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MILITARY AFFAIRS

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CONTENTS

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

- Need for Humility Among Those in Authority
(V. Bezrodnyy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 17 Sep 83) 1

ARMED FORCES

- Article Criticizes Divorce Situation
(I. Dynin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 9 Oct 83) 5
- Article Examines Development of Military Commander
(S. Asinovskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 11 Oct 83) 8
- Role of Warrant Officer Discussed
(A. Tyurin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 15 Oct 83) 12
- Table of Contents: VOYENNY VESTNIK No 9, September 1983 16

GROUND FORCES

- Gen Utkin on Patriotic Education
(B. Utkin; SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, 1 Oct 83) 18
- Army Gen Mayorov on Tank Day
(A. Mayorov; SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN', 11 Sep 83) 22
- Pacific Motorized Rifle Division Discussed
(G. Kashuba; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 9 Oct 83) 25
- Training Exercise Results Discussed
(V. Bogdanovskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 12 Oct 83) 31
- Motorized Rifle Tactical Exercise Discussed
(A. Zakharenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 Oct 83) 33

River Crossing Exercise Described (A. Supranovich; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 13 Sep 83)	35
AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES	
Interview With Col Gen Gromov (Mikhail Mikhaylovich Gromov Interview; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 1 Oct 83)	38
Simulator Training Requires Pilots' Serious Attention (V. Ardelyan; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Sep 83)	42
Aircraft Mechanic Resents Prestige Given Pilots (S. Levitskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 2 Oct 83)	45
NAVAL FORCES	
Submarine Officers' Training Found Inadequate (V. Ikonnikov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 15 Sep 83)	50
SPECIAL TROOPS	
Table of Contents: TYL I SNABZHENIYE SOVETSKIKH VOORUZHENNYKH SIL No 9, Sep 83	55
DOSAAB	
Basic Military Training at Vocational-Technical Institutes (V. Sayushev; SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 7 Sep 83)	57
Pilot Training for Women (SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, various dates)	61
Opportunities Currently Limited, by M. Kirsanova Improved Prospects Applauded, by Ye. Grushina	
MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES	
Mother Rebuked for Submitting Groundless Complaints (A. Alyab'yev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 30 Sep 83)	65
Cadets Criticized for Deceiving Young Woman (A. Tkachev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 30 Sep 83)	67

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

NEED FOR HUMILITY AMONG THOSE IN AUTHORITY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Lt Col V. Bezrodnny: "The 'Loftiness Disease' Syndrome"]

[Text] "Pea soup and fish cakes. If you don't want the fish cakes, you can have boiled eggs," the waitress suggested courteously and left, leaving the warrant officer/motor vehicle specialist and me alone to think about the difficult task of ordering our lunch in the officers' cafe at the Grodno garrison.

"On that side," my companion said, nodding toward the partition, "they don't offer boiled eggs for the second course."

I attempted to meet with the cafe manager, but when he learned that I wanted to talk with him he disappeared without a trace. Vera Akimovna Karpets, his assistant and senior bookkeeper, told me that they had not delivered the supplies in time that day.

She stood there for a moment in silence and then, unable to contain her feelings, she sighed and said:

"We don't feed the people well. That's why the dining room is empty at lunch time."

"What is over there, a dining room 'for a special few',?" I asked and pointed at the partition, through which the garrison chief had just passed.

"Why would you call it that?" Vera Akimovna asked with embarrassment. "That's the special service room...."

Special service room.... That name has certain associations. It makes one think of the youth "Ogonek," of a modest officer's wedding, of meetings with a delegation, of evening poetry readings.

If that were only the case! The uninformed have more than once encountered a hand stretched out as a barrier before the door leading into the so-called "special service room." And the adjective "special" has always meant that there was never any thought about "Ogonek" meetings nor poetic evenings behind that door. That is simply where those people dine, who for some reason consider it beneath their dignity to eat in the common dining room.

As I looked at the garrison leadership's personal table, which pleased the eye with its elegance, the crystal glasses of various sizes on the sideboard, I automatically recalled a conversation which took place a long time ago with Hero of the Soviet Union, Colonel General (Retired) A.M. Andreyev, on the occasion of his appointment as commander of one of the divisions in the Leningrad Front.

The front commander and a member of its military council ended the discussion with the young commander after midnight.

"It's time for us to eat," A.A. Zhdanov said, rising from his desk, fatigue showing in his motions. "Andrey Matveyevich will eat with us. He still has to sign up for his rations at his new assignment."

"When K.Ye. Voroshilov and A.A. Zhdanov headed for the basement of the Smol'nyy, where the messhall was located," Andreyev said, "I was extremely curious about the small black bag tied with cord, which each of them carried. Despite the late hour, commanders returned from the forces and staff officers preparing to leave for the front were conversing in quiet voices in the messhall. We sat down at an unoccupied table. Bowls of oatmeal without butter and glasses of weak tea soon appeared on the table. Voroshilov and Zhdanov then took their bread rations out of the bags which intrigued me. They began urging me to take a big piece.... No matter how high my position after that, I always followed the rule of avoiding fancy dining in special chambers. And it is not a matter of the plate on which the senior chief is served something special. He must always be with the people, always be in their view."

A very clear, very vital conclusion. Dining with the others, at a common table, the garrison chief would probably have asked why boiled eggs were being offered in place of a second course in the officers' cafe. He would also have learned the reasons for the tardy delivery of supplies and a great many other things which are part of the communist/leader's elementary concern for the men.

This is one thing. Another aspect of this matter is that by shutting himself off from the men, the leader, whether he wants to or not, is providing grounds for various conjectures, talk and gossip, which unquestionably affect his authority.

"There is a concept called 'prestige-mindedness'," one of the workers in the district political directorate said when we brought up this subject. "It is sometimes closely related to the concept 'bourgeois-philistinism.' This is when prestige-mindedness brings out a desire to stand out from the others in certain external ways."

Yes, the itch of "prestige-mindedness," even blatant pretentiousness, exists, and some people are greatly troubled with it. I became convinced of this at the headquarters of a tank regiment. I became acquainted with the regimental commander, a young, sharply groomed colonel, in his office. The walls were covered with decorative tiles acquired who knows where.

"I had planned to dress up the office before the new training year began," he said. "And then I got an offer 'from above' to take over a lagging regiment."

I thought to myself: 'Why not take all of these fine things to my new assignment'?

One could smile about this, of course, if the smile were not followed by the sad realization that the outward symptoms of "prestige-mindedness" can make an energetic, thoroughly competent officer set many important matters aside.

The so-called "loftiness disease"--conceit, isolation from the people, fancy personal dining facilities, elegant offices and "high-towers," to which, as the song says, no one has access--costs the state a great deal. Colonel A. Misuryagin, for example, knew how to meet the right people. In his high tower (not just in a song, but a reality) with a view of the sea, there were always treasured guests, who felt that even without authorization to be there, it was as nice there as at any Black Sea sanatorium. Akim Artemovich was almost promoted. Thanks to workers with the judge advocate's office, however, people learned about the large sums of money spent on elegant banquets, and about other improper activities, which are summed up briefly as abuse of one's service position.

It was stated at the June 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee: "Among other things, we must totally eliminate the use of state, public property and service positions for purposes of personal enrichment. When you think about it, after all, this is nothing other than the undermining of the very essence of our system. The law must be relentless in such cases, and its application must be inexorable." This is how the party demands that we treat those who do not have a clear conscience, who are generous at the expense of the state.

The sharp operators, yes-men and those who curry favor with inspectors, superiors or simply the right people from outside, sometimes naively assume that their doings remain a secret. They forget that there are honorable people nearby, people who do not like the double life they see being lived by an individual whose duty as a communist demands that he set an example of good morality. To become convinced of this one only has to look into the sad eyes of a waitress serving people dallying at the table or at the sullen face of a driver who has waited a whole hour for his "boss," who is spending the time in convivial company in a Finnish bath, let us say, also built as a "special service."

A great many critical articles have been written about the creator of these, ordinarily an individual with dishonest tendencies who knows how to generously spend state money for his own pleasure. He is castigated, fined and brought to criminal accountability. He still lives, however, and is up to his old tricks. Otherwise, who could have thrown up a first-class bath with a striking interior in a lounge... at a district food depot? The unregistered construction was performed when a building was erected for administrative and management purposes, and it was so well camouflaged that Lieutenant Colonel I. Tkachenko, chief of the depot, incriminated himself by trying for a half-hour to prove that there was no bathhouse at the depot. Ivan Vasil'yevich did not know, of course, that KRASNAYA ZVEZDA had received a letter which not only reported the unlawful construction of the bath but even indicated its precise location....

It is a well-known fact that moral example, especially that of the leader, has great force. Experience has taught us, however, that an immoral act has equal force, only the reverse--a negative effect. The "loftiness disease" usually begins with such an act, and it must be combatted resolutely and uncompromisingly, as soon as the first symptom appears.

11499

CSO: 1801/008

ARMED FORCES

ARTICLE CRITICIZES DIVORCE SITUATION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 83 p 3

[Article by Col I. Dynin: "At the Crossroads of Life: The Marriage Game"]

[Text] Tamara explains while showing the photographs: "Our wedding. Sasha and I at the tourist facility at Kudepsta. And this is Sasha after an exercise..." She still says "my Sasha" and "our family" although Sasha no longer is hers and there is actually no family. In listening to Tamara, talking with her husband and conversing with his commander Maj F. Kotov, I try to understand just what happened in Engr-Sr Lt A. Romanenko's family.

They say that the mother of the bride remarked with surprise on seeing the fiancée for the first time that they resemble each other like brother and sister. By the way, at that time everyone was sure that the young people seemed to have been made for each other: Both have a higher education and both are very familiar with military life. And Tamara's specialty is needed in any garrison. She is a physician.

Their first meeting was enveloped in romance. They became acquainted in a medical institute dormitory three hours before New Year's Eve. It turned out to be a gay evening and it seemed that fate itself had entered their lives together with the midnight ringing of bells. Later the dates began. Aleksandr would travel to the dormitory in all kinds of transportation, even in a gas truck, and with flowers even in the middle of winter.

Now would be the very time to say that the lyrics faded when the prose of life began. But there was no prose. It simply didn't come down to that. In three years they lived together some 3-4 months, and even in those days they didn't burden themselves with domestic concerns. He would eat dinner on duty and she at work. They would eat supper more often in a dining hall. They didn't have either any extraordinary difficulties or special obstacles, but family life showed signs of discord and began to split like a glacier. Just what eroded and undermined it?

Well, the husband and wife come to the tourist facility. It is a new building and a separate room. There is sun, sea, the beach and all conditions for a vacation. But right after dinner Aleksandr travels to the city and returns late and in a very elevated mood. Another time he didn't even appear before morning.

"By the way, I suggested that my wife go along and she refused," he says as if anticipating my question.

"Then you probably should have put off the trip?"

"Why put it off? I have one leave a year."

"But Tamara was expecting a child!"

"But it wasn't mandatory for her to drink. She simply could have sat with the others..."

Aleksandr emphasizes with all his appearance how wrong Tamara was both that time and on many other occasions when she was in no hurry to do what he wanted. But he sees his wife's chief fault to be that the child did not arrive to them. He well remembered that ill-fated evening when he returned home yet another time in his cups.

"I came late: I was seeing off a comrade. I argued with Tamara. The next day I looked and she was gone. I thought she had been detained at work and then there was a telegram from the post where we served before. She was summoning me from there for talks. And immediately she said that with things the way they were with us a child would be a hindrance to us. At that time I answered her straight out that she should get on as best she could..."

Aleksandr told about himself, his family and about his child who just did not get born and it seemed he was talking about strangers and about others' relationships. No pain, no sympathy, no repentance, as if there had been neither love nor flowers nor a marriage. And then, seemingly for the first time, I had the thought: Wasn't that the chief reason for the divorce, that the young people didn't enter a marriage at all but seemingly played at being married?

A Russian language dictionary interprets the meaning of the word "family man" rather precisely and definitely. It is a "person with the qualities needed for family life." Just what are these qualities?

First of all we probably have to mention love. Judging from everything it didn't pass over even these two. They didn't link their destinies out of calculation or through the parents' will! But their feeling hardly can be called strong and wise since it didn't help to create a joint life. The reason family relations are called ties is that they bind people and call on them to share joys and anxieties, to live with the same concerns and common interests, to concede some things to each other and to sacrifice some things for the sake of general agreement. Aleksandr and Tamara were unprepared for this. They seemed to see family life through rose-colored glasses. Everything was vivid and festive, and no duties.

That is why, in traveling to a new duty location, he didn't insist and she didn't hurry to travel with him. And always seemingly weighty reasons were found for this. Either it was tight with apartments on the new post or they didn't want Tamara to leave a good position. Or suddenly it would turn out

better for her to live temporarily with his or her parents. It wasn't by chance that one of the officers joked with a bitter smile in talking about the Romanenko family: "Married but no period of family service."

A very unpleasant document figures in the case of the Romanenko divorce. "Receipt. I, Engr-Sr Lt A. S. Romanenko, received from T. S. Romanenko 400 (four hundred) rubles as a division of money collected at the wedding. I have no other material claims..." The fact is that neither the commander nor his comrades regard Aleksandr as a person who is greedy or calculating. It therefore would appear that this receipt indicates not so much the young man's mercantilism as a desire to remove from himself the burden of family responsibility by such a simple method. Aleksandr is not in the habit and is unable to think about a wife and is unaccustomed to this. For example, he isn't worried where Tamara now will live and work. The fact is she is not even registered on the post and works on the basis of a memorandum from the military unit that the officer's family will be provided with an apartment. By the way, it was in the time of the somewhat lengthy divorce procedure that they were assigned an apartment but Aleksandr turned in the order, not to vex his former spouse--he simply didn't think about her.

I try to imagine just where, in what segment of life, should the young people have received at least a minimum of information about family relations. Probably the parents could have talked about how a family not only is a tasty dinner on the table, a television set and guests on holidays. It is also string-bags, a general cleaning and a child crying in the stillness of night. I believe it also apropos to talk about the joint responsibility of spouses within the circle of schoolchildren, students and cadets.

Obviously there were discussions at the military school where Aleksandr Romanenko spent four years about family and marriage, there were lectures and advice was given but they didn't reach the hearts of the audience. That was why the young officer dashed into family life as into an unfamiliar river and immediately proved to be over his head. And in the subunit where he now serves the commanders and political officers also affirm in unison that they do a great deal for young families. They give apartments to young married couples and provide places in kindergartens. The political department and officers' club also mentioned many activities devoted to young families. But despite this divorces still have not become a rare phenomenon on the post. That means we need more than meetings of young married couples with those who have lived in love and accord for many years. It is important not to lose sight of each specific family which, as we know, always is unfortunate in its own way.

6904

CSO: 1801/056

ARMED FORCES

ARTICLE EXAMINES DEVELOPMENT OF MILITARY COMMANDER

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 83 p 2

[Article by Gds Maj S. Asinovskiy, Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "A Commander's Development: Such Difficult Stages"]

[Text] "We must work and work constantly with the youth, taking account of their features and the new conditions under which they live." These words by Comrade Yu. V. Andropov at a meeting in the CPSU Central Committee with party veterans also relate fully to those working with young officers. The notes published below tell about some of the features of this work and how the development of young officers is proceeding in unit "X."

One can judge how young our officer collective is if only from the fact that the majority of company commanders in the regiment are recent graduates of military schools. Each of them naturally has his own points both strong and weak and all this has to be considered in arranging command training and in individual work. Of course before recommending a particular subunit officer for advancement to a higher position the commander as well as we officers of regimental headquarters study him thoroughly and prepare him little by little for service in the new position. Nevertheless, practice is practice, as they say...

Guards senior lieutenants A. Zhulich and V. Myagkiy were known in the regiment as capable specialists and sensible platoon commanders. We will state frankly that the officers' high personal training was one of the deciding factors when the question of their advancement to a higher position was examined.

Then the young officers began performing their duties and it turned out that they still lacked a great deal in order to command companies successfully, and methods skills above all. After visiting the tank gunnery practices in the companies commanded by guards senior lieutenants Zhulich and Myagkiy, regimental commander Gds Lt Col V. Bulgakov remarked that the officers were omitting many important matters in training subordinates, were not giving proper attention to organizing competition by tasks and norms in the classes, and were not exacting enough in evaluating the personnel's schooling.

This served as cause for a serious discussion both on the regimental staff and in subunit party organizations about ways for improving the methods level of company-grade officers further and elevating the quality of the training process as a whole. Many officers frankly admitted then that they were experiencing many difficulties in organizing competition and did not picture the procedure for conducting tank gunnery practices clearly enough. This is fully understandable in that while they were platoon commanders not all of them had practice in the role of company commander, and now much was vague, including on a methods level.

To assist the young company commanders in becoming settled in the new position faster it was decided to hold a number of demonstration classes.

The first demonstration tank gunnery practice was prepared by battalion commander Gds Lt Col P. Geley, one of the most experienced regimental gunners. It was held in the company commanded by Gds Sr Lt Myagkiy, and this subunit was not chosen by chance. The regimental staff assumed that in preparing for the demonstration practice the young commander would have to work thoroughly on himself, including in the area of improving his methods level. As a matter of fact things went better both for Gds Sr Lt Myagkiy and for the other company commanders following the demonstration practice.

It stands to reason that the work with them did not end here. The officers' methods training was placed under special supervision by decision of the regimental commander. Experience of the best methods specialists is used actively to improve it. Such a form of training as a thorough analysis of deficiencies in the work of one of the company commanders in the presence of all of them also proved to be effective. Here is just one example indicating the effectiveness of such training.

After taking over the company Gds Capt A. Khimich initially focused all his attention on training gunners and generally he was successful here: The gunners learned to fire in the weapons compound well. But then the company received a low grade in a control problem where it was necessary to fire in movement. It was let down by the driver-mechanics who did not maintain the prescribed speed during performance of the firing exercise. As a result the crews did not keep within the normative time.

This fact was analyzed thoroughly with all company-grade officers. They saw in Gds Capt Khimich's example how not to train subordinates. Of course the gunner is an important figure in the crew, emphasized the speakers, and not only success but also the lives of his comrades depend on how he acts in combat. Nevertheless, the tank is a crew-served weapon. The effectiveness of its use depends both on the personal training of each crew member individually and on cohesiveness in their work. One must proceed from this in training people.

The object lesson received by the young officers played its role and we no longer see similar instances of a distortion in personnel training methodology.

The position of technical supply officer became vacant in the battalion commanded by Gds Lt Col V. Kurzanov. One of the company commanders could be appointed to it and there were those among them who wanted it but the battalion commander decided to proceed differently. He had been keeping an eye for a long while on Gds Lt G. Baldovskiy, who had been called up from the reserve and was a technical supply officer in one of the companies. More than once Gds Lt Col Kurzanov took note of his diligence and determination in mastering equipment and so now decided to recommend him for advancement to the higher position.

It is true that some expressed doubt, saying that a reserve officer is a temporary person in the regiment, and is it worthwhile preparing him for duty in a new position? But the battalion commander insisted and Gds Lt Baldovskiy's appointment took place. And what happened? He is coping with the duties successfully. Moreover, duty in the new position made the young officer so enthusiastic that he decided to link his life with the Army forever.

It must be said that we have many of those like Gds Lt Baldovskiy who on arriving in the regiment from the reserve for two years expressed the desire to remain in the Armed Forces cadres. Among them are Gds Capt A. Abdulloyev and guards senior lieutenants S. Zibarev, V. Mazaylo and V. Shikut'. All of them became experienced specialists and enjoy deserved authority in the officer collective.

It stands to reason that all this did not come of itself. The process of professional development of officers called up from the reserve has its own features. In particular, much of what the graduate of a military school learns over a period of years has to be mastered by the officer called up from the reserve directly in the process of practical activity. Not much time is set aside for this. Is it necessary to mention how much depends here on senior comrades and on the atmosphere which reigns in the officer collective?

"I don't know what I would have done had I not been next to such experienced officers as guards lieutenant colonels Bulgakov, Kurzanov and others," says Gds Lt Baldovskiy. "The fact is that in contrast to those who studied in military schools we who were called up from the reserve had to become accustomed to the strict tenor of Army life right here in the regiment. And initially the physical stresses seemed unbelievably great. And how are you to organize a class and make use of the disciplinary rights with respect to subordinates granted you by the regulations? All these are issues which previously we did not have to resolve. While today many of us have found our place in the officer collective and are successfully coping with duties both in the position we hold and in a position one level higher, much credit for this goes to those senior comrades who day in and day out patiently pass on their own experience to us and, without coddling us, help us overcome the difficulties of development. Enormous thanks to them for this."

There is no question that this is gratifying to hear from a young officer who not very long ago perhaps didn't even dream of becoming a regular military man. The fact is that behind these words not only are feelings of gratitude to individuals; behind them is an evaluation of our entire officer collective and recognition of its indoctrinational role and mobilizing force.

With respect to Gds Lt Col Kurzanov, he really does much not only to teach officers called up from the reserve to perform official duties well, but also to instil in them a love for the service and to help find the right path in life. Not all of those reserve officers who came into the battalion, let's say, two years ago remained in the cadres, but the fact that the overwhelming majority of them became genuine masters of military affairs and skilled indoctrinators also indicates a great deal.

Among the positive points in the work style of Gds Lt Col Kurzanov with young officers that should be noted probably is the constant attention the battalion commander shows to their independent training. He functions here according to the principle of "independently doesn't mean unsupervised." Let's say that the preparation of officers for the next class is taking place under the direction of battalion chief of staff Gds Capt V. Voronov or one of the most experienced company commanders. Here the officers don't limit themselves to writing lesson plans. Optimum versions of the organization of classes are developed during the self-training and there is a search for the most effective methods techniques. It is understandable that all this takes time but in the final account the quality of the personnel's combat training wins.

The training year is coming to a close. In a very little time we will know the names of socialist competition winners. There will be among them unquestionably both recent graduates of military educational institutions and officers called up from the reserve, but what has been achieved is merely one small stage on the path to new and higher goals. How the young officers will cover this path will depend largely not only on them themselves but also on those who teach and indoctrinate them.

6904

CSO: 1801/056

ARMED FORCES

ROLE OF WARRANT OFFICER DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Oct 83 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen A. Tyurin: "Company First Sergeant"]

[Text] It is generally known how much in the life of a company or battery depends on the first sergeant. I would like questions connected with the development of this category of servicemen to be raised more often in the pages of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

(From a letter by Gds Capt V. Malashin, chief of staff of an [artillery or missile] battalion.)

Many kind words were said about company first sergeant Sr WO Anatoliy Iosifovich Derevlev, a party member, at a recent battalion report-election party meeting. A member of the unit party committee and secretary of the company party organization, he sets an example of zealous performance of his official duties and party obligation.

Derevlev's biography is noteworthy. He began serving in the Army in 1955, completed a training subunit, was squad commander and company first sergeant. After release to the reserve he worked in a mine where the Army conditioning and exceptional conscientiousness permitted him to earn quickly the fame of a leading worker. In 1960 Anatoliy Derevlev became a member of the Leninist party and was elected deputy to the settlement soviet, but the young worker didn't forget his Army service. More and more often he thought about returning to formation, and his application for entry on extended-term service soon was satisfied.

Now the status of company administration, which is considered the best in the combined unit [soyedineniye], graphically indicates the senior warrant officer's attitude toward the job. There is exemplary regulation order in the company area. One always senses domestic warmth here and a truly parental concern for the soldier reigns.

"Much credit goes to the company first sergeant for everything we have done," says Sr Lt M. Novikov, the company political deputy. "He is a person with a military vein who is in love with service, is exacting, sensitive and sympathetic."

I won't hide the fact that such an appraisal of the company first sergeant's service is gratifying. Sr WO Derevlev, whom I also have had occasion to meet, unquestionably deserves it. I also can't keep from stressing that behind this appraisal stands something more than simple recognition of one person's services. It is also a matter of respect for the position and an understanding of the major role played by subunit first sergeants in Army and Navy life. The first sergeant holds a prominent place among our military cadres. One only has to read the list of duties of the company first sergeant in the regulation to see how many-sided and responsible this position is.

I recall well my first company first sergeant, MSgt (Extended Duty) Vasil'yev. Initially he seemed too severe to us young privates but later we discerned, as they say, that behind his exactingness and severity there was concern for the job and for people. We loved our first sergeant and knew that he knew how to place demands and knew how to support and lift up the mood with a merry joke and, most important, there was exemplary order in our barracks always and in everything.

I also can't forget MSgt (Extended Service) Babenko, who was the company first sergeant where I began service as a lieutenant. We young officers learned a great deal from him.

It stands to reason that demands on the professional qualities of a first sergeant now have grown immeasurably, as determined by many factors. Let's highlight one of them: qualitative changes in the level of the personnel's general educational and special training, which has become considerably higher. Demands also have risen on political indoctrination work, including individual work. The first sergeant in the company is a necessary and active participant in the indoctrinational process. Above all he himself must be politically competent, he must have good mastery of indoctrination methods and know the military collective's psychology, and he must be a model of discipline and diligence.

I will refer again to Sr WO Derevlev. When there is a Komsomol meeting in the company Party Member Derevlev considers it his duty to attend it. He will help prepare a report and willingly will share an opinion on the subject of discussion. When a trip to a sponsored school is being organized the first sergeant again goes with the Komsomol members.

He knows his subordinates not just from their attitude toward combat training. Active participation in social activities permits the senior warrant officer to study the people more deeply and perform individual work more effectively.

This work style and this attitude toward the job also are typical of many other warrant officers. For example, WO M. Artyushchenko, first sergeant of a motorized rifle company, and WO V. Grigor'yev, first sergeant of an outstanding battery, enjoy great authority among all personnel. WO Nikolay Timofeyevich Borisov has served faultlessly more than 25 years in the Armed Forces. He was released to the reserve from the position of company first sergeant when he had prepared a replacement for himself. WO A. Borisov took over this position from him. Following the example of his father, the veteran's son sets an example of execution and a responsible attitude toward the assigned job.

The list of such examples could be continued but it would appear that something else is more important: to emphasize that behind every instance of a first sergeant's successful development there is the appropriate attitude toward him of the company, battalion and regimental commanders. Positive results are apparent where constant attention is given to this category of cadres and where there is persistent and patient work with the first sergeants. Their role in the life of military collectives rises steadily there, especially in maintaining firm discipline and regulation order in them. Here is a typical detail. Cases of nonregulation relationships among servicemen have been eradicated in those subunits where the first sergeants are in place, as they say.

Unfortunately, however, facts of another sort are encountered. First one violation of military discipline, then another was allowed in one motorized rifle company. This alarmed the regimental command element and forced it to delve more deeply into the organization of the indoctrinational process in the company. The reasons were found, the chief one being the neglect of individual indoctrinational work. The company commander and his political deputy received punishment for omissions in service.

The analysis identified another detail of no small importance such as the clearly unconscientious performance of functional duties by company first sergeant WO V. Ovcharov. He practically didn't supervise fulfillment of the order of the day and absented himself from an inspection of the performance of duty by the daily detail. Privates and NCO's also expressed serious complaints about their supply of all authorized kinds of allowances. Moreover, WO Ovcharov often showed a lack of discipline himself, took up drinking and was late for duty. What kind of an indoctrinator comes from such a first sergeant? In this instance it unquestionably will be correct to point out omissions to the battalion and regimental commanders who didn't correct the company commander promptly and didn't require him to increase exactingness toward the first sergeant.

Serious complaints also can be lodged against warrant officers V. Alekseyev and K. Gladilin, who display inexcusable negligence and who aren't able and don't wish to work with subordinates or engage in indoctrinating the personnel. The one who recommended them for the position of first sergeant without later showing concern for their development in this responsible post naturally also merits rebuke.

If, as the saying goes, soldiers are not born, then first sergeants are not born even more so. An analysis of the qualitative make-up of this category of cadres shows that a significant number of first sergeants consist of people who, like Sr WO Derevlev, already have covered a rather long path in Army service. But a long period of service in itself still does not guarantee a high level of return in service. There also are those among older first sergeants who are lagging behind demands of the time because of insufficient work on themselves, who at times work listlessly and without initiative and who take the path of "serving out one's time." As in work with other categories of cadres, this makes it even more necessary to have a strict personal demand on each person and to take an individual approach in determining service prospects.

The layer of graduates from warrant officer schools is becoming more and more considerable among first sergeants and many of them successfully perform their duties. For example, WO V. Abramov has served in the position only two years after completion of school, but he already has won authority. It is noteworthy that he entered the warrant officer school on the advice of the regimental commander, who saw in him a "first sergeant" vein and later saw to it that he returned to the unit. There are many examples of successful work in the position of first sergeant by first-term servicemen as well and behind each of these examples there is again the thoughtful selection of the candidate for this position and painstaking work with him subsequently.

In this regard I would like to recall one of the demands of the regulation which obligates the regimental commander to know the job, political and moral qualities not only of the officers and warrant officers, but also of the subunit first sergeants. There is deep meaning in this demand. It follows from it in particular that the regimental commander and staff must keep a constant focus on questions of selection and development of subunit first sergeants. But how is it, unfortunately, at times? Ask one regimental commander when he talked with the first sergeant for the last time and you get nothing specific in response. We cannot be reconciled with this attitude toward the work.

Individual work with the first sergeant is the immediate duty of company, battalion and regimental commanders and political deputies. This naturally must be taught, especially to company commanders. It seems useful in this regard to have a thorough examination of questions of company administration and the development of subunit first sergeants as well as, of course, NCO's who command squads, teams and crews, at refresher courses in the command training system.

First sergeant days held periodically in combined unit "X" have proven themselves. Lectures are given here on problems of pedagogics and psychology, an exchange of experience on maintaining regulation order is arranged and the participation of subunit first sergeants in indoctrinational work is analyzed. Instructional methods classes on company administration, held regularly with the participation of specialists of various services, also are of unquestioned benefit.

It is obviously proper to raise the question of the need to elevate the authority of the first sergeant position. There are many ways here. For example, how Sr WO Derevlev was elected member of the regimental party committee indicates a great deal. It is inexcusable that in some units first sergeants remain aloof from the work of elective party and Komsomol entities. Unfortunately one doesn't always see the portrait of a first sergeant on the honor board in a garrison officers' club or the unit enlisted men's club. If we can put it this way, there are many other methods of elevating the first sergeant position.

It is noteworthy that the regimental commander spoke at the aforementioned party meeting about Sr WO Derevlev specifically and about the role of the first sergeant in general. He spoke in connection with the need to reinforce indoctrinational work and strengthen discipline and efficiency in light of the demands of the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. A view on the problem from such a high position also would appear to be fully justified.

ARMED FORCES

TABLE OF CONTENTS: VOYENNY VESTNIK NO 9, SEPTEMBER 1983

Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian No 9, Sep 83 (signed to press 30 Aug 83)
p 1

[Passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] Contents	Page
Lead Article - Reports and Elections of Party Entities.....	2
Skillfully Assault Water Obstacles.....	6
IMPLEMENT 26TH CPSU CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS	
The Commander and Moral Indoctrination of Personnel - V. Davydov.....	10
Problems of Combat Training.....	
The Soldier's Physical Training - B. Palyanitsa.....	14
PEOPLE. EXPLOITS. REFLECTIONS	
On the 40th Anniversary of the Battle for the Dnepr.....	
Left Bank, Right Bank.....	17
Strategic Surprise - P. Batitskiy.....	18
On the Bukrino Base of Operations - S. Chumarin and G. Andreyev.....	23
The Division Commander's Example - B. Monastyrskiy.....	24
A Communicator's Exploit - V. Vladimirov.....	26
From Southern Group of Forces Combat Training Experience.....	
The Field Tests - K. Kochetov.....	28
Effectiveness is Reached by Creative Work - N. Shevkun.....	33
Transition to the Defense - V. Konstantinov.....	36
The Specialists' Proficiency Grows - V. Isay.....	39
COMBINED-ARMS COMBAT THEORY AND PRACTICE	
We Discuss the Article "Swiftiness and Continuity of the Attack".....	
A Motorized Rifle Battalion Makes a River Assault Crossing - A. Gusev...	41

The Best Help for a Neighbor is to Advance - V. Rudoy.....	45
Critique of Tactical Problem Solutions.....	48

AIRBORNE TROOPS

Study and Know Subordinates - G. Kadilov..... 49

TRAINING AND MILITARY INDOCTRINATION

Party-Political Work in an Assault Crossing - A. Khozyaychikov..... 52

Training Sentries - R. Ablyazov..... 54

With the Competition Initiators.....

Command Training is the Key to Success - S. Trefilov..... 57

VOYENNY VESTNIK Questionnaire on "Psychological Steadfastness".....

In the Interests of Combat - N. Fedenko..... 59

In Military Educational Insitutions.....

Command Qualities for Cadets - N. Badeykin..... 62

We Strengthen the Tie with the Troops - V. Kotyga and L. Shmatkov..... 64

From USSR Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy into
Troop Practice..... 66

MISSILES AND ARTILLERY

Direct Fire During Artillery Preparation of the Attack - G. Vasilishin.. 67

Support of an Assault Crossing - V. Avdeyev..... 70

Rationalization Proposals into Practice..... 72

Considering Air Temperature Deviations During Mountain Firing -
M. Karabanov and Yu. Anan'yev..... 73

For Foremost Methodology.....

ATGM's Against Waterborne Targets - Ye. Botinov..... 75

Check Your Solutions..... 76

AIR DEFENSE TROOPS

In an Assault Crossing of a Water Obstacle - V. Mikhaylov..... 77

FIRE AND WEAPONS

High Effectiveness for Weapons Training..... 79

SPECIAL TROOPS

He Decided and Provided - I. Bevz..... 83

Radiation and Chemical Reconnaissance During an Assault Crossing -
B. Alekseyev..... 85

Be Able to Persuade - Yu. Churkin..... 89

IN FOREIGN ARMIES

Mine Danger on Rivers - I. Kosikov..... 93

In Districts and Groups of Forces..... 95

Chess..... 96

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6904

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GROUND FORCES

GEN UTKIN ON PATRIOTIC EDUCATION

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Oct 83 p 1

[Article by Lt Gen B. Utkin, deputy chief of Main Political Directorate of Soviet Army and Navy: "Indoctrinate Patriots"]

[Text] We live in a difficult and anxious time. The international situation now is heated. Frantic forces of imperialism are working up the arms race and shoving the world more and more to the precipice of nuclear war, a war terrible in its catastrophic consequences. Irresponsible calls come from overseas for a "crusade" against communists. Unequivocal threats sound, addressed to the Soviet people who are engaged in perfecting a society of developed socialism, and an attempt is made to talk with us from a position of strength. It is the old, familiar relapse of the "cold war."

Under these conditions the CPSU and Soviet state are waging a steadfast, persistent struggle for peace, detente and a strengthening of international security. Following Lenin's behests, our party is accompanying each step toward peace with a reinforcement of national defense.

Military-patriotic indoctrination is one of the most important directions for improving our defense might and preparing Soviet citizens for armed defense of the Motherland. Comprehensive preparation of workers, especially the youth, for defending the Land of Soviets today is one of the important means for a growth in the reliability of our combat potential. It is a matter of purposeful military-patriotic and organizational work being carried on by party and soviet organizations, by the DOSAAF and by our famed Leninist Komsomol. Preparation of the soldier-patriot and internationalist begins in the family, school, tekhnikum, enterprise and kolkhoz.

It must be noted that attention to this work has risen in the country of late. The influence of the mass media and propaganda means has risen noticeably. An orderly system of joint work by party and Komsomol organizations with military commissariats, public education agencies, and political entities of military units for the preparation of predraft-age youth has taken shape in republics, krays and oblasts.

Effectiveness in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the Motherland's defenders also is achieved above all by the fact that these matters are being

reviewed constantly at Central Committee plenums of union republic communist parties, of obkoms, kraykoms, gorkoms and raykoms, and in the party organizations of enterprises, kolkhozes, establishments and educational institutions. Good experience in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth has been gained in Belorussia, the Ukraine, the Bashkir ASSR, and in Moscow, Volgograd, Minsk and Omsk oblasts. Propaganda of heroic traditions is being conducted here across a broad front. The system of party and Komsomol training is being used for these purposes. The subject of the exploit by Soviet citizens holds an important place in lectures, reports and presentations by political briefers and agitators. Active work in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth is being carried on by cultural enlightenment establishments, theaters and creative unions of writers, artists, actors, composers and journalists. The All-Union "Znaniye" Society conducts much lecture propaganda among the youth.

I would like to note in particular the productive, largely instructive work of military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth being conducted in Volgograd Oblast. In the last two years here more than 570,000 schoolchildren, brought together in search detachments of Red Pathfinders, have taken part in trips to places of nationwide glory. As a result more than 8,000 names of previously unknown defenders of Stalingrad have been established and innumerable fraternal graves and monuments have been placed in order. I also can't help but cite the following noteworthy fact that out of 60,000 schoolchildren who stood in the honor guard at the monument to soldiers who died during the Civil and Great Patriotic wars, some 6,000 chose the military profession and became officers.

It is our deep conviction that the all-union practical science conferences held in Baku, Riga, Yerevan and Tallinn contributed to a further improvement in military-patriotic indoctrination. During June-July of this year a traveling plenum of the All-Union Commission of Military-Patriotic Music of the USSR Union of Composers and the All-Union Festival of Patriotic Music were conducted in Khabarovsk and Primorye krays, during which there was a productive discussion about the significance of Soviet musical art in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth.

In late July participants of the All-Union Conference-Seminar on Cultural Patronage over the USSR Armed Forces held in Kuybyshev analyzed in detail the status of military sponsorship work by figures of Soviet culture and science and drew up recommendations for its further improvement in light of resolutions of the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Particular attention was directed at an improvement of cultural sponsorship work among the personnel of units remote from cultural centers and serving in small posts as well as at the need for developing the heroic-patriotic theme by means of literature and the arts. A new statute on cultural sponsorship of the Armed Forces was approved.

Questions of military-patriotic indoctrination are discussed regularly at meetings of Soviet soldiers with writers and with the creative intelligentsia. In this connection it is apropos to emphasize that the USSR ministry of defense established prizes for the best works of fiction on a heroic-patriotic

theme. This year literary prizes of the USSR ministry of defense, with the presentation of badges and diplomas, were conferred on the following writers: Hero of Socialist Labor Mikhail Dudin, Vitaliy Zakrutkin and Ivan Paderin.

Veterans of the Revolution, war and labor always have played and continue to play an inestimable role in military-patriotic indoctrination. They are the bearers of unique experience in building a new life which has enriched all mankind. That is just what they were called by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yu. V. Andropov at a meeting in the CPSU Central Committee with party veterans. These words can apply with full right to the work of many thousands of USSR Armed Forces veterans.

To be a patriot today, it was said at the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum, means to strengthen our Motherland's economic and defense potential steadfastly, to improve our readiness to defend peace against any encroachments by the imperialist aggressor and to regard military duties conscientiously.

Each year physically fit replacements who are on the whole healthy in the moral-political and psychological respect come into the Army and Navy. Commanders and political officers express profound gratitude to party organizations and to all public and creative collectives for constant attention and active work in preparing the youth for service. In our view, however, there is a need for further improvement of the basic military training system in existence and of the physical, moral and legal indoctrination of predraft-age youth. The practice which has been established in a number of republics, krays and oblasts of the comprehensive planning for preparation of young people for service with the participation of unit and ship political entities and party organizations, local party, soviet and Komsomol entities, military commissariats and DOSAAF organizations merits every support.

Today a complicated military-technical system comprises the physical foundation of the Army and Navy's combat might. Missiles, supersonic aircraft, nuclear-powered submarines, powerful tanks, automated control systems and rapid-fire small arms can be effectively used in combat by people who are ideologically conditioned, brave and excellently prepared in the specialized sense. All this places new demands on the military-technical preparation of predraft-age youth, on an improvement in the material-technical facility in schools, PTU's [vocational-technical schools], enterprise training points, rayon military commissariats and DOSAAF educational institutions, and on a further development of military sponsorship work.

The process of showing the Soviet people's exploit in war and the history and life of the Armed Forces in literature and the arts requires careful attention. Works are being created in the country which reflect in a talented manner the grandeur and beauty of the exploit performed by the Soviet soldier. It is noteworthy that practically all detachments of our multinational arts participate in elaborating the Great Patriotic War theme. But the process of artistic development of the war theme and creation of the Soviet soldier's image does not occur without difficulties or even without flaws, which at times complicates indoctrinational work and obligates us to take a thorough approach to selecting works of literature, the movies and the drama.

It must be emphasized that especially broad opportunities opened up in military-patriotic indoctrination in connection with celebration of the 40th anniversary of outstanding victories by our Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War. While celebrating the grand jubilees nationwide it is important to show the combat glory of the people and their Army in specific destinies of people and in facts, events and heroic examples so that new generations become accustomed to it.

Experience shows that problems of military-patriotic indoctrination and preparation of the youth for military service can be resolved successfully with the active use of the entire arsenal of means at the disposal of the Komsomol, the school, DOSAAF and creative organizations. In our view particular attention should be given to such proven work forms as trips to places of revolutionary, combat and labor glory, the Memorial Watch, the "Orlenok" and "Zarnitsa" military sports games, and the erection of monuments and obelisks by young people.

In short, life is constantly generating new forms of military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth and propaganda of grand traditions which must be collected carefully and used creatively in all our work of preparing the Soviet youth for military service and to perform their patriotic and international duty of defending the socialist homeland.

6904
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GROUND FORCES

ARMY GEN MAYOROV ON TANK DAY

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 11 Sep 83 p 4

[Article by Army Gen A. Mayorov, first deputy CIC of Ground Forces: "Our Motherland's Shield of Armor"]

[Text] Today our country and its Armed Forces are celebrating a national holiday--Tankmen's Day. It was established in 1946 to commemorate the outstanding services of the armored troops and tank builders in the Great Patriotic War and now is a holiday of veteran tankmen, young soldiers, creators of first-rate equipment and all Soviet citizens who love their Armed Forces and steadfastly show concern for strengthening their might.

This year Tankmen's Day is being celebrated at a significant time. The Soviet people and their military personnel are successfully implementing the historic resolutions of the 26th party congress and decrees of the November 1982 and June 1983 CPSU Central Committee plenums.

The USSR Armed Forces stand reliably on guard over the people's creative labor and the cause of socialism and peace. The Tank Troops, which fulfill the role of our homeland's powerful armor shield with honor, hold a worthy place in their combat formation. During the years of Soviet power they covered a combat path from armored vehicle detachments of Civil War times to the large tank combined units [soyedineniye] of the Great Patriotic War period. Today the Tank Troops are one of the primary combat arms and the main shock force of the Ground Forces.

Tank soldiers covered themselves with unfading glory during the Great Patriotic War. Their exploits have been entered forever in golden letters in the Soviet state's heroic annals. In the stern war years there was not a single major engagement in which armored troops did not take part. The strength and might of tank attacks grew from operation to operation. While some 800 combat vehicles took part in the Battle of Moscow, there were already 1,500 in the counteroffensive at Stalingrad and over 6,000 tanks and SAU [self-propelled artillery mounts] in the assault on Berlin.

The history of war up to the Battle of Kursk, the 40th anniversary of which recently was widely celebrated, did not know such a mass use of armored equipment on one strategic axis. The enemy was worn down and bled dry through

the stubborn and steadfast defense of Soviet troops. Up to 1,200 tanks and self-propelled guns took part simultaneously on both sides just in the engagement in the vicinity of Prokhorovka. This was the largest tank meeting engagement of World War II, the opposition of two steel avalanches. Soviet soldiers' heroism was massive. They fought courageously and bravely. Armed with the best tanks in the world, the soldiers routed the fascist Tigers, Panthers and Ferdinands boldly and resolutely. The battle at Prokhorovka ended with a convincing victory of Soviet arms. The enemy lost up to 400 tanks and over 10,000 persons killed. As a result of the counteroffensive enemy groupings were defeated on the Orel and Belgorod-Kharkov axes. The Wehrmacht lost 1,500 tanks, some 500,000 men, more than 3,700 aircraft and 3,000 guns in the Battle of Kursk. The victory in that battle became one of the most important stages for the Soviet Union in winning victory over fascist Germany.

More than 250,000 tank soldiers were decorated with orders and medals for courage and military valor displayed at the war fronts, 104 became full wearers of the Order of Glory, more than a thousand received the title of HSU and 16 received this title twice. Over 400 tank and mechanized units and combined units were awarded orders and many received honorary designations and were converted into guards units and combined units. Monuments and obelisks have been erected in honor of the military and labor exploits of Soviet citizens and the tank soldiers. Plants, kolkhozes, streets, schools, military educational institutions and troop units and combined units bear the names of war and labor heroes.

In recent years the Soviet Tank Troops, like the Armed Forces as a whole, rose to a qualitatively new level in their development. They are outfitted with modern tanks--powerful combat vehicles which reflect the last war's experience, latest achievements of science and technology and today's demands on the conduct of combat actions.

Having great firepower, reliable protection, high mobility and maneuverability, the Tank Troops are capable of taking fullest advantage of the results of nuclear and fire strikes and achieving the end goals of combat and operations in short periods of time. Tank troops are employed primarily on the main axes to deliver powerful, deep strikes against the enemy.

The tactical capabilities of tank combined units and units allow them to conduct active offensive actions day or night at a significant distance from other troops, to rout the enemy in meeting actions and engagements, and to cross vast zones of radioactive contamination and water obstacles from the move. They also are capable of setting up a firm defense rapidly and successfully withstanding an attack by superior enemy forces.

The course of international events of late shows that the world situation continues to remain complicated and strained. Imperialist reactionary circles and the United States above all are scorning the lessons of history and are attempting, under various false pretexts, to gamble on strength and dictate their will to nations. The stationing of new American medium-range missiles on the territory of Western Europe planned for the end of this year represents a special danger for the cause of peace.

Comrade Yu. V. Andropov stressed at a speech at the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum: "Our objective is not simply the prevention of wars. We are striving for a radical normalization of international relations and a strengthening and development of all good initiatives in these respects."

Under conditions of the growing aggressiveness of imperialism the Communist Party and Soviet government, guided by Lenin's teaching about defense of the socialist homeland, are doing everything necessary to avert the threat of war. They are showing constant concern for maintaining national defenses at the proper level.

Socialist competition for attaining new, higher results in combat and political training, improving combat readiness and reinforcing military discipline and efficiency has developed widely in the Tank Troops at present. The Proskurov-Berlin Order of Lenin, Red Banner, Order of Kutuzov Guards Tank Regiment imeni G. I. Kotovskiy, famed in battles for the Motherland, came out as its initiator in the Ground Forces.

The legendary fame of older generations of the homeland's armed defenders and their heroic traditions are augmented by the children and grandchildren of Civil and Great Patriotic war veterans--today's tankmen. They also are unshakably true to the party cause and are ready to perform their patriotic and international duty with dignity and honor.

For example, soldiers of the crew commanded by Sgt I. K. Rechitskiy proudly bear the name of HSU Pvt V. A. Sazhenov. The tankmen win this honorary right in strenuous military work through outstanding combat training. The permanent right to perform a firing exercise for the tank hero has been conferred on gunner Pvt V. G. Sushinskiy, and he justifies this high honor by hitting targets accurately.

Rallied closely about the native Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, tankmen unanimously support the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet government. They are stubbornly mastering the science of winning which was forged in battle and together with all Soviet soldiers they always are ready to defend their people's peaceful labor and the great achievements of socialism reliably and to fulfill their constitutional duty with honor.

6904

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GROUND FORCES

PACIFIC MOTORIZED RIFLE DIVISION DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 83 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col G. Kashuba, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Beneath Colors Steeped in Glory: The Pacific Motorized Rifle Division"]

[Text] I recently heard from a countryman who returned from the Army that there is a division called the Pacific Motorized Rifle Division. Such a combination then seemed surprising to me. What relationship does a motorized rifle division have to the Pacific Ocean? I request you to tell about the history and present day of this combined unit [soyedineniye] in more detail.

(From a letter by reader Capt (Res) Yu. Shcherbakov.)

September 1980. The German Democratic Republic. The Exercise "Brotherhood in Arms-80" by personnel of Warsaw Pact member nations was coming to a close. One of the finales was a joint amateur concert. Then came a familiar, ageless melody: The composite choir was singing the song "Over the Valleys and Hills." Germans, Poles, Bulgarians, Hungarians and Czechs all sang in Russian. One hardly sensed the accents. The tune of the Revolution was triumphant.

"I have known and loved this song a long while," said Bulgarian People's Army Col G. Atanasov after the concert. "I dream of visiting the Primorye... By the way, which division is the song about? Does it exist now?"

"The song was composed about our division," said Lt Col K. Makoyev, political department chief, with conviction when I recently told him about that international concert.

The Pacific, Red Banner, Order of Kutuzov Motorized Rifle is the name of this division. It is 65 years old and received its baptism of fire at the Eastern Front near Bugul'ma in battles against Kolchak's men. It participated in the liberation of Zlatoust, Chelyabinsk, Petropavlovsk, Omsk, Novosibirsk, Krasnoyarsk and Irkutsk. The division's combat experience grew and its fighting men and commanders matured in battle. For example, one of the combined unit's regiments was commanded by K. K. Rokossovskiy, a future marshal of the Soviet Union and Twice-Honored HSU...

And again the division headed east. It liberated Chita. In February 1922 fighting broke out in the vicinity of Volochayevka. Then there was a red flag over Volochayevka and later over Khabarovsk.

On 25 October 1922 division units entered Vladivostok along with other combined units of the People's Revolutionary Army, driving the Japanese interventionists from there. An 800-man detachment formed from the division made a sea crossing on two steamships and freed Okhotsk from the White Guards with a swift strike. The division's four-year campaign ended here on the Pacific. Few remained alive from those who fought the first action at Bugul'ma, but let's imagine a Muscovite or Tula resident standing on the ocean shore. Behind him are some 10,000 km over which he has fought and behind is almost the entire country, devastated and only beginning to build a new life. And what was ahead? What would this life be like, for example, in about 60 years? And what would the division, which had become related with the Pacific Ocean, become?

"...Take effective and decisive steps both to accomplish the assigned mission of activating a battalion and to explain thoroughly to the poverty committees the seriousness of the mission being assigned them, especially in selection of people . . . and reliability of the recruits."

(From district commissariat order in connection with the activation of one of the division subunits.)

One doesn't have to ponder the question of what meaning the word "reliability" included here. It is above all a class, social meaning. Reliable means dedicated to the Revolution and ready to fight to the end for its ideals and for the native soil.

But isn't this word, which has become part of the wording of our days and which now comprises the motto of competition in the Army and Navy, really filled with the very same content? "To improve vigilance and reliably assure the Motherland's security!"

That was the question posed for young officers by Col (Ret) N. Khodunenko, chairman of the division veterans' council. Everyone of course agreed with him that the consonance of lines of the old order and today's motto is deeply symbolic. That beginning predetermined the coloration of the entire meeting of young division officers with Civil and Great Patriotic war participants and with the combined unit's veterans.

The idea of reliability was not forgotten later as well. Take the following detail. Lieutenant colonels V. Minasov, V. Zhuravlev and O. Shustenko and Maj V. Marfin are called out on the stage during the meeting. They are officers of various duty positions and various combat arms. Just why were they invited onto the stage at the same time? Those present didn't have long to conjecture over this generally natural question. An ukase awarding these officers the Order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" 3d Class is read and Maj Gen S. Seleznev, the division commander, found a warm word for

each one. One was successful in staff work, another in training and indoctrinating NCO's... But the key element, said the general in summing up, is that these are reliable people who follow the laws of duty always and in everything.

It is no simple matter for a young officer to go onto the stage after the award ceremony. The voice of Lt Il'ya Ushulu, commander of an outstanding tank platoon who had been entrusted with speaking for the young officers, became uncustomarily rather muffled from excitement. The representatives of 11 nationalities had assembled in such a small military collective as a platoon and for each one the division had become a part of his personal destiny.

Il'ya's wife Ol'ga Nikolayevna and three-year-old daughter Tanya were sitting in the hall. Other young officers and veterans also had arrived with their families.

...A trumpet sounded clearly above the BMP [infantry fighting vehicle] moving-target gunnery range. Today was the first firing with the authorized round for young gunner-operators. A field telephone rang in the range officer's tower. Company commander Capt S. Stepanov picked up the phone and words completely unexpected in such a situation carried to me.

"Maternity home . . . Everything's fine . . . The wife feels normal..."

Shots were ringing out and engines rumbling, but I was listening to the comments about the telephone conversation.

"You understand that our political officer called from the post. Sr Lt Yuriy Shcheklein," said Sergey Stepanov with emphasis on the first name. "This morning he sent his wife to the maternity home, they called from there to the duty NCO and said that someone already had been born, but it still isn't known whether it's a son or daughter."

The next day I learned that a son had been born to Yuriy and Irina and that the Shcheklein family now would have seven persons on post. Figure it up. This is the second child--the first daughter--in Yuriy's family, plus the family of his brother Aleksandr: he, his wife Tat'yana and a daughter.

And recently it was possible to see nine Shchekleins on post at the same time as the parents of the twin brothers came from Novosibirsk on a visit.

It is not difficult to imagine the pride with which frontlinesman Ivan Nikitovich Shcheklein walked through the post where so much good had been said to him about his sons. They serve in the same regiment and both are company political deputies.

The sons come to replace the fathers, loyal and reliable in all respects. Here too lies a guarantee of the strength of our combat ranks.

"A large portion of the regular four-wheeled and two-wheeled carts from district depots were not released and are being replaced by local carts."

(From district commissariat order.)

The copy of this document exhibited in the division combat glory museum is supplemented by photographs. Here are division units on the march: few carts, men primarily on foot with wrappings on the feet and some with bast sandals as well.

Then there is today. The modern division probably doesn't appear before you in all its beauty and might at any other moment than on a march during exercises when everything is set in motion. Formidable tanks, swift infantry fighting vehicles and missile launchers ready to unload a firestorm at any minute move in a powerful avalanche and there is engineer equipment for various purposes, and so many wheeled vehicles of various types!

Of course much of which a division is capable can be reflected in formulas and figures. Here's the command training classroom with the class being given by Maj Gen Seleznev. One tactical symbol after another, figure after figure is placed on the board. And the language of mathematics can be very expressive if the talk is being given by a professional. The general filled in the diagrams and tactical terms with living flesh as it were. Tactical speeds, fuel and ammunition expenditure at various stages of combat--everything took on specific features.

"...Who is the combined-arms commander?" asked Seleznev. "The organizer for combat. The organizer... That means both a tactician and an expert on equipment, weapons and questions of combat and logistical support."

...The exciting moment of attack drew ever nearer.

"I recognize the hand of Finkel'," said Maj Gen Seleznev, pointing to one battalion which was deploying swiftly into an extended line.

The biography of motorized rifle battalion commander Maj M. Finkel' is noteworthy by its fusion with the Army. He was born and grew up in an officer's family, completed military school in Blagoveshchensk and from the first day of his officer service has been in the Pacific Division. He has been some five years in the present position. His battalion is outstanding and the officer's class rating is that of master.

The driving continues, with each one's result registered in the combat training logs and operational newsheets. Competition and a struggle for seconds is going on. It is the very same intensity at the unit firing range, in the weapons compound, at the tank training area, the vehicle training area and in the simulator classrooms... It is difficult to enumerate all the division's training facilities where engines and electronics hold sway. Here is where the path to proficiency, the path to victorious attacks begins.

"An enormous span of my life is connected with the Pacific Division. . . . Here I was accepted into the party, as a candidate at age 24 and as a member of the VKP(b) [All-Union Communist Party (Bolshevik)] at age 26. In this same division I participated in combat actions against the Chinese-Manchurian militarists who provoked the conflict on the KVZhD [Chinese Eastern Railway]..."

(From memoirs of Twice-Honored HSU Mar SU N. I. Krylov.)

Sr Lt S. Anokhin bent over the museum showcase. The words "enormous span of my life..." are etched in his memory. And the first and most noticeable milestone in this span was entry into the party. Probably also he, Sr Lt Anokhin, a motorized rifle platoon commander, can say that about his service in the famed division. An enormous span of life...

Today is a memorable day for Sergey. He was accepted as a CPSU candidate member at a party commission session. I walked with Sergey through the museum rooms. The exhibits show that the relay of combat valor begun in the Civil War was worthily continued in fighting on the KVZhD in 1929 and at Lake Khasan in 1938.

When the Great Patriotic War began the division covered a sector of the state border in the east and prepared reserves for the western fronts. Many of its alumni found fame in fighting against Hitler's invaders.

In August 1945 the division again was on a field campaign and participating in fighting against the troops of militarist Japan. The result of the fighting was that the combined unit was awarded the Order of Red Banner, with the exploit of over 6,000 fighting men and commanders who displayed mass heroism in fighting against the Japanese samurai being crowned with state awards. Military labor of the Pacific Division personnel has been recognized with many awards in postwar years. The division is successfully completing this training year and is participating actively in the movement for foremost combined unit.

The museum contains many relics connected with the names of countrymen. Mar SU N. I. Krylov, who to the end of his days kept up close relations with the division, is connected with more than just one document. Here is a photograph he presented showing a corner of the barracks of the 1920's. There are kerosene lamps on the posts supporting the ceiling and the men are sitting in overcoats and caps, with their breath visible. It was obviously rather cold in the barracks.

In my mind was yesterday's meeting in one subunit area. There was a spacious, light room with rugs at every bed, slippers so that one could remove his boots, and pictures on the walls. A color television set is suspended on openwork chains in the middle of a broad passage. It is convenient as it can be raised to any height and doesn't take up space.

The company library is something to see in the reading room. About a hundred books: works in Russian, Ukrainian, Kazakh and Lettish, each book with an

inscription from the one who presented it. The tradition is that when a private or NCO goes home he leaves a book for his countrymen to remember him.

There's another tradition of saying farewell to the unit colors on the day one is released to the reserve and a visit to the division combat glory museum.

"Officers leaving for other posts also come here," says WO [praporshchik] V. Karpenko, one of the museum activists. "They leave many emotional lines in the visitors' book."

"...On departing for a new duty station I carry with me a memory of brave and selfless people--Far Easterners, of excellent years of imaginative, creative work, and of the bold, strong patriots of our Motherland who did their all for the cause of strengthening her Far-Eastern borders. . . . The Pacific Division was a school of command development for me..." That was the inscription left in the book by HSU V. I. Petrov, now marshal of the Soviet Union. He commanded this division during 1957-1961 and visited it many times in subsequent years.

The veterans' words, the words of all those for whom service in the famed combined unit became an unforgettable span of life, are directed to Sergey Anokhin, to his contemporaries and to all heirs of combat glory. This includes the farewell words of Maj Gen Sergey Pavlovich Seleznev. On 1 September of this year he began study at the USSR Armed Forces General Staff Military Academy imeni K. Ye. Voroshilov.

What is a division? The basic tactical combined unit, answers the "Voyenny Entsiklopedicheskiy Slovar'" [Military Encyclopedia]. The Pacific Motorized Rifle Division, like other units and combined units of our famed Armed Forces, connected [play on word "soyedineniye" meaning combined unit] thousands of destinies of people of different generations. The division is the custodian of combat experience and creator of combat readiness. And it is the repository of that invaluable spiritual wealth called combat traditions.

"...The movement into the future," remarked CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade Yu. V. Andropov at a meeting with party veterans, "naturally presumes the preservation and enrichment of everything valuable gained in the past."

I read these lines and see the armored columns on the march and the inspired faces of young officers at a meeting with veterans. I see young privates taking the military oath in the museum. I hear the old song, the song which even now often rings out above buildings of the military post lost in the verdure and gladdening the eye with their beauty: "And it ended its campaign at the Pacific." All this, all by which the division lives today comprises the process of preservation and enrichment of that which is valuable and which was gained in the past.

The campaign continues.

GROUND FORCES

TRAINING EXERCISE RESULTS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 83 p 1

[Article by Col V. Bogdanovskiy, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "From the Final Problems: The Kotovskiy Men are in a Fighting Mood"]

[Text] During the training year I have had repeated occasion to visit personnel of the Proskurov-Berlin Guards Tank Regiment imeni G. I. Kotovskiy, the initiator of socialist competition in the Ground Forces. Each time I saw the personnel's fighting mood and their burning desire to fulfill competition pledges completely and add to the unit's grand combat traditions.

One senses the high fighting mood with special force now in the days of the final inspection. What the end result will be will become known later when the commission finishes its work, but initial results are pleasing. For example, one can't help but notice the high degree of drill training and military bearing demonstrated by personnel of the battalion commanded by Gds Capt V. Kudinov. The guardsmen also show high efficiency and cohesiveness in other control problems.

The regiment has many vivid pages in its history. In the years of the Civil and Great Patriotic wars Kotovskiy men covered themselves with unfading glory and in postwar years this unit repeatedly won the right to be called one of the best in the Group of Forces. Of course the regiment's biography doesn't consist of victories alone. There also were failures. This year too not everything everywhere turned out at once as one would have liked, but the Kotovskiy men headed persistently for the assigned goal. The people worked to their utmost, showing initiative and imagination, and sought ways for best accomplishment of assigned missions. For example, adoption of suggestions by guards majors A. Makarov and M. Malashevskiy allowed reducing the time it took subunits to go out at the "Assemble" signal by almost 15 percent. The innovations in the methodology of practical drills on the equipment being used by guards captains V. Afanas'yev, D. Yagudin and others made it possible to bring class conditions even closer to those of modern combat.

Those in the regiment realize that a guarantee of new successes lies in disseminating the experience of foremost methods specialists. Demonstration classes for officers and NCO's are arranged regularly here, and there were things to learn in them. In particular those who attended Gds Capt Yagudin's

classes saw much that was new in the struggle for high quality of each operation in working on equipment. Gds Capt Afanas'yev convincingly revealed how to achieve publicity of competition and take advantage of it for making a collective cohesive.

Emphasis in training and indoctrinating the soldiers is placed on the individual approach. Special tests were drawn up for this purpose by which each serviceman's knowledge and skills were checked. If a private or NCO performed certain operations slowly, disrupting the sequence, he would be given an assignment to practice these very operations to perfection in a given phase, then they would go on to others.

This approach to organizing the training process helped reinforce the trainees' interest in the classes and, in the final account, it helped improve the quality of combat training. It is apropos in this regard to recall a tactical field fire exercise held in the spring and observed by CPSU Central Committee Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov. The Kotovski men had to perform the missions in an exceptionally difficult situation. The guardsmen displayed their will and firm character and demonstrated the ability to act precisely and resolutely in any situation. At that time the USSR minister of defense evaluated the guardmen's schooling highly.

Regimental personnel are confirming the high proficiency in the final inspection as well. The inspectors had high praise in particular for officers of the battalion where Gds Capt S. Zalyayev is acting commander. A majority of them received excellent grades for performance of practice firing.

The inspectors also took note of the detailed knowledge of many students of the Marxist-Leninist training groups and political study groups. For example, all NCO's in the company commanded by Gds Capt Afanas'yev received outstanding grades. The responses of Gds Sr Sgt S. Bataryk and guards sergeants V. Ponomarev and V. Sushkevich were noted in particular. It was emphasized that they set an example in combat training and discipline. Students of the group directed by Gds Sr Lt V. Korotun also did not fail.

Gds Sr Lt S. Bakhchevan's subordinates had to perform the practice firing exercise under difficult conditions at night but they demonstrated once again that difficulties are no hindrance for capable people. As a rule the firers hit the targets with the first rounds.

Driver-mechanics of the company commanded by Gds Capt V. Batanov also demonstrated high results day and night.

The inspection continues. Kotovski personnel are taking the test for combat maturity at the training ground, the firing range, the tank training area and training classrooms. Every guardsman lives with the desire to keep his word and fulfill competition pledges.

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CSO: 1801/55

GROUND FORCES

MOTORIZED RIFLE TACTICAL EXERCISE DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Oct 83 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col A. Zakharenko, Red Banner Far East Military District: "Counting on Surprise"]

[Text] When the motorized rifle battalion commanded by Capt A. Osidulov neared the line at which, according to the tactical assignment, it was to assume a defense of the sea-coast, a narrative problem was received to the effect that the "enemy" had been able to anticipate the motorized rifle-men...

Capt Osidulov was faced with a difficult task. He had to make a new decision urgently inasmuch as now the battalion had to attack and not defend as had been assumed. The battalion commander generally had not precluded the possibility of such a turn of events where a transition from one kind of combat action to another will be necessary in the dynamics of an exercise, but to do it so suddenly...

To prevent the "enemy" amphibious assault force from digging in on a favorable line Capt Osidulov ordered the companies to increase speed and be in readiness for an attack all the while, and he himself meanwhile unfolded the map. Terrain in the area of the presumed encounter with the assault force was ill-suited for an attack: sheer cliffs, talus and almost impenetrable forests roundabout... The battalion could get to a slightly favorable line only if it succeeded in slipping through one of the few low areas, and there is where the battalion commander set his sights.

Capt Osidulov realized from the very first report from scouts that it was necessary to prepare for a meeting action as the assault force which had landed unhindered on the beach was continuing to advance into the depth of the shore.

Soon the commander of the company operating in the advance party also reported encountering "enemy" battle outposts.

"It couldn't be more advantageous!.." thought the battalion commander. But what could you do? The assault force still had to be thrown back to the sea-- that was the order. After assigning a mission to the commander of the company

operating in the GPZ [advance party] to destroy the "enemy" outposts and support deployment of the battalion main body, Capt Osidulov ordered the remaining companies to deploy into combat formation.

The company commanded by Sr Lt R. Mukhoyarov had it more difficult than the others. The terrain on its axis of advance abounded in natural and manmade obstacles and they had to advance in dismounted formation, but the motorized riflemen didn't shirk the difficulties. Crossing one obstacle after another, they stubbornly advanced. When the company was counterattacked by the "enemy" they took cover in trenches and foxholes, let his combat vehicles by and tossed grenades at them.

It also was no easier in the depth of the "enemy" defenses. Buildings converted into centers of resistance rose up here in the motorized riflemen's path. Moreover, the "enemy" used mass destruction weapons and the attackers had to operate in protective gear, but here too they coped with the task.

But the ordeals for the motorized riflemen didn't end here. According to the exercise plan they still had to go through a field fire phase. Changes had been made to the plan right in the dynamics of combat. They would have to fire not at the line which had been planned and not against bobbing targets on shore, but against floating targets.

It became clear from the very first seconds of the firefight that Sr Lt Mukhoyarov and his subordinates had gotten into a difficult spot. The width of the front on which a large number of group and individual targets appeared simultaneously did not permit creating the density of fire sufficient for their destruction. The company commander tried to bring the combat vehicles left under cover closer to shore in order to support the motorized riflemen with their fire but "enemy" antitank weapons came alive in the vehicles' path.

Maj A. Savin, the battalion technical supply officer and one of the most experienced specialists, came to the young company commander's assistance. The fighting was on a lake shore, which is what Maj Savin used for maneuvering. He took the vehicles afloat to a line from which they could conduct effective fire against the "enemy." The attack from different directions decided the outcome of combat in the battalion's favor.

An ability to react quickly and correctly to a change in the situation in the dynamics of combat probably is one of the chief qualities which was displayed especially vividly in the actions of battalion officers in this exercise. This is natural, for the regiment where Capt Osidulov serves shows constant concern that every subunit field exercise takes place with maximum benefit for trainees and gives them the fullest picture of what they might encounter in actual combat.

That's how it was this time as well. In addition to the exercise plan drawn up in the battalion the regimental staff had its own more complicated version. That's what exercise director Lt Col E. Rakovskiy used in some phases.

Battalion officers honorably passed this test by displaying imagination, initiative and determination in attaining the goals. The exercise held at the end of the training year showed that they are ready for actions under the difficult conditions of modern combat.

GROUND FORCES

RIVER CROSSING EXERCISE DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Sep 83 p 1

[Report and commentary by Capt A. Supranovich, Southern Group of Forces: "Assault Crossing Of a Water Barrier"]

[Text] The motorized riflemen captured a bridgehead on the opposite bank from the march. The "enemy" began to bring up reserves from his defensive depth in preparation for a counterattack. The aircraft of the attackers attempted to suppress the advancing subunits of the opposite side. They were unable to do this completely. Some of the "enemy's" tanks rushed toward the bridgehead at high speed. The exercise director decided to transfer the main forces with the artillery and tanks attached to the motorized riflemen to the opposite bank.

"Set up a ferry crossing within a limited amount of time"--this was the mission assigned to personnel of the pontoon company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Aleksandrov. The pontoneers began carrying out the mission without delay. The company commander thoroughly studied the route, the procedure for approaching the river and the site for setting up the crossing, and compiled a detailed work chart.

The river appeared calm from the distance. The pontoneer would never begin working on the basis of what he could see, however, without thorough reconnaissance. Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov did not hurry to make his decision. He waited until he had received information from engineer reconnaissance conducted by the platoon commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Kotylko.

It turned out that the water in the river was higher than usual and there was a strong current. It was also determined that all of the equipment would not fit into the section on the bank designated for unloading the pontoon sections and boats. After weighing all of the factors, Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov decided to set up the crossing by assembling the platoon rafts. The pontoneers rapidly prepared everything for setting up the bridge.

This is how the senior commander assessed the company's performance at this stage:

"I need to mention Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov's resourcefulness and his accurate calculation for deploying the equipment. We see that the situation was

complicated. All of the company's equipment would not fit into that area on the bank. The officer therefore selected what I consider the most expedient course of action--to assemble the platoon rafts first. Naturally, this could have held up the erection of the crossing. The military pontoneers had worked on this alternative more than once in drills conducted as part of the summer combat training, however. This is why the commander had confidence in the good special training of his subordinates and calculated that they could complete the job in time, despite the difficulties. Something else which is significant is the fact that bridges were frequently set up with sectional rafts by the combat engineers in the Great Patriotic War. Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov adopted the frontline experience."

The powerful vehicles carrying the pontoon bridge sections sped toward the water line at great speed. A thick cloud of dust hung over the column. This not only revealed the company's location, but it could also seriously complicate the pontoneers' work. Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov issued orders for the column to move directly along the water line. Visibility on the bank improved immediately. The platoons commanded by Lieutenants V. Sokolov and M. Alekseyenko brought their subunits precisely to the designated unloading sites. The vehicles deployed from the march, and the crews accurately dumped the sections into the water. The fightingmen rapidly aligned the pontoons in the swift current. Everyone performed smoothly, in a spirit of rivalry and comradely mutual assistance. When one of the crews from the platoon commanded by Lieutenant Sokolov encountered a difficulty--a shallow area prevented them from positioning the section--adjacent crews came to its assistance. Working together, they rapidly overcame the difficulty.

"As I watch the company's men at work, I recall a special tactical exercise in which Soviet pontoneers worked with Hungarian fightingmen commanded by Major (I. Mochala)," the senior chief said, commenting on the operation. "It took place during the winter training period. The joint work was performed by the pontoneers of the two fraternal armies with the same good coordination and initiative. The subunit commanded by Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov demonstrated a high level of special training at that time. After the exercise the Soviet and Hungarian pontoneers exchanged know-how and learned from each other how to make the most effective use of the modern equipment in difficult circumstances. When the competition for the winter training period was summed up, the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov was given an excellent rating. It should be noted that the company is not giving up its position today and is successfully fulfilling its commitments in the competition. This was graphically illustrated by the exercise today."

Now the banks of the fast-flowing river were reliably connected by a bridge. The ramp had been lowered into the water. The anchors had been secured. The bridge was being held in place by boats to keep the current from sweeping it away. The crossing control service went to work to assure the unhampered movement of the tank subunits across the bridge.

Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov rolled up the cuff of his jacket and glanced at a stopwatch. The military pontoneers completed the job in less than normal time.

The quality of the work also measured up to the great demands made of it. Senior Lieutenant S. Durnov, deputy company commander for political affairs, held a brief meeting of the activists, after which he announced that Lieutenant Alekseyenko's men had won the competition among the platoons.

"I know what Senior Lieutenant Aleksandrov and all the company officers are feeling right now," the senior chief said in conclusion. "It is the profound sense of satisfaction of people who have gained a difficult victory. Figuratively speaking, I would call the banks linked by the bridge the military pontoneers' lines of skill. In this exercise they performed without indulgences, as though in real combat."

On the bridgehead, beyond the forest line on the bank, the tanks which had crossed over the bridge engaged in battle with the "enemy's" reserve. They were backed up by powerful artillery fire. Thanks to the efforts of the pontoneers the motorized riflemen received a powerful reinforcement in good time. The "enemy's" counterattack was successfully repelled.

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

INTERVIEW WITH COL GEN GROMOV

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Oct 83 p 3

[Interview with Col Gen Avn (Ret) Mikhail Mikhaylovich Gromov in his Moscow apartment by Lt Col V. Pinchuk and Maj S. Levitskiy: "People with a Great Destiny: Flight of the 'Strela'"; date of interview not given]

[Text] We met with HSU Col Gen Avn (Ret) M. Gromov in his Moscow apartment. On the wall of the room was an aircraft propeller of impressive size and several photographs in frames... Mikhail Mikhaylovich noticed our curiosity: "Yes, I have few exhibits. I gave a great deal to the museums, for they ask and say that these things are history itself. I can't refuse."

Yes, history itself. In 1937 Gromov was one of the first citizens of the Land of Soviets to receive the International Aeronautical Federation Award of the De Laveau medal. We will recall that the second such medal in the USSR was conferred on the first cosmonaut in the world, Yuriy Alekseyevich Gagarin.

"I came into aviation as follows," says Gromov. "I once saw an announcement in 1917 (I then was 18 years old and was studying in the first course of the Technical School, now the MVTU [Moscow Higher Technical School] imeni Bauman): Students were being recruited for the Theoretical Courses for Pilots imeni Professor Zhukovskiy. I went outside. The weather was superb. A 'Farman' (there was such an aircraft) floated proudly by in the sky... I went directly to the rector..."

Graduates of the Courses were among the first Soviet pilots who received a baptism of fire at Civil War fronts. Gromov flew on reconnaissance and scattered leaflets. The Red military pilots performed assignments in obsolete machines of foreign makes, but even in them they fought bravely, and of course they dreamed about a strong workers' and peasants' aviation. Soon these dreams began to come true.

We recalled what HSU Col Gen Avn G. Baydukov told us about that time and about Pilot Gromov:

"New winged craft were being built and we were beckoned by the romance of the sky. But so many dangers lay in wait in the air! To surmount them we needed flying talent and a detailed knowledge of the matter. Gromov embodied all this and many, including Valeriy Chkalov, considered themselves his pupils. In

1924 Gromov became a tester at one of the Moscow aviation plants. In this risky profession he found romance, a sporting interest, and great opportunities for creative participation in the progress of Soviet aviation. As early as 1925 Gromov's name became known to the entire world. He took the R-1, the first aircraft made wholly in Soviet plants, along the Moscow-Beijing-Tokyo route."

A circuit flight around the European capitals by the ANT-3 aircraft designed by A. N. Tupolev began in Moscow in August 1926. This aircraft, which bore the proud name "Proletarian," was piloted by Gromov, who returned triumphantly to Moscow... All Mikhail Mikhaylovich's further career was closely linked with Andrey Nikolayevich Tupolev's design bureau. Gromov was appointed chief pilot of the OKB [special design bureau] soon after the flight over Europe. There was not a single aircraft created by the designer in the prejet era which he did not test.

Gromov recalls how he once went to see OKB chief artist B. Kondorskiy and saw sketches of a new aircraft. This was the future RD (record distance), later named the ANT-25. The craft greatly interested him and very soon, when two aircraft were built, he "taught them to fly."

Thus began the story of the famed flight over the North Pole.

Initially the RD was prepared for a closed circuit flight over the route Moscow-Ryazan-Tula-Moscow. First Gromov, at his own initiative, flew over this route in a PO-2 (by the way, it was Mikhail Mikhaylovich who gave the test pilot's okay for the legendary aircraft, toiler and soldier). Then he took off in the RD. Something went wrong with the engine on the very first flight. Gromov tried to fix its abnormal behavior, but to no avail. One thing remained--to make a forced landing. Gromov cut off the engine and switched on the emergency fuel discharge. Knowing the flight area, he immediately estimated that a river lay directly ahead, and then it already was beneath the wings of the descending aircraft.

"It seemed we would not reach the bank!" says Mikhail Mikhaylovich, vigorously smoothing his gray hair, as if experiencing those instants anew. "What was left to do? The craft clearly would break up on the cliff... And if we were to restart the engine? But then an explosion of the vapor stream of jettisoned fuel was inevitable. Seconds flew by... Well, here goes... I'll start it!"

The RD nevertheless made it across the river. After the forced landing they spent two days fixing the trouble and improving the engine. The tests continued, and again there was a difficult struggle for the life of the craft. During a night flight an enormous flame suddenly burst from the engine's right unit. Gromov ordered the crew: "Inspect parachutes! Prepare hatches in case of the need to abandon aircraft... Everyone in their places." The flaming aircraft descended toward the airfield for 35 minutes. A searchlight illuminated a narrow strip of the field, at the end of which was a steep slope to the river, and so the aircraft which landed stopped almost at the water's edge.

On the next day Ya. Alksnis, chief of the RKKA [Workers' and Peasants' Red Army] Air Force, inspected the landing site and remarked with surprise: "You know what? The second time you wouldn't succeed in landing even during the day."

The tests had come to an end and then Tupolev reported to the government through People's Commissar Sergo Ordzhonikidze about our aviators' readiness to break the world flight distance record. On 10 September 1934 an ANT-25 with a crew consisting of M. Gromov, A. Filin and I. Spirin took off from a suburban Moscow airfield. After 75 hours and 12,411 km of flying Gromov landed the aircraft near Kharkov. The world record was surpassed by more than 2,000 km!

The party and government highly esteemed the aviators' exploit. Gromov was presented with the Gold Star of a Hero of the Soviet Union with the number "8."

In the spring of 1937 Mikhail Mikhaylovich learned that Chkalov had submitted a request to the government to authorize him to fly over the North Pole to America. Gromov put in the very same request.

"Both crews received permission. Mine included Pilot Yumashev and Navigator Danilin," recalls Mikhail Mikhaylovich. "Andrey Borisovich Yumashev was a first class pilot who flew excellently in the clouds. Sergey Alekseyevich Danilin was regarded as one of the best navigators of that time. We prepared intensively for the take-off, but once, not long before the flight, an engine was removed from one of the aircraft for improvement. It became clear that one crew would not fly. Of course we were disappointed, but didn't lose heart. We realized that we would be able to multiply the triumph of Soviet aviation later."

That is how it was. Gromov's ANT-25 took off on 12 July 1937 after the flight by Chkalov's crew. They prepared very thoroughly for the dash across the Pole. After lengthy calculations they fueled the aircraft with a half-ton more than the previous crew. To lighten the aircraft's weight (for this meant additional kilometers of route) they used cutters to remove the ends of bolts protruding from nuts and rejected an inflatable boat, warm clothing, guns and even salt. Judging from everything the crew was still taking a risk.

"We did, we did!" says Gromov, with his blue eyes catching fire. "But how did we take risks? We took very calculated risks, for we had tested the aircraft fully and had faith in it."

The "Strela" [Arrow]--that was the crew's callsign--had a send-off by Ya. Alksnis: "Forward and only in a straight line." That's how the ANT-25 went over the mute, snow-covered expanses, fought icing and penetrated thick clouds. Soon the "Strela" reported that they had passed over the North Pole 14 minutes ahead of schedule. Soon Canadian forests stretched beneath the wing. Ahead were mountains, the ocean and great cities... There would be enough fuel to Panama, but they were not authorized to cross the Mexican border. They landed near the small town of San Jacinto.

They covered 10,148 km in a straight line in 62 hours 17 minutes! For that time this was an outstanding success of Soviet aviation.

Time went by and Gromov continued to test new aviation equipment, the combat might of which grew quickly. This was very important work, for brown storm-clouds were gathering in the West. When the Great Patriotic War began Mikhail Mikhaylovich of course set off for the front. We learned about those fiery days and about Gromov the military leader from Lt Gen Avn (Ret) A. Bogorodetskiy. When Gromov was appointed commander of the 1st Air Army Bogorodetskiy had occasion to work with him in a combat situation as his deputy.

Bogorodetskiy recalled how a plan for delivering an air strike against a concentration of enemy aircraft at the Borovskoye airfield was developed and carried out under his direction in the fall of 1943. Exacting to the point of pedantry, the army commander required the operation to be prepared in the most thorough manner. Then at noon, exactly at the appointed time, fighters of the 18th Guards Air Regiment and French pilots of the "Normandy" Squadron suddenly appeared over the objective. The enemy airfield was sealed off. Groups of our Pe-2 bombers moved to the strike objective and dropped a bomb load on the aircraft hardstands.

Mikhail Mikhaylovich gave almost 40 years to service in the USSR Armed Forces. He was decorated with 11 orders and many medals. The following fact is noteworthy: During the war years the air army commander never punished anyone.

"I had my own measures of influence on subordinates," explains Gromov. "I recall when replacements from among test pilots arrived once and began training flights. Suddenly I looked and saw one of the new recruits twisting out inconceivable pirouettes in the sky. 'Ground the daredevil for 15 days!' said my deputy nervously. 'Calm down,' I objected and said that I recognized Fedorov from the flying style and requested that he be sent to me. He soon arrived and I told him to come back when he proved himself in combat. Fedorov shot down a Junkers and I submitted him for an award. He never flew recklessly again. In my opinion the important element in indoctrination is to appeal to a person's conscience and awareness."

Of course it was above all the personal example of the famed aviator that indoctrinated. Gromov's flying qualities invariably were evaluated very highly in any performance appraisal and after the Victory he was entrusted with the training of young aviators. He later was released to the reserve and worked for some time in the Ministry of the Aviation Industry.

Gromov the veteran, a professor and Honored Pilot of the USSR, is as before in our formation. He writes books and conducts scientific work. He has a great deal of correspondence and many invitations to meetings with the young people.

"Old age retreats before a person's mind when he keeps himself in combat shape," says Mikhail Mikhaylovich with conviction. "When he follows a diet, engages in strict self-control and scorns excesses. And not for the sake of living longer, but for the sake of work."

The flight of the "Strela" continues.

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

SIMULATOR TRAINING REQUIRES PILOTS' SERIOUS ATTENTION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Sep 83 p 1

[Article by Capt V. Ardelyan, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "Into the Sky Via a Simulator"]

[Text] Before the tactical flying exercise began aviators of the flight commanded by first class military pilot Gds Capt A. Bazyuk came to the simulator classroom to drill once more in making attacks against ground targets. Second class military pilot Gds Sr Lt V. Fedorov was the first to take his place in the simulator cockpit. The signal lights on the drill instructor's console glimmered palely.

"On combat course... Target sighted..." reports Fedorov.

"Permission to work," the flight commander gives the pilot the command. Gds Sr Lt A. Shurygin observes the actions of his comrade carefully together with the flight commander. He has less experience than the other flight pilots and so Bazyuk gives more attention to the young officer and takes advantage of every opportunity to help him delve more deeply into the features of accomplishing the training mission. And so now he advises Shurygin to take a closer look at how his comrade is maintaining flight parameters--at what altitude and with what speed he begins to place the aircraft in a dive and at what range he opens fire.

The young pilot thus has an opportunity to become more closely familiar with the experience of a senior and more trained comrade and to master effective techniques of combat work faster. In this case the class instructor succeeded in using the time set aside for a drill in the simulator classroom with a maximum load. While one pilot was practicing his assignment in the cockpit another was analyzing his actions and going over the procedure for performing the exercise, paying particular attention to key points of the firing.

This is what permitted Gds Capt Bazyuk to double as it were the simulator's throughput. The flight's pilots performed the exercise preparation with high quality and accomplished all firing against ground targets with an outstanding grade.

"Thanks to the simulator!" said the aviators after the difficult test. These words contain gratitude above all to those specialists who readied the

training gear for the classes. Aviators headed by Gds Capt Tech Serv A. Anisimov did everything to ensure that the systems of the comprehensive aircraft simulator functioned faultlessly. It is the precise, uninterrupted work of the equipment that makes it possible to use every minute of training time with greatest return. For more than a year now the group's specialists have not had any criticism from the pilots.

The load on the training system is growing every day, which forces the aviators to be persistent in seeking ways to improve the simulator's efficiency. It is praiseworthy that they make use of other units' experience. The neighboring regiment, for example, sees the primary task to be raising the methods proficiency of class instructors to a new level. The effectiveness of the training classroom depends to a decisive extent on how the drill is planned, organized and conducted. The regiment has many experienced instructors who are able to make use of the time set aside for work on the simulator with a large return.

The drills conducted by military pilot-sniper Lt Col A. Uryvayev are particularly saturated and instructive. In organizing classes he tries to avoid stereotypes and each time he selects that training method which can be of greatest benefit at the given moment. If for example it is necessary to practice some kind of general exercise all subunit pilots go to the simulator, with the most experienced aviators being first to perform the training mission.

That was the case recently when the pilots were preparing to perform night bombing. Airmen of the flight commanded by first class pilot Capt Yu. Petukhov began the class on the simulator while the other subunit aviators observed the work of their comrades. After the latter completed the drill Lt Col Uryvayev analyzed mission accomplishment in detail by the numbers, going into the deficiencies in detail and sharing experience on how to remedy them faster.

This was a good school of tactical proficiency not only for Capt Petukhov and his comrades in the flight, but also for all other pilots in the subunit. The aviators who later took their places in the simulator cockpit functioned precisely and confidently and spent less time on various clarifications.

But the simulator's efficiency depends on more than serviceability of the training gear and high precision in organizing the drills. Also of great importance here is attuning the pilots themselves on working as productively as possible. For example, first class military pilots captains S. Merzlikin and V. Selivanov are known in the unit as experienced airmen who function skillfully in any of the most difficult and responsible situations. It would seem that they require less effort for preparing to perform the next assignment, but the pilots conduct each class on the simulator to their utmost and thoroughly practice literally all elements of the upcoming flight.

Some time ago Capt V. Slepichko figured that the title of first class military pilot gave him the right to certain indulgences in training. He began to regard his ground training listlessly and no longer worked on the simulator

with the previous intensity. All this ended with the officer forgetting to release the brake parachute during the braking period while making a landing. This violation occurred only because the pilot displayed negligence during simulator classes and simply omitted some operations. The mistakes reinforced themselves imperceptibly for Capt Slepichko and almost became the cause of serious unpleasantness.

The squadron thoroughly analyzed this incident and the pilots once again saw that simulator classes require the very same attention as real flights. It is on the training gear that those skills are shaped which a pilot needs in the air. If simulator classes are held with high quality the aviators can count firmly on successful actions in any situation of modern aerial combat.

6904

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

AIRCRAFT MECHANIC RESENTS PRESTIGE GIVEN PILOTS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Oct 83 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Maj S. Levitskiy: "From a Journalist's Notebook: A Late Conversation"]

[Text] Several years ago I had occasion to be on TDY in air regiment "X." After flight operations I was returning from the airfield to the military compound together with two young officer-technicians. We walked along admiring the soft colors of northern nature and the peaks covered with fog. It was a calm, silvery evening that disposed one to frank conversation.

One of my companions, Lt Tech Serv P. Lushakov, recalled how he had enjoyed aircraft model building in childhood and had burned with a dream of flying. After school he entered a flying school but did not pass the competition. A representative of a military aviation-technical school then recommended that he enter their educational institution. Little generally is written or said about aviation-technical schools and so Lushakov had no exact impression about whom they trained. He heeded the advice, however, passed exams and was accepted. He gradually became familiar with his future specialty and he began liking it more and more. It even seemed he had found himself...

We were passing through the sleepy military compound and stopped near one of the displays. "Distinguished in Flying"--the words stood out garishly in the neon light. Below were photographs of pilots. Then Lushakov nodded toward the display:

"Those people are lucky. They are always in view while we technicians sometimes are not even remembered."

"What do you mean?" asked Lt Tech Serv A. Gridchin, a usually quiet person who became agitated here. "Can any contrasts really be drawn? Pilot, engineer, technician--all of us are at the same combat post and all of us are accomplishing one and the same mission. Of course the flying profession is special, which is why there is more attention paid to it. But I love my specialty. It takes your breath away when you go up to a fighter. Power, beauty!"

"I agree that pilots have a special profession. On the other hand, in addition to honor, they also have prospects for growth. But you and I have reached the limit--senior lieutenant of the technical service," said Lushakov waving his hand.

"Not true!" said Gridchin heatedly. "Do we really serve for positions and ranks? With regard to prospects, everyone who works conscientiously has them. For example, I dream of receiving a first class and entering the Academy."

"Oho, you're going at it. Try it..."

"I will. Important things don't come easily," said Gridchin, not giving up.

Lushakov first agreed with him, then again "attacked." And in those minutes I had the thought that a good argument was brewing. The lieutenants seemed to be opening up much for themselves anew.

Several years have passed since then. Then I met Gridchin once in Moscow. It turned out he already was a student at the Air Engineering Academy imeni Professor N. Ye. Zhukovskiy. He invited me to come see him in a family dormitory. Of course I did and there in a small room I saw one other guest whom I immediately recognized as Lushakov. We began talking and recalled the North and, by the way, that argument after the flight. I asked whether or not, years later, it wouldn't evoke a smile. But Petr sighed sadly:

"No smile. At that time I didn't deviate from my delusions. It ended with me being released to the reserve. I'm ashamed to recall how it was," he said, and was silent. "It's true that I continue to be in aviation. I work as a technician at an airport, but still, to tell the truth, I feel bitter. The important thing is that I probably am at fault in everything... I still don't forget my comrades in service. If you wish I'll tell you why I was dispirited. I only ask that if you are going to write, that you change the 'call-signs'."

Everything began for Lushakov with an unobtrusive episode. The lieutenant arrived on post early in the morning. He was sitting in a pavilion next to the regimental headquarters awaiting the beginning of the work day. There were several other officers here and in passing they struck up a "discussion" about who had been advanced in position and when and who was hopelessly bogged down. Petr listened to the conversation and heard those words which later he himself tossed out at Gridchin: The pilots primarily are advanced in service while technicians have no clear prospects for growth. These words obviously pierced the lieutenant's heart painfully and were etched in his mind.

Duties began. There were classes and flights. The lieutenants shared the first victories with each other, but he didn't. He approached everything with the yardstick of a lack of prospects. Why should he try and put his all into the work? Once he submitted a request in this mood: "Request release to the reserve." This step was considered hasty in the regiment. They talked with Lushakov, advised him not to get angry, and they gave examples from the regiment's life where conscientious, disciplined technicians with initiative

confidently forged their careers, achieved excellent proficiency and grew in military rank and position. But he insisted. He violated discipline, and then did so again. There also was trouble in the family. Unpleasantness snowballed and then came the order to release him from the Armed Forces.

In the conversation Lushakov did not conceal the fact that he had shirked and deviated. He did not make excuses for the path of violations of military discipline which he had erroneously taken. He admitted that the punishment was just...

It already was late in the evening but our conversation continued. It was apparent that Lushakov was upset and one sensed that he had come to know a great deal. The thought did not leave me: Just why hadn't he found himself in work and service? By the way, I recalled in all its details that argument next to the "Distinguished in Flying" display.

I also recalled many other meetings and talks with technicians of various specialties. In one air regiment I began talking with Sr Lt Tech Serv M. Terpilo. Mikhail told enthusiastically about the technicians, the "aircraft hosts," and let me in on how, together with his comrades, he was perfecting a methodology for extending the service life of bomber engines. At that time I asked about the response this had received in the collective and learned that the extensive work by specialists senior lieutenants tech serve A. Bogatarchuk and V. Teterev had not been recognized especially in any way.

"It's not for praise or awards that we serve and work," said Terpilo, and he clearly wanted to change the subject. "The important thing is that we have learned to inspect engines and take care of the aircraft more carefully than before."

Well, Terpilo was right on many accounts. And knowing him well as the best technician of the aviation regiment I had the thought that he would hardly lose heart because the technicians had not been commended promptly and because the excellent unit aircraft I saw had not been given the red, five-cornered figure, the symbol of specialists' military valor. But many young officers served in the regiment with different characters. Their position in life was not always strong enough and all this could be taken by them differently. Wouldn't it even happen that someone would become disenchanged in his chosen work? I asked Terpilo about this. "There was such a lieutenant," he answered. "They 'fussed' with him a great deal but the command had to release him to the reserve."

Isn't there a similarity here with Lushakov's story?

Or the story that is even now before my eyes. Gds Engr-Maj V. Pivovarov was conducting a technical critique of flights in air regiment "X." He expressed much that was useful from a professional standpoint but said not a word about the fact that technician so-and-so worked selflessly under difficult conditions and supported four important sorties and that his comrade had serviced the combat craft at the level of a master's skills. These achievements of

Pivovarov's subordinates remained in the shadows and no inspirational mood was sensed in the critique.

The names did not appear in the display. Some specialists were given preference in the technical critique and summarization of results while others remained behind the scenes... Why does this happen? "There's no time to delve into such fine points," I heard in response in literally every such case. It is difficult to agree with such an explanation. Isn't it behind the lack of "fine points" that one clearly sees an elementary disregard for people and a lack of sensitivity in indoctrinational work?

We see daily that enthusiastic, fervent people are alien to careerism. They aren't seeking glory, but is there always enough of this glory and honor in work? For there is an interrelationship, and I think a rather firm one, between honor and professional pride. This is shown by examples of how love for a profession is instilled. I know many such examples.

School graduates were cordially greeted in the unit and introduced to experienced masters. A regimental formation at the airfield solemnly listened to words of the order presenting the technicians with their combat weapons--the missile-armed aircraft. Later during flight operations colleagues tried to make memorable the first seemingly not very significant success of the lieutenants... All this inspired the people, elevated their mood and contributed to their self-assertion and growth of proficiency.

Many examples can be given which indicate how important it is to recognize each person's work at his post and skillfully use moral, material and disciplinary incentives in indoctrination.

Love for the chosen work means very, very much and there always are abundant opportunities to develop this feeling, but I believe their essence is far from only in the activities. Of course one can't say anything against activities, which are necessary, but still, like love, you can't plan pedagogics. Professional pride is instilled above all by the very attitude toward people and their prestige as specialists. It develops attention to their feelings, needs and everyday life. And how unpleasant it is to learn that the plain hut in the corner of the flying field turns out to be the so-called technical hut.

When you ponder all this you begin to think: Is it only Lushakov who is at fault for his sad story, to put it mildly? Is it by chance that he still feels resentment?

"To recall just the first days of service," said Lushakov, seemingly fearful of touching on something painful. "'There's your beauty!' said the chief of the flight's technical maintenance unit, indicating an aircraft standing nearby. They presented me with a fighter, so to speak, but for various reasons they didn't fly it. And so I went to the airfield, not knowing what to do. Had they really promised such romance at school? 'What they promised there is one thing,' explained the chief of the flight's TECH [technical maintenance unit]. Here, he said, it's something else: Practical work, so to speak... It is still sad to recall the 'command' at formation: 'Pilots to the

athletic field, technicians to the airfield'... Seemingly trivial things, and it is somehow shameful to tell about them, but they formed on my soul and hindered me a great deal. Or perhaps even here I am wrong?.."

What could we say in response to him?

6904

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NAVAL FORCES

SUBMARINE OFFICERS' TRAINING FOUND INADEQUATE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Capt 1st Rank V. Ikonnikov: "The Time Factor"]

[Text] The closer the submarine came to the point of the anticipated encounter with the "enemy," the greater was the tension in the compartments. Senior Lieutenant V. Chibrikov caught the general excitement; he gave his subordinates additional instructions before the firing; he was nervous and kept glancing at his watch. The missilemen were assigned the main role in the impending battle, and they had to be primed for performing in a well coordinated manner. Even a slight gain of time could prove to be crucial. At the training alert signal the submariners rapidly manned their stations. The "enemy" did not reveal its position immediately, however. The forced inaction was tiring. Abruptly the tactical situation became far more complicated, however. In order to win the battle the submariners should have stepped up their activity. And then Senior Lieutenant V. Chibrikov became rattled. He was clearly expecting someone to tell him what to do, but no one did....

Following the critique of the firing exercise the submarine commander complained that the young officer's development had been dragged out unjustifiably. And all of this was true despite the fact that Chibrikov had successfully completed the naval school, possessed good theoretical knowledge and was by nature an efficient and industrious individual. He worked a great deal, but he did not have enough time for everything. That would have been acceptable for unimportant matters, but there were gaps in his special training, serious failings in his indoctrination of subordinates and neglected paper work.

Such complaints about the senior lieutenant seemed all the more strange for the fact that most of the officers on the submarine crew were considered to be experienced submariners. They had demonstrated that they could perform well in all respects. Surrounded by men such as these, Chibrikov will also undoubtedly develop into an efficient, smoothly performing and mature individual. But when? Like the other staff officers, I was interested in learning why it was taking such an unjustifiably long time for the senior lieutenant to fit into the job. I had met other officers who, like Chibrikov, had a certain length of service behind them but had been unable to really fit into the shipboard life. They lacked experience themselves, and their senior comrades were in no hurry to help them.

In such situations I sometimes hear statements like the following: "That's OK. The young officer will take it on the chin at first, but then things will be easier for him in the service." A weak officer is a weak link in the crew, however. How could one regard such a situation calmly?

Incidentally, the young officers most frequently need help precisely in the beginning. The main deficiency of the recent school graduates is their inability to organize their work time and lack of a systematic approach to the job. This creates problems. You find officers listing purely day-to-day matters among the most important. Failure to accomplish them on time frequently brings criticism. Excessive concern for secondary matters pushes the main problems of development into the background--primarily, the acquisition of professional expertise. This practice of postponing the important gradually becomes the young officer's work style. Because of the fuss and the outward activeness, for which he is sometimes rewarded, he stops appreciating the real value of time. And if circumstances do not demand maximum professional output from the officer over a long period of time, he does not immediately recognize that his development has been dragged out, and then it is difficult for him to make up the time lost for his development.

It is most frequently for exactly this reason that there is a considerable difference in the training of the young officers on different ships. On one ship you find that in 2 or 3 years the school graduate is prepared to fulfill the duties of a position one level higher than his, while his counterpart on another ship will not yet have mastered his own job.

It would be incorrect, however, to assume that one can easily learn to thoroughly consider the time factor in his development, that this will come about by itself. The service, especially shipboard service, is so intensive and dynamic that any officer--from the group commander to the ship commander--is always experiencing a severe shortage of time. And frequently, he is unable to handle the packed work schedule by himself.

Another extreme frequently develops. Unable to cope with everything, the officer stops giving proper attention to the official daily routine or incoming instructions from superiors and attempts to work exclusively according to his own personal plan. Incidentally, among the fleet officers the expression "according to his own personal plan" is gradually becoming a label, referring more and more frequently to an attempt to avoid performing one's service duties. And even if this is done for the sake of improving one's own professional level, it still does considerable harm to the overall job and to the officer personally. Whether or not he wants to, he begins demonstrating carelessness and lack of responsibility.

And so, no extremes will save the officer during his very busiest time--the period of his development. Furthermore, no sort of advice and no recommendations can do away with all the difficulties at once. Only serious, persistent and systematic work on oneself will make it possible to achieve the required efficiency in organizing his work and utilizing the work time, and to master the art of systematically accomplishing both the minor, everyday work and the large-scale tasks.

The service work absolutely must be planned. It is not enough to fully understand the situation on the ship, possible changes in the situation and the tasks which will have to be performed in the process. One must properly distribute one's energy and one's capabilities within the time allocated for accomplishing the tasks. This is only achieved through constant practical control over one's work, a critical comprehension of the work and an effort to find the most effective ways of using the time.

Even the first attempts to achieve this will invariably produce perceptible results. The main thing, however, is the fact that the officer will learn how to gain satisfaction from the work; he will develop a liking for rigid control of his time. As he gains experience this will become an actual need, as it is for the outstanding officers.

Captain 2nd Rank L. Goloveshkin's work style is worth noting in this respect. Since he was a lieutenant, he has organized his work. He has achieved a great deal. Many of the officers have copied his experience. Despite the fact that he has developed an efficient work style, the captain 2nd rank has not stopped seeking new reserves. His system of accounting for the time helps him. It is a logbook consisting of small sheets of graph paper, at the top of which the officer lists his activities in accordance with the plan and the daily routine. He does this every day. At the bottom of the sheets he indicates the amount of time actually spent on this or that job, which graphically shows any losses of time. In this way Captain 2nd Rank L. Goloveshkin has a constant picture of how effectively he is using his work time. He can substantively analyze the causes of unproductive time expenditures and promptly eliminate failings and deficiencies in the planning and organization of his own work and that of his subordinates.

Later, Captain 2nd Rank L. Goloveshkin began making up weekly and monthly charts on the use of work time. He made one important discovery for himself as a result. It turned out that despite his obviously large workload and his attempts to make efficient use of every minute, he was still wasting a considerable amount of time. This was because of his overly rigid planning and the fact that he was loading the plan with matters which sometimes did not have to be taken care of immediately.

Something close to ideal conditions were required for fulfilling the inflexible, overloaded plan, and it did not take into account unexpected developments, which are characteristic of life on board a ship.

When he understood this, Captain 2nd Rank L. Goloveshkin began to allow extra time for handling unforeseen developments, to conceive ways to alter the sequence of some of the measures and to use the lulls, the so-called "gaps" which occur during the day, for handling minor matters not of an urgent nature. The more flexible plans could be realistically fulfilled and were well coordinated with the life of the ship. We should not neglect to mention the fact that the captain 2nd rank not only precisely organized his own workday but also saw to it that the officers under him also achieved the same sort of precise and efficient utilization of their work time.

The work can be planned in different ways, of course. This depends upon the kind of people involved and their habits. Some of them prefer to use a throw-away calendar with attachments. Others keep special notebooks, make up work charts and keep records of the work performed each day. Some prefer control sheets.... The important thing is not the specific way in which this work is performed but the real return from the personal plan in that situation in which the officer has to perform his duties.

Our fleet's complex, modern combat equipment, the mastery of which requires a great deal of time and effort, and the multifaceted nature of the officers' service duties force them to constantly accumulate information and to systematize the knowledge they acquire. A considerable amount of service time can be saved by building up a personal library, keeping a workbook and collecting clippings and copies, excerpts from quotations and bibliographic information. It has been calculated, for example, that from 30 to 40 percent of all the work time in today's situation is sometimes spent looking for and selecting information for the job. Approximately the same amount of time can be saved by having one's own reference system.

No sort of methods of scientific organization of labor, even the most refined, will keep the officer from making unproductive use of time, if the established schedule is not maintained in the unit or on the ship. We know that some chiefs will demand strict observance of the regulations by their subordinates, while forgetting or not considering it necessary to give them the opportunity to do so and sometimes placing them into a difficult situation with a profusion of instructions. Any unexpected tasks which intrude into the scheduled work result in unjustifiable disruptions.

Once, on the ship on which Captain 3rd Rank V. Volk serves, I saw the personnel, including the officers, summoned for formations six times in 2 hours. There was no acute need for this. Not only was there no need for it, but the working enthusiasm of the men, who were making intensive preparations for a cruise, was totally destroyed. Something else was also apparent. After these formations it is doubtful that the ship's officers would have any desire to engage seriously and thoroughly in planning their personal work. The day would still develop along unforeseen lines.

I think with gratitude about my former commander, Rear Admiral A. Katyshev, in this respect. He constantly reminded us that the more complicated the organization of the training process, the greater must be the sense of responsibility of each of us and the more strictly demanding we must be of ourselves for the end results of the common labor. While granting a great deal of independence to us staff officers, he constantly monitored our work and assessed it on the basis of actual improvement of the combat training in the unit. In his free time he would willingly share his personal experience in organizing his workday and persistently taught us to check our own work.

Rear Admiral A. Katyshev gave the new officers special, close attention. A successful beginning in the service, he felt, greatly determines its subsequent

development and made it possible to work out a correct work style more rapidly. During this period, so important and full of anxiety for the newcomers, the experienced colleagues and senior comrades must help them to assume a worthy place in the combat collective. The young officer himself also has an obligation to work vigorously. The ship's combat readiness gains a great deal from a joint quest for ways and methods of scientific organization of labor. Today, when the time factor has such a great role in combat, the personnel need to learn by the day and by the hour to conserve and value time, so that this becomes a natural need for the officer in any situation, his tested way of achieving victory.

11499
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SPECIAL TROOPS

TABLE OF CONTENTS: TYL I SNABZHENIYE SOVETSKIKH VOORUZHENNYKH SIL NO 9, SEP 83

Moscow TYL I SNABZHENIYE SOVETSKIKH VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 9, Sep 83
(signed to press 12 Sep 83) p 2

[Text] Contents	Page
The Constitution is Our Law (Lead Articles).....	3
Study, Analyze, Adopt - I. Golushko.....	7
COMBAT, POLITICAL AND SPECIAL TRAINING	
No Proficiency Without Knowledge - G. Ivanchenko.....	12
With Concern for Combat Training Quality - M. Kosyachenko.....	16
The Field: School of Proficiency	
Why Did the Battalion Rear "Get Lost"? - E. Frolenkov.....	19
Constant Combat Readiness	
In Isolation from the Main Body - B. Stoyanov.....	23
Even the Cook Needs Staunchness - N. Zinchenko.....	26
When There is Communications We Too are Honored - E. Rustamov.....	27
It was in the War Years	
Before the Jassy-Kishinev Operation - G. Yudin.....	28
Our Contribution to the Food Program	
Initiators Means Right-Flankers - K. Semenov and Ye. Bulakevich.....	30
Labor is Repaid a Hundredfold - Ye. Chinin.....	32
LOGISTICAL AND MEDICAL SUPPORT, FINANCING, LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE TROOPS	
Thrift is Not Only an Economic Category - V. Dutov.....	33
Operating Using One's Own Resources - V. Ryakhin.....	39
Preventing Diabetes - M. Ignat'yev.....	42
Personal Honesty and Strict Supervision - V. Syshchenko.....	44

	Page
Food Service Day in the Unit - M. Rakov.....	47
Conference on Meals - S. Dik.....	50
Consultations, Advice, Recommendations	
The Guilty Party Compensates for Damage - V. Koshkin.....	51
Field Living	
A Bathhouse under All Conditions - V. Korochentsev.....	54
For You Cooks	
Preserving Vegetables.....	56
LINES OF COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORT, DELIVERY, TECHNICAL SUPPORT	
Directions in Development of Program Support for the ASU [Automated Control System] - L. Andreyev and A. Kovtun.....	57
A Wooden Bridge in Compressed Time Periods - A. Volkov.....	60
Before It Thunders... - V. Kolbenkov.....	63
How do We Safeguard Equipment? - V. Demchenko, A. Il'in and A. Pomoz.....	66
What's New in Administrative Legislation on Violation of Traffic Rules - V. Yeremeyev.....	68
At the Readers' Request	
Brakes of the KamAZ [Kama Motor Vehicle Plant] Vehicles - N. Pan'kov.....	70
At the USSR VDNKh [Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy	
How to Preserve Young Stock - V. Portnov.....	73
LETTERS TO THE EDITORS	
Whose Responsibilities are These? - A. Duzhik; Convenient and Advantageous - D. Man'ko; Show Common Concern - V. Sobolev.....	75
An "Unlucky Strip" on the Take-Off Strip - Yu. Pavlov.....	76
Chronicle.....	78
Cartoons.....	79
The Journal Spoke Out and What was Done?.....	80

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DOSAAF

BASIC MILITARY TRAINING AT VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL INSTITUTES

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 7 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by V. Sayushev, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education: "For Labor and Defense of the Homeland"]

[Text] The new school year in the vocational and technical education system is beginning in an atmosphere of political and labor enthusiasm resulting from the decisions of the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee plenum. The party's attention to the problems of further improving vocational and technical education in the country and of the education of young people has prompted a fervent response in the collectives of vocational and technical schools. All the workers in our system have much to do during the new school year in order to fulfill the tasks of the party and further improve the quality of preparation of the new generation of workers for labor and defense of the homeland.

Primary military training of students is being conducted in the country's vocational and technical educational institutions for the fifteenth year. Valuable experience has been acquired. Under the leadership of party and soviet organs, the workers in our system are on the whole successfully organizing primary military training in conjunction with the detachments for military training of civilians in the military districts, the military commissariats, DOSAAF committees and civil defense staffs.

The military instructor's range of duties is broad and his activities are diverse. He must combine deep military knowledge with knowledge of the basics of teaching and psychology, methodological skill, and the ability to find the key to the heart of the young person. And it is no accident that in the many thousand strong ranks of military instructors in vocational and technical schools, most are reserve or retired officers, communists and people with great life experience, who are prepared to devote all their efforts to the education of the younger generation.

Yu. V. Andropov stated at a recent meeting with old Bolsheviks in the CPSU Central Committee offices that: "A tremendous service of our veterans to the party and people is their preparation of a worthy new generation for us." These words apply fully to many military instructors in vocational and technical schools. Those who participated in the Great Patriotic War, who know the true value of military feats and labor, enjoy special respect. Their words are especially weighty and authoritative to the young people. Through personal

example they teach their pupils an active stance toward life, the ability firmly to defend their convictions, industry, modesty and spiritual generosity.

Many military instructors are successfully fulfilling their duties, are organizing and conducting their lessons at the required methodological level, and are ably combining training and moral educational work. I would especially like to mention military instructors L. Yakovlev and I. Lipchuk (Moscow), G. Balashov (Vologda), G. Lushin (Gorkiy), Ye. Mel'nikov (Leningrad), V. Artem'yev (Verkhnyaya Pyshma), M. Trofimchuk (Baranovichi), I. Boyko (Kishinev) and V. Agagobyana (Yerevan).

Unfortunately, in many places such results are still not being achieved. Frequently one sees examples of students' poor success in primary military training and weak practical training. As a rule these result from poor methodological preparation of military instructors, their insufficient self-expectations, and inability to clearly organize the training and educational process.

For example, at inspections during the past school year in a number of vocational and technical schools in the Khabarovskiy Kray and Zaporozhye Oblast, some students displayed unsatisfactory knowledge and skills in firing, tactical and drill training. V. Pogodin, military instructor at the 12th School in Sakhalin Oblast turned the lesson on firing into a film class. V. Suzdalev, military instructor at the 27th School in Brest, conducted the practical civil defense lesson as a lecture. I. Korobov, military instructor at the 5th School in Krasnodarskiy Kray could not personally demonstrate how to accomplish drill commands during drill and ceremonies training.

It is difficult to carry out lessons at a high methodological level without a strong training material base. A great deal has been done to create and improve the primary military training base within the country's system of vocational and technical education. Most schools have military offices, arms rooms, drill training fields and smallbore firing ranges.

This work is conducted effectively in the Ukraine, Belorussia, Latvia, Georgia, and a number of oblasts in the RSFSR, and has markedly improved in Uzbekistan.

Today the training base in most vocational and technical schools supports conducting the total program of primary military training. At the same time there are also many shortcomings. For example, smallbore firing ranges are being set up extremely slowly in schools in Armenia and Kirghizia.

Some schools are not devoting enough attention to providing drill fields and training areas, or to studying the duties of sentries and orderlies, although land and specialized equipment are not required for the latter. Not all schools are completely equipped with training weapons or radiation and chemical reconnaissance instruments, which lowers the quality of exercises.

Primary military training inspectors from state committees of vocational and technical education must record the name of all such schools and see they are provided the necessary TOE equipment. More attention should be paid to

improving efficiency, encouraging in every way possible the initiative of military instructors, industrial training experts and students, and more actively implementing the experience of the best military instructors.

It is necessary to ensure that new schools being constructed have complete complexes for primary military training, as provided for in the model designs.

Over the past years vocational and technical education organs have become better qualified to supervise primary military training in the vocational and technical schools. However, the level of this work must be persistently improved and formalism and red tape eliminated. Some military instructors lack teaching experience. This necessitates constant, painstaking organizational efforts to improve their qualifications.

Plans provide numerous measures for training military instructors: annual five day meetings at military commissariats, three day seminars at vocational and technical educational organs, and one-day exercises in rayon (city) military commissariats. In all, up to 18 days per year are devoted to methodological training of military instructors; however, this time is still not always used productively.

Methodological work is also carried out in the vocational and technical schools themselves. In most, unified methodological subject area committees have been created for primary military training, physical education and medical and first-aid training. Participation in their activities helps military instructors raise the ideological level of their lessons, improve teaching skills, and coordinate the training and education of future soldiers. Such committees must operate in each school.

The students' military-patriotic education is closely linked to their primary military training. Fulfilling the requirement of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree on the further improvement of vocational and technical training and moral education of students in the system of vocational and technical education, school pedagogical collectives, especially military instructors, are striving to effectively combine training with the moral education of the future defenders of the homeland.

The komsomol military sports game, Orlenok, is the connecting link between school and extracurricular efforts in military-patriotic education. Its program helps educate students in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and internationalism, improve the effectiveness of primary military training, and strengthen overall discipline in the schools.

RSFSR vocational and technical schools constantly achieve the best indices in the organization and conduct of the military sports game. The young army troops from vocational and technical school detachments in the Vologod, Gorkiy, Ivanovsk, Kemerov, Leningrad, Rostov, Sverdlovsk, Tula, Penzen, Moscow, and Yaroslav oblasts, the Kabardino-Balkar ASSR, and Moscow City take part in all all-union Orlenok finals. No school from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Tajikistan or Latvia has ever succeeded in reaching the main final of the game. This is mostly due to inadequacies in the work of primary military training inspectors

of vocational and technical education organs, and of the schools' military instructors.

Last year the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education instituted a weekly "Young Army Troops Day." Unfortunately it is still being poorly implemented. Checking the schools in the Belorussian SSR indicates that no mass defense work is being conducted during these days. Operations "Sniper," "Dolphin," and "Defense," which are envisioned by the program, are not being developed in many places.

It is necessary for the inspectors and specialists in primary military training of the vocational and technical education organs to monitor the organization of the Orlenok game. "Young Army Troops Day" must become mandatory in all vocational and technical schools. Final competitions of the Orlenok game program must be conducted annually in the schools. They must be combined with the primary military training sports holiday finals.

The roles of the rooms and museums of revolutionary, military and labor glory in military-patriotic education are ever increasing. Approximately 60 percent of the vocational and technical schools have them. It is necessary to continue to create and improve them, and more vividly propagandize the revolutionary, military and labor traditions of the Soviet working class, production and educational collectives, former pupils of vocational and technical schools who have demonstrated military and labor prowess, and our glorious veterans.

The role of the Defense Society in military-patriotic work with students is great. Our school system has more than 4 million DOSAAF members who are united in more than 7,000 primary organizations. Technical associations and sports sections operate with assistance from DOSAAF committees, which are frequently headed by military instructors.

However, some places still do not pay necessary attention to expanding the network of associations and developing technical and military related sports. It is necessary better to satisfy students' desires to engage in parachute, motorcycle, aircraft modeling and marksmanship sports. All students must be involved in mass defense work and special attention should be paid to teaching young people to shoot and drive a truck or motorcycle. A recent joint decree of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education and the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee is also aimed at this.

To bring reserves into operation and better use the opportunities we have today to improve the quality of primary military training and military-patriotic education of our future soldiers -- this is the duty of the administrators, military instructors and DOSAAF activists of all vocational and technical schools in the country.

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DOSAAF

PILOT TRAINING FOR WOMEN

Opportunities Currently Limited

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 26 Jun 83 p 3

[Article by M. Kirsanova, USSR minister of Sports, international class: "How A Woman Becomes a Pilot"]

[Text] I have a certain old debt to pay. Sometime ago, I could not find the time to answer all of the letters from girls asking me the same question: "How do I become a pilot?" At that time, this question did not seem to be a problem.

Many remarkable postwar-generation woman pilots worked side by side with me in our defense society. These were energetic and competent instructors, diligent and happy people. Only a person who is in love with the sky can teach others to fly, to fly dependably, confidently and beautifully. These qualities were possessed by our famous world record holders, who conquered the frontiers of altitude and speed in jet airplanes--Natal'ya Prokhanova, Lidiya Zaytseva, Marina Solov'yeva and Yevgeniya Martova. The last is still working as an Aeroflot pilot.

The defense society has also opened the road to the sky to today's woman pilots: L-29 jet training instructor Veselova, and subunit navigator of the Volchansk DOSAAF Aviation School for Pilots Larisa Ignatova, who also flies an L-29. She has been teaching the young for over 12 years. Such wise and kind flight instructors!

How did these girls get into aviation? In some cases it was hard. Larisa Igantova dreamed about flying machines from early childhood. This was despite the fact that there were no aviators in her family. Moreover, she never even heard the whistle of a steam locomotive in the village in which she grew up--in Tikhoretskiy Rayon, Krasnodar Kray. In 1959 her family moved to the outskirts of Makhachkala, near the airport. There, as a school child Larisa watched the parachutists jump. As a young girl of 12 years, when her mother would send her to the market, she would run to the edge of the airport and sit, sit, forgetting about her purchases, about everything else on earth. At 14 she asked to be admitted to the aeroclub. She was told to come back when she received her passport. One can imagine her impatience with which she awaited this day! When the new document arrived, she immediately ran to the aeroclub.

But they did not wish to accept her. They said that she had come too early: Wait until you turn 18. But later on, they took her anyway. And she became a sportswoman-parachutist.

Larisa made over 40 jumps. A year later, when the Makhachkala aviation sports club was formed, Larisa Ignatova transferred to the flight department.

In the second year of her training Larisa was already participating in competitions in airplane sports. She even got involved in aerobatics. And of course, she had but one dream: She wanted to become an instructor pilot!

Her mother tried to persuade her to give up flying, and she even asked the doctors to bar her daughter from flying. The young girl had to endure many difficult moments. But she would not retreat. In 1965, after zonal and all-union competitions in aerobatics, she earned the title of USSR master of sports. In 1966 she traveled on her own to the flight school in Kaluga, where she was accepted on probation; however, she was placed in the parachute department.

Soon after, the chief of the school came to realize that even Ignatova's questionnaire data showed her to be better suited to the airplane department. Larisa was transferred. So it was that she started flying L-29s.

Since 1968 Ignatova has been working at the Volchansk Aviation School for Pilots, which trains instructors of DOSAAF aviation. Her work is remarkable, and she devotes all of the strength of her soul and her now-rich flying and teaching experience to her beloved job.

They started out becoming pilots as young girls. Through their abilities, their piloting technique and their outstanding mastery of flight training methods, throughout all of the postwar years many of our women or, more precisely, all who had graduated from a DOSAAF flight school have demonstrated in practice that modern aviation equipment is dependable and easy to control, and that the work of teaching the growing generation how to use this equipment is fully within the capabilities of women! As is often said by Svetlana Savitskaya, a graduate of the defense society, a Hero of the Soviet Union and a pilot-cosmonaut, this is "a real job." And I think Lidiya Leonova, a distinguished master of sports and the absolute world champion in aerobatics, was right when she said to me:

"A woman's profession is one which is closest to the soul. There can be neither a good weaver nor a good sales clerk without love for one's work!"

But as we know, when the Volchansk DOSAAF Aviation School for Pilots first opened its doors, it would not accept young girls. However, besides Ignatova, Raisa Demidova also worked as an instructor there from the very beginning. She also flies the L-29.

Recently we learned from the press that world records were made by two instructor-pilots of the DOSAAF aeroclub in Yegoryevsk, Tat'yana Zuyeva and Nadezhda

Yeremina. Both are international class masters of sports. And both are outstanding educators who are good at teaching young people to fly.

I believe that the road to the pilot profession which we travel will continue to be wide open to Soviet girls who have selected the labor of an aviator as the most important thing in their lives.

From the Editor: The author raises an important question troubling many girls: How do they become pilots? We report that in April of this year the Bureau of the Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee adopted a resolution to provide, beginning in 1983, for special enrollment of 15 women in the Volchansk DOSAAF Aviation School for Pilots. Ten of them will fly light airplanes, and five will fly helicopters.

One of the important requirements is that the applicant must have clocked not less than 100 hours in an airplane or helicopter. The age of new students must be from 17 to 21 years as of the first of September, while as an exception, masters of sports may be up to 23 years old.

In 3 years, women will undergo a complete training course, and they will be sent to DOSAAF training organizations as instructor pilots.

Improved Prospects Applauded

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 26 Oct 83 p 3

[Article by USSR Master of Sports Ye. Grushina: "The Sky Beckoned"]

[Text] It was with great interest that I read the article by International Class Master of Sports M. Kirsanova "How a Woman Becomes a Pilot," published in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 26 June of this year. I agree with the author that young girls have demonstrated many times, both in the harsh years of war and in the days of peace, that they can be good pilots.

Let me tell my story and the story of my friends. In 1955 I graduated from the DOSAAF Central Combined Technical Flight School and took a job as an instructor pilot. In 1963, for the first time in the history of our airplane sports, young woman pilots convened for rallies at the USSR Central Aeroclub imeni V. P. Chkalov on the initiative of Hero of the Soviet Union A. Pakhomov. During these rallies they learned aerobatic maneuvers.

Thirty sportswomen from different aeroclubs of the country were invited. Only a few of them were as myself, instructor pilots. Most of them were sportswomen who had clocked less than a hundred hours.

The rallies were conducted under the leadership of detachment commander A. Semenov. We were taught aerobatic maneuvers by instructor pilots S. Zhuchkov,

M. Kirsanova, D. Klimov and D. Teregulov. I ended up in M. Kirsanova's group. She taught us by an accelerated method.

Today's sportsmen are probably unable to imagine how much we were able to learn in just a month.

For example I began to orient myself in the air in an entirely different way, as if I were flying for the first time. The sensation appeared that I could learn everything, that I would be able to perform the most complex maneuver. As a result of such training, our young girls achieved a great deal in flying and in sports within the very first 2 years.

Later on, almost all of us retrained to fly MIG-15 and MIG-17 jets. Our pilots Natal'ya Prokhanova, Yevgeniya Martova, Marina Solov'yeva and Lidiya Zaytseva became world record holders flying high-speed jets. And all of them did so within a single year. That is what aerobatics and its influence upon the piloting quality of any pilot mean.

I was immediately invited to join a composite aerobatic team, and in the 1966 world championships I was a prizewinner in one of the most difficult exercises.

Owing to my serious training, I became commander of a subunit of the Central Aeroclub. We were followed in aerobatics by Lidiya Leonova, Lyudmila Mochalina and Svetlana Savitskaya. Their successes are also doubtlessly the result of the substantial flight training which they received as sportswomen-pilots of the defense society in the 1960s.

Today, hundreds of young girls are involved in aviation forms of sports. The editor reported in a comment accompanying the article "How a Woman Becomes a Pilot" that a decision has been made to provide for a special enrollment of women into the Volchansk DOSAAF School for Pilots. The best of luck to them!

11004

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

MOTHER REBUKED FOR SUBMITTING GROUNDLESS COMPLAINTS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Lt Col A. Alyab'yev, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "The Decision was Just"]

[Text] "Your help is needed. An objective, impartial examination is needed: My son Mikhail Koval'chuk was unlawfully expelled from his last year at the military school. No matter where I turn, all I encounter is indifference..."

(From a letter written by L. Koval'chuk)

That is what was said in the letter delivered to the newspaper office. And later on, you yourself, Lyudmila Mikhaylovna, came to the newspaper office as well. Our talk was not one of the easy ones. You were highly resolute, and you let this be known immediately: You had barely walked into the office when you declared your readiness to assist in all possible ways in the punishment of several superiors who had supposedly been to blame for the misadventures of your son. I asked you to calm down, to try to piece things out completely, and not to make hasty conclusions. You stood your ground, accusing one and all of callousness, of ignoring justice and the law.

But Lyudmila Mikhaylovna, things were not at all this way. Your son was expelled from school for fully just reasons. Officials acted in strict compliance with the law and the manual, and their actions were guided primarily by the interests of their objective--that of training professionally and morally mature officers. You feel that it was such an inconsequential thing that he did, bringing vodka to the school. Yes he did bring it, which you did not deny, but you also asserted that he simply could not have drunk it, because at home, he had never consumed anything but table wine.

But he did "consume," committing a gross violation of military discipline. And incidentally, this was not his first.

Not once did you doubt the correctness and propriety of your son's behavior, even though the facts attested to the reverse. You perceived them in some sort of distorted form. Distorted in such a way that the acts of your son appeared to be an innocent prank of a child, and you viewed your own position as one of a champion of justice.

Readers often write the newspaper office. They write for various reasons. Sometimes in our attempt to get help to someone more quickly, we set aside other matters, often very urgent as well.

Your letter, Lyudmila Mikhaylovna, was one such item that compelled me to take to the road with a sense of urgency. I could not do otherwise--the fate of an individual was in the balance. And I must frankly say to you that I was fully persuaded of the justice of the command's decision. A person without a strong moral core cannot be an officer.

A prisoner of maternal feelings and emotions, you demand justice in a form that is to your liking. And I am sure that your decision to write me was arrived at without really thinking things out.

Why did I decide to reply to you in the newspaper? You left my office firmly convinced that an injustice had been committed. Moreover you carried away, it seemed to me, the conviction that justice was not to be found. It is also important to continue the discussion on this topic because we often encounter situations such as this. And these situations are not as harmless as it may appear at first glance. I recall the time an acquaintance of mine sat down and began to write a complaint to the district troop commander because his superior had reprimanded him for mistakes in his work. Then he suddenly decided to take the same matter up in the defense minister's reception room.

True, all of these actions are within his rights. But the grounds are so trifling. As it turned out later, this person could have eliminated the friction simply by talking with his superior, explaining his grievances and then listening out his superior.

We have become accustomed to constantly sensing the attention and concern of the party and state toward us. We know that no proposal or remark, and no complaint will remain without attention. And therefore we must be especially careful, even-handed and self-critical when evaluating the most diverse incidents of our lives.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

CADETS CRITICIZED FOR DECEIVING YOUNG WOMAN

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Capt 3d Rank A. Tkachev: "Vulgarity to Music"]

[Text] After I read this letter my first impulse was to forward it for action. But then a question came to my mind that stayed my hand: What exactly could the authorities do in response to Viktoriya Melamud's letter? She was not out to punish anyone. She wrote the letter not so much for herself, because of the insult and disappointment she herself had endured, as in behalf of those young people who had strayed to the wrong road.

Persuaded by enthusiastic reports from her friends about the Saturday night dances at a certain higher naval school, Viktoriya decided to attend one such dance. She was having a wonderful time until Cadet Sergey, who was acting as her escort, suggested to her (as a sign of acceptance!) that she might find a certain "little circus" entertaining. This "circus of the informed" was being played out right here, inside the school's club: A group of cadets conspired to select that visitor who in their opinion was the least attractive, the so-called anti-belle of the ball. A cadet who had lost the draw was "assigned" to this unsuspecting pawn of an unenviable fate. This cadet was obliged to lavish praises upon his partner, to the delight of his buddies, who took pleasure in exchanging observations, just among themselves, about the twists and turns of this feigned love affair. Such was the gist of the "performance." And Sergey explained the meaning behind it: "It's enough fun to last us an entire week."

It took Viktoriya several days to get over what she had heard and seen. She vented her feelings in a letter to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, which ended with a request to recall to the cadets that a person in uniform is not only an embodiment of military valor, but that he is also, and in particular, an embodiment of a chivalrous and noble attitude toward Woman. "Did the young men who find joy in such unworthy behavior think about this?" she wrote.

She did not name names, and there are probably more Sergeys in each year class than you can count on your fingers. Who was the school command to single out, shame and educate?

I think that the problem lies not with individuals. In this case moral assessment of the fact in the public eye and clarification of the meaning

behind it would be more useful than any administrative measures. If we think about it, a spoiled evening is not at all the subject of Viktoriya's letter. Its pathos lies in a concern for those young people, few in number I am sure, whose immediate future is associated with the navy, with service aboard ship but whose moral preparedness for this walk of life is needy of improvement.

This is so because an officer's work requires moral maturity and moral beauty. Knowledge is not all that school graduates need! Service and the sea require from all a faithfulness in friendship, and strictness and honesty in every step and word. They also require a clear faith in the woman who waits on shore, and such faith can come from nowhere but one's own soul. And can we allow for even a moment that a person would behave in one way in one situation and in another way in another? The soul cannot be split.

True, we sometimes encounter people in military service who have taken the wrong road. How and where did their moral decay begin? Were we to analyze this question attentively, we would find that this decay sprang forth from some moral dislocation that was not corrected in time, from certain feelings that had not been eradicated like weeds by the fire of shame and criticism.

This is why Viktoriya Melamud's letter compels us to ask: What sort of qualities are the cadets about which she writes cultivating in their tight little circle? Were we to give these things names, we could use the terms baseness, cynicism and low-brow humor bordering on mockery.

No one disputes the right of young people to laugh, to joke, to have fun. But at any age, the individual must make sure that laughter brings joy and not insult, that the joke is good and the fun is clean.

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