

THE FRUNZE MILITARY ACADEMY

GENERAL REMARKS

The Frunze Military Academy (Voyennaya Akademiya im.Frunze) located in Moscow on Klinicheskaya Ulitsa is numbered among the sixteen or more military academies of the USSR. Every military academy is designed to provide training for one type of service in the Red Army-- communications, engineering, artillery, medical, electro-technical and the like. Frunze is the only academy which gives a regular military course. Unlike the technical academies which gave four or five year courses, up to the outbreak of the war, the course at Frunze lasted only three years. There is reason to believe that it currently gives a four year course.

Frunze frequently has been confused with the General Staff Academy (Akademiya Generalnogo Shtaba) located in Moscow on Kropotkinskaya Ulitsa. (1) The General Staff Academy was established around 1932 or 1933. It is directly subordinate to the Chief of the General Staff and is the most important military academy in the USSR. The General Staff Academy accepts only older and more experienced officers who have had staff or command work and who have graduated from one of the various military academies such as Frunze.

Like the rest of the military academies, Frunze is organized into several faculties, the most important of which are the First, or Operational Faculty, and the Second, or Eastern Faculty. The Operations Faculty trains officers for future command positions with the Operations Directorate of the General Staff or the Operations directorates of the military districts, fronts and armies. Since the war this faculty has been opened to military commanders of the various satellite countries, notably Poland and Czechoslovakia. The Eastern Faculty trains officers for intelligence work.

THE SECOND FACULTY OF FRUNZE

The Second or Eastern Faculty is actually an Intelligence Faculty. Candidates desiring to enter the Faculty are considered for their aptitude in intelligence work and for their knowledge of foreign languages. Some of the students at the Faculty are members of Soviet Military Intelligence prior to their arrival at Frunze; others have never had any previous intelligence experience. *Graduates of the Faculty qualify to either operational or informational work.*

The Second Faculty of Frunze is completely independent of Intelligence headquarters. However, the overall training program is certainly directed by the Deputy Chief of Training at Soviet Military Intelligence headquarters and the Deputy Chief of Training holds a watching brief over the Faculty. The Faculty is headed by a Brigadier or Major General who is always a member of Soviet Military Intelligence. The staff and instructors are also members of Soviet Military Intelligence.

Second Faculty apply for admission.

Let us take the case of JEHANGIROV, a Senior Lieutenant of ^{Air Force} ~~Artillery~~ attached to the Artillery Section of the Transcaucasian Military District. In 1939 JEHANGIROV decides he wants to get into intelligence work or become a diplomat. He goes to the Personnel Section of the Military District and requests permission to go to Frunze to attend the Eastern Faculty. The Personnel Section in turn contacts the Tactical Intelligence Subsection of the RO Sh KKA. The Chief of the Tactical Intelligence Section reviews JEHANGIROV's file, adds his comments and forwards the file to the Chief of the RO. If he appears to be a likely candidate, the RO will inform the Chief of the Personnel Section to go ahead and send him to Frunze. JEHANGIROV might even be called before the Chief of the RO for an interview. In this case the chief will be looking him over for future use but will not recruit him at that time. JEHANGIROV's application for admittance to the Second Faculty will then be forwarded to Moscow and the organs of the Transcaucasian GUGB NKVD will start a security check on him. If he is cleared by the GUGB and if his qualifications impress the authorities of Frunze, JEHANGIROV will be invited to Moscow where he will appear before the Mandatnaya Komissiya (3) of Frunze. If he passes the commission, he will be accepted as a student at the Second Faculty.

In some instances the ROs of the Military Districts send their junior cntl

As opposed to the other faculties of Frunze, the Second Faculty prior to the war gave a four year course. The Personnel Section of Frunze kept fairly close track of the students at the Second Faculty. The Chief of the Personnel Section at Soviet Military Intelligence headquarters through his liaison with the Chief of Personnel at Frunze, also kept track of the students at the Second Faculty. The Chiefs of the two personnel sections working together arrange for the future assignments of the candidates. On the day of his graduation from the Faculty, the student is given his future assignment.

Some students will be sent as chiefs of the PRPs which are directed by the Chiefs of the ROs of the various Military Districts. The chiefs in turn may subsequently be attached to the ROs themselves as intelligence officers, and if they are capable will be made chiefs of the agentur or information subsections of the ROs. Upon occasion, if they have the rank, an excellent party characteristic and connections, they may even be appointed as Chiefs of ROs. Every year a certain number of the graduating class will be appointed as assistant service attaches and sent to reinforce the staffs of Military attaches in foreign countries (4). Some of the graduating class are sent to Soviet Military Intelligence headquarters in Moscow where they will be given additional briefing in their assignments and placed in either the Office of Operations or the Office of Information. Some students will be sent abroad for Soviet Military Intelligence under official or semi-official cover for the Ministry of Foreign Trade, as a Second Secretary ~~for~~ or the like in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as a representative for Gosbank, or as a Tass correspondent. These individuals are given additional training in the agency under whose cover they are going in order that they may be naturalized in their jobs.

officers there to gain additional experience. For instance in the 1930s one of our able analyst attached to the Information Section of the RO Sh KKA was sent by the RO to the Second Faculty in order that upon his graduation from Frunze he could return to the Information subsection of the RO in a higher position.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

Since Frunze was primarily a military academy, the students received lectures on regular military subjects such as tactics, operational art, foreign armies, and military history. In addition, emphasis was placed on subjects connected with military diplomacy.

As it can be surmised from the alternate name of the Second Faculty, the Faculty was particularly concerned with preparing intelligence officers for activities connected with the Near and Middle Eastern Areas as well as the Balkans. However, a number of the students were subsequently assigned to intelligence units in the Western military districts or sent out on strategic intelligence assignments in the Western countries.

The classes appear to have been divided into area groups (5). The group studying a certain area studied the language of the area; the history of the countries lying in the periphery; the customs, social life, etc., of the countries concerned; history of the intelligence services in those countries; operational methods and techniques which have proved successful in those countries; and the like. *Geography and theaters of war were also studied.*

In addition a KUKS course for senior officers was given at the Second Faculty. It is presumed that the course was similar to the one given at the Higher Intelligence School of the GRU.

FOOTNOTES

(1). The General Staff Academy erroneously has been referred to as the Budenny Military Academy. The military academy called after Budenny is located in Leningrad and is the Military Electro-Technical Academy commonly known as the VETA.

Due to the fact that Frunze and the General Staff Academy have often been confused, it has been erroneously stated that the Second Faculty of the General Staff, rather than the Second Faculty of Frunze, trains officers for Soviet Military Intelligence.

The General Staff Academy does not give an intelligence course. However, every year a limited number of the graduating class of the Academy are appointed to the Directorate of Soviet Military Intelligence for staff positions.

(2). At least prior to the outbreak of World War II, the Tactical Intelligence Subsection of the RO of the Staff of a military district was responsible for training.

(3). The Mandatnaya Komissiya has been discussed in greater detail in the Section dealing with the Higher Intelligence School of the GRU.

(4). Generally Soviet Military Intelligence personnel sent out as assistant service attaches who are recent graduates of the Second Faculty have the status of legal agents to GRU legal residents in the areas concerned.

(5). A class in a Soviet military academy corresponds to an American freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year in a high school or college.