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POLITICAL OFFICIAL DISCUSSES CPSU INFLUENCE ON SERVICE LIFE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Feb 77 pp 2-3 LD

[Article by Lt Gen M. Sobolev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: "To Enhance the Effectiveness of Party Influence"]

[Text] At the end of September last year KRASNAYA ZVEZDA published a letter from Guards Captain V. Ulyanov, secretary of the party organization of a tank battalion, and invited its readers to voice their opinions on the questions broached by the author of the letter, connected with the practical activity of party organizations and the further intensification of party influence on all aspects of the life and service of the personnel. The response from the readers indicates how important and topical these questions are. The editorial office received about 700 letters in response.

When you look at these letters, from a wide range of party activists and ordinary communists, you are automatically gripped by a feeling of deep satisfaction arising from the realization that our army's and navy's communists are distinctly and clearly aware of the ever-growing role of the party organizations in the life of the units and ships and that each of them perceives with his reason and his heart the great need to labor in the sector entrusted to him as is befitting on the very front lines of the struggle for the further raising of combat readiness and for the improvement of field, air and naval skills of the motherland's armed defenders.

1.

The 25th CPSU Congress placed before the party and people the task of raising the efficiency and quality of work in all sectors of building communism. In the decisions of the party Central Committee's October (1976) Plenum and in the speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum and at the celebrations at Tula, this demand of the party's was further developed. To labor efficiently and to a high standard--that is the motto of the 10th Five-Year Plan. There is no need to attempt to prove how important and topical these demands are for all the elements of our complex military organism. The multifaceted activity of the commanders, political organs, staffs and of the engineering and technical

personnel and the training and service of the servicemen are inconceivable today without an effective struggle for raising the efficiency and quality of the training and educational process, of its inalienable component--socialist competition--and of all party-political work in the army and navy.

Speaking last July at a scientific-practical conference of leading party workers of the army and navy, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Defense Minister, stressed: "Party work has its own specific features. The party organizations must not mechanically copy the methods of work of the commanders and chiefs and duplicate their decisions and orders. By means of active persuasion it is necessary to struggle for the complete implementation to a high standard of the plans for combat and political training--this is what constitutes the most important duty of the party organizations. They must, with their own characteristic means, enhance the role of the commanders' and chiefs' orders and actively influence the activity of the military collectives of the units, ships and military training establishments."

With their own characteristic means.... It is no accident that precisely what many of the participants in the discussion of the letter "Party In-Fluence: "How Can its Effectiveness be Enhanced?" do is to voice their own sincere aspiration to understand in depth the distinctive features of party work and its difference from other forms of leadership of the military collective, and to ask how the methods which insure party influence on the effective solution of the tasks of combat and political training, on the further strengthening of military discipline and on the raising of the combat readiness of subunits, units and ships can be mastered more rapidly. I think that these questions rightly found themselves at the focus of attention, insofar as a political approach must constitute the basis of the entire activity of the party organizations.

Where then is the source for enhancing the effectiveness of party influence? Above all it lies in the high ideological content of all party work. It is precisely this condition that provides the main direction of the activity of the party collective--the formation of a Marxist-Leninist world outlook, the raising of the temper of the communists and of the entire personnel. The prime duty of the party organization is to constantly investigate both the organization and the content of the political training of all categories of military servicemen.

It is impossible to visualize a communist, whatever the post he may occupy, not being involved in the mass agitation work that is conducted in the subunit, unit or ship. Explaining the policy of the party to his fellow servicemen is both his duty according to regulations and an inner requirement. For each party organization there is nothing more important in this plane of the task than to conduct vividly and convincingly the propaganda of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and of the CPSU Central Committee October (1976) Plenum.

The CPSU Central Committee resolution "on the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" was greeted with profound interest and enthusiasm by millions of working people of the country and by the servicemen of the armed forces. The party document defines precisely the specific tasks and main directions of party-organizational and ideological-educational work during the period of preparation for the festival. During this preparation it is important to reveal the worldwide historic significance of the October Revolution and the propositions and conclusions provided in the works of V. I. Lenin, in the documents of the CPSU and of the international communist movement and in the reports and speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and other party leaders.

The party organizations of the army and navy must perform active work on a broad scale for the fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee resolution. Moreover, this work must be planned in such a way that every communist can participate in it and that the planned measures encompass all categories of military servicement and workers and employees of the army and navy.

2.

The circle of questions which the party organization must keep in its field of view is very broad and, therefore, it is important to learn how not to dissipate one's efforts--which, unfortunately, is characteristic of the style of work of certain young activists. The aspiration to cover absolutely everything, although, as a rule, dictated by good motives, brings little real benefit. Effectiveness depends to a large extent on the ability of party organizations to select the most important issues. And not just to select them but to pay the closest attention to them and to study them purposefully throughout the entire period of training, throughout the training year. These are, for example, questions of raising combat readiness, the field, air and naval training of servicemen and the further strengthening of military discipline. Understandably these are basic questions for any party organization of a unit or ship. There is hardly anyone in any party organization who does not realize this. But realizing it is only one thing. It is far more important to tackle these questions as the most important ones that exist. Does it not frequently happen that, when these issues are discussed at the beginning of the training year at the party meeting, a number of measures are outlined and the matter is then considered done with. Meanwhile, life puts forward some other particular tasks and we always have many such tasks and the party organization switches all its attention to these. It ultimately emerges that each new task crowds out the previous one and the main issues imperceptibly recede into the background and party activists find themselves in the power of so-called busywork.

It is understandable that such an approach does not insure the genuine effectiveness of party influence but rather the contrary--it reduces it. The effectiveness of party influence will only increase if throughout the entire year the party organizations, in the various spheres of their work, return to the main issues and if each of these issues is reflected specifically and precisely in all current work plans and long-term plans.

In this connection I want to stress the following feature. Experience shows that many activists have a poor knowledge of how to conduct mass functions and, if one may use the expression, general mobilizing functions, assemblies, meetings, instructive conferences and so forth. For instance, a subunit has to go out to perform a tactical exercise. There is immediately a whole series of such functions. Is this necessary? Of course it is. And it is a good thing that our activists learn how to conduct such functions. But then what? Well, after the general appeal and the decision, when specific, painstaking work among the masses ought to follow, a void forms in the activity of certain comrades. The party activist does not find a sphere for the application of his efforts between meetings and sessions. But when an opportunity presents itself to "give the men something to tax them," as it is sometimes put, the activist again becomes active and displays outstanding energy.

Not so long ago I had occasion to visit an air force unit and to familiarize myself in detail with the work of the party committee. The members of the party committee--11 communists--are good specialists and authoritative people. But are they all actively involved in party work? Unfortunately some of them, in periods between the sessions of the party committee, can be called activists in name only. They did not indulge in specific organizing work on the instructions of the party committee and they did not study, for instance, a single question connected with the improvement of the training and educational process. Consequently, their experience and knowledge was not used for intensifying party influence along the main salient, although there was a need for this.

It is gratifying that many participants in the discussion raise, in their letters, the question of intensifying party influence on the organization and course of socialist competition and share their experience of the work of party organizations in insuring that the personnel fulfill their socialist pledges. It is essential to stress that competition, being an inalienable part of the training process, demands the constant attention of the party organizations. The communists must make fuller use of the tremendous potential of competition for the formation of the serviceman's personality and for nurturing high moral and combat qualities.

We are justly proud that the whole tenor of our Soviet reality and the tremendous creative work of the party in forming a new person--a conscious builder of communism--have created favorable objective preconditions for the education and training of stanch armed defenders of the motherland. But it would be incorrect to think that, with the rise in the ideological standard of the people and in their general educational training, the actual work of the army and naval educators has become any simpler. On the contrary, it is precisely these factors that make heightened demands of the educational process, during which the degree to which communists participate in this process increases appreciably insofar as party work, in its essence and in terms of its purpose, means living intercourse with people and an aspiration

to influence every individual. And of course, members of the party must be educated in such a way that they all feel the constant need for intercourse with people. This is, of course, the direct duty of a party member--to perceive beyond the now-current term "personnel" the individual with his complex spiritual make-up.

Judging by the readers letters, among some young party leaders a somewhat one-sided notion of individual work is still prevalent: I shall have a chat with one person today, and tomorrow with another.... You see, the conversation becomes an end in itself, and the results of attempting to influence your fellow servicemen and minimal. What is the matter then? The answer is that individual work is not merely having chats, one by one. It means paying constant attention to one's comrade, assisting him directly in mastering combat skills and, if necessary, giving him some stern words of censure. And a party leader makes this means of influence all the more effective, the wider the scale on which he enlists communists and the Komsomol Aktiv to individual work.

And finally, a truism for a member of our party--personal exemplariness. Incidentally, those who participated in the reader's discussion wrote a great deal about this. And in general they wrote correctly. But all the same it is necessary to bear in mind the following fact: The exemplariness of a communist cannot be reduced merely to his personal indicators in fulfilling his service duties. It is something, but it is not enough. The personal exemplariness of a party member is a broader and more compendious concept. It covers all his personal qualities: Professional, political and moral. Only in aggregate do these qualities bring a communist to an active position in life. A party member's power of persuasion, arguments, appeals and advice depend on how he appears to people in political, professional and moral respects. And, in the final analysis, the degree to which he influences those who surround him depends on his power of persuasion.

Strange as it may seem, people in certain party organizations are inclined to extend these requirements as to personal exemplariness only to communists from among the private soldiers and sergeants, and less frequently to ensigns, warrant officers and junior officers. Let us say bluntly that this is a distorted notion. In the report at the 25th CPSU Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said: "We must not forget that each communist must have a high moral fiber, be an active fighter of the party and be in the front rank of the builders of communism." And if there is somekind of difference in the requirements, it is that special exemplariness in all matters is required from a communist commander who is responsible in his work for the education and training of his subordinates.

Particularly, key attention was paid in the decisions of the 25th Party Congress and of the CPSU Central Committee October Plenum to questions of improving work with cadres and with the leaders of all elements of our national economy. Naturally, it is incumbent on each army and naval party organization, guided by the party's requirements, to improve work with communist

officers in every way and to nurture in them a high degree of scrupulousness when assessing what has been achieved, a capacity for self-criticism, objective exactingness and irreconcilability toward shortcomings.

3. Those who wrote letters to the editorial office asserting that concern for enhancing the influence of communists on the solution of the main issue should start with the establishment in the party collective of an atmosphere of goodwill, trust and at the same time, high exactingness, are indubitably correct. The resolution "on the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" stressed once again the need"...to subject existing shortcomings to principled, businesslike criticism and to energetically bring to light and utilize reserves...." Without this, party influence is not and cannot be effective. Therefore I want to support those participants in the discussion of Guards Captain V. Ulyanov's letter who rightly stress that creative vigor and militant spirit in an organization depend directly on the standard of intraparty work. I have in mind meetings, sessions of bureaus or committees which hear reports, conferences of communists, the practice of party assignments and so forth.

All these forms are good when they are used in a businesslike manner and for the business in hand, and not for bookkeeping and the notorious checking off [galochka] of the plan. Consider, for instance, party assignments. We now have practically no organizations where communists are not covered by assignments. But what can be detected sometimes behind this optimistic "coverage." I have repeatedly encountered instances where a communists' sole assignments were "to put up a notice about a meeting," "to prepare a ballot box for a secret vote," or "to copy out the minutes of a meeting." It goes without saying that someone has to take care of these purely mechanical matters. And they do bring a person into contact with our common cause. But is this the be-all-and-end-all of his training as an organizer and active fighter?

It is necessary to give careful thought to the nature and content of assignments, taking into account the abilities and inclinations of the communist. Assignments must also reflect those main issues on whose fulfillment the entire party collective is engaged. If the matter is well thought out, work will be found for every communist to do. In the organiztion of competition and also in the solution of tasks concerning the assimilation of new equipment, in work with the Komsomol, in the activity of people's control workers, in the development of sports work, amateur talent activity and so forth.... The main thing is that each communist should be enlisted. In line with his degree of training, in agitation and propaganda work and should carry the living message of the party to the masses of servicemen.

Life does not stand still: It forges ahead, confronting party work with new tasks and demands; it also engenders new forms and methods. Just recently theoretical conversations, discussions and scientific-practical conferences have become widespread in many organizations. The skillful use of these contributes to a great extent to strengthening the spirit of creativity in the party collective and enhances the effectiveness of party work.

Nor is it possible to avoid mentioning that the degree of party influence is doubled and tripled when all the party units cooperate closely and when each party unit in its own sector solves, in accordance with its own forms, tasks that are common to the whole regiment or ship. For example, topical questions of the month are discussed at the regiment's party meeting. But the battalion organization tackles these questions and, let us suppose, listens to reports from communists at the bureau session. Other, more appropriate forms are used in the company--for instance, an exchange of experience of the best specialists. This differentiated approach to the solution of the common task at different levels gives the party organization broader opportunities for involving the greatest number of men in the business in hand. And all these constitute important elements of party work.

And, finally, it is impossible to achieve the intensification of party influence without well organized verification of the execution of decisions adopted and without the generalization of advanced experience and its introduction into practice. People in the party organizations have learned how to comply with decisions. And these are good decisions, as a rule. But when they are being executed, matters are not everywhere satisfactory. What is the value of a decision, even a most militant and necessary decision, if it is pigeonholed in the secretary's desk immediately after it has been adopted at a meeting or session? Given such a state of affairs, the party organization's work merely freewheels along.

Of course, in some places this and other shortcomings are attributable to the lack of necessary experience on the party of the party organization's secretary. As is known, experience is something which comes with time. But we all have an interest in insuring that it comes as rapidly as possible. And here the task of the constant training of party activists and of the political organs' increased exactingness toward them manifests itself in its full magnitude. Moreover, it must be creative training, through practical work. The system of seminars and gatherings has been established quite efficiently in many political organs. But what is the content of and return on these forms of training like? There is an increasingly acute need for them to reach people and not only to complete a plan, how to take minutes or prepare a meeting (this skill is also important) but, also, living party business, the daily practice of work with the men. And the party aktiv of the units and ships needs precisely this more than anything. This can be regarded as the great task of political organs at all levels.

The struggle for the high effectiveness of party work and for the intensification of the influence of the party organizations on all aspects of the life and activity of the troops and naval forces is our main, top-priority task. This has been shown once again most convincingly by the way the discussion of the party activist's letter has proceeded in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. It is gratifying that the lofty meaning and purpose of the effectiveness of party influence is seen by the communists of the army and navy as the increasingly active nurturing in the personnel of profound communist conviction, devotion to the cause of the party and people and readiness to take up arms and reliably defend the great gains of the October Revolution.

CSO: 1801

POLITICAL DIRECTORATE DEPUTY VIEWS ARMED FORCES ANNIVERSARY

Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 22 Feb 77 p 2 LD

[Article by Col Gen G. Sredin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: "Loyal Guard of the Gains of October"]

[Excerpts] The great and joyful holiday--the anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces--is taking place at a portentous time this year. Our motherland has entered the 60th year of Great October. The preparation for the glorious jubilee is causing a growth of labor and political activeness among Soviet people. They are fully determined to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the first anniversary of whose opening is currently being celebrated. Working people and the soldiers of the army and navy have taken the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee October (1976) Plenum and the theses and conclusions set forth in the speech by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as a militant action program.

As we celebrate the anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy we pay tribute over and over again to the wisdom and perspicacity of the Communist Party. It is it, the Communists' Party headed by Vladimir Il'ich Lenin, which created and nurtured the Soviet armed forces--our people's pride and glory and loyal guard of the gains of the Great Socialist Revolution.

All the international activity of Lenin's party is taking place under the sign of fulfilling the 25th congress decisions. The Soviet Union is striving persistently, together with the fraternal socialist countries to strengthen the positions of peace and to solve the most urgent task stressed by the congress--the termination of the arms race developed by the imperialist countries. Despite all the difficulties and obstacles which have to be surmounted, the trend toward the real relaxation of international tension is becoming clearly evident. The preconditions for insuring that it becomes irreversible have been created and a struggle to supplement the relaxation of political tension with detente in the military sphere is going on.

But as in the cold war years, imperialism's ideologists and politicans are straining themselves to depict the USSR Armed Forces as a "weapon of

aggression" and expatiating constantly about some kind of "Soviet military threat" and "expansionist [zakhvatnicheskiy] aspirations" of the USSR. But the lie remains a lie. The attempts to ascribe alien goals and intentions to the Soviet Union and its army have repeatedly failed in the past and they will continue to fail. The organizers of the latest anti-Soviet campaign about the nonexistent Soviet "aggressive intentions" were deservedly rebuffed in the speech in Tula by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It was stated on behalf of the party and the entire Soviet people that our country will never embark on the path of aggression and will never raise the sword against other peoples.

However, the land of the Soviets and the fraternal socialist countries must consider the real facts: the buildup of the arms race in the NATO countries and the specific military measures of this and the other aggressive military-political alliances existing in the capitalist world. These facts necessitate, besides the peace policy, the adoption of measures to insure our security and the maintenance of defense at the proper level.

The profound changes in the spiritual makeup of Soviet people which have occurred in connection with the building of developed socialism also contribute to the successful solution of the tasks confronting the army and navy. Increasingly educated and well trained young people enter the army and navy with every passing year. About one-half of the officers are engineers and technicians. Almost all formation commanders, more than 90 percent of regimental commanders, all commanders first and second class of ships, all chiefs of formation political organizations and 80 percent of regimental political personnel--all these are officers with higher education. And 90 percent of officers are communists or Komsomol members.

The active, purposeful party political work by commanders, political organizers and party organizations and the qualitative changes in personnel expand the potential for soldiers' mastering combat equipment and weapons in a short time. A communist world outlook is actively molded in servicemen and they are educated as ardent patriots and genuine internationalists, intrepid and skillful defenders of their homeland.

The leadership of the Communist Party and the Soviet Armed Forces' indissoluble unity with the people are an inexhaustible source of their strength and combat might. Soviet soldiers are full citizens of their country and participate actively in sociopolitical life. Many thousands of soldiers have been elected to the soviets and leading party organs. The personnel of units and ships maintain close links with the working people of enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, student youth and war veterans. Our soldiers also participate directly in the country's economic life. They are helping to construct the Baykal-Amur Railroad and they helped with the harvest under the difficult weather conditions of 1976.

Soviet soldiers--from the soldier to the marshal--are profoundly aware of their high responsibility for defending the gains of Great October. They have reached the 59th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces rallied closely around the Communist Party and fully determined to selflessly serve the socialist homeland. Soviet people can be quite certain: Everything that they create and their peaceful creative labor are defended reliably and vigilantly, defended on the ground, in the skies and on the expanses of the seas and oceans. Through their tireless military labor Soviet soldiers are making a worthy contribution to the great cause of building communism.

CSO: 1801

MARSHAL BATITSKIY PAYS TRIBUTE TO AIR DEFENSE TROOPS

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 23 Feb 77 p 3 LD

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union P. Batitskiy, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the PVO Strany troops: "Standing Guard Over Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] As of 23 February the Soviet Army and Navy are 59 years old. Born of the Great October, the armed forces of the land of the Soviets have throughout their heroic history selflessly served their people and stanchly and unselfishly defended its revolutionary achievements and vigilantly stood guard over peace and socialism.

Soviet people and the army and navy servicemen are celebrating the 59th anniversary of the armed forces in an atmosphere of tremendous political and labor enthusiasm and nationwide struggle to fulfill the decisions of the historic 25th CPSU Congress and the October (1976) plenum of the party's Central Committee and prepare for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The armed forces reliably safeguard the Soviet people's great creative labor. The history of the land of the Soviets convincingly confirms the wise conclusion of V. I. Lenin that without armed defense the socialist republic cannot exist. Guided by Lenin's teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland, the Communist Party, for the sake of a high and noble aim, created and educated an army of a new type, linked to the people by ties of blood and selflessly safeguarding their interests.

Under the banner of Lenin's party the Soviet armed forces have traveled a glorious combat path.

The events of February 1918, when the army units which had just been formed told the world of the birth of the Red Army with the defeat of the German occupiers near Pskov, will not fade in the memory of generations. In the fierce battles during the civil war the young Red Army defeated the large forces of the White Guards and interventionists and honorably defended the

achievements of the Great October. The example of military valor shown by the heroes of Perekop and Volochayevka and the defenders of Petrograd and the glory of the men under the command of Budennyy and Chapayev, the revolutionary sailors of the Baltic and Black Sea, and the Siberian and Amur partisans will never lose its greatness.

After the end of the civil war, consistently implementing Lenin's ideas of the defense of the achievements of socialism, the Communist Party was tirelessly concerned for the further consolidation of the defense capability of the state and the raising of the combat might of the armed forces. The need for this was engendered by the military preparations of the imperialist powers and the emergence of dangerous hotbeds of war in Europe and the Far East. The measures taken by the party enabled the Soviet people and their armed forces not only to repulse the perfidious attack of Hitler's Germany against the USSR but also to defeat utterly the shock force of world imperialism and win a world-historic victory.

The long, hard road of the Soviet Armed Forces toward the great victory is marked by crushing defeats of the German fascist troops near Moscow and Stalingrad, in the Caucasus and the Kursk bulge, on the Dnepr, in Belorussia and in the battle for Berlin.

Having victoriously concluded the war against German fascism, the Soviet Armed Forces then played a decisive part in the defeat of militarist Japan and discharged their international duty to the end.

In the harsh years of the war, the very great patriotism, selflessness and courage of the army and navy servicemen and their readiness and determination to defend the socialist fatherland and the achievements of socialism to the last drop of blood were manifested with new strength.

The feats of the Soviet servicemen during the great patriotic war are inscribed in letters of gold in the chronicle of our people and have covered the combat banners of the armed forces in unfading glory. For their courage and valor displayed in the battles for the motherland, over 7 million people were awarded orders and medals and over 11,000 were awarded the lofty title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Lenin's party was the inspirer and organizer of the victory of the Soviet people and its armed forces in the great patriotic war. Its collective mind and organizational genius directed the efforts of all Soviet people on the front and in the rear toward the defeat of the enemy and made it possible to realize, for the victory, all the inexhaustible potential of the socialist system.

The victory over fascism has become a historic frontier in the fate of all mankind. Its most profound consequences are today's successes for world socialism and the unswerving growth of the revolutionary forces in the world.

But as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said in his speech on presanting the "Gold Star" medal to the hero-city of Tula, "...the lessons of the past war call for our vigilance. Yes, fascism has been overthrown. But there are still fascists and profascist regimes. Some people are still dreaming of revenge. There exist aggressive forces which are by no means idle. We must not forget this."

Under these conditions, the CPSU and the Soviet Government are doing everything to raise still higher the country's defense capability and the combat might of the armed forces.

In postwar years a real military-technical revolution has been accomplished in our country. The army and navy have acquired nuclear and missile weapons. All branches of the forces have been qualitatively transformed. Their fire capacities, striking power and maneuverability have increased considerably and their combat readiness has been raised. Today the armed forces have all the most modern means of warfare.

The strategic missile forces possess powerful strategic missiles with nuclear warheads; the missiles have a long effective range and high precision of delivery.

Strategic [operativno-takticheskiy] and tactical [takticheskiy] missiles constitute the basis of the ground forces' fire power. This branch of the forces is provided with the latest armored vehicles and arms, and with effective means of fire control, which make it possible to conduct any combat operations successfully.

The country's air defense forces are equipped with reliable, highly effective antiaircraft missiles and aircraft complexes and the latest radar equipment, insuring the waging of a successful struggle against all means of air attack. Fulfilling important tasks even in peace time, the PVO Strany troops are in a state of constant combat readiness to destroy an airborne enemy under any conditions.

The air forces are now equipped with supersonic missile-carrying jet aircraft with powerful weapons and sophisticated radar equipment.

Our navy reliably safeguards the country's state interests on the expanses of the world ocean. Its main strike force now is made up of nuclear submarines armed with underwater-launched missiles and homing torpedoes. The naval missile-carrying aircraft and modern surface vessels have a great potential for defeating the enemy.

The rear of the armed forces and the country's civil defense are being improved together with the army and navy.

The formidable weapons and combat equipment are in reliable hands. Our remarkable servicemen are masters of their profession reared by Lenin's party and the entire Soviet way of life in a spirit of loyalty to the motherland and the ideals of communism. About 90 percent of servicemen are Communists and Komsomol members.

A sense of tremendous pride is engendered in servicemen by the party's high assessment of their military labor. They are profoundly aware of what important significance for insuring the security of the country and the entire socialist community attaches to their vigilance, and to their successes in performing their service, studying military matters and maintaining a high degree of combat readiness.

The personnel have demonstrated their increased military skill at a number of large-scale exercises held under complex and difficult conditions as close as possible to combat conditions. They have confirmed the strength of the servicemen's spiritual and physical powers and shown their high moral-political and combat qualities.

The heights which have been scaled are a good basis for new successes. Lenin's instruction to go unfailingly further, and to strive unfailingly for more imbues all the military labor of the personnel and all educational work of the commanders, political organs and Komsomol organizations.

Persistent and strenuous military training is now under way among the troops. Socialist competition for a fitting greeting to the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces has acquired new scope.

The power and invincibility of the army and navy lie in their inextricable unity with the people. Soviet servicemen encounter, in their entire service and combat training, the all-around support and attention of the party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organs and production collectives. The workers of enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhozes and figures of science and culture are always welcome guests in the units and on the ships. In turn, the servicemen are constantly reinforcing their broad and varied ties with the working people of the plants and factories, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and take an active part in bringing in the harvest, while the railroad troops take part in the construction of the Baykal-Amur railroad.

The DOSAAF organizations are performing a large amount of work on the military-patriotic education and training of the youth for army service. Many young men are preparing with a high sense of responsibility for service in the armed forces and are persistently striving to acquire a military specialty before they join the army. And this is right. Service in all branches and categories of troops is not only responsible but complex and requires all-around preparation. For instance, among the PVO Strany troops, every serviceman must be prepared to discover in good time and destroy any airborne enemy on the western borders. And for this it is essential to have a perfect knowledge of and make skillful use of complex combat equipment and weapons, and to be resolute, bold and composed in battle, morally strong and physically hardy.

All these qualities are actively developed by the army which, in the high assessment of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central

Committee, is for the youth a school of endurance and discipline, giving technical and professional knowledge and political tempering. But even before joining the army it is the patriotic duty of every young man to form in himself readiness to defend the motherland.

In close combat alliance with the armies of the socialist states belonging to the Warsaw pact, the mighty Soviet Armed Forces are responding fully to their mission and are in a high state of combat readiness and are the reliable bulwark of the fraternal peoples' peaceful labor.

On Soviet Army and Navy Day we servicemen turn our eyes again and again toward Lenin's party. In its leadership we see the foundation of the might of the Soviet state and the invincibility of its armed forces. Taking boundless pride in the high trust of the party and people and loyal to their patriotic and international duty, Soviet soldiers selflessly serve the great cause of Lenin and vigilantly stand guard over peace and the achievements of socialism.

CSO: 1801

KIEV RADIO ON CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING FOR SOVIET CHILDREN

Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1510 GMT 24 Feb 77 AU

[From the "Civil Defense for the Population" program]

[Summary] In the last war, the concept of a "remote hinterland" still had its significance; but in the war that can be unleashed by imperialists the differences between the hinterland and the front will be erased. All the people will have to be as well organized, physically and spiritually, as stanch servicemen. For this reason, the duty of everyone in our country--from the young to the old--is to learn the methods and means of protection from mass destruction weapons. This is precisely why the party and the government appeal to the citizens for their solicitude in maintaining the people's ability to rebuff any aggressor, to preserve the Soviet people's lives and health, to insure the viability of the country and its economy.

Sergey Vasilyevich Goldvach, senior inspector of the Ukrainian civil defense headquarters, says that production collectives are being trained in civil defense at every enterprise, establishment, educational institution, at every kolkhoz and sovkhoz. The training, practical exercises and instructions which are practiced everywhere give the people the necessary skills and practical habits.

"How to organize the preparation of the population not directly engaged in production--housewives, pensioners and children--for the state of emergency? Civil defense is in the school curricula for the second, fifth and ninth grades. Additionally, children participate in paramilitary exercises, the Summer Lightning [Zarnitsa] and the Eaglet [Orlenok], which include the elements of civil defense.

"Ranking among the important forms of training the USSR population in the methods of defense against mass destruction weapons is the preparation of persons bearing the 'ready-for-labor-and-defense' badges for civil defense tests. Komsomols, Young Pioneers and schoolchildren have been actively engaged in this work. Civil defense training for schoolchildren, carefully and skillfully prepared and offering conditions close to the real ones, is a commendable way to acquire practical habits, both by children and by a broad circle of public education and enlightenment workers."

In this way, children receive civil defense training and practical habits in schools and Young Pioneer camps. But is it sufficient? One must not rely on the supposition that children acquire all the skills necessary through school lessons. They must also be trained at home. For this reason the parents must prove to be skillful and patient assistant teachers. "Children must be shown the need and importance of their participation in civil defense measures, must be shown the example of a serious and responsible attitude toward these measures. The parents are bound to inquire what their children are learning at civil defense lessons; and if someone has been trained in civil defense within the limits of the general compulsory minimum of skills, he or she will be able to give the child the appropriate advice and practical assistance--how to prepare cotton-and-gauze masks, where the nearest shelter is, how to behave in the shelter, what to do when the parents are not at home, and so forth."

Employed persons receive practical and psychological training at their working places. As regards housewives and pensioners, they are primarily bound to individually study the instruction entitled "This Must Be Known by Everyone." It outlines the destructive effects of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons, the methods of defense from them, the rules of behavior following civil defense signals, practical advice on how to prepare for evacuation, how to give first aid and how to prevent infectious diseases from spreading may prove to be extremely useful not only during war but also during natural calamities, accidents and catastrophes. The instruction should be kept in every family's home.

Naturally, theoretical knowledge alone is insufficient. It is necessary to practically master habits and methods. These habits consist primarily in the ability to protect the children and oneself. Everyone should bear in mind that his own life and health as well as that of his relatives, under emergency conditions, will depend on the speed and skill of his acts, on the observance of blackout and fire safety rules, on the conservation of foodstuffs and water and, in rural areas, of cattle and fodder. Every Soviet family should have at least one well-trained person able to act as medical assistant. The duty of every Soviet man is to actively participate in all civil defense measures.

CSO: 1811 END