

On the command "Fire!" the trainees took their safeties off and began independently searching for the targets, which were installed at 200-400 meters. Then, having set the necessary sightings, they opened fire; after each round they would quickly restore the setting. An orthoscope and side mirror were used to monitor them.

Fire at pop-up targets was carried on from an immobile cabin and also while moving along the railroad right-of-way at a speed of 20 kilometers an hour on a flatcar. In this stage we were practicing procedures for finding the sighting point. At classes in the classroom the trainees had learned that the magnitude of the sighting point depends on the speed of helicopter flight, the distance and speed of target movement, the distance between them, and the direction and velocity of the wind. Nonetheless, we began practical work on these problems from the simplest level: determining the lead when firing in wind-less weather at a pop-up "infantry in vehicle" target (the helicopter was traveling at a speed of 150 kilometers an hour).

Knowing the distance to and dimensions of the target, the trainees quite quickly arrived at the calculated sighting point of 15 meters, which was 2.5 times the figure from the side opposite the movement of the helicopter. We were successful here using the simple, easy to remember rule: "To determine the lead divide the speed by ten." It helps the rifleman orient himself quickly and find the amount of lead exactly because 10 percent of the speed expressed in kilometers per hour gives the magnitude of lead in meters with sufficient accuracy



and it is not difficult to translate meters into figures in order to read the magnitude of aiming off more easily and not get shot down while tracking.

Next I made the input more difficult by giving the trainees problems such as: helicopter speed is 150 kilometers an hour with a 30 kilometer headwind, fire at a target (column of motorcyclists) moving parallel in the opposite direction at a speed of 40 kilometers an hour (see diagram). With such inputs I tried to teach my subordinates to quickly find the total correction considering the flight speed of the helicopter and the speed and direction of movement of the target and wind. I even drilled them in firing at targets moving at an angle and perpendicular to the plane of the helicopter, checking to see that the orthoscope was used correctly.

At training point No 3 a helicopter cabin moving along a suspended cableway was set up. Here we performed a preliminary fire exercise. The training period was conducted under the direct observation of the platoon leader. Lt A. Prakopovich personally checked to see how my subordinates had mastered safety precautions and the rules of fire, then announced the subject and explained the purpose of the period. After this he authorized us to begin the drill.

The materiel included the regulation weapon, cartridges for each firer, a stopwatch, a commander's box, a mirror for monitoring, a radio set, binoculars, and a pair of signal flags.

Work on the training question was begun with a simple problem: the helicopter and target are moving at the same speed in the same direction on parallel routes at an unchanging distance from one another. There was no wind. On signal operators launched the cabin and the target. The trainees, firing in turn, selected an aiming point in the middle of the target; in other words, they learned to fire without leading.

Then we moved on to difficult problems. The helicopter was traveling faster than the targets. The trainees chose an aiming point by the course of the target from behind, and when meeting it made a correction equal to the sum of the lead, considering the speed of movement of the target, and the sighting point determined by the speed of the helicopter. Following my signals the operators changed the speed and direction of movement according to a conditional program and each trainee performed the exercise, practicing sighting procedures when waiting and when accompanying.

When the soldiers began firing in turn I taught them to change places without disturbing the centering of the cabin but observing safety precautions and the boundaries of the fire sector. I noticed here that several men who had learned to determine the lead were setting an incorrect sighting point and holding it considering the relative movement of the firer and target in space. Private Selezhen' tried to correct a mistaken lead by an abrupt jerk of the gun, which was a serious mistake in firing. I gave him several minutes of drill on the procedures, first in slow motion and then fast. The shortcomings were eliminated.

At training point No 4, which was the helicopter target range, company commander Sr Lt A. Ryzanov was in charge of training. Here the exercise was to be performed from a flying helicopter.

The company commander formed up the subunit not far from the landing strip, divided personnel into firing shifts, and told them their place, the order of firing, and the signals. While preparing the squad for the change I checked the materiel: regulation weapons, live cartridges for each firer, two radio sets, two stopwatches, two pairs of flags, and binoculars. When the trainees had taken their places according to the combat team I also checked communication from the helicopter cabin to the fire training leader and helicopter commander. Then everything was ready to perform the exercises.

The helicopter began to move. Soon it reached the open fire line at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. The signal "Prepare to fire!" came. The soldiers prepared themselves, secured the magazines and belts to their weapons, and began observing through the observation ports. The open fire line was approaching. At the command "Fire!" the trainees loaded their weapons and then, in order beginning with those sitting at the rear mounts, then the middle ones, and finally the others, fired as the targets were detected. When we reached the cease fire

line and the signal "All clear!" was given the trainees unloaded their weapons and put them on safety. Then on the command "Put the mounts in traveling position — move!" they removed their weapons from the mountings and switched them from battle to traveling position.

Plan for Conducting a Training Period on Fire Training with Personnel of the Second Squad of the First Motorized Rifle Platoon at Training Post No 3

Topic: Firing from a helicopter.

Objective: Teach how to fire the rifle from a moving mock-up of a helicopter cabin during the daytime at pop-up and moving targets.

Time: 30 minutes

Place: Troop firing range

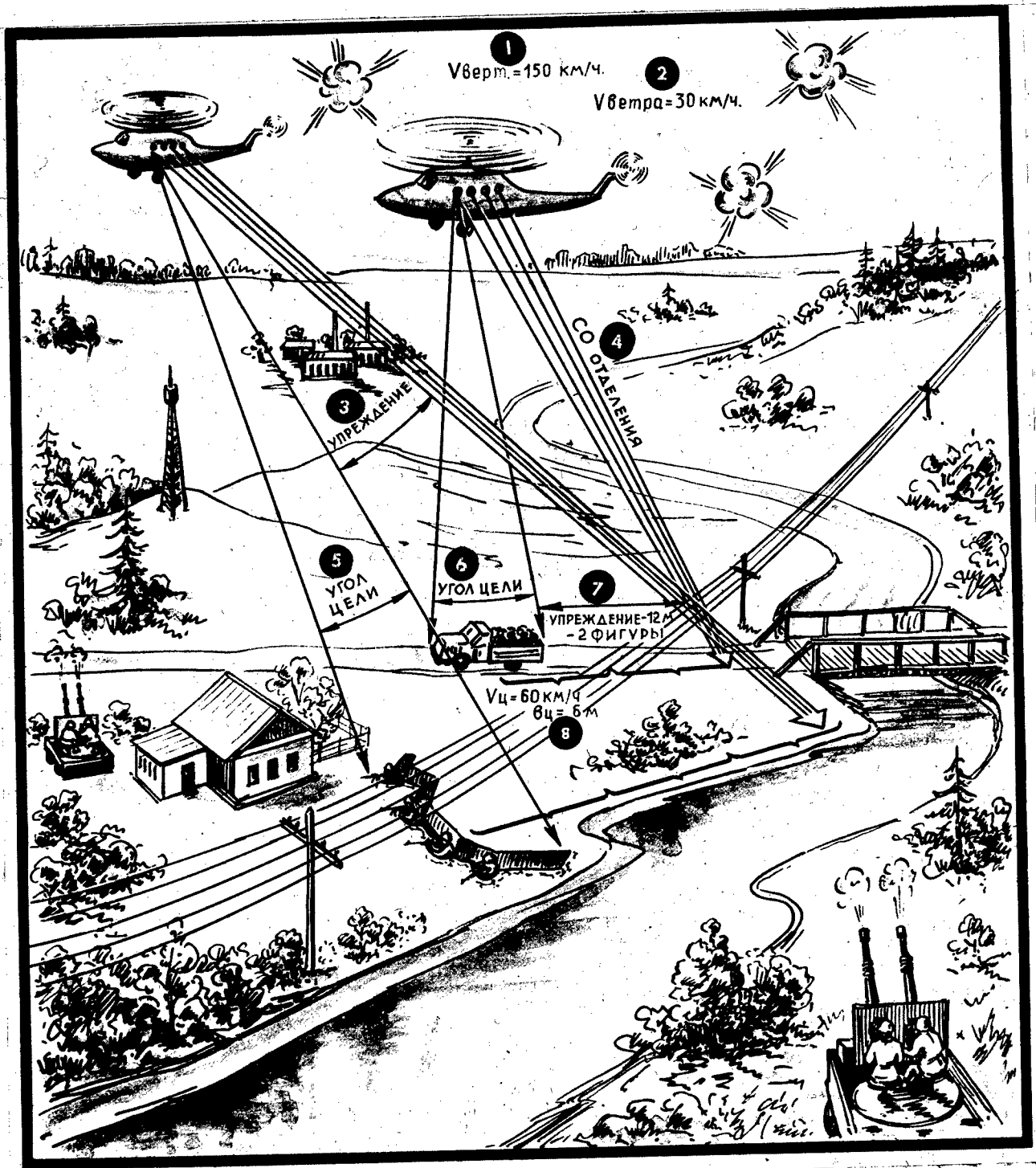
Material: Moving mock-up of a helicopter cabin, regulation weapon, cartridges (one lot for each firer), stopwatch, commander's box, radio set, binoculars, signal flags

Course of Training Period:

1. Introductory part — five minutes:
 - a. Check the roll, the appearance and equipment of the personnel;
 - b. Announce the topic and objective of the training period;
 - c. Assign check questions: safety precautions in firing from a helicopter, accomplishing fire missions.

The questions and answers are as follows:

1. Determine the lead when firing from a helicopter in wind-less weather at a pop-up target "infantry in vehicle." The helicopter is traveling at 150 kilometers an hour. Answer — The lead is determined by dividing the speed by 10. The lead is 15 meters. The vehicle is six meters long and the aiming point in the opposite direction of movement of the vehicle is 2.5 times the figure of the vehicle.
2. Determine the lead when firing from a helicopter flying at 150 kilometers an hour into a headwind of 30 kilometers an hour. The pop-up target is "infantry in vehicle." Answer — the aiming point is 12 meters. The length of the vehicle is six meters, so the aiming point is two lengths of the target.
3. Determine the lead. The helicopter is traveling at 150 kilometers an hour with a tailwind of 30 kilometers an hour. The target is a pop-up "infantry in



- Key: (1) Helicopter Speed = 150 km/hr;
 (2) Wind Velocity = 30 km/hr;
 (3) Lead;
 (4) From Squad;
 (5) and (6) Target Angle;
 (7) Lead = 12 m = Two Lengths;
 (8) Target Speed = 60 km/hr, Length of Target = 6 m.

vehicle" target. Answer — the lead is 18 meters, three times the figure of the target.

2. Primary part of lesson — 22 minutes. Acquiring skills and performing fire missions.

1. The following target situation is created to practice the training question: $\Pi/15$ sec; $S = 60$; $V = 10-15$ kilometers an hour; $V = 10-20$ meters per second; 100-150 meters. Course of training — load personnel into the mock-up of the helicopter cabin. Call attention to the correct way to mount the weapon on the mounting pin and choose a correct, stable position. Point out the targets and check if the soldiers of the squad sight correctly using the orthoscope, point out mistakes, and give inputs to change the velocity and direction of the wind. Have the trainees change places while the helicopter is flying, calling attention to the observance of safety precautions.

3. Concluding part — three minutes:

- a. Summarize the results of the drill and socialist competition;
- b. Give the assignment for independent training.

(Signed) Squad Leader Sr Sgt P. Fedorov

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TRAINING FOR COMBAT THROUGH SMOKE AND FIRE DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 78 signed to press 22 Mar 78
pp 9-11

[Article by Col N. Yezhov: "Through Smoke and Fire"]

[Text] Psychological training of soldiers is becoming increasingly important in modern combat. It is important not only where weapons of mass destruction are used but also for conventional weapons, especially incendiary substances, when vast centers of conflagration occur.

How can we prepare soldiers and sergeants to wage battle under these conditions and help them overcome their fear of fire? Let us look at the know-how of Warrant Officer [Praporshchik] V. Ruzhov, leader of a motorized rifle platoon.

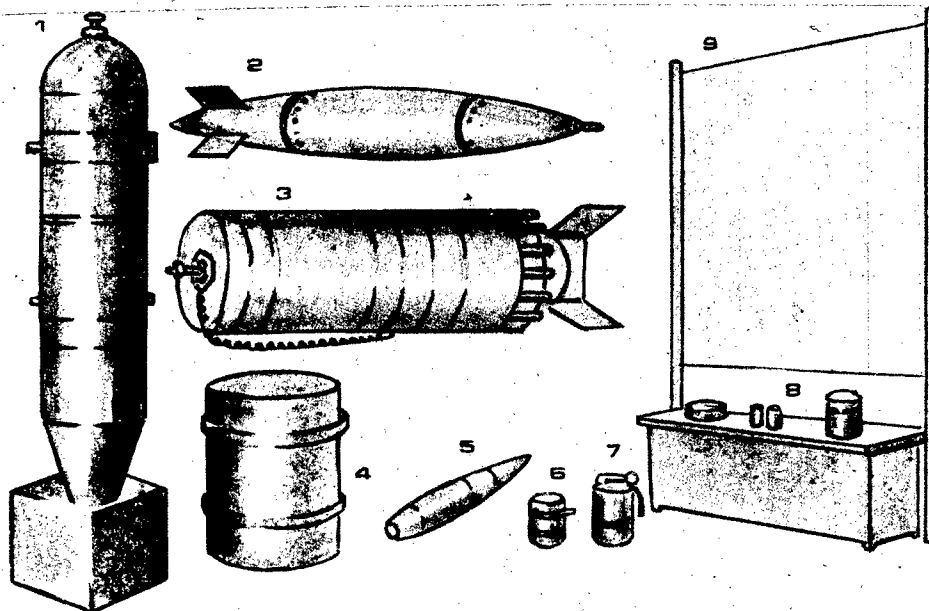
The training period is usually held in a special area where four or five training points have been set up. Three or four days before the period the platoon leader draws up a plan for it which is ratified by the company commander and prepares his assistants, the squad leaders, for it. On the day of the training period personnel arrive at the section with their regulation weapons and appropriate field gear. After forming up the subunits the warrant officer announces the topic and goal of the training period, the training questions, and the order of work on them at the training points. Reminding personnel of safety precautions, the platoon leader orders them to disperse to the training points

At the first training point the first squad under the leadership of Sr Sgt K. Tkachuk studies incendiary substances and their destructive properties. Means of using incendiary substances are arranged nearby and here the men become familiar with the incendiary bombs, canisters, cassettes, grenades, and charges available in foreign armies and the most effective procedures for defense against them. Mock-ups made to life scale and posters, diagrams, and drawings are used here. This training point can be divided into two depending on the number of

trainees. In this case the trainees study incendiary substances and their properties at one training point and means of using them at the other.

Senior Sergeant Tkachuk directs considerable attention to the conditions of use of incendiary substances in different types of combat and the probability that personnel will be hit if they are in shelters (or combat vehicles) and when they are in open terrain. Continuous observation is organized for the purpose of timely detection of enemy use of incendiary substances and various inputs and reports to the commander are practiced.

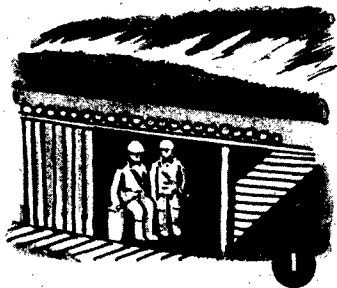
Training Point No 1 (25-35 minutes). Study of Incendiary Substances and Means of Using Them



- Key: (1) Incendiary Bombs;
(2) Incendiary Canisters;
(3) Aimed Cassette;
(4) Napalm High-Explosive Barrel;
(5) Phosphorus Artillery Shell;
(6) Incendiary Cartridge;
(7) Incendiary Hand Grenade;
(8) Samples of Incendiary Substances;
(9) Display Stand.

At the second training point the men of the second squad led by Sgt N. Savchenko study procedures for defense against incendiary substances. Using diagrams and drawings on panels the soldiers familiarize themselves with general steps to defend against incendiary substances and then study the means of defense. The sergeant explains and demonstrates

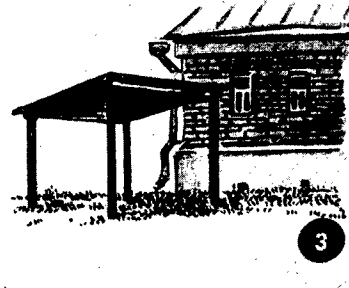
Training Point No 2. Training Personnel in Methods of Defense Against Incendiary Substances Using Various Means



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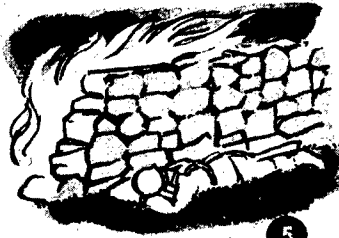


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ЕСТЕСТВЕННЫЕ УКРЫТИЯ



овраг, канава



каменный забор



кроны деревьев

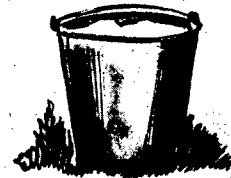
ТАБЕЛЬНЫЕ И ПОДРУЧНЫЕ СРЕДСТВА ЗАЩИТЫ



песок



глина



известь



брезент

маты из ветвей



асбест



толь

- Key: (1) Bunker; (2) Covered Trench; (3) Stone Buildings and Structures; (4) Ditch, Ravine; (5) Stone Fence; (6) Crowns of Trees; (7) Sand; (8) Clay; (9) Lime; (10) Canvas, Twig Mats; (11) Asbestos; (12) Tarpaper.

to the fighting men the procedures for using fortification and structures (bunkers and covered trenches), armored vehicles, closed vehicles, natural shelters (ditches and ravines), stone buildings, open buildings, and various available materials.

Then the squad leader demonstrates how trenches, canvas, natural shelters such as ravines, and T/O and available means of extinguishing fires (asbestos, tarpaper, clay, sand, and lime) are used to protect weapons, equipment, transportation, and other gear against incendiary substances. He explains and demonstrates the intelligent way to use individual short-term protective gear, which includes greatcoats, pea jackets, wadded cotton jackets, rain capes, gloves, and the like.

At the third training post the soldiers study and practice methods and procedures of rendering assistance when personnel are hit by incendiary substances. The essential medical gear for this, stretchers, individual dressing packages, bandages, and the like are used. Personnel actions to extinguish incendiary substances, methods of rendering assistance, and safety precautions are shown on panels with diagrams at this training post. At the beginning of the training period Jr Sgt Yu. Il'chenko calls attention to the fact that a motorized rifle squad should be ready to fight fires in any situation. They must be able to reach a stand-by position quickly when deployed in the forest or on terrain with dry vegetation.

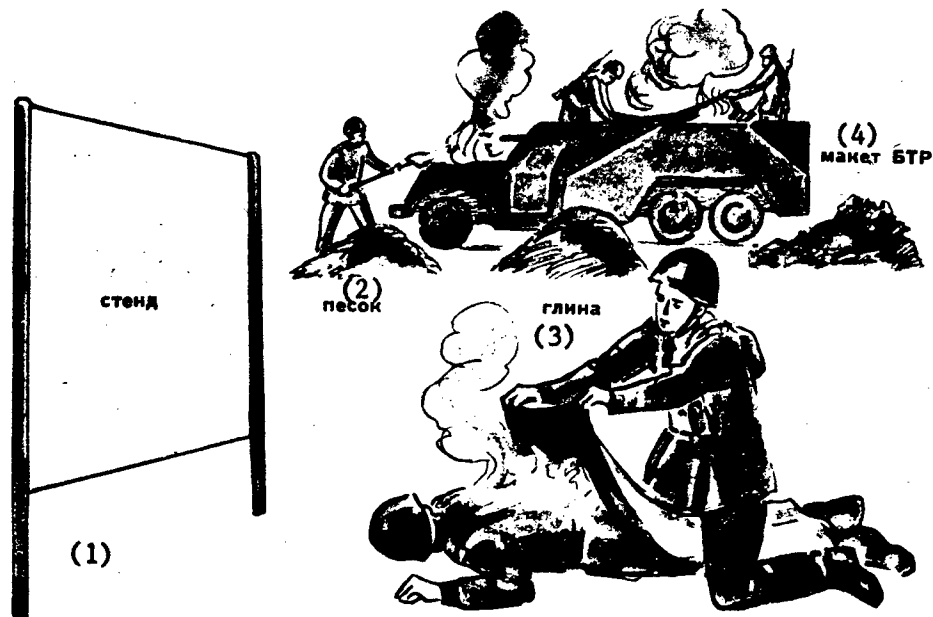
During an attack it is necessary to make skillful use of individual protective equipment and the defensive characteristics of armored personnel carriers (armored infantry vehicles) and terrain objects to protect personnel against the effect of incendiary substances. On the defense the squad position should be cleared of combustible materials. A special shelter for defense against incendiary substances must be set up and fire-fighting means must be available. If the enemy uses incendiary substances while the squad is on the march they must move out in front of the fire zone quickly, put out fires in the vehicle, and continue to perform the assigned mission.

The junior sergeant demonstrates the procedures for putting out incendiary substances that have struck a human being and explains how to give first aid to the victim. As a drill the men extinguish an "incendiary mixture" that has struck them; they apply bandages or individual dressings to the "injured" place.

In conclusion, the men of the squad learn how to render assistance during actions in an armored personnel carrier when it is hit by incendiary substances. The switching of training posts is carried out according to the plan of training periods.

The men move to the fourth training post, a fire obstacle course set up at the tactical field. The platoon leader directs classes at this training post. The course is a sector of terrain with various obstacles and partially demolished urban-type structures located 10-20

Training Post No 3 (25-35 minutes). Studying Procedures and Methods of Rendering Assistance When Hit by Incendiary Substances



Key: (1) Stand; (3) Clay;
 (2) Sand; (4) Mock-Up of Armored Personnel Carrier.

meters from one another. They all are designed to train personnel to overcome terrain sectors with burning incendiary mixtures, burning buildings, bridges, scaffolding, and other structures.

In addition to obstacles, the necessary target situation was created on the course and trenches for a motorized rifle squad and a command post with control consoles for the training leaders were set up. An electric wire runs from the control console to raise the targets and ignite the training incendiary compound on the obstacles and structures. Moreover, the training leader plays combat noise and issues commands from the control console using an amplifier and loud speaker.

Next to the command post is a special area for the medic, who has the necessary means to render first aid to the "victims." The fire obstacle strip is prepared in advance with the help of several soldiers.

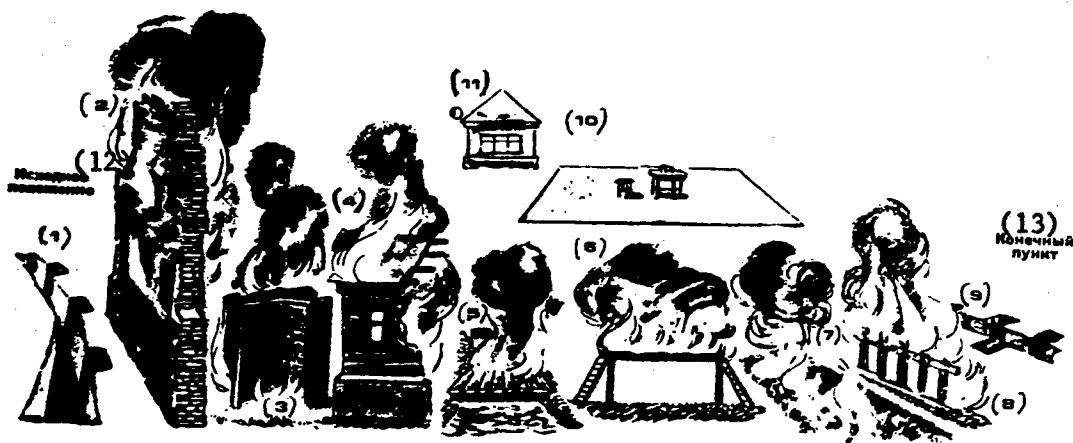
After this the platoon leader introduces his subordinates to the tactical situation and gives them their combat mission. He checks the gear of the fighting men in the first squad and orders them to put on their helmets. After receiving the mission from the platoon leader the squad occupies the trench at the beginning of the course, which is the starting point, and makes preparations to carry out the assigned mission.

The warrant officer gives the set signal on readiness for action. Then, throwing the switch of the electrical system to ignite the training incendiary mixture, he simulates enemy use of incendiary substances. When the squad begins moving onto the attack the targets come up.

The soldiers, firing blanks, move in order through the structures with the incendiary mixture burning on them.

The most difficult obstacle is the narrow corridor which simulates a small space between buildings. One must not let the uniform touch the burning incendiary mixture on the walls while moving through it, so the men run through sideways. They cross the ruins of a burning building, a partially destroyed bridge, and scaffolding. Then they deploy in a chain, shout "Hurrah!" and dash over the burning field and fencing into the trench which is the finish point of the fire obstacle course.

Training Post No 4 (25-35 minutes). Personnel Actions in the Fire Obstacle Course



- Key:
- (1) Squad Trench;
 - (2) Partially Devastated Wall of Stone Building;
 - (3) Narrow Corridor;
 - (4) Ruins of Burning Building;
 - (5) Bridge Across Ditch;
 - (6) Scaffolding;
 - (7) Burning Field;
 - (8) Fencing;
 - (9) Squad Trench;

[Key continued next page]

[Key continued]

- (10) Special Area for Medic;
- (11) Command Post with Control Console;
- (12) Starting Position;
- (13) Finish Point.

After the first squad finishes the other squads go through the fire obstacle course. The platoon leader watches the actions of the trainees carefully, sees that they observe safety precautions, and corrects soldiers who make mistakes.

When summarizing results of the training period the platoon leader reminded his subordinates once again of the topic and objective of the class and the training questions that were to be mastered and gave the names of the winners in socialist competition, those who met the standards and performed missions better than the others. He called attention to mistakes, pointed out ways to eliminate them, and posed the challenge of further improving the skills that fighting men need for combat under conditions where the enemy uses incendiary substances.

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END