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A meeting of the chairman of the union republic CC DOSAAF, and of the kray and oblast society committees was held. Its participants heard and discussed the report by first deputy chairman of CC DOSAAF USSR Col Gen A. Odintsov "Summing Up the Work of DOSAAF Organizations in 1977 and the Tasks for 1978."

At the conclusion of the meeting, Thrice Hero of the Soviet Union Marshal A. Pokryshkin, chairman of CC DOSAAF USSR, gave a speech.

Taking part in the work of the meeting was deputy chief of a section of the CC CPSU V. Lepeshkin.

The speaker noted that for DOSAAF 1977 was a year of further improvement in the mass defense, military-patriotic, and training and sports work, a year of a struggle to increase its quality and effectiveness. With great enthusiasm millions of members of the Defense Society approved the high evaluation of DOSAAF activities presented in the speech by Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CC CPSU and USSR minister of defense, at a festive meeting dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. This charges us to more actively struggle to achieve new, higher goals in mass defense work.

The socialist competition which was held for a fitting greeting to the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces had a fruitful effect on raising the level of activities of DOSAAF organizations. The overwhelming majority of organizations
fulfilled their socialist pledges. According to the results of the competition in 1977 best results were achieved by the DOSAAF organizations of the Belorussian, Ukrainian, Armenian, Georgian and Uzbek SSR; by the cities of Moscow and Leningrad, by the Tatar and Bashkir ASSR, by Moskovskaya, Omskaya Tul'skaya, Volgogradskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Rostovskaya, Gor'kovskaya, Penzenskaya, Ryazanskaya and Saratovskaya oblasts, and by Khabarovskiy Kray.

But, the results of the work accomplished in 1977 give witness to the fact that not all republic, kray, and oblast defense organizations fully utilized extra capabilities to achieve successes in the accomplishment of planning tasks and pledges. For a number of years, DOSAAF organizations in the Tadzhik SSR, Yakut and Tuva ASSR, and in Arkhangel'skaya, Kostromskaya, and Pskovskaya oblasts have fallen behind. There are many organizations which satisfy themselves with average results and who are marking time. Included in this list are the DOSAAF organizations of the Udmurt ASSR, and Vologodskaya, Kurganskaya, and Kurskaya oblasts.

Further, the speaker covered in detail positive moments and deficiencies in the basic developments in DOSAAF organizational activities in 1977 and analyzed the state of fulfillment of the decisions of the Defense Society's 8th All-Union Congress.

Also speaking at the meeting were Hero of the Soviet Union Col Gen of Aviation S. Kharlamov, deputy chairman of CC DOSAAF USSR Maj Gen-Engineer V. Zemlyannikov, B. Morozov, chief of a directorate in the CC DOSAAF, Hero of the Soviet Union Maj Gen K. Usenbekov, chairman of the Kirgiz SSR CC DOSAAF, and the chairman of the Novgorod and Kaluga DOSAAF obkoms Yu. Reyter and I. Kozlov.

B. Yershov, chairman of the Ryazin' DOSAAF obkom devoted his speech to accomplishment of an integrated approach to organization of the military-patriotic indoctrination of the members of the Defense Society. He noted that in this regard a great deal of experience has been accumulated by the DOSAAF committees of the Moskovskiy and Sovetskiy regions of the city of Ryazan' and in Spasskiy and Shilovskiy rayons. In accordance with the CC CPSU decree on a comprehensive solution of the questions involving ideological-indoctrinal work accomplished by the Orsk gorkom of the CPSU, these DOSAAF raykoms guided by party organs and in conjunction with trade union, Komsomol, and other social organizations are compiling specific plans which envision combining into an integrated process the patriotic indoctrination and broad propaganda of military-technical knowledge and the training of youth in the foundations of military affairs.
G. Shakirov, chairman of the Tatar SSR obkom, spoke about accomplishment of the decisions of the 8th DOSAAF Congress on strengthening the guidance of rural defense collectives. He showed, using specific examples, how important it is to have constant concern for the organizational strengthening also of the training facilities within kolkhoz and sovkhoz primary organizations. The DOSAAF and Komsomol obkoms as well as the Ministry of Agriculture in the republic are now conducting a competitive review to choose the best rural primary organization. The DOSAAF obkom continually works to ensure that large industrial organizations, schools, and STK [sports and technical clubs] sponsor kolkhoz and sovkhoz primary organizations in an active manner rather than doing so formally.

R. Zhal'nerauskas, chairman of the Lithuanian SSR CC DOSAAF, shared his knowhow in setting up the physical plants in schools which will respond to modern demands.

The speech by V. Zhmurko, chairman of the Khabarovsk kraykom of the Defense Society, contains some interesting thoughts and specific propositions. He discussed progress in training technical specialists for the national economy. The plan here is to train 110,000 specialists during the Tenth-Five Year Plan. They have already trained 45,000 specialists in two years in the schools and STK. The DOSAAF kraykom concerns itself with training specialists in mass scale professions in the regions where the BAM [Baykal-Amur Mainline] is being constructed.

A. Pokryshkin, chairman of the CC DOSAAF USSR, summing up the meeting concentrated the attention of the participants on a further improvement in the effectiveness and quality of the work devoted to accomplishing the tasks set forth by the CC CPSU and the Soviet government.

"We must look upon our indicators as a degree of further movement forward," emphasized A. Pokryshkin. "We must concentrate our main attention on unsolved problems from the position of the requirements of the December (1977) CC CPSU Plenum to bring to light the reasons for deficiencies and to mark the ways to overcome them."

Last year, the jubilee year, more than 5 million people joined the society and, at the present time, its ranks contain 86 million workers who are joined together into 332,000 primary organizations. Guided by party organs, DOSAAF organizations along with Komsomol and trade union organizations are constantly carrying on the military-patriotic indoctrination of workers and youths.
However, it should be underscored that the tasks of converting all primary organizations into a center of mass-scale defense work has still not been solved. Many of them, especially the rural ones, still do not meet the demands laid down in the CC CPSU and USSR Council of Ministers decree dated 7 May 1966 and the decisions of the 8th DOSAAF All-Union Congress. Several obkoms, kraykoms, and the CC DOSAAF of union republics still exercise weak control over primary organizations. They simply state the importance of the tasks, but in fact are content with letting the raykoms ignore this important element of their activities.

Further, the chairman of CC DOSAAF USSR spoke in detail on the fact that one of the most important tasks of the leaders of the Defense Society committees is to continue to knowledgeably work towards improving the quality of training and indoctrination in the schools and to improve the activities of the STK. The level of training of technical specialists for the armed forces and the national economy depends on the material support provided in the training process and on the methodological mastery of the teachers and the masters of production training. We must keep this in mind because, in a number of oblast organizations, the physical plant still does not meet contemporary requirements. Having noted the achievements in development of military-technical types of sports, A. Pokryshkin analyzed the reasons for the deficiencies and pointed out what needed to be done so that all types of military-technical sports occupy their rightful place in the training of workers for labor and defense of the fatherland and in the organization of the population's leisure time.

A great role in the solution of problems involving the further improvement in the effectiveness and quality of mass-scale defense work falls to the Leninist Komsomol. Experience shows, Comrade Pokryshkin pointed out, that, in those areas where DOSAAF committees have close working contacts with Komsomol organizations and provide them assistance, problems involving the military-patriotic indoctrination of youth are successfully solved. Preparing for the 18th Komsomol Congress and the 60th anniversary of the Komsomol, the Defense Society's committees must accomplish specific measures directed towards a worthy reception for these important events in the life of Soviet youth.

In the conclusion of the speech, the chairman of CC DOSAAF USSR emphasized the exceptionally important significance of improving the work style of the Defense Society's work committees. He cited the words of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 25th CPSU Congress that the Leninist style of work is a work style that is creative, that is the anathema
of subjectivism, a style replete with a scientific approach to all social processes. He emphasizes demandingness upon oneself and upon others, rules out self-satisfaction, and opposes any manifestation of bureaucratism and formalism.

We must be strictly guided by these requirements.

1978 must be a year of shock labor for all of the organizations in the Defense Society. DOSAAF organizations took on high socialist pledges in response to the Letter of the CC CPSU, USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and Komsomol CC. We must comprehensively put to use the mobilizing force of socialist competition.

Organizational meetings were held by the CC DOSAAF USSR permanent commissions, which approved the plans for their work for 1978.

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Methodological-training meetings organized by the central, kray, and oblast DOSAAF committees have inestimable significance in improving the training process, improving the quality of how all types of lessons are conducted, and improving the knowledge of teachers and masters in the indoctrination of students in the generalization of knowhow in training and indoctrinational work in the introduction of progressive methods.

Practice shows that, after the program has been approved, special attention must be placed on the selection of the training organizations where the meetings will be held. Training organizations must primarily have available to them working conditions which will support a high quality of planned lessons. To accomplish this, they usually choose schools that have a modern physical plant, where the classes and laboratories are equipped in full accordance with the requirements for organization of training and indoctrinational work in DOSAAF schools.

Having determined two or three such schools, it is advisable to begin selection of the lesson leaders without losing any time. As a rule, experienced chiefs of training organizations, teachers, and masters are chosen. However, the matter does not end here. As preparations are made for the methodological-training meetings, it is necessary to systematically monitor the training of leaders based on the themes of the planned program, and to provide them with methodological instructions. And, approximately a week prior to the meetings, exams should be given.
In our view such preparations ensure that the lessons and planned measures will be conducted in a quality manner. The positive experience in carrying out methodological-training meetings in the Ukraine, in Lithuania, and in Lostovskaya Oblast give witness to this.

But, unfortunately, such an approach to the organization of methodological-training meetings is not taken everywhere. The entire complement of teachers and masters is not drawn into this preparation. The physical plant is set up in a hurry. Some of the lessons are not always conducted in an interesting and useful manner and do not meet their goals. Local capabilities are insufficiently put to use: museums, exhibits, no meetings are organized to visit military units and enterprises.

In the Yakutsk, Irkutsk and Chita DOSAAF obkoms, the significance of such meetings is underrated and they do not set about training of the tutors in the proper manner. And what is the result? The automobile schools of these committees in October of last year received unsatisfactory evaluations. As we see, there is a direct connection between the organizational work on the part of the Defense Society obkoms, the effectiveness of methodological-training meetings, and the quality of training of future servicemen.

There also are those committees where at first glance they prepare in a comprehensive manner to carry on methodological-training meetings. They compile broad plans and envision good measures. However, monitoring the execution of these plans is not followed up, causing corrections to be made in progress and changes made in the plans. As a rule, under such conditions, the meetings go on in an unorganized manner and do not give the desired return.

In the Amursk DOSAAF obkom, for example, the decision was made to hold methodological-training meetings with the teachers and masters at the Belogorsk Technical School and the Svobodnyy Automobile School. But the leaders of the obkom concentrated all their attention on preparation of the Belogorod Technical School and forgot all about the Svobodnyy Automobile School. When the meetings began and the participants arrived at Svobodnyy, it turned out that capital repairs were underway and there was nothing that could be accomplished there. Thus, due to these oversights, the good measures intended were not followed through.

Conducting methodological meetings using not one, but two or three, training organizations undoubtedly has its advantages. First, the participants in the meetings have the opportunity
to compare their work and the achievements of the other collectives. Second, the work load on each of the schools is reduced, which allows them to better prepare the lessons.

When the selection is made of the training organizations for holding the meetings, a lead organization is always designated. It usually is a school which has good training facilities, a place where the training and indoctrinational process can conform to all of the methodological ground rules.

For the sake of objectivity it should be pointed out that not everywhere do we find training organizations with the full complex for conducting theoretical, laboratory, and practical exercise, and the training of vehicle drivers. In this case it is advisable to also select schools, one of which has good classes for demonstrating the construction and operation of vehicles, another with classes for laboratory and practical exercises on maintaining vehicles, a third that has a driver's range, and so on.

But there are instances where the lessons with the meeting participants are conducted at training organizations which do not have the necessary conditions to support the training program. There is little use gained from such exercises. The teachers and the masters in the Primorskiy Kray gain very little from the meetings in the Novo-Nikol'skoye Technical School.

They did not cope here with the full program of preparatory work, they did not find well equipped facilities for two classes for laboratory and practical exercises on vehicle maintenance. They were housed under awnings held up by a metal framework. These classes did not meet the requirements called for in the organization of the training and indoctrination process.

It would have been more advisable for that particular training organization to be used as a supplement to another organization which had good classrooms for conducting laboratory and practical lessons. And, there are such schools in the kray, but it is simply that the DOSAAF kraykom did not have enough proficiency to set it up.

However, the success of the meetings greatly depends not only on a well selected training organization but also on the level at which the lessons are conducted.

I observed the following. Meeting participants arrived in the classroom to study the rules of traffic safety. Here, along with road signs and traffic lights, there were mockups
for training in vehicle separation and with the tasks of learning traffic rules. All of this was portrayed on the walls tastefully and appeared rather effective.

The meeting participants were left to their own devices to take notes in their notebooks. No other teachers worked with them, nor explained anything to them. Those taking part simply contemplated the classroom but there was no discussion of the main points in the rules for traffic safety at all.

But, what if there had been a well trained instructor at these lessons? He certainly would have focused the students' attention on the basic requirements laid down for setting up similar classrooms and would have given them a number of useful recommendations and advice.

For example, should mockups of the tasks for reinforcing study of the rules of traffic safety be hung on the walls of the classroom? Practice shows that it is better to position these in the corridors, in those areas where they are more accessible to the students. And, naturally, an experienced lesson director would have evaluated the condition of the classroom but, meeting participants heard nothing about this and learned very little. In order to vitalize the meetings and improve the physical plant, several committees annually change the locations where the meetings are held. Such a decision is proved out in practice, especially if the physical plants chosen provide for full accomplishment of the meeting objectives.

Unfortunately, such capabilities are not present everywhere. In several obkoms, there is no more than two and in some cases only one training organization. Your selections are limited. What do you do in such a case? The recommendation is for neighboring DOSAAF obkoms to hold the methodological-training meetings jointly. For example, in one committee, meetings with the teachers are arranged, whereas in another there are meetings with the masters of production training, in a third with the masters who do driver training. Such a practice is especially useful when holding meetings with the teachers and instructor staff of the special schools where they train the driver mechanics on automobile cranes, drivers in electromechanics, and so on. Methodological-training meetings are of inestimable value for the pedagogical collectives in the school. They assist teachers and masters to more profoundly understand the tasks of the training organizations and their responsibilities, and they can become more informed on the questions that involve training and indoctrinational work.
As the training progresses, methodological skills are improved, special knowledge is fortified, and the political outlook is broadened. In order for these meetings to be worthwhile and achieve the established goals, they must be carefully prepared for ahead of time.
NEED FOR STRONGER DOSAAF AND KOMSOMOL COOPERATION STRESSED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 22 Mar 78 p 1

[Article: "Shore Up Cooperation"]

[Text] The regular 18th Komsomol Congress opens on 25 April and, on 29 October, our glorious Leninist Young Communist League hails its 60th anniversary. Participation in the preparation for these notable dates in the life of Soviet youth is an important task of the organizations of the Defense Society linked with the many years of friendship and fruitful cooperation with the Komsomol.

Placing great attention on further development of the joint mass military work of the Komsomol and DOSAAF, the Bureau of the Presidium of the CC DOSAAF USSR passed a decree entitled "On Participation of DOSAAF Organizations in Preparations for the 18th Congress and the 60th Anniversary of the Komsomol." The decree emphasizes that, for more than a half century, the Komsomol and DOSAAF have joined together their efforts in work involving military-patriotic indoctrination and military-technical training of youth and together actively trained youth for the defense of the socialist conquests. In the last five years alone, more than 6 million Komsomol members have joined DOSAAF and now more than 30 million Komsomol members are going through the school of courage and patriotism in the Defense Society. Komsomol members head one-third of the DOSAAF organizations. The Komsomol and the Defense Society are the initiators and the soul of the All-Union Youth Trek to places of revolutionary, combat, and labor glory of the Soviet people, the military sports games Zarnitsa and Orlenok, and other mass patriotic movements of Soviet youth.

Joint conduct of military-patriotic measures joins together Komsomol and DOSAAF committees in enterprises, kolkhozes, and educational institutions, and makes it possible to successfully accomplish many of the tasks assigned by the
To the Komsomol and to the Defense Society in the area of ideological indoctrination of youth. An example of friendly joint work is the activities of the DOSAAF and Komsomol committees in the Voronezh Aviation Plant, the Dal'nerechenskiy Rayon of the Primorskiy Kray, the Araratskiy Rayon of the Armenian SSR, Chernigovskaya Oblast, and Stavropol'skiy Kray.

Various measures will be taken by Komsomol and other organizations and departments in the republics and oblasts in connection with preparations for the Komsomol congress and jubilee. The union republic CC DOSAAF, kray, oblast, rayon, and city committees of the Defense Society must accomplish a broad range of mass political and organizational work. They must steadfastly explain the role and significance of the joint work of the Komsomol and the DOSAAF and comprehensively raise the effectiveness and quality of the measures taken for military-patriotic indoctrination of youth and preparing them to defend the socialist fatherland.

Relying upon the high political and labor enthusiasm of the youth elicited by preparations for the Komsomol congress and jubilee, they must see to it that every young person actively participates in DOSAAF work.

DOSAAF committees must continue to expand and strengthen the businesslike mutual activities with Komsomol, trade unions, and other organizations. The correct approach is being taken in those committees where a competitive inspection, displays, evenings of combat and labor glory, and meetings of youths with the heroes of the Soviet Union and with graduates of the Komsomol, DOSAAF and other mass-scale measures devoted to the Komsomol jubilee are being planned and conducted jointly with Komsomol organizations.

During the period of the month devoted to mass defense work dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, the strength of the ties with the Komsomol and many organizations of the Defense Society of Moscow and Leningrad, Rostovskaya, Novgorodskaya, Chitinskaya, Chernigovskaya, Khar'kovskaya, and Brestskaya oblasts, Stavropol'skiy Kray, and others was affirmed by successful conduct of military-sports games by school kids, spartakiads, and examinations of draft-eligible and drafted youth involving military-technical types of sports, the creation of various clubs and universities of the future soldier, military-patriotic associations, and defense sports rest camps.
DOSAAF committees and training organizations, in close cooperation with Komsomol organs, must steadfastly achieve a further improvement in the ideological content of political and indoctrinational work with draft-eligible and predraft age youth, and propagandize the heroic history of the Leninist Komsomol, the traditions of its participation together with the Defense Society in the training of youth for the defense of the motherland.

Using the example of leading organizations, it is necessary to more fully utilize the capabilities of the technical hobby clubs and sections in order to disseminate military-technical knowledge amongst youth. STK [sports and technical clubs] and DOSAAF training organizations must be attracted to this work in a more active manner. DOSAAF committees must establish special memorial prizes for the victors in sports competitions involving military-technical types of sports which must be devoted to the Komsomol jubilee.

It is recommended that, in September and October in all oblasts, krays, and republics, combined military-sports relay races, which include the elements of military-technical types of sports, be conducted.

On 25 April, the day that the Komsomol congress opens, and on 29 October, the 60th anniversary of the Komsomol, the magazine RADIO and the Central Radio Club imeni Krenkel' will conduct an All-Union Radio Relay Race in the capitals of the union republics, in the hero cities, and in memorial locations linked with the history of the Komsomol.

There are many useful measures and fine beginnings to the credit of DOSAAF and Komsomol collective efforts. However, those DOSAAF committees deserve criticism when they construct their efforts divorced from the tasks solved by Komsomol organizations, and when they half-heartedly draw Komsomol members into the activities of DOSAAF guiding organs.

The key to successful accomplishment of the tasks and the pledges of 1978 lies in the friendly creative work of the Defense Society and the Komsomol. There is no doubt that the Komsomol and DOSAAF, strengthening the traditional businesslike contacts and relying on the help of trade union and other public organizations, will achieve new successes in the development of mass defense work. They will make a fitting contribution to strengthening the defensive might of our socialist fatherland.
DOSAAF SOCIALIST COMPETITION RESULTS IN THE BELORUSSIAN SSR

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 22 Mar 78 p 1

[Interview with V. Savin, chairman of the Belorussian Republic CC DOSAAF conducted by SOVETSKIY PATRIOT's Belorussian correspondent S. Aslezov: "Same Conditions, Different Results." Passage enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The Belorussian SSR CC DOSAAF summed up the jubilee among the oblast organizations of the Defense Society. First place went to the Minskaya Oblast DOSAAF organization, second to the Vitebskaya Oblast organization, and third to the Grodnenskaya Oblast organization. The Gomel'skaya Oblast DOSAAF organization came in last. S. Aslezov, our correspondent in the Belorussian SSR, asked V. Savin, chairman of the republic CC DOSAAF, to comment on the summing up of the competition.

"Last year, the jubilee year," said V. Savin, "we not only maintained first place which we won in 1976 but significantly increased and fortified our earlier achieved successes. Judge for yourself, we won four first places in the various aspects of mass defense and military-patriotic work. Those from Minsk shared a first and a third place with the DOSAAF members from Vitebskaya and Brestskaya oblasts in the training of specialists for the national economy. The secret of the success of the DOSAAF members from Minsk, in my view, lies in the fact that they used the example of the Rostovites to work without any laggards.

"Last year the city and rayon organizations of the Society in Minskaya Oblast to a man fulfilled their planning tasks and the pledges made. Setting the way were the Minsk city,
Oktyabr'skaya, Volozhinskaya, Logoyorskaya, and Pukhovichskaya rayon organizations. Those in Minsk are working this year, the third and decisive year of the five-year plan, with even greater effort. Competitions involving the regular winter Spartakiad and military-technical types of sports is in full gear. Thousands of DOSAAF members desiring to acquire a technical specialty were occupied in schools, STK [sports and technical clubs], and technical hobby groups. More than 83 percent of the oblast workers belong to DOSAAF organizations.

"The Minskaya Oblast organization has successfully accomplished such an important task as the selection and assignment of cadres. An absolute majority of the chairmen of the city and rayon committees for many years have been working in the Defense Society, they know well and they love the job entrusted to them. And this is 50 percent of the job."

"Vitaliy Nikolayevich! Several years ago, the Gomel'skaya Oblast DOSAAF organization maintained its position in the republic as a prize winner. But now, unfortunately, we note a steady tendency for it to "slip" backwards. In 1975 the Gomelites were in third place, in 1976 in fourth place, and last year they fell all the way to last place. Why have the Gomelites lost the position they had previously won? "/

"It's because there is competition to show who's ahead and who lags behind. The conditions in which the Gomel' organization finds itself are approximately the same as those of the DOSAAF members from Minsk. But it shows in the comparison. Prior to summing up to determine the winner, we diligently compared the results of the work and this is what you see. If the Minsk people won four first places in various indicators of mass defense work and other questions, those from Gomel' did not win any. They came in second for the distribution of the DOSAAF lottery ticket. There were extremely few third places. In the main they came in fifth and sixth. True, the Gomel' organization has moved forward a little bit over the year, but the Minsk organization is significantly ahead of it.

"Why did this happen? An analysis of the working style of the Gomel' DOSAAF obkom and raykom shows that their leaders let up in their demandingness upon themselves, and they often replaced organizational activities to accomplish the pledges with general, declarative statements.

"This can be affirmed, for example, by the fact that the obkom often made good decisions concerning the creation of STK in all rayons and in large primary organizations, but they carried through on this task in a completely contrary manner. Stemming from this, those from Gomel' had much lower indicators in military-technical training and sports work."
"Further. If, as I have already said, the Minsk oblast DOSAAF organization correctly in the main accomplished the tasks involving the selection and assignment of cadres, then in Gomel' one notes a turnover of cadres. Last year alone seven leaders in city, rayon, and large primary DOSAAF organizations were replaced. The obkom put weak emphasis on the training and indoctrination of cadres. They did not forthrightly generalize and did not disseminate the know-how of the best chairmen of DOSAAF committees. They often replaced seminar lessons with short meetings at which instructions known to everyone attending were simply passed out.

"The leaders of the Gomel' DOSAAF obkom did not always make the necessary conclusions from the criticism of deficiencies in their activities. In July of last year the Presidium of the republic CC DOSAAF heard a report from chairman of the Gomel' DOSAAF Obkom V. Burmistrov on the guidance of socialist competition. It was noted that the obkom provided weak guidance to the competition. Then, in November of last year, there was a report by P. Malyar, deputy chairman of the obkom for military-technical training and sports.

Special attention was placed on the necessity for providing specific aid to lagging rayon organizations and to improving the publicity and the comparability of competition results. These recommendations still have not been implemented. Moreover, errors and oversights committed in the past are even now continuing to take place. Thus, the Oktyabr'skiy, Zhitkovichskiy, Kormyanskiy, and several other raykoms continue to lag in the accomplishment of socialist pledges.

"The facts show that the reserves and rich capabilities still are not being fully utilized. Critically examining the results of last year, the chairman comrade Burmistrov and all of the workers in the DOSAAF obkom are now concentrating their efforts on the improvement of their organizational activities and are mobilizing the aktiv to eliminate those deficiencies that have come to light. V. Burmistrov in age and in work experience is the youngest DOSAAF obkom chairman in Belorussia. He was elected to this position in the fall of 1976. Also young is A. Rudenkov, the deputy chairman. But, as is known, know-how is an acquired attribute.

"We think that, with the aid of the republic CC DOSAAF, this year the Gomelites will succeed in returning to their lost positions, and, using the know-how of competition victors, will equate themselves to them to achieve higher indicators."
DOSAAF CHIEF ADDRESSES KOMSOMOL CONGRESS

Moscow SOVETSKY PATRIOT in Russian 1 May 78 p 1

[Speech by Mar Avn A. I. Pokryshkin, three times Hero of the Soviet Union and chairman of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF, at the 18th Komsomol Congress: "Raise Patriots of Our Fatherland"]

[Excerpts] On behalf of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF and the millions of members of the All-Union Voluntary Society for Assistance to the Army, Air Force, and Navy I have been commissioned to give a warm combat greeting to the delegates of the Komsomol Congress.

One of the remarkable features of the 18th Komsomol Congress is that it has assembled on the eve of the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol and marks one more impressive page in its heroic history. This Komsomol anniversary is especially near and dear to members of the Defense Society.

The Komsomol and DOSAAF are working together successfully to accomplish the great and important tasks of communist indoctrination of young people and preparing them for armed defense of our fatherland. The Komsomol has always been the heart of the defense society. Today too, roughly 30 million young Komsomol men and women are members of DOSAAF and they constitute its most active force.

Over the years a great deal of experience has been accumulated in working together to mold in young men and women the moral-political and fighting qualities necessary to perform the missions of defending our fatherland. Today we can note with satisfaction that no major military-patriotic activities conducted by Komsomol organizations take place without participation by the Defense Society. And in turn, all initiatives of DOSAAF in the area of military-patriotic indoctrination receive support from the Komsomol.

The all-Union excursion to the sites of revolutionary, combat, and labor glory of the Soviet people is an example of our fruitful creative interaction. It has become a true school of patriotic indoctrination through which tens of millions of young men and women have
passed. For many Komsomol and DOSAAF organizations special weeks and months of mass defense work have been an important means of raising the effectiveness and quality of indoctrination and organizational work among young people.

Defense and sports health camps, contests among draftees based on the GTO [Ready for Labor and Defense] tests, broad ties between DOSAAF training organizations and military units and subunits, and the military sport games Zarnitsa and Orlenok have become established traditions in preparing young recruits for the army and navy.

The Communist Party and Soviet Government have high praise for the combined work of the Komsomol and DOSAAF in preparing young people for service in the Soviet Armed Forces. This praise obligates us to continue improving this activity, give young people thorough explanations of Lenin's ideas, the principles of the USSR Constitution on defense of the socialist fatherland, and the instructions of the CPSU concerning strengthening the country's defense capability, and developing the political and labor activism of young people in carrying out the decisions of the 25th party congress. There is no higher or more honorable mission than to raise loyal sons and daughters of our socialist motherland, people who are ready to come to the defense of the achievements of Great October at any moment!

Cooperation between the Komsomol and DOSAAF is especially important in light of the Communist Party's goal of a comprehensive approach in ideological-political indoctrination of young people. The Komsomol has broad and varied experience and a rich arsenal of forms and methods of ideological conditioning of young people. DOSAAF has established a well-ordered system of military-technical training and built the necessary physical facilities for training and sports. In these conditions it becomes an objective necessity to join the Komsomol and DOSAAF in this work, because this guarantees unity in the military-patriotic indoctrination of young people and in their military-technical training period.

An important problem for DOSAAF today is further improving the quality of preparation of draftee-specialists for the Armed Forces. There are many places where the Komsomol can be helpful here too. Surrounding future fighting men with constant attention, helping them perform their civilian duty better, and seeing that they consistently and thoroughly prepare themselves for their difficult, but important and honorable military labor — this is the noble mission of both DOSAAF and the Komsomol.

The Komsomol and DOSAAF are performing a particularly important job for the Communist Party in the indoctrination of adolescents. They are our future, our hope. It is entirely understandable that we concentrate our efforts on winning the hearts and minds of these young men and women, who dream of romantic achievements and heroic deeds, of becoming leaders in everyday life, and of setting an example for performance of public duty.
A good deal has been done in recent years to involve adolescents in mass military-patriotic and sports activities and technical and artistic creative work. Plans envision a number of major athletic contests for juniors, open contests to pass the standards of the GTO tests, and other activities in which more than 40 million children and adolescents will participate. The network of sports-technical schools, defense-sports labor camps, and other sports and cultural-educational institutions for children and adolescents will expand significantly in 1978-1980.

But all these things are only the first steps toward solving the missions that have been assigned. Our common attention should be focused above all on the general educational schools, secondary specialized schools, and schools of the vocational-technical system, in other words, on those places where the foundations are laid for shaping the moral-political makeup of Soviet citizens, where the inspiration is given to enter a self-reliant working life. I think that it would be useful for the AUCCTU, Komsomol Central Committee, USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, USSR Ministry of Education, USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, and other ministries and departments to review the question of concrete, coordinated steps to improve the work of public organizations at schools and educational institutions and to increase their role in the indoctrination of adolescents.

Significant results can be achieved if we have better coordination of the actions of Komsomol, DOSAAF, and sports organization in work with adolescents at their place of residence. Opportunities to set up military-patriotic lecture bureaus, clubs, and detachments of young friends of the army and navy and to conduct large-scale athletic competition are found everywhere. To introduce these forms of work everywhere we need the creative initiative and seething energy of our young people, their strong desire for action. The Leninist Komsomol has all this. DOSAAF has been and remains its loyal and reliable ally in this work.

The party and government have assigned DOSAAF, together with the Komsomol Central Committee and the AUCCTU, the mission of further development of defense-sports work in the country and involving broad masses of young people in it, achieving new successes and world leadership in the most important types of technical sports. At the present time more than 20 million young men and women are involved in these sports.

Comrades! The new USSR Constitution adopted last year fixed in law the obligations of the state, its armed forces, and all the Soviet people to insure the reliable defense of our socialist fatherland. "Defense of the socialist fatherland is the sacred duty of every USSR citizen" is the way the Basic Law of our country reads. Let the imperialist lovers of risky, unprincipled military adventures know that Soviet people are always ready to carry out this sacred obligation.
MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES IN PRIMARY DOSAAF ORGANIZATIONS EVALUATED

Moscow SOVETSKY PATRIOT in Russian 5 May 78 p 1

[Article: "At the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF — Results of the Report Campaign"]

[Text] The bureau of the presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee has discussed the question "Results of report meetings and conferences in primary DOSAAF organizations and the missions of committees of the Society to fulfill the decisions adopted and respond to proposals and critical comments."

It was observed that the report meetings and conferences held in conformity with the By-Laws of the Defense Society under the direction of party bodies and with active participation by trade unions, the Komsomol, and the other public organizations occurred in the atmosphere of enormous political and labor enthusiasm aroused in the country by preparations for and celebration of the 60th anniversary of Great October and adoption of the new USSR Constitution. This gave the meetings and conferences a practical, organized character. Serious attention was devoted to a discussion of the practical activities of primary organizations in carrying out the 7 May 1966 decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers and the decisions of the 8th All-Union Congress of the Defense Society.

The report meetings and conferences were held at the proper time in a large majority of the primary organizations, 72 percent of the Society members attended them, and about 2 million people spoke.

The reports that were given showed that in the past year primary organizations have become somewhat more active in military-patriotic indoctrination of working people and mass defense, educational, and sports work and that the level of management of DOSAAF collectives by rayon and city committees has risen. The Ukrainian, Belorussian, Armenian, and Uzbek DOSAAF committees and the DOSAAF committees of
the cities of Moscow and Leningrad, the Tatar ASSR, and Tul'skaya, Rostovskaya, and certain other oblasts of the RSFSR stand out as the best.

Primary organizations have continued to grow numerically and become stronger organizationally. By the end of the report campaign their number had increased almost 2,000, reaching a total of 332,000 organizations today which have 86 million members, 66 percent of the working people and students of the country.

At the same time, many substantial shortcomings were seen in the conduct of the report meetings and conferences. Careful preparations were not always made and there were cases where the accountability reports were not ratified at committee session, did not contain proper analysis of work during the period since the 8th All-Union Congress of DOSAAF, and did not set concrete tasks for 1978 and ways to raise the activism of DOSAAF members. There were cases where auditing commissions did not report, meetings were postponed, and violations of the DOSAAF By-Laws were permitted.

The report campaign showed that the level of work of many primary organizations and management of them by certain oblast and kray committees and the Union republic DOSAAF central committees failed to meet present requirements. Some committees still do not give proper attention to strengthening primary organizations, stepping up their activities, and monitoring and checking on fulfillment of decisions on these matters. Concrete steps are not always outlined to eliminate the shortcomings identified and continue improving mass defense work and the selection, placement, training, and indoctrination of chairmen for the committees of primary organizations.

Certain committees did not take timely steps to summarize and respond to critical remarks and suggestions made by members of the Society and to hold seminars and instructional meetings with elected chairmen.

The DOSAAF committees of Vladimirskaya, Vologodskaya, Tyumenskaya, Irkutskaya, and several other oblasts are doing a poor job of managing primary organizations and reorganizing their work in light of the requirements of the 8th All-Union Congress of USSR DOSAAF. They continue to tolerate neglect in the work of many primary collectives and do not show proper concern for providing them with training and sports equipment, weapons, and instructional and graphic aids.

In its decree the bureau of the presidium of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF committed the Union Republic DOSAAF central committees and kray and oblast committees of the Society to take steps to further strengthen primary organizations as the foundation of the Defense Society, to fulfill the decisions of the report meetings and conferences and respond to the suggestions and critical remarks of DOSAAF members completely and at the proper time, and to inform them of progress in this work. The committees will report regularly on
fulfillment of the decisions of the 8th All-Union Congress of the Society and decisions of plenums of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF concerning primary organizations.

It is necessary to insure planned training for cadres and public activists, to improve the quality of seminar classes and instructional meetings with the chairmen of the committees of primary organizations and auditing commissions, and to make wider use of individual instruction, especially with chairmen elected for the first time.

It is suggested that, guided by the Letter of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee entitled "The development of socialist competition to fulfill and overfulfill the plan for 1978 and step up the struggle to raise production efficiency and work quality," the committees continue work to help primary organizations in fomenting socialist competition by every means and in fulfilling obligations assumed. On this basis they must achieve a new surge of mass defense work among the working people and students, an improvement in preparation of young people for service in the Soviet Armed Forces, broad development of military-technical sports, and completion of plan assignments for 1978 well and on time.

The attention of the committees was drawn to the need for systematic summarization and dissemination of the working experience of leading DOSAAF collectives in fulfilling socialist obligations and using the press, radio, and television for this purpose.

The bureau of the presidium demanded that the committees raise the accountability of cadres and public activists for the work of primary organizations and for strict observance of the requirements of the DOSAAF By-Laws. They must strive to see that meetings of DOSAAF members and sessions of the committees are held regularly in a business-like atmosphere with high standards, employing criticism and self-criticism. Collective management must be developed by every means, and we must expand and make fuller use of ties with other public organizations to accomplish the tasks set by the 8th All-Union Congress of DOSAAF.

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ORGANIZATION OF DOSAAF WORK IN LENINGRAD SCHOOLS CRITICIZED

Moscow SOVETSKY PATRIOT in Russian 7 May 78 p 2

[Article by A. Prikhod'ko, chairman of the DOSAAF Committee of the Leningrad Institute of Railroad Transportation Engineers, with commentary by the editors and others: "A Simple Calculation Was Made..."

[Text] For several years now, the report of the chairman of the Leningrad City DOSAAF committee summarizing the results of competition for the year has not mentioned the primary organizations at higher educational institutions, tekhnikums, vocational-technical schools, and general educational schools. Other winners in competition receive challenge banners, diplomas, and certificates, but the hundreds of defense collectives, who are doing very important work with the growing generation, seem to remain on the outside.

The city committee explains these changes by the fact that a competitive inspection for mass defense work is conducted among educational institutions. They simply figured this way: the results of this inspection are entirely adequate to determine the quality of all work by defense collectives. But competitive inspections or measures similar to them were conducted before too; but then the primary organizations and educational institutions of the city were never excluded from the annual results of competition.

How are the results of competitive inspections in Leningrad totaled today? Here is how. By a certain date the primary organizations at schools send the rayon DOSAAF committee a report on work done during the period of the competitive inspection using a set report form. The rayon committee compares them and picks out the best one for each group of collectives. The best reports are then sent to the city DOSAAF committee.

Workers at the city committee have little idea how things are at the other primary organizations. In this way, the activities of many primary organizations at higher educational institutions, activities that might be useful and interesting to other defense collectives, remain generally unknown.
How is the work experience of those primary organizations whose reports were reviewed at the city committee analyzed, summarized, and disseminated? It is not. Here is an example. In 1975, 1976, and 1977 the Mining Institute took first place in the competitive inspections, but the city committee has not told us how the DOSAAF committee there works, what interesting forms and methods they use, what procedures others might borrow from them.

We think it is a shame that the practice followed in earlier years of summarizing the results of the work of primary organizations at higher educational institutions had been forgotten recently. It used to be done. The chairmen of the committees at all institutes would be invited to a seminar at the collective which was recognized at the winner in order to summarize the results of the work of the primary organizations at higher educational institutions. The chairman of the city committee would usually give an analysis of the work. At this seminar the experience of the leaders was generalized and became accessible to everyone. The mistakes of those who were lagging and ways to overcome them would be pointed out.

At the primary organization recognized as best the chairmen would see the graphic agitation materials, physical facilities, and organization of the work with their own eyes. During such summaries of work I visited the Polytechnic, Pedagogical, Electrical Engineering, aviation instrument making, and other institutes. We received visitors at our higher educational institution as well.

Unfortunately, nothing of the sort is done now, even though one of the obligations adopted for 1978 at the most recent plenum of the city committee said: "Summarize the work experience of primary and training organizations and sports clubs of DOSAAF in the city that have achieved high marks in work for the results of socialist competition for 1977. Disseminate this know-how broadly in oral and graphic agitation."

The city organization adopts obligations like that every year, but as already mentioned above, the work results of defense collectives at educational institutions are not reviewed in summarizing the results of socialist competition for the year. Therefore, many large primary organizations in the city are working without studying the experience of the leaders. As a result we lose great opportunities for raising mass defense work and the military-patriotic indoctrination of young people to a qualitatively new level.

Here is another point from those same obligations of the city DOSAAF organization: "Take steps to broadly disseminate the initiative of the Rostovskaya Oblast DOSAAF organization under the slogan 'Work Without Laggards' in DOSAAF organizations of the city." But under the system of work that now exists at the city committee, who can say for sure which primary organizations are lagging? How can this be done without comparing their work? This means that this point of
the obligations, a very important one for primary organizations at schools, is left hanging in the air.

Are the leaders of the city committee aware of all this? Indeed they are. I have had several talks on this subject with I. Dubyaga, chairman of the city committee, and his deputy A. Averin. They listened with great attention and basically agreed with me. But everything still remains as before.

Here is what I would like. To step up the activities of the defense collectives at higher educational institutions all the results of the competitive inspection must be included as a separate section in the summary report on the work of the city organization for the year, or it should at least mention the results of the competitive inspection. And to summarize the work experience of the best primary organizations and disseminate it broadly, a public commission made up of representatives of higher educational institutions, Komsomol organizations, and DOSAAF activists from the city should be formed at the division of mass organizational work. I think that such a commission, managed by employees of the division, would be able to handle a work volume which, of course, is too much for the regular staff alone.

From the Editors:

It is common knowledge that the 8th All-Union DOSAAF Congress emphasized the need to pay close attention to the defense collectives at higher educational institutions and other schools. They also said that the role of primary DOSAAF organizations in the military-patriotic indoctrination of secondary and college students should be increased.

The letter by A. Prikhod'ko, chairman of the DOSAAF committee at one of the largest higher educational institutions in Leningrad, states the issue of inadequate attention by the city DOSAAF committee to a whole group of defense collectives and ways to further improve their work very clearly.

The concern of the author of the letter can be understood. Leningrad has 48 higher educational institutions, about 200 tekhnikums and vocational-technical schools, and hundreds of general educational schools. Most of the higher educational institutions have large, strong, primary DOSAAF organizations. They often set the tone of all mass defense and sports work, for example in Oktyabr'skiy Rayon, which has six defense collectives at higher educational institutions.

The chairmen of the committees of certain other primary organizations at higher educational institutions were shown this letter. Their comments were as follows:

(V. Parfenov, Pedagogical Institute imeni Gertsen) "I have to say that A. Prikhod'ko is largely correct in his description of the present
situation in organizations at higher educational institutions. We are now indeed stewing in our juice. Just a few years ago the chairman of the committees of higher educational institutions met regularly. For example, I still remember the seminar held at the Institute of Aviation Instrument Making. I learned many useful things at it.

[A. Scherbak, Institute of Aviation Instrument Making] "Our institute, like certain others, has a department of public vocations where organizers of mass defense work and referees and coaches for military-technical sports are trained. But we do not receive any tangible help from the city committee in this important work.

"As is apparent from A. Prikhod'ko's letter, the Leningrad city DOSAAF committee knows about the problems in managing the work of primary organizations at educational institutions. Certainly the time has come to move from recognition of the situation to concrete steps to correct it."

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A field exercise was conducted by the troops of the Belorussian Military District from 6 to 10 February 1978 in the vicinity of the cities of Minsk, Osha, and Polotsk, code-named "Berezina," with the objective of working on problems of coordinated action by the various arms. Ground troops took part in the exercise together with Air-Force units and subunits. The objectives specified prior to the exercise were achieved. The editors of the magazine AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA have asked Lt Gen Avn P. Bazanov, Hero of the Soviet Union and Honored Military Pilot of the USSR, to comment on air activities at the Berezina exercise.

[Question] What missions were performed by the personnel of air units and subunits during the exercise?

[Answer] First of all I should note that the exercise was held at a most significant time — on the eve of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces. It demonstrated that Soviet fighting men, including aviators, have achieved excellent results in mastering modern weapons and equipment as well as new techniques and modes of their combat employment. Unusual enthusiasm reigned at the airfields, and extensive socialist competition was in progress, involving tasks and performance standards, efficiency and quality of execution of each and every flight. The exercise became a combat report submitted by the men to the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Government on the preparedness of the Armed Forces to defend the great achievements of the October Revolution and the peaceful labor of the Soviet people. As we know, missile-armed aircraft, equipped with modern armament, means of detecting the enemy and fire control gear, as well as the most advanced navigation equipment, today comprise the foundation of the Air Force. The men manning these aircraft are capable of successfully operating under instrument conditions, day and night, at various altitudes. Aircraft can destroy enemy
offensive weapons, support ground troops, gain air supremacy, conduct air reconnaissance, and perform many other combat missions. Proceeding from this, the air units and subunits taking part in the Berezina exercise operated under conditions maximally approaching actual combat. Fighter-bombers delivered powerful strikes on various targets on the battlefield and in the "enemy's" immediate rear areas, supporting actions by ground troops in the attack and defense. Fighters provided troops with air cover in the concentration areas and on the battlefield, engaged the enemy to gain air supremacy, and performed other missions arising in the course of combat operations. Combat helicopter subunits worked efficiently in coordination with ground troops. They were in the thick of the fighting at all times: they destroyed assigned targets with rockets, bombs and machine gun fire, and provided ground troops with fire support on request. Reconnaissance aircraft continuously performed the job of spotting "enemy" forces and weapons dispositions at tactical and operational depth. Ground forces were greatly assisted by military air transport and helicopter subunits. Liaison aircraft and helicopters promptly delivered needed information and provided uninterrupted communications. At the Berezina exercise aircrews demonstrated improved flying skills, a consummate mastery of their aircraft, and excellent tactical and fire training. True to the heroic traditions born in battle against the enemies of our homeland, the military aviators displayed ingenuity and quickness of mind in accomplishing any mission, and did everything possible in order unswervingly to carry out the demand: "Each and every rocket, bomb, and shell into the target!" The organizer abilities and qualities of air commanders were displayed particularly vividly in the course of the exercise -- scientific prediction, the ability precisely and thoroughly to analyze developing events, to make well-substantiated decisions quickly, and to carry them out purposefully and persistently. Headquarters and command post staff officers, engineer-aviation service specialists and aviation rear services personnel worked in close contact with the commanders. The military collectives headed by first-class air warriors Communist officers N. Zaborovskiy, N. Toptun, O. Chichkov, V. Romanov and others were distinguished by excellence in fire and tactical performance as well as improved fighting skills at the Berezina exercise.

[Question] What can you tell us about coordinated action between air subunits and subunits of other arms in the course of the Berezina exercise?

[Answer] Organization of coordinated action is one of the most complex types of operational-tactical training of air commanders and staff officers. It also imposes high demands on aircrews, their ground training, knowledge of ground troops tactics, and their organizational structure. And of course it demands ability on the part of aircrews to gain their bearings in the dynamic situation of combat, where time is of the essence, that they act boldly and resolutely, in conformity with situation changes, and that they employ the entire arsenal of tactical devices. The fact that today's ground forces are equipped with fast, highly-maneuverable all-terrain vehicles, powerful and efficient weapons, with a very broad range of application, has made today's combined-arms engagement extremely dynamic and swift. Under these conditions one can achieve success only with close coordination by subunits of various arms, when the efforts of one subunit are bolstered by
the efforts of others at the decisive moment in combat, at the required point. Aircraft possess enormous capabilities in this area, for the firepower of today's fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft is immeasurably greater than that of the hardware employed in the Great Patriotic War. However, organization of coordinated action between air subunits and ground troops continues to require exceptional purposefulness, coordination of actions in time and place, clear-cut mutual recognition and target indication. There are no and can be no trivial and insignificant details in this matter. This is also confirmed by the experience of the Great Patriotic War. In the process of preparing for the Berezina exercise, air commanders and staffs, together with representatives of the Ground Forces, worked on various problems of coordinated action, constructed models of diversified variants of attacks on ground and air targets by various-composition groups and combat formations. Much attention was also focused on the moral-psychological preparedness of aviators to perform assigned missions in the immediate vicinity of ground troops, under conditions maximally approaching actual combat, and they worked on mutual target indication and recognition signals, as well as problems connected with tactical control. Personal contacts between the commanders of our air subunits and ground troops commanders became a guarantee of successful joint actions. Exchange of know-how and acquaintance with the specific features of the combat activities of both parties promoted thorough mutual understanding and elucidation of the peculiar features which arise in the process of combat in a concrete situation. And this came in handy in the course of the exercise. For example, during penetration of the "Southern" defense, a "Northern" motorized rifle battalion suddenly found its path blocked by previously undetected weapons emplacements and concealed tank reserves. The attack was about to stall. Motorized rifle headquarters, working through a forward air controller, urgently requested fighter-bombers. The squadron led by Maj N. Zaborovskiy, a top-rated air warrior, in spite of the poor visibility, precisely reached the target at the requested time and delivered a powerful rocket attack. The "Southern" weapon emplacements were destroyed and the advance of the tanks halted. The "Northern" subunits were able to push the advance on. We should particularly like to note in the actions by Major Zaborovskiy's group the precision they displayed in attacking the target on schedule. Timetable precision plays an exceptionally important role under the conditions of today's combat, for even the slightest deviations by aircraft in course and time, particularly when out of visual contact with the ground, can have a fatal effect on the outcome of the attack. Therefore at the exercise exceptional knowledge of the equipment, the highest degree of discipline and professional skills, honed to the very highest level, were demanded of aircrews.

[Question] What features of air tactics were revealed in the course of the exercise?

[Answer] In answering this question, it might be appropriate to state once again that modern combat systems differ from the aircraft of the Great Patriotic War period. Consequently, radical changes in equipping air units
and subunits could not help but affect air-force tactics. Personnel employed the most diversified tactics at the Berezina exercise, and -- a particularly indicative point -- no mission was similar to any other. The air warriors displayed ingenuity, initiative, persistence, and a will to win. Operating in an unfamiliar area, timing their actions to coincide with the rate of advance of the ground troops, they delivered precise strikes close to friendly supported units, individually and in groups, swiftly located and destroyed the small, well-camouflaged targets. Employing bold maneuvers in speed and altitude, they skillfully evaded attack by "enemy" air defense weapons. Representatives of the Ground Forces had good things to say about the combat helicopters. Their combat tactics are being renovated, in the process of daily training and innovative search on the ground and in the air. And this is logical. During the war there were no helicopters. Combat helicopters are the result of postwar engineering-design development. The Berezina exercise became a test of combat maturity and made it possible to refine certain trends in the development of the tactics of various air arms, to determine how we should more effectively improve air performance proficiency and achieve new success in combat and political training and in meeting the socialist pledges adopted in response to the Letter from the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, All-Union Central Trade Union Council and Komsomol Central Committee on development of socialist competition for fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1978 plan and a stepped-up campaign to increase production efficiency and improved work quality, as well as the Appeal from the Komsomol organizations of the units and the missile-carrying nuclear submarine which initiated socialist competition in the different branches of the USSR Armed Forces, to Komsomol organizations and Komsomol members of the Armed Forces.

[Question] How was party-political work organized in the air units and subunits during the exercise?

[Answer] I must state that commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations performed a great deal of work on mobilizing personnel for high-quality and efficient performance of the tasks assigned at the exercise. On the eve of the exercise primary party and Komsomol organizations held meetings, at which Communists and Komsomol members discussed personal exemplary performance on the part of each individual and meeting of socialist pledges on targets and performance standards, on precise and prompt servicing of the aircraft, their equipment and armament. Discussions were conducted in the subunits, as well as concrete, purposeful training classes on the most important areas of tactics, and air and fire training drills. Veteran air warriors exchanged know-how with the young men. Commanders and political workers sought to have their men gain a thorough understanding and clear picture of the role and place of each specialist in the course of combat operations. The excellent mood of the airmen was fostered by festive parade-ground formations with the unit's colors marched out, as well as political rallies for the men, and get-togethers with veterans of the Great Patriotic War and Heroes of the Soviet Union. The men received a charge of great emotional force upon becoming acquainted with the
reminiscences of comrade L. I. Brezhnev, entitled "Malaya Zemlya" [Little Land], which vividly reflects the heroic events of the Great Patriotic War and demonstrates the fighting deeds, self-sacrifice and heroism on the part of Soviet fighting men of the older generation. Political workers adopted many forms and methods of party-political work which had been employed at the front during the war. With warm words in heart-to-heart talks between missions, they boosted the aviators' morale and impelled the men to work even harder and to achieve high results on each mission. "And if one considers that the fighting spirit of the troops has always been acknowledged to be a most important factor in the staunchness of troops, precisely the political worker was given the sharpest weapon during the war years. He toughened the hearts and souls of the men, without which neither tanks, nor guns, nor airplanes would have brought us victory." These lines from the reminiscences of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev define the direction of all party-political work in the line units, the principles of which were unswervingly observed by political workers at the exercise.

[Question] What can be said about the professional training of the aircrews participating in the exercise?

[Answer] The present generation of air-force fighting men — pilots, navigators, engineers and technicians — are for the most part young, vigorous individuals, knowledgeable aviation specialists, who have total devotion for their profession. They have taken over from their fathers and grandfathers, who stood up in defense of the independence of our homeland during the trying years of the Great Patriotic War, a dedication to the oath, love of their people, fighting aggressiveness and steadfastness, courage and a thirst for knowledge. At service schools they received good theoretical training, solid Marxist-Leninist and moral-psychological conditioning, methods and special skills. Service in line units has developed in them the endeavor to master modern military hardware to perfection, to accomplish combat training tasks in an innovative manner, and to display initiative, ingenuity and courage. Young people are eagerly taking in everything of value from the experience of the best pilots of the units and subunits and are building upon the traditions of our glorious Air Force. The results of the exercise indicate that the Soviet people can be proud of the present generation of airmen, as they can be proud of all the armed defenders of the achievements of the October Revolution. Following the behests of the veterans, they reliably stand guard over the skies of our homeland and the nations of the socialist community. "Deeply aware of their responsibility for performance of the historic tasks assigned by the 25th CPSU Congress," stated the letter from the participants in the exercise to CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mar SU L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Chairman of the USSR Defense Council, entitled "We Shall be Worthy of the Fame of the Fighting War Veterans!" "We viewed the Berezina exercise as a test of combat maturity on the eve of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces,... In response to the concern of party and government for the Armed Forces and to your attention, dear Leonid Il'ich, toward the defenders of the homeland, we shall continue in the future carrying out
our constitutional duty with honor and dignity — reliably defending the socialist homeland and maintaining a constant state of combat readiness, guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor."

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 6. The excellent fighter-bomber flight under the command of Military Pilot 1st Class Capt V. Zaplutakhin performed well on the side of the "North" at the Berezina exercise. The aircrews accurately destroyed all ground targets and ensured a successful landing by an assault force. In the photograph: (right to left) — Sr Lt Ye. Lipatov, Capt Yu. Zakharov, Capt V. Zaplutakhin, and Sr Lt V. Papkovich.

2. p 7. Under the direction of Military Pilot 1st Class Maj O. Chichkov, a helicopter squadron loaded motorized riflemen on board within minutes and delivered them to the rear of the "enemy" at the designated time.

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 PREFLIGHT PREPARATIONS WERE TAKING PLACE IN THE CLASSROOM. THE SQUADRON COMMANDER WAS QUESTIONING HIS MEN, AND THE OFFICERS WERE REPLYING WITH SPEED AND PRECISION. ONE SENSED THAT THE PILOTS HAD THOROUGHLY STUDIED THE MISSION AND WERE PREPARED TO OPERATE IN ANY AIR SITUATION.

THERE WAS STILL TIME REMAINING BEFORE THINGS GOT GOING. THE SQUADRON COMMANDER INSTRUCTED HIS PILOTS TO GO THROUGH ONCE MORE IN THE PRACTICAL AERODYNAMICS TEXTBOOK THE FEATURES OF AN AIRCRAFT'S BEHAVIOR AT MEDIUM AND LOW ALTITUDES, WHILE HE HIMSELF RESTUDIED THE SITUATION OF THE FORTHCOMING AIR COMBAT. EVERYTHING WAS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE.


STUDYING THE OBJECTIVE MONITORING DATA, THE SQUADRON COMMANDER CONVINCINGLY DEMONSTRATED THAT THE PILOTS HAD PERFORMED IN THE AIR FAR FROM OPTIMALLY. THE WELL-CONCEIVED AND PRECISELY-SUBSTANTIATED TRAINING MISSION PLAN HAD LOST ITS CONFIGURATION. DELAYED ENGINE BOOSTING WAS UNABLE TO COMPENSATE FOR SPEED LOSS. THIS LED TO LANGUID MANEUVER AND LIMITED UTILIZATION OF TACTICAL DEVICES. THE NATURAL DESIRE OF THE AIR WARRIORS TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR CAPABILITIES, THEIR SKILL, AND THEIR WILL TO WIN WAS NOT EMBODIED IN CONCRETE ACTIONS.
Analyzing the details of the training mission, the squadron commander spoke without haste, turning from one to another of the recent aerial adversaries.

"Look here: at this point," the squadron commander moved the pointer to the combat diagram depicted on tracing paper, "you turned on the afterburners. The flight recorder indicates that this was delayed. Here you entered a sharp turn, and naturally were unable to stand the specified G-load. The result was a premature speed loss, with the aircraft forced to descend. You lacked self-control.

"Further, endeavoring to save a few tenths of a second on going into a turn, you were obviously moving too hastily. The maneuver contained flaws in technique. The result was that in the concluding phase of the attack you lost several seconds. And those seconds were essential for victory. In actual combat you would have lost the adversary, and you yourself might have been defeated."

The squadron commander fell silent for a moment, so that the pilots could think about what he had said, and then he turned to one of them: "Take your vertical maneuver. This loop was executed poorly, and the G-load in the trajectory was established without taking into consideration the aircraft's position in space. Take a look here: here you were extremely close to critical flight conditions, with the aircraft practically in difficult aerodynamic conditions. And this in air combat, when errors can lead to the aircraft going into a spin, which is equivalent to failure to execute the mission...."

The longer the squadron commander talked, the clearer became the reasons for the miscalculations and errors committed by the pilots. Only one cause remained unelucidated. And yet such a reason did exist, although the flight recorder did not record it.

On the basis of their professional training, the pilots were capable of successfully accomplishing the mission. Full-scale preliminary preparations had been performed in the squadron. Both pilots had approached this seriously: they had filled pages in their notebooks with the appropriate diagrams, calculations, and formulas; they had performed a mission drill in their cockpit and had walked through the mission. Both received high marks in the mission readiness test. Nor is there any doubt whatsoever about these officers' knowledge of theory. They regularly attend lectures and have a good understanding of tactics, aerodynamics, and their equipment. Both of them thoroughly understand the technical diagrams, are capable of discussing complex phenomena which occur during flight, and can substantiate their every action in the air.

It would seem that all this taken together should make their air duel instructive and interesting. As we know, however, this engagement did not turn out well. This happened because they had neglected such an important element of preparation as a correct psychological attitude toward the flight
activities, and precisely toward a specific air engagement, in which the pilot's psychological staunchness and his ability in any and all situations to utilize all capabilities to achieve victory play a very important role.

Everybody knows that theory is the road to practical activity. But neither should one discount the fact that theoretical knowledge and skills are transformed into effective concrete actions only when the pilot consciously, persistently and purposefully carries them over into his flying activities, when he works persistently on a daily basis to ensure that it is precisely his amassed knowledge and skills which guide his actions in the air, particularly in combat.

And yet pilots who at first glance seem to be well trained executed the mission with a mediocre performance. It could probably be claimed that they have an insufficiently developed sense of responsibility. Everybody knows that a flying mission is first and foremost the result of the labor of a great many people; it involves substantial material outlays. And therefore it is the duty of each and every air warrior to obtain everything possible from the mission, to achieve maximum efficiency for further improving his combat skills, for maneuver-type air combat is developed precisely so that the pilot can learn to engage a powerful, well-equipped adversary, when victory requires first and foremost the creation of tactical conditions which are the most advantageous, ensuring an attack which cannot be evaded, and highly accurate firing of missiles. One must additionally bear in mind flight safety, requisite speed reserve, and G-load reserve factor for subsequent maneuver. In order to put the aircraft into the calculated curve, intelligently to execute the most advantageous tactical maneuver and to approach dangerous flight conditions without risk of entering those conditions, one requires good air performance capability, persistence, enthusiasm, and the unswerving endeavor to become an expert at one's job.

Failure in air combat is a rarity in this squadron. Therefore the commanding officer and party organization took all measures to ensure that it would not be repeated. They indoctrinate air warriors who are capable of defeating a powerful adversary, who are prepared for intelligent, resolute actions in any difficult situation.

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REPLY TO READER'S QUESTION ABOUT AVIATION SCHOOLS

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 4, Apr 78 signed to press
2 Mar 78 p 19

[Article by Lt Col V. Petukhov: "On Transfer from School to School"]

[Text] In a letter to the editors, reader A. Taratayko from
Kurskaya Oblast asks: "Is it possible, having studied for one
year at a military aviation engineering school, to transfer to
a pilot training school, and vice versa?"

Lt Col V. Petukhov, administrative officer for Air Force higher
educational institutions, answers this and other questions of
interest to our readers.

As a rule, transfer of students and cadets from one military higher
educational institution to another of the same type, to study the same or
a related occupational specialty, is permitted up to the beginning of the
training year, with the permission of the command personnel in charge of
the military higher educational institutions.

The letter asks about the possibility of transferring from an aviation
engineering school to a pilot school and vice versa. These are not military
educational institutions of the same type, and consequently they cannot con-
tain identical occupational specialties; thus one may not transfer from
one to the other.

The March 1978 issue of this magazine contains the requirements for acceptance
and the addresses of military aviation schools. In addition, this informa-
tion is available at military commissariats and personnel sections of military
units.

Graduates of secondary schools have the opportunity at their discretion to
choose an occupational specialty in advance, to determine where they will en-
roll, and then to fill out the necessary papers. They are given assistance
in traveling to and enrolling at the selected military educational institu-
tion. Studying at this facility, the student or cadet acquires knowledge and

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skills requisite for the given occupation, and therefore transfer from one school to another, particularly one of a different type, as a rule is not permitted.

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[Excerpts] There are dates which in their significance occupy a special place in the pages of world history. Victory Day, 9 May 1945, is just such a date which is entered in history and will remain so for eternity. Thankful humanity will never forget those knightly military and labor feats of the Soviet people accomplished in the name of the victory of communism, in the name of peace and historical progress. Forged together in this national feat is the great courage of troops, partisans, participants in the underground, in the heroism of the workers of the rear area.

The Soviet nation this year marks Victory Day in an atmosphere of national political and labor enthusiasm elicited by the outstanding event in the history of our country—the passage of the new USSR Constitution and celebration of the 60th anniversary of Great October.

The national discussion of the Fundamental Law and the jubilee celebrations convincingly affirm that the Soviet people and its troops fully and completely support the foreign and domestic policy of the Communist Party and Soviet state, the goal-oriented, fruitful activities of the CPSU Central Committee, its Politburo headed by the true Marxist-Leninist, the outstanding fighter for peace and social progress, comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev.

Responding to the decision of the December (1977) CC CPSU Plenum and the Letter of the CC CPSU, USSR Council of Ministers, the
The troops of the armed forces live and work these days under the enormous impression of the celebrations devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. The high evaluation of the historical services and the military labor of the armed defenders of the socialist homeland, presented in the greeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers to the troops of the glorious armed forces of the Soviet Union, the awards to a number of units and formations of USSR orders, the award to a group of soldiers of the title Hero of the Soviet Union and Hero of Socialist Labor, the award of orders and medals to many servicemen brought forth amongst the personnel a new flood of enthusiasm and patriotic feelings.

The Soviet troops are proud of the fact that they are the defenders of the world's first socialist state of all the people, that they serve in the ranks of the armed forces, the Combat Banners of which are adorned with the color of the undying Leninist ideas, wreathed in the legendary glory of the victories in the struggle for the cause of Great October for the honor, freedom, and independence of the Country of Soviets.

"For 60 years the armed forces of the Soviet State," said Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CC CPSU and USSR Minister of Defense, in his report at the grand meeting devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, "vigilantly have been standing guard over the revolutionary conquests of the people, selflessly and devotedly serving the great cause of the Leninist party, the cause of communism."

The Soviet Air Force with honor is also carrying out this mission in common formation with the other services of the armed forces.

The Leninist Communist Party was the inspirer and organizer of this victory. It elevated the Soviet people to a sacred war in defense of the conquests of Great October and itself
It was truly a warring, battling party. Up to 60 percent of its complement and a significant portion of the Central Committee of the party and many thousands of responsible party workers were in the ranks of the army, aviation, and navy. This number included the outstanding political, state, and military leader of today, comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev. From the first shot to the victory salute he was in the midst of the battles, inspiring the troops through his personal example of courage and the appeal from the party. He was always in the vanguard. Those who shared with him tell of this. Communists know this. All of our people know this.

Our victory became a historical landmark in the fate of all of humanity. It became a powerful impetus to the peaceful revolutionary process expressed in the mighty march of world socialism, by the unceasing growth of the communist and workers movement, the profound progressive transformations in the liberated states.

During the postwar period, the CPSU looks upon the strengthening of the defensive readiness of the Country of Soviets as a special and very important aspect of the efforts to strengthen peace and international security, as an immutable part of the construction of the overall state.

The leading role of the CPSU rightfully grows during the process of expansion of the scales and the difficulties involved with tasks which are being accomplished by the Soviet people and its armed forces. Strengthening the defense of the country and the combat might of the army and navy is continually in the center of attention of the party, its Leninist Central Committee, the CC Politburo, and personally of the General Secretary of the CC CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Chairman of the USSR Defense Council, Marshal of the Soviet Union L. I. Brezhnev. An expression of the national recognition of the great contribution of Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev to the victory of the Soviet people and the USSR Armed Forces over fascism during the years of the Great Patriotic War and the outstanding services in strengthening the defensive capability of the fatherland, as well as in the development and consistent accomplishment of the foreign policy which reliably guarantees the development of the country under peaceful conditions, was the high military award, the Order of Victory, which was presented to Comrade L. I. Brezhnev on the eve of the jubilee of the USSR Armed Forces.
"The party is doing everything to see that the defense of our country is at the requisite level," said comrade L. I. Brezhnev when being awarded this high honor. "But, strengthening our armed forces, we will not in any way infringe upon the real demands for our security and the security of our socialist friends."

Thanks to the concerns of the party and the state, the Air Force is continually being equipped with everything required for the accomplishment of responsible missions. Now forming its basis are missile-equipped aircraft which possess modern armament, improved means for detection of the enemy and for fire control, and the newest navigational equipment. Multimission aircraft with vertical geometry wing and vertical take off and landing aircraft have recently been created.

The increase in the combat capabilities of aviation capable of independently accomplishing various missions sharply increases its role in the overall system of the defense of the USSR and the fraternal countries of socialist cooperation. Possessing great striking force, the VVS [Air Force] is now able to achieve success in large operations both in land and in maritime theaters of operations. The modern level of technical equipment makes it possible for aviation to destroy the enemy means of attack, accomplish the support of the ground troops, win air supremacy, conduct aerial reconnaissance, and accomplish many other complex missions. Moreover, the combat power of the VVS greatly depends on the level of training of aviation cadres, for man was and remains the decisive factor in the combat employment and operation of equipment. The pride of military aviation is the people indoctrinated by the party in the spirit of fiery Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, who know well military affairs, who are capable of rapidly assimilating the newest aviation equipment and effectively employing it under the conditions of modern combat, accomplishing the requirement which states "each missile, bomb, shell on target." The momentous holiday of Victory Day is being met by military aviators with new successes in combat and political training. The decisions of the 25th Party Congress, December (1977) CC CPSU Plenum, the decrees and conclusions contained in the speeches at the Plenum by comrade L. I. Brezhnev, the letter of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and CC Komsomol concerning the unfolding of socialist competition for fulfillment and overfulfillment for the 1978 plan and stepping up the struggle for the improvement and effectiveness of production and quality of work, as well as the documents devoted to the 60th anniversary of Great October and the jubilee of the USSR armed forces, serve as the program for aviators' practical
activities in the struggle for a higher degree of effectiveness and quality of military labor, improvement of flying mastery, increasing vigilance, and strengthening of military discipline.

The aerial training of personnel has improved as a result of the intense work on the part of commanders, political workers, staffs, party, and Komsomol organizations. The number of outstanding individuals, outstanding subunits [podrazdeleniye] and units [chast'] pilots, and navigators—masters of combat employment and snipers—has increased.

The overwhelming majority of military collectives, supporting the initiative of the initiators of the socialist competition in the VVS—the personnel of the Guards Aviation Red Guards Order of Lenin Twice Red Banner Order of Kutuzov Regiment imeni USSR 50th Anniversary—in the jubilee year have achieved excellent indicators in combat and political training. Among them are the units and subunits commanded by officers G. Shchitov, Yu. Savosin, V. Fedorov, V. Telegin, N. Petrov, and others.

Entering the summer training period, each military aviator clearly realizes that 1978 is a jubilee year, a year of intense shock labor, a year for the full growth in the quality indicators of combat mastery. A high level of aerial and combat readiness for the air forces as a whole and each aviator in particular, true and effective assimilation of modern aviation equipment and weapons is our most important mission. Therefore, commanders, political workers, staffs, party, and Komsomol organizations must concentrate all of their efforts to more actively seek reserves, to thoughtfully employ training time and facilities, to strengthen discipline and organization, and to raise political vigilance.

Socialist competition is playing a much more active role in the struggle for raising the combat readiness of aviation units and subunits and for effectiveness and quality of the training and indoctrinational process. It has its own special features within each military collective, its own goals and missions, but its essence is the same everywhere. It is clearly expressed in the words of comrade L. I. Brezhnev: "Work better today than yesterday, work better tomorrow than today. Better—this means stress on quality, on effectiveness." This statement must have its practical embodiment in the affairs of every military collective.

The significance of the active and goal-oriented party-political work with personnel is enormous in the mobilization of military aviators to achievement of new successes in
combat and political training and in the strengthening of combat readiness of units and subunits. This is a powerful weapon of a special type which never becomes obsolete.

A further widespread explanation and propaganda of jubilee documents, bringing them to the consciousness and the heart of every aviator, is a vital component of this work directed toward the further rallying of the personnel of the Soviet Air Force around the Communist Party, their mobilization for the successful accomplishment of the missions involving combat and political training in the jubilee year.

The letter of greeting to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and to the USSR Council of Ministers from the personnel of the Soviet Army and Navy expressed a filial oath of dedication to the party, motherland, to the cause of communism and to the defense of its conquests.

Along with the troops of the glorious armed forces, our fine aviators vowed to be true to the immortal ideals of the leader of the revolution, the great Lenin, to learn military affairs in the proper manner, and to strengthen the defensive readiness of our country. They gave their sacred oath to be worthy of the heroic deeds of the older generations of defenders of the socialist fatherland and through faultless service multiply the combat glory of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The winged guardians of the fatherland are replete with decisiveness to not only strengthen but also to multiply the results achieved in military labor, and to mark the shock year of the Tenth Five-Year Plan with new successes in combat and political training, strengthening of combat discipline, organization, and order within the troop units. Clearly recognizing the creative labor of the Soviet people, they will continue always to be worthy of the heroic deeds of the older generations, of the historical purpose of the armed forces of the USSR—the reliable guardians of the security of the homeland of Great October, the bulwark of universal peace.

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Modern combined-arms combat is distinguished by extremely high dynamism, high-speed troop movements on the battlefield, and rapid change in the tactical situation. This was made possible thanks to ground-based subunits [podrazdeleniye] being equipped with highly maneuverable self-propelled equipment, the employment by the opposing sides of powerful equipment and weapons, various effective procedures and methods for the achievement and the development of success.

All of this has elevated to a new height the organization of close cooperation between the ground forces and other branches of troops and services of the armed forces, particularly with aviation.

Various forms and methods of cooperation between ground troops subunits and aviation subunits were born as early as the years of the Great Patriotic War. They were continually improved and filled with new content. They contained that unavoidable process whereby the development of equipment brings with it a change in tactics. It is now impossible to think about combat involving ground subunits without close cooperation with aviation, which can accomplish various missions in their interests. In this connection, great demands are made on the technical training of commanders—the organizers of combat—and of flying personnel who are cooperating with ground subunits.

It goes without saying that pilots and other crew members must certainly know the tactics of their own aviation and those of the enemy, as well as the combat capabilities of the
equipment and the armament, and be able to use them. In other words, the aerial fighter must be a master of his trade to achieve the requisite success.

It is something else again when pilots accomplish independent missions, for instance striking ground-based targets or intercepting an airborne enemy, but another thing when accomplishing missions in the interests of ground-based troops in direct proximity to attacking or defending subunits. This places tremendous responsibility on the pilots as far as combat skill is concerned. They must be able to rapidly and accurately evaluate the situation and employ that particular tactic which is dictated by the unfolding situation.

A great deal of attention is paid to being able to effectively interact in close contact with ground subunits in the helicopter squadron commanded by Military Pilot 1st class Maj Ye. Polyakov. The efforts of the commander, supervisors, and party organization in this subunit are directed to ensure that pilots and navigator-operators clearly understand their assignment, so that their daily combat training work proceeds without letdown and without simplifications in a situation which is similar to combat for them.

In this connection, I recall an exercise which the squadron's personnel were tasked with accomplishment of a variety of complex missions which required rapid decisions and actions and a profound knowledge and skill.

This was nothing new for the experienced squadron commander. The flight commanders also had often participated in carrying out such missions. Therefore, during the preliminary preparations, Maj Polyakov placed a great deal of attention on the young crews who, for the first time, were faced with a serious test of their fire and tactical skills. Thus, typical attacks against various group and single area and small targets were worked out prior to the exercises with all flying personnel. The strikes were made in pairs and in flights from various directions using all types of onboard weapons. The skill of the pilots from the firing standpoint elicited no doubts. There was something else that bothered the squadron commander--where, in what region, would they have to operate? And, when this became known, he and the flight commanders tested several variants, studied the relief from large-scale maps, carefully elaborated models of combat sorties for fire support of ground subunits in pairs and in flights. Here, developing a strike model, each pilot clearly could see what he would have to do if there was a change in the ground or air situation or if there was a
change in the group or in the region where the flights would take place. Drills for navigator training using a special device and the cockpits of the combat aircraft, a tactical briefing session, a check on readiness for the flights—all of this was directed toward high-quality preparation for the exercise.

On the eve of the exercise the pilots met with the air controller—an experienced aviator who would provide direction to the helicopters in the event of joint combat operations with ground-based subunits. The radio signals and the commands were decided upon and the mutual recognition was worked out. During these preparations the commander of the motorized infantry battalion, who talked about the special features of troop operations on the battlefield, provided great assistance. The point that was made that the troops feel much more confident when they see their own aviation over them raised the combat mood of the aviators. Each wanted to accomplish the mission in the best possible manner.

Then the exercise began. Maj Polyakov received the mission to deploy to an airfield close to the motorized rifle infantrymen's command post. This variation had also been envisioned beforehand. At the appointed time the helicopters took off from their air base and took up a course toward the intended destination.

The weather at the airfield was far from simple, the visibility and the height of the lower layer of clouds were close to the minimum. This meant that several corrections had to be made.

"Place special attention on orientation and search" Polyakov reminded the pilots. "It's simpler to attain surprise in such weather, but it's more difficult to hit the target. Analyze the approaches one more time."

The time dragged on. But then the command to take off came by radio. Capt V. Kurnov's flight took off. The familiar voice of the air controller resounded in the earphones. He assigned the place and time of the strike. The task was to destroy observed enemy fire points at a grid reference and ensure the passage of the motorized infantry subunits.

"This is 125, Roger, I am executing."

Captain Kurnov looked at the map, quickly determined the assigned location, noted the reference point. The operator confirmed the pilot's computations. Using terrain masking, the flight of helicopters approached
the target. The smoke over the forward edge of the battlefield was already visible. And, there was the auxiliary reference point. A command flew into the ether:

"Climb!" and the command: "Attack!"

The trained eye rapidly found the required objects: carefully camouflaged guns on the edge of a small forest. The flight commander distributed the targets amongst the pilots. The helicopters moved into the attack. The target rapidly grew larger in the sight. The assigned range.

"Fire!"

Leaving a trail of smoke behind them, the missiles flew to the target. Another volley. A second later, another, and where just a few minutes before there was a target there rose black columns of smoke and dust.

The situation on the battlefield heated up. The motorized infantrymen moved onto the offensive. However, "enemy" firing positions which were not previously noted came to life. They had to be suppressed immediately so the offensive would not bog down.

A flight led by Capt A. Kozin took off. The air controller carefully assigned the mission and the target—suppress the "enemy" fire resources and support the motorized riflemen with fire.

Already visible below were the infantry combat vehicles with troops on them. And there rose the "enemy." Upon lead's command the flight attacked the target. The missile volley was accurate. The helicopters inflicted a powerful bombing strike on the second pass. The mission was accomplished. They took up a course back to the airfield.

That day Maj Polyakov's squadron flew several sorties. The missions were varied. And, every time, the pilots arrived on the scene on time and destroyed the assigned targets with accurate strikes. Young pilots Senior Lieutenants V. Shadrin and A. Panasenko exhibited a high level of fire and tactical skill. The intense and goal-oriented preparation on the ground and complicated training flights led to success.

After the exercise concluded, Maj Polyakov carefully analyzed the actions of the personnel. He used for this purpose his own observations, flight recorder data, and the reports from
the group leads. Working out the variations of the attacks and the combat strikes used by the pilots, the commander pointed out deviations that occurred and gave advice on how to eliminate them.

It should be stated that the high degree of demandingness on the part of the commander for the tactical and fire skills of his subordinates, as well as their own desire to continually study the terrain in those regions where they were called upon to fly, a profound knowledge of the characteristic features of combat equipment, of varied structures which mask their features, the special features of their deployment on the terrain and the tactics of the ground troops, aided in the successful accomplishment of the missions during the exercise. In the subunit they steadfastly follow the principle "Teach aerial warriors that which will be required in wartime."

During the intense days of training, flying personnel study highly effective employment of equipment and weapons, virtuoso handling of the combat aircraft in the most complex weather conditions, and the tactics of the various branches of troops so that, at any time and in conjunction with them, they will be able to strike a decisive blow against the enemy.

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The test flight ended. The heavy missile-equipped aircraft came in for a landing and smoothly touched down on the concrete strip. It was clear that it was being piloted by an experienced person, a master of his trade, based on how confidently the aircraft maneuvered. And, it is not extraneous to say that every pilot is in his own way unique, he has his own signature, his way of flying. This was especially evident here.

The aircraft taxied to the parking place. The engines that had been shut down ended their song. The crew exited the aircraft. The first one out was its commander, a man of medium height with a sharp gaze from his brown eyes. He unhurriedly took off his gloves and smiled.

Aviation specialists came up to the pilot. A number of questions were posed. The crew commander gave a firm answer to each and every one of them and this was followed by advice and recommendations. He often turned toward the members of the crew and read in their glances silent consent. For a long time they had lived as a single organism, flying, as is sometimes said, in one breath.

The chat was short but, judging by the satisfaction on the faces of those attending, complete and meaningful. And it could not be any other way. They have known Butenko here for a long time. A major general of aviation, Meritorious Test Pilot of the USSR, candidate of technical sciences. They trust in him, they value his opinion. Several days later I asked
Gennadiy Fillipovich to talk about the test flight, hoping that he would say a little bit about himself. No such luck! Butenko didn’t say a thing about himself but talked animatedly about the flight. This important experiment was preceded by comprehensive preparations on the part of the crew and of the equipment on the ground, by intense training in the air. The requirement was to accomplish in-flight refueling under various weather conditions and to accomplish an enormous volume of work.

The flights followed one after another. Knowhow was accumulated and the missions were made more complex. Then came the first test. In one of the training periods in the region of the forthcoming refueling they arrived at the assigned time and met with the tanker. The missile-carrying aircraft formed up into position for the refueling. But, ahead along the course at the same altitude that the refueling was to take place was a dense wall of clouds.

What does this mean? To refuel while in the clouds? A report was sent immediately to the ground. The supervisor of flying approved the decision of the crew commander.

They began to descend into the overcast as a pair. Visibility dropped to dozens of meters. The aircraft bounced back and forth. It was just like driving over potholes. Accurate, faultless actions on the part of the pilot were required. General Butenko with short double movements of the stick maintained his place in the formation. The refueling was accomplished in the assigned region.

The crew had passed a difficult test. But, at this time, no one could imagine that the knowhow acquired in this particular flight would provide inestimable help in the final test flight on a long-range mission.

Meanwhile, life at the test airfield continued in its normal manner. General Butenko conducted not only the program of tests on the heavy missile-equipped aircraft. He often took off to run experiments on fighters, to assist young test pilots, and also carried on intense scientific work.

High principles, a thoughtful approach to party work, good organizational capabilities always distinguished and continue to distinguish communist Butenko. During the meetings of the party committee he puts forth especially tough questions concerning flight safety, concerning the moral-psychological training of test pilots. His attitude to business is an
example worthy of imitation. Gennadiy Fillipovich always diligently prepares for every flight, continually demonstrates for his colleagues a sense of high responsibility for the matter entrusted to him, assists commanders in improving the methodology of conducting and analyzing test flights.

A creative approach to business and profound knowledge of the specifics of test flying have allowed him on a scientific basis to make substantial corrections in the planning of flying shifts and achieve an increase in effectiveness in meeting take off times. Thus, it was considered not long ago that, due to the specifics of test flying, it was impossible to precisely plan the flying day. This idea was so firm in the minds of people that, when General Butenko posed the question about "an iron" planning schedule for the day and for its strict accomplishment as far as time is concerned, a number of people simply shrugged their shoulders, wondering if this is possible?

"It's possible!" Gennadiy Fillipovich firmly stated. Prior to making the proposal he had done solid research on the subject. He first analyzed the planning schedule for many previous flying shifts. He then generalized the results by week and by month. The picture was clear.

"We will try a week-long experiment," the commander decided, approving the flying schedule which called for a communications check 1-1/2 hours prior to take off, a readiness report 10 minutes prior to initiating the mission, and take off exactly on time. Nonfulfillment of one of these elements led to cancellation of the flight.

A week passed. The pilots were the first to state their opinions. Now flight postponements were ruled out. There was also an increase in the time to prepare for the next regular flight mission, which is very important when converting from an aircraft of one type to another type aircraft during the same shift.

Then the leading engineers also approved the innovation. They also were convinced that discipline regarding the flying schedule was vitally necessary.

Butenko's concerns on the ground are very, very great! He places the most urgent attention on the indoctrination of the young generation, passes on to them his flying and methodological mastery, the art of filagree aircraft handling, and assists them in forming a party approach to business.
"Indoctrination in the high moral-political, combat, and moral-psychological qualities of a pilot," Gennadiy Fillipovich often underscores, "is meaningless without a profound assimilation of Marxist-Leninist theory, the dialectic method, in the evaluation of events and manifestations of life, to include test flying." The words of the communist do not diverge from his deeds. He profoundly studies the vital problems of the day, methodological problems in military theory and practice. His speeches in the Marxist-Lenin group are distinguished for their in-depth penetration into the problem, the scientific substantiation in close contact with the missions which are accomplished by the collective.

Being a member of the group of speakers at the party committee, communist Butenko actively participates in mass agitational work, propaganda of the materials of the 25th CPSU Congress, the USSR Constitution, the decrees and conclusions contained in the reports and speeches of General Secretary of the CC CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet L. I. Brezhnev.

The constant desire for knowledge and self improvement, a ceaseless search for the new which can be useful in test work, lies at the basis of all the life and activities of Gen Butenko. This began after he completed flying school. He was an instructor pilot for five years. He then graduated with excellence from the Zhukovskiy Air Engineering Academy. Working as a leading test engineer, he successfully combined test work with research, defended his candidate's dissertation, which has a great deal of practical significance.

There is no doubt that the job of leading test engineer is a distinguished and responsible one but, in his heart, Butenko remains a pilot. Having received distinct engineering practice, he came to the conclusion that it would be of even more use if he took the stick of an aircraft in his hand once more. The command element approved this decision. And, after a 9-year break, he returned to the skies and became a test pilot.

The biography of every test pilot is replete with various events which certainly must include test flying. And this evidently is unavoidable. For every new piece of equipment brings with it new surprises which test an individual's strength and tests in all of their parameters the psychological, technical, and flying skills of the individual.
...The supersonic fighter is flying at a speed close to maximum. Behind the pilot's back the turbine sings smoothly. Everything is going normally. But, a powerful blow is suddenly struck. The aircraft swings over sharply and begins to spin. Butenko immediately pulls back on the throttle and extends the air brakes. He then placed the aircraft in a climb.

The speed diminished. He then succeeded in holding the aircraft in straight and level flight. He thought about the situation which had been created. The conclusion came immediately. It would be inadvisable to increase rpm's. It is only possible to make a landing approach by descending. Taking this into account, the pilot also informed the crew about what he was going to do. He made the landing uneventfully. On the ground they discovered that one of the wing pylons had been partially destroyed. This had brought about great alternating stresses and additional resistance. They also found the reason. The corresponding changes were made in the design.

However, to return to the tale about the testing of the heavy missile-equipped aircraft. When the day came for the final flight, there was no doubt about it ending successfully. For that reason apparently, everything moved along smoothly on the airfield. Some brief parting words on the part of the specialists and the missile-equipped aircraft took off.

The first few thousand kilometers went according to plan. The equipment worked reliably and crew members did what was expected of them. Minutes then remained prior to rendezvous with the tanker. Then the navigator reported the following: "We are in the jet stream. Its velocity is 350 kilometers per hour."

There could be no thought about refueling under such conditions. The rendezvous with the tanker had to be changed. The navigator rapidly computed the new coordinates and reported them to the commander. General Butenko immediately radioed the new coordinates to the tanker commander.

The aircraft and the tanker arrived at the appointed place at the appointed time. But one more surprise awaited them--complete overcast at the refueling altitude. Here is where the skills developed during the training flights came in handy.
However, in practice, the situation turned out to be somewhat more complex. The density of the clouds was such that the distance, as compared with the other flight, was significantly reduced. What skill, what mastery, what self control was required on the part of the commander and the crew in order to accomplish under the most complex conditions a drill which, under the best of conditions, is considered to be difficult.

The mission was accomplished.

I look at the courageous, engaging face of the test pilot and I involuntarily think that it is good that there are such people, real pathfinders. They carry out their tasks every day selflessly, putting forth all of their efforts and knowledge, all of the fervent party soul in order to provide the winged defenders of the motherland with fine combat aircraft.

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Along with all personnel in the Soviet Air Force, the troops of the Aviation Engineering Service [IAS] strive for worthy accomplishment of their duty to the people for the reliable defense of the socialist fatherland. They're actively participating in the competition for further improvement in combat readiness of units [chast'] and subunits [podrazdeleniya] and insuring flight safety.

"The interests of raising combat readiness," states Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CC CPSU and USSR Minister of Defense, "requires from every member of the armed forces unceasing replenishment of military and political knowledge, and the skill to assimilate to perfection complex military equipment and the means for its employment, the intensification of the struggle for high effectiveness and quality in combat and political training." Troops in the Aviation Engineering Service do not forget this.

Thanks to the fact that IAS subunits are approaching all indicators with a unified standard for increasing effectiveness and work quality, notable positive results are being achieved, especially in leading units. Take, for example, operations which are carried out right with the equipment. Assimilation of third-generation aircraft required a further improvement in the technological processes of all types of preparing them for flight, as well as for preventive maintenance work. With this aim, the supervisory engineering
and technical staff, having run a number of experiments, determine under realistic conditions the most rational methods for making inspections and adjustments and introduced the changes into the technological engineering schemes in accordance with local conditions. Time checks were run on a basic operation and the sequence of its accomplishment on the aircraft equipment was determined. Only after such a scientific elaboration did we begin to train IAS personnel in the leading labor methods.

It is known that, when maintaining modern aviation complexes, all specialists must be rationally utilized. That is why a specific flow chart must be compiled for each specialist so that the entire volume of work will be equitably distributed between the members of the technical crew. This matter is now coming to a conclusion and the personnel are assimilating the operations envisioned for each specialist.

As a result, mutual communications within the crew are being improved as is the use of the test equipment. It has become easier for chiefs to monitor the completeness and the quality of all preventive maintenance measures. This all positively impacts on the content and operation of aviation equipment.

Undoubtedly, different specialists carry out their tasks in a different manner and, each under absolutely identical conditions, one does the job worse, one does the job better. In order to guarantee an overall high level within the technological process, units regularly conduct demonstration preparation days during which they teach the engineers how to plan work involving the aircraft and show them how to monitor and organize the cooperation between specialists. In particular, the planning for the preliminary preparation day involving compilation of a planning table was mastered and the unit duty engineer was charged with responsibility for making up this particular table.

An integrated check on the quality of preventative maintenance work and the completeness of the technological process for the types of preparation of the aircraft, as well as the skill of the personnel in accomplishing complex adjustment and testing (especially in the TEC [Technical Maintenance Units], was conducted to raise the effectiveness of monitoring the technical condition of the aviation equipment. In addition, the condition of the aircraft equipment during the between-inspection period is systematically analyzed.
Here, all crew writeups are generalized by flights and by groups. If there are repeats and deficiencies can be corrected right in the squadron, all personnel are so informed and the individuals at fault are counseled.

Thus, the effectiveness of the monitoring operations (without the accomplishment of which the aircraft could not be allowed to fly) conducted by IAS supervisory personnel has been increased. Moreover, an engineering chart was compiled for each operation.

They have begun to approach the training of IAS personnel and the introduction into the formation of newly drafted specialists with a measure of quality and effectiveness. Special attention is devoted to the development of practical and theoretical questions linked with direct maintenance of the equipment, as well as the study of the mutual ties between systems and aggregates, the organization of training sessions in accordance with the engineering flow charts, and skillful employment of the entire complex of checkout equipment.

In this connection, the methodology for bringing young technicians into the group was reexamined. In school, several of them studied aircraft of one type and now are tasked with assimilating another type of aircraft, one more complex. Therefore, they look deeper over a certain period into theoretical knowledge, with the task being development of skills under the guidance of experienced specialists.

A great deal of attention is also given to the training of young aircraft specialists. Meetings are held with them prior to the start of the new training year and the period of intensive flying.

Once a month lessons are held devoted to the analysis of deficiencies and methods of bringing them to light and correcting them. At these lessons, engineers use the reliability log and the list of defective components. Although instances of the failure of a certain aggregate or system aboard an aircraft are relatively rare, they have however developed a special list of such breakdowns to ease their work and the maintenance of deficiencies. It includes all writeups for the past four to five years as well as specific recommendations to the technicians and the mechanics on the methodology of locating the failures and correcting them. Measures have been noted to prevent instances of aggregates failing. The engineers take this advice into consideration when planning work on the aircraft during maintenance days and during the complete inspections and control checks.
The training facility assists in the growth of technical culture. All classrooms are equipped with operating stands, simulators, new mockups, diagrams, and displays. In them, one can familiarize himself with the special features of modern flight, with the arrangement and the mutual interdependability of the complex systems and aggregates, the armament, the ASU [automatic control system], and the other equipment aboard missile-equipped aircraft. Sketches and mockups are used in order to make effective use of the equipment prior to putting it in the classroom itself.

In particular, in one of the units, prior to beginning to set up the classroom on how aircraft and engines are put together, proposals were examined at a meeting of the methodological council. A group of specialists was set up which included Capt-Engr A. Mal'tsev, Capts of Technical Services N. Belous and A. Chernyy, Warrant Officer A. Yezhov, Yu. Dugent'sev, V. Manik, and others.

The officers and warrant officers set about their job creatively and determined that they needed a new auditorium. They tried to replace the large stands with light, portable plotting boards. They made a mockup of the classroom in which they determined the exact location of each visual aid. They made stands, supports, and special tables to hold the engine aggregates and components. They attempted to place everything in a compact manner so the aids could be seen clearly from any point in the classroom. They put a diagram (sketch) of the aggregate and its view in cross section on each one of the displays.

The engineers placed serious attention on the formulation of displays showing the air conditioning system, the pedal control, hydraulic, fuel, as well as the main brake assembly. The stands were well laid out and were not cluttered with information.

They went about renovation of the technical production facility with the same standard of quality and effectiveness. At the present time, they have already finished a large volume of work to improve this facility. In particular, they reequipped the TEC laboratories for preventive maintenance work with aviation engines. They envisioned a whole complex of technical operations. Prior to assembly, the specialists check the turbine blades and the suspension of the automated systems and do preventive maintenance and other work. In this particular vein, a great deal of initiative and creativity were exhibited by officers V. Zaytsev and K. Kuznetsov. The laboratories of the squadron maintenance groups have also undergone change. Here they also have the required
displays in which they have extracts from the instructions, equipment, and a description of possible failures has been presented. The laboratory headed by officer N. Akbashev is the best of the group. In the TEC, portable complexes with check-out equipment have been set up on special carts, which allows the specialist to do preventive maintenance work without removing the on board aggregates from the aircraft. This increases the mobility of the TEC.

TEC personnel have exerted a great deal of labor and interest in the construction of fixed box bodies for special trucks. As they come into the inventory the conditions for storing portable checkout and repair equipment improve.

In addition, efficiency experts prepared and introduced a number of new integrated stands with checkout devices, simulators, imitators, devices for the tuning and checking of radio stations and radio compasses, and for removable armament without having to hang the armament on the aircraft, as well as to control and check the anaroid membrane instrument systems and for remote monitoring of the condition of other apparatus.

Specialists in the instrument control laboratory have also noticeably improved their work. It was they who last year detected 10 percent of the failures and who were able to correct deficiencies involving deviations from parameters, misalignment, and partial loss of operability of systems. Many errors were noted in time and corrected thanks to diligent analysis of SARPP-12 [flight recorder] data and other objective control methods.

The daily steadfast struggle for excellent results from each training day, high level of class-rated qualification, and model maintenance of aviation equipment led to good results. More than 60 percent of IAS specialists have increased their qualification level, every other aircraft was maintained in excellent condition, and 80 percent of the technical subunits have been rated excellent prior to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Socialist competition which is underway under the slogan "The 60th anniversary year of the Soviet Armed Forces—a year of shock labor!" plays an enormous role in guaranteeing high reliability in combat readiness of aviation equipment and in the improvement in the professional mastery of IAS personnel, just as of all military aviators.

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[Review by Mar SU Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Vasilevskiy (deceased), twice Hero of the Soviet Union, of the book "Vospominaniya i Razmyshleniya" (Memoirs and Reflections) by Mar SU G. K. Zhukov: "The Main Hero Was the Soviet Soldier"]

"Vospominaniya i Razmyshleniya," the book by Mar SU G. K. Zhukov, was published by Izdatel'stvo Agenststva Pechati Novosti, in two editions in a total of 3.6 million copies. It has been published in 26 countries of the world and 17 different languages. The third edition of the marshal's memoirs is now appearing. At the request of the publishing house, Mar SU Aleksandr Mikhaylovich wrote the preface to it shortly before his death.

The Novosti Press Agency offers readers a shortened version of A. M. Vasilevskiy's preface in the article below.

Like all memoirs, Mar G. K. Zhukov's book is autobiographical. But the description of the events of the Soviet people's Great Patriotic War against the German fascist aggressors in 1941-1945 rightfully occupies the main place in it. More than 900 books have been written about the operations and combat actions of this, the greatest war in the history of the human race, by direct participants of the war. Marshal Zhukov's memoirs, however, deservedly occupy one of the foremost places among them. The panorama of the war, its political, social, and military aspects, is presented with great depth and scope in them.

Mar G. K. Zhukov dedicated his memoirs to the Soviet soldier, and this is entirely understandable. The majesty of the deeds performed by Soviet fighting men during the Great Patriotic War, their courage, heroism, unbounded self-renunciation, and readiness to give their lives on behalf of a lucid goal arouse in us a feeling of delight.
and patriotic pride. Marshal Zhukov considered the soldier to be the principal hero of the war.

Because he himself had lived the harsh life of a soldier, G. K. Zhukov had high praise for the military labor of soldiers, officers, and generals and their personal contribution to the successful conduct of operations. In all operations he kept the closest contacts not just with front and army commanders, but with the commanders and rank-and-file soldiers of large and small units and subunits operating in the main axes. This gave him a chance to thoroughly understand the mood of his subordinates, control their actions, and lead his forces to victory.

I knew Georgiy Zhukov well. My first meeting with him took place in early 1931 at the People's Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs when we arrived at the same time to go to work. He was assigned to the cavalry inspectorate of the Work-Peasant Red Army and I was sent to the combat training directorate.

In the year before the war fate brought us together again, this time at the General Staff of the Red Army, which he headed at that time. I worked in the Operations Directorate. But the intense days of work together during the Great Patriotic War (A. N. Vasilevskiy was chief of the General Staff from May 1942 — editor's note) have particularly stayed in my memory. We both participated directly in planning and carrying out a number of major strategic operations such as Moscow, Stalingrad, Kursk, the Belorussian operation, and others. We both had to command fronts; during the war G. K. Zhukov commanded five different fronts, always in the most crucial axes, while at the same time serving as deputy Supreme Commander after August 1942. We were both representatives of Supreme Headquarters and traveled to key sectors of the Soviet-German front to coordinate the combat actions of the fronts.

In all stages of the war, when deciding strategic, operational, and organizational questions, Marshal Zhukov was outstanding for his high principles, clear and sober thinking, bold operational decision-making, and ability to evaluate a situation thoroughly and accurately, correctly predict the development of events, and determine when to deliver the decisive blow against the enemy. He showed amazing self-control and sober calculation when making the most important decisions. He was a man of enormous personal courage and self-control. At the most difficult moments, even at critical moments, I never saw Zhukov confused or discouraged. On the contrary, he was most active, concentrated, and purposeful at those moments.

In October 1941, for example, when the enemy stood at the gates of Moscow, the following conversation took place between Stalin and Zhukov.

Stalin asked, "Are you sure that we will hold Moscow? I'm asking you this with an aching heart. Tell me honestly, as a communist."
Georgiy Zhukov answered straight out, "There is no question that we will hold Moscow. But we need at least two more armies and at least 20 tanks."

This episode reveals typical features of Zhukov's style of military leadership: his determination and confidence in the strength and heroism of his forces and his confidence in rear support for the front, in the invincible strength of spirit of the Soviet people.

I consider it an unquestionable asset of the book "Vospominaniya i Razmyshleniya" that it uses facts from the war to show the role of the Communist Party as the inspirer and organizer of our victory.

The author emphasizes that the Central Committee of the party kept an eye on all basic questions of waging military actions, among them creating strategic reserves and bringing the organizational structure of the Armed Forces into line with the requirements of the war in its various stages.

The factual information contained in G. K. Zhukov's book concerning the activities of the party Central Committee fit organically with L. I. Brezhnev's statement to the effect that the party Central Committee was "the headquarters from which ultimate political and strategic leadership of military actions was exercised."

It would not be an exaggeration to say that Georgiy Zhukov's book is the first in military memoir literature to give such an extensive and accurate picture of the activities of Supreme Headquarters and its leadership in actions on all fronts. The author shows the style and methods of work of the Supreme Headquarters, its meeting procedures, its solutions to problems of planning campaigns and operations, its attitude toward front and army commands, and its level of awareness concerning both the large and the small issues of troop life. As we read page after page it is easy to form an impression of the purposeful, well-organized, and precise work of the Supreme Headquarters and its high and wise standards. I completely support Zhukov's thought that the actions of the Supreme Headquarters involved an intelligent combination of collective and individual decision-making, with the right to make the final decision remaining in all cases with the Supreme Commander. It is not difficult to conclude that the party Central Committee was successful in making the Supreme Headquarters a very effective and highly respected organ of strategic leadership of military actions.

Nonetheless, G. K. Zhukov does not pass over the mistakes in the activities of the Supreme Headquarters, the causes of our failures at the fronts. In such a colossal war they could have hardly been avoided. With a feeling of pain understandable to every Soviet citizen, but honestly and straightforwardly Marshal Zhukov describes these mistakes and analyzes them. The author shows that the Supreme Headquarters took a critical attitude toward the mistakes that were made and drew practical conclusions from this. Finding the most acceptable
forms and methods of struggle in each phase of the war, our strategic leadership ultimately wrested the initiative from the enemy and then turned the course of the war in our favor.

The book "Vospominaniya i Razmyshleniya" gives sufficient space to Zhukov's activities as commander of various fronts. Through the prism of his practical activities it is easy to see that the Soviet art of military leadership was distinguished by determination and purposefulness and an ability to plan and organize combat actions correctly, to create the necessary superiority in men and equipment in the main axes, and to use such effective forms of offensive operations as encirclement, breaking up, and dividing the enemy skillfully.

The reports by the book's author where he tells of the stubborness and heroism of the defense of Stalingrad and then how carefully the Stalingrad offensive operation, the Battle of Kursk, and the other offensive actions of Soviet forces were planned are especially interesting.

The book performs an unquestionable service by elucidating the spiritual atmosphere of military life and the influence of the moral-political factor on waging military actions. The author was a military leader, and as a Soviet military leader he placed a high value on political work in the success of operations, indoctrinating the fighting men in personal responsibility for the course and outcome of the fighting and battle, for the success of the struggle, and for ultimate victory.

Hitler's former generals and the military historians of the capitalist countries are doing a great deal to diminish the contribution of the Soviet Armed Forces to the victory over fascist Germany and play down Soviet military art and the activities of the command cadres of the Soviet Army. Georgiy Zhukov exposes these efforts by bourgeois historiography with great authority and competence and reveals the strong sides of Soviet military art skillfully, with facts in hand.

The author of the book shows how our country marched to victory, the determination of the Soviet people to fight the enemy until complete and final victory. The conclusion to be drawn from this speaks for itself: the people and the army, united in their desire to defend the freedom and independence of our socialist state, cannot be defeated. This conclusion, and of course the fact of our victory, serve as a weighty warning to those aggressive circles in the West who even today are not averse to threatening the Soviet Union with a new war and thrusting the world into the depths of nuclear conflagration.
TRAINING ACTIVITIES ON A TORPEDO RECOVERY BOAT

Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 78 p 3

[Article by Capt 3rd Rank S. Panin: "Torpedo Recovery Boat"]

There are many ships in the navy, both large and small. There are the elegant missile ships and the modest auxiliary ships. But this one is not a ship at all, it is a boat. It has the prosaic name "torpedo recovery boat." When destroyers, submarines, and torpedo launches go to sea, the torpedo recovery boat goes with them. This is because they cannot get along at training exercises without it.

The boat commander WO [michman] Nikolay Grigor'yevich Ivanenko was all attention. After performing its torpedo fire the submarine left the second half of the mission to the torpedo recovery boats.

It was cold in the room of the boat. The portholes had been undogged to give a better view of the sea. Nikolay Grigor'yevich was hunting his "anniversary" torpedo today. The number of torpedoes he had recovered was enormous, and to recover a torpedo means more than just to give it a second life. The small boat produces a large economy for the navy.

Ivanenko takes his subordinates into the classroom specially to show them in graphic terms how much work goes into just one torpedo today. The warrant officer considers such graphic lessons the best kind of agitation. And no matter how tiring, and sometimes even dangerous, the search may be, Warrant Officer Ivanenko's subordinates cannot imagine that they would fail to fulfill their assignment and return to base without the torpedo.

"The boys are trying especially hard today! This is the 'anniversary' search."
"What do you think, Mitrokhin, will we find it quickly today?" the warrant officer asked his helmsman.

"Yes, comrade warrant officer, we'll find it quickly," the seaman answered with confidence. The commander has been hunting torpedoes for more than 10 years. He has enviable experience, and therefore the crew believes in his skill.

"Wheel right!" Ivanenko commanded suddenly.

The boat inclined sharply as it described a white arc in the black nighttime sea. Now we could see everything: far in front a tiny flame was flaring and dying. It was so small compared to the enormous sea, but still the sea could not overpower it, put it out.

"Oh you young people! What can I do with you?" Nikolay Grigor'yevich said, laughing. "Once again the old man proved more sharp-eyed than you."

Mitrokhin gestured in embarrassment, saying: "But you have so much experience, comrade warrant officer..."

In the beam of the searchlight the torpedo showed a white belly like a dead shark.

The hard part was over. What remained was the little job of lifting the torpedo on board. This "little" job once lasted all night, when a storm came up...

The boat's propellers beat the water cautiously, approaching the torpedo without hitting it. Seaman Rusov leaned over the rail. He was holding a special device with a catch loop on the end. He flipped it and the "fish" was caught.

"That's one more, comrade warrant officer!" Rusov shouted.

"Come on, come on, get going!" Nikolay Grigor'yevich answered. "We'll celebrate later."

The boat moved just past the torpedo. It was lifted by a winch. A few minutes later we were on our way home. A breeze was coming up and fog was setting in. We felt sleepy.

Warrant Officer Ivanenko, putting down the hood of his jacket, was writing something with pencil. His boat has been outstanding for several consecutive years and every crew member deserves great praise. It is a pleasure to see them: strong, smart, respectful of one another. They know their work and love the sea.

That is how it always is: the seamen of the torpedo recovery boat come and go, but the crew is always smooth-working and skillful. This is certainly the highest compliment to the commander.
I stood on shore and looked at the warrant officer. He had a cup of tea in his hand and was shouting something into the telephone. Then, glancing at his watch (which I know was a gift awarded to him by the command), he smiled: "Oh well, another assignment. That is how our work goes, never a moment's peace..."

The boat moved smoothly away from the dock. A small boat, almost unnoticeable compared to the enormous ships. But on its stern flies a flag under which Soviet naval men set off on the most important voyages.

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AVIATION REGIMENT'S RAPID REDEPLOYMENT CAPABILITIES NOTED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jun 78 p 6

[Article by V. Gerasimov, Leningrad Military District: "Your Takeoff"]

[Text] Early in the morning before the sun had dispersed the fog and it still hung in cold clumps in the clearings, Capt Aleksandr Terleyev's flight was called to the command post of the outstanding aviation regiment.

"At 9:30 hit enemy nuclear missiles," the regimental commander delivered the mission.

The fighter bombers raced off into the sky, filling the region with a thunderous roar.

The airfield was busy with its everyday life, a life calculated by minutes. In the complex system of an aviation regiment, where precision and punctuality are valued above everything, these minutes cover a whole range of different actions.

We were walking with the commander along a line of combat aircraft prepared for takeoff. The regimental commander was saying that in flying today nothing is secondary.

"Look at the runway. There are no weeds on it, everything is cleared away. This is a guarantee that the air stream will not draw anything into the engines. But it is certainly not the pilots that are concerned with this. This is the work of the maintenance subunits."

An event happened recently in this unit that was memorable and, in its own way, typical.

An order was received during combat training to redeploy one of the subunits to a different airfield. When the regimental commander, already in the new region, made his report on fulfillment of the assignment he was not believed at first. And this was not surprising because he had performed the mission in one-third of the standard time.
"Okay, your planes are there," they said to him. "But what about the ground equipment?"

"It has arrived and been set up!"

"That's impossible," the headquarters said in amazement.

It was necessary to invite the leaders to the flight field. Work was already well underway in the small cars designed by regimental engineers to be suitable for transporting by air.

Today's air aces know the value of time. Thanks to various innovations in the organization of servicing for the machinery, they reduced the already rigid time requirements for putting fighter bombers in combat readiness by 10 percent in just one year.

A person coming to serve in this outstanding regiment (which was awarded the USSR Minister Defense banner "For courage and military valor") immediately feels that he has joined a harmonious family where everyone lives through common interests. As a rule, just a few years after completion of school former cadets become military pilots first class and are able to operate independently in the most difficult situations.

The motherland has awarded personnel 39 combat awards for success in mastering combat equipment and the valor and heroism shown during this process.

After carrying out the flight program for his aircraft Lt Col Valeriy Shvyrev was approaching to land. The plane gave a barely noticeable lurch. This was the primary struts of the undercarriage extending in anticipation of touchdown. But why did the back strut fail to extend? The pilot pulled the stick toward him, moved the throttle forward, and the plane shot back up into the sky...

Military Pilot 1st class Shvyrev spent 15 of the 20 minutes of fuel remaining running the fighter bomber through inconceivable turns, hoping that the ill-fated strut would come down. But it did not.

Ground control called for him to bail out!

The response was a calm voice: "Give me permission to land."

The flight control officer was Lt Col Vazikh Farrakhov, an experienced pilot who himself has received two Red Star Orders for mastering new equipment. He understood that nothing could force Shvyrev to change his mind now. The pilot was confident. The risk he was taking was a justified risk.

"I authorize the landing," the command went out. Almost immediately the plane was touching down, with its tail almost hitting the concrete.
The braking parachute opened silently. Slowing down and seeming to settle, the plane's nose turned down, bumped into the ground, and stayed there.

The very next day Shvyrev was again flying, in the very same plane.

Yes indeed, newcomers will have someone from whom to learn precision maneuvers at supersonic speed, accurate fire, and the ability to make a correct decision in a matter of seconds.

Senior lieutenants Vladimir Klapous and Vladimir Mal'be recently arrived in the regiment. Today the 23-year-old boys have been entrusted with the latest aircraft.

The sun rose above the tops of the pines and dried the spots of nighttime moisture on the concrete surfaces of the airfield. The number of planes on the ground was steadily decreasing. One after the other they flew off like silver arrows.

"Well, it's my time now," the regimental commander said and, looking at his watch, moved away toward his plane.

Far away at just this time the flight of fighter bombers reached its assigned point. The range observer saw the bombs hit the target directly.

The time was 9:30, exactly.

11,176
CSO: 1801
TRAINING METHODS IN TANK BATTALIONS

Battalion's Methods Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Col P. Chernenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent; Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "In Hopes of a Maximum Effort Job"]

[Text] An authoritative commission from the higher headquarters worked several months ago in the tank battalion which Capt V. Burnashov commands. Having checked the progress of combat training and the carrying out of socialist obligations, it brought to light a number of serious deficiencies. An especially large number of derelictions were detected in the training of personnel in the company where Lt A. Valivakhin is the commander. In particular, the classes on firing and technical training were conducted here with violations of instructional methods requirements and under simplified circumstances. All this had an effect on the fighting men's training. During the check-out class they displayed low results when firing from tanks and carrying out norms.

The deficiencies, which were revealed by the commission became the subject of a serious discussion during party meetings in units and battalions. Those guilty of poorly organizing the training process were subjected to sharp criticism on the pages of the district newspaper. In a word, the results of the inspection should have become a good lesson for the future. It seemed that the officers and party organization of the battalion would exert every effort to eliminate the gaps in the fighting men's training and to carry out socialist obligations. Moreover, every opportunity existed to carry out these obligations: a good material training base and the presence of experienced instructional methodologists. It was only necessary to eliminate the detailed shortcomings, to attune personnel to the struggle for high indicators in training, and to create an atmosphere of competition in the collective.

However, I recently visited the battalion again. According to the class schedule in the company which Lieutenant Valivakhin commands, personnel
should have been performing exercises on firing T/O equipment. As is known, this firing crowns the firing training of tankers and is the best check of their skill. It would seem that during this class we would see accurate organization and genuine combat competition. It was 1200 hours when we arrived at the training center. According to the schedule this was the very height of the classes. However, the moving target tank gunnery range met us with unaccustomed silence. The tankers, having gathered in groups near the range tower, whiled away the time as best they could. It seemed that the target field was not ready for the firing. During the night troops from an adjacent subunit had performed an exercise and the raising mechanism had been damaged by a shell.

As they say, no one is immune to things like this although the situation is not so desperate if an arrangement of duplicate equipment is provided for. This is done in range practices. However, another thing was more surprising. For the entire four hours that the range operators were fixing the breakdown, the company was idle. Meanwhile, as it turned out later, the tankers had more than enough unresolved questions upon which the officers could have spent this time.

But finally firing began. The first run ended unsuccessfully. Lieutenant Valivakhin did not observe the target because the sight was filled with oil. The machine gun did not work on the tank where Lt. M. Kamaliyev performed the duty of gun layer. Sgt A. Mozer did not hit the machine gun target... The second run was not successful. In watching the actions of the individual tankers it was not difficult to be convinced that they were simply not ready to fire the T/O equipment. Jams in firing occurred during almost each run and some breakdown or other arose. However, some soldiers and sergeants were not able to eliminate them, they did not know how to do this. It only remained to regret the lost time.

Lt Col V. Papkov, a representative from higher headquarters, was present at the moving target gunnery range where the company was busy. He, of course, knew that in accordance with essential orders students who do not have the necessary knowledge and skills are not allowed to fire. However, instead of halting the useless expenditure of ammunition and requiring the commander to eliminate the deficiencies, he continued to watch calmly what was happening. Seeing this, Captain Burnashov in violation of prescribed rules began to move the firers at his own discretion.

Maj V. Moiseyev who was present at the class reacted calmly to this. Recalling that his name had been mentioned in a critical article in the district newspaper, he began to complain that they would accuse him undeservedly of poor control over the condition of the training field equipment for which he, they would say, does not have any regard. It was strange to hear this from a communist and a member of the unit party committee.

Unfortunately, some other communists in the regiment also took an insufficiently active position. Evidently this is one of the main reasons for the fact that in the battalion which Captain Burnashov commands and in a number
of other subunits the necessary conclusions have not been drawn from the last inspection and effective steps to organize the regular and consistent working out of training questions have not been taken. The winter training period is coming to an end. Now, the tankers are doing a lot to make up for what had been overlooked and to carry out the socialist obligations which have been assumed. Captain Burnashov believes that he will nevertheless succeed in pulling up the firing training of his subordinates.

We would like to hope that he will succeed. However, the battalion is still far from the frontiers reached by the district’s progressive subunits in socialist competition. Success in military work does not come by itself. It is ensured primarily by high organizational ability and by the ability to use time effectively and to organize the training process in a qualitative manner. This is a task for each day. A maximum effort job and rush work are poor helpers here.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, when speaking in Irkutsk said: "We must learn to work rhythmically, without dashes and without breakdowns. This requirement must be the guiding one in the life and activity of each party organization and of each work collective." This reminder completely pertains to each troop collective. Accurate rhythm, teamwork, and discipline are very important conditions for success in the struggle to carry out socialist obligations.

Outstanding Battalion’s Methods Described

Moscow Krasnaya Zvezda in Russian 27 Apr 78 p 2

[Article by Guards Maj V. Kolodkin, a tank battalion commander, Northern Group of Forces: “According to the Tasks and Norms”]

I recently visited a class on firing training in the tank company which Guards Sr Lt A. Davletmuratov commands. The fighting men were performing a scheduled firing exercise. A high level of organization and a maximum "load" in each training minute—these were the characteristic features of this class.
During the class I carefully watched the actions of Guards Lt V. Nazarenko, a platoon commander. In particular, I watched how he organized competition. Let us say that here is the training site where the tankers were solving firing missions. It is possible to organize part of the class in different ways from an instructional methods viewpoint. Some officers act, for example, as follows. The director announces the conditions for the task to the fighting men and starts a stopwatch. He determines the winners based on the time and accuracy in solving the task. However, this it seems is a very simple and, I would like to say, even an oversimplified plan.

Guards Lt V. Nazarenko organized training differently. Since the neighboring platoon was conducting live firing on the moving target gunnery range at the same time, the officer, as it were, included his subordinates in the crews who were firing. Having distributed duties between them, the tank commanders observed the battlefield. Their task was to detect a target, determine the range to it, and announce the data to the gun layer. The latter determined the sight setting and aiming point. Then they changed places. In a word, the tankers solved firing tasks not by the "classroom" method but under conditions which more approximated actuality. A competition in swiftness and accuracy of detecting targets, in estimating ranges, and in calculating firing settings takes place between the commanders, gun layers and at the same time between the crews. The platoon commander immediately announces the results to each tanker and crew, compares them, holds the best ones up as an example, and gives advice on what to pay attention to. Undoubtedly, this class organization and the instructional methods search of the officer contributed to the fact that the classes took place in an atmosphere of high rivalry and contributed to the qualitative performance of the tasks.

In comprehending the Letter of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, and the Komsomol Central Committee about spreading competition during 1978, each one of us most likely ponders the question: How to raise the effectiveness of competition even higher under our army conditions? I am convinced: The struggle for effectiveness means daily concern for competition when carrying out tasks and norms. I consider that this is the fundamental principle of competition since publicity, comparison of results, and the opportunity to repeat progressive experience are most graphically ensured here.

I did not begin my comments by accident with the story of the class conducted by Guards Lt V. Nazarenko. The young officer organizes competition daily with such thoughtfulness and creativity—daily and not on a hit or miss basis as, I will not conceal, sometimes happens with some officers. Thanks to the skilful organization, Nazarenko's subordinates invariably achieve high indicators. He has commanded the platoon for a little more than a year but has managed to bring it into the ranks of excellent ones.

Here is another example. Guards Lt M. Mikhaylyuk arrived in the battalion at the same time as Guards Lt V. Nazarenko. The tank platoon which he took command of was no worse than the others. However, whereas Nazarenko was able to bring the subunit to the ranks of the excellent ones, the platoon of his fellow classmate remains in the same position—among the average ones.
One of the reasons for this is seen in the fact that Guards Lt M. Mikhaylyuk devotes insufficient attention to organizing the competition on tasks and norms. During his classes there is no animation or vigor which stirs people up with rivalry.

We recently discussed this for a rather long time with the officer. It turned out that in preparing for classes, he did not think in advance about how to increase the fighting men's interest in training results. The desire to carry out assumed socialist obligations is by itself, they say, a sufficiently strong incentive for achieving high indicators. Of course, this factor should not be ignored. However, it is necessary to strengthen the good motives of the fighting men with organizational work on creating competition. Mikhaylyuk himself then came to the conclusion that it was possible, for example, to organize the last class using the competition method on such questions as: Who is the best locator of targets in the platoon? Who can estimate by sight best? Who makes calculations most quickly of all?

Competition on tasks and norms... These words have become such household words that we do not always think about their true meaning and it's as if it were washed away in the thinking of some officers. This vagueness at times appears in practical work. Sometimes you observe the progress of a class and you see: There is no competition. You speak to the commander about it—he is puzzled: How so? There were both winners and laggards!

Yes, there were. However, there was no competition on tasks and norms. The entire trouble was that the director did not assign any tasks or norms during the class and did not sum up the results for each of them. This is the essence of competition. I am convinced that it is possible to organize it during any practical class, especially during a training session. If everything is carefully weighed and analyzed, then it is possible to achieve an atmosphere of competition when studying each topic.

Again I will cite an example from training. I was present at two classes on the topic, "The Tank Platoon in the Attack." Guards Lt A. Ivanov was the director during one of them and Guards Sr Lt A. Davletmuratov during the other. Both are intelligent and well trained officers. However, they approached the organization of competition differently.

Let us say that one of the tasks which is being carried out during the class is: movement of the platoon to the attack line. Its fulfillment is not based on time limitations and it is natural. The nature of the terrain and the distance from the assembly area to the attack line should not be identical. In a word, it's as if there were no clear criteria for rating the way the mission was carried out. For this reason Guards Lt A. Ivanov did not organize competition between the crews. He rated the platoon's actions "as a whole."

Guards Sr Lt A. Davletmuratov acted differently. He immediately warned his subordinates that the actions of each crew in moving to the attack line would be evaluated based on such elements as speed of movement, maintenance
of distances between vehicles, the use of terrain for masking purposes....
In carrying out the task the officer efficiently rated the tankers' actions
using the radio. In trying to incorporate a spirit of healthy rivalry into
the class, he, for example, praised the tank crew under the command of Guards
Sr Sgt S. Burlutskiy for its skilful crossing of a ditch.

Incidentally, I involuntarily recalled this class later. During a tactical
exercise. The subordinates of Guards Sr Lt A. Davletmuratov acted more
accurately and harmoniously and reacted more quickly to sudden changes in
the tactical situation. I involuntarily thought that the success of the
platoon was laid during this class.

The operations of the company commanded by Guards Lt A. Ivanov were not noted
for such accuracy. A direct link with the classes which preceded the exercise
is also observed in this. Here is how the interrelationship between competi-
tion during classes and training in combat is manifested.

When there is an upsurge in socialist competition, the responsibility of
workers at all control levels and of directors for the creation of every
condition for carrying out assumed socialist obligations grows even more....
These lines from the Letter of the CC CPSU, the USSR Council of Ministers,
the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions and the Komsomol Central
Committee also pertain to each of us, the commanders. I see the role of the
commander-director in creating conditions for the troops' carrying out of
their socialist obligations primarily to be an organization of training which
would provide each sergeant, warrant officer [praporshchik] and officer an
opportunity to display his capabilities and skill to the fullest degree. A
class, filled with contests in carrying out tasks and norms, seems to me to
be the best form for displaying and improving these qualities.

A definite system for training commanders in organizing competition on
tasks and norms has taken shape in our battalion. Before each new topic we
invariably conduct a demonstration exercise during which we demonstrate without
fail methods for organizing competition along with other questions. In
addition, we conduct instructional methods seminars with officers and organize
an exchange of experience. Instructional methods classes provide a lot to
company-level commanders. Each officer, who approves the lesson plan of
a class leader subordinate to him, discusses the organization of competition
on tasks and norms during the class. The battalion's party organization
which Guards Capt V. Ryabov heads has made a large contribution to instilling
personal responsibility for the organization of competition in commanders.

To mark the jubilee year of the Soviet armed forces with urgent military work
and with excellent results in combat and political training--the fighting
men of our battalion are now living and working under this slogan. We see
one of the most important conditions for carrying out high socialist obliga-
tions and for achieving planned goals to be a further increase in the
effectiveness of socialist competition.

8802
CS0: 1801
Preparations for Fighting Forest and Peat Fires Described

[Article by Col N. Kozlov, chief of the Civil Defense [CD]
Staff, Gomel'skaya Oblast: "For the Struggle Against Fire"]

The danger of fires in forests and peat bogs is sharply increased as summer arrives. It goes without saying that, if urgent measures are not taken at the moment fire breaks out, one can literally start from a spark. It should be stated that the CD staff of our oblast is placing unremitting attention to the questions of fire safety. Last year, the Gomel'skaya Oblast Council of Peoples' Deputies made a special decision concerning this matter. Based on this decision, we have developed a fire fighting plan which is being consistently carried out. Especially notable results in this regard have been achieved by the Sovetskaya Belorussiya Kolkhoz and the Rechitsa Experimental Base in Rechitskiy Rayon, the Kalinin Kolkhoz in Khoynikskiy Rayon and the Novaya Zhizn' Kolkhoz in Buda-Koshevs'kiy Rayon, the 8th of March Knitting Factory, the Vasilevichi GRES, and the Rassvet Duck Factory in Gomel'skiy Rayon. Good access roads have been built here to the shops and to the farms, the water supply system has been improved, and dilapidated structures torn down. Fire resistant materials are widely used. Automatic fire fighting equipment is being actively introduced.

The nonmilitarized fire fighting formations at these farms have been equipped with firetrucks. Full time monitoring has been organized at the fire fighting depots with the installation CD staffs participating. Model fire fighting protection for the animal husbandry farms, shops, and warehouses has been envisioned by the competition conditions. When the results
are summed up, they determine which shop (brigade) voluntary fire fighting team achieves the best indicators.

In recent days, 205 fire fighting depots, 182 reservoirs, and 828 water towers have been set up in the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the oblasts. These can be used to extinguish fires. Naturally, all the workers in civil defense are called upon to do quite a bit of work, especially in the rayon-installation element. We have also set up training on fire safety rules. Last year, the oblast CD courses and the voluntary fire society trained more than 100 nonmilitarized fire fighting formation commanders, and 22 firetruck drivers. Thousands of machine operators and stock breeders have been trained. Also, 83 training points have been created where a significant portion of the adult population of the oblast has undergone training. Now, based on a decision of the oblast Council of Peoples Deputies, interfarm fire fighting strong points have been organized in the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Hundreds of films on the fire fighting theme have been shown to the population.

It goes without saying that, in order to bring to fruition that which is intended, the efforts of the oblast CD staff and the fire fighting service will be insufficient. Fire prevention is an overall task, a national task. Therefore, under the guidance of party organizations, construction organizations, oblenergo, the administrations of forestry and agriculture, internal affairs and trade and municipal services, oblpotrebsoyuz, and the mass media are participating. A special commission for the struggle with large forest fires headed by the deputy chairman of the oblispolkom guides the execution of fire fighting measures.

During the summer period, the commission is taking a number of preventive measures: to inform the population and organizations of the fire situation, to temporarily restrict visits to especially dangerous portions of the forest, and to organize a patrol service. Its responsibilities include also maintaining a fire situation map and giving summaries and reports.

In order to coordinate the activities and for coordinated employment of CD resources the commission includes representatives from oblast and CD services: medical, fire fighting, maintenance of civil order, provisions and supplies, transportation, and technical material supplies.

Commissions have been formed following this same principle in all of the rayons in the oblasts. Under their control, are mobile CD formations with a corresponding engineer,
fire fighting, agricultural and other equipment. They have been set up in those regions that are the most dangerous from the fire fighting standpoint and are capable of fighting fires over large areas.

An operational group headed by the deputy chief of staff has been set up and attached to the oblast CD staff for the purposes of guiding work in fighting forest and peat bog fires and for elimination of the aftereffects of other national disasters. It is provided with the required documents: a personnel notification schematic, instructions concerning the work of the group as a whole and of each worker in particular, and a map for forecasting the fire situation in forests and in peat bogs. The evolving situation and the operations of the CD forces are maintained on a working map.

The kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and industrial enterprises in each rural region have been assigned sectors of possible forest and peat bog fires and plans for organizing the extinguishing of such fires have been elaborated. The plans must contain the following information: the name of the forestry managements; which farm allocates resources (what resources and how many) to fight the fire; what trade points and medical points support these formations; how communications are organized; who is assigned which particular forest sector and, finally, who directs the fire fighting effort.

We have reprinted the decision concerning the protection of forests and peat bogs from fires that have been made by the rayispolkoms and distributed them to all farms, educational institutions, and organizations.

Taking into consideration knowhow from past years, we have intensified the fire fighting propaganda among the population and workers collectives and have increased the demandingness made upon the directors of all installations and services. Talks concerning the citizens' rules of conduct in the forest and near peat bogs, in areas where harvesting is underway and feed is prepared, in the domestic life and in production are now carried regularly by the oblast and rayon radio and television stations, via local radio networks, at rail, automobile, and river stations, at airports, and suburban train stations, and aboard passenger vessels. Automobile agitational races with the showing of films which propagandize the rules of fire safety are underway in all rayons. Lectures and talks on firefighting themes are organized in schools and other educational institutions and displays are shown. These questions are discussed at family and Komsomol meetings and during pioneer rallies. The state of firefighting measures within homes is also checked.
Young volunteer fire teams provide noticeable assistance. During vacations in the pioneer camps, they set up patrol elements which protect grain and forest areas, peat bogs, and hay fields.

Spot checks by fire fighting and forest fire services, and the maintenance of civil order service assists in the prevention of fires. As a rule, they are conducted during periods when there is a mass movement of the population to rest areas. In addition, special firefighting teams with the required equipment have been set up in peat processing and cutting organizations. Ditches to hold water have been dug at large peat bog areas. Such measures make it possible to eliminate fire in its early stages.

The readiness of fire fighting formations is constantly checked and improved during competition, competitive reviews, and at joint exercises with forestry and lumber personnel.

The entire complex of preventive measures has met our expectations. Last year there was not a single large fire in the forests or at the peat bogs. On the whole throughout the oblast and at national economic installations and in populated points, the number of fires significantly decreased and the amount of losses due to fire dropped by approximately 40 percent. This, of course, is not the limit, and we will strive to do everything possible to bring these losses to a minimum.

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Training Exercise at an Industrial Plant

Moscow VOYENNYYE ZNAIYA in Russian No 5, May 78 signed to press 7 Apr 78 pp 28-29

[Article by Lt Col V. Baryshnikov, teacher in the VTsOK GO USSR [Higher Central Officers' Courses of USSR Civil Defense]: "In the Event of an Accident"]

[Text] Special tactical exercises have an important place in the training of the members and commanders of CD nonmilitarized formations. I have often been called upon to participate in conducting such exercises and would like to discuss that with you.

In particular at this particular exercise the actions of a combined CD team at an installation were worked out jointly with the service formations in eliminating the aftereffects of an accident. And this is not accidental. From year to year, the formations learn the drills and the methods for eliminating the aftereffects of an enemy attack. And, sufficient knowhow has already been acquired in this regard.
"Well, will our people operate confidently in the event of a major accident?" L. Serykh, the director and plant CD chief, asked A. Bordun, his chief of staff.

This, of course, was not a simple question. And the answer to it had to be given by an exercise which was upcoming. A meeting of the plant CD aktiv was held. The director told those gathered that the nonmilitarized CD formations set up at the installation had to be always ready to act not only under special conditions, but during possible emergency situations during peace time.

"That is why the decision has been made to have an exercise," the director reported. "I request that everyone approach this measure with full seriousness."

Preparations for the exercise began with the complement of participants determined and the plan for their conduct elaborated. Along with the combined team, there would be a reconnaissance element, a communications element, firefighting section, the emergency technical mechanization team element, maintenance of civil order group, and a food preparation and distribution element.

For guidance they created a control group made up of 12 persons, including workers from the installation staff, the chiefs of services, the best trained formation commanders, and other enterprise workers. The group was headed by the plant director as exercise director.

Taking into account the preceding actions, the entire supervisory and rank and file complement of the formations was trained and the necessary political work was done. A great deal of attention had to be placed on technical and material support.

We especially point out the training of the formation commanders since every one of them is a basic organizer of the actions of his subordinates. The success of the rescue and urgent emergency-restoration work in the complex emergency situation depends on how the commander evaluates the situation, makes his decision, and assigns tasks. And, practical and special tactical lessons were held under the direction of the corresponding commanders with the personnel of all of the formations that were called upon to participate in the exercise.

The exercise director then held a lesson on the terrain with his assistants and with V. Kukve, the commander of the combined team. They studied in detail the sequence for bringing the combined team and the service formations to readiness, assigning
them tasks, organization of rescue work, and methods of controlling the resources in the center of the production accident.

The concept envisioned the following tactical situation. A "explosion" occurred in one of the industrial work areas. The boiler and the forge and press shop were destroyed, the mazut storage tanks "burned," the community power network was "damaged," and there were "injured."

It is difficult to model a center of a production accident as production continues at the installation. Therefore, they set up the corresponding situation in full scale sectors and in the training village, located on the territory of the installation. Incendiary mixtures and production byproducts were used to simulate fires and damage. Training positions for the practical actions of the trainees were set up near the boiler equipment which was being built (see the diagram) [not reproduced].

The sectors were selected taking into account fulfillment of the specific economic operations. Students from the tehnikum were called upon to be stand-ins. In actuality, the background was such that, during the entire exercise, the personnel operated actively with full effort.

At the designated time, the deputy director arrived at the production sector and made an input to its chief. The input stated that an accident had occurred—"an explosion in the boiler plant." The exercise director was informed of the accident by telephone. Having specified the situation at the industrial sector, the CD chief ordered that the rescue work with available resources begin immediately. He then called the CD chief of staff and ordered him to activate the combined team and the installation service formations and, together with them, go to the accident site. The director went there with a group of specialists (a power engineer, a technologist, and the chief of the OKS [capital construction department]).

The chief of staff along with the service chiefs gathered the formation personnel, using the intercom, telephones, and messengers. The first to reach the center of the accident were the reconnaissance element and the firefighting section.

It should be noted that the muster of all formations and the equipment issue were done in a short period of time. The departure of the personnel to accomplish the mission did not materially effect the production process since the principle of replacement and manning of the combined team through the use of the auxiliary shops and sections was adhered to.
The combined team commander reported readiness to begin operations and received his assignment from the chief of the installation CD staff who functions as the deputy exercise director: along with attached service formations move to the industrial area and began to clear up the production accident. Assistant directors checked the manning of the formations and the availability and the condition of equipment.

Having explained the mission, the combined team commander gave the order to move out to the site of the accident. Comrad Kukve went to the accident site with the reconnaissance element on a railway hand car, having ordered his deputy to run the column. And this is correct. By the time that the main forces arrive on the scene, the commander, having all necessary data, had already made the decision. As the formations arrived, he assigned them missions from his command post which had been set up in a semi-destroyed area of the forge and press shop near the boiler. Communications were set up both with his subordinates and with the installation CD staff.

The exercise director monitored the actions of the trainees. Near the boiler, in a full scale section, a medical team was operating jointly with the rescue group. It worked diligently, demonstrating a high degree of organization and discipline. Various methods of providing medical assistance to "the injured" were skillfully employed.

In the second training area, the water and sewage network element laid a temporary heating layout to replace the one "destroyed."

The exercise tempo increased. The reconnaissance element commander reported that the cellar of the press and forge shop was flooding and the cries of people were heard. But the fire spread to the lumber warehouse. The combined team commander, having evaluated the change in the situation, regrouped his forces and committed the reserve fire fighting section to action.

The instructions from the combined team commander were disseminated not only from the control point with the aid of communications means but also directly in the work sectors. And, all of this ensured the flexibility of the guidance of the operations in the center of the production accident.

One should not fail to note another important moment which was clearly demonstrated at the exercise. Formation personnel, strictly observing safety measures, also operated in risky situations. Thus, on the stairs on the second floor of the boiler room and in the basements of the first floor they noted "injured." All around them was fire, smoke, and the threat of
the collapse of heavy structural elements. But, the troops of the first rescue group, having taken safety measures, in coordination with the medical detachment element, leaped into the breach, if it can be said that way, and did everything necessary in order to save the people.

Here is a second example. Unexpectedly, a stream of hot water shot out from a steam pipe and this introduced a bit of dismay into the operations involving cleaning up some rubble which was being conducted by the second rescue group. A. Krasnov took off his wadded jacket and wrapped the damaged portion of the pipe. Troops from the water and sewage network element rushed to his aid. The accident was taken care of by their joint efforts.

They did not forget about collecting and protecting valuable materials. Not only the commandant service and the maintenance of civil order group headed by S. Kachurin, but all of the participants in the exercise occupied themselves with this.

Break time. Pleased with the work that had been done, exercise participants went to the meeting area. Awaiting them here was a warm meal prepared by the trade and food service element directed by V. Kaplin.

But, several shortcomings came to light. Thus, the exercise showed that the issuing of equipment has still not been thought out fully. If it is prepared ahead of time and its storage area carefully determined, then the periods required to bring the formations to readiness can be significantly reduced. The formation troops did not have sufficient practical skills in their specialties. Several responsible persons did not demonstrate the qualities of a commander.

Similar exercises assist in not only developing the skill to operate in a tactically skillful manner when eliminating the consequences of an accident and to acquire agility and knowhow, but also to develop stable moral-political and psychological qualities for the personnel in the CD formations.

He pointed out the best troops and formation commanders and assigned the task to further improve civil defense.

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Training Activities in the Georgian SSR

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 78 signed to press 7 Apr 78 p 29

[Article by Col Sh. Vashakidze, Georgian SSR deputy chief of the CD Staff, and Lt Col (Res) B. Yakovlev, assistant chief of the CD Staff for propaganda, Tbilisi: "Automobile School Competitive Review"

[Text] In Georgia, a republican competitive review has been conducted in the auto clubs subordinate to the CD courses. The goal is to generalize and disseminate positive knowhow in their work at national economic installations, to check the planning by the courses for their activities, the available technical equipment, and the employment of these mobile means of CD training and propaganda.

The review was preceded by a detailed study of the work of a number of courses, in particular, of their automobile clubs. The competitive review was conducted based on zones. Its results showed that the automobile clubs had increased the number of trips to the installations: several of them traveled 60 to 80 times during the training year. The overwhelming majority of automobile clubs have been equipped in accordance with recommendations and have sets of the special thematic displays, poster collections, and training aids on the program's various themes. Also checked were the technical means for training and propaganda. It turned out that many automobile clubs have libraries, film and picture libraries, and several have models of the planning documents, methodological elaborations, materials for consultations, and reference books. Thus, a number of the automobile clubs had up to 50 film strips, collections of thematic slides, up to 5 tape cassettes with recordings of various dramatic programs in the Georgian, Russian, and Armenian languages. In particular, the courses in the city of Rustavi (G. Markelov, director of the training section) equipped its club with everything necessary for conducting integrated installation exercises, for work during the elimination of the aftereffects of natural disasters and production excellence. Under these conditions, the automobile club is used as a mobile agitational point.

During the review, accomplishment of long range plans for the development and improvement of the automobile club training facilities was taken into account. Also deserving of approval is the dissemination of knowhow on the part of several of them in setting up sections for political-indoctrinational work among the population and the personnel of the nonmilitarized formations.
The automobile clubs of the CD courses in the Adzhar ASSR (Kh. Gabushvili, chief of the courses) and the Leninskiy Rayon in the city of Tbilisi (V. Dzhavakhiya, chief of the courses) had special stands with the photographs of CD leaders and materials which reflect the knowhow from their work.

The competitive review facilitated the broad exchange of knowhow, in particular the work in rural locales, in large residential areas, and in pioneer camps. Among the best were the automobile clubs in the CD courses of the Adzhar ASSR, the Yugo-Osetin AO, the city of Kutaisi, the city of Rustavi, and the Akhaltsikhskiy and Leninskiy rayons of the city of Tbilisi.

The order by the chief of the Georgian CD staff approved the initiative of the leading courses which made socialist pledges to ensure during a week on the average of four automobile club trips to national economic installations.

Also determined were the periods for correcting the deficiencies noted in the result of the inspection of the activities of the CD staffs and courses in the Kaspiskiy, Bolnisskiy, Tetritskaroyskiy, and Ambrolaurskiy rayons. The chiefs of the CD staffs in these rayons still are not placing sufficient attention on improving the automobile club training facilities. Moreover, they must be prepared for autonomous work, to include being used as agitational points in the regions of natural disasters. The statute concerning the competitive review, with the decision having been made to hold it annually, has been defined and supplemented.

Civil Defense Training Film Festival Results

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[Article by V. Mironov: "Growth Levels"]

[Text] It seems that it was just recently that the first festival of hobby films on CD was held. And then comes the second, devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces. There is a period of two years between them. Now, that does not seem like much. But, during this time, film lovers have made great strides forward and convincingly showed that the foundation laid is a stable one, that the road to the development of hobby films in the field of civil defense has been accurately determined. The results of the past festival are pleasing. They affirm the growing mastery and the level of interest on the
part of the creators of hobby movies and film strips in the preparation of this type of visual aid and its wide employment during the training of the various population groups and in CD propaganda.

In the examination and discussion of the selected films and slides created by hobby studios and by individuals, representatives of various ministries and departments, cultural and educational institutions, union republic CD staffs, Goskino [Central State Photography and Motion-Picture Establishments], the USSR Union of Cinematographers, the AUCCTU, the CC Komsomol, the CC DOSAAF USSR, the Union of the Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the USSR and other public organizations actively participated.

A specially notable success was achieved by the hobby cinematographers of the Russian Federation, Belorussia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. By the way, the festival Challenge Cup and the First Degree Diploma were awarded to the RSFSR CD staff. The films presented by these republics can certainly expect to be reproduced and be seen on the All-Union screen.

The jury selected as the best film the work of Yu. Fednev "At a CD Training Site" (Tbilisi). This film also was awarded a special diploma of the USSR Council of Ministers' State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting for high cinematographical culture. Second place went to the films "CD Measures at the AZLK [Moscow Order of Labor's Red Banner Leninist Komsomol Automobile Plant]" (by M. Savin and V. Ul'yanov, Moscow) and "The Rural Region Heads for the Exercise" (by N. Nedbaylo and A. Platonova, Minsk Pedagogical Institute). The "Bronze" prize winners were the filmstrips by R. Valiyev and R. Musin entitled "Installation Exercise at Kapitonovskiy Sovkhoz" (Tselinogradskaya Oblast) and F. Vysotskiy entitled "Individual Means of Defense" (Tallin).

It's a pleasure to point out that the rural theme was heard in full voice during the festival. Evidently, specialists from CD staffs and courses made the proper conclusions from the lessons learned at the first festival and eliminated this oversight. However, this time as well there were few training filmstrips presented and, by the way, they play a material role in the training process. Filmstrips are successfully used to replace loud, unseemly, as well as expensive and short lived diagrams. Yes, and the time required to prepare them is less. Moreover, using filmstrips, the director or teacher at any moment can halt the demonstration and explain a particular point or allow questions from the auditorium.
The work of L. Rusman and N. Kozin entitled "Ways and Means for Improving the Steadfastness of Agricultural Production Installations During Wartime Conditions" (the Kuban' Agricultural Institute in the city of Krasnodar) won second place (no first place was awarded) among the filmstrips presented at the festival.

Third place went to the filmstrips "The Deputy for Political Affairs of a Combined Detachment" (by L. Poddubnaya, Mining and Metallurgical Combine imeni K. I. Satpayev, Dzhezkazganskaya Oblast) and "Rescue and Urgent Emergency-Restoration Work at an Industrial Installation in the Center of Mass Destruction" (by I. Semashko, V. Fomchenko, and V. Polishchuk. the CD faculty at the Belorussian Polytechnical Institute).

All creators of filmstrips and films who won prizes were awarded Honor Certificates and monetary prizes by the chief of USSR CD.

Festival diplomas also went to filmstrips entitles "Readiness," (the Yelgava House of Culture, Latvian SSR), "Caring for Burn Victims" (Lentvaris Factory, Lithuanian SSR), "Veterinary Reconnaissance" (Döbel'skiy Rayon Film Studio, Latvian SSR), as well as the work of amateur film makers from Riga, Kuybyshev, and Sukhumi.

A film by the Hobby Studio Metallurg in the Elektrotsink Plant of the Severo-Osetin ASSR entitled "Prepared to Perform a Feat" was recognized by a special diploma of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting for model and substantive revelation of CD measures at a pioneer camp.

But overall, in spite of irrefutable successes achieved by the amateur film makers, some omissions in their work must be pointed out. Primarily, something must be said about the very poor selection of musical backgrounds which often did not correlate with that which was taking place on the screen, the narrators' text either obstructed or "diverted" the attention of the viewers. Yes, and people must be more demanding in their selection of the text and of the narrators. It is not accidental that specialists exchanging knowhow with hobby film makers called upon them to have closer contacts with journalists, with workers in radio and television studios, to draw upon their knowhow, and to draw them in to the creativity.

Summing up the results of the past film festival, Lt Gen D. I. Mikhaylik, Deputy Chief of USSR Civil Defense, noted the overall growth in the ideological-artistic level of the amateur films.
and the desire of film enthusiasts to raise the most important CD problems. He called upon the specialists in staffs and courses to more diligently prepare the themes and the scenarios and to place greater attention on the creation in the republics of visual aids in the national languages. There has still not been a single film about the troops of CD units [chast'].

Festival participants expressed the desire to organize such measures in the future. We hope that in the preparations for the next festival which will take place during the year of the 50th anniversary of USSR CD, all organizational problems undoubtedly will be solved.

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