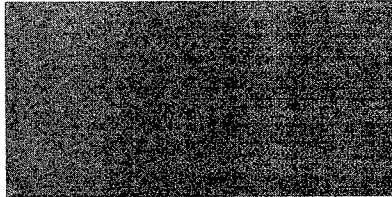
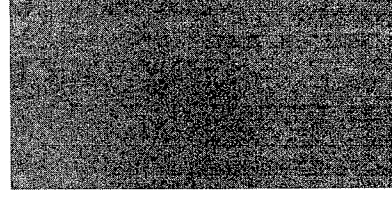
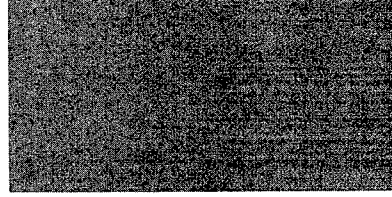


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TASKS OF NEW MILITARY SCHOOL YEAR DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Sep 77 p 1

[Editorial: "Toward New Successes in Training!"]

[Text] The doors of many thousands of general education and industrial trade schools, tekhnikums, institutes and universities, as well as military schools and academies, were thrown open today. The new training year began in our nation's educational institutions in an atmosphere of universal political and labor enthusiasm, created by preparations for the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, decisions of the May (1977) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and national discussion of the draft Constitution of the USSR.

The USSR has a unified educational system. Article 25 of the draft Constitution of the USSR states that this system provides a communist indoctrination and spiritual and physical development of the youth, and prepares it for work and public activity. Training institutions play an important role in the political indoctrination of the masses and improvement of the people's cultural level. They help to develop in the individual public awareness and political maturity -- qualities essential to the active builder of communism.

Military training institutions of the USSR Ministry of Defense are accomplishing large and responsible tasks. They are expected to train ideologically tempered, highly skilled officers for the army and navy. Successful accomplishment of this task requires further improvement of the training and indoctrinational process and improvement of the ideological and theoretical level of teaching in all disciplines. Command, political organs, and the staff of professors and teachers of military academies, institutes, and schools should structure their work so that each graduate is a good specialist, an active party fighter, and a skillful agent of its ideals among the masses of soldiers.

The social science departments have an important role in the job of providing the students and cadets with a communist indoctrination. They are expected to strive consistently to improve the ideological-theoretical content of lectures

and seminars, and an organic link between the matters discussed in them and materials of the 25th CPSU Congress and decisions of our party in the area of foreign and domestic policy. It is essential in the process of conducting all classes to relate the separate theoretical principles closely with the future service of the officers among the forces and with those problems which they will be resolving as they struggle to raise the combat readiness of units [chast] and ships, to strengthen military discipline, and achieve strict regulation order and organization.

Regardless of the military specialty which they acquire graduates of military training institutions must have good operational-tactical training and the ability to perform their duties accurately in the complex conditions of combat with a strong and technically well-equipped enemy, to confidently adopt and implement the optimal decision, and to use the weapons, combat equipment and modern means of control with maximum efficiency for the achievement of victory. The officers' military-technical training is extremely important with the modern level of equipment of the army and navy with complex armament. It is the duty of military academies, institutes and schools to provide their students with profound and all-around knowledge and solid practical skills in operating the equipment, insuring its proper maintenance, storage, and combat employment.

There is a great deal to be done in the new training year to further raise the level of methodological training of the students and cadets and to see that they master the difficult art of training and indoctrinating the personnel. This goal can be achieved if each class, each party-political measure conducted in the VUZ's is a real school of pedagogical skill for the trainees. Students and cadets should be actively involved in the reading of lectures, the conduct of discussions, and sponsorship work in general education and industrial trade schools, tekhnikums and DOSAAF training organizations and at enterprises, on kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

Socialist competition is a proven means of raising the political and practical activeness of the trainees. It is therefore necessary to review and accept commitments as early as possible, which focus the men on selfless labor, persistent work on the training materials, profound assimilation of the classes, and precise fulfillment of the requirements set forth in the general military regulations, which insure the spiritual growth of students of military training institutions.

VUZ faculties and departments are expected to make an important contribution to the development of military science. The main efforts of professors and instructors must be focused on resolving urgent practical problems, which contribute to the further strengthening of the combat readiness of the Armed Forces, improvement of troop control, and the development and practical introduction of the most efficient methods of conducting a battle, training and indoctrinating the personnel. It is highly beneficial to involve the students and cadets extensively in this work. Their participation in research and development will help to develop their creative thought and the ability independently to evaluate facts and phenomena from a position of modern science and to derive the proper conclusions from them.

Political organs and party organizations are expected to provide command and the professors and teachers with a great deal of assistance in the accomplishment of these responsible tasks. It is their duty to delve deeply into the training, indoctrinational and methodological work conducted in the departments and to contribute in every way possible to dissemination of the experience of the best teachers and to the development of good moral and political qualities in the students and cadets. They must strive for effective socialist competition and strong military discipline and to see that military academies, institutes and schools become a model of strict regulation order, by which the graduates will compare their work in the units and on the ships.

As they begin the new training year, command, political organs, professors and teachers, students and cadets of military training institutions are filled with resolve to greet the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in a fitting manner. Military academies, institutes, and schools have at their disposal everything necessary for turning out ideologically tempered, highly skilled officers. If they make use of these possibilities and devote all their strengths and capabilities to the service and training, this will be a worthy contribution to the cause of further strengthening the defense capability of our socialist homeland.

11499

CSO: 1801

COMBAT TRAINING IN SELF-PROPELLED ARTILLERY BATTERY DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Maj L. Golovnev, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "An Outpouring of Combat Enthusiasm"]

[Text] The road climbed ever higher into the mountains, the snowy peaks of which blinded the eyes and beckoned one at the same time. A bluish-black cloud suddenly covered everything, however, and the mountains immediately became gloomy and dismal. They appeared void of people, but Captain G. Subbotin, commander of a battery of SAU's [self-propelled artillery mounts], and his men knew very well that the "enemy" was out there in the pass. The battery had been assigned the mission of destroying the "enemy's" artillery weapons, which were zeroed in on the approaches to the pass, and providing fire support for an attack by advancing subunits [podrazdeleniya].

Prior to the march, Captain N. Minayev, secretary of the subunit party bureau, gathered the communists together (there were 3 in the battery) and told them:

"Even though there are not many of you, strength lies not in numbers but in the ability to lead the others after you. You are in the most important sector today. The battalion's success depends on how your battery performs. And we are counting on you."

Yes, the battery communists can be counted on. They are all masters of combat skills, officers with prestige, persistent in achieving the assigned objective. Captain G. Subbotin has commanded the battery for five years, and it has held the title of excellent battery for the entire time. Lieutenant S. Zakharov has served in the subunit only half as long, but he has already advanced his platoon to the ranks of the best. On the eve of their departure for the exercise the fighting men in the platoon had appealed to all of the battery's soldiers and sergeants: "Accomplish all of the combat training missions well and send each shell accurately to the target."

Discussing the party-political work plan for the period of the exercise with the deputy subunit commander for political affairs and the secretary of the party bureau, Captain G. Subbotin directed their attention to the fact that the communists and Komsomol activists should influence each platoon, each crew. They called for measures to organize competition in the various stages of the exercise. This matter was also discussed at an open Komsomol meeting.

Everything outlined was irreproachably fulfilled. The communists organized an exchange of experience in the area of concentration. Fighting men who had distinguished themselves in past exercises shared the "secrets" of their combat skill. The CPSU members briefed the activists once more prior to moving out to the start line and advised them to talk with the soldiers and to explain the mission to each of them.

Communist A. Romashov conducted one such talk. He told the artillerymen that bloody battles had been waged there in the twenties against the basmachi.

"Our grandfathers demonstrated examples of courage and heroism here," he said. "Today, we will be doing the attacking...".

The influence of the communists on the actions of the soldiers was felt every minute and every hour.

It is possible simply to issue an order, let us say. After explaining the mission, however, battery commander Captain G. Subbotin used examples from the Great Patriotic War to illustrate convincingly how important it is to maintain a high march and attack tempo.

In short, thanks to the focused and active work carried out by commanders and party organizations, the fighting men had a clear picture of their place and role in the accomplishment of the combat training mission as they carried out a march or a bold maneuver or selected a convenient position for opening fire.

An especially detailed discussion of this was carried out at a field party meeting held prior to leaving for the field. It was decided that in the offensive the communist must lead the soldiers and sergeants after him with words and, most importantly, with his personal example. This decision was implemented. The following is only one such incident.

"Enemy" tanks had reached the battery flank. A difficult situation had developed. Lieutenant S. Zakharov immediately deployed his platoon, and the artillerymen repelled the counterattack with stationary fire. By taking on the thrust of the attack they permitted the battery to rearrange its combat formation and strike at the "enemy" flank.

Considering the fact that it is difficult to find time in a rapidly changing tactical situation to gather the fighting men, sum up the results of their actions, and talk with the men, the communists did this directly in the crews.

The communists and Komsomol activists took advantage of every tactical break. Senior Lieutenant V. Soshilov, Senior Sergeant V. Gopiyenko, Private 1st Class V. Serykh, and others briefly told the fighting men of the initiative demonstrated by Junior Sergeant V. Murav'yev, SAU commander, and the accurate firing of gun layer Junior Sergeant N. Ivanov. They explained the new missions to the personnel and gave practical advice.

Party-political work, focused on the objective, raised the activeness of the personnel and directed the efforts of all toward a single goal, that of conducting the exercise in the best possible manner. The fighting mood of the soldiers, sergeants, and officers was reflected in the precise and skillful execution of all orders issued by the commanders and in numerous demonstrations of initiative.

We have told about only one phase of the tactical exercise involving field firing. In this phase, as in all the others, battery personnel, inspired by the communists, performed with a high level of enthusiasm and demonstrated with their actions that they would solidly occupy a forward position in the socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

11499
CSO: 1801

BILLETING MAINTENANCE OFFICER CITES NEED FOR TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Eng-Capt A Golobokov: "The Specialists Must Be Trained"]

[Text] Those problems and organizational questions on the need for special training and periodic advanced training for officers of the billeting service, which Engineer-Colonel Yu. Irzak discussed in his letter published on 16 July in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, are very familiar and perfectly understandable to me, chief engineer of the KECh [chast].

I myself have experienced many difficulties in the position of chief engineer of a KECh of the billeting directorate of the Moscow Military District.

I assumed this position in September of 1976, transferring here from headquarters. The chief of the KEU [billeting directorate] talked with me and, upon discovering that I had no practical experience in the field, offered me a position as chief engineer of a relatively small KECh. And I was in fact immediately deluged with tasks for which I had no special training. And when you consider the fact that it was necessary to establish working contact and good mutual understanding with the collective and with the unit party and trade-union organizations, and to lead the men in the fulfillment of plan assignments, then it is clear that an extremely difficult and very responsible task had been placed on my shoulders. Relying on the extensive experience of my men, I did my very best to justify the command's confidence in me.

I was helped in my development by the fact that for four years I had served in the district KEO [billeting section] under the guidance of such experienced workers as Engineer-Colonel Yu. Rubin and Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Bel'tyukov.

Still, how nice it would have been had I familiarized myself with the science and art of directing a production collective in special advanced training classes before assuming the position of chief engineer of the KECh, learned how to handle the economics and how to apply the funds allocated efficiently, and learned the wisdom of financing the work, as well as Soviet laws.

I am totally in support of the urgent need for raising the skills of officers in the billeting service. How should the specialists be trained? I feel that it is necessary to create special courses and to test this form of training for specialists of the billeting service.

It is essential to take a more serious approach to the development of officers in the billeting service. After all, they preserve and maintain in a state of "complete combat readiness" the barracks and housing fund of the USSR Ministry of Defense.

The insignificant cost of training workers of the KECh would be repaid a hundred times in the competent operation of the barracks and housing fund as a whole and in its long-life. This, in my view, is a task of state importance requiring a state approach.

11499
CSO: 1821

TRAINING COMMAND POST IN MILITARY ACADEMY DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Col (Res) N. Vasil'yev: "At the Training Command Post"]

[Text] Yesterday morning, people in military uniform swarmed to the building housing the Military Academy imeni M. V. Frunze from all directions. Among them, it was not difficult to spot the professors and instructors, the confident upper-class students, and those who would enter the lecture halls and training rooms of this military educational institution for the first time. Everyone was in a festive and enthusiastic mood, however: the new training year was beginning!

"We are immensely happy that we have entered the academy precisely this year," said Captain V. Kurolenko, former commander of a motorized rifle battalion and presently a first-year student. "Ahead of us are extremely important events in the life of the Soviet people -- the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR. We shall try to commemorate them with excellent training."

A bell sounded soon after the formal meeting. The students rapidly filled the numerous lecture halls, classrooms, and training rooms, outfitted with modern equipment. It would appear that everything should be familiar to the upper-class students, but they immediately noticed that certain changes had occurred during the summer. And this was not surprising. A total of 13 laboratories and training rooms had been re-equipped at the academy by the beginning of the new training year. An especially extensive job of renewing the training materials base had been performed in the departments headed by Major General of Artillery A. Sherstyuk and Major General of Signal Troops T. Tetdoyev.

A group of first-year students headed by Captain A. Kobzev went to a lecture hall, in which a training command post had been set up.

Colonel A. Milovanov, an instructor in the department, who had put a great deal of energy and inventiveness into the creation of the training command post, would acquaint the young students with its possibilities.

"You will perfect your skills in troop control here," he said. "And problems of control are becoming specially important in modern combat...".

There was a time when the graduates of certain academies, while possessing profound theoretical knowledge, were not always able to apply them in controlling the subunits [podrazdeleniya] in combat. The facts of life had demonstrated the need to make certain adjustments in the training process. One of the first to do so was the Military Academy imeni M.V. Frunze. To be specific, it was here that the system of training command posts had been created. Since then, many improvements had been made in it, and many additions. And this is understandable: the demands made of the operational-tactical training of commanders are constantly growing.

Today, it is possible for the students to perfect every aspect of their practical skills at the training command post. They have the most modern instruments at their disposal, making it possible to perform necessary calculations by means of electronic computers.

"And now," continued Colonel Milovanov, "you will see the equipment in action."

He pressed a button, and the lecture hall was filled with the din of modern combat. Shell bursts were heard, and the roar of aircraft flying just above the earth. And against this background could be heard commands transmitted over the communications channels. They were clear and sounded absolutely normal.

"And you will learn this. First, however, you must learn to use the equipment. We shall begin with this...".

Time passed rapidly. One felt that it had not been wasted, however. As they left the training command post, the students were engaged in lively conversation. They were discussing something. Each of them would of course remember this lesson, the first step on the difficult path of mastering skills required by a commander.

11499
CSO: 1801

TECHNICAL TRAINING ACCELERATED BY PARTY-POLITICAL WORK

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen Arty N. Belyayev: "Thorough Competence Is Needed"]

[Text] The subunit [podrazdeleniye] had received some new men. Naturally, its commander, Lieutenant Colonel V. Gordnev, the deputy commander for political affairs, and the party and Komsomol organizations concerned themselves with steps to see that the newcomers began mastering the combat equipment as successfully as possible. A demonstration class was conceived for this purpose: the functioning of the complicated radar system was demonstrated for the young soldiers. The purpose of the class was to create enthusiasm for the equipment in the soldiers and to develop a flawlessly functioning crew.

At first, to be sure, the newcomers were amazed by the perfection and "wisdom" of the equipment and the skill of the specialists. The first impression soon began to fade, however. Especially after the equipment for simulating an air situation was switched on. The duel with the "enemy" in a situation of heavy jamming created maximum stress and required extremely precise and meticulous reactions on the part of the men. At this point... it was impossible not to notice the eyes of the young soldiers. They reflected the former amazement, and no impatience to try their own skills immediately. Their eyes now indicated something else. They indicated that these young fellows were now possessed by great doubt: would they ever be able to cope with this complex equipment? The next day, several individuals submitted requests that they be assigned where their "inadequate overall training would be more in conformity with the job facing them."

It was not easy for the commander and party activists to alter that "discouraging feeling" which remained with some of the young soldiers after their introduction to the equipment and gear. Everything naturally fell into place, as they say, soon after that. We should return to the young soldiers' reaction to the demonstration class, however. It shows how fine and complex is the process connected with the soldiers' mastery of the weapons entrusted to them and how refined and well thought-out must be the party-political work aimed at stepping up this process.

Unfortunately, not all communist-supervisors have yet become cognizant of the fact that party-political work, which is expected to accelerate the soldiers' mastery of the combat equipment, has specific characteristics and that success is only possible when it is conducted by well trained people. In this connection, a serious question arises as to the competence of those who organize and perform it. And this competence must be considered on a broad level.

Soon after the above-mentioned demonstration class I spoke with the subunit political worker and party activists. They were confident that in organizing mass and individual work with the new soldiers they were taking into account changes which are constantly taking place as the result of the scientific and technical revolution. They backed up this idea with the conclusion that their presentations and organized measures were making the personnel aware of all the latest information on the development of military affairs. This is true. The problem involves far more than this, however. Revolutionary reforms in military affairs are also influencing the political and military indoctrination and are dictating constantly growing demands of the organization and substance of this work.

The subunit's party activists, together with officers of the political section, then carefully analyzed what had been accomplished. A number of new problems were revealed.

What is typical of military-technical propaganda in this subunit? First of all, the fact that when it was organized consideration was given to the gap between the capabilities of the young, untrained soldiers and the great demands made of people by the modern equipment, without allowances for youth and lack of experience. The work was partly done for effect: see what kind of equipment we have! As it turned out, however, the complexity of the equipment morally oppressed certain young soldiers. This means that the propagandists must also simultaneously employ clear and convincing examples to raise the confidence of their students that they, like their older comrades, can also become highly rated specialists.

It was also revealed a fairly widespread, mistaken opinion to the effect that "complex" people are required for operating the radar equipment. While advancing totally justified conclusions in favor of more careful psychological and physiological selection, some of the officers were inclined to believe categorically that there are "dreamers" and "doers" among the soldiers and sergeants and that some of them can be trained successfully to achieve a high rating, while it is better to transfer others to subunits which have nothing to do with the servicing of complex equipment. It became necessary to assign the political workers the task of explaining to their students that some of the confusion of the young soldiers was not at all a result of specific qualities in their characters. As a rule, the real reason lies in a soldier's inadequate knowledge and skills, in his lack of preparation for the extensive physical stresses, in his inadequate psychological tempering. It is to the credit of the unit [chast] political workers and party activists that they were able to derive the proper conclusions.

For the political workers and party activists effectively to influence the processes involved in the job training of the soldiers they must have a creative attitude toward their work and must persistently seek the required forms of work. In the subunit in which Officer V. Trigubovich is the political worker, for example, the party activists initiated the creation of a council of masters of military affairs. It has invigorated the group work considerably. A monthly, oral technical magazine is produced; question-and-answer sessions are organized; quizzes are given to the soldiers on their knowledge of their weapons; and experienced specialists speak.

A comprehensive party-political work plan has been developed for this important area in another subunit, in which Major Ye. Shamovich is the deputy commander for political affairs. It includes agitation-propaganda measures: lectures, talks, discussions of special subjects, and question-and-answer sessions. They deal with the development of military affairs, reflect the concern of the party and people for the technical equipment of the Armed Forces, and reveal imperialism's aggressive aspirations. The Komsomol organization's plan includes talks, quizzes, and competitions in norm fulfillment. The comprehensive plan also calls for summarization of progressive experience. The plan is closely linked with problems of military-technical propaganda and socialist competition. All of this helps to develop a feeling of responsibility and an interest in the equipment in the fighting men, and maintains the competition on a spirited level.

We must not fail also to stress the need for improving the military-technical knowledgeability of political workers and party activists and their knowledge of the weapons and military equipment. This is required not for the sake of prestige but for the competent performance of the work.

I recall the following incident. Major Ye. Namestnikov, a worker in the political section, was attending a class. The officer conducting the class was guilty of many indulgences and simplifications. An individual with a poor knowledge of the specific features of the work of specialists would have noticed nothing. The major is not such an individual, however. He is a master of combat skills, and he detected with subtle accuracy serious gaps in the performance of the officer, who was least concerned with developing profound knowledge and skills in the men and more concerned with all sorts of "devices" to "achieve" as many good evaluations as possible. It was thus possible to disclose a negative phenomenon and to conduct a party discussion of the matter, based on party principles.

Well thought-out party-political work aimed at providing a high level of professional training for the soldiers is a reliable means of making the training process more effective. And we see our task as one of persistently raising the competence of political workers and party activists, building up the efforts of the party collectives in this extremely important area of work, finding new possibilities, and making skillful use of them for purposes of achieving good results in the work of improving combat skills and in the effort to greet the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in a fitting manner.

TRAINING DEFICIENCIES NOTED IN MOTORIZED INFANTRY REGIMENT

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Col V. Nagornyy: "Grenade Launchers... 'For Rent'"]

[Text] A document is kept at the headquarters of unit X which contains the results of fulfillment of socialist commitments by the personnel for the winter training period. It shows that far from all of the outlined goals were achieved. Only 22 percent of the platoons which decided to become excellent ones, for example, achieved the desired goal. There is not a single excellent company in the regiment at the present time. Furthermore, the subunit [podrazdeleniye] commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Senchilin, which was striving for this high rating, was among the laggards when the season ended in the spring. Their failures in tactical and fire training were especially alarming.

What changes have been made in the regiment in the past months of summer training? Following a thorough analysis of the reasons for falling behind in the unit [chast] a great deal was done to eliminate the shortcomings revealed. The party collective brought Captain R. Mamedov, commander of the motorized rifle battalion whose men did not fulfill their commitments, strictly to account. A number of steps were taken aimed at improving training quality. At the same time, to say that the bitter lessons of the past have been fully taken into account and that all reserves have been activated, would be to distort the truth.

I had the opportunity to attend exercises in several companies. Frankly speaking, right now, when the training year is about to end, I had hoped to feel the enthusiastic fervor of rivalry in the competition, to see an especially active struggle to fulfill commitments, an intolerance of any sort of "letup." This is precisely what I could not see or feel completely, however.

An exercise with grenade launchers was underway in one of the sectors of the unit firing range. I gathered from the account of Senior Lieutenant V. Shcherbakov, battalion chief of staff, that the exercise was going well. This was confirmed by entries on the evaluation sheet. What was concealed behind those entries, however?

The sector was equipped with a target arrangement, making it possible to perform the exercise according to three different plans. That day, when another subunit had been practicing there, the device for frontal shifting of the tank mockup had been damaged. The problem was not eliminated in time, and the battalion grenade launchers did not have the opportunity to practice destroying this target. Another "trifle" was also cause for concern: there was no stopwatch at the operator's control panel, and the operator only estimated the target display time.

Soldiers supervised by Senior Lieutenant A. Belousov were engaged in firing practice nearby. Neither there or in our exercise had all of the specialists' sights been prepared for night firing. As a result, two or three grenade launchers, which had been readied for normal combat, were passed from hand to hand, and the men mainly performed the exercise with "another person's" weapon.

Good results were achieved in this situation. As the good marks were tallied, however, was it worth rubbing ones hands with satisfaction, knowing full well that they had been achieved as a result of deviation from the requirements set forth by the Firing Course?

I asked Major V. Zakharov, deputy regiment commander, what he considered to be the reason for the low quality of the exercises, as well as for the inadequately accurate small-arms fire, despite the fact that the companies were at the firing range both day and night. Zakharov cited a number of ostensibly objective reasons, including an unsatisfactory training materials base and the difficulty of the exercise. These conclusions did not shed any light on the situation, however.

After the grenade launchers Senior Lieutenant V. Shcherbakov began working with the sub-machine gunners. One target was not functioning in this sector as well. Logic should have dictated the expediency of breaking off the firing, thoroughly analyzing the causes of the failures, and then continuing the exercise. Shcherbakov did not do this and honestly acknowledged that he himself did not know where the hitch lay. Firing continued, and the bullets flew past the target. The sub-machine gunners received an overall satisfactory evaluation. It is not just a matter of the evaluation, however, which could have been higher, but of the fact that there was no indication of a desire thoroughly to clarify the causes of the shortcomings in fire preparations. Every minute of training time is especially valuable in the concluding phase of the training year. It was therefore all the more disappointing to see that while some of the soldiers were firing, others were idling at the rear of the firing range until it was their turn. And around 30 or so meters away there was a training field, specially designed for practicing precisely this exercise. No one took advantage of it, however.

Incidentally, trainees could be seen "awaiting their turn" at other training sites as well. They aimlessly wasted valuable time. How can one expect good indicators in such a situation? Real skill has never been achieved without focused work and a thrifty regard for the training minute.

No, clearly not everyone had gained from the spring lessons. Does the following incident not demonstrate a negligent attitude toward the work and inadequate responsibility for training quality? As he prepared for one of the tactical training subjects, Lieutenant Ye. Kuz'min wrote in his conspectus: "Location - Lenin room." Company commander, Lieutenant V. Georgitsa approved the conspectus. Thanks to the intervention of the senior commander, the exercise was conducted in the field after all. It was not properly set up with respect to materials, however.

Finally, I would like to bring up the following. It is necessary to have a clear picture of the goal in order to struggle for quality, to direct the training process confidently and with methodological competence. Why is it necessary to mention this? Because not all of the officers know the control figures for the training of rated specialists. At headquarters, I was familiarized with the commitments of the officers themselves. Not all, only 73 percent, of those who should have had a class rating had decided to acquire it as specified by an order from the senior commander. And this was presented as an "increased" commitment.

But for the sake of fairness, it should be noted that it would have been difficult to complain about the organization of exercises at some training sites. Practice in the operation of combat vehicles, organized by Senior Lieutenant Yu. Adamenko, company commander, for example, was conducted with precision. The training time was also "filled" in exercises conducted by Senior Lieutenant V. Spiridenko's men. These contrasts also demonstrate that it is not a matter of objective factors but of the degree of responsibility for the assigned job demonstrated by the leaders.

Fall, the most responsible time for checking combat maturity, is coming into its own. There is still time to eliminate gaps and completely fulfill socialist commitments accepted in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The training quality and effectiveness will have to be improved in order to achieve this, however.

11499
CSO: 1801

INSTRUCTION QUALITY IN AIR FORCE ACADEMY PRAISED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen Avn L. Fil'chenko, Docent, Chief of the Political Section of the Military Air Academy imeni Yu. A. Gagarin: "On a Party Basis"]

[Text] Hero of the Soviet Union Colonel N. Gapeyenok was delivering an operational-tactical training lecture that day. The instructor talked about methods and techniques of conducting an air battle. Most of the students had experience in commanding subunits [podrazdeleniya] and had participated in tactical flight exercises. They were naturally familiar with much of that which was discussed. Nonetheless, they all listened with unabated attention.

Just what was Colonel Gapeyenok's "secret"? The fact that he did not skimp on examples from his own experience at the front? This teaching technique naturally raised the students' interest. Something else was more important, however. Party enthusiasm was felt in each phrase uttered by the lecturer. It was apparent that the lecture was being presented by a communist, who appraised events from a party position.

"There was a time," said the instructor, "when some of our aircraft were inferior to enemy aircraft in certain respects. Soviet pilots engaged in battle with superior Hitlerite forces, however, and won, because they combined combat skill with bravery and persistence. And these qualities were born of a love for the homeland and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union."

In his lecture Colonel Gapeyenok gave many brilliant examples illustrating the fact that success is achieved in combat not by means of weapons alone but primarily by the profound ideological conviction of those in charge of them. He stressed the fact that a party approach to the resolution of all problems, including military matters, makes it possible to achieve success in difficult situations.

As a result of this, the operational-tactical training lecture expanded and intensified the specialized knowledge of the students, helped to develop in them a Marxist-Leninist world outlook and good political qualities, fighting efficiency and morale, and taught them to consider all problems from class positions.

Other teachers at the academy also teach with a high level of party mindedness: Major General of Aviation V. Kumskov, Colonels Yu. D'yachenko, G. Yeletskikh and P. Nikitin, and many others. Those entrusted with the teaching and indoctrination of students recall well the words spoken by L. I. Brezhnev at the All-Union Student Rally: "...it is only possible to master a specialty creatively and to become an active participant in our building of communism and an agent of party policy in the masses by mastering Marxist-Leninist theory."

These words reflect the main focus of the higher school's work. Fulfilling the requirements set forth by our party, the academy departments attempt to insure that the training has a highly ideological purposefulness about it. In the situation of the intense ideological struggle underway in the world today the political acuity of each class takes on special significance. After all, the military training institutions turn out not just highly qualified specialists. Their graduates must be profoundly cognizant of the grandness of Marxist-Leninist ideals and must be active fighters for our party cause.

The problem of basing teaching on party principles is complex and multifaceted. It can be stated with certainty, however, that one of its main aspects lies in insuring that each instructor has mastered methods of transmitting knowledge which insure that they have a class focus and that all of the training issues are presented with a Marxist-Leninist world outlook, from the point of view of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and in a spirit of indoctrination with Soviet patriotism and proletarian internationalism, and devotion to the socialist homeland.

It is no secret that at one time some people attempted to divide all of the disciplines taught at the academy into "occupational" and "philosophical" fields, whereby responsibility for the development and establishment of a Marxist-Leninist outlook was placed on the social science departments, the political section, and party organizations. There is no question that they still have a leading place in this important work. No instructor, however, and no communist has a right to remain passive in this matter.

Experience has shown that those instructors, especially the young ones, have the greatest difficulties where it is necessary to relate the material studied to life. And this is not surprising. After all, this cannot be accomplished by the selection of casual facts alone. It requires clarification of the ideological meaning of the matters discussed and their organic unity with the tasks facing our nation and its Armed Forces.

What methods are employed at the academy to develop in the instructors solid skills in imparting knowledge to the students from a thoroughly party position? First and foremost, thorough discussion of the lectures and seminar class plans.

I recall a lecture discussing the aviation's combat actions in the Berlin Operation. On the whole, the lecture was entirely satisfactory from the point of view of enriching the students' body of special knowledge. Colonel G. Khromtsov and Major V. Pavlovskiy, instructors in the social science department, however, who attended the lecture, made a number of comments and suggestions.

Major Pavlovskiy, in particular, recommended that the students' attention be directed toward the differences between operations of the Soviet and the Anglo-American air forces. While our pilots struck military-industrial objects, the Allies mainly bombed residential areas.

Elaborating on his idea, he suggested that it would be appropriate to mention the actions of the American military in Korea and Vietnam and, on this basis, to stress the savage nature of imperialism once more.

It has become a rule at the academy that instructors from the social science department take part in discussion of the lectures. This is far from the only method used to make the instruction more party-minded, however. Practical scientific conferences conducted at the academy for the professors and instructors, however, for example, are highly beneficial. Questions pertaining to the party level of the instruction have been raised several times recently. This is frequently discussed at department party meetings, in seminars for secretaries of party organizations, and at conferences in the political section.

Special methodological instructions have been developed in the academy departments, which reveal the nature and substance of the principle of teaching from a party position, and concrete recommendations are made, aimed at insuring an organic link between each subject and individual sections of the course and the policy of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the practical work of building communism, and the tasks of Soviet fighting men with respect to further strengthening our homeland's defense capability.

The reviewing of training literature prepared in the operational-tactical and special departments by the social science departments has also justified itself completely as a method of raising the level of party-mindedness in the teaching. This is making it possible to intensify the philosophical and methodological thrust. Another aspect should also be mentioned: this reviewing of the literature helps to expand and intensify the military and special knowledge of the social science instructors.

Once, Candidate of Historical Sciences, Colonel A. Chinenny, an instructor in the department of history of the CPSU and party-political work, was assigned the task of reviewing a training aid on the history of military art. He made

a number of valuable suggestions aimed at increasing the ideological focus of the material. At the same time, Colonel Chinemyy found a number of interesting facts and figures in the aid, which permitted him to enrich his knowledge on the course of party-political work.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its Central Committee manifest constant concern for the ideological-political indoctrination of fighting men in the army and navy. The military teachers are charged with large and responsible tasks in this important matter. They are expected to work in an atmosphere of constant creative quest, to exhibit boldness, and to reveal on a scientific basis conflicts between the old and the new, between that which is coming into existence and that which is dying off.

The military instructor cannot remain an indifferent "narrator." In each class, he is required to be an active propagandist of communist ideals, an uncompromising and intolerant fighter against alien bourgeois theories and views.

Fulfilling decisions of the 25th CPSU, command, the political section, the staff of professors and instructors, and the party organizations of the academy are constantly improving the methods used to train and indoctrinate the students. This work is conducted on a solid party foundation, based on practical application of the valuable party principles of Soviet pedagogics.

11499
CSO: 1801

IMPORTANCE OF ATTENTION TO SERVICEMEN'S LETTERS STRESSED

Moscow KPFASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Sep. 77 p 1

[Editorial: "The Handling of Letters Is a Party Matter"]

[Text] Preparations for celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and national discussion of the draft Constitution of the USSR have evoked a great outpouring of political and labor activeness on the part of the Soviet people, including servicemen, workers and employees of the Soviet Army and Navy. One manifestation of this is the letters, telegrams, and labor reports arriving at main and central administrations, establishments of the USSR Ministry of Defense, military councils, political organs, and headquarters, and the editorial boards of military newspapers and magazines. They reflect pride in our great homeland, express unanimous approval of the Party's foreign and domestic policy, report on the successes achieved in the socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and unanimously approve decisions of the May (1977) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the draft Constitution of the USSR.

The contents of the letters show that fighting men of the army and navy regard the interests of the state and society as their own vital interests, that they are demonstrating profound concern for strengthening the common Soviet state, and are attempting to make full use of the rights and freedoms afforded them by the Soviet system for successful accomplishment of the tasks involved in building communism. This is a demonstration of the profoundly democratic nature of our system and actual realization of the rights set forth in the draft Constitution of the USSR.

"It should be borne in mind," said Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his speech at the May (1977) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "that as they discuss the draft Constitution the workers will also be reviewing the practical work of all elements of the party, soviet, and economic apparatus. Attention will be focused on the urgent problems disturbing the people, on unfinished tasks, on shortcomings in the work. We must be prepared for this. We must react efficiently and concretely to criticism and proposals and must take steps to improve the situation wherever necessary."

Experience has shown that letters from military personnel, workers and employees of the Soviet Army and Navy now contain a considerably greater number of proposals, suggestions and recommendations imbued with concern for further improving the combat readiness of the forces and strengthening military discipline. Fulfilling requirements set forth in the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee: "On Further Improvement of the Handling of Letters from Workers in Light of Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress," commanders, headquarters, political and personnel agencies are carefully studying the practical proposals and critical comments contained in the letters, and are using them to eliminate existing shortcomings for purposes of raising the combat readiness of the troops and further improving material, personal-service, and cultural conditions for military personnel and members of their families.

A precise recording system has been established for incoming letters at the headquarters and in the political directorate of the Baltic Military District. Each recommendation for improving the training and indoctrinational process, socialist competition, and living conditions, each critical comment, each step and each proposal for eliminating shortcomings are thoroughly studied. The units [chasti] are frequently visited by representatives of headquarters and the political directorate and by military legal experts in order to review a letter on the spot and to adopt an efficient and concrete decision.

Unfortunately, there are still cases of a different attitude toward letters. Certain leaders do not attach proper public-political significance to this important work and do not demand thorough and timely consideration of letters on the part of their subordinates. An answer to a critical comment or complaint is sometimes unjustifiably late, and the follow-up is sometimes assigned to competent individuals or even to those who are the object of complaint in the letters. Such follow-up methods sometimes result in a situation in which reports on the results of checks and the measures taken are not objective.

A formal attitude toward the proposals, applications, and requests of military personnel, workers, and employees forces them to repeat their complaints at superior organizations, and the handling of individual letters is unjustifiably delayed. For more than two years now, for example, servicemen, reserve and retired officers living in the city of Borisov, Minskaya Oblast, have attempted to have the building hooked up to the hot-water supply. In May of 1976 the directors of the rayon KECh [billeting operation unit] were ordered to prepare the necessary documents in order that the work of linking the building to the water-supply system could be completed in 1977. Nothing was done, however. The people were forced to write more letters to various authorities in an attempt to see that the decision was carried out.

Cases of formal-bureaucratic treatment of letters should be evaluated on the basis of principle. It is the duty of commanders, political organs, and party organizations to insure strict fulfillment of the requirements set forth in the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee: "On Further Improving the Handling of Letters from Workers in Light of Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress."

It is the sacred duty of all who deal with the letters and complaints of the Soviet people to thoroughly and systematically study incoming letters, to review them within established periods, and to regard the people, their opinions and requests with respect. Problems of handling letters and the tasks emerging from their analysis should be periodically discussed at service meetings and in party organizations, and strict steps should be taken with respect to individuals violating the established procedure for handling letters. Commanders at all levels, political organs, and party organizations are expected to react to criticism and proposals efficiently and concretely. Not a single important idea, not a single valuable proposal or complaint should go unanswered.

Continued improvement of the handling of letters and of the forms and methods used in light of requirements set by the 25th CPSU Congress is becoming increasingly more important in the situation of consistent development of socialist democracy and strengthening of party links with the masses. The careful handling of letters and realization of the efficient proposals contained therein promotes healthy morale in the labor and military collectives, stimulates creative initiative in the people, and strengthens each individual's noble feeling of participating in the great work of building communism.

11499
GSO: 1801

MILITARY PRESS IN BALTIC MILITARY DISTRICT CRITICIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Sep 77 p 2

[Article: "Improve Party Supervision of the Military Press"]

[Text] The Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy has discussed the matter of supervision of district and large-circulation newspapers by the political directorate of the Red Banner Baltic Military District in light of requirements set forth by the 25th CPSU Congress and the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee, "On Supervision of Mass Information and Propaganda Media by the Tomskaya Oblast Committee of the CPSU." A report was presented on this matter by Lieutenant General I. Gubin, member of the military council and chief of the district political directorate.

It was noted in the discussion of the report that the political directorate and political sections are conducting work focused on improvement of the system of party supervision of the press and increasing its role in the publicizing and fulfillment of decisions of the 25th Party Congress, subsequent decrees passed by the CPSU Central Committee, and the proposals and conclusions contained in speeches by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev. Employing various forms and means of party supervision of the press, political organs define the main directions to be followed in the work of district and large-circulation newspapers, organize thoroughgoing briefings for military journalists, and constantly engage in the selection and indoctrination of journalist cadres and improvement of their ideological and professional level.

The newspapers published in the district actively assist the commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol organizations with the training and indoctrination of military personnel, motivation of the personnel to maintain a constant state of combat readiness in the forces and a high level of vigilance and discipline, and with the development of socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

At the same time, it was noted that the work of fulfilling requirements set forth at the 25th Party Congress and the decree of the CPSU Central Committee on the party committee of Tomskaya Oblast with respect to increasing the role of the press is not always conducted in the district with proper consistency and activeness.

The publicizing of materials on the 25th CPSU Congress in the district newspaper ZA RODINU and especially in the large-circulation newspapers is not tied in closely enough with the concrete tasks performed by personnel of the district forces. Publications devoted to the draft Constitution of the USSR do not always thoroughly explain the statute on the Communist Party's guiding and directing role in the development of the Soviet society. The chapter on defense of the socialist homeland is not explained with adequate thoroughness. Some materials on these subjects are not linked organically with preparations for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The fact was stressed that the editorial collectives have still not achieved good quality for all of the materials published on matters of combat and political training and socialist competition. The press is devoting inadequate attention to the progressive experience of the district's best units [chasti] and subunits [podrazdeleniya], the avant garde role of the communists in combat training, and the strengthening of military discipline. A considerable portion of materials published on party and Komsomol subjects suffers from a multiplicity of plans. A more carefully thought-out approach should be taken to the formulation in the district press of problems involved in the comprehensive accomplishment of ideological-indoctrinational tasks and problems of strengthening military discipline, solidifying the military collectives, and raising the vigilance of the personnel.

In certain district units there is a lack of concern for the critical presentations of the military press. Certain commanders and political workers do not react to these publications in good time or limit their actions to formal replies.

The Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy has required that the district political directorate eliminate the deficiencies noted; take practical steps steadfastly to fulfill the requirements set forth at the 25th CPSU Congress and the decree passed by the Party Central Committee on the Tomskaya Oblast CPSU Committee with respect to supervision of the mass information and propaganda media; and to raise the ideological level of district and large-circulation newspapers and intensify their organizational influence on the training and indoctrination of the personnel, mobilization of the troops to successfully accomplish combat and political training tasks, increasing the vigilance and combat readiness of the troops, and strengthening military discipline.

It has been suggested that the newspapers step up their work of publicizing and mobilizing the personnel to fulfill decisions of the 25th Party Congress and the points and conclusions contained in documents and materials of plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

Greater effort must be concentrated on publicizing the draft Constitution of the USSR, conducting it in organic unity with clarification of decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and preparations for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Leading district personnel, directors of local party, soviet and administrative agencies, deputies to the USSR Supreme Soviet and those of the Union republics, and the nations' scientists and distinguished people must be drawn upon more extensively to address these subjects in the press. The press should more thoroughly reveal the worldwide historical significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the Communist Party's guiding role in the development of the Soviet society and the strengthening of the homeland's economic and defense power, convincingly demonstrate the advantages of the socialist system and the Soviet way of life, more clearly publicize the Soviet people's successes in the fulfillment of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, and resolutely expose imperialism's aggressive nature and intrigues, and bourgeois and revisionist ideology. The press should be utilized more vigorously for intensifying the effectiveness of ideological work conducted in the forces and establishing a total approach to the formulation of the entire job of indoctrinating the personnel in light of the requirements set forth in the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee on the Orsk City Party Organization.

It is an important duty of the newspapers to contribute in every way possible to the further development of socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Materials describing the course of combat and political training must take into fuller account the specific features and the nature of the tasks accomplished by the personnel during the corresponding training periods; thoroughly and convincingly reveal experience acquired in conducting exercises and improving field and air training; and systematically popularize the best methods experts; masters of training and indoctrination, and those excelling in the training.

A central place in the pages of the newspapers must be assigned to problems of strengthening aware military discipline, moral and legal indoctrination, propaganda of requirements of the military oath and regulations, and strengthening of the military collectives. With respect to indoctrination of the personnel and strengthening of discipline, it is important that articles and letters from soldiers, sergeants, and warrant officers [praporshchiki] on moral-ethical subjects be published more frequently.

The editorial boards of the newspapers are expected to discuss matters of intraparty life thoroughly, to demonstrate more clearly the avant garde role of the communists in the accomplishment of combat and political training tasks, and systematically publish materials on experience in indoctrinating the young communists and on the style of work of the party committees and bureaus of party organizations. The Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy has required that the political directorates and political sections do everything possible to raise the role of the military press in the development of criticism, to provide all-around support for the principled causes presented by the newspapers, and hold strictly accountable those who do not react to critical articles or limit themselves to formal replies.

It has been recommended that the political organs and editorial boards of the newspapers take steps to strengthen the boards' ties with the military correspondents and readers, actively utilizing for this purpose discussion of the boards' thematic and long-range plans in the units and with the military correspondent aktiv, conferences of military correspondents, readers' conferences, and visits to the troops by regular military journalists. The editorial boards of newspapers must regularly publish letters from readers, actively utilize the editors' mail for presenting urgent problems from the life of the troops in the press, constantly publish materials on the handling of letters in the units and subunits, and develop public initiatives in the press.

Political organs are required to strive constantly to see that military journalists persistently master Marxist-Leninist theory and improve their professional skill. It is essential systematically to inform military press workers of decrees passed by the party and government and of other important documents focusing the journalists' efforts on the accomplishment of current tasks in the training and indoctrination of the personnel.

The fact was stressed that special concern must be shown for improving the journalist training of workers with the large-circulation newspapers. It has been recommended that the political directorate set up a training program at the district newspaper for officers working on large-circulation newspapers and insure that the workers of large-circulation newspapers perform their service duties. It has been recommended that newspaper editors regularly report on the most urgent areas of their work, and the chiefs of political sections -- on their supervision of large-circulation newspapers. Also recognized was the need to improve the publication of periodicals in the units and subunits and the delivery of newspapers to the forces.

It has been proposed that political organs and newspaper editorial boards take necessary steps to improve the system in the printshops and to keep precise records and exercise strict control over the use and care of type and printing equipment.

It was pointed out that it would be useful to publish reviews of editions printed in large volumes in the district press and to publish reviews of district, group and fleet newspapers and materials on other newspaper subjects in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

It was recommended that the political directorates of branches of the Armed Forces thoroughly analyze the course of fulfillment in the district, groups of forces, and fleets of the decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee, "On Supervision of the Mass Information and Propaganda Media by the CPSU committed of Tomskaya Oblast."

As they improve party supervision of military newspapers, political organs must bear in mind that the main concern is that of increasing the effectiveness of the printed work with respect to motivating the personnel to fulfill decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and to achieve new successes in combat and political training the year in which we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, in the continued strengthening of discipline and organization, and in the raising of vigilance and the combat readiness of units and subunits.

IMPORTANCE OF MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER TRAINING STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Sep 77 p 1

[Editorial: "The Military Driver"]

[Text] An exercise is under way. The troops are on the march... this is a familiar sight to every military man: columns of tanks, combat vehicles of the infantry, artillery and of course, every kind of motor vehicle. Rocket launchers, radio stations, vehicles hauling fuel and ammunition... the range of employment of motor vehicles in military affairs is truly vast. The motor vehicle pool of our Armed Forces is large and diverse. It is constantly being renewed and improved, and this is one of the obvious manifestations of party and government concern for strengthening the Soviet Armed Forces.

Motor vehicle operators now comprise one of the largest personnel categories. Naturally, the successful accomplishment of combat and political training tasks by the units [chasti] and subunits [podrazdeleniya] depends greatly on the level of their professional training and the state of indoctrinational work carried out among them.

An absolute majority of military drivers performed their military duty in an exemplary manner and operate the modern equipment skillfully and carefully. Taking as their frame of reference the front-line soldiers, those who drove vehicles, sometimes without sleeping for days and under enemy fire, along the famous Road of Life, which helped to defend besieged Leningrad, and over many other military roads, from the banks of the Volga to Berlin, the inheritors of that combat glory are continuing their heroic traditions in a worthy manner. The selfless labor performed by the military motor vehicle operators in the harvest creates a feeling of pride in all personnel of the army and navy. Following the example of the motor vehicle battalions, which distinguished themselves in the battle for the harvest last year, and whom Comrade L.I. Brezhnev heartily congratulated with their great labor victory, they are making a worthy contribution to the national effort to accomplish the tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress for agriculture.

During the course of the summer combat training, particularly now, in the concluding phase, military vehicle operators are successfully accomplishing responsible and varied tasks in exercises and in their routine work, persistently perfecting their field training. They never forget the fact that the military driver is not just a chauffeur, the man behind the wheel. He is a soldier with an excellent mastery of his weapon, one who knows his place in the combat formation and is prepared to eliminate malfunctions on the battlefield. Good march training, for example, was displayed in the exercises by military drivers in the motor vehicle battalion commanded by Major A. Kupchik. This is the result of constant attention to the professional training and indoctrination of the drivers and of the socialist competition developed on a broad basis among them.

The experience of the outstanding men graphically demonstrates the fact that the most important condition for success is constant concern for the growth of the drivers' professional skill, the organization of the entire service, including the vehicle pool service, in strict conformity with the regulations and instructions, painstaking individual work, and intolerance for the slightest manifestations of lack of discipline and recklessness, of violations of traffic rules, especially the consumption of alcohol.

It is an important task of commanders, political organs, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations to develop in the drivers good professional skills, fighting efficiency and morale. Not everywhere, however, does the state of the work conducted with drivers measure up to today's requirements. Situations which can result in accidents have not been corrected in all units and subunits. One of the reasons for the deficiencies lies in the fact that certain commanders and chiefs are still not fully aware of the importance of motor vehicle equipment in the life of the Armed Forces or of the great responsibility placed on the military drivers.

This is particularly demonstrated by the absence in many cases of a differentiated approach to the training and indoctrination of drivers and in the obsolescence of the material base for their training. Drivers are still frequently not involved in plan assignments for combat and political training and in many other activities pertaining to indoctrination of the personnel. It is important to put the work procedures of the drivers in order, to see that they return from trips on time, and to brief them in a competent manner before they leave the pool.

An analysis shows that accidents are frequently caused by what at first glance appear to be insignificant deviations from established procedure, by the firmly rooted practice which still exists among some of the drivers of dividing the rules for operating vehicles into "important" and "secondary," into "mandatory" and "not always mandatory" rules. Such flaws in the indoctrinational work were present, for example, in the unit in which the motor vehicle service is headed by Senior Lieutenant N. Desyatkov.

It is important to thoroughly develop in the drivers pride in their job, a feeling of great responsibility for the performance of their duties, and an awareness of the fact that traffic safety depends on them, that they are entrusted with the lives of people and expensive equipment. Work carried out in this area in the subunits must be supplemented by measures on the unit and garrison level. Technical conferences on traffic safety, involving specialists from the motor vehicle service, VAI [Military Motor Vehicle Inspectorate], and GAI [State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate], and participation in the traffic safety months periodically conducted in the nation have proven to be beneficial.

It is essential to steadfastly implement the requirements set for motor vehicle training of the troops and to extensively employ comprehensive training of the drivers by means of specially equipped classrooms and driver training tracks. A number of units in the Kiev and Belorussian military districts have also acquired positive experience in such work. The young drivers require special attention. Careful organization of their additional training and involvement of the most experienced specialists in their classes constitute an important condition for their irreproachable work in the future. A great deal depends on the military commissariats, who are expected to study and select pre-conscription youth for DOSAAF training establishments and the vocational and technical education systems for training as drivers.

Good results are being produced by the competition developed on an extensive basis among military drivers for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the patriotic enthusiasm evoked by national discussion of the draft of the new Constitution of the USSR. Accident-free operation of the equipment, the extension of inter-repair running time of the vehicles, the raising of class ratings, and conservation of fuel and lubricants are all reflected in the commitments of military motor vehicle drivers. Complete fulfillment of socialist commitments and selfless work on the part of military drivers in the concluding phase of the training year will contribute to further improvement of combat readiness in the Armed Forces.

11499
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METHODS OF IMPROVING SUPERIOR-SUBORDINATE RELATIONSHIP DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen F. Ishchenko, member of the military council and chief of the political directorate of the Southern Group of Forces: "Know How To Approach People"]

[Text] A violation of military discipline had occurred in the subunit [podrazdeleniye]. It took Major V. Doronin, deputy regimental commander for political affairs, by surprise, as they say: the subunit had been considered a good one. And then suddenly, this case of nonregulation relations between soldiers.

We inquired as to whether the political worker had visited the subunit and whether he had talked with the officers, sergeants, and soldiers. We learned that he had visited the subunit. It would be more accurate to say that he had sometimes attended various activities for the motorized riflemen, but with respect to talks... the Major's contact with the men had mainly consisted of reprimands and orders given in a general manner. A fairly tense atmosphere had developed in the collective. Some officers had disciplinary penalties, but could not always explain just why they had been punished. This gave rise to resentment and edginess. In this atmosphere, it was no longer a simple matter to engage in relaxed conversation with the soldiers, to see the true situation of relations within the collective. And Major Doronin did not even attempt to do so. Following the incident he took a line of purely administrative action, accusing everyone but himself of errors.

It is the duty of a leader to strengthen the collective, to direct its efforts toward the best possible accomplishment of the tasks facing it. Success is naturally not achieved without a true evaluation of the collective's capabilities and without taking the morale of the servicemen into account. Only that leader is on top of the situation, who constantly has his finger on the pulse of the collective, who is close to the people, and this is only possible through personal communication with the men, through close contacts with all of the officers, warrant officers [praporshchiki], sergeants, and soldiers. No

go-between in this matter, no matter how observant and conscientious, can relay to the commander all of the nuances in the mood of the men. We political workers always find Lenin's requirements of the communist-supervisor to be valid: "Communication with the masses. Live in their midst. Know their moods. Know everything. Understand the masses. Be able to approach them. Gain their absolute confidence."

An entire science of party leadership is vested in these words. It is the guideline followed in the work of commanders, political workers, and secretaries of party and Komsomol organizations.

Take Officer B. Stasenko, for example. He has contact with the personnel every day and is able to talk unceremoniously with the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers. They pour out their hearts to him. People sometimes say that a subordinate is inhibited in such a situation, that he will not be frank about anything to his chief, especially if the latter has a high rank and position. An erroneous opinion! Everything depends on how one approaches the individual. If a soldier sees good intention, simplicity and concern for him, he will invariably tell about his needs, share his doubts, and ask any sort of "pointed" question troubling him.

I recall a case in which Officer B. Stasenko met with the young motor vehicle operators while work was underway in one of the subunits. A relaxed conversation developed. Boris Petrovich told the soldiers about himself and about how he had become an officer. The soldiers, in turn, shared their impressions of their first months of service, of how they had been received in the collective. It turned out that all was not going smoothly for them. The officer learned what was troubling the youth and immediately took proper steps and gave useful advice to the commanders and political workers.

In order to be well informed about the course of combat and political training and the state of military discipline in the subunit, in order to have efficient and flexible influence -- influence on the most responsive chords of the human heart -- a communist in charge of people must skillfully combine the qualities of a sole commander and a party worker. His style must be characterized by demandingness and accessibility, simplicity and modesty, sincerity and benevolence, sensitivity and consideration. In other words, he must be responsive to the needs of other people. It is precisely these qualities which the above-mentioned Major V. Doronin lacked. His conduct showed indifference to human needs and arrogance, giving rise to a lack of tact and replacing demandingness with crudeness.

We are all greatly impressed by the draft Constitution of the USSR. It reflects the remarkable features of our Soviet way of life. And naturally, against the background of the standards of the socialist society, cases of crudeness and degradation of human dignity stand out as an anachronism. We must rid ourselves of pernicious habits, which do not enhance the individual. And the sooner, the better.

Unfortunately, people who have such shortcomings frequently do not acknowledge them. They attribute their aloofness to "service demandingness" and their alienation from the masses, to the fact that they are too busy.

It is not only Comrade Doronin, but other leaders as well, who do not find time to talk with the soldiers, to drop in at the young officers' dormitory, let us say, to see how a young officer's family has settled itself. Not "just to stop by for a minute," glancing impatiently at ones watch, but to drop in, to have a heart-to-heart talk. And naturally, to take effective steps if something is wrong in the life or service of those with whom one is chatting. People know when a commander has come to them with a real desire to help and when he has paid a visit strictly proforma.

There are leaders who drop in to a barracks for a narrowly defined purpose. To see how well the beds are made, let us say, or to check on the condition of the lockers. But this is not enough, however. They need to approach a soldier with more in mind than just a demonstrative locker inspection. When such a rapid surprise inspection is carried out the soldiers keep a respectful distance.

What causes a certain commander or chief to become cut off from the men? I believe that it is partially due to a lack of understanding of their role as a leader, of the educational significance of daily communication with subordinates. No doubt, it is also sometimes due to callousness. There are also other causes. In order to meet with a soldier, to visit with an officer, one must know a great deal and be prepared patiently to answer every "delicate" question, to put forth additional effort and spend extra time in order to help an individual... Is this not why certain comrades, upon meeting soldiers, limit their communication to one or two phrases such as: "It's time to get moving, comrades!", "We shall overcome the difficulties!", and "Well done!". And some consciously prefer to keep the men at a distance: it is easier to appear important in this case. Strange as it may sound, such a tactic is sometimes followed by commanders who should know better. He who keeps the men at a distance, however, is also at a distance from them.

The other extreme also exists. Some communist-leaders literally walk on tip-toes among their subordinates, watch over them in matters large and small, cannot refrain from philosophizing, love to lecture, and become carried away with edifying. Lieutenant Colonel S. Bykov is one of our good and diligent officers. He is not too lazy to drop in to the barracks, to attend classes in the classroom or in the field. His communication with the men, however, frankly speaking, is a matter of endless lecturing. This distracts his men. They are forced to act circumspectly in everything they do, and one sometimes has the feeling that the commander's presence is a burden to them. In short, there is no communication or mutual understanding.

We can see that there are many factors preventing certain leaders from establishing truly regulation, comradely relations with subordinates, based on party principle. And when such a commander fails to improve and continues

adhering to his faulty style of work, he becomes more and more separated from the masses, unintentionally begins to be satisfied by associating only with those who agree with him and cater to his moods, those who, knowing the preferences and weakness of the commander, attempt to present the situation in a false light.

The situation becomes even worse when the political section or party organization takes no action for a long time to correct shortcomings in the leader's work style. This is sometimes due to the fact that it is not so simple to form a complete picture of the commander's relations with his subordinates: far from all of the facts are on the surface. It happens that they are sometimes guided by questionable reasoning: in order to avoid "undermining the authority" of the leader, they attempt to justify shortcomings in his work style in the interest of the job, and so forth. The military council of the group of forces and the political directorate have had to deal with such a position before, although infrequently. We naturally condemn it. And we subject each case of a commander's alienation from the masses and a poor knowledge of the situation in the collective to a detailed analysis and attempt to make maximum use of our conclusions in indoctrinational work with leaders at all levels. First and foremost, naturally, we publicize positive experience in the work of political organs and party organizations in this important area.

I now refer to the work practices of one of the political sections. At one time, the political workers noticed that Lieutenant Colonel A. Zakharov had begun abusing his service position and treating his subordinates crudely. Officers in the political section did not hesitate to spend the time required for a careful study of his work style, after which they pointed out the communist shortcomings in his relations with subordinates.

The chief of the political section took Lieutenant Colonel Zakharov under his wing. He began to accompany the officer more frequently in the training and helped him to master the indoctrinator's art. The situation in the collective gradually began to improve, and an atmosphere of benevolence, comradely criticism and mutual assistance developed.

In his report at the 25th Party Congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed the fact that "the modern leader must organically combine partymindedness with thorough competence, take both social-political and indoctrinational aspects into consideration, be sensitive to the people, to their needs and requests, and serve as an example in the work and in his daily life" in every area. This was stressed with new force in the decree passed by the Party Central Committee, "On Implementation of the Comprehensive Resolution of Problems of Ideological and Indoctrinational Work by the Orsk Gorkom of the CPSU." We are attempting to indoctrinate our communist-leaders in the spirit of these party requirements, leaders expected to rally the collective into a single fighting family, to raise it to the heights of combat perfection with an inspirational word and good organizational work and by their personal example.

RADAR UNIT TRAINING PROCEDURES REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Eng-Col G. Suleymanyan: "Success Depends on the Work Style"]

[Text] Not so long ago, I visited the subunit [podrazdeleniye] commanded by Officer S. Zhuk as part of a group of staff officers. We were checking on the training of radar operators. They all demonstrated a good knowledge of tactics and of the combat equipment. The commander set the tone, however. He answered all questions precisely and confidently, and provided a well-reasoned basis for the complicated theoretical points. I must admit that he was also a likeable person. I remember thinking at that time: "This is a model of the modern young commander -- erudite, competent, and with a thorough knowledge of his job..."

We soon discovered, however, that there was a considerable gap between the radar operators' theoretical knowledge and its practical application. And this was due to the fact that there were many deficiencies in the organization of the training.

What was the reason? After all, Zhuk was a knowledgeable and well-trained officer, deeply interested in his assigned job. Nor could he be accused of passivity. He worked from morning to late evening. Just why did the commander's work produce poor results?

An analysis showed that the main cause was Officer Zhuk's work style. He was not able to achieve good quality in the classes and drills or to organize competition well.

Officer Zhuk underestimated certain matters of prime importance and essentially ignored them. For example, he frequently let other officers sum up the duty shifts. Not feeling the commander's control, some of them conducted this job hastily, without a detailed analysis of the specialists' performance. As a result, errors were eliminated slowly.

Incidentally, the very methods used to arrive at evaluations were not of the best. What criteria were used? If a crew successfully tracked an important target, let us say, it received a good score. Everything else -- how well other targets were tracked, discipline, and reliable functioning of the equipment -- was ignored. Important elements in the combat work of the radar operators were thus simply not taken into account.

Or take the following matter, for example. The reports did not indicate the reason why this or that crew had received a lower score. One had to guess as to the reason: was it a matter of equipment malfunctions or errors in the work of individual specialists? Naturally, it is hardly possible to analyze the training quality thoroughly and in detail with this approach to the job.

And what was the result? First one place and then another, deficiencies were discovered in the organization of training and competition. Officer Zhuk and the other officers spent most of their effort eliminating them. Their attention was taken up entirely by routine concerns, and they did not see prospects for growth and reserves for advancement.

We had a long and substantial conversation with Officer Zhuk. At first, he claimed that he did not have enough time and mentioned various kinds of objective difficulties and lack of experience. Later, however, he asked for advice and assistance. And I decided to give him a detailed account of the way the service is organized in the progressive subunit commanded by Officer A. Islamov.

What is different about this officer's work style? First of all, he has the ability to spot the most important matters and does not dissipate his efforts, concentrating them on the resolution of key matters on which combat readiness depends. Islamov sees to it that every training activity is of maximum benefit to the specialists. The commander strives to see that the radar operators constantly improve their training level. Markers indicating training targets are displayed on the radar screens by means of simulators, and the timeliness with which information is issued and its accuracy are monitored.

This method of controlling the quality of the radar operators' work is also employed. A certain air situation is created on a plotting board at the subunit command post. Information on the situation is transmitted to the crews, the leaders of which are expected to evaluate it in the shortest possible time and to report the optimal plans of action. Or else a drill is conducted, during which the crews are unexpectedly assigned tasks, hypothetical problems involving the switching on of the sets and a search for targets at various altitudes and with jamming. The subunit commander and the other officers accumulate informative material for the subsequent critique.

It has long since been noted that a careful critique of the specialists' performance is one of the elements of success, an important guarantee that the errors committed will not be repeated. Officer Islamov understands this very well. The actions of each specialist are carefully analyzed there. There is concrete discussion of the timeliness with which information is

issued and its accuracy. Objective control materials, diagrams, and tables, which indicate how well the targets were tracked in comparison with the norms, are used in the critique. This gives every soldier a graphic picture of where and when he acted properly, where he made an error, and the reasons for it.

A special log has been set up in the subunit, in which are recorded the results of checks, evaluations of norm fulfillment, shortcomings, and violations in the functioning of the equipment. These entries are made week after week, month after month. What is gained from them?

"A great deal," Officer Islamov explained to me. "In the first place, they make it possible to conduct the critiques in a more concrete manner. In the second place, they make it possible to eliminate shortcomings in the training in good time and to focus the soldiers' efforts on the resolution of the most important, central problems."

I told Officer Zhuk about all of this. He listened carefully and with interest, and took notes as I talked. He assured me that he would derive the necessary conclusions and would reconsider a great many aspects of his work style. This is naturally not a simple process: it will require both time and great effort. I am confident, however, that Officer Zhuk will be able to work in a new manner, with perspective. And I am eager to meet him again, in order to confirm the correctness of my conclusion and the correctness of the course being followed by the commander and the collective which he heads.

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EFFECTIVENESS OF OFFICER SCHOOLS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Col Gen V. Makarov, chief of the Main Directorate for Military Educational Institutions of the USSR Ministry of Defense: "To a New Level"]

[Text] While conducting a consistent campaign for peace and detente, the Communist Party and Soviet Government work tirelessly to strengthen the homeland's defense power. "The USSR Armed Forces have a duty to the people," the draft Constitution of the USSR states, "to defend the socialist homeland reliably and to be in a constant state of combat readiness insuring the immediate repelling of any aggressor."

The officer corps has a leading role in the accomplishment of this responsible task. As a result of constant concern by the CPSU for the training of military cadres the Soviet Army and Navy have politically mature officers, devoted to the party cause and the Soviet people and with good operational-tactical and special training. Each year, the officer corps receives new commanders, political workers, engineers, and other specialists -- graduates of military academies, institutes, schools and faculties.

The 1977 graduation was a special event in the life of military educational institutions. It took place in a situation of universal political and labor enthusiasm, evoked by preparations for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, decisions of the May (1977) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and national discussion of the draft Constitution of the USSR, which helped the military educational institutions to successfully accomplish the tasks assigned them.

The military academies, institutes, schools and faculties are steadily guided in their work by decisions and requirements of the CPSU Central Committee, as well as by instructions and requirements made of graduates of higher military schools by the USSR Minister of Defense. The most important of these are communist conviction, selfless devotion to the party and people, a high level of special training, the ability to train and indoctrinate subordinates and to maintain firm military discipline and regulation order, and personal discipline and efficiency.

A Marxist-Leninist outlook is developed in the students and cadets by the entire course of the training and indoctrinational process. A leading role belongs to the social science departments, which, under the direction of political organs, are doing a great deal to link theory with the practical work of building communism and with the present day political and organizational work of our party.

State examination commissions have concluded that anniversary-year graduates have thoroughly assimilated the social science program and demonstrated a good knowledge of materials of the 25th Congress of our Party and plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. This indicates an adequately high level of training, training-methods, and scientific research work in the social science departments and the fact that a constant effort is being made to improve the training and indoctrinational process.

We cannot rest on what we have achieved, however. The acute ideological struggle and the continuous development of military affairs of the army and navy make it necessary to have politically mature officer cadres. Their training requires an increase in the role of lectures, seminars and individual discussions on the social sciences, improvement of methods of independent work by the students and cadets on the works of the Marxist-Leninist classics and documents of the CPSU and the international communist movement, and intensification of their participation in student project competitions and the writing of reports.

A characteristic feature of the modern officer is the combining of theoretical knowledge with the ability to train and indoctrinate the men. The development of this quality is furthered by active participation by the students and cadets in mass public activities and the presentation of lectures and reports in sub-units [podrazdeleniya], at enterprises and schools. This work is conducted most productively at the Military Political Academy imeni V.I. Lenin and at the Sverdlovsk Higher Military Political, Tank and Artillery School. Many of the students and cadets there are members of local branches of the Znaniye society and attend schools for the young lecturer. A great deal of the credit for this goes to the departments headed by Major General F. Stepanov and Colonel V. Skrobov.

Today, great demands are made of the professional training of officers. They must have a profound knowledge of tactics and operational art and the military-technical and special disciplines, and a solid general scientific and general engineering background. The fact that the forces are extensively equipped with complex and expensive equipment and the interdependence between the economy and military affairs makes it necessary for the officers to expand their knowledge of military economics. It is no less important that the graduates of academies and schools have good field, air, and naval training, and a mastery of practical technical and special training skills.

Command, the political organs, professors and teachers of VUZ's have done a great deal toward the successful accomplishment of these tasks. Comprehensive plans for the acquisition of command-methodological skills and skills in party-political work by the students and cadets are of great importance in this matter. In this respect, the experience of the Military Academy imeni M. V. Frunze, the Military Academy of Armored Troops imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union R. Ya. Malinovskiy, the Military Air Academy imeni Yu. A. Gagarin, and the Military Command Air Defense Academy imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union G. K. Zhukov deserves every possible support and dissemination.

The disciplines, which, regardless of specialty, develop command skills in the trainees, occupy an important place in the training process. General regulations, which govern the lives and conduct of every serviceman, are of special importance. The students and cadets must not only have an excellent understanding of the regulations, but must also precisely fulfill all of the requirements contained therein and skillfully employ these in their practical work.

We could name many military educational institutions, at which a high level of organization and firm military discipline have become an inseparable part of the training and service. These include the Military Naval Academy imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union A.A. Grechko, the Serpukhov Higher Military Command School imeni Lenin Komsomol, the Leningrad Higher Anti-Aircraft Missile Command School, the Novocherkassk Higher Military Command Signal School imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union V.D. Sokolovskiy, and others.

Just how is success in this important matter assured? In the first place, by thorough and cognizant study of the statutes and requirements contained in the regulations, precise regulation of the training process, and proper organization of guard duty and internal service. In the second place, by a high level of demandingness of themselves and their subordinates on the part of the command and teaching staff, and by personal example. By serving as models of good organization and discipline the commanders and instructors instill these valuable qualities in the students and cadets.

Political organs, party and Komsomol organizations are expected to provide command at the military educational institutions with a great deal of assistance in strengthening regulation order and military discipline. They must employ all forms of party-political work to develop an awareness of military discipline in the students and cadets, strive persistently toward exemplary fulfillment of service duty by the communists and Komsomol members, and make certain that the latter play an avant garde role in the training and service.

Another advance was made this past training year toward improving the training of officers, generals and admirals. A great deal of the credit goes to the professors and instructors of military educational institutions.

Many VUZ's are scientific as well as training centers. These include the Military Academy imeni F. E. Dzerzhinskiy, the Military Air Engineer Academy imeni Professor N. Ye. Zhukovskiy, the Military Medical Academy imeni S. M. Kirov, and others. The following names are well known in Soviet military science: Academician, Engineer-Major General I. Knunyants, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor, Engineer-Major General A. Krasovskiy; Honored Scientific and Technical Worker of the RSFSR, Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor, Engineer-Colonel V. Nazarov; Doctor of Philosophical Sciences, Professor, Major-General V. Samoylenko; Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor, Major General of Medical Service I. Sapov, and many other scientist-teachers.

They have built up a rich body of experience both in training and indoctrinational and in scientific work. This experience should be fully utilized for further improving the effectiveness and quality of the training process and for simulating scientific research.

Referring to the results of the 1976/77 training year, it should be pointed out that the results achieved by military educational institutions in the work of preparing ideologically tempered, highly skilled cadres for the army and navy were not identical throughout. There is no doubt that there are still considerable reserves for improving the quality of training and indoctrinational work. These should be put into action in the new training year.

It is essential to strive to make the training and indoctrinational process more effective, to achieve strict observance of military order, to strengthen military discipline, to make efficient use of each hour of training time, and to continue improving the training materials base at the academies and schools.

First-year students, the best representatives of the army and civilian youth, have entered the ranks of students and cadets. The command, political organs, professors and teachers of military educational institutions must help them adjust to the new situation rapidly and to actively engage in the training process.

Responding to the concern demonstrated by the Communist Party and Soviet Government for the Armed Forces, command, political workers, professors and teachers, students and cadets at military academies, institutes, schools and faculties are fully resolved to apply total effort in their work. Improvement of the training of officers for the Soviet Army and Navy and the level of scientific research work, and the strengthening of military discipline, organization and regulation order will raise the military school to a new level and contribute a great deal to the further strengthening of our homeland's defense capability.

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COMMANDER OF NORTH CAUCASUS MILITARY DISTRICT ON TEACHING METHODS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Col Gen V. Belikov, Commander of the Red Banner North Caucasus Military District: "The Methodological Skill of Officers"]

[Text] The question of how to train the personnel has been constantly at the center of attention of military cadres in all phases of development of the Soviet Armed Forces. The problem of improving methodological skill is especially important in the contemporary stage. The line of improving quality and raising efficiency in every way possible, proclaimed by the Communist Party, determines the main direction taken in our work. The task of improving the effectiveness and quality of personnel training can only be successfully accomplished when there is constant concern for the growth of the officers' methodological skill. The matter of methods is essentially a matter of the depth of the knowledge and the quality and strength of practical skills of the personnel.

As a result of the revolution in military affairs the army and navy have become equipped with new and improved models of combat equipment and weapons. And this, in turn, has brought changes in ways and methods of conducting combat and has complicated the training process considerably. The volume of knowledge required by the personnel is constantly growing. All of this forces commanders at all levels to work constantly to improve their methodological skill.

Any falling behind or marking of time is absolutely inadmissible. I would like to underscore this thought using the example of Captain P. Gorun. He was known in the unit [chast] for his skillful use of methods. He competently commanded a subunit [podrazdeleniye], and it was invariably listed among the ranks of the outstanding. And then, there was an alarming development: the subunit began to fall behind in the training. A check showed that this was primarily due to the fact that Captain Gorun had surrendered to complacency and had stopped preparing carefully for the classes and mastering new teaching techniques. In the meantime, life was moving forward and requirements were growing, and the old knowledge and skills were no longer adequate. All of this led to the loss of positions held. We must not fail to stress the fact, in connection with this,

that what were progressive methods yesterday may become a hindrance today. Consequently, we must constantly move forward.

The ability to make the training conditions as realistic as possible, to simulate modern combat, is especially important in the officer's methodological skill. As in other matters, a great deal can be learned in this area from the front-line soldiers. We remember how persistently combat techniques were worked out, taking enemy tactics and armament into account, in preparations for the more important operations, frequently near the forward edge, and how carefully the situation was made to approach that in which the soldiers would have to operate.

Flexibility in matters of methods and the ability to react immediately to changes in weaponry can also be learned from the front-line soldiers. Heavy fascist tanks, on which the enemy pinned great hopes, appeared on one sector of the front in 1943. It was determined from information provided by our scouts and from the first battles with the "Tigers" that the maneuvering of fire was slower due to imperfection of the laying mechanism on the new German machines, and additionally, that the turret turned relatively slowly.

Our tank commanders took this into account. Special sections of terrain were set up, where the crews learned to perform a sighting shot within a matter of seconds, to switch to firing at the vulnerable spots on the Hitlerite tanks and rapidly take shelter behind natural features. The methodologically well-organized training of the tankmen made it possible to combat the vaunted fascist machines successfully. There were many such examples on the front. This teaches us to take a creative attitude toward methods, to learn to see in them the key to victory in a battle.

A system of methods, as we know, is the total group of techniques, ways and forms of training the personnel. The officer's methodological skill lies in his ability to employ them in combination and separately, to arouse in the trainees a desire to learn and reflect on the material presented. It is impossible to express the requirements made of the system of methods in any single formula. The main thing is a concrete approach to the selection of the most effective techniques for training and indoctrinating the personnel and the officer's painstaking work and creative search in developing the best ways of training the troops.

Our district contains many officers who have mastered the art of employing methods. Major V. Atamanchuk, commander of a motorized rifle regiment, has proven himself to be a good methods expert and a competent indoctrinator. He skillfully directs the soldiers' efforts toward the improvement of combat training quality and effectiveness. While frequently conducting the classes himself, which are a model of methodological skill, Major Atamanchuk at the same time delves deeply into the course of combat training in all of the sub-units in the regiment.

The requirement that the commander teach the subordinate, one of the main requirements in the training, is strictly observed in the unit [chast]. Such proven forms of improving the officers' methodological skill as meetings and conferences on methods, briefings, reciprocal visiting of classes, critiques of the classes, and independent work with literature on methods are extensively used in the regiment. It is very important that the unit party organization deal purposefully with problems of improving the officers' methodological skill.

I feel that a special word should be said about the special literature. It is not yet being published in adequate quantities, especially the literature on certain types of combat training. That which is available, however, is sometimes poorly utilized. I once asked a young officer, who had committed errors in conducting a class: "Are you familiar with the methodological instructions on this subject"? "No," he answered. Although he conscientiously copied down the topics from the training schedule, the officer did not even suspect that he could find methodological advice on the subject in the program. And unfortunately, none of his senior comrades mentioned this to him. There are also sometimes cases in which certain instructors waste their time inventing the wheel, so to speak, preparing one methodological elaboration or another and not suspecting that the best possible version can be found in the program or in periodicals.

Commander training unquestionably has an extremely important place with respect to improving the officers' methodological skills. A well-balanced system of planned classes has been developed for all categories of officers in the district forces. The subjects take into account the nature of the tasks performed by the unit or subunit and the service experience of the commanders. A great deal of attention is devoted to giving the officers skills in using the training materials base, particularly the modern trainers, which are becoming increasingly more important. This makes it necessary for the senior officers in charge to make skillful use of the appropriate forms of training: classes on instructional methods and demonstration classes, short tactical exercises performed with a map and on the terrain, and assemblies prior to the beginning of the winter and summer training periods.

At this point, I would like to discuss the classes on instruction methods and demonstration classes. There is complete justification for calling them one of the most effective forms used to improve the officers' methodological skill. The chief instructors in our outstanding units, Lieutenant Colonel N. Zvarich and Captain Yu. Samorodov, for example, do not limit themselves to simple presentation of the training problems and the general procedure for handling the subjects. They give concrete recommendations and advice, which have proven themselves on a practical level, on how to use certain methods of training the soldiers and how to achieve a situation in which competition, which makes every class more intensive and more effective, becomes an inseparable part of the training process.

The methodological skill of the officers is, of course, based on their extensive use of recommendations provided by military pedagogy and psychology. With this in mind, special lecture groups have been created and are successfully functioning in many district units. Scientists and VUZ instructors address the officers. This approach to the matter can only be welcomed. It would be appropriate to point out in connection with this, however, that in some military educational institutions a timid approach is unfortunately taken to the development of concrete issues pertaining to improvement of the officers' methodological skill and to the use of the modern training materials base, including the use of simulators and automatic devices.

At the same time, experience has shown that some of our recently graduated officers have a poor understanding of even the theoretical aspects of methods and are not able to properly rely on the training principles developed by Soviet military pedagogy.

The methodological training of staff officers is a subject of special concern. Why would we direct attention specifically to this category of military cadres? Because they frequently have to develop tactical training plans, exercise control over the course of the classes, and summarize progressive experience. This requires that staff officers be authorities on and disseminators of progressive methods, especially in tactical training. This is why it has become the rule in the district forces that staff officers fire the weapons and drive a combat vehicle at least once a month and take part in tank gunnery, artillery or small-arms firing training every week. We became convinced at the recent assemblies that the professional and military-technical training level of staff officers has improved and that their methodological skill has improved correspondingly.

Article 31 of the draft Constitution of the USSR states: "It is the duty of the USSR Armed Forces to the people to reliably defend the socialist homeland and to be in state of constant combat readiness insuring that any aggressor will be immediately repelled." These words constitute a combat program for each officer. The accomplishment of the responsible tasks requires that military cadres work persistently to raise their professional level and improve their methodological skill. We regard this as a reliable path to the complete and quality fulfillment of combat training plans and programs and socialist commitments accepted in the competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

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AVIATION SQUADRON DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS AIREB

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col A. Dubrov: "Do Not Fail To Take Action"]

[Text] It was reported to squadron commander Major A. Sveshnikov that Senior Lieutenant of Technical Service V. Il'yenko had committed a gross breach of discipline: he had been drinking while on duty. The officer had previously caused the commanders and the collective a great deal of trouble by being late for flights and committing errors in the servicing of the aircraft equipment. There was a time, however, when he was diligent and conscientious. He was appointed flight technician. And now, once again, he had committed a gross breach of discipline...

"I don't know how it happened, myself," Il'yenko said as an excuse to the squadron commander. Before Sveshnikov had dealt with this situation, another gross violation of military discipline in the squadron was reported to him. This time, the breach of discipline had been committed by one of the aircraft mechanics.

For purposes of comparison the squadron commander carefully analyzed disciplinary practices for the preceding month, when not a single penalty had been imposed. It turned out that this period had also not been without problems. Certain airmen had arrived in the formation late, had been out of uniform, and had not performed the internal service properly. None of the flight commanders, group chiefs or flight technicians, however, had imposed a single penalty on the guilty parties. An atmosphere of toleration of breaches of discipline gradually developed in the collective, in which more serious offenses became possible.

The deterioration in the level of discipline caused the squadron to lose its leadership in the competition. At a conference held soon thereafter for flight commanders, group chiefs, and flight technicians, the squadron commander reminded them of their statutory duty to be resolute and firm in demanding that military discipline and order be observed and to take action with respect to every offense by a subordinate.

Everyone is familiar with this point in the regulations. Why, then, had certain squadron officers not always fulfilled this requirement in their disciplinary practices? This is why. Painstaking personal indoctrinational work is necessary in order to react to the slightest deviation from regulation requirements by subordinates. One officer in charge lacks self-reliance, however; another lacks ability; and a third gives the excuse of not having enough time. They all rationalize their lack of action, however, by telling themselves that it is not worth making a fuss over a "minor" offense, in order not to destroy the appearance of well-being.

The discussion was not pleasant for those flight commanders and group chiefs who made no attempt to bring pressure against their subordinates as required by the regulations. The squadron commander also derived the proper conclusions for himself: he became more demanding of the commanders and group chiefs, and of the sergeants.

Discipline was gradually strengthened in the squadron. The subunit again became the leader in the pre-October competition. Senior Lieutenant Il'yenko re-established his reputation for discipline and efficiency. His conduct was affected not only by the penalty imposed by the squadron commander but also by the atmosphere of strict accountability for the slightest deviation from regulation standards, which had become established in the collective.

The style of work of the flight commanders and group chiefs improved markedly. Now, when Captain A. Borisenko, squadron chief of staff, sums up the results for each month, he also analyzes disciplinary practices.

At the last officers' conference, for example, group chief Engineer-Captain A. Ovechkin was criticized for the fact that he does not utilize his disciplinary authority when it is required. But flight commander Senior Lieutenant V. Gritsenko, group chiefs Senior Lieutenants of Technical Service A. Brylov and A. Lun'ko, and squad commander Junior Sergeant V. Mal'kov were mentioned among those who are keenly aware of the conduct of their subordinates and of their attitude toward the service, punishing the negligent and rewarding the deserving, and never slow to take steps.

Only by applying all indoctrinational measures in combination is it possible to influence the remiss in a positive manner. It is sometimes enough for a commander to have a talk with a subordinate. Senior Lieutenant of Technical Service A. Brylov, for example, limited himself to a talk with Private V. Mar'yandyshv, who was impolite to his superiors. The officer took into account the fact that the soldier had always been distinguished by efficiency and polite treatment of his colleagues.

The soldier acknowledged his guilt. His future irreproachable conduct demonstrated the correctness of the commander's approach.

The requirements set forth in the regulations must be thoroughly understood in order to use them properly as a guide. When the squadron received new general regulations, they were studied systematically, chapter by chapter. The study of regulations is now conducted differently. When he analyzes military discipline for the month, the squadron chief of staff determines which regulations have been violated and specifies a deadline for their study. The inspector once entered a comment to the effect that one of the guards had been diverted from the performance of his duties. Classes were conducted in the subunit on the subject: "The Rights and Duties of Individuals Performing Guard Duty." Such an approach to the study of regulations contributes to a better understanding of them.

The party organization in the squadron headed by Senior Lieutenant A. Losev did not immediately arrive at effective ways of strengthening military discipline. Members of the party committee came to its assistance. The bureau studied and disseminated the indoctrinational work experience of flight commander Senior Lieutenant V. Podkorytov. Junior Lieutenant of Technical Service A. Alekseyev answered to the party activists for being late for flights. The situation of intolerance and condemnation created in the collective with respect to violators of military discipline soon had its effect on them.

The squadron party organization began devoting greater attention to aspects of socialist competition to establish good discipline. The soldiers accepted commitments to strive for an exemplary appearance and military bearing, regulation order in the classrooms, and the observance of moral and ethical standards of conduct. A system of criteria was compiled for comparing the level of military discipline in the flights and groups. The number and nature of offenses, penalties, and commendations are taken into account. The state of military discipline in the flight or group is one of the decisive factors for determining first place in the competition. The outstanding flights and groups, for example, included those which had a higher level of discipline and regulation order, with identical achievements in combat training.

There have been no violations of military discipline in the subunit for a long time now, and squadron life and combat training are structured in complete conformity with regulations.

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TANK DEEP-FORDING OPERATIONS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Capt V. Roshchupkin, Red Banner Baltic Military District:
"Amphibians Are Attacking"]

[Text] A wave slams against the armored frontside of the tank and, losing force, dies down. Another, engulfed in white foam, is already advancing, at the last moment to burst against the vehicle stubbornly moving ahead. The lusterless, autumn sun produces a plethora of sparks in the drops of water exploding like fireworks around the turret. This bouquet of colors against the somber, lead-colored background is especially striking when one observes it for the first time through the triplex glass with its subtle, rainbow-like iridescence.

Such vehicles do not require fording equipment. They independently accomplish the entire long march, by land and by water, from the vehicle pool to the point of landing on the bank. There is no need to say how important this is for success in combat. Speed, concealment, an unexpected strike from the rear or on the flank -- these factors utilized by the experienced, skillful commander, can become crucial to the achievement of victory. This is why, when the "enemy" landed a force on the coast, the senior commander decided to carry out a tank attack from the rear.

Our tank is operated by Driver-Mechanic 2d-Class, Private 1st-Class Aleksandr Starovoytov. Like the other soldiers, he has a life-jacket, which will be essential in an emergency. After all, in a battle, when a mass of water and not earth is beneath the tank tracks, one must be prepared for the most unexpected occurrence. This is why in the diving training classes the tankmen listen to every word from their instructors: Officer Aleksandr Fridrikhovich Lodiy and senior diving instructor Warrant Officer [praporshchik] Sergey Dmitriyevich Semenenko. Left behind are the theoretical classes, the examination in safety measures, and practice descents into the water in a training pool.

Alongside me in the turret is platoon commander, Lieutenant Valeriy Omshin. I met him previously, back at the beginning of the training year, when I first arrived at this garrison. At that time, the platoon, headed by the young officer, was actively engaged in competition for a fitting reception for the anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and was already among the ranks of the excellent. Lieutenant Omshin, however, and his men had designated higher goals for themselves. And today, based on preliminary totals, it can be stated with confidence that the tankmen will firmly keep their word.

Later, back at the camp, my notebook will contain fragments of the commander's instructions, in which the exercise results were summed up: "Competition was launched in all of the phases, by task and by norm, for the right to be designated best subunit [podrazdeleniye], crew, and specialist. Lieutenant V. Omshin showed himself to be a skillful organizer of competition. His men fulfilled their commitments in an exemplary manner."

Now, almost a year after we first met, Valeriy is outwardly the same: unhurried and a man of few words. The black coveralls graphically outline his well-proportioned, athletic build. And in his face, calm and open, the hot sun of the tank firing ranges and training grounds and the brisk winds have left their marks, attesting to the officer's maturity.

The anniversary year has been a good school of maturation for all the colleagues of Lieutenant Omshin, a graduate of the famous Ul'yanovsk Guards Higher Tank Command School imeni V.I. Lenin. Tank service demands of each officer, warrant officer [praporshchik], sergeant, and soldier, a high level of firing and technical training, as well as moral and psychological tempering. Socialist competition is an effective means of achieving this goal.

The record time set by Warrant Officer G. Volkov for readying a tank to operate in the water was not surpassed for several months. Other competing crews, however, fought their way second by second to the difficult normative time, until they matched the master's result. The goal of high-class specialist became a reference point, which they all tried to reach. And the day arrived when the record was broken.

How well the skills acquired during the course of competition served the tankmen during those days! After completing a march on land to the forming-up site on the bank, the soldiers began preparing the vehicles for a march by water. A few minutes passed, and one by one, the vehicles approached the waterline. Foam frothed behind the armor, and the tanks, forming into two columns, set out on the prescribed course. The guns, placed in traveling position, nodded a farewell to the bank...

Among those operating the combat vehicles were two brothers, Sergeants Sergey and Vladimir Gninenko. Both were Komsomol members and experts in training. Both were crew commanders, competing with each other. It was their men who successfully took the record set by Warrant Officer Volkov. Both soldiers

were awarded certificates in that important exercise. Sergey proved to be better trained technically. This was what had permitted his crew to take the challenge banner from their rivals the previous month. Vladimir and his colleagues were forced to increase their effort.

Sergey now knew that his brother was better prepared methodologically. This is why Vladimir's crew performed the training exercises better and with greater intensity. "The banner," said Sergeant Vladimir Gninenko, "will be ours again this month! That is for sure. And our commander, Senior Lieutenant Bakayev, feels that this is entirely possible."

At a command received by radio the march formation was changed. A precise maneuver -- and the left column now became the first combat line. During such minutes the driver-mechanics must demonstrate especially great art in operating the vehicle, and maximum attentiveness. The forces of inertia, the waves and the wind complicate the maneuver. And the driver-mechanic must understand all commands almost before they are uttered in order to correct their actions in time.

The bank, on which the "enemy" occupied a bridgehead, grew closer with every passing minute. He did not expect a tank attack from the rear. With fire from the guns and machine-guns the combat vehicles entered the battle from the march. From the very first success was on the side of the tankmen. Initiative, boldness increased by a high level of technical skill, and a skillful combination of fire and movement permitted the attackers to consolidate a bridgehead and made it possible for part of the forces to continue pursuit of the withdrawing "enemy."

I left the garrison toward evening. The workday for the fighting men had not ended, however. The echo of shots rang over the pine forest, and they were echoed by the rapid patter of machine-gun fire. The tankmen were preparing themselves for qualification exercises in fire training. It was an intense combat workday, and the struggle for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution continued.

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IMPROVEMENT OF FIELD LIVING CONDITIONS STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Sep 77 p 1

[Editorial: "The Life of the Soldiers in the Field"]

[Text] Anniversary year combat training is coming to an end. Inspired by decisions of the May (1977) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and by national discussion of the draft Constitution of the USSR, the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers [praporshchiki], and officers are demonstrating how skillfully they can handle the weapons and equipment and are achieving new successes in the socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. And most of their time is spent at training centers, at training grounds and airfields, far from their permanent base.

Well-organized field living conditions have a good influence on the successes of the fighting men and on the quality of their daily military work. The experience of the Great Patriotic War showed that fatherly concern for the living conditions of the front line soldiers in the harsh combat situation, seeing to it that the fighting men and commanders were provided with everything necessary for rest and relaxation during the hours of calm, that they were regularly provided with hot food, that they could take a bath and take care of their uniforms and footwear raised the morale of the men and increased their effort in their struggle against the hated enemy.

Well-organized living conditions is also of great importance in peacetime combat training. Commanders, political workers, officers, and warrant officers [praporshchiki] of the rear services in the Guards Motorized Rifle Shavlinskiy Order of Lenin, Red Banner Regiment of the Moscow Military District constantly strive to see that no matter how difficult the situation in the field, the soldiers are regularly provided with high-calorie food and can rest up well during the time afforded for this, and that essential sanitary living standards are not violated. All of this has a positive effect on the physical condition and morale of the guards motorized riflemen and makes them more active in the competition for successful accomplishment of the combat training tasks.

In some cases, however, senior commanders are still not demonstrating proper concern in exercises and field training for organizing the living conditions and rest facilities well for the servicemen. Such deficiencies were noted, for example, in the conduct of one of the tactical exercises in the unit [chast], in which the rear service is headed by Officer M. Gornostayev. Some commanders and officers of headquarters and rear services attempt to excuse deficiencies in the organization of field living conditions with the fact that the fighting men must be tempered by difficulties. Such reasoning will not stand up to any sort of criticism, and difficulties arising as a result of poor management and inadequate concern for the men have nothing in common with the objective difficulties of combat training, which temper the fighting men. Creating the essential material and living conditions for intensive field training is one of the most important tasks which significantly influence the combat readiness of the unit and subunit [podrazdeleniye].

Regulations and instructions of the USSR Armed Forces require that commanders, political workers, headquarters, and officers of the different services demonstrate constant concern for satisfying the soldiers' essential needs, completely and well. This concern, an expression of the humanist principle of our socialist society -- everything for the individual, everything for the individual's welfare -- is brilliantly reflected in the draft of the nation's new Fundamental Law.

Well-organized messing of the personnel is an important component of field living conditions. The Internal Service Regulations requires that unit commanders see to it that the full amount of quality food is issued. This also fully applies to subunit commanders. It is essential to organize the job in every exercise so that the troops have hot food at least three times a day in the most complex tactical situation. In order to successfully accomplish this task rear service officers and warrant officers are required always to be informed about the tactical situation and to maintain constant contact with the commanders and headquarters, which must assign their missions with respect to providing the units and subunits with the authorized types of rations. The units and subunits must have a supply of insulated food containers making it possible to provide complete rations of hot food for those soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers who are performing assignments away from the subunits. The experiment with the creation of field messhalls in tents, using collapsible structures or available local materials, deserves consideration.

Organizing conditions for the rest and relaxation of personnel in the field is an equally important task. The commanders, headquarters, officers, and warrant officers of the rear service are required to see to it in good time that the essential number of tents is available for the soldiers' rest, and heaters for warming up from the cold, and that field drying rooms are set up.

It is very important that sanitation and hygiene requirements are observed in the field. Officers of the medical service are required to see to the timely location of services of water near areas where the unit or subunit is to be

located, to keep strict watch on the procedure by which food is prepared and served, and to see that the food and clothing supply points always have a supply of water for washing dishes and are kept clean, and that the rules of personal hygiene are observed by all military personnel.

Military trade agencies must take an active part in the organization of field living conditions. It is their task, directly in the field, during an exercise, to satisfy the soldiers' needs for essential goods.

Well organized living conditions for soldiers in the field are inconceivable without daily, purposeful party-political work. The organization of living conditions must receive the constant attention of commanders, political organs, and party organizations. They must constantly make high demands of the officials, first and foremost, of the communists responsible for organizing living conditions for the soldiers, thoroughly reveal shortcomings, extensively publicize progressive experience, and systematically raise questions pertaining to concern for the men at party meetings and at committee and bureau sessions.

Socialist competition for the creation of exemplary living conditions and messing arrangements during the All-Army Review-Competition for Best Unit Administration and Food Supply of a Unit and a Military Educational Institution of the Soviet Army and Navy, and for best medical establishment and best trade and personal-service enterprise must be expanded even further. In the process, it is important to find new reserves for improving field living conditions, to employ progressive know-how, and eliminate shortcomings efficiently.

It is with good reason that personal services is known as the morale service. Organizing field living conditions skillfully and in a well-considered manner will help the soldiers accomplish combat training tasks more effectively and achieve good results in the socialist competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

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IDEOLOGICAL WORK IN ODESSA MILITARY DISTRICT DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen V. Serebryakov, First Deputy Chief of the Political Directorate of the Red Banner Odessa Military District: "According to Duty and to Calling"]

[Text] A tactical exercise was to begin in several days. The personnel were preparing intensely for it. We all know that during such a period the commander has to resolve so many problems, large and small, that sometimes there are simply not enough hours in the day. Despite this, Lieutenant Colonel V. Tatrokov decided to conduct the talk planned for him by the party committee prior to the exercise. He felt that it would perhaps be best to talk with the young officers in a relaxed atmosphere and therefore selected the officers' dormitory as the meeting site. The commander entered one of the rooms and inquired as to how the men were getting along. A few minutes later, all of the young commanders had gathered around him.

No one noticed as the discussion went from everyday affairs to other matters. Vladimir Khizirovich inquired as to what sort of work the young officers were conducting in the platoons with respect to the draft of the new Constitution. As though desiring to give advice as to how this or that article in the document should be explained, the Lieutenant Colonel conducted an interesting and well-reasoned talk about the outstanding successes achieved in the building of communism, successes which would be consolidated in the new Constitution. The commander mentioned the complicated international situation, gave examples illustrating imperialism's military preparations, and told about the tasks which the personnel would have to accomplish in the exercise. His discussion thus bound current problems of military life with a strong logical cord to the most important political campaign, discussion of the draft Constitution of the USSR.

Many examples could be given of such skillful work, of profound, interesting, and effective propaganda presentations by commanders on the draft Constitution. And each of them is convincing proof of the fact that in our time, in an era

of extremely broad development of technical information media, oral political agitation based on direct contact with the people is one of the most important forms of achieving their ideological-political indoctrination. Personal influence, a heart-to-heart talk -- how important it all is!

The indisputable merits and importance of oral political agitation are being manifested with special clarity today, when the military collectives are actively discussing the draft of the new Constitution. It is gratifying that the comrades in supervisory positions are participating extensively in the propaganda work involved in explaining the points contained in the Constitution. There is no doubt that this reflects the favorable influence of decrees passed by the CPSU Central Committee, "On Raising the Role of Oral Political Agitation in the Fulfillment of Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress," and "On the Complex Resolution of Problems of Ideological-Indoctrinational Work by the Orsk City Committee of the CPSU," which point out the need for thorough development of the Leninist tradition of constant and mandatory participation in the political indoctrination of the masses by leading personnel.

Participation by the senior comrades in the propagandizing of the draft Constitution greatly expands the scope of this work and raises its level. Supervisory officers are better informed, have more experience in life, and more fully incorporate in themselves ideological maturity, a grasp of the new, and good combat, special, and methodological training. Delving deeply into the life of the units [chasti], experienced officers and generals know how to find the phenomena lying behind individual incidents better than anyone else and understand where the efforts of the men should be directed. It should also be borne in mind that the speeches made by senior commanders in the subunits [podrazdeleniya] are not an everyday matter and that each conclusion drawn by them, each generalization they make is received by the audience with special attentiveness, remains in their minds for a long time, and serves as a guide to action.

Colonel V. Lebedev cannot imagine his work without speeches to the personnel. Without waiting for a personal invitation he may visit and speak at an evening of discussion on a special topic. Meetings are held for the officers' wives. Vitaliy Mikhaylovich feels that it is essential to talk with them and listen to their requests. He also willingly responds to a propagandist's proposal that he develop a difficult subject and give a lecture on it. The force of the commander's example is well known. It is also graphically demonstrated in this case. The majority of Colonel Lebedev's subordinate officers take an active part in mass agitation and indoctrinational work.

The men in the units and subunits speak highly of the political speeches made by the district's first deputy chief of staff, Major General G. Samoylenko. Together with workers from the editorial board of the district newspaper, he has taken part in a number of evenings of discussion on special subjects and morning discussions of military indoctrination. He has given talks many times on the draft Constitution. He speaks simply and clearly, and with conviction. As they listen to him the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers [praporshchiki] and officers become highly charged with energy and gain a clearer understanding of their tasks.

C. Grinyayev, Ya. Pan'kin, I. Dmitriyev, M. Proskurin, A. Lopata, and many other communists in supervisory positions feel an inner need to take a personal part in the indoctrinational work.

At the same time, the high demands set forth in party documents on matters of communist indoctrination of the workers require that we see not only the positive side but also the defects in the propaganda work of certain communists from among the supervisory personnel.

It has long been known that the boring, impersonal word does not arouse the people and does not inspire good thoughts and deeds in them. At the same time, there are still cases in which universally respected leaders do not hesitate to walk onto the speaker's platform only hastily prepared for their speech or even with a lecture prepared by others. Colonel V. Nepomnyashchiy, lecturer for the district political directorate, prepared a good speech. His lecture on "Development of the Leninist Principles of Defending the Socialist Homeland in the Draft Constitution of the USSR," was well received, and during the break many officers and generals approached the lecturer. Not for the purpose of clarifying some certain question, however, but in order to request the text of the lecture, giving as their reason the fact that they would soon be visiting the troops and would have to address the personnel there. There is nothing wrong with acquiring additional material or an explication of a required subject. It is too bad, however, when a comrade feels that this completes his preparations for the speech.

I feel that the senior comrades should vary the forms of their participation in agitation-propaganda work. Many of them limit their activities to the reading of lectures and rarely take part in youth debates, special evenings of discussion, readers' conferences, and so forth. Not so long ago, our district Officers' Club conducted a special evening of discussion for the young officers. The lieutenants and their wives and girlfriends saw an art exhibit, took part in literary quizzes, played chess with an international grand master, danced, and visited at tables in a cafe. The plan also called for a meeting with generals and officers from the district headquarters, who would have told the lieutenants in a relaxed atmosphere of their own experiences as young officers, given some practical advice, and answered questions. Invitations were sent to these senior comrades. Saying that they were too busy, however, many of them did not appear at the event. And those who did come, as it turned out, came prepared simply "to attend." It can therefore be said with justification that the evening did not turn out the way its organizers hoped it would.

We must also not fail to mention the attraction of large audiences for certain comrades. Some of them cannot be inveigled, so to speak, to speak to a company or platoon: they demand an audience at least the size of a regiment. Talks also have to be given on the regiment level, of course. But it is necessary for the platoon as well. We should not forget the task of being close to the people, of reaching every individual.

Unfortunately, there are also those who feel that a high position relieves one in general from personal participation in the indoctrination of soldiers and sergeants. Lieutenant Colonel B. Petrov, for example, had not spoken on political subjects for a long time although he is in charge of five large collectives. Colonel A. Filimonov, Lieutenant Colonel V. Yatsik, and certain others have not made a single speech in recent months. It is also typical of certain officers to spend day after day among the troops, to attend both reveille and retreat, to visit classes both in the field and in the classrooms, and delve thoroughly into organizational and technical matters, while failing to find time to talk with the men on a comradely level about political and other subjects, to answer their questions. And, strange as it seems, this style of work for some reason does not disturb the party organization.

We understand that statistics are not unbiased: they indicate who has spoken more and who has given fewer speeches. In the final analysis, however, it is not a matter of this. The main thing is for the official to meet with the personnel regularly, to go to the people with genuine interest, at the dictate of his party conscience, with an understanding of his responsibility for the ideological content and clarity of his speeches. This is his party duty, his party obligation.

Ideological work focuses on the awareness and soul of the individual. It is incompatible with pure administrativeness, pressure, and especially rudeness. At the same time, there are cases in which certain supervisors end their talks on political subjects by dressing down their men. This is precisely the way Lieutenant Colonel V. Danilov, leader of a large collective, once concluded a report.

It is a demand of the time that propaganda speeches by supervisory personnel be made more effective, and it is gratifying that these matters are receiving ever increasing attention in the work of political organs and party organizations of the headquarters and directorates.

To bring the men an impassioned word about our great homeland, about the wise Leninist party, to inspire the soldiers for new feats in their military work -- such is the high duty and calling of each communist leader.

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TANK REGIMENT OFFICER TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Maj A. Khorunzhiy, Red Banner Kiev Military District: "Contrasts"]

[Text] The commander is the first one to perform a difficult exercise. This is not just a tradition, it is his service duty. It would be impossible to overestimate the importance of the exemplary demonstration, the personal example.

And battalion commander Captain A. Saparin, was in the first tank in the night exercise. He was followed along the route by a vehicle driven by company commander Senior Lieutenant B. Zakharov.

When the tanks had returned to the command and observation tower the driver-mechanics began a lively discussion of the officers' performance. Captain Saparin surpassed the master's norm, Senior Lieutenant Zakharov - that of a specialist 1st class. An atmosphere of exuberation, of confidence, which activated the moral forces of every individual, was immediately created in the subunit [podrazdeliniye]. That same night another company performed an exercise at the firing ground, involving the firing of a standard charge. The officers, Major G. Krasnikov and Senior Lieutenant S. Ivanchenkov, also fired in the first run. They accurately destroyed the targets.

This practical experience demonstrates the fact that, despite all of the importance of each soldier's personal contribution to the collective's overall success, the officer's contribution is measured not only by excellent evaluations in the records. It would be difficult to overestimate the role of the commander's personal example in combat training, in the work of constantly increasing the effectiveness of socialist competition: it means far more than a score of five.

The high level of skill demonstrated at the tank training ground and the firing ground... it reflects the level of overall military-technical training of the regiment officers. The unit [chast] commander, his deputies, and the

majority of battalion and company commanders are highly rated specialists. The young officers also performed outstandingly: Lieutenants A. Zvezdin, A. Mel'nikov, Ye. Yeremenko, and A. Kolychev, who joined the regiment upon their graduation from military schools. They work persistently to master the equipment, actively compete for its efficient employment, creatively fulfill their service duties, and set the tone in the daily training. In the anniversary year, the lieutenants have added practical skills to the theoretical knowledge acquired at the school. They are close to fulfillment of their commitments in the competition.

The performance indicators of most of the regiment officers in the tests are consistently good. The majority, but not all. And this is the result of serious omissions, primarily in the organization of socialist competition among the officers. Usually the same comrades are among the outstanding officers in the regiment, while those who have fallen behind have remained there for many months.

Platoon commander Lieutenant A. Kondyurin, for example, has achieved extremely modest personal results. He has accepted commitments lower than those of his colleagues, but has thus far not even fulfilled these.

Headquarters explains the gaps in the officer's professional training, especially his technical training, by the fact that he mastered another type of machine at the school. This should of course be taken into account. How many months does an officer with a higher education need, however, in order to acquire a thorough knowledge of a tank? Does it really take longer than for a student in a training subunit?

Those who are satisfied with a mediocre knowledge of the equipment and do not fulfill their commitments are naturally criticized periodically in the unit. Captain V. Anokhin, Senior Lieutenant F. Mengunov, and Lieutenant Yu. Sokolenko, for example, come in for criticism. Criticism should be backed up with action, however. Painstaking individual work, concrete assignments, strict control, and comradely mutual assistance are required. The regimental commander, headquarters, party and Komsomol organizations are not doing everything they could in this respect, by far, and sometimes labor under the delusion of a satisfactory "overall situation."

Officer competition is not graphically depicted anywhere in the unit. The officers' commitments are not to be seen on the walls in the subunits' Lenin rooms. And almost no mention is made of them at headquarters.

Lieutenants Ye. Fochkin and S. Polyanskiy, for example, accepted commitments at the beginning of the year to become experts and to raise their class ratings. Just what have they done to achieve these goals? Unfortunately, very little.

"He has only a superficial knowledge of the equipment and armament on the tank. The same applies with respect to rules for firing and overcoming obstacles and barriers. His skill in operating the equipment is inadequate..."

Such are the complaints leveled against Lieutenant Polyanskiy by the battalion commander. They are also applied to Lieutenant Fochkin. Unfortunately, however, the battalion commander practically does not link these complaints with the officers' commitments in the competition. No mention is made in the battalion of the fact that Polyanskiy and Fochkin, if the old records are to be trusted, are competing with Lieutenants Kolychev and Vukhol'skiy, who have achieved considerably greater successes. How can we speak of competition efficiency and effectiveness in such a case?

The main thing in socialist competition is to develop in the personnel an aware attitude toward the fulfillment of their military duty, a desire always to be ahead, to perform the training tasks of the anniversary year as well as possible.

Like any creative matter, socialist competition does not tolerate formalism and indifference. Deficiencies in the personal training of even a single officer is cause for serious concern on the part of the commander, headquarters, the party and Komsomol organizations. All the more, since only a few weeks remain to the end of the training year, which means that all efforts should be aimed toward maintaining a good spirit of rivalry, at the total fulfillment of socialist commitments by all regiment tankmen.

Motivating the personnel to achieve the goals set in the competition and a struggle to raise the efficiency and quality of the training process are inconceivable without insuring that the commanders set a personal example in the combat and political training, in the performance of each subject, each exercise, each combat training task, and in the fulfillment of socialist commitments. It is therefore very important to be highly demanding and exacting when evaluating the personal contribution made by each officer to the regiment's successes, to the struggle for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

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COMPLAINT VOICED ABOUT UNJUSTIFIED CHARACTER SLUR

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Sep 77 p 4

[Letter from V. Azaryanskaya, dean of the preparatory department, and follow-up report by Lt Col V. Seledkin: "Is It Just a Misunderstanding?"]

[Text] Editors; the dean's office of the preparatory department at the Kazan' Order of the "Emblem of Honor" Agricultural Institute imeni Maksim Gor'kiy requests that you look into the following matter. Private 1st Class R. A. Mukhametzryanov submitted his documents to the preparatory department in November 1976. Following his discharge into the reserve he was given a service record, which showed that he is disciplined, that he took an active part in public life and received awards more than once. The document was signed by Comrade Chvyagin. Comrade Mukhanetzryanov was naturally accepted into the preparatory department.

Recently, however, we received a report from the unit [chast] addressed to the vice-chancellor of the institute to the effect that Comrade Mukhanetzryanov "could not be given a recommendation due to a lack of personal discipline." The report was signed: Lukin.

Whom are we to believe?

V. Azaryanskaya,
Dean of the Preparatory Department

I received the assignment of taking this letter to unit X.

"Which report should we believe?" I asked the subunit [podrazdeleniye] commander, Major V. Chvyagin.

"The first one, naturally," he answered with certainty. "That report which describes Comrade Mukhametzyanov in a most positive light."

Captain V. Lukin, chief of staff, shared this opinion. With a steady hand he waved aside the refusal "to provide a recommendation." He considers himself a victim of circumstances. The fact is that the request from the institute arrived at the subunit when a large number of the specialists, headed by Major Chvyagin, had left on a service assignment.

Captain Lukin, who was left in charge, asked at a formation of the personnel who among the men remembered Private 1st Class Mukhametzyanov.

"It seems to me that he had certain problems with discipline," said Captain N. Chernyshev.

Lukin did not bother to check this evaluation.

"I had not been in the unit long and had never seen Mukhametzyanov myself. I was misled by Captain Chernyshev," Captain Lukin now said with distress, and immediately added: "A simple misunderstanding... furthermore, we did send a positive evaluation to the institute."

It is of course not difficult to send yet another document. Nor is it difficult to write the front words in it, the description actually merited by Private 1st Class Mukhametzyanov. Is it not an oversimplification to write off what happened as a simple misunderstanding, however? We believe that this is a case of an indifferent attitude toward a former soldier of the unit. And indifference cannot be tolerated in our lives.

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AIR DEFENSE MISSILE CREW TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Capt P. Pryadko, Order of Lenin Moscow Air Defense District:
"While Increasing the Fighting Intensity"]

[Text] The paint on the launcher's erector arm had turned dark from the scorching heat of the booster rocket engines. It was difficult to tear ones eyes away from that charred strip, boldly inscribed on the launcher by the fiery stream. It reminded one over and over of that recent moment, when, obedient to the command, the missile had soared up to meet the air target.

The target was destroyed with great accuracy. That day was a real holiday for the battery.

We returned from the firing range, and once again there were the exercises and drills. However, there was increasingly less of that fierce fighting zeal which had distinguished them before, prior to the tactical field firing exercise. I shared my observations with one of the experienced specialists in our unit [chast], Lieutenant Colonel V. Budnikov. He listened to me carefully and then visited a training session conducted by platoon commander Lieutenant S. Sokolov, and carefully observed the actions of each missileman.

"I have the impression," said Lieutenant Colonel Budnikov, "that the methods used to train the missile crew are the same as those employed prior to the field firing."

"Of course," I said with surprise. "What should be different? After all, the firing proved the effectiveness of our methods."

"You are forgetting one thing," continued the Lieutenant Colonel. "The fact that we cannot simply repeat that which has already been covered. We must move ahead and set more difficult tasks for ourselves. The time left to the end of the training year should be utilized for advancing further toward the heights of combat training."

The talks with Lieutenant Colonel Budnikov, his advice and suggestions forced me to look for new things, to improve the training methods.

The drive mechanism of the transport and loading vehicle chirred evenly. The narrow, streamlined body of the missile moved smoothly onto the erector arm of the launcher. Precise and adroit were the actions of the members of the crew commanded by Junior Sergeant A. Bortyshev. And why not! The launchers knew these operations backward and forward, as they say. They had practiced them hundreds of times in an attempt to achieve flawless teamwork.

Following a break I ordered crew member Private A. Kabutov to take the place of Junior Sergeant Bortyshev. And something I could not put my finger on changed in the launcher's work. A certain constraint and edginess appeared in their actions. Private Kabutov, replacing the team commander, was worried. He wanted very much to have everything go smoothly, but a lack of experience made it difficult precisely to maintain the set rhythm.

The training exercise continued, and gradually the soldier's voice began to sound more confident. And the crew functioned almost the same as when Junior Sergeant Bortyshev was in charge.

Almost... with any team composition, however, the launchers should confidently cope with fulfilling the norm established for an excellent evaluation. We set ourselves this task after totaling the results of the tactical exercise involving field firing.

Now, each exercise at the launching position was organized so that the team members could practice in all of the positions. At first, we had each missileman master one related specialty each. After that, we set ourselves the goal of achieving complete interchangeability within the platoon and even the battery. The system for making up the training teams was altered. Previously the launchers had known long before an exercise the composition of the team in which they would be practicing, whereas this was now not made known until immediately prior to an exercise. The specialists were rearranged not only before exercises began but also during the course of a drill. Lieutenant S. Sokolov, Junior Sergeant A. Bortyshev, and Private A. Kabutov, the most experienced launchers, saw that the operations were performed precisely. When necessary, they immediately came to the assistance of the team members.

Each day, the subunit Komsomol activists, led by Senior Lieutenant A. Shaposhnikov, issued special bulletins, which reported the successes of the soldiers, gave the names of socialist competition winners, and contained information on the fulfillment of combat work norms.

We were concerned about the training of certain operators of the transport and loading vehicles. There had been cases in which the launchers had bettered the norm, but from sluggishness of the drivers, who dallied before departing with the vehicle from the launcher rotation area, this saving was reduced to nought.

Naturally, most of the vehicle operators coped successfully with their duties. Their high level of training was convincingly proven at the firing ground. Junior Sergeant S. Shigorin was acknowledged as one of the best drivers in the subunit. Some specialists were clearly behind such masters in their training, however.

The battalion commander assigned the task of achieving a situation in which all of the drivers performed as skillfully and calmly as Junior Sergeant Shigorin and the other highly trained specialists. We increased the number of drills for the vehicle operators in order to achieve this. The training was conducted at a special site, in which the boundaries of the approach ramps were marked off with stakes. The drivers learned to approach the launcher in minimum time and to stop precisely at the designated spot. They then began training with the combat equipment, together with the teams. Now, the effort to reduce the norm time and to improve the combat work was even more successful.

The good morale and enthusiasm created by discussion of the draft of the new Constitution and preparations for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, played an enormous role. The missilemen are attempting to raise the subunit's combat readiness to a new level and to fulfill socialist commitments completely.

Preliminary results indicate that the battery soldiers will keep their word. Everyone who was to become a rated specialist has already achieved this. Complete interchangeability has been reached in all of the teams. The combat work norm has been improved by 30 percent.

It goes without saying that these results are gratifying. However, Lieutenant Sokolov recently approached me and said:

"We have most frequently conducted the training sessions on the same, specially designated launcher. The men have now become accustomed to a certain arrangement of the equipment and have become thoroughly familiar with all the specific features at the site. What about periodically changing the conditions of the combat work and practicing at other launch sites?"

The idea is a good one. One naturally works more easily and calmly at the same site. In actual combat, however, it may become necessary to accomplish the assigned mission in an unfamiliar situation, with different equipment, at a site with which one has not become "comfortable." This means that we should prepare ourselves psychologically for this now. And we must work without reducing the combat intensity. Our life and service are more interesting and fuller when we are constantly moving forward.

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EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE DISPOSAL ACTIVITIES DEPICTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Sep 77 p 4

[Article by Maj V. Zhitarenko: "Pyrotechnics"]

[Text] "Send us Lieutenant Kryuk, immediately!" -- five or six years ago I frequently saw such entries in the log in which telephone dispatches arriving at civil defense unit [chast] X were recorded. And now I have unexpectedly found the very same entry, word for word...

All vehicles immediately clear the road for us: on the front and back of our vehicle is the impressive warning: "Caution, mines!".

This time we are hauling shells. Corroded by rust, two of them have exposed "fillings." Private 1st Class Sergey Shevchuk and Private Leonid Mostovoy are monitoring the position of the cargo. And Lieutenant Aleksey Kryuk is inspecting the surrounding fields and woods: there is a gully somewhere around, in which the ammunition can be exploded.

It was found at the Khar'kov Tractor Plant, in a pile of scrap metal which was to be melted down. And veterans at the Khar'kov Tractor Plant recall a case in which a shell went into the smelting furnace, blowing it to bits and killing a worker...

Explosives are treacherous items anywhere, however. Pyrotechnics experts still have enough work, despite the fact that a great many explosive devices have been deactivated since the war. According to 1974 data local air defense troops, later civil defense troops, destroyed almost 225,000 aerial bombs, more than a million shells and mines, and nearly 300,000 fougasses.

Pyrotechnics... dictionaries define this word as the science dealing with the study and preparation of firing mixtures and the objects loaded with them. It goes back to several centuries B.C. Since the appearance of "firing mixtures and the objects loaded with them," however, there has been a need for individuals able to deactivate them.

Special tasks fell to the lot of pyrotechnics experts during the Great Patriotic War. Fascist aviation dropped around 2 million fougasse and incendiary bombs on our cities and rear installations. The Hitlerites used delayed action fuses in many bombs. Their treacherous plan was for the explosions to take place following the air raid, when the population had left the shelters.

Leningrad engineers N. Lopatin and A. Khanukayev were the first to remove delayed action fuses from fougasse bombs. They then taught the art of pyrotechnics to hundreds of people. In time, the techniques for deactivating explosives were improved and devices were created which reduced the risk involved... still, the risk remained and is still present. Private Aleksandr Belavin of a pyrotechnics company in unit X died while saving the Leningrad Post Office Building from destruction.

I carefully preserve a yellowed piece of paper given me six years ago by Lieutenant Ivan Kryuk. It is a sort of fougasse identification card, which clearly shows the date it was produced in fascist Germany: March 1941. The Lieutenant removed it together with the fuse at the airport in Chernovtsy. It was impossible to haul the bomb to a demolition site: the fuse had a clever "booby trap" and could be activated by the slightest jolt.

Long before that, however, Ivan Kryuk had an even more difficult encounter with a 500-kilogram fougasse bomb in the city of Sarny, Rovenskaya Oblast. The pyrotechnics expert decided to defuse the bomb by extracting the explosive substance from the shell with compressed steam. While preparations were being completed, the timing mechanism on the fuse "took off." The experts then determined that the mechanism had been activated by overheating of the bomb shell by the blazing rays of the sun. It was then calculated that the pyrotechnics expert had only one chance in a thousand. He had to take the risk, however. Nearby were a petroleum installation and dozens of fuel tanks, and slightly further were houses and a school...

The timing mechanism ticked off the seconds. How many remained until the blast? One hundred? Ten? Or only one? Ivan was lucky. Fate gave him exactly as many seconds as was required. A sharp bang was heard immediately after he had extracted the fuse and tossed it behind the breastwork of a pit...

At the age of 22 Ivan Kryuk was awarded the Order of the Red Star and the Komsomol Badge of Honor. Newspapers devoted considerable space to a description of the feat in Sarny, and there were television programs about Ivan. Perhaps there were those who envied him his glory. Few people knew the incredibly dangerous work he had performed to earn this glory, however.

Several days in a month Ivan Kryuk was in the unit, the remaining time, he was on call day and night. A telephone dispatch -- and he was on his way. At the 16th Komsomol Congress, Ye. M. Tyazhel'nikov, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, announced to lengthy applause from the delegates that the valorous pyrotechnics expert was to attend the Congress. Ivan Kryuk received an emergency call, however, to travel to a section of the Stryy-Skole

highway to remove fougasse bombs which had been detected there. There, he and I read together the words of high praise spoken of him at the Komsomol Congress.

I also recall that "consultation" in the office of the unit commander, at which the senior commanders spoke with alarm about the fact that the lieutenant had become careless in the performance of pyrotechnic work. Warnings are given against such carelessness and punishment is meted out for it. Like it or not, however, the pyrotechnics experts do become accustomed to danger. Is it not for this reason that the medical experts recommend transferring pyrotechnics experts to other jobs after they have worked for several years in a row in their profession? Is this not the reason why almost all of the "active" officer-specialists in this generally extremely rare occupation are very young people. The personnel "turnover" is an objective phenomenon.

Ivan Kryuk later served as commander of a pyrotechnics training company and a training battalion. Medicine interfered again, however. He developed polyarthrititis. In order to reach a bomb, which would frequently have sunk several meters into the earth, he would have waded water up to his knees and salt would soak into his pores. I can still see the hole leading to a fougasse bomb, which Lieutenant Ivan Kryuk and his men had dug from a swimming position on the territory of the Drogobych Refinery. Two weeks in the liquid mush. And there were many such instances...

Captain Ivan Timofeyevich Kryuk is now military commissariat of Kegichevskiy Rayon, Khar'kovskaya Oblast.

It is a deep gully, and Private 1st Class S. Shevchuk and Private L. Mostovoy are carefully placing shells in a prepared pit. Lieutenant Aleksey Kryuk, Ivan's younger brother, is loading the vent tube. And he casually tells about "violations of procedure which must never never occur." The following, for example. The pyrotechnics experts had been summoned. It was naturally an emergency, involving the removal of a grenade from an apartment. They arrived. It was truly an emergency: the detonator was so rusty it was a miracle the grenade had not exploded. How did a grenade happen to be in an apartment, however? It was determined that the drunken head of the household had found it in the woods and brought it home "in order to give his relatives a graphic account of the war"... another case: the eighth-graders from one of the schools in Khar'kov had thrown a shell found in the woods into a bonfire... the lieutenant was incensed by such carelessness. How many lectures and talks have been conducted in the work collectives and at the schools!? But they still go and do something like this...

An explosion sounds -- ammunition has been destroyed. And Aleksey Kryuk's face reflects complete satisfaction with his work. I know that he has seen his family only a few times during the past three months. That the birth of a daughter, born in March, could not be registered until May for the same reason. That even now he carries in his pocket three requests for disarming explosives. And the man is satisfied!

Yesterday evening, he saw me off to Moscow. Tickets for the flight were sold out, it appeared. One of the airport workers saw Kryuk, however, and a ticket "was found." Aleksey remarked with embarrassment in his deep bass voice:

"In April, I deactivated a small ammunition dump left at the airport after the war. They apparently remember this."

I later learned that the "small ammunition dump" contained 7,651 pieces of ammunition. The lieutenant and his men worked there for almost a week in a downpour. Altogether, Komsomol member Lieutenant A. Kryuk has to his credit more than 15,000 deactivated bombs, shells, mines and fougasses....

And so, many people remember the pyrotechnics expert and are grateful to him for his selfless military work, sometimes bordering on risk. It is worth working this way, indefatigably, without sleep or rest for the sake of people's lives and for their gratitude. It is worth the risk.

Perhaps at this very moment some pyrotechnics expert is bent over a fougasse mine, someone is driving a vehicle loaded with shells, mines...

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FIGHTER-INTERCEPTOR TACTICAL TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col V. Zharko: "Respect for Tactics"]

[Text] The roar of the engines above the airfield had died down. The pilots had left for regiment headquarters. But Captain Anatoliy Gushchin was still in the interpretation lab, studying photographic monitoring films of the interceptions carried out during the flight shift. To him, chief of regiment air and tactical training, each film in its own way recreated a dynamic picture of an intense skirmish in the air.

As he inspected one of the films the captain found involuntarily: the pilot acting as the target had not performed vigorously enough. This battle was not beneficial. It could have been, however. And the captain made a note in the notebook: "Raise the question of varying battle procedures."

Later, during the postflight critique, Gushchin brought up the role of the pilot's initiative and combat activeness in a battle. He mentioned the fact that without tactical skill there can be no effective strike, that a real enemy will not create ideal conditions for the interceptor, but, on the contrary, will attempt to frustrate his attack. The pilots listened with interest to the chief of the regiment service. The captain thoroughly analyzed each pilot's actions in the air, taking objective control data into account.

Tactical classes were conducted more regularly for the airmen in the concluding training year. Each class covered a specific subject. One would cover radio-electronic means, for example, another -- the combat capabilities of foreign aircraft. And the important thing was not simply to memorize figures and various tactical-technical specifications, but to learn the real capabilities of the equipment, its strong and weak points. In short, the airmen left class each time not with abstract knowledge but with concrete know-how, which they later employed when working out assignments in the air.

At first, to be sure, some individuals voiced the opinion that there was no need to take time away from preliminary preparations, even for brief tactical sessions. Once, Captain Gushchin even heard the following categorical statement: "There is no time right now to become carried away with tactics. We need fire training. The main thing is to see that each airman can accurately destroy an air target."

And what was the result? Although some airmen received five points for their performance of practical missile launchings during the exercise, the senior commander gave them only four points for tactical training.

The lesson served its purpose, as they say. People began to listen more carefully to Captain Gushchin, although the regimental commander did reprove him somewhat for not seeking his assistance in time. It was soon time for yet another exercise. A fairly difficult exercise, at that, involving interceptions of targets at maximum range and a landing at an unfamiliar airfield. Nonetheless, not a day passed prior to and during the exercise without a tactical session being conducted for the airmen. In the classes and training sessions they worked out those aspects which would have to be performed in the air. And this was not in vain. The airmen passed the difficult test of combat maturity with the highest score. Following the critique the commander thanked communist Gushchin warmly.

Now, the officer is frequently asked for advice by young airmen, and not just the young ones, but also those who might have even more extensive experience than he. And so, the service chief was able to interest the people, to evoke in them a desire creatively to seek new ways of improving their combat skills.

And it can now be stated with full justification that tactics is highly rated in the regiment. The attitude toward this type of combat training has changed noticeably for the better, and Captain Gushchin deserves a great deal of the credit. He performs his official duties with a feeling of great responsibility and demonstrates genuine concern for the combat training of the air fighters.

A smoothly functioning system of teaching the airmen the art of modern combat tactics has become established in the regiment. And this is producing good results. Studied along with other matters in the classes are the organizational structure of foreign armies, methods of employing air defense weapons, and the specific features of different models of equipment and weapons. And a situation approaching actual combat is created during the flights.

As the training year comes to an end unit personnel are thoroughly analyzing the preliminary results of socialist commitments accepted in the competition for a fitting reception for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The figures are impressive. Not all achievements can be described with numerical values, however. There are also other cases, which speak with equal eloquence of the growth of the airmen's air training. One such instance was the recent tactical flight exercises, in which the airmen performed all combat training missions well. This is proof of the squadrons' improved combat readiness.

IMPROVEMENT OF ATTITUDES TOWARD CRITICISM STRESSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col Yu. Teplov: "The Bitter Taste of Criticism"]

[Text] I felt somehow sad and uncomfortable. It is not an easy matter to review complaints: the fragments of someone's drama also hurt you. I sat in an empty hotel room, leafing through the pages I had filled in my notebook. My mind was filled with recent encounters. It then moved further and further into the past, until it brought forth a familiar name, that of Senior Lieutenant A. Nizamov.

I considered him, my colleague, difficult to understand, an individual whose words and actions frequently lacked logic. A commission from the political section had arrived in our regiment that day. An evening party meeting was planned. Two members of the commission attended it.

When Nizamov took the floor I thought to myself: he is sure to say something wrong again. And he did. He spoke of the poor organization of recreational activities for the young officers, mentioned his "lonely" guitar, and affronted the deputy commander for political affairs, accusing him of being insensitive to spiritual needs, and concluded with a tirade on formalism in the competition.

I was also much younger then, and sometimes judged people on an emotional level. After the meeting I therefore went to the secretary of the party bureau and recommended that Nizamov be called to account. For demagogy. I backed my suggestion up with facts, demonstrating that Nizamov was wrong. I poured all of this out to the party secretary with great emotion, and at that moment Lieutenant Colonel D. Sosedov entered the office.

"Nizamov is right," he said. "I was in the officers' dormitory. It is boring for the lieutenants. They have enough guitars, enough outside activities too. But they are left to their own devices... with respect to competition, we have a lot of gaps to fill in."

A long time has gone by since then, but I remember it all. I recall it as a graphic example of an attitude toward criticism, as edification: first of all, try to find the truth in a bitter word of reproach.

I visited an air base to investigate a complaint from Warrant Officer [praporshchik] N. Mullabayev. This was his second letter to the editors. In his first, he and the other airmen had reported that the motor transport equipment nook was not properly cared for in the unit [chast]. After that, a critical article titled "The Fruits of Lack of Principle" was printed, followed by a reply from the political section of the military transport aviation. It reported that all of the facts had been confirmed and that the guilty parties had received proper punishment.

"After the article appeared in the newspaper," Warrant Officer Mullabayev wrote in his second letter, "persecution of the authors of the letter began in the unit...".

My first conversation was with Major R. Abubekirov, chief of battalion staff.

"Warrant Officer Mullabayev has been affected by penalties," he said in a tone of voice which gave me to understand that this settled the matter.

I went over Mullabayev's personal file and service record thoroughly. On the whole, all of the reports were positive. He had received eight commendations in the past two years, and a quite recent reprimand -- for slander. A terrible accusation.

We began to investigate. And we learned that some complaints against Mullabayev were justified, but accusations of slander were of course not.

The following fact came out in talks with the author of the letter and many of his colleagues. In the political classes for the warrant officers Senior Lieutenant A. Shamenkov, deputy battalion commander for political affairs, had told them:

"Write anywhere you like! You will still not have your way!"

"You must understand that I was extremely worked up at that time," he explained his statement. "I acted without restraint."

Nor had unit commander Lieutenant Colonel A. Morozov exercised restraint in some of his statements.

And by a strange coincidence, at exactly that time Warrant Officer Mullabayev completed his scheduled term of service. It turned out that there was no position for him in the unit. He submitted applications to neighboring units, only to receive negative replies. Vacancies in some of them had suddenly been filled, while others did not like the fact that the warrant officer "was affected by penalties," especially "for slander!"

So a conflict developed, which prompted the writing of the second letter to the editors. The situation was not a new one, by far, and was certainly not complicated with respect to its psychological turns. First, there was an emotional flash, simply stated, an insult: "We work hard. And for this? He is also not without fault.. just you wait!" And instead of acknowledging their errors in a party manner and eliminating them together, respectable comrades began seeking ways of "getting even." There is nothing easier than this, especially if the criticism came from a subordinate. But the collective morale suffers, and the people are weakened by a belief that an injustice has been committed. How could I help recalling at this time Lieutenant Colonel Sosedov, who told us young political workers:

"Criticism, my friends, and a proper reaction to it are a sign of moral health in the individual and the collective."

Experience has confirmed the fact that an unprincipled attitude and acceptance of shortcomings frequently flourish where criticism and self-criticism are suppressed. This is what took place in the unit discussed.

"We are not against criticism," said Senior Lieutenant Shamenkov. "We discussed the matter and arrived at the proper conclusions."

Just who would admit that he is against criticism? In words, everybody is naturally -- "for!" But the newspapers with the critical articles mysteriously disappeared from all the files.

The newspaper's treatment of the matter was in fact condemned at a party meeting, but what about the "proper conclusions"? These words were uttered glibly, like a self-defense device memorized once and for all.

The reply received by the editors to the article "The Fruits of a Lack of Principle" stated that Warrant Officer N. Perepadya, who had tolerated squandered spare parts and misused his position, had been expelled from the ranks of the CPSU, and that communist, Major N. Alekseyev had been issued a strict reprimand, with an entry made in his record. Lieutenant I. Sabirov, secretary of the party bureau, also received a reprimand for lack of principle in reviewing the personal cases of the above-mentioned comrades. We mention these cases again in order to show that the letter to the editors helped to reveal significant shortcomings. The cause did benefit! And proper conclusions actually were drawn. By higher command, however, and the political organ, and not by the battalion command or the secretary of its party bureau.

All of this forces us to make mention of Leninist standards of party life and intolerance of shortcomings as an essential requirement for improving the work and moving ahead, and the fact that it is the statutory duty of the communist to develop criticism and self-criticism.

The decree passed by the CPSU Central Committee, "On the State of Criticism and Self-Criticism in the Tambovskaya Oblast Party Organization," stated: It is important for the leaders to set an example of a proper attitude toward criticism. Unfortunately, this is precisely what is lacking in the signal battalion's command and PTO [technical servicing point].

What happened should not be presented as an isolated case. Viewed on a broader scale, it is not typical, of course. Nor is it an exceptional case, however.

Until recently, the people's control group in one of the units was headed by Major G. Yefimkin. Army inspectors revealed many shortcomings. Strange as it seems, however, the well-intended assistance did not set right with some officials. All sorts of truths and even more nontruths were used in an attempt to gain a new election of the group, and it is without its former chairman.

For six months the wife of Officer L. Oreshin has knocked at the doors of garrison chiefs. She showed a lack of discretion, as some now say and criticized local trade, offending Lieutenant Colonel N. Yemel'nov. He carried his dissatisfaction over to his service relations with her husband.

Criticism has a bitter taste. Worse than any medicine. Nothing can be done, however: it must be taken. It is bitter but therapeutic. And a party attitude should be taken toward it.

In conclusion, I would like to tell about a very recent meeting. I was standing near a hotel in Baku, when I suddenly heard my name. A dark-haired, heavy-set lieutenant colonel walked up:

"Don't you recognize me"?

"No."

"I am Nizamov. We served together. You may have forgotten me, but you no doubt remember Sosedov."

This is where we met. And after how many years! Nizamov had become a political worker: Lieutenant Colonel D. Sosedov had played no small role in his selection of a career. He had not regarded the blunt, intolerant Nizamov as a "carper," but had recognized in him the good traits of an irrepressible, principled individual, motivated by the interests of the cause...

11499
CSO: 1801

QUALIFICATIONS OF MILITARY SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS CONSIDERED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Maj P. Chernenko, Red Banner Central Asian Military District:
"Assigned to the Position of Instructor"]

[Text] I am deeply convinced that there is not a single officer to be found, who does not think kindly of his instructors. And how could it be otherwise? After all, they are the ones who help the youth arriving at military schools to become ideologically tempered fighters, to master knowledge, to become imbued with love for their military specialty, and to overcome difficulties. They, the instructors, colorfully speaking, are the ones who provide the initial impulse making it possible to move competently into the large and complex army life.

The Alma-Ata Higher All-Arms Command School imeni Marshal of the Soviet Union I.S. Konev frequently receives letters from its former students. Many of them contain words of gratitude, addressed to Colonel Nikolay Arkhipovich Krushinskiy, senior instructor in the fire training department.

Just what is the "secret" of the great prestige enjoyed by Colonel Krushinskiy? Listen to his lectures, visit the department, and speak with him. You will certainly see an individual selflessly devoted to his job, perhaps even in love with it. He discusses what would appear to be the most ordinary subjects so interestingly, with such inspiration, that the cadets always thirst after every phrase. Another thing: Nikolay Arkhipovich is never indifferent. He regards the successes and failures of his students as his own.

He was appointed to the position of instructor after he had already completed the good school of army life. Service in the forces had enriched the officer with profound and diverse knowledge and with a great deal of practical experience. Upon arriving at the school, however, Nikolay Arkhipovich immediately understood that if one is going to teach others he must study doubly hard himself. He persistently improved his methodological skills and expanded his horizons. And he continues to do so, although he now has a long period of teaching behind him.

It is usually said about such people as Colonel Krushinskiy: that person has found his place in life. This cannot be said about some other instructors, however. The individual might appear to have both theoretical knowledge and practical experience in the units [chasti]. Nonetheless, his lectures are boring and the officer is unable to establish the necessary rapport with the students, to ignite the interest of the cadets properly.

Why does this happen? Some relatively rapidly find the way to the cherished goal. Others, however, wander in the dark for a long time before finding it. Some, unfortunately, never feel their way onto the right path. Industry, persistence, and the collective's comradely assistance are naturally of prime importance. It does happen, however, that despite this, an individual never becomes a good instructor. What is the reason?

First of all, it is obvious that adequate thought is not always given to the selection of candidates for instructors. The facts confirm this.

Engineer-Captain V. Dukach was once deputy commander for technical affairs in a regiment. He handled his duties poorly and did not demonstrate proper zeal in his service. After the officer had committed a number of gross errors he was removed from the position and -- recommended for an instructor's position at a school.

What were the guidelines followed by the comrades in recommending the officer for a job at the school? Did they take into account the fact that this involves great trust and enormous responsibility? The facts indicate otherwise. It is more likely that they based their decision on something else: the officer is not coping with his duties as deputy commander for technical affairs. No great problem. Send him to a school. Miracles are not required there. The instructor takes the rostrum, reads a lecture, and his work is over. Anyone can do this.

In reality, however, it turns out that far from everyone can manage this. It is no secret that even a well trained specialist, a conscientious officer is not always able to become a real instructor. And there is nothing surprising about this. It is one thing to possess profound knowledge and solid practical skills, and yet another to impart these to the students. Teachers are not born, naturally, but the individual advanced to the position of instructor must still have a certain aptitude for the work.

Colonel V. Bukharov carefully observed cadet V. Bashlykov. The latter studied conscientiously and thoroughly assimilated the material. He graduated with a gold medal. It was then that the experienced teacher decided that Bashlykov had the makings of a future instructor. He was able to structure his presentations in the seminar logically and to formulate his thoughts precisely on the examinations and tests.

Colonel Bukharov did not hurry to make the final decision and issue his recommendations. He did not lose sight of his former cadet, however. He knew that Lieutenant Bashlykov had successfully commanded a platoon and company. The subunits [podrazdeleniya] headed by him invariably achieved an excellent rating. And especially pleasing was the fact that the young officer achieved his good results in the combat training and service mainly by working skillfully with his men. He could inspire them, light their interest and lead them. Everything indicated that his pedagogical bent was developing and growing stronger.

Years passed, and Captain Bashlykov is once again at his former school. This time, as an instructor. There are still certain weaknesses in his work, but he is aware of them and is doing everything possible to eliminate them. And no one in the department doubts that at some time in the future the graduates will recall with warmth and gratitude Captain Bashlykov, their teacher, mentor, and senior comrade.

An instructor at a military school is an individual who does more than simply transmit his knowledge to the cadets. He must be a model for the future officer in all things, large and small. With his personal example and enthusiastic word the instructor develops in the students a love for the homeland, for the party, and for the military specialty; teaches them to understand their duty properly; motivates them to be industrious, persistent and resolute in the achievement of the goal outlined; and develops efficiency and the habit of being neat and sharp.

This is why, when deciding whether or not to advance someone to the position of instructor, we should be strictly attentive and far-sighted and should evaluate the officer's political and service qualities thoroughly and objectively. Errors and oversights in this matter are inadmissible.

11499
CSO: 1801

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PERSONNEL COMPLAIN ABOUT COMMANDER

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 77 p 4

[Letter and comment by Engr-Col I. Krupnitskiy: "Not in Harmony With the Regulation"]

[Text] "Dear editors! We are asking for help in bringing military order to our subunit. We work on a saw frame, in a fittings shop, and at a construction site. We work conscientiously. Our company has won first place in the socialist competition. Our service has been interesting for us. But then Lieutenant V. Gayday arrived and everything changed. Because of his work methods we have no personal time. We have no time to write a letter to our relatives or to put ourselves in order. Formerly, after our shift we hurried to the barracks with joy as if they were our own home, knowing that we would be able to look at the television, play musical instruments, and read. And now, all we do is shine up the rooms, and we have time for ourselves only after recall, at the price of sleep...."

Privates Vysotskiy, Baynazarov,
Bondar', Mazur, and others.

The company is commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Poluyan, and Lieutenant Gayday is his deputy. The subunit in the military construction detachment has recently won prize places among the competitors and, for August, it even possesses the Challenge Red Banner. The credit in this belongs to all the personnel and, of course, to the young officers who managed to tighten discipline, increase the output of finished production, and improve its quality.

The subunit is separated from the unit, but you don't feel this separation in the life of the company. The people are billeted well, living conditions and feeding are excellent, and the labor indices are growing. It seems that everything should meet the standard--serve and be happy, but joy and satisfaction are not felt among the personnel. When you talk with the military construction

workers, junior officers, and company officers you become convinced that the letter to the editors was not born by chance.

Not so long ago, Warrant Officer [michman] V. Gayday was awarded the military rank of lieutenant. The military construction workers of the company felt this change immediately. Under the guise of increasing demandingness toward his subordinates, the young officer began to be rude toward his subordinates and to employ improper measures of punishment against those who had committed an offense. With the silent agreement of the company commander, Comrade Gayday brought his "strictness" to such limits that people began to avoid him. But how can one get by the officer when the latter can give an assignment to any soldier on whom his glance may fall and when this assignment cannot be found either in the norms or in the work rules? He made Privates A. Bondar' and P. Zvyagin do something improper and he has been keeping military construction workers Novikov, Zhdanovich, and Razuvayev on two-shift work for two months: at first, the people work on production, and later they work on the interiors of the "wardroom" for the cooks to rest in.

In the company, it has become a rule to conduct a second mounting of the detail in the evening after the personnel return. An evening posting--for painting, policing, rebuilding, and repairing the cantonment. Of course, at the expense of the men's personal time which is envisaged by the daily plan. And here is what happened: for the military builders to have a neat and dashing external appearance in conformance with the regulation, they were forced to sew their collars and wash and iron their uniforms in the shops of the enterprise or at the construction site. And if production conditions did not permit them to devote attention to their external appearance, they used the time after recall, and then not always since work in the cantonment lasted until late at times.

It should be said for the sake of objectivity that the people did what had to be done and undertook the improvement of their living conditions. Of course, all this is necessary, but why organize an "all-hands" job for several months in a row. There are six teams in the company and it would have been possible to distribute the load evenly among the subunits. For example, one brigade works and five rest. Then the people would work with pleasure.

The soldiers complained to the company commander about the rudeness of Lieutenant Gayday and about his violation of the regulation norms and the daily plan, but the former only listened to them and everything remained unchanged. In the company amateur theatrical activities withered and people stopped taking up sports. And this at the time when there were two masters of sport in the subunit (by the way, the same Comrades Gayday and Poluyan).

Both the detachment commander, Colonel Yu. Pavlov, and the chief of the naval engineering service, Engineer-Colonel A. Ostapenko, and others now know about the actual state of affairs in the company. The facts, as they say, were confirmed and measures are being adopted in accordance with the letter of the military construction workers. But nevertheless, I decided to share this story

with the readers in order to exclude the possibility of a repetition of such shortcomings in other places. These errors would not have arisen if officers Gayday and Poluyan had been guided in their work with subordinates by the requirements of the regulations.

6367

CSO: 1801

FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION TRAINING RESULTS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col A. Zakharenko, Red Banner Belorussian Military District:
"Withering Salvos"]

[Text] The artillerymen understood that the main test awaited them in a field swollen by the autumn rains and blown through by all the winds. Even on the march, each one prepared internally for the important firings.

The psychological attitude means much. The battalion commander, Guards Major N. Cheb, felt that his subordinates are going to the range, as they say, without a cold heart, and he was satisfied with this. But he also knew something else: it is not by emotions and not by a spiritual uplift alone that success is attained. It is born as a result of many months of strained labor. And now it is important to sustain the system of combat work which had been formed in the subunit and observe all parameters which ensure the maximum strength of fire cold-bloodedly and precisely.

Assigning the mission to his subordinates on the ground, Guards Major N. Cheb added:

"Operate as always...."

Perhaps it would be difficult to find in these heated minutes other words capable of strengthening even more the faith of the artillerymen in their strength.

"As always" means accomplishing each operation in improving the firing positions and command-observation posts at high speed with irreproachable accuracy and high quality.

The situation became sharply more difficult soon. Not succeeding in completing the work, the battery under the command of Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Zaytsev received the mission to neutralize a column of "enemy" armored vehicles which was moving out.

The battery commander's map which was stretched out on the plotting board began to be mottled with reference points which had been "picked up" quickly.

Initial data were prepared from them on the spot. But for the present, many was not enough. The situation became more complicated because the subunit had not received its metro message. And the checker, glancing at the stopwatch, waited for a decision.

Guards Senior Lieutenant Zaytsev made it. On the strength of the situation, he decided to establish a center-of-impact check point and determine adjusted corrections. One, and then three rounds flew toward the "enemy." The mean point of the group of bursts which had been determined using a fire-control apparatus plus tabular correction data prepared by the officer ahead of time-- and we have the basis for the target's destruction.

The first command was heard in several seconds. The target was bracketed with great precision and the norm for a grade of "excellent" had been exceeded by 25 percent.

In a difficult situation, Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Zaytsev displayed a high level of artillery know-how. And a high result was expected of him, twice winner in the district artillery gunnery competitions. By the way, all officers of the battalion displayed their best at the concluding firings.

On the lesson on battalion fire control, the artillerymen received a mission from Marshal of Artillery G. Peredel'skiy who was present on the range. And they accomplished it successfully. The target had given itself away by barely perceptible signs. Nevertheless, it was a sniper-like salvo.

"The experience acquired in the jubilee year," said the battalion commander, "will stand us in good stead in the future. We do not intend to be satisfied with what has been achieved."

And he smiled: "All the more since I now have a dependable assistant."

The major had in mind Senior Lieutenant A. Zaytsev who, here on the range, had been promoted in his duties by order of the district commander and completed the firings as battalion chief of staff.

6367

CSO: 1801

MULTINATIONAL CHARACTER OF ARMED FORCES DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Col Gen S. Belonozhko, commander of Red Banner Turkestan Military District, deputy to the Supreme Soviet USSR: "A Strong Alloy"]

[Text] The seventh special session of the Supreme Soviet USSR has adopted the new Constitution of the country. As a deputy, I had the occasion to participate in its work and hear the report of the General Secretary of the Central Committee USSR, the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR, and Chairman of the Constitutional Commission, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. Enriched with collective experience, the new Constitution of the USSR is the result of the tremendous theoretical and practical activity of our party.

The Fundamental Law of our country consolidates the historic achievements of the motherland of October in all fields of public life. One of these, which is dear to the heart of each Soviet person, is the indestructible friendship and brotherhood of all the nations and nationalities which populate the great Soviet Union.

I recall a case on an exercise whose course was observed by a foreign military delegation. After the training battle, the guests expressed the desire to talk with the motorized riflemen and tankers who had distinguished themselves. They were offered this opportunity. Visiting the company, they were surprised to discover that the representatives of 22 nationalities are serving in one collective. They were amazed: how do the soldiers understand one another?

Of course, in asking this question the members of the delegation had in mind not only purely language differences. It was unusual for them, and that is why they could not understand the very possibility that people of different nationalities could live as one family under one roof, could be like brothers on friendly terms, respond all for one and one for all, and accomplish their military duty in a worthy manner.

When the foreigners' question had been translated, it was the turn of the Soviet servicemen to speak.

"We all have one Motherland which is equally close to each of us. That same socialist native land which was created under the leadership of the Communist Party by more than 100 nations and nationalities which live on the territory of our country. The Motherland sincerely respects the dignity of each one, and is equally good and affectionate, fair and demanding to all. How can one not cherish, protect, and guard such a Motherland?" said Sergeant M. Dermykhanov in talking with members of the foreign delegation. "It is the main concern of all her sons."

The soldier, who is passing through a good school of patriotic and international indoctrination during his service in the army, spoke well.

In disclosing the sources of the lofty political and moral-political qualities of the Soviet servicemen, Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev said at the 25th Party Congress: "Our army is indoctrinated in a spirit of deep devotion to the Socialist Motherland, the ideas of peace and internationalism, the ideals of friendship of the peoples."

Under the conditions in the Red Banner Turkestan Military District, where representatives of 71 nationalities are performing their service, the indoctrination of the men in a spirit of friendship, brotherhood, and solidarity has special significance.

Let us take the tank regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel A. Khanin. Representatives of 38 nationalities and peoples of the Soviet Union are serving here. It is a harmonious, combat family. Here, the qualities of the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers [praporshchik], and officers, whatever the nationality to which they may belong, are judged from their attitude toward service, deeds, political activity, and competence in military affairs.

The unit which we are discussing is no exception. Each of our subunits is famous for the firm friendship of the men. Here, for example, is what radar operators wrote about their service in the district newspaper FRUNZEVETS: "From takeoff to landing of a combat aircraft the men of our subunit support the pilots with the stable and reliable operation of radio communication means.

"We are a Russian Junior Sergeant V. Selichev, Turkmenian Private First Class A. Toylyyev, Tatar Private E. Miseratov, Uzbek Private First Class N. Madaminov, Buryat Private V. Dagbain, and Armenian V. Kazaryan.

"We are a united combat collective in which mutual assistance and friendship long ago became the main force in strengthening the combat readiness of the subunit and a growth in the skill of each of us."

The solidarity of the combat collectives is furthered in many respects by party-political work conducted in the district's units and subunits. Its scope is especially great now, after the adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR and on the eve of the 60th anniversary of the Great October. Lectures are given systematically and theoretical conferences, talks about the Leninist

national policy, radio broadcasts, and motion picture festivals which are devoted to the development of the union republics and their successes in accomplishing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress are conducted. The glorious combat traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces and the history of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District and its units are widely used.

Uzbekistan and Turkmenia have made a worthy contribution to the great victory of the Soviet people over fascism. Hundreds of thousands of the republics' sons and daughters fought heroically on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War. Many did not return home, giving their lives for the freedom and happiness of their single, multinational homeland. More than 190 monuments have been erected in their honor in the cities and villages of the republics and 178 museums and a great number of rooms, corners, and clubs of combat glory have been established. Meetings of young servicemen with veterans of the Great Patriotic War are organized at the memorials and obelisks and wreaths are laid on the graves of fallen heroes.

The memorials to heroes are history in bronze. The obelisks with the names of the fallen can rightly be called a book which tells about the soldierly valor and the great brotherhood of all the Soviet peoples who defended their Motherland. In Tashlakskiy rayon, Ferganskaya oblast, 3,000 names of Tashlakites who did not return from the war were recently carved out on the walls of a museum of combat glory which opened recently. The heroes are children of various peoples of one great Soviet Motherland. Experienced propagandists, frontline fighters themselves, and direct participants in the terrible events tell the men today about them, about frontline brotherhood.

As a deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, these days I receive many letters from workers, kolkhoz workers, intellectuals, and men of the district. From people young and those gray with age, from people of different nations and nationalities. Each letter contains ardent words of approval of the new Constitution of the USSR and thanks to the Communist Party which united the peoples of our country into a single mighty power. These letters cannot be read without emotion. "In our Akkurgan fish combine," writes the brigadier of a fish-breeding brigade, Hero of the Soviet Union Sergeant (reserve) Anvar Kaliyev, "each worker perceived the new Constitution of the USSR with his mind and heart. It discloses even more completely the international essence of our socialist Motherland. All of us, children of different peoples, consider it an immutable law to help and support each other and, if necessary, to give his blood and life for a comrade as was the case during the Great Patriotic War."

"The army taught me to have faith in my comrades as in myself. It is a genuine school of internationalism where the principle, 'All for one and one for all,' holds sway." These lines belong to Hero of Socialist Labor and chairman of the Kommunist kolkhoz, Lieutenant (reserve) Babamurad Amanov. The brotherhood of our peoples is reflected in these letters.

Our army is linked with the people by thousands of indissoluble threads. Our might is in the leadership of the Leninist party. The Turkestan servicemen

often meet with party and state leaders of Uzbekistan and Turkmenia, innovators of production, scientists, and figures of literature and art and they visit theaters, museums, art exhibits, and historic sites. A cordial reception and concern awaits them everywhere.

"Spring water is pure, color is beautiful, and steel is strong," says the popular wisdom, "but the friendship of the Soviet peoples is purer than water, more beautiful than colors, and stronger than steel." It finds its embodiment in each military collective and it helps the men actively to increase their efforts in the struggle for the attainment of new successes in combat and political training and in mastering contemporary weapons and combat equipment.

It is the duty of the Soviet Armed Forces to the people, it says in the new Constitution of the USSR, to defend the socialist Fatherland dependably and to be in constant combat readiness which guarantees the immediate rebuff of any aggressor. The Turkestan servicemen are accomplishing their patriotic and international duty with a sense of high responsibility. Just as all Soviet servicemen brought up by the party of Lenin, they are vigilantly standing guard over the achievements of socialism.

6367

CSO: 1801

METHODS OF PILOTS' PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Capt V. Podkorytov, 1st Class Military Pilot: "Be Self-Controlled in Flight"]

[Text] Carefully inspecting the aircraft and checking the suspension of the bombs, I sit in the cockpit. I can see the wavy line of hills through the plexiglass of the canopy. The strike objective is located far beyond it, in a narrow winding ravine. At pre-flight preparation the squadron commander reminded us:

"The target is in the immediate proximity of friendly troops. Therefore, aim as precisely as possible."

I mentally imagine myself on the combat course. I feel nervousness seize me. This may hamper accomplishment of the mission. In order to calm myself, I concentrate my attention on checking the cockpit equipment. My feelings gradually become normal. And after takeoff, I already finally gained my self-control.

When forests and fields, merging into a continuous mottled canvas, rush by quite close, it is necessary to fly as well-collected as possible. At this time it seems as though each nerve is stretched, like a string. But you see, bombing from a difficult type of maneuver requires quick and precise actions. Excess emotional stress can reduce efficiency and lead to disruption of the procedure for working with the armament.

I look at the turn in the road for several seconds. It isn't really so necessary for orientation, but there is a short reserve of time and I use it to "shake off" the tension. Then the nervousness settled down. And just then the moment to start the maneuver arrived. I begin it energetically. I see the target in the ravine. Now all my attention to sighting. Bombs away! I felt it before I saw: exact hit.

Perhaps such minor details in the description of this flight are superfluous. But based on my experience of talks with young pilots on how to control oneself

in flight, I also considered it necessary to tell in greater detail about my own feelings in the course of the accomplishment of an important training-combat mission and how I succeed in removing emotional tension here. Or else, you see, some of the younger pilots will not believe that experienced pilots also experience nervousness before a flight.

Meanwhile, nervous tension is a proper psychological phenomenon of any flight. All the more, in a contemporary combat aircraft and, what is more, during attacks from low altitudes and at tremendous speeds from difficult types of maneuver. But then, how a pilot copes with his emotions--success in the accomplishment of a flight mission depends on this to no small degree.

Emotional excitement, if it is insignificant, is not a hindrance in work. Because in such a state the pilot experiences an upsurge in the tone of the entire body; he is cheerful and active. His brain perceives and reprocesses more information in a minimum time than in a relaxed state. But if the tension becomes close to the limit, it has a negative effect on the pilot's efficiency, disrupts the logic and clarity of thought, and reduces speed of reaction and precision in actions. Excessive nervous tension may arise with the accomplishment of the most important and difficult missions, as a rule, not long before the culmination moment of the flight: opening fire, dropping bombs, launching missiles. But sometimes its signs are manifested even earlier.

Most often, young pilots experience excessive emotional stress. One of the main reasons for their nervous overexcitement is the swift change in impressions and increasing danger--lest you make a mistake, don't lose the moment, discipline of thinking and actions is insufficiently developed. The pilot seems mentally to outstrip the flight dynamics. Suddenly imagining himself in a difficult psychological situation, he becomes agitated. Of course, this also happens with an experienced pilot, but he is able to extinguish the wave of emotional excitement by will power or by switching his attention to another object.

How can a young aviator be taught to control his nerves in flight, if it can be expressed in this way, and regulate the state of his mind in order to retain a high level of efficiency? For the process of training and indoctrinating the aviators is directed toward raising their volitional stability. For example, the methodological council of our unit regularly discusses questions of the psychological tempering of the flying youth in various aspects. Effective recommendations have been worked out and have been introduced into the practice of combat training. Thus, with consideration of the latest recommendations of the aviation psychologists as well as the practical experience of commanders, the most rational sequence for distributing the pilot's attention when accomplishing the most difficult exercises has been determined.

It was already noted long ago: deep knowledge of the basic flight disciplines--aviation engineering, aerodynamics, and tactics-- raise considerably the psychological stability of the young pilot. Integrated drill is also aimed directly at having the pilots improve their knowledge simultaneously with

working out practical skills. Let us say that the commander selected the fuel system as the subject of the lessons. During preliminary preparation, his subordinates check themselves on the hardstand to see how they remember the location of the fuel assemblies and the procedure for their inspection, refine the sequence and technology in refuelling the tanks, and they simulate the actions in special flight situations.

But, of course, the basic role in the tempering of the young pilot's volitional qualities is allotted to practical training in the air and his independent actions. And the most important examination in checking psychological stability is the tactical flight exercise, especially in coordination with ground force subunits where the tactical situation is made as close as possible to an actual combat situation. A flight at maximum range may also become good psychological training. I recall when Lieutenants V. Kumpon, A. Medvedskiy, and A. Silkin accomplished a long en route flight over unpopulated mountain-taiga terrain with a landing on an unfamiliar airfield. They landed with the minimum necessary reserve of fuel in the tanks. To my question of what feeling they experience after such a flight, the lieutenants answered without talking things over:

"A feeling of confidence in our strength."

However, not everyone withstood this test successfully. How strange it is at first glance, failure befell an experienced pilot, Captain V. Vasilenko: he rolled beyond the limits of the landing strip. He had to land on wet concreting. The effectiveness of braking was reduced; the pilot did not consider this, became confused, and delayed in releasing the parachute. It was not chance which let him down. Relying on his experience, the captain did not pay enough attention psychologically to preparations for the flight.

In a difficult situation, less emotional stress is experienced by a pilot who is accustomed to acting independently, with initiative. And the instilling of these qualities depends in considerable measure on the pedagogical and methodological skill of the instructor. Lieutenants whom I know do not hide the fact that they like to fly with the instructor Major A. Sveshnikov. He is strict and exacting. But he talks about the rough spots only after landing. In the air he is silent and patiently observes, not interfering in the control of the aircraft without necessity. Not like another instructor who pilots the aircraft more than the trainee. With such a methodological style, the young pilot will not strengthen his wings soon. But Sveshnikov's disciples are distinguished by their flight "handwriting."

In my opinion, the conditions for the aviators to display independence must be created while still preparing for flight. For example, the commander determined the volume of preflight work, the time for its accomplishment, and lets the subordinate work without tutelage. Then it is important to check each one's preparations deeply and comprehensively and to disclose and help to eliminate obscurities. Rigid regulation trains the officer to function on orders and, in the final analysis, leads to constraint in flight.

The instilling of strong volitional qualities in the pilots must be the constant concern of commanders, political officers, and party activists. This contributes to the timely putting of the young pilots into formation, each of whom is striving to become a master of the sky and a skillful and valiant defender of the Fatherland's aerial boundaries.

6367

CSO: 1801

CASE OF OFFICER ARRESTED FOR DRUNKENNESS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 77 p 4

[Article by Lt Col V. Filatov: "Now There's a Case"]

[Excerpts] There is an officer section in each guardhouse. I have had the occasion to see guardhouses where these sections are empty for years. In Voronezh, for example, the commandant testified:

"These 'rooms' of ours have not been occupied for ages."

Then I fell to thinking a little more--the officer sections of garrison guardhouses have now become something like a symbol of punishment. I saw those cells with the cots raised up to the walls....

At this garrison guardhouse, the cell for junior officers turned out to be occupied. As followed from the record of arrest, Lieutenant O. Padyash "resided" in it. In a column of the report, "Reason for arrest," it was stated briefly: "For drunkenness."

The chief of the guardhouse, Major A. Mochalov, explained:

"A binge--it is always a full bouquet," and he defined it more exactly: "Latenesses, and even absences from service. 'The use of alcoholic drinks turns a person into a beast and brutalizes him,'" the major quoted Dostoyevskiy.

The "master" of the room, as Major Mochalov had said, was not quite normal: Observing the regulation, he appealed to the chief of the guardhouse with an urgent request--to permit him not to go out into the yard for a walk....

The lieutenant stood with his hands behind him, without a necktie--that's the procedure, an arrestee is not allowed to have a necktie. Two small holes could be seen on his officer's double-breasted jacket--the trace of two badges. One--about completion of school, the other--a sportsman's rating. He removed the badges himself. I asked: "Why?" He answered: "Because," and he then looked aside. Several times, the lieutenant involuntarily shrugged his shoulders--there was something unusual in the combination of this room and the uniform of its inhabitant. The lieutenant evidently also felt this.

And the reason for the lieutenant's petition to the chief of the guardhouse was the following: two days later, after being settled here, through the window he saw a soldier without a belt. The soldier was walking about the yard. A soldier is not allowed to have a belt here. He looked closely and recognized the soldier as his subordinate, Private Savel'yev. He recalled with haste how he had requested the regimental commander, when the latter signed the arrest report, not to inform the platoon where he would be these days and nights. The commander then sat sullenly, as if he was about to sign the order for his own arrest and not Padyash's arrest. But at that moment, Padyash did not delve especially into the spiritual state of the commander; the main thing was that the platoon not know where he would be these days. Now, the condition of the regimental commander was seen differently by Padyash, not like it was then.

Apparently, the lieutenant stuck to the window, stood rigidly, and felt how something illogical and incomprehensible is being accomplished. Apparently, just now he had just begun to realize with all distinctness where he is and what had befallen him. He saw himself as if from aside, and the words about commanders, about honor, and about officer's honor surfaced.... He had heard these, as it seemed to him, usual words many times earlier--in the school, and later in the regiment, and he never pondered over them especially, never reflected on their meaning. Words--that's all. But now, watching his soldier cut across the guardhouse yard, he felt that these words suddenly began to become filled, come to life, and approach from all directions. It even came to his mind that, perhaps, besides the honor of an officer there is nothing else in the code of his profession. Isn't everything else a derivative of this?...

The officers' court of honor. It may take place in a club, with the people, with a great number of ardent speakers. It may probably also begin without the people, and not in a club, and there will be only a single speaker--you yourself, one against himself: the internal, merciless officers' court of honor. Something like this probably occurred with Padyash, because at that very moment for the first time he had an acute feeling of how heavily and with what unbelievable moral force of responsibility the ever so light shoulder boards press on his shoulders all in all.

"Of course," said the chief of the guardhouse, "we try to see that the officer and his soldier do not meet. It is not the place for joint walks. But really, as they say, won't murder out?"

Let us assume that the lieutenant could avoid meeting the soldier in the guardhouse. Let us assume it. But a different meeting awaited Padyash in the guardhouse, one which he could in no way avoid. The chief of the guardhouse was summoned to the KPP [check point]. He arrived there and there were the lieutenant's mother and father. They travelled to the regiment where their son serves, travelled to see each other, to stay for a while, travelled from afar. But in the regiment, they were forced to say where their son was. And so they are here.

The mother cried quiet, shy tears. The father kept control of himself, covering his embarrassment and bitterness with an angry look. The ribbons of orders shined in several rows on the father's jacket. It was awkward for the major to stand before these people, to talk with them about their son, and explain that he cannot permit a meeting with their son, that only the military commandant of the city can permit this, and that they have to appeal to him. Rain began to drizzle, and everyone felt even more out of sorts. Looking after the departing couple, the major thought in a fit of temper: "The devil take such sons...."

The lieutenant's father and mother arrived again, but this time with permission for the meeting. The major escorted them into the room where the lieutenant was. As soon as they saw their son standing with his head lowered, the father and mother immediately sat down on stools which had been prudently moved up by the major. The son shifted from one leg to another and did not know what to do with his hands. The parents looked at their son with sorrowful eyes, as if they could not recognize him as their own at once. The father was the first to begin to speak:

"You are managing your service well...."

Right here, the mother tried to say something:

"It's O.K. that now...."

But the father did not allow himself to be interrupted, and continued:

"I served for 30 years, changed garrisons five times, and in not one of them did I know where the guardhouse is. Thank you--you showed me...."

The major left quietly, leaving the parents alone with their son.

And two hours later, the major accompanied the two elderly people to the KPP. He walked with them, and it seemed to him that they had both aged a little more during these two hours of the visit. They walked across the yard slowly, and the husband suddenly flew into a rage at his wife:

"It's all your fault, you spoiled him. You gave him all the money he wanted. And you didn't teach him what he should have learned. And everything--for a little brandy...."

The major understood that this conversation between the husband and wife did not begin now and not today but nevertheless, thought the major, this conversation is very late. It should have taken place earlier when the son, as they say, could have been laid across the bed. Were they late? Or is there still time?

I talked with the lieutenant. He tried to keep up his spirits, then hardened in some of his thoughts and rubbed his temples with his fingers. All his life,

a person reflects on the very same thing one way or another: who is he? And more rarely, probably, on: why am I like this? And probably, even more rarely: what do I want in this life? The lieutenant thought: what is he now, what is he now in general? He tried in every way to find and understand where things went awry with him, where he went wrong. He recalled those days, those meetings, those associates with whom all this began.... And each time, he was forced to recognize--on each of those days, in each of those meetings, with each of those associates he made a concession to himself.

In a conversation, the lieutenant remembered the friends with whom he allegedly could not refrain from associating, it having become a rule to mark in succession: just whose birthday, the anniversary of whose weddings, whose next military ranks, so-called "send-offs"--this is when someone takes off on leave or for a new place of service, on detached service, or for hunting respectively, and "welcomings." Someone participated in all this from event to event. Padyash was a constant participant. Did he like it? He enjoyed himself and really, how could he refuse--for didn't they invite him with all their heart? They invite him from the bottom of their hearts, it is true, but he could refuse with all his mental strength. This did not happen with Padyash.

Each one has his inclined path. But there is also much in common. For example, the reaction of associates to drunkenness. It is always negative. Padyash saw this and felt it himself more than once, but he did not want to bind his age-long "I want." Weak will? Possibly....

People are not born bad--they become bad. Especially when the matter concerns drinking bouts. Friedrich Engels saw as one of the reasons for the spread of alcoholism the overall accessibility of alcoholic drinks. This factor also operates under our conditions. But really, can the general availability of something be the reason for one's fall? He gave into himself and he gave in to his weakness. The lieutenant had time to reflect on the past, the present, and the future.

On Sunday morning, the chief of the guardhouse was informed that the arrestee Padyash was awake all night, walked about his cell and, in short, did not close his eyes. The major displayed no special concern at this report but only noted:

"Aha, that means that he is reflecting. This is good. That is why they sent him here...."

And Sunday flared up outside the window.... The door to the office opened, a sergeant entered, and jerked his hand to his garrison cap:

"Comrade major, Private Savel'yev requests that you release him from walks today. He requests that you permit him not to leave his cell at all today. Until Monday," the sergeant added.

"What is this? Why?" the major was astonished. Never before had a soldier refused a Sunday walk in the guardhouse.

"He has his reason," answered the sergeant, this time not in the tone of a report. "This soldier's platoon commander is also in the guardhouse. So he, that is Savel'yev, is embarrassed. What shall we do, comrade major?..."

6367

CSO: 1801

COMBAT TRAINING RESULTS IN THE TRANSCAUCASIAN MILITARY DISTRICT

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant-General A. Overchuk, member of the military council and head of the political administration of the Red Banner Transcaucasian Military District: "A Living, Creative Act"]

[Text] This year will be remembered as a special one. It will be remembered that way because it has all been dedicated to the celebrated anniversary of the Great October. Because it was the time during which occurred a truly historic event--the nation-wide discussion, and then adoption, of a new constitution for the country.

I believe that I will not be mistaken if I say that the most indicative patriotic effort of our service personnel to show themselves at their best at such an important time has been embodied in socialist competition, in the struggle to fulfill the obligations assumed in honor of the great anniversary.

I recall a recent motorized rifle regiment exercise. Throughout the entire exercise there reigned a high level of military spirit. It was clear that even under these difficult conditions, with the situation rapidly changing, competition did not slacken; commanders and political cadre, party and Komsomol activists devoted much attention to the organization of military competition between individuals and collectives; and all aspects of the combat training were imbued with a competitive spirit.

In this regiment, which, by the results of its training year, won the right to be named the best in the district, questions dealing with socialist competition are always at the focus of attention. But they are not "at the focus" as they are in the case of some: if the word "competition" appears in the proto-

cols of party bureaus and meetings with some frequency, that is well enough. It is possible, after all, to say much, but in fact only mark time. One can declare that competition is a living, creative process, but approach it unimaginatively and unenthusiastically in practice. He can call for "strengthening" and "improvement" but at the same time be unable to devise a program of specific measures to achieve these ends and bring it to completion. None of this was the case in the regiment I mentioned. There the fire of competition was constantly maintained by the painstaking labors of the commanders, political cadre, and party organizations.

Upon the conclusion of the winter training period, for example, the commander and the party committee set themselves the following goal: to subject the system of organizing competition which had been developed in the unit (chast') to searching analysis. A number of instructive points were discovered. When they compared the organization of competition in two battalions (one commanded by Captain V. Sakovskiy, the other by Captain V. Shmyrin) it was found that in the battalion commanded by Captain V. Shmyrin only numerical values were considered to be of paramount importance--how many more excellent-rated subunits (podrazdeleniye), rated specialists, "excellent" ratings in training....

Concrete results are, of course, the sum total of the efforts involved. In this case, however, there is one "but" of no small importance. Figures can be "adjusted", as they say, at the expense of quality. If, for example, a tankman knows all initial data before firing, the weight of his "excellent" rating will be considerably reduced. And he himself feels no complete satisfaction; the highest mark does not serve as a moral stimulus for him. The competitive spirit naturally declines under these circumstances. But the most important point is that we are faced with a paradox here: while there may be many "excellent" ratings and rated specialists, the skill level of some of them does not measure up to the requirements imposed.

Something like this happened in that battalion.

An entirely different picture was to be observed in the case of their competitors. The figures representing obligations assumed were approximately the same. But they appeared not as ends in themselves, rather as results. In the obligations it said: "Under conditions as nearly approximating a combat situation as possible, struggle to destroy the target with the first round, the first salvo, and on this basis achieve an increase in the number of "excellent" ratings and highly-rated specialists."

All this was discussed at a meeting of the party committee. As a result of the discussion the question of the reserves of competition was seriously posed to all its organizers, and practical experience in the battalion commanded by Captain Sakovskiy was generalized. This experience was studied and adopted as a model in all subunits.

The operational style of this party organization provides a lesson for those leaders who consider competition something in the way of an additional burden. The task of communists is persistently to affirm a different idea: competition is an integral component part of the training process and educational work; it stimulates the troops' military activity; and it opens the door to new possibilities for increasing their combat skills and improving their personal development. It requires constant attention and a creative turn of mind.

Socialist competition during the anniversary year has been closely interwoven with the patriotic movement for a better large unit (soyedineniye). The inculcation in the troops of a sense of pride in the collective's successes and of a heightened perception of their "I" as a part of the collective has produced a perceptible concrete return.

This is clearly seen, for example, in the experience of the Sivashsko-Shtettinskaya Motorized Rifle Division, holder of the Order of Lenin, the Order of Suvorov and the Order of the Red Banner of Labor, twice awarded the Order of the Red Banner, and commanded by Colonel I. Popov. The division has a museum dedicated to the glory of its military past. A soldier takes his first steps as he studies the photographs of those who stormed Perekop under the division's battle flag almost 60 years ago. As a veteran of the division, in which I served as a regimental Komsomol organizer during the war years, I had to speak to the troops in this museum. One has to see the eyes of yesterday's students in order to understand how necessary this familiarization with history is to them. I recall a gray-eyed soldier who lingered in front of the photograph of Hero of the Soviet Union Grigoriy Kagamlyk, reading the inscription the latter had written on his Komsomol card: "I may die, but I will not retreat one step. I swear by my blood."

A little later I asked the soldier, "What were you thinking about back there in the museum?"

He could not think of an answer right away. Then he said, "It is impossible to serve poorly in this division...."

It was a brief reply, but it said a lot. In matters such as preparing personnel for inspired efforts, everything is important: contact with the heroic past; meetings with the leading specialists of the large unit and unit; and a first visit to the tank park, where these specialists demonstrate the strength and power of the military equipment. Only the complex of educational measures taken as a whole will produce the desired result.

In the arsenal of party-political work there are many forms contributing to the development of socialist competition and affecting the formation of the position a person will occupy in his active life. It happens, however, that the traditional nature of these forms develops into a stultifying conventional-ity, which, of course, reduces their effectiveness. It is necessary to keep this in mind at all times.

Preparations for our country's anniversary and the charge of inspiration for labor built up in the course of discussions of the draft of the basic law have given a fillip to creativity and the search for ways to stimulate competition and increase the vigor of participation. One time the new duty day in this motorized rifle regiment opened with words broadcast throughout the entire post via the radio loudspeaker: "The banner of the victor in competition is raised in honor of personnel of the company commanded by Lieutenant V. Brailyan. 'Excellent' ratings were achieved in this company yesterday by"

The banner had been raised earlier. But this act had been attended by great publicity, and it acquired thereby additional force.

Honor is always accorded those who turn in leading performances. Their names are mentioned in reports and speeches, in unit orders, in local radio broadcasts, and printed up for display on visual propaganda stands. And an unusual evening's entertainment was organized in one of the regimental clubs. Those entering the hall immediately turned their attention toward a red cloth hung above the head table. On it was written: "Military greetings to personnel of the first company and its commander, Senior Lieutenant V. Chuprikov!" Behind the table, together with the unit commander and his deputy commanders, sat company officers, party and Komsomol activists, the first sergeant, and the leading company specialists. This was an evening in honor of winners in socialist competition, as well as an instructive story of their labors, thanks to which they achieved victory.

To increase the effectiveness of competition means to conduct it in a creative, well-thought-out manner; to permit no for-

malism, the worst enemy of any undertaking. Dull routine, red tape, a superficial approach to any aspect of this work, from the assumption of obligations to the summing up of the results, reduce the opportunities we have of increasing combat readiness. However, a rigorous attitude toward competition invariably leads to the discovery of new potential available there. And to create a climate of rigorousness and exactingness within the collective is the duty of the party organizations.

Before us lie new goals to attain, new tasks to accomplish. Such is the dialectic of life. The district's party organizations see their duty to consist of assuring that every military collective act as a bearer of a high level of political consciousness, discipline, and organization, this being a guarantee of further increasing the combat readiness of units and subunits. Contributing to the performance of this duty are the accumulated experience of organizing competition and the inspiration sparked in Transcaucasian troops by the new Constitution of the USSR and preparations for the anniversary of the Great October.

8963
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OFFICER SEEKS PAY FOR UNAUTHORIZED SERVICE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Oct 77 p 4

[Article by Colonel A. Drovosekov: "There Are No Bases..."]

[Text] When he returned to his unit from leave in February of this year, Captain M. V. Obmetko found that several days had already passed since the arrival from Moscow of a copy of orders transferring him to the reserves on account of his age. This news came as no surprise to Mikhail Vasil'yevich, and he reported to the commander his readiness immediately to begin the transfer of duties. But first, it was not clear who Comrade Obmetko's successor would be, and then the commander was very busy and did not occupy himself immediately with the clothing and equipment service.

But the day now came to begin the transfer of duties. Things proceeded with difficulty because various problems arose which required practical solutions. By the time Comrade Obmetko actually turned over his authority, spring had already succeeded winter. This produced a vague feeling of alarm in the unit (chast') commander, Major V. Labyshev. He realized that he had done nothing, although he should have acted long ago. Having thought of it, he remembered, and immediately issued the following order: as of this 19th day of May, 1977, Captain M. Obmetko is to be struck from the unit roster but to retain all allowances.

When he acquainted himself with the order, Comrade Obmetko added 15 to 4 (he returned from leave 4 February plus 15 days allowed for the transfer of duties). It turned out that he should have been struck from the roster on 19 February. But since he had to remain on the roster and perform his duties until 19 May, he should be allowed pay for this period, in which regard he dropped a hint to the commander.

Major Labushev did not take the hint. Convinced that there was no mutual understanding to be relied on in the future as well, Comrade Obmetko addressed a written complaint to the judge advocate of the Far East Military District. It was directed thence to the garrison judge advocate, who sent Mikhail Vasil'yevich an encouraging letter. It declared that his unit commander's superior had directed the former to pay Comrade Obmetko what was due him for the period of his service in the unit from 20 February to 19 May.

Heartened by this news, Mikhail Vasil'yevich presented himself at his unit. No pay was forthcoming, however; and he wrote another letter to the district judge advocate. Upon further reflection, he addressed another complaint to the Central Finance Administration of the Ministry of Defense of the USSR. Here his complaint was taken over, the district finance department having been required to make the most thorough verification of its authenticity, regarding all of which it informed Comrade Obmetko.

Mikhail Vasil'yevich began his wait. And he waited. In a letter of 25 August of this year Colonel V. Yarosh of the Quartermaster Service reported that as a result of his, Obmetko's, complaints to the DVO /Far East Military District/ judge advocate and the Central Finance Administration of MO SSSR /Ministry of Defense of the USSR/, the unit commander, Major Labushev, had rescinded his order of 19 May with an order of 22 August, which he "struck you from the unit roster as of 19 February 1977. There are no bases for paying you for the period 20 February to 19 May 1977."

Yes, this was truly a decision based on the "wisdom of Solomon." The rescission of the first order meant, first, that Comrade Obmetko had been transferred at the time specified by the regulation involved and no instance of nonobservance on the part of the unit commander was allowed in this instance. In the second place, Comrade Obmetko had performed no duties after 19 February, indeed could not perform any since he had been struck from the unit roster on 19 February. From this it followed that there could be no question of pay for the period 20 February to 19 May. It was a matter of his pension alone, authorized from 20 February.

After explaining all these things, Comrade Obmetko turned to the editors with the question: is this really right? It was not I myself who could keep me on duty longer than the regulation period!

That's true, he couldn't. But his superiors did not have the right to do this either. Not under any circumstances. They should have known this.

There is also no doubt that Comrade Yarosh who heads the finance department knows the current procedure for transferring officers to the reserves. But for some reason he too believed that by rescinding one order and issuing another he could eliminate the problem.

But that is not so! Was there permitted an instance of nonobservance of the current regulation governing the transfer of officers to the reserves which violated the interests of Comrade Obmetko? There was. So, there are some guilty ones in this case. They should be held legally accountable for what they have done, with no time wasted on involved pro forma paper communications.

I don't believe there are any bases for objecting to that.

8963

CSO: 1801

AIRBORNE COMPANY ALPINE TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 77 p 1

[Article by Senior Guards Lieutenant A. Oleynik of the Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District: "Two Summits"]

[Text] They were standing silently before the vertical cliff gazing upward toward the summit. There, even in the twilight, shone the snow-covered dome of the summit, appearing as a broadly rounded brow rising against the deep blue of the Caucasian sky.

"It looks like a parachute canopy," remarked Guards Lieutenant Yuriy Monakhov.

"It does," agreed the company commander.

He was thinking about how they had saved a day by going straight for the summit, a plan which at dawn looks like it will present the most difficult problem, the storming of this cliff. And here are his subordinates formed up abreast, mature and stalwart to a man, as if presenting themselves for selection. The night before the deputy regimental commander for political affairs had told them, "You are heirs of the glorious guards front fighters. You too are referred to as guardsmen. This title requires...."

Now the paratroops stood gazing silently upwards. They knew that the meters and hours were now of special account. The "enemy" was also trying to take the summit, and their assignment was to beat him to the top...."

Have you ever been in the mountains? Not simply on a hike, but in those parts where the only paths are those made by mountain goats? A granite silence pervades these areas. It retreats to cover in the deep gorges when the winds come up. Frequently there are snowstorms there in mid-summer, forming rambling and twisting snowdrifts and covering over the edges and crevices of

the cliffs with a coat of white. It is dangerous in the mountains for people who are unaccustomed to them. One goes a few meters and he is already out of breath, longing to sit down for a rest on a boulder....

The men of the paratroop company commanded by Senior Guards Lieutenant Aleksey Kinzerskiy feel right at home in the mountains.

The paratroops knew how to tie alpine knots and use ice-axes, hooks and other equipment. Under the supervision of their commanders they worked out methods and procedures for various types of belaying and studied safety procedures. They scaled not-so-great heights at first; then they climbed higher and higher in preparation for the assault on the summit.

A paratrooper has not only to jump from various heights and types of aircraft, to shoot accurately, and to know how to throw a knife. He has to be able to move noiselessly along a path and to curb his tongue. He has to know that the crow's call brings rain in the summer and snowstorms in the winter, that an edible kasha can be prepared from pine cones, and that if necessary from a parachute canopy can be made a tent, a blanket, a bed, snares, fishing netting, snowshoes.... And many other useful things. All these things Senior Guards Lieutenant Kinzerskiy has taught his men.

"We will have nobody to rely on in the enemy rear," he said. "We are the first-drop troops. That means that during our exercises we have to prepare ourselves for combat, without regard for ourselves or fear of taking risks."

He drew a line through the mountains designated on the map and then led his men there by steep and talus along a direct route.

By the end of the training year over half of the soldiers in the company had received "excellent" ratings in their combat and political training, while all without exception had become officially-rated sportsmen. Those authorized received a proficiency rating. Those who turned in leading performances in training, such as Guards Sergeant G. Zakharchenko, Guards Junior Sergeants S. Mayorov and V. Nayuk and others mastered three related specialties each, thereby becoming first-ranked alpinists.

The entire company was ready for the assault on the summit. But only 20 men were to make the ascent. After he formed up the company, the commander called out those who had been chosen. They all took three steps forward. Then, after consulting briefly with his deputy of political affairs, Guards Lieutenant V. Golovin, he made his decision: it would be fitting if the

right to make the ascent were given to the platoon that had won the socialist competition for the month. This honor was bestowed on the men under the command of Guards Lieutenant.

Dawn had hardly broken; but the outline of the cliffs was already visible, and the group put on their packs. The commander again was out front. Soon he was feeling with the teeth on his boot for a barely perceptible outcropping on the side of the cliff. A blow with the ice-ax, then another, and another. The points of support were smaller than a soldier's buckle. And the thread-like crevices were totally invisible from below. Kinzerskiy drove in his pitons and then connected them by snap links with a rope. He figured the end of the vertical wall would come about 70 meters above him. Further along, his path ran up along a steep incline. At one point, Kinzerskiy's foot slipped off its support point and went groping along the surface. Then he began to move upward again until he stood on a small spot invisible from below.

He dropped the end of his climbing rope below, and one after the other the paratroops moved up along the route he had tested.

Formed into a chain, they moved farther upwards. Their ascent became steeper and steeper. At some point along one stretch of their route, a rock broke loose from under the foot of one of the paratroopers. Zakharchenko managed to press it into place with his body.

Two hundred, 100, 50 meters still to go along the steep, snow-covered ridge. The last meters are the hardest because one's strength has already reached its limit, while the burden of 50 kilograms weighs down on the shoulders.

These meters were at last traversed.

At 1145 hours a radio message flashed into the ether: "We have taken the summit and are preparing to meet the 'enemy'."

That evening the mountain silence of one of the main peaks in the Malyy Kavkaz was broken for the first time by bursts of machine gun and automatic weapons fire. This was the paratroops fighting their "battle".

Shortly thereafter, the personnel of the company commanded by Senior Guards Lieutenant Aleksey Kinzerskiy conquered yet another summit: they came up with excellent ratings for the final examination process, after having fulfilled the socialist obligations assumed in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October, and won an "excellent" rating for their unit.

BOOK ON PARTY AND ARMY REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 77 p 2

✓Review by Colonel-General N. Nachinkin of the book "Partiya i Armiya", a collection under the general editorship of General of the Army A. A. Yepishev, Izdatel'stvo Politicheskoy Literatury, 1977, 382 pages✓

✓Text✓ The Political Literature publishing house has published the book "Partiya i armiya". It has been written by a group of authors and is devoted to the 60th-anniversary path of the Armed Forces of the USSR and the decisive role of V. I. Lenin and the Communist Party in the creation, construction and strengthening of an army of a new, socialist type. The book analyses the basic decisions the party has made in the field of military affairs and unmasks the reactionary essence of bourgeois and revisionist views, which distort the principles of party leadership of the Armed Forces in a socialist society.

On the basis of extensive documentation the authors convincingly demonstrate the organizational activity of V. I. Lenin and the Communist Party in the creation and strengthening of the military-economic power of our motherland and increasing its defense capability.

V. I. Lenin occupied himself with military questions from the very beginning of his revolutionary activity. N. K. Krupskaya writes in her memoirs, "Il'ich not only read and in the most meticulous manner studied and reflected on everything that Marx and Engels wrote on revolution and the uprising, he also read no small number of books on military art, considering from all sides the technique and organization of the military uprising.

He occupied himself with this subject to a much greater extent than is known."

It is precisely to V. I. Lenin that belongs the historical credit for establishing a theoretical basis for and elaborating the military program which has always been a component part of the general party program of the Communist Party and consists of a collection of theses which guide its policy in the area of military affairs.

Following the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the party was faced with the problem of building up the armed forces of the socialist state. This was an entirely new problem. The authors provide a detailed analysis of the principles elaborated by V. I. Lenin governing the construction of the armed forces of the proletarian state, which at that time found itself within a capitalist encirclement. V. I. Lenin established the objective necessity for the creation of a revolutionary, class-conscious, standing army for the defense of the socialist state. The nucleus of this army could be only the armed proletariat, strong in its ideals, discipline, organization, and heroism. These theses became an integral part of the decisions of the 8th Congress of the RKP (b) [Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks)], which declared:

"The revolutionary character of the army is determined above all by the character of the Soviet regime which is creating this army, assigns it its goals, and turns it thereby into its own weapon. On the other hand, the conformity of this weapon to the Soviet regime is achieved by the class composition of the bulk of its fighting men, the organization of commissars and communist cells, and, finally, by the general party and Soviet guidance of the life and activity of the army."

The authors of the book show how after the victory of the October Revolution V. I. Lenin and the party began work on the theoretical and practical elaboration of questions of methods and forms for building up the army, its structure, methods of political and military leadership, the establishment of a party-political apparatus and party organizations, and of material-technical support.

Completion of the construction of a regular army was the greatest victory of the Leninist party, thanks to which the Soviet people were able to defend their country in the struggle against internal counterrevolution and foreign aggressors.

The book convincingly shows that as the party began its work on the Leninist plan for the building of socialism after the civil war, it did not forget about the threat from the direction of international imperialism. An entire system of measures was developed for converting the armed forces to a peacetime footing. The basis of these measures remained the regular army, with an

improved troop organizational structure and technical provisioning, one-man command, and a definite structure of political organs and party and Komsomol organizations.

"Our party foresaw the possibility of a military clash with the forces of imperialism and prepared the country and its people for defense," declared L. I. Brezhnev. "The social and economic conquests of the pre-war five-year plans and the political-ideological unity of Soviet society which had been forged in the course of building socialism laid the foundations for the victory gained by our people in the Great Patriotic War."

The book provides a comprehensive treatment of the heroic activity of the Communist Party in the grim years of the Great Patriotic War. This was one of the most difficult trials ever experienced by our motherland. This war decided the fate of the first socialist state in the world and the future of world civilization, progress and democracy.

Armed with Lenin's teachings concerning defense of the socialist state, the party carried on a titanic work. It created a unified military-political leadership, transformed the country into a single armed camp, supplied the army with provisions and the latest in weapons and equipment, strengthened the party forces and military cadre, armed them with the most advanced military art, and raised the army's strength to unprecedented heights.

The Soviet people and its Armed Forces, educated by the party of Lenin, demonstrated mass-scale heroism both at the front and in the rear.

The Armed Forces not only saved the socialist state and destroyed the hated enemy, but it also made a decisive contribution to the salvation of world civilization from the fascist barbarians. The outcome of the Great Patriotic War demonstrated once again that there are no forces in the world which can defeat a people devoted to its socialist motherland and solidly united around its Leninist party.

The book examines in detail the present-day stage of military construction and emphasizes our party's concern for the implementation of Lenin's precepts regarding the defense of the socialist state. The Communist Party, as the guiding and directing force in Soviet society, has done much to maintain the country's Armed Forces at a high level in the future as well, so that Soviet fighting men will always have the latest weapons, which the imperialists will find it impossible to anticipate. Concern for the Armed Forces pervades chapter 5 of the new Constitution of the USSR, which declares that the government insures the country's security and defense capability and provides the Armed Forces of the USSR with all necessities.

In its creative implementation of Lenin's military-theoretical legacy and its provisioning of the armed forces with the latest weapons and equipment, the party always assigns the decisive role to people and devotes much attention to the political and military education of members of the Armed Forces. It is constantly concerned with increasing the effectiveness of the work of political organs and the army party organizations and with increasing their influence on all aspects of military life.

The book presents a detailed study of a whole range of issues dealing with the construction of the post-war armed forces and the strengthening of international ties with the armies of the fraternal socialist countries. It thoroughly demonstrates that the guiding and directing force in the armed forces, as well as of the entire Soviet people, is the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In this consists the regular and unshakable principle of military construction.

The collection "Party and Army" will be received with satisfaction by commanders, political workers, and party activists in the Armed Forces. It will be of good service in the Marxist-Leninist education of our cadre and help them master more thoroughly the theoretical military legacy of the great Lenin.

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CSO: 1801

DISCUSSION OF VIOLATIONS NOTED DURING VEHICLE SPOT CHECKS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Colonel N. Kuznetsov, deputy chief of the motor transportation service of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Our Common Concern"]

[Text] The military automobile inspector on duty, WO (praporshchik) R. Gibadullin, stopped an automobile for inspection. He soon reported to the senior man in the vehicle, Lieutenant Colonel L. Taranov, that it was not ready for its trip and, in addition, that the travel documents had not been made out and the driver was out of uniform. According to his instructions, the vehicle was subject to removal from operation.

However, instead of requiring that the driver eliminate the irregularities which had been noted, he sent the unrepaired vehicle on its assigned patrol. And he decided...to arrest the warrant officer.

Garrison authorities, of course, rescinded the order which had been issued by Lieutenant Taranov. It was sternly pointed out to him that such actions were inadmissible.

Such incidents are unfortunately not infrequent in our district. Comparatively recently, for example, Major N. Khmarskiy did not permit a VAI [Military Automobile Inspectorate] inspector on duty, WO A. Nasyrov, to inspect the technical condition of the automobile or the travel documents of the driver. It also happens that some unit (chast') and subunit (podrazdeleniye) commanders fail to investigate thoroughly the reasons for the detention of motor vehicles in their command and begin to accuse VAI personnel, who, they say, are interfering with the accomplishment of important and critical tasks.

If we analyze the actual state of affairs, the following picture presents itself. Approximately half of all detained vehicles were sent to the "penalty" area as a result of technical malfunctions or because they were incompletely equipped. Almost 25 percent of them were there as a result of improperly made out travel documents. More than 10 percent were sent there because of traffic violations. As can be seen, the reason for the hold up of motor vehicles is not any prejudice on the part of VAI personnel, but rather the violation of elementary rules governing vehicle operation. We cannot know how many trips would end were they not interrupted by vigilant and principled inspectors.

The Tashkent garrison VAI prepares monthly activity reports in which it analyzes and systematizes cases of motor vehicle violations. Its analysis indicates that most of the detained vehicles usually belong to certain subunits. Among the "leaders," incidentally, is to be found the unit in which Lieutenant Taranov serves. It appears that the commanders and party organizations of this and other units, on whose account are no small number of motor vehicle accidents, should occupy themselves in the most serious way with improving their maintenance service and the training of their drivers and other personnel.

As a rule, our vehicle inspectors are nonstaff personnel who often perform their by no means easy on-the-road duties on their own time. No small number of gross violations have been spotted on the roads by Lieutenant Colonel L. Shcherbina, Major B. Kotrovskiy, Warrant Officers A. Karpenko, L. Vasil'yev and other comrades who occupy positions of great authority in their units and subunits. The board of military experts also operates on the voluntary service principle. Its activities are effective. It not only prepares instructive critiques of motor vehicle accidents, but also works actively to prevent them. Members of the board participate in organizing and conducting garrison technical conferences and other activities.

There are also praiseworthy responses in the garrison to requirements imposed by VAI personnel. The majority of subunit commanders respond properly to their recommendations, thoroughly analyze the reasons for each case of motor vehicle detention, draw the necessary conclusions, and take the urgent measures required to eliminate deficiencies. So all the more difficult to understand is the arrogance of some personnel. It is not becoming to military servicemen. Particularly in this case. For traffic safety is our common concern.

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TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN OUTSTANDING COMBAT UNITS

Aviation Squadron Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col O. Popov, Red Banner Kiev Military District: "Masters on Missile Carriers"]

[Text] "First-class crews for contemporary missile carriers." The aviators of the squadron commanded by Captain N. Kiryusha competed under this slogan for a further improvement in the aerial training in the jubilee year.

Among the aviation units and subunits of our district, this military collective rightly occupies the place of the leader. The squadron's aviators, inspired by the adoption of the Basic Law by the special seventh session of the Supreme Soviet USSR, are moving ahead of the competitors for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the Great October. The struggle for a high rating qualification was especially heated in the pre-jubilee competition.

Its special feature was that comparatively young pilots poured into the collective at the end of last year. Their knowledge was fresh but they did not have enough experience in the accomplishment of the most difficult combat-training missions. What reserves were found in the squadron to put the young aerial fighters "on the wing?"

First of all, a special training plan was prepared for each of them. It provided for a strict sequence in moving from simple exercises to more difficult ones and distributed these pilots among flights headed by the most experienced methodologists.

Intensification of the entire training process was high. Senior Lieutenant V. Dolgova, for example, at first could not handle bombing from horizontal flight. During preliminary training, the commander drilled him in sighting and in holding to parameters at the moment that the bombs were dropped.

And here, Senior Lieutenant A. Arndt had a different problem. He lost the leader on difficult types of maneuver. How could the pilot avoid this error? Major A. Kravchenko, master of combat employment, worked with him. By means of projections on the canopy glass he showed the place of the leader when accomplishing various figures and on steep maneuvers, and the matter was put right for the wingman.

In preparing the flight planning table the commanders tried to see that pilots with the same level of training could fly on the accomplishment of exercises of the same type. This was for the best comparability of results in the competition. Recorder tapes were also used for this. But the further the pilots' skill grew, the more difficult it became to determine first place. There were days when all the pilots brought only excellent grades from the range. But you see, other aspects of the competition were taken into consideration--moral. The one who helped his comrades to rise to his level and was distinguished by a high level of discipline and a high style of behavior was named the leader.

The organization of the competition among the technical engineering personnel was also well thought out. Senior Lieutenant M. Saburov, who stepped forth with the initiative of training a first-class crew for each missile carrier, took a most active part in organizing a permanently operating technical seminar for the young aviation specialists. This helped its participants to master a high style in servicing the aircraft and to acquire an allied specialty. The quality with which the equipment was prepared increased noticeably. This contributed to the situation where the squadron, just as during several preceding years, is flying without accidents and, this year, without the preconditions for them.

The aviators had to accomplish difficult missions. In return, how pleasant it was to sum up the results of the jubilee year! All the pilots of the squadron became masters of combat employment, and all technicians as well as mechanics in the second year of service received a first-class rating. On the concluding check, the pilots demonstrated ability worthy of genuine aces. The squadron was declared outstanding.

Taman' Motorized Infantry Division Training

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Gds Col G. Lobachev, commander of Guards Motorized Rifle Taman' Red Banner, Order of Suvorov Division imeni M. I. Kalinina: "For the Foremost Large Unit"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] The movement for the title of foremost large unit enriched the content of socialist competition and increased its effectiveness. This is shown convincingly by the results of the jubilee training year in the Guards Motorized Infantry Taman' Division imeni M. I. Kalinin.

/A bright holiday is approaching--the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The men of the Army and Navy, together with the entire Soviet people prepared a worthy greeting for it. In honor of the jubilee, an Army-wide socialist competition was initiated and lofty obligations were assumed. The time has come to sum up the results. Reports of achievements in soldierly labor are arriving from all corners of our immense country, from wherever the guards of the Motherland are standing at their posts.

High words of pride in their belonging to the country of soviets and for the party are being heard these days at meetings and assemblies of the personnel and the party activists and at party meetings. The Soviet servicemen ardently approve the results of the October (1977) Plenum of the Central Committee CPSU, the special seventh session of the Supreme Soviet USSR, the theses and conclusions in the report of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the session, and the new Constitution of the USSR. The experience accumulated in the course of the competition is being analyzed in the units, on ships, and in the subunits. The Soviet servicemen are filled with resolve to capture new positions and selflessly accomplish their constitutional duty for the defense of the socialist Fatherland/.

On these exciting pre-jubilee days the Soviet people are summing up the results of their selfless labor.

The Guards-Tamanites have also inscribed a worthy line in the October report. The division's personnel have completely accomplished the training plans, programs, and the obligations which have been assumed. Two regiments have become outstanding. The remaining subunits of the large unit achieved high results, too. Behind this are the great soldierly labor, inspiration, and selflessness of the men and the ideological and professional growth of the people. The successful accomplishment of difficult combat training missions was furthered by the patriotic enthusiasm caused by the discussion of the draft of the new Constitution of the USSR. Now, the core of party-political work consists of studying the report of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev and the special seventh session of the Supreme Soviet USSR and the Basic Law of the state. The men comprehend more deeply their duty to the people and the social significance of soldierly labor.

For us, the jubilee year occurred under the sign of a struggle for the title of foremost large unit. At the start of the winter training period, the division was visited by member of the Politburo of the Central Committee CPSU and Minister of Defense USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov. Visiting the lessons and talking with soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers [praporshchik], and officers, he advised the Tamanites to set for themselves the goal of moving their large unit up among the leaders in their service of the Armed Forces. Specific directions in the struggle for the title of foremost large unit were discussed in detail at a meeting of the division's party activists. The units and subunits reviewed their socialist obligations and outlined higher positions.

And now the results of the troop collective's many months of labor are known. They can be expressed in figures. But it seems to me that the most important is an index of a different nature. It is the stability of high results in training and competition for the entire year. On any checks and in the course of all check lessons the division's units and subunits went confidently from position to position and accomplished their assigned missions with high quality. I attach special significance to this because the movement for foremost large unit implies first of all ensuring the clarity and strict rhythm in the training process and an objective and principled evaluation of what is attained on each sector. The basis of this movement is the purposeful and consistent work of commanders, the political department, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations which utilize the initiative and patriotic aspirations of the personnel efficiently and thoughtfully.

The movement for foremost large unit stimulated us to the stricter and more objective summing up of the results of the day, week, and month in the subunits and units and the rendering of more effective assistance where it was required. The division staff did not limit itself to the collection of data on the results of exercises or the course of accomplishment of obligations. It was the center where each indicator received a strict evaluation, where they constantly remembered the monitoring functions, persistently sought ways to raise the quality of training, and supported everything new and valuable in the organization of the competition.

I recall the following case. Live firings were taking place in the regiment. In general, their results were not bad. But we turned our attention to the fact that that they were lower in one of the units than in the adjacent units. Why? A group of experienced specialists headed by Guards Major N. Lantsov was created to explain the reasons. Staff personnel visited the regiment on a number of lessons on firing training and disclosed methodological errors. An exchange of experience was organized without delay and a demonstration lesson was organized. The situation changed for the better.

The struggle for foremost large unit contributed to the evening-out, if it can be expressed in this way, of the overall formation and pulling all up to the level of the leaders in other questions, too. For many years, in summing up the results of each stage in the competition we award challenge red banners to the best subunits. In the jubilee year, they were possessed by more companies and batteries than ever before. The change in the winners testifies to the genuine stress in the competition and the lively exchange of experience. The division staff occupied an active position here. We conducted instructive technical and firing conferences, frequently practiced competitions between the best specialists, and improved the nature of service conferences and meetings of officer personnel.

The division's political department delved deeply into the life of the large unit. The search for unused reserves in improving political training, field ability, and ways for the organic combination of training with indoctrination did not stop here. It was namely the members of the political department who were the soul of many useful undertakings. I would allot to them a special

role in the creation of a situation in the party collectives which excluded complacency and stimulated them to go toward new positions each day and seek unused reserves.

The battalion commanded until recently by Guards Major M. Gavrilov (now a student at a military academy) became an example for all. Here, the company under the command of Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Komyak was distinguished by its state of training. The results of the company which the young officer, Guards Lieutenant S. Kapitonov, took under his command were more modest. The youth and inexperience of the commander explained the lagging. The members of the political department helped the battalion commander, his political deputy Guards Senior Lieutenant S. Vodolazskiy, and the party organization to work out another position: no allowances for youth! As a result, the company headed by Guards Lieutenant Kapitonov won the title of "outstanding."

The Taman' guardsmen consider what has been attained as a position on the path toward higher achievements and are already thinking of tomorrow. For successes are strong and stable only where there is no complacency and delusion with the results of their labor and where all life is subordinate to the accomplishment of military duty.

Motorized Infantry Regiment Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Zherybyat'yev, regimental commander, Red Banner Carpathian Military District: "Know and Love Equipment"]

[Text] The personnel of a motorized infantry regiment in the Samaro-Ul'yanovsk, Berdichev, Zheleznoye Division are the initiators of a socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the Great October in the Ground Forces and completely accomplished their obligations.

As is known, the main direction in the pre-jubilee competition was the mastery of new equipment and weapons. It was on this very sector that the motorized infantrymen attained the most weighty successes. On the concluding lessons which were conducted in a situation as close as possible to a combat environment, all companies of the regiment received excellent grades in firing training and vehicle driving and 72 percent of the men increased their rating qualification during the year.

The results of soldierly training can be evaluated differently. They say that since the highest points were obtained on exercises, live firings, and driving it also means that the attained effectiveness of labor is maximum. It remains to generalize the experience and adhere firmly to the track that has already been laid, and on the new stage of the competition success will again be ensured. But should we be guided by these criteria? No, not by these.

An indicator which is considered high today will not satisfy us tomorrow. Such is the objective law of development in military affairs which stimulates us to display high exactingness in evaluating what has been attained.

There are many young officers in the regiment. Ninety-five percent of them were born after the Great Patriotic War and joined the military formation when the units and subunits were already saturated to a sufficient degree with contemporary equipment and weapons. But really, didn't each of us feel the steady increase in the requirements for the technical training of the combined-arms commander? We remember the time when it was considered sufficient for an officer to be able to drive a vehicle and fire from small arms. Today, we wouldn't even call this the technical minimum. And the matter is not only that at the present stage the motorized infantry officer is required to have profound knowledge of extremely complex organizational equipment and armament whose "variety" has increased sharply and of the combat capabilities of attached and supporting means. Today, the organizer of battle must also think in other categories and seek tactical procedures relying on the considerably more powerful and developed material basis of combat operations.

We are evaluating this year's results from such positions. Each officer in the regiment is a rated specialist. Almost 70 percent of the officer personnel have either a master's or first or second class qualification.

The reciprocal influence of equipment and tactics is common knowledge. In my opinion, new equipment and weapons influence training procedure just as strongly. It is they which become the generator to stimulate the continuous search for new, more productive procedures in the organization of lessons and for ways which permit giving subordinates more knowledge and skills per unit of time.

An important reserve is seen in the combination of various training subjects with tactics. This way for intensification of training attracted the attention of officers long ago. Valuable experience has been accumulated in the battalions commanded by Captains V. Kundyukov, I. Boyko, and N. Petruk.

Combination presumes the thoughtful, creative organization of each lesson. How to see that in studying the equipment and weapons and employing them in practice, the personnel constantly feel the breath of battle and overcome the physical and emotional loads which are typical of a combat situation? How to combine questions reliably mastered by the trainees with new ones which are unknown to them and to saturate the lesson with the accomplishment of norms within reasonable limits? These are the problems which the leader of a lesson solves in striving to attain integration.

One day, staff officers from the regiment disclosed serious flaws when checking the quality of lessons in the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Mikhaylov. In a situation which was known ahead of time and was usual for all the subunit personnel hit the targets accurately. It was only necessary to propose a nonstandard version and the effectiveness of the fire dropped sharply.

It became clear: the company officers permit simplifications during training. They did not have sufficient methodological skill or command experience. The staff personnel visited the company on a number of lessons and observed how the training-material base is used, how competition is organized by tasks and norms, and how control over the preparation of lesson plans by platoon commanders and sergeants is accomplished.

In this subunit, we also decided to conduct a demonstration lesson on firing training. Together with officers G. Goroshchenko and I. Boyko, I took part in its preparation. Battalion, company, and platoon commanders were invited. The lesson proved to be dynamic and interesting. Everyone agreed that training time can be utilized better than was done in the company up till now.

Even now we can say that the demonstration lesson in the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Mikhaylov provided its results. On the concluding lesson, all targets were hit by the company personnel with the first round or first burst.

The success in this case is explained by the fact that the staff constantly monitored how the leading methodology is implemented and how training plans, programs, and obligations which have been assumed are accomplished. Such a check was accomplished in each element of the regimental organism.

We have a special work book which is kept by a staff officer, Major N. Kurochkin. Each one who is assigned to monitor the quality of one lesson or another records his conclusions and recommendations in this notebook.

The essence of the matter, of course, is not in the notebook itself. It is only one of the means to see that each of the staff officers looks intently and fixedly into the training process, thinks, and analyzes.

The staff officer is not an observer. He is a person who shares the entire completeness of responsibility with those whom he checks in accordance with their type of service. The requirements imposed on his professional training are high. In this regard, it is more difficult for staff personnel than for subunit officers to master the equipment and weapons and to keep themselves, as they say, in "form" and in a high state of training. All the more respect is merited by the excellent grades which were earned by the majority of the staff officers.

A special word about the political officers and communists. Majors G. Gorelov and Yu. Ivanushkin, Captain L. Pigan, Senior Lieutenant Yu. Pogorelov, Lieutenant V. Chervyak.... I mention these names and see before me people who are able to report the mobilizing word of the party to the masses and stir up their subordinates by personal example. How high the requirements now imposed on the expert of training and how much is being done so that this lofty title is born only by the worthy are well known. So: in the jubilee year 90 percent of the regiment's communists became experts.

In speaking about unused resources to improve professional skill, in particular technical training, I should place in the foreground increased exactingness and commander's demands. In my view, last year some of the officers did not exhaust their capabilities and did not display the proper persistence and zeal. Among them are Captain K. Demchuk, Senior Lieutenant N. Kiselev, and Lieutenant A. Voznyuk. They were criticized many times. But at times, criticism is not enough. It is necessary to create a situation in which deficiencies in command training and a superficial knowledge of equipment's combat capabilities and methods for its use would be perceived by all as an extraordinary event.

Additional resources in technical training are also seen in a more improved training-material base. What has been done in the regiment during the year is not enough. We constantly felt the concern and assistance on the part of division and district staffs. The regiment rationalizers also labored well: Lieutenant S. Yartsev, Warrant Officer [praporshchik] V. Glazkov, and many others.

An important reserve in improving technical training is a further increase in the effectiveness of socialist competition. At the new stage it will also be directed toward the profound study of equipment and weapons, their exemplary care, and skillful use in combat. We are guided by the ardent striving tirelessly to raise the level of constant combat readiness. This is the guarantee that in the forthcoming training year new heights of combat skill will be taken.

Air Regiment Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Oct 77 p 2

[Article by Gds Lt Col G. Shchitov, air regiment commander, first-class military pilot, Southern Group of Forces: "Reserves for Air Training"]

[Text] The initiators of the socialist competition in the Air Force in honor of the Great October's 60th anniversary completed the training year in a worthy manner. They are the men of the Guards Air Red Guards Order of Lenin, twice Red Banner, Order of Kutuzov Regiment imeni 50th anniversary of the USSR. On the concluding check, the aviators demonstrated deep knowledge and a high level of flying, tactical, and firing training. A commission of the General Staff of the Armed Forces USSR assigned the regiment an excellent grade. Two excellent squadrons and an excellent TECh [operational and maintenance unit] have been raised in this military collective and the personnel have reduced the times to bring the subunits to full combat readiness by 10 percent.

The Guards aviators are accomplishing with honor all the obligations which they assumed for the jubilee year. The regimental commander, Guards Lieutenant Colonel G. Shchitov, tells how the men of the unit reached the planned goal.

At the concluding stage of the pre-October socialist competition the pilots, engineers, technicians, and junior specialists perceived with great enthusiasm the adoption of the Constitution of the USSR which reflected the results of our state's six-decade path. We, the defenders of the aerial boundaries of the homeland and the countries of the socialist commonwealth, are imbued even more deeply with a sense of personal responsibility for the constant combat readiness which guarantees the immediate repelling of any aggressor.

Many problems arose for us at the start of the training year. It was necessary to raise the theoretical knowledge of the flight and technical personnel to a higher stage and, on its basis, to master new, more effective methods for the employment of combat equipment. Replacements have poured into the collective. The young aviators did not possess sufficiently firm skills in the technique of piloting and servicing missile carriers. The regiment's communists understood that there was to be a difficult search in the procedure for training the personnel and for new reserves in competition.

The regiment's communists saw one of the ways for attaining a high level of effectiveness in the training process in the study and propagation of leading experience of the best pilots, engineers, and technicians and in its wide introduction into the practice of the remaining specialists. The base for this was provided by the squadron commanded by Guards Lieutenant Colonel G. Sobko. This collective moved ahead of the competitors. Here, flight missions were accomplished only with a high grade. There were no equipment failures. Much in these successes depended on the commander, the skillful organizer of the competition. We also tried to spread his experience among the subunit commanders.

And there is much to be learned from Guards Lieutenant Colonel G. Sobko. He is a first-class pilot and skillful methodologist and the regiment's best leader of an officers' Marxist-Leninist theory group which, by the way, received an excellent grade on the concluding check. Operating in close contact with his deputy for political affairs and the secretary of the party bureau, he succeeded in rallying the people and directing them toward the accomplishment of missions of primary importance. Individual work is also well organized here. Here is one of its features. In Guards Captain A. Tovstoluzhskiy's flight, at first not everything went well with flight training. The leaders, Guards Senior Lieutenants S. Makhonin and A. Tikhonov, were poorly trained in combat maneuvering. The squadron commander and the flight commander worked thoroughly with these pilots. They thoroughly worked out all flight details with them. The competition between officers Tikhonov and Manokhin for quality in accomplishing takeoff, landing, and hops to the range played no small role in the most rapid overcoming of the lagging. And the pilots eliminated gaps in their training and increased their ratings. By the end of the training year the flight became excellent.

At first, socialist competition was not properly organized in all subunits. The commanders of several flights and chiefs of maintenance groups summed up results irregularly, results were evaluated by eye, and materials from objective checking were not always used here. Therefore, errors occurred in

the analysis of the pilots' actions. Using the example of our best squadron, the commanders learned efficiency in directing competition. They managed to achieve a situation where the actions of the aviators in flight were analyzed only 20-30 minutes after landing. Basic reliance was placed on grading the quality with which various exercises were accomplished and the serviceman's level of technical knowhow and how much the specialist raised the degree of his skill during a week or month was also determined.

Shoots of the new also appeared in other small units. Experience in working with the flying youth was accumulated in the squadron headed by Lieutenant Colonel A. Golovchenko. The squadron commander himself and other well-trained commanders did much additional work with their subordinates. For example, sparing neither time nor strength, Guards Major V. Shoshin drilled Guards Lieutenant A. Prishchepnyy. The achievements of the best specialists were utilized here. The squadron chief of staff, Guards Major V. Kovalev, thoroughly studied the experience of the men in the adjacent subunit, in particular of sniper-pilot Guards Major A. Neznanov, and of other comrades who successfully accomplished flight at maximum range with combat employment. The advice of the seniors proved useful for the young. On the concluding tactical flying exercise Guards Lieutenant A. Prishchepnyy and his fellow servicemen demonstrated a high level of training.

In mastering new tactical procedures, the priceless experience of the front-line heroes stood us in good stead. Records concerning the exploits of our brother soldiers, 22 of whom were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, are stored in the regiment's room of combat glory. Everything valuable from combat experience with corrections for the contemporary development of combat equipment and tactics is being adopted. The front-line heritage of Guards Lieutenant V. Moskovenko alone was a great help to our aerial fighters. His experience was used by the best pilots in the regiment, Guards Captain V. Artisevich and Guards Senior Lieutenant V. Chistyakov. Recently, as members of a flight they swiftly and suddenly attacked and destroyed a small ground target using an effective tactical procedure under difficult weather conditions.

In the subunits, apart from planned training, lessons of a permanently operating technical lecture bureau are conducted for officers and warrant officers [praporshchik] and technical study groups are functioning for junior aviation specialists. Technical conferences and quizzes contributed to the deepening of the personnel's knowledge of the construction of a missile carrier, its equipment, and servicing means. The circle of rationalizers and inventors was expanded on this basis. In this regard, the pilots also began to participate actively in the movement of the innovator servicemen along with the engineers and technicians. Second-class military pilot Guards Captain Seleznev alone introduced six valuable suggestions on the improvement of the training-material base.

Of course, not everything proceeded smoothly. Much was attained in a strained struggle. There were also annoying failures. Much was done by the regiment's party organization to prevent similar cases in the future. The communists

reacted sharply to the slightest violation of military discipline and instances of a careless attitude toward his duties on the part of a specialist. One day, while accomplishing a mission in the zone Guards Senior Lieutenant V. Marushchak lost his leader. After the flight critique where the aviator's poor state of training was established, the conversation continued at a session of the squadron's party bureau. The communists provided a fundamental evaluation not only of Marushchak's attitude toward training, but also of the shortcomings in organizing preparations for flights, and they required that the responsible personnel eliminate these derelictions. And here, the party organization carried out strict punishment of Major Podkovko who committed preconditions for a flight accident.

After these cases, important preventive work was conducted and was directed toward improving air training, strengthening order and organization, and ensuring flight safety. Through the common coordinated efforts of the aviators, a new takeoff in combat skill was attained which was also confirmed at the concluding check.

The training year has been completed, but flights know no pause, and this means that the competition is also continuing. We are directing the high patriotic enthusiasm of the personnel, which was caused by the adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR, toward the further improvement of air training. This is our duty, our primary mission.

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MILITARY CONFERENCE DISCUSSES LEADERSHIP, DEFENSE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Dec 77 p 4 LD

["Our Correspondent" report: "Military-Scientific Conference"]

[Text] A military-scientific conference has been held in the V. I. Lenin Military-Political Academy. Army General Ye. Maltsev, head of the academy, made an opening speech.

Doctor of philosophical sciences Maj Gen Professor V. Samoylenko presented a report: "The 25th CPSU Congress on the scientific leadership of socialist society and its defense at the current stage." The speaker and candidate of military sciences Lt Gen I. Yurpolskiy, doctor of philosophical sciences Capt Professor V. Puzik, doctor of psychological sciences Col Professor N. Fedenko and candidate of historical sciences Maj Gen Lecturer F. Stepanov, who also presented reports and scientific information, as well as other conference participants, thoroughly elucidated important questions in the administration of troops and naval forces and the activities of political officers in organizing and leading political party work.

Those taking part in the work of the conference included representatives of the main political directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, the USSR Armed Forces General Staff Military Science Directorate, the USSR Defense Ministry Main Directorate for Military Educational Institutions, political directorates of branches of the USSR Armed Forces and military academies.

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USSR AIR FORCE CENTRAL AKTIV DICUSSES CPSU PLENUM DEMANDS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Dec 77 p 1 LD

["Our Correspondent" report: "Enhancing Communists' Responsibility"]

[Excerpts] A meeting of the air force main staff and directorates' party aktiv has discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) plenum and the communists' tasks arising out of its decisions and the speech at the plenum by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Chief Marshal of Aviation P. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the Air Force, delivered the report on this question.

It was stressed in the report and in the speeches by Aviation Col Gen I. Moroz, member of the Military Council and chief of the Air Force Political Directorate, and by comrades P. Kirsanov, Ye. Kovyazin, V. Skubilin, V. Loginov, N. Antonov and S. Gorelov that the decisions of the Party Central Committee December Plenum and the profoundly cogent speech by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev are a combat program of activity for party organizations and all communists in the struggle for the further improvement of work efficiency and for the high-quality fulfillment and overfulfillment of outlined plans and tasks.

Assessing the results of air training over the last training year, the speakers focused the attention of activists and all workers in the Air Force central apparatus on questions of the all-round improvement of leadership and administration of the forces. Party organizations are obliged to display even greater persistence and militancy in the education of communists in the spirit of high personal responsibility for the fulfillment of their party and service duties, for the state of affairs in sections and services and in subordinate units and subunits and to struggle persistently for the unconditional and high-quality fulfillment of the program of combat and political training, the assimilation of new equipment and all tasks set by the USSR Ministry of Defense.

There was serious criticism of those comrades who do not participate actively enough in the work of their primary party organizations and stand aloof from the leadership of socialist competition and the propagandizing and introduction of advanced experience accumulated in the best units, formations and military educational establishments of the Air Force.

ROMANOV SPEAKS AT LENINGRAD MILITARY DISTRICT AKTIV MEETING

Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 77 p 1. LD

[LENTASS report: "Soldier-Communist Aktiv Conference"]

[Text] A party aktiv conference of the order of Lenin Leningrad Military District was held 28 December at the S. M. Kirov house of officers.

With great enthusiasm those present elected an honorary presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev.

The conference discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) plenum and the tasks of the district's party organizations arising from the plenum speech by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The conference was addressed by G. V. Romanov member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningradskiy obkom.

He stressed that the country's economy is developing successfully, noted the weighty contribution by Leningraders to the achievements of the national economy and dwelled on the most important tasks in the implementation of the five-year plan and the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

A Leningradskiy obkom plenum, Comrade Romanov said, has mapped out specific ways for the Leningrad party organization to implement the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) plenum. Communists regard the indicators of the comprehensive plan for the economic and social development of Leningrad and Leningradskaya Oblast in 1978 as the minimum and are extensively mounting competition for the adoption by labor collectives of counterplans and socialist pledges to insure the unconditional fulfillment of the control targets for the first 3 years of the five-year plan.

Colonel General M. I. Sorokin, commander of the order of Lenin Leningrad Military District, and other soldier-communists who spoke at the conference

said that the personnel of the military district unanimously approve the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and welcome them as a militant program for their future actions in implementing the tasks set by the 25th party congress. The speakers gave assurances that the party aktiv and soldiers of the military district will insure the fulfillment to a high standard of the tasks facing them and will give a fitting welcome to the 60th anniversary of the armed forces.

A resolution was adopted on the question discussed.

Those present unanimously adopted a letter of greetings to the CPSU Central Committee and marshal of the Soviet Union, L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the USSR Defense Council.

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KUTAKHOV ON AIR FORCES COMBAT READINESS

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press
3 Oct 77 pp 1-3

[Article by Chief Marshal of Aviation P. Kutakhov, Commander-in-Chief of the Air Force, Hero of the Soviet Union, deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR: "60 Heroic Years"]

[Excerpts] The adoption of the new USSR Constitution was an extraordinarily important event in the motherland's history. It is significant that this event took place in the year of the glorious jubilee--the 60th anniversary of Great October. The enormous gains of the Soviet people have been deservedly reflected in this historic document. In it, the principles of the social-political and economic system have been consolidated, the aims and principles have been proclaimed, and the principles for organization of the entire people's socialist state have been established.

Reading our new constitution, people see even more clearly how broad and varied the rights and freedoms are of the citizens of socialist society. In its provisions, the world sees the state which has set as its goal the continual growth of the welfare and culture of all the people, of all its classes and groups without exception, and which is actively working to achieve this goal.

Elimination of exploiting classes, industrialization, collectivization, cultural revolution--these are the elements of a single revolutionary process which has led to radical changes in relations between classes and nations. The years of intense, selfless labor have borne fruit. A new social system has been established based on friendship and union of the working class, the kolkhoz peasant and the people's intelligentsia. The principles of socialism have become firmly established in all spheres of social life.

These successes have aroused fury in the imperialist camp which has not managed to smother our revolution. They have been nurturing plans for military annihilation of the land of the soviets.

The treacherous attack by Fascist Germany interrupted the peaceful labor of the Soviet people. This was the largest armed advance of the striking

forces of imperialism against socialism, one of the gravest trials ever undergone by our motherland. The fate of the first socialist state in the world and the future of world civilization was decided in this war. Hitler's Germany had a huge military machine and relied on the economic potential of the whole of Western Europe. Thanks to the purposeful and intense activity of the Communist Party, the Soviet country was rapidly transformed into a united combat camp. The front and the rear were clenched into one mighty fist. Reorganization of the economy took place under the complex conditions of the losses of major economic regions and considerable production capacity. The enemy destroyed and took out from occupied Soviet territory into Germany a large quantity of material assets, over 4 million people were condemned to fascist penal servitude, and the country was temporarily deprived of important food-producing regions.

No other state has stood up against such a surprise attack as was inflicted on the Soviet Union. Fascist Germany and its allies threw 190 crack divisions, over 4,000 tanks and about 5,000 aircraft against the USSR. Only the Soviet state found strength within itself to not only withstand but also to deal a deserved rebuff to the aggressor and to defeat him completely.

After accomplishing an unparalleled feat during the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people also demonstrated mass heroism in peaceful labor. During the post-war restoration of the national economy, they again displayed their remarkable qualities--fortitude, self-sacrifice and love of labor. By 1948, industrial production had in the main recovered to pre-war levels, and by 1950, agriculture had too. In subsequent years, having finally healed the wounds caused by the war, the Soviet people created real prerequisites for further progress and for the transition to expanded construction of communist society. The ideas inscribed on the banner of October have been living and triumphing.

The appearance of the entire planet has changed noticeably in the last six decades. The October revolution gave a mighty impulse to these profound transformations. The world system of socialism emerged, has been firmly established, and has become the leading factor in world politics. The positions of the world communist movement--the most progressive and influential force of our time--have been consolidated. New prospects for development of the revolutionary struggle of the working class and the national liberation movement have been opened.

From the first days of Great October, our country has stood as a genuine bulwark and standard-bearer of peace and a fighter for security of nations and social progress. The Peace Program, adopted by the 24th CPSU Congress, and its organic continuation--the program of further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for freedom and independence of peoples, advanced by the 25th party congress have played an enormous role in the development and deepening of detente.

Closely united around the Communist Party, warriors-aviators warmly and unanimously approve its domestic and foreign policy and those enormous efforts which the party and government exert to see that peace becomes stable, firm and reliable. But the forces of reaction and aggression are trying in every way to prevent the positive changes in international relations. They are urging the arms race on, increasing military budgets, and fanning the hotbeds of international tension in various regions of the globe. Especially threatening to mankind is the imperialist striving to develop new types and systems of weapons, such as modern strategic bombers, nuclear submarines, mobile missiles, cruise missiles, neutron bombs and the like. This aggressiveness and ideological sabotage of imperialism against the socialist countries dictate the necessity to keep vigilant watch over the intrigues of the enemies of peace and to tirelessly strengthen the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The Soviet Armed Forces have been and remain the vigilant guard of the revolutionary gains of the people and the reliable stronghold of their peaceful constructive labor at all stages of the heroic path of our motherland. The first regular units and large units of the Red Army were born under the red banner of the revolution and were hardened in fierce battles with the enemies of the Soviet regime. Soviet warriors carried red banners through the fire of the Great Patriotic War with honor. They stand under these banners today on guard over the socialist fatherland.

Attaching great importance to the technical equipping of the army, air force and navy, the Communist Party at the same time has always considered and considers that arms can be a powerful means of defense only when the personnel are deeply aware of their highest responsibility to the motherland and wield the arms and equipment to perfection. Therefore, the party pays unremitting attention to training and educating Soviet warriors and to increasing the Armed Forces combat readiness.

"Combat readiness," says Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, USSR Defense Minister and member of the CPSU CC politburo, "this is the fusion of technical equipping of the forces, their military training, moral-political, psychological and physical hardening, the self-discipline and readiness of each Soviet warrior for a feat in the name of fulfilling his military duty to the motherland."

The interests of raising combat readiness require all warriors-aviators to tirelessly replenish military and political knowledge, to skillfully master to perfection the complex aviation equipment and methods of its combat employment, strengthen organization and discipline, and intensify the struggle for high efficiency and quality in combat and political training. One of the most effective means of raising the efficiency and quality of aviator's combat training was the socialist competition for implementation of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and a fitting celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October socialist revolution.

At the call of the personnel of the Guards Aviation Red Guards Regiment imeni the 50th Anniversary of the USSR, awarded the Order of Lenin, the Red Banner twice, and the Order of Kutuzov, a persistent struggle was waged in all Air Force units for high combat readiness, further improvement in air training, masterly wielding of new aviation equipment and weapons, their care, qualitative execution of missions of combat and political training, and exemplary military order.

Air Force personnel have met their pledges made in the year of the 60th anniversary of Great October with honor. Attaining high marks in combat and political training in the jubilee competition were the units and subunits commanded by officers G. Shchitov, V. Telegin, V. Vasil'yev, Yu. Savokhin, Yu. Arep'yev, P. Polyakov and others.

The successes of the front-ranking aviation units and subunits are explained first of all by the skillful organizational and political-educational work of the commanders and political organs and party and Komsomol organizations. The spirit of competition is promoted by communists who by personal example mobilize the warriors to achieve excellent marks in training and service, actively spread progressive methods, and focus the efforts of the competitors on the main items of combat readiness.

The resolution of the May (1977) Plenum of the CPSU CC, the speech at the plenum by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev, and the national discussion and adoption of the USSR Constitution have become a mighty impulse in the achievement of new successes.

All warriors-aviators, heartily and unanimously approving of the Fundamental Law of the Soviet State, have taken the lines of the outstanding document of our time with all their heart as a sacred party order: "The duty of the USSR Armed Forces to the people is to reliably defend the socialist fatherland and to be constantly combat ready guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor."

Soviet airmen, just as all warriors in the USSR Armed Forces, true to the great ideals of the revolution and infinitely devoted to the Communist Party and their people, along with the warriors in the armies of the countries of the socialist community, are ready to worthily fulfill their patriotic and international duty to defend the cause of peace, socialism and the gains of Great October.

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TRAINING OF FLIGHT COMMANDERS DESCRIBED

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press
3 Oct 77 pp 16-17

[Article by Major General of Aviation A. Borsuk, military pilot, first class, in the section "Air Training, Combat Readiness": "At the Head of a Flight..."]

[Text] Commander of a flight. An assignment to this duty is an important landmark in an officer's service. The range of his functional duties is significantly expanded. Before, as a senior pilot, he was responsible for two crews, but now--for four. But numbers are not the only thing. A flight commander is the immediate superior of the pilots subordinate to him, their mentor and educator. He is also an instructor. The level of training of the air warriors and the safety of flights depend on his pedagogical mastery to a decisive degree.

The role of superiors in this category in ensuring the safety of flight operations has now grown. This, in our view, has been caused by at least two circumstances. Modern aviation equipment has become more complex in design and operation. The range of missions which small subunits--the flight, the pair--now perform has also expanded. And the primary burden in training for flights lies, as is known, on the shoulders of flight commanders. Moreover, they conduct critiques of flights and other measures of a training and educational nature. There is no denying that there are sufficient concerns and work.

Naturally, a new commander gains experience after a certain time and develops his skill. However, interests require that the time for his professional growth be kept to a minimum. How can this be achieved?

Senior Lieutenant V. Yugalov, a military pilot second class, was put in charge of a flight not too long ago. As the saying goes, he had his share of trouble. The officer set to performing his official duties earnestly and with a great desire. But he soon learned that many things turned out considerably poorer for him than for the squadron commander and other experienced instructors.

When, for example, Yugalov heard how they analyze errors of the flying staff, he felt that his own critiques of the actions of his subordinates seemed unskilled. The senior commanders noticed that the new flight commander made a number of mistakes in monitoring the status of aviation equipment and the work of the IAS [Engineer Aviation Service] specialists.

"Vigilance," said the squadron commander, "is far from an abstract concept. The rule 'While trusting, check it out' should become an immutable law for you. It will help implant a sense of responsibility in your subordinates and will promote strengthening of discipline, order and organization."

Other deficiencies in the new flight commander's activity were also cleared up. They all, quite understandably, have a negative impact on the quality of missions executed and on flight safety.

It goes without saying that Senior Lieutenant Yugalov was largely helped by measures undertaken in the unit to train flight commanders, in particular, by the group classes for beginning instructors. However, deeply aware of how great is his personal role in the process of training air warriors, the officer frankly revealed his difficulties to the squadron commander. Indeed, he acted properly.

Major V. Kirin, military pilot first class, recommended to him that he thoroughly go over the necessary provisions of the directives once more. And then he began to teach the new flight commander pedagogical mastery, the skill to properly order time in preparing for flights, and in the course of them, to methodically and competently critique the executed missions.

In our opinion, part of the pilot errors are not eliminated quickly precisely because individual flight commanders do not know how to analyze their subordinates' flights sufficiently fully. This does not mean, of course, that they simply overlook deviation--the means of objective monitoring determine everything. But after all, the deficiency must not only be detected. It is far more important to find the true cause of it, otherwise a threat to the safety of flight operations remains, to say nothing of the effect on growth in mastery.

Officer Kirin has a wealth of experience. Using data from the monitoring-recording equipment, he clearly showed whether an error arose as a consequence of insufficient training or its source resulted from the pilot's apprehension at getting into a difficult situation, say due to a loss of speed, a large overload and the like. There and then Yugalov received exhaustive advice on how to act in each specific case.

The squadron commander also so purposefully and to the point taught Senior Lieutenant Yugalov the skill to educate the flight personnel.

"What was said about the modern leader at the 25th party congress?" he asked and answered: "The modern leader must organically unite in himself party

spirit with profound competence, discipline with initiative and a creative approach to business."

Major Kirin related how to properly form relations with subordinates and recommended raising demands on individual pilots, technicians and mechanics and more full consideration of the method of persuasion using rights granted by the Disciplinary Manual. The squadron commander's suggestions on organization of socialist competition, which officer Yugalov not unsuccessfully applied in practice, were also valuable.

During commander's and other flights, the senior lieutenant acquired and consolidated instructor skills. This enabled him to better learn the professional, moral-combat and psychological qualities of subordinates and to use the most rational methods for training them. Gradually, the errors were overcome and the flight firmly held a leading place in the squadron.

Sometimes, although quite infrequently, some flight commanders say: "Is there much that I can personally do to ensure flight safety and growth in combat skills?" In this case, they are usually alluding to the fact that the entire service is strictly regulated and that they have almost no opportunity to display initiative. Besides, they say, a flight commander is busy with the same work that officers holding senior positions do.

Such views are profoundly erroneous. Any flight commander has broad opportunities to display his personal capabilities and his initiative in working with subordinates and in the struggle for efficiency and quality. Everything he does to strengthen military discipline in the military collective, to educate people to have a conscientious attitude toward execution of service duties, to create in the flight that atmosphere in which high, uncompromising exactingness is constantly combined with goodwill and tactfulness toward each person--really, does this not influence strengthening of combat readiness and increasing flight safety? Indeed, it does, and rather strongly. And a flight commander must always remember the individual approach to subordinates and certainly consider their strong and weak points, peculiarities of character and temperament. Here one cannot at all do without firm will, persistence and pursuit.

And besides, the flight commander's role is exceptionally great in the successful execution of purely professional, specialized missions. I remember such a case. While executing a normal loop in a zone, Lieutenant G. Fofanov lost speed at the upper point of the figure since he endured a little overloading. Having noticed this, the pilot took control himself to level off the aircraft more rapidly. However, the situation abruptly became complicated: the fighter's speed fell even more and it made a corkscrew half barrel roll and began losing altitude.

Fofanov was not prepared to act in this kind of situation, lost his head for some time and continued to keep the controls. A very difficult situation arose.

Everything turned out all right thanks to the good management and competent solution of Captain I. Gert, flight director in the zone and a new flight commander. Having instantly appraised the situation, this officer immediately ordered the pilot to let go of the controls. Fofanov did so and then landed the plane normally at the airfield.

It should be noted that even before this event the lieutenant frequently erred in pilotage. Many worked on eliminating them. And when Fofanov became the culprit in the quite serious prerequisite for a flying accident, some comrades among the squadron and regimental supervisory staff concluded that the pilot was hopeless.

The commander of the flight in which Lieutenant Fofanov served did not share this view. Major A. Grigor'yev, knowing that the new pilot slowly assimilates what he is told and shown, painfully endures his mistakes, but has a great desire to fly, suggested waiting a bit with the organizational conclusions and continuing the lieutenant's training, but according to a program designed especially for him. The unit commander approved this plan.

Major Grigor'yev expended no little effort and time in implementing his plan. He instructed Fofanov above all in flights. The mastery of the instructor and the diligence of the pilot himself yielded positive results in the end. The new officer found confidence in his efforts. After several months, Lieutenant Fofanov passed the exam for third, and then for second, class.

It is clear that it is no simple matter to train such flight commanders as Major Grigor'yev and Captain Gert. Life shows that formation of them occurs more successfully in those units where officers are prepared beforehand to perform this duty. After all, the most promising senior pilots are advanced to this position. And once they are, then the necessity and opportunity exists to draw them into all the measures which are conducted with flight commanders--commander's, demonstrative, flight instruction activities, technical and instructional conferences, and commander's flights. It is important that in this period the future immediate superiors of air warriors master well the basic tenets of military pedagogy and psychology, and the main thing is that they acquire the skills of actions in the air as instructors. Only in such a position will they be able to get the training and education of subordinates going right from the very start so that as the day's requirements are dictated, they will be able to start training pilots directly in the air without delay.

These are exactly the positions from which the problem of training command cadres of this category is viewed in the aviation unit where Major L. Karlov, military pilot first class, is one of the squadron commanders. Here the matter is like this: after two years of service a new officer deserving advancement must be completely prepared to perform the duties of a flight commander. And the work in this area is conducted in the unit systematically, purposefully and by methods shaped and proven in practice.

Immediately after the new warriors arrive in the regiment, the supervisors together with the party and Komsomol activists study in detail and appraise the moral-political, business-like, psychological and physical qualities of each, their level of training and attitude toward flying. Their industriousness, initiative, self-dependence, activeness are considered--the qualities which are very necessary for a modern aviation commander. When the supervisors form a clear impression of each pilot, the potential candidates for the position of flight commanders are identified.

Further, the instructional training of these officers is planned and conducted with a certain acceleration in comparison to their contemporaries in graduation from academy. Special attention is paid to techniques of piloting and to working out actions as group leaders. And flying-instructional work with the supervisors on the ground and in the air is included in the plan in the second year of the officer's service.

Of course, training of future flight commanders done in good time does not at all mean that work with them in future can be slackened or done less qualitatively. But it becomes good security for more successful performance of all duties by the new officers in their new position. And subsequent assistance (as was given to Senior Lieutenant Yugalov) will give them the opportunity to feel comfortable with the new position.

In the process of training future flight commanders, of course, definite blunders have also not been excluded. In this connection, I would like to draw attention to this point. If they have appeared, it is advisable to study the causes of the deviations so that effective measures can be taken to eliminate them.

Unfortunately, some squadron commanders, as well as officers among the regimental supervisory flying staff, sometimes act otherwise, reasoning about like this: "Better I do everything myself." Such a position is incorrect.

A senior supervisor, possibly, indeed will be able to correct a situation for some time. However, he will be forced to turn away from the execution of his immediate service duties which, naturally, will harm the combat training of some pilot and then even the entire subunit. And the new officer will be retarded in his growth. Is not this why at times flight commanders are still encountered that can act in the role of instructors only in circuit or zone flights.

The most effective pedagogical method in training and education which has been proven by life is "Do as I do." Who do flight commanders take as their example? Those, naturally, who serve side by side with them, first of all, the squadron commander. And is this example always what it should be? Some squadron commanders sometimes commit disappointing errors in their activity.

Once, aviators were preparing for a flight to another airfield. The day before, Major V. Artamonov, the squadron commander, inspected the aircraft. Having noticed that a tire on the main wheel on one of them was pretty worn, he ordered a technician to replace it with a new one.

Artamonov saw that it was ordered. And then for some reason he forgot to check on it. Meanwhile, the IAS specialists decided to leave the old tire on. Further, events turned out like this. After landing at the neighboring airfield, the tire became worthless. Removal and replacement of the wheel took up time and the tactical flying exercise was almost disrupted. It need hardly be said that this fact in no way facilitated proper education of flight commanders.

This article has touched on only some questions concerning work with flight commanders. It seems to me that it would be useful for readers to express their views. After all, achievement of good and excellent results in combat training and further enhancement of flight safety depends to a considerable extent on the quality of work with flight commanders.

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TRAINING OF LONG RANGE BOMBER CREWS DESCRIBED

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3 Oct 77 pp 36-37

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel A. Zhukov, military pilot first class, in the section "Flight Safety--Constant Attention": "When Silence Is Not Golden"]

[Text] A pilot friend with many years of aviation service once told me of an event which happened to him during those years when radiocompasses were first installed in aircraft. At that time, this equipment helped air warriors in many respects to increase accuracy in air navigation.

"Only those who thoroughly learned the rules for using the new equipment were successful though," the officer said. "Meanwhile, to the rest of the new pilots, including me, something at first was not quite clear."

"There is no need to go into the technical nuances of using the RPK [radio-compass] in the air: the essence of the question lies in another thing. After receiving one day a mission to execute an en route flight using the RPK, I could not handle it: I made an error in determining the time of flight over the ground station and then was not able to immediately and properly line up on the assigned route and almost lost orientation."

"But this happened because in preliminary training I said nothing to the commander about my quite weak skills in working with the RPK. During the check test, it is true, I responded confidently to the questions: the commander asked exactly what I knew well. And here I decided not to share my doubts. I thought everything would work out. But, as you see, it turned out otherwise; silence did me an awfully bad turn."

"That's when," the pilot concluded, "I think I finally understood that when you're not sure of something, you must throw off false shame and get everything cleared up in detail prior to taking off on a mission."

This conversation took place long ago, but it always comes back to me when the subject is mistakes basically caused by that same ill-fated silence.

As is known, aircrews in the air often have to act against a background of swiftly moving events with insufficient time to make the only correct decision, sometimes in a situation when there is no help from the side. All this requires of air warriors the maximum in self-discipline, attentiveness and the ability to not miss anything from the voluminous stream of information that they receive not only in the sky, but even long before the flight, in the period of preparing for it. And if for some reason something is not understood, it is obligatory to ask the commander or senior comrade to repeat what was said. Otherwise, a quite difficult situation can develop in the sky.

The long range bomber crew commanded by Major V. Sidorov, military pilot first class, received a mission which included an element of combat employment which was new to the aviators. Naturally, everyone prepared diligently for such a mission. The actions of each from take-off to landing, and especially when employing weapons, were thoroughly analyzed. A training exercise was held. The knowledge and skills of officer Sidorov and his subordinates were checked by their immediate and next superiors. During the flight drill, the squadron commander remained satisfied with the crew's preparation for the main mission.

Precisely at the assigned time, the heavy aircraft, having flown into the sky, took its appointed place in the combat formation. Events in the flight unfolded as planned. Each aviator accurately performed his assigned duties and skillfully interacted with his comrades. As a result, the crew received a high evaluation. Less and less time remained to completion of the flight. But in the final phase, the crew had to suffer through quite a few unpleasant moments: a precondition for a flying accident arose.

The bombers in the combat formation were returning to their point. But it was reported from the ground that the synoptic situation in the area of the airfield had abruptly worsened. The flight director decided to have the aircraft group land at the reserve and immediately ordered them there.

Naturally, this scenario did not take the aviators by surprise: such a variant was envisaged back during the briefing for the flight mission. Having received the necessary information, the crews took the new course and began preparing for the landing.

Major Sidorov ordered the navigator, Captain V. Orlov, specialist first class, to clarify the distance and time to the reserve field, as well as the radar data and the approach scheme. Officer Orlov immediately executed this instruction.

The heavy bombers landed one after the other. Both the air warriors and the group of flight directors headed by Lieutenant Colonel V. Borisenko acted confidently and in concord. The situation in the sky and on the ground was calm although weather conditions at the reserve airfield had also turned out to be rather adverse.

Suddenly everything rapidly and sharply changed for the worse: the team of the group of directors noticed that one of the aircraft was executing a maneuver to the opposite side. This was Major Sidorov's crew.

Officer Borisenko displayed great tenacity, presence of mind and mastery in this complicated situation. Without delay, he took the measures needed in the situation which had taken shape and the flight ended safely.

A share of the blame for the origin of this precondition for a flying accident lies with the crew commander, Major Sidorov, and the other officials who did not fully check out the readiness of the crew to execute the mission. But the main culprit in what had happened was Captain Orlov, the navigator. He listened inattentively at the briefing to the instructions on the peculiarities of the landing approach at the reserve airfield in event of an unexpected change in weather conditions. And later on he was ashamed to ask his immediate superior for the needed explanations and did not clarify this question even in the preliminary training.

And so, the navigator's silence on his deficiency in knowledge concerning the specific flight became the original cause of the precondition. The officer thought: perhaps it will not even be needed. The calculation on perhaps did not come true. Orlov had the opportunity to correct the negligence when the order came to proceed to the reserve field. It would have been sufficient to inform the crew commander that he had not presented the landing scheme accurately. However, having reported all the required data, the captain even in this situation never mentioned his doubts, thus placing the crew and the group of flight directors in a rather difficult position.

"A word is silver; silence is golden," popular wisdom says. Attentiveness and concentration of an air warrior, for example at the briefing, subsequently stands him in very good stead: if you efficiently perform your acts on the ground, it is considerably easier to perform them in the sky. Well what if something is missed or inadequately assimilated? It goes without saying in this case the aviator is simply obligated to ask the commander to repeat what was said. There is no room here for any false shame; silence will not turn out golden.

"I think that if that was the way it always was exactly, quite a few mistakes that originate in executing flying missions could be prevented," says Major Ya. Chumak, detachment commander and military pilot first class.

One cannot but agree with this view. A subordinate asking a commander or superior about something unclear is evidence of great interest by the man in high quality execution of an assigned mission and a distinctive confirmation of his high sense of responsibility for possibly better performance of official duties. One simply cannot but support people in such cases.

Military pilot first class Major Chumak is an experienced methodologist and instructor. He is always very pedantic in everything concerning flight

training. The officer requires the same of ship commanders and navigators. He teaches subordinates activeness and scrupulousness during both analysis of theoretical questions and training exercises with special equipment and in aircraft cockpits. In every possible way, Major Chumak encourages the inquisitiveness of officers and their desire to analyze some matter in all its minutest details. He never considers it superfluous to repeat what was said if one of the aviators did not understand something the first time.

The rooms used for early or preliminary flight training of the long range bomber crews in the detachment commanded by officer Chumak are somewhat noisier than those used by other aviators. The crew members at times get into arguments defending their point of view, say, when looking for the most expedient variants in penetrating the "enemy's" strong PVO [air defense] or in weapons employment. And if someone's opinion deserves attention, the detachment commander will certainly consider it when working out the final solution for the flight. Or he will be sure to show the pilot, navigator or other specialist why his suggestion is erroneous and will not produce success.

But, in proving a personal case, a serviceman in this detachment never transgresses the clearly outlined bounds of prescribed mutual relations. Major Chumak firmly maintains the required order. The commander is sympathetic, but at the same time, he is also strict. He teaches subordinates to surpass the "fine points" of flying, to find truth through an exchange of views, and to achieve firm understanding by everyone of all the nuances of the mission.

Precisely such an approach to the matter assures high quality training for flights and precludes the silence of those who poorly understand some question. And this guarantees flight safety and successful mission accomplishment in the most complex air and weather situation.

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COMMENTS ON NATO RETRAINING OF FLIGHT CREWS ON NEW AIRCRAFT

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 11, Nov 77 signed to press
3 Oct 77 pp 46-47

[Article by Colonel Engineer V. Lysov, candidate of engineering science,
in the section "Abroad": "The Arms Race and the Retraining of Aviators"]

[Text] The development of military preparations in the imperialist states
is leading to partial re-equipping of units and subunits with new equip-
ment and to the necessity of its mass assimilation. This process is
causing many problems abroad, especially in aviation where the equipment
is becoming ever more complex.

The press in the countries of the aggressive NATO bloc has more than once
noted that the new aircraft had design and production deficiencies. Much
time has been spent on eliminating them. Tools, test and checking gear,
equipment, as well as technical documentation on operating and repairing
the new equipment has arrived late, incomplete and very often has turned
out to be insufficiently suitable for use. Spare parts and expendable
supplies have either been missing or have not been delivered on time.
Besides this, there were no training manuals and simulators designed for
learning the new equipment. It has also been noted that assimilation of
the newly arrived aircraft has been going on simultaneously with continu-
ation of intensive flights in the old type machines. Therefore, personnel,
especially technicians, have not been in any position to concentrate all
their attention on maintaining the combat readiness of the new aircraft.
And substantial changes in the organizational and manning structure of the
units and manning with specialists has occurred with great delay and has
been dragged out over a long period of time.

To avoid such shortcomings in the future, the most varied steps are being
taken abroad. Basically they come down to having aircraft familiarization
now start several years prior to its arrival in the unit, that is, in the
development and finishing stage. For this, rigid control is being estab-
lished over how firms are meeting requirements for reliability, operability
and maintainability (ET and RP) of designs.

A special staff now works with new aviation equipment in foreign air forces. The U.S., for example, has project directors heading it. The group has officers assigned for the entire period of aircraft development and finishing. They undergo special six-month training courses. Air Force scientific-research test centers render active assistance to this staff.

Monitoring how firms are meeting requirements for reliability, ET and RP of a design in its development and finishing stages is conducted according to programs stipulated in contracts and in accordance with state standards. For example, three phases of ET and RP are being established as a military standard.

The first pertains to the early stage of design and is aimed at verifying that ET and RP requirements are actually taken into consideration when designing the equipment and can be observed. It is stressed in the standard that eliminating deficiencies and making the necessary corrections in a project at this stage is the most economical.

The second phase of monitoring is performed at the stage of manufacture and finishing of test models. The standard requires that the ET and RP of the design and its correspondence to the parameters stipulated in the contract be demonstrated under contractor direction. All operations in the aviation equipment are performed by the Air Force technical staff (by established organic elements of appropriate specialties).

In the third phase, during state tests, a comprehensive check is made of the aircraft's operating qualities, as well as of the suitability of the equipment, tools and technical documentation for operation and for performance of field and plant repair.

It is pointed out in the standard that checks for ET and RP of design must be conducted under conditions that are as realistic as possible taking into account the intensity of flights, duration of execution of the combat mission, modes of flight, with the use of the tools and equipment intended for the given aircraft, and with obligatory fulfillment of all requirements of instructions for operation.

Malfunctions are introduced when demonstrating ET and RP and an evaluation is made of the capability for detecting and eliminating them; also the actual time spent on these operations is determined.

A test report is made which contains the accumulated data, factors impacting it, an analysis of the data, results of operations by phases, evaluation of the impact on organization of the engineer aviation service and logistics for ET and RP, deficiencies revealed and information on their correction, and results of repeated tests.

In the British Air Force, monitoring of ET and RP in design is performed by the scientific research center for operation and repair of aviation equipment. One of the leaders is the department of projects. Each group of

aviation specialists in this department is responsible for preparing one of the models under development for assimilation. Their main mission is to monitor to see that the required characteristics of ET and RP are provided in the design. The groups help determine the required quantity of spare parts, expendable supplies, tools and equipment for designs under development.

The center evaluates the operating qualities of the design at the stage of finishing and state tests. In the process, literally all elements of operation and repair are checked. For example, replacement under field conditions of an engine and basic units and assemblies, and performance of the complete list of operations provided by the instructions.

Such monitoring of a firm's fulfillment of requirements for reliability, ET and RP of design at the stages of development and finishing is being tried abroad to improve the operating qualities which are determined by the increased complexity of the new generation of aircraft. In particular, steps are being taken to see that the F-15, intended to replace the F-4 in the USAF, has accessibility and simplicity in maintenance along with the required flight and tactical qualities. Provision is being made so that new tools and devices are not created, except for those available in the F-4's table of equipment.

Foreign military specialists advocate the use of mobile subunits to train personnel and provide methodological assistance to units in technical training, and to organize a special system for debriefing aircrews after each flight; they also advocate setting up so-called "sluices," when new aircraft, prior to being sent to the units, are comprehensively checked, finished and brought up to scale with all prescribed equipment by field maintenance subunit technicians and industry specialists.

The USAF already uses mobile subunits to train personnel. The previously trained instructors in these subunits train personnel directly in the units, provide methodological assistance to the unit's supervisory engineer-technical staff, and participate in examining the specialists to determine qualifications and evaluate their preparedness to perform the duties entrusted to them.

Aircrews are debriefed in special rooms by a board of the most competent specialists in the unit. The pilots report in detail both their comments on aircraft operation and unusual circumstances, doubts and uncertainties which arose during the flight, as well as express their desires.

Thanks to such debriefings in the units, considerable information is gained on aircraft operation and experience of its operating in flight in various situations. It is intended for training aircrews and technicians, preventing failures and reducing new aircraft assimilation time. But this, as the specialists acknowledge, is not easy to attain.

At the end of 1975, the USAF decided to establish an F-15 wing. The first such fighter was delivered in January, 1976. The wing is based at Langley (Virginia) and is made up of the 27th, 71st and 94th aviation squadrons, each of which will have have 24 F-15's.

By spring of this year, all three squadrons were at full strength. The USAF notes that it is too early to speak of adequate combat readiness: both the aircrews and technicians are occupied solely with mastering the new aircraft.

The pilots are trained at Luke AFB (Arizona). A special flight program was developed for the two-seat TF-15 trainers. After completing it, pilots undergo further training at Langley AFB. Technicians to maintain the F-15 and its systems are trained directly in the wing.

In retraining, special attention is paid abroad to developing special instruction manuals which simplify mastering complex types of operations. This is evidenced by a USAF experiment reported in the foreign press.

Two groups of technicians using the same tools and equipment, performed 13 identical tasks--locating malfunctions in electronic equipment. The first group contained 41 Air Force highly and medium skilled technicians. They worked according to the same technology used in the units. The second group consisted of 20 high school students who had no experience in servicing electronic equipment. Their training to perform the task consisted of a 12-hour course which included teaching the use of manual tools, the KPA [set of test equipment] and familiarization with a new instruction manual for locating and correcting malfunctions. All procedures were clearly pointed out in the manual. Using only the manual, the students spent considerably less time on all the operations than did the technicians employing conventional methods. Admittedly, the specialists repaired the defects more quickly and made fewer mistakes in doing so than did the students. This fact, it is held abroad, confirmed the need to pursue the development of different instruction manuals more seriously. These manuals and instructions are in color and not encumbered with unneeded information.

Thus, foreign air force specialists, under the conditions of the unceasing arms race urged on by imperialist circles, are searching for ways of mastering new aviation equipment and reducing personnel retraining time for maintaining and operating it.

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FOLLOW-UP REPORTS ON DOSAAF TRAINING CRITICISMS

Berezniki Combine DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 13 Nov 77 p 2

[Text] An article entitled "Status of a Pariah" appeared in issue No 23 of this newspaper, discussing shortcomings in development of the military-technical sports, the work of the sections and their facilities in the DOSAAF organization at the Berezniki Titanium-Magnesium Combine.

A CPSU city committee commission, reports party city committee secretary G. Yermakov, looked into the performance of the DOSAAF committee at the titanium-magnesium combine. It was noted that on the whole mass defense work is at an adequate level at the combine. In the reduction and distillation shop, for example, there are activity schedules, visual propaganda, and DOSAAF members take part in measures carried out by the DOSAAF plant committee and city committee. At the initiative of the plant DOSAAF committee, the work forces of the shop took active part in building an indoor small arms range at the combine, where competitions are held between the shop teams, and there is an active small arms shooting section.

There are deficiencies, however, in the performance of the DOSAAF committee. The formerly active sections for motorcycle and motorboat sports have disbanded due to a lack of spare motor parts, the collective ham radio is not operating (it has had the call letters UK9FF0 since 1975), and for the last 2 years no teams have been entered in competitions in radio multiple event competition, receiving and sending radio messages. G. Korznikov, who is responsible for radio sports at the combine, has recently shown little interest.

The question of initiating a group radio transmitting operation at the titanium-magnesium combine was discussed at the Berezniki Workers' Technical School council, where it was proposed that operators begin transmitting within 2 weeks. This decision was not carried out, however.

The combine management, party committee and trade union committee are assisting the DOSAAF committee in promoting training and sports activities.

Equipment was acquired for the collective radio station, and plans call for equipping a training vehicle this year for automobile enthusiast courses.

The question of the status of mass defense work at the combine was discussed at a meeting of the combine party committee. DOSAAF committee chairman V. Plotnikov was reprimanded for poor supervision of development of the military-technical sports.

Leningrad DOSAAF Training

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] An article entitled "On-the-Spot Verification, Assistance Through Orders" appeared in the 3 July issue of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, dealing with deficiencies in the performance of the Leningrad City DOSAAF Committee on directing Marine School No 2.

As was reported by I. Dubyaga, chairman of the Leningrad City DOSAAF Committee, and party bureau secretary Ye. Khor'kov, the article was discussed at a meeting of the party bureau and at the bureau of the presidium of the Leningrad DOSAAF City Committee.

The party bureau and the bureau of the presidium of the DOSAAF Leningrad City Committee noted that critical comments addressed to the military technical and basic military training division of the DOSAAF City Committee as well as addressed to the chief of this division, V. Orekhov, are valid.

The party bureau and the presidium bureau pointed out serious deficiencies in the performance of V. Orekhov.

Measures have been taken to strengthen the military technical and basic military training division with more highly-qualified specialists.

The question of the status of political indoctrination work with permanent staff and persons enrolled in training organizations will be discussed by the presidium of the DOSAAF Leningrad City Committee in December 1977.

Yaroslavl' DOSAAF Activities

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] A critical article entitled "Everything Began With a 20-Kopeck Coin...." appeared in the 27 February 1977 issue of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, No 19. It discussed in particular the poor job being done with young people at the Proletarskaya Svoboda Woodworking Equipment Plant in Yaroslavl'.

We were informed by V. Zhukov, chairman of the Yaroslavl'skaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee, that the activities of the DOSAAF committee at the Proletarskaya

Svoboda Plant were examined by a special commission which, confirming the correctness of the criticism directed at the DOSAAF committee, lent it practical assistance in stepping up work with induction-age and preinduction young people.

The article was discussed at a seminar for rayon (city) committee chairmen. The Krasnoperekopskiy Rayon DOSAAF Committee discussed work with young people at a meeting of the presidium and issued an appropriate resolution.

Magnitogorsk DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] Magnitogorsk DOSAAF Automotive School instructor V. Ar'kov wrote a letter to the editors complaining that in his organization there are occurring disruptions of the training process and that automobiles are being misutilized. Ar'kov's letter was sent to the Chelyabinskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee to verify the facts.

Committee chairman G. Denisov informed us that the facts had been fully corroborated. At a meeting of the presidium of the oblast DOSAAF committee G. Dobrin, in charge of the Magnitogorsk DOSAAF Automotive School, was issued a severe reprimand for serious deficiencies in his performance, for poor direction of the training and indoctrination process, and for unsatisfactory supervision of his subordinates. His deputy, Comrade Berdnikov, was fired. The presidium demanded that the organization officials take concrete measures to normalize the situation at the school and to increase the effectiveness of the training and indoctrination process.

Sumskaya Oblast DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 20 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] An article entitled "When Limits Cry" (SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 29 June 1977) stated that the Sumskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee, when placing orders for equipment, does not always make the requisite demands on the contractors--the Sumsel'stroy and Konotopsel'stroy trusts, and that mistakes in orders and deliveries of equipment have been through the fault of the oblast committee.

I. Shurenkov, chairman of the Sumskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee, informed the editors:

"The article has been discussed with oblast committee officials responsible for construction of the facility. Measures have been specified for improving supervision of the construction project and securement of the requisite deliveries of equipment and supplies.

More than two-thirds of the 532 complaints about substandard work on the dormitory have now been corrected. The roof on the PTO [expansion unknown] building has been redone, and most of the needed materials have been delivered to the construction site.

The contractor--the Konotopsel'stroy Trust, the management of which has also discussed the article "When Limits Cry," has once again confirmed that the job will be completed this year."

The chairman of the oblast committee responded to the article in this newspaper, but the Central Committee of the Ukrainian DOSAAF has failed to take notice of the criticism. Such a conclusion is inescapable, for almost 4 months have gone by since the article appeared, and yet the editors of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT have not received a single line from the Central Committee of the Ukrainian DOSAAF, as if the criticism does not apply to it.

Grodno DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 20 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] A critical article entitled "It Is Not Only the Question of a Boat-house" appeared in issue No 78 of our newspaper, discussing deficiencies in the development of motorboat sports in the city of Grodno and indifference to the needs and requests of sports enthusiasts.

A. Kuranov, chairman of the Grodnenskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee, has informed the editors that the article was discussed at the presidium of the DOSAAF city committee and the club council of the Grodno Technical Supervisory Service, and was acknowledged correct.

Measures have been taken to build a boathouse on the shore of the Neman River. At the present time the plans are being prepared and site acquisition formalities are being carried out. Measures have been specified for improving the activities of the water sports section.

Chita DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 20 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] A report from a SOVETSKIY PATRIOT inspection team appeared in the 11 September 1977 issue of this newspaper under the title "Time Is Pressing." It was discussed at a meeting of the presidium of the Chitinskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee. As the presidium chairman, A. Chernyshev, reported to the editors, the comments made about the oblast committee and training organizations pertaining to preparations for the new training year were acknowledged to be correct. With the assistance of local party and Soviet agencies, repair of facilities was completed at all DOSAAF schools by 1 October of this year. At the radio engineering school, classrooms have been equipped with the requisite visual aids. At the

aviation sports club classrooms and laboratories have been put in order, and display stands, posters and diagrams have been renovated.

At the Petrovsk-Zabaykal'skiy Automotive School, practice tuning motors have been installed, classrooms have been equipped with the requisite open-up assemblies and units, and visual propaganda has been refurbished. A small arms target range of the semi-outdoor type has been built at the Sretensk Automotive School.

Primorskiy Kray DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 23 Nov 77 p 2

[Text] A report entitled "When the Victor Is Vanquished" appeared in the 27 July issue of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT. This article discussed deficiencies in organization of socialist competition among the DOSAAF organizations of Primorskiy Kray.

As I. Karelin, chairman of the Primorskiy Kray DOSAAF Committee, reported to the editors, all DOSAAF rayon and city committees in Primorskiy Kray are now supplied with red banners for awarding the winners in socialist competition. The primary organizations which placed high in the 1976 results have been awarded certificates of merit and challenge banners. DOSAAF activists have been awarded certificates, "For Active Work" badges and the USSR DOSAAF badge of honor.

The DOSAAF kray committee has established three red banners for the winners of socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution among DOSAAF city, rayon and training organizations in this kray.

The course of socialist competition among the primary organizations of Dal'nerechenskiy Rayon was discussed at a meeting of the presidium of the DOSAAF kray committee.

A frank talk on the course of socialist competition among rayon and city DOSAAF committees, training and sports organizations was held at a seminar of officials of DOSAAF organizations in this kray.

All rayon and city committees have totaled up the results of socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

Armenian DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 23 Nov 77 p 2

[Text] A critical report entitled "But the Affiliates Are Towing...." appeared in the 18 September issue of this newspaper. It discussed in

particular the fact that numerous affiliates are sometimes organized in Armenia, in the effort to achieve high plan indices, as a result of which facilities are dispersed in a scattered manner, and the training process is conducted on a low organizational and methodological level. The Kirovakan DOSAAF Automotive School was an example of this.

As I. Bagramyan, chairman of the Armenian SSR DOSAAF Central Committee, reported to us, the facts noted in the article had indeed taken place. The article was discussed at the presidium of the Central Committee of Armenian DOSAAF, at a seminar of school directors and deputy directors, as well as by the teachers' council of the Kirovakan Automotive School. A concrete plan has been drafted, and measures are being taken to correct deficiencies.

Balakhna DOSAAF

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 27 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] An editorial entitled "Carry Out What Has Been Planned!", appearing in the 25 September issue of the newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, criticized the poor job being done by the Balakhna City DOSAAF Committee and the indifferent attitude toward this performance shown by the Gor'kovskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee.

The editorial brought a response from the Gor'kovskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee. As oblast committee chairman B. Suslov reported, the DOSAAF oblast committee critically analyzed the state of mass defense work in the Balakhna city DOSAAF organization on the basis of performance in the first 9 months of 1977. There are also plans to examine at a seminar and group conferences of chairmen of rayon (city) committees the status of mass defense work in the oblast on the basis of the results of jubilee competition.

The state of mass defense work and progress in meeting socialist pledges were discussed at a meeting of the presidium of the Balakhna City DOSAAF Committee in light of the critical comments in the newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT. Those present at the meeting acknowledged as correct critical comments to the effect that in addition to outstanding collectives, the Balakhna DOSAAF organization contains lagging groups. In connection with this a decision was made to render assistance to lagging groups and to assign leading, actively-working DOSAAF organizations to assist them.

The presidium meeting supported the initiative of the primary organization at the Ryazan' Radio Plant and the Krasnopresnenskaya Model DOSAAF Automotive School on successful completion of the jubilee year, and supplementary pledges were specified for boosting the level of mass defense work.

Serious attention was focused on the question of strengthening the training and sports facilities of the Balakhna city DOSAAF organization.

Balaklavskiy Rayon DOSAAF Dues

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 27 Nov 77 p 3

[Text] The editors received a letter from A. Zhuravlev, a reader residing in the city of Sevastopol', in which he reported violation of regulations on the payment of membership dues in the Balaklavskiy Rayon DOSAAF organization. As I. Tyukhanov, chairman of the Krymskaya Oblast DOSAAF Committee, reported to the editors, a check of the facts presented in the letter established that officials of the Balaklavskiy Rayon DOSAAF Committee had been violating the regulation on payment of membership dues. Many primary DOSAAF organizations in that rayon had for a period of 2 years been meeting their membership dues pledges by only 70 percent, which was reported to the city committee, while 30 percent of the amount contributed from dues remained uncollected. Financial records are poorly maintained in the organizations, and the auditing effort is weak--many audit commissions were doing practically nothing. In many instances membership dues would be accepted in cash, not through the savings bank, and would not be fully entered on the books as receipts.

The inspection report submitted by F. Shtikh, member of the oblast audit commission, noted that training of specialists in the mass technical occupations is poorly organized in Balaklavskiy Rayon, plus other deficiencies, including a negligent attitude on the part of Yu. Arkhangel'skiy, former chairman of the Balaklavskiy Rayon DOSAAF Committee, toward management of finances, monitoring and supervision of primary organizations.

These omissions remained uncorrected over a long period of time, as a result of poor monitoring of the work of the rayon committee by the Sevastopol' City DOSAAF Committee.

The oblast DOSAAF committee ordered the Sevastopol' City DOSAAF Committee to take measures to correct the deficiencies noted in the audit commission report, to improve monitoring and supervision of primary organizations and to give continuous assistance to audit commissions in their work.

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CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Youth Rally Includes CD Competition

Moscow VOYENNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 12, Dec 77' signed to press 9 Nov 77' pp 8-10

[Article by M. Zolocheskiy, special correspondent for VOYENNYYE ZNANIYA: "Ivanovo: The Winners' Rally"]

[Text] The Torch of Accomplishment in the First Soviet's Homeland

It was lit with a fire which was brought from the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, from the field of Mars and from the memorial at the legendary Krasnaya Talka. This time, Moscow, the capital of our homeland, and Leningrad, the cradle of the October Revolution, transferred the relay race to the homeland of the first soviet--to the city of Ivanov.

While looking at the flame blazing in the cup, many people were evidently thinking about the journey which it made in order to illuminate the All-Union Rally for the campaign winners--with which our young people saluted the 60th anniversary of Great October--with its light. They were thinking about the unfading flame of the revolution which opened a new era for mankind 60 years ago.

Each page of our socialist homeland's heroic chronicles is precious to Soviet young people. This is why the patriotic movement of the pathfinders of the people's feats has developed so widely. Over 30 million young men and women participated in the eighth stage of the All-Union Campaign dedicated to the 25th CPSU Congress and the 60th anniversary of Great October; this time 1,300 of them, the cream of the crop, are gathered in Ivanovo. Who are these campaign winners? Let's introduce some of them.

Fedor Demin, the Komsomol organizer of a ship assemblers' brigade of the Baltic Ship Building Plant imeni S. Ordzhonikidze. Together with his brigade comrades, he stepped forward as a pioneer of the patriotic movement "Sixty Shock Weeks for the 60th Anniversary of Great October!" which has developed throughout the country.

Valentina Golubeva--a weaver at the Ivanovskiy Worsted Combine. On the evening of the rally's opening, she was presented an Order of Lenin and a "Hammer and Sickle" Gold Star. On 20 July, having gone over to an expanded sphere of service, she was the first worker in the country's light industry to complete an individual five-year plan. Valentina has pledged to fulfill 15 annual assignments by the end of 1980!

Igor' Stavinchuk is a laboratory assistant at the Voroshilovgradskiy Medical Institute. He is a graduate of DOSAAF, the Ukrainian champion in the paramilitary cross-country race, a member of the Soviet Union's combined team...

"In accordance with their statutory tasks, the new USSR Constitution grants trade unions, the Komsomol, the DOSAAF and other public organizations widespread rights for participation in the administration of state and public affairs and in the resolution of political, economic and sociocultural questions," said D. Garmash, Hero of Socialist Labor, State Prize Laureate and director of the Rybnovskiy (Ryazanskaya Oblast) Rayon Agricultural Equipment Association. "The all-Union campaign is one of the important directions in our common work on the communist indoctrination of young people. The rallies are also an outstanding school of advanced experience for us. Research results are evaluated, achievements are analyzed and new, noble goals are put forward here."

The Paths and Roads of the Young

Someone among the rally's participants said that if the roads covered by them were stretched into one, it would be a truly astronomical distance. But a campaign is not just the number of kilometers covered. It is an in-depth understanding of the Land of the Soviets' history and a familiarization with great ideas and with patriotic affairs. Some found the families of soldiers who are resting in a common grave. Others helped fellow soldiers-friends get in touch with each other. Still others wrote a history of their kolkhoz. And others repeated the labor feats of their fathers...

The superior patriotic influence of the pathfinders is clearly felt in increased labor discipline and labor productivity and in the widespread development of socialist competition.

The campaign stimulates the young builder of communism to outstanding training, outstanding labor and to better service of the homeland. Take Tul'skaya Oblast; 280,000 young men and women participated in the competition for the right to sign the Report of the Lenin Komsomol to the CPSU Central Committee for the 60th anniversary of Great October. Over 25,000 young production leaders were already working on 1978 accounts in September. Approximately 9,000 young production workers and 490 Komsomol and young people's collectives are competing to receive the inscribed prizes of the veterans of the revolution, wars and of labor.

"Participation in the campaign also has a great deal of applied military significance," pointed out MajGen V. Mosyaykin, deputy chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, who was present at the rally. "The campaign promotes the moral and physical tempering of young men and women; it helps them acquire a technical speciality and to actively participate in the life of DOSAAF organizations. Draftees receive the opportunity to better prepare themselves for military service and to acquire skills which enable them to enter the formation of reliable and skillful defenders of the homeland in a short period of time."

For example, approximately 300,000 young men and women participated in the eighth stage of the all-Union campaign in just Kiyev alone. There are 55 future soldier's universities and clubs, 15 military patriotic associations, 10 detachments of young friends of the border guards and 27 young sailors' crews working in the city; 22,727 young soldiers are participating in the military sports games Zarnitsa and Orlenok. Every one of them is a member of DOSAAF.

The Bank of Experience

During the rally, an applied scientific conference "October and Paths for the Further Strengthening of the Development of Young People in the Revolutionary, Combat and Labor Traditions of the Soviet People" took place. Over 800 people took part in its work. They were representatives of organizations and institutions which are concerned with the problems of the growing generation's communist development.

The results of the eighth stage of the campaign were evaluated at the conference; ways of further strengthening the Komsomol's businesslike ties with DOSAAF, the trade unions, the military commissariats, veterans' sections and cultural institutions were outlined. After all, the all-Union campaign is an entire system of measures which promotes the military patriotic development of young people, their ideological and physical tempering and their

preparation for military service. Its successful accomplishment is only possible through the combined efforts of all interested organizations and through a clear cut definition of tasks for each of them.

V. Fomichev, the secretary of the Ivanovskiy CPSU Obkom who spoke at the conference, said that a wide network of political clubs and societies, seminars on theory and social and political readings--which enabled them to attract over 40,000 young workers and kolkhoz workers to a study of Marxist-Leninist theory--was created in the oblast on the Komsomol organizations' initiative. Over 85,000 young soldiers participated in the military sports games Zarnitsa and Orlenok.

The trade union organizations directed their efforts at developing socialist competition among the young working people for the honorary mandate "Red Carnation" which was signed by their famous fellow countrymen and revolutionary war and labor heroes. Over 300,000 hours of the remarkable "Red Weavers'" traditions participated in it.

The DOSAAF committees reinforced their propaganda among the young people on Lenin's behest on the national nature of the business of defending the socialist homeland. Several dozen future soldier's universities and 168 military patriotic clubs for teenagers were opened in the oblast.

Over 2,500 of the campaign participants completed the basic military training course at the 31st defense sports camp; 17,000 young men and women were drawn into studies of military technical sports in the sections, clubs and at the oblast's combined DOSAAF School; 150,000 people were tested on the standards for the all-Union complex "Ready for Labor and Defense of the USSR" (RLD).

Thanks to the active participation of the young people of the oblast's council on tourism and excursions, of the cultural institutions and the war veteran's sections in the organization of the campaign, over 180,000 young men and women were attracted to research work, to collecting material on revolutionary events and the socialist development of their native krais and on military and labor feats of the oblast's workers...

Similar examples of efficient, joint, purposeful activity of the Komsomol, trade unions and DOSAAF under the guidance of party organizations can be found in many of the country's union republics, krais and oblasts; it is very important to make the experience of the best accessible to everybody.

The speeches of S. Arutyunan, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, LtGen N. Neyelov, representative of the USSR Ministry of Defense, M. Stegantsev, chief of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee Directorate for Mass Organizational Work and Military Patriotic Propaganda, V. Aristov, the responsible AUCCTU secretary for work among young people and of others were devoted to the issues of further developing and improving the all-Union campaign for young people.

Many concrete proposals and recommendations rang out from the rostrum of the applied scientific conference; their underlying thought was that participation in the campaign must be more closely coordinated with the practical tasks facing young people in work, study and preparation for military service. The all-Union campaign must have a continuing effect on the improvement of military patriotic and mass defense work in the localities; it must promote the increased interest of draft age and predraft age youth in mastering the principles of military affairs and military technical knowledge and skills and it must promote intensified physical training for future defenders of the homeland. The annual all-Union competitions on multiple RLD events, the inspections of military patriotic work in defense sports camps, the sports competitions for the heroes' prizes, the relay races and races dedicated to famous dates in our country's history and military sports games are called upon to serve this purpose.

The tourist expedition "My Homeland is the USSR" is an important means for understanding the country's history. As was pointed out at the conference, the number of participants in the expedition has significantly increased since the last, the seventh all-Union, rally for campaign winners.

The training of the organizers of patriotic indoctrination contributed to this. Seminars for the chairmen of the campaign's staffs, representatives of DOSAAF, the Komsomol, trade unions, councils on tourism and excursions and the war veterans' sections were organized in many cities, oblasts, krays and republics. Propaganda among young people on the party's and people's heroic traditions is a matter which requires a great deal of experience, skill and ability.

The applied scientific conference's main conclusion was that the all-Union campaign of Komsomol members and young people has become one of the most important means for the military patriotic development of young people and the mission of the Komsomol DOSAAF and other public organizations is to further develop and improve it.

We are the Heirs of Your Fame

In order to rightfully occupy the place of their fathers and to become worthy of our banners, they must adopt not only the knowledge and experience of their elders and their endless devotion to the homeland, but also their physical strength, endurance and the ability to defend the accomplishments of October with weapon in hand. Therefore, a large place was set aside for military sports competitions and games in the program of the eighth all-Union rally.

The "Red Banner" military sports game which was held at the DOSAAF air field was a true holiday of military technical sports. Sportsmen of the defense society's training organizations demonstrated their expertise--in stunt flying and sky diving, in handling a motorcycle and in a "fox hunt" and in airplane modeling and training guard dogs--to honored guests and participants of the rally and also to the residents of the city of Ivanovo.

The exhibit of DOSAAF sports equipment and weapons which was organized at the airfield attracted the attention of rally participants and guests. It was a unique and extremely profitable form of propaganda for the military technical sports which are cultivated by the defense society.

Over 700 campaign winners took part in the combined relay race through Ivanovo's places of revolutionary glory. Its 14 stages--with an overall distance of 10 1/2 kilometers--required not only physical strength and stamina from the sportsmen but also the ability to handle a weapon, to hit a target with a grenade, to use a telephone, radio set, gas mask, stretchers and a flame thrower and to handle a motorcycle and bicycle.

The Belorussian team took first place in the combined relay race. Its result was 38 minutes 54 seconds.

The competitions on civil defense attracted the attention of many fans. This was greatly facilitated by the successful selection of the place for holding them (on the edge of the city, not far from the main entrance to the worsted combine). The oblast CD staff saw to it that qualified judges and efficient radio information on the course of the sports contests were available ahead of time.

The organizers opened a CD center with stands on civil defense and with different instruments for radiation and chemical reconnaissance alongside the route.

"I think that these mobile training centers, which are set up in the area of mass competitions, are very useful," N. Litvinova a member of the Latvian delegation of campaign winners and a saleslady at the Riga department store "Children's World," told us. "I am a volunteer medic. When I return from the rally, I am going to try to get our people to set up these centers. I think that the CD staffs will help us in this."

...A signal flare rises to the sky and the sportsmen are off. During the first stage of the competition, the participants are demonstrating their ability to correctly, and in the shortest possible time, scale the bars (ditch), the tunnel of fire, a log, barbed wire obstacles, to climb a wall and to put out a fire.

During the second stage, another trial awaits them. On the command "gas," it is necessary to quickly deploy and don the combined arms protective gas mask kit, boots, cape and gloves and to negotiate a "contaminated" area. The judges are strictly focusing in on the correct and sequential procedures for the sportsmen's actions.

The volunteer medical squad is also included in the contest for a team's victory. They quickly find an "injured person," put a gas mask on him, determine the nature of his "injury" and render first aid to him. Then, using improvised means, they take him to the medical center.

The teams from the Latvian SSR, from the North Caucasus and Northwest rayons and from the Ukraine operated in a precise manner during the CD competition. But the radio reported that, without a single penalty point, the Turkmen team demonstrated the best results. It was the victor. The team from the Moldavian SSR came out in second place.

Thirty teams of campaign winners participated in the competitions. The finest of the young people, well developed, strong and well trained. There were a lot of reserve soldiers among them. They received their initial CD knowledge in school and at the training centers for basic military training; they deepened and reinforced it during their army service. Yesterday's soldiers are activists in mass defense work and they now consider it their duty to participate in CD measures by serving as soldiers in the non-militarized formations.

However, it must be pointed out that not all the teams were able to show a high level of CD training. The representatives from Kirgizia, Estonia, Tadzhikistan and the Lower Volga Rayon did poorly. It seems that the CD staffs in the localities will

draw the necessary conclusions from this and they will improve their work among young people within the framework of the program of the all-Union campaign.

The Campaign Continues

"Amidst the thunder of battles and the thunder of construction, we have been dreaming about the future and thinking about those who will replace us," V. I. Chuykov, twice Hero of the Soviet Union and Marshall of the Soviet Union, told the rally participants. "And today we veterans are proud that the fire of the revolution which was lit by the great Lenin is unquenchably burning in your young hearts. We are happy to realize that the relay baton of our people's valor and glory is in reliable hands."

The torch of the Eighth All-Union Rally of Campaign Winners of the Komsomol members and young people throughout the places of the Soviet people's revolutionary combat and labor glory blazed for five days in Ivanovo. These were days of the young generation's exciting demonstration of loyalty to the behest of the great Lenin, to the cause of the Communist Party and to the banner of October.

In their letter to Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium,--in response to his cordial, fatherly greetings--the rally's participants assured the Communist Party that they will continue to carefully preserve and increase the Soviet people's heroic traditions and to devote their efforts to strengthening the might of the socialist homeland.

On the evening of 4 September the flag was taken down and the fire of the eighth all-Union rally was put out. Thus, when rising from a short halt, the soldiers put out their campfire. They must continue their journey. The campaign is not over. A new stage lies ahead.

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Tasks for New Training Year

Moscow VOYENNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 12, Dec 77 signed to press 9 Nov 77 pp 16-17

[Article by LtGen D. Mikhaylik, deputy chief of USSR Civil Defense: "Adopt the New and Advanced"]

[Text] The current training year in the CD system began while our people and all progressive mankind were widely observing the glorious 60th jubilee of the Land of the Soviets. The preparations for the jubilee and the national discussion and adoption of the new USSR Constitution by the country's highest body of power aroused a great deal of political and labor enthusiasm.

CD personnel together with the entire nation successfully completed the 1977 jubilee year. This year provided a lot of positive examples in organizing training with different categories of the populace. Valuable experience was accumulated in planning, organizing and conducting lessons with leadership and command personnel and with non-militarized formations. The role of the CD courses increased significantly. The methods for conducting multi-theme facility exercises--as the basic form of CD training for national economic facilities and their labor collectives--and providing logistical and technical support for them were also improved. All of these problems were most effectively solved in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Moldavia and Lithuania; in Moskovskaya, Leningradskaya, Chelyabinskaya, Omskaya, Volgogradskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Irkutskaya oblasts and Khabarovskiy Kray; and in Tashkentskaya and Bukharskaya oblasts of the Uzbek SSR.

By relying on the valuable experience of these and other republics, krays and oblasts in the new training year, we can achieve further improvement in the entire system for training the populace for defense against weapons of mass destruction and for operations during natural disasters and cleaning up after them.

This is all the more important since last year's results attest not only to the indisputable achievements but also to the fact that some training tasks were accomplished at a low organizational and methodological level in a number of places. Proper attention was not devoted to organizing and conducting lessons and exercises with the different categories of trainees nor to testing them on the appropriate CD standards. Untimely and unclear planning of training measures was noted; a low percentage of trainees was covered; the requirements were lowered during testing for training standards; an oversimplified situation was created. The CD alert signals were not studied everywhere; here and there the practical training for trainee actions during these alerts was neglected.

Thus, at the peak of the training year, not only did they not conduct any work on training the non-militarized formations

and the populace but they didn't even plan it in Oktyabr'skiy Rayon of Tashkent and at the kolхозes imeni Kalinin and Moscow in Sayatskiy Rayon of Chardzhouskaya oblast.

Specialized training for formation personnel was not planned at all at the Azot Production Association in Rovenskaya Oblast. Workers' and employees' training on the 20-hour program was not even organized in several of the association's shops.

In the current training year, it is important to devote more attention to training the non-militarized formations which are the foundation of CD manpower. After all, the timely and efficient accomplishment of all CD measures is dependent upon the training level of these forces. It is necessary to more widely utilize the already well-known forms and methods of training work and to search out new ones in order to instill in formation personnel high morale and political qualities and a high sense of responsibility for accomplishing assigned missions and to prepare them for skillful and decisive actions in contaminated areas and in natural disaster areas. It is necessary to develop psychological stability in formation soldiers and a readiness to overcome the difficulties caused by extreme conditions.

During formation training, it is necessary to carry out practical work on the construction of very simple shelters, on finishing the equipping of underground facilities for shelters and antiradiation shelters and on making very simple equipment to protect the respiratory organs. Each formation soldier must have an individual first aid kit and he must skillfully use it to render aid to himself and his comrades.

During special arms tactical exercises, non-militarized formation personnel must also study their facility's firefighting equipment, methods for fighting large fires and ways and means of clearing up after the natural disasters which are characteristic of the given area.

The precise actions of formations, as well as all citizens, during CD alerts--which must be practiced in the new training year--must serve as the real test of our readiness and knowledge of defense. We are all obligated to be ready at any time to enter into a selfless and skillful fight against the elements, to clean up after its disastrous consequences in a short period of time and to act precisely during CD alerts.

The quality of non-militarized formation training is directly dependent on the level of training of their direct commanders and chiefs and on the degree to which senior CD management officials and national economic specialists participate in

their training. This is why we are directing the most serious attention to training management and command personnel both at courses and directly at national economic facilities in the new training year.

This is precisely why our standards for the work of CD courses, training methods' courses of instruction and commander's lessons--which are organized on an annual basis directly at the national economic facilities--have increased so sharply. While improving these forms of training in the organizational and methodological plan (the regularity of lessons, a concentration of training measures, edification, complete coverage of trainees, the required logistical and technical support), it is also necessary to be concerned about instilling the ability to independently master CD knowledge in management and command personnel.

Meanwhile, well planned and precisely organized independent work always has been and will be one of the main methods for management personnel to master CD theory. This task was also emphasized in the CPSU Central Committee's Report to the 25th Party Congress: "Under contemporary conditions," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "when the volume of knowledge that a person needs is sharply and quickly increasing, it is now impossible to rely mainly on the mastery of a definite amount of facts. It is important to instill the ability to independently expand one's knowledge and to orient oneself in the swift flow of scientific and political information."

In carrying out this instruction during training at courses, at training methods courses of instruction and at commander's lessons, it is necessary to remind the trainees of the necessity for independent work, to help them organize it in every way possible and to accomplish the necessary supervision.

As a result of the measure adopted, many CD courses have presently become organizationally stronger; the conditions of their location and logistical and technical support have been improved; the level of training and methods work has increased; and technical training equipment is being widely introduced into the training process. This applies completely to the republican CD courses of Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Belorussia and the Ukraine; and to the courses of Moskovskaya, Minskaya, Permskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Orlovskaya, Bryanskaya and Karagandinskaya oblasts and of the Krasnogvardeyskiy Rayon of Moscow, the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon of Vil'nyus and the Komsomol'skiy Rayon of Kherson.

The required attention is paid to the selection and training of teachers and on-the-job training experts here, as well as in the courses of a number of other oblasts and rayons. As a rule, they all have a higher general and specialized training, possess firm methodological skills, interestingly and profitably conduct their lessons and show initiative and creativity. They arranged electrified stands, operating instrument mockups, simulators and other visual aids with their own hands. The high individual training of the teachers and on-the-job training experts and the good training facilities enabled them to conduct the training of management and command personnel at the level of contemporary requirements. This gives us the right to hope that the quality of course training will sharply increase in 1978 and that chiefs of staff will take measures, without relaxing their attention to the leading courses, to raise all the laggardly courses up to their level.

The problem of bringing the courses up to strength in students has taken on an exceptionally great importance. Precise planning and timely development, coordination and approval of training plans and a well thought out organization of the struggle for their complete and qualitative fulfillment--we see this as one of the main tasks of the course chiefs, the entire teaching staff and of the on the job training experts.

The fact that management personnel of national economic facilities and commanders of basic formations--upon whom, to a great extent, the level of training of the facility's personnel depends overall--have not trained at CD courses for a long period of time cannot be tolerated. But such cases are encountered and, unfortunately, they are still frequent. We will cite just one example. The chief engineer at the Quartz Plant in Chernovitskaya Oblast has not trained at the CD courses for 10 years, although according to the existing standards, he should have attended them many times.

While talking about improving the quality of course training, it is still necessary to state that it is impossible to seriously raise the training level in any way without introducing new methods for conducting lessons and without transforming it into a vital, creative affair. A wide field of activity is opening up here for research into those methods whose employment will significantly improve lesson efficiency and will increase their quality and practical value to the trainees. The management and teaching staff of the courses have something to think about.

For example, why couldn't this method be used in applied training: the teachers and on-the-job training experts would conduct a preliminary study of the CD status directly at those facilities whose managers are being called to the courses? Or, for example, why couldn't two-three trainees be assigned the task ahead of time to develop short reports which they would give during the training; they could tell the rest of the students how a particular CD problem is solved at the facilities subordinate to them. There are no limits to initiative here.

It seems that the conversation during such lessons would not be abstract but closely tied to business, to the life of concrete labor collectives. These lessons would have a purposeful nature, promote the exchange of experience and arouse a desire in the trainees to critically analyze achievements and to see things in perspective. All of this taken together would have a positive effect on the solution of the very important task of increasing the quality of training for management and command personnel and national economic specialists.

The improvement of course training is not a campaign but a continuing, routine creative process which must always be in the field of vision of CD chiefs and staffs, since it is here at the courses, that the cadres--who are implementing all the CD measures in their daily life--are being trained.

As concerns increasing the level of training for the populace, it is necessary first of all to improve the practical work for selecting formation commanders and leaders of lessons with workers, employees and kolkhoz workers, and again, to improve their individual training. It is necessary to steadfastly continue the improvement of training facilities and to more fully supply courses and national economic facilities with literature and training aids, reference materials and recommendations on methods. It is necessary to strive for the constant participation of CD staff management officials, important national economic specialists, scientists and cultural and artistic figures in training work. There is room for CD staffs to, as they say, deploy here.

A lot has been done by the efforts of our staffs and public educational agencies to improve CD organization and teaching methods in the country's schools of general education. The task is one of consolidating the outlined successes and, step by step, one of improving young students' training in defense against weapons of mass destruction.

As is well known, the USSR Ministry of Education and the chief of USSR Civil Defense approved the valuable initiative of a

number of republics and oblasts in conducting scientific methods conferences on the problems of training school children and they approved the inclusion of CD lessons in fifth grades in the general school schedule and the creation of a strong CD secondary school in each rayon. These and other projects deserve dissemination everywhere. It is also necessary to more boldly implement the joint, overall inspections of CD status in educational institutions which are conducted by the staffs and national educational agencies.

Through common efforts, it is necessary to achieve the maximum supply of authorized CD equipment for schools.

Improving the forms and methods of training, further improving its quality, is the main direction in CD development. Its main task in the future will be a decisive increase in quality in all sections based on an in-depth synthesis and scientific analysis of accumulated experience. This is an instruction of the chief of USSR Civil Defense and it must be made the basis for the practical activity of all CD management officials in implementing the training plans for 1978.

The training plans for the new year are intense. Their accomplishment is a serious test for all CD forces and first of all for CD chiefs, staffs and courses. It can only be passed provided that each training measure and especially special arms tactical exercises and multi-theme facility exercises are conducted in a situation which maximally approximates a real one, with the required simulation of ruins, obstructions, fires and radioactive contamination. All of this requires a great deal of effort, endurance and discipline from the formations and it requires, in addition, the ability of command personnel to manage rescue and immediate emergency restoration work and to skillfully employ CD manpower and equipment.

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Training Program in a Barnaul Tire Plant

Moscow VOYENNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 12, Dec 77 signed to press 9 Nov 77 pp 18-19

[Article by P. Gorbunov: "The Basic Norm Starts the Training Year"]

[Text] When an enterprise is completing the fulfillment of its output plan for products which are important to the country, it is not so easy to tear even a few people from their machines.