

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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The education of the medical personnel within the Soviet Naval Medical Corps could be classified in three categories:

- a. Those in the category of the least educated were the "saninstructors", who were similar to U.S. corpsmen. Within the organization of a naval infantry platoon, one man was designated to be the saninstructor. He attended a course in first aid, and was taught the basic principles of treating minor wounds, cuts, and bruises. During peacetime, this was a three-month course; however, in wartime it was shortened to one month. The medical knowledge of the saninstructor was considered to be so slight that he was not permitted to administer shots or injections. The primary duty of the saninstructor was considered to be that of a regular infantry man; he was armed with a rifle. His secondary duty was that of a medical corpsman. The saninstructor carried a medical kit in the form of a pack. This kit contained various battle dressings, bandages, iodine, and other basic first aid articles.

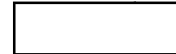
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- b. Those in the second category were the doctors' assistants (feldshers). The doctor-assistant received a more thorough medical education than the saninstructor, but it was less complete than that of medical doctor. The length of study during peacetime was normally four years; during wartime this course was shortened to two years. The doctor-assistant was allowed to give shots or injections and to prescribe treatment for common ailments.
- c. The third category was that of the doctor (vrach) himself.

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