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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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ARMED FORCES

BOOK EXCERPTS: THE KIEV MILITARY DISTRICT

Kiev KRASNOZNAMENNIY KIYEVSKIY in Russian 1979 (signed to press 15 Dec 78) pp 1-2, 5-8, 386, 401-415

[Annotation, table of contents, introduction and chapter excerpt from book "Red Banner Kiev: Essays on the History of the Red Banner Kiev Military District (1919-1979)", by group of authors, 2d edition, revised and supplemented, Izdatel'stvo politicheskoy literatury Ukrainy, 75,000 copies, 416 pages]

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Annotation:

The authors present the history of the KVO [Kiev Military District], which this year celebrates its 60th anniversary, in a popular scientific form. They cite vivid examples of valor, courage and heroism of district personnel displayed in fighting against enemies of our Motherland during the Civil and Great Patriotic wars. The book's pages cover the training and life of personnel in postwar times and show how they preserve and augment the grand military traditions.

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[Introduction:]

The ancient lands of the Ukraine, scorched by fierce wars, lie on both sides of the Dnepr-Slavutich in the southwestern part of the Soviet Union. Sons of the Ukraine steadfastly defended their land for many centuries against forays by foreign invaders. The Ukrainian people's struggle against oppressors and for national independence became more decisive and successful following their reunification with the Great Russian people. The 325th anniversary of this historic event is being celebrated this year.

The union of fraternal peoples was filled with new content and became one of the decisive factors in the struggle for reorganizing society on a socialist basis with the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, when the workers overthrew the exploiting classes and took power into their own hands.

Led by the Party of Lenin, the fraternal peoples acted as a single front against the interventionists and internal counterrevolution, which raised their hands to the historic achievements of the working class and peasantry. From October 1917 through March 1919 fierce class battles took place in the Ukraine against the bourgeois-nationalist Central Rada, German occupiers, the hetmanate and the Petlyura Directory. At that time there was a process of development and consolidation of Soviet power in the Ukraine, and a regular Red Army was formed.

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The Kiev Military District was organized in March 1919 in the central part of the Ukraine on the basis of local entities of military control. This was one of the important activities of the Communist Party, which under Vladimir Il'ich Lenin's leadership was conducting an organizational development of the armed forces of the young proletarian state.

Prominent party, state and military figures took an active part in the struggle for the power of the soviets, in the creation and strengthening of armed forces in the Ukraine, in formation of the Kiev Military District and in troop management.

Prominent military leaders worked in the district in different years: I. Kh. Bagranyan, V. K. Blyukher, N. F. Vatutin, A. A. Grechko, A. I. Yegorov, G. K. Zhukov, M. P. Kirponos, P. K. Koshevoy, V. G. Kulikov, K. S. Moskalenko, K. K. Rokossovskiy, S. K. Timoshenko, I. F. Fed'ko, V. I. Chuykov, I. E. Yakir and I. I. Yakubovskiy.

The district was a border district for a long while, and this placed an imprint on the troops' life and combat training. Commanders, fighting men, political entities and staffs struggled persistently to increase combat readiness and master new models of combat equipment. Many test exercises with the participation of large masses of troops were conducted in the district in prewar years. The combat training, which took place in a situation approximating actual conditions of combat actions to the maximum, was a good school for development and maturity of fighting men, commanders and political workers.

The district officer corps demonstrated boundless devotion to their people, the Communist Party and the Soviet government, and mature military proficiency in the stern tests of the Civil and Great Patriotic wars. Rank-and-file soldiers and the NCO's fought the hated enemies courageously. The names of many true sons of the multinational Soviet people who performed exploits on the soil of the Ukraine, now a quadruple-order Soviet Socialist Republic famed for its industrial might, well developed agriculture and outstanding successes in science and technology, have become legendary. Labor victories of Ukrainian workers became possible thanks to the wise Leninist policy of nationalities, which united the peoples into a single powerful Soviet Union. "The unity of the multinational Soviet people," said CPSU CC General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet L. I. Brezhnev, "is as strong as diamonds. And as the diamond has an iridescent facet, so the unity of our people sparkles with the diversity of its component nations, each of which lives a rich, full-fledged, free and happy life."¹

The grateful memory of the Ukrainian people sacredly preserves the names and heroic deeds of the defenders of the socialist homeland. Cities and villages of the Ukraine have set up more than 2,000 museums where exhibits and documents have been collected about the exploits of Soviet soldiers. Memorials have been erected and monuments and obelisks set up in honor of their utter dedication to the Motherland and their courage.

A feature of the district is the fact that over 20 military educational institutions of varying profiles are located here. Military schools, other schools and courses have prepared tens of thousands of officers for the Soviet Army who are specialists in their work, capable indoctrinators and strong-willed commanders. Among

1. L. I. Brezhnev, "Leninskim kursom. Rech'i i stat'i" [With a Leninist Course; Speeches and Articles], Vol. 2, Moscow, Politizdat, 1973, p 95.

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those who began their combat career here were army generals N. F. Vatutin and I. D. Chernyakhovskiy, marshals artillery Yu. P. Bazhanov and G. F. Odintsov, generals A. Ye. Borovykh, A. G. Kravchenko, V. D. Kryuchenkin, V. D. Lavrinenkov, I. V. Panfilov, P. G. Shafranov and many others.

District troops and military educational institutions and the collectives of military enterprises and establishments, which are an organic component of the USSR Armed Forces, take an active part in all major events involving the strengthening of national defensive might. The privates, NCO's, officers and generals of all generations, brought up by the Communist Party, serve their people and the great cause of communism selflessly.

In the postwar years as before, the Kiev Military District was the initiator of many famous patriotic undertakings which contributed to a comprehensive strengthening of the Armed Forces' might and the defensive capability of the Soviet state. Its troops participated in major exercises and maneuvers. The more advanced models of combat equipment and weapons were tested here and new theoretical propositions of tactics and operational art were checked in practice. All this served for the further development of military affairs.

The Soviet Motherland appraised the military efforts of personnel highly. The Kiev District, many of its combined units and units, and military educational institutions were awarded orders, memorial banners, and jubilee Lenin honor scrolls. Grand revolutionary and combat traditions of heroes of the Great October and of the Civil and Great Patriotic wars live and multiply among the troops.

Historic resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, adoption of the new USSR Constitution and celebrations in connection with the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and our valorous Armed Forces generated a new surge of energy in district personnel. The Motherland's defenders are steadfastly mastering combat proficiency, they are strengthening military discipline and efficiency daily, and they are sacredly implementing Lenin's behests and the Communist Party's demands for a further comprehensive increase in the defensive capability of the land of developed socialism, and an increase in combat readiness of units and combined units.

Rallied closely about the Leninist Central Committee of the CPSU and the Soviet government, district personnel are ready to perform their patriotic and international duty with honor at any minute.

This book tells about the establishment, development and activities of the Red Banner Kiev Military District. It was written by a group of authors on the basis of archive materials, official documents of the USSR Ministry of Defense and of party entities, military-scientific literature and memoirs.

The editorial board and group of authors were given great assistance in working on the book by the Agitprop Directorate of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, the Military Science Directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, the Military Science Department of the Main Staff of the Ground Forces, Main Personnel Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense, the Institute of Military History, the Central State Archives of the Soviet Army, the Institute of Party History of the CC CP of the Ukraine, the Institute of History of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, officers of the district staff and directorates, and the Military Science Society of the Kiev District Officers' Club of the Soviet Army.

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Diagram maps of the Great Patriotic War period were drawn up from the originals developed by G. I. Degtyarev on the basis of documentary materials of the USSR Ministry of Defense Archives.

Chapter Seventeen: Always in Combat Readiness

Indissoluble Ties

The past decade in the district's history is characterized by a further consolidation of ties between the people and the Army. Military personnel take part in congresses of the CP of the Ukraine and the Komsomol and in the work of party, Komsomol and soviet entities. They are elected to the CC CP of the Ukraine, to the Republic Supreme Soviet, and to local soviets of people's deputies.

The Communist Party and government of the Ukraine devote constant attention to the development of businesslike, creative ties between the workers and military units. They delve into the life and combat training of the personnel and give necessary assistance in increasing combat readiness, improving material and living conditions and organizing political indoctrination work. In early May 1977 leaders of the Ukrainian Communist Party and government comrades V. V. Shcherbitskiy, N. M. Borisenko, A. P. Botvin, A. F. Vatchenko, G. I. Vashchenko, A. P. Lyashko, I. Z. Sokolov, V. A. Sologub, V. V. Fedorchuk, V. Ye. Malanchuk, Ya. P. Pogrebnyak and others visited Unit "X." They were accompanied by Col Gen I. A. Gerasimov, commander of the Red Banner Kiev Military District, and Lt Gen V. T. Dement'yev, member of the military council and chief of political directorate. Residents of the military post greeted the dear guests cordially. The unit commander reported the status of combat readiness. He said that the guardsmen were confidently fulfilling socialist pledges in competition for a worthy celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October.

Party and government leaders attended a tactical exercise and familiarized themselves with the life and living arrangements of the personnel. They gave high praise to the guardsmen's combat schooling.

V. V. Shcherbitskiy chatted with commanders, political workers and the party and Komsomol activists. He told about the international situation and successes of the Soviet people and toilers of the Ukraine in fulfilling resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, and dwelled on matters of the need for improving military proficiency and a further increase in combat readiness. Shcherbitskiy passed on a warm greeting to the personnel from the CPSU CC General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade L. I. Brezhnev and from USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov. He congratulated the soldiers on Victory Day and wished them new success in strengthening national defenses.

The meetings between leaders of the party and government of the Soviet Ukraine and the soldiers are vivid proof of the indestructible unity of the party, people and Army. They help the fighting men and commanders prepare even better for armed defense of the socialist homeland.

A traditional friendship has formed between cadets of the Donetsk Higher Military-Political School of Engineer Troops and Signal Troops and the production collective of the Donetsk Machine Building Plant imeni Leninist Komsomol of the Ukraine, the Mine imeni Gor'kiy, the Kirovskaya Mine and the Trudovskaya Mine. There are firm

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sponsorship ties between personnel of the Kiev Garrison and collectives of the Arsenal imeni V. I. Lenin, the Leninskaya Kuznitsa Plant and others. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes sponsor military subunits. There are no units in the district which do not have their sponsors.

The soldiers' relations are developing with creative organizations and figures of science and the arts. Some 20,000 activities have been conducted in the district in the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October through the efforts of scientists and workers of culture. Science and Technology Days have turned into a unique military-technical lecture bureau. Academicians, leading scientists of scientific research institutes of the Ukrainian SSR AN [Academy of Sciences], and leaders of industry and agriculture tell the soldiers vividly and figuratively of the achievements of Soviet science and technology and offer advice on improving equipment operation and on increasing the effectiveness and culture of military labor.

Questions of mass defense work hold a special place in sponsorship ties. They are constantly the focus of attention of republic, oblast, city and rayon party, soviet and Komsomol organizations. The joint conduct of courses, seminars and activists' meetings on preparing the youth for service in the Armed Forces has become a good tradition.

A noteworthy ritual of sending off draftees for active military service has originated. This becomes a mass popular holiday with good, thoughtful preparation. It has become the tradition in the settlement of Rakitnoye, Kiyevskaya Oblast, to send off future soldiers at the memorial erected in honor of the soldier-victors. Fierce fighting went on here during the war. Each time the young boys go off to serve in the Soviet Army they go to the lines where their fathers and grandfathers fought the hated enemy to the death. Rallies are held here. At one of them Hero SU Col (Res) V. I. Kozlovskiy and Hero of Socialist Labor P. P. Sukhetskiy, delegate to the 25th CPSU Congress, spoke to the future privates. Domna Ivanovna Shevchenko, the mother of Hero SU Aleksandr Shevchenko, who repeated the exploit of Gds Pvt A. Matrosov, also spoke warm, emotional words.

Such send-offs are arranged in a majority of the cities and villages of the Ukraine. Vivid and memorable, they generate deeply patriotic feelings in the young boys' awareness and a desire to become steadfast, courageous, ideologically conditioned defenders of the Motherland.

The military units' ties are growing stronger with schools of cities and villages. Servicemen sponsor tekhnikums, vocational-technical schools and boarding schools. Detachments of young friends of the Soviet Army and military-technical circles have been set up with the active assistance of military personnel. Many Komsomol members work in schools as Young Pioneer leaders. The Zarnitsa and Olenok military sports games are conducted with their help. "Lessons of Courage," topical evening and morning gatherings, and mass tours of the youth to places of revolutionary, combat and labor glory in which servicemen, officers and generals in the reserve and retired take an active part, have become widespread. Councils of veterans-countrymen make a great contribution to the noble cause. Many interesting activities have been conducted by collectives headed by reserve officers I. T. Kopylov, S. G. Kshenyakin, A. M. Lerman, Ye. A. Pakratov and G. L. Chumachenko.

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The district has established close contact with republic and oblast radio and television committees and press entities. Broadcasts and publications on matters of military-patriotic indoctrination are carried out under plans drawn up with the participation of commanders, political officers, military commissariat workers and military journalists. On Sundays television broadcasts "The Soldier's Glory." It lasts an hour. One hears the words of heroes of the Soviet Union, veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces, officers and generals, and draft-age and predraft-age youth. Once a month the broadcast "Soldier's Valor" is heard on the program of the radio "Young Guard." The radio journal "Senior Classman" and the program "Star is Our Password" also enjoy popularity among the youth.

Military commissariats perform productive work. Relying on the help of party, soviet and trade union entities, they arrange meetings of persons outstanding in combat and political training with draftees, contests in applied military sports, and they carry on correspondence with units where youths they have called up are serving. DOSAAF organizations are combat assistants of the military commissariats. Motor transport personnel, parachutists, radio operators and so on are prepared in their training centers. Every third draftee sent into the Armed Forces from the Ukraine has a military-technical specialty. DOSAAF organizations of Voroshilovgradskaya, Dnepropetrovskaya, Donetskaya, Kiyevskaya and Chernigovskaya oblasts showed their best side in this work.

Based on results of competition, the district's military commissariats have held leading places in the Armed Forces for a number of years. The Donetskaya Oblast Military Commissariat won first place twice, second place twice and third place once; Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast Military Commissariat won first place twice, and second and third place once each; and Chernigovskaya Oblast Military Commissariat won a second place and won third place twice. They were presented with Challenge Red Banners and a challenge prize of the USSR Ministry of Defense. For taking a prize place three years in a row, the Chernigovskaya Oblast Military Commissariat received the Ministry of Defense Challenge Prize for permanent retention.

Assistance to the local populace is an age-old tradition of the district which arose back at the dawn of its birth and which was strengthened in subsequent years. This noble quality shone with new facets in the 1977 harvest. That year the Ukrainian agricultural toilers grew a major harvest of grain, sugarbeets, potatoes and other crops. The state was sold 1.127 billion poods of grain and over 50 million tons of sugarbeets.

District motor transport personnel also made their contribution to the labor victory of the Ukrainian people. Best results in transporting the harvest were achieved. In various years, by the subunits headed by officers A. P. Borzenkov, P. L. Gatiyatullin, V. M. Kov'yar, Ye. V. Mager, L. S. Motovitskiy, A. Ya. Rodionov and V. I. Starchenko. The leaders were commended by the Presidium of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet, the Komsomol CC and the Ukrainian Komsomol CC.

Combat engineers enjoy great respect among the populace. Their help is extremely necessary to this day. The rusty heritage of the war is discovered here and there. In just the last five years combat engineers have visited 17,000 points. They have neutralized hundreds of thousands of dangerous explosive objects. Among people of this courageous profession are officers V. A. Mironov and N. S. Romanov, who have been awarded the Order of Red Star.

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Celebrations dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Ukraine left a deep trace in the awareness of district personnel. Meetings, evening and morning gatherings, lectures, briefings and talks about successes of the Soviet people in building communism and about the magnificent victories of the party in implementing the Leninist policy of nationalities took place in combined units, units and military educational institutions. District personnel are proud of the fact that the Ukraine--an equal among equal Soviet republics--is making a worthy contribution to strengthening the economic and defense might of our Motherland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

A parade of Kiev Garrison troops took place on 24 December 1977. Passing along the Kreshchatik in parade formation, the best representatives of the district demonstrated fraternal feelings toward the Ukrainian people, who are heading constantly and confidently toward communism along with all peoples of the multinational socialist state. Their labor is under the reliable protection of valorous Soviet military personnel.

The Chronicle Continues

The jubilee year of 1977 went down in history as a vivid, unforgettable page. It gladdened everyone with remarkable successes in military labor and in the life and work of subunits, units and military educational institutions. Such is the custom that a good predecessor must have a worthy successor.

Personnel of units which were initiators and leaders in competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October again turned to all personnel of the USSR Armed Forces with an appeal to continue the jubilee competition in 1978. The motto of the struggle is inspiring: "Reliably defend the socialist homeland, be in constant combat readiness, persistently master weapons and equipment, improve your combat proficiency and make the year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces a year of vital military labor." And personnel of the Taman' Red Banner Order of Suvorov Guards Motorized Rifle Division imeni M. I. Kalinin suggested stepping up the intensity of competition for foremost combined unit.

Guardsmen of the order-bearing combined unit where Lt Col M. I. Rudachenko is chief of the political department and which was famed in the war years were first in the district to support the patriotic initiative. Through the district newspaper they called on their contemporaries to improve military and political knowledge steadfastly, to develop persistently one's communist convictions and high moral-political and combat qualities, and to maintain at a high level the readiness to defend the achievements of socialism.¹ The guardsmen set forth concretely their program of action. The basis of their plan was Lenin's direction not to dwell on what had been achieved but to go forward and achieve more.

The military council and political directorate supported the guardsmen's initiative and expressed firm conviction that district personnel would unfold the struggle to implement resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress even more vigorously and would mark the new training year--the year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces--with shock military labor and a further increase in combat readiness of units and combined units.

1. See LENINSKOYE ZNAMYA, 23 November 1977.

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A wave of competition spread in a broad stream in troop units, military educational institutions and at construction sites. Displaying high patriotic sentiments, the personnel made heightened socialist pledges. Commanders, political entities, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations took advantage of the abundant experience of the jubilee year to do everything to ensure that the enthusiasm generated by resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, adoption of the new USSR Constitution and celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October was reinforced and that the responsible tasks set for the Armed Forces by the party and government were successfully fulfilled.

The Letter of the CPSU CC, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol CC to party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations and workers of the Soviet Union entitled "On Developing Socialist Competition for Fulfillment and Overfulfillment of the 1978 Plan and Intensification of the Struggle for Increasing Effectiveness and Quality of Work" had a beneficial effect on organizational and ideological work in those days. It was discussed at management conferences, in political entities of combined units, units and military educational institutions, and in party, Komsomol and trade union organizations. The party's call to work even better found a fervent response in the hearts of soldiers, workers and employees and multiplied their energy in the struggle to achieve higher results in military labor and in fulfillment of production plans.

The 19th district Komsomol conference held on 9 February 1978 was a noteworthy event in the life of the youth. It examined the question "On progress in fulfilling resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the 17th Komsomol Congress on communist indoctrination of the Army youth and ways of further increasing the activeness of Komsomol organizations in high-quality accomplishment of tasks assigned by the USSR Minister of Defense for 1978, and on a worthy greeting to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces and the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League." Capt V. G. Dobrovol'skiy, assistant chief of the district political directorate for Komsomol work, gave a briefing. The agenda of the day was discussed in an atmosphere of efficiency, fundamental criticism and self-criticism. Delegates demonstrated the fervent desire of Komsomol members and young soldiers to mark the year of the 60th anniversary of the Armed Forces and Leninist Komsomol with a further increase in combat readiness, an improvement in the quality of combat schooling and comprehensive mastery of new equipment and weapons.

District commander Arm Gen I. A. Gerasimov; Lt Gen V. T. Dement'yev, member of the military council and chief of the district political directorate; district chief of staff Lt Gen S. I. Postnikov; A. S. Chumak, chief of the administrative organs department of the CC CP of the Ukraine; Maj Gen Avn V. I. Korolenko, deputy chief of the personnel directorate of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy; A. I. Korniyenko, first secretary of the Ukrainian Komsomol CC; and first secretaries of Komsomol committees of oblasts where district forces are stationed took part in the work of the conference.

Many-sided agitprop and mass cultural work unfolded in troop units during days of preparation for the 60th anniversary of the Armed Forces. Readers' conferences and discussions and readings of memoirs by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev entitled "Malaya Zemlya" and "Vozrozhdeniye" [The Rebirth] were held everywhere. A meaningful conference was held on these books in the district officers' club, arranged by the Kiev city party committee, the district political directorate and the Ukrainian Union of Writers. A practical science conference also was held here on the topic:

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"The Soviet Armed Forces on guard over the achievements of the Great October. Embodiment of Lenin's ideas of defense of the socialist homeland in the USSR Constitution." Participating in it was A. P. Botvin, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kiev party gorkom; F. M. Rudich, chief of the department of science and universities of the CC CP of the Ukraine; V. V. Kulik, secretary of the Kiev party gorkom; veterans of the USSR Armed Forces; and writers.

A review was performed of museums and libraries of combined units and units. The best were presented with awards of the CIC of the Ground Forces, the district commander and the Ukrainian Society for Protection of Monuments of History and Culture. The district political directorate together with republic creative organizations made the film entitled "Kiev Red Banner," and put out phonograph records with a recording of performances by the Honored Ensemble of the Ukrainian SSR and of the District Song and Dance Ensemble. A republic art exhibit was opened in Kiev entitled "60 Heroic Years," and there were photo exhibits in oblast cities dedicated to the Soviet Armed Forces and the everyday routine of district troops.

On the eve of the Armed Forces jubilee, the district military council, commanders and political entities of combined units and units, and the heads of local soviet entities held a reception and honor ceremony for Army and Navy veterans and war participants. District leaders and generals and officers of the staff and directorates were warmly congratulated by CPSU CC Politburo Member, First Secretary of the CP of the Ukraine V. V. Shcherbitskiy.

Results of the fulfillment of socialist pledges in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy were summarized on 20 February at a session of the district military council. There was a reception of socialist competition winners.

A large group of personnel were commended by the USSR Minister of Defense, district commander and the commanders of combined units and units for high indicators in combat and political training. Many were awarded certificates of the Presidium of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet. Among the generals and officers commended were N. P. Babich, D. P. Basov, V. M. Galinov, V. P. Gubenko, A. S. Yelagin, N. G. Kachan, Yu. S. Kitichenko, A. K. Kozlov, V. V. Komarov, V. I. Muratov, G. G. Skovorodko, F. I. Teleshev, V. I. Tsvetkov and others.

Following celebration of the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces the political and labor intensity in troop units built up under the motto "An outstanding result for the jubilee year." District personnel perfected their combat expertise at firing ranges, training ranges, tank training areas, in classrooms and in the field, they persistently mastered new equipment and weapons and became mentally and physically conditioned. Generals and officers of the district staff and directorates are directly among the troops for a large part of the time, teach commanders and political officers the forms and methods of training and indoctrinating personnel and the organization of socialist competition, and help remedy deficiencies.

Resolutions of the 18th Komsomol Congress and the theses and conclusions contained in the striking, deeply reasoned speech by CPSU CC General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev helped further improve the communist indoctrination of soldiers, to mobilize them for successful accomplishment of combat and political training tasks, and to increase the political vigilance and combat readiness of personnel of combined units, units and

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military educational institutions. Practical tasks of military collectives were discussed at a meeting of the district Komsomol aktiv and in combined units and units. Congress materials and the speech by Comrade Brezhnev were studied in detail in the system of political studies for personnel and Komsomol political enlightenment. All the work was carried out under the sign of a worthy greeting to the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol. Its results were summarized at the All-Union Komsomol Meeting "True to Lenin's Behests." The number of persons outstanding in combat and political training, rated specialists, ranking athletes and shock workers of communist labor increased noticeably among Komsomol members in district troop units.

Many Komsomol members in district units and combined units became winners of competition for the right to sign the Report of Komsomol Members of the USSR Armed Forces to the CPSU Central Committee in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol. The report of Komsomol soldiers to the military council and district political directorate stated that 35 percent of Komsomol members in foremost combined units and units greeted the glorious 60th anniversary jubilee of the Komsomol as persons designated outstanding in the Soviet Army, 65 percent of the soldiers as specialists with a higher class rating, over 40 percent of subunits headed by commanders who were Komsomol members had become outstanding, and 51 percent of teams, squads and crews had achieved full interchangeability. Among competition winners 85 percent had been awarded 3-4 badges of soldier valor and 197 persons were shock workers of communist labor.

A ceremony of the Komsomol aktiv of Kiev Garrison dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Komsomol was held in the district officers' club. Col Gen V. T. Dement'yev, member of the military council and chief of the district political directorate, spoke to the Komsomol activists. I. S. Dunayev, a veteran of the party and Komsomol and a delegate to the 3d RKSM [Russian Communist Youth League] Congress, greeted participants of the ceremonial meeting. A. I. Korniyenko, first secretary of the Ukrainian Komsomol CC, told of the high political and labor enthusiasm in Ukrainian Komsomol organizations. District commander Arm Gen I. A. Gerasimov congratulated participants of the ceremonial meeting warmly. He called on all personnel to struggle to ensure that the Red Banner Kiev Military District was the leading district in the USSR Armed Forces.

Participants of the ceremonial meeting received with enormous enthusiasm the letter to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and to the CPSU CC General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev.

The July 1978 CPSU CC Plenum; Comrade Brezhnev's speeches during his trip to regions of Siberia and the Far East and in presenting high governmental awards of the Motherland to the city-hero of Minsk and to Baku; his new work "Tselina" [The Virgin Lands]; as well as adoption of the new Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR, celebration of the 75th anniversary of the 2d RSDRP [Russian Social Democratic Labor Party] Congress, the 60th anniversary of the 1st KP(b)U [Communist Party (Bolshevik) of the Ukraine] Congress, and the 1st anniversary of adoption of the Basic Law of the USSR were powerful incentives for a further increase in the political and military activeness of the personnel.

Commanders, political entities and party organizations bent every effort to make known to service personnel the contents of party documents, to explain in detail

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the CPSU's measures in domestic and foreign policy, and to mobilize personnel for successful performance of missions assigned by the USSR Minister of Defense for the 1978 training year. The work of agitprop collectives, lecture and agitprop groups, political briefers and agitators became more profound and meaningful. The following generals and officers proved themselves to be capable propagandists: A. P. Andreyev, S. D. Burdo, L. P. Glushkevich, V. I. Gordeyev, Ye. I. Zelenov, V. S. Kuznetsov, M. G. Marichev, A. F. Pluzhnikov, I. D. Stopnikov, I. P. Sokirko, N. N. Tolkachev, V. Ye. Tret'yakov, L. G. Trunin, V. B. Khachatryan, N. I. Chernechkov, I. I. Yankin and others.

Considerably assisting in stepping up agitprop work were the CPSU CC decrees entitled "On the Status and Measures for Improving Lecture Propaganda" and "On Raising the Role of Verbal Political Agitation in Fulfilling Resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress"; Comrade Brezhnev's work "Aktual'nyye voprosy ideologicheskoy raboty KPSS" [Current Issues of CPSU Ideological Work]; and the Directive of the USSR Minister of Defense and Chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy entitled "On Mass Agitation Work in the Soviet Army and Navy." This work is being carried out under plans approved by the district military council. Troop units regularly hold five-day training methods courses for T/O&E propagandists. They are a good school of propaganda expertise and an important factor in the further improvement of ideological work and an increase in its quality and effectiveness.

The jubilee year of 1978 remained in the memory of district personnel as a year of great achievements. It was the year of a further improvement in the personnel's combat schooling. Generals, officers, warrant officers, NCO's, privates and Soviet Army employees bent much effort to prepare and successfully conduct a number of important exercises. A step forward was taken in improving the work style of staffs. Their role in command and control rose. Much military-scientific work was conducted in the district.

District leaders were received by CPSU CC Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov. A number of issues touching on troop life and activities were resolved positively.

A district management conference on Comrade Brezhnev's book "Tselina" was held in early December. It was opened by Col Gen V. T. Dement'yev, member of the military council and chief of the district political directorate. District commander Arm Gen I. A. Gerasimov, CPSU CC candidate member and Ukrainian Communist Party CC Politburo candidate member, gave the briefing entitled "Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's book 'Tselina' is a vivid chronicle of the great exploit by the party and people."

It was emphasized at the congress that publication of Comrade Brezhnev's book "Tselina" was an outstanding event in the ideological-political life of Soviet society. Being a natural and organic continuation of the books "Malaya Zemlya" and "Vozrozhdeniye," "Tselina" teaches an evaluation and analysis of past experience in a Leninist manner. At the same time, one visualizes in the book the clear and consistent concern for the future and a scientific approach to resolving urgent problems of modern times. Brezhnev's new book calls on Soviet military personnel for new achievements in military labor for the glory of the socialist homeland.

Inspired by the outstanding victories of the Soviet people in fulfilling historic resolutions of the 25th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union,

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personnel of combined units, units and military educational institutions are full of strength and energy and are confident of achieving more significant successes in combat and political training, and have made a start in the new 1979 training year, the year of the 60th anniversary of their own Red Banner military district.

The status and measures for improving organizational and ideological work of political entities and party organizations for fulfilling resolutions of the 25th party congress, directions of the CPSU CC General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, and demands of the USSR Minister of Defense for a further increase in vigilance and combat readiness were discussed at the 28th district party conference. Its resolutions oriented commanders, political entities, party organizations and all party members on a further improvement in organizational and ideological work to fulfill the party's historic designs and mobilized the personnel for achieving new and higher goals in combat improvement.

The years go by. New fighting men come to replace the veterans. Along with their weapons, they receive the order: Don't forget for a minute the behests of Vladimir Il'ich Lenin to be on guard always and constantly strengthen the Army's combat readiness and the country's defenses. The halls of military glory come to manhood in the training routine. By their successes in training, their zeal in Army service and their patriotic deeds in the name of the great socialist Motherland and the Leninist Party, the present generation of soldiers is writing the lines of the combat history of the Kiev Red Banner.

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ARMED FORCES

BOOK EXCERPTS: MILITARY TOPOGRAPHY HANDBOOK

Moscow SPRAVOCHNIK PO VOYENNOY TOPOGRAFIИ in Russian 1980 (signed to press 21 Oct 80)
pp 1-8

/Title page, annotation, table of contents, and foreword from book "Handbook on Military Topography", edited by A. M. Govorukhin et al., USSR Ministry of Defense, Voennoe Izdatel'stvo, 110,000 copies, 352 pages/

/Excerpts/ The handbook contains information about terrain, topographical maps and aerial photographs. In it are set forth the methods of terrain orientation and the order of compiling combat graphical documents. Examples are given of topographical maps, conventional symbols and abbreviations used on maps, and reference data on topography are cited.

The handbook is intended for officers of the Soviet Army and students and cadets of military schools.

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Foreword

Excerpt In writing the handbook the group of authors had the aim of providing information on military topography in a convenient form for the reader. The reference material is systematized according to the following basic divisions: topographical and special maps, map measurements, aerial photographs of terrain, terrain study, measurements on terrain and target designation and terrain orientation. Information not introduced into thematic chapters is given in a separate chapter in an alphabetical-lexical account and by individual points (paragraphs). Examples of topographical maps, conventional symbols of topographical maps and a list of abbreviations used on maps are included in the supplement.

For the convenience of using the handbook and of rapid location of necessary information, the basic concepts and methods of operation are typed separately in each chapter. Moreover, an alphabetical-subject index is located in the handbook with the aid of which the reader can rapidly find concepts or terms that interest him.

During compilation of the handbook, regulations, lectures and guides of the Soviet Army and regulations and guides on topographical, geodesic and cartographic operations as well as textbooks and training manuals on military topography and topogeodesic security of combat troop operations were used.

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During rework of the handbook, changes of corresponding regulations and guides were taken into account, questions associated with the use of new technology were included, and some secondary information (the technique of topographic training of soldiers, tables of trigonometric functions and others) included.

Taking into account that detailed information on one or another question can be obtained by the reader from corresponding regulations and guides and from textbooks and training manuals, the authors of the handbook directed main attention to brevity of the exposition, to accessibility and the convenience of finding information, and they aspired to make the exposition stand up in a scientific respect. Much information on military topography is interrelated, therefore references to other points (paragraphs) are in the handbook.

With deep gratitude the authors will accept criticism from readers on content of the handbook and suggestions for its improvement.

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GROUND FORCES

FRENCH SOURCE ON SOVIET ARMORED OFFENSIVE TACTICS

Paris ARMEES D'AUJOURD'HUI in French Nov 81 pp 20-23

[Article by Jacques Friedberg, fellow at CEPODE (Center for Defense Policy Studies, University of Paris I, Sorbonne): "Soviet Tactics for Breaching Antitank Defenses"]

[Text] The author's thorough command of Russian has enabled him to analyze articles appearing in specialized military periodicals and, as a result, describe for us a Soviet battalion commander's concerns over how to counter the effects of "new battlefield weapons" as effectively as possible. The general information obtained by simply perusing the Soviet military press will no doubt be of interest to our readers. The author's comments are based on his analysis of articles in VOENNYI VESTNIK, a Russian military review that serves as an instructional and training aid for Soviet Army officers and NCO's. It publishes either opinions, or reports on standard field exercises and original experiments, all relative to tactics, morale, and political matters. With the exception of its editorial which presents the official viewpoint, the review's articles do not necessarily reflect Soviet doctrine or regulations. They are primarily part of the high command's effort to increase officer and NCO interest in tactics. They reflect the main stream of ideas flowing from officers and NCO's to higher headquarters and staffs.

Ever since the Arab-Israeli War of October 1973, the doctrine for battlefield employment of tanks has been the subject of intensive controversy. On the one hand, the exceptional success rate of missiles prompted the belief that the tank was obsolescent. Yet the Israeli counter offensive against the Syrians and Egyptians was crowned with success. These events established the definite fact that the tank was no longer the absolute offensive weapon.

Far removed from media publicity, the Soviet general staff was itself obliged to take into account the results of that war waged by both sides with the type of modern equipment the USSR's potential adversaries in the European theater of operation would have.

In the Soviet view, however, the tank is still the backbone of all operational military strategy. For them, it is the spearhead in the breakthrough phase and the main instrument for the exploitation phase conducted deep inside enemy rear areas.

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Its advantages, compared with other combat weapons, in a nuclear environment or in a conventional war naturally make the tank the most suitable means of accomplishing missions of this type. The large percentage of Soviet units equipped with armored vehicles of recent manufacture—various versions of the T-72 tank—proves, without any doubt, the confidence Soviet staffs have in the operational capabilities of armored formations. Consequently the major problem is not one of reconsidering the priority given to the tank or of seeking another means of conducting offensive operations, but rather one of adapting the tank and its employment doctrine to the new threat.

Without making too hasty a judgement about the technological defense discoveries made by the most probable enemy, NATO that is, developments such as third-generation missiles, remotely-delivered minefields, enhanced radiation weapons, etc., it is essential to devise a functional tactical solution to the problem of front-line antitank barriers deployed in Europe. Such a solution is beginning to show through in a few articles published in the Soviet military press. The points developed therein offer a new perspective of the course of military operations in the forward battle. While the use of nuclear weapons is not broached in these articles, and while the arguments advanced do not have the authority of doctrine, the proposals made continue to uphold the enduring importance of the offensive as a means of waging war.

Tactical Principles

The basic principle of Soviet tactics is cooperation between the various combat arms: combined arms operations extended to the third dimension. It is by judiciously using all of the means at his disposal that the unit commander can hope to control his scheme of maneuver.

At tank or motorized battalion level, the unit commander has a small staff with which to plan and coordinate his scheme of maneuver with reinforcing units: a tank or motorized company, an antiaircraft artillery section, a section from the NBC [nuclear, biological, chemical] reconnaissance detachment, an artillery battalion with three batteries, each with six pieces, and an engineer section. His higher headquarters may allocate exceptional reinforcements, such as, for example, other tank or motorized companies, obstacle-crossing equipment, antitank support, air support (fixed-wing aircraft or helicopters), and artillery support with multiple rocket launchers. However, the battalion commander is always solely responsible for employment of his troops.

Command

The Soviet Army very closely follows developments in Western antitank weapons and tactics, particularly within the American and West German armies which make up the bulk of NATO forces. It also analyzes the tactical dispositions employed by these armies.¹ In addition to a clear perception of the capabilities of one's own forces, knowledge of the enemy's weapons is an indispensable condition of success.² From such knowledge, it is possible to deduce, for example, the most likely areas for deployment of missiles. The Soviet officer is trained to conduct on-site reconnaissance and personally make visual observations of his maneuver area, thus supplementing his theoretical knowledge of that area. In combat, information

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obtained by observations made by the battalion's subordinate units are centralized, particularly the data obtained by artillery forward observers, the battalion's reconnaissance unit (dozor), and the engineer reconnaissance unit. The battalion's higher headquarters may conduct radio, electronic, and air surveillance missions. All of the data thus obtained should enable the battalion commander to determine the axes of advance for his attack, the means to be employed, and their deployment according to the quality of the enemy defenses and their organization.

Preparation, Control of Combat Operations

This involves coordinating the action of the battalion's different components, choosing a good tempo for the attack in coordination with the delivery of supporting fire and with engineer activities in support of the advance. Subordinate units must be very closely controlled to ensure their coordinated action. It seems difficult to reconcile this latter requirement with the spirit of initiative demanded in modern combat or simply with the uncertain operation of radio communications. In any case, an exact plan must be drawn up prior to leaving the line of departure.

Instruction and training take on special importance. There are, for example, a few simple techniques that make it possible to reduce the effectiveness of enemy fire against a moving vehicle, such as changing the speed of the advance, utilization of natural obstacles, advancing in serpentine fashion, etc.³ The soldier facing a difficult situation must also be prepared psychologically. This is where the unit's political structures play their part, whether it be the party or communist youth organizations, "socialist emulation." Frequent field exercises conducted under the most realistic conditions possible must give tank crews the reflexes required to engage rapidly appearing targets of opportunity.⁴

Enemy's Antitank Capabilities

The tank faces a manifold threat on the battlefield. This threat may come from tactical air support aircraft, guided missiles or rockets, helicopters, field artillery and even antiaircraft artillery delivering direct fire, other tanks, or mines. Of all these threats, the guided missile threat engages the most Soviet attention because it is the one on which Westerners rely the most. Guided missiles are steadily increasing in density throughout the combat zone.⁵ A missile's qualities are determined by: reliability that does not depend upon range, capability of piercing every type of armor, and great accuracy of fire. The TOW and HOT missiles have a kill probability of 80-90 percent against a stationary target at a range of 3-4,000 meters. At that range, the missile is protected from the tank's fire. Until it is launched, the missile is not very visible and is difficult to detect. When mounted on a vehicle, it becomes as mobile as the tank. Mounted on a helicopter, it is even more mobile.

On the other hand, its weaknesses include: its time of flight and, as a result, its reduced rate of fire, hence giving the tank gun an advantage; limited visibility (rain, fog) which lowers its kill probability; the fact that the missile crew has to move to a new position after firing its first round because the latter betrays its position. In addition, the missile cannot be guided until it has completed the first 500 to 600 meters of its flight. To determine their plan of attack, Soviets assess

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enemy defensive positions precisely on the basis of the missile's characteristics. A typical defensive position is depicted as consisting of a motorized battalion with a special antitank reserve. Two of its companies are deployed in a strongpoint with a 360-degree firing capability. The defensive tactic consists in taking tanks under fire as soon as they near the forward edge of the battle area, channeling their advance by means of natural obstacles or minefields laid throughout the depth of the position, i.e. approximately 4 kilometers, then attacking them from the flank, if necessary with supporting fire from armed helicopters, dug-in tanks, and artillery used in the direct-fire role. Minefields and antitank obstacles are sited throughout the depth of the position and in the area in front of it.

Special attention is given to the possibility of being confronted with mines rapidly scattered by helicopter, fixed-wing aircraft, or artillery. The problem posed by armed helicopters is outside the strict scope of the breaching of antitank barriers, but it is the subject of a separate study⁶ encompassing the different phases of combat operations. Acceptance of the helicopter and the role assigned to it in the maneuver of forces prove to what extent the Soviets consider it a potential danger requiring exceptional vigilance. This is one of the reasons for the rapid pace of the helicopter build-up in the Warsaw Pact forces.

Special Tactics for Overcoming Antitank Barriers

On the basis of the principles outlined above, the Soviet unit commander will employ a certain number of special tactics to help him accomplish his mission. First, we must underscore the continuity which exists, according to the Soviets, at least at the "operational art" level, between a conventional warfare situation and a nuclear or chemical warfare situation. Battlefield use of these weapons is but one means of delivering large-scale supporting fire which must be exploited immediately as if it were fire from conventional artillery or tactical air support aircraft. That is why, even in the conventional phase, the Soviets are prepared to shift without warning into the NBC phase, because their disposition of forces is already adapted to such warfare and their equipment has the technical capability of withstanding NBC attacks. The customary mass troop concentrations of World War II will no longer be seen.

This latter principle has been replaced by the principle of combined arms and mobility. It must also be emphasized that tactical air support is an army responsibility and is furnished only along the main axes of advance. This support is mentioned here solely for informational purposes, but it may be decisive in a good number of cases because of its concentration.

Artillery, Engineer Support

Artillery observation posts must be so located as to cover an observing sector extending at least 4,000 meters beyond the enemy front lines. If forward observers follow the tanks in the attack, they must be able to direct fire upon the flanks and reverse slopes where the enemy's missiles are deployed. Each battery must be capable of firing simultaneously at two point targets a few hundred meters apart (distance between two missile firing positions). The artillery must have the capability of delivering nonprearranged fire in support of troops on the line of contact, and also be prepared to blind certain sectors with smoke shells.

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The engineer section's action begins at the line of contact where minefields are likely. To neutralize them, the section uses special bangalore torpedoes rapidly emplaced in the depths of the minefield. The section also helps mount heavy demining rollers (KMT-5 mine sweeper) on the lead tank and trains the crew on their use. Other tanks are equipped with simpler rollers. During its reconnaissance, the engineer detachment marks out those lanes deemed most favorable to a rapid advance. During the attack it accompanies the lead elements for the same purpose. The section tries to widen the lanes through the minefield for the second echelon. The section may be reinforced with obstacle-crossing equipment if such obstacles as tank ditches or marshy areas are detected. Lastly, it may be ordered to mine probable axes of counterattacks by enemy tanks, particularly on the attacker's flanks. Excellent coordination is required between engineer activities, the advance of armored units, and cessation of artillery fire.

Action of Advancing Armored Units⁷

After assigning to support units those targets to be neutralized so as to further the advance of armored units, the battalion commander then indicates direct-fire targets for the tanks and BMP's (armored personnel carriers armed with a 73-mm gun and antitank missile launcher). As a general rule, the tanks fire, in salvo if possible, upon enemy tanks and long-range missile positions. The BMP's fire upon personnel and short-range missiles. The tanks keep as close as possible to the artillery's creeping barrage. The BMP's follow very close behind the tanks so as to intensify fire against the defenders and observation posts, while at the same time producing a psychological effect. If the advance through difficult terrain is in column formation, tanks and BMP's try to deploy in line for the actual assault. In open terrain, they will advance in serpentine fashion, while breaking the tempo of the advance, thereby making it difficult for enemy missile crews. Tank crews receive special training in target recognition and assessment of their importance, selection of appropriate ammunition, rapid delivery of fire upon the target and its destruction with the first round.⁸ In the attack, the tank and BMP will be close to each other and mutually support each other with fire from their weapons.

The Soviets expect to have their troops acquire the reflexes necessary for this type of engagement by having them undergo intensive training under conditions as close as possible to actual combat on specially designed and equipped ranges and courses, and above all by frequent field exercises.

Countering Antitank Helicopters

The Soviets constantly reiterate that, for Westerners, the attack helicopter has become one of the most effective weapon systems, because it has very great maneuverability and more and more decisive firepower. It can be armed with guided missiles, rockets, rapid-fire cannon, droppable mines, and incendiary devices. It is a general-purpose platform for carrying weapons and personnel under modern combat conditions. Its qualities enable it to deliver surprise strikes during the assembly and approach march phases as well as during the attack.

The Soviets believe that Western helicopters will be employed in pairs (one or two) or in groups of six, and against the following targets, in the following order of priority: tanks, antiaircraft weapons, command vehicles, BMP's, etc. Their tactic

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will consist in firing on targets at maximum range, namely from 4,000 meters at minimum altitude, i.e. 50 meters at most, using the "flea hop" method when the terrain is open and the ambush method when the terrain is wooded. As a general rule, they will fly in line. Accurate knowledge of their tactics should enable the Soviet battalion commander to anticipate the probable directions of attack and hence deploy his antiaircraft weapons accordingly, especially if he cannot rely on air cover from a higher echelon. The battalion is reinforced by antiaircraft artillery (AA)--4 guns-- or surface-to-air missiles. (Noteworthy is the AA's effectiveness in direct fire upon tanks).

Moreover, it is always possible to deduce the location of helicopter waiting positions or helicopter maintenance and supply depots which can be fired on by field artillery. The infantry is armed with man-portable infrared-homing missiles. These light weapons are always effective at short range when employed in concentrated fire. Even a tank's gun can hope to bring down a low-flying aircraft.⁹ To reduce the effectiveness of fire from helicopters, the Soviets recommend utilization of the terrain (defilade), bad weather conditions, night attacks, or even smoke screens. Each tank is fitted with thermo-condensation smoke-generating equipment and high-capacity smoke pots. Decontamination teams have a machine, the TMS-65, which can also be used as a smoke generator.

The principle of concentrating fire support weapons replaces the principle of concentrating troops and vehicles. When this firepower is concentrated, the unit commander may then hope to overcome antitank obstacles.

Introduction of the enhanced radiation weapon¹⁰ will prompt the Soviets to seek first a technical solution such as special shielding for tank crews, but also some form of tactical counteraction. In addition, consideration is being given to increased ways and means of maintaining surveillance of probable neutron-weapon launchers, such as artillery and missiles. In any case, absolute priority will be given to their destruction. On the other hand, use of such weapons by the Soviets themselves may prove decisive against NATO forward positions, against antitank barriers in particular. Actually, the only really planned counteraction consists in further increasing the mobility of units, and hence making greater use of helicopters to fill gaps on the battlefield.

"Standard" nuclear weapons make the exploitation phase more difficult when troops have to cross a contaminated area or an area in which material destruction impedes their rate of advance. This latter disadvantage can be avoided by using chemical warfare agents. Although the Soviets publish only chemical warfare defense information, they are giving use of chemical agents an increasingly important place on the battlefield, and certainly for protection of the attacker's flanks.

As pointed out by C.N. Donnelly,¹¹ the way the Soviets tackle the problem of antitank defenses is not "devoid of common sense," but there is no single straightforward answer or absolute weapon. In the final analysis, the chances of success rest upon the individual and collective combat readiness of the troops. While the task is not deemed impossible, it still is very costly. It is obvious that by the end of the assault phase, a tank battalion's capacity to exploit its own success will be very diminished. Hence a second echelon completely replacing the first, no longer in fighting condition, becomes an imperative necessity. The helicopter, with its capability

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of operating in great depth, is also available to replace the tank or give it indispensable support. For the present, can recourse to massed and highly mobile supporting fire offset or reduce losses in the initial phases of the attack? The speed and sustained tempo of the attack depend upon coordination between the different components of the forces and also between echelons. We must not, however, overlook the importance of the psychological factor in the battle, a factor to which the Soviets, from experience, always accord predominance.

Caption to photo, page 21: Realistic field exercises must serve to prepare troops psychologically to face difficult situations.

Caption to photo, page 22: The importance which Soviets attach to the antitank helicopter is underscored by the entry into service of heavy, powerfully armed aircraft (Mi-24 Hind).

FOOTNOTES

1. "Overcoming Defenses Saturated With Antitank Weapons," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 6, 1980, p 38; Gen A.M. Sapochnikov, "Artillery Battalion Operations for Breaching a Strong Antitank Defense," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 8, 1980, p 58; and A.V. Tonkikh, "Overcoming an Antitank Defense," Moscow, Voenizdat, 1978.
2. VOENNYI VESTNIK, op. cit., No 6, 1980, p 38.
3. Col V. Bondarenko, "Guided Missiles in a Tank's Sights," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 3, 1980, p 28.
4. Ltc A. Nikitine, "To Battle Successfully Against Antitank Forces," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 7, 1980, p 78.
5. A U.S. Army battalion has 22 TOW and 40 Dragon missile launchers plus 140 antitank grenade launchers, representing 50 weapons per kilometer of front. VOENNYI VESTNIK, op. cit., No 8, 1980, p 58.
6. Col P. Konoplia, "Countering Antitank Helicopters in Offensive Operations," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 9, 1979.
7. Col I. Parfrilov, "Under Conditions Where Obstacles are Used," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 11, 1980, p 44.
8. VOENNYI VESTNIK, op. cit., No 7, 1980.
9. VOENNYI VESTNIK, op. cit., No 9, 1979 p 18.
10. Col Logatchev, "Problems of Defense Against Neutron Weapons," VOENNYI VESTNIK, No 7, 1980, p 81.
11. C.N. Donnelly, "Soviet Tactics for Overcoming NATO Antitank Defenses," INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE REVIEW, No 7, 1979, p 1099.

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STRATEGIC ROCKET FORCES

BOOK EXCERPTS: BIOGRAPHY OF MARSHAL NEDELIN

Moscow NEDELIN in Russian 1979 (signed to press 12 Mar 79) pp 3-6, 219-223

[Information on author, annotation, table of contents, author's introduction and bibliography from book "Nedelin: First CIC of the Strategic," by Arm Gen Vladimir Fedorovich Tolubko, Izdatel'stvo TsK VLKSM "Molodaya gvardiya", 100,000 copies, 223 pages]

[Excerpts] The prominent Soviet military leader, Hero of Socialist Labor, Arm Gen V. F. Tolubko had a long life and combat career serving the Motherland. The son of a worker, a teacher in general education and a tankman in military education (military school and the Armored Academy), he fought the fascist German invaders in the years of the Great Patriotic War. He was chief of staff of a tank division, a tank brigade commander and chief of the operations department of a mechanized corps staff. After the war Tolubko completed the General Staff Academy and was assigned to responsible command and staff positions, and in 1960 he became the First Deputy CIC of the Missile Forces. He later commanded a number of military districts. Since 1972 he has been CIC of the Strategic Missile Forces and a deputy minister of defense of the USSR. Vladimir Fedorovich Tolubko is a CPSU CC member and deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

This book tells about the life and combat career of a remarkable person, the talented military leader Mitrofan Ivanovich Nedelin. The book's author--Soviet military leader and Hero of Socialist Labor Arm Gen V. F. Tolubko--knew well of M. I. Nedelin's front and postwar activities and worked directly with him in performing difficult and responsible missions of creating and developing the Strategic Missile Forces.

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From the Author	

The years go by. Under the wise leadership of the Communist Party, the Soviet people are accomplishing the grandiose tasks of peaceful construction in our country. The combat effectiveness and might of the Soviet Union's Armed Forces are growing. New people who have not taken the difficult tests of the older generation come to replace honored veterans of labor and the Great Patriotic War.

But time does not have the power to drive from the people's memory the names of those who gave all their energy, knowledge, experience and life to a common cause--selfless dedication and service to our beloved Motherland and the building of communism.

I have worked on this book for several years. I would like to describe the life and combat career of a remarkable person, the prominent and talented military leader Mitrofan Ivanovich Nedelin, with whom my service was linked. For me it was always a great good fortune bringing full moral satisfaction to work with this superb, fascinating person and to carry out with him the difficult and responsible missions of creating and developing the Strategic Missile Forces.

I knew much about our hero personally. Mitrofan Ivanovich's constant companion, his wife Mariya Dmitriyevna, his daughter Lyudmila Mitrofanovna, as well as his companions in arms and friends told me warmly about him, and I express to them my most sincere gratitude and thanks.

Written and verbal reminiscences of veterans of the Rocket and Artillery Troops were an invaluable help to me in working on the book. I was able to use this documentary and historic material in far from a complete manner, but all letters I received, copies of frontline and postwar newspapers and journals, and photographs are kept carefully in memory of our outstanding contemporary and as material for future books about him and for museum exhibits.

I will consider my task fulfilled if this book sparks the interest and enthusiasm not only of representatives of the older generation, but also our youth, the soldier-Komsomol members who now stand in formation of defenders of our socialist homeland.

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DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS

BOOK EXCERPTS: MILITARY TOPOGRAPHY TRAINING MANUAL

Moscow S KARTOY I KOMPASOM in Russian 1981 (signed to press 25 Feb 81) pp 1-4, 16, 45, 83, 111-112

[Annotation, table of contents, introduction, chapter introductions, and bibliography from book "With Map and Compass: Practical Text on Military Topography," by Aleksey Mikhaylovich Kuprin, Izdatel'stvo DOSAAF SSSR, 100,000 copies, 112 pages]

[Excerpts] The book presents basic issues of military topography and provides certain advice and recommendations on organizing training and conducting classes. It is written in a popular form, is well illustrated and contains interesting assignments, questions and problems.

For predraft-age youth.

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Introduction

Military topography is one of the mandatory training subjects for soldiers. It provides knowledge of the terrain and methods of studying it, and teaches techniques of orientation on the terrain and capable use of topographic maps.

Combat actions take place on the terrain, and the methods of troop actions and techniques of employing combat equipment and weapons depend on the terrain's influence. A proper evaluation of its tactical and protective features and capable use of these features contributes to success in combat. This is why it is very important to be able to study terrain rapidly, orient oneself on it confidently and use it correctly.

All information about the terrain is customarily called topographic data. The topographic map serves as the primary source of obtaining these data. It has wide application both in the national economy and in military affairs. The map is referred to by pupil and scientist, officer and enlisted man. It is used by people of quite varied specialties connected with the study and use of the terrain and natural resources. In a combat situation a topographic map is the commander's constant companion. He uses it to study the combat situation, to make his decision for combat, to assign missions to his subordinates and to control the subunits in combat. One can not only study the terrain and orient oneself on it from the map, but also determine target coordinates and perform precise measurements and calculations for launching missiles and for effective employment of other contemporary weapons.

The compass is used widely as a supplement to the topographic map in orientation on the terrain. Compass orientation is used especially widely when moving along bearings under difficult terrain conditions and with restricted visibility, and so it always is given much attention in training.

This book contains generalized material on those basic questions of military topography which predraft-age youth must know. Readers are given questions in each section which require reflection and which have the purpose of sparking interest in the subject material and reinforcing knowledge obtained.

It is impossible to use a topographic map for accomplishing various tasks and to orient oneself on the terrain without practical skills in working with the map and compass. The book gives many interesting problems for the purpose of instilling practical skills, and trainees can solve them on their own or under the instructor's direction. Solutions to these problems or recommendations for practicing various techniques are given at the end of the book.

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Becoming Familiar with the Terrain

The combat actions of ground forces are conducted on the terrain, and it makes performance of the combat mission easier or more difficult depending on its nature. Terrain can provide troops and combat equipment with cover against the effects of nuclear and conventional weapons. It affects conditions of movement, camouflage, and conduct of fire; and it affects concealment of troop actions. Alignment of the combat formation, selection of firing positions and observation posts and the use of combat equipment depends to a significant extent on the nature of terrain. One and the same terrain will provide more advantages to a person who studies it better and uses it more capably.

The terrain is studied by various methods, but basically by a direct inspection and from topographic maps. The training subject concerning the terrain and methods of studying it and using it in combat is called military topography. Reading a topographic map and orientation on the terrain comprise the primary content of military topography as applied to military training of predraft-age youth.

Topographic Maps

The topographic map is used widely among the troops. The commander uses it to study and estimate the combat situation, to make a decision, to organize coordination and to control subunits in combat. The topographic map is used for orientation on the terrain for preparing artillery fire and missile launches. But to use a map successfully, one must have an idea of how it is constructed and what it contains.

Orientation on the Terrain

The ability to orient oneself on the terrain is of great importance for successful conduct of troop combat actions. Orientation on the terrain means determining the cardinal points and one's location with respect to local terrain features and elements of the relief, choosing the necessary direction of movement and maintaining this direction en route. We orient ourselves on the terrain from a topographic map or, lacking this, using a compass, celestial bodies, or other very simple methods.

Training in Military Topography

Military topography is among the subjects which are linked organically with tactics. A knowledge of military topography permits the fullest estimate of the terrain, making the most correct decision for combat, and better organizing observation, the conduct of fire and control of the subunit in combat. Military topography also has a close tie with specialized and technical training subjects, since it is necessary to study methods of using combat and specialized equipment on the terrain for its proper employment.

Basic training of predraft-age youth in military topography has the primary task of teaching them to read a topographic map, perform the simplest measurements on it and orient themselves on the terrain. These questions comprise the basis of topographic knowledge and abilities. Their development in trainees occurs more successfully with the use of appropriate training and visual aids and specific methods techniques. We will become familiar with some of them.

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MILITARY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

BOOK EXCERPTS: THE SUVOROV MILITARY SCHOOL

Moscow SUVOROVSKOYE VOYENNOYE in Russian 1981 (signed to press 9 Apr 81) pp 1, 3-5, 26, 42-43, 91-96

[Annotation, table of contents, introduction by Col Gen A.N. Klyuyev, chapter excerpts and conclusion from book "Suvorov Military", by Petr Antonovich Buchenkov, Order of Labor Red Banner Voennoye Izdatel'stvo Ministerstva oborony SSSR, 35,000 copies, 96 pages]

[Excerpts] A documentary essay about the history of creation of Suvorov military schools, their development and practical activities, and about the role of the schools in training and indoctrinating future officer cadres for the Soviet Armed Forces.

The book is intended for a wide range of readers.

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Introduction:

The Suvorov military schools were formed in 1943. In the time of their existence they have taught and indoctrinated thousands of young boys, who now have become cadets, officers and generals. They are distinguished by ideological conviction, devotion to the Communist Party and Soviet people, extensive and diversified knowledge, high culture, and a desire to serve their Motherland and the cause of defending socialism selflessly.

During the period of school training Suvorov personnel receive firm, detailed knowledge and acquire the necessary ideological-political, moral-combat and other qualities needed by the future Soviet officer. The military educational institutions where they continue studies take note of their high general educational training, political competency, social activeness, discipline, industriousness, interest in the study of military disciplines, and enthusiasm for sports.

After coming to the Suvorov school following the eight-year school, the boys study in it for two years. In this time they learn general educational subjects under the secondary school curriculum and the foundations of Marxist-Leninist ethics and esthetics, and they receive good physical development.

Much time in the schools is allocated for military training, and this is natural, since the further destiny of Suvorov students is service in the rank of officer. Classes in military subjects are conducted in the classroom and in the field. In accordance with the training program, Suvorov students practice the soldier's actions in different kinds of combat, study models of small arms, familiarize themselves with the design of a vehicle, learn to drive it and gain skills of operating a radio. Many hours are set aside for drill training of Suvorov students. They demonstrate their magnificent drill schooling in military parades in our Motherland's capital, Moscow, and in other cities of the country.

All this is related in the book "Suvorovskoye Voennoye." The book's author P. A. Buchenkov, now a reserve colonel and Honored Schoolteacher of the RSFSR, worked for many years in one of the Suvorov military schools as an officer-indoctrinator, instructor and senior instructor. He served a long while in the central apparatus of the Ministry of Defense, where he handled matters involving the activity of Suvorov military schools. For this reason he knowledgeably tells about the history of the schools' development and their present day.

The author shows convincingly that all political indoctrination work performed in Suvorov military schools is aimed at developing in Suvorov students utter dedication to the Communist Party, a feeling of Soviet patriotism and socialist

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internationalism, and a feeling of friendship of the peoples of our country, and at developing in them a high awareness of social and military duty and love for the military service and the profession of Soviet officer. The baton of selfless service to the homeland is passed from generation to generation. Heroic traditions of the older generation are continued honorably by the present generation. As noted in the CPSU Central Committee Report to the 26th party congress by CPSU CC General Secretary, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "now it is the sons and grandsons of Great Patriotic War heroes who stand in the ranks of the Motherland's defenders. They did not go through the severe tests which fell to the lot of their fathers and grandfathers, but they are true to the heroic traditions of our Army and our people." These words also can relate fully to the Suvorov students--future officers of the USSR Armed Forces.

In telling about the history of creation and the present day of Suvorov military schools, the author refers in the book to documents which define their activity. He shows the process of improving training and indoctrination work in them, gives the names of generals, officers and employees who have made a considerable contribution to the establishment and development of the schools and who continue to work in them even today, and he introduces some former Suvorov students who are serving successfully in the Armed Forces.

The book is addressed to all who are interested in military topics, who are engaged in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth, as well as those who are connected in one way or another with the work of Suvorov military schools. It can be said confidently that pupils who are deciding an important question for themselves of "What shall I be?" also will refer to it. Familiarity with the work of Suvorov military schools possibly will generate in some of them the desire to obtain the officer's profession so as to dedicate their lives to service in the ranks of our glorious Armed Forces, which stand on guard over the achievements of the Great October and the building of communism.

The Pages of History

The Suvorov military schools were set up by decision of the Communist Party and Soviet government in the menacing years of the Great Patriotic War. The Soviet Motherland assumed responsibility for care of the children of its glorious defenders. All steps were taken to ensure that the boys who put on the tunics with scarlet shoulderboards became worthy successors and continuers of the glorious combat traditions of their fathers and of the older generations. The schools received everything necessary for successful accomplishment of the missions facing them: experienced officer-instructor personnel, well outfitted classrooms, textbooks and library holdings.

Taking advantage of the experience of troops, military schools and other schools, the command element, indoctrinators and instructors of the Suvorov schools developed a system of military-patriotic indoctrination of Suvorov cadets which gave them interest in the future military profession, instilled discipline, execution and a feeling of pride for our grand Armed Forces, and contributed to their development of high moral qualities.

The schools covered a long path in search of forms and methods for training and indoctrinating Suvorov cadets and improving their preparation for further training in military educational institutions of the Armed Forces and for Army service. Let's follow this path.

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Suvorov Traditions and a Search for New Things

In the early 1950's the Suvorov military schools already had taken shape as a new type of military educational institution. The first graduations had been held. Former Suvorov cadets were completing military educational institutions and beginning to serve in troop units. Senior supervisors and comrades in service watched the lieutenants with "Suvorov mettle" closely. The officers and instructors of Suvorov military schools also did not lose sight of their students and were constantly asking how their service was going. They carefully analyzed responses about their former students coming from troop units and drew conclusions as to which traditions should be secured and developed and which path to take further, and they sought new and more effective training and indoctrination methods.

The Soviet school took a path of exploration after the war and the Suvorov military schools tried to adopt the school's foremost experience and develop it with consideration of their own specific missions. Organizational changes were taking place in the schools: The principle of recruitment changed and the training period was cut, initially to three years, then to two. The content of training and indoctrination work also changed. Tasks facing the schools became more difficult. The transition to a two-year training term required the officer-instructors to intensify the training and indoctrination process. Training and indoctrination work had to be readjusted so that Suvorov cadets in two years received detailed and firm knowledge in all subjects of the curriculum for the 9th and 10th grades and corresponding training for further studies in higher military educational institutions.

We Introduce the Schools

At the present time eight Suvorov military schools function in our country. As before, the training and life of Suvorov cadets is organized in conformity with military routine and with consideration of their age. They are placed together into platoons and companies with officers as their commanders. School students perform duties as squad commanders (and as deputy platoon commanders in the 10th grades).

Suvorov cadets who have completed the school receive a secondary education certificate. They are issued a badge with the silhouette of A. V. Suvorov, which was instituted in 1959 by order of the USSR Minister of Defense. The badge is a laurel wreath, convex in shape, with a five-pointed gold star in its upper part, a bas-relief of A. V. Suvorov in the center, a red enameled shield with the inscription "SVU" [Suvorov Military School] below, with the inscription "SSSR" covered with red enamel above the bar. Today this badge is worn proudly by former Suvorov cadets, from the school cadet to the general. It reminds them of the Suvorov years, of their youth, and of the school which determined their life's career.

The statute on Suvorov military schools and Nakhimov naval schools establishes that graduates of Suvorov military schools are sent for further training to military educational institutions of the USSR Armed Forces by the chiefs of the Suvorov schools in conformity with an allocation approved by the CIC of the Ground Forces. The level of the Suvorov cadets' general educational, military and physical training, their moral qualities, state of discipline and state of health are taken into account in determining the school.

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Classes are held in all Suvorov schools according to identical curricula and programs. The conditions for the Suvorov cadets' studies and living also are identical in them. Nevertheless, each school has its own aspect, its own features, and is distinguished from another. This uniqueness is determined by many circumstances: individuality, uniqueness of the city in which it is located, traditions which have formed over many years, and the names of their graduates who have taken significant steps in their Army career. But ask any former Suvorov cadet which Suvorov school is best in his opinion and he will name the one in which he studied and which gave him a ticket to life.

The party has placed responsibility on the Soviet Armed Forces for reliable assurance of peaceful conditions for the creative labor of our people. This responsibility grew especially under conditions of the more complicated international situation where imperialist and other reactionary circles are making a furious counter-attack against detente, whipping up tensions in the world, accelerating the arms race, fanning centers of military confrontation in various parts of the world, and provoking new conflicts. In this situation the party is conducting a consistent and firm policy of peace, combining it with a strengthening of the Soviet state's defenses. The aggravation of the military-political situation in the world increases the social responsibility of the Soviet Armed Forces for defending the achievements of socialism and increases the demands on their combat readiness.

The 26th CPSU Congress noted that our party and the Soviet state have not lost sight for a single day of questions of strengthening national defensive might and the country's Armed Forces. The international situation made and is making this mandatory. The combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces was and is being maintained at a proper level with consideration of it.

The level of combat readiness of units and subunits depends largely on the organizing role of officer cadres, their professional training and their ability to adjust the process of training subordinates in conformity with modern requirements, combining this process organically with the indoctrination of people. They have a leading role to play in all the life and combat activities of the Armed Forces. Following Lenin's behests, the Communist Party steadfastly concerns itself with seeing that the Armed Forces have cadres worthy of the great Soviet land. The Soviet officer must be distinguished above all by ideological conviction, utter dedication to the party and people, profound knowledge, high courage and valor, firm will and good organizational abilities.

The foundations of high command and moral-combat qualities and skills are laid down in schools, including the Suvorov schools. Tens of thousands of Suvorov cadets who received a start in Army life are now serving successfully in troop units. They hold various command and staff positions, they are political officers and military engineers, they engage in scientific activities, they teach in military academies and schools, and they serve in the Ministry of Defense central apparatus. Many officers who are former Suvorov cadets have been recognized with high governmental awards for courage and valor displayed in performing responsible command assignments.

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CPSU CC Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov notes: "The party shows great concern for Army and Navy personnel, believing that the individual has been and remains the decisive force in war. It attaches particular importance to training and indoctrinating Soviet officers, viewing them as carriers of the Army's revolutionary, military spirit and its combat traditions and experience. Military councils, commanders, political entities, party organizations and all Armed Forces officers act as conductors of party policy in the Army and Navy. Through them the CPSU exercises its influence on all aspects of troop life and activities."

Officers can be seen today in all branches of the USSR Armed Forces who proudly wear the badge with the silhouette of the great Russian general A. V. Suvorov. They implement party policy firmly and consistently and are making a worthy contribution to performance of missions assigned the USSR Armed Forces by the 26th CPSU Congress.

True to the grand heroic traditions of the older generations, today's officer cadres are full of resolve to achieve new success in improving the quality of personnel combat and political training, the personnel's mastery of contemporary equipment and weapons and a strengthening of military discipline; and in increasing the combat readiness of units, subunits and ships. In greeting the 26th CPSU Congress, the USSR Armed Forces delegation assured the congress delegates that the Army and Navy would continue to serve their people and the native party selflessly. "Soldiers of the 1980's," states the greeting, "serve with lawful pride under the colors steeped in the glory of legendary victories. And we report to you, dear comrades, that Army and Navy combat traditions live and are multiplying, and that the present generation of the Motherland's defenders are demonstrating by their daily labor a deep dedication to the native Leninist Party and a constant readiness to defend the socialist homeland."

Capt Sergey Pavlovich Kozlov, a former Suvorov cadet, was among members of the USSR Armed Forces delegation who greeted the party forum. And words coming from the heart rang out in the greeting in his name: ". . . Commanders, political entities and party organizations will continue to do everything to ensure that military service conditions and indoctrinates Soviet boys in a spirit of deep understanding of the responsibility for the prosperity and security of the socialist Motherland...

"Let our enemies know that the formidable weapons which our Motherland presented us are in reliable and capable hands. Missilemen and motorized riflemen, tankers and artillerymen, aviators and navymen master first-rate equipment expertly, are persistently learning to act in the most difficult combat situation and are ready to offer a crushing rebuff to any aggressor.

"All Soviet soldiers from the private to the marshal assure the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the native Leninist Party and the heroic Soviet people that we always are on guard.

"Shoulder to shoulder with brothers in class--soldiers of Warsaw Pact nations--we will continue to perform our patriotic and international duty honorably and will defend the historic achievements of socialism and peace against all encroachments."

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