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MOTORIZED INFANTRY FIRING TRAINING DEFICIENCIES NOTED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Parfenov, Red Banner Kiev Military District: "An 'Atypical' Fire Drill"]

[Text] The command rang out and the first three infantry combat vehicles set off along the snow-covered routes. The run was unsuccessful: one crew hit one target while the rest were, as they say, firing into the air. The crews did not do well on subsequent runs either.

Needless to say, Sr Lt V. Novikov, the company commander, was not happy with the result of the fire drill; but, it seemed to me, he was not very upset either. One felt the usual calmness in his behavior and his talk with his subordinates.

"Why get discouraged over this?" the officer said. "After all, we're not taking a test here, we'll learn. There is a lot of time left, we'll catch up..."

Complacency is, of course, a dangerous disease. Its first symptoms are usually seen in so-called trivial matters. Before the training period the company commander had not made sure that the combat vehicles were checked and ready to perform their training missions. A trivial matter? No, the company lost about one hour of valuable time because of this, spent setting up reliable communication between the tower and the crews when it was interrupted just before the first run.

The firers themselves were also poorly prepared for the fire drill. Many of them did not know the conditions of the exercise, rules of fire, or safety precautions. The sergeants did not direct their subordinates' actions or correct the fire. From talking with them I found that they did not know how to do it. No one checked their readiness for the fire drill. The result of all this was that the training period was sluggish and no competitive spark was felt.

Strange as it may seem, all this took place in a company which, based on last year's results, is considered the best in the regiment. One gets the impression that fame turned the head of Sr Lt Novikov. Senior

officers gave the company less attention. By no means was everything necessary done to prepare the range for these training periods. Some targets became buried in the snow overnight and would not come up while others that did come up would not fall when hit. The ones that, according to the conditions of the exercise, were supposed to move did not move. The crews were firing in simplified conditions.

"How did that happen?" I asked Maj N. Pisarenko, acting chief of the training center.

"Private Nazarov, our electrical equipment man, was taken off yesterday on an urgent call and, without him, I ordered the targets left alone," he responded. "You understand, it is complex, expensive equipment."

Short and ... not clear. Why is a training center unable to function without one specialist? And why was the snow around the targets not cleared away? Major Pisarenko's explanation for the second question was that the chief of the range, Ensign G. Orlovskiy, had left on a work trip and without him there was no one to organize the snow removal.

I do not think there is any need to comment on these excuses. They speak for themselves.

At the end of the training period one of the officers joked glumly: "Bad luck for us. We had good intentions, but it just wasn't a real fire drill. This one was ... atypical."

I recalled the summary training periods held there the previous autumn. Then too there had been several "atypical" fire drills. What does the word "atypical" mean here? It appears to mean unsuccessful, involving various organizational foulups that not only reduce the effectiveness of the training periods but also prevent personnel from fully demonstrating their skills. Incidentally, problems of this type were one of the reasons that several subunits had poor results at the summary fire drills and did not fulfill their obligations.

There were some sharp words on this subject. But later, it appears, the bitterness of the mistakes and failures was forgotten. And certain officers became complacent. "We'll catch up," they say, like Senior Lieutenant Novikov. But life has taught us more than once that the final result depends on the effectiveness of every training period. Any breakdown or disruption of the rhythm, whether at the beginning of the training year or the end, is inevitably reflected in the final result. To forget this means to repeat old mistakes and retard our progress.

Two months of winter training have passed. That is entirely enough time to draw lessons from last year's mistakes and bring all elements of organizational activity up to the level of the new requirements arising from the need to steadily improve the quality and effectiveness of all work. This is even more reason for concern that "atypical" fire drills are recurring.

SUPERIOR'S ORDER IS LAW, TO DISOBEY IS A CRIME

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Col Just N. Bukharin, military procurator, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Unconditionally and on Time -- The Commander and the Law"]

[Text] While checking records for men being held in the guardroom, the garrison military procurator's attention was drawn to the record on the detention of Pvt A. Lauri. It said that the soldier had been there five days for "arguing with a senior man" [starshiy]. The procurator immediately pictured the situation which might have produced this outcome: a PFC had made a critical remark to the private, for example something about his sloppy appearance, and the private, working on some important matter, had answered that he knew about the problem with his uniform and would take care of it as soon as he finished his work.

It was no accident that the procurator thought of a PFC; within the group of enlisted men [voinskaya chast'] the private has no seniors in rank except the PFC's. Outside it, of course, there are sergeants, ensigns, and so on. "It's good," the military procurator thought, "that the com- didn't stand aside here, that he gave the soldier a strict reprimand for such a violation of discipline."

But a talk with Private Lauri forced him to revise his approval of the actions of subunit commander Maj K. Kiselev. It turned out that the circumstances behind the words in the detention record were much more serious than arguing with an imaginary PFC. It was not failure to heed a "senior man," but disobeying his direct superior, platoon leader Jr Sgt V. Merkushin. And it was not a matter of "arguing"; it was an attempt to not carry out an order.

I would not want any readers to see this as a mere criticism of Major Kiselev for making out the document incorrectly. We are talking about something more important and fundamental: assessment of what has taken place in the subunit, intelligent determination of the nature of offenses. The effectiveness of work to teach the men diligent performance and unconditional obedience to commanders and superiors depends largely on this.

It is hard to overrate the importance of this work. After all, under the conditions of military service, failure to execute an order, disobedience of a superior by a subordinate, is one of the most dangerous offenses. To shut one's eyes to such cases would amount to excusing violators of discipline. It is no accident that Article 7 of the Disciplinary Code reads: "The commander (superior) who has not taken steps to restore order and discipline bears responsibility for this." This was the unenviable position in which Major Kiselev found himself when he classified an attempt to not execute an order as some kind of "arguing." He was a superior who had not taken proper corrective steps.

But what is so bad about an inaccurate determination such as this one? First of all, it is dangerous because what happened was perceived by Lauri and his friends as a mere disciplinary offense, whereas it was, in fact, a crime against the chain of command. The subunit commander was actually surprised when he learned that he should have reported the incident to his superior officer and that he, in his turn, should have set up a preliminary investigation and informed the military procurator.

We should remark that classifying Private Lauri's actions as a crime does not necessarily mean that he will be brought to trial. The law says that in mitigating circumstances the commander has the right to apply the steps provided in the Disciplinary Code to the offender. It may be that those five days were enough for Private Lauri to have changed his attitude toward the service. However, it is very important that the offender himself, all his fellow servicemen, and the commander understand clearly that the line was crossed and that the law could be invoked to protect legal military order.

Unfortunately, not all commanders (especially the new ones) are yet able to confidently make out the line which divides a disciplinary offense from a military crime. This may well be why one sometimes hears our sergeants refer to a particular case and say that nothing unusual had happened, a subordinate had "just argued." And they have no idea how wrong and harmful this statement is. It is bad when it is not refuted by more experienced NCO's and even, as in the case described above, by some officers. Such a situation leads objectively to a lowering of standards; instead of a precise response to orders there are comradely "understandings" and instead of the compulsory report on completion there is an irresponsible "forgetfulness." All this raises a danger of real failure to carry out an order which, we all know, is law for subordinates and must be executed unconditionally, exactly, and on time under all circumstances.

Of course, it is not easy to build relations with subordinates correctly, especially for the new commander. I recall Lt S. Vatchenko's frank statement.

"From my first days as a platoon leader," he said, "I tried to establish 'friendly' relations with my subordinates. I didn't notice that instead of following the requirements of the regulations I was trying to 'reach

an agreement' with each of them about what he would have to do. I soon became aware of the unpleasant consequences of this approach. Pvt V. Samsonov, who had been a hard worker before, tried to evade performance of one of my commands. This was an important lesson for me and forced me to revise the relations I had established with my men. I am now firmly convinced that there is nothing that can be substituted for the strict requirements of the regulations -- not overfriendliness, not rude, disrespectful treatment. Both inevitably lead to a lowering of discipline."

All you can say is that the lieutenant is right when he criticizes his own violations of proper subordination. However, all military servicemen have to understand clearly that even an uncategorical form of order requires unconditional fulfillment by the subordinate.

Our regulations do not define the form in which an order must be given. They only say that superiors issue them, ordinarily in the chain of command, and upon receiving the order the serviceman responds, "Yes!" and, upon completion of the order, reports back. It is entirely natural that no more detailed regulation is given. After all, orders may be issued under the most diverse circumstances: in front of a formation or in the heat of battle, personally, by telephone, or by written note. It is simply impossible to require that each time the commander perform some sort of "ritual." The regulations stipulate just one thing: the commander must ascertain that his instructions have been understood correctly. The one who received the order cannot offer the excuse that he did not fully grasp the mission or that the commander, while giving instructions, was not standing at perfect "Attention."

Detailed attention to all these nuances is also necessitated by the fact that procurator supervision occasionally uncovers cases of attempts not to execute orders owing to precisely the flippant attitude of certain servicemen to what their superior has said. Here is a typical example. Getting dressed to go visit a subunit, the battalion commander told the clerk in passing:

"If the commander of the first company comes in tell him that the training periods are being moved one hour ahead of the scheduled time!"

"Yes!" the PFC answered and continued to make out the schedule of training periods. He did not notice the company commander who stopped by soon after and it did not occur to the clerk to send a messenger out to him.

Trying to justify his actions to the preliminary military investigator later, this PFC said that he had not noticed the officer's brief appearance and afterwards completely forgot the order he had received.

Of course, the battalion commander could have taken steps to concentrate the clerk's attention on these words. For example, he could have had him repeat back what he had been ordered. It is a shame he did not do so, but still it was the clerk who violated the law in this case.

Figuratively speaking, military service is a continuous chain of commands and orders being given and carried out. The success of the men in all their service affairs depends on how well adjusted this mechanism is, the extent to which conscious obedience to superiors has been instilled in the men, and their ability to do what they have been commanded exactly, on time, and with intelligent initiative. It is very important, therefore, to instill in our servicemen a consciousness of their service duty, a feeling of profound respect for the commander's word, and to bolster regulation order and military discipline by every means.

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CSO: 1801

POLITICAL WORK IN URAL MILITARY DISTRICT DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen V. Samoylenko, member of the military council and chief of the political directorate of the Red Banner Ural Military District: "A Feeling for New Developments -- the Working Style of Party Agencies"]

[Excerpts] In carrying out the decisions of the 25th party congress and the October 1976 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, political agencies and party organizations are stepping up work in the units and subunits by every means, striving to make it fully appropriate to the challenges laid out by the party. One cannot help noting that these efforts are having the beneficial effect of increasing party influence in all sectors where the crucial problems of further improving combat training and education and raising unit combat readiness are being resolved. Speaking at the October 1976 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "We must continue striving to see that every communist, no matter where he may work and what position he may occupy, sets an example of outward precision and inner discipline, a creative attitude toward work, and a state-minded approach to large and small tasks." Our party organizations today are guided by this great demand as they teach all party members how to figure out the tasks facing them in a creative way, for the creative, truly scientific approach helps us do things in an up-to-date fashion.

We have set ourselves the goal of seeing that all party activists and political workers work regularly on the analysis, study, and scientific generalization of practical party political work, turning the information gained into solid conclusions and recommendations for improving the effectiveness of activities carried on among the troops.

We must not say, however, that in our search for new factors in solving our many pressing problems we have rejected already proven forms and methods of work. Everything valuable and useful in our accumulated experience is still being used efficiently. But the style of work of political agencies is constantly being refined.

For example, take the questions of planning party political work. We did not used to feel that there were problems with our plans. But, to speak self-critically, all our plans used to reflect mainly the current missions and contained very little looking to the future. To correct this it was decided at the political directorate to introduce future planning of work for the year. The monthly plans were kept. Now, as we draw up both types of plans, we can analyze the effectiveness of activities already held more carefully and take account of the importance of upcoming tasks. This helps us direct the work of political agencies and party organizations more purposefully.

In the last training year the political directorate worked out a comprehensive future plan of party political work figured for the entire five-year plan. Of course we are constantly supplementing this plan and improving it by activities related to new demands and challenges. Right now, for example, the political agencies are working to plan their own work and the activity of party organizations to fulfill the demands of the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "The 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution." A great deal must be done in studying and propagandizing this important document and mobilizing all personnel to greet the anniversary in a worthy manner.

When improving party political work we attach great importance to comprehensive analysis and a strictly objective assessment of the state of affairs in the units and subunits. If we are to understand the processes taking place correctly at the right time, see future developments clearly, and structure our work accordingly, we must make use of all sources of party information. An information and planning group has been set up at the political directorate for this purpose and the most experienced officers have joined it. While analyzing the state of affairs among the troops and thoroughly evaluating the effectiveness of steps being carried out, this group develops concrete, well-founded recommendations.

The effectiveness of party leadership depends on the militance and initiative of the primary party organizations. This was stressed at the 25th CPSU Congress. Considering this, political agencies have begun giving more attention to work right in the subunits. As a result, there has been a marked improvement in the analysis and study of everyday practices.

Young political workers sometimes complain that everybody is always talking about the search for new forms of work, but where can they be found? I would answer this question with another example. The personnel of the training subunits in our district change almost completely twice a year. When meeting the new trainees, the deputy commander for political affairs usually tries to develop, as quickly as possible, an aktiv which will work well and show initiative throughout the period of training. But then a certain time passes and the political workers finds out that the agitator selected in one platoon is doing badly, that operational news sheets are not being published in another and so on.

Is it impossible to avoid such mistakes in picking out the company aktiv? No, it can be done. This is demonstrated by the working experience of Lt L. Zaluzhskiy, deputy commander for political affairs in a training tank company. The company aktiv that he selected is functioning well down to the very last day of training. Zaluzhskiy does not appoint activists immediately, as soon as the new soldiers arrive in the company. He gives the men some time to look at one another, become acquainted, and make friends. While carefully studying the men himself, he also draws other communists in. Finally, after allowing relations within the collective to "settle down," he distributes a short questionnaire among the soldiers. They are asked to answer questions such as: "Who of your new friends do you especially like and why?" "Of your fellow soldiers, whose example would you like to follow and why?" "Which of your fellow soldiers enjoys the greatest respect and authority?" In this way, using all sources of information, the political worker confidently locates those who are capable of serving as agitators, editors, and the like. It turns out that the young soldiers participate with the political worker in selecting the company activists. And it is no accident that the company has picked out good men as secretary of the Komsomol bureau and Komsomol group organizers and that enterprising news sheet editors and agitators have been appointed.

I believe this example illustrates convincingly that the effectiveness of our work depends entirely on how much thought we give to organization, our mastery of scientific methods of controlling collectives, and our ability to employ them in practical party political work. But there are still political workers who say they are struggling to achieve a scientific understanding of reality but in fact hold to outdated views. It is our job to re-educate these comrades and teach them to work in the modern way.

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CSO: 1801

NAVAL ACADEMY IMENI GRECHKO CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Rear Admiral M. Ozimov, chief of the political branch of Naval Academy imeni Mar SU A. A. Grechko: "Winner of Three Orders -- the 150th Anniversary of the Naval Academy imeni Mar SU A. A. Grechko"]

[Excerpt] The Naval Academy today is characterized by an unbroken unity between the training process and the educational work and scientific research that goes on in the departments. The instructions and demands of our party and the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress are a guiding light for the collective.

In the Accountability Report to the congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "The modern leader must organically combine party-mindedness with thorough competence, discipline with initiative and a creative approach to work. Moreover, in any sector the leader must also take the sociopolitical and educational aspects into account and be sensitive to people, to their wants and needs. The leader must be an example in work and everyday life." These words fully define the principles of training personnel for the Soviet Navy too.

Guided by the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the demands of the USSR Minister of Defense and the commander of the Navy, the command, political branch, staff of professors and teachers, and party organization of the academy are arming the cadets with profound military and political knowledge. The main line in our activity has been and remains concern for ideological-political education, so a knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory and methodology helps resolve the most complex practical problems of training naval forces. A great deal of attention is given to party-mindedness in the teaching of all disciplines and to insuring an organic tie-in between the lectures and seminars and the materials of the 25th CPSU Congress and party decisions and decrees. The department of Marxism-Leninism has an important role in accomplishing this mission.

The academy's ties with the various fleets have grown stronger in recent years. The department heads and teachers, who generally have considerable command and staff experience, are involved in major naval and headquarters exercises and study the know-how acquired by seamen during distant ocean cruises. This enables them to come to a uniform understanding of the basic issues of operational art, correctly combining theory and practice, and introducing everything progressive in practice. At the same time such ties enrich the training process and help select more timely topics for the scientific investigations done at the academy.

When speaking of research we should stress that it is done in close cooperation with the Navy's scientific research establishments. Many studies are made on scientific substantiation of the qualitative and quantitative composition of the navy, forecasting its development, and determining optimal variations of weapons systems as well as other topics.

The academy today has every thing necessary to accomplish its missions. Highly experienced people, honored figures in science and technology, doctors and candidates of sciences, professors, and docents work here. Among them are Vice Admiral V. Lisyutin, rear admirals G. D'yachenko, D. Shindel', and I. Sysoyev, rear admiral-engineers L. Veretennikov, and Ye. Mnev, captains 1st rank V. Gulin, G. Karmenok, F. Matveychuk, and N. Priyemov, captains 1st rank-engineers M. Ganin, V. Zarayskiy, I. Ryabinin, G. Slavyanskiy, V. Tomashevskiy, and I. Triskale, Col R. Demidov, and many others. It is impossible to list the names of all those who are devoting their efforts to the cause of further developing and strengthening the Soviet Navy.

In addition to training highly qualified men for our navy and carrying on broad, varied scientific research, the collective of the academy is taking an active part in accomplishing another important military-political task. For many years since the war the admirals and officers of the socialist countries' navies have studied here. Performing its international duty, the academy helps the peoples of these countries train highly qualified men for their national navies.

Many admirals and officers from the fraternal countries who graduated from the Naval Academy imeni Mar SU A. A. Grechko have now become outstanding military leaders and command fleets and large units.

The labor of the collective at the academy has been highly praised by the Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union as well as the governments of the socialist countries. The academy has been awarded the orders of Lenin and Ushakov 1st Degree and three orders from fraternal countries. On the eve of its 150th anniversary the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet awarded the academy one more order, the Order of the October Revolution.

This high praise of the results of our labor obligates us to work even better, to wage a persistent struggle for a further improvement in the training process and educational work and for highly effective scientific research.

The CPSU and the Soviet Government work to solidify world peace and alleviate tension, to develop international cooperation. This activity is bearing fruit. At the same time the CPSU Central Committee decree "The 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" emphasizes once again that "the current phase of world development is characterized by intensified class struggle in the international arena. Aggressive imperialist forces are spurring on the arms race, which is a serious threat to the peace and security of the world's peoples." From us this demands unflagging attention to the questions of further strengthening the country's defense capability, training highly qualified command and engineer personnel for the Armed Forces, and development of military science.

The collective of the Naval Academy imeni Mar SU A. A. Grechko, winner of three orders, is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the school in an atmosphere of general political and labor enthusiasm. While carrying out the missions set down by the party in the direction of bolstering the country's defense capability, the command, political workers, professors and teachers, students, and all personnel at the academy will continue to devote all their efforts and knowledge to the job of training highly qualified personnel for the navy. The graduates of our academy will always be worthy in their service to the flag of our country and defend the gains of socialism and communism vigilantly.

11,176
CSO: 1801

PSYCHOLOGICAL, PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING FOR OFFICERS STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Feb 77 p 1

[Editorial: "To Each Officer - A Knowledge of Pedagogy and Psychology"]

[Text] The further development of military affairs under the influence of the scientific technical revolution, the solution of more complex problems connected with the mastery of the newest collective weapons systems and the qualitative changes in personnel make higher demands on the qualifications of officer cadres, on their ideological and theoretical training and military and technical preparation. Life also demands that they persistently perfect their knowledge of military pedagogy and psychology acquired within the walls of military training institutes and during service in units and on ships. This will permit officers to more deeply master the essence and regularity of the military pedagogic process, to better experience the complex and diverse spiritual world of the soldier, to more effectively conduct the work of training and educating subordinates, training them for the skillful defense of the Socialist Motherland.

In the foremost units and ships a large work experience is amassed; it is called upon to arm officers with profound ideological and political knowledge and also knowledge of military pedagogy and psychology; with the skill to approach, on a scientific basis, the organization of combat and political training, of socialist competition. Let's refer to the example of an outstanding missile unit which Lieutenant Colonel A. Kryzhko commands. The commander, the deputy for political affairs and Party and komsomol activists daily delve deeply into the questions of ideological and theoretical training of officers; they help them to more profoundly study the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the (1976) October Plenum of the CC CPSU, the CC CPSU decree "On the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution" and other party documents. In the unit they actively, persistently strive so that each officer, guided by military regulations and manuals and the recommendations of military pedagogy and psychology, will skillfully and creatively solve the tasks of training and education and will use the most efficient forms and methods of influence on subordinates in the course of training and service and in competition. At the official conferences and theoretical seminars they thoroughly analyze: the questions of an overall approach to ideological educational work, the essence and peculiarities of the military

pedagogical process, the psychology of soldiers at different stages of service, the path for unifying the military collective. Experienced commanders and political workers teach the young officers progressive methodological consultation, the science of individual educational work, pedagogical tact and put them on guard against mistakes.

The perfection of the psychological, pedagogical knowledge of officers is accomplished in the commander's training system and in evening Marxism-Leninism universities. The theoretical seminars in units and on ships are also of great benefit. Military pedagogical and psychological recommendations aimed at raising the efficiency and quality of the training process, competition and the unity of military collectives are discussed in them.

An extremely effective method of replenishing and deepening knowledge is the officer's independent work on literature which covers the questions of goals, tasks and content of the training and education of Soviet soldiers and the psychological bases for forming military craftsmanship. This training is accomplished according to personnel plans. It is important that the plans be realistic. Correspond to the officer's level of political and military training and more fully respond to his service activity profile.

Of course, officers in independent study need active control and daily help. It is necessary to more widely use the forms of work which have proven themselves, such as, group and individual tutorials including those on the methodology of independent work, lectures on the topics of pedagogy and psychology and surveys of materials from the periodical press which bring to light the essence and peculiarities of the military pedagogical process, the ways and means of forming high moral-political, combat and psychological qualities in soldiers.

Unfortunately, this work is not being conducted everywhere with the necessary efficiency and effectiveness. Many commanders and political workers limit themselves to general appeals to officers to master pedagogical and psychological knowledge; they do not create the conditions necessary for their self education. The ideological and theoretical level of many lectures, reports and seminars which consider the questions of the unity of training and education, the psychology of the military collective, the essence and ways of serviceman self education, the basic methods of studying and generalizing military pedagogical practice is not high. Elements of formalism in the work of spreading up-to-date personnel training and educational experience have not been completely overcome. In several officers club libraries, propaganda books and brochures on the topics of pedagogy and psychology are poorly organized. Of course, it is necessary to conduct a decisive struggle against such shortcomings.

The knowledge of military pedagogy and psychology acquired by officers is consolidated in practice, in the course of lessons, studies, training, missile launches, flights, naval cruises; the clear-cut, model organization of all of these must maximally contribute to the perfection of the officers' pedagogical

craftmanship, their methodological habits. And at the critiques, while evaluating the quality of fulfillment of combat training tasks, it is necessary to more deeply analyze the questions of the officers' pedagogical knowledge; how skillfully are they using the conclusions and recommendations of military pedagogy and psychology in their work.

It is known that in practice many officers, especially the young, run into difficulty: one lacks exactingness, another methodological skills, a third pedagogical tact. Commanders, political workers and staff officers are called upon to give them individual help in mastering the science of training and education, of pedagogical knowledge. At the same time they cannot deprive the trainees of their independence, substitute for them, or watch over them for trivial details.

The growth of officers as educators is furthered by their active participation in the social and political life of subunits, units and ships. Party and komsomol organizations are obligated to see to it that all officers, Communists and komsomols take the most active part in organizational and agitation-propaganda measures in preparation for the 60th Anniversary of Great October.

The achievements of all officers in firmly mastering the bases of military pedagogy and psychology and the daily transmission of their knowledge and experience to the numerous detachments of warrant officers [praporschiki i michmany], sergeants and petty officers will mean the assurance of a higher level of organization of the training process and competition, of the further strengthening of military discipline and organization, of the raising of the combat readiness of units and ships.

9001

CSO: 1801

TRAINING IN DEFENSE AGAINST WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION EMPHASIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Maj A. Dzhun'ko: "Contemporary Combat Requires Both Teaching and Physical Hardening"]

[Text] The topic of my letter will be an approach to studying such an important discipline as the enemy's weapons of mass destruction and methods of defense against them. It appears that we, the officers, still have certain deficits here. Sometimes, while talking about contemporary combat in training, we strongly direct attention, by way of illustration, to the power of nuclear weapons, to the destructive effects of the explosion. For this, we use colorful posters and comparative tables.

It goes without saying: nuclear weapons are a menacing force. It is impossible to pass over it in silence or depreciate their combat characteristics. But, we can and must set a defense against the power of this weapon; the means of which it is necessary to teach to all soldiers, without exception.

Unfortunately, other study leaders do not always skillfully solve this task. Such a shortcoming was specifically noted in Lieutenant V. Kotov. He very sluggishly, diffidently conducted the part of the lesson which was dedicated to the study of the means of defense against weapons of mass destruction.

Of course, Kotov is young; he must be taught a methodology, especially from positive experience. And we have such experience.

I remember this episode. A general and a group of officers arrived at a missile "site". They were inspecting the course of combat training. The general immediately became interested in the study schedule.

"And where will Lieutenant Zubkov conduct the lesson on the enemy's weapons of mass destruction?", he asked, and finding out it was on position, he concluded: "Well then let's watch."

Lieutenant M. Zubkov skillfully using the synopsis reminded the soldiers of the physical bases of nuclear weapons, their destructive effects and then confidently gave an account of the means of defense. He brought out striking comparisons, clear figures. Using visual aids, he mentioned that the troops are armed with the appropriate means of defense, developed means of eliminating the after-effects of enemy nuclear, chemical and bacteriological attacks. And the main task of the trainees is to master this entire system of defense measures. The appropriate situation was created in the training. The soldiers, working with the officer's data, worked out the norms in practice. They acquired skills for using the means of defense. Then, the general liked the training.

I noted that Lieutenant Zubkov trains the soldiers with the means of defense against weapons of mass destruction during every movement to the field and while working on the equipment.

I want to stimulate an interest in yet another question. Of course, it is extremely important to teach subordinates to use the means of defense, to use the radiation and chemical reconnaissance instruments and to conduct special treatment. But, do they have sufficient physical strength and endurance to bear the burdens connected with overcoming the after-effects of nuclear attack? This is not a rhetorical question.

Everybody has probably seen such a picture. A cross country race is being held. At the signal, everybody takes off together. Then a chain begins to stretch out. Let's observe one of the stragglers. A kilometer is past, another. The gap between this soldier and those running ahead increases. His body seems to be filled with a lead weight; it's hard to breathe. And he is already doubtful: can he make it to the finish line? You look, and, indeed, he waved his hand and his pace began to slacken. So, inadequate physical strength raised a doubt in the soldier, dulled his will and, as a result, the goal set before him was not reached.

What does this example show? Physical and psychological training are interdependent concepts. It is not enough to train a soldier to work correctly. It is necessary to strengthen his will and to train the muscles. Otherwise, his entire capability can simply go to pot.

Unfortunately, many officers forget this. It is known that the engineer equipping of positions, concentration areas, etc. is extremely important in the system of defense against weapons of mass destruction. Troops now have powerful engineering equipment at their disposition. But, the entrenching tool has also not lost its importance. Now let's tell the truth: do we require our subordinates to take shovel in hand and dig trenches as required? For this, we quiet ourselves with the thought: when the thunder bursts forth, the situation will force "digging in". And again the question: will there be sufficient physical strength, the necessary knack for using such an ancient, but still modern, instrument like the entrenching shovel? It is also necessary to think about this when we train subordinates and prepare them for the difficult trials of contemporary combat.

SOVIET FIRE FIGHTING CAPABILITIES DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Feb 77 p 4

[Article by Col I. Ivannikov at serviceman's request: " '01' "

[Text] Dear Editors! Please tell us how the fire fighting service is organized in our country. What are the basic trends in the struggle with fires?

Senior Sergeant, Reserve
V. Sopolev
Khabarovsk

In the dye works of the woodworking ship of the Taranovskiy Sand Quarry on Kustanayshchina, a fire broke out. The nitro dyes could explode at any minute. A threat arose for the shop with its expensive equipment and for the finished goods warehouse.

In a matter of minutes, the duty watch, in the person of driver I. Usenko and fireman A. Kuznetsov, arrived at the scene of the incident. The extinguishing operation was headed by the section chief, S. Lokaychuk. The newly arrived combat crew together with members of the local volunteer fire team worked courageously and energetically.

This is only one episode from the hard and often dangerous work of firemen. They accomplish a common task for all the people in the interests of protecting their socialist and private property of citizens and their lives. The organization of the fire fighting service was initiated in 1918 by Lenin's decree "On the Organization of State Firefighting Measures."

The decree's most important thesis was fire prevention. This is still the main thing in the activities of the country's fire fighting service and, first and foremost, of the State Fire Surveillance Office. This includes the elaboration of measures for fire warning, the control over the fulfillment of fire fighting regulations, etc. in enterprises, institutions, organizations, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and in the residential sector. The help of volunteer fire teams and societies and their millions of members is invaluable here.

The protection of cities, populated areas, industrial and other national economic units is accomplished by a militarized or professional fire fighting service. In rural areas, fire fighting is conducted by volunteer fire teams from kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The management of the service is under MVD jurisdiction. Highly qualified specialists work in the fire fighting service. The training of specialists is accomplished in fire fighting technical institutes and in the USSR MVD Higher Engineer Fire Fighting Technical School.

The task of the fire fighting service is the investigation of the causes of fires, the elaboration of preventive measures, personnel training and the organization of fire extinguishing operations. For this, the service has at its disposal qualified cadres, modern equipment and effective fire extinguishing means.

The rapid development of scientific technical progress which is penetrating all branches of the national economy and especially energetics, the gas, chemical and petrochemical industries, has radically changed the customary ideas about industrial fire safety. Technological processes now involve large quantities of fire and explosive hazardous materials; emergency situations are fraught with the danger of fires.

In these conditions, the traditional means of the fire fighting service, using only water, are no longer enough. Stationary, automatic fire extinguishing equipment is being widely introduced in enterprises: foam, water, gaseous, powder. Average density foam, which is now an effective fire extinguishing means, occupies a firm place in fire extinguishing practice.

The wide introduction of automats is the main trend for insuring the fire safety of objects. Scientific research institutes, specifically the USSR MVD All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Fire Fighting Defense, are conducting work in all areas of the fire fighting service's activities: prevention, fire extinguishing, alarm systems, fire fighting equipment and automats, etc.

The measures for strengthening fire safety also call for the active introduction of fire alarm systems which react to the heat, smoke, light and ultraviolet radiation of flames, for improving the water supply of units, raising the fire resistance of buildings and structures, strengthening the volunteer fire teams, raising the effectiveness of fire fighting propaganda, conducting annual public inspections of the fire fighting status of industrial and agricultural units, structures, bases, warehouses, etc.

State measures on a country-wide scale, the active introduction of the accomplishments of scientific technical progress in the fire fighting field and wide public support are the guarantees for lowering the material and human losses to fire in our country.

9001

CSO: 1801

SHORTCOMINGS NOTED IN RADAR UNIT COMBAT TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Feb 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col Ye. Apal'kov: "The Main Thing is Effectiveness and Quality, Not Just Time"]

[Text] The most important component of the combat capability of radar units is their mobility, or, in other words, the ability to change combat dispositions in response to the unfolding air and ground situation, to skillfully accomplish secret marches and set up equipment at the new locations. To a great extent, success here depends on the commander's organizing qualities, his capability to firmly control the unit in the most complex, unforeseen conditions, on the clear-cut coordination of the crews and on each individual's skills being sharpened until automatic. And these skills are acquired through exercises and drills filled with the breath of contemporary combat.

For example, in the unit commanded by Captain V. Goncharuk, the tasks connected with equipment relocation are worked out with the required use of input data in complex situations which demand daring and original actions from the troops. It has become the rule here to begin tactical exercises, including those with movement of radar stations to reserve positions, without notice. While one crew is tearing down the equipment and preparing it for movement, the other is simultaneously accomplishing search and track of air targets. At the same time, input data follows and designates the withdrawal from the system of this or that specialist, an assault by "enemy" diversionary groups, etc. In short, the radar operators work under conditions which demand not only highly specialized training, but also initiative, decisiveness and good physical conditioning.

But, is the training of radar operators set up this skillfully everywhere? Unfortunately, no. Another unit commander has difficulty analyzing training and exercises: for instance, his subordinates worked efficiently and were well coordinated; they arrived at the new positions on time and prepared the equipment for work, but their score was not high.

The unit headed by Captain R. Kushmukhametov in its time occupied one of the first places in competition. Judging by the reports, they solved all the combat training tasks successfully; the percentage of outstanding trainees

was impressive, highclass specialists. Therefore, there was every reason to expect that the radar operators would also show their best side in the course of the tactical exercise.

However, in reality, it turned out otherwise. Long before the exercise, it was decided in the unit which crew would have to change its position. And just this crew began daily practice in tearing down and setting up the equipment. Consequently, there could be no question that any sort of surprise was set up in the task. When the order arrived to tear down and relocate the radar station, this crew found "volunteer" helpers in the person of other specialists, even though they, at this time, were supposed to conduct target search and tracking, eliminate pockets of "fire", repel the assault by the "enemy's" diversionary groups, etc.

As we can see, already, at the very beginning of training, they began to permit inexcusable oversimplifications and prearrangements. These also took place in the course of the march. This stage provided for the solution of problems, such as, insuring column movement secrecy, radiation and chemical reconnaissance of the route followed, repulsing the "enemy's" air ground and ground assaults, overcoming "contaminated" areas, etc. But the radar operators decided not to trouble themselves with the fulfillment of these tasks. They were concerned with one thing: how to arrive at the new position and report readiness for work as quickly as possible. And even though they set up the station in good time and took part in combat work, overall their actions could in no way be recognized as successful.

The subsequent analysis showed that the unit superficially treated the solution of a number of training tasks. Specifically, the practical work of changing positions was conducted in a pre-arranged fashion. In those cases where the equipment was moved to a new position, the march looked more like a stroll than the accomplishment of a complex combat training task. Everything was crystal clear in the report.

These and other deficiencies were discussed in detail in the critique of the tactical exercise. It is necessary to note that the business-like principled conversation helped Captain Kushmukhametov. In a business-like manner, he started to eliminate the deficiencies, to raise the quality of the radar operators' combat training. The efforts of Communists and komsomols were directed toward the solution of this task. And, during the next inspection, the unit received a good mark.

I noticed that Captain Kushmukhametov's subordinates were a great deal more pleased with a four than with the high marks they received before. Such was the value of this good rating, earned through military labor without any reduction for prearrangements.

9001
CSO: 1801

TANK DESIGN BUREAU ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Feb 77 p 4

[Article by Capt 2d Rank L. Yevtukhov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "The Breath of Hot Armor"]

[Text] Where does a tank start out? At a design bureau. It is from here that the "stork" flies away carrying a "baby" in its beak -- the blueprints. Based upon them, the knight of armor, the tank, is manufactured in shops. "No!" objects the chief designer of the plant. "If you want to be accurate, the modern tank has many parents, it is created by people of many professions".

I walk through the corridor. Signs sparkle on the doors: "Armor Division", "Transmission Division", "Armament Division", "Hull Division"...

They explain to me: "The day of the generalist is past. A designer even has to work 10-15 years on a specific vehicle component in order to become a specialist in his field. He has to know his business down to the smallest screw. I remember when a chief designer in his day read the "riot act" to a young engineer because of two unnecessary bolts in a mechanism that the engineer had developed".

We go into one of the divisions. There are several desks. The remaining space is occupied by Kuhlman tables arranged in a column of twos. Sheets of Whatman paper sparkle like white wings. They are often brought to the fields of battle by participants in stubborn discussions. And, as they say, swords are crossed, not for the sake of "battle" but in order to find that single variant which makes the vehicle a weapon accessible for production, easy to master, and terrible in battle.

Moreover, the contemporary designer, even having formulated the blueprints, having coordinated the technology, having checked over his calculations dozens of times, continually counsels with the workers, engineers, and masters. And, on that day, almost one-third of the workers in the KB [design bureau] were at the plant.

The armor cutting shop is a kingdom of fire and metal. The sheets of armor developed by the brains and hands of the country's best metallurgists lay on

the "operational tables". Automatons painstakingly "study" the lines drawn on the blueprints with a sharpened pencil at the design bureau and audibly transfer them with lightening-like cuts into the intended figures onto the metal. Here, they are cutting out the future "clothing" of a tank. Subordinate to human will, multi-purpose lathes grind the edges of the armor, they heat them up in the furnace crucible, remove it and temper it in baths, and smooth out deflections with press-"irons". And, you get the impression that you can feel how the armor breathes and pulsates in the hands of the workers.

Gigantic welding equipment squeezes in a death grip the coat of mail of the hull of the future tank. The fiery breath of the electrodes heats the seams which in combat testing were fired at point blank. The armor did not stand up to it but the seams remained...

The assembly shop. Here, the hull of the tank begins to acquire the form of a prime mover. It is already on the rollers, the engine has been installed, the transmission has been mounted...

Nearby, machinists are installing the complex nerve center -- the wiring for the turret's electrical equipment. The cannon has been installed and the machine-guns affixed. And then the finished turret floats beneath the roof of the shop. One motion of the female hand and the monster was locked over the lip of the hull and seated.

I move from tank to tank. Here, it joyfully twinkled with the ripe cherry color of a "traffic signal". A light blinked "like a Jupiter lamp". The machine gun barrels coldly stare like black funnels. The cannon tubes have been raised proudly. And suddenly, there is a female's station.

"A high-class master," my guide says. "The assembly operation is drawing to a close. Now, the vehicle has to be washed. As they say, 'culture it' from within. Clean it with special solutions and paint it. Female hands are irreplaceable here".

The testing personnel are located in another wing. The "finished products" float to that section. However, these tanks have a long trip: test for vibration, speed, durability, roadability,... But, these are already tanks. Remember the words of Vasily Terkin: a tank going into battle is a frightening thing to the person at which its cannon is aiming".

"A powerful vehicle," smiles worker Gennadiy Terent'yevich. He is a plant veteran. He recalls how, during the war, one of the drivers outside the plant inadvertently hitched onto a switching engine and... pulled it into the shop. The master hollered: "Where are you taking that locomotive? We don't have enough room to even park the tanks".

A changeover in generations... This has affected the tank plant also. But, there are still a few veterans around who remember the terrible, evil years of war, when the front "passed" through the shop.

"Prior to the Battle of Stalingrad, the Stavka [Supreme High Command] ordered a sharp step-up in production of the T-34," one of them recalled. "I was 15 and a half. The master gives the order and I try until I fall asleep at the machine. After a while, he rouses me and will severely say: You did it all but, my boy, that is enough. Your eyelids are red from lack of sleep, your eyes are watering. The plant set records then".

"And now?"

"Say the word, and we will do it again now. Our tank plant can build whatever you want. Just give us the blueprints..."

Of everything I saw in the ships -- the equipment, lathes monstrous in size and power, fire-breathing furnaces, and brilliant technological processes -- the thing that impressed me the most was the calm confidence of the personnel who know the value of their mastery and who sense their power over all this equipment. They are performing shock labor in this glorious 60th anniversary year of Great October.

I parted grudgingly from these amazing people. Such as these are seldom written up in the newspapers. And, they are the ones forging the weapons for the defense of the Fatherland, for the defense of the great conquests of October.

Engines roared at the tankodrome, earth flew from beneath the tracks like sprays of stony rain and dirt. Combat vehicles roll into ravines and, gathering speed on the march, smashed barriers and targets into smithereens, traveled through fire and water.

One of the test team said:

"Pass our greetings on to the tank troops. We are proud of them. But, prior to every exercise, as they take the controls of our tank, tell them not to forget that every bolt in this vehicle was tightened by the hands of workers".

7869

CSO: 1801

SIGNAL UNIT COMBAT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Feb 77 p 1

[Article by Col I. Maksimov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent with the Red Banner Volga Military District: "Taking the Active 'Enemy' Into Account"]

[Text] The battalion column picked up speed. The vehicles crossed their snowy path to the area where the communications junction was to be set up. They soon occupied their assigned places and the crews went about deploying the communications center. The crew commanded by Warrant Officer [praporshchik] V. Isaichev worked harmoniously and quickly. Private I. Karavayev, senior mechanic, and Private A. Gavrilov, senior telegraph operator, rapidly deployed the feed cable and the servicing communications line. Work on both the receiving and the transmitting communication centers quickened.

Major V. Plekhov, battalion commander, was fully cognizant of the enthusiasm of his subordinates, he felt the atmosphere of competition, but considered that the exercise had still not achieved that level of stress during which a soldier can be fully checked out. How would the communicators cope if the situation became more complex? In an actual battle, the troops would have to deal with a strong, experienced, and treacherous enemy. Taking this into account, the battalion commander structured the exercise so as to bring into play the entire complex of factors which act upon the psyche and the work tempo in an actual battle.

An automated precedence message unexpectedly penetrated the icy stillness. It was followed by a second, then a third. A report came in that the "enemy" had made an assault landing to the east of the deployment area. This occurred before all the equipment was ready for operation. The strike, of course, was unexpected. But, it did not faze A. Afanasenkov and A. Marakhin, company commanders. They had but a couple of minutes to estimate the situation and make a decision. A group of communicators led by Lieutenant V. Moshkov was dispatched to the threatened direction, where a battle was already in progress...

Meanwhile, the deployment continued. Regardless of what happened, communications had to be established by the deadline time. Major V. Plekhov

attentively monitored the progress of the battle while simultaneously supervising the work of the crews, which had noticeably "dwindled". But, the work tempo at the concluding stages of the deployment did not slacken.

When the battle finally began to wane, everyone awaited the command "all clear". But, an automated precedence message "spoke up" anew. On the opposite side this time. Well, that is correct: in a real battle, the enemy will be clever and active. And the battalion commander strived in this exercise to show just that kind of "enemy". He understood that only under such conditions will the people operate at full speed and effort. Major Plekhov succeeded in achieving his goal.

The tired soldiers, flushed by the battle, returned to the crews. They had made a very important conclusion for themselves: even far from the forward edge of the battle area, a soldier remains a soldier and must always be ready to go into battle. They also understood something else: how important it is to overfulfill norms, know your comrade's responsibilities, and learn to deploy a station with a reduced crew.

The attack by the landing force complicated the communicators' work but did not keep them from deploying the junction on time. One after the other, the crew commanders report to the commander: "the station has been deployed..."

Covered with white camouflage nets and almost invisible in the snowy terrain, the vehicles stood ready to operate. Major Plekhov glanced at his watch. All crews had fulfilled the norms. The battalion commander rated Captain A. Afanasenkov's company as being the best. That company was always on top in the norms competition. So it was during this exercise. The company commander, relying on the officers and warrant officers, strived at all field trips and training sessions to model the actual battle situation. The success achieved by Captain Afanasenkov's subordinates confirms that this practice is of appreciable use.

When the work in the stations was in full swing, the message "Atom" was received. Via all means of communications, the command was given to turn on filtration equipment, cover the windows with curtains, and don protective equipment. This message reached Captain A. Afanasenkov and me in the station where Private Gavrilov had the duty. He complied with the instructions and continued to work.

The command was received to transmit a priority message. The time allotted to priority messages is minimal. A telegraph operator requires a great deal of mastery. And Gavrilov showed that, under difficult conditions also, he could do good quality work. Other communicators showed firm skills in working while wearing protective equipment.

In subsequent stages of the exercises, the "enemy" employed ECM on all radio nets and links. The situation became even more complex. But, no one got flustered. The duty shift switched in a timely manner to alternate frequencies and communications remained uninterrupted throughout the entire period in the field.

This exercise really summed up everything that had been worked out in the training sessions held during the first months of winter training. The battalion commander and the other officers were pleased that the soldiers operated with confidence in the complex situation. That means that the approach adopted throughout the entire unit [chast'] that takes an active "enemy" into account during combat training is the correct one. It is a reliable way of raising the quality and effectiveness of exercises and fulfillment of pledges in competition.

7869

CSO: 1801

LOGISTICAL SUPPORT OF MOTORIZED INFANTRY OPERATIONS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen L. Sorochenko, Deputy Commander for Rear Services, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District and district Chief of the Rear: "Management of the Rear Services"]

[Text] In the assembly area, the regimental commander received orders which made it clear that, in the next stage of the exercise, the motorized rifle troops were faced with even more responsible tasks. The situation demanded of the commander rapid actions and issuance of orders to supply the sub-units [podrazdeleniya] with everything required to conduct battle. Moreover, at the same time, reports were received at regimental headquarters from the battalions and companies: ammunition was needed and transport vehicles and combat equipment required maintenance and refueling.

In an objectively based situation, the commander first has to place his attention on this very replenishment of materiel reserves. But, he was occupied with solution of the other problems, naturally also important, and valuable time was expended. Work involving rear services support to battalions and companies was accomplished in an insufficient volume and in a hurry.

Of course, this impacted upon fulfillment of the missions assigned to the sub-units. When leaving the assembly area, several vehicles fell behind because they had run out of gas due to the greater than normal consumption rate caused by the difficult mountainous terrain. The ammunition estimate was not thought through since the nature of the combat training mission was not taken into account. It is clear that, in actual combat, this could lead to serious consequences.

This case clearly shows what happens when the role and missions of the regimental rear services are underestimated. In consonance with the present-day rise in the volume of combat materiel support especially. This rise results from the change in the characteristics of contemporary combined-arms combat. The appearance of new methods of armed conflict, mass-scale mechanization and motorization have significantly expanded and complicated rear services technical, materiel, and other types of support. In combat, regimental rear services are called upon to solve complex problems involving providing ammunition,

engineer and armored vehicle parts, POL, and medical supplies to sub-units. Suffice it to say, the materiel that must be supplied to sub-units so they can conduct military operations has increased several-fold the last few years. And, the commander who firmly controls rear services and coordinates their activities in accordance with the tactical situation is the one who will effectively use the capabilities of the sub-units being supported.

Why do we still unfortunately encounter situations similar to that described above? Apparently because some commanders are not imbued with a feeling of personal responsibility for management of rear services in combat, do not strive to deeply involve themselves in such matters, instead tasking their subordinates to do so. And, the direct organizers of regimental rear services support, the rear services officers, not receiving clear and timely orders from the commander, sometimes operate without considering the tactical situation.

As a result, here and there in the intense and responsible time of tactical and field exercises, problems concerning rear services management are placed on the back burner. And this often leads to serious miscalculations when fulfilling the combat training mission as a whole. For instance, the sub-units commanded by Captains N. Maydanov and S. Grachev received a low evaluation at recent field exercises due to insufficient attention to rear services support.

The reasons for similar deficiencies are known. Many unit [chast'] and sub-unit commanders and their deputies for rear services are young officers. They possess good theoretical knowledge of rear services problems learned at military VUZ's but, from time to time, the requisite practical skills in this area are lacking. And, it is very important to assist such comrades.

Senior chiefs can and must do a great deal to aid commanders in mastering the entire complex of responsibilities involving organization of rear services support. Visiting the units, rear services officers from the district attend tactical exercises. They assist in organizing them in such a way that unit-level commanders learn by doing to comprehensively work out all problems upon which depend the efficient functioning of regimental rear services.

A number of methodological instructions has been developed by the district rear services staff especially for unit commanders. They contain recommendations on planning military training taking into account comprehensive rear services support. Commanders in particular place special emphasis on preparation for and conduct of battle drill exercises, insuring that they develop all problems concerning rear services management and supplying sub-units with ammunition, fuel, rations, clothing, and other materiel.

A tense situation when personnel must, along with solution of other problems, provide assistance to the "wounded", set up special processing areas, and re-deploy to new areas facilitates the cohesion and coordination of all the links within regimental rear services. On the other hand, simplification and leniency in a training battle negatively impact upon the training of specialists and rear services sub-units and impede the formation and improvement of commanders' skills in managing materiel support.

This knowledge and these skills are solidified and improved in the commanders' training system and during exercises and field training. The role of battle drill exercises is especially great here. At these exercises, we instruct commanders in this regard and teach them to give timely, specific orders to their deputies for rear services, chiefs of services, and officers in the rear services sub-units. Only such an integrated approach to the problem facilitates the commander forming firm skills in management of rear services in combat.

I recall many exercises where commanders were models of skillful and thoughtful rear services managers. Making combat employment decisions, they did not fail to stipulate the deployment areas of the rear services sub-units, the sequence and direction of their redeployment, the amounts and periods for creation of materiel reserves, and the sequence of their use. They always accurately established equipment and armament readiness deadlines and the sequence for technical maintenance, repair, and evacuation during the preparatory period and during combat.

I remember one exercise in which the battalion commanded by Major N. Desyatnichenko participated. The personnel were to be employed in an enveloping detachment. Both the tactical and the weather situations were extremely complex. But, nonetheless, the troops exhibited high skills, moral and psychological tempering, and the ability to operate decisively and bravely in a situation which approximates combat to the maximum degree. The battalion fulfilled its assigned mission.

An important role in the success achieved by the motorized rifle troops was played by the fact that the commander at all stages of the exercise concisely and competently assigned the mission to rear services, regularly monitored mission accomplishment through his staff, heard reports from the chiefs of the ammunition supply points, and refined their assignments during on-going combat.

Senior commanders also visited the hill during the example cited. The regimental commander with his deputy for rear services concerned themselves with creation, in the battalion employed in an independent direction, of such reserves of materiel which allowed it to be employed for an extended time without their being used, to be autonomous from a rear services standpoint. All conditions were created in the battalion so that the troops could have hot food on time and so that they could rest.

A special word should be said about the requirement for precise assignment of the mission to the deputy for rear services and to the chiefs of services. It is they who directly bring to fruition the commander's decisions and instructions on rear services support matters. Military operations in the high mountains, which are predominant in our military district, have a number of special features which, if not taken into account, make it difficult and at times impossible to organize rear services support. The sharply broken relief, numerous natural obstacles, and limited communications network often force sub-units to operate in isolated directions, separated from the main forces. That is why, to insure successful rear services management, the commander must continually update the rear services officers on all changes in the tactical

situation, provide to them, in a timely manner, the missions which will be assigned to the combat sub-units.

But, regardless of how precise the coordination between the commander and all links of regimental rear services, their management in combat will not achieve the final goal if the field skills of the rear services sub-units are not high, if they have not been trained to effectively, with high quality, support the troops. Therefore, every commander must insure that the combat training of rear services sub-units be conducted on just as high a plane as is the training of other sub-units.

That is exactly how it is done in one of the leading units of our district. Here, the commander, staff officers, and the chiefs of services constantly manage the training of the rear service sub-units. They are achieving high quality training of these units, employing the mobilizing force of socialist competition. On that plane, Captain-Engineer G. Trubach deserves praise. He actively supports the commander in the struggle for efficiency and quality in the training of rear services sub-units and specialists for combat.

Many other units in the district could be cited as examples where you can be sure that the degree of reliability in rear services management greatly depends upon the training of rear services sub-units.

Rear services is an integral part of the military. Improvement in management of rear services in combat is an important component of all the work done by military cadres to improve the quality of the training and indoctrination of personnel and strengthening the combat readiness of the troops. Management of rear services in combat must continually be in the field of vision of commanders at all levels. This has a positive influence on the development of combat training missions now being solved by the units at the peak of the winter combat training cycle and in fulfillment of the high socialist pledges made by personnel in this jubilee year.

7869

CSO: 1801

PROMPT ATTENTION TO WRITTEN, ORAL REQUESTS, COMPLAINTS STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Feb 77 p 2

[Article: "Attention to Every Letter"]

[Text] The Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy is examining the progress in fulfillment of the CC CPSU Decree "On Further Improvement in Work With Workers' Letters In Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress" by political organs in the army and navy. It was noted that, as checks showed, commanders, political organs, and staffs fulfilling the decree of the party Central Committee raised the level of work involving consideration of letters and improved the reception of visitors.

Many of the letters received express full and unanimous approval of the political line and practical activities of the CC CPSU and its Politburo headed by the General Secretary of the CC CPSU, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. Reception of recommendations directed towards improving the quality of combat training, maintenance of military equipment and weapons, and management through socialist competition significantly increased. A number of suggestions, as well as generalizations and conclusions resulting from analysis of the letters, were studied and are being employed in the organization of troop training and indoctrination.

Political organs began to direct the activities of communists, party organizations, and newspaper editorial boards in a more goal-oriented manner towards further improvement in working with the letters and reception of visitors. A great deal is being done to insure that, in all links of the army and navy organism, an atmosphere of respectful, business-like, and objective relations is maintained towards suggestions, requests, and complaints of servicemen, workers, and employees of the Soviet Army, and of other persons.

In addition, it was noted that shortcomings in the work with letters and in the reception of visitors have not been completely eliminated, that this work is being underestimated in a number of places. It manifests itself in the superficial analysis of letters received and of the reasons which give rise to various complaints. In a number of garrisons, the requisite attention is not being given to explaining Soviet law to personnel, especially that which pertains to housing and labor, how the tour of duty is served, and privileges

established for servicemen and the members of their families. There still are instances where formalistic, unqualified answers are given to letters received and they are passed for investigation to those chiefs about whom the letters are complaining.

Inattentive handling of proposals, requests, and complaints of proponents locally from time to time forces them to turn to higher authorities and to send repeat complaints.

It is suggested that the political administrations of the services of the Armed Forces, districts, groups of forces, and fleets take measures to eliminate deficiencies in processing letters and insure accurate fulfillment of the CC CPSU Decree "On Further Improvement In Work With Workers' Letters In Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress", the 12 April 1968 Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Ukase "On the Manner of Processing Suggestions, Applications, and Complaints by Citizens", the requirements in the Interior Service Regulations and Disciplinary Regulations of the Armed Forces, and the orders of the USSR Minister of Defense, and take further measures to improve the processing of letters by the political organs.

Political organs must look upon letter processing as one of the important sectors of their activities, systematically discuss the state of letter processing with the party aktiv, report on the decision of commanders on conclusions flowing from analysis of the letters received, indoctrinate an intolerance towards formalism in letter and complaint processing, concern themselves with the fact that the reception of visitors is organized in conjunction with the procedures set down by regulation.

It is recommended that the political administrations of the services of the Armed Forces, districts, groups of forces, and fleets, when working with the troops, study the progress of fulfillment of the instructions of the CC CPSU on processing of letters and the practice of visitor reception. More often send workers from the political organs to the location to check the letters and complaints, systematically analyze their character and the reasons for complaints, and take measures to eliminate them.

Party organizations are called upon to reinforce the indoctrination of officers and employees directly involved with letter processing in a spirit of responsibility for the task assigned to them, for attentive handling of suggestions and complaints, and conduct an unceasing struggle with the facts of bureaucracy and red tape.

We must more widely expand legal propaganda, especially in the sub-units [podrazdeleniya] so as to better familiarize personnel with the basis of Soviet law and other legal questions, with regulatory norms and requirements. Army and navy newspapers and journals must systematically publish readers' letters, criticize manifestations of formal approaches to critical signals from servicemen, publish articles and consultations which explain laws, party and government decrees, and regulations.

It is suggested that the political organs of the services of the Armed Forces,

districts, groups of forces, and fleets insure distribution of the positive know-how of letter processing accumulated during preparations for and conduct of the 25th CPSU Congress, 30th anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War, strengthen control over letter processing within the deadlines established, as well as timely reporting of results. The more attentively commanders, staffs, and political organs handle the letters of the troops, workers, and employees, the higher their creative activeness will rise, the more successfully will we solve the tasks assigned to units [chast'] and military institutions.

7869

CSO: 1801

SURVEY OF ARMED FORCES DAY ARTICLES BY HIGH-RANKING MILITARY MEN

Armed Forces Ready To Perform Their Missions

Vil'nyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 23 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Mar SU K. Moskalenko, deputy USSR minister of defense: "The Historical Mission of the USSR Armed Forces"]

[Excerpt] The defeat of fascist Germany and its allies was important in world history. The CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "The 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" stresses that the defeat of fascism and Japanese militarism in World War II and the victory of socialist revolutions in a number of European and Asian countries accelerated world development. The revolutionary process begun by Great October reached new heights: a world socialist system took shape. Radical change occurred in the ratio of forces in the international arena. The might and example of world socialism multiplied the revolutionary possibilities of the international working class.

The Soviet people have been living in peace for more than three decades. Following the path shown by Lenin, our party and people are devoting all their energy to the cause of building communism.

In the postwar period, especially in the last decade, there has been a significant increase in the economic might of the USSR and the well-being of the working people. The ideological-political unity of Soviet society has grown.

The 25th CPSU Congress was a historical milepost on this path. The congress outlined the new goals of communist building and revealed the key problems of social development on both the domestic and international levels. The decisions of the October 1976 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech there have become a battle plan for practical realization of the policies of the congress. They point clearly to the ways and means to achieve the goals set in the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

The challenges which the CPSU, the Soviet State, and all our people are meeting are truly grandiose. The working people of the country are

determined to celebrate this year, the second of the Tenth Five-Year Plan and the year of the 60th anniversary of Great October, with new labor achievements.

There have been major successes in foreign policy as well.

Our party has always considered peace a crucial condition for building the new society. That is why the party vigorously and persistently defends the cause of detente and struggles to stop the arms race and achieve disarmament.

Unfortunately, the peaceful aspirations of the Soviet State are opposed by imperialism. Reactionary circles in the West are stepping up military preparations and building new types of weapons and new bases. Military budgets are bloated. Explosive situations continue in many regions of the world.

All this forces us to be vigilant and strong, to remember the lessons of the last war.

The Soviet Armed Forces have changed radically in the postwar period. Significantly increased economic potential and scientific and technical advances have made it possible to supply the army and navy with the most highly sophisticated weapons and combat equipment for diverse purposes.

But the strength of our Armed Forces does not lie in combat equipment and weapons alone. The chief factor is the men, our cadres of command, political, and engineering-technical personnel and our remarkable soldiers, seamen, sergeants, and petty officers. During the years of Soviet power we have molded a new type of fighting man, educated in the spirit of communism.

Communists have been and remain the granite foundation on which the high political-moral conditions of our forces is built, the cementing force in the army and navy. Together with Komsomol members they comprise roughly 90 percent of all personnel.

Thus, our Armed Forces today are a mighty shield for our country, socialism, and peace and progress. They are always combat-ready and can, based on their equipment, morale, and level of training, perform the most complex missions on land, in the air, and at sea.

Armed Forces, Party Are Vigilant, Strong

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 8, Feb 77 p 6

[Article by Gen Arm S. K. Kurkotkin, deputy USSR minister of defense:
"Reliable Guardian of Our Constructive Labor"]

[Excerpts] Flesh of the Flesh of the People

We are celebrating this anniversary of the Armed Forces in the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The victorious

proletariat created the first truly people's army in history. The unity of the army and the people is a fundamental Leninist principle of Soviet military building. The party has followed it unswervingly in all stages of the development of socialist society.

The unity of the army and the people, which was born of Great October, is a result of the fact, as V. I. Lenin stressed many times, that our army defends its own people's power, the fundamental interests of the workers and peasants. The working people of our country understand very well the need to build up the Armed Forces and they give them all possible help. The achievements of the Soviet people in communist building determine the fighting strength of the army and navy and their moral-political potential. In times of trial the people and the army live one life and fight for the same ideals.

The firmness of this unity between the people and the army showed up with particular force in the struggle against German fascism.

On a Strong Foundation

Like all the Soviet people, the fighting men of the army and navy received the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress with great enthusiasm. The wise Leninist policy of the Communist Party and its foreign policy line find complete understanding and support among Soviet people.

Our country's successes in economic development and alleviation of international tension are forcing the imperialist states of the West to recognize the realities of the contemporary world. However, alleviation of international tension alerts and activates the supporters of militarism and aggression, all those who try to use bombastic talk and unprincipled military adventures to hold back the irreversible unfolding of events in the world arena. A propaganda campaign has recently developed in the West concerning the "Soviet military threat."

L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, delivered a fitting rebuke to the advocates of political blackmail and the arms race in his talk at the October 1976 Plenum. He said: "As for our defense, we are spending exactly as much as is needed for the firm security of the Soviet Union, for joint defense of the gains of socialism with the fraternal socialist countries, for seeing that potential aggressors are not tempted to try to decide the historical dispute between the two opposed social systems in their favor by means of force." While awarding the Gold Star medal to the hero-city of Tula, L. I. Brezhnev emphasized that our country will not take up the path of aggression or raise its sword against other peoples. "Of course, comrades," he said, "we are improving our defense. It cannot be otherwise. We have never disregarded the security of our country or the security of our allies and we never will."

The face of the Soviet Army and Navy has changed beyond recognition in recent years thanks to the constant concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet people. The army and navy have all necessary means for waging

modern warfare; they have adequate numbers of powerful strategic missiles, up-to-date aircraft (bombers and fighters), surface vessels and submarines, and other contemporary weapons.

The combat and political training of Armed Forces personnel is improving. Our soldiers and naval forces are performing the increasingly complex combat training missions which result from the dynamic development of military affairs.

In a Single Formation

All branches of the Soviet Armed Forces have come to the anniversary with high marks in combat and political training. Considerable credit for this goes to our remarkable officers, sergeants, and soldiers who are completely devoted to the party and the people and have lofty moral-political and fighting characteristics and good physical conditioning. The modern fighting man is educated in the spirit of communism and has a broad cultural outlook and good general education. Every other officer today has higher military or military-specialized education. The ideological-political level, general sophistication, literacy, and professional skill of the sergeants and soldiers have risen immeasurably in recent years. Almost all of them have higher, secondary, or incomplete secondary education.

Our Armed Forces have a mighty moral-political potential whose development is governed by the dynamic progress of the Soviet State. The army's ties with the working masses and with young people are growing wider and deeper. The party and Komsomol are working hard to prepare young men for military service and teaching them a sense of patriotic pride and love for their Armed Forces and a constant readiness to defend our socialist land. The organizations of USSR DOSAAF are making a notable contribution to strengthening the country's defense capability and the combat might of the army and navy. During the Ninth Five-Year Plan about 8 million technical specialists were trained for the national economy in the DOSAAF system. Our veterans, generals and officers, participants of the Civil and Great Patriotic wars, are doing a great deal of useful work as DOSAAF activists.

For millions of our country's young men service in the Armed Forces is a fine school for ideological and physical conditioning. At the 25th CPSU Congress L. I. Brezhnev emphasized: "Young men join the family of soldiers before they have experienced life. But when they come back from the army they have gone through a school of endurance and discipline and received technical, professional, and political knowledge." The army and navy, through their whole way of life and their system of political education and combat training, instill the lofty qualities of fighting man, citizen, and patriot in the young people. Service in the Armed Forces also helps them in vocational guidance. The units of the Armed Forces offer a broad range of specializations closely related to those in the national economy. Masters of military affairs can master most civilian occupations. Drivers of wheeled and caterpillar vehicles, the large group of specialists in the operation and repair of various kinds of machinery and railroad construction, and representatives of other military occupations are working successfully in the national economy.

The army environment speeds up the process of personality development and molds an activist posture in young people. Led by the call of the party and the feelings in their hearts, thousands of young men go straight to five-year plan construction sites after serving in the Armed Forces and apply their youthful energy there, on the front of constructive labor.

Party Attention Molds Strong Military

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 77 pp 2-3

[Article by Gen Arm N. Lyashchenko, commander of troops of the Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Guarding the Gains of October"]

[Excerpt] The victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War was important in world history. Favorable conditions were created for the development and victory of socialist revolutions in a number of European and Asian countries and for formation of the world socialist system.

Having completed the war in victory, the Soviet people began peaceful labor. While building the economy the Communist Party never lost sight of the interests of our country's security and the task of steadily raising its defense capability. The army and navy have improved steadily in quality. Development of the material-technical base of communism allows us to give the Armed Forces a continuous supply of up-to-date equipment. The strategic missile forces have taken a leading place in the structure of our Armed Forces. The ground forces, Air Force, and Navy are gaining qualitatively new features.

But no matter how powerful our modern combat equipment may be, our brave fighting men are and always have been the decisive force. Ideologically toughened and completely devoted to the people and the party, they are ready to give their every effort, to devote all their skills, to the defense of our country.

All the life and activity of the Armed Forces, their training and education, and the political and military education of the personnel are a subject of unwavering attention to the Central Committee of the party and its Politburo. The party is doing everything necessary to keep the combat readiness of the Armed Forces at the necessary level.

Among the pressing problems on which the 25th party congress focused its attention were issues of military building. From the great podium of the party forum, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stated: "For all these years the party has given the necessary attention to bolstering our country's defense capability and improving the Armed Forces. We can report to the congress that we have done much in this area. The equipment of the Armed Forces has been improved by new weapons and machinery and the quality of combat training and ideological conditioning for personnel is higher. In general, comrades, the Soviet people can be sure that the fruits of their constructive labor are reliably defended."

Thanks to the vigorous foreign policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, there has been a turn away from hostile confrontation and toward alleviation of international tension in recent years, a turn toward broad mutually advantageous cooperation on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems. Nonetheless, we cannot forget that the nature of imperialism has not changed, that the forces of reaction and aggression have not put down their arms but rather are trying to obstruct the positive changes in international relations. The military budgets of the imperialist countries, above all those of the members of the aggressive NATO bloc, are growing. Tension continues in a number of regions of the globe, and ideological sabotage against the socialist countries has not stopped. All this obligates us to be alert to the danger of war at every minute, to give the most serious attention to armed defense of socialism.

Responding in deed to the Communist Party's concern for a further rise in the combat might of the Armed Forces, Soviet fighting men are studying military affairs hard and long. The soldiers, sergeants, ensigns, and officers of our Red Banner Central Asian Military District march in a single rank. Winter combat training is going full force. The socialist competition inspired by the 60th anniversary of Great October is multiplying the ranks of men with outstanding ratings in combat and political training, masters of combat use of weapons and equipment, rated specialists, and rated athletes.

Our fighting men take an active part in the sociopolitical life of the country. They are making a substantial contribution to building the Baikal-Amur Mainline and help gather the harvest; they are participating in building the material-technical base of communism. The broad ties of military units with collectives in the city and the country, student youth, and veterans of the Great Patriotic War are constantly being improved.

The 59th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces is bathed in the light of the approaching holiday -- the 60th anniversary of Great October. With the armies of the Warsaw Pact countries, the Armed Forces of the USSR are always ready to crush any aggressor and reliably defend the gains of socialism.

Strong Armed Forces Will Restrain Aggressors

Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Col-Gen M. Sorokin, commander of troops of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District: "Guarding the Gains of October"]

[Excerpts] The victory of the Soviet Union in the Great Patriotic War is important in world history. This victory changed the face of the world and acted as a mighty accelerator of the revolutionary process, a historical frontier in the destiny of all humanity. However, aggressive imperialist circles and the forces of reaction do not want to accept the

revolutionary changes which have occurred in the world and hold to a course of preparing for a devastating new war and undermining world socialism and its main force, the Soviet Union. Behind the false slogan of a "communist threat" they are stepping up the arms race, creating centers of tension in different regions of the globe, and undertaking extension military demonstrations. Thus, in 1976 the NATO leaders conducted a whole series of military exercises over an enormous area from northern Norway to eastern Turkey.

Under these conditions we cannot, we do not have the right, to be weak. Our Leninist party and its Central Committee are doing everything necessary to bolster the country's defense capability and raise the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces. At a ceremonial meeting in Tula L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "The defense potential of the Soviet Union should be sufficient so that no one would risk disrupting our peaceful life." The party considers it a duty "to keep the country's Armed Forces at a high level in the future, seeing that Soviet fighting men always have the most modern weapons, ones which the imperialists cannot ignore."

In response to the party's concern for strengthening the country's defense, the fighting men of Leningrad, like all the personnel of the Armed Forces, are steadily raising the combat readiness of their units. They fulfilled the missions given to them for 1976 and accomplished their socialist obligations.

Measuring themselves against the best has become a tradition for the fighting men of the Leningrad Order of Lenin Military District; intensive combat training is now under way among the troops. In the year of the 60th anniversary of Great October the men see their primary goals as tirelessly bolstering combat readiness, persistently improving combat and political training, fully mastering new equipment and weapons, raising vigilance, and closely protecting the historical gains of socialism. The efforts of all commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations, and all personnel are subordinated to achieving these things.

While protecting the labor the Leningraders, our fighting men are also participating actively in accomplishing national economic tasks. Last year they were very helpful gathering the harvest in several regions of the country.

The Leningrad party organization gives the district consistent help in accomplishing the missions facing the troops. Sponsorship ties between Leningrad enterprises and creative organizations on the one hand and the military units and institutions on the other grow stronger and develop every year.

World Situation Still Demands Vigilant Defense

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 23 Feb 77 pp 1, 2

[Article by Col-Gen Tnk Trps, M. Zaytsev commander of troops of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "Guarding the Gains of Great October"]

[Excerpts] The whole of the Soviet State's almost 60 years of history is convincing confirmation of the indivisibility of socialism and peace. And the fact that the first state enactment of the Soviet government was Lenin's Decree on Peace has more than symbolic significance -- it expresses the whole peace-loving essence of socialism. The political climate of the planet has improved greatly in recent years. And, as the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "The 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution emphasizes, these advances were made possible primarily owing to the increased might of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, their consistent peace-loving policy, and the stubborn struggle for peace by broad masses of people on all continents.

But the successes of detente, which has moved the immediate threat of nuclear war back, are still not strong enough to guarantee peace against every possible provocation by the most aggressive and reactionary imperialist circles.

The nature of imperialism has not changed. It has not shed its anti-people, aggressive essence. The imperialists are trying to counter-attack against detente, intervene in the domestic affairs of other countries, and return to the policies of the "cold war."

The concentration of the very large grouping of NATO armed forces on the European continent and the accumulation of enormous stores of weapons, nuclear weapons included, represents a direct danger of war to the world.

The ever-growing arms race, which represents an immediate military threat to all humanity, continues because of imperialism. The military expenditures of the NATO countries grow year after year. This year the United States alone is spending 113 billion dollars for military purposes and next year the Pentagon intends to spend 123 billion.

But it is not just a matter of the arms race. The NATO strategists are openly working out plans for nuclear war against the USSR and the other socialist countries. Their plans are based on a "nuclear deterrent" in peacetime and the sudden use of nuclear weapons in case of a military conflict. This explains why the most recent session of the North Atlantic bloc rejected the appeal of the Warsaw Pact countries for the countries who met in Helsinki to assume an obligation not to use nuclear weapons first against one another.

All NATO military maneuvers are permeated with a spirit of aggression and anti-Sovietism. During just the summer and autumn of last year 27 military exercises of unprecedented size and duration were held within this bloc.

The imperialists are using the old platitude of a supposed "Soviet threat" to justify their military preparations and deceive public opinion.

The lies that are spun out on this topic in the West are amazing. The falsity and groundlessness of the assertions of bourgeois propaganda are refuted [sic] by the history of the socialist state and the peace-loving policy of the CPSU. "Our country," L. I. Brezhnev said in his talk during the ceremonies in the Hero-City of Tula, "will never take up the path of aggression or raise its sword against other peoples. It is not us, it is certain forces in the West who again and again step up the race in armament, above all nuclear... It is precisely these forces, operating behind the false pretext of a 'Soviet threat,' who represent the aggressive line in the international politics of our day."

Under these conditions, when the international situation continues to be complicated and a real danger of war from the aggressive forces of imperialism does exist, it is vitally important to bolster the defense of our country and build up the Soviet Army and Navy. The might of the Soviet Armed Forces is the main force restraining the imperialists.

Questions of bolstering the defense capability of our state receive unwavering attention from the Communist Party, its Central Committee, and Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, personally.

We military men are aware every day of the firm and wise leadership and guiding role of the party in the Armed Forces. We respond to this concern with complete devotion to the party and the people, with unselfish military labor.

Under party leadership, our army and navy have recently undergone revolutionary changes and are now at a qualitatively new stage in their development.

Successes in developing the economy, science, culture, and sociopolitical relations have a beneficial effect on all aspects of military affairs. All the branches and arms of troops of the Armed Forces today are provided with up-to-date weapons and combat equipment. Their combat capabilities have increased greatly. Significant qualitative changes have also taken place in the personnel. Almost 100 percent of the fighting men have higher and secondary (complete or incomplete) education. About half of the officers are engineers and technicians. Almost all the commanders of large units, more than 90 percent of the regimental commanders, all chiefs of political agencies, and four fifths of the regimental-level political workers are officers with higher education. The cementing base of our Armed Forces is the communists who, together with Komsomol members, make up almost 90 percent of all servicemen.

Most of the military collectives of the district fulfilled the combat training missions for 1976. The number of men with outstanding training marks and rated specialists increased. Combat training is going forward at a high level again this year. Enthusiasm is great at the tank grounds, ranges, airstrips, and field today. The units have taken on high obligations in honor of the 60th anniversary of Great October.

The main objects of socialist competition are improving combat and political training, mastering modern weapons and new equipment, and raising vigilance.

The army's inexhaustible source of strength and power is its unbreakable unity with the people. Soviet fighting men not only guard the security of our fatherland vigilantly, but also take direct part in the economic life of the country. They are helping build the Baikal-Amur Mainline. Under the difficult conditions of 1976 the fighting men helped rural workers harvest the grain, vegetables, and cotton. The fighting men of our district alone hauled hundreds of thousands of tons of agricultural output.

The servicemen take an active part in the country's sociopolitical life. Military units' ties with local party, Soviet, and Komsomol organizations and labor collectives are constantly broadening.

Turkestan Forces Know Missions, Stand Ready

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 22 Feb 77 p 2

[Article by Lt-Gen N. Shchukin, member of the Military Council, chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Guarding October"]

[Excerpt] The 59th anniversary of the Armed Forces is being observed in a period when the Soviet people are enthusiastically carrying out the historical decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, when new plateaus have been reached in our country in all areas of communist building. The foreign policy activity of the party aims at carrying out the decisions of the 25th congress and the program adopted there for further struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the freedom and independence of the world's peoples. Our multifaceted fraternal ties with the socialist countries are growing stronger and developing successfully. Positive changes have been achieved in our relations with the United States, France, the FRG, and other capitalist countries. There has been an especially notable improvement in the political atmosphere in Europe in connection with the successful Helsinki meeting. Detente has become the leading trend in contemporary world development.

At the same time we cannot fail to see the difficulties and obstacles that lie on the path toward consolidation of detente. Aggressive circles in the leading capitalist powers have recently stepped up their militaristic, subversive activities, aspiring to return the world to "cold war" times. Every conceivable fabrication about the so-called "Soviet threat" is put out and attempts are made to discredit detente and distort its meaning.

The imperialists have not given up on intervention in the domestic affairs of many countries. Truly dangerous military situations exist in several regions of the world, particularly in the Middle East.

So, despite positive changes, the situation in the world remains complex and contradictory. Under conditions of the continuing arms race and the danger of war the CPSU is forced to build up the country's defense capability by every means and raise the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces. This is an objective necessity.

The 25th CPSU Congress noted with satisfaction that the party and its Central Committee constantly keep questions of military building and bolstering the might and fighting effectiveness of the Army and Navy at the center of their attention. It is characteristic in this stage of the life of the Soviet Army and Navy that they have an increased role as the forces which restraining the aggressive aspirations of the most reactionary circles in the Western powers. Our Armed Forces deter the imperialists from unleashing wars and new military conflicts. Speaking at the October 1976 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said: "To keep the country's Armed Forces at a high level in the future, seeing that Soviet fighting men always have the most modern weapons, ones which the imperialists cannot ignore -- such is our duty to the people, and we will perform it as a sacred duty!"

Our fighting men are greeting the 59th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy with new successes in combat and political training, fulfillment of socialist obligations, and performance of the important mission given to the Armed Forces by the 25th CPSU Congress: guard the peaceful labor of the Soviet people, serve as the bulwark of world peace.

The combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces is not just a matter of modern weapons and combat equipment. It is equally, even more dependent on the men who are expected to use this equipment effectively, on their moral-political and fighting qualities. The profound changes that have taken place in the spiritual makeup of Soviet people born into a developed socialist society have been reflected in qualitative changes in army personnel.

Like all Soviet fighting men, the soldiers, sergeants, ensigns, officers, and generals of the Red Banner Turkestan Military district are zealously performing their duty to our country. They watch the southern borders of our land vigilantly and unanimously supported the patriotic appeal of the Carpathian forces, who called for socialist competition to carry out the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and greet the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in a worthy fashion. In the course of their military labor the fighting men of Turkestan are improving combat readiness and combat and political training and steadily incorporating new equipment and weapons. They are firmly resolved to celebrate the historical anniversary of our country with new successes in training and service.

The strength and invincibility of our Armed Forces lie in the wise leadership of the party and in our indivisible unity with the people. Soviet fighting men are faithful sons of their people, closely tied to the people. The bonds of friendship between the fighting men of Turkestan and the

working people of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on whose territory they perform their honorable and difficult service are growing ever stronger.

The fighting men of the USSR Armed Forces, closely united around the Leninist Communist Party and completely devoted to their people, in cooperation with the armies of the Warsaw Pact countries, will continue to stand vigilant guard over peace and the building of socialism and communism.

DOSAAB Has Special Role in Securing Defense

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 23 Feb 77 p 1

[Article by Vice Adm A. Sorokin, deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy: "Guarding the Gains of October"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet people are observing the 59th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces in an atmosphere of inspired labor aimed at fulfilling the historic designs of the 25th party congress. The decisions of the October 1976 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee have become a fighting plan of action toward achieving the goals of the directives. The decree of the party Central Committee entitled "The 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" evoked an enormous surge of energy in Soviet people and the fighting men of the army and navy. In it the CPSU Central Committee expressed the party's firm intention to follow the Leninist line in its domestic and foreign policy.

The Communist Party and its Central Committee are consistently enlarging efforts in the struggle for stable peace and international cooperation. At the same time, the party takes account of the fact that reorganization of international relations is stubbornly resisted by the aggressive circles of imperialism. As shown by political life in the United States and other imperialist states, the activity and influence of the advocates of politics "from a position of strength" are still very great. New rounds of the arms race, involving primarily nuclear weapons, are being instigated in the West under the false pretext of a "Soviet threat."

That is why the party is constantly concerned to maintain the country's defense at the necessary level. It has in the past and today still does decide issues of military building with the same persistence it employs in seeking a complete normalization of the international atmosphere, with the same energy it applies in all the sectors of the enormous constructive work under way in our country. "No one need doubt," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev reminded from the podium of the 25th CPSU Congress, "that our party will do everything necessary to see that the glorious Armed Forces of the Soviet Union will continue to have all necessary means to perform their important mission -- guard the peaceful labor of the Soviet people, serve as the bulwark of world peace."

The fighting men and all the working people of our country are deeply grateful to the Central Committee of the party and to its General Secretary and chairman of the USSR Defense Council Mar SU L. I. Brezhnev for

the constant attention given to questions of improving the Armed Forces and bolstering our country's defense. Our Armed Forces today are a fusion of the latest advances of scientific-technical progress embodied in army and navy weaponry and the majestic sociopolitical gains of developed socialism.

The party considers one of the key tasks to be instilling in working people's consciousness, above all the younger generation, the ideas of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, pride in our country, and readiness to come to the defense of the gains of socialism. In this work the party assigns a large role to the All-Union Defense Society (DOSAAF), which celebrated its 50th birthday on 23 January of this year.

There are more than 330,000 primary DOSAAF organizations in the country today, bringing together 80 million persons. The multifaceted activity of the Society, the assistant and reserve of the Soviet Army and Navy, is constantly supported by the Armed Forces. Before the 50th anniversary of the Society challenge Red Banners of the USSR Ministry of Defense were awarded to the DOSAAF organizations of the Belorussian SSR and Tul'skaya Oblast, the 3rd Moscow Air Club, and the Khabarovsk Naval School, for best training of specialists for the Armed Forces.

It is a great credit to the Communist Party that concern for the defense of our socialist fatherland remains an all-people's cause. The party teaches Soviet people to have deep respect for military labor for it is linked to guaranteeing the inviolability of the people's most precious possession: the freedom and independence of our Soviet land. Yesterday's students and young industrial and agricultural workers, many of them having received initial military knowledge and skills in DOSAAF organizations, begin diligent work from their first days in the ranks of the Armed Forces in order to fulfill the honorable and important duties of military service.

The thoughts and feelings of the defenders of our land and the responsible attitude taken by fighting men toward the missions of raising the combat readiness of the army and navy were brilliantly and completely expressed in the congratulatory message sent by the Armed Forces to Comrade L. I. Brezhnev on his 70th birthday: "The peaceful labor of the Soviet people will be reliably defended -- today, tomorrow, and always."

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LATVIAN CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICIAL OUTLINES MEDICAL PREPARATIONS

Riga Domestic Service in Russian 0800 19 Mar 77 LD

[Talk by Col Rudolf Aleksandrovich (Ugyanskiy), representative of the Latvian SSR Civil Defense Staff--live]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government do everything necessary to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress aimed at the further consolidation of peace. At the same time, bearing in mind the international situation, they display constant concern about increasing the country's defense capability and take necessary measures to improve the civil defense system.

The main aim of the USSR Civil Defense is the preservation of the most valuable capital--the life of Soviet people. Medical service is one of the main civil defense services; it is the organization of the whole system of the medical service bodies and institutions in peacetime ready to carry out necessary measures to offer medical services to the population in civil defense.

The solution of responsible and complex tasks in medical service must be participated in by all civil defense staffs and services, by the country's whole population.

The aims of medical service are: preservation of the health of the population and of the personnel of nonmilitarized civil defense formations; timely rendering of medical aid to treat diseases resulting from the use of mass destruction weapons; rapid restoration of health and capacity for work of the population.

In order to protect the population and preserve its health, special shelters are being set up in towns and rayons able to protect people against weapons of mass destruction. In addition, the population is supplied with preventive means of individual protection. They protect respiratory organs and the skin against radioactive poisonous substances and against bacteria. They include: gas masks, special respirators, cotton and gauze bandages, protective overcoats, overalls, protective socks and gloves and protective filter clothing.

Medical protection of the population includes the aggregate of medical measures in preventing and weakening the effects of attack on the population in the conditions of radioactive, chemical and bacteriological contamination of a locality and objects. They include: the implementation of antiepidemic, hygienic and special prophylactic measures; the training of the population and the personnel of the formations in the methods of rendering self and mutual aid during the use of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons; the supply of the population and formations with medical equipment weakening or preventing the effects of weapons of mass destruction on the organism; the organization of laboratory control over any environment or object contaminated by radioactive, poisonous and/or bacterial means; the carrying out of prophylactic immunization and vaccination of the population to prevent infectious diseases.

For this purpose planned preventive vaccination in peacetime and vaccination when there is a danger of infectious diseases are being carried out. The date and order to carry out vaccinations are fixed by the civil defense bodies depending on an epidemic situation. Special prophylactic measures include the use of preparations protecting against radioactivity, antidotes, means of special prophylaxis and also of individual antichemical and first-aid packets. These measures are being carried out in order to duplicate and strengthen the protection offered by shelters and other protective buildings and by antichemical means of protection to the population and the personnel of the civil defense formations against the harmful effects of radioactive, poisonous substances and bacterial means of infection.

Soviet scientists have created a whole range of preparations reliably protecting man from the harmful effects of modern weapons. Thanks to this, medical services have sufficiently effective means of medical protection making it possible to save the lives of large numbers of people, to prevent completely or substantially reduce the spreading of disease, increase the resistance of the human organism to the effects of harmful factors.

It is of great importance that at present individual "A1-2" first-aid kits, individual "Ippaiz" antichemical packets and individual bandaging packets are available. However, it is not enough only to have means of medical protection. It is essential that the whole population in any conditions knows how to use these means timely and correctly. Everyone must be familiar with the instructions for using means of medical protection and acquire practical habits for their quick application in the most complex conditions.

The means for individual medical protection can be widely used for self and mutual first-aid by the affected people themselves. The individual first-aid kit is one of such effective means making it possible to prevent the development of radiation disease and other harmful effects on man by the factors of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons. It contains remedies against radiation, vomiting, pain-killing and antibacterial remedies and an antidote to treat those affected by phosphorous and organic poisonous substances.

Radiation resistant preparations are used on the orders of the competent civil defense heads, heads of medical services and formation commanders before the elimination of sections and zones of radioactive contamination and during work in the contaminated area. About 30-40 minutes before the danger of radiation, that is, before entering the territory with an increased level of radiation, it is essential to take antiradiation remedy No. 1, cysteine salt, six tablets with water, so that when a person is exposed to radiation the preparation gives maximum protection against radiation.

The population uses this remedy when the civil defense signal: "danger of radioactive contamination" is given. When radiation continues or when there is danger of a repeated radiation, 4-5 hours after taking the first remedy, another six tablets of this preparation must be taken. Remedy no. 1 against radiation substantially increase man's resistance to the effect of radiation; moreover, the organism itself is able to render harmless 90 percent of the radiation dose.

The kit also contains remedy no. 2 against radiation to be used when radioactive substances enter the digestive tract. This remedy must be taken only if one consumes fresh milk after radioactive fallout, that is, after the civil defense signal: "radioactive contamination" is given. One tablet must be taken daily for 10 days. The point is that of all food products in the locality contaminated by radioactive substances, milk from contaminated cows is the most dangerous for a long period of time; it contains radioactive iodine, whose isotopes constitute 70-80 percent of the total number of the isotopes in milk. The no. 2 remedy against radiation--potassium iodine--makes it possible to satisfy the organism's requirements in iodine, balance the thyroid gland and thus prevent the absorption of radioactive iodine from milk.

In cases when, despite the use of remedy no. 1, there are disorders--nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, general weakness and dizziness--one must take anti-vomiting [word indistinct] remedy and antibacterial remedy no. 2 (?sulfo-zymotoxin). In cases of head injuries and concussion nausea may occur. It is then necessary to make use of the remedies (?Teopyrosin) or [word indistinct]. The kit contains a syringe with a pain-killing remedy which is used in cases of extensive burns, wounds and broken bones in order to reduce pain and thus prevent the onset of shock. It must be remembered that in cases of internal stomach and brain injuries pain-killing remedies must not be used.

At the centers of chemical contamination, where phosphorous organic poisonous substances are present, an antidote must be used when there are signs of poisoning--worsening vision, shortage of breath. The population must independently take this antidote when the civil defense signal "chemical attack" is given or when there are symptoms of poisoning.

Special prophylactic remedies are used during work on the territory contaminated by bacterial means and when there are infectious diseases. They are antibiotics, [words indistinct] and other medicines. When there is danger of bacterial contamination or when the civil defense signal "bacteriological contamination" is given, antibacterial remedy no. 1 from the individual kit must be used.

Of no less importance in individual medical protection is a new antichemical kit IPP-8, [word indistinct] PP-8-A and the bandaging kit. The antichemical kit contains general remedies able to render poisonous substances and bacterial means harmless. It is used for initial medical treatment of exposed sections of the skin and of clothing adhering to it.

In view of the rapid penetration of poisonous substances through undamaged skin, the effectiveness of decontamination directly depends on the speed of primary medical treatment. The best results of decontamination are achieved when treatment takes place not later than 5 minutes after unprotected skin is affected by poisonous substances. Several household substances can be used for the decontamination of the population's clothing, including that of children. A very effective remedy for this purpose is a solution of water with 3 percent hydrogen peroxide and the addition of 3 percent [words indistinct]. Hydrogen peroxide can be prepared [passage indistinct] to treat one adult 0.5 liters and to treat one child 0.3-0.4 liter of decontaminating solution is needed.

The bandaging packet is used for bandaging wounds. [word indistinct] bandage with two [word indistinct] in a soft, water resistant hermetically sealed package.

It follows from all this that there are reliable means and methods of protection against mass destruction weapons. Their use will substantially reduce possible losses. In this connection the country's entire population must be familiar with the measures of medical protection and must know how to render practical first aid.

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