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<p>ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET MILITARY ACADEMIES</p> <p>(Unclassified)</p> <p>COMMENT: (Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 112 unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List inclosures, including number of copies.)</p> <p>Forwarded herewith is a report entitled "Origin and Development of Soviet Military Schools," representing a summary of the article entitled "Creation and Education of Commanding Cadres of the Army and Navy" [Sozdaniye i vospitaniye komandnykh kadrov armii i flotal], by Colonel I. Kolotilov, published in the N: <u>Red Star</u> [Krasnaya Zvezda], Moskva, No. 245, 20 October 1956, pp. 2-3.</p> <p>This article describes the difficult task of the Soviet Armed Forces, at the beginning of their existence, in creating commanding cadres. It describes the organization of the first Soviet military schools, their development and the new schools and higher military academies organized in later years.</p>				
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM: (Agency)	25X1	25X1	REPORT NO.
			PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET MILITARY ACADEMIES

The task of creating the new commanding cadres was from the first days of organization of the Soviet armed forces not only one of the most important but also one of the most complicated tasks.

The complexity of this task consisted in the fact that the building of the new Soviet army proceeded during the wrecking of the old [Imperial] army; secondly, there were no qualified military specialists among the working classes, and, thirdly, that the situation of the foreign military intervention required an immediate solution of this problem of commanding cadres.

The complexity of this problem was aggravated by the lack of experience in this matter and by difficulties of economical and political character.

Under difficult conditions the Communist Party under the leadership of V. I. Lenin took a number of measures, directed to provide the Army and the Navy with the necessary commanding cadres. In a short time a network of military courses and schools for the training of Red commanders was unfolded. These courses and schools admitted for training for the most part soldiers and sailors, workers and peasants and the "foremost representatives of the intelligentsia," members of combat teams [boyevaya druzhina] and soldiers of Red Guard detachments. By the end of 1918 sixty-five military schools and short term courses were already organized and in October, 1920, their number was 153. The majority of graduates of these schools were of working people's origin. The predominant part of these graduates were communists.

Courses and schools for the training of commanding personnel were organized also directly in the units and groupings not only in the rear areas but also in the front zones.

The Soviet army needed also senior and high military commanders. Their training could be made only through a higher military school. According to V. I. Lenin's direction at the end of 1917, classes began at the Military Engineering Academy. In February, 1918, the Artillery Academy was opened, and in December, 1918 - the Academy of General Staff, which later was renamed the Military Academy im. M. V. Frunze. Other military schools were opened, including the higher school for training of political workers, which later was reorganized into the Military Political Academy im. V. I. Lenin.

During the 1918-1920 period [schools and] courses under the administration of the Main Administration of the Military Schools [Glavnoye upravleniye voyenno-uchebnykh zavedeniy] prepared approximately

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

REPORT NO.

PAGE 3

OF 3

PAGES

40,000 Red Commanders or almost one third of the Red Army's commanding personnel. In addition, over 20,000 commanders were trained in courses organized directly at the fronts. Many capable and energetic men, who according to V. I. Lenin "did not attend any courses except the cruel course of the war," were advanced to commanding posts.

Commanders and military leaders of the new type played a decisive role in the building of the Red Army and Navy, in direction of military operations and in securing the victory in the Civil War.

During the 1924-1928 period, for the purpose of further strengthening of the Army and Navy, the Central Committee of the Party and the Soviet Government passed a number of measures, which entered the history of the Soviet armed forces under the name of "military reform."

Great attention was paid by the Communist Party to the improvement of military-technical culture of the commanding cadres in connection with the technical reconstruction of the army and navy and with the development of new kinds of troops.

In 1931 the Central Committee of the Communist Party obliged the party organizations to select the best communists and Komsomol members for the military schools. In 1931 and in 1932 special mobilization was made for the recruitment of students for the military technical and flying schools. In this matter, great assistance to the Party and Soviet Government was rendered by the Komsomol, which took the patronage of the Naval and Air Forces.

In 1932, five new Academies were opened and among them: Military Academy of Tank Troops, Electrotechnical and Military Transport Academies.

For the purpose of strengthening of the Naval commanding personnel, a special mobilization was made for recruitment of students for the naval school and especially for the Naval Academy.

For the preparation of higher military cadres the creation in 1936 of the Academy of General Staff of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army im. K. Ye. Voroshilov [Akademiya General'nogo Shtaba Raboche-Krest'yanskoy Krasnoy Armii] was of great importance.

After World War II, a considerable part of Soviet officers, generals and admirals received once more their higher education in higher military schools.

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