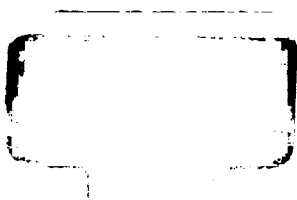




**INDIANA
UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY**



Information Bulletin

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EDUCATIONAL WORK IN THE RED ARMY

By V. Prokofiev

In the Red Army the cultural needs of officers and men at the front are taken very seriously indeed. Many organizations exist to satisfy them. In the actual fighting areas there are army homes, divisional clubs and "Lenin dugouts," and cars which visit the various units. Each car carries a mobile cinema, wireless sets, photographic exhibits and a miniature

traveling library, as well as an accordion player and a portable gramophone with a good selection of records. A highly qualified lecturer on political and military subjects heads each unit.

The latest Soviet and foreign films are shown on small screens set up in dugouts. The soldiers listen



Leonid Utyosov (center), leader, and members of the famous Moscow State Jazz Band, in a scene from CONCERT FOR THE FRONT—a film of variety entertainment recently released and very popular with the Red Army

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to broadcasts of the latest bulletins and communiques of the Soviet Information Bureau. They are very keen on music, and there are many eager borrowers of records of works by famous Russian and Western composers. Folk songs, too, are enormously popular.

With the object of popularizing political, military and other literature, the traveling library arranges exhibitions of books and pamphlets. The Red Army



Olga Lepeshinskaya, prima ballerina of the Moscow Bolshoi Theatre of Opera and Ballet, and Alexander Rudenko, dancing for the Red Army

man can obtain literature according to his taste, and the librarian is always willing to advise him in the choice of reading matter. Collective readings and talks about the classics of all countries are well attended. A popular edition of Tolstoy's *War and Peace* was recently issued for the front-line troops, who seized upon it with avidity.

Of contemporary Soviet writings, Wanda Wasilewska's *Rainbow*, a novel describing the experience of Soviet people in Nazi-occupied territories, and Vasili Grossman's *The People Immortal* have won the greatest popularity.

A girl librarian noted in her diary: "On November 3, in a dugout on the outskirts of Stalingrad, I read aloud Grossman's *Battle of Stalingrad*. Among the

Red Army men who listened were privates Zhukhov, Dubov and Klimenko, characters in this true story."

Hundreds of concert groups are constantly at work in the front line. Actors, musicians, singers and writers are familiar and welcome guests. Outstanding Soviet opera singers and ballet dancers such as Barsova, Mikhailov and Lepeshinskaya perform frequently for Red Army audiences. The shows are staged in dugouts, dwelling houses, in the open fields or in woods. An impromptu stage may be put up under the wing of a giant bomber. It is a commonplace for concerts to take place within the range of enemy artillery, no more than 500 yards from the German lines. Each front has a professional ensemble of Red Army men who specialize in song and dance entertainments.

The Front Line Entertainment Service maintains a force of traveling theaters which stage their performances with light, portable settings. The repertoire includes plays by Shakespeare, Moliere, de Vega, Schiller, Goldoni, Ostrovsky, Chekhov, Gorky and other world-famous playwrights.

The most popular plays at the front today are *The Russians* by Simonov, *The Front* by Korneichuk and *Invasion* by Leonid Leonov.

Besides all this, the men themselves put on innumerable amateur performances. Every division, regiment, battalion and company has some kind of small amateur ensemble—a dance orchestra, a folk instrument troupe, dancers, jugglers, singers.

General Rodimtsev's Division, which fought in the Battle of Stalingrad, has an amateur group directed by Sergeant Tolokumsky. They gave over 50 performances at Stalingrad during the battle, performing in wrecked houses and dugouts and at divisional H.Q. Here is a description of such a concert: "Huge concrete pipe mains are in front of us: water seeps through the masonry, heavy drops trickle down along the smoke-grimed walls. This is the headquarters of Major General Rodimtsev and his Chief of Staff. The place is crowded with commanders and men. Everyone is singing popular songs—'Gray Eyes,' 'A Maiden Smiles,' 'Friendship.' Everyone is cheerful. Even the serious faces of the commanders relax as they listen.

"Suddenly the premises are rocked by a terrific explosion. The lights go out instantly. A direct hit, but the ceilings are strong. Rodimtsev relights the kerosene lamp, and turns to the singers with a smile: 'Carry on, men!' The singing continues, while in a quiet voice, so as not to disturb the music, the General gives fighting orders over the telephone."

The art of the Soviet people inspires Red Army men to fury against the German tyrants. It strengthens their love for their native land, and spurs them on to deeds of ever greater heroism.

A RED NAVY COMPOSER

By Jacob Chernukhin

Konstantin Listov, composer of a number of popular Soviet songs, joined the Red Navy soon after the outbreak of the war. At present he is Navy consultant on amateur theatricals.

Listov recently returned from a visit to the Northern Fleet with Colonel Vasili Lebedev-Kumach, well-known poet and author of the songs for *Moscow Laughs*, *Circus*, *Volga—Volga*, and other film musicals.

"It was a most interesting trip," Listov recounts. "We spent five days on battleships, visited Navy fliers, submariners and gunners, and performed in Seamen's Clubs and aboard ships. Lebedev-Kumach read his poems and I played my latest song on the accordion."

Konstantin Listov spent his childhood and early youth in Stalingrad, where he was graduated from the Music School. In 1918 he volunteered for the Red Army, saw action and was shell-shocked during

the defense of his native city. While in the Army he composed one song after another. In 1919 the Command of the 10th Army in which he served sent him to complete his musical education at the Saratov Conservatory. He maintained close contact with the Red Army, often visiting the front. Later he wrote the music for several productions of the Moscow Maly Theater, including Moliere's *Bourgeois Gentleman*.

Song writing has always been closest to his heart. During the two years of the present war he has composed 27 songs, including the very popular "A Mother's Farewell to Her Son," and has been awarded the Order of the Red Star.

"Following the example of the Soviet artists who put out the satirical posters called 'TASS Windows,'" said Listov, "Soviet music writers are composing satirical 'TASS Windows.' I have written the score for five of these Radio Windows."



Red Army men relax between battles

Radiophoto

THE WILL TO LIVE

By Sergei Bogomzov

This is a true story of a man who became an artist after he had lost both hands in the war.

Semyon Poluektov is 23 years old. He was born in Livny, a small Russian town of shady linden trees and rows of little houses with pink and blue shutters set back from the road behind cool gardens. Semyon was a compositor who loved his work. At the beginning of the war he went to the front, became commander of an anti-aircraft battery in the Ukraine and defended Dniepropetrovsk, Makeyevka and Pavlograd against the Germans.

Later his unit was sent to defend Stalingrad. They dug themselves in on the outskirts of the city, resolved not to retreat a single step. On November 9, 1942, a shell splinter shattered both of Semyon's hands. His comrades sent him to a field hospital on the opposite bank of the Volga, where his hands were amputated.

He soon recovered his health, but the thought of living as a helpless cripple reduced him to despair. One day he determined to write his name on the cover of a book. He directed the patient in the next bed to tie a pencil to the stump of his right arm and to place the book on his knees. The book slipped and fell to the floor. It was placed on a chair and he tried to write standing up. The arm would not obey him. Clenching his teeth, he lay on the bed on his left side, with the book near him, and in this position succeeded in writing his name. It was a tremendous victory.

From that time he spent whole days learning to write. Several weeks later he wrote his first letter

home, to his parents. Then he began to draw regularly, exhibiting great talent, even attempting a portrait of Pushkin. His pictures were shown to the well-known artist Tatiana Zhirmunskaya. She volunteered to teach him, and he was soon trying his hand at water colors.

Semyon's pictures won praise from professional artists. A few months later he was elected a member of the Union of Soviet Artists of Uzbekistan, and shortly afterward came to Moscow to the Institute of Artificial Limbs, where he was fitted with a special device to facilitate his work.

I saw him in one of the wards of the Institute, a young man, tanned and healthy, his hair carefully brushed, his eyes alight with the new life of creative effort opening before him. He talked of art, of works of the Old Masters, and his plans for the future.

Involuntarily one recalled the famous Soviet writer, Nikolai Ostrovsky, whose novels, *How the Steel Was Tempered* and *Born of the Storm*, are so popular with Soviet youth. Ostrovsky fought in the Civil War, was badly wounded and later became blind and paralyzed. He turned to literary work and up to the last minute of his life continued to dictate books in which the young heroes who devoted their lives to the country are portrayed with truth and power.

The Soviet Union has developed another such artist in Junior Sergeant Semyon Poluektov, a young Russian of unbending will and an invincible desire to live and create.

Cameraman Shoots Down German Plane

During a recent Soviet air raid on the railway junction of Bryansk, newsreel cameraman Sher took the place of the gunner. In preparation for the flight he had studied machine gunnery; however, his main task was the filming of the raid.

On reaching the target Soviet fliers bombed military objectives, while Sher's camera recorded their operations. During the return flight a large group of German Focke-Wolfs attacked our planes. Cameraman Sher saw two German fighters bearing down on a Soviet plane only 120 to 150 meters away. He

took aim and sent two long volleys into the Focke-Wulf. A tongue of fire shot out of the enemy's engine; the fighter heeled over sharply and went down in flames. Sher's achievement was commended in the Regimental Order of the Day.

Soviet Artists in Iran

Recently a group of Soviet artists including Marina Kozolupova, Yuri Bryushkov, Sergei Obraztsov and others returned from Iran, where they spent 50 days and gave 65 concerts. High praise was accorded the work of the Soviet artists by the Iranian press.

AN ISLAND GARRISON

By Major Vasili Kolibelnikov

Forests and swamps stretching for a thousand kilometers, intersected by rivers along which are scattered villages of 20 to 30 cottages each—such is the landscape of the Volkhov District, an extremely rich and picturesque region.

Here across forests, swamps and lakes runs the battlefield. During the winter it was easy to move in any direction, but now communications are very difficult. Volkhov Red Army men use wit and ingenuity to avoid being dependent on the whims of nature. Plank roads are laid across muddy swamps, bridges span narrow streams and lakes.

I traveled four kilometers along one of these wooden roads from the command post to the garrison which forms the right flank of a certain regiment's defense. This strong-point is located on an island in the center of a little lake. The key position of the island permits the garrison to survey the surrounding country for two or three kilometers; from it the German's defenses are clearly visible, together with the road leading to the enemy positions.

In the autumn of 1942 fierce battles were fought for this position. The little island changed hands eight times and was finally captured by Soviet units

in October. Eight Red Army men, headed by Sergeant Peter Shramko, took up their positions there. When winter set in and the lake froze, a strong blockhouse was built, with embrasures permitting a good view of the locality. The Germans made three attempts to capture it—in January, March and May of 1943—but were beaten off each time.

The last battle took place on a rainy morning. Taking advantage of the weather the enemy opened heavy mortar fire on the blockhouse. In half an hour over 200 shells were fired and the little island was enveloped in smoke. Seven shells scored hits on the roof, but did little damage to the ferro-concrete. The Hitlerites then attempted to launch a boat, but were stopped by gun-fire from the garrison. In this brief engagement the nine Red Army men displayed great courage against a numerically superior force. Two were wounded, but remained at their posts until the last. For their valor and distinguished service, all nine were awarded the Order of the Red Banner, this being the second award for Sergeant Shramko and machine-gunner Vasili Burtzev.

For eight months these men have held their island garrison. During lulls in the fighting they entertain themselves with singing and dancing. Every second day they receive newspapers and magazines.

SOVIET GUERRILLAS OUTWIT GERMAN MILITARY EXPERTS

By Colonel Nikolai Ivanov

The nucleus of the German garrison at Russakovo station was made up of picked SS troops, experienced in robbery and murder. The commandant was a major, a professional soldier decorated with two iron crosses. Soviet guerrillas, well aware of the enemy's strength, took their time in preparing an attack on the garrison. For several nights in succession veteran scouts studied the terrain, watched the sentry relief and searched for camouflaged firing points.

On the eve of the attack a detailed plan was drawn up. Apparently the enemy feared an attack from the east, since most of his light and heavy machine guns and squads of sub-machine gunners protected the approaches to the village near the station from that direction. The west side of the village, against a steep hillside, was left undefended.

This was the spot chosen by the guerrilla commander for his main blow.

The guerrillas separated into four groups; the first two being ordered to descend the steep slope and take possession of the western outskirts of the village and then to advance to the center; the third was assigned the task of holding the Germans on the east and striking a frontal blow at the proper time; while the fourth was to control the road southeast of the station along which Nazi reinforcements were expected to arrive.

In the middle of the night the guerrillas stealthily took up initial positions. Junior commanders examined weapons carried by the men and handed out 50 extra cartridges per person. A quarter of an hour

later the action began. Shock groups entered the village without a single shot having been fired. The Germans were taken completely by surprise.

The guerrillas acted with outstanding bravery and resourcefulness. When the Germans opened machine-gun fire from a barn roof, one fighter hurled an incendiary bottle and fired the barn; the panic-stricken Nazis leaped down into the street and were mowed down with sub-machine guns. While shock groups were destroying the enemy inside the village, other Nazis opened intensive fire along the eastern outskirts. Guerrilla volunteers crawled forward and hurled hand grenades into the enemy firing nests, smashing four machine guns. Finding themselves in danger of en-

circlement, the Germans rushed toward the earthen pill-boxes protecting the immediate approaches to the station. The guerrilla commander threw two reserve groups into attack, directing their operations from a point on the hillside 300 meters from the station. The pillboxes were captured and the guerrillas opened fire on the Germans with their own machine guns, shooting down not less than 30.

In this action 86 Germans were killed, several pill-boxes destroyed and a number of fortified buildings and a large amount of booty captured. The guerrillas losses were three men killed and nine wounded. The wounded, incidentally, remained in the firing line throughout the engagement.

SICKNESS RATE DROPS IN FACTORIES

By Sergei Kurashov

Assistant People's Commissar of Health of the RSFSR

The health of industrial workers, especially munitions workers, is one of the chief concerns of the Soviet public health service. Many new factories have been built in the East, while many others were evacuated from the western Soviet regions to the Urals, the Volga, and eastern Siberia. This necessitated the creation of an entirely new network of health service—no easy matter in conditions of war. We feel entitled to say that our two years' effort has not been in vain.

We can record an increase in the number of health centers. In 1942 we established over a hundred additional medical departments, 110 polyclinics and health centers, and four thousand hospital beds to serve the larger munition works alone. The large number of women who have entered industry since the outbreak of war have at their disposal health centers and maternity hospitals. The factories provide rooms where nursing mothers can feed their children. We have increased the number of prophylactoria and night and day tuberculosis sanatoria, many of which are located on the territory of the factories themselves. Our network of nursery schools and child welfare centers has been greatly extended.

So much for the large factories. Some 500 medical departments which function day and night have recently been opened in the smaller munitions factories. Over 2,000 qualified physicians serve the medical institutions attached to the munitions plants. Before they took up this work, they attended a refresher course in industrial diseases. The factory polyclinics collaborate closely with medical research institutes.

All this does not mean that the ordinary public health services in the industrial centers are relieved

of responsibility for the munition workers; far from it. The factory services are supplementary.

I must state that the factories cooperate excellently. One large aviation plant, for instance, built and equipped a first-class hospital with a thousand beds, a polyclinic and a therapeutical center. The past few months have brought a marked improvement in the health of the workers at this plant. Another factory built a hotel where unmarried workers can be properly nursed and fed when they fall ill. In a word, every effort is made to hasten recovery.

Many factory polyclinics have diagnostical laboratories, X-ray equipment and therapeutical departments. Measures to prevent ill-health are the rule in the factories. Each shop is subject to a daily health inspection.

Sharp Decline in Medical Absenteeism

All these measures have naturally led to an improvement in the workers' health. While at the end of 1941 and the beginning of 1942 an increase in sickness and temporary loss of working capacity was observed, in the third quarter of 1942 and the first quarter of 1943 a marked decrease was registered.

Take the factories of the Gorky Region, for instance. At one factory, where Dr. Pakhomov is in charge of the medical department, absence from sickness dropped in the fourth quarter of 1942 by 84 per cent, as compared with the first quarter. In the Sverdlov Works it declined by 37 per cent. In the Gorky Region generally, the decrease in sickness in the fourth quarter of 1942 meant an additional 603,000 days' work. In most munitions factories this decline has been maintained in 1943.

JEWISH WORKERS IN INDUSTRIES OF USSR

By M. Lapidus

Hundreds of Jewish engineers and workers have distinguished themselves in the Metallurgical industry. Abram Barkov, a skilled welder at the Kuznetsk works, was decorated recently by the Soviet Government for exemplary labor. The chief engineer of the entire works is a Jew named Leonid Weisberg. This man is not only an able executive, but a clever innovator and inventor. In company with two Russian engineers, he was recently awarded a Stalin Prize for notable improvements in the rolling mills. Solomon Liberman, another engineer employed here, also participated in this work.

In the mining and oil industry a Jewish driller, Kapelyushnikov, has earned world-wide renown for his method of turbo-drilling. Another prominent Jewish oil-worker is Israel Sheinman. He has evolved an interesting method of employing oil gases. Sheinman's father, too, was an oil-worker, but his was the modest post of office worker with one of the Russian firms owned by Alfred Nobel.

Many Jewish men and women are employed in Soviet machine-building plants. Outstanding among them are foundrymen Israel Srogovich and Jacob Kamornik. The first is employed in a ship-building plant, the second in an aircraft factory. Kamornik's father and grandfather worked in small blacksmith shops, shoeing horses. Now Jacob works in a large armament plant. He has made many valuable inventions. Shakhman, a turner employed in a large Soviet aircraft factory, received a high Government award for exemplary work at the beginning of the war. Now he is a deputy to the city Soviet, where he represents his fellow-workers.

Many Jews employed in the Soviet machine-building industry have achieved executive positions. Israel Levin and Mark Gorelik, both directors of aircraft factories, were once employed as turners. Both proved particularly able, and advanced steadily until they reached their present posts. Gorelik, with years of experience in production, subsequently graduated from Engineering College. Levin has received a Government award. The plants directed by Levin, Gorelik and aero-engineer Shapiro are leaders in Soviet aircraft production.

Among Jewish directors of other war enterprises are Bykhovsky and Gonar, who have received the highest Government awards. Both are in charge of giant artillery plants. Zaltsman, director of a Leningrad plant, was later appointed People's Commissar for the Tank-Building Industry. Engineer Semyon Ginzburg has been appointed People's Commissar for

Industrial Building—his talents were recognized 15 years ago, when he helped to construct Moscow's telegraph buildings.

Well known among Soviet workers are the director of the Gorky Automobile plant, Livshitz, and Jacob Yusim, director of a famous ball-bearing plant. One of Yusim's colleagues is the Soviet engineer Herts Lurye, who was recently awarded the Order of Lenin and a second degree Stalin Prize.

There are many Jews among leading Soviet aircraft designers. Well known among them is Gurevich, who has designed a number of formidable fighter planes. The LA-5, an attack plane of which the Red Army thinks very highly indeed, was designed by Semyon Lavochkin, the son of a Jewish teacher.

With all fields of Soviet enterprise open to them, Jews in the USSR are working hard and fighting hard for victory side by side with all other Soviet nationalities.

United States Navy Cross Awarded

Soviet Captain

The President of the United States has awarded the Navy Cross to Captain of the Second Rank Anton Gurin, one of the most experienced Commanders of the Soviet Navy. This 33-year-old Russian officer has repeatedly taken part in escorting convoys of arms and ammunition through the dangerous waters from England and the United States to the USSR.

On one voyage three German Junkers dived out of the clouds on the convoy escorted by ships under Gurin's command. Artillerymen raised a curtain of fire; the Germans dumped their bombs haphazardly into the sea and turned tail without scoring a single hit. Approaching Soviet shores, signalmen spotted the conning tower of a submarine. Gurin's ship instantly attacked. Depth charges did a good job; an enormous yellow oil stain appeared on the surface of the water and shortly the debris of the submarine appeared. The convoy reached port safely.

Gurin's ship has also shelled enemy troop concentrations on the coast on more than one occasion, and has shot down 15 enemy planes.

ROSTOV MUSEUM, LOOTED BY GERMANS, ONE OF FINEST IN USSR

In connection with the publication in the Soviet press of the statement of the Extraordinary State Committee for ascertaining and investigation of crimes committed by the German-fascist invaders and their associates, citing documents on the looting by the Hitlerites of the Rostov Museum of Fine Arts, Merited Worker of Arts Academician Igor Grabar stated:

"Reading this document, one is seized with deep indignation. I have devoted half my life to museum work and in particular did much to found the Rostov Picture Gallery; therefore the statement concerning this monstrous crime of the fascist vandals came as a particularly great shock to me.

"The Rostov Museum was one of the finest in the Soviet Union. Unique pictures and sculptures had been turned over to this Museum from central art

repositories, from the reserves of the Hermitage, the Russian Museum, the Tretyakov Gallery and the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts. Collections of the Museum included world famous canvasses by Rubens, Murillo, Vereschagin, Repin, Ivasovsky and Donatello. It was toward those masterpieces the fascist robbers and murderers stretched their bloody paws.

"The horrible account of crimes committed by the Hitlerites is growing daily. But we trust, we know, that the hour of retribution will come. The German cannibals will answer for the atrocious murders of innocent Soviet people, for the destruction of prosperous towns converted into a "desert zone," for the destruction and the plunder of the greatest values of art. Only the victory of the United Nations can free the world from the barbaric fascist hordes which threaten the freedom, culture and progress of humanity."

MOSCOW STUDENTS STUDY AMERICA

By Victor Krasilnikov

The course in the Physical Geography of America given at Moscow University for third-year students extended through the 1942-43 term. In the examinations now in progress students reveal their knowledge of the climate, landscape and soil peculiarities of the great Ally which with the USSR and Great Britain stands at the head of the coalition of liberty-loving peoples.

On the walls of the examination hall are large-scale detailed maps of North and South America. The examining committee, Masters of Science Varvara Monakhova and Natalia Alexandrovskaya, sits at a table on which are stacked cards containing the questions. Pointer in hand, student Zoya Kurnayeva stands before one of the maps. She has drawn a question requiring her to give details of the structure and climate of the cordilleras. Her broad face expresses deep concentration as she replies unhurriedly, confident of her knowledge.

Zoya is the daughter of a collective farmer of Ryazan. While still in the middle school she became fond of geography and decided to study the earth and lives of different nations and their customs and cultures. She has a good knowledge of English and reads geographical works in that language. The examiners give her an "excellent" mark.

Her place is taken by the Ukrainian girl student,

Elena Teplenko, who deals with the division of North America into natural geographic zones. Examiner Monakhova asks: "Would it be possible to defend Florida against an enemy invasion?" The young student details the advantages of the American coastline from the viewpoint of defense.

The last student to be examined at the morning session was Klavdia Kochman, daughter of a Minsk worker. She drew a question concerning the summer and winter isotherms in the Gulf of Mexico. In answering she stresses the importance of the warm currents from Cuba to the American seaboard. Asked another question about "Indian Summer," she describes this phenomenon, frequently comparing the climate of America with that of her native Byelorussia. This is not because of similar features, but because her thoughts are always with the place where her childhood was spent and where the enemy has trodden underfoot the sacred rights of Soviet citizens. Klavdia has taken an active part in the war against the Hitlerites. She fought in a guerrilla column for six months, and only after being wounded came to Moscow to the University.

Elena Teplenko and Klavdia Kochman also receive the "excellent" mark. The students still have several more examinations before them, after which they will go on practical geographical expeditions to the Altai, the Urals and Kazakhstan.

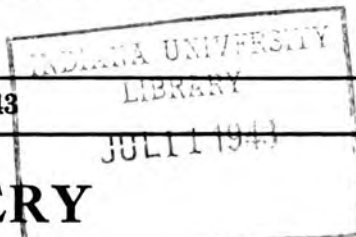
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SOVIET ARTILLERY

By Major General of Artillery I. Prochko

The Soviet Union has been at war with Hitler Germany for two years. In this period the "invincible" German army has been beaten on a number of occasions—at times pretty thoroughly beaten—by

Soviet infantry, aircraft and tanks, and above all by Soviet artillery.

The summer and autumn of 1941 were a trying



Trench-Mortar Gunners

Oil—Nikolai Kotos

period for the Red Army. The enemy, having the advantage of a surprise attack and superiority in numbers and armaments, was pressing frantically forward. The Red Army fought at a heavy disadvantage. Parrying the enemy's blows it beat a fighting retreat, meanwhile regrouping and accumulating forces for a retaliatory blow. In this complex strategical situation Red Army artillery acted as a cover for the retiring troops, its powerful fire stemming enemy attacks and taking a heavy toll of German lives.

In this stage of the war Red Army artillery played a particularly important part in combating enemy tanks. German tank divisions, accustomed in Western Europe to advance almost unimpeded, found themselves up against a devastating wall of fire. The war often took the form of a duel between German tanks and Soviet artillery, in which the German tanks were almost invariably worsted.

Of course, Soviet aircraft and tanks played their part in combating enemy tanks, but undoubtedly the heaviest losses were inflicted by our artillery.

"Yes, it was hell let loose—" said Obergefreiter Rudolph Ligner, of the German army, taken prisoner in the autumn of 1941. "It lasted five nights—five terrible nights. None of us got a wink of sleep or even attempted to raise our heads above the ground. Under the fire of Russian artillery and aircraft the earth, human corpses and shattered guns all mingled in one inextricable confusion. Not a single man in my company besides myself survived."

The role of artillery in the war against the German-fascists was even more marked in the winter of 1941-42 when at Moscow, Rostov, Tikhvin, Yeletz, and other points it served as a battering-ram, forcing breach after breach in the enemy's defenses. A new tactical demand was made on the artillery at this period—not to interrupt its support of infantry and tanks for a moment, and to bombard the enemy's defenses throughout their whole depth. This demanded extreme flexibility of the artillery commanders in distributing their forces, and high maneuverability of artillery units both in fire and movement.

The German-fascist offensive which followed in the summer of 1942 on the Southwestern Front was a severe test for Red Army artillery. Again as in 1941 it was called upon to bear the full brunt of the enemy's tank attacks. Fierce fighting raged night and day without rest or pause over the broad expanses of the Don and Volga steppes. The German-fascist Command hurled ever fresh forces into the fight, striving to reach the Volga at any cost. Dozens of tank divisions and masses of motorized troops were brought into action, while enemy aircraft unceasingly bombed Soviet battle formations, communications and river crossings. In these stubborn, relentless battles Soviet artillery revealed the full force of its striking power, mauling and battering the German army.

Particularly brilliant in this period was the work of the tank-destroyer regiments, on whose shoulders fell the main brunt of the fight with the enemy's panzer forces. The path of the German-fascist army from the Northern Donets across the Don to the Volga was strewn with shattered and burned enemy tanks. In some places dozens of them were piled in a heap. This was the result of the extraordinarily stubborn, courageous and skilful work of Soviet artillerymen.

Then came the epic of Stalingrad. At the approaches to the city, on its outskirts and in its streets, Soviet artillery thundered. Guns moved in the midst of infantry, firing at the enemy over open sights. They fired from covered positions, battering the enemy out of blindages, house cellars and other shelters. The long-range rungs on the left bank of the Volga gave the enemy no peace day or night, sending squalls of fire at his troop concentrations, roads and communications, wherever his men or machines appeared.

In the Stalingrad operation 22 German divisions, together with their augmenting units, were surrounded and annihilated. The role played by Red Army artillery in this operation is well known. Under its fire perished tens of thousands of enemy soldiers and officers, and countless machines and armaments were destroyed. Germans who survived the Battle for Stalingrad recall it with horror. German generals taken prisoner at Stalingrad unwillingly conceded high honors to Soviet artillery. Major General Ulrich Fassol, Chief of Artillery of the 51st Army Corps, said: "If our infantry are not advancing, your artillery is to blame." Major General Hans Wulz, Chief of Artillery of the Fourth Army Corps, likewise testified that surrounded German troops suffered their heaviest losses in lives and materiel from Soviet artillery.

The Stalingrad victory still further enriched the experience of our artillerymen. In the two years of war, Soviet artillery has increased in numbers and improved in quality. There can be no doubt that in the impending decisive battles Soviet artillerymen will display fresh examples of courage, gallantry and skill.

Exhibit of Captured German Armament

Viewed by 100,000 in One Day

Over 100,000 visitors were registered in one day at the exhibit of captured German war materiel which recently opened in Moscow. Dozens of groups of workers, office employees and students examined the trophies and many wrote comments in the visitors' books. Academician Kolli, architect, wrote: "The enemy's war equipment is shown to visitors with exhaustive thoroughness. One is happy to realize that all these lethal machines are being destroyed by a still stronger force: the Red Army."

EXHIBIT OF CAPTURED GERMAN ARMAMENTS

In the exhibit recently opened in Moscow of specimens of war booty captured from the Germans from 1941 to 1943, a prominent place is given to Germany's artillery weapons.

The exhibit is above all an objective demonstration of the enormous losses inflicted on the German-fascist troops by the Red Army, and a vivid illustration of the statement of the Soviet Information Bureau that in two years of war Hitler's army on the Soviet-German front has lost 56,500 guns of all calibers, 42,400 tanks and 43,000 aircraft.

Germany made long and careful preparations for her nefarious attack on the Soviet Union. Not only German plants but the largest plants of subjugated and vassal countries were put to work at top speed for this purpose. The armaments of the German army include specimens from all Europe. Among the booty are artillery pieces made by Bofors, Skoda, Breda, etc. All of Europe's war industry worked for Hitler's army—yet the Red Army has been able to withstand and vanquish German armaments.

The exhibit leaves no doubt that the German army has numerous fairly powerful and diversified artillery weapons. There is a large collection of anti-tank artillery, from 20-mm. automatic guns of antiquated pattern to the latest 75-mm. gun. There are many specimens of field pieces, from 105-mm. to 150-mm. guns and howitzers. Among the heavy types are the 211-mm. howitzers captured on various sectors of the Soviet-German front. A feature of the exhibit are the 305-mm. mortars.

The artillery exhibits enable us to form a judgment on the German war doctrine. The German-fascist army was originally designed only for offensive tactics. This explains the predominance of howitzers in its artillery. The Germans under-rated the strength and might of the Red Army's tank units. When they attacked the Soviet Union the Germans had practically no effective anti-tank guns, their artillery of this type consisting largely of antiquated models of diverse origin.

But after the first few months of war, the blitzkrieg strategy of the German Command had definitely suffered bankruptcy. The Red Army, and particularly its tank formations, dealt blow after blow at the invaders. Thereafter the German Command hastily proceeded to equip its army with new anti-tank guns. Hundreds of these guns were captured by our troops.

The histories of the various artillery weapons displayed at the exhibit differ. Here are powerful 211-mm. howitzers of the type with which the Ger-

(Continued on page four)



Focke-Wulf 200 heavy bomber on display at exhibit of captured German war materiel



Rows of captured tanks from all the armament works of Europe



German 105-mm. anti-aircraft guns

Radiophotos

429903



Soviet tanks approaching enemy positions

Radiophoto

CAPTURED ARMAMENTS

(Continued from page three)

mans in the autumn of 1941 intended to bombard Moscow. The German army, routed at Moscow, was not permitted to use these howitzers, which are instead exhibited in Moscow as trophies. Here, too, are the 305-mm. mortars which the Germans, taking advantage of the relative stability of the Leningrad Front, brought up to Leningrad to bombard that city. But the Red Army broke the Leningrad blockade and seized the mortars. One of them bears the distinct marks of our shells.

There are artillery pieces at the exhibit twisted all awry by direct hits—evidence of the fine work of our artillerymen, whose deadly aim destroyed many an enemy battery. Many of the German guns were captured in perfect condition after crews were annihilated by Soviet artillery fire. In their hasty retreats the Germans also abandoned masses of materiel, including artillery.

This exhibition of war booty leaves no doubt that the German army is equipped with first class arma-

ments, but it likewise leaves no doubt of the efficiency of Soviet weapons and of Red Army men who are able to render these German weapons harmless. The enemy has suffered immense losses in artillery, but his reserves are still considerable, and Soviet artillery must reckon with them in impending battles. The battle experience and increased skill of Soviet artillerymen furnish grounds for the assumption that from these battles they will emerge victorious.

Volunteers Help Restore Stalingrad

Teams of volunteer builders are actively assisting in the restoration of Stalingrad. One such team was organized by Alexandra Cherkassova, the wife of a Red Army man. At the end of each day the members left their regular places of employment and worked for several hours restoring demolished buildings. The initiative of this group was widely followed by Stalingrad citizens; teams of volunteer builders were organized in all factories and offices. After working hours the people help in the restoration of schools, hospitals and dwellings. This mass work greatly speeds up the rebuilding of the city.

ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN USSR AND ABYSSINIA

The Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to Great Britain, Ivan Maisky, and the Minister of the Imperial Government of Abyssinia to Great Britain, Belata Ayela Gabre, on behalf of their respective Governments have exchanged notes on the

establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The notes also provide for the exchange of Ministers.

This act forms one more contribution to the cause of the consolidation of the front of the United Nations.

RED ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE IN MODERN WAR

By G. A. Miterev

People's Commissar of Health of the USSR

The standard of work of the Red Army medical institutions is much higher than that of the medical service of the Russian Army during the first World War, despite the great advance in the quantity and efficacy of modern weapons of war, the mobility of operations and the length of the front line.

The death rate among the wounded in hospital during recent months of war was 1.1 per cent: 73 per cent of the wounded return to the ranks, whereas in the 1914-1918 war only 40 per cent of the wounded were able to fight again.

The medical service system is based on the closest interaction of all medical institutions at the front and in the rear. This enables timely skilled medical aid to be rendered to the wounded at all stages of their evacuation. At the front line skilled surgical aid is rendered as near as possible to the battlefield. Uniform methods of treatment of various wounds, both at the front and in the rear, are applied by the country's most prominent medical experts.

The particular success in the treatment of wounds has been achieved through the specialization of hospitals. Some hospitals specialize in the treatment of wounds of the central and peripheral nervous system, some in jaw and face wounds, some in wounds of the bladder and genital organs, lung wounds, etc.

During the last war 45-50 per cent of the men who received bladder wounds died. Soviet urologists, employing the newest methods of treatment, have reduced mortality in such cases to less than a quarter. Approximately the same result has been achieved in the treatment of chest wounds. Specialized treatment has made it possible to preserve the eyesight of wounded men, to restore their hearing, and to correct facial disfigurements.

Injuries to the extremities form a large proportion of the wounds. During the first years of the last World War amputation was the rule in 6-8 per cent of such cases. In the USSR that figure has been reduced by two-thirds. A large percentage of these cases ultimately return to the ranks.

Coordinated treatment of the wounded by specialists has fully vindicated itself. Experts in the most varied fields—physiotherapists, nerve specialists, X-ray specialists, laryngologists, medical gymnastics instructors—are called in as they are needed.

The hospitals use new preparations which give excellent results in combating microbes. The blood transfusion service is highly organized. The transfusion stations keep the front fully supplied with the necessary quantities of blood at all stages of treatment, from the very first evacuation stages until the wounded are brought to hospitals far in the rear. The wide use of serums for prophylactic purposes and in general treatment saves thousands from gangrene and tetanus.

Medical gymnastics play an important role in the treatment of wounds, and help to restore the functions of the affected extremities and joints. Experts in dietetics also have their place in the corps of specialists who serve the Red Army medical services. The findings of research workers are quickly adapted to practical application.

Hospitals, army medical institutions, People's Health Commissariats in the various Republics and the regional health departments hold regular conferences, the results of which are summed up at plenary sessions of the Hospital Council, which is periodically convened by the People's Commissariat for Health of the USSR.

IT WILL ALL COME BACK

By Lev Kassil

The man had forgotten everything. Who he was. Where he came from . . . He had nothing. Neither name, nor past. His senses seemed to be wrapped in a dense, murky mist. Those around him could not offer any help. They themselves knew nothing about this wounded man.

He had been picked up in a district just cleared of the Germans. They found him in a frozen cellar, all beaten up, tossing about wildly and raving. There were no documents on him. Nor did the Red Army men who had been thrust by the Germans into the same cellar know anything concerning the wounded man. He was sent with an echelon to a hospital in a remote spot in the rear. On the fifth day, while still on the way there, he came to himself. But when they inquired after his unit and his name, he just stared at the nurses and surgeon with a perplexed air, and the strain which knit his eyebrows was so great that the skin in the furrow on his forehead grew white. Then he suddenly uttered huskily, slowly, hopelessly:

"I don't know anything. Can't remember. I've forgotten all. What about me now, comrades? Oh, doctor? What on earth am I to do now? Where has it all gone to? I have clean forgotten everything . . . So what now?"

He glanced at the doctor helplessly. With both hands he clasped his close-clipped head, felt the bandage there; then his hands dropped; there was a frightened look in his pace.

"Why, it's just all gone out of my head, all clean gone. Can't remember a thing! There is something popping up in my mind, something right here,"—and he made several circles in the air with his finger just before his forehead,—“but when I concentrate and try to grasp it, it just swims away. . . . What is it that's happened to me, doctor?"

"Compose yourself, be calm," the young surgeon, Arkadi Lvovich, tried to reassure him, at the same time making a sign to the nurse to leave the room. "All this will pass, you will recollect everything, it will all come back again. Only don't worry, don't worry, my boy. Let your head alone; we will furlough your memory for a while. And now I hope you won't mind if we put you down here just as Comrade 'Can't Remember,' will you?"

And on the little board above his bed on which the names of the patients are usually inscribed, they put down: "'Can't Remember.' Wound in the head. Occiput injured. Numerous bruises all over the body."

The young physician was greatly interested in this

rare case of complete loss of memory. He watched Can't Remember with the keenest attention. Like a patient trail-finder, piecing together chance words he could gather from his patient himself with the stories of the wounded men who had been picked up together with Can't Remember, he gradually made his way to the sources of his patient's malady.

"This is a man of enormous will-power," the surgeon said excitedly to the chief of the hospital. "I can conceive now how it all came about. The Germans questioned him, tortured him. You see? And he wouldn't tell them anything. So he tried hard to obliterate from his memory everything he knew. The following fact is most characteristic of him. Some of the Red Army men,—of those who were present at his first cross examination,—told us later on that Can't Remember had only one answer for the Germans: 'I know nothing. Can't remember.' I picture the whole thing to myself this way: he locked the door of his memory with a key, and then and there he flung this key as far away as he could. At the cross examination he forced himself to forget everything that might be of any interest to the Germans, everything he knew. Then he was beaten mercilessly on the head, and his memory was actually knocked out of him. The result was complete amnesia. But I am perfectly confident it will all come right again. Enormous will-power! It was that will-power which locked up his memory, and it will unlock it again."

The young surgeon had long talks with Can't Remember. Very considerably he would let the conversation drift to topics that might evoke something in his patient's mind. He spoke of the wives who wrote letters to the other wounded, he spoke about their children. But Can't Remember remained quite listless. Sometimes a vague kind of reminiscence would flash up in him together with the acute fits of pain he would suddenly feel in his fractured limbs. This pain was connected with something which was not quite forgotten. He saw a small dimly burning lamp in a hut, he recollected someone who was trying doggedly and cruelly to find out something from him, he recollected that he would not answer. Then they beat him, beat him. . . . But as soon as he wanted to concentrate his thoughts on it, the scene, so feebly illuminated in his consciousness by the dim light of the small smoky lamp, instantly became all blurred, everything remained indiscernible, seemed to shift aside somewhere, away from his consciousness. It was just as elusive as those little spots which sometimes gleam for a moment before one's eyes, then float away, slipping out of sight.

All that had happened seemed to Can't Remember

to have disappeared down a long, dimly lit corridor. He tried to enter this narrow passage, to force his way as far as he could into it, but the tunnel grew ever narrower, ever more stifling. The wounded man felt he was getting deaf and suffocating in the dark. . . . Painful headaches were the usual result of his exertions.

The doctor once tried reading a newspaper to Can't Remember. But the patient began to turn restlessly from side to side, and the physician understood that he was hurting the most sensitive sores of his injured memory. He then decided to resort to more harmless methods. He brought an old church-calendar and read aloud the names of all the saints in it one after another: "Agathon, Agamemnon, Aggey, Anempodist . . ." Can't Remember listened to the whole lot with unvarying indifference and did not respond to a single one of the names.

The young physician then resorted to a new artifice. One day he came to see Can't Remember, who at that time was already allowed to leave his bed, and brought him a military jacket, trousers and boots. Taking the convalescent by the arm, the doctor led him along a corridor, then suddenly stopped before one of the doors there and flung it wide open. A tall pier-glass flashed before Can't Remember's eyes. A lean man in military clothes was staring at him out of the mirror.

"Well?" asked the surgeon. "Don't you know him?"

"No," answered Can't Remember abruptly. "The person is unknown to me. A new patient?" And he glanced round uneasily, searching for the unknown man who was reflected in the glass.

For New Year's Day parcels with presents for the wounded began to arrive at the hospital. Preparations for a Xmas tree were started. It was with a set purpose that Arkadi Lvovich made Can't Remember take part in them. He thought that this pleasant bustling about with the toys and glittering tinsel, the sweet-smelling green needles of the tree, all these dear familiar things would stir in the memory of the man who had forgotten everything at least some reminiscence of the days which people usually remember all their life long. Can't Remember took to his task with great earnestness, obediently but never once smiling, he fastened the glistening knick-knacks to the resinous branches of the tree—but all this was of no avail.

Lest any untimely noise should disturb his patient, the doctor had him moved to a smaller ward at the extreme end of the corridor, in one of the wings of the hospital building which faced a wood-covered hill. The foot of this hill skirted the industrial part of the town.

Early one morning Arkadi Lvovich came to see Can't Remember. The sick man was still asleep. The surgeon gently tucked in his blanket around him, then

walked to the window and opened one of its casements. It was half past seven by the clock. It was thawing outside, and a sudden waft of mild air flitting in through the open window brought in with it from the foot of the hill a deep, velvety, droning sound. It was the whistle of one of the nearest plants calling its workers to their jobs. Now the drone intensified to its full sonority, then seemed to die away, obedient to the fluctuations of the wind as to the movements of an invisible conductor's baton. It was soon joined by the deep notes of the neighboring plants, then echoed by the whistles of the distant mines.

. . . And all at once Can't Remember sat up in his bed and fixed his preoccupied gaze on the doctor.

"What's the time?" he asked swinging his feet over the edge of the bedstead. "Has ours whistled yet? Drat it, I've overslept!"

He sprang up, fumbling at his hospital dressing-gown, tossing all the bed clothes about in search of his things, and grumbling that he had poked his shirt and trousers goodness knows where.

Arkadi Lvovich rushed out of the ward like the wind and returned immediately, bringing with him the whole outfit with which he had vested Can't Remember on the day of the looking glass experiment. Now Can't Remember was dressing hurriedly, never even glancing at the surgeon, straining his ears for every sound of the whistle which was still floating imperiously, solemnly into the ward through the open window. Readjusting his belt on the way, Can't Remember ran down the corridor towards the entrance-door. The doctor followed him and in the cloak-room just had time to throw somebody's overcoat over the man's shoulders.

Can't Remember walked along the street looking straight ahead. It was not his memory yet, it was merely an ancient habit of his that was leading him on down the street which he had just recognized. For many years running, every morning he had listened for that very same whistle, scrambling sleepily out of bed and feeling for his clothes.

At first Arkadi Lvovich followed close behind Can't Remember. He had taken in the whole situation already. It was a lucky coincidence. Quite by chance the wounded man had been brought to his own native town, and now he had recognized the whistle of the very plant where he had always worked. Feeling confident that Can't Remember was walking towards the plant with perfect assurance, the young surgeon briskly overtook him and ran straight to the keeper's lodge. The elderly woman keeper at the entrance was quite dumbfounded when she saw Can't Remember.

"Yegor Petrovich!" she whispered. "Goodness gracious! You're alive! And quite safe and sound!"

Can't Remember nodded to her briskly.

"Hello, Comrade Lakhtina! I'm afraid I'm a bit late today."

He began to fumble in his pockets, anxiously feeling for his pass. But here the janitor intervened, stepping out of the watchman's room and whispering something in the woman's ear. Can't Remember was let in, and he now betook himself to his shop and walked straight up to his machine-tool. He glanced at it with the experienced eye of a specialist, then turned around and seemed to be searching for someone in the silent group of workers who were watching him in amazement from a certain distance. Finding the man he wanted, he beckoned him to come up.

"Hullo, Konstantin Andreyevich! Will you kindly adjust the disk on this dividing head?"

All the doctor's remonstrances were of no avail. Everybody wanted to come and have a look at the famous milling-machine operator who had so unexpectedly, so wonderfully re-appeared at his plant. "Barychev is here"—the news spread from shop to shop. Yegor Barychev had been considered dead. So much time had elapsed since anyone had heard from him. Arkadi Lvovich was watching his patient from afar.

Barychev took a second critical survey of his milling-machine and emitted a little grunt of satisfaction. The physician heard the relieved sigh of a young fellow standing beside him, who evidently had replaced Barychev at his machine. Then again the deep bass of the factory whistle resounded overhead.

Barychev fixed the pieces in their arbors, adjusted two large-diameter millingcutters simultaneously, as he had always done, started the machine by hand and then smoothly connected the feed-mechanism. The cooling compound gushed forth, the metal clippings bristled out.

"He knows what he's about, doesn't he?"—"Works just the same as ever."—"That's the real Barychev way," was whispered on all sides with great appreciation.

Memory seemed to have come back to the operator's hands. Rows of finished pieces formed up beside his milling-machine. He looked about him and saw that the number of finished pieces produced by his young neighbors scarcely fell short of his.

"What has come over everybody here today?" he said turning to his friend. "Look here, Konstantin Andreyevich, all our youngsters seem to be up to the mark, don't they? Not much worse than us old hands."

"Are you so very old yourself?" laughed Konstantin Andreyevich. "You are not yet thirty, are you? And to hear you talk, one could take you for an old grandpa. . . . Well, as to production, our shop has taken to working in the Barychev way. Our output is 220 per cent. Now's not the time to dawdle over things, you see that yourself. When you went away to join the army. . . ."

"Wait a bit," said Barychev softly, and the wrench he was holding dropped out of his hand. There was a sharp clang of the metal against the tiled floor. Arrested by the sound, the doctor came hurrying up. He saw Barychev's cheeks grow livid, then ashy pale.

"Kostya. . . . Konstantin Andreyevich. . . . Doctor. . . . How's my wife? And the kiddies? Haven't seen them since the first day when I went to the front. . . ."

And his memory rushed back to him in the deep yearning for his home and family. Memory struck his very heart with the ardent joy of his home-coming and an unendurable passionate resentment against those who had tried to rob him of all that his life had contained. Now it had all come back.

Moscow Applauds Kirghiz Artists

Actors of the Kirghiz Republic visiting Moscow gave a concert on June 27 revealing the range of Kirghiz art. The program opened with the reading of a poem, "Greetings to Moscow," by the national poet of Kirghizia, Alymkul Usenbaev. Actors brilliantly performed excerpts from various wartime productions of operas and plays, including the operas *The Patriots* and *Kokul*. Songs of the Patriotic War and folksongs completed the concert, which was attended by many Soviet composers, musicians, actors, writers and Red Army men.

Writers of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania Issue New Works in USSR

Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian writers and poets have produced many new works during the Patriotic War. *Living Lithuania* and *On the Estonian Land*, two new volumes recently published, contain the best works of Lithuanian and Estonian writers. A third volume, *The Word of Latvia*, will appear soon.

Collections of new verse by the Lithuanian poet, Ludas Gira, and short stories by the Latvian writer, Wilis Lacis, have been published. New volumes are in preparation by the Lithuanian poetess, Salomea Neris, and the Estonian author Jakobson.

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SOVIET GEORGIA IN WAR DAYS

By Georgi Sturua

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Georgian Republic

For two years the fraternal family of Soviet peoples has withstood the savage attacks of the Nazi hordes. The liberty-loving Georgians, together with the great Russian people and other peoples of the land of the

Soviets, are dauntlessly defending the independence of their country.

Georgian industry is now turning out completely



In the winter victories in the Caucasus, Red Army artillery supported the Mountain Rifle Regiments



A girl sentry guarding a mountain pass



Rifleman rush an enemy strong-hold

new items for defense. The number of workers overfulfilling their quotas increases daily. All Georgia knows the names of such famous workers as miner Huntua, smelter Tibilashvili and many others. To aid the front, industrial workers are constantly increasing the productivity of labor.

The collective farmers of Georgia do not lag behind the workers. In 1942 the area under crops greatly increased: that under grain by 8.8 per cent; potatoes by 17.5, and vegetables by 22.7 per cent. In addition, in 1942 Georgian farmers planted about 18,000 acres for brotherly aid to liberated regions, and in 1943 are considerably increasing this area. The whole harvest from these specially planted areas will be handed over to the people of the liberated regions.

By zealous work the collective farmers are increasing the output of agricultural products year by year. In 1942 the amount of grain and potatoes gathered was 27.5 and 39.2 higher, respectively, than in pre-war years.

Cattle herds have also been notably increased. During the two war years the number of cattle on collective farms has increased by 17.8 per cent, of hogs by 12.8 per cent, and sheep and goats by 40.5 per cent.

The output of tea plantations is increasing constantly; in 1942 the harvest of tea leaves amounted to 2,500,000 kilograms more than in 1941. Tea gather-

ing for this year has already begun. The tobacco harvest has also increased.

The Georgian intelligentsia is keeping pace with the workers and farmers, invention and rationalization being ever on the increase. During the war a large number of inventions and rationalization proposals made collectively have been accepted and applied, resulting in State economies of 10,000,000 rubles. Two young engineers, Agladze and Sioridze, have received the Stalin Prize for methods of obtaining new types of steel.

The Georgian people are also rendering material aid to the front. The widely organized collection of funds for the construction of a tank column called the "Georgian Collective Farmer" and an aircraft squadron, "Soviet Georgia," brought in vast sums. The Georgian people gladly give their savings for the manufacture of armaments. During the two war years the people contributed 79,333,000 to the Defense Fund, and 3,278,000 rubles to the fund for the restoration of Stalingrad. They responded enthusiastically to the Second State War Loan, subscribing 451,436,000 rubles, of which 193,474,000 was paid in cash.

The Georgian people are devoting all their energy to the cause of the rapid defeat of the enemy. The family of peoples of the USSR, led by Joseph Stalin, are doing everything in their power that man's worst enemy, Hitlerism, be more quickly destroyed.

HEROES OF SOVIET DAGHESTAN

By Andrei Kazakov

The word Daghestan means "Mountain Land." It is the name of a small Autonomous Soviet Republic situated on the northern slopes of the Caucasus Mountains descending toward the Caspian Sea. The Republic is inhabited by numerous highland tribes speaking over 30 languages and dialects.

In the summer of 1942, when the Hitlerites were close to Ordzhonikidze and already at Mozdok, the Daghestanians fought alongside Russians, Ukrainians, Georgians, Armenians and Azerbaijanians. The North Caucasian mountaineers have long been famous for their bravery and fighting skill. Excellent horsemen from childhood, they are seldom parted from their swift, small ponies which carry them safely over the most dangerous mountain paths.

In the present war, where engines and machinery play such a large part, Daghestanians may be found not only in the cavalry, but in all branches of the Red Army. Hero of the Soviet Union Captain Mohammed Hadjiev commands a group of submarines in

the Northern Fleet which have sunk 27 enemy ships. The sub under Hadjiev's direct command has sent 10 transports and warships to the bottom. On one occasion Hadjiev's boat sank a large transport, but was spotted by its escorting ships. Depth charges were showered around him. With the daring of his militant ancestors, this native of the mountains ordered the submarine to surface, and fought it out with the German ships, destroying one coastguard vessel and a speedboat, and putting a third to flight.

Hero of the Soviet Union Valentin Emirov, a Lezghin, commands an aviation regiment. He once fought single-handed against ten enemy fighters trying to attack our bombers. Emirov shot down one enemy plane; the rest were driven off by bomber fire and the continued attacks of Emirov. Another time he engaged five Messerschmitts, shot down one and put the rest to flight.

Guards Captain Ismail Shakhshayev, of a long-

(Continued on page seven)



BATTLE OF THE CAUCASUS—(upper left) Over railways built up steep mountain slopes moved platform cars loaded with supplies for the Mountain Regiments defending the heights; (right) Signalmen carried telephone wires across the inaccessible peaks; (lower left) firing at the fascists almost at point-blank range; (right) Mountain riflemen; the bulk of these regiments were made up of very young but experienced mountain climbers



A field nurse goes into action with her detachment



Soviet mountain riflemen enroute to the front—



—through narrow valleys and up snow-covered inclines

SOVIET MOUNTAIN CAUCAS

By Colo

A stern, unapproachable district, completely cut off from the Kuban maritime plains—mountains with overhanging, rocky cliffs, monstrous piles of stones; crevasses and pockets, footpaths that break off suddenly; slopes covered with virgin forest and clinging, impenetrable underbrush; deep, narrow valleys through which rush rivers and mountain torrents; roads zigzagging over the mountains in rare places where passes exist—it was generally believed that only troops with special training for work in mountain regions could operate in such territory.

The Red Army has a number of mountain rifle regiments, but the large-scale operations in these regions in 1942 drew many regular troops into mountain fighting. Artillery units, including even heavy artillery, went into the mountains together with the infantry. The severely cut-up nature of the terrain, the absence of visibility over long distances, roads which under ordinary circumstances would be impassable—all this made necessary immediate reorganization of the normal methods of work. The enemy must be repulsed from the mountains and forced into the valleys and destroyed.

Major Lamin's artillery regiment was ordered to take up a position high on the mountain. The batteries passed along a narrow road hewn out of the rocky earth. At each turn the road climbed more steeply. Under fearful strain, clinging to every irregularity in the ground, the horses stumbled up the rocky slopes, dragging the guns along yard by yard. The rarified atmosphere made breathing difficult; the tormented animals halted more and more frequently. The gunners then harnessed themselves to the traces and drew the guns themselves. The higher the road climbed, the more difficult became the struggle. Only the implacable will of the men moved the guns forward and forced the exhausted horses to follow. Every kilometer of the journey was covered at an unbelievable cost.

By morning of the next day the men and horses, staggering from exhaustion, managed to get the guns into the Mount Indiun area, where an infantry attack was to throw back the German and Rumanian mountain units.

There were no suitable places for gun positions, so the battery was placed along the road, making use

FIGHTERS IN THE BATTLES

Alexeyev

of natural indentations in the mountain side. Gun positions were cleared of rubble. The underbrush, trees and bushes on the slopes gave some slight cover from air reconnaissance. Guns were placed in all bends of the road; they appeared almost to be overhanging each other, although quite a long time and much effort was necessary to cover the distance between them. Observers were posted in the branches of mighty mountain oaks to watch the slopes on the enemy side. Even through field glasses the enemy positions resembled a solid forest mass; only an occasional wisp of smoke gave away the location of their firing points.

Our artillery regiment opened fire when our infantry, under cover of thick vegetation, began to concentrate at the foothill. After the enemy's firing positions on his first defense line, encircling the mountain about half way up, were suppressed, our infantry increased the pace of their advance up the slope. The mountain, however, was crowned by a second ring of blockhouses and trenches, and the infantry commander insistently demanded artillery fire for their suppression.

Trucks bringing up ammunition supplies could not get up to our gun positions; they unloaded their shells about a mile away. The regiment had no pack animals, and to use draught horses without special harness was likely to put them out of action completely. The regiment's second-in-command collected every man who could possibly be spared from the gun positions. His order was short and extremely clear: for the success of the attack the batteries must maintain continuous fire—the men must insure a constant supply of shells to the gun positions. Each man was given a wooden cradle for shells; ropes and belts took the place of the usual shoulder-straps; and a long string of artillerymen began to crawl down the mountain slope.

Slowly, their bodies pressed close to the ground, exerting all their muscular strength, the men crawled back, each with a 32-kilogram load on his back. The belts cut into the flesh and made breathing difficult; feet slipped on stones. When the men reached the limit of strain, they leaned for a second against the mountain wall, opening their mouths widely to gulp in the rarified mountain air, then doggedly continued their journey. When the intervals between the



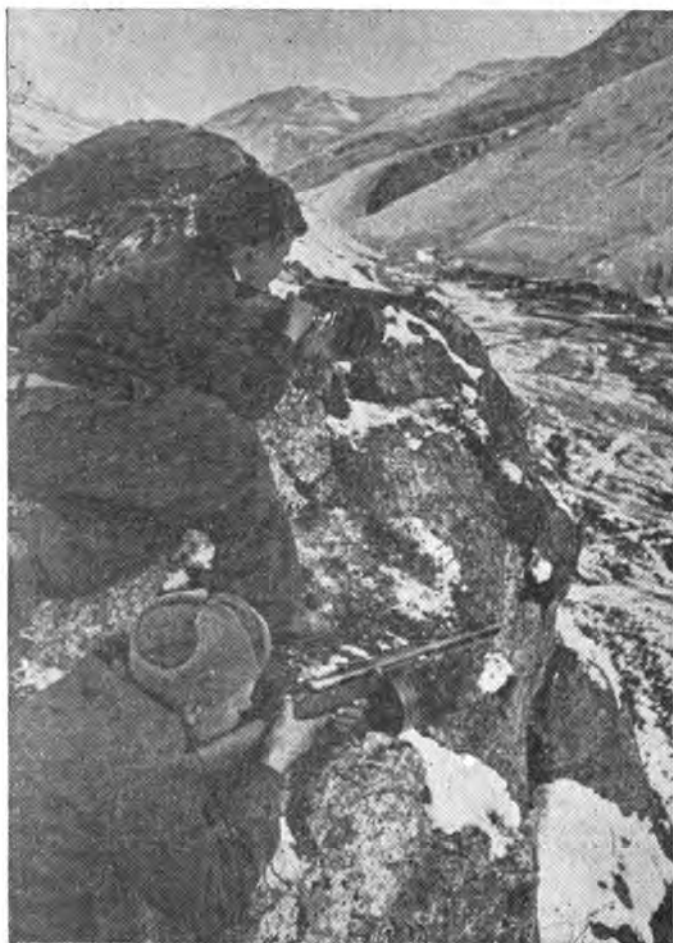
Hitler's crack Alpine Regiments end in a prison camp



Regular Red Army troops helped to vanquish these Hitlerites



Among the prisoners were many Italians and Rumanians



A path of German retreat is cut off. The entire gorge and the road running through it are under the furious fire of these mountain riflemen



A group of riflemen detour through a ravine to attack the enemy rear. The Hitlerites were no match for these tactics of Soviet eagles



Caucasian horses and indefatigable donkeys carried munitions up precipitous roads to supply the defenders of the mountain passes



The Red Army was supported by all the peoples of the Caucasus. Ammunition and food streamed to the defenders from the far-off plains

rounds fired by our guns became longer and longer, the men gritted their teeth, tore themselves from the wall and continued up the steep slope. Where the wide road made a hairpin bend, a group of gunners were ready with reins, traces and other straps from the horses' harness; they lowered these, the men below attached them, and slowly the shell cradles were dragged up from one terrace to another, where they were again hoisted to the men's shoulders and carried to the guns.

The return journey served as a rest. As the men climbed down the mountainside again they were well rewarded by hearing the rate of our fire increase. Not one battery ceased to fire the whole day.

The infantry was already fighting for the crest of the mountain when one of our batteries was spotted by a heavy German battery. The stony ground afforded no cover and a veritable whirlwind of shell splinters raged around the firing positions, putting many gunners out of action. Taking advantage of intervals between volleys, the first two guns were dragged into a safe position behind a ledge. When the third gun had almost reached safety, a shell drop-

ped near it, killing the driver and both horses. The Germans increased their fire in an effort to smash the stranded gun and another still on the first firing position.

The stranded gun had to be removed immediately, but a hail of shells made it impossible to bring up horses. The senior officer of the gun position, Lieutenant Zhirny, and a group of gunners, seized a drag rope and crawled toward the gun. Shell-splinters rained around them. Taking cover behind the bodies of the dead horses they fastened the end of the rope to the single-tree hooks in the front of the gun carriage, and attached the harness to the other end of the drag rope behind the ledge. Tree trunks and shell cases were used to reduce the friction of the rope on the stones. The drivers harnessed their horses and the gun was dragged in spurts to the bend in the road. The German fire kept up savagely, but without a single direct hit, and the gun was hauled to safety behind the ledge.

Our infantry, supported by artillery fire, took the crest of the mountain at bayonet point.

GUERRILLAS DESTROY GERMAN GARRISON

A well-prepared guerrilla attack on a German garrison was carried out recently. It was learned the garrison commander was quartered in the Elder's house in the village and his staff in the town Soviet building, and that most of the troops were in the center of the village. It was also ascertained that well-armed guards patrolled the boundaries and streets. There were no fortifications in the village or near it, but most of the approaches were covered by fire. The garrison was in communication by field telephone with neighboring villages, including one where the staff of a large enemy formation was quartered. The Germans, with plenty of ammunition and observers stationed on the housetops, felt perfectly secure.

At the appointed moment a guerrilla group cut the telephone line in several places, then laid an ambush at a crossing of five paths which connected the village with neighboring inhabited places. Simultaneously another group broke into the village from the north and northwest and hurled grenades at the Elder's house, killing the Nazi commander and his personal guard and blowing up the house in which the staff was quartered. A third group attacked from the south and southeast. Getting possession of the village, the guerrillas opened ammunition and food dumps and carried away a large number of sub-machine guns, rifles and cartridges, and biscuits, canned food and tobacco.

On the return to their camp the guerrillas were attacked by 85 Nazis hastening to the garrison's aid. The guerrillas killed over a score of them and escaped.

This particular guerrilla detachment was formed and operates in the vicinity of an important railway and highway line. The men are trained to mine highways and derail trains, and in a comparatively short period have wrecked nine enemy army trains carrying men and materiel and one armored train.

DAGHESTAN

(Continued from page two)

range bomber unit, twice decorated for bravery, has taken part in raids on Berlin. Hero of the Soviet Union Senior Sergeant of the Guards Hanpash Nuradilov, a machine-gunner from the mountain village of Minaitugai, has killed 300 Germans, captured 7 machine guns and taken 12 German prisoners. He lies in ambush, waiting until the enemy comes very close, then opens up on him with his machine gun. Similar tactics are employed by sniper Said Aliev, Hero of the Soviet Union. Aliev recently wiped out 25 German tommy gunners, who were marching along unaware of danger. Aliev let them come quite close and picked them off one by one.

Among others who have brought glory to the "Mountain Land" in fighting for their country are the Daghestanians Zilpukhar and Zhazbulatov, from the village of Karabudakhkent, the Kumyk Mama Zinutdinov, hunter Mohammed Hasayev, Kumyk Mohammed Abdurahimov, from the village of Kayakent, and the Avarian Ahmed Istayev, from the village of Botlikh.

IN GERMAN CAPTIVITY

Statement of Varvara Bakhtina, a resident of Nikolaevka village, Kursk Region:

On May 3, 1942, Foma Voronin, a criminal who had been convicted for robbery, entered our house. The Nazis had appointed him the elder of our village, Nikolaevka, in the Kursk Region. He said, "Varvara, get your things together. You are going to Germany."

"I won't go. Please don't make me," I begged.

But he went on in the same determined tone of voice: "I am acting on the orders of the German Military authorities. It is no use to protest."

I appealed to the commandant, but the cruel and cynical man only said, "You are a good strong woman. There will be enough work for you in Germany."

The next day two Germans armed with rifles entered and told me to pack and follow them. By evening 56 of our women were rounded up near the collective farm office building. My 17-year-old sister Valya was there, too. As soon as night fell we were driven to Zolotukhino village, then to Kursk. All our food gave out on the way and we had to eat grass to survive. On the eighth day we reached Lgov. There we underwent an "examination." We were forced to undress in the presence of the soldiers. Our hair was clipped. Everyone was found "fit to work," although there were sick women in our group; Anna Kuprianova, for instance, a mother of three children, was suffering from rheumatism.

We suffered from hunger. The guards hit us with their fists and rifle butts on every occasion, threw stones at us, and forced those who fell behind to run. Near the old Russian border we were kept in the woods for five days. During that time we were given nothing to eat and at night we huddled together to keep warm. Three women contracted pneumonia. We cared for them as best we could.

On the 20th day we reached Lvov where we were forced to undergo another humiliating "medical examination." The German officers photographed the naked women. In Lvov we were placed in box cars and taken to Germany.

I later learned that of 3,000 persons who left Kursk with us, 100 perished of hunger and disease on the way. With my own eyes, I saw Anna Kuprianova die.

We were put in a prisoners' camp, then sent to

various places. My sister Valya and I and 13 others were sent to work in a munitions plant in the town of Mirschberg. We hauled iron parts which were too heavy even for men. Our daily food ration was 175 grams of something like bread and a plate of cold thin soup. We went to work at 5 in the morning; returned at 10 at night. We saw nothing but the plant and our barracks, which looked like a prison house. Only then did I realize we were German slaves, and that they could do anything to us they wanted. For the least mistake or insubordination the overseers beat us with a rubber truncheon, shouting "Russian swine!"

One Sunday we were told that the plant director had given permission for a walk through the town. This news gave us sincere pleasure. The Nazis led 25 of us, not along the sidewalk, but in the middle of the street like a herd of cattle. Boys poked sticks at us, shouted and whistled. It was a humiliating experience. We were too ashamed to look up; we wished that the ground would open and swallow us.

On another occasion we were again told we could take a walk through the town. We flatly refused. Zina, Shura, Klava and several others, "ringleaders" of this action disrespectful to the German authorities, were led into the courtyard and given 15 blows each with a truncheon. Some of the women could not stand the terrible suffering. Nineteen-year-old Nina hanged herself, 21-year-old Olga cut her throat with a knife. I too began to think of ending my life, but a lucky accident saved me. My left hand was crushed at the plant. People mutilated in German captivity are no longer needed. I was sent back home.

I lived to see the happy day when Soviet troops liberated my native village of Nikolaevka and delivered its people forever from the Nazi nightmare. I returned to life again, but I shall never forget my horrible days in Germany.

Second Anti-fascist Meeting of Soviet Scientists

On July 11, 1943, the Second Anti-fascist Meeting of Soviet Scientists will be held in Moscow, beginning at 3:00 p. m. Moscow time (7:00 a. m. E.W.T.). The proceedings will be broadcast.

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THE ROLE OF INTELLECTUAL EFFORT IN THE STRUGGLE FOR VICTORY

By B. Nikolayev

The war the Soviet Union is waging today against fascist barbarism has mobilized the brain of the people as much as it has mobilized all their other forces. These days of storm and stress are marked by intense intellectual effort. It is the intellect that is behind the epoch-making movements of troops in the greatest battles history has ever known; intellect sets in motion sweeping economic and organizational measures over the length and breadth of our country covering one-sixth of the globe; intellect burns with an ever brighter flame in the indefatigable work of scientists,

workers, engineers, agronomists and doctors evolving new methods of struggle at the front and in the rear.

The number of these brain workers is tremendous. There are perhaps as many of them as there are manual workers, for it is difficult to find a Soviet citizen today who is not striving to devote all his energy to perfecting the field he is engaged in, no matter how limited its scope.

Stormy, all-embracing technical progress strikes



Soviet tanks rolling up to the front

Radiophoto

the keynote in the industry of the Soviet Union today, and this to a considerable extent determines its successes, for without the constant and intensive intellectual effort of millions of people wartime difficulties could not be overcome and the demands raised by the war could not be met. The same applies to agriculture and to all activity directed toward the defense of the country.

Intellect of Millions

The intellect of millions is fighting fascism! And among these millions there are those whose intellectual efforts are particularly distinguished.

Scientific institutions, factories and many other organizations were engaged for several months in taking stock of the work of their best people for recommendation to the Government. More than 500 Soviet scientists, inventors and innovators in all fields were awarded Stalin Prizes.

Who are these prize winners?

Side by side with some of the most eminent savants in the country, men who have worked in science for decades, the list of awards names talented young scientists, worker rationalizers, medical practitioners and collective farmers. Russians, Ukrainians, Georgians, Tatars, men and women working in the capital of the country and in the remotest corners of the land, have received tribute for their labors and have become as famous throughout the land as the heroes on the battle fronts.

For what if not heroes in the same struggle are men like Ilyushin, Polikarpov, Lavochkin, Charomsky, Klimov, Yakovlev, Mikulin, Shvetsov and Tupolev, who have armed the Soviet air force with perfected designs of fighting craft? Surely such men as Grabin, Kotin, Avtomyan, Dukhov, Liphart, Liktev and Nudel'man, designers of tanks and the splendid Soviet guns that have struck terror into the hearts of the fascists, have their share in the victories won by the Red Army.

A Single Path

One can trace a single, uniform path from the ore mined by Zavertailo, the miner, by his own method, and the steel smelted by Valeyev, the famous steelworker, to the tool made by Davidov, the designer, from Davidov's cutting tools to the lathes operated by such workers as Smirnov, and from the lathes to the mighty technical equipment of the Red Army. This is a path of creative thought, the path of victory.

The activities of the men who traverse this path are various. A group of surgeons working under

Girgolav has worked out new methods of treating frostbite; a group working under engineer Derkach has built new types of radio apparatus; engineer Lurye, the best specialist on ball bearings in the Soviet Union, and his assistants have launched the production of a new type of bearing; Yutkina, a collective farmer brigade leader, has raised 133 tons of potatoes per hectare; engineer Granikov has discovered a new method of making high-grade cheese—all these branches of endeavor are essential for the troops at the front, to heal their wounds, to feed and to arm them. All these multifarious inventions and improvements are directed toward a single goal: the destruction of fascism, the greatest enemy of all creative endeavor.

Science Moves Ahead

However powerful the enemy, however tense and bitter the struggle against him, scientific thought continues in studies and laboratories. There is something splendid and noble about the scientist who has the courage and patience in these difficult days to carry on with his painstaking studies and careful research and to raise the edifice of science in spite of the fury of the barbarians.

The complex problems of pure mathematics in the works of Professor Alexandrov, Academician Kapitza's experiments which have resulted in the discovery of the super-fluidity of liquid helium, the new classification of comet forms by Professor Orlov, the work done in geodesy by Professor Krasovsky, Academician Lina Stern's contribution pertaining to the hematoencephalic barrier, Academician Tsitsin's new drought-resisting varieties of wheat, and, finally, the voluminous works on history and philosophy by Mintz, Alexandrov, Pospelov, Mitin, Yudin and many others are all evidence that Soviet science is continuing to develop and to make valuable contributions to human knowledge.

Notwithstanding the exigencies of war, the Soviet land, true to its principles, is taking the warmest interest in the work of its scientists, explorers and inventors, and affording them every opportunity to pursue their creative efforts.

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On July 11, 1943, the Second Anti-fascist Meeting of Soviet Scientists will be held in Moscow, beginning at 3:00 p. m. Moscow time (8:00 a. m. E.W.T.). The proceedings will be broadcast.

RESEARCHES IN COAL DISTRIBUTION

By Lydia Bach

Professor Pavel Stepanov, Member of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, has received the Stalin prize for his geological survey of the Donets Valley. Scientists who attended the 17th International Geological Congress in Moscow in 1937 will remember this modest scientist who in a soft, calm voice read the principal paper in the coal section of the Congress, a paper in which he developed his theory of the distribution of coal deposits.

"I have been working on coal problems since 1902," Academician Stepanov said recently. "While I was still a student of the St. Petersburg Mining Institute I began the work of mapping the Donets Coal Basin. Since that time I have worked continuously on the study of the country's largest coalfield, paying particular attention to the eastern district, where anthracite is found. Surveys of many years by our geologists have produced a tremendous amount of material on the stratification and paleogeography of coal genetics and the general geological history of the coalfields. This material served as a foundation for the work in the Greater Donets Basin."

Beginning his research in the Greater Donets Basin and using his calculations made in 1913 and 1937 on

world coal deposits, Academician Stepanov began the gigantic task of analyzing the stratification and paleogeography of the distribution of coal deposits. According to his theory, from the later Devonian period when coal deposits first appeared on the earth down to our own times, the process of coal accumulation at definite geological periods in the life of the earth is confined to certain belts and centers—for example, the coal deposits of the Westphalian period form a belt which stretches from the huge coalfields of the United States through England, Northern France, Belgium and Germany to the Donets coalfields, with North American and European centers.

Academician Stepanov's theory of coal distribution is of considerable importance both to the science of geology and to the practical business of prospecting, as it reveals where coal is most likely to be found and in which directions the known deposits are most likely to extend. In answer to a question concerning his present plans, the scientist said, "I am confronted with the tremendous task of perfecting this theory by analyzing all the intricate conditions of life on the earth which resulted in the accumulation of coal deposits and confined them to certain belts and centers. That is sufficient work for many years to come."

THREE YOUNG SOVIET CHEMISTS

By Sergei Belyayev

Three young men whose outstanding abilities have developed during the existence of the Soviet State are working at the State Scientific Research Institute of Nitrogen. Professor Isaak Krichevsky heads the laboratory, and Peter Bolshakov and Danil Tsiklis are his closest collaborators.

Tsiklis, youngest of the three, was born in Moscow into the family of a clerk. In his childhood he displayed great musical talent and seriously studied the piano for seven years. He also has marked ability in painting. In school he became fascinated by his chemistry studies. Inorganic chemistry opened up wonderful vistas to him, and he decided to dedicate his life to physical chemistry. He works enthusiastically with Krichevsky and under his guidance wrote an interesting paper on "The Solubility of Hydrogen in Methyl Alcohol under Pressure."

Isaak Krichevsky, son of an Odessa worker, was fascinated by chemistry from childhood. For his researches he chose nitrogen, the practical importance of which in biology, agriculture and war is tremendous.

In 1937 another young laboratory technician came to work with Krichevsky. Peter Bolshakov, son of a Russian peasant, was graduated with high honors from a chemical technicum and was sent to the United States to study at the Boston College of Chemistry. He received a master's degree in chemistry, after which he returned to his native land. He, too, is fascinated by the mysteries of nitrogen.

The three young men, who work in remarkable friendship, recently received the Stalin Prize for their notable achievements in the field of physical chemistry.

THE ART OF SNIPING

By Colonel Nikolai Ivanov

Every experienced sniper knows that success in sharp-shooting is insured by patient, indefatigable observation. A sniper must know the exact position of enemy lines, particularly the forward defenses; he must possess information concerning the location of



Sniper Senior Sergeant of the Guards Zhamboro Shaval, of the Kabardino-Balkarian Autonomous Republic, has killed 86 Germans. He was twice awarded the Order of the Red Banner

Radiophoto

enemy trenches, firing points, dugouts, sentry posts and hideouts of snipers and sub-machine gunners. He must make a thorough study of the terrain. But finding a target is only half his job; a sniper must

determine whether the targets are important enough and whether there is need for immediate fire.

On one occasion sniper Ivan Antonov spotted a German sentry near a dugout which appeared to be a permanent post. Antonov decided to take his time. "The sentry won't stay there all day," he reasoned. "Sooner or later he'll be relieved—then I'll probably have a chance to get some non-commissioned officers." The sniper's reasoning proved correct; an hour later five Germans came up to the post. As soon as the procedure of relieving the sentry began, Antonov opened fire and shot three of them.

The resourcefulness of Soviet snipers is their most important quality. While scrutinizing enemy positions Private Pavel Matveyev, a sniper, saw a Nazi's head appear and vanish. Apparently the German, making his way from one point to another, was wary of Soviet snipers. Matveyev determined to get him. Without taking aim he fired one shot and then moved to a nearby trench, leaving his helmet behind. The German fired some ten shots at the helmet; satisfied that the Red Army man was dead he raised his head and was instantly killed by a bullet from Matveyev's precision rifle. Matveyev is also skilled in taking advantage of the confusion resulting when the first shot is fired at a group of Germans. He once killed ten Nazis in one day by this trick.

On a sunny day sniper Rostovzev attached an ordinary mirror to a tree branch. The wind swung the branch, reflecting light from the mirror over enemy positions. A German sniper mistook the mirror for a rifle sight. Several explosive bullets hit a bush near the decoy. Rostovzev waited. The Nazi finally showed himself and was killed immediately by Rostovzev's bullet.

Recently a German-held village was attacked by a company under the command of First Lieutenant Grigori Osokin. Enemy "cuckoos" (snipers hiding in trees), opened fire on Red Army men moving across the open ground. Soviet sharp-shooter Fedor Ochkin was first to sight an enemy cuckoo. He crawled to a bush and fired, bringing down the Nazi. Five other enemy snipers were finished off in the same manner and the wood cleared of Germans so that the company was able to push forward.

The importance of sniper fire in silencing enemy machine-gun nests has been proved. For example, one Soviet company's advance was impeded by heavy machine-gun fire. The enemy gun was sheltered by a strong earthen pillbox with a very narrow loophole, and all attempts to silence it by machine-gun and sub-

(Continued on page seven)

SUBMARINE COMMANDER FISANOVICH RECEIVES UNITED STATES NAVY CROSS

The President of the United States has awarded the Navy Cross to Captain of the Second Rank Israel Fisanovich, Hero of the Soviet Union. This 29-year-old Captain is one of the youngest and most talented of Soviet submarine seamen. He was graduated from the Frunze Military Academy in 1936. In the summer of 1941, at the beginning of the war, he was appointed commander of Submarine EM-172.

In his first operational cruise on the "Malyutka" (baby), as the sailors fondly call this submarine, Fisanovich daringly broke through to an enemy base and sank a large transport at the piers. He had planned to hunt down and attack the Germans in the vicinity of an enemy base located at the end of a narrow, deep, stocking-shaped fiord. But after several days of fruitless search he decided to penetrate to the enemy base and find a suitable target for his torpedoes. To do this he had to negotiate several miles of a narrow passage on whose rocky banks

the enemy had placed a large number of observation posts and batteries.

In addition to purely navigational difficulties due to the impossibility of using a periscope, the principal danger was that the enemy would prevent the boat from getting out of the fiord after she had exposed her presence by attacking. This did not deter Fisanovich. Exactly at noon the submarine, at a very low depth, entered the narrow gulf. She moved blindly, guided solely by the navigator's calculations. The men talked in whispers; the commander could gather what was going on above only from the reports of his hydro-acoustician, Shumikhin. The first sound discerned was the noise of the screw of a patrol cutter. It passed directly over and faded away, not even suspecting the sub's presence.

When according to calculations the submarine had



A ship of the Northern Fleet raises a smoke-screen

Radiophoto

reached her goal, Fisanovich carefully raised the periscope. An enormous transport appeared in the sight-piece. He released a torpedo. The sudden explosion and instantaneous destruction of the transport threw the enemy into confusion, which helped the sub to make a safe getaway into the open sea.

On the way to his base Fisanovich had a further stroke of luck—he met and sank another enemy transport, returning from his first voyage with two victories.

During the war Fisanovich's "baby" has destroyed 30 enemy ships, including transports, tankers, patrol boats and two destroyers. Fisanovich is noted in the Red Navy for his daring and skill in torpedoing. When he sights a target he skilfully approaches the enemy ship to within the closest possible range, breaking through the screen of escorting vessels. Only then does he release his torpedoes.

Last year Fisanovich sank a transport escorted by seven patrol boats, and dodged the hot pursuit of the patrol ships for 20 hours. Three hundred and twenty-four depth charges were dumped on the "baby"; the most important mechanisms of the boat were put out of action; the seams of the hull gave way. There was not enough air or electricity. But the gallant crew with Fisanovich at their head brought the sub to a safe place near the Soviet shore under the protection of the coastal batteries. The German ships were driven away by artillery fire, but no sooner did the "baby" surface than she was attacked from the air by Junkers. Fisanovich made an expert crash-dive and again saved the ship and men.

The country honored the exploits of Fisanovich and the crew with high awards. Captain Fisanovich received the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, his boat was decorated with the Order of the Red Banner, and each sailor wears at least two decorations.

FILM DIRECTOR KALATOZOV COMING TO HOLLYWOOD

By Benjamin Vishnevsky

Mikhail Kalatozov, Soviet film director, whose latest hit was *Wings of Victory*, a biography of the famous flyer Valeri Chkalov, will arrive in Hollywood shortly as a representative of Soviet film production. Kalatozov's mission in the United States will be to strengthen the artistic and commercial ties between the cinema people of the United States and those of the Soviet Union.

I recently visited Kalatozov in his suite at the Hotel Moskva, and found him packed and ready for his long journey. He spoke of his recent meeting with United States Ambassador Standley, who had extended a gracious welcome to him and to Alexander Andrievsky, well-known film producer and pioneer of the stereo-film, who at present heads the Foreign Trade Section of the Soviet film industry. The Ambassador expressed his full approval of Kalatozov's desire to promote closer relationship between the motion picture industries of the two countries.

Although only 40, Kalatozov is one of the most experienced film directors in the Soviet Union. Of Georgian descent, he spent three-quarters of his life in Tbilisi, capital of Soviet Georgia. At the age of 14 he stopped attending technical school and became a chauffeur. His restless nature delighted in the taxi-driver's life, which he led for two years in Tbilisi. In 1921, he decided to settle down to study. Dreaming of a career as an engineer, he entered the Polytechnicum, where he devoted all his leisure to reading works on art, literature and philosophy, and even tried his hand at painting.

To earn a steady income Kalatozov went to work

as a mechanic in a cinema theater and became fascinated with the idea of film production. He met the celebrated Georgian film director, Mikhail Chiaureli, and was won over entirely to the cinema. Twenty years ago he began work in film production in the Tbilisi Film Studio, holding various jobs from laboratory attendant to cameraman. Finally he launched upon the path of independent production. His first timid steps in directing were in the sphere of documentaries and feature shorts. After this came his first full-length feature films—*Guibli*, *Gypsy Blood*, *Their Kingdom*, *Ten Days*, and others. One of his most successful films was a full-length documentary feature, *Salt of Svanetia*, produced in 1931 and shown abroad.

In that year Kalatozov began to take a keen interest in the theory of cinema production. He entered the Academy of Cinematography, and after obtaining his degree returned to Tbilisi to take over the directorship of the Tbilisi Studios. From 1936 to 1943 he worked as a director in Leningrad. Three years of this time was devoted to experiments in technicolor.

Later he saw in aviation the opening of new possibilities for film direction. His first film bringing aviation to the screen was an adventure picture describing Soviet flyers on the trail of a spy. His next, shown in the United States, was the life of Valeri Chkalov.

During the war Kalatozov collaborated with Sergei Gerasimov in making a film on the people of Leningrad in the terrible days of the siege. The film is now being shown in a number of countries.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF EUGENE PETROV

By Sergei Georgiev

In June, 1942, the distinguished Russian writer, Eugene Petrov, left for heroic, besieged Sevastopol. He was aware that the city's days were numbered, but he wanted to record for the world the story of its magnificent defense; he wanted to see this epic with his own eyes, to instil into Red Army men on other sectors of the front the selfless courage shown at Sevastopol.

He arrived in the city on the destroyer Tashkent, which ran the blockade of the besieged port. Returning on the same ship, Petrov began writing his story, "Running the Blockade." On July 2, while enroute to Moscow, he perished. The unfinished manuscript was included in a collection of his dispatches published in June, 1942, under the title *Front-Line Diary*.

Eugene Petrov was born in 1903. His literary career began in partnership with Ilya Ilf, who also died prematurely. Together they wrote the widely-known *Twelve Chairs*, *Little Golden Calf*, *Little Golden America*, a large number of feuilletons published under the title *How Robinson was Created*, and many excellent stories collected in the volume *Indifference*.

After the death of his co-author and friend, Petrov wrote the screenplays for *Musical Story*, *Spring Song*, *Ukrainian Night*, and *Air Taxi* (dedicated to

Hero of the Soviet Union Pilot Ilya Gruzdin). In recent years he also wrote a great many feuilletons, newspaper stories and criticism.

Immediately after the German invasion Petrov became a war correspondent, sending his remarkable dispatches from all sectors of the front. He was with the troops defending Moscow, visited liberated Volokolamsk, traveled to distant Murmansk, then went to Yukhov, where he was shellshocked.

Hatred for the enemy and implicit belief in victory inspired Petrov in his wartime work. He described to his numerous readers at home and abroad the courage of the Soviet people in the struggle against the invaders. His dispatches were widely read in the United States.

Eugene Petrov did not live to see the final victory of the freedom-loving nations over the Axis powers. His death, as well as that of many other talented Soviet people, will be avenged.

* * *

"For personal heroism in pursuit of his duties in recording armed action on the war front," Eugene Petrov was posthumously awarded the Correspondent's Bravery Medal of the National Headliners Club, a United States organization. The award was made at Atlantic City on June 5, 1943.

ART OF SNIPING

(Continued from page four)

machine-gun fire failed. A well-aimed shot by sniper Anatoli Vinogradov silenced the gun, but it resumed fire a few moments later. Apparently a second member of the crew was firing. Vinogradov fired again and the enemy nest was silenced for good.

Germans holding positions opposite Osokin's company had built a machine gun nest in the debris of a destroyed Messerschmitt. For some time it remained unperceived, but was finally discovered by Soviet snipers, who destroyed the crew of five men. The snipers of Osokin's company have been trained to keep a constant lookout; in taking up new firing positions they always make a thorough study of the terrain. It sometimes happens that a bush appears on a piece of ground previously clear of any growth. A sniper failing to notice this unexpected change in the terrain might find his mistake fatal.

Soviet snipers have developed many methods of deceiving the enemy. Sniper Yakovlev, determining by careful observation that the Germans considered a badly-camouflaged Soviet blindage to be a dummy,

made his way into the blindage and killed two Germans.

The sniper's art tolerates no stereotypes. Sharp-shooting methods are constantly improved and developed. Numerous snipers make their contribution to this process—sniper Leontiev sometimes attaches a dummy Red Army man to a tree and places a loaded semi-automatic rifle nearby with a string tied to the trigger. The Germans are often fooled by this device.

Our snipers are thoroughly familiar with the German trick of placing a helmet or a dummy at the edge of a trench, with a sharp-shooter lying in wait nearby. In such cases one Soviet sniper usually fires at the decoy while several others keep a sharp lookout for the enemy marksman. As soon as he tries to fire a return shot he is killed by a Soviet bullet. Neither does the German trick of changing the firing position after two or three shots succeed.

Resourcefulness and quick thinking are characteristics of the snipers of First Lieutenant Osokin's company. Their losses so far have been nil, while Private Stepanov has destroyed 40 Nazis, Corporal Dubrovin 30 and Private Pavlov 22.

ATROCITIES IN THE VILLAGE OF ORDYLEVO

By Joseph Verkhovtsev

Stepan Belyakov, an old peasant, is now being treated in one of the military hospitals near the front. He has lost a great deal of blood, and the slightest movement causes him agonizing pain. Although the doctor has strictly forbidden him to speak, he cannot refrain from relating in whispers the horrors he witnessed and experienced—the mass execution of the peaceful population perpetrated by the Hitlerites in his native village of Ordylevo, in the Smolensk Region.

The old man remembers that at the beginning of February, 1943, the German commandant issued a decree that the whole population of the village gather in the square. The people did not bring their things with them, for they knew that at best they would be driven to Germany for slave labor.

As it later transpired, the commandant had other plans. These famished women, decrepit old men and incapacitated invalids could hardly be used for work. He had planned a mass execution. There was no escape for the people; the village was surrounded by German soldiers, and even if it had not been these people would have been unable to save themselves by running away. Utterly exhausted by prolonged starvation, they would have dropped after the first kilometer.

The several hundred people who had showed up at the commandant's order were driven into three huts. There was not even room to stand, to say nothing of sitting or lying down. The Germans boarded up the windows; the air was suffocating. Some of the women went out of their minds.

Finally the door was opened. The Hitlerites counted

off 23 people and sent them into the courtyard. "You are guerrillas and will be shot," said the commandant in broken Russian, although he knew well that 68-year-old collective farmer Stepan Ershov, or 65-year-old Bakhtina and her eight-year-old grandchild, as well as the other victims, could not possibly be guerrillas. There were several bursts from automatics and the 23 Russians were done to death. Their corpses were taken to a neighboring house and burned.

The next day the commandant picked out old men and women and children and cynically announced, "You will not work." They were led under convoy to the outskirts of the village. Here again 12 were shot. Thus in groups of 10 to 15 persons, 116 inhabitants were killed. The choice was made according to kinship—a child was shot in the presence of its mother, a husband in the presence of his wife, a brother in the presence of his sister.

There were heart-rending scenes at the execution ground. Many women witnessing the terrible spectacle went insane and German soldiers bashed their heads in with rifle butts.

Before Stepan Belyakov's eyes his nearest relative was killed; then he, too, was placed with those condemned to death. A bullet hit him in the lung; together with scores of corpses he was thrown into a shed. As he was losing consciousness he heard a hail of fire on the roof of the shed, then shots.

Panic broke out among the Germans. Units of the Red Army had entered the village. With his neighbor Alexei Kiselev, who was also still alive, Belyakov crept out of the shed. Red Army men found them and gave them medical aid.

Anti-Malaria Fish

A species of fish which likes to eat the larva of the malaria-carrying mosquito has been introduced into the Soviet ricefields during the flooding season with great success. The Russian name of these little fish is "gambusia." Another measure used where practicable is to drain the ricefields every week and run in fresh water, which hinders the development of the malaria mosquito and at the same time increases the yield of rice.

New Film on "Medicine and War"

A film on "Medicine and War," showing the work of Soviet surgeons, nurses and stretcher-bearers at the front and in military hospitals in the rear, is now being shown in Soviet cinema theaters. The cameramen succeeded in getting many dramatic shots of first aid being rendered to wounded on the firing line and the removal of wounded from the battlefield. One section shows famous Soviet surgeons, including Burdenko and Girgolv, performing operations.

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THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE IN THE KURSK AREA AND THE CROOKS FROM HITLER'S HEADQUARTERS

On July 8 the Soviet Information Bureau issued the following communique:

Hitler's headquarters passed in silence the result of the first day of the big offensive of German troops launched on the morning of July 5 in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions. On July 6 and 7 the Hitlerite command decided to "turn from Saul into Paul," to turn from the attacking side into the one on the defensive, alleging that it is the Red Army and not the Germans who conduct the offensive.

Why was Hitler's headquarters compelled to resort to this swindling trick? As already reported by the Soviet Information Bureau, on the morning of July 5 the German-fascist troops in large tank and infantry forces supported by numerous aircraft launched an offensive against the positions held by our troops. The blow is aimed in two directions—from the area south of Orel at Kursk and from the Belgorod area northward, also in the direction of Kursk.

The Germans hurled into the offensive against our troops their main forces concentrated in the Orel and Belgorod areas. In the Orel-Kursk direction the German Command put into action the 2nd, 9th, 12th, 18th, 20th and 23rd Tank Divisions, the 36th Motorized Division, and the 6th, 7th, 78th, 86th, 216th, 258th and 383rd Infantry Divisions. In the Belgorod direction the offensive is conducted by the 3rd, 6th, 7th, 11th and 19th Tank Divisions, also the SA Tank Divisions "Adolph Hitler," "Great Germany," "Reich" and "Death's Head," and the 106th, 167th, 168th, 255th, 320th, 162nd and 332nd Infantry Divisions.

Thus on the German side 15 tank divisions, one motorized division and 14 infantry divisions are already taking part in the offensive.

To support the offensive of infantry and tanks the German Command concentrated in this sector of the front numerous aircraft not only withdrawn from the other sectors of the Soviet-German front, but transferred from western Europe. Thus for instance, between June 9 and 29 the Germans transferred from

the west the 28th and the 77th Bomber Fleets and the 5th Night Fighter Fleet.

In addition, German war prisoners, fliers non-com Heinz Heil and radio operator Corporal Gerhardt Schramm, of the 7th Detachment of the First Air Fleet, stated at interrogation on July 5, that their unit had arrived in the Orel area from Yugoslavia on July 3.

The Soviet Command is also aware of the fact that while preparing for the big offensive the Germans transferred to the Orel and Belgorod area a large number of tanks to make good the losses sustained by tank divisions in the course of the offensive.

All these facts and the testimonies of war prisoners, officers, fliers and rank-and-file, show that when launching the general offensive on the Soviet-German front on July 5 the Germans planned, by concentrating and bringing into action the main forces of their army in narrow sectors of the front, promptly to smash the Soviet defense and achieve important operative results in the very first days of the offensive. Suffice it to glance at a map to understand the operative plan of the German Command. It envisaged the encirclement and annihilation of our troops stationed along the arc of the Kursk salient.

That the Germans pursued these very purposes in their offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions is confirmed also by the unanimous statements of German officers and men taken prisoner by our troops.

The new German offensive, however, had not caught our troops unawares. For the third day violent fighting is in progress in both directions, in the course of which our troops killed about 30,000 officers and men, disabled or destroyed 1,500 tanks and shot down 649 enemy aircraft. Our troops firmly hold their lines. Only in some sectors of the Belgorod direction the enemy, at the cost of tremendous losses, succeeded in driving a wedge to an insignificant distance into our defenses.

Having received a punch in the jaw the crooks

from Hitler's headquarters now put their tails between their legs and began to yell that allegedly it is not they, the Germans, who conduct an offensive, but Soviet troops, and that consequently it was not their attempt to capture Kursk that failed in the first three days of heavy battle but the attempt of our troops to break through the German defenses.

Already on July 6 at the height of the German offensive the Berlin radio broadcast a ridiculous report about the offensive allegedly launched by the Red Army in the Orel and Belgorod directions, in the course of which the "Soviet Command continuously brought tank units into action; however, in all sectors the key positions of the German defense are firmly held by us and in no single sector of the front have German tank forces of any significance been

brought into action." On July 7 the Hitlerites repeated this absurd nonsense, alleging that the "Soviet communique about the beginning of the German offensive is false." Such is the fresh trick of the German-fascist sharpers.

It would be wrong for us to underestimate the strength of the German troops conducting the big offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions. The German forces here are great. Today it is too early to formulate a final conclusion concerning the outcome of the battles. One thing is indubitable and clear—the resolute offensive of the Germans commenced on July 5 yielded no success in the first three days. This lack of success resulted in the nervousness and confusion of the Hitlerite command which it endeavors to camouflage with swindling tricks.

THE FIGHTING IN THE OREL-KURSK SECTOR

By Major P. Olender

MOSCOW, July 8.—For three days now the battlefield has been wrapped in a dense pall of dust from bursting shells. In the midst of this pall enemy tanks scurry this way and that, seeking a loophole in our defenses. They operate in large groups and if they sustain a loss in one spot they turn and retreat and soon after resume the attack at another place. Repulsed here, they turn their assault against a third sector.

It might be said that never before have German tanks shown such rapidity of maneuver, but this maneuvering under the muzzles of our guns and fire from the sky and ground is costing the enemy dear. It is enough to say that of several hundred enemy tanks operating yesterday in one sector, nearly one-third were shattered or burned without any material success being achieved.

With the view of covering the action of their tanks, the Germans concentrate powerful fire on narrow sectors. For instance, in the course of a day they hurled several thousand shells at a position held by one of our regiments. Nevertheless, when after this preparation the Germans attacked they met with no less resistance in this sector than others. Practice has shown that no force is strong enough to cope with well-entrenched troops acting resolutely and determined to resist the enemy to death.

However, it would be wrong to think that the defense of our troops is limited only to parrying the German attacks. Far from it. In a number of places our troops passed to counter-attack, driving the adversary from his positions. One regiment supported by tanks drove the Germans from two points, materi-

ally improving our positions in that sector. Thereupon the Germans launched a concentrated attack against a neighboring sector, evidently with the intention of turning the flank of our counter-attacking units. On an extremely narrow front they hurled hundreds of tanks supported from the air by large forces of bombers, but without result. Moreover, some tanks hit mines and blew up.

The result was to disrupt the coordination so carefully planned and prescribed by the Germans. Although enjoying numerical superiority their attack fizzled out. They began to waver and retreat, their withdrawal to the initial position only increasing their losses.

It is noteworthy that the attempt of the Germans to attack our defenses by surprise with large forces failed completely. Skilful reconnaissance work forewarned the defenders and enabled them to prepare for the coming attack. Another factor was the staunchness and resolution of our troops and the fine coordination of action of all fire weapons against attacking infantry and tanks. As a result the attack was repulsed by the fire of our forward units and their supporting artillery alone.

Very soon, however, the Germans—having regrouped and concentrated even heavier artillery and mortar fire on this sector—launched a second attack. In order to force a way through for their infantry, the German tanks returned to the assault time after time. This time they did not dash headlong at our forward positions, but sent out sapper groups which under the cover of tank fire cleared lanes in the minefields.

The result of all this was to diminish considerably the mobility of the German tanks, which made them more convenient targets for our anti-tank guns and rifles. Having lost five tanks and large numbers of men, the Germans were unable to withstand the fire of our guns and infantry, and again retreated. It should be noted that the first to turn back were the tanks.

However, the Germans persisted in their design to force our defenses and soon undertook a third attack, which also failed, one of the chief reasons being that the enemy was already considerably weakened by the two previous reverses. The slaughter of tanks was even heavier this time, fourteen of them being crippled. Again the Germans retired and they now felt the need of several hours' respite in order to bring up fresh forces and to regroup their artillery.

At last the enemy, for the fourth time, hurled his tanks and infantry against our positions. This time they tried to advance along routes marked by their

tanks which had been blown up by mines—that is, along the lanes already made in one way or another in the minefields. At the cost of heavy casualties some of the enemy's units managed to wedge into our forward positions and seize several trenches. The fighting became fiercer than ever. The task was, on the one hand, to prevent the Germans from massing forces at these spots—in other words, to pin to the ground the majority of enemy soldiers who were being held up by our mines and barbed wire entanglements—and on the other hand, by a victorious assault to drive out the Germans who had filtered into our trenches.

With this purpose, the fire of all our artillery guns was turned on the German infantry and tanks which had not yet reached the forward positions, while a counter-attack was launched against the enemy groups which had wedged into our lines. Taking advantage of a ramified system of communication

(Continued on page eight)



FIRST AID TO A WOUNDED MACHINE GUNNER—Field nurse Valentina Kalugina has carried 45 wounded men with their equipment from the battlefield

Radiophoto



Examinations and classes continue despite the war

In these days of war the Soviet school finds itself confronted with new tasks of grave responsibility. The war has drastically changed the entire life of the country, involving every section and all ages of the population. Youths of military age are heroically defending the homeland against the Nazi invaders. Those who have not yet been called to arms are studying in secondary schools, trade schools, universities and various special institutions, where work continues under conditions vastly different from the old, habitual ones.

Many towns and regions are experiencing the immediate blows of the war. Secondary schools and colleges with their respective pupils have been evacuated far inland. There is no family which has not felt the hardships of war. Fathers and elder bro-



Off to help with the harvest

SOVIET SCHOOLS FOSTER

By I

thers are away fighting and mothers are working in the factories; children, adolescents, youths must study and also perform the household tasks at home.

Educational workers and teachers must see that the new and difficult conditions do not affect the educational progress of the young people. But the most important thing is vigilant, unceasing care to preserve in all its purity and nobleness the morale of Soviet youth. The war with its fiendish outrages and destruction has worked havoc in the young mind.

Children and young people are witnesses and victims of the unspeakable atrocities perpetrated by the fascist ruffians. Numbers of children and adolescents are deprived of their homes and families; many have had to flee from their native towns and seek refuge in distant, strange places. Many have lost everything. All these horrors may break their spirit and blight the noble, spontaneous emotions of youth.

The Soviet school lovingly shields our young people from the pernicious influences of war, educating them in the spirit of humanism, love of country, comradeship and devotion to duty. During the war, the teachers of the towns and country of the USSR replace the fathers and mothers of the pupils. With constant solicitude they see that no child is left uncared for; they keep watch over their charges and prevent them from running around the streets in their leisure hours, where the only pastime to which they can apply their energies is playing at war. The teachers interest the children in books and stories and draw them into occupations where they may feel they are helping the common cause.



Children of the USSR study, work and play

HIGH MORALE IN YOUTH

dov

The teacher's next care is to lend a helping hand to backward students. In peacetime it was the father's duty to see that lessons were done, but now there is no one to help in tight places; every one is busy with other duties. Teachers keep a careful watch over their pupils' progress, and as soon as difficulty arises they go to the children's homes, without waiting to be asked, and in kind and friendly way—just as father used to do—they help with sums or disentangle difficulties in history and geography lessons, and correct mistakes in Russian exercises.

But the care of the teachers and educational workers does not stop here. Other things must be thought of—children's shoes and clothing, hot lunches, books, and all kinds of school equipment. To keep boys and girls supplied with all these necessities is yet another essential factor in their upbringing. The feeling that he is being cared for makes the child look with different eyes at the people and the life around him. Various circles are organized in the schools: technical, educational, art, occupational, and others, which become additional aids in raising the children's cultural standards and fostering habits of assiduous work.

The school is not alone in caring for the children and youth—the future. Working hand-in-hand with the teachers are the children's publishing houses, which issue books, magazines and newspapers for children and youth; and the children's cinemas and theaters. Writers and artists through their best works strive to influence and cherish the child's mind, as a gardener cares for his flowers. Thousands and

thousands of Soviet people adopt war orphans, giving them not merely shelter but a second home and real family life

The results of this tender care for children and youth in wartime are making themselves apparent. Under the influence of a whole network of educational methods the young generation of citizens is made worthy of their country's development. While making good progress in their school studies they actively assist their elders in caring for the wounded, working in the fields and vegetable gardens, helping the families of Red Army men and collecting presents for the front. On the battlefield the youth are showing staunchness and heroism. Because of their example the young people at school are looking forward to reaching military age when they, too, will join the ranks of the devoted defenders of their country.



Salvaging scrap for weapons

CHILD "PRISONERS OF WAR"

By Maria Shkapskaya

Two small boys were brought into the office of the Moscow Danilov Reception Center for Homeless Children, where I was talking with the director, Vasili Stroganov. Each child had one arm missing.

"How did you lose your arm?" Stroganov gently asked one of the boys.

"Oh, it was an accident. My younger brother was playing with a piece of iron in the yard. He threw it down and it exploded."



A youthful victim of the German air bombardment of Leningrad

Radiophoto

The earth of Soviet villages from which the invaders have been routed is covered with these dangerous toys—unexploded mines and shells.

"An arm is nothing—" the boy began, and stopped, as if not knowing whether we wanted to hear the story. The director urged him to continue.

"I was taken prisoner—" he began in a composed voice. He told us that his name was Sergei Tikhonov,

that he was from the town of Narofominsk, near Moscow. When the Germans approached the town in 1941, Sergei, his brother, stepmother and old invalid father fled to the village of Seleznyovo, seven kilometers away. By morning this village was also captured by the enemy.

"We were arrested and locked in a cellar," Sergei said. "In the house above this cellar the Germans were having a feast with the food they had looted from the villagers. Twenty people, children, women and old folks, sat in the cellar. The first few days we were given no food at all. After several died from hunger, the Germans threw us some frozen potatoes. These couldn't be cooked because there was no stove.

"Every morning we were forced to dig trenches. They made us dig trenches against our own people—we could see the Red Army was advancing!" Sergei's voice was excited now.

"On the 23rd day the prisoners were all lined up, and with machine-guns pointing at us we were driven further to the German rear. My father could hardly drag his legs. He was dying from hunger. I walked by my father's side. He was getting worse and worse. My feet ached terribly, but still I walked fast—I was afraid to fall behind. My stepmother and I supported Dad between us. Shells were exploding all around us. Later we had to carry Dad, because he couldn't walk any more.

"When we reached a village, we would tap on windows and beg for bread, but the frightened people shook their heads. The Germans had robbed and plundered everything. Very seldom were we lucky enough to get a piece of bread. Our guards gave us no food at all.

"I thought the march would never end—that we would go on like that forever. It was getting very cold and there was a strong wind. One morning Dad fell. I tried to help him to his feet, then I saw it was no use. He was dead. We couldn't even bury him. The Germans pointed their automatics at us and ordered us to move on.

"Later the Red Army advanced and freed us. But I shall never see my father again. He was my best friend," Sergei finished sadly. I realized that his missing arm was truly nothing in comparison with what the child had gone through as a "prisoner of war."

NINA MALINOVA—LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER

By Nikolai Nikitin

Among the many Soviet women who have gone to work on the railways since the outbreak of war, one of the most outstanding is Nina Malinova, a 20-year-old locomotive mechanic and engineer, who was recently awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor.

Old railwaymen are surprised at the composure of this young girl under enemy air raids and artillery fire. She followed with her train in the wake of advancing Red Army troops in the days when the German troops were routed at the approaches to Moscow. When Soviet troops captured Klin, Nina was the first to arrive with her train. She sometimes worked three days at a stretch without rest.

She is now driving hospital trains. Even the slightest jerk means pain for the wounded, and Nina takes exceptional care to drive smoothly. Wounded Red Army men have many times sent their thanks to her for her skill and care.

Nina began work as a railway guard. After 18 months she asked to be sent to a school for locomotive engineers. Completing her first training period, she became an assistant engineer. After her busy days she spent hours at night studying technical books and familiarizing herself with the different types of locomotives. She talked with experienced engineers, always seeking to learn more about her work.

Later she took her examination for an engineer's certificate, receiving it on International Women's Day. Before her first trip she joked with the girl mechanics overhauling her locomotive. "I'll be back in three days and invite you all to my house to celebrate."

"We'll expect a grand supper," the girls teased in return.

"Supper will be what we get on our ration cards," Nina said, "but you can have as much of the gramophone as you like and I'll play the balalaika and sing."

Nina is a good sportswoman and an excellent skier, although she has little time now for sports. Sometimes she returns from a trip, gets two or three hours' sleep and then is off again.

The young engineer loves to read and was proud of the little library she had collected in her native village. "I had books by Turgenev, Leo Tolstoy, Pushkin and others," she remembers. "When the Germans came, my mother placed them all in a trunk and buried it in the vegetable garden. After they were driven out, she dug it up again."

It was in December, 1941, that the village of Kosovo, near Volokolamsk, in the Moscow Region, where Nina's mother lived, was occupied by the Germans. Nina, who was in Moscow, recalls those days with horror.

"I worried so about mother—and then thrilling news came of her heroism. Our troops had retreated hurriedly, leaving nine seriously wounded Red Army men. Mother concealed them in a cellar and tended and fed them. This came to the ears of a German officer, who ordered her to show him where the men were hidden. He threatened to beat her, but she remained silent. Then he pointed his pistol at her. Mother cried, 'Shoot—I know nothing!' And she saved them."

SUCCESSES IN SOVIET COAL MINING

By June 26 a number of mines in the Karaganda coal basin in Kazakhstan had completed the production plan for the first half year ahead of schedule. Eight mines in this basin produced over 50,000 tons of coal above plan. Fulfillment of the plan ahead of schedule by the Shakhtantratsit Trust of the Rostov Region and by one of the trusts in the Moscow Region coal basin, was also reported.

Efforts of the country toward increasing the coal output are not restricted to improvements in the organization of work and mechanization of mines. Extensive development of new mines in the eastern part of the country is also under way. Twice as many mines are being opened this year as were developed in all the coal basins of the USSR in the year before the war.

New mines are as a rule opened near industrial centers, with the object of supplying industry with specific grades of coal required. Before the war, giant mines were widespread in the USSR; such mines are still being opened, but mines of a medium size are the rule now, since they can be launched more quickly and therefore meet war requirements sooner. The new mines are characterized by extensive mechanization of the work—about two and one-half times as much machinery is employed than in prewar times. This has been accomplished partly by the use of machinery evacuated from the Donbas, and partly by construction of new kinds of machines.

Because of increased mechanization, and the self-sacrificing labor of the workers, mines are now launched in half the time required before the war.

LITHUANIAN POET HONORED IN USSR

By Ivan Kuznetsov

The Soviet Government has awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor to the distinguished Lithuanian writer Ludas Gira, for outstanding services in the field of literature. The award was made in the Kremlin on June 25 by another faithful son of the Lithuanian people, Justas Paleckis, Vice President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Ludas Gira's creative work. In 1941, despite his 55 years, he volunteered for the Lithuanian National Units of the Red Army and now holds a captain's rank. In accepting the award Gira, who came directly from the front, stated:

"In this award the Lithuanian people clearly see that bond of brotherhood which unites all the nationalities inhabiting the Soviet Union as closely as a blood tie.

"The news of the award will reach millions of my Lithuanian kinsmen who have found their second motherland in our friendly United States of America: Lithuanians who have preserved their love for their ancient native country and are ardent champions of the closest friendship between the United States and the Soviet Union, and champions of the earliest opening of the second front on the Hitler-subjugated territory of Europe."

The poems of Ludas Gira are widely known in the Red Army. Through the guerrillas they reach the population of occupied Lithuania, where Gira's name is loved. His songs are sung in the remotest Lithu-

anian villages; school children know them by heart. During his 40 years of literary activity he has written over 100 books of poetry, drama, journalistic articles and criticism. His works have been translated into Russian, English, Polish, Chinese, Latvian, Estonian, Ukrainian, Byelorussian and other languages.

"The Lithuanians have shown themselves to be fearless soldiers, supremely devoted to the cause of the liberation of their homeland," said Gira.



Lithuanian writer Ludas Gira receives the Order of the Red Banner. (Left to right) A. Ventslova, People's Commissar of Education of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic; Justas Paleckis, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian Republic and Vice President of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR; Ludas Gira and Ilya Ehrenburg

Radiophoto

OREL-KURSK SECTOR

(Continued from page three)

trenches, our counter-attacking units struck the Germans in the flank as they were proceeding to make their way into the depth of the defense zone. A vigorous assault and fierce machine-gun fire forced the Germans to retire into the trenches and communication ways from which they were emerging.

Fighting now raged in the trenches themselves. Grenades were brought into action. Meanwhile our men moved to cut off the German line of retreat, threatening them with complete isolation. In view of this the enemy made haste to retire to his initial positions. His fourth attack cost him so dearly that he discontinued all further attempts that day.

Nonetheless the Germans were anxious to preserve the lines made in the minefields by which they might advance more or less successfully to our forward positions the next day. They accordingly opened powerful fire on the minefields, but without result. Our sappers, under the cover of artillery fire which silenced quite a number of the enemy's fire-nests, fully restored the minefields.

Thus four successive attacks by large German forces against this sector of our defenses failed one after another. Soviet infantry, artillerymen, sappers and anti-tank riflemen in a stern fight against a numerically superior enemy proved their fighting maturity, skilfully and courageously defending their positions and not yielding an inch of ground.

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"TIGERS" IN FLAMES

By B. Galin

We may now clearly define the scene of the first day of battle, when the Germans massed huge forces for a concentrated attack on our defenses. Later the battles will be described in greater detail. Here in this narrow sector in the Belgorod direction, as in all other sectors of the front, our men were prepared for fierce fighting. Infantry, artillery and tanks were all dug deep into the ground. Everything was silent, awaiting the hour of action. These infantrymen, artillerymen and tankmen bore the brunt of the first blow of the German offensive.

The huge massed forces of the Germans—tanks, artillery, infantry and planes—moved to the attack. The assault parties were led by the "Tigers," the heavy T-6 tanks which the Germans advertised as invulnerable to artillery fire and able to crush everything in their path. Many of our men had never before seen these new machines, but had heard of them from their comrades who had encountered the German steel "Tigers."

It appears that despite the power of the new heavy



Tommy gunners of a tank reconnaissance group make a dash for an objective

Radiophoto

tanks, the rumors of their invulnerability spread by the Germans were grossly exaggerated. "Tigers" are being destroyed, set on fire and disabled by Soviet tank destroyers, artillerymen and tankmen. In one sector the Germans succeeded in forcing a gap in our defenses. Behind the lines the German tanks were fired on at close range. Guns of every caliber and tanks went into action. The Germans hardly expected to encounter such heavy fire. The peaceful fields, valleys and coppices emitted flame.

Among the first to open fire was an artillery regiment. Its self-propelled guns were skilfully camouflaged at the edge of a coppice. German tanks rolled over the trenches, heading for the coppice. From his observation post our regimental commander counted over 80 tanks. Gunners awaited the signal to open fire, but the commander was in no hurry. He waited for the "Tigers" and medium tanks in their wake to come closer. Many of the gunners were burning with impatience to fire. The men were seeing these machines for the first time—the minutes of waiting were a terrible strain.

The commander issued the order to fire only when the "Tigers" were within 200 to 300 meters and their powerful turrets and long gun barrels appeared in full view. The woods came to life. From behind shrubbery and trees the guns spat forth tongues of flame. Several of the German tanks were set on fire. The duel had begun.

The struggle was long and fierce. The heavy "Tigers" maneuvered, firing incessantly. They tried to crush the fire system of the regiment and to break through its positions. The roar of guns filled the air; the earth quivered. The German tanks are indeed powerful and their armor thick, but the will of our gunners, their skill, stubbornness and courage, got the better of the German monsters. The "Tigers" did not pass. Our artillery regiment set on fire and disabled 27 German machines, of which 18 were "Tigers."

Junior Sergeant of the Guards Kozvokonov's crew accounted for two "Tigers"; Senior Sergeant Dorokhov's men destroyed four. After the nerve-wracking battle the battery commander asked Dorokhov. "Well, what do you think of the 'Tigers'?" Dorokhov, excited and weary, replied with a smile, "The 'Tiger' isn't as savage as the Germans would like it to be."

The same stubbornness and courage that supported the gunners inspired the tankmen under the command of Captain Slivin. They engaged the enemy tanks several kilometers from the positions of the artillery regiment. Four Soviet heavy tanks dug deep into the ground and concealed from view by shrubbery waited, ready for battle. Twelve German tanks appeared on their left flank. Captain Slivin ordered his men to turn the turrets in the direction of the enemy and await further orders. The battle with the "Tigers" was of special interest to Captain Slivin and his men; since the beginning of the war they have engaged all types of German tanks, but the "Tiger" was new to them. When the tanks were 150 meters distant, Slivin fired. His neighbor, Kapitanov, opened fire simultaneously. The leading machine, a "Tiger," stopped dead, emitting pillars of smoke and flame. Another enemy tank made a half-turn and also came to standstill. The four Soviet tanks sent out shell after shell. Altogether 12 German machines were destroyed. The "Tigers" did not pass here, either.

Two Soviet tanks were hit, but they were repaired the same day and are again at their posts. The German T-6, the famed "Tiger," is not invulnerable. "Tigers" are being destroyed by our artillerymen, tankmen and infantrymen who have learned the art of war and are inspired with the will to win. These men bore the brunt of the German onslaught; in bloody battles they tested and proved the formula for dealing with the German monsters: keep your nerves under control, be stubborn, don't reveal your position too soon, let the "Tigers" come as close as possible, and then fire into their most vulnerable spot.

IN THE BELGOROD AREA

By Major K. Bukovsky

Correspondent with the Red Army in the Field

Moscow, July 10.—The enemy offensive in the Belgorod area is not living up to the expectations of the German command. Having thrust through Soviet positions, the enemy on the fourth day made unsuccessful attempts to widen his tank wedge. The comparatively narrow area of the wedge and its small depth made it difficult for the enemy to maneuver inside the defense area. The German wedge is being subjected to intensive artillery, plane, tank and infantry counter-attacks.

Two days ago the Germans, realizing the futility of their tank attacks in the left corner of the wedge, undertook a partial redistribution of forces, and bringing up fresh divisions attempted to exploit their success along a highway in the direction of an inhabited point. The attempt failed again. The advance tank mass supported by several Luftwaffe formations met with stiff Soviet resistance. Detached German armored vehicles which succeeded in breaking through were destroyed by artillery and infantry fire. A group of

35 tanks reached a height where Soviet artillery positions were located. Soviet rifle detachments let the group through and cut them off from their infantry, then attacked the tanks, which were already suffering heavily from artillery fire.

Yesterday the enemy regrouped his forces and resumed attacks along the highway. After fierce fighting the Germans captured an inhabited point. By evening one of our rifle units in coordination with tanks counter-attacked strongly and driving the enemy from the inhabited point restored the status quo.

Stubborn fighting is in progress at the base of a German wedge where the enemy is trying to capture Soviet strongholds threatening his flank. These attempts are meeting with effective counter-action by Soviet troops.

Today was marked by the greatest aerial combats since the German offensive was launched.

* * *

Moscow, July 9.—Hostilities in the Belgorod area continue unabated. The Germans persistently press their offensive although experiencing great strain due to immense losses. Nevertheless, replenishing their battered armaments and battalions they try to lend their blows cumulative force by bringing into action fresh tank, infantry and aviation reserves. Everywhere the Germans are encountering the stubborn resistance of our troops who staunchly withstand the concentrated assaults of Panzers and Luftwaffe, and maul and exhaust the enemy's shock groups in fierce battles. This is compelling the Germans to withdraw divisions from other sections of the front and from their strategic rear.

At the cost of several hundred shattered and burned tanks the Germans managed to wedge into our forward defense positions in two places and to make a certain amount of headway. These points are now the scene of tank collisions on a big scale.

The Germans are making fairly wide use of their new heavy T-6 tanks, the "Tigers." The Panzer attacks usually follow a single pattern. They are led by 20 to 30 heavy "Tiger" tanks followed by half as many or even an equal number of self-propelled guns. Then, alongside the infantry or escorted by motorized battalions, come older type tanks—T-3s, T-4s and T-38s. Simultaneously, light and medium tanks operate in small groups on side roads.

In battles of this kind, our tanks and artillery resort to tactics known as "fire sacks," based on close coordination. In one sector where a German assault column was advancing, two of our units—tanks and tank destroyers—permitted the head of the column to pass them, then cut off its leading group consisting of 40 tanks, including several heavy ones. Soon our

units completely destroyed the column, leaving only charred hulks of enemy Panzers on the battlefield.

Another Soviet tank unit, also acting in coordination with anti-tank artillery, set fire to 20 "Tigers." One regiment crippled 74 German tanks in two days of battle.

The enemy's tank losses are mounting from day to day. Experience has shown that the German T-6 tanks, the "Tigers," are vulnerable to the fire of both artillery and infantry anti-tank weapons. One of our guns set three "Tigers" aflame in one engagement alone. There have been many cases when these tanks, despite their unusually thick armor, have been crippled by our anti-tank rifles. Soviet aircraft also wreak no little havoc among the "Tigers."

Unparalleled bravery and staunchness are displayed by our infantry, especially the gallant Guards Regiments, in repulsing Panzer assaults. One Guards unit was outflanked and cut off, but for over a day the men fought off enemy tank attacks launched from the sides of the town. No one even thought of quitting his post, and on the following day they were rescued by a neighboring regiment. The Germans have launched several more fierce attacks but the Guardsmen do not retreat and continue to hold their positions.

But as at the beginning of the offensive, the chief weapon in coping with German tanks is artillery, both anti-tank and field. Our guns and howitzers open fire from the moment the German tanks leave their initial positions and continue firing to the very end, even when the tanks manage to break through to the area of the artillery's positions. Yesterday one artillery battalion repulsed eight attacks and in addition destroyed seven tanks before our forward positions.

British, American and Canadian Surgeons Visit Moscow

A delegation of British, American and Canadian surgeons has arrived in Moscow to establish closer contact with Soviet medical circles and exchange experiences acquired in wartime. The delegates include Rear Admiral Gordon Taylor, Major General of Medical Service David Monroe, Dr. Watson Johnes, Dr. Rock Carling, Drs. Cotner Elliot and Davis Lopol of the Medical Corps of the American Army and Dr. Penfield of Montreal.

The delegation was welcomed by Professor Vasili Parin, Deputy Peoples Commissar for Health Protection of the USSR and Professor Leonid Koreisha, Secretary of the Scientific Medical Council under the Peoples Commissariat of Health Protection of the USSR. The delegates will inspect the work of Soviet scientific institutions and military and civilian hospitals.

THE THUNDER OF GUERRILLA GUNS

This spring was marked by the exceptional growth of the guerrilla movement throughout the Ukraine. The winter offensive of the Red Army which liberated many districts of the Voroshilovgrad, Kharkov, Stalino and Sumy Regions was accompanied by the mighty thunder of guerrilla guns near Kiev and Zhitomir, Rovno and Tarnopol.

The enemy-occupied regions of the Soviet Ukraine are covered with a thick network of railway lines which stretch from the western frontiers up to the Dnieper and feed the left flank of the German armies on the Soviet-German front. And a good many thousands of kilometers of these railways are under the incessant blows of the guerrillas. In five months guerrillas derailed 238 enemy troop trains and destroyed 222 locomotives and 2,809 cars. Some railway sections were put completely out of commission and the Germans, losing hope of restoring them, are compelled to use detours. No day passes without the destruction of bridges, trains, station buildings and tracks by guerrilla sappers.

The numerous highways are also constantly threatened by the guerrillas. Nor have the Germans any respite on the Ukrainian waterways which they attempt to use for the transportation of ammunition and equipment. The Pripyat and the Dnieper have become an arena of stiff fighting. From ambushes on the banks the guerrillas destroy ships and barges. In the middle stream of the Dnieper, south and north of Kiev, the Germans are compelled to escort their caravans of river ships by whole flotillas of armored cutters. But this is also of no avail—the guerrillas sink the ships and the escorting vessels.

At the end of May, on the Dnieper north of Kiev, a guerrilla detachment commanded by K. sank three barges loaded with war supplies and ammunition and four armored cutters. Gun and machine-gun fire from the cutters failed to prevent the guerrillas' anti-tank rifles and 45-mm. guns from doing their job. In April another detachment routed a German flotilla sailing on the Pripyat from Mozyr to Kiev. With artillery and trench-mortar fire the guerrillas sent three ships, five barges, five armored cutters and one motor boat to the bottom.

The Ukrainian guerrillas fight the enemy under exceptionally difficult conditions. The greater part of the districts where they operate have no natural cover, no woods. For this reason most of the guerrilla detachments in the Ukraine are highly mobile units. They appear suddenly at widely separated points, rout German garrisons, disrupt communications and vanish. But wherever such detachments make their appearance, new fighting squads of the peoples' avengers spring up.

The mass abduction of population to penal servitude in Germany has given a powerful impetus to the growth of the guerrilla movement. Men, women, youths and adolescents take up arms and join the struggle. In the past two months guerrilla detachments have greatly increased. For example, in the Chernigov Region one small group has grown into a strong fighting unit of 2,000. Many come to the guerrillas with arms captured from the enemy or Soviet arms which they had kept hidden until this time.

The Ukrainian guerrillas have learned German tactics well and have mastered the methods of combating German punitive detachments. Very often they effectively fight picked SS regiments and even tank units. Recently in an engagement in the northern part of Kiev Region the guerrillas, using anti-tank rifles captured from the enemy, disabled six German tanks. Commander K.'s detachment disabled seven tanks in a violent engagement with large German forces attempting to surround it. In this battle the guerrillas killed about 1,200 German officers and men with a loss of 23.

In five months of this year Ukrainian guerrillas killed over 31,000 Germans. The tremendous growth of the guerrilla movement has compelled the invaders to fortify all the large populated places, even those deep in the rear. Zhitomir, situated approximately 600 kilometers behind the front line, has been girdled with trenches, barbed wire entanglements and block houses. Further west, populated places in the Kamnentspodolsk, Rovno, Tarnopol and other regions are also being hastily fortified by the Germans.

The day will come when the heroic struggle of the guerrillas will merge with the powerful flow of the valiant Red Army. Then the Ukrainian land will rise from the darkness of slavery to a free and happy life!

Leningrad Exhibit Reveals Nazi Crimes

An exhibit of "Atrocities, Plunder and Violence of the German-fascist Invaders" recently opened in Leningrad. Included are photographs of victims of the Hitlerites in the occupied districts of Leningrad Region, of Soviet war prisoners tortured to death, and of murdered children and refugees. Numerous photographs, protocols and other evidence prove the deliberate destruction by the German air force of Leningrad's historical monuments—the Hermitage Art Museum, the Opera and Ballet Theater, the Botanical Gardens and many others.

BLOOD DONORS SAVE MANY LIVES

By Alexander Sinelnikov

Since the first days of the war Soviet doctors have done their utmost for the wounded, with the result that more than 70 per cent of Red Army men and commanders have been returned to active service. This has been achieved by use of the most modern methods of treatment evolved by Soviet medicine, including the powerful healing method of blood transfusion, which owes its widespread use to the researches of Academician Alexander Bogomolets and Professors Sergei Spasokukotsky and Andrei Bogdasarov.

Over 200,000 persons in Moscow alone have given their blood to save the lives of wounded. In 1932, there were 80 Blood Transfusion Institutes; the number has now been multiplied many times. Giving their blood is one manifestation of the patriotism of the Soviet peoples. All factories, institutes and offices have blood donor groups. In the last 11 months 65 workers of one of the smaller Kuibyshev plants gave 107 liters of blood, sufficient to save the lives of 3,500 fighters.

A veteran blood donor of the Soviet Union, Nikolai Ivanov, was recently awarded the Badge of Honor for "excellent public health work" by the People's Commissar of Public Health. Ivanov, a worker from Sverdlov, first began giving his blood in 1932; since that time he has made 55 donations, a total of 20 liters of blood.

Every precaution is taken to safeguard the health of the donors. An account is kept of the number of times blood is given and the state of the donor's health. A proper period of rest and recuperation must be observed. Because of these measures, states Professor Andrei Bogdasarov, the health of the donors has not suffered in the least.



Merited Artist of the RSFSR Velter, of Leningrad, gives blood for analysis

NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR GIVES BLOOD FOR RED ARMY

Rolf Andvord, Norwegian Ambassador to the USSR, and George Krane, the 17-year-old son of his private secretary, recently visited the Kuibyshev regional blood transfusion station, and gave donations of their blood for the Red Army. The Ambassador addressed the following letter to the Red Army man who would receive his blood:

Dear Red Army Fighter—For centuries to come the children of the Soviet Union and of the freedom-loving nations will read with glowing eyes the chapter in their history books entitled "The brave Russian soldier saves the civilized world." It is this chapter that you and your comrades are writing, the chapter of your courageous struggle against those who would enslave the whole world.

Today Norway, my unfortunate homeland, is occupied by the enemy. But we are nevertheless fighting with unyielding will to bring nearer the day of liberation. The hearts of all Norwegians go out to the Red Army, its officers and men, and to Stalin, the

great and sagacious leader of the Soviet Union, in gratitude for their mighty effort in the struggle against the common foe. This is blood from my very heart. May it reach yours and make you feel how warmly mine is beating for you, your country and all you hold dear.

I wish you, your kith and kin and the whole Russian people victory, peace and that great happiness that they have so well deserved by their sacrifices and heroism.

(Signed) ROLF ANDVORD,
Ambassador of Norway.

Flying Hero Receives U. S. Distinguished Service Medal

Among Red Army officers decorated by the President of the United States with the Distinguished Service Medal is Captain Alexander Pokryshkin, Hero of the Soviet Union, who has made over 500 operational flights and has personally destroyed 27 German planes.

THE REBUILDING OF RZHEV

An Izvestia correspondent who recently visited the city of Rzhev, from which the Germans were ousted at the beginning of March, writes:

Those who saw Rzhev immediately after its liberation would not recognize it today. This is not because of any remarkable outward transformation—it will take years to remove the last traces of the destruction wrought in this flourishing city by the Nazi barbarians during their 17 months' occupation.

Reflected in the Volga are the skeletons of many-storied buildings; whole blocks lie in ruins; rainwater fills the craters in sidewalks and pavements made by enemy bombs; burdocks grow over fallen telegraph poles.

Outwardly the city has changed little since the invaders were routed. The real change lies in the disappearance of the atmosphere of death and destruction which the Nazis invariably leave behind them. The vigor of the Soviet system has breathed life into the liberated city; life has returned to the emaciated, exhausted people delivered by the Red Army from the German yoke.

The people have embarked upon the restoration of their city with eagerness and devotion. The quiet of early morning is broken by the sound of human voices, the singing of saws and blows of axes; since four o'clock municipal employees have been at work building small, mud-walled houses. Cleaning women and directors, planners and accountants, house managers and bookkeepers, are busy sawing logs, laying bricks and covering walls with clay. "A few more of these 'subbotniks'—[extra labor given without pay]—and we'll have the first group of cottages finished," rejoices an elderly workingman wearing a clay-stained apron.

Workers are also busy restoring brick apartment houses, while families repair their individual dwellings. A lanky, elderly communications worker painstakingly planes a log. In his half-wrecked house in Gratsky Street the floors have already been laid and window and door-frames completed. In another week he will be able to move in.

By their own efforts the Rzhev citizens have already restored 718 small houses and built many new ones. Recently worker Pozdnyakov, whose two sons are at the front, had a housewarming in the little cottage he had completed next to his bomb-wrecked home. Restoration brigades work from dawn till dark, and workers move into the new houses the moment the builders finish.

The second story of a hospital is still under repair, but on the first floor patients are being treated and surgeons are operating. Hammers ring out in the courtyard of the municipal baths, where workers are preparing the iron roof, but the glad news has

already spread that the baths are open. This is a big day for the plumbers. Seven water-mains have been repaired and equipment restored; tests will show whether all breaks have been found and whether Rzhev will get water today. Electrical current will be available soon.

The most touching solicitude is shown for the children of Rzhev whom the Hitlerites have made homeless. Nurseries and kindergartens were opened in the first days of the liberation, and a children's restaurant organized. Children of school age were sent to Young Pioneers' camps. Youthful patriots are also taking part in the restoration of the city—a sun-tanned five-year-old girl wheels a barrow-load of brick; behind her a barefoot lad carries several sheets of plywood on his head; nearby a dozen children armed with picks and shovels extract boards from heaps of rubble. A Pioneer group of 56 Rzhev schoolboys works under the supervision of the young teacher Alexandrova, rebuilding the Pushkin High School which the Germans used for a stable.

Industry is being rapidly restored. The sawmills, brewery, food-processing plants and cooperative producers' shops are functioning, and numerous workshops where felt boots, clothing, glue, baskets, etc., are turned out, have been opened in half-wrecked premises. A watchmaker and a photographer are again serving customers. Local raw materials and waste products are widely used in industry. Besides working a full day in factory or office, and voluntarily on Sunday in restoring and improving the city, every citizen of Rzhev devotes some hours daily to increasing the food supply. The city's ruins are surrounded by a green belt of gardens. This spring the inhabitants planted 600 hectares of subsidiary farms and 1,500 hectares of individual gardens.

"I sometimes wonder where I find the strength," said 60-year-old Ivan Ilyin, a blacksmith, who has two sons at the front. "When the Germans were here I was very feeble. Living under them you felt there was no air to breathe. But since we've been freed, it's like a load dropped from your heart—I work and don't feel the least bit tired."

Kindergarten director Malinovskaya's voice faltered as she spoke of her work. "While we were retreating from Rzhev the fascists bombed us. My two little girls were killed. I am avenging my daughters by my work."

Yesterday's guerrillas, who now head the city's municipal offices, help the people to translate their deep hatred for the invader into deeds. These plain, brave men and women who lived through the grim school of guerrilla struggle against the enemy are now bearing with equal bravery the heavy task of restoring a city reduced to ashes by the Hitlerites.

A RACER BREAKS A RECORD

By Yuri Medvedovsky

A large poster outside the gates of a Yaroslavl factory proclaimed: "Hearty congratulations to Nikolai Mikhailov, who topped the quota by 1,340 per cent." Underneath was a photograph of the record-breaker—a very young man with thick hair and a broad forehead.

After working hours I talked to this outstanding Stakhonovite who had helped the factory do away with a shortage of a very important part necessary to fill an order for the front. I asked how he had achieved his record output.

"I'm a young turner," he said, "but an old automobile racer. Driving fast-moving machines teaches you to find your way out of difficult situations. We got an important order for the front, and I asked to be transferred to the shop. Work was going smoothly, but this part gave us a lot of trouble. I was pretty upset. I knew what branch of the army service these weapons were going to—two of my brothers and many of my friends were serving in such units. I knew how important it was to get the equipment to them.

"I went over the whole process very carefully, spending many hours after work trying to figure out the trouble. Four operations were necessary to make the part. Well, I worked out a device to do all four simultaneously. The engineer of the shop, Ivan Kudriavtsev, liked the idea. Several days later the device was ready. The first day we used it production rose by 800 per cent. That day I fulfilled my

quota 790 per cent, the next day 850 per cent, and so on till I reached 1,000 per cent. Within a week the shop had a full supply of this vital part, and several days later I achieved the record output of 1,340 per cent. That day the factory filled the order for the front and received a new one.

"My friends are catching up with me, but I am not offended by that. If somebody breaks my record, it means that somewhere on the front our Red Army men will be able to hit the enemy harder, and that's all that counts."



Makar Elshin, oldest worker in his shipyard, teaching a youngster his methods

Radiophoto

STUDENTS' THESES REFLECT WAR

By Anna Kalma

Each spring the colleges and universities of the USSR graduate new reserves of engineers, doctors, biologists, chemists and agronomists. The war years have seen two classes of these professionals receive their diplomas.

In this period many of the students have had to interrupt their studies to defend their homeland. In the autumn of 1941, when the enemy was at the gates of Moscow, students built fortifications and gathered wood to heat the city; in the spring they prepared the soil for vegetable gardening. Other students took hospitals under their care, giving specific hours to nursing and similar work.

But these activities have not interfered to any great extent with studies. Each project of a post-graduate, each problem attacked, reflects the war and corresponds to the realities and conditions of today's life.

Anna Kositsina, a student of a Moscow Civil Engineering Institute, developed a project for an air-raid precaution system for defense plants. Lydia Perfilova wrote her thesis on the restoration of the heating system in one of the cities demolished by the Hitlerites. In drawing up projects the young specialists take into consideration all the restrictions of war and show how construction can be completed in record time with a minimum of materials. After their theses are passed upon favorably, they become engineers, and are assigned by special commissions to posts in various construction works.

Many of this year's graduates are eager to go to Stalingrad, to take part in the rebuilding of that glorious city. Others will work in the Urals, Siberia and Central Asia.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF JULY 9, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

A tremendous battle has been raging for five days on the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod sectors of the Soviet-German front. On the morning of July 5 the Hitlerite command hurled into attack huge numbers of infantry and tanks supported by large air forces.

The first battalion thrown into the attack by the Hitlerite command consisted of 30 divisions, of which 15 were Panzer Divisions. The huge concentration of 15 armored divisions on this narrow sector of the front was intended to breach Soviet defenses so that tanks could smash their way through to open spaces offering opportunities for maneuvering.

The attacks of the Hitlerite troops during the past five days have not brought any substantial results. Thanks to the efficient cooperation of Soviet infantry, tanks, artillery and air forces, the Germans have received a heavy rebuff. On the first day of the offensive they lost 586 tanks. The heavy losses the Hitlerite army is now suffering show the scale of the battle and the strength of the troops participating.

For comparison we may recall that when the Germans invaded France in 1940 they had at their disposal some 10 armored divisions, whereas at Kursk

they have concentrated 15 armored divisions. During the battles in May, 1942, on the Kharkov front the Germans lost 540 tanks and 200 aircraft in a fortnight. At Kursk they have lost 1,843 tanks and 800 aircraft in four days.

Characteristic features of this battle are the splendid firmness of Soviet troops and the excellence of their armaments and strength of their defenses, which have caused the Hitlerites such tremendous losses in the first days of their offensive.

The Hitlerite command, fearing failure in the offensive which they began, have come out with their usual falsifications. They deny the fact that the Germans launched the offensive, and maintain that the Red Army began an offensive which has had no results. In order to launch their offensive on the Soviet-German front the Hitlerite command not only concentrated heavy forces but also transferred considerable air forces from Western Europe and the Balkans.

Having suffered terrific losses in the first days of the offensive, the Hitlerite command continues to bring up fresh reserves and fling them into battle.

"Citrus Combine" and Machines for Tea Plantations Designed in USSR

Interesting designs of machines for use on tea plantations and in the cultivation and gathering of citrus fruits have been developed by the Experimental Station for Mechanization under the Agricultural Academy of the USSR.

For the first time in the history of horticulture a "citrus combine" has been designed. The invention of engineer Keselli and agronomist Mzhavanadze, this machine sprays trees, does artificial pollination, picks fruit, etc. It accomplishes the work of 50 to 60 men, and is easily operated by one person.

A new cultivating machine for tea plantations does the work of 150 men. According to the experts this machine, constructed by Nogamov, a self-taught peasant, gives a better performance than the well known Hessler-Schreder machine, which performs about 28 operations. Another machine designed by engineer Kostin for the sorting of tea leaves has also been tested. It works three times as fast as any hitherto known.

Children of Uzbekistan Exhibit Drawings in Moscow

An exhibit of drawings by children of Uzbekistan has opened in Moscow. The 400 sketches on display are the work of children between the ages of six and fourteen; most of them deal with the front, or life in the rear during war days.

Ten-year-old Ibrahim Musakhanov depicted his brother, a cavalryman, sabering Germans near Stalin-grad. A little girl's drawing shows Uzbek collective farmers visiting a Red Army hospital. An 11-year-old boy evacuated from Leningrad to Uzbekistan sent two sculptures showing the hospitality of the Uzbeks and the friendship of Russian and Uzbek children.

Kornei Chukovsky, author of children's books, who was present at the opening, commented: "Soviet children are sensitive to the war; they share in the joys and griefs of their country. There is much freshness, feeling and true ability in this work of Uzbek children. Our children have faith in victory, as we adults have, and this faith finds reflection in their work."

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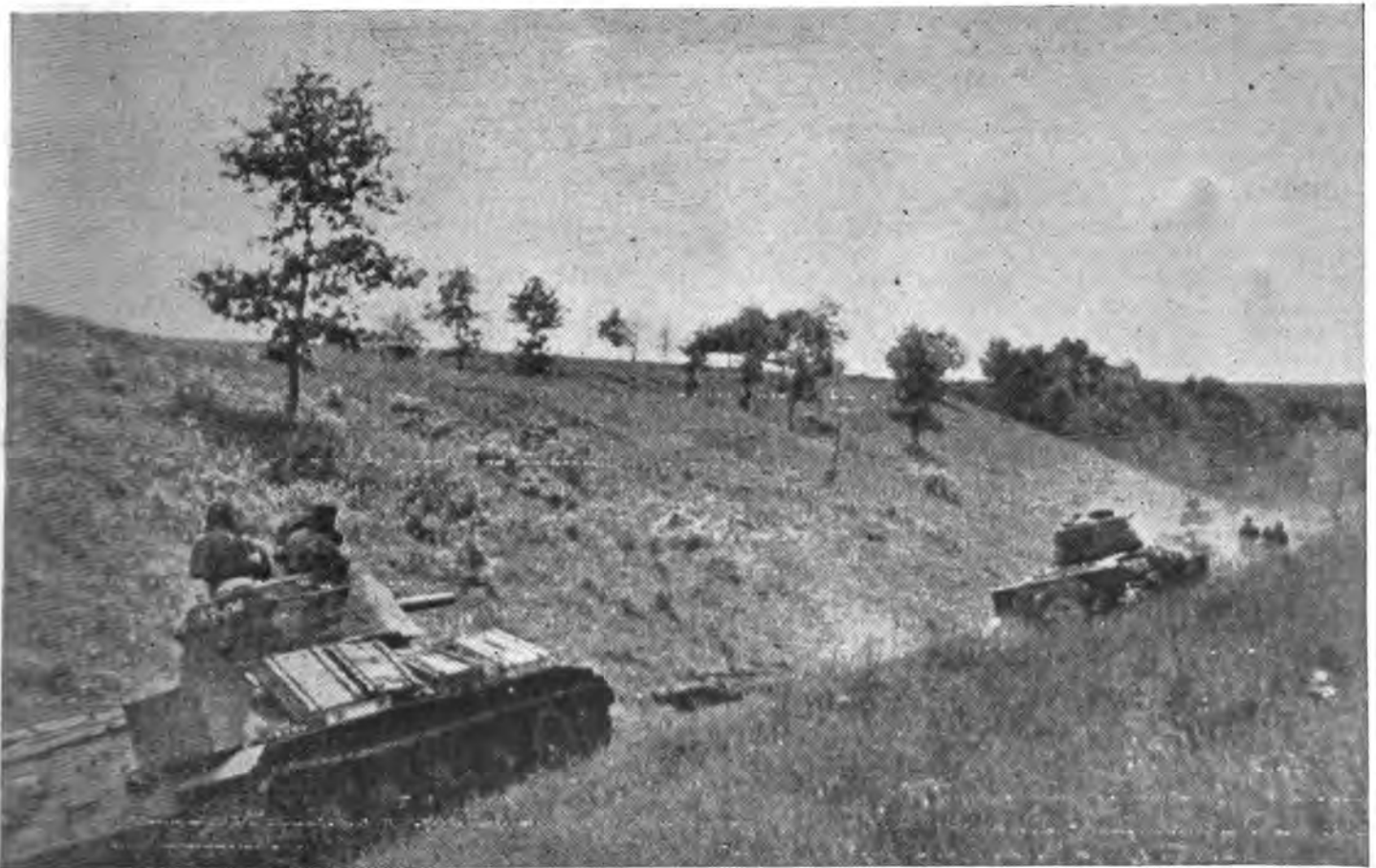
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IN THE OREL-KURSK DIRECTION

By Major P. Olender

MOSCOW, July 12.—Despite huge losses the Germans continue to attack Soviet positions in the main direction of their blow. Dozens of dive bombers operate on the front lines. Under cover of clouds of dust and smoke, tanks roll onto our trenches. The enemy strives to gain ground, but without success. Attacks are launched with more powerful forces than was the case several days ago. The Germans, trying hard to find weak points in the Soviet defenses, attack in various sectors of the front. During the day not one of their attacks bore fruit. Several tank attacks were frustrated at the very outset.

The Germans prepared a mass tank attack against a certain unit, concentrating their machines in a long ravine—a favorable approach to a height held by the defenders. The massing of enemy forces was spotted by our scouts. As soon as reports came to hand, the commander of the unit called Stormoviks to his aid, and simultaneously our artillery opened fire. Finding themselves under fire from the air and ground, the enemy machines raced about in confusion. Soviet gunners kept up a heavy barrage of fire from two directions, depriving the Germans of the possibility



SOVIET TANKS SPEEDING TO THE FRONT

Radiophoto

of dispersing. The attack was frustrated, the enemy sustaining heavy losses.

Despite this reverse the Germans repeated the attempt in a neighboring sector. Enemy tanks massed in a gully in preparation for an attack, but were likewise forestalled. A number of Soviet guns directed their fire on the attacking tanks from the flanks, the remainder fired at them from the front. The advancing enemy column failed to deploy and after losing 20 tanks had to abandon the attack in this sector as well.

In repulsing enemy onslaughts, Soviet units coordinate their actions, coming to each other's aid at critical stages of battle. A unit under the command of Lieutenant Bokov received information that a neighboring unit was encircled by German tommy gunners and tanks. Bokov unhesitatingly rushed to the aid of his neighbors. He attacked from the flank, forcing the enemy to retreat. During the fighting Bokov was wounded, but did not leave the battlefield until he had rescued his comrades.

No small credit in repulsing the enemy is due to the excellent service of our scouts. During battles small parties of scouts penetrate into enemy positions, returning with "tongues" and valuable information concerning the enemy fire system. Scouts Bobrishev, Piatakov and Sichev have successfully accomplished assignments of this nature. Their information enabled commanders to effectively organize their defenses.

Active reconnaissance enables Soviet units to deal the enemy telling blows, besides organizing a hot reception for German units. Thus, for example, a report was received to the effect that the enemy had weakened its forces at two points, transferring part of its troops to a neighboring sector. A Soviet unit counter-attacked, capturing both positions.

* * *

MOSCOW, July 9.—For five days Soviet troops have been repulsing mighty tank and air attacks. The Germans do not begrudge their technical equipment to achieve their ends. So far there has not been a single action without tanks. According to the Germans, tanks are the deciding factor—their tanks race from one zone to another, seeking right and left for

an opening leading to a certain inhabited point, but are nowhere able to penetrate Soviet defenses.

The Red Army's defensive action is notable for its speed and maneuverability. About midday it became known that German tanks had suddenly changed the direction of their drive, and turning around had tried to envelop our defending troops from the flank. Several tractor-drawn artillery units hurried to cut off the enemy. Guns deployed to new positions with great speed; some of the guns were already firing at the enemy before the others had got into position. The gun positions were selected so that the advancing tanks fell into a fire trap from which no escape was possible. The remainder of the tanks withdrew, and a short time later their appearance in another sector was reported.

Mention must be made of the excellent discipline and calmness of Soviet commanders and men under the most difficult conditions. During one attack a German tank advanced as far as a Soviet trench, breaking the telephone wire. The tank was halted, but continued to fire. This did not worry the Soviet commander—he knew the tank would be knocked out. What bothered him was that with communications cut the unit would be forced to act alone. He ordered signalmen Spitz and Lanchikov to repair the line. The gallant fighters crawled along the trench in the direction of the enemy tank and repaired the damaged wire.

The struggle to keep communications intact and for coordination in the rapid and accurate carrying out of maneuvers is a feature of the operations of the Red Army. It enables the defenders to transfer their forces in the required directions more quickly than the enemy and to offer organized resistance to enemy attacks, or to counter-attack themselves.

Fighting continued during the night, but despite the darkness the Germans nowhere succeeded in breaking or filtering through the Soviet outer defenses. The night, like the day which preceded it, brought no changes in the situation. The enemy's losses are increasing; he still tries to crawl ahead with the same insane stubbornness, but meets with no success. The rebuff given by the Red Army on land and in the air is just as powerful now as on the first day of battle.

LENINGRAD SNIPERS' SCHOOL

The best shots of the Leningrad Front are sent to perfect their skill at the Snipers' School in that city directed by Lieutenant Grigori Gilbo, one of the Soviet Union's outstanding marksmen. In 1939 Gilbo participated in the International Shooting Match organized by the London Rifle Club, in which the Soviet

team won first place. At the outbreak of war he volunteered for the front and was wounded in action near Leningrad. After his recovery, he was placed in charge of the Sniper's School. Many of his pupils now wear the Order of Lenin and the Order of the Red Banner, and several have killed over 200 Germans.

MUSEUM PIECE

By Ilya Ehrenburg

The servility of German war prisoners, the insolence, cowardice, greed and doltishness expressed in their "diaries," arouse one's legitimate contempt. How could these creatures have seized half-a-score of states? How could they have pushed as far as Egypt and the Caucasus?

The answer is to be found in Moscow at an exhibition of arms captured from the Germans during the past two years. Here we see how Germany's industry, her technical skill, her long experience and her diligence were all dedicated to one purpose—the attack. And then she converted vanquished peoples—the French, the Czechs, the Belgians—into her armorers.

Among the museum pieces is a huge 211-mm. howitzer. The Germans hauled this gun across Europe and set it up at the near approaches to Moscow. They built a reinforced concrete base for it. They amassed great ammunition dumps to feed it. But it fell into the hands of the Red Army before it had time to fire a single shell.

In those days the Germans had superiority in engines. They had the advantage in military experience. What ruined them was their blind faith in machines, in the infallibility of army manuals.

At the exhibition you may examine airplanes that once zoomed over Stalingrad, speedboats which were intended to carry triumphant German soldiers up the Volga. But the speedboats never reached the Volga. Here they are, lying quietly at anchor in the river Moskva—museum exhibits.

Here are transport planes that once carried provisions to Von Paulus' army. Here are shreds of dried horseflesh, motor trucks intended for the Caucasian mountains, enormous mortars captured when the Leningrad blockade was broken.

There are on exhibition more than 60 tanks—60 out of 42,400 lost by the Germans during the past two years. Among them are specimens of the T-6, the "Tiger," which made its debut on the Soviet front in the spring of this year. The Germans placed high hopes in the "Tiger," but Soviet artillerymen knocked out over a dozen of the monsters in the very first encounter. This reduced the efficiency of the German tank crews by destroying their belief in the invincibility of their machines.

Drawn up in rows on the vast exhibition ground are motor vehicles of all makes—Mercedes, Opel, Skoda, Renault, Fiat. Two years ago on a dazzling

June morning they hurtled along the roads of Lithuania and Byelorussia. These are only the survivors. Others of the wheeled horde lay charred or crushed flat near Kalinin, Volokolamsk, Maloyaroslavets, Kastornoye, Stalingrad, Vladikavkaz. Here they stand, living but tamed. I expect that, like their drivers, they'll soon be tooting: "Hitler's kaput."

They are covered with the dust of many countries. They have seen the most westerly promontories of Europe. They pelted eastwards towards the Urals, Baku, Iraq. Now they are standing on a green Moscow lawn.

Here are ranks of bombers, unharmed, humbled—they were taken on the nest: bombers guilty of the sufferings of London and Leningrad, importunate Focke-Wulfs, Messerschmitt 109s, attack planes—Germany's entire poultry yard.

Some of the tanks are a queer tan color—they were intended for the sultry deserts of Egypt, but something unforeseen happened on the way: the Red Army offensive. So the tanks found themselves on the snowy steppe before they could be repainted. Alongside the German machines stands a Rumanian cart found in the Kuban, with wheels of prehistoric pattern. No doubt Antonescu's forefathers rode on such carts in the 10th Century.

This gigantic exhibition contains only a sample of the booty captured by the Red Army. Strangely enough, as I wandered through the grounds I was aware not so much of the exhibits as of Soviet might on land and in the air. The Soviet people are not fighting with empty hands. The talent of inventors, the farsightedness of the Soviet Government, the self-sacrificing labor of working men and women, the alliance with the U. S. A. and Great Britain, created a force which enabled the Red Army to halt the enemy and begin the liberation of its country.

We have never deceived ourselves about Germany's strength. If there are still any naive, heedless people among us, let them visit the exhibition. They will see what a deadly foe we are up against. But in this display of the enemy's strength one senses Russia's self-confidence.

The nature of Fascism is revealed in these inanimate things. Everything designed for the destruction of the adversary looks solid enough. But what disregard for the lives of their soldiers . . . Sleeping bags made of paper are a charming invention for the Russian winter. Here are samples of the celebrated ersatz "felt boots," huge, clumsy contraptions

(Continued on page five)

FATE OF HITLER'S VASSAL ARMIES

By Colonel Vasiliev

In the autumn of 1942 Hitler's vassal armies on the Soviet front constituted a force of over sixty divisions. In July, 1941 the Rumanian Army on that front numbered about 24 divisions and brigades, but several of them were soon completely shattered, while most of the remaining contingents lost over 50 per cent of their effectives. In 1942 practically the entire Rumanian Army, which then numbered 24 to 26 divisions, was sent to the front. It sustained heavy losses in the summer offensive, but its fate was decided in the winter offensive.

The Red Army's first blow at Stalingrad was aimed at the Rumanian 2nd Army and the 6th Corps. By January 1, 1943 the Red Army forces at Stalingrad alone had shattered 16 Rumanian divisions. Two more divisions had been surrounded and mopped up along with the 6th German Army. The rest of the Rumanian units were routed in later battles.

In two years of war the total losses of the Rumanian Army on the Soviet front were over 700,000 men, including no fewer than 250,000 killed, 100,000 prisoners and 350,000 wounded.

The same fate overtook the Italian Expeditionary Force. At the beginning of the war Mussolini sent three divisions against the Soviet Union, but two of these lost half their complement in two or three weeks' fighting. In August, 1942 all the Italian forces on the Soviet front were fused into the 8th Italian Army

under General Garibaldi. In the second half of December, in the area of the middle Don, the Soviet troops shattered the 35th and 2nd Italian Corps, which lost over 40,000 men in killed, wounded and captured.

Nothing now remained of the 8th Italian Army but the Alpine Corps, comprising three divisions, and the 156th Division, held in reserve. In January, 1943 the Alpine Corps was surrounded and shattered by the Red Army, which took another 33,000 prisoners, including several generals and some hundreds of officers of lower rank.

Thus, by the end of January, 1943 all the Italian units on the Soviet front had been routed. The total Italian losses were about 60,000 killed, 36,000 captured and about 70,000 wounded.

On the outbreak of the war Hungary was only in a position to send one corps of between 50 to 60 thousand men to the Soviet front. In 1942 it was followed by the 2nd Hungarian Army, consisting of nine infantry divisions and a motorized brigade.

By the winter of 1942, seven of the Hungarian divisions had already lost half their effectives. In January, 1943 the Soviet forces took the offensive and routed the 2nd Hungarian Army south of Voronezh. Two corps were almost completely wiped out. Only remnants of the Hungarian units are left on the Soviet front.

SOVIET ORDNANCE PRODUCTION RISES; TANK INDUSTRY RECEIVES MORE NICKEL

The Soviet ordnance industry is producing ever-increasing quantities of modern guns for the Red Army.

Hero of Socialist Labor Yelyan, director of one of the largest ordnance works in the country, reports that his plant now produces several times more ordnance than before the war. The labor productivity of each worker has more than trebled in the past two years, largely because of improved technology and extensive rationalization of production. The co-operation of technologists and Stakhanovites of the iron and steel industries makes it possible to greatly reduce the time required for production of guns. Tank guns are now turned out in one-fifth of the time required before the war.

Yelyan's plant has pledged itself to produce a large amount of armaments over and above the plan as a contribution to the Defense Fund of the Supreme Red Army Command on the 26th anniversary of the October Revolution.

The tank industry is now receiving large quantities of Urals nickel. Workers of the South Urals nickel plants are continuously increasing the production of this metal; during the first half of this year twice as much nickel was smelted as in the corresponding months in 1942.

Another large nickel deposit was recently discovered in the vicinity of these plants, and a new mine will shortly be in operation.

SEAMAN-SNIPER DESTROYS OVER 400 GERMANS

In January, 1942, Ivan Antonov, a 22-year-old seaman serving on a destroyer in the Baltic Fleet, was transferred from his ship to an artillery battery in the line of fire.

The observation post from which Antonov corrected gun-fire was very close to the enemy lines. In lulls in the fighting he could see the Hitlerites moving about in their trenches, washing themselves and carrying ammunition and food to their blindages. He saw more than this—Soviet civilian prisoners, including adolescents, driven half-clothed into the bitter cold and forced to build enemy fortifications. A powerful desire rose in Antonov—to be revenged as directly as possible on these murderers.

He studied the art of sniping and soon mastered it. After duty he was permitted to go beyond the forward lines to stalk the enemy. By the beginning of summer he had killed over 100 Germans—with autumn the number had risen to 200. He was awarded the Order of Lenin. In February, 1943 he killed his 320th Hitlerite and was made a Hero of the Soviet Union. In June his score of dead Germans exceeded 400.

Antonov has become the terror of the Hitlerites; on many occasions they have tried to kill him with heavy artillery and trench-mortar fire. But the young sniper is also a master of camouflage. The Germans have spent hundreds of shells and mines without once wounding him.

In one year Antonov trained over a hundred snipers, several of whom already have 200 to 300 dead Germans to their account. Even Boltyrev, the battery cook, who crawls out with his rifle for a little "hunt" after his day's work is done, has killed 110 of the enemy. Altogether, Antonov and his comrades have destroyed over 4,500 of the invaders.



Red Navy men on patrol in Leningrad Radiophoto

British Civil Service Workers Give X-ray Machine to Leningrad

British Civil Service Employees have presented the citizens of Leningrad with an X-ray machine of the latest model bearing the inscription: "A present to valorous Leningrad from British Civil Service Employees through their trade union, the Association of Civil Service Employees of London. Long live the Red Army!" The machine is being installed at the Wreden Central State Traumatology Institute.

MUSEUM PIECE

(Continued from page three)

of straw. Jerry is fed on grams of various surrogates. Paper bandages bind his wounds. Hitler can still find iron with which to shoot recalcitrants, but he can't find bandages to dress his soldiers' wounds.

The human being is the last thing the fascist ever thinks about, and yet victory depends on human beings. It was not only the Red Army's machines and armaments that decided Paulus' fate, but also the maturity of its commanders, the courage of its men. And that will decide Hitler's fate, too.

WAR RECORD OF SOVIET TRADE UNIONS

By N. Alexeyev

When Germany attacked the USSR the Soviet trade unions, which have a membership of 25,000,000, made themselves responsible for mobilizing the working people in an all-out effort to get the maximum production from industry.

It was the trade unions that organized and launched the socialist competition movement, which has sent production soaring and inspired workers, technicians and engineers to astonishing feats of ingenuity, initiative and economy in the use of raw materials, electric power and fuel.

The trade unions have helped to organize the training of new personnel for industry. Their method is to place newcomers under the wing of skilled old-timers in various trades.

All the unions sponsor production meetings to discuss means of eliminating shortcomings, improving production methods and discovering new labor reserves. They have fostered the Stakhanovite movement, which during the past two years has boosted Soviet labor productivity to unprecedented heights.

The trade unions are foremost in collecting gifts of warm clothes for the Red Army, subscriptions to State Loans, and funds to augment the Red Army's equipment. Soon after the All-Union Council of Trade Unions and the trade union central committees had made their contributions of a hundred million rubles to the Red Army fund, the individual unions followed suit. The Seamen's Union contributed 6,800,190 rubles, the Railwaymen's Union 8,089,753, the Union of Gold and Platinum Workers 62,597,000.

Particularly valuable are the trade unions' services in organizing army hospitals. They have turned many of their magnificent rest homes and sanatoria into well-equipped medical institutions, where Red Army

men are nursed back to health at the unions' expense. They have given the Red Army a fleet of bath trains, fully equipped with barber shops, laundries, tailor shops, libraries and other amenities.

The Soviet trade unions make it their constant endeavor to establish friendly relations with trade unions in Allied countries. They feel that through cooperation among the various sections, the international trade union movement can be a serious factor in the all-round mobilization of working-class war effort, and can play an active part in the settlement of postwar problems.

Military training for workers in industry and special courses for nurses and medical orderlies are organized by Soviet trade unions. Their amateur art circles go right into the front line to entertain Red Army men. During the 18 months from July, 1941 until December, 1942 the Art Workers' Union organized 200,000 concerts and other performances for the men at the front. It staged 25,000 concerts on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Red Army.

All these wartime activities have not diminished the unions' concern to insure proper living conditions for the workers, and to meet their cultural needs. Social insurance and safety measures remain paramount. In 1941, for example, the unions' social insurance budget came to 9,698,340,000 rubles. In 1942 and 1943 it approached 12,000,000,000 rubles. Of this sum 9,000,000,000 rubles were spent on aid for the sick and for expectant mothers, and on old age and invalid pensions. The rest went on rest homes, sanatoria, special diets for those who need them, children's camps and playgrounds, and cultural activities. This year the Soviet trade unions are sending 465,000 children to summer camps, and are arranging playgrounds for another 10,000.

GENERAL SIKORSKI'S TRAGIC DEATH

In connection with the tragic death of General Wladislaw Sikorski, IZVESTIA recently wrote as follows:

On July 4 in an aerial accident at Gibraltar the Polish Premier-Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Army, General Wladislaw Sikorski, lost his life. Thus tragically ended the life of the prominent Polish statesman and military leader whose name is associated with an important phase in the development of Polish-Soviet relations.

The struggle against a common and hateful enemy brought the Soviet and Polish peoples into one camp—the camp of freedom-loving peoples which set as its goal the destruction of Hitler tyranny and the libera-

tion of humanity from the mortal danger carried by German fascism. The heroic struggle of the Soviet people against the German-fascist bandits changed the entire course of the war, dispelled the myth of the invincibility of the German army and opened to the enslaved peoples of Europe and to the harassed Polish people the prospect of liberation from oppression and from bitter Hitlerite captivity.

In his historical speech of July 3, 1941 Stalin emphasized that the aim of this "national war in defense of our country against the fascist oppressors is not only to eliminate the danger hanging over our country but also to aid all European peoples groaning under the yoke of German fascism." General Sikorski was one of those who understood and ap-

preciated the great importance of the struggle of the Soviet Union against Hitlerite Germany for the common cause of all freedom-loving peoples and in particular for the Polish people, one of the first to fall victims to German-fascist aggression. This understanding by General Sikorski of the role and significance of the Soviet Union in the common struggle, along with the invariable efforts of the Soviet people and the Soviet Government to maintain and consolidate friendly relations with the Polish people and to render assistance to it, led to the signing on July 30, 1941 of the Polish-Soviet Agreement on the restoration of diplomatic relations and on joint struggle against Hitlerite Germany. This agreement opened wide possibilities both for the development and consolidation of Polish-Soviet friendship and for the active participation of the Polish people, hand-in-hand with the Soviet people, in the common sacred struggle against the German-fascist oppressors.

True as always to its obligations, the Soviet Government made every effort to facilitate in every way the successful development of Polish-Soviet cooperation. Important manifestations of this cooperation were the Military Agreement concluded on August 14, 1941 between the Supreme Command of the USSR and the Supreme Command of Poland on the forming of a Polish Army on the territory of the USSR, as well as the two agreements on loans granted by the Soviet Government to the Polish Government for the maintenance of Polish troops in the USSR and for rendering aid to Polish citizens residing on the territory of the USSR.

That aid supplied the more conspicuous proof of the friendly attitude of the Soviet Union toward the Polish people in that it was rendered at a time of most intense struggle with the enemy which called for the exertions of all forces and men, for truly heroic efforts on the part of the whole Soviet people and the whole Soviet State.

At that time General Sikorski maintained an attitude aimed at the development and consolidation of Polish-Soviet friendship. In December, 1941 he visited Moscow, where he conducted negotiations with Stalin and with Molotov. These negotiations resulted in the signing on December 4, 1941 of the Soviet-Polish Declaration on friendship and mutual aid. His sojourn in Moscow enabled General Sikorski to state to the Polish people that in the USSR the future of Europe cannot be envisaged without a stable Polish State, without a strong Poland. In his speech over the radio in Moscow, General Sikorski emphasized that "the brotherhood-in-arms which arises for the first time in history will serve as a turning point for the future of both States and peoples, as a basis for friendly relations, unlike those in the past." "Both parties," General Sikorski also said, "are ready to forget everything that divided them in the past."

Such was then General Sikorski's position. But different was the position of those Polish reactionary

circles grouped around people of the Matuszewski and Mackiewicz type, who had influential partisans in General Sikorski's closest entourage. These circles stubbornly hindered the attempts of the late Premier to conduct a policy of rapprochement with the Soviet Union. And General Sikorski finally yielded to the pressure of those circles which strove to continue the policy, hostile to the Soviet Union, of the former Polish Foreign Minister, the notorious Beck. As a result of concessions made to Polish reaction, which is hostile to the Soviet Union and to the interests of the Polish people, there began the sabotage and gradual frustration of Polish-Soviet cooperation.

Step by step the Polish Government slid to positions of increasing hostility toward the USSR. Having fallen in tow of the Hitlerites, the Polish Government, by its connivance with the German fascists who perpetrated the massacre of Polish officers on territory occupied by them near Smolensk and tried to ascribe this monstrous crime to Soviet organs, went to such lengths as to openly take part in the base and slanderous provocation organized by the Hitlerites against the Soviet Union. Having adopted the path of direct support of and collaboration with the German-fascist provocateurs, the Polish Government thereby actually terminated allied relations with the USSR.

Noting today the tragic death of General Sikorski, one cannot but express regret that his will to the consolidation of friendship and collaboration between the USSR and Poland was broken by circles whose policy had already proved ruinous to prewar Poland. However, in spite of the intrigues of these circles the Soviet Union unswervingly pursues a policy of peace and friendship with the Polish people. The Soviet Union, as formerly, abides by the view that after Hitler's defeat there must exist a strong and independent Poland in Europe. This idea was expressed with the utmost clarity and precision by Stalin in his well-known answers to the questions of the American *New York Times* and British *Times* correspondent. In these answers Stalin pointed out that after the war relations between Poland and the USSR must be based "Upon the fundament of solid good-neighboring relations and mutual respect, or, should the Polish people so desire—upon the fundament of an alliance providing for mutual assistance against the Germans as the chief enemies of the Soviet Union and Poland."

It goes without saying that the realization of this task pre-supposes close Polish-Soviet cooperation. Naturally such cooperation is conceivable only with that Polish Government which would realize the immutability of the truth that a strong and independent Polish State can be created not through a policy hostile to the USSR, but on the contrary through friendship and alliance with the Soviet State, friendship and alliance which answer the historical interests of both the Soviet and the Polish peoples.

NEW SCIENTIFIC FILMS ON WAR SUBJECTS

By Oleg Leonidov

Before the war, Vladimir Karin produced a number of scientific and school films on problems of neurosurgery, directed by Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR Nikolai Burdenko. Through these films doctors and students were able to view operations performed by Burdenko.

Since the outbreak of war, the cinema lectures of Burdenko and Karin are of great importance to war surgeons. Karin continues his valuable work, and with the assistance of Burdenko and Peter Anokhin has produced films showing the grafting of peripheral nerves and the initial treatment of wounds.

Of great importance is the latest film produced by Karin and Nikolai Bodanov, "War Medicine on the Western Front," which shows the modern Russian science of war medicine, the problems confronting the medical service at the front, and methods of treatment and evacuation of wounded.

Medical films are only one of many branches of Soviet scientific cinematography which has completely subordinated its work to the interests and needs of the front. Four studios in the USSR are producing scientific and technical films and popular science sub-

jects, with a total of 120 releases annually. Among these is a series, "Ready for Air and Chemical Defense," which deals with problems of this type of defense.

In instructive and popular form military training films show Red Army men and civilians the design and use of the rifle, machine gun, grenade, mortar, tommy gun, and weapons captured from the enemy. Films on "Methods of Digging In," "Defense of an Inhabited Point," "Individual Camouflage" and other subjects help to prepare the people for active defense.

Destruction of the enemy and his equipment is the subject of another series of films, "Struggle Against Motorcycle Skirmishers," "Fighting Mines," "Anti-aircraft Artillery vs. Planes," "The Struggle Against Enemy Paratroops," and others.

Such films as "Preparing a Tank for Battle," "Tank Firing at Enemy" and "Manning of a T-34 Tank" help in the technical and tactical training of tankmen. An instructive war film "Driving a Tank in Broken Country Against Heavy Obstacles" shows the complexities of tank driving.

Many Women Workers in Oil Industry

In the past year alone over 15,000 skilled workers in the oil industry have been trained from among youths, girls, housewives and former office workers. They have replaced thousands of men now fighting in the ranks of the Red Army, and work in various capacities in the oilfields and refining plants.

Some 2,000 advanced workers have mastered two and three trades. Former housewives are breaking records. Fitter Borodavkina of the Stalingrad Oil Trust, for example, daily produces two and three times her quota. An additional 6,000 skilled oil workers are now completing their training.

Exhibit of Slavic Architecture in Moscow

An exhibit of Slavic architecture, featuring notable buildings of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Russia, the Ukraine, Byelorussia and Poland, recently opened in the Moscow Architects Club. Lectures on the history of Slavic art are given daily.

Anti-fascist Meeting of Soviet Sportsmen to be Held in Moscow, July 18

Under the auspices of the Soviet Youth Anti-fascist Committee, an Anti-fascist Meeting of Soviet Sportsmen will be held in Moscow on July 18. Among delegates attending will be sportsmen from the ranks of the Red Army and the guerrilla fighters.

The meeting will be addressed by Major General Gleb Balkanov, who took part in the defense of Stalingrad and has received three Soviet Orders and the United States Military Cross; Grigori Yermolayev, national track champion, now a guerrilla; Claudia Alyoshina, swimming champion and one of the defenders of Leningrad; also by representatives of the French Normandy Air Squadron now fighting on the Soviet-German front, and of the Czechoslovak and Polish Divisions.

The meeting will begin at one p. m., Moscow time (six a. m. E.W.T.) and will be broadcast.

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TO THE SCIENTISTS OF THE WORLD

The Second Anti-fascist Meeting of Soviet Scientists held in Moscow on July 11 addressed the following message to scientists of the world:

Dear Friends:

Progressive science has always kept pace with the people. Everywhere and at all times men of science have acutely felt the sufferings of peoples exposed to evil and violence, and have not spared their lives in defending truth. The history of world science is not only a glorious path of human thought which

step by step has approached a more profound comprehension of the world: the history of science is also a long and thorny path of struggle of the human spirit for truth, for human dignity.

The time has now come when every scientist must exert every effort to speed up the victory over Nazism. Hitlerite Germany has brought innumerable calamities to mankind. The German barbarians exterminate millions of people and reduce millions more to slavery. They ruthlessly destroy the precious centers of national and world culture. Deliberately



Red Army men firing at enemy aircraft from an armored train

Radiophoto

GUERRILLAS IN THE UKRAINE

By Yakov I.

Commander of a Ukrainian Guerrilla Detachment

Three thousand Germans have fallen by the avenging hand of our detachment. Ten troop trains loaded with soldiers and ammunition have been scattered along railway embankments. Twelve automobiles, one armored car and a quantity of enemy armaments have been destroyed. With death and fire our detachment repays the Germans for their bloody depredations.

We have had some bitter battles with large German punitive detachments. Once we were hiding out in a village when our scouts brought word that a force of about 300 Germans armed with bayonets was approaching. The odds were very much against us; we were only 54 men, but we decided to fight.

As soon as the first two enemy trucks appeared our machine gunners set them ablaze and destroyed 40 Germans. The Hitlerite force then deployed and surrounded the village. Our guerrillas covered all the entrances to the village and the sharpshooters went to work. Ninety-four Germans were killed and the others dispersed.

On another night we attacked a group of 170 Hitlerites. To help get our bearings we set a haystack on fire before the fight. The enemy put up fierce resistance, but almost the entire group, who were from an officer's training school, were wiped out. One hundred and fifteen were killed and 38 taken prisoner. Only 17 managed to escape.

Our detachment decided on a day's halt in the village and prepared for all-round defense. Next morning we spotted a light car carrying a German policeman, whom we shot on the spot. Later a car we recognized appeared—Baumann, the German commandant of the town, was in it. He got his deserts.

In all operations we must act quickly, take the enemy unaware, and be able to find our bearings without loss of time. We are making the German occupationists pay for the torment and suffering our Ukraine has endured, and we shall not lay down our arms until we have purged our country of the last barbarian.

TRAINING OF STRATOSPHERE FLIERS

Soviet aircraft patrol our cities and military objectives even in the stratosphere. Such height gives the flier freedom of maneuver, most important in air combat.

The road to the stratosphere is not an easy one; the pilot must be physically fit, skilled and possessed of strong will power. Stratosphere fliers live according to a strict regime, with plenty of sleep, exercise and a special diet of five meals a day. The diet contains few vegetables and comparatively little water. Everything must be highly nutritious and easily digested.

"Good-bye pork chops!" the fliers say. "Long live milk, hamburgers, mashed potatoes and farina."

The stadium near the flying field is never empty. All the men are enthusiastic sportsmen. Stratosphere fliers train a great deal in the altitude chamber where air pressure is artificially reduced to a level corresponding to that in the stratosphere, the training taking place under the watchful eye of a doctor. The pumps which rarefy the air in the altitude chamber "raise" the pilot higher and higher. "Accidents" occur; the oxygen supply is cut off; the doctor tests the endurance of each flier under conditions of oxygen shortage.

Junior Lieutenant Nalivaiko showed extraordinary endurance and vitality in these difficult tests. When the minute hand of the control watch had passed all the usual limits for endurance, the doctor stopped the test and shrugged his shoulders, with the comment, "Boy, what a strong Cossack!"

This is only one of many tests for fliers of the stratosphere. Most important of all is flying skill. The stratosphere does not forgive mistakes. If the flier presses the pedal a bit too heavily it immediately affects the altitude. A slight error in changing speed will result in a drop. True, the aircraft will not crash to the ground—it will merely descend from the stratosphere into the toposphere. But for stratosphere fliers this is very unpleasant; it means the non-fulfillment of a military assignment. Everything below the stratosphere is a "forbidden zone" for them.

Films to Teach Technique of Victory

The Red Army film unit will issue a series of 13 new instructional films under the general title "German Defense." The first, dealing with "Breaking German Resistance Under Winter Conditions," will soon be available.

SPANISH VOLUNTEERS ON THE LENINGRAD FRONT

By Lieutenant L. Ivin

In the early afternoon our men took an anti-tank ditch along which lay the forward enemy positions. Then they got the defenders on the run and chased them in the direction of a large township. Toward evening another Soviet regiment reached the ditch. A sharp wind was blowing. The glow of fires reddened the clouded sky. The enemy was burning down the villages he was being forced to abandon under Soviet pressure.

The regiment climbed a ravine which had dugouts built along its slopes. Enemy dead were lying beside the loopholes at the entrances. The Red Army men began to clean up the befouled dugouts. Booty squads collected sub-machine guns, rifles, anti-tank rifles, machine guns, hand-grenades, ammunition carts, rolls of barbed wire and field telephones.

This ditch had been held by the 250th Spanish Rifle Division, otherwise known as the "Blue Division." Next day we examined the ragged prisoners. They were a wretched-looking crowd in their thin green coats. Dirty blankets and scarves were wrapped around their heads. They wore torn leather boots or canvas boots with wooden soles.

A Soviet seaman, Karapita, watched the would-be "conquerors of Leningrad" tramping wearily along the road, and said they ought to be called the Filthy Division. Miserable rogues, drunken Falangists recruited in Barcelona and Madrid jails, they came to the Leningrad Front hoping to fill their pockets, to "make a career," as a Falangist captain explained.

Bitter disappointment awaited them. The city they planned to capture had no intention of surrendering. The German command quartered the division temporarily in the town of Pushkino. Things livened up a little for Franco's thieves. They began at once to rob the people of everything their German colleagues had not deigned to take.

The dugouts in the ditch were crammed with pictures, 18th and 19th Century prints from the Pushkino Museum. The "Blue" soldiers had rifled the museum show-cases, stuffed rare paintings into their satchels, wrapped valuable tapestries around their feet. They had hoped to winter at leisure in their filthy dugouts before sacking Leningrad in the spring.

When Private Jose Hernandez was asked why he had come to fight in Russia, he said: "We were promised two marks and seven and a half pesos a day. I had never earned so much back home. In addition, after the capture of Leningrad, each soldier was to receive a lump sum as a bonus—1,000 pesos. Furthermore," he added cynically, "we were told there would be other sources of income here."

When the Blue Division soldiers had finished looting Pushkino they began on each other. This process was described by Private Diaz, of the 4th Company, 1st Battalion, 263rd Regiment. "During the past month robbery has become quite an everyday occurrence in our battalion. Our fellows managed to get quite a few things, but some thought they didn't receive their full share, and tried to straighten out the situation."

Such is the morale of Franco's "volunteers." Franco's brigands are no better than Hitler's. They hanged a Soviet citizen called Abrosimov for insulting a Spanish military policeman. They raped Russian women, burned villages, robbed Soviet people. Their pilots, dodging battle with Soviet fighters, machine-gunned old folk and children, dropped bombs on defenseless people, smashed Russian churches and schools. The bombing of peaceful villages was more to their taste than an attack on a military objective.

GERMAN WAR PRISONERS TELL WHO STARTED RECENT OFFENSIVE

The Hitlerites have stated it was not the Germans but the Red Army that launched the offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions. German war prisoners tell a different story.

War prisoner Lance Corporal Bruno Formella, of the 1st Company, 6th Sapper Battalion, 6th German Infantry Division, stated on interrogation: "On Sunday, July 4, the commander summoned a group of sappers, including myself, and ordered us to start out together with infantrymen to make passages in minefields planted by the Russians. The commander said, 'This night the German army will launch an of-

fensive. Hitler has set us a task—to put the Russians in a pocket and capture Kursk.' We failed to reach the minefields unnoticed. As soon as we descended into a hollow the Russians opened fire. Many soldiers were killed and I was taken prisoner."

War prisoner Corporal Baumann of the 11th Company, 87th Motorized Infantry Regiment, 36th German Motorized Division, stated: "On the evening of July 4 the company commander read us Hitler's order—'On the morning of July 5 the German army will start a decisive offensive.'"

(Continued on page eight)

and systematically the Hitlerites destroy everything created by the hands of the people for the glory of human genius. In occupied territories they destroy scientific institutions, libraries, museums and monuments of culture, and carry away cultural treasures to Germany in tremendous quantities.

In the Ukraine, in Byelorussia—wherever their iron boot has trampled the Soviet land—they openly set themselves the task of the utter destruction of culture. The universities no longer exist: Kiev University, ancient seat of Ukrainian culture, and Minsk University, center of Byelorussian education, have been destroyed. The treasures of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences—the collection of historical documents and books—have been ransacked. The world-famous Pulkovo Astronomical Observatory was burned down. The repositories of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and the library of the Kiev Pechersk Monastery were plundered. The very valuable Lenin Library in Minsk was consigned to flames. Institutes and special schools were destroyed and museums pillaged.

The Hitlerites turn the territories they seize into deserts, and the cultural riches of the people are first to go. The German vandals intend to extinguish the torch of knowledge; they have replaced the intellect by dark, bestial instinct. They wish to enslave mankind and therefore they regard culture as their chief enemy.

For this attempt against the liberty, conscience and wealth of nations the Hitlerites must be severely punished. World science holds a tremendous account against them, and this account is growing daily. For all the destruction, pillage and robbery, for the burned libraries and museums, the Hitlerites must answer as well as for the deliberate destruction of human lives.

As long as the brown plague rages in the cities and villages of Europe, as long as it carries physical

and spiritual corruption and death each day to millions of our brothers, there can be no room for self-complacency in our midst. The blows received by the German army both on the Soviet-German front and in North Africa have fundamentally undermined the military might of Hitler Germany, but the enemy is still strong and complete victory over him can be achieved only by powerful joint blows dealt by the armies of all the freedom-loving nations.

Two years have passed since the main forces of the German army were hurled against the Soviet Union. In hard, fierce battles the Red Army inflicts tremendous losses in manpower and equipment on the Hitlerite hordes. We Soviet scientists who in the difficult conditions of this war unparalleled in history are surrounded by the thoughtful attention and care of the entire Soviet people and its Government, devote all our strength, each one in his special field, to help the heroic Red Army and the entire Soviet country in the intense efforts they are exerting in the gigantic struggle against the invaders. Each of us has as his only purpose the utter routing of the invaders, the complete liberation of the motherland and the restoration of all the values destroyed by the barbarians.

In these decisive days of the struggle against Hitlerism it is the sacred duty of men of science in all freedom-loving countries to alleviate by self-sacrificing labor the efforts of soldier and worker, strategist and statesman, and to give all their strength to speed up the final victory of the United Nations over the common enemy. We Soviet scientists, representatives of all the peoples indissolubly welded in the single Soviet people, call upon you, dear brothers and friends, progressive men of science. Let us give all our strength to the cause of the struggle against Hitlerism!

Hail to the victory of the United Nations over the enslavers of peoples and wreckers of human culture—the German invaders!

SOVIET ARTILLERYMEN KNOCK OUT NEW GERMAN GUN CARRIER "FERDINAND"

Krasnaia Zvezda reports that in recent fighting in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions the Germans used a large number of the new Ferdinand gun carriers, which have a frontal armor of 200-mm. thickness and side armor of 80-mm.

According to Hitlerite prisoners, the German Com-

mand firmly counted on the invulnerability of the Ferdinands, which in thickness of frontal armor surpass even the well-known T-6 or "Tiger" tank. But Soviet artillerymen soon dispelled the myth of the "invulnerability" of this new fascist weapon. Hundreds of Ferdinands, shattered by Soviet shells, are blazing on the battlefield, along with the "Tigers."

PRODUCTION OF RAMZIN DIRECT-FLOW BOILER TO BE GREATLY INCREASED

By a decree of the Soviet Government, a First Degree Stalin Prize of 150,000 rubles was recently awarded to Professor Leonid Ramzin for his design of a direct-flow boiler, which has been given his name. Professor Ramzin has also been awarded the Order of Lenin.

On July 8, IZVESTIA carried the following statement by N. Kazakov, People's Commissar of the Heavy Engineering Industry, on the subject of the Ramzin boiler:

The Ramzin boiler is the result of new and important achievements in Soviet science and technology. In 1931 the experimental and industrial versions of the direct-flow high-pressure boiler (to give it its Russian name) were prepared according to designs made by Professor Ramzin. The Designing Bureau, working under his direction, produced several types of direct-flow boilers for electric power stations and other important branches of the national economy.

Some of the 20-odd direct-flow boilers built in the USSR during the past few years are the most powerful of their type in the world. What is the advantage of the direct-flow boiler over the ordinary type? First, the huge and costly drum-shaped water container is not necessary, and an economy of 30 to 50

per cent in metal is thus effected; second, the size of the boiler is greatly reduced; and finally, the construction of direct-flow boilers is simple to a degree, permitting them to be built directly on the construction sites of power stations. Long experience with direct-flow boilers has shown their reliability, their simplicity in servicing and their great economy. A fuel economy of from 12 to 14 per cent is effected in direct-flow boilers.

Professor Ramzin is now directing the work of the Bureau of Direct-flow Boiler Construction of the People's Commissariat of the Heavy Engineering Industry, where radical measures are being taken to enlarge the output of direct-flow boilers. The number of enterprises producing these boilers is being increased. Larger Soviet plants are being equipped with special machinery and staffed with specially qualified workers to speed up the production of direct-flow boilers in the immediate future. In addition, special boiler-maker's shops are being fitted up on the building sites of electric power stations and large metallurgical plants. All these measures will make it possible for the output of direct-flow boilers in the second half of this year to equal the total output of this type of boilers in all past years.

THE YOUNGEST SEA IN THE WORLD

By J. Rykachev

The Rybinsk Sea! You won't find it in any geography. Perhaps you've never even heard of it. Yet it exists. Only a few days ago I stood on its shore, admiring the beautiful sunset. However, your ignorance is easily excused: the Rybinsk Sea is the youngest on the globe. Unlike other seas, it appeared not millions, not even hundreds of thousands of years ago, but just before the war. It is not quite three years old.

If you think that this sea, stretching a mere 6,000 square kilometers, appeared as a result of some geological phenomenon, then I must disappoint you. The elemental forces of nature had nothing to do with it. The Rybinsk Sea was brought into being by the intellect and labor of the Soviet people.

The city of Rybinsk is situated on the Volga some 150 miles north of Moscow. Gigantic dams as tall as an eight-story house block the Volga at this point and form the vast reservoir called the Rybinsk Sea. It covers an area where only recently there were townships and villages. The people were moved to new, well-appointed settlements built by the Soviet Gov-

ernment, which also reimbursed all expenses incurred in the transfer.

The Volga and its tributaries, which tended to be rather shallow in these parts, now have an abundance of water. Passenger and freight ships, barges and tankers sail past the city. The Rybinsk Sea abounds in fish. The annual catch is about 5,000 tons. The coast has become a favorite haunt of wild duck and geese. In its abundance of game it rivals the famous region at the Volga delta, where the river flows into the Caspian.

On the coast is a Biological Institute of the Academy of Sciences. Professor V. Vasnetsov has discovered that fish multiply in the Rybinsk Sea with exceptional speed, and this summer the Institute will breed many valuable varieties. Many fur-bearing animals are to be acclimatized in the surrounding countryside. The coastal forests and islets of the Rybinsk Sea abound in elk, for which the Institute plans to establish several big preserves. This summer hunters will be allowed to kill a certain number of these animals which yield excellent meat and high quality leather.

ACTION IN THE BELGOROD AREA

By Major K. Bukovsky

Moscow, July 13.—Yesterday one of our formations repulsed a series of German attacks and today the enemy resumed his offensive in this sector, his ground forces being supported by bombers. All his attacks, however, were successfully repulsed and Soviet troops are firmly holding their positions.

In the course of the day, several attacks on one regiment led to an exchange of intense artillery fire, both sides displaying great activity. Enemy tanks and infantry under cover of gun fire endeavored to find a loophole in our defenses, but wherever they ap-

peared and wherever they tested the strength of Soviet defenses they were met by heavy artillery and mortar fire and finally discontinued their attacks on this regiment without results.

These engagements are characteristic of the situation on the sector held by this Soviet formation. The enemy was apparently confident of success and hoped to pierce Soviet defenses, but none of his attacks have brought the desired results.

Stiff fighting also raged in another sector where early in the morning the Germans opened a series of attacks in various directions. Soviet troops not only repulsed all these attacks but considerably weakened the enemy, destroying much materiel. This made it possible for Soviet troops to counter-attack in several sectors. One Soviet regiment launched a counter-attack at the very moment when the enemy, already exhausted by terrific mauling and battering, again attempted to resume the offensive. The counter-attack was so vigorous the enemy was unable to withstand even the first blow of Soviet tanks and guns and was forced to retire to his initial positions.

In a neighboring sector under cover of night Soviet tanks laid ambushes in an area where reconnaissance reported an enemy attack might be expected. The reconnaissance data proved correct and the enemy's plans were foiled. Early in the morning, as soon as the enemy launched his attack and his tanks began to advance, the hidden Soviet tanks went into action. The ambushes were so arranged as to enable the tanks to strike in several places. As the enemy advanced, some Soviet tanks counter-attacked on the flank, others on the front, while still others struck at the enemy's rear as he unsuspectingly approached Soviet forward positions. The battle was hot but brief. The enemy was caught in a fire sack and wherever his tanks and infantry appeared they met a worthy reception. This, combined with counter attacks by other Soviet units, compelled the Germans to retire to their initial positions with heavy losses.

Black Sea Air Aces

A Guards Air Regiment led by Hero of the Soviet Union Avdeyev, of the Black Sea Fleet air arm, has a record of 250 enemy planes shot down in air combat and another 50 destroyed on the ground. While supporting the ground forces, fliers of this regiment have accounted for 19 enemy tanks, 17 armored cars and 651 trucks. They have killed 32,400 enemy soldiers, blown up 36 fuel depots and 22 ammunition dumps, and silenced and partly destroyed 118 AA and field guns, 283 trench mortars and 128 machine gun nests.



Guards Colonel Belik, Hero of the Soviet Union, talking with 70-year-old collective farmer Shamrikha, who is wearing the St. George Crosses he won in the first World War

Radiophoto

THE STORY OF A RUSSIAN FAMILY

By Ilya Ehrenburg

Sorrow cannot be measured in yards. Tears cannot be counted. Sighs cannot be weighed. When we read of the ghastly crimes committed by the Germans, we do not see the people who perish. We have before us only the dry words of the protocols: so many killed, so many crippled.

But here is the story of one family, the Korchagovs.

There were six of them. The father worked as foreman in a factory. The mother was a collective farmer. The children went to school. They had a good house in the village of Sevsky, in the Glukhovnikov district of Kalinin Region. There were family photographs hanging on the walls. The samovar shone beautifully. At supper young Nina talked about the stars, while the kitten played on the floor.

The year before the war the eldest daughter, Marusya, went to Leningrad to study. Polya, who was a little younger, was just as promising at her lessons.

Then came that June night when the Germans attacked, and changed all our lives. Korchagov went to the front. Marusya joined up, too, as a nurse.

The Germans came to the village. A swashbuckling non-com billeted himself on the Korchagovs. He stayed a week, and took away everything they had, even the torn eiderdown that Polya used to wrap her doll in.

One night he came in drunk and seized Nina. She was only 15. Then, when he had done, he saw Korchagov's photograph, in military uniform. Beside himself with rage, he began to torture Hima, the small

son of the family, because his father was a Red Army man, because the German army could not get through to Moscow. He took the little boy into the woods, cut off his hands, gouged his eyes and broke his legs. The child was found later in a bog. He begged his mother to poison him.

The Soviet people are caring for him now in a Novosibirsk hospital. He is a hopeless invalid. He wrote to Marusya the other day: "It is hard for me, sister. I can see nothing. My left eye is made of glass, and the doctor says the right one will always be weak. Now I am blind. I remember how I used to run after the horses. But now I am a cripple. The German did this to me."

His mother lives among the ruins of Sevsky. This forty-year-old woman has become old and strange. She hides from people. She cannot forget what she has lived through. She is almost distraught.

This is not fiction imagined by a writer. This is the story of one Russian family. How many such families are there? How much sorrow? What tongue could relate it, what pen describe it? The groaning of Korchagova is enough to make the very stones rise in battle against the evil men.

We can wait no longer. Our hearts overflow with anger. Our sorrow burns like fire. How much longer will these accursed Germans trample our soil?

There is only one road to life. It lies over German bodies. There is only one road home—through Novgorod, through Kiev.

Stalingrad Fliers Defend Leningrad;

Look Ahead to New Fronts

Planes of an aircraft unit defending Leningrad bear the following inscription: "From the Saratov Collective Farmers to the Stalingrad Front." The crews explain: "When these planes, built by the Saratov patriots, were ready to be sent to the front, Stalingrad was already celebrating its liberation, and so the planes were brought to Leningrad. We deliberately left the inscription on them because we believe we shall drive the Hitlerites from the Leningrad Front and then pass the planes on to another front. We'll write on them 'From the Leningrad Front to'—let's say—'the Riga Front.' But we shall fly them ourselves. We won't leave the honor to anyone else."



Directing trench-mortar fire.—Gavrick Neverov, decorated for bravery in the Battle for Stalingrad.

—A. phot.

NAZI "NEW ORDER" DESTROYS COLLECTIVE FARM

By Nadezhda Retinskaya

In the autumn of 1941 the Germans occupied our Pokrovsky District in the Orel Region. They immediately appropriated everything they could lay hands on. But this was not enough—the German command took measures for organized robbery. For this purpose a "new order" was proclaimed, with land tenure and "agricultural communities."

The Germans had their reasons for this. Winter crops had been sown by Soviet collective farmers and a bumper harvest was expected. The "agricultural commandant" Bauer told our farmers, "The grain will be yours. You will harvest in common—that will be easier for you—you will deliver two centners per hectare to us, set aside a seed supply, and the rest you can take for yourselves."

The collective farmers, however, did not trust the Germans and were in no hurry to begin harvesting. German soldiers and police then came and chased the entire population, including children from seven years old, to the field. The reaping was done with sickles and sheaves were stacked by hand. The time for threshing arrived, but there were no machines. The Nazis had smashed all our machines, using the wood for fires and the metal for scrap. The Germans summoned the farmers and announced, "You will all thresh together. When you've finished threshing you'll be allowed 120 kilograms per person."

The farmers were well aware that the Germans would deceive them and take the entire harvest. The best shocks were threshed first and the Hitlerites immediately removed the grain. The farmers began to grumble. Then Bauer ordered them to be given five to six shocks per person. But they were given the worst shocks; the most they could obtain was 60 kilograms of grain and some obtained as little as 16 kilograms.

In the village of Uspenskoye the military commandant ordered that the peasants be given not more than 50 kilograms per person. This was all they were allowed from their own grain. In general there were as many orders as there were commandants. About 20,000 centners of collective farm grain was taken away by the Germans; in addition, they took 15 per cent of the grain brought for milling.

The Hitlerites also robbed the farmers of the spring crops. In the spring it was announced that sowing would not be done in common, but that each farmer

would sow for himself. The Germans did this in order not to give the farmers seed. The plowing was done by manpower—five to six men hitching themselves to one plow. The farmers said, "It is slavery. For ten years we had a collective farm and machines to work for us. Now the Germans have made cattle of us."

The spring sowing progressed poorly. There were not enough plows. We dug the ground with spades, but hardly managed to sow the plots adjoining the dwelling-houses. Despite this the Germans fixed such quotas for deliveries that not a single grain remained for the farmers. Out of the potatoes the Germans had collected in storehouses they gave the farmers 50 kilograms per person and removed the rest. But the Soviet people had no chance to eat even these 50 kilograms, because the German soldiers would come and take away the potatoes. The farmers remained without grain or potatoes, facing a terrible winter and famine.

The Germans not only robbed the people, but the very soil. The autumn fields were covered with weeds to a man's height. There were no scientific farming methods, there was no crop rotation. When you went into a field you felt like crying. In 15 months the Germans utterly ruined our collective farmers, deprived them of all means of existence and undermined the foundations of modern farming. That is how the Germans rob the people in occupied Soviet districts.

WAR PRISONERS

(Continued from page five)

War prisoner Lance Corporal Franz Brots of the 8th Company, 533rd Regiment, 383rd German Infantry Division, made the following statement: "On the evening of July 4 Company Commander Oberleutnant Stoppe read before the ranks Hitler's order: 'Tomorrow German troops will begin a big offensive. This offensive is of decisive importance. German troops must completely rout the Red Army.'"

The above statements, as well as the testimony of many other German war prisoners, expose the swindle of Hitler's headquarters, which attempted to deny the offensive of the German troops in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions.

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THE FIGHTING IN THE OREL SECTOR

By Major Y. Meletsky

Field Correspondent

Moscow, July 16.—During the past 24 hours Soviet troops in the Orel sector advanced 10 to 15 kilometers and inflicted severe losses on the enemy. Mobile Russian detachments are giving the enemy no opportunity to dig in along his new defense positions; they appear unexpectedly along the enemy communications and cut off and encircle German garrisons and hold them until the main body of Soviet troops comes up.

Fierce fighting ensued on the flanks of a gap torn in the enemy defenses. The Germans had hastily

brought a fresh infantry division to one of these points. It is interesting to note that this division had recently been badly battered and was placed in the reserves as late as July 1. At the start of the Soviet offensive this depleted division was again hurled into battle. One of its regiments launched a counter-attack as it arrived in the field, but suffered heavily from automatic and mortar fire and retreated.

Shortly afterward the enemy launched another counter-attack in the same sector and was again



TANK RECONNAISSANCE—Senior Lieutenant of the Guards Krasnotsvetov explains an assignment to a group of tank-borne tommy gunners

Radiophoto

hurled back after a sharp engagement. The battle was fought in a thick forest. The only road had been mined by the enemy, log barricades constructed at numerous points and automatic riflemen posted in trees. Moving forward slowly, Soviet troops outflanked the enemy position from the west near an inhabited point. The German garrison finally fell back, fearing encirclement, but found itself under the heavy fire of a Russian detachment which had been moved forward to cover the line of retreat. The inhabited point was captured.

The Germans are hurling all available forces into counter-attacks on the flanks of the break-through. In the fighting a German guard battalion was routed at one point, a separate reconnaissance detachment badly mauled at another, and an army sapper battalion at a third. The enemy frequently counter-attacks with mixed detachments hastily formed of soldiers taken from various shattered units.

At another point in the Orel sector the enemy counter-attacked strongly with large infantry and tank forces. Soviet rifle formations engaged a large tank group supported by self-propelled guns and artil-

lery firing from concealed positions. The N. rifle unit of the Red Army met the enemy tanks with concentrated fire from anti-tank guns, and after the enemy formations had been broken up Soviet tanks moved into battle. In fierce fighting Soviet artillerymen and tankmen crippled and destroyed several dozen German armored vehicles, including tanks of the "Tiger" type. The enemy counter-attacks were repelled.

Somewhat further to the south the enemy hurled into battle a tank division intended earlier for offensive operations. This division was ordered to stop the Soviet advance. Eighty German tanks counter-attacked at noon and were engaged by an armored formation of the Red Army, which smashed 36 of them.

Fierce air combats are taking place in many sectors. The Luftwaffe attempts to attack advancing Soviet divisions from the air, operating in groups of 20 to 60 bombers escorted by fighters. As before, Soviet planes are rendering effective support to the land troops and inflicting severe losses on the enemy air force.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF JULY 16, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

A few days ago Soviet troops assumed the offensive and broke through the German positions north and west of Orel. This Soviet blow came only a week after the enemy opened his attacks somewhat further southward. In the course of three days' fierce fighting, the Red Army cleared over 100 inhabited places of Germans, routed three infantry and two enemy tank divisions and mauled three additional infantry and two additional tank divisions. Much booty and over 2,000 German prisoners were captured and Soviet troops north of Orel are now pushing southward, threatening the large enemy troop concentrations in the Orel area.

Red Army units in this sector have advanced 45 kilometers and reached the Trosna-Klen line 45 kilometers north of the Bryansk-Orel railway. Soviet troops attacking west of Orel thrust through the heavily fortified enemy defense zone and moved forward 20 to 25 kilometers. Forcing a crossing of a small tributary of the Oka River, Red Army divisions reached the line Pobednaya-Situkha, north of the Orel-Yelets railway, and are now 45 to 50 kilometers east of Orel. The Russian offensive north and west of Orel is continuing.

In the Orel-Kursk direction Soviet troops beat back incessant enemy tank attacks and inflicted severe casualties on the Germans. Despite the heavy tank, infantry and Luftwaffe forces hurled by Hitler into the general offensive which German prisoners declare was to have been "the final battle for German victory," it failed to make any appreciable gains. The Red Army has now struck forward, creating a serious threat to the German troops concentrated in the Orel salient.

Despite the heavy losses suffered by the Germans during the fighting in the Orel, Kursk and Belgorod directions, they are bringing up fresh reinforcements for tank, infantry and motorized units and are attacking strongly in the Belgorod area.

The large reserves which Hitler still possesses enable him to continue the offensive in the Belgorod direction and to try to hold the Soviet advance north and east of Orel. The situation in the Orel and Kursk areas should be cleared up in the very near future.

THE SOVIET OFFENSIVE EAST OF OREL

By Major Koroteyev

MOSCOW, July 15.—Soviet troops assumed the offensive east of Orel early on the morning of July 13. The weather was dull and overcast at dawn, with a light drizzle of rain. From our observation post the German positions could be seen running through hilly, wooded country broken by numerous gullies offering many advantages for defense and difficult to attack.

Hundreds of guns opened fire simultaneously as Soviet artillery laid down a heavy barrage on the Germans' outer defenses and the area immediately behind them. Within a few minutes the western bank of a river occupied by the Germans was covered with a dense blanket of smoke. The infantry launched its attack. Cooperating with tanks detailed to force a breach, infantrymen followed behind the artillery barrage and under the cover of aircraft.

That day Soviet troops were confronted with the difficult task of breaching German defenses built on commanding tactical heights and river banks. These defenses, developed laterally and in depth, were liberally supplied with fire resources. The Germans had spent many months building and perfecting them. Before the wire entanglements were three rows of minefields, and behind the minefields a network of trenches, blockhouses and concrete pillboxes.

Soviet artillery, ably assisted by the air force, accomplished the task set for it. Pressing close behind the barrage of shells, Soviet infantry accompanying tanks advanced 700 to 800 meters in eight to ten minutes, stormed the first line of trenches and began pelting the Germans with grenades and mowing them down with machine and sub-machine guns. The tanks used their armor to protect the advancing infantry.

A red rocket went up, indicating the first objective had been reached. Fierce hand-to-hand fighting took place in the second and third line of trenches. After three or four hours of fighting, the infantry attacks passed what is known as the covering line of defenses. They had already penetrated four kilometers into the depth of the German positions. Self-propelled guns following the tanks kept up fire on everything hindering the advance.

The heaviest fighting took place on the main line of the German defense. As infantry and tanks approached this line, the Germans threw large forces of bomber and assault aircraft into the battle in an attempt to stem the advance by air attacks. AA guns advancing with our troops covered the operations of tanks and infantry, while Soviet fighter aircraft were very active. Many German planes were shot down in air combat.

The main line of the German defenses consisted of an intricate system of engineering installation and fortifications, protected by minefields and anti-tank guns and with dozens of concrete and armored pillboxes. The Germans considered their fortifications impregnable. Soviet assault groups composed of sappers, grenadiers and machine gunners surrounded the German blockhouses and plastered them with grenades, while artillerymen directed point blank fire on them. Slowly but surely the attacking Red Army units bit into the depth of the enemy defenses.

The fierce fighting on the main line of defense lasted till sundown. By the end of the day Soviet troops had occupied a number of important heights. The loss of these heights put the enemy into an obviously unfavorable position. Our units overcame



Locating and mapping enemy machine gun nests

Radiophoto

the whole tactical depth of the main line of the German defenses and occupied the principal centers of resistance. The first day's fighting ended with the capture of several villages and considerable booty—guns and ammunition and food dumps.

During the night our units entrenched in the newly-gained positions mustered their forces and prepared for a further attack. Next day Soviet infantry with air cover again began to advance, gradually extending the front and increasing the territory gained on the west bank of the river. The Germans offered stubborn resistance, hurriedly bringing up reserves, rushing troops from Orel by truck, and launching counter-attacks with infantry and tanks. The counter-attacks were supported by large air forces which made continuous raids in groups of 50 to 60 aircraft. Furious fighting raged, during which some villages changed hands several times. Despite the fact that the enemy had hundreds of bombers and fighters in action, making over 1,500 flights during the day, our air forces retained air superiority. Soviet artillery achieved

still greater superiority. Enemy trenches were filled with the bodies of men killed by Soviet artillery barrages and Soviet aircraft.

During the fighting in the depth of the German defenses one regiment of the 112th German Division and one regiment and a smaller combined unit of the 208th German Division were completely destroyed.

In the course of the offensive Soviet troops captured a large number of villages, many of them heavily fortified German strongholds. During the two days of the offensive Soviet units inflicted heavy losses on the Germans in men and materiel. Over 100 German aircraft were shot down in combat and by ground defenses. Ever-increasing numbers of prisoners, both officers and men, are being led from the front line to the Soviet rear.

The enemy is now concentrating fresh forces in a number of sectors in an effort to stem the advance of the Red Army. Soviet troops continue to advance and are dealing heavy blows to the enemy.

HEIGHT 129—KURSK SALIENT

By B. Galin

Captain Vasnetsov's battalion was defending Height 129. For some distance ahead and on the flanks the green, sweet-smelling shrubbery was shorn level with the ground; the center position was covered by a sea of tall, thick rye rippling over what was now a minefield. The battalion was well and deeply dug into the earth. Up above the zone of defense was a riot of July flowers.

Vasnetsov had learned to know his area as thoroughly as the house in which he was born. Every bend in the approaches to the height, every little gully with its fresh-water springs, every meadow overgrown with wild rye, were familiar to him.

Suddenly the silence was broken by the howl of motors and the roar of guns of all sizes. The Germans had launched their offensive; tanks and self-propelled guns were advancing in wedge formation, firing as they came. Three of the tanks blew up in the minefield. One reared up on its tail, the whole steel body quivering. Reaching the zone of our artillery fire the tanks deployed and advanced at full speed to crash our line. They were attacking with forces three times the strength of the defense, striving with fire and iron to plow their way through Vasnetsov's position. Psychologically everything depended on those few minutes. If the nerves of Vasnetsov and his men gave way during the first hour of battle everything would be over and the battalion swept away.

Vasnetsov's position was a tiny shield on a sector of the Kursk salient, but it had the task of withstand-

ing a powerful and concentrated enemy drive. "Stand—whatever happens; stand at all costs—" was the order given by the regimental commander by telephone.

The battle was fought at high speed and high tension. Attack followed attack. With bombs from the air and crushing blows by land the Germans tried to smash through our lines of defense. After suffering heavy losses in men and machines they fell back, only to advance again, trying to reach our second line. The favorite offensive formula of the Germans—breach, disperse and drive out—did not bring the desired result.

Vasnetsov considered himself in debt to his neighbor, whose battery of self-propelled guns, defending the left flank of the position, had been destroying enemy tanks. Vasnetsov mowed the enemy infantry down with machine guns, while the battery dealt with tanks that occasionally broke through Soviet infantry positions. He didn't know the battery commander's name; knew only the signal call "Skala." When reconnaissance reported that tanks had broken through to attack "Skala" from the rear, he sent Lymar, his orderly, to warn the battery. Lymar crawled through the smoke-blackened grass and dropped into a trench. A tank started after him. Vasnetsov saw the German tank circling over the trench. Someone said, "Lymar's done for!" The captain turned away and led his men into a counter-

(Continued on page five)

TASS STATEMENT

A few days ago the *London Times* and *Washington Star* published reports on negotiations between representatives of the USSR, USA, Great Britain and China concerning the composition of a central committee of "United Nations Administration of Relief and Rehabilitation," a draft agreement on the organization of which was adopted by representatives of the above-mentioned States in Washington on June 13, 1943.

These reports contain the allegation that in the course of negotiations on this subject the representative of the Soviet Union demanded that the composition of the central committee be limited to rep-

resentatives of the four Powers and that the proposal on an additional inclusion in the committees of representatives of three more states was declined "under strong pressure of the Soviet Union."

TASS has been authorized to state that these allegations do not correspond to the facts. In reality, the proposal that the central committee of the Administration be composed of representatives of the above-mentioned four powers figured from the very beginning in the draft of the United States State Department and this proposal was endorsed by the representative of the Soviet Union.

HEIGHT 129

(Continued from page four)

attack, drawing on himself the main blow of the enemy infantry and cutting it off from the battery.

Vasnetsov had given the orderly up for lost. But in the midst of the battle a broad palm touched him on the shoulder; he turned to face Lymar, who reported that he had carried out his assignment.

Only 36 minutes had passed since Vasnetsov's conversation with the regimental commander, but it seemed an eternity. The communications were now cut, but a runner came crawling up, covered with blood. Vasnetsov took the canvas bag from the runner's hand and the man smiled piteously, as if ashamed to be so badly wounded at a time when every man was needed. Vasnetsov read the order: "Cut off the enemy infantry and tanks and hold your position."

Captain Tylichko came crawling to Vasnetsov from regimental headquarters. Mortar bombs and shells were plowing up the earth around them. One bomb burst close at hand and Vasnetsov was hurled into the air. Lymar picked him up, expressing joyful astonishment at finding his captain alive. Vasnetsov shouted to Tylichko, "We'll live to fight again!" Tylichko, who had been deafened, was twisting his head back and forth like a bird.

The mailed fist driven against the Kursk salient should, according to the Germans, have smashed clean through our defenses. In this gigantic battle Captain Vasnetsov's battalion was as a grain of sand, but he took pride as an officer, a Guardsman, in the fact that the 500 meters of Height 129 cost the Germans dearly, for they could neither bite off nor swallow it. The battalion suffered losses, but there was a continually growing stubbornness and determination on

this blood-drenched line. There that national characteristic which young Leo Tolstoy, an artillery officer, observed at Sevastopol and called the simplicity and doggedness of the Russian soldier, came sharply to the fore in the conduct of our men. This national characteristic—simplicity and doggedness—lifted the captain and his men to the counter-attack, hurled men with grenades under enemy tanks and motivated the gunners who stood behind the battalion.

This characteristic was apparent in Vasnetsov when at two in the afternoon the moment of crisis came, when on the earth torn by tank tracks, in collapsing trenches and amid charred trees, in the bright light of the July day the fate of the battle, of the line of defense, was decided. The faces of his comrades were smoke-blackened, their helmets, arms and shoulders thickly covered with dust, their breathing heavy as after extremely arduous toil.

Everything the captain's hands touched burned him: his water-flask, the metal of the machine-gun, his helmet. Black columns of smoke and earth hid the flaming disk of the sun.

Vasnetsov had never been ostentatious; his orders were always given simply, in a quiet voice. But the occasion demanded something more. As he stood up to send his men into their ninth counter-attack he shouted hoarsely, "Heads up, Guardsmen!"

In this ninth attack the captain was wounded. He lay with his face buried in the black, dry earth. Lymar lifted his head and held a flask to his dried and cracked lips. Tylichko opened his notebook and Vasnetsov dictated a report of the situation on his position: losses, supplies, amount of ammunition on hand. He paused for a moment, then added, "Morale high. Defenses of Height 129 strong."

ECONOMIC RESTORATION OF THE VOROSHILOVGRAD REGION

By F. Artyushenko

*Acting Chairman, Executive Committee of
Voroshilovgrad Regional Soviet*

The Voroshilovgrad Region was under German rule for seven months. In this period over 10,000 persons were shot, hanged or tortured to death. In November, 1942 in a suburb of the city of Voroshilovgrad the Nazis shot over 3,000 Jews in one night. They slew nursing infants torn from their mothers' arms; they painted the lips of children with potent poison. Over 50,000 able-bodied men and women were forcibly taken away to slavery in Germany.

Collective farms, State farms, machine and tractor stations and chicken, hog and sheep farms were wrecked and plundered. Of the collective farm livestock alone, the Germans slaughtered 37,000 cows, 29,000 sheep, 15,000 hogs and 47,000 horses.

They wrecked industrial plants and mines, destroyed 142 school buildings and hundreds of cinema theaters, besides many drama theaters, clubs and educational centers, and libraries containing a total of 2,000,000 volumes.

The vandals burned or otherwise destroyed the Agricultural College, the Teachers College, the Chemical Engineering Colleges, the School for Assistant Surgeons and other institutes of higher education. They wrecked and pillaged hospitals, polyclinics and children's nurseries.

Numerous villages, city streets and blocks were reduced to ruins. The finest buildings of Voroshilovgrad were burned down and about 3,000 houses destroyed. This large engineering center was left a mass of ruins.

A considerable part of the Voroshilovgrad Region was liberated from the German yoke in February, 1943. The liberated area is still a war front—artillery reverberations are constantly heard and the enemy continues to bombard some of our cities. But life is gradually being restored; in four months much has been done to repair the economic ruin left by the Germans. The people are rebuilding their industry and agriculture with great enthusiasm and many examples of heroism and self-sacrifice. On the sites of terrible fires and great battles, 150 industrial plants are again functioning.

We have also solved the urgent problem of a bread supply; 25 bakeries are in operation. Excellent progress is being made in the restoration of light industries and the building materials industry: the production of lime, cement, brick and tiles.

When our men were called up for military service they were replaced in the collective farm fields by

women. Without tractors or horses, the women have sown 304,000 hectares of land, including 198,000 hectares of grain, 66,000 hectares of industrial crops, 7,300 hectares of potatoes and 9,400 hectares of vegetables. The collective farms had no grain seed, but this was contributed by farmers from their individual stocks. Tractors, horses and oxen were replaced for field work during the sowing season by 36,000 cows. The spring sowing was organized as never before; the Government plan was over-filled, the grain plan being exceeded by 22 per cent, sunflowers by 22 per cent, flax by 62 per cent and hay by 602 per cent.

Extraordinary persistence was shown by the collective farm women in overcoming difficulties. At the Shevchenko collective farm the Germans had driven away all the carts. There were no vehicles to transport the grain seed. The women carried 25 tons of seed a distance of 25 kilometers and fulfilled their sowing plan.

The schools are now preparing for a new educational year. Buildings are being repaired and stocks of fuel laid in for the winter. Over 200 persons are taking advanced teachers' courses at the Voroshilovgrad Teachers College. The Agricultural College, the Art School and the School for Assistant Surgeons have also reopened. Eighty-four clubs, eleven libraries, seven cinema theaters and one variety theater are functioning.

One of our principal cares was the safeguarding of public health by the suppression of infectious diseases introduced by the Germans and the rebuilding of medical institutions. There are now 47 hospitals and 26 polyclinics in operation. Each district has at least one or two hospitals, one polyclinic and a store of drugs. All medical services are free.

With the help of citizens the water supply has been restored in the cities of Voroshilovgrad, Rovenki and Krasnodon. Power stations and public baths in Voroshilovgrad, Rovenki and Krasnodon, Starobelsk and Svatovo have been repaired. An enormous amount of work has been done in clearing away the wreckage caused by the Germans. Tens of thousands of people are helping to clean up the streets, parks and squares. The postal and telegraph service has been restored in the Region, and 290 post offices are serving the people.

The progress made in restoring the economic life of Voroshilovgrad Region is a vivid testimonial to the indestructible stability of the Soviet rear.

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF VLADIMIR MAYAKOVSKY

"Mayakovsky was and remains the best, most talented poet of our Soviet epoch."—Joseph Stalin

Vladimir Mayakovsky was born July 19, 1893, in the village of Bagdadi in a picturesque valley of the Caucasus. His father was a minor Russian official, a game warden. The poet's childhood was spent in Georgia, near Kutaisi, where he attended high school.

After his father's death in 1906, the mother took the children to Moscow. Here the 13-year-old Mayakovsky was attracted by the revolutionary movement and was several times arrested by the Tsarist police. In 1911 he entered Art School. From that time until his death on April 14, 1930 he worked tirelessly, using his prose, verse and drawings as a weapon in the struggle of his people for a new life.

"Always and in everything to be in the thick of the times," was Mayakovsky's artistic motto. "It is not enough for me to sing events—I want to take part in them," he declared. "I am not just a poet,

but a fighting poet." During his lifetime he produced eight long poems, over a thousand short ones, five plays in verse and prose, and a vast number of poster-texts, rhymed captions, epigrams and pamphlets. His poetry is a record of the great events of his time: the Revolution of 1905, the World War of 1914-17, the October Revolution, the Civil War of 1918-20, and the mighty progress of the Soviet Union.

Mayakovsky was a worthy son of his great country. His name stands beside the great names of Russian literature—Alexander Pushkin, Mikhail Lermontov, Nikolai Nekrassov and Alexander Bloch. He continued their lofty traditions, but his was a new poetry—unconventional, unique.



MAYAKOVSKY—SOVIET POET AND CITIZEN

By Nikolai Aseyev

Nikolai Aseyev, well-known Soviet writer and poet, was awarded the Stalin Prize for his poem MAYAKOVSKY'S BEGINNING.

Vladimir Mayakovsky was an unusual figure in art, not only in his own country but abroad. Since Pushkin's era there has been no poet in Russia with such power and variety of expression, combining the tragic and comic, the topical and eternal.

It was to this uniqueness, this unlikeness to every other figure in modern art, that Mayakovsky owed his fame. Everything about him—from his appearance, manner, outlook and tastes to his unusual and essentially individual verse forms, images, rhythms and turns of phrase—drew the attention and struck the imagination of all who met him or read his works.

Mayakovsky's uniqueness was not affectation or deliberate striving for effect by extravagance of manner. It was innate—a part of his character. He was tall and broad-shouldered, with a proud and independent bearing, yet without a trace of the poseur or self-admirer. In dimensions and proportions he was essentially natural. Possessing an astonishing faculty for handling solid and heroic subjects, he was at the same time master of the most subtle lyric shadings and delicate detail.

Although naturally good-humored, he could be terrible in his wrath against those who stood in his way or in the way of his cause. And his cause was to help clear the road for human happiness through the medium of poetry. To this end he dedicated his talent and his art, submitting both to the guidance of those he trusted and with whom he had thrown in his artistic lot forever.

When at work, Mayakovsky was intent and concentrated, but in hours of relaxation he be-

VLADIMIR MAYAKOVSKY

*"I rejoice to know my labors
Merge with the labors of my land"—*

came gay and boisterous. He was a true friend and comrade, sharing his earnings generously with students in whose talents he believed, and taking up the cudgels for gifted young poets with editors and in public utterances. He never proclaimed these deeds or permitted anyone to feel obligated; many who were helped by him never knew the name of their benefactor. He was no esthete infatuated with his own talents, but essentially an artistic collectivist, happy to work with others who shared his views.

What were the aims of art championed by Mayakovsky? First and most important, the right of poetry to take a direct part in the building of a new life—the birthright renounced by an earlier generation of poets who turned their backs on life and confined their mission to narrow, individualistic problems, losing touch with the people and its heart-beat. This contact must be reestablished—not by declarations but through an art sharing directly in the trials of mankind, its daily concerns, labors and triumphs.

The artist must absorb the language and spirit of contemporary man. Every means of expressing the people's joys and sorrows must be revived. Mayakovsky made it his task to revive them. But something more than good will was needed to come close to the people at this crucial moment in its history—a hard, daily struggle must be waged against everything obsolescent and moribund.

Mayakovsky, by virtue of his talent and immense energy, became a passionate warrior and advocate of the new. Pavlov held that man's most valuable reflex was his sense of novelty—a sense which the great physiologist designated by the concept: "What is it?" Mayakovsky possessed this reflex to a high degree: he loved the new with all the passion of his spirit. Perhaps that is why he became so conspicuous in the world which, as he said, he wanted to "travel all over."

He did travel much, both in his own country and abroad. America always interested him; to young Russians of his generation America was the symbol of the new and modern. He was attracted by its democratic history, its industrial sweep, the newness of its art. With piercing, inquisitive eyes he stared across the ocean expanses.

Early in youth he had been struck by Walt Whitman—a new type of man and writer, a blazer of trails. Mayakovsky regarded his own gift as in many ways related to Whitman's. Jack London also appealed to the poet's imagination as the creator of types of great courage and human dignity. It is not surprising that in writing the film version of *Martin Eden*, Mayakovsky imagined himself as the principal character.

He was also deeply interested in the work of Carl

Sandburg, whose writings on Chicago Mayakovsky compared with his own intuitive description of that city in his poem *The 150,000,000*. He wrote sympathetically of Sandburg in his sketches of his American travels in 1926. Besides the sketches, his trip to America bore fruit in a cycle of poems, the most significant of which are those on Christopher Columbus, the Atlantic Ocean and Brooklyn Bridge. In the last the poet declared, with buoyant and confident pride in man, that if the world were to end and nothing remained of man's creative labor but the Brooklyn Bridge, a new race emerging from the cataclysm would be able to reconstruct from it all the culture of the past.

Energetic, gay, inquiring, witty and genial, Mayakovsky captivated all those who loved the ceaseless movement, mutation and novelty of art and life. He loved his country for its aspirations, its future, its youthful buoyancy, restlessness and responsiveness to all things new, and he admired these same traits when he found them in other nations. Mayakovsky's pride in his country was expressed most fully in his poem *My Soviet Passport*. He painted a majestic and yet simple portrait of Lenin in his poem on this great contemporary.

Mayakovsky rejoiced in the knowledge that his country was rising to its full height, not to oppress other nations, but to collaborate with them in peace and friendship for the benefit of mankind. This consciousness was characteristic of his art and has given him a place in the history of modern times, in the history of a world which has realized the necessity for such collaboration to resist the dark forces striving to eclipse its bright future.

1,000,000 Muscovites Plant Gardens

There are a million vegetable gardeners in Moscow this year, compared with a little over 200,000 last year. Although the harvest in 1942 was smaller than usual, vegetable plots on the outskirts of Moscow yielded 25,000 tons of potatoes and over 40,000 tons of vegetables. This year it is expected that no less than 75,000 tons of potatoes and more than 36,000 tons of vegetables will be gathered from Moscow's garden plots, and 160,000 tons of potatoes and 81,000 tons of vegetables from subsidiary farms of various factories and other enterprises.

Each Sunday at five in the morning the streets of Moscow are crowded with citizens carrying spades, pitchforks, rakes and shovels, en route to the countryside to work in their gardens. The plots are provided by the city Soviet without charge. Muscovites have become enthusiastic gardeners, earnestly studying literature on the subject.

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THE MURDER OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

By Ilya Ehrenburg

Terrible is the roster of Nazi crimes. The graves of the innocent, the charred ruins of cities, cry out to the conscience of the world. In Russia the Hitlerites are massacring women, old people and children—Ukrainians, Russians, Byelorussians. Their treatment of the Jews is fiendish. History knows no other instance of an entire nation being exterminated with such methodical ruthlessness.

We have seen much in these years of war. We have grown accustomed to human suffering. Yet I must speak. I must tell of what the Hitlerites are doing to the Jews of Russia. I must tell of the slaughter of infants. I cannot remain silent: the shades of the dead surround me. I know my words are pale. Who can depict the visitation of hell? I will speak only of what I know. This will be a dry record.

In the German-usurped Ukraine and Byelorussia, in the regions where the Germans set foot, not a single Jew, not a single Jewess, not a single Jewish child survived.

This is what occurred in the Caucasian health resort of Essentuki. The Germans entered Essentuki on August 1, 1942. On August 5 the German commandant announced that all Jews must be registered. 1,967 persons were registered. All Jews, including old people and children from the age of 10, were put to heavy work. Lieutenant Pfeifer, "responsible official for Jewish affairs," tortured the unfortunates.

On September 7, the city commandant Von Beck published an order that all Essentuki Jews should present themselves at the premises of the "Jewish Committee," bringing with them clothing totaling a weight of 30 kilograms, a plate and spoon and provisions for three days. The announcement stated that the Jews were to be transferred to "sparsely inhabited localities."

On September 9, all Jews of Essentuki were assembled in the former schoolhouse. Some of them, sensing a trap, tried to commit suicide. Herzeberg, an instructor of Leningrad University, hanged himself. Professor Efrus of the Leningrad Institute of Pediatrics and Instructor Michnik also attempted to end their lives. The Germans saved them only in order to execute them together with the rest.

The doomed people were brought to the schoolhouse at night. The children wept. The guards cursed and sang songs. At six A. M. on September 10 the Jews were put into motor trucks and driven to Mineralnye Vody. Their things were distributed among the police. About a kilometer from Mineralnye Vody there is a glass factory. Near it an anti-tank trench had been dug, and to this trench the Jews of Essentuki were brought. The lips of the children were anointed with poison. The adults were ordered to undress and the Germans piled their clothing and footwear into trucks. Those who tried to run away were shot. The rest were lined up beside the trench in contingents and slain.

At this same spot all the Jews of Mineralnye Vody, Pyatigorsk and Kislovodsk were also massacred. In the trench were discovered over 10,000 corpses mutilated by motor vehicles and buried in several layers. The workers of the glass factory have put up a memorial tablet stating that over 10,000 Jews were slaughtered beside that trench.

In Stavropol, the Jews were exterminated on August 14, 1942. They were also lured to assemble with the promise that they would be "transferred to unpopulated districts." They were then stripped and put into special, hermetically-sealed vans where within eight minutes they expired from asphyxiating gases and were then carried outside the city and buried in a ditch. Twelve-year-old Lina Nankin escaped the general fate: her mother had not taken her along. All day German soldiers armed with tommy guns looked for this 12-year-old. The following day Lina, deaf to the entreaties of neighbors who had concealed her, went herself to the Gestapo and said, "I want to go to my mother." The Germans killed her.

The Germans made parcels of the things taken from the Jews. Some 300 parcels of clothing stripped from the women and children before their execution were sent to Germany.

In the village of Izobilnoye, near Stavropol, the Hitlerites publicly slew 62 Jews among whom were 38 children under 10 years of age. On the Bolshevik State Farm, Ipatovo District, the Germans shot 26 Jewish children with tommy guns and threw the bodies into a well. There were thousands of eye-

witnesses to these massacres. They say, "Ever since that day we cannot sleep—the murdered children hover before our eyes."

In the town of Morozovsk lived a physician, a Russified Jew named Ilya Kremenchuzhsky, his wife and two daughters. One of the daughters had a husband at the front. She had been left with an infant. Kremenchuzhsky's wife was a Russian. She survived by a miracle. She related, "The Germans killed 248 Jews in all, but in one night they killed 73. They came to our house that evening, shouting 'Is Doctor Kremenchuzhsky at home? Get ready and your family too.' My husband immediately realized what was afoot. While we were driven in the truck he handed doses of poison to me and our daughters, saying, 'Swallow it when I make a sign with my hand.' One of the powders he reserved for himself. We were led into a cell. It was crowded; we all had to stand. Outside the window SS men kept bawling, 'We'll finish you off soon.' The children wailed, some of the women were hysterical. My younger daughter wanted to swallow the poison, but my husband tore it from her hand saying, 'You must not. Imagine what will happen to the others. We must support them and share a common fate.' Then my husband cried aloud two words in Yiddish, 'Briders Yiden,' (brother Jews)—he could not speak Yiddish. He went on to say, 'We must die with dignity, without wailing or tears. Let us not give pleasure to our executioners. I beg of you, brothers and sisters, to keep quiet.' An awful silence followed his words. Even the children fell silent. There was an engineer, Margules, among us. He suddenly began hammering at the door, shouting, 'There are Russian women here by mistake.'

"One of the Germans asked 'Where?' They pointed to me and my daughters. The German led us into the corridor, saying, 'We'll look into this tomorrow.'

"Then they began to massacre all the others. They were murdered in the courtyard. Not a cry was uttered. I wanted to save my grandchild and so we ran away. We were concealed by the schoolmaster, Svishchev. That was in August."

In the village near Morozovsk there were some children working on a collective farm. The rumors of the fate of the Jews reached the village. Six Jewish children aged 8 to 12 set out for Morozovsk. Learning that their parents had been carried away by the Germans they went to the commandant's office. There they were given a glad welcome and taken to the Gestapo. In the cell there was a Russian woman of 47, Elena Belenova, superintendent of a children's nursery. The children wept and Belenova comforted them, saying their parents were alive. The exhausted children fell asleep, lulled by her. At three in the morning the executioners came. "Auntie, where are they taking us?" the awakened children cried. Belenova reassured them saying, "To work in the country."

The story of that night was told by Matryona

Izmailova, who happened to be in the same cell. The bodies of Belenova and the six Jewish children were found in a common grave in Morozovsk.

In Belgorod, during the massacre of Jews, a Russian girl student, Tamara Savitskaya, was shot. She was the wife of a Jew named Lifschitz. She had a four-year-old son. The child was killed with her and the other Jews. Mother and son faced the execution together.

In Kursk there were 400 Jews. The Germans killed them. They dashed out the brains of infants against stones to save ammunition. Among the slain were the eminent medical men Gilman and Shendels, who had saved the lives of thousands. These old men were slaughtered together with their families. When the Hitlerites were retreating from Kursk they remembered that there were three Jews in the typhus hospital. They went there and in the ward shot two girls sick with typhus. Only one Jew, Engineer Kisselman, survived in Kursk. He was a patient in the hospital and the nurse told the Germans he had died.

One Jew survived in Kursk, and one crazy old Jewish woman in Voroshilovgrad (she fled the city and wandered about the fields), one Jew in Rostov, three Jews in Kharkov. The Germans have slain hundred of thousands of Jews. The adults were asphyxiated with gases, the children poisoned. This is a truth which the world should know.

German officers and soldiers in their letters and diaries readily describe this extermination of Jews. Feldwebel Schubert, of the 299th Infantry Division, speaks in his diary of the Hitlerites' "scientific experiments." "The Jews are placed in special vans where they are asphyxiated with gases and their corpses then buried with the help of excavators."

What happened, or rather what is happening, in the cities still occupied by the Germans we learn from the few fortunate ones who have by chance escaped the butchers' clutches. Anna Schneiderman, a girl student of Moscow University, was saved by the inhabitants of Smolensk. She told me of the extermination of the Smolensk Jews. When the Germans occupied the city they transferred the Jews to a camp which they called a ghetto. There the Germans made sport of their victims: they compelled old men to dance, then killed them. They raped the Jewish girls and buried the children alive in sight of their mothers, saying, "We are planting Jews—new ones will grow."

On July 7, 1942 all the surviving Jews—1,500 in all—were led out of the "ghetto," put into hermetically sealed vans, asphyxiated, and buried seven kilometers outside the city.

In Krupko the Germans shot about a thousand Jews, as far back as October, 1941. They drove them into a swamp, lined them up along a ditch, stripped them nude and killed them. Little children and old

people were among them. In Kholopkovichi, 900 Jews were buried in sandpits.

Red Army man Alexander Shapiro, who escaped from German captivity, was in Dniepropetrovsk. There on October 16, 1941 the Germans shot 26,000 Jews. He was also in Pavlograd where on October 12, 1941 the Hitlerites massacred 4,000 Jews. In April, 1942 in Kharkov, in the courtyard of the tractor plant, the Hitlerites shot 13,000 Jews. On November, 1941 in Poltava they slew 3,000 Jews.

Figures convey nothing to the heart. People are accustomed to figures. But I would like them to hear behind these figures the wails of infants and the cries of mothers.

In Vitebsk the Germans buried Jewish children alive, and the inhabitants will never forget the cries that rose out of the earth. One who had escaped from the city said, "I heard the earth wailing." This man, who had often looked upon death, had lost his family and had been twice wounded, covered his face with his hands as he told me this.

In the village of Volnovakso the Germans crowded 80 Jews into a barn and set fire to it. The children shrieked in the flames, but the Germans laughed.

There is no form of torture or execution which the Germans have not applied to the Jews. Soldiers armed to the teeth looked upon children as legitimate game. They slew with axes and gases primitively and "scientifically." They resorted to deceit, telling the Jews everywhere they were being sent to work, then killing them. They appropriated the property of the slain, and girls in Germany are parading in frocks stripped from massacred Jewish girls.

I am surrounded by the shades of the dead. Every day I see men and officers of the Red Army, Jews by nationality, who have learned that their wives and children and mothers were killed by the Hitlerites. I must speak. The living and the dead demand it. Conscience demands it.

Germans on our soil are murdering Jews from other countries. Red Army man Efim Reinov escaped from a war prisoners camp in Minsk. He relates that in Minsk the Germans killed Jews from Hamburg. In the Minsk ghetto the Germans held 20,000 Jews from Minsk itself and from Western Byelorussia, and also 10,000 Jews from Hamburg. Among them were professors and artists, physicians and musicians, people of all professions.

Every Saturday the Germans led out of camp a contingent of the doomed. In the column were women with children in their arms and old men. The musicians were compelled to play the Hebrew song *Kol Nidre* or fragments from the opera *La Juive*. The people were led to a ditch, mowed down by machine guns and buried while still alive. Two hundred orphaned children were dispatched separately, their

brains being dashed out against rocks or posts. All that summer of 1942 the Germans brought Jews from western Europe to Minsk, ostensibly for work.

The Jews were brought from France, Belgium, Holland and Czechoslovakia—Jews with portmanteaux and satchels. They were confined to what is known as a military town, some eight kilometers outside of Minsk. From there they were taken in hermetically sealed vans to ditches. Red Army man Leinov spoke to some of these doomed people. He witnessed mass executions.

How can one describe these things. I was brought up in Moscow. My native tongue is Russian. I cannot speak Yiddish. I am a Russian writer, a Soviet citizen, a man to whom European culture is precious. Now I am attached to the Jews by the bonds of the untold suffering of our nation. Russian Jews have always loved their country. Never, even in the gloomy days of the Kishinev pogroms, did any Jew confound the crimes of the Tsarist police with the sentiments of the Russian people. The Jews driven from Russia by the pogrom-mongers always retained their attachment to their lost homeland.

I have seen Jews in Turkey, France and Holland who cherished their love of Russia and the Russian language. The Jews in the first World War fought bravely for their country. They did not fight for the Tsar, they fought for Russia. They knew the magnanimity of the Russian people and their yearning for justice. And today the Jews of the Soviet Union are in the front lines. Bravery cannot be measured. Sacrifices cannot be counted. Blood cannot be weighed. I will put it briefly: the Jews are performing their duty.

I appeal to the Jews of other countries, and above all to the Jews of America: You are aware now of what Hitlerism spells. You know what the Nazis have done to your brothers and sisters. Can you sleep in peace in New York? Are you not disturbed by the moans of the slaughtered children of Minsk and Pyatigorsk?

You may say you have given your money and your sons. Do not count. Give everything. Remember the shriek of the mother when they dashed her child's brains against the stone. What will it avail you if you save part of your fortune. The Nazis will come and kill you. They will kill your children, your grandchildren. You have sent your sons to the army? Go yourself. You must kill the Hitlerites, or else the Hitlerites will kill you. You are in the army? Then ask to be sent to the front lines. Urge your countrymen on! You have millions of slain to back you, millions of the doomed to support you.

If Hitler exercises his sway, in another year or two there will not be a single Jew left in Europe. You are entitled to demand, "Send us to the continent." Jews of Palestine, you are entitled to say, "We cannot march in the rear, we want to save our sisters." Jews

of neutral countries, forget about rules, regulations and tranquillity. Hasten to the belligerent countries, donate your wealth, offer your lives. Shame on all who shirk, who hide themselves in this terrible year.

Writers, friends, champions of right—you must utter your word. I cannot appeal to those whose mouths have been sealed by the Nazis—above all to Romain Rolland. I appeal to those who can speak: To H. G. Wells, Alexei Tolstoy, J. B. Priestley, Sinclair Lewis, Thomas Mann, Bergamin, Pablo Neruda. Who, if not you, will defend the mutilated and outraged?

Pillory the appeasers! Declare that those who seek mercy for assassins are not humanitarians, but abettors of assassins. Stand up for the honor of the dead. Remember, you are the heirs of the prophets of old. You are familiar with the words of love. Let love suggest to you other words—words of justice.

I want to say to the people of all nations, of all religions, all persuasions: Let the fate of millions of slaughtered Jews be a lesson to you.

In the cities of Russia the Hitlerites, having exterminated the Jews, are now exterminating Russians,

Ukrainians, Byelorussians. At first the Germans said, "We will kill the Jews, but we will spare you. You shall be our slaves. Rejoice that the fate of others is worse than yours."

Having massacred all the Jews, the Hitlerites are now massacring Russians. They exterminate the population of entire villages. They shoot Russian children, hang Russian old men. Hitler publicly declares that he has decided to exterminate the Jewish nation. But he does not announce his secret dream of annihilating all nations, except the German. He does not speak of that but his soldiers, his Gestapo agents, his SS men are slaying Russians, French, Poles and Czechs.

Let the blood of Jewish children fan the flames of the world's wrath. The Nazis conceive the slaughter of millions of innocent Jews as only a prologue. Let it be an epilogue of the blackest chapter in world history. I speak in the name of the dead and the living. Forward to battle! The times are pressing.

Every minute's delay will weigh on the conscience of the procrastinator.

THE HITLERITES MUST ANSWER FOR THEIR CRIMES

By Academician Lieutenant General Nikolai Burdenko

Chief Surgeon of the Red Army and Hero of Socialist Labor

There is no crime which the Hitlerites have not perpetrated on Soviet soil; they have invaded our country and conducted themselves here like bandits. They have encroached upon the freedom, independence and labor of Soviet citizens. They menace the very existence of the Soviet people.

While Krasnodar was occupied, the German doctor Sartormus gave orders for all sick Soviet children to be thrown out of the Hospital for Infectious Diseases. "Soviet children can die in their own homes—they'll be more comfortable there," this quack doctor declared cynically.

In the Kursk occupation the German authorities left only one hospital for the local people. Consequently, tubercular patients and fracture cases were crowded into the same wards as those suffering from typhus, and the hospital was turned into an infection center. In Vyazma and Rzhev the Germans blew up and set fire to all hospitals, dispensaries, pharmacies, nurseries and kindergartens.

Wherever the Germans have occupied our country, the system of medical institutions has been wholly destroyed. Only through the heroic efforts of Soviet medical workers in liberated districts have localities been purged of centers of infection and the system of medical examination and care restored.

The crimes committed against the Soviet civilian

population are evidence that the Hitlerite hangmen have left the mediaeval inquisitors far behind. Numerous statements have been made by Soviet people of instances of savage treatment of old people and women and children by German soldiers—those wild beasts in uniform. Old Dudarov, 99 years of age, was shot by a fascist non-commissioned officer for refusing to leave his house in Gzhatsk. At Krasnoarmeiskaya village in the Krasnodar area three pits containing 57 bodies were found. Dreadful details of the tortures to which these Soviet people had been subjected were given in a statement to the investigating committee. In the case of Dr. Nadezhda Ladygina, the Hitlerites first broke her ribs, then shot her. Her ten-months-old baby daughter was likewise tortured: the child's body was covered with bruises. The corpse of an old collective farmer, Nechayev, found in this pit, shows that he was killed after being subjected to the most horrible tortures.

Soviet war prisoners are doomed by German military authorities to extermination by starvation, typhus and dysentery. In German camps they receive no medical assistance whatsoever. In Kobytovka, Red Army men were used as targets for training German soldiers in marksmanship, and 14 were killed in this manner. During their retreat in the winter of 1942-43 under the blows of the Red Army the fascists destroyed all war prisoners they had not had time to send to the west. In Kharino village they drove 79

Red Army men into a cattle yard and burned them alive.

German occupation authorities deputed to carry out the Hitlerite Government's sinister plans organized the mass deportation of the Soviet civilian population in all occupied territory. They removed 20,000 persons by force from Krivoi Rog, over 32,000 from Kharkov and 60,000 from Mariupol; furthermore, they broke up families and tore mothers from their children when driving them into captivity.

The fascist robbers will answer for every crime committed against Soviet civilians and war prisoners. German commandants and their assistants cannot escape being called to account at a formidable bar—the bar of the Soviet people!

Neither will those who represent what Hitlerite Germany calls her medical science escape punishment. Doctors who forcibly deprive Soviet children of blood in amounts fatal to them, for transfusion to wounded German officers, are not serving science—this is mur-

der—and those who commit it can be spoken of only as criminals.

Since the first days of the great Patriotic War Soviet medical workers have been devoting all their powers to save the lives of wounded Red Army men. In our work we have daily encounters with fascist troops—this horde of murderers and hangmen. Soviet surgeons must risk their lives to perform operations; despite the fact that the hospitals bear distinct identification marks, German pilots dive and bomb them.

From the beginning of the war the Hitlerites have pursued ambulance planes and trains. They try to avenge themselves upon the Soviet nurses who heroically assist the wounded. When they find these brave women wounded on the battlefield, they torture and afterwards shoot them.

It is a very long account which the Soviet people and its scientific and medical workers will present to Hitlerite Germany and her allies. The day will come when the account will be paid! All Soviet people are working without rest to bring this day nearer.



YEISK, KRASNODAR AREA—Identifying the body of a relative tortured to death by the Hitlerites Radiophoto

THE EXECUTIONERS

The following is a statement made by Lubov Matveyenko, a young Russian girl forcibly taken to Germany for hard labor:

I am a student of the Rostov Pedagogical Institute. Rostov is my native city. On July 23, 1942 the Germans entered our city. I was not able to leave Rostov. On the morning of August 28 a German policeman entered our house, which had been half-wrecked by an air bomb, and ordered me to go to the "Labor Bureau." "You will volunteer to go to Great Germany," he said, and slammed the door.

On the appointed day scores of such "volunteers" as myself gathered at the "Labor Bureau." Although I had certificates stating that my health was poor, when my turn came to be examined the physician, after a superficial examination, said I was in good health.

On September 5 we were driven through the familiar streets to the station. One wanted to kiss the walls of the houses, to embrace the trees, to touch one's hot forehead to the pavement. Where and to what were we going? What did the future have in store for us?

We were shoved into dirty cattle cars, 40 persons in each. There were no sleeping berths in them and the odor was terrible. For three days we had not eaten. Finally we stopped at the small station of Malinovka and there were given a cup of soup and 200 grams of bread.

... The wheels are rumbling. Lyuda, a small, skinny girl is coughing. Her coughs are agonizing, each one tearing her, leaving her gasping and panting. The two Gulevsky sisters, Olga and Nadya, are hugging each other. Olga has caught cold and a terrible cough is racking her too. The eyes of Nina Avdeyenko are burning with anger. She whispers again and again, "What horror, what horror ..."

On the way two boys in another car climbed out on the roof to get away from the filth. Without warning, German soldiers opened fire on them and the two little bodies fell to the ground.

We arrived at Lodz on September 12. What humiliation we girls endured here. We were taken to the bath and there had to walk naked before the German soldiers. A group of them stood in the dressing-room while we undressed, then we had to walk to another group to get tickets for our belongings and then to still another group to check our clothes. When at last we were under the shower, the Germans walked into the shower room, and grabbing the girls so they could not escape, poured some smelly liquid over their hair. Later the girls' hair began to fall out.

Although we entered the bath at 2 P. M., we did

not get out until midnight. We went to sleep in the neighboring barracks on a stone floor.

In the morning, with a heavy heart, weak from hunger and the humiliations we had suffered, we again climbed into the dirty car. In the dark of night, on September 15, our train arrived at Wuppertal, a town near the city of Cologne. We were ordered out of the cars and driven for a long while through countless streets and alleys, so that we would not know the way from the station to the camp. Actually the camp was only five minutes' walking distance from the station.

I will never forget the muffled grating in the darkness as the gate was unlocked and then locked again after us. We seemed to be going along a passage with a high, barbed wire fence on both sides. We sighed ... we were in prison. We were led into a big barracks. Enormous rats were running about the floor.

The next morning we looked our prison over ... three rows of gray barracks separated from each other by high barbed wire fences, and another high barbed wire fence, with sentinel towers at the corners, around the entire camp.

We were ordered to the "Commission." The German woman physician who examined me told me to step aside. Raya Baryshnikova, a half-blind girl from Rostov, had been told to step aside, too. Both of us were given a metal tag with the letter "R." That meant, it was explained, "reclassification."

All my friends were transferred to another barracks after the "Commission" ended. Now two rows of barbed wire separated me from my friends. Raya and I were put in the sick barracks. Here were people swollen from hunger, people made useless for further work by inhuman conditions in the factories and mines of Germany. There were many from Kiev, Kharkov, the Donbas and Byelorussia. They told us horrible stories of how they had been forced to work 15 to 16 hours a day without a single minute of rest. The German overseers had beat them with rubber clubs. Many died. They lived in damp barracks and were always hungry. Many fell ill with typhus and scurvy. Others lost their minds.

Each day at 10 o'clock we were given a black brick wrapped in a paper bearing the name of a factory, and weighing 250 grams. This was what our jailers called bread. It was made of pressed rotten scraps. Another meal was "balanda," a mixture of turnips, rotten cabbage, beets and water cooked in a huge kettle four days before. By the third day this mash always began to sour and ferment, but we were so hungry that we ate even this poison. Many got dysentery and died.

(Continued on page eight)

THE BATTLES IN THE OREL DIRECTION

MOSCOW, July 19.—Attacking Soviet troops have achieved new successes north of Orel, continuing to smash German resistance and to widen and deepen the breach forced in the enemy's defenses. However, the German resistance has increased considerably in stubbornness.

The Germans now counter-attack continually, launching into action larger forces of infantry, escorted by tanks and not infrequently supported by bombers. Particularly stubborn are the counter-attacks launched almost uninterruptedly on the flanks of the breach. However, these counter-attacks are invariably repulsed with heavy losses for the Germans, and Soviet troops continue to beat down their resistance and to advance.

After heavy fighting Soviet troops succeeded in widening the breach on one of its flanks and capturing heavily fortified German strong points. In this sector the Germans, after losing some 600 officers and men in one day in unsuccessful counter-attacks, were obliged to retreat.

One Soviet Guards Regiment operated with great success on another flank of the breach, where the basis of the Germans' defenses was a large village with a garrison several hundred strong, from which the Germans launched fierce counter-attacks and also maintained heavy artillery and mortar fire. Guardsmen gradually filtered in small bodies through the forest, on the edge of which the village stood, and proceeding by ravines and gullies began to envelop it. Soon the circle around the German garrison was complete and a fight began for its annihilation. The garrison refused to lay down its arms and was completely exterminated. The Guardsmen captured 12 guns and several military stores. Their success in breaking enemy resistance on this strongly-fortified line enabled Soviet troops to advance and capture other strong points, thus widening the breach on this flank.

The enemy has brought up fresh divisions and is likewise putting up stiff resistance at the center of the breach, launching fierce counter-attacks. However, so far he has been unable to stem the Soviet advance and has again been pushed back. Here the enemy is making frequent use of his tanks in an endeavor to protect his counter-attacking infantry.

A series of counter-attacks was undertaken by fairly large forces of Germans, supported by 20 to 30 tanks and groups of bombers. The German tanks were met by Soviet tank fire and also anti-tank guns and rifles, and when a considerable number of the enemy's panzers and troops had been knocked out and his forces considerably weakened, Soviet troops vigorously attacked, drove the enemy from his positions and advanced.

The offensive spirit of Soviet troops is very high

and the fighting in the past few days has furnished many examples of bold action and initiative. One tank company commanded by Lieutenant Matsenko demolished a battalion of German motorized infantry. This battalion was being rushed up to fill a breach, but Matsenko's company attacked the German column before it had time to deploy. German troops already dismounting hastened to climb back into their vehicles, but Matsenko's tanks forced their way into the column and began to demolish the Germans and their machines with fire from the tanks and the weight of their treads. Not a single man of the German battalion survived. The Soviet tankmen did not confine themselves to this action, but in addition destroyed several German guns following in the rear of the column.

Soviet self-propelling guns move forward in the battle ranks of advancing troops. Both infantry and tankmen are loud in their praises of these formidable weapons. Self-propelling guns afford reliable protection to the infantry against German tanks, and to their tanks against German anti-tank guns.

* * *

MOSCOW, July 19.—Soviet troops east of Orel continue to smash the enemy's stubborn resistance and to advance. The Germans keep hurling fresh bodies of tanks and infantry into action, rushing them to this area from other parts of the front and also from the regions in the rear. Some idea of the fierceness of these engagements may be gathered from the fact that many populated places have changed hands numerous times. Nevertheless all enemy attempts to stem our advance are vain. Soviet troops continue steadily to push back the enemy and have recaptured another 40 inhabited places.

The terrain east of Orel offers serious impediments to an offensive. It is intersected by ravines and waterways and abounds in heights and woods advantageous for defense. However, due to proper coordination of all arms, Soviet troops are gaining one tactical success after another and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy's men and materiel, both when repulsing his fierce counter-attacks and in pursuit when the Germans are forced to retreat to new lines.

In four days of fighting one Soviet regiment annihilated some 3,000 Germans, took 120 prisoners and captured 42 guns, eight six-barreled mortars and quantities of machine guns and rifles. The officers and men of this regiment are displaying exemplary heroism. Captain Volodin, who was the first to invade the enemy's trench, killed eight Hitlerites single-handed. He was mortally wounded, but with his dying breath ordered his men to advance, infusing them with fresh courage and determination.

A fine offensive spirit is revealed by men in all units of all arms. Tank Commander Senior Lieuten-

ant Korsakov was severely wounded, but after his injuries were dressed he climbed back into the tank and led his unit into a new attack. His crew knocked out three enemy tanks and two anti-tank guns, silenced several fire nests and exterminated up to a battalion of infantry.

* * *

MOSCOW, July 19.—After Soviet forces in the sector south of Orel had fully restored their position as it was prior to the German offensive begun on July 5, they carried out a rapid maneuver and today at dawn struck a surprise blow at the enemy in a section where he had not expected active operations to develop. Concentrations of troops clearing mines in front of the forward positions in a number of sectors and opening lanes for tanks and infantry were all carried out so secretly as to remain unobserved by the Germans, whose attention meanwhile was diverted by daring actions of a number of Soviet units and by disconcerting artillery fire.

Although little time was allowed for the preparation of this action, it was effected with extreme thoroughness. Not only the Germans' forward positions but the interior of their defense zone were carefully reconnoitered. Everything depended on surprise and instead of the usual artillery preparation it was decided to open with a 15-minute fire squall. Ranges were thoroughly ascertained, and Soviet artillery was able to neutralize and silence a large number of enemy fire nests and other targets. All other fire, including even rifle volleys, was planned to deal maximum destruction to the enemy's fire system. An important part was played by the air force, which

concerned itself with silencing a number of hostile gun batteries.

When the artillery fire was shifted into the interior of the German defense zone, Soviet infantry and tanks went into the attack. It was conducted with great vigor, due to the fact that our guns concentrated on the enemy's fire nests. Red Army men swiftly crossed no man's land and leaped into the German's first-line trenches. While part of the force engaged in clearing these, the rest hurried towards the Germans' key positions.

Action in other sectors was no less precipitate, and under pressure of the Soviet assault the enemy was everywhere forced to retreat. However, the Germans offered stubborn resistance even when retreating. Besides bringing their fire weapons into play, chiefly against the Soviet flanks, they often launched counter-attacks, bringing up reinforcements from the rear for this purpose. These counter-attacks were sometimes supported by tanks. But since Soviet guns always move forward with the advancing infantry, the German counter-attacks were repulsed with heavy losses to them. For example, in beating off a German counter-attack, one of our units annihilated over a battalion of men, shattered three tanks and silenced four fire nests. Two powerful counter-attacks were rapidly repulsed, Soviet artillery keeping pace with the advancing infantry.

Breaking down the enemy's resistance, Soviet troops south of Orel have made considerable advance and occupied 20 villages.

THE EXECUTIONERS

(Continued from page six)

The days passed. One foggy, gloomy morning I saw a sight that made me want to cry so loud that my native land would hear me . . . that my brother, Ivan, a Senior Lieutenant in the Red Army, would hear me . . .

Boys and girls were ordered to line up in the courtyard. Then fat German men and women waddled into the yard, went up to the boys and girls, felt their muscles, looked into their mouths, and inspected their teeth . . . Factory and mine owners, shopkeepers and officials, bought our boys and girls from Rostov. Here at a table in the yard bills of sale were filled out, papers signed and seals attached. Later we learned that the price for adolescents and young men was 18 marks and the price for girls 15 marks.

A flabby German with red-rimmed eyes bought Luba Klimenko, Elena Sykhoveyeva and my friend Clara Berezovskaya. A tall, fat German woman, owner of some kind of factory, bought Maria Kislova,

Nadya Derevyanenko, Pasha Kisel and Nonna Durova. Vasya Papiyenko, 16 years old and recently graduated from high school, 13-year-old Tolya Tyurin, and many others were bought by a mine owner. Our friend Fedya, a young physician, was sold to him, too. Led by policemen and carrying their belongings on their backs, this sorrowful column of several hundred Rostov people, sold into slavery, trudged heavily off.

All the things that happened after that I remember as a kind of continuous, blurred nightmare. We became covered with a crust of dirt; many were so ill they could not get up from their bunks. Of course there was no medical aid.

* * *

On October 17 I was returned to Rostov with a group of dangerously sick persons. A note was already waiting, telling me that after another medical examination I would again be sent to Germany. But this time I managed to hide from the German executioners.

(Signed) LUBOV MATVEYENKO

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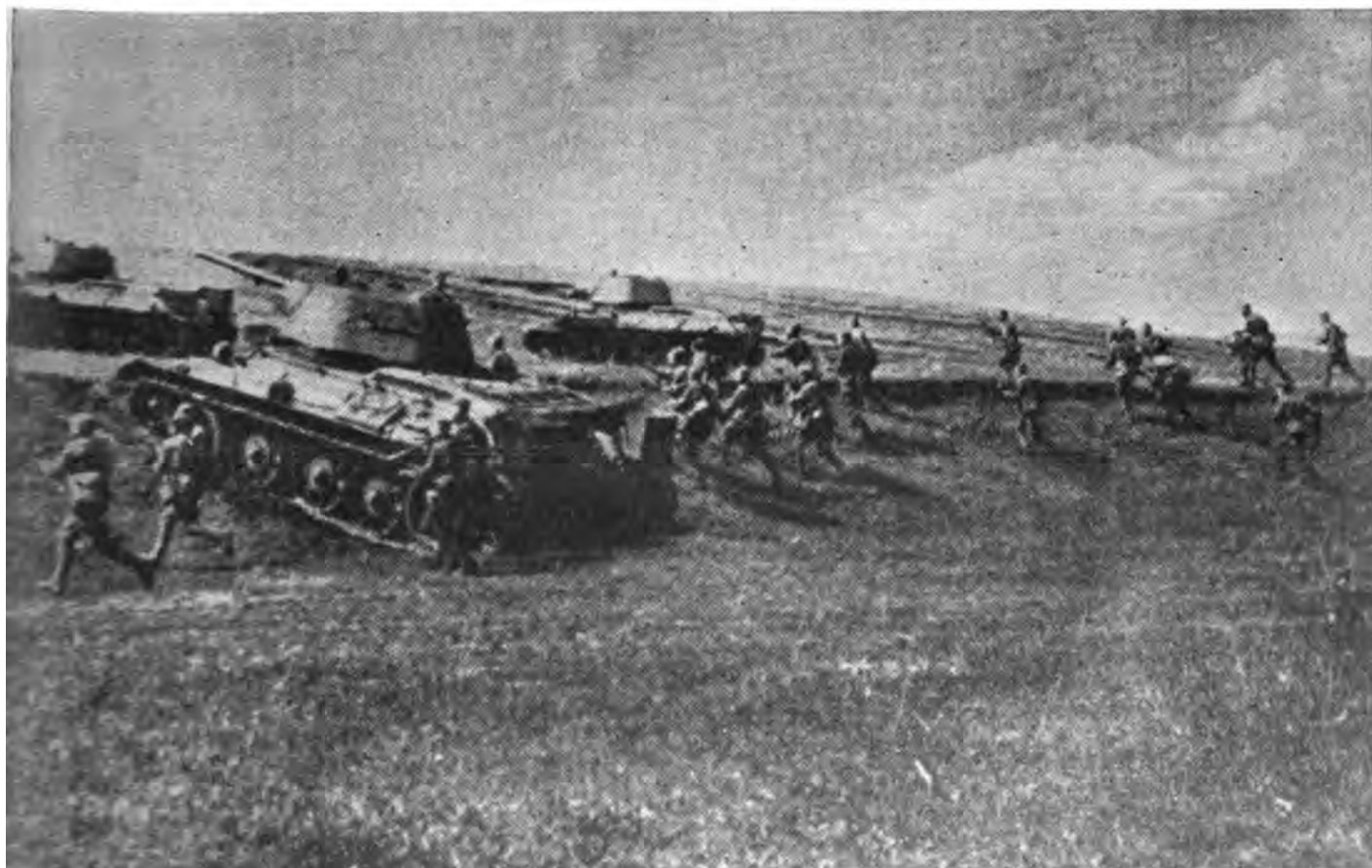
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A GERMAN AND HIS "FERDINAND"

By Konstantin Simonov

Before us sits a German soldier—a rank-and-file German whose most interesting feature is perhaps his mediocrity. He, like hundreds of thousands of others, is the product of "total mobilization." He was called up in the winter and had his first taste of fighting three days ago in the Orel-Kursk area. His name is Adolf Meier, he is a native of Eistrub village, Hanover, and he was 19 in April. At 18 he was serving in a unit of self-propelled artillery quartered in Rouen, France; 70 men in his company were still younger. There were not a few old men besides, and 110 veterans.

Adolf Meier is telling us how fine life was in Rouen. The first alarming sign was noted in April, when the brigade received the new self-propelled guns of the Ferdinand type. The men realized that with such guns they wouldn't stay long in Rouen; they would have to go to war. They were still more alarmed when the battery commander, Captain Koenig, became unusually enthusiastic in his admiration for the new guns. "Front armor of 200-mms and side armor of 80-mms!" he said. "There's never been anything like it. Enemy shells won't be able to damage either the Tigers, which will move forward with us, or the



TANK RECONNAISSANCE—Soviet tommy gunners and tanks approach an objective

Radiophoto

Ferdinands—their front armor is even thicker than that of the Tigers.”

In May the captain repeated these remarks with increasing frequency, and in June the unit was sent to the Eastern Front.

“Why were you told the Ferdinands were shell-proof?”

“To make us less afraid of attacking.”

“But the armor of your guns was pierced?”

“Yes.”

“Then Captain Koenig lied to you?”

“Yes.”

Adolf Meier describes to us the two days of battle in which he took part as driver of a Ferdinand. He didn't last out the third day. Perhaps it was the worse for him that he believed in the invulnerability of his Ferdinand. When he saw two Tigers set on fire ahead of him and a neighboring Ferdinand start burning, he was worried—he wasn't prepared for it. In Rouen he had been glad to believe there was absolutely no danger in riding in a Ferdinand. Disillusionment came quickly—a shell hit the tread, the Ferdinand stopped. The crew knew if they remained where they were they would be killed, so they hastily climbed out of the Ferdinand and crawled back toward their lines. Soviet artillery was still firing and only two of them—Adolf Meier and Karl Siege, a gun layer, reached safety. Meier never saw the rest of the crew again and the next day Siege also vanished.

Meier was put in another Ferdinand, whose driver had been killed the previous day. When he climbed into the machine he saw a small hole in the side armor, slightly above his head . . . a hole made by the shot which had killed his predecessor. As they moved into battle he kept seeing the hole. He no longer believed a word of what Captain Koenig had said—or rather, he stopped thinking about invulnerability and thought only of how the Russians might put another hole through the armor like the one above him. Luckily for him, a shell hit the back of the Ferdinand and the driver in front was the only one to remain alive. He climbed out of the burning vehicle and pressed himself into a nearby shell hole. It was impossible to crawl anywhere; shells were exploding on all sides. In the evening the Russians counter-attacked and took him prisoner.

And now he sits before us, utterly disillusioned with his Ferdinand and sick with fear. He was 15 when the war broke out and reached maturity during the war years. His psychology is interesting because there are hundreds of thousands, perhaps a million, such as he. His father is a basket-maker; he has two brothers of 10 and 12 in school.

“Your brothers probably won't have to fight in the war?”

“I hope not,” he replies. The shrug of his shoulders expresses the despairing idea that the war might last until doomsday. “At school my comrades and I were afraid we would grow to be of military age before the war ended.”

“When was that?”

“Last year and the year before, when the war with Russia began.”

“And when there was no war with Russia and your troops had just entered Paris, were you also afraid of becoming soldiers?”

“No, at that time we were afraid of being too late for the war. In general our spirits were a hundred per cent higher then.”

These replies indicate the psychology of the two-legged beasts into which Hitler is trying to transform young Germans—and not without success. War was a pleasure trip and they were afraid of missing it. War became a horror and they are afraid of it.

Did Adolf Meier think Germany would be victorious? No, not now. But formerly? Oh, yes, he had formerly believed it implicitly.

“And later?”

“When the Germans retreated from Moscow and from Stalingrad I began to doubt it.”

In any case, he was afraid it would take too long. Then he found himself at the front in his invincible Ferdinand and saw the tremendous concentration of tanks and other materiel. And, honestly speaking, he thought everything would go all right again—there were so many weapons around him. When did he decide he was wrong? When his first, and then second, Ferdinand was crippled under him by shells. He knew nothing of Russia before this; he had read only official announcements in papers. And did he think about those announcements? No, he didn't, he just read them and laid them aside. And when Paulus' army capitulated, did he know about that? He did, but the Italians were to blame. Why? Because they broke and fled, leaving a gap in the front.

“And were the Italians to blame in Tunisia?”

“Yes, so we were told. They should have defended their Tunis themselves. We lost an army there because we had to help the Italians.”

Sincere hostility to his allies is written in his face. Still, it's better to think the damned Italians are to blame for all his misfortunes.

“And how far do you think you retreated in Russia last winter?”

“I think. . .” he frowns with the intense effort of

such an unusual occupation . . . "I think about 200 kilometers."

"And you were not told it was 600 or 700 kilometers instead of 200?"

"No, we weren't. Formerly newspapers used to print maps, then suddenly they stopped."

"And today, in this sector, do you think the Germans are advancing or retreating?"

"Advancing, of course." He looks up, surprise in his eyes.

"You were given instructions about offensive operations?"

"Yes, on the evening of July 4 Captain Koenig called us together and read Hitler's Order of the Day about the general offensive."

"You don't think he was reading a forged order?"

"Oh, no! Didn't we really attack in the morning?"

"Well, the German Information Bureau reports that it is not you, but the Russians, who are attacking."

Adolf Meier knows nothing about that.

"Why do you think such a false statement was published?"

"Probably," he replies, after some thought, "they saw that no success was being achieved and didn't want to upset our relations back home."

It seems that even he has enough sense to see through the rather obvious trick of the German propagandists. Then, without waiting for the next question, he tells us that 40 friends from his village have already been killed and a hundred wounded. When he was at home on furlough his relatives only hoped he wouldn't be sent to the front. Altogether, a tremendous number has been killed. The sooner it's over the better.

He sits before us—this product of "total mobilization"—one of those who constitute Hitler's last chance in this war.

The self-propelled Ferdinand gun and the Tiger

tank are fine and powerful weapons, among the best produced by Germany's munitions industry. Great determination and skill are needed to render it harmless. True, not every shell from every angle penetrates its 200-mm front armor. But hundreds of Ferdinands and Tigers are already burning on the Orel-Kursk fields. That is only half of our success, however. The other half is the psychological state of Adolf Meier and thousands like him not yet captured, still fighting. Their Ferdinands are burning, falling to pieces. Their officers lied to them, trusting the strength of armor more than the strength of their hearts.

It is a good sign. We have never told our Soviet tankmen their machines are invulnerable. Going into battle, our men know their tanks are powerful. But no shell-proof armor exists. They know this. They know they may be killed. And yet they have fought and are fighting without flinching. To send Adolf Meier and others like him into battle they must be deceived, convinced of their invulnerability. Their fear of death must be overcome by lies.

There is the great difference. There is one of the guarantees of our victory.

Nazi ringleaders lied to their soldiers, convincing them that victory would be won easily, without much trouble. They lied to German families, telling them that enemy planes would never appear over German cities. They are now reaping the fruit of their falsehood—this animal-like fear of cowardly beasts who began war believing in absolute impunity and are now trembling with terror.

German soldiers receive piles of letters expressing frankly or in veiled terms the fright which glazes the eyes of prisoner Adolf Meier. It is well the letters breathe this fear. But we must have no pity. It is well that they are frightened. They can be stopped only by fear and death. They can be persuaded only by steel.

The guns are roaring. Today the Germans are again attacking. They are still strong. They press forward. But along with their desire to kill, their lust for gain, they are more than ever gripped by fear. This is good.

TASS STATEMENT

On July 22 the German Information Bureau transmitted a report on the attempted landing of a party of Soviet troops on the Norwegian Coast south of Wardoe, which allegedly took place the night of July 19-20. This report stated that 50 Soviet ships participated in the landing operation and that under fire of the German coastal defense of the port of Wardoe they were allegedly compelled to turn back and lost

10 vessels. This report was taken up by Swedish newspapers.

TASS is authorized to state that this report of the German Information Bureau has been fabricated from beginning to end. The contents of the German report once more corroborate the correctness of the Russian saying, "Fear has big eyes"—(terror magnifies objects).



In the great battles against the Hitlerite

OUR TROOPS CAPTURE THE CITY OF MTSENSK

By Captain M. Tikhomirov

Correspondent for Krasnaia Zvezda

NORTH OF OREL, July 20.—From the Commander's observation post the cupolas of the Mtsensk churches were clearly discernible. To the right, not far from the monastery area, on the fringe of a small wood, loomed two tall grain elevators. Here the enemy had massed artillery and mortars, and with brief intermissions shelled the Soviet trenches. To the left, on the city's southern outskirts, could be seen a green factory roof, from which the enemy likewise kept up intense artillery and mortar fire.

Mtsensk seemed quite near, but situated in a depression where the Zusha River makes a large bend, skirting the city from the west, it presented serious difficulties for an attack. A frontal thrust was obviously disadvantageous; it would expose our troops to the action of most of the enemy's firing points.

Several hours before the artillery preparation, groups of our troops launched a flanking maneuver, taking advantage of the deep gullies on the left flank and a railway embankment on the right. Soon they had occupied advance positions. The Germans brought into action all their fire resources, but did not cause serious damage, our troops having skilfully adapted themselves to the terrain during their advance.

Finally, after brief artillery shelling of enemy positions a resolute offensive was launched. It was so swift the enemy had no time to blow up the river crossings. Our engineers took advantage of this, quickly clearing three zones of minefields and cutting passages for the infantry in the barbed wire entanglements.

The battle at the approaches to the city was stubborn, but of short duration. Our troops had the advantage of a surprise attack. The enemy, of course, had reason to expect an offensive in this sector. But by the time he opened artillery fire upon the main highway leading to Mtsensk our troops had managed to disperse along country roads, outflanking the height closest to the city. German air bombers intensified their activity, but the aerial attacks were likewise unsuccessful. Our troops continued to advance.

On the western slope of a height representing the key to the city the Germans had worked many months improving their defenses. At the approaches to Mtsensk they had constructed extensive earthworks and erected a number of defenses. But the enemy was unable to utilize his defense system, since the surprise thrusts launched by our troops from the flanks rendered protracted resistance impossible. The enemy garrison on the western slope of the height facing our positions found itself outflanked and compelled to retreat. Our infantry, acting in cooperation with small groups of tanks, prevented the Germans from entrenching on the intermediate lines, and the battle soon shifted to the outskirts of the city.

By artillery fire from open positions and in hand-to-hand battles on the outskirts, our troops disrupted the enemy's defense system. The Germans attempted to offer resistance on the heights east of Mtsensk,

(Continued on page seven)



Soviet tank-borne infantry has played an important part

SOUTH AND NORTH OF OREL

WITH THE RED ARMY IN THE FIELD, July 20.—Fighting in the sector south of Orel is proceeding in the enemy's defenses in depth. Our troops must overcome strong enemy resistance based on comprehensively prepared strong points. Falling back under the blows of Soviet troops, the Germans make the utmost use of previously prepared positions. The garrison's strong points, situated mostly on heights and in villages, render fire support to their advance troops, and from these strong points they also launch counter-attacks.

To break the enemy's resistance more speedily, our troops by-pass his strong points and by flanking attacks compel the Germans to abandon their positions. Several inhabited places have been captured. Our air force by massed blows renders great assistance to our attacking troops, clearing the way for them. Taking advantage of the fact that during aerial bombings the enemy keeps to the ground and that his firing systems are disrupted, our men make their way toward the German trenches, rush them and consummate the attack with hand-to-hand fighting. As a rule, the Germans cannot stand up against such attacks.

Stubborn engagements were fought in one sector where the enemy, bringing up reinforcements, counter-attacked our advancing troops. The Germans often launch counter-attacks with forces of tanks, alone or weakly supported by the infantry, which has suffered extremely heavy casualties in previous battles. The enormous losses in materiel which the enemy sustained during his recent offensive is also felt.

Nevertheless the German counter-attacks are still

quite stubborn. Bringing up tanks from the immediate rear, the enemy has launched counter-attacks in this sector with groups of 30 to 40 tanks, which have been repulsed by our artillery fire and tank destroyers with heavy losses to the Germans. At one point our troops destroyed 28 enemy tanks, including five Tigers. The Germans did not succeed in pushing back our troops from the lines reached during the offensive. In another sector the enemy, in an effort to halt our advance, likewise launched several counter-attacks, all of which were repulsed.

* * *

NORTH OF OREL, July 20.—In the sector north of Orel our troops continue to develop the offensive. The Germans intensify their counter-attacks, throwing in fresh divisions hurriedly transferred to the area of the break-through. After losing their main and intermediate defense lines, the enemy seeks to take advantage of the terrain, particularly high banks of streams and the ravines abounding in the area. From these positions the Germans launch frequent counter-attacks.

Yesterday the fiercest engagements were fought in one direction where our advancing troops, capturing several inhabited places, cut a road of great importance for the enemy. This road connected a large German garrison with a number of other strong points and a supply base. The inhabited places were captured by one rifle unit cooperating with tanks.

The Germans managed to bring up a number of fresh troops and an exceptionally stubborn battle ensued, beginning at daybreak and lasting until evening when the enemy, worn down by the fire of artillery

and Guards mortars, was dislodged from an inhabited place after a resolute attack by infantry and tanks. The Soviet commander correctly appraised the situation and immediately exploited this success. Using reserves he at once launched an attack on a neighboring settlement. The enemy fled in disorder and our troops established themselves across the road which the Germans had defended so stubbornly.

In the morning the battle flared up with new force in this area. Both sides brought up reserves. The Germans massed a large number of tanks and self-propelled guns and a large infantry force. Counter-attacks followed in quick succession—the enemy sending first one battalion into action, then two more, and simultaneously increasing the number of tanks. But all efforts were unsuccessful. The Germans then threw in two infantry regiments supported by 50 tanks. Seventy bombers appeared, diving on our battle formations. Soviet troops displayed exceptional fortitude and courage. Sheltering from bombs and opening effective anti-aircraft fire against the bombers they repulsed this counter-attack also. After two hours, the battle ended in the rout of the enemy, who suffered heavy losses in manpower and materiel.

Engagements of similar intensity were fought in

other sectors north of Orel. Everywhere the enemy intensifies his counter-attacks, as a rule supported by groups of tanks and self-propelled guns and bombers. The Germans counter-attack in the same place time after time, literally bleeding white from enormous casualties. On one flank of the break-through the enemy counter-attacked six times yesterday, using tanks and also storm guns. The attacks were everywhere repulsed by our troops, which are exploiting the success of their offensive. Hurling back the Germans, our forces advanced a further six to ten kilometers and captured a number of inhabited places.

The appearance of fresh German troops is noted daily. It is characteristic that one of these fresh German divisions was originally intended to be transferred to Sicily. Before our troops broke through the German defenses north of Orel this division had been resting and the officers told their men they would soon be sent to Sicily. The changed situation compelled the German command to hastily transfer the division to this area. According to war prisoner Herbert Seister, an officer of this division, his regiment was roused on July 13 and the officers told the Russians had pierced the Orel front and therefore his division would not be sent to Sicily. This was corroborated by war prisoner Obergefreiter Willi Pietner.

SOVIET COUNTER-ATTACKS IN THE BELGOROD AREA

WITH THE RED ARMY IN THE FIELD, July 20.—The enemy concentrated an enormous force, made up partly of tank divisions, in the Belgorod area during his fortnight's attacks there. The German troops included picked units—the "Adolf Hitler," "Death's Head" and other divisions. Enemy attacks were of an unusually fierce character; undeterred by great losses the Germans strove to break through the Soviet defense at any cost.

From the first day Soviet troops of the N. formation offered stubborn resistance; only in some sectors did the enemy succeed at a great cost in wedging into Soviet positions. He was immediately stopped. The Germans brought up reinforcements and hurled fresh forces into the battle, attempting to exploit their early advance, but failing. During the fighting the enemy again lost a number of tanks, artillery pieces, planes and men, and was forced to abandon further assaults.

Soviet troops then launched a series of counter-attacks. Our tanks went out to meet the enemy armored force; the powerful tank spearhead was shattered against the armor of Soviet tanks and the courage of our officers and men. It is now the Russians who are active in this sector. Soviet divisions are pressing forward over fields covered with the

blackened skeletons of the Nazi Tigers and Panthers. The Germans have withdrawn from these fields, and although they are being torn up by enemy shells, Soviet booty squads are already drawing the Panthers to the rear with tractors.

Soviet counter-attacks began early in the morning. On the previous day the enemy had feinted a retreat. This Nazi trick was easily seen through by the Soviet command; the Germans had no intention of retiring; on the contrary, they had brought up fresh troops with the hope of deepening and widening the wedge driven in our positions. Their plans were forestalled by the Soviet tank attack. Our tanks broke stubborn enemy resistance at one corner of the wedge and began to push through the strong anti-tank defense. Enemy infantry offered fierce resistance. Tank ambushes had been prepared by the Germans in inhabited places, roads and ravines. Every village, every hill, every ravine and every road crossing was contested. The enemy held a height three kilometers from the field where the tank battle was in progress. Its capture would have resulted in a dangerous flank threat to the German force on the right and the enemy support on the left. Realizing the tactical importance of the height the Germans organized a powerful mortar and artillery barrage at the approaches to it. The

fighting for this height lasted until evening. While the enemy was bringing up reserves, determined to hold this key position, Soviet Stormoviks made two effective attacks on it. Russian tanks in cooperation with infantry finally launched a decisive attack and took possession of the hill, thus determining the future course of the battle. By evening the Germans were driven far back.

At the same time Guards units of the N. formation assaulted the German positions in a neighboring sector. Having captured two forward support points after a fierce engagement Soviet troops first cut off the salient and then drove a wedge into the enemy positions. After our forces broke through the forward enemy positions they employed tactics, tested in a previous offensive, of blocking the German support points. These tactics demand great effort on the part of the attackers, as the enemy defense rests not only on inhabited points but also on field fortifications. By means of flanking movements and infiltration between the enemy units, Soviet troops succeeded in surrounding a large German support point. Concentric attacks supported by heavy artillery fire led to the annihilation of the enemy garrison.

The Soviet advance forced the enemy to put out strong rearguard detachments to cover the retreat from other support points threatened with encirclement. Simultaneously, a German force in battalion strength, supported by 10 to 12 tanks, attempted to counter-attack. Soviet mobile tank and motorized infantry detachments moved forward and cut the line of retreat of the withdrawing enemy. Fearing flank pressure on their retreating units, the Germans strengthened their flanks. The enemy carried out continuous reconnaissance in force and concentrated considerable numbers of artillery and tank troops on his flanks. As a result, the fighting on the German flanks assumed a particularly stubborn character.

The fighting in the Belgorod area of battle has increased in scope. The initiative is wholly in the hands of Soviet troops, who have advanced 10 to 12 kilometers. The retreating enemy is suffering considerable losses. Soviet planes are bombing German infantry and tank columns on the road in the area of concentration. Exhausted by futile attacks in the early period of fighting, the German divisions are no longer able to hold the Soviet onslaught.

The Belgorod direction was the only sector where the enemy achieved some success during his offensive. That success proved to be only temporary; the roles have now been exchanged. Less than a month after they launched their offensive the Germans have been forced to retreat.



These Red Army men are using anti-tank rifles against enemy aircraft

Radiophoto

CAPTURE OF MTSENSK

(Continued from page four)

but our troops crossing the river from the northeast had already broken into the streets.

While our infantry rushed the northern outskirts, a tank group fought on the southern outskirts, silencing German machine-gun nests set up in brick buildings. The enemy's attempts to withdraw his threat-

ened troops cost him heavy losses in manpower and materiel.

The success of the operations of our troops resulting in the capture of Mtsensk was largely predetermined by previously carried out flanking thrusts of our tank forces and infantry, which reached this area from the northeast. Thus even before the attacks in the Mtsensk area the enemy's morale had been undermined by the danger of encirclement.

SOUTH OF IZYUM

By Major P. Agibalov

MOSCOW, July 20.—Fighting has developed in one of the sectors south of the city of Izyum. Although of local character, battles are gaining in scale and ferocity. In a number of districts our infantry units have come in contact with the enemy. Infantry operations receive the support of tanks, aircraft and artillery. At times the battles develop into hand-to-hand fighting in trenches and dugouts. All this is a prelude to future fierce battles. These clashes have resulted in improved positions for our troops.

The enemy is striving hard to hold his present positions. A Soviet unit, dislodging the enemy from a favorable position, immediately set about strengthening its defenses. Several minutes later the Germans counter-attacked. Eighteen enemy tanks moved on our defenses, with infantry following in the wake of the armored machines. The commander of the Soviet unit pitted the tank destroyer section against the attacking tanks. Meanwhile, Guards, mortar and rifle units opened heavy fire on the infantry. The Germans were pressed to the ground and the tanks began to maneuver, taking cover in gullies and underbrush, seeking a new opening. But as soon as they left cover tank destroyers met them with heavy fire. Before many minutes, five tanks were aflame while the remainder again sought shelter. The infantry

also retreated and our unit continued to strengthen its position.

In another sector a German infantry battalion attempted to deal a blow at our flank. The attack was supported by bombers seeking to pave a way for the infantry. But Soviet fighter planes intercepted the enemy aircraft and frustrated the plan. The enemy tank and infantry counter-attack also failed. Germans moving on our flank encountered Soviet artillery fire. The enemy attempted to entrench but were attacked from the rear by our rifle units. A brief struggle ensued. Finding themselves in a semi-circle, the enemy battalion and tanks rushed about in confusion. The German soldiers began to scatter. Our Tommy gunners, riflemen and artillerymen accounted for most of them; very few escaped with their lives.

A fierce battle raged in the vicinity of an inhabited locality. The Germans held several fortified positions, in addition to a large number of strong points. Encountering strong resistance, our units outflanked the enemy, attacking the Germans from both sides. The Germans continued to resist stubbornly. Seeing this, several gun crews took up advanced positions, and silencing enemy firing points, paved the way for the infantry. Some time later our troops captured the enemy positions. The German garrison was almost completely annihilated.

LITHUANIANS, LATVIANS AND ESTONIANS FIGHT THE GERMAN INVADERS

In national units forming part of the Red Army, Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians, shoulder to shoulder with the peoples of the USSR, are fighting the German invaders.

Latvian units fought bravely in the battles at the approaches to Moscow and in other sectors of the front. The Latvian Rifle Division has been reformed into a Guards Division, and hundreds of Latvian rank-and-file fighters and officers have been awarded orders and medals. Sniper Lieutenant Jans Wilhelms, Hero of the Soviet Union, has received the Distinguished Service Medal of the United States. Latvian riflemen have put tens of thousands of Hitlerite officers and soldiers out of action and captured abundant trophies. They fought beside tanks in the rout of the German hordes at Stalingrad.

Estonian national units in the Red Army took part in the fighting for Velikie Luki, where they wiped

out 3,500 Germans and took 1,500 prisoners, including Von Sass, Commandant of Velikie Luki, and his staff. After the battle for Velikie Luki, the Estonian units received the Order of the Supreme Commander in Chief, Marshal of the Soviet Union Stalin, commending them on their successful operations. Some 1,000 officers and rank-and-file of the Estonian units have been decorated with orders and medals.

The Lithuanian national formation in the Red Army displayed great heroism in battering the Hitlerites in the winter of 1943. In the July engagements the Hitlerites hurled large forces supported by tanks against Lithuanian units, who did not waver but staunchly repulsed all attacks and utterly routed the Germans, killing and wounding several thousand and disabling many tanks and other equipment. About 900 men and officers of Lithuanian units have been decorated with orders and medals by the Soviet Government.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

JULY 24, 1943

The Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky, Army General Vatutin and Colonel General Popov:

Yesterday, July 23, by the successful operation of our troops the German offensive of July from areas south of Orel and north of Belgorod and in the direction of Kursk was completely liquidated.

On the morning of July 5, German-fascist troops in large forces of tanks and infantry supported by numerous aircraft launched an offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod-Kursk directions. The Germans hurled into the offensive against our troops their main forces concentrated in the areas of Orel and Belgorod.

As has now become clear, the German Command put into action in the Orel-Kursk direction seven tank, two motorized and eleven infantry divisions, and in the Belgorod-Kursk direction ten tank, one motorized and seven infantry divisions. Thus in all 17 tank, three motorized and 18 German infantry divisions took part in the offensive on the enemy's side.

Having concentrated these forces in narrow sectors of the front, the German Command calculated by concentric blows from the north and the south in the general direction of Kursk to pierce our defenses and to surround and annihilate our troops stationed along the arc of the Kursk salient. This new German offensive did not catch our troops unawares. They were prepared not only to repulse the German offensive but to deal powerful counter-blows.

At the cost of tremendous losses in manpower and equipment the enemy succeeded only in wedging into our defenses to the depth of about nine kilometers in the Orel-Kursk direction and from 15 to 35 kilometers in the Belgorod-Kursk direction.

In fierce engagements our troops wore down and bled white the picked German divisions and by subsequent resolute counter-blows not only hurled the enemy back and completely restored the positions they had occupied prior to July 5, but broke through enemy defenses and advanced from 15 to 25 kilometers in the direction of Orel.

The battles fought to liquidate the German offen-

sive have demonstrated the high degree of military training of our troops, the unsurpassed examples of perseverance, staunchness and heroism of the Red Army men and commanders of all arms, including artillerymen, trench mortar gunners, tankists and fliers.

Thus the German plan of a summer offensive should be considered a complete failure. Thus the myth that in summer the Germans always score successes in an offensive, whereas Soviet troops allegedly have to retreat, has been exposed.

In the battles for the liquidation of the German offensive the following troops particularly distinguished themselves: the troops under the command of Lieutenant General Pukhov, Lieutenant General Galanin, Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Rodin, Lieutenant General Romanenko, Lieutenant General Kolpakchi, Lieutenant General Chistyakov, Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Katukov, Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Rotmistrov, Lieutenant General Zhadov, Lieutenant General Shumilov, Lieutenant General Kryuchenkin and the fliers of air formations under the command of Colonel General of Aviation Golovanov, Lieutenant General of Aviation Krassovsky, Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko and Lieutenant General of Aviation Naumenko.

In the course of the fighting from July 5 to July 23 the enemy sustained the following losses: over 70,000 officers and men killed, 2,900 tanks, 195 gun carriers and 844 field guns disabled or destroyed, 1,392 aircraft and over 5,000 trucks destroyed.

I congratulate you and the troops under your command on the successful completion of the liquidation of the German summer offensive. I thank all Red Army men, commanders and political workers of the troops under your command for the excellent combat actions.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell on the field of battle in the struggle for the freedom and honor of our motherland.

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER IN CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

IN THE OREL AREA

By Major P. Olender

MOSCOW, July 25.—Soviet troops continue to press their offensive in the Orel area, and breaking down the enemy's stubborn resistance have again advanced. The frequent counter-attacks of the Germans are being successfully repulsed and they are being steadily pushed back.

The area around one of the enemy's resistance centers continues to be the scene of stiff fighting. A Soviet regiment managed to advance south of this area; the Germans tried to threaten its flank by shifting troops somewhat to the north of it and launching one counter-attack after another. However, the flanks of the Soviet regiment proved reliably protected and the counter-attacking Germans sustained heavy losses without achieving any material success. Thereupon, apparently having rushed up fresh reinforcements on motor vehicles, the enemy launched a new series of fierce counter-attacks. However, the Soviet troops also re-formed and created even more reliable protection for their flanks. Fighting gained in intensity and German losses in lives and materiel mounted. Several times the Germans managed to advance to within a short distance of the Soviet positions, only to be hurled back. Fighting in this area continues unabated.

In another sector Soviet forces advanced and captured several inhabited places. Here too the Germans strongly counter-attacked again and again, but were repulsed even when they enjoyed superiority of forces. In one of the counter-attacks German infantry was supported by six tanks; when the assault was beaten off all the tanks were left in flames on the battlefield.

Stubborn fighting is raging on the western bank of the river which Soviet troops recently forced, capturing at the same time several German strong-points. The repeated attempts of the enemy to hurl

our advancing forces back across the river have ended in failure, not a single Soviet unit retiring. On the contrary, as soon as they observed the enemy was weakening, Soviet troops launched a vigorous assault and forced him to retreat.

Fighting around the enemy's strong points is particularly ferocious. Soviet troops wedge in between these resistance centers, disrupting their fire systems and preventing the enemy from maneuvering. This facilitates the action of the attackers, who by-pass the strongpoints and seek the weakest points for attack. In these battles for strong points extensive use is made of assault groups ably supported by anti-tank guns which batter down the enemy's fire nests and shelters.

The Germans are making every attempt to destroy the pontoon bridges across the river in an effort to stem the Soviet advance. Yesterday groups of 20 to 25 planes repeatedly attacked the bridges, but were greeted by Soviet fighters and anti-aircraft fire and forced to retire with heavy losses.



In the Orel-Kursk direction: Soviet artillerymen move up to a firing position

Radiophotos

IN THE BELGOROD AREA

By Major K. Bukovsky

MOSCOW, July 25.—Soviet forces attacking in the Belgorod area continue to drive the Germans back from one line of defenses to another. The Germans are resisting desperately, trying to make a halt on intermediate lines and employing literally every hamlet, height and stream for defensive purposes. They also mine all roads and forest paths accessible to tanks. However, Soviet troops are successfully breaking down all obstacles, repulsing the enemy's

repeated counter-attacks and inflicting heavy losses on him.

At all stages of the offensive Soviet infantry receives continuous artillery support, thanks to the effective way in which the artillery maneuvers both its fire and wheels. Regimental and anti-tank guns keep well up with the advancing infantry and are always ready to clear the road for it when necessary. Yesterday a group of German tanks endeavoring to cover

the retreat of their infantry came out to meet the advancing Soviet forces and opened fire from a standstill. The Soviet infantry dropped to the ground, while the batteries escorting them fired several volleys at the tanks. Two were set on fire and the rest hastily beat a retreat. The Soviet troops drove the Germans from their positions, capturing prisoners and booty.

Since the Germans densely mine their lines of retreat, the Soviet command must make frequent calls upon the services of the sappers, who act in close contact with infantry and tanks. The leading tanks usually carry a number of sapper scouts who keep a watchful eye on the route of the advance. As soon as they notice anything suspicious they signal the command to stop while they examine the road. Sometimes the sappers clear the roads of mines; at other times they look for convenient detours. Ad-

vanced sappers also strengthen bridges and improve declivities.

The Soviet air force continues to deal telling blows at the retreating enemy, the action of the Stormoviks being particularly effective. On one occasion air reconnaissance reported the movement of a large column of German troops and machines along a high-road in a southerly direction. Six Ilyushin-2s immediately set out for the point and battered the column without let-up for several hours, smashing scores of motor vehicles, tanks and guns, and killing many of the enemy.

The Soviet offensive in the Belgorod area is developing successfully and the ground lost since the opening of the German offensive on July 5 is now completely recovered.

TIGERS

By David Zaslavsky

The Germans selected the tiger from all the other animals to express the very essence of their new heavy tanks. What is there in common between the living tiger and the steel machine of the German Reich? The tiger is a beast of prey. In that respect, at any rate, it is close to the Hitlerite. The tiger belongs to the cat family: for the mouse there is no animal stronger than the cat.

Let us look at Brehm's book. This man, who was a famous animal expert, was a German of the old school.

He wrote of the tiger: *"The tiger should on no account be considered a terrible beast. He is not only cautious and cunning, but even cowardly. The tiger is only strong when he meets a coward. The tiger lies in ambush for humans, suddenly springs; when this happens he is very dangerous."*

"But," continues Brehm, *"it is not likely that a single tiger can stand up against a cool-headed, determined opponent."* Thus, cool-headedness and determination are true methods of combating tigers. They are terribly afraid of fire. Living tigers flee from a burning brand, the mechanical tigers from bottles of inflammable liquid.

Fearless hunters kill tigers without much difficulty. We read in Brehm's book: *"The devastation caused among men by tigers has considerably decreased, so hunters tell us, some of whom have killed as many as 100 tigers."* We haven't yet any old timers who have accounted for a hundred "Tigers," but we're progressing.

The English scientist Ford sees a resemblance between the roar of the tiger and the braying of the ass. He says: *"The voice of the tiger involuntarily gives the impression of terrible strength. The tiger tries to scare all animals, even adult humans, with his roaring."*

It's clear now why the Germans gave their new tanks the name of "Tiger." The German tank has the same soul as the tiger. The mechanical tiger is as strong and brave as the living tiger, but the steel armor is no more an indication of strength than the claws of the living beast of prey.

No tiger, living or mechanical, can stand up to a courageous, cool, determined opponent.



A group of 16-year-old Germans taken prisoner in the Kuban Valley

Radiophoto

THE BATTLE OF BOLKHOV

By Guards Lieutenant Colonel Malinin

The city of Bolkhov, the northernmost fortress protecting the Germans' Orel group, was an important link in the enemy's Orel-Karachev-Bolkhov defense triangle. It is natural that the Bolkhov fighting was marked by unusual stubbornness, and that the enemy did all in his power to hold this important stronghold.

The original attack on Bolkhov was begun from the north and southwest. Later a blow was also struck from the northeast. Soviet units advancing from the north broke through the strongly-fortified enemy defense zone considered impregnable by the Germans and rapidly moved forward, widening the gap. By the end of the fourth day of the offensive they had advanced several dozen kilometers and considerably increased the extent of the break-through. A simultaneous thrust from the southwest threatened the enemy's southwestern communications, compelling the Germans to resist stubbornly on the city's further approaches.

Here as well as all along the area of the breakthrough, the Germans held a large number of well-fortified inhabited places and also made good use of thick forests in the area. Both large and small inhabited places are prepared for all-round defense, stone and wooden buildings having been converted into fortified firing nests, the villages surrounded by minefields and well-equipped with trenches, the woods covered with booby traps and obstacles and filled with groups of automatic riflemen and snipers who made repeated attempts to outflank the Soviet troops and infiltrate among their formations.

The fighting in the woods was extremely mobile. As a rule the Soviet troops by-passed the resistance centers of the enemy's strongpoints and moved against his flanks. The German garrisons were in constant danger of encirclement, and either withdrew or were destroyed unless they surrendered.

Reaching the immediate approaches of Bolkhov, Soviet troops found themselves in open ground among numerous villages surrounding the city. The attackers entered the heavily fortified zone. The fact that the fighting was now taking place on open ground afforded extensive opportunity for air reconnaissance and bombing, and from that time on the Luftwaffe showed increased activity.

Fierce fighting ensued at numerous points on three sides of the city. Soviet troops attacking in the direction of the Bolkhov-Karachev highway and from the northeast toward the Bolkhov-Orel highway encountered particularly stubborn resistance. The Bolkhov-Orel highway was the only road left to the Bolkhov group of the enemy for escape in case of defeat and the enemy concentrated his picked regiments, supported by a great number of tanks, artil-

lery and mortars in these two sectors. Almost every Soviet attack was followed by counter-attacks; fighting was extremely ferocious in character, the enemy contesting every road and every hill. But our advancing troops slowly but surely pressed back the Germans. One Soviet unit succeeded in crossing the Bolkhov-Karachev highway, capturing the village of Rudnevo, while another Soviet unit entered the village of Dolbilovo near the highway. The Germans could no longer use this line of communication and their position became still more precarious.

In other sectors, too, Red Army troops captured several inhabited places despite vigorous enemy counter-actions; the fortified zone which the Germans had lost hope of holding was becoming narrower.

The capture of Lutovinovo endangered the flank of the German group directly influencing the progress of the fighting in the area of Bolkhov itself. Evidently realizing that encirclement threatened, the enemy began to withdraw. Moving up a considerable group of automatic riflemen to the extreme south of the city, and bringing a group of tanks forward, the Germans counter-attacked in the direction of Lutovinovo. Soviet troops defended themselves fiercely but the enemy onslaught was steadily increasing in force and some Soviet detachments were obliged to fall back. A heavy engagement with German tanks ensued in the Lutovinovo area. The enemy lost a number of machines and some groups of automatic riflemen were cut off and destroyed. Soviet troops then launched a decisive attack and again pushed the Germans back, capturing the village of Lipovka near the Bolkhov-Orel highway. Some time after, Red Army units took possession of the village of Zaretskaya and broke through inside the city limits.

Street fighting began in the southern part of Bolkhov and powerful Soviet assaults led to the capture of several enemy support points. The Germans attempted to hold out along the river but were routed by blows delivered from two directions. Part of the enemy's troops was destroyed and others were thrown to the opposite bank.

The Soviet success in the southern part of Bolkhov probably had a decisive effect on subsequent fighting in the city. The Bolkhov-Orel highway had been cut and the Germans were receiving blows from several sides. The enemy began to retire.

A few hours later Soviet troops were in complete possession of Bolkhov. They captured a large amount of arms, ammunition and motor vehicles. The streets and approaches to the city were strewn with Nazi dead. The loss of Bolkhov and the well-fortified defense zone north of Orel was undoubtedly a major defeat for the Germans.

LEONID LEONOV WRITES TO AMERICA

Leonid Leonov's first "Letter to an Unknown Friend" appeared in the INFORMATION BULLETIN of November 19, 1942. The second follows in this issue.

The author, an outstanding contemporary Russian writer and Stalin Prize Winner, was born in Moscow in 1899. He finished high school in 1917 and volunteered as a soldier in the Revolutionary Army during the Civil War. Later he became editor of the newspaper of the celebrated 15th Division, which stormed and captured Perekop, the fortified isthmus barring the entrance to the Crimea.

After the Civil War, Leonov worked as a journalist. In 1924 he wrote *BADGERS*, a lengthy novel dealing with the Russian peasantry in the Civil War, which sold 600,000 copies and was translated into a number of foreign languages. He followed this with *THE THIEF*, in 1927; *SOD*, on the building of the new Russia, in 1929; and *SKUTAREVSKY*, a story of the Rus-

sian intelligentsia, in 1932. In 1936 appeared what is perhaps his most important work, *THE ROAD TO THE OCEAN*. *THE THIEF* and *SKUTAREVSKY* have been translated into English.

Leonov has written a dozen plays, staged in leading Soviet theaters. His talent was highly appraised by Maxim Gorky. He won the Stalin Prize for the play *INVASION*, written during the present war; previously the Soviet Government had honored him with the Order of the Red Banner. His new play, *ALYONUSHKA*, based on the heroic exploits of Soviet guerrillas, has just been completed.

Married in 1923, Leonov has two daughters: Elena, 15, and Natalya, 11. Elena is already writing plays about the war; she finished five while her father was still toiling over the first act of his latest. The author's hobbies are gardening, cactus-growing and wood-carving.

A SECOND LETTER TO AN UNKNOWN AMERICAN FRIEND

By Leonid Leonov

The grim tale I am about to tell you concerning a Russian mother and her child should be engraved on brass, for it is a tale capable of burning any paper on which it is written. You, my unknown American friend, can easily form a picture of the two heroines of my true story, which has filled our newspapers for the past week.

They are a five-year-old girl and her mother. The child looked exactly as your daughter looked this morning when you kissed her so tenderly as you left for work. Her mother very much resembled your wife, of whom you are so proud, except that she was not dressed so well and her face was worn with care and fatigue. Life in a German-occupied city in the Kuban is somewhat harder than under the skies of America.

Mother and daughter lived in a tiny house, one corner of which had been blown away by a shell in the recent fighting in the city. Pots of balsam stood in the windows. There was no one to repair the damaged house; the father of the family was serving with the Red Army and had withdrawn with his regiment; somewhere in the distant front line he was striking hard and without rest at the bony face of death now hovering over all civilized society. The front had withdrawn deep into the country and the roar of Russian guns—that wrathful voice of a country risen in defense—was no longer heard in this quiet city. Now nothing but gloom and misery reigned.

It was a day in early winter. Snow had not yet

fallen, but frost locked the earth and the puddles were covered with a layer of lancet-like ice. In our childhood we all loved to step on these brittle, glassy surfaces and hear the merry music of winter. On that sunless morning the child begged to go outside. The mother had not the heart to deny her daughter this small pleasure. Wrapping her as warmly as possible in their few remaining rags, she let the child go with the injunction to stay near the house. Meanwhile the mother busied herself patching up a break in the wall with reeds and mud.

The little girl stood at the front-yard gate and smiled timidly, perhaps in an unconscious effort to lighten the vast sinister gloom that enveloped the city. Sparrows hopped and chirped, an airplane hummed somewhere in the clouds, German sentries marched with measured tread to their posts to change guard. Now and again timid snowflakes fell. The little girl caught some in the palm of her outstretched hand and watched as they first turned into transparent drops of moisture, then vanished altogether. She no longer had the gaily-colored mittens her grandmother had lovingly knitted for her; the night before there had been a "domicile search," and a German soldier on the lookout for booty apparently had a daughter of the same age in Germany.

Just as the little girl was becoming tired of her game, a noise at the end of the street attracted her attention. A large motor van with sham painted windows came to a standstill not far off. The driver, pulling off his gloves and lifting the hood of the motor,

began peacefully busying himself with its mechanism. A squad of German riflemen with fixed bayonets and a look of boredom came marching down the street in horseshoe formation, driving before them a group of unarmed citizens. They were about forty in all, young and old, carrying bundles. Some buttoned their coats as they walked; they had been routed out of their houses hastily and without warning. Mothers carried infants in their arms. Among the people were no men of fighting age or fitness.

The procession drew nearer, preceded by children. It had the appearance of a net drawn through shallow water by fishermen. The sight of such nets had become commonplace, and although the victims had forebodings of their future, none wept; they feared to aggravate the malice of these bored-looking soldiers. All expected to be taken somewhere to serve the interests of the Germans.

The little girl wanted to go, too. She loved riding in automobiles, although she had experienced that pleasure only once in her life. It had been a custom on holidays to drive the children through the streets in motor-trucks gaily decorated with flowers and flags. Usually the children sang. The memory of such a ride moved the little girl to search the approaching crowd for her playmate. She did not know that her little friend had been gravely injured when the Germans entered the city and had been buried the day before in the cherry orchard behind the barn.

The human dragnet reached the house with the pots of balsam in its windows and the little girl standing at the gate. The quota of victims had been reached. Now a command was given to the driver, who saluted, went to the back of the vehicle and opened its high, stout double doors. The people were then forced to climb into the van, German soldiers willingly lending a hand to those too weak or awkward to manage by themselves. One aged woman, who evidently had no great confidence in motor vehicles in general, surreptitiously crossed herself.

The little girl was not so much surprised at seeing the inside of the van lined with smooth gray metal as she was disappointed at the absence of windows, without which she could not imagine any pleasure in the ride. She was also perplexed when a tall, gaunt soldier bundled her under his arm as the Russians carry samovars and put her with the other children already loaded into the van. However, she smiled at him, hoping he would be careful. At this point her mother ran out onto the porch, her hair dishevelled, her arms covered with mud to the elbows. She dashed toward the child and snatched her up in her arms; she had seen this notorious vehicle at work the day before. She shrieked frantically, torn by maternal anguish. I should be very much surprised if her desperate cries were not heard in America. She shrieked so frenziedly that the startled soldiers did not even strike her down with their rifle butts when she seized her child and ran off with it.

Then the mother suddenly became silent, dropped to the earth and lay quietly, with the fantastic hope that she might be taken for dead, or pass unnoticed in the confusion. But the child did not understand her mother's stratagem. She tugged at her hand and kept repeating, "Mama, don't be afraid . . . I'll ride with you. Don't be afraid." She kept repeating the words as she was carried back to the zinc-lined van. At this all the others began to wail and moan from pity for the poor little girl, and loudest of all were the children's screams.

This was unseemly disorder . . . a thing abhorrent to the German soul. To nip it in the bud the clean-shaven corporal climbed into the van carrying a large metal tube in one hand and in the other a thin brush with a long handle, the kind of brush used to apply glue in offices. A black tongue of paste issued from the tube onto the brush. The corporal, pressing into the midst of the children, painted the lips of each with the black paste, and each child fell silent, forever cured of crying.

Sometimes, for greater certainty, this deathly reaper unerringly introduced his ointment into the child's nostrils. Like cut grass the children dropped, falling at the feet of the horror-crazed adults. The corporal must have had special training, so dexterously did he perform his monstrous task.

Now the soldiers had no difficulty in placing the unconscious mother of the little girl amid the pile of bodies on the floor. The doors were closed and locked. The driver climbed into his seat and started the motor. But the vehicle did not at once move toward its destination. The officer lit a cigarette, the soldiers stood at ease. Everything was again peaceful. Nothing broke the silence, neither the noisy Krasnodar sparrows nor . . . strangely enough . . . the sound of the exhaust from the motor.

The vehicle continued to stand quietly, but from time to time it would list strangely, as though the metal itself were shuddering at the role assigned to it. When the officer had finished his cigarette and the spasmodic shuddering of the van had ceased, he gave a signal and the vehicle moved swiftly over the frozen mud, making for the outskirts of the city, toward a deep anti-tank trench into which the German authorities daily dumped their human catch . . .

Now that the Red Army has returned to this area, the immense grave has been opened and those who wish for powerful sensations may examine photographs of Hitler's triumphs of conquest . . .

This brief scenario, capable of rousing a whole continent to arms, I present as a gift to Hollywood, whose sweeping initiative and collective genius I profoundly admire. Unquestionably it would make something far more sensational than the usual run of gangster films and would serve as a vivid record for posterity of the moral state of the German section of

humanity in the middle of the 20th Century. Nor would it be a bad thing to show this feature film to the armies of the freedom-loving nations which for more than a year have been patiently awaiting the command for a general offensive against the number one fiend of all ages and generations.

Of course, the filming will meet with difficulties. An actress will find it hard to reproduce the awful cry of the mother. Even more, the film could scarcely endure it. Both to director and audience the details I have briefly described and the apparatus used will seem fantastic, incredible. And though it was not my intention to write a dispatch from hell, it is perhaps necessary to add a few brief, technical explanations on this score. I have difficulty, however, in translating into English the name given by Russians to this unparalleled vehicle invented in Germany for dispatching people into eternity.

"Dushegubka"—which might be translated as "murder car"—is the word. This murder car is an eight-ton Diesel-engined truck with a closed body lined with sheets of reliable metal which can neither be bitten nor scratched. The exhaust from the motor is pumped into this hermetically-sealed chamber by a pipe with a screen to prevent its becoming stopped up. Hot, dense fumes of carbon monoxide immediately fill the chamber and rapidly devour the haemoglobin in the blood of victims confined in it. At first they experience a stifling feeling and dizziness; then . . . but there is no point in describing the rest of the ghastly symptoms. And indeed, it is hardly necessary for the film we have in mind.

Incidentally, these symptoms are described in detail in classical German works on toxicology by Binz Schmiederberg and Kunkel. As we see, the achievements of German science are now being pressed into service by the scoundrels to whom Germany has today entrusted her national destiny and existence. And when Goebbels loudly brags from all his radio stations about German culture he apparently expects his future victims to preserve to their last dying breath a respectful veneration for the hangman's glistening machinery.

The extermination of human beings has been raised to a fabulous peak of efficiency and cheapness. The notorious poisons of history—the diabolical draughts of the Borgias; the venom of Queen Elizabeth's favorite, the Earl of Leicester; the poison of the Marquise de Brinvilliers, elegant as Mozart's music; or the pallid "aqua tofanna" which was sold in the middle ages in handsome phials and only to the rich—all these are nothing but expensive toys for petty individual use. Even Locusta herself, whom they only thought of executing after great delay under Emperor Galba, would turn green with envy of Hitler, who has included the exhaust gas of a Diesel motor among the weapons of the German army. And indeed, one cannot expect him to obtain carbon monoxide by

—let us say—breaking down oxalic acid by means of a strong solution of slightly warmed sulphuric acid.

This mechanical Juggernaut which so far tours only the occupied regions of Russia, is staffed by a special squad, the "Sonderkommando," consisting of 200 men. They perform their duties not in the pathological frenzy of battle, but in the sober and deliberate manner of men attending to an important affair of state. They keep a register, with columns in which are entered the date and method of execution, number, sex, nationality and age of victims exterminated in the course of each day.

One can hardly believe these sinister bookkeepers of death also had mamas who fondled them in their infancy and prayed to God to grant happiness to their toadlike offspring.

The cost of maintaining the large personnel of the "Sonderkommando" is fully compensated by the magnitude of their activities. Bearing in mind the maximum capacity of the murder cars, which accommodate 80 living beings, and allowing ten minutes for the gas to take effect (it would not require longer for the sturdiest blacksmith to succumb), plus 20 minutes for each round trip, including unloading—and the capacity of this motor van may be estimated at 1,500 victims daily. Thus a battalion of these machines, even if used moderately but continuously, may depopulate a flourishing area with two million inhabitants in one month.

Imagine these men as masters of the earth, my dear friend . . . and shudder for your loved ones. My country has cursed this foul devil's arithmetic in word and deed. It is clear to my countrymen that if there were no guns in the world, this armored nest of assassins would have to be destroyed with one's naked hands. And I love my motherland because her mind and heart are not divorced from her will and strength, because, proud in the justice of her cause, she marches in advance of all nations in storming the last stronghold of evil.

Can you see her, America—smiting without rest or pause the dragon which has wound its toils around her feet? Sacred blood shed in the world's cause pours down her face, yet who will say her face is not beautiful? This is why my motherland is today becoming the spiritual motherland of all who believe in the triumph of justice on earth.

To reach the eternal stars men have always had to pass through stern trials, but never before has man glanced into such an abyss. We are no longer aware of spring or of midday. Rivers of molten steel flow to meet the rivers of blood. No one will be surprised if the flour baked from the grain of tomorrow's harvest be red, and bitter as gunpowder. Steel itself is shattered on the fields of Russia—but not the Red Army.

Under similar conditions in Biblical times, Ezekiel

rose up from the people's midst with burning words of denunciation. In all times they have appeared, these watchtowers of genuine humanism, bringing glad tidings to men on earth. Do you remember the giant, Leo Tolstoy? Ardent Barbusse, Gorky and Zola? Their call was taken up by a million voices . . . and the vile egotism of commerce made way for conscience, and the atmosphere of the world became purer. Do you remember and venerate Fyodor Dostoevsky, whose works stand on your bookshelves? That man once impetuously raised his hand against Providence itself when he saw the tears of an ill-treated child.

What would they have said now, these champions of justice, if they had entered a children's hospital where lie our little ones whose fragile bodies have learned the injustice of this earth—hiding the stumps of their arms beneath the bed-clothes in shame for the adults who were unable to protect them from the gangsters' fury? What would they say to the inveterate Pontius Pilates who wash their hands . . . and wash them in vain, for the blood of these innocents still clings to them? They would be amazed at the human race, in which even the burning flames in the eyes of thousands of children have not melted the bronze of the wrathful tocsin.

Every father is the father of all children on earth—every child is the child of all fathers. This is truth . . . and unless it is acknowledged our planet will never regain its health and sanity. It is the urgent duty of all the fathers of the earth to stay the swift and ruthless hand of the slayer as it is raised to strike. Otherwise, of what use are our academies and mighty industrial plants, our religions and temples, the wisdom of statesmen? Or do we preserve all this only to flatter our morbid and cautious vanity?

Nazism, that frightful ulcer of Europe, gapes no less vilely amid the deceptive felicities of our civilization than if the long, curling tail of our simian ancestors were to peep out from the folds of the professor's gown. Can one observe the stars from the floor of an observatory soaked in blood? If so, let us admit the heinous falsity of all that man has so far, with such duplicity and haughty arrogance, created. Perhaps we ourselves are nothing but painted stumps compared with those beautiful and perfect beings who will one day condemn my contemporaries for tolerating on the earth the foulest of all diseases.

But, no . . . it is not true! This earth is beautiful, despite the villains who defile it. Beautiful, too, are our children and women, our gardens, our books filled to the brim with pure wisdom. Man will yet rise to his full stature—and this will form the subject of a poem more significant than the stories of David and Goliath or Hercules. My people believe this and cherish their friends . . . both those who will march together with them to punish the savage in his lair and those who at the risk of their lives carry ammunition to the firing lines. And no slander can

disunite these comrades-in-arms, noble in their historical aspirations and cemented by the blood of common deeds of heroism.

They have been made kin by the flames of Warsaw and Belgrade, by the ruins of Stalingrad and Coventry. The names of the inventors of total war have been seared into the expanses of Europe by thermite bombs. And on that day when one of these criminals, enumerating the advantages of night raids on peaceful cities, warned the nations that if they dared retaliate in kind . . . "woe to him who loses total war" . . . on that day the prisoner in the dock passed sentence on himself.

Now it is being carried into effect. Widows and orphans see with joy the transfigured, wrathful and courageous face of mankind. Country after country and whole continents, armored in steel, are rising in defense of human rights. All are possessed with the impatient expectation of victory. Colossus himself strives to grow greater—to diminish the period of frightful bloodshed. The flower of the nations is donning khaki, iron saurians rumble from factory belts until there are not enough pens for them in their native continents, mistresses of the ocean glide down the ways into the darkness of night, flocks of iron birds more formidable than the birds of the Apocalypse hover wing to wing over the plains.

And when one mentally contemplates the sum total of steel, men and reserves of the freedom-loving countries, one firmly believes that mountains cannot withstand the assault of this materialized wrath. The mere sight of this invincible power causes the heart of the criminal to shudder. The instrument of execution is coming into action. Almost every week factories in the Ruhr and railway centers in France quake to the concussion of bombs.

Why, then, do the criminals not flee from justice? Invincible hordes surrendered to Genghis Khan at the mere warning, before a blow had been struck. Armadas have sailed to the African shores . . . yet the criminals calmly discuss in scientific councils and in their medical colleges plans for the methodical extermination of Russian and then of other children. In storm and tempest the armies of retribution set foot on Cape Bon and Lampedusa . . . yet the criminals ceremoniously present a knightly cross to the diabolical engineer who invented the murder car. The wrath of the world is washing the shores of Sicily . . . yet, as though in mockery of the planned measures of the Allies, Hitler hurls his panzer corps into an offensive against the USSR, and herds of iron Tigers leave their dens to attack our defenders.

Why is the Nazi gang in Berlin so unperturbed? Or do the scoundrels know something which the nations who are devoting their efforts to victory do not know? The newspapers of the world are full of threats to Berlin. I am familiar with Cato's cele-

brated statement, "Delendam esse Carthaginem" . . . "Carthage must be destroyed" . . . but I did not know that Carthage dared at that moment to mock the wrathful Cato. I hardly expect to become famous as a strategist. Not having peeped into the sacred secrets of the General Staffs I cannot even roughly grasp the logic of the great plan by which fascism is to be destroyed. I am a simple man who writes black on white for 150 millions of my people. I have always thought the path of justice was as straight as the sun's ray and that the sword of justice is brought down swiftly—for its purpose is not to cautiously shave the hairy neck of the assassin.

Perhaps I am wrong, but it seems to me that a mature man who poisons a five-year-old girl in a zinc coffin deserves a spontaneous blow not in the heel, but in the breast, or at least in the face. They are not Achilles . . . these Berlin lords. Of course, all roads lead to Rome, but nonetheless a straight line remains the shortest distance between two points.

I know how precious your time is, my American friend. I am glad my last letter reached your hands, and perhaps your heart. Of the numerous letters I know to have been written me, I have not received a single one. Evidently the postal service of the world functions only in one direction—the direction

of the sun. I do not expect that the great strategists who are occupied with large plans will answer my message. Sometimes I would dearly love to see what their faces are like when they are alone with themselves.

But I do believe you will spare a moment to share your views on this most burning question of the day. You and I know that friendship, the true world friendship in which our planet will henceforth live, is today being created by common struggle on the battlefield.

Your dear wife is serving your supper and your five-year-old daughter on your knees hastens to tell you of all the many and complex incidents in the daily life of herself and her doll. Night pushes forward the hands of the clock, and the noises of your beautiful, unblack-out city float in through your windows . . .

Good-night, my unknown American friend. Kiss your dear little daughter and tell her about the Russian soldier who this very night, amid the roar and thunder of death, is moving along the Euclidean line straight to the west . . . for the sake of all the little ones in the world. The responsive heart of a child loves the stories of great heroes.

DECLARATION OF THE UKRAINIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ON HITLERITE CRIMES IN THE UKRAINE

The culture of the multi-million Ukrainian people has existed for more than a thousand years. Scores of times in its stormy history the Ukraine has fought heroically for her independence. After the invasions of the Tatar hordes, the Hungarians and the German robbers, after the onerous rule of the Polish and Lithuanian feudal lords, the people perseveringly restored and recreated all that had been laid waste. Through centuries of ruin the people's spirit survived, and the deathless flame of their culture could not be extinguished.

During the Soviet period which saw the flowering of the Ukrainian Republic and its culture, our people for the first time were insured an opportunity for full and fruitful scientific development in their own tongue.

The Ukrainians were disgusted and repelled by the infamous fascist nonsense about the higher Teutonic race, which not only claims superiority, but also the right to destroy all who do not belong to it. The fascists hate our culture and will hesitate before no baseness to destroy or humiliate it. The growth of our culture from year to year infuriated them.

During the years of Soviet power literacy became general in the Ukrainian Republic. Attendance at

elementary schools increased by nearly 57 times, and in secondary schools by 14 times. Five-and-a-half million children were being taught in their own language in elementary and secondary schools. The Ukraine had more than 37,000 libraries with 48,000,000 books. Higher education had developed successfully—over 124,000 students were attending courses in 129 higher educational institutes, and tens of thousands of highly-qualified Ukrainian engineers, agronomists, doctors and teachers had been graduated from them. Scientific research was undertaken on an extensive scale during those years; in 1940 there were 145 scientific institutes in the Ukraine.

The insensate fury of fascism vented itself with particular ferocity on our country. Wherever German soldiers set foot our universities and institutes were wrecked, our libraries and laboratories sent up in flames and our cultural treasures systematically plundered, on the instructions of "scholarly" robbers sent especially for that purpose.

The Hitlerite invaders wrecked the memorials to Ukrainian culture built during many centuries. Violating international conventions and in particular the decisions signed by Germany herself at the Hague Conference on October 18, 1907 (whereby it is forbidden to seize, damage or destroy things of cultural

art or of scientific or educational value during war), the fascists, in obedience to the direct orders of the German Government and their own military command, are destroying or plundering the cultural treasures of the Soviet peoples.

Kiev's museums, archives and libraries are wrecked and pillaged. Valuable exhibits, pictures, portraits and sculptures in the Kiev Museums of Ukrainian, Russian, Western and Eastern Art, and the Central Shevchenko Museum, have been sent to Berlin. Rare manuscripts and ancient printed volumes, among them the Ukrainian Annals and Ivan Fyodorov's first printed books dating from the 16th Century, were stolen. The Hitlerites seized documents from the archives of the Kiev Metropolitans and from the Lavra Monastery, and books from the personal library of the renowned Metropolitan Peter Mogila, who lived in the 17th Century. The libraries, archives and laboratories of the Kiev scientific and higher educational institutes have been robbed and wholly dismantled. Very many buildings of historic interest and architectural value have been reduced to ruins.

Kharkov's galleries and museums have been stripped of their paintings, sculptures, carpets, tapestries and embroideries. The city's archives and libraries have been plundered. The fine old buildings and memorials of this ancient Ukrainian city have perished in flames.

The museums of Odessa have been plundered by German and Rumanian troops, who also destroyed the State Library containing over 2,000,000 volumes, the more valuable of which were taken to Germany.

Churches dating from the 11th and 12th Centuries were destroyed during the bombing of the Ukrainian Ravenna—Chernigov—by the barbarians. The unique Museum of Ukrainian Culture, exhibits for which

were collected by V. Tarovsky, was robbed of its most valuable pictures, manuscripts, portraits of Ukrainian leaders, and ikons by Ukrainian and Russian artists.

The Poltava Region possessed a very valuable library of 500,000 volumes; this was also plundered. The personal library which belonged to Gnedich, the poet Pushkin's friend and translator of *The Iliad*, also suffered. This particular library included a large collection of autographed volumes and first editions, and noted Russian and Ukrainian prints of the first half of the 19th Century. More than 60 packing cases of pictures by outstanding Ukrainian, Russian and Polish painters were taken from the Poltava Museum.

Men of science! You who have seen in science mankind's greatest treasure, who believe that creative, scientific thought, through its indefatigable labors, will lead mankind to freedom, brotherhood and happiness—you share our burning hatred for the fascist barbarians of the 20th Century. We call upon you to brand with shame those who have instigated and executed these crimes against all that mankind holds sacred.

Do everything within your power in order that together with the heroic armies—the Red Army of the USSR and the armies of its Allies, Great Britain and the United States—and all freedom-loving nations, you may hasten the approach of the great hour of victory over the hated enemy. For this will be the radiant hour of mankind's liberation.

The above declaration was unanimously approved by the session of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences held in the city of Ufa.

(Signed) ALEXANDER BOGOMOLETZ,
President

BYELORUSSIAN SCIENTISTS AGAINST HITLERISM

By Vladimir Pertsev

Member of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences

Soviet Byelorussia was one of the first areas in our country to suffer the treacherous assault of the Hitler hordes. From Byelostok to Vitebsk, from Brest to Gomel, the German barbarians marked their passage by the destruction of cities and the burning of villages.

Byelorussia was one of the most prosperous Soviet Republics. Many new branches of industry had been developed; science, national art and letters were flourishing. The children of workers, farmers and intellectuals were being taught in the 22 colleges and universities of the Republic. Over 200 newspapers were published, and 12,000,000 books printed annually

in the Byelorussian language. The scientists of Byelorussia worked for the benefit of the people. The Academy of Sciences with its numerous divisions, and other scientific institutions, carried out vast researches.

The perfidious attack of the Hitlerites checked the creative labor of the Byelorussian people and their scientists. The Germans destroyed the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences and plundered its valuable collection of documents and books. The huge Lenin Library in Minsk with its valuable collection of Slav books was burned, over 50 schools burned or wrecked.

The Medical College, from which 500 doctors were graduated annually; the Polytechnic Institute, with 4,000 students registered; the Institute of National Economy, the Pedagogical Institute and the Peat Institute, were destroyed.

In Vitebsk the Medical and Pedagogical Colleges were wrecked. In Gomel and Mogilev all colleges were destroyed. The world-famous Goryets Agricultural Academy, which celebrated its centenary shortly before the war, was reduced to a heap of ruins. The Germans plundered the valuable pictures and statuary of the Byelorussian State Art Gallery. In all towns and villages the public libraries were destroyed, and all research institutes and laboratories rendered useless. Four thousand elementary schools, hundreds of clubs and dozens of theaters and musical institutes were wiped out.

German fascism, striving to destroy all traces of the Byelorussian people, destroys its culture, science and art. The fascists will not succeed in destroying Bye-

lorussia, any more than they will succeed in subjugating the freedom-loving Byelorussian people.

Many Byelorussian scientists, writers, artists, composers, actors and other art workers were evacuated to the east, to the interior of the Soviet Union, where they now continue their work in various cities, making excellent use of their knowledge and talents to strengthen the defensive might of the country.

The Byelorussian people continue to wage a savage struggle against the Hitlerites. Byelorussian guerrilla troops fight to the death. The fascists are powerless to suppress the guerrillas—for the guerrillas are the whole people. Byelorussian scientists who were unable to leave before the fascists came are to be found in the ranks of the guerrillas. We know that the famous Byelorussian chemist, Academician Prilezhayev, is fighting in a guerrilla column. Ivan Gutorov, Secretary of the Senate of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences, has fought against the Germans for nearly two years.

THE MOSCOW PARISH CHURCH

By Dean Sergius Dayev

Pastor of the Rizopolzhenskaya Church and Secretary of the Moscow Patriarchate

Rizopolzhenskaya Parish lies between Serpukhovskaya and Kaluzhskaya Streets, in the area known in olden times as the Sparrow Field. Over 300 years ago the Tatar Khan of the Crimea, Kazy-Girei, took advantage of Russia's involvement in the war with Sweden and marched on Moscow with an army of 1,500,000 men. When the tidings reached the Capital, it was immediately put into a state of defense. Guns were mounted on the walls and towers and earthworks thrown up around the city. A portable chapel was erected in the field where the Rizopolzhenskaya Church now stands.

The Tatars approached the Capital with startling speed. The news was first received on July 3, 1591, and on the evening of the same day the enemy was outside the walls of Moscow. Fierce fighting continued throughout July 4, and Muscovites awaited with anxiety the dawn of the next day. But their fears were groundless. The Tatars fled from the field, hotly pursued by the Russians. Such is the glorious history of the site on which the Rizopolzhenskaya Church now stands.

When on June 22, 1941, the first shots were fired on the Soviet border, our parishioners heard the wise and moving words of Metropolitan Sergius, filled with deep love for the motherland and calling down God's blessing on all our country's defenders. The people flocked to the church, bringing to the altar love of country, faith in the victory of light over the forces of darkness, and hatred for the enemy. Each day since that time ardent prayers have been offered for the victory of Russian arms and for those who laid down their lives for the salvation of the country.

Among our parishioners are people from all walks of life, but in this hour of trial all differences are obliterated and everyone is marked by gravity, seriousness and purposefulness. These qualities are further deepened by frequent confession and communion. For example, a sturdy young soldier who has not been to confession for a long time approaches me. "I am leaving for the front; give me your blessing. Father," he requests.

"May God's blessing be with you. We shall ardently pray for you," I answer.

This is the brighter side of our work. But one meets people whose appearance fills one's heart with grief, people who have been under the German rule and have tested all the joys of the "new order." Recently Maria Filimonova, an old lady of 70, came to me, "I am in great affliction," she said. "The enemy has killed my father and mother." Her father was 100 years old, her mother almost the same age. A German soldier broke into their cottage and with sadistic brutality cut the old people's throats. My heart froze with horror when I heard this. In these acts of senseless criminality one seems to hear the brazen laughter of Satan, as if the 2,000 years of Christian civilization mean nothing to those who regard themselves as the representatives of culture.

Our church people have collected nearly 100,000 rubles for the National Defense Fund. The collection was initiated by the Chairman of the Church Council, A. Lebedeva, a noble and intelligent woman and a most active parish worker.

(Continued on page twelve)

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF JULY 23, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

The battle for Orel has been in progress for more than ten days. During this period the Red Army, which launched an offensive in the Orel direction, has been inflicting severe losses on the Germans and has captured hundreds of settlements, including the cities of Mtsensk and Bolkhov. With the capture of Bolkhov, Soviet troops wound up the liquidation of the strongly-fortified German zone north of Orel. Advancing from the north and east of Orel, Soviet troops reached the approaches to the city. The northern group of Soviet troops, after the capture of Mtsensk, continued the offensive along Tula-Orel railroad and highway and on July 21 captured the railway station of Optukha, 15 kilometers northeast of Orel.

The eastern group of Soviet troops, after crossing the Zusha, a tributary of the Oka, and advancing north and south along the Yeletz-Orel railroad, captured the railway station of Zolotarevo, 18 kilometers east of Orel. The southern group of Soviet troops, after capturing the station of Malo-Arkhar'sk, 75 kilometers south of Orel, continues to advance toward Orel along the Kursk-Orel railroad.

In view of the great strategic importance of the Orel salient, Hitler has thrown in fresh forces and is launching continuous counter-attacks with the support of tanks and aviation. In the last few days the Germans on the northern flank in the Orel direction massed a large group of infantry reinforced with a fresh panzer division, striving by continuous counter-attacks to stem the advance of Soviet troops. The German counter-attacks were repelled and Soviet troops continue their successful offensive.

The stubborn defense and fierce counter-attacks in the Orel direction are explained by the intention of the Hitler command to hold at all costs the Orel place d'armes, which is of as great importance in the southwestern section of the Soviet-German front as the Rzhev-Vyazma fortified area was in the western sector of the Soviet-German front in 1942. The loss of the Orel place d'armes would signify for the Germans in the southwestern sector the loss of an important base and strategic center of great importance for operations in the directions of Moscow and the south.

After the capture of Bolkhov and the approach of the vanguard of the northern group of Soviet troops to the Orel-Bryansk railroad line, the communications of the Orel group of German troops are being pushed back southwestward in the direction of Dmitriev-Orlovsky, where there are few highways and railroads.

Since July 20 the Red Army has been fighting engagements of local importance in the south in the Donbas, where Soviet troops crossed the Northern Donets and Mius rivers and captured a number of inhabited places and are exploiting their success.

The Hitlerites endeavor to gloss over the reverses suffered in the Orel sector, and Goebbel's propagandists again, as in 1942, have begun to talk about "elastic defensive operations" conducted by the Germans. The Hitlerite radio commentator General Dietmar, in a broadcast on July 20, argued that "real achievements must not be gauged by an apparent success, such as the capture of territory, but by the weakening of the enemy." The same line is pursued by General Kailander who, writing in the *Berliner Lokal Anzeiger* on July 17 states that "the purpose of the German strategic plans is not to capture territory but to weaken the enemy's fighting capacity." The Hitlerites, retreating under the blows of the Red Army, are thus compelled to speak a different language in order to explain away the fact that they are forced to evacuate Soviet territory captured as far back as 1941. By talk about "elastic defense" they seek to cover their army's defeat on the Soviet-German front and the failure of their summer offensive.

MOSCOW CHURCH

(Continued from page eleven)

The war has laid its imprint on all aspects of civil life, but the regime of our church remains unchanged. We hold a service daily at seven in the morning, and two on Sundays and holidays, at seven and ten in the morning, while on the eve of Sundays and holidays there is a service at six o'clock. As soon as the church opens, worshipers hasten to send up notes on which are written the names of their dear ones defending the country on the battlefield, whom they wish to have mentioned in prayers.

Here is an old woman whose two sons, whom she hoped to be her comfort in old age, have died heroic deaths. Her second son fell after killing 12 Germans. Naturally she mourns her sons, but she does not complain and in boundless submission to God's will fervently repeats after the priest the prayer for the welfare of their souls. She also prays for her third and last son, who is at the front continuing the work of his heroic brothers.

Material in this Bulletin may be quoted or reproduced

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LIQUIDATION OF THE GERMAN JULY OFFENSIVE

In an editorial on the Order of Supreme Commander-in-Chief Marshal Stalin on the liquidation of the German July offensive, PRAVDA writes:

Despite the Germans' far-reaching plans and huge concentration of troops and materiel in narrow sectors, our defenses proved too hard a nut for them to crack. The main forces of picked enemy troops concentrated in the Orel and Belgorod areas were hurled into the German summer offensive, but it smashed

against the staunchness, self-sacrifice, discipline, organization and military skill of our troops.

On July 23 the Red Army successfully completed the liquidation of the German July offensive. The initiative in battle passed to the Red Army. The Germans were compelled to retreat, suffering enormous losses in men and materiel. Fighting now in progress shows the increased military strength of the Soviet Union. It demonstrates that in the course



IN THE OREL-KURSK DIRECTION—Captain of the Guards Vasili Kubarev (left) who has just brought down a German fighter, is congratulated by his comrades

Radiophoto

of the Patriotic War the Red Army has become a formidable force; that it has been steeled in battle, has acquired great military experience and reorganized its ranks in accordance with new conditions and demands of the war; that it has learned to fight so as to win victory, as Stalin teaches.

Our officers have become experts in the art of war and skilled in tactics of maneuver. The decisive rebuff given to the Germans' summer offensive, the break-through of enemy defenses in a number of sectors, demonstrates the superiority of Red Army strategy and tactics over the vaunted strategy and tactics of the Germans. The Hitlerites cannot lay the blame for the failure of their offensive in 1943 on their allies. The latter's troops have not yet recovered from the blows inflicted on them by the Red Army in the winter campaign. They took no part in this offensive. It is the picked German troops that are suffering defeat. Their furious attacks, supported by heavy tanks, gun-carriers and aviation, smashed against the adamantine staunchness of Soviet troops.

The Red Army's offensive continues. Red Army officers and men become ever more conscious of their

invincible might. The confidence in the victory of Soviet arms has become still stronger. The Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal of the Soviet Union Stalin, on the liquidation of the German July offensive, which highly commends the troops directed by Army General Rokossovsky, Army General Vatutin and Colonel General Popov, inspires Soviet fighters to new battle exploits and the workers in the rear to selfless labor for our country.

The Hitlerite army puts up strong resistance to our offensive. The enemy is still strong. He brings up reserves, continues to hurl fresh troops into counter-attacks and transfers troops from one sector to another, in an effort to close the gaps made by our troops in the German defenses.

It is not because things are going well with them that the Germans have raised a hue and cry about the heavy defensive fighting on the Soviet-German front. The enemy has already felt the weight of the Red Army's fresh, overwhelming blows. Inspired by the order of their great leader and general, Soviet Red Army men will deal the fascist beasts ever more shattering blows, preparing the hour of our victory.

IN THE OREL DIRECTION

SOUTH OF OREL, July 26.—A few days ago Soviet forces advancing in a section of the Orel area forced a river and occupied several inhabited places, putting the enemy in a tight spot. The Germans withdrew their forces and are now trying to intrench on a new line, but are being prevented by the action of our troops. Small detachments supported by tanks cut the roads and capture strong points along the enemy's line of retreat, forcing him to fight under unfavorable conditions. Troops following these detachments give battle when necessary, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

Soviet troops have captured a large number of inhabited places converted by the Germans into strong points, and around which fierce battles have been waged.

* * * * *

NORTH OF OREL, July 26.—The fighting north of Orel is of an intense character. The Germans, in an attempt to stem the Soviet advance, continue to bring up fresh reserves, to replenish their thinned ranks and to hurl them into action straight from the march, everywhere launching fierce and frequent counter-attacks. Determined at any price to retain the important line which enables them to maneuver their troops, the Germans are making desperate efforts to drive back our advanced units, which already have this line under fire. The Germans have massed large

forces of infantry and tanks in this area and continually counter-attack advancing Soviet troops.

One Soviet regiment operating in this region has withstood numerous counter-attacks in the past couple of days, in each of which one or two German regiments took part, supported by 50 to 70 tanks. The fortified position from which the fight is being waged has changed hands several times. These counter-attacks are costing the Germans dearly. They have lost hundreds of officers and men killed and large numbers of tanks shattered or burned.

Elsewhere in this sector Soviet troops are steadily advancing. One formation operating on the right flank advanced ten kilometers in two days and occupied many inhabited places. Red Army troops operating southeast of Szizdra are making considerable headway and have captured several inhabited places, including Mekhovaya and Berestna, points of great value to the enemy, as they covered important resistance centers. The Germans put up a long and stubborn fight to retain Mekhovaya and Berestna, but under pressure of Soviet troops were in the end forced to abandon them.

Heavy rain has fallen in the fighting area in the past few days, increasing the difficulties of the attackers. But the offensive spirit of Red Army men and commanders shows no signs of abating.

OUR NAVY IN THE BATTLES FOR THE MOTHERLAND

By Admiral L. M. Galler

In connection with Red Navy Day, July 24, Admiral Galler writes in *Izvestia*:

One can safely say that in the battles for the honor and independence of our country our Navy successfully upholds the glorious fighting traditions of the Russian Navy.

The Hitlerite plan of sea war against the Soviet Union has collapsed, as has his whole plan of lightning war. In the first days of war, taking advantage of the surprise factor, the enemy treacherously attacked our main naval bases in an attempt to destroy or weaken our ships and to paralyze our Navy. As events have shown, the plan failed. Following Stalin's call, Soviet seamen staunchly defended the bases, bled the enemy white and destroyed his manpower and equipment. The heroic defense of the Hangoe Peninsula, of Odessa and Sevastopol, Leningrad and Stalinograd, will be among the most brilliant chapters in the history of the Patriotic War.

The temporary capture by the enemy of a part of the Baltic and Black Sea bases created new and rather complex conditions of operations for the Black Sea and Baltic Fleets, but did not halt their activities. Felling losses are being inflicted on the enemy and his communication lines. Despite difficulties of operation and navigation, and in the face of enemy counteraction, our ships fulfil their assignments. A number of effective landing operations on the enemy-occupied coast have been carried out.

In the autumn of 1941, when the Germans approached the gates of Leningrad, warships of the Baltic Fleet joined with the Red Army and coastal defense units to set up an impenetrable fire barrage at the approaches to the city. Naval artillery proved to be one of the most important factors in the defense of Leningrad. Baltic gunners, supporting the Red Army offensive with their fire, helped to pierce the blockade. They are continuing to shatter the batteries and fortifications of the Germans dug in at the approaches to the city.

The Northern Fleet—youngest of Soviet fleets—has dealt and continues to deal heavy blows to the Hitlerites and their Finnish accomplices. The Germans failed in all attempts to deprive the Northern Fleet of its bases and ports, to disrupt communication lines between the Soviet Union and her Allies, to put her principal ships out of action and to capture Murmansk. The role and importance of the Northern Fleet in the Patriotic War is fully realized.

The Black Sea Fleet has played a most active part in the defense of the Soviet south. More than once the guns of the battleship "Sevastopol" and of cruisers and destroyers caused the enemy telling losses. At present our fleet dominates the Black Sea and actively supports Red Army operations on the coast.

In two years of war the Navy of the USSR has inflicted substantial losses on the Hitlerite armed forces. Shoulder to shoulder with the Red Army, the Red Navy selflessly continues to battle our worst enemies—the German-fascist invaders.



The Order of the Patriotic War, Second Degree, and the Order of the Red Star, have been awarded this heroic young nurse. Nina Morukhno, daughter of a guerrilla, serves with a unit of Marines

Radiophotos

Red Army Learns English

Many Red Army men and commanders are continuing at the front their study of the English, French, German and other languages begun in peace time. The State Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages in Moscow receives scores of letters every day from the front. Commander Alexander Borisov writes: "I frequently meet our British Allies and wish, if possible, to improve my knowledge of their language. I therefore apply for admission to the correspondence courses of the Institute."

"Mission to Moscow" Opens in USSR

"Mission to Moscow" the American film made from the book of the same title by former Ambassador to the USSR Joseph E. Davies, opened on July 27 in Moscow theaters.

LITHUANIAN UNITS IN RED ARMY FIGHT HEROICALLY

In the desperate fighting in the Orel-Kursk direction, many members of the Red Army's Lithuanian Units distinguished themselves in fierce battles. In the sector defended by the Lithuanian Units, fighting continued for four days, but the Germans did not advance. On one occasion the enemy flung something like a hundred tommy gunners against the sector defended by machine-gunner Petrauskas. Petrauskas destroyed several dozen Hitlerites with his withering fire; then three Germans attempted to crawl to his post, but the machine-gunner finished them off with a grenade. Though wounded, he refused to leave his gun until the German attack had been repulsed by Red Army men who came to his assistance.

In a sector attacked by 10 tanks, the anti-tank riflemen Gudaitis, Pileckis, Gervicikas and Botvinikas,

of the Lithuanian Unit, set eight tanks, including two Tigers, on fire. Gudaitis damaged three tanks himself, then with his tommy gun shot four Germans who jumped from the tanks.

In another sector German mines blew up the communication lines. Lithuanian Red Army men Mula, Povilaitis and Cirlinskas dashed off to restore the communications, and succeeded despite the hurricane fire of the enemy. Signallers Mickinis and Gobsys were on duty at the command post when German tommy gunners surrounded them. The two plucky signalmen, armed with grenades and tommy guns, fought the large German group for half an hour. When help arrived, both were wounded but still fighting, and numbers of dead Germans within a 20 to 30 meter range testified to their indomitable fighting spirit.

SOVIET TORPEDO-CARRYING PLANES

Since the beginning of the 1943 navigation season the Germans have suffered heavy losses from Soviet torpedo carriers, which attack the enemy's distant naval communications. Believing that distance and powerful anti-aircraft guns and fighter planes would prevent Soviet air operations in the Baltic Sea, the Germans did not guard transports traveling alone or in small convoys. They proved to be wrong. Baltic fliers successfully cross enemy territory and send his ships to the bottom.

On May 25 the torpedo carrier piloted by Shamanov sank a 5,000 ton transport in the Gulf of Riga. On June 2, Guards Captain and Hero of the Soviet Union Balabin sank a 5,000 ton transport—his seventh ship—in the Baltic. Senior Lieutenant of the Guards Razgonin sank another transport of the same displacement on June 6.

Fliers of the Northern Fleet Air Arm are no less successful, although here the enemy transports have powerful escorts of ships and aircraft. Since January 1, fliers of a mine and torpedo-carrier Guards Regiment have sunk dozens of transports with a total displacement exceeding 220,000 tons. On June 15 two torpedo carriers piloted by Guards Captains Makarevich and Popok sighted a convoy of two planes. Makarevich sank a 6,000-ton tanker, while Popok accounted for an 8,000-ton transport. The raid was carried out with such swiftness and strength the enemy artillery was unable to open fire until both torpedo carriers were safely out of range. On June 25 Makarevich sank another transport of 7,000 to 8,000 tons.

HALF A MILLION YOUNG SWIMMERS

The history of wars reveals many important examples of entire military units successfully surmounting water barriers. In September, 1918 two regiments of the Red Army plunged from a height of five meters into the Belaya River in the Urals, swam across and launched a surprise attack on the enemy, taking many prisoners and trophies. During the present war, Soviet troops have many times advantageously forced water barriers.

Half a million Soviet youth are now receiving swimming lessons from champions, Masters of Sports and instructors who have passed qualifying examinations. Honored Masters of Sports S. Boichenko, V. Ushakov

and V. Kazakov, and the foremost Soviet diver, Sergeant A. Zhigalov, are among those teaching classes organized by the Sports Clubs of various plants and enterprises, and other groups. Those completing the courses must pass tests, frequently held in the form of mass swimming matches—400 meters for women and 1,500 meters for men. Other tests for swimming fully dressed set the limit for women at 25 meters and for men at 75 meters. Last year over a million people took part in these matches.

During the blockade of Leningrad, the champion of the USSR, V. Kitayev, a Leningrad citizen, taught over 3,000 persons to swim.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF ITALIAN FASCISM

IZVESTIA writes editorially:

After 21 years of power, the fascist dictator of Italy, Mussolini, has "resigned." Hitler's Italian partner has gone bankrupt in the course of the second World War. It cannot be said that this event was unexpected—on the contrary, it could have been expected and foreseen, considering the situation into which Italy and the Italian people have been led by their evil genius—the fascist "Duce." Mussolini's exit only demonstrated how deep has become the crisis in the fascist camp, to what extent Hitler's closest allies already perceive the approaching defeat of the "Axis" powers in the second World War, which was unleashed by them.

Mussolini's exit testifies in the first place that Italian fascism has suffered bankruptcy. Mussolini was the "originator" of fascism in theory and in practice; it was he who shaped the covetous greed of the Italian imperialist bandits into the form of the fascist corporative state, with its dictatorship of blackshirts within the country and bandit raids on defenseless countries outside of Italy.

By the attack on Abyssinia, by the seizure of Albania, by the armed support of the chieftain of the Spanish fascists, Franco, Mussolini was the first to begin the unleashing of the forces of a new World War.

Imperialist expansion, the program of external territorial conquests, and the delirious dream of the restoration of the Great Roman Empire on a scale of which even Caesar had never dreamed, formed the soul of Italian fascism. Mussolini's entire internal policy, as well as all his international adventures, were subordinated to this goal. As late as last autumn the Italian press again came out with a broad program of annexationist claims; and what did they not want to grab, those vociferous underlings of the "Duce!" They claimed Nice, Savoy, Corsica, Malta and Dalmatia; they claimed the Trans-Sahara Railway and the road from the Atlantic Coast through Nigeria by Lake Chad to the interior of the African continent; they claimed domination of the Balkan countries and part of Turkey's territory.

Mussolini created fascism as a tool for this bandit imperialistic policy, and with full justification saw in Hitler, in the early stage of his activities, his own pupil—though the "pupil" soon outstripped his "teacher" in appetites, in unscrupulous methods of brigandage and in social demagoguery. Mussolini was universally recognized as the "father of fascism" and it is with good reason that he once said Mussolini could fall only "together with fascism."

And now the blackshirt "Duce" has fallen. He

sealed his bankruptcy with his own signature, and this is by no means personal bankruptcy. This is the bankruptcy of the entire Italian-fascist system erected by an effort of 20 years; the bankruptcy of the entire brazenly imperialistic program of fascism. Having led Italy into a blind alley of military adventures, having harnessed the Italian people to Hitler's Jugernaut, having lost in so doing all its territorial "gains," and perceiving the imminent military catastrophe, fascism in Italy collapsed.

Italian fascism tried to save itself by "emergency measures." When the specter of disaster confronted Italy, Mussolini removed the leadership of the fascist party and placed at the head of the fascist machine a "strong man"—the blackshirter Scorza—undertook a "purge" in the fascist ranks of "vacillating" elements, tried to save the situation by brutal reprisals and ruthless measures of suppression of the constantly growing discontent. However, this did not help; the disintegration of fascism proceeded ever further and deeper. Strikes began in munition works. The peasantry hid grain. The ferment was spreading in the masses of the Italian people.

Italian fascism is utterly bankrupt, and Mussolini had to flee before the ruins of the edifice of fascism, which he had erected, came down upon him.

The peculiarity of the situation in which the collapse of the Italian "Duce" took place consists in the fact that fascism in Italy has gone utterly bankrupt, but has not been killed as yet. By no means should illusions be cherished that with Mussolini's going fascism automatically perished. The alliance of Italian fascism with Hitlerite Germany proved fatal for Italy. But it is just this alliance which will for some time yet support the tottering edifice of Italian fascism. This is so because German troops are on the territory of Italy, and while they are there they constitute a certain force which supports fascism even without Mussolini.

As long as the military alliance binding Italy to Germany still exists, Hitler still has the possibility of keeping the ally within his orbit. Nothing resembling a democratic anti-fascist coup d'etat has taken place in Italy as yet. It is quite possible that Mussolini's "voluntary" exit is an attempt of the chieftain of Italian fascism to save fascism by this act of "self-abdication."

Be that as it may, the disintegration of Italian fascism is an accomplished fact. It is not from great successes that Mussolini tries to save himself by resignation. He only tries to outrun events. Fascism has not been killed, has not been routed as yet, but it has gone bankrupt. This bankruptcy is caused by

the military defeats which fascist Italy systematically suffered in the course of the past years, and still suffers. Italian troops have consecutively suffered defeats in Abyssinia, on the Soviet-German front (where the picked 8th Italian Army was routed leaving hundreds of thousands of killed and war prisoners on the battlefields), and in North Africa (Libya, Tripolitania, and Tunisia).

The blow struck by the Allied forces in Sicily, which carried the hostilities to the territory of Italy proper, was only the last drop in the bloody cup of calamities which the "Duce" forced the Italian people to swallow. These military defeats struck at the very heart of Italian fascism, since it was just these international bandit claims that had become its inner essence.

And since with Mussolini's exit Italian fascism has not yet been killed, the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition directly face the task of finishing it off. And fascism in Italy can be finished off only by fresh strong blows of the Allied arms, struck not only at Italy but also at Hitlerite Germany—the ringleader of the "Axis."

The collapse of Italian fascism is only a beginning. The first link of the fascist chain, rusted through with blood, has snapped. It must and will be followed by other links of the Hitlerite chain. Stalin's statement that the entire "German-Italian fascist camp is

experiencing a grave crisis and faces catastrophe" is ever more vividly and fully borne out.

Several powerful blows from the west and the east and this catastrophe will become an accomplished fact. Today Hitler's war chariot drags along with one broken wheel; its "axis" threatens to snap any moment. But until Hitlerite Nazism is routed—this much more dangerous and ferocious enemy, representing the most predatory imperialists of the world, the German imperialists—the sword still remains poised over the world and no one can rest content with the successes scored.

The crisis in the Hitler camp is aggravating and deepening. The blows dealt by the Red Army to the German army, the liquidation of the German July offensive on the Soviet-German front, bring still nearer the hour of fatal disaster to Hitlerite Germany. The weight of the Red Army's blows at the German troops was reflected also in the fact that Hitler was unable to help his ally and vassal Mussolini with troops in the latter's fateful hour. Catastrophe has overtaken Mussolini—the creator of fascism. Mussolini's resignation, the bankruptcy of Italian fascism, render it necessary for the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition, for our Allies, to enhance the weight of the blows dealt to Hitlerite Germany and her vassals to expedite the approach of the utter defeat of the enemy.

A WOMAN ENGINEER WRITES OF HER FACTORY

By Anastasya Morozova

Before the war our plant, which recently won third place in the All-Union competition of plants in our branch of industry, manufactured precision instruments for automobiles and gauges for tractors. In the past two years we have transformed our output and now produce entirely for the front.

A large number of new workers have entered the plant, many without previous factory experience. Some had never seen a machine tool. Our engineers and skilled workers undertook the task of teaching these novices, with splendid results. Technical courses are run by the factory for apprentices, turners and masters. Through these courses the new workers, many of whom come directly from high school, are able to continue their education and advance rapidly to higher posts.

I teach apprentices the technology of metals, explaining the most rational methods of working up of metals, etc. Students recently passed their final examinations with high grades and are now full-fledged turners. Many exceed the established quotas by 350 to 400 per cent per shift.

We hear frequently from our comrades at the front, who write of their war experiences and ask for news of their factory. We are happy to be able to tell them we are overfulfilling the plan. We also send news of their families. Many wives, mothers and daughters of former workers now in the Red Army are employed at the plant. Their well-being is the concern of all our workers. During the winter we saw that they had fuel and warm clothing. The children are in nurseries or schools.

Our present aim is to win first place in the next All-Union competition.

North Caucasus Health Services Restored

Medical institutions and public health services are being rapidly restored in and around Mikoyan-Shakhar in the North Caucasus. Twelve town and village hospitals have already been re-equipped. Several polyclinics are open, as well as four malaria prevention centers, one epidemic station and two dental clinics. Twenty health centers and 34 medical consultation centers have been opened on collective farms.



Young helpers: Soviet children sew for war orphans and collect metal scrap for industry.

A MOSCOW CHILDREN'S THEATER IN WARTIME

By S. Radzinsky

Moscow's children's theaters used to be considered the best in the Soviet Union. When many children were evacuated from the capital in 1941, the children's theaters also moved east.

Moscow now has only one children's theater which before the war played mainly in rural districts of the Moscow Region. Naturally it is always crowded. Tickets for many performances are sold only through the schools.

When, shortly after the outbreak of war, there were few children left in Moscow, this theater began to produce plays for adults. It performed for troops defending Moscow and for the builders of the city's defenses. During air raids the performances continued in cellars.

Then the theater proposed a tour through the Moscow Region—but all the men announced their intention of remaining to defend Moscow in the ranks of the People's Guard. It was decided that the animal parts in fairy tales could be played by women, but there still remained some roles that could only be played by men, so some of the male players had to be ordered to stay with the theater.

All transport had been mobilized for defense. The actors became porters and stage hands. During the 1942 spring planting campaign they performed for farmers in the fields. The country people enjoyed it immensely, and often pleaded for two performances a day.

During two years of war this theater has given 1,007 performances attended by 364,000 people, as well as 156 concerts for wounded soldiers in hospitals.

The repertoire includes Goldoni's *Servant of Two Masters*, Ostrovsky's comedy *Poverty Is No Disgrace*, Nikolai Shestakov's plays for children, an anti-fascist play called *To Be Continued* and *Ilya Muromets*.

The children like the fairy tales best. In the past two months the theater has staged two fairy tales in Moscow—one of them, *China's Sword*, is based on Chinese folklore and tells of a young Chinese lad who fought against the evil forces oppressing his people; the other is well known to everybody—*Puss-in-Boots*.

The author of the latter piece has introduced characters from fairy tales—for example the cruel lord from *Bluebeard*. The result is an adventure story filled with dramatic intrigue. *Puss-in-Boots* defends his master Jack and Simple against the intrigues of *Bluebeard*. On the stage *Puss-in-Boots* looks like a cat, but behaves like a knight, boldly, skilfully, nobly. All the sympathy of the young audience is with *Puss*. *Bluebeard* has only to unsheathe his sword for the seven and eight-year-old audience to shout in warning: "Look out, *Puss*! Oh *Puss*, be careful—he wants to kill you!"

When *Bluebeard* tortures the cat to find out where his enemies are hidden, cries of "Don't tell him. Dear *Puss*, don't speak!" come from all parts of the theater. But when *Puss-in-Boots* finally vanquishes the wicked lord and his master gives him the hand of the beautiful princess, the ecstasy of the audience knows no bounds. The actors have to answer a dozen curtain calls.

The theater has closed its Moscow season, and is now touring country districts.

RECONSTRUCTION OF VORONEZH

By P. Miroshnichenko

Chairman, Executive Committee, Voronezh City Soviet

Over five months have passed since Voronezh was completely liberated from the Hitlerite invaders. The Germans reduced to ruins this old Russian city which during the Stalin Five-Year Plans had become an important industrial and cultural center. The enemy wrecked 90 per cent of the houses, cut the water mains and disorganized the transport system.

The Germans drove the people out of the city, subjecting them to frightful tortures and torment. Many civilians were brutally murdered. Not long ago the bodies of 77 Voronezh citizens shot by the German executioners were discovered in the Khokhol district. Many mutilated bodies were discovered in the city itself.

The people of Voronezh, filled with wrath and hatred for the Germans, have one thought, one objective—to rebuild their city as quickly as possible. During the past five months, despite difficult conditions, much work has been done. Many dwelling houses have been repaired and by the end of the year 230,000 square meters of living space will be available. The people are working with great enthusiasm and self-sacrifice. Since there are not enough skilled workers for building, many have learned several new trades.

Municipal services are beginning to function. The city again has electricity and streetcar services were renewed at the end of May. The Germans had removed all copper wire from the city, including trolley lines. Workers substituted iron wire for the copper. During the next three months three additional streetcar lines will be in operation.

The city's water supply is being improved, the pumping station now delivering 6,000 cubic meters of water daily. Seven bath houses and 20 barber shops have been opened. Streets are being repaved, squares, parks and gardens put in order and flower beds planted. The block committees, of which there are now 150, have rendered great help to the local Soviets.

Our most pressing task at present is to supply the urgent needs of the population. Each month the number of factories and cooperatives producing consumers goods increases. In the second quarter of this year four factories and 32 cooperatives produced goods valued at 3,500,000 rubles. Eighty-five retail stores and 65 dining rooms are now serving the public. We have begun the tremendous task of providing our own food; 8,750 acres have been sown to grain, vege-

tables and potatoes on farms belonging to the city's industrial enterprises while an additional 3,750 acres have been assigned for allotment gardens.

Children receive special attention; 2,400 are being fed in children's dining rooms, 1,205 cared for in homes and 300 in summer camps. Although the German bandits wrought fearful ruin in hospitals and nurseries, 42 medical establishments have been restored, including ten hospitals, six clinics, three consultation centers and eight nurseries.

The cultural life of the city is gradually returning to normal. Schools and libraries have reopened and the local natural history museum is being reorganized. In autumn lectures will begin at the Medical College. The Russian Chorus organized this year is very popular, the newly reopened concert hall and cinema are well patronized and a circus will begin shortly.

The Soviet Government has allotted 47,000,000 rubles for reconstruction work in Voronezh in 1943. We fully realize what this means in wartime. The people of Voronezh are making every effort to fulfill this year's huge building program. The time is not far off when our city will rise in all its former beauty; Voronezh—a proud, unconquered Russian city.

Irrigation Projects in Soviet South

Large-scale construction of irrigation works continues in the southern Soviet Republics despite the war. The first section of a 30-kilometer canal designed to irrigate an area of 7,000 hectares of corn, vineyards and vegetables, was recently completed in Soviet Georgia. Over 5,000 collective farmers are employed in the construction of the canal.

Ancient Burial Grounds Discovered in Uzbekistan

The ruins of a large mediaeval settlement and ancient burial grounds dating back to the Second and Third Centuries were recently discovered on the construction site of the Farkhad Hydroelectric Station in Uzbekistan. Several dozen tombs have been opened, and numerous ornaments of Syrian, Iranian and Chinese origin revealed. Chinese copper coins of the Third Century, a large sacrificial dish and various ornamented dishes with handles in the shape of animals were also found.

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REMEMBER THE UKRAINE

By Ilya Ehrenburg

The enemy whines and philosophizes by turns. He tries to pass his lily liver off as a remorseful heart. We must not forget that we face a greedy, selfish and malicious foe. Let us remember the Ukraine.

Fascism is a huge corporation for the plunder of the world. Goering holds the biggest share of the stock, but the average Fritz, too, is a shareholder. He gets part of the swag. Before me lies the prospectus of the "Ukrainische Gesellschaft fuer Gartnerzeugnisse und Kartoffeln," which means "The Ukrainian Association for the Cultivation of Fruit and Potatoes."

Don't think that the Fritzes are proposing to do the potato picking or the pruning. The document states frankly: "The aim of the company is the forcible expropriation of food from the Ukrainian population." The "Milch und Fett Zentrale" steals the butter and cream. The chicken-eaters are united in the "Eier und Gefluegel Zentrale."

Brilliant Prospects for Bright Young Thieves

There are twelve different corporations for robbing the Ukrainian people. The Germans are tired of plundering retail. Now they plunder wholesale. They decided to cut down the forests along the Dnieper and Desna rivers. The gentlemen from the "Holz Verkauf" company are making a pile out of the destruction of Ukrainian woodlands. The timber is used to build fortifications.

In addition to the German garrisons in the Ukraine, there are civilian Fritzes and Gretchens whose job it is to scavenge the very last crumbs from the people. The *Deutsche Ukraine Zeitung* writes: "Our most important task is the care of German girls in the Ukraine. German youth is growing and developing in German organizations in the Ukraine. They have brilliant prospects before them."

The Germans have set up an enormous summer camp in Nikolayev. Five more have been opened in the "Kiev region." In these camps the Fritzes and Gretchens are taught how to impose taxes on villages, how to conduct requisitions and searches, how to fight guerrillas.

A "Higher School for Ukrainian Fuehrers" has been opened in Kiev. Here picked Fritzes are taught

the "sciences" necessary for German commandants. The *Deutsche Ukraine Zeitung* is published in Lutsk. It has quite a big circulation—100,000 copies. Quite a number of Fritzes and Gretchens befoul our beautiful Ukraine. Part of the soil has been divided among German landowners, for whom a special magazine is published—*The German Agriculturist in the Ukraine*.

The Higher Brigandage

Alfred Rosenberg reviewed them not long ago. A parade of German civilian thieves was held in Kiev, in front of the palace that looks over the Dnieper. There were 5,000 of them, male and female. They looked well-fed. Rosenberg made a speech: "You Germans, surrounded by a foreign and frequently hostile population, see that you remember Germany's needs." The reminder was superfluous. Every Fritz and every Gretchen sends parcels home each week without fail. The Ukrainian people wither and die, but the Fritzes put on weight.

The same Rosenberg said: "Germany's frontier has moved 1,500 kilometers eastward. This territory is rich in coal, grain and cattle. We have become invulnerable. Much German blood has already been shed for the possession of the eastern space. There is a law: if German blood has been shed, Europe must work unreservedly, without sparing her strength."

Thus spake the ober-slaveowner. His audience, the slave-drivers, the overseers, the prison wardens, cracked their whips, snorted and yelled "Heil!" The *Berliner Lokalzeitung* describes the career of one of the overseers: "He fought in the war and was made a lieutenant for his services, this peasant from Saxony. He studied at special courses, after which he got his present appointment. He is now in charge of three collective farms of over 32,000 acres. He must settle everything at his own discretion. Three thousand Ukrainians are under his control."

How does this sausage-eater from Saxony manage things? Here is a letter addressed to Sergeant-Major Robert Grade, of the German army, found on the Soviet front: "Old Otto is doing splendidly. He is now a commandant. And do you know what? He arranges marriages, and even makes gifts of vodka and matches for the wedding. But in return for this

he has the right of the first night. This sounds like a fairy tale. . . ."

What is the truth behind this base letter? It means that some Otto from Saxony or Prussia rapes Ukrainian girls at will, for he is tsar and god in the village.

In the German Army there is a special title—"officer-agricultural leader." His job is to strip bare an entire district. He has the right to assess taxes, make requisitions and prosecute disobedient slaves. Another officer-commandant is the judge. According to the regulations, however, in an emergency the agricultural leader is entitled to impose corporal punishment. The Germans have introduced birching in the Ukraine. That is the "culture" they have brought to our people.

New Professions for Promising Thugs

Hundreds of thousands of girls and women have been sent to Germany, but the slaveowners are not content. The Ruhr magnates demand labor. So a new profession is now open to the promising young German—that of slave-hunter. Every Fritz who turns over to the commandant's officer an able-bodied Ukrainian woman who has evaded deportation to Germany receives eight marks in cash and the right to send twelve kilograms of food to his family.

Within a month one German lance-corporal "found" eleven Ukrainian women, including one 13-year-old girl and two women of 46 and 52.

Nazi "Research"

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By 1960 the black deeds of the Nazi scoundrels will have faded into the past. But now it is 1943, and the heart cannot stand it. There is no joy for us in the summer serenity. We hear the grief of the Ukraine. If the fire of hatred sinks low within you, remember the hangmen with their thick pocket-books crammed with the blood of the Ukraine.

GUERRILLAS ON THE UKRAINIAN RIVERS

By Pavel Romanenko

Not only is the Ukrainian earth hot beneath the feet of the German invaders, but Ukrainian rivers have become as dangerous for the fascists as the forests, roads, city streets and village paths.

German occupation authorities have proved incapable of insuring safe transit for their troops and freight on railroads and highways. At the opening of the navigation season, they attempted to make use of the waterways. But the people's avengers took the rivers under control; the smoothly-flowing quiet of the waters prove deceptive; their picturesque banks harbor hundreds of dangerous surprises for the enemy. Around every twist and turn death lurks for the German invaders.

A steamer carrying German reserve troops to the front rounded a bend and entered a narrow stretch of water with high banks. Suddenly a torrent of metal swept the deck. The armor with which the Germans protect the most vulnerable sections of their boats proved futile against the anti-tank rifles and large caliber machine guns of the guerrillas. Bullets followed the boat down the river; at least 50 Germans were killed, but the guerrillas, concealed in high grass on the banks, had no casualties.

The "Alexander Nevsky" detachment recently carried out a similar raid on German river traffic. Lying in ambush, they spotted a German caravan—a tug pulling two barges loaded with food and supplies.

The guerrillas' sudden attack sent the Germans into a panic; the tug cut the towlines and sped down the river full steam, leaving barges and guards to their fate. The guerrillas killed 16 soldiers and five officers, took three prisoners, removed everything of value from the barges and sank them. The booty included rifles, tommy guns, grenades, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition—excellent replenishments for the guerrilla arsenal.

Since the opening of navigation this year, one guerrilla detachment which specializes in ambushing and attacking Hitlerite river traffic, has sent six barges and 12 launches to the bottom. The total of enemy

river craft wrecked by guerrillas reaches a considerable figure. After successful raids, the main forces of a detachment retire to the forest, leaving scouts on the banks to warn of any approaching punitive groups, which are promptly dealt with.

Germans drafted Soviet rivermen to man one of their tugs. The rivermen had long sought an opportunity to join the guerrillas; as soon as the tug reached the forest regions they killed the German guards, sank the tug, and escaped with all the arms on board, including tommy guns, machine guns and rifles. The guerrilla detachment in that district was increased by 12 new members.

NORTH AND SOUTH OF OREL

NORTH OF OREL, July 28.—Soviet units continue to advance in the sector north of Orel, breaking the enemy's stubborn resistance. Several inhabited points where the enemy had concentrated his defenses have been captured. The heaviest fighting raged in an area where Soviet troops pushed forward through difficult country against strong enemy opposition.

In one area where a normally small and shallow river swollen by several days of rain had flooded the surrounding low country, cut by numerous gullies, the men were forced to wade knee-deep in mud and water, carrying guns, shells and supplies on their backs. Soviet units made steady headway against heavy odds, repulsing several enemy counter-attacks, and pushing forward continuously. By evening the crossing had been effected and two inhabited points captured on the south bank of the river.

In an adjoining sector fighting raged under even more trying conditions: many small rivers flooded the dense forests, and the considerable swamp areas made the terrain almost impassable. Cavalry Guards, who have shown fine maneuverability and endurance, were pressing ahead through forests and marshes. After tearing a wide gap in the enemy lines the cavalry broke up into small groups and penetrated the forest along stray paths, crossing swamps and pits. Surprising the Germans, they appeared near a strong point, surrounding it from west to south. The enemy attempted to strike back, but the sweeping action of the cavalry crushed the Germans. In their move forward the cavalry again crossed a river, struggled through forests and marshes and wedged even deeper into the enemy's positions, threatening the flank of the enemy unit. Toward evening the cavalry captured three more inhabited points and emerged into more favorable country. Three fierce counter-attacks launched by the Germans against the Soviet cavalry were beaten back with heavy losses for the enemy.

As the Hitlerites withdraw they set fire to the villages, ravage the inhabitants and forcibly drive them

to Germany. Yesterday our advancing units intercepted 320 families from Ulyanovsk District, Orel Region, who were being convoyed by the enemy to the German rear. The honor of rescuing the captives fell to Lieutenant Popov's reconnaissance group, which penetrated to the rear and cut off the enemy's road of retreat.

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A serious attempt to stem the advance of Soviet troops was made in the area of the railway station of Stanovoi Kolodez. The country surrounding the station and the station itself were strongly fortified by the enemy. Trenches, anti-tank ditches and other obstacles extended over ten kilometers. All roads, even small country lanes, were thoroughly mined. Advancing Soviet troops engaged the Germans several times at the approaches to the station. The enemy's counter-attacks proved futile, and our units continued to advance. The battle for the Stanovoi Kolodez railway station raged for several hours, ending in victory for our troops.

In another sector of the front, where the enemy displays particularly stubborn resistance, fierce fighting is continuing. Here Soviet troops have also succeeded in capturing several inhabited points. In these battles the enemy attempted to counter-attack with large groups of tanks, but after suffering severe losses from Soviet anti-tank artillery the enemy was compelled to withdraw, leaving in one place 18 burned and disabled tanks and four self-propelled guns and losing 1,500 officers and men.

he has the right of the first night. This sounds like a fairy tale. . . ."

What is the truth behind this base letter? It means that some Otto from Saxony or Prussia rapes Ukrainian girls at will, for he is tsar and god in the village.

In the German Army there is a special title—"officer-agricultural leader." His job is to strip bare an entire district. He has the right to assess taxes, make requisitions and prosecute disobedient slaves. Another officer-commandant is the judge. According to the regulations, however, in an emergency the agricultural leader is entitled to impose corporal punishment. The Germans have introduced birching in the Ukraine. That is the "culture" they have brought to our people.

New Professions for Promising Thugs

Hundreds of thousands of girls and women have been sent to Germany, but the slaveowners are not content. The Ruhr magnates demand labor. So a new profession is now open to the promising young German—that of slave-hunter. Every Fritz who turns over to the commandant's officer an able-bodied Ukrainian woman who has evaded deportation to Germany receives eight marks in cash and the right to send twelve kilograms of food to his family.

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THE SKIES ABOVE THE OREL AREA

By Lieutenant Colonel M. Denisov

In the offensive battles waged by Soviet forces in the Orel area, land troops and aviation work in close coordination, both in breaking through enemy defense zones and in beating off German counter-attacks. At the beginning of the Soviet advance, bomber and attack plane units employed offensive tactics. At many points this air offensive began several hours before the general attack, with a concentrated raid by night bombers on the enemy's front-line positions. Under cover of darkness, groups of Soviet medium bombers pounded the German lines for a considerable time, crews quickly finding their targets with the aid of flares dropped by special aircraft.

Shortly before dawn the artillery barrage commenced, followed by an attack of the main body of Soviet aircraft, which dropped hundreds of bombs on German trenches, blindages, pillboxes, and artillery and mortar positions. Simultaneously other planes bombed enemy headquarters and communications. These blows from the air supplemented the Soviet artillery action. Especially accurate bombing and ground strafing were carried out by attack planes



Captain of the Guards Anton Alekhnovich has done some effective bombing of enemy troops in the present offensive in the Orel-Kursk direction

Radiophotos

commanded by Major Kotelnikov. Dozens of smashed bunkers, mortar and artillery positions razed to the ground, and hundreds of bomb craters in the front-line and communication trenches testify to the effectiveness of the Soviet air offensive.

Subsequently, as Red Army divisions pressed forward, Soviet Stormoviks attacked reinforcements being brought up by the enemy, and also helped our land troops to beat off tank counter-attacks. In one sector Soviet troops negotiated an open plateau and entered a wooded area. Operations of our air force were made more difficult by the nature of the terrain and the extremely unfavorable weather conditions,

but the attack planes continued to give active support to the land troops, employing varied tactics.

A word on the Luftwaffe's tactics: during the first days of the offensive, small groups of German bombers attempted to harass advancing Soviet troops, but failed and were driven from the skies above the battlefield. The Germans then apparently brought up fresh squadrons from rear airdromes and again tried to halt the Soviet advance. In one sector as many as 250 bombers attacked Soviet lines for two hours. Fierce aerial battles followed, resulting in heavy losses for the enemy. A single Soviet fighter unit shot down 52 enemy planes, including 36 bombers.

A fighter patrol led by Hero of the Soviet Union Lieutenant Colonel Noga engaged a group of German bombers escorted by four Focke-Wulf 190s. Noga destroyed an enemy bomber in the first attack, and his group scattered the rest. Junkers were dropping one after another, yet the Focke-Wulfs kept some 800 meters above the battle, and when Soviet fighters had finished with the Junkers and turned to deal with them, the Focke-Wulfs made off at full speed.

In another sector German planes began concentrating on the afternoon of the first day of the Soviet offensive and by evening some 150 enemy machines were attempting to destroy our river crossings, trenches, and tank and artillery groupings. On the following day the enemy continued to bring up planes from another point in an effort to achieve air supremacy, employing large fighter formations in the hope of holding the Russian fighters and insuring freedom of action for bombers. This attempt also proved a failure.

The air battles in the Orel area reveal that in addition to aces, a large number of badly-trained German airmen are being employed. Soviet pilots are making the most of this, attacking boldly and effectively.

Exhibit of 10 Years of Soviet Art

The State Art Committee is assembling the finest works of art created in the USSR in the past decade, including paintings, drawings, sculptures and specimens of the national arts—the famous creations of the Palekh artisans, the fine inlaid metal work of the highlanders of the North Caucasus and the carved ivory of the handicraftsmen of Kholmogory.

The public will view these works at an exhibit to be opened in Moscow in the autumn. No fewer than 500 villages and 275 towns and cities will be represented.

THE STRUGGLE FOR THE KURSK SALIENT

By Colonel Alexander Y. Karpov

The author of the following article was born in Siberia in 1903 and has been in the Red Army since 1925, entering as a private. He received his military education in the Officers Artillery School. His son is at present training in the same school.

The "Kursk salient" resulted from the successful operations of our troops during the winter of 1942-43, when heavy blows were dealt the enemy. Red Army units hurled the Germans back beyond Kursk, taking up positions in the Rylsk and Sevsk districts. After the battles around Belgorod, the line of the front formed a kind of huge arc. Almost to the city of Belgorod the line stretches westward and near Suma turns northward, passing close to Rylsk and Sevsk. From Sevsk the line takes a sharp eastward turn, crossing the Kursk-Orel railroad in the area of the Malo-Arkhangelsk railway station. Thus the Belgorod-Kursk railroad formed the base of the salient, and the line Rylsk-Sevsk the height.

In order to form an idea of the immensity of the area of the salient, I shall mention that its base stretches over 170 kilometers. Naturally, the "Kursk salient" is of vital operational and tactical significance. In the north it towers over the German positions in the Orel area, and in the south hampers the activities of enemy troops in the Belgorod region.

The main object of the Hitlerite command in launching the offensive of July 5 was to seize the "Kursk salient" and cut off our troops therein. It is not to be wondered at then, that the enemy attack was launched from two directions: from Orel eastward and from Belgorod northward. The blows were aimed at the base of the salient. The Germans massed 38 divisions for the offensive, including the crack SS divisions "Adolf Hitler," "Death's Head," "Reich" and others.

All of this reveals that Hitler pursued far-reaching aims. A number of documents witness that the Germans' July drive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions aimed at opening a third summer offensive which, according to statements of official circles of the Hitlerite clique, was to have been the decisive campaign in the Soviet-German war.

The beginning of the Hitlerite summer campaign was not what one would call a success. The Germans planned their offensive long and carefully, but could not break through our defenses. They achieved only an insignificant advance in the Orel-Kursk direction and a slight wedging into the positions of our troops in the Belgorod-Kursk direction. The Germans paid a heavy price for this slight, temporary gain, losing thousands of tanks, aircraft and guns and tens of thousands of soldiers and officers.

Hitler's greatest defeat, however, lies in the loss of the initiative by his troops. After frustrating the German efforts to attack, Soviet troops quickly took over the initiative, launched a counter-offensive in the Orel direction, and within 12 days gained a number of important victories. To understand the reason for the failure of the German offensive in the



Fighting on a new front—Junior Sergeant Valya Kovalenko, who drove a truck for the famed Mountain Eagle Tank Brigade at Stalingrad, is widely known for her courage under fire
Radiophoto

Orel-Kursk and Belgorod-Kursk directions, a brief analysis of the battles is necessary.

Perhaps the German drive failed because the Germans were not prepared for offensive operations? To suppose this would be a mistake. The Germans concentrated in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions two powerful striking forces, mainly tanks and aircraft. A large number of the tanks were the new German heavy machines, the Tigers. German artillery, chiefly the heavy self-propelled Ferdinand guns, constituted a strong striking force. Therefore the reasons for the German failure must be sought elsewhere.

The Germans collapsed because our defenses proved stronger than the German attack. The stubbornness and courage of our fighters, the ability of our officers and generals, the fire-power of our forces—all this, in a nutshell, enabled our troops to withstand the pressure of huge and powerful enemy forces.

Inflicting the first blow, the enemy brought into action upwards of ten divisions, of which four were tank units. The blow was directed against a railway line, in the hope of joining forces with the group which simultaneously began offensive operations from Belgorod. As before, the Germans pinned their faith in the coordinated action of tanks and planes. According to the German command, the blows of the air force would pave the way for the tanks.

The enemy air attacks were launched on a large scale, but proved of little value, because from the beginning our pilots took the initiative into their own hands, limited the German air activities, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The German air force failed to cut a path for its tanks in our defenses. The Hitlerite pilots were forced to remain over their own positions and, at best, to operate in the area of our front-line defenses.

The tactics of the enemy tank attacks were unchanged, but all thrusts were attempted with large numbers of the new Tiger machines and self-propelled Ferdinand guns, certainly an addition to the striking power of the German tank units. But even this force was paralyzed, since our defenses disposed of exceptionally high fire power. The Germans hurled 200 to 300 tanks at a time into battles in narrow sectors of the front. The maneuvering enemy attempted to find weak spots in our defenses for a breakthrough, to overcome our resistance and then to bring fresh motorized and tank divisions through the gaps to secure freer action. But the Germans could not find weak points in our defenses. They encountered fierce resistance at every point and sustained heavy losses.

In the first two days the Germans launched many fierce drives. In some sectors attacks were repeated as often as 15 times. But all the enemy achieved was an advance of 800 to 1,200 meters in separate sectors.

After regrouping and bringing up reinforcements, the Germans again attacked our positions.

The main blow was delivered against a sector defended by units under the command of Major-General Yenshin. This attack continued for several days. The division withstood 32 fierce thrusts, in which at least 800 German tanks participated. On several occasions the position of the division was very critical. A number of our units was forced back under enemy pressure; enemy tanks penetrated into our front-line defenses. But the division held onto its positions, stubbornly contesting every inch of territory. Enemy tanks broke through, but our glorious infantry, artillerymen and mortar gunners cut them off from their infantry and then directed all their fire-power against them, forcing them to scatter in small groups. As a result, the tanks ran into trenches, gun-fire and mine-fields. From the trenches our riflemen hurled incendiary bottles; tank destroyers set machines on fire; gun crews shot up tanks at close range. In dozens of cases the tank groups which succeeded in penetrating deep into our defenses were completely annihilated.

Not long afterward the Germans brought up fresh reserves, striving to intensify their tank attacks. A drive was launched in great force. With large numbers of tanks, aircraft and troops, and artfully maneuvering, the enemy dealt blows in one or another direction. But our defenses proved even more maneuverable. Commanders in charge of operations made good use of their reserve fire-power, repulsing all enemy attacks no matter where they were launched.

A Guards Regiment under the command of Major Konovalenko repulsed 16 enemy tank attacks. In a number of these drives 100 to 150 machines took part. In this sector the Germans made 1,500 plane flights. But they gained nothing; the courageous Guardsmen clung to their positions. This was on the seventh day of the battle; in that period the Germans had failed to break through anywhere with the exception of individual sectors where our units were forced back some nine kilometers. Here the enemy was stopped, unable to make further headway.

From that day the German offensive began to flag. It was evident the enemy attacks were dwindling, his forces weakening. Many German regiments and divisions were smashed, many more had sustained such damage they were incapable of further offensive action. But our troops, after beating off the enemy thrusts and holding their ground, had become steeled. Our defenses, suffering but slight losses in the seven days' fighting, had gained in strength. Their success had instilled greater confidence in the men.

On the eighth day, our command issued the order for a counter-attack. The task assigned the troops was to reestablish the situation as it was previous to the German offensive—that is, before July 5. After regrouping, our troops attacked the enemy from three

directions simultaneously. Again fierce battles raged. The enemy passed over to the defensive, speeding up construction of fortifications, digging trenches and bringing up reinforcements. The enemy offered stubborn resistance everywhere, covering its defenses with strong air formations, but failed to check our advance. Our troops broke through the German defenses first in two directions, then in several other directions. The enemy retreated, sustaining heavy losses.

After two days of fighting our troops restored the original situation. What the Germans had achieved in seven days of heavy fighting at a terrible price our troops retrieved in less than two days.

In the Belgorod-Kursk direction the Germans massed even greater forces. The attacks in the Belgorod-Kursk direction were launched with 20 divisions, over half of which were tank divisions. The same thing happened here as in the Orel-Kursk direction. In repulsing the fierce enemy onslaughts our troops proved their stubbornness, courage, excellent training and ability to hold their own against strong enemy forces. The Germans succeeded, at an exceptionally heavy cost, in wedging into our positions, and in later battles succeeded in gaining more ground. The wedge was in some places from 15 to 35 kilometers deep. The advance was soon stalled, however, and the Germans were unable to make further progress.

They brought fresh tank units and reserves of manpower through the "gaps," and mobilized all available air forces in this sector. Their attacks followed in quick succession; there were times when our units had to repulse seven to nine fierce assaults. One of our units repulsed German attacks for three days, stubbornly holding onto its positions. The enemy hurled 200 tanks, several infantry regiments and

about 150 planes into action against the unit: the drive continued day and night, but Soviet tank destroyers of the unit blocked the enemy, destroying around 100 tanks and large numbers of enemy infantry. The unit was reinforced and the enemy thrown back.

For several days the enemy tried to widen the gap and to break through in the direction of Kursk, but all attempts failed. Each fresh attack ended in heavy losses for them.

Some days ago our troops counter-attacked in the Belgorod-Kursk direction. After regrouping and massing sufficient numbers of infantry units, tanks and aircraft, our troops launched a determined counter-blow on the right corner of the German wedge. Here, as well as in other sectors, the enemy was well fortified. A fierce battle ensued, mainly between tanks. Our troops dislodged the enemy units from their positions. Suffering huge casualties they began to retreat. The German wedge in one sector was eliminated. Other units also counter-attacked, and battles raged in a number of sectors. The enemy tried to hold his positions, but failed. Under the blows of our units he began to retreat, and the German wedge was liquidated.

The offensive in the Belgorod-Kursk direction cost the Germans huge numbers of tanks, guns and planes and heavy losses in manpower, with no gains. Here, too, the Hitlerite adventure collapsed.

The excellent fighting qualities of our men and high maneuverability during battles enabled our troops to crush attacks and inflict huge losses on the enemy in both directions. Our troops have held the initiative since the day they reestablished the former situation. Soviet units are continuing to advance, driving the enemy back day by day.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR FIGHTING MEN

Red Army units in sectors of the front near Moscow are visited by at least 80 groups of actors each month, not including the visits of amateur theatrical groups. Moscow also sends 150 lecturers weekly to the front lines, who remain a week with the units, delivering at least five lectures each in that period. The Union of Soviet Writers, the Composers Union, the Union of Art Workers and the Academy of Sciences also send representatives to the front. The number of visitors reaches 1,500 weekly.

A writer comes to the front to read his works, to deliver a lecture or to hold conferences with budding writers or young readers who want advice. A composer never leaves without writing a song for the unit he visits. Painters and sculptors assist in decorating clubrooms of units with drawings and cartoons, and also paint or sculpture the heroes of the units. Actors assist amateur performers in rehearsals.

When our writers, painters, scientists and others visit the front, they realize their work is as necessary to the fighting men as ammunition and bread. Recreation is of the greatest importance. Lectures can inspire to greater deeds. The letters of Red Army men to their visitors prove this.

"We shall fight the enemy with new energy. We feel that the front and rear are one, that our people are united," one fighter wrote. "After reading your article I went out and killed two Hitlerites," a sniper wrote to a writer. A group of pilots sent a note to a theater group: "After your performance we gave the enemy hell." Gunners thanked a lecturer with the following letter: "Our gun crew eliminated an enemy platoon on the day of your lecture. We shall credit these dead Hitlerites to your account."

Notes from Front and Rear

The Soviet Government has decorated 22 officers and men of the crew of the armored train, the "Muscovite," which was built with money collected by citizens of the capital when the Germans were forcing their way towards Moscow in the autumn of 1941. The builders remained at their machines for stretches of 14 hours. The train went into action as soon as it was completed.

It has made 230 attacks on the Germans, has killed 2,000 of the enemy, destroyed dozens of machine-guns and mortars and shot down several German aircraft. It was once attacked by 27 German aircraft, two of which were shot down by its AA gunners.

Last May the train was at the advanced Soviet lines for three days on end, smashing German mortar and artillery batteries and wiping out enemy manpower by point-blank fire from its big guns. On some days it made nine attacks in 24 hours.

★

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has conferred the title of Peoples Artist of the USSR on the painters Alexander Gerasimov and Boris Yoganov and the sculptor Sergei Merkurlov and sculptress Vera Mukhina, for their outstanding creative achievements in Soviet art and in recognition of their special services contributing to the development of painting and sculpture.

★

Guerrilla detachments led by the Byelorussian fighter Zaslonov have accounted for not less than 15,000 enemy soldiers. Another group operating near Dnepropetrovsk has routed three German punitive expeditions, one after another. The Chernigov guerrillas have succeeded in stopping nearly all traffic along two most important highways.

Comment from the enemy side is contained in a letter found on the body of a German soldier killed on the Soviet front: *Where do these guerrillas get their fiendish energy? It is impossible to catch them. They appear here and there like ghosts, but ghosts armed with rifles and machine guns. Shall we be able to cope with them?*

★

The textile factories of the Ivanovo Region increased their output by 84 per cent in the first six months of this year as compared with 1942. Several of the factories trebled their output of Red Army uniforms and clothing. One factory, after fulfilling its second quarter's plan, produced goods for the Special Defense Fund to the value of 70,000 rubles.

When the veteran actress, Peoples Artist of the USSR Ekaterina Korchagina-Alexandrovskaya was awarded the Stalin Prize this year, she ordered a fighter plane to be built with the funds of the award. The plane has now been completed and the actress has presented it to the Soviet Air Force.

★

A locomotive works evacuated from Bryansk to an eastern area of the Soviet Union is producing an improved type of the powerful "S. O." (Sergei Orjonikidze) engine. A new freight locomotive, the "E. R.," is to be produced at the Kuibyshev Locomotive Works. The first of this type has been made in record time. These new engines are the most powerful yet built in the Soviet Union.

★

I. A. Mirzakhanov, Assistant People's Commissar for Armaments, states that in two years of war Soviet artillery factories, despite the fact that many were transferred to new areas, not only achieved increased production of artillery arms, but developed new types of weapons, ranging from sub-machine guns to anti-tank artillery of high armor-piercing capacity.

★

Pits of the Tula Combine in the Moscow coalfield finished their six months' plan before June 24. The miners of these pits by that date had produced 26,000 extra tons of coal for the Special Fund of the Red Army Supreme Command. The Voroshilovgrad and Rostov Coal Combines fulfilled their half-yearly plans ahead of time. By June 27 their donations to the Special Fund stood at 36,600 tons of coal.

★

Daghestan canneries in the first half of this year turned out over 4,000,000 cans of tinned foods in excess of the plan. The leading canneries of Daghestan produced more than their whole year's plan in less than six months.

★

An exhibit of war trophies captured from the Germans in the past two years opened in Moscow recently. New trophies are added to the exhibition as they are captured, and a Ferdinand gun-carrier taken on the Orel sector will be on display shortly. During the past month 800,000 visitors have attended the exhibit.

★

This year the State Children's Literature Publishing House in Moscow has published 40 books in editions totaling 1,000,000 copies.

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NOTE OF USSR TO TURKEY AND SWEDEN

On July 29 the Soviet Government instructed the Ambassador of the USSR in Turkey, S. A. Vinogradov, and the Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Sweden, Semenov, to convey to the Turkish and Swedish Governments the following note:

"In view of the developments in Italy and the possibility that Mussolini, prominent fascists and other war culprits may attempt to take refuge in neutral territory to escape the responsibility awaiting them for the crimes they committed, the Government of the USSR calls upon neutral countries not to grant

asylum to any of the above persons. The Soviet Government deems it also necessary to state that it will regard the granting of asylum, aid or assistance to such persons as a violation of the principles for which the United Nations fight and which they have decided to carry into effect by every means at their disposal."

According to information in the possession of the Soviet Government, a similar note has also been sent to the Governments of neutral countries by the British Government.



The special medal "For the Defense of Leningrad" is proudly worn by Irina Pazhinskaya, Junior Sergeant of Militia, a traffic officer in the unconquerable city

Radiophoto

"ONE INCH ON THE MAP"

By Major P. Troyanovsky

SOUTH OF OREL, July 29.—Looking at the map, the task set for our Division today seemed extremely modest and insignificant. We were to cross three squares, beginning from a point called Height No. 190 and ending at a green spot which had no name, but which represented a grove.

"So that's the task," said the General. "To advance only one inch. That's not much, is it? Just one inch on the map." He folded the map and left the dugout.

The hill which the General had chosen for his observation post afforded a good view of the territory lying ahead. The day before our units had reached a valley and entrenched themselves. The valley skirted Height No. 190; it was cut in half by a ryefield, and three kilometers beyond made a sharp turn back into our rear.

Even on the actual terrain the Division's task seemed modest, insignificant. Each square on the map represented two kilometers of territory. In other words—today the Division must advance three squares, or six kilometers. A novice might wonder that an entire Division with its augmenting units would be required for such a task. But the scouts threw light on the mystery: in front of the Division a large mass of German infantry was concentrated. Yesterday the Germans had attacked with 90 tanks and it was quite probable that during the night they had brought up fresh forces. Yesterday their resistance had been very stubborn; they counter-attacked many times and in the evening had succeeded in regaining some of their lost positions. Today even more obstinate resistance was expected.

The attack was timed for seven o'clock. It was now six. The morning was warm and unusually quiet. Not a breath of wind stirred, not a shot or shell whistle was heard. The yellow-bearded rye dozed on its stalks. No smoke rose from the chimneys of the village on the slope of the hill. No sign of life came from the troops on either side.

Exactly at seven a humming sound was heard from the east and southeast. It grew louder, mightier. We raised our heads, scanning the skies. Our planes were coming over—so many that all soon stopped counting and only exclaimed: "Look, more are coming! And more!"

Height 190, the fields beyond it, the bluish grove—everything the Division was to take today—became covered with a pall of flame, smoke and dust. The earth trembled with the continuous concussions.

"Smart work!" exclaimed a signalman whose face was burned almost black, as he put his mouth to the telephone and shouted "Volga, Volga, do you hear

me?" "Volga" was the call signal of the observation post of the regimental commander, Lieutenant Colonel Movchan. His troops were at that moment attacking Height 190.

Thus began the battle for the three squares on the map—for an "inch" of Soviet soil, as the General had figuratively put it. With every moment the battle gained in intensity. The Second Regiment went into action, then the Third.

Kozlov's troops were the first to break down the barbed-wire entanglements and invade the enemy's trenches on Height 190. In no other place did the Germans allow our infantry to pierce their entanglements, and Lieutenant Colonel Movchan was obliged to throw all his battalions successively into the break forced by Kozlov. They were met by fire from German artillery and tanks dug into the ground . . . fire so intense the men were unable to advance even along the trenches.

Our artillery returned the enemy fire and neutralized it. The Germans began to mass infantry on the other side of the hill for a counter-attack. Our Guards mortars thwarted their plan with a well-directed fire squall. German long-range guns tried to silence the mortar battalion of Major Gnedov, who had taken up his position at the observation post of the First Regiment. Our long-range guns retaliated and an artillery duel ensued.

By a vigorous assault the Second Regiment seized the hill adjoining Height 190, but in doing so exposed its right flank. The Germans counter-attacked with a battalion of infantry and twelve tanks, but all the artillery at the Division's disposal opened fire on them and the counter-attack fizzled out. They lost seven tanks and left three guns and fifteen machine guns on the field.

Meanwhile Movchan's regiment succeeded in gaining complete possession of Height 190. His men forced their way along the trenches with the help of bayonets and grenades, and captured a number of German prisoners, including a major. On Height 190 Lieutenant Colonel Movchan was wounded by a mortar bomb splinter.

At noon our aircraft launched another massed blow at the enemy defenses. Bombs were dropped on the German batteries and tanks; enormous blasts beyond the grove indicated our airmen had scored direct hits on ammunition dumps. Everything was again enveloped in flame, smoke and dust. It seemed the enemy's resistance must at last be smashed and that the Division had only to swiftly traverse the other two squares on the map—or four kilometers.

But experienced soldiers know how tenacious are

modern defenses. They know the enemy is persistent and stubborn, that he will cling desperately to every "inch" of Soviet soil.

Now one of the battalions of the Third Regiment had reached the ryefield—the men crawling on their stomachs and every now and then jumping to their feet for brief running spurts. Shells were crashing about them—it seemed nothing could be left alive in the ryefield—yet the men continued to advance on their stomachs.

An hour before, the regimental commander had transferred his observation post to Height 190. There had been no time to build a dugout and our sappers had simply deepened the German trenches, hollowing out niches in them. In one of these hollowed-out places Lieutenant Colonel Movchan lay wounded, refusing to allow himself to be carried to the rear and continuing to direct the regiment through his second-in-command, Major Afanasiev.

Here the heroes of the day's battle were already known. Among them was Captain Borovko—after capturing an important height his battalion was counter-attacked by 13 German tanks and a battalion of infantry. Borovko allowed the enemy tanks to pass through his lines. When the infantry approached the height, he attacked, leading his battalion in person, and overwhelming the German infantry. Now Captain Borovko had entrenched along a favorable line and was waiting for a neighboring battalion to come up.

Movchan's regiment had advanced far beyond other regiments of the division and had driven a wedge into the enemy defenses. His observation post was now about on a level with the German trenches near the grove, some 700 or 800 meters distant as the crow flies. We could distinctly see our tanks lining up in

battle order, our infantry following them. The first three tanks made straight for the grove; then came another three, then four more. They crossed the valley and began to mount the slope. We saw the first tank open fire on the grove, then the second and the third. The tanks gathered speed, with the infantry hurrying after them.

Why didn't the Germans fire? The tanks drew closer and closer to the trenches near the grove, firing constantly. Suddenly one was enveloped in white smoke. Mines! Apparently the Germans had deliberately refrained from opening fire on the tanks, to lure them into the minefield. Now the whole terrain, from trenches to valley, was wrapped in smoke. German artillery concentrated all the weight of their fire on our tanks, but they continued to advance, and we could see our infantry leaping into the German trenches. Suddenly, above the thunder of guns and whistle of shells we heard the cry, "Hurrah!"

Much more happened before the end of the day. A German infantry regiment supported by 30 tanks counter-attacked Movchan's battalion, but were repulsed. Twice the neighboring regiment beat off counter-attacks. At first the Germans succeeded in driving back one battalion, but the status quo was soon restored.

Toward evening our aircraft made one more raid on the German positions, and by eight o'clock the Division had advanced the full three squares on the map, or six kilometers on the ground. When we returned to the divisional observation post we found the General, escorted by his adjutant and two signalmen, leaving for the highroad at the top of the Height where a new observation post had been established.

"Tomorrow," said the General, "We'll fight for another inch."

SOUTH OF OREL

By Major P. Olender

WITH THE RED ARMY IN THE FIELD, July 30.—Soviet troops continue offensive operations in the same directions. The enemy is offering very stubborn resistance, contesting every inch of ground and launching numerous counter-attacks. During the day one of our units repulsed four counter-attacks of a battalion strongly supported by tanks and aircraft. As in previous days the Germans employ from eight to 40 tanks in an action.

Despite heavy resistance, Soviet units have gained a foothold and strengthened their positions on the west bank of a river. After fierce battles in one sector over 2,000 German soldiers and officers were eliminated and 15 tanks, three artillery and five mortar batteries were destroyed. In addition, our troops cap-

tured 12 guns, six tanks, three staff radio stations and other booty.

Yesterday an interesting episode occurred: a Soviet unit pursuing retreating Germans was brought to a halt by heavy machine-gun and mortar fire from the enemy rear, and the commander of the unit wounded. Junior Lieutenant Tsikorev replaced him, rallying the men and advancing a short distance. However, the enemy fire became stronger and the unit had to drop to the ground in front of an inhabited locality. The critical moment in the fighting had arrived when a red banner was hoisted in the inhabited place. Sergeant Koroapelkin, the first to see it, cried, "Comrades, they're expecting us! We'll have to capture the village!" The unit went into action, dislodged the Germans and captured the village.

BATTLES BEFORE OREL

By Major V. Koroteyev, Correspondent for *Krasnaia Zvezda*

Near a wooden bridge over a small river are clustered dozens of motor trucks loaded with shells and cartridges. Infantrymen in rain-soaked clothing and hot from the march pull uphill trucks which have skidded and bogged down on the road. The bridge creaks under the heavy weight of tanks hastening to the assistance of the advancing infantry which bears the brunt of the hard and stubborn fighting for Orel.

On the third day engagements were fought on the bank of a small stream only eight to ten meters wide. The stream could be forded easily, but on its steep western bank the Germans had prepared rather strong and deep defenses: a continuous line of trenches in two and three rows, and in the deep grass, in front of them minefields and barbed-wire entanglements on iron stakes. The solid line of trenches is reinforced by the latest invention of the German war industry—armored crabs dug into the earth. These are gray steel forts, oval in form, with an armor of 100-mms. thickness and special appliances inside, with room for two men, an observer and a machine gunner. They are tightly closed from the inside and are mounted on wheels, so that if need be they can be moved quickly from place to place.

The German defenses are abundantly provided with fire resources covering all approaches. On the western bank of the river stretches an uninterrupted chain of inhabited places. In many of the houses the Germans have torn up the floors and dug blindages; for firing they have cut apertures in the foundations. On the hills between the settlements the enemy has emplaced small caliber artillery pieces, medium caliber trench mortars and tanks dug into the ground. On the rear slopes of the hills stand camouflaged self-propelled guns. Now and then they rise to the crest to fire upon Soviet positions, then withdraw into their shelters.

In mounting an offensive at this line the Soviet Command decided to attack without artillery preparation, to achieve a complete surprise. Sappers worked under cover of artillery fire exploring fords and clearing lanes in minefields. Next day at noon, when the enemy had apparently decided there would be no attack until next morning, Soviet infantry supported by tanks suddenly attacked. Before the Germans could bring all their fire power into play, Soviet infantry and tanks had penetrated to the west bank of the stream and after a fierce battle in the trenches breached the German defenses and advanced two to three kilometers. In this way a patch of ground was seized for further development on the west bank.

The Germans hastily brought up reserves from their depth and launched counter-attacks, throwing in first one battalion, then two, with 15 tanks, and in the end an infantry regiment with 40 tanks. Soviet

rifle troops staunchly held the captured area. The Germans tried massed aerial attacks, but Soviet infantry, using the German trenches, withstood the furious bombing which continued for nearly four hours, with intermissions of 10 to 15 minutes.

Next morning Soviet infantry, supported by aviation, artillery and tanks, captured four areas after severe engagements. The fighting for a group of heights covering these villages lasted until late at night and was resumed early the next morning, not ending even when Soviet infantry and tanks reached the crest of the heights. At this point German machine guns and self-propelled guns opened fire from the rear of the slopes. But Soviet troops had been warned of these tactical methods of the Germans. Artillery spotters in tanks and in battle formation with the infantry immediately called for artillery fire on the rear slopes, and under cover of this fire our infantry entrenched on the heights.

At sunrise of the third day the Germans launched a large-scale counter-attack, preceded by a three-hour bombing from the air. Showing the same stamina as before, Soviet troops withstood the aerial attack and when the enemy infantry and tanks advanced for the counter-attack they were met by organized fire of artillery and infantry. The fierce battle lasted all day. Toward evening the Germans, at the cost of heavy casualties, succeeded in recovering one settlement, but the other three remained in Soviet hands.

Thus the result of the three days of severe fighting was a small place d'armes on the western bank of the little stream. Here in this sector the war assumed peculiar forms. Soviet troops encountered solid lines of trenches instead of the usual German strong points. The enemy has built defenses so deep and close that attacking forces cannot fully deploy for flanking thrusts. Every individual position, sometimes literally every yard, must be won in bloody struggle with the Germans, who are putting up desperate resistance.

Soviet troops are fighting against picked divisions of the Second German Panzer Army, at one time commanded by Guderian, who was defeated before Tula and replaced by Colonel General Schmidt. On July 14, the third day of the Soviet offensive, Schmidt was also dismissed, and Hitler appointed Colonel General Modl in his place. On the same day, July 14, Modl issued an order to the troops demanding the exertion of all efforts. The order abounds in pompous disquisitions concerning "the great German living space" and the struggle for retaining it. But it also states plainly, "Fight without sparing your lives, to avoid the utter defeat of the German Army."

However, neither difficult terrain nor defense in

depth gradually augmented by the enemy, neither the desperate persistence with which the Germans defend their positions, nor the frequent attacks from the air, have stemmed the advance of Soviet troops, especially our glorious infantry. The cooperation of artillery, aviation, tanks and Soviet infantry prevails against the German Tiger tanks and self-propelled Ferdinand guns. They encircle and capture the German armored crabs and their machine gunners, breach apparently insurmountable enemy defense lines, dislodge the Germans from their numer-

ous trenches and firmly hold captured positions. The factor making for success in their operations is not only the great ambition of men and commanders to speedily cleanse the Orel earth of the German scum, but the military skill of the advancing troops, their thorough training for decisive battles.

The battle continues unabated. The enemy continues to throw in fresh reserves, but is unable to halt the onslaught of Soviet troops, which methodically day after day in tireless fighting and with tremendous effort pierce the German defenses.

SOUTHWEST OF VOROSHILOVGRAD

By Major B. Glebov

Moscow, July 31.—Today our units southwest of Voroshilovgrad waged stubborn battles against large forces of enemy infantry and tanks which had passed over to the offensive. The Germans attacked our position from several directions simultaneously, employing large tank forces in all sectors, with infantry following in the wake of tanks. Our units repulsed the attacks, inflicting severe losses on the enemy in manpower and tanks.

In one sector the German-fascist command strove during the day to intensify its attacks. In the initial stage only insignificant forces were employed, but as the battles developed the enemy hurled greater numbers of infantry units and tanks into action. Despite huge losses the Germans struggled to break our resistance and penetrate deep into our defenses, regardless of cost.

Our units put up a good fight, preventing the enemy advance. A number of tanks approached our positions and were met by the fire of our guns and anti-tank rifles. Three enemy machines were immediately set on fire, but using gullies to advantage the Germans continued to advance. The moment the tanks appeared on a height, they again encountered the fire of our gunners; two more were destroyed and the remainder forced to retreat. Infantry following behind the tanks was also halted by our tommy gunners, riflemen and machine gunners. The German unit, abandoning several dozen dead, began to retreat but was fired on by our mortars and again sustained heavy losses.

Fierce air combats raged in this sector all day. On several occasions German bombers attempted to break through to our positions, but failed to get beyond our front line defenses, except in a few instances, when fierce air battles took place and our fighters inflicted considerable losses on the enemy aircraft. Soviet bombers in turn attacked German positions, particularly in sectors where the enemy had massed large forces for attack.



Soviet trench-mortar gunners pounding enemy positions

Radiophoto

THE GUERRILLA ROAD TO MOSCOW

By Maxim Filipov

Gennady Pavlovsky, a Soviet airman who was captured by the Germans when they overran the Crimea; Kirill Briliev, a 16-year-old guerrilla, and Anna Karamysheva, formerly a cook in a guerrilla detachment, arrived in Moscow a few weeks ago, after traveling a long, long road. Here is their story:

Gennady Pavlovsky trekked all the way from Crimea's cypresses to Podolia's oak groves, on the Bessarabian border.

He had been badly bruised, and lay unconscious beside his parachute for many hours. When he came to himself and looked around, what had recently been a battlefield was bathed in ghostly moonlight. The little blue-washed Crimean town was in enemy hands. Gennady struggled to collect his wits and reach his automatic. But his hand would not obey him. It hung limp as a whiplash along his hip: his dislocated shoulder swelled and ached. He struggled to his feet and lurched ahead. A few minutes later he was seized by the Germans.

He was driven westward with a little party of captured Red Army men, all either wounded or shell-shocked. Where were they going? Nobody knew. Some had already reached the end of their journey: worn out and enfeebled, they lagged behind—then, finished off by a German revolver, they lay still in the ditch by the roadside.

Gennady was lucky—he kept going until they reached the outskirts of Dnepropetrovsk. Here too his luck held. One night he dodged the camp guards and found himself free—free, but with German bloodhounds on his track, and threatened every moment by a German bullet or a hangman's rope.

But once he was through the barbed wire, Gennady accepted all the risks with joy. In any case he would have been doomed in the camp. Scores died there daily of starvation, typhus or sheer brutality. By forest and gully he made his way westward. His arm healed, and he decided to join a guerrilla detachment. Only by night did he approach isolated cottages to ask for food and shelter. He was never refused.

One night he was stopped by two men somewhere near Vinnitsa. He thought he was done for. But his luck had not deserted him. The men he met were those he was seeking—the guerrilla patrol. That was how he became a guerrilla.

"What did you do in the detachment?" I asked.

"For the first few days I did sentry duty, then I went out with the scouts. Towards the end I did a lot of mining jobs on the road and railways."

"Were you wounded?"

"No, fortunately. Only when the weather's rainy the old bruise gives me a reminder." And he showed me his right shoulder. His tone was that of an old soldier speaking of campaigns long, long past.

"What are you thinking of doing now?"

"I'm joining up again with the air force."

It seems that after many months with the guerrillas Pavlovsky began to yearn for his wings again. The chief of the detachment gave him two guides to get him across the front line and entrusted him with a task: to deliver Kirill Briliev, a 16-year-old boy, and a woman guerrilla, Anna Karamysheva, safely into the care of the Red Army.

"It was too difficult to get them across in winter time," the detachment chief said, "but now it's fairly simple. It's time the woman had a rest from this roving life, and the boy must finish his education."

Kirill Briliev is also in Moscow, the great city he knew hitherto only by reading and hearsay. He wanders enthralled through streets and squares, is fascinated by the escalators at the Metro stations, gazes for hours at the Kremlin walls, at Lenin's marble mausoleum, at the silver firs.

A year ago his native village was occupied by the Germans, and the next day his home was ablaze. Kirill's last memory of that terrible day is of his father's body lying streaming with blood across his own threshold. The Germans could not forgive the village schoolmaster, Briliev, that he had been among the organizers of the local collective farm. Still earlier—in 1918—he had fought against the Kaiser's troops in the Ukraine. He expected no mercy from the Germans. He would have left the village before they came, but could not bring himself to abandon his wife, who was very ill. They died together—he from a machine-gun volley, she under the falling rafters and burning roof of her home.

As the German soldiers started battering in the door, the schoolmaster just had time to open the window that gave on to the orchard and to say to Kirill, "Run for it! Keep to the woods, avoid open places, skirt the village, and you'll find our people. They'll look after you."

It was a dark night. Kirill jumped out of the window, hid in the ditch awaiting his chance, then fled from the frightful bonfire that soared towards the high dark skies. He did not find the guerrillas but they found him eventually. Enfeebled by hunger, he lay unconscious in the woods, and when he awoke he saw people standing over him, trying to bring him around. They were guerrillas.

(Continued on page seven)

FUTURE BALLET ARTISTS

By M. Dolgopolov

Every year the ballet troupe of the Bolshoi Theater of the USSR receives replenishments of youthful dancers from the theater's Choreographic School.

Eleven boys and girls were graduated from the school this year. Some were assigned to the Committee on Arts of the Sverdlovsk Theater of Opera and Ballet, others will join the State Dance Ensemble of the USSR, while two—Maya Plisetskaya and Atta Ivanova—are to join the company of the Bolshoi Filiale Theater. Muscovites have already had an opportunity to acquaint themselves with these two young artists; they danced in the school's public performance in 1942, while this season they were entrusted with solo variations in various ballet performances.

In the junior classes of the Choreographic School the young pupils, resting their hands on the bar, master the rudiments of classic dancing. In time the movements become more intricate and richer in design and rhythm. Large mirrors lining the wall reflect every gesture of hand, foot and body. This enables the pupils to check their movements and to acquire harmony, elasticity and grace. In the senior classes

the pupils are taught classical and character dancing and music, and are introduced to the art of posture and deportment. They attend lectures on the history of the theater and of the dance.

At the same time the pupils receive general education of the ordinary secondary school level. A practical course on the stage of the Bolshoi Theater is compulsory.

Thus the school trains all-round artists, educated in a sense of beauty, in love of their profession, and an appreciation of their responsibility to their audiences.

Some of the school's teachers, like Maria Leontova, Margarita Vasilieva and Nikolai Tarasov, have retired from the stage and devote all their energies to the training of the younger generation of ballet dancers. Others, like Olga Lepeshinskaya and Tamara Tkachenko, combine teaching with work on the stage.

Like all the theater schools of the capital, the Choreographic School gives performances in Red Army clubs and in war hospitals.

GUERRILLA ROAD

(Continued from page six)

They carried Kirill very carefully to a well-camouflaged camp, fed him, warmed him, set him on his feet, and soon he had recovered so far as to beg to be sent out with the scouts. The chief of the detachment said it was too early yet, and appointed Kirill his orderly. In this post he continued to serve until the day the chief took affectionate leave of him and ordered him to accompany Gennady Pavlovsky to the Soviet mainland.

Anna Karamysheva had been cook and laundress to the detachment, and the guerrillas called her by the dearest, most caressing name of all: "Matushka." How did she come to be a guerrilla? One day a German policeman came for Anna Karamysheva, and ordered her to get ready to leave, telling her insolently: "Don't bother to take your things with you. You're not likely to need them."

In the commandant's office they hung a wooden label around Anna's neck, and sent her with a party of slave women to Germany. The train did not reach its destination. At a remote little station the guerrillas held it up with a red signal, disarmed the German guards and freed the women. Anna is in Moscow with Kirill.

Woman Artist of Wartime Leningrad

One of the oldest Russian painters, Anna Ostroumova Lebedeva, 72, a pupil of Whistler, still works in her native city of Leningrad, which she refused to leave even during the rigors of the blockade. She has just completed a series of wartime drawings, "The Neva During an Air Alarm," "Tanks Near The Smolny," "In a Bomb Shelter" and others.

"We have had hard times, and we still have them," says the devoted artist, "but I am proud to have found a place among my city's defenders."

50,000 in Soviet Art and Music Schools in 1943

Eleven hundred musicians, including teachers, orchestra players, accompanists and choir conductors, also many teachers of painting and many decorators and dancers, are being graduated from Soviet secondary art schools this year. Five hundred singers, pianists, dramatic actors and other artists will be graduated from higher institutes. More than 30 young composers who have written numerous musical pieces during their courses of study will be graduated from conservatories.

Enrollment of students in the higher and secondary art schools is now in progress. The number of students in these institutes will reach 50,000.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF JULY 30, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

A decisive battle is now being fought in the Orel direction. The Hitler command strives at all costs to hold the Orel place d'armes, whose great strategic significance lies in the fact that it covers Bryansk—an important base of the German army and a large railroad junction—and at the same time is the key to the strategic roads leading to the Ukraine and Byelorussia. This explains the stubbornness with which the Germans continue to counter-attack Soviet troops on every line.

The Hitler command has built defenses here in great depth, consisting of uninterrupted lines of trenches in two and three rows, with numerous mine-fields in the dense grass and barbed-wire entanglements, and reinforced by pill-boxes resembling steel crabs. Breaching these German defenses in the Orel direction requires great effort. In addition, the Hitler command has assigned picked troops to defend Orel, among them picked divisions of the Second German Panzer Army under General Modl. This army was once commanded by the notorious General Guderian during the unsuccessful offensive against Moscow in the autumn of 1941.

During the past few days the Hitler command has thrown in fresh forces of infantry and tanks, and

there is also a noticeable intensification of Luftwaffe action above the battlefields. It has been further noted that the Germans have transferred considerable forces from other fronts and from their reserves. Replacement battalions have arrived from Germany and France.

Despite the difficulties of the struggle for the Orel place d'armes, the Red Army, overcoming stubborn German resistance, has been making steady headway. While large mechanized forces are involved, the brunt of the fighting is borne by Soviet infantry, which has been advancing step by step, fighting for every German position. This explains why the average rate of advance of the Red Army in the Orel direction is from five to 10 kilometers daily.

The battle of Orel continues unabated. The last few days have witnessed an increase in armaments in the battle, especially artillery and tanks. In view of the failure of Hitler's offensive on the Soviet-German front this summer, the Germans are exerting the utmost efforts to hold their positions in the Orel battle, knowing that defeat and the loss of the Orel place d'armes may be fraught with dire consequences for Hitler's army on the Soviet-German front.

PREPARATIONS FOR 13TH NATIONAL CHESS TOURNAMENT

The 13th National Chess Tournament will be staged in Moscow in September. A training conference for the benefit of the competitors is now being held. Among those taking part are the Moscow champion, Grossmeister Vasili Smyslov, Grossmasters Alexander Kotov and Andre Lilienthal, and Masters Vyacheslav Ragozin, Peter Romanovsky, Vladimir Alatortsev, Mikhail Yudovich, Vasili Panov and Vlados Mikenas.

The Conference opened with an extremely interesting report by young Smyslov on the theoretical innovations noted at the recent Sverdlovsk tournament. This was followed by Vasili Panov's talk on the Ruylopez opening and by Peter Romanovsky's talk on the methods of playing certain rook endings. The reports aroused lively discussion.

Equally thorough preparations are in progress at other chess centers for the coming championship.

Outstanding Soviet stars, including champion Mikhail Botvinnik, are competing. One of the favorites will be the famous Czechoslovak Grossmeister Salo Flohr who recently took out his Soviet citizenship papers. Soviet national tournaments have always been marked by intensely interesting competition, and the coming contest promises to be no exception.

Leningrad Newspaper Sellers Honored

By a special decision of the Supreme Soviet Morozov and Andreyev, Leningrad's oldest newspaper sellers, have been awarded, respectively, the Badge of Honor and Medal for Distinguished Labor. Morozov has been distributing newspapers in Leningrad for 37 years, while Andreyev has been on the job for more than 30 years. The award is made in recognition of the staunchness with which they carried on during the siege. Both will also receive the "Defense of Leningrad" medal.

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THE RED NAVY AT WAR

By Admiral Nikolai G. Kuznetsov

For the past 25 months the Red Navy has been fighting shoulder-to-shoulder with the gallant Red Army for the honor, liberty and independence of the Soviet Union, and has carried out a number of important operations. War is a stern trial of fighting qualities. Both ships and men have come through this trial with honor and glory. Officers and men have learned constantly from their experiences in war at sea.

The assault of the enemy who treacherously attacked the Soviet Union was indeed powerful. Among his first objectives were the bases and ports of the Red Navy. Fascist aircraft made their first air raid on Sevastopol at 2:45 A. M. on June 22, 1941. But the Germans did not take Soviet vessels and naval bases by surprise; on the Baltic and Black Seas, on the Danube and the Dnieper and on the extreme flank of the front in the distant Arctic Ocean the



Amateur jazz band of sailors of the Black Sea Fleet

enemy met the courageous, determined and organized defense of Soviet seamen. Nor did his attempt at a lightning sea attack on Soviet naval bases inflict losses on our vessels or meet with any success.

The German air raids on Sevastopol were intended to inflict serious damage on the Black Sea Fleet and to hamper its activities by means of torpedoes, bombs and mines. The Black Sea Fleet immediately took counter measures and the enemy suffered losses without being able to seriously damage the Fleet.

The defense of Sevastopol, in which the Black Sea Fleet played a leading role, will always be remembered as one of the most brilliant achievements in the great Patriotic War. The exploits of the defenders of this heroic city will not be forgotten through the ages; they gave the entire world an example of unparalleled tenacity, inflexible will and indomitable courage in battle. Their banners bore the motto "For the honor of Soviet arms," an honor which they upheld. The enemy, choking in his own blood, entered the city over a mountain of dead. Sevastopol's defenders took a heavy toll from the Germans—300,000 officers and men killed and wounded and huge quantities of equipment destroyed.

The youngest of Soviet fleets—the Northern Fleet—stands on guard with the Red Army beyond the Polar Circle. The Northern Fleet was formed 10 years ago on the initiative of Marshal Stalin, and at the moment of the German attack was already strong enough to give the enemy a worthy reception and to repulse all attempts to seize our northern seacoast. Ships, guns and shore batteries, marines and the air arm of the Northern Fleet, working closely with the Red Army, put up stubborn resistance to the onslaught of Hitler's hordes and delivered numerous counter-blows.

Vessels of the Northern Fleet, especially the submarines, are conducting operations against enemy bases and communications, keeping up a constant search for the enemy and finding and defeating him. Dozens of fascist transports and naval vessels have been sunk in the Barents Sea while attempting to transport troops, arms and ammunition to northern Finland. At the same time the Northern Fleet has effectively covered our own sea communications and prevented all enemy attempts to reach our bases by sea. The Soviet Northern Fleet, like its sister fleets in the Baltic and Black Seas, has passed through its first test of fire with honor and has shown its ability to defend the northern seaboard of the Soviet Union.

The deeds of seamen and marines in the defense of Leningrad, Odessa and Sevastopol will be recorded in the annals of the great Patriotic War. Soviet people are also aware of the tremendous aid given by the Volga Naval Flotilla to the Red Army in the Battle for Stalingrad.

One of the most difficult of all sea trades is that of

submarine seaman. Long before the war the submarine crews were known as "the brave ones" among Soviet people. During the war they have proved to be real heroes. The time has not yet come to sum up their activities, but it may be said that they have made a great contribution to the total loss inflicted on the enemy by the Red Navy. The tonnage of enemy vessels sunk by Soviet submarines runs into many hundreds of thousands. The submarines produced by Soviet industry have proved their excellent structural qualities, which place them among the best vessels of the great naval powers. The entire country knows the names of the heroes of the Northern Fleet: Kolyshkin, Hajiev, Lunin and others; their voyages and torpedo attacks on the enemy are noteworthy for daring, bravery and sober, careful calculation.

The submarine crews of the Baltic Fleet have a most difficult task. The road to the open sea is blocked by enemy minefields, and enemy surface craft and aircraft are constantly on patrol. It would appear impossible for a submarine to navigate in these tortuous, shallow waters under such conditions. But our submarines have one aim—to find and sink enemy vessels—and they persistently overcome every obstacle to the realization of this aim.

Submarines of the Black Sea Fleet won fame for their work in the defense of Sevastopol. When the besieging enemy was closing in on the city and fascist guns and aircraft held the sea routes under control, submarines operating in coordination with surface craft maintained communication between the beleaguered city and the Caucasian bases, bringing the most essential supplies to the people of Sevastopol.

All classes of Soviet surface craft, from motor torpedo boats to battleships of the line, have shown their strength and skill and the unexcelled courage of their crews. The battleships "Oktyabrskaya Revolyutsiya" and "Petrovskiy" under the walls of Leningrad, and the battleship "Sevastopol" in the Black Sea, have dealt the enemy a number of hammer blows with their heavy guns and continue to do so.

During the first weeks of war the motor torpedo boats of the Baltic Fleet performed many gallant actions. Their bold and daring raids did much to hinder the transport of reinforcements and supplies to the German armies in the Baltic Republics. In deeds they proved the truth of Suworov's statement, which has become a rule for our seamen, "They don't fight with numbers, but with brains."

A number of Soviet surface craft have been awarded the honored title of "Guards." The Guards flag has been hoisted on the cruisers "Krasny Kavkaz" and "Krasny Krym," both of which played an extremely important part in the defense of Odessa, Sevastopol and the Caucasus seaboard. The Guards destroyer "Gremyashchy" has given an excellent account of

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BATTLES NORTH OF OREL

By Major V. Koroteyev

MOSCOW, August 3.—In the past few days fierce fighting has raged northwest of Orel where the Germans had a large number of strongholds covering the Orel-Bolkhov highway and the Bolkhov-Karachev road. The enemy had concentrated large forces in these strongholds, trying to prevent a breach in their defenses in this sector. However, our troops broke through in several places, forced the enemy back and smashed a large number of strongholds.

The Germans had built strong defenses around Kutma, Samarka, Palchikovo and other places. Soviet troops opened an attack on these positions, to which the Germans replied with a number of counter-attacks. These strongholds clearly constituted a strong German center of resistance; the order was therefore given to break down the center into parts and to deal with each separately. Simultaneous attacks were launched in several directions and driving wedges into the enemy defenses our troops broke his center of resistance. Attacks against the separate strongholds followed immediately. The Germans retreated with heavy losses and were compelled to give up Kutma, Samarka, Palchikovo and a number of other places.

Fighting for the Bolkhov-Karachev road was

equally furious. The road is of great importance to the Germans, and in a tremendous effort to hold this line they threw in all their reserves and launched frequent counter-attacks. Our troops made a number of tempestuous drives against the strongholds guarding the road and forced the Germans to withdraw.

The Germans suffered a heavy defeat near the town of Znamenskoye, a district center. In this area the enemy had large forces with considerable technical equipment and transport. So unexpected was the thrust of the Soviet troops, the Germans were compelled to abandon large quantities of materiel, and their losses in manpower were also very great. In Znamenskoye the enemy lost one of his largest strongholds and an important line of defense.

Air battles are fought continuously throughout the whole district. The enemy's attempts to support each counter-attack with bomber forces are frustrated by Soviet fighter formations. There are frequent air combats between fighters. The Germans make tremendous efforts to prevent the operations of Soviet bombers, but our strong fighter escorts afford excellent protection, enabling the bombers to batter the German ground forces.

THE FIGHTING SOUTHWEST OF VOROSHILOVGRAD

By Major Glebov

MOSCOW, August 3.—It was reported some time ago that fighting of a local character had developed in a sector of the front southwest of Voroshilovgrad, where Soviet troops had attacked with the object of improving their position. The operation was successful, and the Germans immediately reacted to the loss of the important positions which they had spent several months in fortifying. Every effort was made to recover the lost positions; all German reserves in this sector were thrown into the first day's fighting. Next day fresh reserves were brought from another sector and large forces of reserves from the rear areas. The front line was strengthened with tanks, artillery and infantry, including motorized troops.

The Germans launched numerous counter-attacks, several heights and villages changing hands a number of times. Soviet infantry supported by tanks, artillery and air forces persistently broke down enemy resistance, repulsed counter-attacks and continued to occupy more favorable positions. The stubborn German counter-attacks brought them heavy losses in tanks, planes and men. Not only did the prisoners speak of heavy casualty lists, but a further evidence was the huge piles of dead officers and men at points

captured by Soviet troops, and the large quantities of equipment abandoned on the battlefield.

At length the Germans realized that the frequent counter-attacks even when supported by tanks and aircraft were bringing no results. They then launched an attack with large forces concentrating several divisions in a comparatively narrow sector and in addition bringing up unattached units, including sapper battalions and a non-com training battalion. This alone reveals the great tactical importance of the positions captured by Soviet troops southwest of Voroshilovgrad.

At 6 A. M., after intensive artillery and air preparation, the Germans attacked Soviet positions in three directions—on both flanks and at the apex of the Soviet wedge—using their usual tank spearhead as a driving force, with the infantry following. The fierce battle which ensued showed within a few hours that the enemy plan to cut off the wedge by means of concentric attacks had failed. The Germans launched a number of heavy attacks on the right flank. The fighting lasted from dawn until dark, but all efforts

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GERMANS MUTILATE WOUNDED RED ARMY MAN

Krasnaia Zvezda reports the terrible mutilation of Red Army man Golubyatnikov by the Germans. Golubyatnikov and a comrade, Bestuzhev, were on duty at a trench outpost when the Germans opened mortar and artillery fire and later advanced on them. Golubyatnikov was wounded in the left leg by a mine splinter, but he and Bestuzhev continued to fire at the approaching Germans. Another splinter struck Golubyatnikov in the left arm, and at the same time an enemy grenade smashed Bestuzhev's rifle, wounding him. Both men fought on until a mine explosion buried them in the earth. Golubyatnikov managed to push the earth away and crawled out just as the Germans appeared on the breastworks. He hurled a grenade, killing several. The remainder jumped into the trench.

To avoid being taken prisoner Golubyatnikov feigned death. A German grabbed and shook him violently, but Golubyatnikov clenched his teeth and remained silent. The German then drew his knife, severed Golubyatnikov's ears and deeply slashed his nose and throat, but despite the frightful pain the Red Army man did not utter a sound. Satisfied that he was dead, the fascists went away.

Soon afterward Golubyatnikov was found by Red Army men and taken to a hospital. For his valor and staunchness he has been awarded the Order of the Red Banner. Every man of his unit has sworn to avenge him.



Wounded Red Army man Nikolai Golubyatnikov was tortured by the Germans, his ears severed and face mutilated

Radiophoto

NAZIS SLAY THOUSANDS OF PEACEFUL CITIZENS IN SMOLENSK REGION

In the districts of Smolensk Region liberated from the German invaders, the people have collected the following data on the brutal mass extermination of the population by the Hitlerites during the period of their rule:

In Semlevo District the fascists burned or shot 773 persons, including 200 children, and destroyed 200 villages. In Baturin District they burned, hanged or tortured to death 1,544 persons; in Sychevka District they murdered 6,000 peaceful citizens.

In the village of Chernyshi the Germans, in a search for bread, rounded up all collective farmers and shot them. Many were not killed outright by the bullets, but the living were thrown into a ditch with the dead and buried alive. In the village of Zaichino the fascists herded 28 collective farm women with their children into the house of collective farmer Dodonova and burned it to the ground.

In Kholmshino village the Hitlerites bound the people's hands and drove them into a minefield, where they were blown to pieces. In the village of Podmoshino 19 old men were shot on suspicion of maintaining contact with guerrillas. The population of Karmanovo District was hunted down by the Germans; those who were able to escape hid in blindages in a forest.

1,300 People of Kalinin Region Transported to Germany

Reports have recently been received of fresh crimes of the Hitlerites in the occupied districts of Kalinin Region. The invaders reduced 50 villages in Sebez District to ashes, destroying 800 buildings. In one month they tortured to death or shot 124 persons and carried away to slavery in Germany about 1,300 persons.

COPY OF ORDER OF GERMAN COMMAND ON BRANDING OF SOVIET WAR PRISONERS

On August 2 PRAVDA published a copy of the original order of the German Command on the branding of Soviet war prisoners. The document was captured a few days ago by Soviet troops. A translation follows:

Commander of Police for Maintenance of Order in the Ukraine.

1-a. September 4, 1942. Contents: Branding of Soviet War Prisoners. Following excerpt of copy to be distributed to service instances for their information. Verified: Oberseergeant of Guard Police.

For the Commander: Chief of Headquarters-Muel-ler-Brunkhorst. To be distributed: to all police commanders, 9 copies PP to each. Copy from copy. Supreme Command of Armed Forces AP 2 F 24. 82. Chief of war prisoners (SAN) Gen. (1-a.) 4 A, No. 3,142 (42).

Berlin, Schoenberg, July 20, 1942, Badensche-Strasse 51:

Branding of Soviet War Prisoners.

1. Soviet war prisoners must be branded with a permanent mark.

2. Brand represents open sharp angle of approximately 45 degrees with its apex pointing upward, with each side one centimeter long, to be put on left buttock at approximately a palm's width from anus.

3. Branding is not a medical measure. Therefore, in view of the lack of medical personnel, German medical personnel should not be burdened with it.

4. PP.

5. The following persons are to be branded:

(a) All newly taken Soviet war prisoners in the area of operations of the Commander of the Armed Forces of the East and the Ukraine and the Military Command in the Governor-Generalship, in the first stage of sanitary treatment.

(b) All other war prisoners taken in the area of operations of the Supreme Command of the Ukraine up to September 30, 1942. Execution of the order is to be reported by October 15, 1942.

6. This measure should not interfere with the labor employment of war prisoners.

7. As soon as branding is done, entry to be made immediately in personal card No. 1, in the column "Special features," with mark indicated in paragraph 2 . . . 1942.

8. PP. Chief of Staff of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces. Upon instruction: signature. Chief of SS and Police in Stalino—Commander of the Police for Maintenance of Order. SCH.

Copies to be distributed to service instances listed in dispatch book. Dispatch: 38 copies to Commander of Police for Maintenance of Order, 10 to Commander of Gendarmerie, 26 to Garrison Chief of SS and Police. Verified: Lieutenant of Guard Police (signature illegible).

(Signed) LOOSE.

PRAVDA ON THE BRANDING OF SOVIET WAR PRISONERS

On August 2 PRAVDA wrote editorially:

Recently the Soviet people witnessed the trial in the case of the atrocities committed by the German-fascist invaders and their accomplices in the town of Krasnodar and in the Krasnodar area during their temporary occupation. The horrible crimes of the Hitlerites and their accomplices against peaceful Soviet people revealed at this trial have proved once more the bloody, monstrous crimes of which the hateful enemy is capable in pursuing his vile ends.

Today we publish a document brief in length but monstrous in content. This is the order of the German Command on the branding of Soviet war prisoners. The Hitlerite butchers revive the customs of slave-owners; they brand people like cattle, their only concern being that the branding should not interfere with the hard work done by Soviet war prisoners.

The Hitlerite hangmen long since trampled upon all the precepts of international law; they have long since passed the line which separates man from the wild beasts. They are worse than wild beasts, because they are prompted not by instinct but by evil will, and deliberately carry out their elaborate system of brutal acts.

The Hitlerites brand Soviet people with a red-hot iron in their desire to humiliate the Soviet man. Vain effort! By their criminal deeds the Hitlerites have branded Germany with infamy which can only be washed away by the blood of the Hitlerite brigands and murderers. The hearts of all Soviet people, the hearts of the Red Army men, are seized with hatred, fury and contempt for the fascist butchers—emotions which temper and make indomitable the will to defeat and destroy the enemy.

It is possible to put an end to the crimes perpetrated by the Hitlerite bandits in one way only: by defeating Hitlerite Germany. To achieve this end at the earliest possible date, the freedom-loving peoples must exert all their efforts and concentrate all their thoughts.

TASS STATEMENT

On July 31 the Swedish newspaper *Aftontidningen* published an article on "Soviet Terms of Peace with Finland." As such terms, which allegedly became known from "a certain Soviet diplomat," this article refers to the frontier of 1940 on the Karelian Isthmus

and to the frontier of 1939 in other areas.

TASS has been authorized to state that this report is the fruit of the idle imagination of the editors of *Aftontidningen* and is devoid of any foundation.

GUERRILLAS HELP BYELORUSSIANS TO ESCAPE DEPORTATION

Underground newspapers published in occupied Byelorussia report numerous acts of sabotage of Hitlerite measures by Byelorussian collective farmers. The people stubbornly resist deportation to forced labor in Germany and hide for months in forests and dugouts. Guerrillas aid the farmers, attacking the Hitlerites on the roads as they escort villagers to railway stations. They often liberate large parties of prisoners and inflict heavy blows on the German police. In Polesye Region guerrillas recently freed over 500 Byelorussians.

Sauckel, the German General Commissioner for the Utilization of Labor Power, who recently visited Minsk, publicly admitted that the Byelorussian people resist labor mobilization. Sauckel flung threats at the

Byelorussians, declaring that "most resolute measures" would be taken against them.

Mass roundups are in progress in towns and villages; people are seized in the streets and held under arrest until they can be taken to railway stations. Orders are posted commanding Byelorussian girls and young men to report to recruiting stations and threatening to shoot those who disobey. When all young people fled from Ostroglyady, a village in the Polesye Region, a Gestapo punitive detachment arrived and shot dozens of innocent people, including many children from three to twelve years of age.

The Byelorussian population also evades the payment of taxes, which the Germans increase monthly.

VOROSHILOVGRAD

(Continued from page three)

to approach Soviet trenches were repulsed. On the left flank the Germans also came upon skilled and determined resistance, and were checked.

The fiercest fighting took place in the center. The Germans used masses of infantry in the vicinity of a certain village, supporting them with large numbers of tanks. To retain a wedge-shaped salient jutting into enemy lines demands great endurance and experience on the part of troops. The Germans met with just such stubborn, determined and skilled resistance. The main German drive was along a road, and panzer units tried to break through to the southeast and cut off the apex of the wedge. Soviet troops countered with heavy artillery fire and by all the infantry fire at their command.

The fighting continued all day. With artillery, anti-tank rifles and even grenades the Soviet troops smashed at least 50 out of 110 to 114 attacking German tanks. Enemy infantry was cut from the tanks by small arms and mortar fire, and suffered enormous losses.

Toward the end of the day the situation in this sector grew serious. A group of enemy tanks had succeeded in getting near a certain village; the situation was such, however, that Soviet units were able to strike a blow at the enemy's flanks. Throughout

the entire combat zone the Germans lost 95 tanks in fighting with Soviet ground forces, and a large number of others destroyed or damaged by the air forces. Thus the first German attacks cost them heavy losses.

In many places firing duels continued all night. Next morning the enemy, not having achieved any success, launched an attack after four hours of artillery and air preparation, during which the German air forces concentrated on our front-line positions and the bases nearest the front. In one sector the Germans hurled into battle three battalions supported by 60 tanks and many groups of aircraft, ranging from six to 30 planes. In this sector Soviet troops repulsed seven German attacks. The Germans succeeded in gaining a foothold in our defenses at only one point, and here the position was quickly recovered and the enemy troops completely annihilated. In this battle the Germans again lost several dozen tanks, and in another sector about 1,000 men.

The enemy has suffered huge losses both in men and materiel and during the past few days has thrown into battle additional large forces of infantry and tanks. Enemy attacks continue without let up in an effort to regain lost territory at any cost. Soviet units continue to repulse German attacks, and in a number of sectors have worn out the German forces and launched drives against them. Soviet troops are firmly holding positions recently won and are inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in men and machines.

SON OF LEO TOLSTOY AWARDED ORDER OF RED BANNER OF LABOR

On his 80th birthday Sergei Tolstoy, son of the great Russian writer, was awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor for his outstanding services in editing the posthumous publications of his father's works. For 30 years Sergei Tolstoy has devoted himself to this activity, and has also written a number of studies of Tolstoy. Among them are *Reflections on the Life of Anna Karenina*, *How the FRUITS OF EDUCATION Was Written* and *Leo Tolstoy and Music*.

Sergei Tolstoy has always been consulted on all the important stagings of his father's works, including the latest production of *Anna Karenina* at the Moscow Art Theater. He is also active in the field of music, is a member of the Union of Soviet Composers and has written a number of lyrics, based chiefly on folk airs. Just now he is composing music for the soldiers' songs from Leo Tolstoy's *Sevastopol Tales*.

Recently a correspondent for the Soviet press visited the great writer's son at his apartment in one of the finest Moscow buildings. A personal pension and a summer home were granted him by the Soviet Government, and prior to the war he used to spend several months of each year at his birthplace, Yasnaya Polyana, now restored after having been desecrated by the German barbarians in their advance toward Moscow in the winter of 1941.

Sergei Tolstoy greatly resembles his world-famous

father: he has the same nose, the same thick eyebrows. He is at present writing his memoirs. The only person now living who knew Leo Tolstoy during the time he was writing *Anna Karenina*, the son describes in these memoirs the development of the character of Anna, who reflects the qualities of a number of Russian women known to Tolstoy, in particular Maria Gartung, daughter of the poet Pushkin.

"In his talks with me, father would recall certain details connected with the creation of *War and Peace*. He spoke of the length of time devoted to the study of the battle of Borodino. When he had read everything written about Borodino, he felt it necessary to personally visit the battlefield. He spent two days at Borodino, walking twice over the scene of action and drawing a plan of the battle, which he later used in his book.

"My father used to say that Russia's strength in 1812 consisted not only in the glorious exploits of Russian soldiers, but in the fact that the entire people was moved by one desire—to clear its land of invaders."

In describing the heroism of Russian soldiers in 1812, Tolstoy could scarcely have guessed that a descendant of his would take part in a second Patriotic War—but a great-grandson of Tolstoy, also named Sergei, is at present fighting the German invaders on the Soviet-German front.

COLLECTIVE FARM WOMAN INCREASES POTATO CROP; WINS STALIN PRIZE

"Yutkina brigades" have been organized in many collective farms in various regions of the USSR for the purpose of greatly increasing potato crops in their districts. The brigades are named for their initiator, Anna Yutkina, the first collective farm woman to win the Stalin Prize, awarded her brigade for the use of improved agricultural methods over a number of years and for raising a record potato crop of 133 tons per hectare in 1942. This year the team expects to harvest not less than 150 tons per hectare.

Anna Yutkina has had no special education. Her parents, poor peasants before the October Revolution, had no land of their own and were compelled to work for landowners. In her youth Anna worked on other people's farms and took care of other people's children. Only with the establishment of the Soviet system did she have an opportunity to learn to read and

write; at the age of 18 she entered the village school for adults, from which she was graduated.

Seven years ago this collective farm woman broke the record for potato growing. At that time the average harvest in Siberia was 30 to 40 centners of potatoes per hectare. Anna Yutkina exceeded this average almost ten times, gathering 343 centners per hectare, and since that time has gathered large crops yearly.

Canteens for Soviet Miners

Many more miners' canteens are being opened by the People's Commissariat of the Coal Industry. The Kuznetsk Basin is to have 34 new canteens, the Urals 29, the Karaganda coalfield 15, and 10 are scheduled for the Moscow Coal Trust.

MOSFILM STUDIO RETURNS TO CAPITAL

By Mikhail Dolgoplov

The Mosfilm Studio has returned to its home in Moscow. At the beginning of the war this studio, one of the largest in the USSR, was evacuated from the capital to the city of Alma Ata in the Kazakh Soviet Republic. There, under difficult conditions, were produced many films popular in our country and abroad—*Mashenka*, *Guerrillas*, *Lad from Our Town*, *In the Name of Our Country* (based on Konstantin Simonov's play *The Russian People*), and others.

The new director of Mosfilm is Ivan Pyryev, awarded the Stalin Prize for his films *Tractor Drivers*, *The Swineherd and the Shepherd* and *Guerrillas*. Speaking of the studio's plans in a recent interview, Pyryev said, "Sets are now being built for the palace chambers of Emperor Alexander I, in preparation for the historical film *Field Marshal Kutuzov*, to be shot from a script by Vladimir Solovyev, author of the play of the same title. The film will recreate the most important chapters in the life of the great Russian who drove Napoleon's army from his country. Vladimir Petrov, well-known for his work on *Peter I*, will direct. The role of Kutuzov will be portrayed by Alexei Dikiy.

"The noted Ukrainian film director, Alexander Dovzhenko, has begun work on a picture to be called, *The Ukraine in Flames*. The script, which reflects the unyielding struggle of the Ukrainian people against the Hitlerite invaders, was written by Dovzhenko.

"Vsevolod Pudovkin will shortly begin a historical film, *Admiral Nakhimov*—based on the exploits of the valorous leader of the Sevastopol defense in 1854-55. The script was prepared by Konstantin Paustovsky.

"As for myself," concluded Pyryev, "I shall soon begin the filming of a musical, *The Girl from Moscow*. The poet Victor Gusev has written the scenario, and the picture will deal with the steadfastness of Soviet youth in the defense of their country against the Nazis. The lead will be played by Marina Ladynina, and Vladimir Petrov will handle the camera. The music is now being written by the famous composer Tikhon Khrennikov."

Director Grigori Alexandrov and his wife, Lubov Orlova, widely known for their films *Jolly Fellows* and *Volga-Volga*, will arrive in Moscow shortly. They have been working together in the cinema studios of Baku, where they completed several films. Alexandrov is scheduled to direct a musical film, *Enchanting Dreams* for Mosfilm. The cast will include the musicians of the jazz band of a little cinema theater called Enchanting Dreams.

The Mosfilm Studio is conducting experiments in color films. Cameraman Fedor Provorov, who specializes in color filming, is preparing to make a picture on the exhibition of trophies captured from the German invaders.

Mosfilm also plans to open its own school of acting in the near future.

RED NAVY

(Continued from page two)

itself in naval actions in the Arctic Ocean and in convoying British, American and Soviet transports in conjunction with Allied vessels.

The Navy's Coastal Defense service with its batteries of heavy guns has played an important part in the war. Its guns are defending the Soviet seaboard, protecting the flanks of the Red Army from attack by land, air or sea, and are at the same time striking heavily at the enemy. Gunners of the Naval Coastal Defense fought with bravery and iron determination in the defense of Odessa, Sevastopol and Leningrad. The active work of the Coastal Defense in the Far North and at Novorossisk and Leningrad is a great help to the Red Army in smashing enemy strongholds and batteries and in destroying his manpower and equipment.

The air arm of the Red Navy has won great fame: many of its fliers, including Safonov, Antonenko, Brinko and Ostryakov, have especially distinguished themselves. Attacks made by our naval airmen on Berlin, Helsinki, Ploesti and other industrial centers of Germany, Finland and Rumania, have caused the enemy considerable losses.

The Red Navy also sends its men ashore. The marine infantry, true to the traditions of the Navy, fights ashore with exceptional courage and bravery.

Great battles are again being fought on the Soviet-German front. The Red Army has assumed the offensive. We know that victory will not come easily. The enemy is still strong. Our wrath and hatred against the German invaders who will trample on our Soviet country and continue their reign of terror over millions of Soviet people in the occupied areas should be all the stronger for this knowledge.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

AUGUST 5, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Popov, Colonel General Sokolovsky, Army General Rokossovsky, Army General Vatutin and Colonel General Konev:

Today, August 5, the troops of the Bryansk Front, assisted on the flanks by the troops of the Western and Central Fronts, as a result of fierce engagements captured the town of Orel.

Also, today the troops of the Steppe and Voronezh Fronts broke the enemy's resistance and captured the town of Belgorod.

One month ago, on July 5, the Germans launched their summer offensive from the areas of Orel and Belgorod with the object of surrounding and annihilating our troops stationed in the Kursk salient and capturing Kursk.

Having repulsed all the enemy's attempts to break through to Kursk from the direction of Orel and Belgorod, our troops themselves passed to the offensive and on August 5, exactly one month after the beginning of the German offensive, occupied Orel and Belgorod.

Thus the German myth alleging that Soviet troops are unable to conduct a successful offensive in the summer stands exposed.

To mark the victory attained, the name of "Orel" shall be conferred on the Fifth, 129th and 380th Infantry Divisions, which were the first to break into the city of Orel and liberate it, and henceforth they shall be named: Fifth Orel Infantry Division, 129th Orel Infantry Division and 380th Orel Infantry Division.

The name of "Belgorod" shall be conferred on the 89th Infantry Division of Guards and the 305th Infantry Division, which were the first to break into the city of Belgorod and liberate it, and henceforth they shall be named: the 89th Belgorod Infantry Division of Guards and the 305th Belgorod Infantry Division.

Today, August 5, at midnight, the Capital of our country—Moscow—will salute our valiant troops which liberated Orel and Belgorod by twelve artillery salvos from 120 guns.

For the excellent offensive actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the operations for the liberation of Orel and Belgorod.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom of the motherland.

Death to the German occupationists!

(Signed)

SUPREME COMMANDER IN CHIEF,

MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS AGAINST TANKS

By Major I. Derenkov

Action against enemy planes is the main task of anti-aircraft artillery, but numerous instances of the use of AA guns against German tanks have been noted on the Soviet-German front.

A Soviet AA gun of medium caliber is an effective anti-tank weapon. Its trajectory of fire makes it possible for even a swiftly moving target to be crippled by a direct hit, while its high muzzle velocity gives great armor-piercing power. The firing rate of an AA gun is sufficient to beat back even mass tank attacks.

The anti-aircraft battalion of which I was commander was stationed in the front zone, assigned to protect land troops from air attacks. The enemy, having concentrated a numerically superior force in one sector, succeeded in driving a wedge into our defenses. German tanks appeared near the positions of a battery commanded by Captain Smirnov. Two lines in staggered formation were moving up along a 500-meter front. We counted 67 medium tanks. The relation of forces was obviously in favor of the Germans, but Smirnov trusted his men and knew the power of his guns.

The AA gunners allowed the enemy machines to approach within 300 to 350 meters and then fired over open sights. Within 30 minutes 15 tanks had been smashed by direct hits and one set afire by incendiary bottles hurled by our tank fighters. The remainder of the German machines turned tail and fled. Skilled tactics and the high degree of training of the gunners accounted for this remarkable success.

Another battery was in a firing position in a meadow half surrounded by thick woods, precluding the possibility of a flank movement by tanks. The anti-

lerymen were in a position to concentrate their efforts against a frontal tank attack. To fire with greater accuracy the gun layers, instead of moving the gun muzzle to follow the enemy machines, trained their sights on a point ahead of the tank and directly in its path. As soon as the tanks entered the sights, the order to fire was given. The same method was employed against maneuvering tanks moving in an oblique line; in this case, however, the gun was trained on a point to the left or right of the machine, depending on its course. If a shell missed a tank, it exploded further back among the advancing German infantry.

Part of the success achieved by Smirnov's battery was due in a large measure to the excellent teamwork of the crews. Every gun commander had a well-equipped trench to the left or right of his gun. With a good view of the ground ahead of him he could effectively direct fire. The guns were protected by automatic riflemen who infiltrated along the flanks and by sniper fire kept the Germans at a safe distance, also warning the gun commanders of the appearance of new targets. The anti-aircraft crews had extra men to take the place of those put out of action. In the fighting the AA battery assumed a trapezoid formation, which ensured maneuverable and concentrated fire.

On another occasion one of our batteries, attacked by tanks, was supported by other detachments firing from covered positions. The fire correction was made by the forward battery, which remained in the open. When enemy bombing planes appeared to support the tanks, the concealed batteries concentrated their fire on the enemy planes, leaving the forward battery to deal with the tanks.

SAGA OF RED ARMY SCOUT CHEKHAROV

Red Army scout Chekharov has been decorated with the Order of the Patriotic War. Stories of his amazing ingenuity and resourcefulness are current all along the front. One of his favorite tricks is to tamper with German minefields—then watch the enemy blow themselves up on what they imagine to be "safe" zones.

One day Chekharov was observing a field covered with hillocks. He carefully counted these mounds. Next morning he discovered that their number had increased by four. He soon detected the artificial ones—the grass was a slightly different color. They concealed German machine gunners. But Chekharov himself sat for days undetected under an artificial

mound—he took good care to water the grass on it twice a day!

He once sat for days inside the frozen carcass of a horse, right in front of the German lines. Another time he found a hollow stump almost within the German fortifications, and established a position for himself inside by burrowing under the snow and cutting his way into the stump from the bottom.

Whenever Chekharov is spotted, he crawls toward the enemy, who is expecting him to crawl away. So far this trick has always worked. He is also an expert on German uniforms. He spotted tank reinforcements in one sector by noticing pink tabs on the collars of some of the men.

TANK AMBUSH

By Captain P. Byely, *Krasnaia Zvezda* Correspondent

Soviet tank ambushes play an important part in the struggle against German counter-attacks. Tank ambushes are promptly organized in sectors where enemy thrusts are most likely. In most cases such ambushes yield excellent results and frustrate the enemy counter-attacks. Sometimes a tank ambush consisting of a small group of machines succeeds in repelling enemy forces many times outnumbering it.

In one sector our scouts reported that the enemy was massing in a forest preparatory to a thrust against an advancing rifle regiment. The Soviet command immediately sent a small group of tanks to organize two ambushes along routes where the enemy was expected. An hour later the enemy launched his counter-attack with a force of two battalions of infantry and a group of tanks, advancing from three directions. All this was observed from the Soviet command post. A radio order was sent to one ambushed group: "Hold fire temporarily, and let the enemy pass." The second ambush, lying closer to the Soviet troops, was ordered to open fire the moment the enemy reached it.

Our tankmen, acting according to orders, permitted the enemy to come close and then suddenly opened fire from all their tanks. Enemy infantry which had advanced ahead of its tanks immediately turned back in disorder. The tanks, however, still tried to break through. Soviet tankmen met them with heavy fire and damaged two. The Germans then attempted to advance via ravines. Soviet tanks emerged from ambush and in a swift attack forced them to retreat.

At the same moment the first ambush, which was now in the enemy's rear, opened fire. This completely confused the German infantry, who began to flee in small groups. The enemy tanks, who outnumbered ours 2.5 to one, also beat a hasty retreat. This was the last German attempt to counter-attack in this sector.



Collective farm woman presents plane to Red Army—Shumkova, of the Gudok Collective Farm, Krasnoyarsk Territory, has just turned over to Guards Lieutenant Colonel Sobolev the plane built with her personal savings of 121,000 rubles

Radio photo

COSSACK FAMILY DECORATED FOR BRAVERY

One Red Army Guards unit contains six members of a Cossack family—Lieutenant Vasili Plugin, 46; his wife Elena and their four sons, the youngest 17. All have been decorated for bravery.

The Plugins are natives of the Cossack village of Veshenskaya, made famous by Mikhail Sholokhov's novel *Quiet Flows the Don*. They took up arms at the beginning of the war, for they had an old score to settle with the Germans—in 1918 German occupationists had devastated their farm, killed Vasili Plugin's mother and father and hanged his two brothers. As the Germans approached Veshenskaya, Vasili organized a guerrilla detachment which operated in the German rear for several months. When the Red Army's winter offensive began, Vasili and his sons joined the Guards, while his wife Elena became a nurse's aid. Vasili was made a mounted scout.

On one occasion the Plugins were ordered to enter a village where the German regimental headquarters was stationed and to ascertain the exact disposition of enemy forces. They managed to reach the village, but were then spotted and Vasili, who commanded the detachment, was wounded. The mother concealed him and led her sons into action. They galloped through the village, sabering the German soldiers. Establishing the location of enemy fire pits, trenches and signal stations, the Cossacks turned back, picked up Vasili and returned to their unit with the information.

Another time, taking part in an attack on a large populated place, the Plugin family sabered a German gun crew and captured a quantity of arms, including a field gun. This fighting family now has to its credit 16 scouting raids and over 300 Hitlerites killed.

FRENCH NORMANDIE SQUADRON FIGHTS ON SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT

The following is a verbatim report of an interview between Major Louis Tulan, Commander of the French Normandie Fighter Squadron in the USSR, and a *Pravda* correspondent. The interview took place at a field airdrome near the front:

Correspondent: Would you kindly tell me how the Normandie Air Squadron was formed?

Major Tulan: Our squadron was formed last year in Syria, especially for operations on the Soviet-German front. Before that the pilots and mechanics of the squadron fought the Germans over France,



Major Jean Louis Tulan (center) commander of the French Normandie Squadron fighting on the Soviet-German front. Major Tulan has been awarded the Order of the Patriotic War, First Degree, by the Soviet Government. Many of his group fought in France, England and Africa before coming to the USSR

Britain and Libya. All of them, of their own free will, joined this unit, which was to fight shoulder-to-shoulder with the Red Army. We have recently been joined by quite a few new fliers who escaped from German-occupied France three or four months ago.

Correspondent: On whose initiative was the squadron formed, and why is it called the Normandie?

Major Tulan: The squadron was formed on the initiative of General de Gaulle, who has always held high and proudly the banner of France. He formed it to consolidate by deeds the rapprochement with Russia. The air squadrons of France Combattante bear the names of provinces captured by the Germans. General Vallene conferred on our squadron the name of one of the French provinces which have suffered most from invasion by the Boche.

Correspondent: Please continue your story of the Normandie.

Major Tulan: And so, on a December day in 1942, a Soviet plane brought a group of French officers and non-coms from hot Teheran to a snow-blanketed Russian town. We put away our tropical shorts to don Russian felt boots and fur coats, and saw with surprise how the airdrome was being rolled. In France, when snow fell, flying ceased and the fliers went home.

Soon we received YAK-1 planes. This is a very agreeable fighter craft with strong armament, fine maneuverability and good view. It is a pleasure to fight with it. Our pilots, who had previously flown French planes, very soon got used to the Soviet machines. It had taken rather longer to get used to British planes. Soon after, I was invited to Moscow and asked there to choose a sector of the front for the operations of the Squadron.

On the Soviet-German front we have shot down twelve and damaged three enemy planes. Many of us had destroyed German planes before coming to this front. For instance, there are twelve marks on the fuselage of Captain Litof's fighter: he has shot down six German planes in France, four in Libya and two in Russia. From the very beginning we took part in blockading an important German airdrome. We acted together with a Soviet Guards Air Unit. This operation was so successful that we asked always to have Guardsmen as our companions in battle. Our wish was granted.

Correspondent: Would you kindly tell of your latest air combats?

(Top to bottom) A group of Fighting French pilots flying on the Soviet-German front under the tri-color of their native land; A Soviet flier (light uniform) talks with the French pilots; Between flights—Russian beer replaces Normandie cider; A Fighting French flier and a Soviet bomber pilot who fought together against the Germans continue their friendship on land

Major Tulan: Recently we were informed by radio that German twin-fuselage short-range reconnaissance planes, Focke-Wulf 189s, were daily visiting the area of a stated railway at stated hours. Our fighters began to take off in pairs in quest of the German scouts. We were unable to meet them the first day. Later our pilots sighted a Focke-Wulf 189 flying north into our territory. We flanked it, and when it sighted us it turned tail and tried to break through to the front line, but was attacked and shot down. The very same thing happened on the two subsequent days.

On the fourth day, together with Senior Lieutenant Beguere, I took off to intercept German scouts. From 4,000 meters I sighted a twin-fuselage plane 1,000 meters below. I signalled Beguere and we began to dive on the German. Just then I sighted above two Focke-Wulf 190 fighters escorting a German scout. We began to climb to intercept one of the German fighters, and I shot him down at the second try.

Those four days brought us four victories. Lieutenants Le Fevre and Delapoip, during a patrol near the front line, were attacked by two Messerschmitts and four Focke-Wulfs. Le Fevre was attacked by the Messerschmitts and Delapoip by the Focke-Wulfs. Le Fevre got onto the tail of a fighter and shot it down, whereupon the second at once turned back. Delapoip escaped into the clouds, by skilful maneuver, from the four fighters.

Russian Summer Just Like France

Correspondent: Don't you find our climate too severe?

Major Tulan: Oh no. This winter in Russia proved milder and shorter than we expected. We never had a single case of infection or cold. And summer here—these pines, wild strawberries, this river, all this resembles France so much! The Russians everywhere are very friendly to us. We quickly made friends with the Soviet airmen and now feel ourselves to be members of the family. We all have particularly pleasant memories of the airmen of Major Dymchenko's regiment. We left them with sincere regret. That is a very fine regiment.

Correspondent: Would you like to say something about yourself?

Major Tulan: I was born in 1912 in Nancy, where at that time my father's unit was stationed. In the First World War my father served in the cavalry, then became an airman and perished on a big trans-



European flight. His two brothers are also airmen, one of them a colonel general of aviation. My brother is a pilot and my sister is married to one. From childhood I was fascinated by aviation and did a lot of flying, as much as 60 hours a month. I used to take off in a bomber, fighter and spotter in turn on one and the same night.

Before coming to Russia I had not had an air victory except for something in Africa. I met an Italian Savoy-79 ambulance plane flying from Tobruk at the time it was besieged by the British. Red Cross signs prevented me from opening fire, but, simply because I approached, the brave Italian pilot immediately landed on the beach inside the British lines. The Italian passengers began to scatter and were immediately taken prisoner. Amongst them were six Italian generals who were trying to escape from Tobruk under cover of the Red Cross.

Correspondent: Permit me, Major, to congratulate you on that remarkable victory!

Major Tulan: I flew under the British flag. That was a coalition victory.

"The Hour Is Near"

Correspondent: What would you like to convey to your friends in France and in the Soviet Union?

Major Tulan: Please tell them that, having come to the USSR, we have satisfied ourselves that the Russians are capable of hitting the Germans hard and have already dealt weighty blows at them. We may be certain of victory. The hour is near when the now occupied territories of our countries will be completely cleared of the Germans. I believe the present moment is most suitable for opening a second front in Europe.

WHEN THE GERMANS ENTERED KERCH

Following are statements of two citizens who escaped from Kerch, on the Crimean Peninsula, regarding atrocities perpetrated by the German-fascist invaders in the first days of their occupation of the city:

STATEMENT OF N. SERETENSKAYA

My 75-year-old father, who had lived in Kerch for 43 years, was well-known and respected there both as a fine person and as the oldest physician in the city.

When the Germans entered Kerch, trampling human dignity underfoot, they ordered "all inhabitants, regardless of age," to report to Sennaya Square. My parents prepared to go to the Square. Then they were ordered to remain at home. They were told that all doctors were to be left to work in the Polyclinic and that they would be given special certificates to this effect. And indeed, shortly afterward the authorities issued documents in German to father and mother, granting them the right of residence in Kerch. Actually these documents were but a temporary lease on life.

Early one morning four Germans knocked at our door. Two of them, Gestapo agents, entered the room, awakened my parents and ordered them to follow. Father dressed hastily while mother went out in her dressing-gown. It was bitterly cold outside. The Gestapo agents forbade me to accompany my parents, threatening to shoot me if I left the room. Bringing the old folks out into the yard the executioners began to shout at them. A few minutes later I heard three shots. There, a few steps from our door, the fascists had shot my parents. They had fired two shots at mother and one at father. After the first shots the old folks had fallen to the ground but were still alive. Father raised himself, crying for help. The Gestapo agents fired three more bullets

at them, then dragged the bodies into the yard, stripped them and left them there.

Under threat of death I was forbidden to remove the bodies of my dear ones. Thus they lay in the street for more than 24 hours. Next day, after much pleading, I received permission to bury them. Hundreds of people wanted to pay their last respects to my father, but I was threatened with execution if I permitted anyone to see the bodies, and spies kept watch over our house to report any visitors. There is justice and the fascist monsters will be called to account for the crimes they have committed and the bloodshed caused by them.

STATEMENT OF DR. D. VYSHKOVETSKAYA

The first days of the German invasion of Kerch were marked by wholesale plunder of the population. Going from house to house the Germans took everything they could find. Any man in the street adequately dressed would be immediately robbed of his clothing. The fascists, removing hats from men's heads would try them on and with mocking laughter, saying "Gut, Gut," would walk off with them. Anyone resisting the robbers would be shot on the spot.

The Germans began by making house to house arrests of all young men, keeping them in a camp for ten days to determine who among them were guerrillas. Some were sent off to an unknown destination and the rest shot.

Then the Germans issued orders for registration of the population; forbidding departure from the city; commanding Jews to wear a six-pointed star, and on food deliveries to the Germans, to mention only a few. Finally came the order for all those registered

(Continued on page seven)

THE DOWNFALL OF ITALIAN FASCISM AND HITLER'S VASSALS

By K. Velikanov

Mussolini's retirement signifies the bankruptcy of Italian fascism. But fascism in Italy is far from dead, and democratic institutions are not yet restored. Italy's political and military connections with Hitlerite Germany are still intact and Italy is still waging war on Germany's side.

At the same time, the Italian people are demanding that relations with Germany be broken off immediately. A wave of anti-German demonstrations has spread throughout Italy and in many places posters insisting on the recall of German troops from Italy have been carried through the streets. The Turin newspaper *Stampa* has published manifestoes issued by five anti-fascist parties calling for the complete eradication of fascism.

The press of the neutral countries asserts that the new Italian Foreign Minister Guariglia is feeling his way toward peace negotiations. Assertions of this kind are inconsistent with the Italian Government's first declarations regarding its intention of continuing the war. True—nothing was said in the declarations to show that Italy would continue the war to the end under any conditions in conjunction with Hitlerite Germany, though formerly Mussolini invariably stressed this point. Germany is not even mentioned in the address of the Italian King or of Marshal Badoglio.

It is not clear whether the new Government will force the people to continue the war on Hitler's side. It is due precisely to the maintenance of her alliance with Germany that Italy's position in the war grows steadily worse. Allied troops are developing offensive operations in Sicily. Should the Italian government not capitulate, all of Italy will become a theater of military operations.

In the meantime the Red Army's offensive, which is gaining impetus, will not permit Hitler to send adequate reinforcements to Italy. On the contrary, the enormous losses of the German troops oblige him to fling fresh reinforcements to the Soviet-German front.

All of these factors, which have resulted in both a military and political crisis in Italy and led to fascism's downfall, continue to have their effect. The defeats on the Soviet-German front predetermine the future defeats of the German and Italian troops, if the fighting irupts into Italy. Fascist Italy's downfall is the outcome of the weakening of Hitlerite Germany's military might, which was undermined by the Red Army. Germany's own crisis in military affairs is becoming more acute, as witness the failure of Hitler's 1943 summer offensive on the Soviet-German front and the Axis defeat in the Mediterranean.

The Allies' operations in Sicily have proved that the Italian army's fighting fitness is poor and its

morale lowered. The surrender of entire Italian divisions in Sicily acquires the character of a plebiscite for peace. The fact that Italy is put out of action will lead Germany to a still greater isolation, to still further undermining of her position.

The Italian events have caused great alarm among Hitler's Balkan vassals, as might be expected. Special cabinet meetings have been called in Budapest, Bucharest and Sofia. The Italian problem was discussed from the standpoint of how the war situation will develop if the Italian divisions in the Balkans are withdrawn more or less quickly. The vassals fear that Hitlerite Germany will be unable to help them, as she proved unable to help fascist Italy.

Seeing that Germany's Allies are in a ferment and that alarms are spreading, Berlin endeavors to demonstrate official optimism regarding the prospects confronting Italo-German relations, and declares that despite Mussolini's retirement the Italo-German Axis will remain intact. At the same time the Hitlerites are exerting pressure in every possible way on the governments of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria. Nevertheless, some of these governments are making great efforts to coordinate their policies with Rome in questions of war and peace—for example, that of Hungary, according to the Turkish press.

The downfall of Italian fascism is a sinister omen for Hitler; it will hasten the process of collapse of the Hitler blocs in Europe. The United Nations will deal Hitlerite Germany still more shrewd and forceful blows there, to encompass her defeat and to destroy Nazism. Only when the downfall of Italian fascism has been followed by the downfall of fascism in Germany will a new life dawn for the tormented peoples of that Europe which the Hitlerites have drowned in blood and disfigured with gallows.

GERMANS IN KERCH

(Continued from page six)

with the Gestapo to report to Sennaya Square. From the Square the fascists led us to prison and locked us in cells so crowded there was barely room to stand. In our cell were 110 women, children and old people.

The news filtered through to us that the fascists were constantly shipping away groups of people, depriving them of food, clothing, money and documents before they left. Many prisoners were brutally tortured. A guerrilla imprisoned in the cell adjoining ours was beaten terribly, but not a word of information, not even a moan escaped his lips. Prisoners were constantly being shot; each night we heard shots and the cries of the victims.

Notes from Front and Rear

For skilful direction of military operations against the German fascist invaders and for resulting successes, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has awarded the Order of Suvorov, First Degree, to Marshal of the Soviet Union Zhukov; the Order of Kutuzov, First Degree, to Colonel General Ivan Konev; the Order of the Red Banner to Lieutenant General Nikolai Bulganin and the Order of the Red Star to Lieutenant General of the Commissary Service Ivan Khokhlov.

★

A YAK-1 fighter plane built with funds awarded Academician Obratzov with the Stalin Prize was recently turned over to Lieutenant Lavrenov, a young pilot who shot down 18 enemy planes in the Kuban and wears three decorations. On the same occasion a YAK-1 fighter built by the Rytishchevo railwaymen was turned over to the Soviet air force.

★

Dean Abraham Mikhailov, head of the Kazan Church in Kuznetsk, has informed Stalin that his church council has donated 150,000 rubles toward the building of fighter planes and 100,000 rubles for warm clothing for the Red Army. The Dean himself has made a personal gift of 115,000 rubles.

★

Several scientific expeditions have recently left Baku. A group of geologists will investigate newly-discovered deposits of molybdenum. Botanists plan to organize the production of vitamin C from grapes, and will also gather medicinal herbs and seek new types of ingredients for medicinal preparations in the northern part of Azerbaijan. Bituminous deposits near Baku will be explored by another group.

★

Oberleutnant Paul Sontagg, Third Company, 27th Regiment, 19th Tank Division of the German army, who was recently taken prisoner, made the following statement: *Recent events on the Soviet-German front have perplexed many German officers and men. In July, 1943 the German army suffered one of its heaviest defeats since the outbreak of war. Losses in manpower and materiel have never been so heavy as in July. In four days of fighting the 27th regiment lost 40 out of 65 tanks. But there are other losses which cannot be estimated. I mean that the German soldiers are losing their morale. They ask in alarm, "What will happen to us?" They feel that the entire German army on the Eastern Front is approaching a catastrophe.*

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has conferred the title of Marshal of Aviation upon Colonel General of Aviation Alexander Golovanov.

★

The Ethnography Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR has issued a volume in English on the history of the life and culture of the North American peoples. The Institute's valuable collections and documents of Russian scientists and travelers in America are described in the book. Much space is devoted to the notes of the Russian voyager Vosnesensky, who studied the peoples of Alaska in the middle of the last century. Also included are the diaries of the noted Russian explorer, Lidtke.

★

Members of the Artel Collective Farm in the Stalingrad region, Central Asia, have become "patrons" of a devastated collective farm in the Stalingrad Region. They are sending ten head of cattle, 15 sheep, 15 pigs and 20 swarms of bees to the liberated farm.

★

Noble Conflict, a play dealing with the life of Charles Darwin, the great English biologist, is in rehearsal at the Moscow Drama Theater. The author, Leonid Rakhmanov, began the play before the war and finished it in his rare leaves from the front, where he is serving as a correspondent.

Outstanding moments in the play are the stormy scene between Darwin and his old teacher, the geologist Adam Sedgwick, and the historic meeting between Darwin and the Russian agronomist Timiryazev, when the English scientist told the Russian, "You can be sure that all in this house are on your side; we take up the newspapers each morning in the hope of reading of new victories by you."

★

A new production of HAMLET in the Armenian language is very popular in Erivan, capital of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic. The Prince is played by People's Artist Vargash Vargashyan, who portrays him in the tradition established in 1837 by the Russian tragedian Machalov, in which Hamlet was interpreted as a passionate, relentless fighter for truth, in contrast to the refined, neurasthenic, meditative and philosophic character usually depicted. Tchaikovsky's HAMLET SUITE provides the musical accompaniment.

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RESULTS OF ONE MONTH'S SUMMER FIGHTING ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT

On August 7 the Soviet Information Bureau issued the following communique on the liquidation of the Germans' Orel place d'armes and the capture of the towns of Orel and Belgorod by Soviet troops:

As a result of stiff offensive engagements, the troops of the Bryansk Front, assisted on the flanks by the troops of the Western and Central Fronts, routed the picked troops of the German Army which the German Command had concentrated in the Orel area, liquidated the enemy's Orel place d'armes and on August 5 captured the city of Orel, which had been in the hands of the German invaders for nearly two years.

On the same day, August 5, the troops of the Steppe and Voronezh Fronts broke through the enemy's front and captured the town of Belgorod.

This whole operation, brilliantly carried out by the Red Army according to the plan of the Supreme Command, falls into two stages:

1. The successful liquidation by our troops of the summer offensive of the German-fascist troops which they launched on July 5 of this year in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod-Kursk directions with the purpose of encircling and annihilating Soviet troops in the Kursk salient and capturing Kursk.



IN LIBERATED OREL—Red Army men who have just entered the city resting in May First Square

Radiophoto

2. The successful offensive of the Red Army in the Orel and Belgorod directions which resulted in the defeat of the enemy's groups in Orel and Belgorod and in the capture of the towns of Orel and Belgorod by our troops.

The first stage of fighting: The failure of the German offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions.

On the morning of July 5, big forces of enemy tanks and infantry supported by numerous aircraft launched an offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions. On the eve, Hitler issued an order saying that "the German army launches a general offensive on the Eastern front," that the blow which the German troops would inflict "must be of decisive importance and become the turning point in the progress of the war," and that "this is the last battle for Germany's victory."

Having launched a "decisive offensive" and having spent tremendous quantities of manpower, tanks, guns and aircraft, the German army, far from achieving any operative success, failed to score even a tactical success. Even more, our troops decimated divisions hurled into the offensive by the enemy and themselves dealt a powerful retaliatory blow at the enemy's advancing army. Soviet troops operating in the Orel-Kursk direction had already, by July 17, completely restored the position they held prior to the beginning of the German offensive, i.e., before July 5, 1943.

Thus the summer offensive of the German troops, in which the Hitlerites placed great hopes, has failed. The Red Army has destroyed the myth created by the Hitlerites alleging that summer is the season of successes and victories for the German army, while Soviet troops in summer are allegedly compelled to be in retreat.

In their futile attempts to capture the Kursk place d'armes and thus prepare the ground for an offensive on Moscow from the Orel place d'armes, during the period from July 5 to July 23 the German-fascist troops lost 2,900 tanks, 1,039 guns, including 195 gun carriers, 1,392 aircraft, over 5,000 trucks and over 70,000 officers and men killed.

Thus ended another of the Hitlerites' gambling ventures.

The second stage of fighting: The successful offensive of Soviet troops in the Orel and Belgorod directions.

Soviet troops not only thwarted the Germans' summer offensive, but themselves passed to a resolute offensive against the groups of enemy troops located in the Orel salient and in the Belgorod area, and inflicted a heavy defeat on the Germans.

The German Command attached tremendous importance to Orel. The Hitlerite generals regarded Orel as a place d'armes for an offensive of German troops against Moscow and at the same time as a bastion of German defense in the central sector of the front. In the 22 months of their stay in Orel the Germans converted the Orel place d'armes into a powerful fortified area and created there deeply-echeloned permanent fortifications based on the numerous water barriers.

But a few days ago the German press and radio proclaimed Orel the symbol of the impregnability of German defense.

On July 12 Soviet troops stationed north, east and south of Orel launched a resolute offensive in the general direction of Orel. The German Command ordered its troops defending the Orel salient not to retreat a single step and to fight to the last man. Reinforcements continuously arrived in the Orel area from Germany and troops were hastily transferred there from other sectors of the Soviet-German front. Carrying out the order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, the Red Army, regardless of heavy rains and bad roads, steadily advanced in the face of the enemy's stiff resistance, pierced the whole depth of the German defense lines and on August 5, after violent street fighting, captured the city of Orel.

On August 4 in the Belgorod direction, our troops passed to the offensive, pierced the enemy's defenses, inflicted defeat on the Germans and captured the town of Belgorod.

In the course of engagements fought by our troops in the Orel direction from July 24 to August 6, and in the Belgorod direction from August 4 to August 6, our troops killed over 50,000 enemy officers and men, destroyed 1,100 aircraft, 1,705 tanks, 584 guns of all calibers and 6,000 trucks.

Altogether, in the course of one month's fighting in the Orel and Belgorod directions, from July 5 to August 6, the Red Army inflicted on the enemy the following losses:

120,000 officers and men killed.

4,600 tanks, 1,623 guns and 11,000 trucks disabled or destroyed.

2,492 aircraft brought down.

During the same period our troops captured 521 tanks; 875 guns of various calibers, including gun-carriers; 2,521 machine guns; 325 various stores, and took prisoner 12,418 German officers and men.

Thus, carrying out the plan of the Supreme Command, in one month's fighting the Red Army liquidated the German offensive against Kursk, inflicted

a heavy defeat on a group of crack German-fascist troops, liquidated the enemy's Orel place d'armes and liberated the towns of Orel and Belgorod from the German invaders.

The failure of the Germans' summer offensive and the defeat of the German troops at Orel and Belgorod testify to the fact that the Red Army in summer conditions proved able not only to secure but to develop its success in the offensive. Now the hopes of the Germans and their underlings for a favorable turn in military operations in summer conditions have completely fallen through.

Thus the myth alleging that Soviet troops are unable to conduct a successful offensive in summer stands exposed. The Red Army's successful military operations tied to the Soviet-German front all the main forces of the Hitlerite army, deprived the German Command of the possibility to freely maneuver with their troops, and thus created still more favorable conditions for the development of active offensive operations of our Allies on the European Continent.

Such are the results of one month of summer fighting on the Soviet-German front.

IN OUR OREL

By B. Galin

A lurid glare rose high above the horizon. It was the ancient city of Orel in flames. All night the reverberations of explosions could be heard from beyond the Oka River, where the Germans, pressed in a vise on all sides and retreating under the blows of the Red Army, were wreaking vengeance on our city, systematically blowing up its houses street by street.

At three o'clock in the morning, the hour when the fate of Orel was being decided and the darkness was illuminated by the glare of rockets and the spurning fire of guns and automatic rifles, the anxious, tormented citizens of the long-suffering city suddenly heard the voice of the Red Army—the voice of their country! The Division moving on Orel had set up a powerful loudspeaker on the river bank before the firing line.

Fighting was still raging in the streets of Orel. Its houses were still burning. The enemy was still resisting tooth and nail. But the voice of the advancing Red Army resounded proudly and confidently:

"Orel was and will be our city—a Soviet city! We are with you, comrades and brothers! We are coming!"

At dawn I entered Orel with our advanced units. The battle had shifted beyond the hills surrounding the city, beyond the river with its blown-up bridges. Sappers were busily probing roads, houses and gardens with mine detectors. Orel was burning, enveloped in a pall of smoke and darting flames. It was a mangled city—the work of the Germans who had held sway there for nearly two years. Many of its houses were branded with the black German letter "W"—the mark of the barbarians, the mark of destruction. With their vile German methodicalness, groups would go from house to house, placing their black mark on each, and afterward came the incendiary gangs to

fire or dynamite them. This had been the fate of the finest buildings in the city—the Palace of Culture, the Palace of Labor, hospitals, children's nurseries and libraries. In one street we saw the corpses of German incendiary troops who had not had time to set fire to the marked houses; our automatic riflemen had dispatched them at the scene of their crime.

From early dawn the city was seething with excitement. Out of cellars, ravines and forests the inhabitants emerged into the light. How pale and worn from hunger and despair they all looked; but at the same time how their eyes glowed—what joy was revealed in their welcoming gestures! They were saved!

The city was still burning; wreaths of smoke and soot curled over the houses or drifted up to the blue sky. Yet Orel was seized with a passion of joy and happiness. The citizens greeted their deliverers with flowers, which the dusty troops in sweat-stained tunics pressed to their breasts as they marched. Deliverance had come!

It was in October, 1941 that the Germans entered Orel. For a year and ten months they had trampled on the human dignity of Soviet citizens. Now Orel is again ours. But the people who lived for nearly two years under the hated fascist yoke cannot forget, and will perhaps never forget, the black days of the German occupation.

Ardently they welcomed the advancing Red Army, peering greedily into the face of every soldier and officer. When a detachment of automatic riflemen marched through Komsomolskaya Street, a bare-headed old man skipped briskly out of the throng and marched beside the men, carrying a large portrait of Stalin which he had concealed at the risk of his life. As he marched, the old man murmured over and over, "My sons . . . my sons . . ."

Last night our automatic riflemen had fought fierce battles with the Germans ensconced in brick houses. The Hitlerites clung desperately to every street. The fire from their batteries was meant to bar the way of our infantry; they blew up the city's bridges and mined the approaches to them. But all their efforts were thwarted by the vigor and determination of our attacking units. The battle for Orel lasted almost two days, until by a powerful assault the Germans were flung out of the city.

Orel is ours! Red Army men marching through the streets of the burning city and gazing into the excited faces of the citizens cannot but sense the grandeur of their liberation mission. On the banks of the Oka I witnessed this scene: In the morning the General and his adjutant crossed the river, clambering over the dynamited bridge. This was the first General to be greeted by the citizens of liberated Orel. He, like the other officers, was presented with a bouquet of flowers. Then he was asked to wait a moment, and from a neighboring house came an elderly woman who presented to him an ancient saber with a silver plate set into the hilt. The General accepted the saber, thanked the woman for the gift and proceeded on his way to the firing line.

Beyond Orel there is a highway leading through the fields to Nugor. This highway is a road of awful memory to the people of Orel. On June 24 and again in July the Germans drove hundreds of Orel lads and girls along this road. Over a thousand 17-year-old girls were herded this way to the Bryansk railway

station, where they were loaded into coal cars and carried to Germany.

Now the mothers were scouring the city, looking for their sons and daughters in the Gestapo prisons. On the right bank of the Orlik River was the Gestapo house of torture, where in deep concrete cellars the Germans did their foul work. I climbed the staircase to the second floor. On the wall was painted the fascist flag with its black swastika. Anna Koshchavtseva, mother of an 18-year-old son, told me in a voice breaking with sorrow and wrath of the tragic fate of four young boys, Konstantin Yakubovich, Volodya Alekhin, Volodya Khokhlov and her own son, Vitali. Anna Koshchavtseva herself was held for over a month in the Gestapo prison. The Germans tortured her. While interrogating her in the isolation cell they held the portrait of her son before her eyes. But she was a staunch Russian woman whom no torture could break.

Now, as she emerged from the burning Gestapo prison and stared at the Red Army men marching by, her face lighted up and a look of hope came into her eyes: they would avenge all her sufferings.

The citizens of Orel know at what a price the Red Army achieved their liberation. And from early dawn the citizens, young and old, helped to build bridges, to extinguish fires and to do everything possible so that the Red Army would not be halted for a moment in its onward march, driving the Germans farther and farther westward.

IN THE KHARKOV DIRECTION

By Major Peter Mironov, Correspondent of *Krasnaia Zvezda*

MOSCOW, August 6.—Today our troops operating in the Kharkov direction again inflicted a number of serious blows on the enemy. Overcoming the stubborn resistance of the Germans our troops, in severe engagements, captured a large number of inhabited places. Particularly severe battles were fought for Kazachya Lopan, Odnorobovka and Zolochov. The Germans who had retreated to this district, reinforced by fresh reserves, hurriedly prepared defenses based on a small stream and elevations and tried to halt the advancing Soviet troops. The enemy launched fierce counter-attacks but could not halt our troops.

As was seen later, the enemy expecting the thrust from a certain direction had prepared for counter-attacks there. Our troops, after thorough reconnaissance, launched their thrust in a different direction, preceding it with a successful flanking movement, thus attacking the enemy at the most vulnerable spot in his defenses. Our troops quickly overcame German

resistance and in two hours had advanced several kilometers and threatened now to outflank the enemy's main forces which had prepared to counter-attack in an adjacent sector. This maneuver proved highly effective. Facing the threat of a flanking thrust, the enemy, after his first unsuccessful counter-attack, beat a hasty retreat, sustaining heavy casualties and abandoning armament and motor vehicles. By evening our troops had made considerable headway in this sector.

In another sector a Soviet rifle unit captured an inhabited place which the enemy had defended for several hours, and likewise made considerable headway, compelling the enemy to abandon two more inhabited places on his left flank.

The operations of the Soviet tank forces are distinguished by great mobility. By surprise attacks the Soviet tankmen crush the enemy defenses and penetrate them in depth. Other mobile troops then

pour into the gap, widening it. Soviet tanks attack the enemy's flanks, appear in his rear and intercept his communications.

In one sector the Germans had a strong resistance center consisting of several inhabited places. One Soviet tank unit outflanked this center during the night and attacked it from the rear in two directions. By surprise thrusts the tankmen cut through the resistance center, separating it into several parts, and then in a battle which lasted only a few hours smashed it piecemeal. In this way our tank forces drove the Germans from a large area where they had prepared strong defenses.

Our aviation has also been very active. Large groups of bombers batter German battle formations almost continually, pursue the enemy's retreating troops and attack their principal communications and railway stations. In the area of Zolochov and Kazachya Lopan, the attacks of our ground troops were preceded by vigorous aerial bombing. Bombers and Stormoviks crushed a large part of the enemy's fire resources, inflicted heavy casualties on the infantry and thereby cleared the way for our tank and rifle troops. The attacks of the ground troops supported by our fighters and Stormoviks were crowned with success. The enemy was dislodged from a number of inhabited places and sustained severe losses.

ON THE BRYANSK FRONT

By Lieutenant Colonel L. Vysokoostrovsky

MOSCOW, August 7.—After seizing Orel and its important railway and highroad intersections, the Red Army continues its movement westward, dealing the enemy telling blows. As on preceding days the Germans resist stubbornly, but our troops are advancing systematically, step by step. They have occupied more than 70 additional places and have pushed the enemy back six to ten kilometers. The Germans are striving with frequent counter-attacks, powerful fire barrages and Luftwaffe assaults to retard our advance, in order to gain time to bring up fresh reinforcements from their interior and thus to stem our offensive.

Having suffered major defeats at Orel the Germans continue to devise new tactical methods, but in most cases they are ineffective against the power of the Soviet assault. In some places the Germans are trying to break contact with Red Army troops pursuing them, in an effort to retire and organize a defense in new and more favorable positions, but are frustrated by the vigorous advance of our forces.

The heaviest fighting is developing around inhabited places near intersections of country roads and highroads, on heights, in ravines and in small woods. Sometimes even a small stream becomes the theater of sanguinary engagements. The Germans counter-attack fiercely to retain or recover favorable positions but always unsuccessfully.

Yesterday one of our units attacked a group of small hills. After a powerful bombardment of the hills by artillery and Guards mortars, our infantry rushed the enemy's positions, capturing them. The enemy opened intense fire from self-propelled guns, medium caliber mortars and tanks ambushed on the opposite slopes of the hills, following which his tanks and self-propelled guns, escorted by a battalion of infantry, counter-attacked. Although our troops had not yet had time to entrench themselves they withstood the as-

sault and flung the Germans back to their initial positions. Organized fire was immediately opened on the enemy from the trenches just captured and the Germans, having failed to recapture the lost positions and having sustained heavy losses, were forced to retreat westward.

In the northern sector of the Bryansk area our troops drove the Germans out of Zhdimer, Gnezdilovo, Studenka and other inhabited places, with the capture of which they acquired possession of territory crisscrossed by numerous ravines and gullies.

Wherever the enemy succeeds in temporarily stemming our advance he immediately begins to mine the roads and approaches to inhabited places, the gullies, ravines and woods—in other words everything that offers concealed approach to his positions. Hastily constructed defense works are mined most thoroughly of all. Whereas formerly the Germans chiefly mined their forward line in front of their barbed wire entanglements, now they lay anti-infantry and anti-tank mines, high explosive bombs of various kinds and ~~booby traps in front of their entanglements~~, under them, behind them and even on parapets of their trenches. Our troops are called upon to display considerable resource and inventiveness in order to cope with these obstructions.

Our advance in the Bryansk area is one more proof that the best method of coping with a fortified zone is by a series of outflanking and by-passing maneuvers.

Restoration of Caucasus Wineries

The Raskaley State Farm in the North Caucasus, which formerly produced the finest muscatel wines in the Soviet Union, was completely destroyed by the Germans. Work on the restoration of vineyards and distilleries is proceeding at a rapid pace.

BEAUTIFUL CRIMEA LIES DESOLATE

Guerrillas who have crossed the front lines, and other Soviet citizens escaping from German-occupied Crimea, tell a terrible story of the Hitlerite rule in this once beautiful and flourishing southern land. From the first day of occupation the fascists proceeded with the systematic extermination of the population, their aim being to convert the Crimea into a colony for German settlers.

Before the invasion, the city of Simferopol had 142,000 residents. The Germans have shot 40,000. Carrying away trainloads of wheat, grapes and fish, they doom the remainder of the Crimean people to death by starvation, or drive them to forced labor in Germany. In April, 1943 after mass shootings and plunder of the population they issued an order decreeing that all childless women between the ages of 18 and 45 were to be sent to Germany as slaves.

The southern shore of the Crimean Peninsula, formerly a land of fruit and flowers, is now a scene of appalling desolation. Most of the vineyards have been destroyed and the fruit trees cut down. Charred

beams and chimneys are all that remain of the many magnificent sanatoriums. The slopes of the southern shore are criss-crossed with trenches. Gun-barrels protrude from yawning holes in houses. They point southeast, in the direction of the sea, and northeast toward the wooded mountains—the Germans expect blows from every direction.

Last year they attempted to convert the southern shore into a "health resort" for officers and men on furlough. They opened clubs in the few sanatoriums remaining intact. But their plans were thwarted by Soviet guerrillas. Instead of resting, the Germans were compelled to comb the forests and to organize punitive expeditions in an effort to combat the guerrillas. For this purpose they detailed 20,000 German and Rumanian troops—but the guerrillas, who began operations immediately after the German occupation of the Crimea, were not to be caught. Their ranks are growing, and they unremittently harass the Germans, wipe out their outposts and garrisons and derail dozens of troop trains.

SVERDLOVSK, CAPITAL CITY OF THE URALS

By J. Rykachev

Sverdlovsk is the cultural and industrial center of the Urals. During the war its importance has increased. The number of industrial plants and cultural institutions has almost doubled, and the population has increased proportionately.

The town was founded in 1721 as a small fortress adjoining a metallurgical works, and called Ekaterinburg after the wife of Tsar Peter I. Its growth was slow but steady, keeping pace with the developing industry of the Urals. By the close of the 19th Century it had become the center of the Ural mining and other industries.

After the Revolution Ekaterinburg was renamed for Yakov Sverdlov, one of the most prominent organizers of the Soviet State. During Stalin's first Five-Year Plan it grew at a tremendous rate and became the true capital of the Urals, thanks to its geographical position and the many railways intersecting here. The population in 1926 was 140,000. Now it is nearly a million.

Its gross output is a hundred times that of 1913. The two years of war have seen a further prodigious industrial growth. Sverdlovsk is the home of the Uralmash, the giant of the machine-building industry, and the Isetsk Iron and Steel Works, founded over 200 years ago and reconstructed during the Five-Year Plans.

Sverdlovsk also has its light industries and food industries. The winter of 1941-42 saw a great influx of factories and workers evacuated from the west. The newcomers have increased their turnover substantially in their new surroundings. All this has helped to make Sverdlovsk one of the biggest and most important industrial centers in the USSR.

Its cultural growth has kept pace with its economic growth. Even before the war Sverdlovsk had many colleges and research institutes, a branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, a conservatory of music, many theaters and museums. It was the cultural center for thousands of people who may perhaps be described as the technical intelligentsia—engineers, technicians, thousands of highly skilled workers.

After the outbreak of war many cultural institutions were evacuated to Sverdlovsk from Moscow, Leningrad and other front line cities. It became the wartime seat of the principal scientific body in the USSR—the Academy of Sciences. Since the first Five-Year Plan Soviet architects have designed fine housing schemes. Many State and public buildings have been erected during the war. The local authorities have not forgotten the necessity for green spaces and trees.

Sverdlovsk is more than metal and machinery: it is the brain of the Ural industry, one of the foremost arsenals of the USSR.

ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH OF GREAT CZECH POET HONORED IN MOSCOW

On July 29 representatives of the various Slav nations gathered in the large hall of the All-Slav Committee in Moscow to honor the 150th anniversary of the great Czech poet and fighter for Slav unity, Jan Kollar. Present were the Czechoslovak Ambassador to the USSR Zdenek Firlinger and his wife, Deputies of the Czech Parliament Kliment Gotvaid, Vaclav Kopiecki, Jan Sverma and Stefan Major, with their wives, a group from the Union of Polish Patriots, Russian writers—including Alexander Fadeev, Chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Writers—and a number of Byelorussian and Ukrainian artists and scientists.

In the center of the brightly illuminated hall stood a large portrait of Jan Kollar. After a brief introductory speech by Vladimir Osminin, Executive Secretary of the All-Slav Committee, Professor Zdenek Needly of Prague University, Vice President of the All-Slav Committee, spoke on Kollar's life and work.

The great poet of the early part of the 19th Century lived during the brilliant period of the Czech Renaissance.

"Kollar," said Professor Needly, "dreamed of a closely knit family of Slav nations hitting back effectively at the aggressors. At the present time, when Kollar's dream has become reality, his glorious poetry inspires Slavs in the life and death struggle for happiness and freedom."

Alexander Fadeev spoke of the close relations maintained by Kollar with the Russian people. Kollar was well acquainted with the Russian historians and Slavists: Mikhail Pogodin, Nikolai Nadezhdin and Ismail Sreznevsky. The Czech poet held the Russian people in high regard. In one of his youthful sonnets he described Great Moscow in the fire of 1812, when the city was set ablaze by Russian patriots so that only ashes would remain for the enemy Napoleon. Kollar has always been popular in Russia. He influenced a number of Russian poets, in particular Alexei Khomyakov.

A concert followed the speeches, and again Slav unity was the principal theme. Honored Artist of the Republic Dmitri Orlov recited from Kollar's long poem, "Daughter of Glory," addressed to Serbs, Czechs, Russians and Poles. Polish, Russian, Serbian, Ukrainian and Czechoslovak music was played and sung by Byelorussian singer and Stalin Prize Winner Larissa Alexandrovskaya, Stalin Prize Winner Professor Lev Oborin, Honored Artist Olga Kovaleva, and the Moscow Philharmonic Society's Vocal Quartet.

Especially moving was the performance of the former soloist of the Prague opera, Stefania Petrova. While singing the "Prayer for the Czech People" from

the heroic opera *Libusa*, by the great Czech composer Friedrich Smetana, tears streamed down her cheeks and her voice shook with emotion. The singer later said that she recalled at that moment her native Prague, now crushed under Nazi rule, the brightly lighted Prague Opera, the Hradcany, the quiet Vltava. Tears were also in the eyes of old Professor Needly, and the Czech women often put their handkerchiefs to their faces to stifle sobs.

The image of their native land has always been an inspiration to Slavs in their struggle. Today, when Slav destiny is being decided on blood-drenched battlefields, Jan Kollar's poetry calls upon Slavs to fight relentlessly against their mortal foe.



Lance Corporal Maria Lyalkova, a sniper in the Czechoslovak Unit fighting on the Soviet-German front

Radiophoto

SOVIET SPORT NEWS

Physical Culture Day, an annual Soviet fete, was celebrated recently in the Soviet Union. Everywhere throughout the USSR the day was marked by special sports events. In Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, 15 alpinists set out to scale 3,700-meter Mount Chaukhi; 25,000 athletes participated in a sports festival held in Archangel, while other cities played athletic matches to capacity stadiums. The outstanding event in Moscow was a track meet in one of the city's largest stadiums. A heavy field caused by rain made the going somewhat difficult for the contestants but did not keep Muscovites from filling the stadium.

In the 200-meter dash N. Netukhova of the Spartak Athletic Society came in first in 27.3 seconds. Junior Lieutenant S. Kuznetsov was first in the men's division of the same event, making the sprint in 23.2 seconds. The 3,000-meter hurdle race was won by

Stepanov in 9:24 minutes, while world record holder F. Vanin had little trouble winning the 10,000-meter race in 31:46 minutes.

* * *

Games are now being played for this year's Moscow Soccer championship. The first round played between the Dynamo and the Central Red Army Club elevens went to the Central Red Army Club team by a score of 3-1. The Dynamo line-up consists mainly of older generation stars while the mainstay of the Central Red Army Club team was Lieutenant G. Fedotov, who lodged two balls in the Dynamo net, while a third was scored on a pass by him.

* * *

Finals in the Moscow City basketball tournament have just been played. This year the women's champion team is the Locomotive (Railroad Workers Athletic Society) and the men's the Dynamo.



MOSCOW—The opening of the traditional summer cross-country races. Runners of the 5,000-meter event

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THE THIRD SUMMER

By Academician Nikolai Derzhavin

Nikolai Derzhavin, Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, is Chairman of the Anti-fascist Committee of Soviet Scientists.

On July 5, the German Command and its chief strategist, Corporal Hitler, issued an order to their army to launch a "final and decisive" offensive on the

Russian front. The tremendous forces of the German army, including a number of divisions transferred from the West, made an assault on Soviet positions in the Kursk Region in an effort to surround and destroy the Russian Army at all costs.

According to the Germans, this was to be a bloody



MOSCOW

vengeance for Stalingrad, for the inglorious end of the best units of the German army, for the disgrace of flight and capitulation.

Hitler believed the summer to be his chief ally. The third summer on the Russian front should have brought victory to the Germans. Hundreds of the latest German Tiger tanks and many more hundreds of the newest German Ferdinand guns were brought to the front to achieve this victory. The best squadrons of the Luftwaffe soared over the field of battle—which the German hack writers described as a “grand battle of technique.”

But neither the summer nor their technical equipment was of any help to the Germans. An army devoid of high patriotic ideals, an army of violators, thieves and bandits, came up against the courageous, competent and energetic defense of the Red Army. Soviet troops stopped the enemy and repulsed him, assumed the offensive and recaptured the ancient Russian cities of Orel and Belgorod. The offensive still continues. Every day brings us news of fresh territory liberated by the Red Army from the yoke of the German invaders.

Hitler's legend of the invincibility of the German armies in a summer campaign is finally and definitely refuted. In summer Hitler's armed gangs ravaged the whole of Europe with fire and sword; in summer they invaded Soviet Russia; in summer they raced madly toward Stalingrad, the Volga and the Caucasus.

In winter they retreated and fled . . . “on general principles . . .” although in winter they had also felt the blows of the Red Army.

Now they are running under the summer sun, and there is no doubt that Goebbels' newspapers will describe the special qualities of the Russian summer weather as they described the horrors of the Russian winter. Of course, they will not dare to tell their readers that the main cause of the new defeat, the cause of the collapse of the German summer campaign, is the growing strength of the Red Army, the courage of the Red Army men liberating their country from the Nazis, the genius of the Soviet Supreme Command, and the moral greatness and courage of the whole Russian people.

The entire world knows this, and sooner or later the blind Germans who are still foolish enough to believe their Fuehrer will also know it.

The occupation of Orel and Belgorod and the offensive of the Red Army in the Bryansk and Kharkov Regions is a blow from which the German Army cannot recover.

With 12 volleys from 120 guns Moscow saluted its Army on August 5. This salute was the first rumble of that thunder of victory which in the near future will be heard by a world liberated from the nightmare of Hitler tyranny by the joint efforts of the anti-Hitler coalition.

IN THE BRYANSK AREA

By Captain Gekhman

MOSCOW, August 9.—Our troops are continuing their advance west of Kromy, although the retreating enemy is offering strong resistance and mining roads and bridgeheads. In villages the Germans mine houses, gardens and vegetable patches. Their artillery frequently bombards river crossings, villages and roads, endeavoring to scatter our advancing forces. In places the German infantry launches fierce counter-attacks supported by tanks and self-propelled artillery. However, not a single German attempt to retard our advance or recover lost positions has succeeded. Our troops, ably supported by artillery, making full use of all other fire weapons and skilfully maneuvering, are dealing the enemy telling blows and hurling him farther and farther westward.

In the past two days our troops operating west of Kromy captured several more large inhabited places, including Almazovo, Verkhovaya, Boyovka and Kirovo. In one area Soviet troops encountered stiff resistance. Actively supported by their artillery from the rear and directly from their defense line, the Germans attempted by vigorous counter-attacks to recover cer-

tain favorable positions they had lost. A Soviet unit commanded by Captain Artemchuk, taking advantage of cover offered by the terrain, concentrated a large part of its forces and fire weapons for a flank attack at the counter-attacking enemy. Simultaneously Captain Artemchuk himself with a group of 40 automatic riflemen made his way into the German rear. By a surprise attack from the rear and flank our troops overwhelmed the counter-attackers, annihilated part of them and drove the rest northwestward. This vigorous maneuver decided the issue of the battle on this entire sector and our troops, supported by powerful and elastic artillery fire, resumed their advance and liberated several inhabited places.

In the sector west of Orel our forces likewise continued their advance in the face of strong German resistance and in the past two days recaptured numerous inhabited places, including the district center and railway station of Naryshkino and the railway point of Shakhovo and the large railway points of Konyovka and Melovoye.

OPERATIONS IN THE KHARKOV AREA

By Major P. Milovanov, Correspondent for *Krasnaia Zvezda*

MOSCOW, August 9.—Soviet troops operating in the Kharkov area have captured Zolochov, Graivoron, Bogodukhov, a number of railway points and many large inhabited places, and are successfully continuing their offensive.

In the course of their advance they have cut a number of important enemy communications, dismembering enemy forces and compelling them to accept battle under unfavorable conditions. German casualties are heavy. Our troops have seized many prisoners and quantities of booty. The retiring Germans are putting up fierce resistance, clinging to every inhabited place, every wood and ravine. Brief but sharp clashes occur now here, now there, with counter-attacking enemy groups.

After repulsing the enemy's counter-attacks Soviet mobile units continue their forward movement, while rifle units following after the tanks mop up remnants of the German counter-attacking groups and complete the dislodgment of the enemy from inhabited places. Tank detachments play a very important part in the offensive. They act as a reconnoitering force but are also the first to break through into the open, clearing the way for the main forces and cutting the enemy's most important communications.

Events are developing absolutely contrary to the German plans, which has thrown the German units into complete confusion. Only confusion and the breakdown of command can explain the behavior of German troops in the vicinity of one village. Our forces decided to bypass this village and outflank the two German battalions defending it. The maneuver was executed vigorously and boldly. The Germans were driven out of neighboring villages and the garrison of a strong point found itself in a sack.

Meanwhile the Germans dislodged from surrounding villages began falling back precisely on this strong point, although the danger of its being completely surrounded was imminent. They noticed their blunder too late, and when they decided to force their way out of the sack all roads were already cut. Hundreds of Germans were mowed down in the ensuing engagement. Many surrendered.

One of the tactical methods resorted to by the Germans is a leapfrog retreat. In some sectors when they are forced to retreat they attempt toward the end of the day to entrench themselves in inhabited places, and at the same time begin to build defense works several kilometers back. In the morning they hastily retire, under cover of an intense artillery and mortar barrage from the rear, to the trenches dug

during the night. In this manner the enemy strives to wear down our advancing forces and thus to weaken their assault on the newly-erected defense line.

But thanks to systematic reconnaissance, our troops as a rule divine the enemy's subterfuge, outflank the retreating Germans, and vigorously pursue them, assaulting the next defense line hard on their heels.

The Soviet offensive in the Kharkov area is everywhere developing successfully.



The Order of the Red Star has been awarded Guards Captain Kalenov, whose tank crew destroyed seven German tanks, nine guns and 16 trucks

HOW THE 129TH RIFLE DIVISION BECAME THE "OREL DIVISION"

By Major P. Slesarev

The 129th Soviet Rifle Division was one of the first to break through the German defenses and enter Orel. By order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Stalin, the title "Orel Division" was conferred upon it for its glorious part in the fighting.

Thrusting through the main enemy fortifications along the Oka and Neruch Rivers on the Bryansk front, Soviet divisions were pressing westward. Particularly stiff enemy resistance was met by the troops advancing in the central sector. They negotiated 14 fortified German lines which ran along rivers, villages and hills. The secondary German defense positions were found to be almost as hard to surmount as the main line, the enemy countering Soviet blows with large numbers of self-propelled guns, chiefly of the Ferdinand type, and masses of planes.

But the Soviet advance steadily gained in momentum. Combining siege tactics with head-on assaults against the German resistance centers, our forces exerted pressure day and night, pushing further and further westward and routing several German infantry divisions and self-propelled gun regiments. Forced to abandon the Neruch-Zusha-Optukha line, the enemy made a final attempt to hold the Red Army divisions on the Optukha River. Flights of bombers again appeared, concentrating their attacks on the Soviet Rifle Units which had wedged deepest into the German defenses.

The 129th Rifle Division was the first to reach the Optukha River. It pressed hard on the heels of the retreating Germans and threatened to take the river crossing in stride. The German command hurled a large number of bombers against the Division. Over 2,000 enemy sorties were registered in the course of two days, and numerous enemy machines were shot down. Nevertheless the 129th Division was one of the first to force the Optukha River crossing.

Reconnaissance reports indicated that the west bank of the river was heavily mined. A night attack was decided upon and special assault squads formed including riflemen, automatic riflemen, sappers, trench-mortar gunners and machine gunners. Their task was to gain a foothold on the west bank of the river. In this case, too, the Division achieved success by an effective combination of night and daylight tactics. The assault squads were made up of picked groups commanded by Captain Voronkov and Lieutenant Vraikin.

After thorough day reconnaissance, Captain Voronkov's force crossed the river under cover of darkness,

struck at the Germans, captured the village of Bakino and entrenched there. Simultaneously, Lieutenant Vraikin's troops took possession of the village of Semenovo. The Division's main body of troops concentrated at these two points the same night. At dawn powerful attacks were launched and by evening the Division had advanced seven to eight kilometers along a five-kilometer front, capturing a number of fortified villages and hills. The Division to the right of the 129th proceeded in a similar manner.

Despite the enemy's determined counter-attacks both from the air and on the ground, Soviet troops continued to gain ground through August 2 and 3. Fighting was now being waged in the immediate vicinity of Orel. On the evening of August 3 one regiment of the 129th Division outstripped its neighbors to capture Junction No. 11, within three kilometers of Orel. The following night advanced detachments of the regiment, again led by Captain Voronkov, penetrated the city limits and entrenched in the southern part.

On the morning of August 4 the 129th Division and its neighbor broke into the city. The attackers first captured Sammia, then fought their way downtown in the face of desperate enemy resistance. Street fighting and fierce hand-to-hand engagements raged throughout the day. Finally the Germans broke and retreated beyond the Oka, where they tried to hold out in the stone buildings along the bank. Soviet artillerymen smashed the enemy firing points by point-blank fire, while assault squads displayed outstanding gallantry in clearing house after house and apartment after apartment of Germans.

Soon the east part of Orel was wholly in Soviet hands and the fighting spread to the west bank of the Oka. There too the enemy was steadily pressed back with heavy losses. By August 5 Orel was entirely cleared of enemy troops.

The 129th "Orel Division" and the other Divisions which brought deliverance to the people of Orel advanced further westward in determined pursuit of the withdrawing enemy.

Leningrad Music Schools Reopen

The Leningrad Conservatory of music has reopened with an enrollment of 100 students. With the beginning of the new school year in September the Leningrad Music School for Children will also be reopened.

LENINGRAD IN JULY

By Nikolai Tikhonov

Nikolai Tikhonov, noted Leningrad poet and writer, remained in his native city throughout the blockade, writing constantly for newspapers and radio. For his long poem, "Kirov Is With Us," he has been awarded the Stalin Prize.

I.

It is a hot July afternoon. Heavy clouds hang over the famous hill, remote from the noise of the city, where the Temple of Science formerly stood. The thunders of war have struck the Temple. The sacred grove of the goddess of astronomy has been razed to the ground, and the furthestmost subterranean chamber where delicate and intelligent instruments once registered the slightest quiver of the earth's crust—indicating the center of an earthquake thousands of kilometers away—is now shaken like a ship's cabin in a storm. A seismograph would have gone crazy here . . . but men have got used to everything.

In concealed blindages, at the dexterously camouflaged batteries and in the labyrinthine trenches you feel the breath of the great city. Yes . . . it is not far off. There lie the abandoned streetcar tracks over which no cars have rattled for two years. Here are fruit drink stands with notices of films that flickered on the screen months ago, of concerts performed in 1941, of picnics in the parks.

And there is the green park with its ponds, walks and shining palaces. The park is near . . . yet between it and you is a white mass of daisies covering no man's land. In the sun's rays glitter the cupolas of the familiar cathedral where the enemy now lies in wait. It has become the lair of the murderers and thieves who plundered the demolished palaces, cut down the trees in the park and near the lake, and hanged the few remaining inhabitants of the village.

The park has run wild in the hands of the Nazi savages. But the unassailable hill protecting the city has for two years been held by those who are known as "people of Leningrad." It does not matter from what part of the country they came . . . they have become people of Leningrad by virtue of the medal pinned to their tunics . . . the medal "For the Defense of Leningrad." If one of these defenders falls in the fighting, his decorations are presented to his relatives. This ceremony is not depressing, but there is something majestic in the solemn and sorrowful presentation that moves the spectator to tears. Young and elderly women and old men sit in a small hall in the downtown section of the city. The walls are covered with large shields on which are exhibited all Soviet decorations. As a representative of the Military Command calls out their names, the people rise and walk with steady steps to receive the medal of their son, brother or husband killed in action.

Although you may not be inclined to generalizations, you will be astonished at the force of spirit revealed by these people. They rise like symbols of our nation. The aged woman with firm features and large worker's hands is the mother of a hero. A sculptor might have chosen her as a model for that



LENINGRAD—An ambulance squad finishes first in the militarized relay races held this spring

Radiophoto

reason only. But her face is the face of the universal mother . . . the mother who has reared a family, has brought up soldier sons for her country. She is grief-stricken, but will she display this feeling in public? She has every right to rest, but will she do so? She will not even allow herself to be taken from the beleaguered city. She who unflinchingly sent her son

into the fire of battle herself knows what bombardments are.

They have strong Russian characters, these women. Their personalities may differ, but their destiny and their duty are the same. Here is Pelageya Smykunova. Ask her where her beloved sons are? Georgi fell defending Leningrad. Peter fought at Sevastopol and has not been heard of since. Anatoli is on the Central Front. She herself is an air raid warden who has often had occasion to extinguish incendiary bombs.

Albina Vitovskaya, whose two sons perished defending Leningrad, is a member of the voluntary fire-brigade. She also built fortifications, constructed blindages and pillboxes and dug anti-tank ditches. Her two sons have fallen, but she is still defending her native city. Can anything shake her spirit? Can anything poison her with doubts? She is the mother of heroes.

Kachalova is a steady, ordinary Russian woman who already treasures the Order of the Patriotic War awarded her son Vladimir. Now she is receiving the medal meant for her son Kirill, a flyer. A third son, Lev, an anti-aircraft gunner, is avenging the death of his brothers by shooting down Nazi planes.

Wives are receiving medals for their husbands killed at the front. When Antonina Gulina's husband joined the guerrillas she became a turner's apprentice and is now foreman and outstanding Stakhanovite of her plant. The wife of Hero of the Soviet Union Saveliev is one of Leningrad's best loggers. The wife of Private Pavlov, who had been a seamstress for 22 years, turned to the building of fortifications and received the Order of the Red Banner of Labor for her selfless work.

These wives of Red Army men have done their duty to the full. They are steady and reserved, grim and unflinching in their work. They are educating a generation which will not know the terrors of war when it grows up. They will teach these young people to love and to proudly appreciate the work of their fathers, who were ready to sacrifice life itself in the struggle for a happy future.

How does a fragile young girl withstand the metallic storm of war. It is now a hero's sister who rises, and when she speaks the spirit of generations of fighters seems to inspire her. Her father was a veteran revolutionary for whom a Leningrad avenue has been named. Her brother, Lieutenant Victor Ogorodikov, was a valiant scout. The medal she is receiving is his. "My father fought for Leningrad. My brother fell defending his native city," she says. "I shall take my brother's place in the Red Army. I accept his medal with gratitude. I want to win for myself the right to wear a Soviet military decoration."

Aged Nikolai Dianov, who had regarded the women

with reserve, rises, his sharp old eyes flashing. "My son, a tankman, destroyed over a hundred Germans, smashing their tanks," the old man says. "In spite of my 67 years I have found enough strength to teach my trade to 83 women, whose work will be a contribution to the common effort and vengeance for my son's death."

There are many such mothers, wives, sisters and fathers in Leningrad. Today they face a new ordeal, but were the enemy to glance into their souls he would tremble with fear. His ignorant mind . . . the mind of a savage . . . would not understand what moved these people, but he would instinctively feel that nothing could overcome their mortal hatred and their determination to win.

II.

Yes, the people of Leningrad have nerves of a special kind. It is not the excitement of constant vigilance, nor is it nervous shock . . . it is the calmness of people who have learned to do their day-to-day's work under any conditions. . . .

The first shell tears up the sidewalk on the corner. A woman sweeping the sidewalk glances at the column of smoke and resumes her work . . . the street must be kept clean. A second and then a third shell explode nearer a house and the janitress comes out of the gateway. A little girl runs out to the sidewalk and stops, perplexed: the street looks as if a cyclone had passed through it.

"Where are you going, little girl?" asks the janitress.

"To the kindergarten. But how can I get there?"

"Come with me," the woman says. She knows every stone in the labyrinth of courtyards and side-streets. The little girl skips along after her. The janitress takes the child down into the kindergarten air-raid shelter, then calmly returns to her post.

A scientific worker of a well-known institute is bending over his desk in his apartment. He pays no attention to falling plaster and rattling window panes. Then a tremendous blast shakes him from head to foot.

"What's that?" he asks, looking out of the window. A shell has hit the floor below. Rancid, bluish smoke and dust fill the air. The scholar returns to his books. A second shell hits the building. This time there is a knock on the door and the house manager enters, anxiety in her face.

"Please," she pleads, "go down into the shelter. I beg you, as an old tenant, to do as I ask."

"You mean you are asking everybody to go down?" the scholar inquires.

"Everybody. I am making the rounds of all the

apartments. Don't you see that he's up to mischief today?"

And truly, dust is hanging in thick clouds over the city and every quarter of an hour comes the terrific blasts of explosions. The scientist gets books and papers together and descends to the shelter, where he makes himself as comfortable as possible and continues his work. The house is again jolted to its foundations. There is the sound of weeping. The scientist looks up. Tears are streaming down the cheeks of the frail little house manager, her shawl-wrapped shoulders are shaking.

"What's the matter . . . don't you feel well?" the scientist asks sympathetically.

She chokes down her sobs. "For two whole years I have been looking after this house, taking care of it, seeing that everything is in order. And now he's smashed it . . . he sent three shells straight into the house . . . broke all the window-panes . . ."

"Don't you worry," the scientist says. "He's a scoundrel . . . you and I found that out a long time ago."

But the city lives on. Some of the blocks are emptied . . . streetcars escape into safer parts of the city or stand empty at crossings, pedestrians vanish from the streets . . . but those who must and can remain do so . . . making their way from building to building with the confidence of old-timers. The voices of guns are now muted, now they shatter your eardrums. This is a new trick of the "scoundrel" . . . he fires rounds of different guns at the same spot, using shell splinters, shrapnel and heavy projectiles by turn.

I happened to speak at the Mayakovsky memorial meeting an hour after a bombardment. During the bombardment, while I was finding my way to the hall, shells were exploding to right and left and reddish columns of dust rose as high as the rooftops. Do you think that the evening dedicated to the 50th anniversary of Mayakovsky's birth was cancelled because of the bombardment, or for lack of an audience? Not at all. The hall was crowded. Perhaps, you may think, the audience consisted of enthusiasts who cared nothing for their lives . . . literary zealots who despised danger? No . . . they were quite ordinary Leningrad people, disciplined, calm and undoubtedly courageous. Were our wonderful poet still living he would have been proud of them.

The people of Leningrad are harder than rock. To them is applicable the old military saying born in the Balkan Mountains, "All quiet on Shipka Pass."

I am writing this on a beautiful July morning. Before me is a shining strip of the Neva and the big, silent buildings lining the streets. The cars are not yet running and the apartment is quiet in the early

morning hours. But shells whine overhead and occasionally the walls shiver from nearby explosions. If I had not been working, however, I should have slept through the bombardment without stirring. I might have dreamed of something noisy, a landslide, for instance . . . or perhaps I would only have dreamed of something very commonplace or even pleasant, because I am a Leningrad citizen accustomed to shellings.

When the Sports Festival was held in the city recently, the athletes played soccer, ran and swam to the accompaniment of long-range guns. The Sports Festival takes place once a year, but the bombardments unfortunately come much more frequently.

"Can you explain to me," I asked a Leningrad friend, "why when you used to read in Hemingway's stories descriptions of the bombardment of Madrid, you told me your heart tightened with fear—and why you are now almost indifferent? Have you become callous?"

"No, we haven't become callous," he replied calmly. "We have simply got used to it."

III.

In the country around Leningrad people are weeding gardens, picking berries and mushrooms and working in the fields. Standing knee-deep in cold brownish slime girls are cutting peat into thick chunks. It's not a woman's work, but the girls know there's no one else to do it. They throw themselves on their camp-beds and go to sleep immediately on finishing the day's work, they are so exhausted. But at night they sing . . . because they are young, and certain that better times are coming. They know they will not stand in the brownish slime forever; that the men will return from the trenches to take their places.

A distant, thunderous roar reaches the ears of the peat-workers. Thrusting their spades into the turf they listen. Somewhere beyond the river in peat bogs like these a battle is in progress. Red Army men are breaking through the German lines, exhausting and destroying the Nazis.

Among the fields and deserted woods, on a hillock near the crossroads, stands a girl traffic regulator. She is like a very pretty statue, her curly hair falling upon her shoulders, lips slightly rouged, gloves snow-white. She swings her baton with matchless grace. Passenger cars, tanks, ambulances and trucks carrying food and ammunition drive past her going to and returning from the front. No one pays any attention to her beauty and her spick and span uniform.

Yet she is there, young and beautiful, and anyone whose eye by chance falls upon her will remember this image of youth at the crossroads. She stands, joyful and confident in her powers, like a symbol of youth. And the fact that fate has placed a girl so young to regulate traffic on the roads of war seems also a sign of our complex, climactic and great times.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF AUGUST 6, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

Yesterday, August 5, after fierce street fighting the cities of Orel and Belgorod passed into the hands of the Red Army. Hitler's army suffered one more major defeat on the Soviet-German front. The fall of Orel, the center of the Orel fortified zone, and of the important railroad center of Belgorod will have supreme strategical influence on the further development of the operations of the Red Army.

The German Command attached the highest importance to the Orel fortified zone, or the Orel salient, as they called it. German war prisoners state that they were ordered to hold on at any price as the "fall of Orel would open the road for the Red Army to Bryansk, Brest and Warsaw. If Orel fell it would go hard with the whole front."

The Orel salient included on the northeast an important triangle of territory whose apexes are Bolkhov, Mtsensk and Orel. This triangle was strongly fortified, since on account of its size and favorable strategic position it enabled the Germans to mass large formations for an offensive. The Germans attached the highest importance to it as a jumping-off ground for an offensive toward Moscow. The Orel zone abounds in roads and important railroad and highroad junctions in close proximity to the front, which served as supply bases for their front-line troops. Orel played a large part in the Germans' offensive last year, as their shock forces were largely

replenished by reinforcements through the Orel railroad junction.

The Germans were fully cognizant of the importance of Orel and strove to retain it at all costs. They sustained heavy losses from the action of Red Army artillery and aircraft, but they kept on rushing up to Orel reinforcements drawn from various sectors of the front and also transferred air and land forces from Poland and France.

But despite all the efforts of the German Command, under the blows of the Red Army the Orel salient steadily contracted until at last Orel itself was captured. The fall of Orel was followed on the same day by the fall of Belgorod, an important railroad and highroad junction lying 65 kilometers northeast of Kharkov. The Germans recaptured Belgorod in March of this year but were unable to advance much beyond it. Now they have been forced to abandon this major defense line covering Kharkov from the north.

The Red Army offensive in the Orel area, begun about a month ago, continues to develop successfully and is spreading to district after district. The defeat at Orel and Belgorod on August 5 was a heavy blow to Hitler and his army. Joint blows by the Allies will expedite the enemy's defeat and hasten the collapse of Hitler and his associates.

DENIS DAVYDOV, POET-GUERRILLA

A new painting by the Moscow artist Boris Zemenkov is to be seen at the old Moscow Museum. It shows a small 18th Century house with stucco ornamentation. It is Davydov's house, as it used to be in the great days of 1812. Moscow people know it well, though the stucco has long since fallen away. It stands in a quiet back street, an elegant, discreet little house. A strange residence, you might think, for Davydov the "black captain": but not so strange for Davydov the poet.

For Denis Davydov was not only a soldier. He was also a poet and military writer, who left his mark on Russian literature. He rallied thousands of Russians, principally peasants, to his standard in 1812. His detachment was distinguished for its amazing daring,

combined with cool calculation. Once, at the head of 90 guerrillas, he attacked a large enemy supply column, guarded by several hundred soldiers and four guns. The Frenchmen, confused by the lightning onslaught, put up only feeble resistance and were captured almost to a man, along with the supply column containing provisions for a whole division.

After Napoleon was expelled, Davydov settled in Moscow, where he devoted himself to literature. He left a volume of fine poems, some excellent prose writing, reminiscences of his guerrilla career, and writings on the theory of guerrilla warfare. He was one of the most enlightened men of his time, and a personal friend of the poet Alexander Pushkin.

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TASS STATEMENT

MOSCOW, August 13.—Referring to the American Columbia Broadcasting Station, the British Reuters agency reports that participation of the head of the Soviet Government at the forthcoming Roosevelt and Churchill conference in Quebec, Canada, was envisaged.

On the other hand, the British newspapers *Daily Telegraph* and *Morning Post*, also the *Daily Express* and certain others, published a report stating that the Soviet Military Attache would be present at the

Anglo-American negotiations in Quebec in the capacity of observer.

According to information at the disposal of TASS, these reports are based on a misunderstanding. The Soviet Government did not receive an invitation to this conference, since in view of the nature of the conference the participation of any representative of the Soviet Government at the Quebec conference was not and is not envisaged.



Soviet collective farmers who hid from the Germans emerge from cellars to greet the liberating Red Army

STATEMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY STATE COMMITTEE

On August 10, 1943 the following statement was issued by the Extraordinary State Committee for the ascertaining and investigation of crimes committed by the German-fascist invaders and their associates, and the damages caused by them to citizens, collective farms, public organizations, State enterprises and institutions of the USSR:

On the crimes of the German-fascist occupationists in the Stavropol area:

The criminal actions of the German occupationists in Stavropol, Georgievsk, Kislovodsk, Essentuki, Mineralnye Vody, Zheleznovodsk and Teberda have been certified by protocols of commissions, statements of victims, testimonies of witnesses, findings of medical experts and documentary data, and have also been confirmed by Member of the Extraordinary State Committee Academician Alexei Tolstoy, who personally visited these towns and districts of the Stavropol area and established the facts of the monstrous crimes and mass extermination of peaceful Soviet citizens.

It has been established that before retreating from the town of Georgievsk on January 9 and 10 of the current year, on the order of the Chief of German hospitals, Chief Physician Baron von Haimann, alcohol and drinking soda were sold in the town market by German soldiers in order to poison Soviet people. The alcohol proved to be methylated spirit and the "soda" proved to be oxalic acid. Mass poisoning of citizens of the town took place; 214 out of 714 cases were poisoned with methylated spirit and 50 persons completely lost their eyesight—were blinded. Many citizens were gravely poisoned by the so-called "soda," which they mixed into dough for baking bread.

It has been established that the Germans engaged in mass extermination of the peaceful Soviet population by poisoning them with carbon monoxide in the specially adapted "murderess" vans.

War prisoner Fenichel stated: "Working as an auto mechanic I had a chance to learn in detail the construction of the vans specially adapted for suffocating and exterminating people with exhaust gas. In the town of Stavropol the Gestapo had several such vans. They were constructed as follows:

"The body was approximately five meters long and two and one half meters wide. The height of the body was also approximately two and a half meters. The body was shaped like a railroad car without windows

and lined inside with galvanized sheet-iron; on the floor, also covered with sheet-iron, lay a wooden grating. The door of the car was lined with rubber and tightly closed with an automatic lock. On the floor of the van under the grating were two metal pipes about one and a half inches in diameter and two and a half meters long. These pipes were connected with a transverse pipe of equal diameter (in the shape of a capital H). In these pipes were numerous holes one-half centimeter in width; from the transverse pipe down through a hole in the galvanized iron floor ran a rubber hose with a hexagonal nut at the end threaded to fit the thread on the end of the engine exhaust pipe. This hose was screwed to an exhaust pipe and when the engine is running all exhaust gas goes into the body of this hermetically sealed van. As a result of this concentration of gas a person inside dies within a short space of time. Seventy to 80 persons could be put into the body of the van. The van had a 'Sauer' engine; the body was constructed in Berlin, and on the left-hand side near the engine was a metal plate with the inscription: 'Auto-body Building Works of Joint Stock Company in Berlin.'

Special Gestapo Squads for Murder Vans

"A special squad of 25 men was organized under the Gestapo for murdering Soviet citizens. This squad was headed by German Oberleutnant Katzendorf and his assistant Oberleutnant Wentzel, and subsequently by the chief of the 'SD-12'—Oberleutnant Kleiber and his assistant, Gestapo officer Knor. The Chief of the Gestapo prison was the German officer Oberscharfuehrer Wilhelm Schmidt, and his assistant and interpreter the Hungarian Nikolai Engel."

In Stavropol territory the Germans murdered in such vans thousands of absolutely guiltless Soviet people. It has been established that in December, 1942, on the orders of Oberleutnant Otto Weber, chief of the Gestapo in the town of Mikoyan-Shakhar, a massacre of Soviet women and children sick with ostial tuberculosis was organized which was exceptional in its cruelty. These women and children were undergoing treatment in a sanatorium of the Teberda

Health Resort. The eye-witnesses of this crime, staff members of the Children's Sanatorium, medical nurse Ivanova and the nurses' aid, Polupanova, related:

"On December 22, 1942 a German van drove up to the entrance of the first division of the sanatorium. Seven German soldiers who had come with the van dragged out 54 children ranging from three years of age upward, who were gravely ill, stacked them in several layers in the van, then closed the door and let in the gas (carbon monoxide) and drove out of the sanatorium grounds. One hour later the van returned to the settlement of Teberda. All the children perished. They were put to death by the Germans and dumped into a gorge in Teberda near Gunachgir."

660 Patients in Hospital Killed

It was established that between August 5 and 10, 1942, some German soldiers from the SS Kommandatur, with Obersergeant Major Goering and Sergeant Major Schmidt at the head, took out of the Stavropol Psychiatric Hospital and killed in these vans with carbon monoxide 660 patients. In order to hide the traces of their bloody crimes from the population of the town, the fascist fiends told the chief doctor of the hospital, Gambarov, and the medical personnel that they would transfer all patients from Stavropol to hospitals in the villages of Donskoye and Proletarskoye, where everything necessary had been prepared for their reception—special equipment and trained German medical personnel—while in reality all the patients were put to death.

It has been established that from the beginning of the occupation of the town of Kislovodsk, the Sanatorium of the People's Commissariat of the Oil Industry, equipped with the latest in medical science and technique, was occupied by German Hospital No. 31,136. The chief of this hospital was German Oberarzt Heller. From the very first day the inhumanly brutal treatment of Soviet citizens began. Face slapping, flogging with birch rods, threats of shooting and reprisals were common occurrences in the life of the German hospital.

The Soviet people lived in constant fear and oppression. The Germans used the best Soviet doctors, medical nurses and other medical personnel for menial work—the cleaning of garbage pits, latrines and dirty guardrooms. To such work were put the therapeutic physician Anishchik, senior medical nurses Batashova, Kiseleva and Kozlova. Especial brutality distinguished the German medical nurse, Minna, who beat up the senior operation room nurse Burimova and the nurses' aides Kolomiitseva, Galinina and Fitskaya. In her hatred of Soviet people this Minna flew into fits of rage: she mercilessly beat, bit and pinched her victims. The beatings were followed by flogging into unconsciousness. Thus Senior Sergeant Major Romakau and Sergeant Major Reif, on the order of Ober-

arzt Heller, brutally beat Soviet citizens. Migal, a 58-year-old joiner, was flogged to death with rubber rods; Midulin, a cook of 50, was given 35 strokes with a double thong and flogged into unconsciousness; Miroshnichenko, a watchman of 45, was given ten strokes.

On September 9, 1942 on the orders of Pohl, the military commandant of the town of Kislovodsk, and Welben, chief of the Gestapo, the best Soviet doctors, medical nurses and auxiliary personnel of the sanatorium with their families including babies, little children, invalids and aged people—46 persons in all—were fraudulently taken out of the Sanatorium of the People's Commissariat of the Oil Industry, ostensibly to be sent to sparsely-populated districts of the Ukraine, and were shot in an anti-tank ditch in the area of Mineralnye Vody.

It was established that in August, 1942 in Kislovodsk, Gestapo men organized a torture chamber in school No. 16, where they brutally tortured Soviet citizens. To this torture chamber they brought from Bugurstan and Bekeshovka 150 arrested people who had been evacuated from the Crimea and from the Kavkazskaya Station. On September 6, 1942 the building of School No. 16, where the arrested people were kept, was cordoned off by German soldiers. Then four trucks drove up, into which the Germans started putting the arrested people. They first put in a group of men and drove away. Later the trucks returned and took the women and children. The Gestapo men took their victims beyond the Podkumok River and there in a gully shot them with tommy guns. Among those shot were 47 children ranging from suckling infants to 15-year-olds. The shooting of 150 Soviet citizens confined in the Gestapo torture chamber on the premises of School No. 16 was done on the orders of the town commandant, Major Lidtko.

Children Brutally Tortured

On June 22, 1943, after a heavy rain, residents of Kislovodsk found—near Koltso Hill not far from the city in the vicinity of the Kirov Collective Farm—the bodies of 26 Soviet citizens who had been shot. Inspection and medico-legal examination of the bodies established that among them were: two male and 15 female bodies and 9 bodies of children between two and 12 years of age. All 26 bodies bore traces of violence and torture: fractures of the extremities and smashed skulls.

During the inspection of another gully near Koltso Hill, 250 meters from the road between Kislovodsk and the village of Pervorisky, a washed-out mound ten meters deep was found in which could be seen separate parts of human corpses. As a result of the excavations carried out here between July 26 and July 29, 1943, 130 bodies were extracted. The medico-legal examination revealed: the body of a four-month-old girl bearing no traces of a violent death—the child had been thrown into the gully alive and had died of

suffocation; and the body of a man in Red Army uniform with a bandaged right arm and left leg, with crutches lying beside it. It has been established by the medical experts who examined the babies' bodies that all of them were thrown into the gully while still alive, together with their mothers who had been shot. Traces of torture were found on all other bodies: torn-off jaws, fractured extremities, dislocated joints and disfigured faces.

As a result of excavations in the area of Koltso Hill carried out between June 26 and July 7, 1943, there were extracted 322 bodies of Soviet citizens shot or brutally tortured to death on orders of the Military Commandant of Kislovodsk, Pohl; Second Commandant, Major Lidtke; Gestapo Chief Wellen, and Assistant Gestapo Chief Weber, with the participation of the executors of their orders—First Gestapo Examiner Goering, Second Examiner Tzije, Assistant Gestapo Commandant Kaller, Chief of Gestapo Supplies Department Hausmans and Second Chief of Supplies Department Kische.

Victims Identified

Among the victims identified were Soviet citizens Abramov, Zakharchenko, Doctor Goberg, Kushnarenko, engineer Arkhipova, and Shipina. The following documents were found: a passport of Series 2-EE No. 509311 issued by the Pavlograd Militia to Ovseyevich, born 1900, evacuated from Krasnodar Territory; a passport of Series UL No. 550776 issued to Guarldik, born 1886 in Belaya Tserkov; a passport of Series 2-EE No. 680361 issued by the Dniepropetrovsk Militia to Stisskin, born 1896 in Chernigov Region; a passport of Series 1-EE No. 520536 issued by the Pavlograd Militia on April 21, 1941 to Wagner, born 1901 in Pavlograd, Dniepropetrovsk Region, and other passports and documents serving to identify the persons shot.

It has been established that during the occupation of the town of Pyatigorsk the German authorities committed a number of monstrous crimes against peaceful Soviet citizens. The chief organizers and direct participants in the crimes against Soviet citizens in the town of Pyatigorsk were Captain Wintz, chief of the Gestapo "SD-12," former staff member of the German Embassy in the USSR; Oberleutnant Fischer, Assistant Chief of the Gestapo "SD-12," for investigation, and Colonel Montz—Chief of the Field Gendarmerie.

Exceptionally cruel torturing of Soviet citizens was done on the Gestapo premises. Thus for instance, citizen Philip Kovalchuk, born in 1891 and residing in the town of Pyatigorsk, was arrested on October 27, 1942 in his home, beaten to unconsciousness, then taken to the Gestapo and flung into one of the cells. Twenty-four hours later Gestapo men proceeded to torture and torment him. He was interrogated and

beaten at night only; for the interrogation he was summoned to a separate cell where there were special appliances for torture: chains with shackles for securing hands and feet. These chains were attached to the cement floor of the cell. The arrested were first stripped naked and put on the floor, then their hands and feet were chained. Citizen Kovalchuk was subjected to such torture. While chained he could not move at all and lay prone, in which position he was beaten with rubber clubs every day for 16 days.

In addition to such inhuman torture the Gestapo men also used the following method: a wide board was placed on the back of the chained person and was then pounded with a heavy club, as a result of which blood flowed from the mouth, nose and ears of the prisoner and he lost consciousness.

The torture chamber in the Gestapo was so arranged that when one person was being tortured another person confined in a neighboring cell and waiting for the coming punishment watched the torture. After torture the unconscious prisoner was flung aside and the Gestapo men dragged the next victim by force from the adjoining cell, chained him and continued the torture in the same way. The torture chamber was always drenched in blood. The board placed on the back was also stained with blood and the rubber clubs used to beat the victims were red with blood. After unspeakable torture the arrested Soviet people doomed to shooting were forced into a van, driven out of town and shot.

Anastasya Suprun, born 1908, residing in Pyatigorsk, Vlasov Street 3, who was liberated from the Gestapo torture chamber by the Red Army was arrested and confined in one of the Gestapo cells. Shortly afterward the Assistant Gestapo Chief, Oberleutnant Fischer, came to her cell with an interpreter to examine her. The interpreter ordered her to undress and lie down on a bench face down. After she lay down hangman Fischer himself beat her unconscious with a wooden club. Having failed to obtain forced evidence the interpreter warned her that in future for "insincere" evidence at an interrogation she would be given 25 strokes with a club and would be beaten to death. During subsequent examinations she was beaten by the same Gestapo officer also until she lost consciousness.

Varvara Chaika born in 1912, residing in Dzerzhinsky Street 31, apartment 3, was subjected to unspeakably cruel torture by Captain Wintz, Gestapo Chief, during her imprisonment by the Gestapo. Chaika related: "I was tortured by the Gestapo Chief, the German Captain Wintz. Once he summoned me to the torture chamber for interrogation. There were four tables in this chamber, a wooden grating on the floor and two basins with water in which lay leather thongs. Two rings with ropes put through

them hung from the ceiling and the arrested were suspended from them during the torture. On Captain Wintz's order the Gestapo men put me on a table, stripped me of all my clothes, and beat me heavily with thongs. I was beaten twice. Altogether I received 75 strokes with thongs. My kidneys were injured and eight teeth were knocked out."

In Pyatigorsk the German authorities engaged in mass extermination of Soviet citizens. Five graves in which 75 bodies were discovered were dug up near the monument on the site of Lermontov's duel on Mount Mashuk. One hundred and twenty-five bodies of brutally tortured to death or shot Soviet citizens were discovered in eight graves in Komsomolskaya field, six kilometers from Pyatigorsk at the foot of Mount Mashuk.

In the vicinity of Belaya Romashka in Kuznechnaya Street, opposite some stables, six bodies of Red Army men shot by the Germans on August 10, 1942, were discovered. In the same district near the first city hospital, 16 bodies of cadets of the Tank School were exhumed. It was established that the Germans had finished off the wounded cadets.

Altogether 356 bodies of tortured to death or shot Soviet citizens, of which 283 were men and 66 women and children, were discovered in earth-filled ditches in the Pyatigorsk area. These are not complete data. Many graves have not yet been discovered.

In October, 1942, on the order of the chief of the so-called "Labor Exchange" of Pyatigorsk, Officer Lanke, 800 Soviet citizens were forcibly driven from Pyatigorsk for hard labor in slavery in Germany. This forcible abduction of Soviet citizens to Germany was accompanied with humiliations, beatings and threats of shooting. Officer Lanke, chief of the Pyatigorsk "Labor Exchange," displayed exceptional cruelty in his treatment of the Soviet citizens when they were driven away to Germany.

It has been established that the German occupationists perpetrated the bloody slaughter of the Jewish population of Kislovodsk with incredibly brutal hatred. On August 16, 1942, on the second day of their occupation of the town, the German Command in the person of Military Commandant of Kislovodsk, Pohl, and Chief of the Gestapo, Welben, ordered the Jewish population of the town to deliver immediately to the German Command everything of value: gold, diamonds, silver, rugs, suits of clothing, linen, footwear and 100,000 rubles in cash.

On August 18, 1942, Military Commandant Pohl announced the registration of the entire Jewish population regardless of sex and age. After registration all persons of Jewish nationality were ordered on pain of shooting to wear as a distinguishing mark a six-pointed star on the right side of the chest. On

September 7, 1942, German Commandatur No. 12 ordered the Jews to report at the Kislovodsk railway yard on September 9 with not more than 20 kilograms of baggage, their most valuable belongings and a two-day supply of food—allegedly in order to be dispatched to sparsely populated places in the Ukraine. They were ordered to turn in their apartment keys with the address of the apartment in a separate note to Commandatur No. 12.

2,000 Jews Slain in Mineralnye Vody

On September 9, 1942, about 2,000 Jews, among them aged people, women and children, gathered at the Kislovodsk railway yard. They were put aboard a train consisting of 18 open platform cars and two boxcars and were dispatched to Mineralnye Vody under heavy escort. On the basis of the evidence of residents of Mineralnye Vody who were eyewitnesses of the fascist crimes: Lisitsin, Mikheyev, Byelousova, Rozanov and others, as well as engineers of the Mineralnye Vody locomotive depot Pavlov and Sapunov, who accompanied the train consisting of 18 platform cars and two box cars carrying the Jewish population from the station of Kislovodsk, it has been established that on the orders of the Commandant of Kislovodsk, Pohl, Chief of the Kislovodsk Gestapo, Welben, his assistant Weber and the Commandant of Mineralnye Vody, Major Bart, about 2,000 Soviet citizens of Jewish nationality who arrived on September 9, 1942 in a train from Kislovodsk were shot in an anti-tank ditch opposite a glass works two and one-half kilometers from Mineralnye Vody. In the same place were shot thousands of Jews and their families brought from Essentuki and Pyatigorsk.

On July 10, 1943, Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR Alexei Tolstoy, a member of the Extraordinary State Committee, conducted an excavation of this anti-tank ditch along a stretch of 551 meters. The Committee established that no less than 6,300 brutally shot Soviet citizens were in this anti-tank ditch. It was established that the organizers of the torture and shooting of Soviet citizens in Mineralnye Vody were the German Military Commandant Major Bart and the Chief of the Field Gendarmerie, Staff Sergeant Major Reuthard, on whose orders were shot railwaymen, workers and employees of Soviet institutions. Upon excavation of this same anti-tank ditch, the bodies of these citizens of Mineralnye Vody: Taburchenko, a train conductor; his son Taburchenko, a school teacher; Kuks, a train conductor; Zakharov, a turner of the locomotive depot; Sovietov, a locomotive engineer of the depot, and others were identified.

The Extraordinary State Committee holds the following persons responsible for the crimes committed in the towns of Stavropol, Georgievsk, Kislovodsk, Essentuki, Mineralnye Vody, Teberda Health Resort

and other parts of Stavropol territory, for the massacre of many thousands of guiltless peaceful citizens, for the murder and torture of sick and wounded war prisoners, for inhuman torture in the Gestapo torture chambers, for robbing and abduction of Soviet citizens to German slavery—organized upon the direct orders of the Hitlerite military command:

The Commander of the First Tank Army, Cavalry General Mackensen; Chief of the Rear Tank Army, General Stubenrauch; Chief of Propaganda of the Tank Army, Sonderfuehrer Doctor Witte, and Chief of the Field Gendarmerie, Colonel Montz, as well as the following direct executors of the above brutal crimes:

1. In the town of Stavropol—Chief of the Gestapo Mayer; Chief of the "SD-12" Squad Oberleutnant Katzenдорf; Chief of the "SD-12" Oberleutnant Klieber; his assistant, Gestapo Officer Knor; Oberleutnant of the Gestapo Wentzel; Chief of the Gestapo prison, Oberleutnant Schmidt; his assistant, the Hungarian Nikolai Engel; Gestapo officers Schulz, Freimann, Stunf and Bayer; Gestapo Examiner Gorintrop; Oberleutnant of the SS troops Fernix; Officers Rendch and Schreder; doctors of the "SD-12," Schulz and Schief; the officer in charge of agricultural affairs, Klein; Obersergeant Major of the "SD-12" Squad, Goering; Sergeant Major of the "SD-12" Squad, Schmitz; Lance Corporal of the "SD-12" Squad, Adolf Tschitsch, and Chief of the GFT (Secret Field Police) Leutnant Noj.

2. In the town of Kislovodsk—Commandants Pohl and Major Lidtke; Gestapo Chief Welben; Assistant Gestapo Chief Weber; First Gestapo Examiner Goering; Second Examiner Tzije; Assistant Gestapo Commandant Keller; Chief of the Supplies Department Hausmann; Second Chief of the Supplies Department Husch; Chief of German Hospital No. 31,136, Oberarzt Haller; Obersergeant Major Romakau, Sergeant Major Reif and Senior Nurse of this hospital Minna.

3. In the town of Pyatigorsk—Chief of the Gestapo "SD-12" Captain Wintz; Assistant Chief of the Gestapo "SD-12" Oberleutnant Fischer; Chief of Labor Exchange Colonel Anshpon, Second Chief of Labor Exchange Officer Lanke.

4. In the town of Essentuki—Commandant Oberleutnant von Beck; Oberleutnant von Pfifer.

5. In the town of Mineralnye Vody—Commandant Major Bart; Chief of Field Gendarmerie Staff Sergeant Major Reuthard.

6. In the town of Georgievsk—Chief of the German hospitals, Chief Physician Baron von Haimann.

7. In the Health Resort of Teberda—Commandant of the town of Mikoyan-Shakhar, Oberleutnant Otto Weber.

8. In the town of Zheleznovodsk—Commandants Captains Wulf and Kofmann; and Gestapo Officer Frank.

MOBILE FIGHTING IN KHARKOV DIRECTION

By Major P. Olender, Correspondent for *Krasnaia Zvezda*

The fighting in the Kharkov direction is waged on a large scale and is characterized by the utmost mobility and maneuvering. A case in point is the liquidation of a large group of enemy troops surrounded by Soviet tank units in the area of Borisovka. This operation contributed materially to the subsequent capture of the town of Bogodukhov. When Soviet tanks poured into a gap, widening and extending it, the enemy sent against them a large force whose diversion was to cover the retreat of its other units. However, the methods of mobile defense employed by this force proved unsuccessful. Soviet tanks and self-propelled guns defeated the enemy force and broke through to the forest from the neighboring sector. Soon all roads of retreat for the German group were cut and a considerable group, together with machines, was surrounded in the area of Borisovka.

The Germans offered strong resistance. They hoped by holding the Soviet tanks to break the ring of encirclement and escape. But this design failed. Soviet infantry following in the wake of the tanks and mopping up remnants of the enemy reached and joined battle with the encircled enemy, thereby relieving the tanks and enabling them to continue the pursuit. At the same time artillery was moved up to

the forest and aviation summoned. The ring around the enemy group tightened, and soon, as a result of determined thrusts, its sub-units were separated from each other. Moreover, one Soviet detachment made a bold raid upon the headquarters of the German group. Panic ensued in the enemy's ranks. Part of the surrounded Germans were killed; others surrendered.

Meanwhile the Soviet tanks which had previously engaged the encircled enemy and had later been relieved, overtook the retreating German troops, and hot on their heels broke into a number of inhabited places. The gap in the German front was thus further widened. Soviet mobile troops made a dash for the town of Bogodukhov. To save the situation the Germans hastily moved up special rear-guard units. To cover Bogodukhov from the north and northeast the enemy threw in a special building battalion, a special engineering battalion, a mortar training battalion and anti-aircraft artillery battalions. These troops were reinforced by several artillery and trench mortar batteries, as well as by a group of tanks which had been held in reserve for replenishing panzer divisions.

At the approaches to the town Soviet tanks and motorized infantry were met by German counter-fire.

During the preceding night the enemy had managed to dig in. To avoid unnecessary casualties and at the same time to prevent the enemy from removing stores and materiel, the commander of the Soviet formation decided to carry out a flanking maneuver and to cut the highways and railways leading from the town to the south and west. Tanks and motorized infantry by-passed the German group from the east and captured a crossing over the river several kilometers from Bogodukhov. Soon the main forces of this formation crossed the river at this point and drove along the bank toward the enemy's communications, scattering small German detachments en route. Vanguard detachments captured a number of inhabited points south of Bogodukhov and intercepted the enemy lines of retreat to the south.

Threatened with encirclement the Germans transferred part of their forces from their main positions northeast of the town to the southern outskirts. The neighboring Soviet tank unit, taking advantage of this, launched a strong frontal attack, smashed the enemy's battle formations and reached the northern outskirts of Bogodukhov. One tank group of the same unit skirted the town from the west, and leaving small groups of tanks to cover the roads, launched an attack to the south.

This maneuver had a double aim: first, to remain astride the roads leading from the town to the west; and second, by a thrust in a southern direction to anticipate a possible counter-maneuver in case the enemy should try to send assistance to his Bogodukhov group. As a result of this well-conceived maneuver Soviet motorized and tank troops intercepted the enemy's main lines of retreat. Then the motorized infantry dismounted, and supported by tanks and artillery, began to storm the town from the north and northwest. At the same time Soviet aviation dealt a series of blows to the station and the roads along which disjointed columns of German machines were moving.

Realizing the hopelessness of their situation, the Germans beat a hasty retreat westward. Another group of Hitlerites fell back to the town. Hot in pursuit, the Soviet troops broke into Bogodukhov, preventing the enemy from using the buildings and offering organized resistance. In a short street engagement Soviet tankmen and riflemen annihilated a large part of the Germans who had retreated into the town and soon cleared it of the enemy completely.



Germans surrounded in the marshes of the Kuban River valley surrender to Red Army men

THE 380TH "OREL DIVISION"

By Major V. Koroteyev

The Orel victory did not come automatically—it was fought for and won by the glorious Soviet infantrymen, tankmen, airmen and artillerymen who broke through the seemingly impregnable German defenses. It was gained by the heroes of innumerable attacks who battled the Germans by day and by night, in terrific heat and driving rain, on the Zusha, Optukha, Oka and Donets and smaller rivers, each of which had to be crossed in the face of fierce enemy counter-action.

The route covered by these fighters from Mtsensk and Bolkhov—the two advanced German defense posts—to Orel, is strewn with smashed Nazi tanks, self-propelled guns, armored troop-carriers, motorcycles and enemy dead. Skeletons of armored vehicles and guns which had threatened Moscow from the Orel springboard now lie harmless along the roads. They are mute witness to the new German military defeat.

Of the thousand of heroes of the battle for Orel, particular attention should be drawn to the officers and men of the 380th Division, which has been christened the "380th Orel Division" by a special order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Stalin. This Division was one of the first to break through the enemy defenses and open a way for the main body of Soviet troops. On the morning of July 12, as the artillery barrage crept forward, Division Commander Kustov hurled his men into the attack. Closely supported by artillery they broke into the enemy's forward trenches and overwhelmed the Germans in fierce hand-to-hand fighting. When the Division captured several enemy trench lines, the Germans broke and fled. This was the break-through.

Then came the counter-attacks. During the second day of our offensive about 300 German planes appeared over the battlefield. But our seasoned fighters did not flinch and instead of seeking cover rushed forward and engaged the enemy. By this maneuver the Division's losses were reduced to a minimum.

The 380th continued to advance, sometimes moving as much as 10 kilometers ahead of its neighbors. It by-passed the German support points, sought out the enemy wherever he attempted to avoid battle and kept up a relentless pursuit. Thus fighting continuously it advanced 60 kilometers. Its every step toward Orel was marked by outstanding achievements.

In an engagement near Grachovka village, Colonel Kasatkin, the Division's second in command, placed himself at the head of two attacking battalions, which surrounded a German garrison of about 1,000 men and captured eight ammunition dumps and food storehouses.

Battalion commander Litvinenko displayed outstanding gallantry and tactical skill. He suffered a severe contusion and lost his hearing, but returned

to action after spending but one day in the hospital. In the fighting for Kochety village his battalion outflanked the Germans, destroyed over 200 enemy officers and men, captured three self-propelled Ferdinand guns, and set five tanks on fire.

Litvinenko's selfless action set an example for others. Near Orel a large number of wounded officers and men cut short their treatment in hospitals to return to the Division.

From Optukha River to Orel the 380th operated chiefly at night, because the enemy fire was less effective at night. By-passing enemy ambushes and support points under cover of darkness and at dawn, Soviet troops would appear on the enemy's flanks or rear, placing him in an unfavorable position.

Thunderstorms were frequent; the men's tunics were drenched and dried several times a day in the broiling July sun. But the Red Army men advanced indefatigably, pulling the guns out of the mud with their hands when they became stuck, allowing nothing to halt their steady pace.

On August 3 the Division approached to within striking distance of Orel. The men were exhausted, but no one thought of resting. That night one of the regiments broke into the city, followed by others. German mortars opened up, while German tanks maintained direct fire along the streets and flanking fire from the side streets.

The Division commander, who observed the progress of the battle from his command post 300 meters from the city limits, ordered that full use be made of machine guns and hand grenades. During the day's street-fighting the men exhausted their grenade supply. Colonel Kustov employed all the fire resources at his command. Taking into account the fact that the troops in the city were divided into small groups he ordered an artillery piece allotted to each platoon. Fighting in the suburbs and the eastern part of the town went on throughout the day.

The honor of raising the Soviet flag over Orel was won by the regimental standard bearer Ajarov, a native of Azerbaijan, who hurled 50 hand-grenades from the top of a tank during the day's fighting, destroying scores of Germans and several of their firing points. The Red Flag floated over Orel.

By that time enemy resistance had been almost completely broken. The commander of the regiment which had entered the city first hoisted another flag in Orel's downtown section, on top of what had formerly been the Armored Corps School. The two red banners fluttered in the wind, announcing our victory. Soon the Division was fighting and pursuing the Germans west of the city. The heroic march on Orel was over.

AMERICAN MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN SOVIET HOSPITALS

Statement by Sergei Kolesnikov, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society of the USSR

In the first days of our country's war against the Nazis the American Red Cross organized aid for the Soviet Union. Medicines, surgical instruments, bandaging materials, hospital stores, soap and clothing were sent from the United States to the Soviet Union. The first supply of surgical instruments, hospital clothing, bandaging material and insulin was sent as early as September 20, 1941. Since then American aid has been constantly increasing.

Up to March, 1943, the American Red Cross had sent to the USSR 90 consignments consisting of 100,000 packages and weighing about 4,000 tons. These figures are by no means complete. The majority of packages contained medicines and medical supplies—sulfapyridine, sulfanilamide, lanolin, strophanthin, caffeine, adhesive plaster and bandages. Portable X-ray apparatus, electric sterilizers and tubes for blood transfusion have been particularly useful. In addition we have received powdered milk, soap and a million sets of clothing and footwear for children whose fathers have been killed at the front.

The medicines and other medical materials have been widely used in our hospitals and other medical institutions. They have done much to help the rapid recovery of officers and men. Red Army men say, "The American gifts are a sign that we are fighting well against the Germans. We are not only fighting for our own country, but for the liberty of all nations enslaved by the Nazis."

We have 1,718 evacuation hospitals and 268 base hospitals fully or partially equipped with American material. Clothing and boots have been distributed among the people of districts liberated from the Germans. For example, woolen underwear was sent to 28 regions in the USSR, including Voronezh, Stalin-grad, Kursk, Kalinin, Moscow, Smolensk and Orel. American underclothing has been provided in 213 children's homes and 23 invalids' homes.

The Soviet pharmaceutical industry has achieved great successes since the war. But in the districts once occupied by the Germans and liberated by the Red Army, the Nazis ruthlessly destroyed pharmacies and factories manufacturing medicines, clothing and footwear. People living in regions which have been liberated are therefore greatly in need of the most varied commodities—food, clothing and medicines. These needs become greater as the Red Army clears the enemy from more towns and regions—they grow greater as victory draws nearer. The needs of our hospitals are also increasing. Our hospitals have

achieved wonders in their struggle for the lives of wounded soldiers, but they need much more. The demand for medical supplies is now more urgent than ever, because of the Red Army's great offensive against the main forces of the Germans.

We deeply appreciate the friendly help which the American people are affording the peoples of the USSR who have been dealt Hitler's heaviest blow and who have made more sacrifices than anyone else in the struggle of the United Nations against Nazi aggression.

In addition to help received from the Red Cross I would like to mention the help given by Russian War Relief, headed by Professor Carter. The organization was formed in New York in 1941 under the slogan, "Russia's scorched earth calls to America's green fields." This organization has collected over \$6,000,000 for the Russian relief fund.

The Soviet Red Cross was extremely gratified to receive the message of Mr. Norman Davis, Chairman of the American Red Cross, sent on July 16, saying that efforts were being made to increase aid and that large shipments of commodities had already been dispatched.

Soviet Children Work for Front

In the past two months Soviet children have made over 103,000,000 rubles worth of articles for the front in vocational shops organized by themselves. The children bring the necessary equipment and material from home, and under the direction of a parent or teacher make small articles and sew clothes for Red Army men.

In the city of Rybinsk, Yaroslavl Region, the school children have 12 carpenter shops where they fill subsidiary defense orders for rifle butts, wooden parts for airplanes and shell boxes. The team of Yasha Ovchinnikov, a skilled woodworker, has been entrusted with the manufacture of many important parts for fighter planes.

Plants and factories are now fitting up shops where children may work in their spare time. In a Lenin-grad machine-building plant a Youngster's Shop has been in operation for some time. Spacious, sunny rooms are assigned to the children and an experienced foreman supervises their work. Although they work only three to four hours a day, they have already manufactured several million cartridges.

BISHOP OF KUBAN AND KRASNODAR TELLS OF GERMAN RULE

Bishop Photius, of the Kuban and Krasnodar, who remained in Krasnodar throughout the German occupation, gives the following account of the Hitlerite terror in that city:

Although the Germans held Krasnodar for only half a year, they murdered many thousands of civilians living in the city. Of these atrocities I am able to write as an eyewitness.

Mass executions and maltreatment were begun by the Nazis immediately upon their entering the city. The German authorities often organized street round-ups. All those, including women and old men, who had no documents were taken outside Krasnodar and buried alive in the trenches surrounding the city.

Divine service in the Orthodox Churches was strictly controlled by representatives of the German authorities, who sat in the chapel together with the mayor. Those who recognize the cult of Wotan, who place Hitler above Our Lord Jesus Christ, who look upon murder and cruelty as the greatest virtues—which are to replace Christian love and mercy—are of course enemies of the Christian Church.

The Sennoi marketplace and Krasnaya Street,

Krasnodar's main thoroughfare, were lined with the bodies of Russians hanged by the Nazis. Just as flies become particularly dangerous and vicious before their death in autumn, so the Germans, sensing that they would inevitably have to abandon Krasnodar, became especially murderous and cruel. They systematically destroyed Krasnodar's best buildings and razed whole districts to the ground. The explosions shook neighboring houses to their foundations and knocked out doors and window frames. The population suffered particularly at night, when it was difficult to determine if your own house was in danger.

Each day the Germans placed further restrictions on traffic within the city. Shortly before abandoning Krasnodar the Nazis issued an order that people must be off the streets by noon. After twelve, the explosions became so terrific and numerous it seemed impossible to endure them longer.

When the heroic Soviet troops entered the city, the people could not restrain their tears of joy. They realized that the horrible Nazi nightmare was over and normal life would be resumed. The people of Krasnodar have seen for themselves what the German invaders are really like.

FINNISH ATROCITIES AGAINST SOVIET WAR PRISONERS

By Lieutenant Colonel Peter Burlak

The Finns are allies of the Germans. Together with the Hitlerites they are waging war against the Soviet Union. And like the Germans, they subject Soviet Red Army men to torture.

Sniper Grigori Kapilov fought on the Karelian Front. His bullets laid low over 70 Finnish soldiers. In one battle Kapilov was severely wounded and captured by the Finns. On beating back the Finnish detachment, Red Army men came upon the corpse of their comrade near one of the mud huts. It was a horrifying sight—the body had been cut to pieces with knives, the face was a bloody mask and the right ear had been cut off. The Finns had vented their spite on the wounded and helpless Soviet fighter.

Here is another instance of Finnish savagery: A small group of Soviet scouts reconnoitering near the enemy's advanced line was attacked from three sides by a company of Finnish soldiers. Soviet fighters met the enemy with heavy fire, but the forces being so unequal, the scout commander ordered a withdrawal. The retreat was to be covered by Corporal Popov and Red Army men Gagarin, Kozlov, Nikiforov,

Purtov, Fateev and Barandin. These seven men barred the way to the Finns, firing at them at point-blank range. Tens of enemy corpses strewed the battlefield. Then Finnish cannon and trench mortars began to bombard the Soviet fighters. They were all wounded in the first moments of the bombardment, but they continued firing until their last charge.

The furious Finns then fell upon the wounded men, stabbing them with knives and bayonets, clubbing them with rifle butts and trampling upon them. Kozlov, who was near to death, was thrown onto burning thermite caps. The frightful pain caused him to rise, but at this the executioners pressed him back into the fire with a log. The ground over which the scouts had fought was a terrible sight—on the blood-drenched snow lay the seven disfigured corpses. Stars had been carved on the backs of Red Army men Purtov and Nikiforov; Fateev's left eye was torn out and his chest cut up. The body of Kozlov was completely burned.

The Finns are worthy allies of the Germans in the perpetration of abominable atrocities against Soviet war prisoners.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MIKHAIL BOTVINNIK, CHESS CHAMPION OF THE USSR

By Nikolai Grekov

Grossmeister Mikhail Botvinnik, Chess Champion of the USSR, is an electrical engineer by profession. Chess is his hobby. Several years ago he wrote a thesis on electrical engineering for which he was awarded a master's degree in technical sciences.

Botvinnik is 32 years old, married and the father of a baby daughter. His wife, Gayane, has always attended Soviet and international tournaments with him, accompanying him to England and Holland when he played there. Until the war the family lived in Leningrad, but is at present in Molotov (formerly Perm) in the Urals, where Botvinnik is working as a high tension engineer.

For almost two years Botvinnik has taken no part in chess tournaments. Despite this, he won a complete victory in a tournament of extremely strong players recently held in Sverdlovsk. Without losing a single game, he rolled up 10.5 points out of 14, brilliantly defeating his two chief competitors, Grossmeister Vasili Smyslov and Meister Vladimir Makogonov.

In a recent interview, Botvinnik made the following comments on the popularity and development of chess in the USSR in wartime:

Tens of thousands of ardent chess fans are now fighting in the ranks of the Red Army. Chess long ago became a true people's game in the Soviet Union. In their rare hours of leisure at the front many Red Army men and commanders sit down to the chessboard. The game is especially popular in hospitals among wounded soldiers and officers. Meets are often organized, with strict observance of all tournament rules, down to timing of moves.

The war has caused many losses among Soviet chess players. The talented young masters Sergei Belavenets, Joseph Rudakovsky and Lev Kaiyev have perished in battle for their country. Mark Stolberg, 18-year-old Rostov master, is missing in action. A German bomb killed Alexander Ilyin-Zhenevsky, one of the old Russian masters, who at a tournament in Moscow in 1935 won a sensational game from Capablanca, then world champion. I was personally indebted to Ilyin-Zhenevsky for organizing my match with Grossmeister Salo Flohr in 1933. Ilyin-Zhenevsky was at that time working in the Soviet diplomatic mission in Prague. Also among the missing are the masters Ilya Rabinovich, participant in many international chess tournaments, and Nikolai

Ryumin, whose name swept the entire chess world in 1935 when he won a victory over Capablanca in the first round of the Second Moscow International Tournament.

Other gifted players are taking the places of those who have gone. In the city championship tournament in Tashkent, 16-year-old Mark Makov shared the first and second prizes with Grossmeister Salo Flohr, who has become a Soviet citizen and is now residing in Tbilisi, capital of Georgia. Considerable improvement is noticeable in the playing of Vasili Smyslov and Isaac Bogoslavsky.

Despite the war, chess has not died out in the Soviet Union. City championship meets are held regularly in Moscow. A match between the three Lithuanian masters — Tolush, Mikenas and Visantskis—ended in a victory for Tolush.



Mikhail Botvinnik

The USSR has always had close ties with chess circles in the United States and England. The United States champions, Rubin Fine and Samuel Peshevsky, have been in this country and played in tournaments here. Soviet chess players participated in tournaments organized in England before the war. Recent numbers of United States and English chess journals once more convince us of the great interest displayed by chess players of the United Nations in chess activities in the Soviet Union.

It was a pleasure to read that despite the war new books on chess have been published in the United States. I was especially interested in *Fifty Years of Chess*, by the famous United States veteran Frank James Marshall.

At present I am preparing for publication a collection of the matches of the Moscow six-man tournament of 1941 for the championship of the USSR, adding comments on the matches.

Notes from Front and Rear

Many thousands of Red Army men listed as missing or thought to be dead or prisoners of war in Germany, are today fighting as guerrillas in the enemy rear.

Red Army man Savchenko, for a long time listed as missing, had been taken prisoner by the Germans. He escaped and joined a guerrilla detachment. When in the spring of this year the Red Army returned to the area in which Savchenko's detachment operated, the guerrillas joined the regular units of the Red Army, bringing with them two trucks, 60 horses, more than a dozen machine guns and other equipment captured from the enemy.

★

For outstanding achievements in the theory and practice of shipbuilding, and for long years of creative work in designing and building modern battle-ships, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has awarded Academician Alexei Krylov the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, the Order of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle medal.

★

Guerrillas of a certain Byelorussian district recently brought down two German Focke-Wulf bombers. In an effort to paralyze guerrilla operations the Germans brought regular formations of artillery and aircraft into action against them. For five hours six Focke-Wulfs circled above one village, dropping bombs from time to time. The guerrillas organized intensive rifle and machine-gun fire against the planes. One bomber caught fire and crashed in the guerrilla lines; later another was brought down and a third badly damaged.

★

Statement by war prisoner Sergeant Major Herbert Handauer of the 208th German Infantry Division: *The Command exerted every effort to stem the Russian offensive, without avail . . . The violent fire of the Russian batteries disorganized us. We did not know where to go or what to do. The soldiers said: "The Russians are preparing a summer Stalingrad for us."*

★

Sixteen vocational and factory apprenticeship schools have been opened in the North Caucasus to train skilled workers who will help in restoring industry in districts liberated from German occupation. Similar schools are functioning in Stalingrad and Voronezh.

Ace snipers of the Southwest Front are holding a conference to exchange experiences and get tips which may improve their technique. Those attending the conference all have over 100 Hitlerites to their credit, with the top score held by Red Army man Velichko, who has killed 330 of the enemy.

★

The State Library of Foreign Languages in Moscow has several thousand regular readers organized in 43 circles for the study of the history and culture of Allied countries. Academician Struve has lectured on English Art in the epoch of the Saxon-Norman Wars; the well-known Soviet architect Mordvinov has spoken on the development of English architecture; Ivan Drozdov, a foreman in the Stalin Auto Works and a well-known amateur actor, has addressed his group on the work of J. B. Priestley; and Dr. Zoya Mitriyeva has lectured on the development of American bacteriology.

★

War Prisoner non-com. Heinz T., who surrendered voluntarily to the Red Army during the recent battles stated: *The battalion commander told us that during the first day of the German offensive we spent more ammunition than during the whole of the Polish campaign, while in three days the German guns had fired more shells than during the whole of the French campaign.*

★

The Union of Soviet Composers has issued a symposium of Soviet War Songs especially for the United States and Britain. Included are 27 works by 23 composers. Among them are "The Holy War," by Professor Alexandrov, director of the Red Army Song and Dance Ensemble; "Battle for the Motherland," by Kompaneyets; "Pledge to the People's Commissar," by Shostakovich, and others by Muradeli, Zakharov, Blanter, Khachaturyan, Soloviev-Sedoi, Khrennikov and Kabalevsky.

★

Statement by soldiers of the 587th Regiment, 320th German Infantry Division, who came over to the Red Army on July 6 in the Belgorod direction: *On the first day of the offensive the 587th Regiment lost over half its effectives . . . Old soldiers who have been in the war since the beginning maintain that the German army has never experienced losses as heavy as these in any other offensive.*

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FRESH PROVOCATION OF THE FASCIST CANNIBALS

On August 12, the Soviet Information Bureau issued the following statement:

The Hitlerites have raised a violent outcry on the subject of mass graves they allegedly discovered on the outskirts of the town of Vinnitsa. One of the numerous reports of the Berlin radio in this connection says: "Mass graves have been discovered on the western outskirts of Vinnitsa. On a one-hectare plot occupied by an orchard there are some thirty graves. During our occupation when need for fuel arose we began to pull down the fence and discovered bodies of several persons killed in 1938, 1939 and later."

In their attempt to divert the attention of the world from the defeats of the German army on the Soviet-German front and to cover up the traces of their crimes on Soviet territory they occupied, the Hitlerite crooks recently resorted to a fresh trick. On August 9 they published a "protocol" drawn up by a gang of Gestapo agents and hired provocateurs sent by German authorities to Vinnitsa called the "Committee of Professors of Legal Medicine." Making use of their rich experience in sanguinary crimes the Hitlerite agents attempted to lay their fault at another man's door—to ascribe to the Soviet people their own German crimes. In their insolence, these slaughterers went to the length of ascribing to Soviet citizens their own favorite methods of massacring the peaceful population—shooting their defenseless victims in the back of the head, burning peaceful Soviet people alive, etc.

The inveterate German crooks try to present the affair in such a way as if after two years' stay in Vinnitsa they by mere chance came upon the mass graves. However, in this case they do not have a shadow of a chance. The German hangmen had no difficulty in finding the graves in Vinnitsa, and not in Vinnitsa alone, but in any other town temporarily occupied by the Germans. On breaking into Soviet inhabited localities, the Hitlerites have brutally massacred peaceful residents, killed thousands of guiltless women, old men and children. After shooting thousands of Soviet citizens the Germans have dumped their bodies into gullies and anti-tank ditches and covered them up with earth.

In Minsk tens of thousands of bodies of Soviet people tortured to death or shot by the Hitlerites were buried in pits in the area of Kolkhoznaya and Moprovskaya Streets, in the Calvary Cemetery, and in gullies on the outskirts of the city. The Germans can "find" mass graves in Vitebsk without the slightest difficulty. In that town, on July 24, 1941 and on subsequent days the Hitlerites shot and buried thousands of peaceful Soviet citizens in a gully beyond the new hospital. Should the German provocateurs so desire they can also announce a fresh find on the drill-ground in the Bobruisk fortress. Here on November 8 and 9, 1941 the Hitlerites shot and buried over 7,000 Soviet citizens. The Germans can "discover" a tremendous number of bodies of Soviet people who fell at the hand of the fascist cannibals in Babii Gully in Kiev. Hundreds of bodies of peaceful residents brutally tortured to death by the Germans were buried in a quarry at the foot of Melovaya Mountain in the town of Kramatorsk. Thousands of Soviet people killed by the German bandits were buried in Merlikova Ravine in the area of the town of Osipenko. Here, early in 1942 the Hitlerites shot 800 peaceful residents in one day alone. About 1,000 bodies of residents of Pskov were buried in a quarry near the village of Vaulino in the Podboroviye peat bogs. They were done to death by the fascist hangmen in February, 1942.

Bodies of 1,800 residents of Smolensk, including women, children and old men, killed by the fascists, were buried in a large pit at Gedeonovka near Smolensk. The Soviet people who escaped from the massacre staged by the Germans state that here the Hitlerites buried dead together with living and that long after the shootings the earth on the graves still shook and moans were heard.

While liberating the Soviet land from the German occupationists the Red Army finds more and more mass graves where the Germans buried many thousands of the Soviet people they killed or tortured to death. For instance: In the city of Krasnodar and in Krasnodar territory, the Hitlerite scoundrels killed 7,000 peaceful Soviet citizens, including many chil-

dren, and buried them in an anti-tank ditch beyond the measuring instrument factory. In Stavropol territory the German-fascist murderers shot, burned alive, poisoned in "murderess" vans, hanged or tortured to death in Gestapo dungeons thousands upon thousands of absolutely guiltless peaceful citizens.

As the Red Army liberates the Soviet land from the German occupationists it discovers more and more instances of monstrous crimes committed by the Hitlerites. And how many more such crimes, how many more graves of peaceful Soviet people who died at the bloodstained hands of the Hitlerites will the Red Army yet discover on its way?

In the initial period of the war the fascist wolves, intoxicated by success, did not even think it necessary to conceal their massacres of peaceful Soviet citizens. Now that the fortune of war has turned away from the Germans, the Hitlerite beasts try to don sheep's clothing. The hangmen are seized with fear. They feel the urge to go to the cemeteries—to

the graves of their victims. Now the Berlin provocateurs announce the alleged "accidental" finds of mass graves in an attempt to cover the traces of their own crimes, and ascribe their monstrous villainies to Soviet authorities.

The Hitlerites are playing in Vinnitsa an outrageous and abominable comedy over the bodies of their victims. The murderers whose hands are stained with innocent blood exhume the bodies of the people they mercilessly exterminated, and stage buffooneries over their graves. Such abominable deeds, such hypocrisy the world has never before witnessed. The Hitlerite scoundrels flooded Europe with blood, exterminated millions of peaceful people and turned thousands of towns and villages into graveyards. And whatever tricks the German murderers may try they will not succeed in hiding their crimes and dodging their responsibility. The punishing hand of the Soviet people will reach the hangmen wherever they may be, will nail them to the dock and exact merited retribution on these bloodthirsty beasts.

A WOMAN OF OREL

A PRAVDA correspondent visiting liberated Orel writes:

Seeing that I was noting down the people's stories of the German occupation, a young but completely gray-haired woman stepped forward. Here is her story:

"My name is Maria Matveyeva. The Germans hanged my son Alexei before my eyes. Alexei Matveyev went to school, was interested in sports and radio, and dreamed of becoming a tank officer. The Germans put an end to his studies and to these dreams.

"Alexei was mobilized to clear the roads. At dawn, with others who had been mobilized, he would leave for the outskirts with shovel and pick-axe. They were led to work by old Germans with rifles and whips. One day my boy came home pressing his hand to a livid scar on his cheek: a German had struck him in the face. 'Let them shoot me, but I won't go to work any more,' he said. In the morning he stayed home. At noon policemen arrested him and took him away. I was not at home at the time and learned later from neighbors what had happened.

"Recalling that my son had eaten nothing since morning I took a piece of bread and ran after them. I caught up with them at the Oka bridge. He was being led together with an old man and a young girl who had also failed to report for work that day. I wanted to give him the bread, but a policeman hit me on the head with his rifle butt.

"There were three gallows in the square. There was always someone hanging on them. Today they were empty. I flung myself on my knees before the German officer, begging him to let my son go. The

officer said in Russian: 'Get up, madam, and go away. Your son is a criminal. He does not want to work for Germany.' I cried, I pleaded, but nothing helped. Alyosha was already standing on the box: 'Mother, goodbye. Don't cry in front of this parasite. We will be avenged,' he said. The old man made a row. He kept pushing away the soldiers holding him and shouted: 'Damn you! Damn you!' He was shot and then hanged. The girl's turn came. She had been crying all the way, but now she sat down on the box without a tear. When the officer came up to her and asked her something she spit in his face.

"They did not hang long. One day later they were removed because others were brought. A notice reading 'For refusal to work' was pinned to their clothes."

We Soviet people (the *Pravda* correspondent continues) have been accustomed from childhood to regard labor as a matter of honor and glory, of valor and heroism. And the Germans have again transformed labor into an accursed yoke. They have even set up a whole scale of punishments for those who in their opinion work badly. Old Germans in charge of workers were armed with rifles and whips, either of which they had a right to use at their own discretion.

I saw a whip found in the yard of the former Gestapo headquarters—a short plastic handle to which is attached a rubber stick interwoven with steel strands. A strong person can be killed outright by a blow from such a whip, which was made in the GNOM factory in Dresden, as seen from the trademark on the handle. Apparently the practical-minded German slave-drivers have already arranged mass production of such whips for the administration of occupied territories.

RETURN

By Vasili Grossman

At dawn the rattle of sub-machine guns, the crack of rifle shots and the continuous heavy roar of artillery began to die away as the battle moved westward from the outskirts of the city, across the expanses of unreaped fields and along the motor highway and other roads. With every passing hour the turmoil of battle grew fainter, like the noise of a departing thunderstorm.

Soviet troops marched along streets covered with crushed brick, broken glass and smashed window frames. These men in dusty boots, shirts bleached white and faces tanned by the pitiless August sun were those who for many weeks, in heat and pouring rain, through fire and death, had step by step forced their way through barbed wire, destroying trenches, spilling their blood on every hill and in every valley—relentlessly and persistently advancing on Orel from north, east, south and southwest.

At five A. M. Colonel Kustov's 380th Infantry Division, now the "Orel Division," marched through the town. The colors of the First Regiment commanded by Major Plotnikov—one of the first to fight its way into Orel—were carried ahead. The officers were as dust-begrimed as the men. There was a grim look about this first parade, held amid the smoke of burning houses and the dust of explosions which hid the sky over the ruined city. Hundreds of people crawled from under gates and cellars and ran to meet the men and commanders marching under the red banner.

We arrived in Orel during the day of August 9, after traveling by the Moscow Highway. We had passed through busy Tula, through Plavsk and Cherna, and the farther we went the fresher were the wounds inflicted on our land by the Germans. Grass was growing among the ruined houses of Mtsensk, the blue sky peered through the empty eyesockets of windows and the holes in rooftops. Nearly all the villages between Mtsensk and Orel had been burned down. The ruins of log houses were still smoking. Old people and children raked the heaps of bricks, seeking the few things that survived—iron saucepans and frying pans, fire-twisted iron bedsteads—a sorrowful and all too familiar picture!

A freshly-cut white board with the word "Orel" painted on it was nailed up at a level crossing. We had an excellent view of the whole city from a hilltop—a view of that fearsome work the Germans had been doing for five days, the work of hangmen who with fire and explosives had executed the finest houses and buildings of Orel. For five days the Germans had been systematically and methodically carrying out this criminal work, in accordance with the orders of the bandit General Modl.

Even more terrible than the destruction wrought by the Germans were the living traces of their stay in

Orel—the names of streets in German, signs hanging outside officers' and soldiers' places of entertainment, notices pasted on walls, fat swastikas painted in oil on the walls of an officers' mess, and the gaunt, thick-necked imperial eagle fastened to the walls of some of the houses. Women, children and old men told how on the previous day the Germans had blown up a building in which were 40 badly wounded Red Army prisoners. They told of the crude and insolent attempts to Germanize the schools.

A cloud of dust hangs over the city, raised by the heavy tanks and guns rattling and thundering west-



OREL DIRECTION—Along the road of the German retreat, residents of the village of Stanovoy Kolodez return to their homes
Radiophoto

ward, by the thousands of marching army boots. There is a smell of burning in the air; bluish, milky smoke rises over fires not yet burned out. Broken glass and bricks crunch underfoot. Through shattered windows can be seen plants and flowers wilting from the hot breath of the fire.

The Germans tried to make a cemetery of Orel, but the city still has a gay aspect, despite all the horror and ruin. People are smiling, talking excitedly, children shout "Hurrah!" after passing cars; men, women and old people gather in groups about the Red Army men, talking in rapid, lively tones and embracing the fighters. Every Red Army man in excited conversation with a group is like some brother or son returned after long absence. It is apparent everywhere that the people who have met again after bitter experiences and torments, on the thresholds of houses destroyed by the enemy, feel in their hearts that the worst, darkest and most horrible time is past—that today and tomorrow the restoration of the city will begin; that there is no longer any power that can interfere with the free and happy life of the people of Orel.

That first day was the beginning of life! Over many houses red flags already floated, the wind whipping their folds. For 20 months the flags had lain hidden in cellars and secret places, and today they again decorated the buildings of Orel. Only six or seven hours ago the Germans were here, but the city already feels the first strong pulse beats of renewed Soviet life. In the Central Square amplifiers are playing *The International*, posters and appeals are being pasted up on the walls and leaflets distributed among the inhabitants. Rosy-cheeked girl traffic regulators stand at every intersection, busily waving their little red and yellow flags. Another day or two will pass and Orel will begin to live, work and learn—

will again stand in the ranks of our towns and villages waging the struggle against fascism.

On that first exciting and happy day when Russian Soviet Orel rose from her ashes to the sound of receding gun fire, I recalled the Orel I saw exactly 22 months ago, on the October day in 1941 when German tanks driving along the Kromy highway broke into the city. I remembered that last night in Orel, the fearful roar of motors leaving the city, the cries of women who ran after the outgoing troops, the sorrowful faces of the people . . . I remembered the last morning in Orel when it seemed as if the whole city were weeping, rushing here and there in terrible alarm. I remembered the sorrow and fears, the terror that hung over the city, and I realized more fully the great joy of today's meeting between Orel—battered and defiled by the Germans—and our great country; the meeting with our great Army, which is routing and destroying the invading hordes. I understood why women wept as they embraced the Red Army men, and holding out their children asked the men to give them a paternal kiss.

I stood listening to a Tank Corps Colonel who, standing on a dusty, war-worn tank, was delivering an address over the bodies of officers and men killed in the battle for Orel. The burned and blackened houses echoed his simple, abrupt words of farewell, as though they had found new life and were subordinating themselves to that living force which the officers and men of our Red Army carry in their hearts.

Then I saw and understood: today's meeting and that bitter farewell in October, 1941, are one—are intimately bound together. This was a demonstration of the people's great and faithful love; this is the strongest thing on earth. This is stronger than death.

CAPTURE OF CHUGUYEV

By Major I. Agibalov

Soviet troops operating on the Donets River after dislodging the Germans from Stary Saltov, Pechenegi and a number of other inhabited places on the right bank of the river, dealt the enemy another severe blow by capturing Chuguyev. Here Soviet forces encountered a highly intricate defense system of fire and obstacles. Convenient approaches to river crossings were thickly mined and the minefields covered by guns. Furthermore, the entire area northeast of the river elbow occupied by Soviet troops was under artillery and mortar fire. On the outskirts of Chuguyev the Germans had built block-houses in which, besides infantry weapons, there were anti-tank guns, while all the brick buildings within the town itself had been converted into solid fortifications.

It was obvious that so strong a resistance center could not be captured at one stroke unless the enemy's defenses in other sectors were smashed first. Accordingly, the command of the Soviet formation entrusted with this operation, before beginning a direct assault on Chuguyev, first proceeded to break through the German defense zone considerably to the north of the town. At this spot Soviet troops forced the North Donets River and seized Rubezhnoye. On the following day Stary Saltov and Pechenegi were captured almost simultaneously. Extensive forests north of Chuguyev enabled the Soviet troops secretly to concentrate forces and material for a decisive blow. During the night one Guards regiment, after

(Continued on page five)

"WE WILL BRING LIBERATION TO OUR LAND"

On August 8 the Soviet press published the following "Address of Byelorussian Red Army Men to the Men and Women Guerrillas of Byelorussia and the Entire Byelorussian People":

For two years we have been waging a life and death struggle against the treacherous enemy who captured our territory, defiled our native land and rivers, demolished our towns and villages and exterminated hundreds of thousands of our people. Together with our Russian and Ukrainian brothers, together with all sons of the freedom-loving peoples of the Soviet Union, we Byelorussians have been battering the enemy and driving back his hordes. Now at the front in the Patriotic War are 108 Byelorussian generals, hundreds of colonels, and hundreds of thousands of Red Army men from our Byelorussia. Your sons are sacredly following the precepts of your fathers and forefathers concerning the inviolable unity of the Russian and Ukrainian peoples.

On more than one occasion Byelorussians fought the enemy in the ranks of the Russian Army, setting an example of gallantry and heroism. On more than one occasion the Byelorussians rose in evil times against their oppressors.

Our dear brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, wives and children! Day and night we live with the single thought of you, of our beloved country. The Byelorussian land is held in brutal captivity. Everything we had built in the course of years was burned or destroyed, thousands of our dear ones have been driven to slavery, thousands have been done to death by the fascist beasts, thousands are languishing in bloody torture chambers. The modern German fascist has bared his bestial inner self; he assaults with equal ferocity the weak old man, the helpless child and the unarmed woman.

It was they, the accursed German barbarians, who drowned our children in bogs and rivers. It was they who burned them alive. It was they who tested the strength of children's spines against soldiers' knees. It was they who threw into the flames the 103-year-old Evgenya Miganenkoi. Endless and horrible is the list of crimes and atrocities of the German fiends—these wild fosterlings of bestial, rabid fascist dogs.

Disgrace indelible for centuries will fall upon the heads of the Germans for these crimes. We forget nothing, and each drop of innocent blood we will avenge a hundredfold. Grave and immeasurable are your sufferings, our dear brothers and sisters! But captivity has failed to break you. You did not kneel before the Germans. Byelorussia was captured—but

her people is not vanquished, her will to struggle and victory is not broken! The struggle of your guerrillas evokes the admiration of all peoples; your courage and heroism thrill the world.

We proudly remember that the first to be awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union for self-sacrificing struggle in the enemy rear were the brave People's Avengers—the Byelorussian guerrillas Bumazhkov and Pavlovsky. By their heroic struggle our brothers, the guerrillas, render invaluable aid to the Red Army in its struggle for liberation of its native land. In the course of the Patriotic War, in fierce and ruthless fighting, Byelorussian guerrillas have killed over 150,000 fascist officers and men including 13 generals. They have derailed several hundred enemy trains, blown up about 1,000 bridges, disabled, destroyed and burned hundreds of enemy planes and tanks, and smashed dozens of fascist headquarters.

Before the decisive battles against the enemy we pledge to execute sacredly the order of the great Stalin and will spare neither our blood nor our lives in the struggle for the holy cause of defeating the fascist hangmen. Together with our Russian and Ukrainian brothers, together with the soldiers of all peoples of the Soviet Union, we will bring liberation to our land; we will bring back freedom and joy to our much suffering Byelorussian people.

CHUGUYEV

(Continued from page four)

artillery bombardment of the German forward edge, forced the river near Chuguyev. Consolidating their positions on the river bank, the Guardsmen made a dash for the railway station where the Germans resisted stubbornly, firing from machine guns and tommy guns from the station buildings and neighboring structures. Each building had to be taken by assault with the help of grenades and light firearms.

While the fighting was proceeding for the station, another Soviet infantry regiment stationed in the elbow crossed the river, seized the village of Kochetsk, and advancing along the river bank, reached the outskirts of Chuguyev. Soon the battle shifted to the center of the town and street fighting ensued. However, this was not enough to overwhelm the German garrison until the Soviet troops advancing from the north executed a successful maneuver and cut the highroad leading to Kharkov. This decided the issue of the battle. Having cut all the German communications the Soviet infantry gradually liquidated their resistance center.

KAZAN, CAPITAL OF TATARIA

By Y. Rykachev

Tataria, the Soviet Autonomous Republic which stretches along the middle reaches of the great river Volga, is the largest national republic of the middle Volga region. Its population is 3,000,000.

The history of Soviet Tataria began on May 27, 1920, when this land became an autonomous republic. Before 1917, what is now the Tatar Republic was a backward agricultural country, with few and unimportant industries. Yet Tataria had everything needful for economic prosperity—a comparatively mild climate, fertile black soil, magnificent forests, large mineral deposits and an intelligent, industrious population. The great social and economic reforms of a quarter century ago awoke the Tatar people and their land to new life, along with the rest of the former Russian Empire.

The capital, Kazan, is a large and ancient city, which before 1917 was regarded as the capital and cultural center of the Volga Region. Today Kazan is one of the largest centers of Soviet industry and the home of an extensive and diverse culture, with a population of well over 500,000.

Kazan was founded in the 13th Century, when the Tatars, at that time a mighty conquering people, came to the Volga from a remote oriental steppe. But of that period practically no architectural relics remain in Kazan, except for the fine Sumbeki Tower, the ruins of an ancient mosque and a rampart. On a hill in the center of the city stands a huge Kremlin, built in the 16th Century by Tsar Ivan IV.

Kazan lies at the intersection of waterways connecting it with Moscow, the Urals, the Caspian Steppe, Transcaucasia and Iran. In the old days its economic importance was considerable. The middle of the 19th Century saw a period of decline, but under Soviet rule, especially during the Five-Year-Plans, the capital of the Tatar Republic has made immense economic and cultural strides.

This was part of a process occurring throughout the whole USSR, but the renaissance bloomed the more richly because of the national revival which the Tatar people were experiencing, after having lived for centuries in oppression and poverty.

The Tatars are justly proud of their capital, perched picturesquely on hills, its tree-shaded streets lined with large new blocks of flats and public buildings. The old handicraft workshops have given place to large mills and factories.

Kazan university is famous. Leo Tolstoy, the

mathematician Lobachevsky and Vladimir Lenin, founder of the Soviet State, studied there. It is now one of the most important centers of Soviet science and learning. Over 20 new higher educational establishments, scores of scientific research institutes and numerous high schools have been founded in Kazan since the October Revolution.

Before 1917 only 5 per cent of the children going to school in Kazan were Tatars; now every Tatar child goes to school. Every second person you meet—that is to say, 1,500,000 out of a population of 3,000,000—is attending school, college or university. Since the outbreak of war the Soviet Academy of Sciences has created in Kazan a number of scientific institutes where Tatar and Russian scientists work side by side for national defense.

The industries of Kazan and its environs send a steady stream of products to the front. Its wharves stretch for three miles along the Volga. Since 1917 new railways have been built, connecting the city with the Trans-Siberian line and with other distant parts of the USSR.

The Tatars are deeply attached to their rejuvenated capital and their young Republic, which is progressing by leaps and bounds with the fraternal aid of the Russian nation. When the enemy invaded the USSR Tatar collective farmers, workers and intellectuals flocked to join the Red Army. Thousands of Tatars have distinguished themselves in action. Tatar women have become prominent in agriculture and industry.

The fruits of the earth of Tataria and the products of its industry, far from diminishing, have considerably increased. Kazan and the Tatar Republic hold an honorable place among the republics defending the Soviet Union. Kazan is not only the heart and brain of the Tatar republic. It is also one of the largest cultural and economic centers of the USSR

Rostov Again Makes Cigarettes

The equipment of the Don Tobacco Factory in Rostov, second largest in the Soviet Union, was evacuated from the city before the German occupation.

The day after the liberation of Rostov, old factory workers began assembling at the site. On February 22 the first 10,000 cigarettes were turned out, mainly by hand, and given to the Red Army as a present. Since then the machinery has been restored and the factory will soon be operating normally.

HOSPITAL FOR ALLIED SEAMEN

By Dr. Modeste Sedov

Director of Public Health in the Soviet North

The sea route from the Atlantic to the northern shores of the Soviet Union was first traversed several centuries ago. The White Sea ports are quite familiar with the flags of Great Britain and the United States of America, whose ships have always found haven and hospitality there.

Now the ships of the Allied fleets, overcoming all attacks from the skies and the U-boats, are bringing armaments, ammunition and food to the USSR, and the Union Jack and Star Spangled Banner are more familiar than ever in northern Soviet ports.

In his May message to Congress on the operation of Lend-Lease, Mr. Roosevelt noted that American ships are receiving a number of services in Soviet ports, rendered according to the basic principles of law, including medical aid, which, of course, is also available to British seamen.

The sea journey to the north was always trying, and it is worse than ever in wartime. Pirate submarines menace the route, and German air attacks hinder the shipment of vital cargoes to the Soviet Union. The enemy is trying desperately but unsuccessfully to disrupt the aid afforded our country by Great Britain and the U. S. A. On certain occasions, however, ships have been damaged in enemy attacks, and members of the crews have been disabled, and sometimes seamen fall ill at sea. We do everything we can to provide for stricken Allied seamen treatment which cannot be rendered at sea.

As head of the public health services in the Soviet North, I had the job of organizing medical aid for foreign seamen. I arranged for a special hospital to be equipped with a sufficient number of beds. It was housed in a two-story building on the banks of a river a short distance from the port. I got together an experienced staff, with George Oslov as surgeon-in-charge. We are warned well in advance of the patient's arrival. As soon as the ship docks the sick man is rushed to the hospital. Most of our patients require surgical treatment. Those who need complex treatment go to special hospitals.

Last autumn we opened another hospital, with most up-to-date equipment, to serve our guests from overseas. Professor Gabriel Davydov, who was for many years a pupil of the well-known Russian surgeon Ivan Grekov, was appointed chief consultant.

In this hospital, as in all other Soviet hospitals, provision is made for the cultural interests of our patients. Theater performances organized by the Regional Drama Theater are often given for convalescent foreign seamen. The Philharmonic Society arranges regular concerts. It is a pleasure for us to

be able to acquaint our guests with the best works of Russian dramatists and composers. British seamen, indeed sailors of all the United Nations, are well pleased with this form of "treatment," which keeps them from being too homesick.

The number of our patients depends on the state of things on the high seas, where, as we know, the situation is none too favorable for our common enemies. Our doctors expect soon to have very little work on their hands. We are of course very glad to help the crews of Allied ships, but we shall be even happier when we are not needed at all. But no matter how matters develop, we shall always be ready to welcome and succor the heroic sailors who bring their cargoes to our Soviet ports.



A sailor of the battleship "Paris Commune" on guard on the Black Sea Coast

Radiophoto

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF AUGUST 13, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

In the week of fighting in the Kharkov direction Red Army troops, inflicting a severe defeat on the Germany army group covering the approaches to Kharkov, have advanced a considerable distance northwest and west of Kharkov. By the end of August 12 one group of Soviet troops which had advanced from Belgorod captured the village of Tsirkuny, eight kilometers northeast of Kharkov. Another group advancing from the east and southeast of Kharkov crossed the Donets River and captured a number of settlements on the right bank 35 kilometers from Kharkov. After severe fighting Soviet troops captured the town of Chuguyev on the west bank of the Donets, 30 kilometers southeast of Kharkov. The capture of this town is a serious blow to the German troops.

Pressing the success of its offensive the Red Army captured a number of important defense lines in a brief period and put the German group defending Kharkov in a precarious position. After the capture of Chuguyev and the advance of the Red Army's mobile units south of the Kharkov-Poltava railroad, the enemy troops find themselves in a horseshoe with only a rather narrow corridor not more than 75 kilometers wide still at their disposal. Only one railroad, leading to Zaporozhye and Dnepropetrovsk, runs through this corridor.

Another group of Soviet troops pressing on north of Kharkov in a southwest direction captured the city of Akhtyrka and reached the Vorkskla River 120 kilometers west of Belgorod. Capturing the large settlement of Kotelva south of Akhtyrka the vanguard troops of the Red Army have reached a point 50 kilometers north of Poltava.

The severest engagements in the Kharkov direction are now being fought along the Kharkov-Poltava railroad where the Hitler Command has moved up large infantry and tank reserves supported by aviation. Aware of the importance of the Kharkov area and striving to ward off the threat of encirclement, the Hitler Command has thrown in all its available reserves, including special troops, military schools, replacement battalions, etc. But Red Army troops, successfully repelling all German counter-attacks, continue to advance.

The Red Army's offensive also continues successfully in the Bryansk direction. Soviet vanguard troops have reached a point seven kilometers east of Karachev, an important road center which covers Bryansk from the east. Soviet troops captured the town of Dmitrovsk-Orlovsky, thus advancing 85 kilometers west of Orel.

MIRACLES IN NEURO-SURGERY PERFORMED BY ACADEMICIAN BURDENKO

The Chief Surgeon of the Red Army, Hero of Socialist Labor Academician Nikolai Burdenko, performs many extremely complex operations at the Neuro-Surgery Institute headed by him.

Early in July Burdenko operated on a flier who had been wounded a year and a half before. A shell splinter had injured the left frontal lobe of his brain, causing paralysis of the right extremities and loss of speech. The operation performed at that time restored the flier's speech, and the paralysis also disappeared. However, he later became a victim of epileptic seizures. Examination revealed a metal splinter still imbedded in the patient's brain. Its removal called for great skill on the part of the surgeon, but Burdenko operated successfully and the flier is now on his way to complete recovery.

Burdenko performed another no less complex operation on a woman suffering from progressive paralysis of the extremities. Neuro-surgeons diagnosed her case as tumor of the spinal column. Burdenko removed the tumor and the paralysis gradually disappeared.

In recent months Academician Burdenko has performed 150 operations of similar complexity.

A Neuro-Surgery Center, which will include a large number of clinics and laboratories, is now being established in Moscow. It will accommodate about 1,000 patients, and will study problems of neuro-surgery, train new neuro-surgical personnel, and direct the work of Soviet neuro-surgical hospitals.

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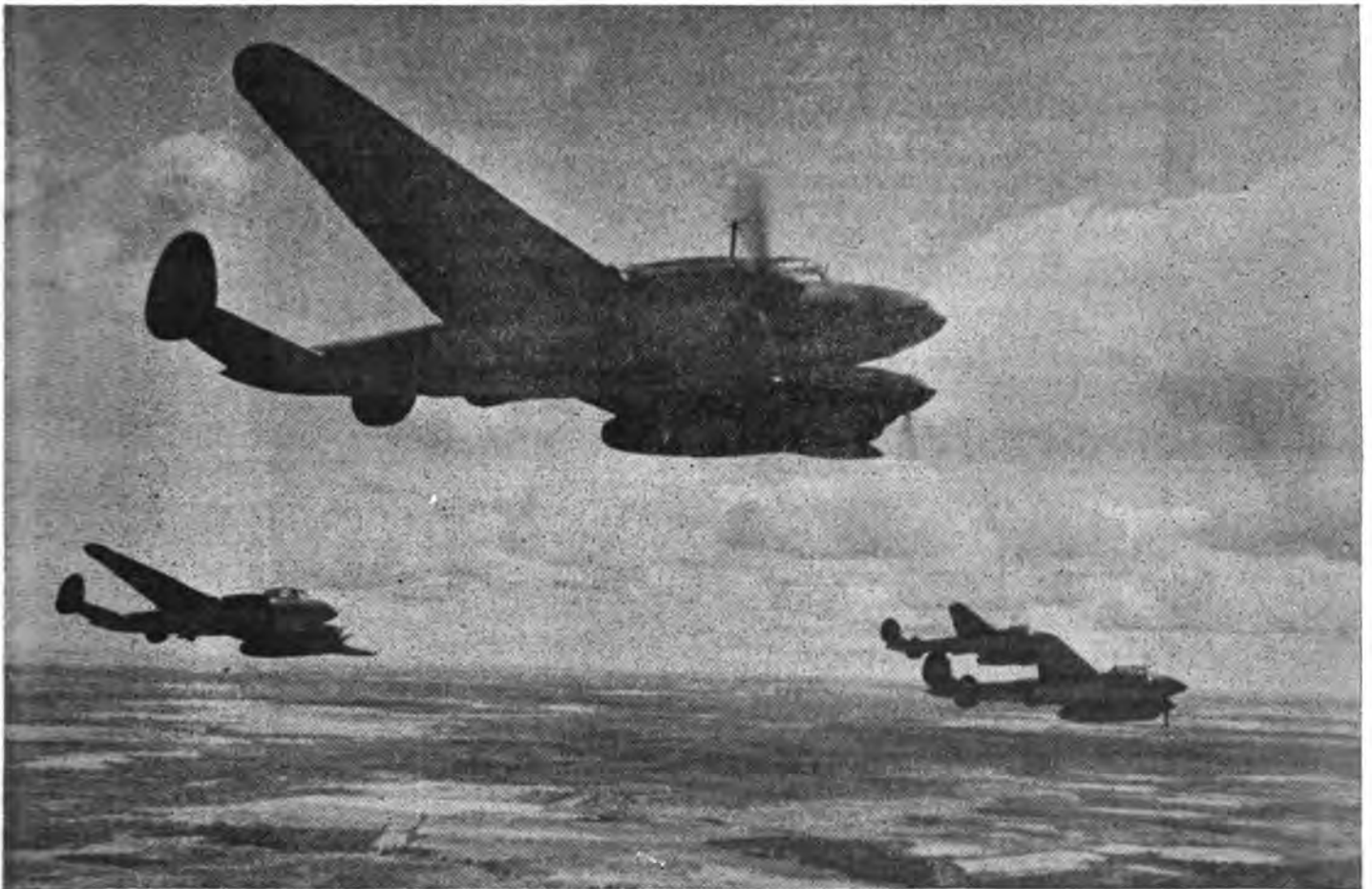
STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

AUGUST 15, 1943

On August 15 of this year, as a result of stiff fighting, the 16th and 84th Infantry Divisions of Guards and the 238th and 369th Infantry Divisions liberated the town of Karachev from the German invaders, and in doing so showed examples of courage and skilful war operations.

To mark the success they achieved the name of Karachev shall be conferred on the 16th and 84th Infantry Divisions of Guards and the 238th and 369th Infantry Divisions, which liberated the town of Karachev, and henceforward they shall be named as follows: the 16th Karachev Infantry Division of Guards, the 84th Karachev Infantry Division of Guards, the 238th Karachev Infantry Division and the 369th Karachev Infantry Division.

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN



Soviet bombers crossing the plains of Central Russia en route to enemy targets

THE FALL OF KARACHEV

On August 15 Soviet troops took the town of Karachev on the Orel-Bryansk railway. The only city between Orel and Bryansk, Karachev lies 89 kilometers from Orel by rail and 44 kilometers from Bryansk. Due to its excellent location Karachev had a considerably developed industry; before the war it was renowned for its hemp mills, lumber yards, dairies, alcohol distilling plants and brick kilns.

A *Pravda* correspondent points out that the enemy took advantage of the convenient location of Karachev to create a large army supply base there. The city served as a connecting link between the Orel place d'armes and the distant rear of the German army. The fall of Orel heightened the importance of Karachev to the enemy, who transformed it into a bastion intended to cover Bryansk and to give the Germans an opportunity to improve their defenses beyond the Desna River.

At the beginning of the offensive Soviet Guards units set out from the north in the general direction of the Orel-Bryansk railway. Our bomber aviation hung over the Karachev railway station day and night, bringing traffic to a standstill and inflicting enormous losses on the enemy. At the same time, overcoming the enemy's furious resistance, other Guards units began an offensive against Karachev from the south across the Bryansk forests and swamps. After piercing the German defenses they advanced under most difficult conditions of wooded terrain, advantageous for defenders. Unceasing rains washed away the narrow forest roads connecting our advanced units with the rear. It was necessary to build and repair roads, to lay new roads of fagots and branches for dozens of kilometers, and to erect embankments.

The enemy's expectations, based on the conviction that it was impossible to conduct a successful offen-

sive in this area, were defeated. Soviet Guardsmen passed the forests and hostilities spread to the area directly adjoining Karachev.

Meanwhile the onslaught of Soviet troops against Karachev from the north increased daily. When the front in the north was pierced by Soviet troops and they took Khotynets on the east—the key to Karachev—the enemy was unable to continue resistance on the Orlik River and withdrew to heights convenient for defense. The retreating enemy mined the entire territory before our front, burned villages and drove the population away to slavery. At night the entire western sky was red with the glow of fires.

The remnants of many German tank and motorized divisions defended the approaches to Karachev in vain. Gripped by the spirit of the offensive, Soviet troops undertook daring night operations and cut the German defenses to pieces. After a fierce battle for a height controlling the town, Soviet troops broke into the outskirts on the Germans' heels and fought violent street engagements throughout the night. As a result of the coordinated offensive of our troops from the north, east and southeast, Karachev fell and the Germans were driven beyond the water line on the west. Our offensive continues.

With the capture of Karachev the Red Army emerges into entirely different terrain. It leaves behind the open, hilly middle Russian plateau with its numerous populated places and enters the comparatively sparsely populated Bryansk forests.

Of the other points taken by the Red Army on August 15, the stations of Solonovka and Zykeyevo on the Moscow-Kiev railway are very important. An eight-kilometer railway line branches off from Zykeyevo to the town of Zhizdra. Zykeyevo has a wood-working industry, and lignite, phosphorites and tripoli are mined in its environs.

THE BATTLE FOR ZHIZDRA

By Major J. Miletsky, Correspondent for *Krasnaia Zvezda*

MOSCOW, August 16.—By 4:30 this morning Soviet troops had completely cleared Zhizdra of the enemy. By the capture of this town and railway station our troops liquidated the Germans' so-called Zhizdra base. Under the blows of Soviet troops the Hitlerites were compelled to withdraw from this area, which they had been fortifying for about two years and had made every effort to hold.

The enemy's defense zone stretched along the entire front of this sector and was extended a good deal in depth. It covered the approaches to the town, with dozens of inhabited places converted into resistance centers, and included a stretch of railway running

from Bryansk parallel with the front line. Woodland and marshes favored the defense. Numerous bunkers and especially minefields which extended many kilometers offered serious obstacles.

Soviet troops launching an offensive in this area met strong resistance and counter-attacks of German infantry and tanks. The enemy, however, could not withstand the onslaught and passed to tactics of mobile defense in an effort to slow down our advance and withdraw his threatened main forces. To forestall this attempt, the Soviet Command immediately

(Continued on page eight)

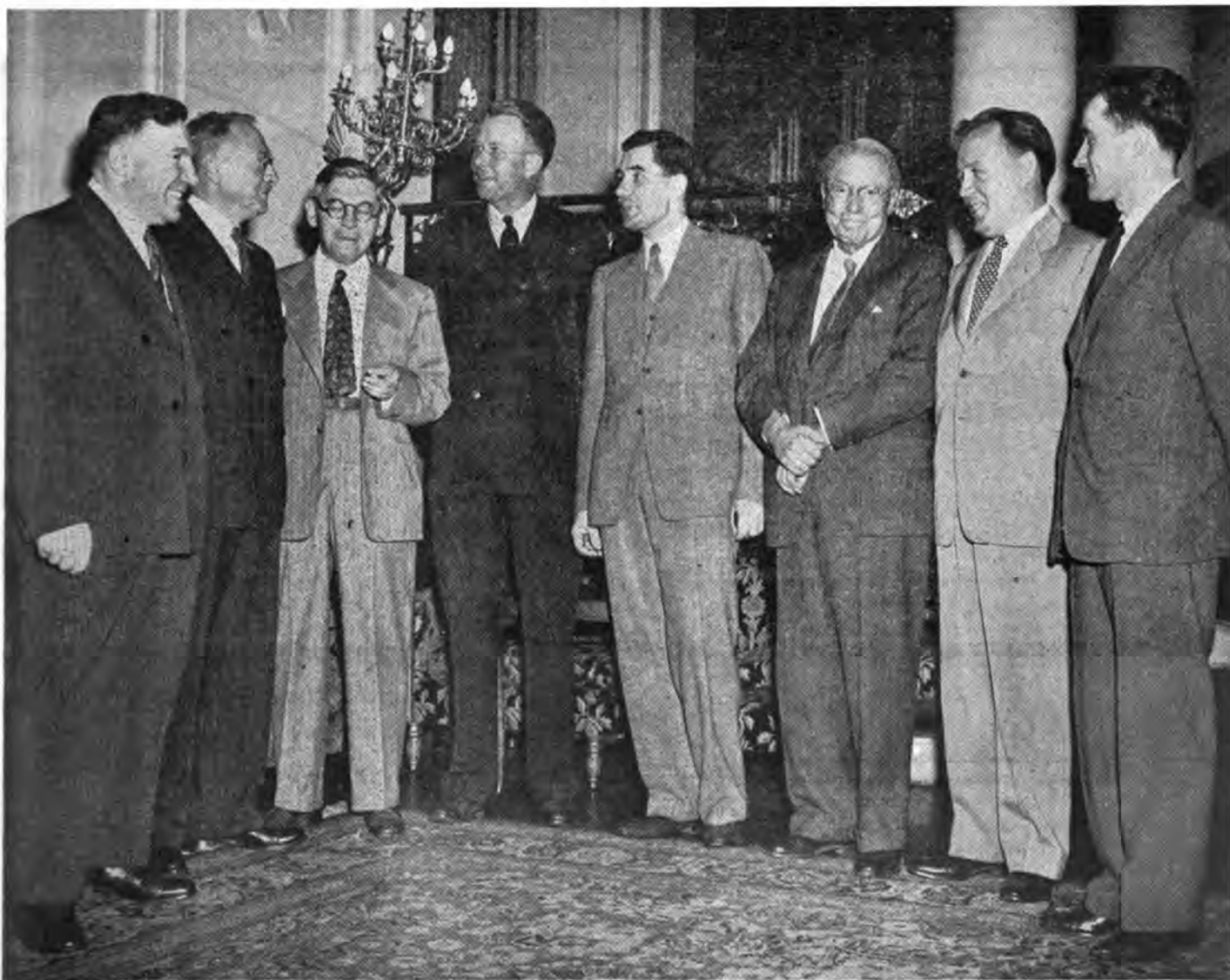
DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS BECOME HONORARY MEMBERS OF USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

At a reception held in the Soviet Embassy in Washington on the evening of August 12, three distinguished American scientists—Dr. Walter B. Cannon, Department of Physiology, Harvard Medical School; Professor Ernest O. Lawrence, Radiation Laboratory, University of California, and Professor Gilbert N. Lewis, Department of Chemistry, University of California—were presented with honorary memberships in the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

The naming of Dr. Cannon, Professor Lawrence and Professor Lewis to the highest Soviet scientific body brings to 16 the number of American scientists who are now honorary members or corresponding members of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

The reception was attended by a number of outstanding scientists. In presenting the honorary mem-

bership cards at the request of Academician V. L. Komarov, President of the Academy of Sciences of



PRESENT AT RECEPTION IN SOVIET EMBASSY HONORING AMERICAN SCIENTISTS: (Left to right) Konstantin Lukashev, member of Soviet Government Purchasing Commission in the U. S.; Dr. Vladimir Zworykin, RCA Laboratory; Professor Vladimir Lebedenko, representative in the U. S. of the Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Society; Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, University of California; Andrei A. Gromyko, Soviet Charge d'Affaires; Dr. Walter C. Cannon, Harvard Medical School; Vladimir Bazykin, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, and Fedor Orekhov, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy

the USSR, the Soviet Charge d'Affaires, Andrei A. Gromyko, spoke of the high regard of Soviet scientists for the work and achievements of their American colleagues. He stressed that at this time, "when progressive scientists are threatened by fascism with the loss of what is dearest to them—liberty—liberty of creation and construction," there are still greater reasons for close collaboration between American and Soviet men of science.

Mr. Gromyko also reviewed the work of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in the present struggle against the fascist invaders. "Scientists of the Soviet Union," he said, "are giving their entire strength to the fight against fascist Germany. The Academy of Sciences is one of the most respected institutions in the country and plays an important role in coordinating the efforts of Soviet scientists. It guides the scientific activities of many of the research institutes and is in itself the center of creative thought and research. The Academy, as all the institutions of scientific research and development in my country, does invaluable service to the country both in time of peace and of war.

"Hundreds of inventions and discoveries have helped the Red Army to wage more successfully the war against the enemy. The scientific activity of surgeons and physiologists has saved an enormous number of lives of our commanders and Red Army men. The inventions and discoveries of physicists and metallurgists have greatly contributed to the equipment of the Red Army. The discoveries of agronomists have increased the productivity of agriculture.

"Soviet scientists are convinced that close collaboration between their American colleagues and themselves during the war will accelerate the victory over fascism and lay the basis for fertile scientific collaboration in the postwar period," concluded Mr. Gromyko.

In the absence of Dr. Lewis, who was unable to be in Washington, his membership card was accepted by Dr. Lawrence.



Presentation of cards of honorary membership in Academy of Sciences of the USSR by Soviet Charge d'Affaires Andrei A. Gromyko (center): At right is Dr. Walter B. Cannon and on the left Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence

MICRO-BOOKS TO BE MASS PRODUCED

A prominent Soviet surgeon made an important discovery in the field of surgery, and embodied it in a thesis for publication. But it takes time to publish a book, and it was essential that the new technique should be introduced without delay in the field hospitals.

Alexander Visental, an associate professor at the State Institute of Cinematography, solved the problem. He designed an apparatus permitting the most important parts of the book to be photographed from the typewritten copy, magnified to the necessary scale, and transferred to slides. The slides, projected at the field hospital on any light screen, enable the front-line surgeon to become acquainted with the latest achievements of Soviet surgery. One hundred and eleven pages recorded on film slides make a package no larger than a matchbox. It takes only 90 minutes to

reproduce 300 pages, including numerous drawings.

This method has attracted the interest of numerous Soviet scientific institutions, libraries and institutes. Thanks to Visental's apparatus, unpublished scientific works, rare books and manuscripts can be made widely accessible to students. If a Moscow scientist needs to refer to an ancient manuscript preserved, let us say, in Armenia, hundreds of miles from the Capital, a telegram will bring the photographed manuscript to him a few days later.

The idea of the micro-book is not new in itself, but the Visental apparatus is exceptionally simple, cheap to make, and uses a minimum of material. A Moscow factory has been turning it out from by-products. Soon it will be mass produced.

THE FRITZES ARE SURPRISED

By Ilya Ehrenburg

A German staff car stands in the forest near the village of Lgov, recently liberated by our troops. In it I found a notebook. It is the diary of Hans Gerhardt, commander of the 32nd German Sapper Battalion. I have read only the last pages. Hans Gerhardt was in the area the newspapers describe as "south of Orel." On July 3 he wrote: "It smells like a thunderstorm. Our summer offensive should begin soon. It's time!"

Next day he jotted down: "Battle alarm. We are well prepared. Everything proceeds at lightning speed." ("Blitzschnell" was his word.) The Kursk arc has long been a thorn in our side. Now we will cut it out." On July 5 he was still in excellent spirits: "Offensive! We are advancing."

On July 8 Gerhardt was overcome with melancholy. "Today everything is moving more slowly. The Russians have excellent positions. I lost non-com Baumhauer and six sappers." After this his tone changed. He no longer mentioned the German offensive. On July 15 Gerhardt noted briefly that his battalion had been transferred via Orel to the district south of Bolkhov. He added: "We must check the Russians." The last entry was made on July 17.

Calendar Let Them Down

Why do I begin this article by quoting entries from the diary of a paltry German officer? I want to remind you of the German offensive against the Kursk arc. You will remember how the German Command denied it had begun an offensive. The German generals foresaw that it would fail. But Hans Gerhardt and tens of thousands of other Fritzes were more naive. They believed not in their own strength, but in the calendar.

Before me stand three Germans. The oldest is 42. They are cart drivers from repair shops. They lived placidly in Karachev. All of a sudden they were told: "It's time to fight." And they were packed off to the front.

To their surprise it was not a long trip. They thought the front was 50 miles away, but it turned out to be right next door. They blubber like little children, these three gray-haired Fritzes. The old one with the close-cropped gray hair weeps and argues: "But this is not winter—it's summer. Who could have dreamed the Russians would start an offensive?"

There is hidden indignation in his voice. The old burger from Darmstadt is indignant at the breach of established order. What can have happened to the calendar? This is July. In July the Germans ought to be rushing east. But something unexpected oc-

curred, and peaceful cart drivers from Karachev found themselves hustled to the front line.

The Germans evidently still fail to understand what has happened to our country and our army in two years of war. German calendars are antiquated. We now fight according to our own Soviet calendars.

In these forests, among the aspens, birches and hazel trees, among the unusually bright greenery of a rainy summer, Germans are hiding—beaten, tired, hungry, mere vagabonds who have straggled from their units and hurry to lift their hands when challenged.

Much time has passed since the word "encirclement" weighed heavy as stone on Russia's heart. We have learned to fight, and the Germans have learned what encirclement means. They are trapped in the forest by yesterday's guerrillas, the people of the newly-freed districts: the tables have turned.

On July 11 the Germans were startled by the sound of heavy artillery fire. In the evening they congratulated each other: "The Russian offensive has collapsed." But what they took to be an offensive was a reconnaissance in force. The real offensive began next day—July 12.

The artillery preparation lasted for two and a half hours. Then the infantry moved forward and our troops forced an 11-kilometer breach in the German front. In spite of lack of roads, in spite of forest and swamp, the 11 kilometers became 60. In the bitter days of our reverses the Germans expressed a high opinion of the Soviet artillery, even while they arrogantly looked down on our retreating infantry. Now they are afraid of the Russian infantry.

The enemy is no longer the same. But he is still a sharp customer. Even the puny Fritz of 1943 is worth two Bersaglieri.

More Sweat, Less Blood

The more correct explanation of events is the new quality of the Red Army. The offensive was thoroughly prepared. The Soviet Command made a minute study of the enemy's advanced lines, of the terrain. The Red Army men sweated plenty during drills, and so the break-through cost less blood.

The advanced line was defended by the German 5th and 20th Tank Divisions and the 5th and 293rd Infantry Divisions. They were routed. Yesterday one of the last soldiers of the 5th Tank Division, a young man of 23, crawled out of the forest. He could hardly stand, so famished was he. When I asked him how he liked war, he shrugged.

The fate of the 293rd Infantry Division is particularly enlightening. The Germans called this division the "Bears' Division." It consisted of natives of Berlin, and was famous for its stubbornness in battle. "The 'Bears' strangle the enemy," said Major General Karl Arndt, its commander, known as "Bony Karl." This formation had its baptism of fire in France. The French dealt the "Bears" a heavy blow on the Aisne River. But worse came one December day near Tula. Thousands of "Bears" fell in battle. The division was replenished.

"Bony Karl" Cheers Up the Widows.

Here is the composition of one battalion of the 293rd German Infantry Division at the beginning of our last offensive (the figures are taken from German staff files): the 1st Company contained only ten men of those who in 1941 cheerfully crossed the Bug River, and the 3rd Company only one. Not a single veteran remained in the 4th Company, and only one in the staff company.

The division was stationed north of Orel. The number of "Bears" continued to dwindle. For the consolation of their widows, "Bony Karl" published a pamphlet entitled "Cemetery of Heroes of the 293rd Division." This pamphlet tells that the cemetery is located near the village of Kochety, and looks picturesque. With German precision, "Bony Karl" reports that 307 men dug graves for 141 working hours. The pamphlet is illustrated with photographs of birch crosses and heraldic bears.

What happened to the "Bears" when the Red Army went for them? They scurried off, and prisoners say bitterly that "Bony Karl" was the first to beat it.

The Red Army men did not halt after the breakthrough of the first defense line. They broke through the second and third lines. The success of the operation was insured by the fury of the first two days' fighting. I have already noted how their training helped our men. But something else helped them—

their inner fire. Let me tell you about tommy-gunner Dmitry Builov. He is 19. At the outbreak of war he was living at home in the Kalinin Region. He was a mere adolescent. He had not read about the German "new order." But by now he has seen plenty of it. He is a quiet, reticent boy. He told me: "As soon as we moved forward I felt happy. Every time I use my gun it is a weight off my heart."

Hatred for the enemy is combined with another, loftier feeling—love for Russia, burning, self-sacrificing love.

And the Luftwaffe? The German Command pinned their main hopes to their air force. But their air force is not the same. Their finest fliers have been killed. One can often see bomber formations flying without escort. Certainly German aviation is still a serious force. It sometimes slows down the advance of our troops. But it cannot check them. Every Soviet fighter pilot feels himself stronger than his adversary, and this feeling often determines the outcome of a battle. And the French Normandie fliers fight just as courageously.

And the Red Army advances. Why is it succeeding? The causes of success are as varied as the causes of failure. The Russian soul is the same as it was in the days of our reverses—the same broadness, the same passion, the same hidden spark. But to these things skill has been added. The commander does not forget the minute hand. It was that broadness of soul, that inner flame that helped our people to become precise, discreet, strict with themselves.

The Germans had settled down in the Orel Region for a long stay. They painted designs on stoves and walls. They built arbors for the officers. They planted vegetables. I saw club houses complete with stages and pianos. They cannot reconcile themselves to defeat. The German Command understand that the Bryansk-Orel railway is not a mere strip of territory. They know that the offensive which Hitler began on July 5 may turn into disaster for them.

THE FRONT-LINE PRESS

By Y. Rykachev

The front-line press is perhaps the most striking cultural manifestation of the Red Army. It is served by professional writers and journalists, but the vast majority of the contributors are the commanders and men who do the actual fighting. All the larger formations of the Red Army have their own printed newspapers, and also receive the publications of the higher formations.

These papers contain poems, stories, reports, theoretical articles on warfare, satire and book reviews.

National newspapers published in Moscow, Leningrad and other large cities are delivered punctually at the front. The larger Red Army formations have publishing companies equipped with printing machinery: these companies publish not only newspapers and pamphlets, but also books, including fiction, which is in great demand in the Army.

The Book Fund of the Red Army contains millions of volumes on all subjects, and is constantly being extended by the State publishing organizations, as well as by gifts from citizens.

SOVIET AVIATION DAY

In connection with the traditional fete of Soviet aviation—which coincides with its 25th anniversary, August 15—the Soviet press publishes numerous articles devoted to the Red Air Force. Excerpts follow:

The day of Stalin Aviation—writes *Pravda*—is a festive occasion for all the working people of our country. The Soviet people has created its Air Force with loving care. Since the outbreak of war it has donated billions of rubles from its private savings to the fund for the construction of air squadrons. Entire air squadrons built with the money of Soviet workers now fight on the fronts of the Patriotic War.

In the first months of the war Soviet aircraft proved their high fighting qualities. At that time the enemy was able to gain success in the air owing to his numerical superiority. In wartime the workers of the Soviet aircraft industry have done much to end the



First Rank Technician Barsukov about to test out in action the gun he invented and fitted to a Stormovik bombing plane

numerical superiority of the Germans in the air. Daily increasing the production of planes and aircraft engines, our aviation industry simultaneously strives to improve the quality of aircraft. Our splendid Lavochkin, Yakovlev, Ilyushin, Petlyakov and other planes have in the hands of Soviet fliers become the terror of enemy aviation.

Our flying personnel has thoroughly and comprehensively mastered the new types of aircraft, arms and instruments; has developed new tactics of aerial offensive, and has worked out and applies in practice various methods of aerial combat. Our fliers have a

comprehensive knowledge of the enemy, of the qualities of his aircraft, and of the tactics and habits of enemy airmen in battle—and they inflict crushing blows on the Germans.

KRASNAIA ZVEZDA writes: The last year has been marked by a number of important victories of Soviet fliers. The first victory was the Battle of Stalingrad, the turning point in the progress of aerial warfare on the Soviet-German front. The winter campaign, the aerial battles over the Kuban valley, the repulse of mass spring enemy air raids on Rostov, Kursk and other cities; the heavy counter-blows from the air at German railway lines and air bases—all these are the chief landmarks on the road along which Soviet aviation has steadily moved toward a stable command of the initiative and superiority in the air.

This year the July offensive of the Germans was a serious test for the Red Army Air Force. Our fliers emerged victorious from aerial battles with picked German air units in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod-Kursk directions. In the subsequent battles for Orel and the present battles in the Kharkov, Bryansk and other directions, our fliers firmly hold the initiative and in many sectors gain air supremacy, continuing to batter the Germans and to effectively support our advancing troops.

In Forty Languages

Actors in the USSR play in 40 different languages. All republics have well-equipped theaters in which Russian and foreign classics are played in their own native tongues. In the extreme southeastern corner of Central Asia, Kirghiz actors play Pushkin, Gogol, Ostrovsky, Shakespeare, Goldoni, Schiller and Lope de Vega in translations made by Kirghiz writers.

A quarter of a century ago the Kazakhs led a nomad life in their vast country. Both their culture and their economy were extremely primitive. Now they have a great network of cultural institutions, including several dozen theaters, in which Kazakh actors play Tchaikovsky's *Queen of Spades* and Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* in their native Kazakh language.

The Nenets and the Evenki, living in the extreme North, are well acquainted with Shakespeare's Italian cycle.

The Russian Theatrical Society in Moscow recently set up a special section for the study of the history of the development of national theaters in the USSR. The Kazakh Studio of the Moscow Theatrical Institute has trained a large contingent of actors for Kazakh theaters.

THE 45TH YEAR OF THE MOSCOW ART THEATER

By Mikhail Dolgoplov

After the death of Vladimir Nemirovich-Danchenko, director and one of the founders of the Moscow Art Theater, the guidance of this famous theater was assumed by those artists who had worked most closely with him. The noted actor Ivan Moskvina, People's Artist of the USSR, was appointed manager; and People's Artist of the USSR Nikolai Khmelyev, one of the most outstanding representatives of the theater's middle generation, became director.

Speaking of his work and of the theater's plans in the 45th year of its activity, Khmelyev said in a recent interview:

"First of all, we shall continue with the plans of our teacher, Nemirovich-Danchenko. Konstantin Simonov's *The Russian People* will be in our repertoire, as the great director had intended, with Victor Stanitsin and Maria Knebel as producers. We have also begun work on one of Alexander Ostrovsky's most romantic plays, *The Forest*, which Nemirovich-Danchenko had dreamed of doing. The leading role, Neschastlivtsev, will be portrayed by Kachalov, the remarkable actor who has been with our theater for so many years. I myself will produce *The Last Sacrifice*, also by Ostrovsky, a noted playwright of the 19th Century.

"The Moscow Art Theater has produced many of Shakespeare's plays. This year we will stage *Hamlet* according to the ideas of Nemirovich-Danchenko, who before his death held a number of rehearsals of the play and discussed thoroughly with the actors and with producer Vasili Sakhnovsky the general conception and presentation of the leading roles. The tragic power and lucid simplicity of the play and its profound philosophy will be stressed. *Hamlet* will be played by one of the most gifted of the mid-genera-

tion of the theater's players, Boris Livanov.

"More than 40 years ago the Moscow Art Theater presented Chekhov's *The Sea Gull*. Since that time the sea gull has been the emblem of the theater and decorates its curtain. We intend to revive this play and shall strive for a production worthy of the memory of Chekhov, who played such a great role in the work of our theater.

"Now in rehearsal is a new play by Alexei Tolstoy, *Ivan the Terrible*, produced by Alexei Popov. I shall play the role of Ivan, the gifted Russian Tsar, statesman and reformer. We are also preparing a production of Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*. Since it is impossible to stage the novel within the usual limits of time, the play will be given on two consecutive evenings.

"For many years we have been playing Maeterlinck's *The Bluebird* for Soviet children, and we are now beginning work on *Twelve Months*, by Samuel Marshak, the gifted children's writer. Woven about Slavic folklore and very close to the Russian spirit, the play will undoubtedly be fascinating for actors, producers and audiences.

"Finally," Khmelyev concluded, "Nikolai Virta is writing a play for us on the defense of Stalingrad, Boris Voitekhov on the defense of Sevastopol, and Alexander Kron on the new Naval Officers' Corps. Thus the program of the Moscow Art Theater in its 45th year is extensive. It is the task of our theater to maintain as high a place in the art of our country and in the affections of audiences as it held during the lives of our great teachers, Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko."

ZHIZDRA

(Continued from page two)

assigned mobile groups to pursue the enemy, who had been dislodged from the main defense line. These mobile groups routed the German covering detachments and overtook and engaged their main forces. Sustaining considerable casualties, the enemy was driven back 10 kilometers in one day and abandoned over 40 inhabited places.

Continuing their advance, Soviet troops approached Zhizdra where they again encountered enemy fortifications. Zhizdra is a road center situated in an

open, level locality, but the approaches from the northeast are covered with marshes and numerous streams. Moreover, the enemy resisted stubbornly. Even when Red Army men broke into the outskirts, the Germans continued to fight for each house, from behind every heap of ruins. Street fighting continued throughout the dark night. Our troops had to display considerable skill and initiative in order, under such conditions, to dislodge the Germans from the wrecked houses and shelters and envelop their resistance centers. Despite their fatigue, after the capture of a number of support points our attacking troops acted efficiently and vigorously. Toward dawn the town was completely clear of remnants of enemy troops and the Red Flag was hoisted over its ruins.

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THE 89TH BELGOROD DIVISION

By B. Galin

The Divisional Commander, Colonel Seryugin, had never before seen Belgorod, the goal of the operation. And now the city lay spread before him. The Colonel could see its tiled and iron roofs, its streets lined with trees over which frightened birds floated in the wind.

The main problem now was to keep the previously set pace of advance and to increase the Division's striking power. Bending over the map the Colonel

listened to the radio reports from regimental headquarters. The map seemed to come to life before his eyes. He envisioned the line reached by Proshunin's regiment, the push forward made by Ryabtsev and the flanking movement of Serebryakov's detachment. He felt the pulse of the battle developing along the four-kilometer front.

Behind the Division the debris of the German posi-



Stormovik Pilot Kochergin (left) and Technician Lugovsky, resting after a successful bombing attack. In Kochergin's words, "the German tanks cracked like walnuts"

tions lay smoking; before it lay the city, transformed by the enemy into a powerful resistance center. With its left flank resting on the North Donets River the Division battled for 36 hours at the approaches to the city. On the second day the 89th Guards Division hurled back the German troops facing it and approached within striking distance of the old, strongly fortified enemy positions. The Germans feared for their flanks, having already had occasion to learn that the Russians possessed newly-acquired skill in pincer tactics. But the enemy didn't expect a frontal thrust. And when the 89th carried out a surprise maneuver—striking with everything it had—and wedged into the enemy's main positions, the Germans, psychologically unprepared for such a move, flinched and drew back.

Execution rarely follows a prearranged scheme. This time, however, the offensive developed exactly according to plan. But as if not wanting to tempt luck, the Colonel said softly, "All right, all right, I'll see how it goes." The Colonel made radio connection with the regimental commanders and asked them if the city was in sight. Major Proshunin's regiment had advanced farthest—it was threatening Belgorod from the northeast.

"I am pressing on to the station," Proshunin said. His automatic riflemen had already broken into the northeast suburbs when it was learned that his right neighbor's advance had slowed down, leaving the Grinevka-Bokrovka line open. The least hesitation would increase the difficulties, which were great enough as it was. The unprotected flank had to be covered immediately. Popov's tanks moved forward from Belomostnoye, but tanks alone were helpless—they needed infantry support.

The operation hung by a thread. Although both Proshunin and Ryabtsev needed reinforcements, the Colonel decided to use armored vehicles to close the gap and strike a flank blow. The men of Stom's battalion were placed on the machines and directed to attack the Germans along the highway. Both the air force and the artillery were operating like clockwork.

Thirty-six hours of battle showed what can be done, provided efficient cooperation is achieved. The Divisional Commander was pleased to note that not only the regimental commanders but the officers of lower ranks displayed courage and resourcefulness at a time when every minute was precious, when failure to act on their own spelled loss of the initiative.

At 10 A. M. Proshunin and Popov struck the enemy from the flanks and began to encircle the city, while Captain Ryabtsev's battalion pushed forward in the center. Ryabtsev's task was hardest; he had to fight in the streets where buildings and entire city blocks had been turned into strong points. It is enough to say that of the 1,500 Germans destroyed by the Division, over 800 were killed in the city itself.

In the weeks preceding the offensive, Ryabtsev had trained his men in street fighting and had studied

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Execution rarely follows a prearranged scheme. This time, however, the offensive developed exactly according to plan. But as if not wanting to tempt luck, the Colonel said softly, "All right, all right, I'll see how it goes." The Colonel made radio connection with the regimental commanders and asked them if the city was in sight. Major Proshunin's regiment had advanced farthest—it was threatening Belgorod from the northeast.

"I am pressing on to the station," Proshunin said. His automatic riflemen had already broken into the northeast suburbs when it was learned that his right neighbor's advance had slowed down, leaving the Grinevka-Bokrovka line open. The least hesitation would increase the difficulties, which were great enough as it was. The unprotected flank had to be covered immediately. Popov's tanks moved forward from Belomostnoye, but tanks alone were helpless—they needed infantry support.

The operation hung by a thread. Although both Proshunin and Ryabtsev needed reinforcements, the Colonel decided to use armored vehicles to close the gap and strike a flank blow. The men of Stom's battalion were placed on the machines and directed to attack the Germans along the highway. Both the air force and the artillery were operating like clockwork.

Thirty-six hours of battle showed what can be done, provided efficient cooperation is achieved. The Divisional Commander was pleased to note that not only the regimental commanders but the officers of lower ranks displayed courage and resourcefulness at a time when every minute was precious, when failure to act on their own spelled loss of the initiative.

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where you dropped, to the side, and when you get to a suitable firing position, open fire immediately on the enemy. As you run, keep carefully to the rules of camouflage, make use of uneven ground, of hollows, vegetation and shell-holes. Good camouflage will save your life.

And what is more important, keep strictly to the direction indicated. If you find yourself under German artillery fire, do not lose your head. Take a headlong rush forward and you will be out of the firing zone. Then forward again against the enemy.

When advancing with tanks, keep directly behind the tank and do not get separated from it. As you run forward, fire on the enemy's anti-tank crew and wipe them out. Determinedly and simultaneously with your tanks, break into the enemy's positions and wipe him out with fire, bayonets and grenades.

As you advance, you have the cover of your own artillery and mortar fire. Try to keep as close as possible behind the explosions of your own artillery shells. Your shells give you protection from the fire of the enemy. At such a moment the enemy's fire is ineffective. But if you fall behind your own artillery and mortar fire, you will only harm yourself.

The attack is the decisive moment in an engagement. Before the attack, load your weapons and get your ammunition together. With your grenades ready, burst headlong into the enemy dugouts and trenches at the signal from your commander. Once inside, everything depends on your boldness, your skill, your cunning and initiative.

Break into the enemy trenches like this: first the grenades, and yourself after them. Once in the enemy dugout or trench, you may meet with the unexpected. The great thing here is not to lose your head. Each of you hurl your grenades and then go in; for each dugout, a grenade, then the automatic rifle, and then again forward.

The enemy may counter-attack. Do not fear. Fight boldly. You have already won a success, and the enemy has lost his trenches. Get close to the counter-attacking enemy, strike with grenades, use your knife or spade.

The Germans will use tanks, but do not fear them. Don't try to run away: you won't get far. Get into a trench or shell-hole, go for the tank with grenades and incendiary bottles, and smite the enemy infantry with rifle fire. Try to make the enemy infantry hug the ground, to cut them off from their tanks, then wipe them out. If the enemy tanks pass over your trench, there is still nothing to fear. Your artillery and anti-tank comrades will deal with them. Your business is to wipe out the infantry, and to press forward.

If the attack is not a success, do not feel bitter about it. Entrench yourself on the lines you have reached, and, at the signal from the unit commander,

advance again. If you fail a second time to rout the enemy, there will be a third time, and a fourth, and any number of times, until you achieve your end.

In hand-to-hand fighting keep close together. Strike the enemy with rifle-butt, with bayonet, and with your whole heart. Do not think of yourself. Watch your comrades. Don't let them get hurt, and they will help you out. Always try not to give way or be beaten off. Hand-to-hand battles are won by those who strike desperately and boldly. Pursue the retreating enemy. Fire as you go. A fleeing enemy tires more quickly than you, who are advancing.

Keep a constant eye on the field of action, on your neighbor and on the sky. Report everything you observe immediately to your commander. If the commander is out of action, take your orders from whoever assumes command. If you feel strong enough, take the command yourself.

The Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal of the Soviet Union, Comrade Stalin, has given the Red Army the task of continuing the offensive with determination, of maintaining correct interaction of troops, of conducting engagements in planned fashion by encircling and wiping out the enemy.

This means that every Red Army man must work determinedly, bravely and with skill. Spare no effort, but keep up the offensive, as Comrade Stalin and our victory require.

BELGOROD DIVISION

(Continued from page two)

We met the officers of the 89th Belgorod Division of Guards in the house which had belonged to the German mayor. The Divisional Commander and Chief of Staff were busy over a map. Colonel Seryugin was already thinking of the new mission assigned the Division—to advance in the Kharkov direction.

The officers in the room were discussing the Belgorod action in low voices. What had happened at Belgorod? Why was it that the picked German divisions supported by tanks, artillery and planes had suffered defeat? They had possessed a number of advantages—dominating heights and a strong defense. What was the reason then?

"Something has happened to the German soldier," one of the officers said thoughtfully. "He isn't what he used to be. . . ."

The Colonel raised his head.

"That's not the point," he said. "What do you care about the Germans? We have changed, and that's the main thing. We are fighting better—we are fighting with more intelligence than before."

He pointed to the map with an abrupt gesture. "Gather around, command officers."

THE CAPTURE OF ZMIYEV

By Major T. Lilin

MOSCOW, August 18.—At seven o'clock this morning Soviet troops captured Zmiyev. Their advance from Chuguyev and seizure of Zmiyev compelled the Germans to retire from a fairly considerable stretch on the right bank of the North Donets River. Heavy fighting continued here for three days, complicated by roughness of terrain and dense forests.

Having forced the North Donets in this area, Soviet forces encountered strong German resistance, especially in the forest, which abounded in blockhouses and armored machine-gun nests. The nature of the terrain was to the disadvantage of the attackers. Furthermore, the heights and forests presented a chain of formidable resistance centers. According to the testimony of German prisoners, in a sector held by only one battalion the Germans had as many as 20 blockhouses, 12 of which possessed light machine guns, four mortars and the rest heavy machine guns. The blockhouses were protected by minefields and barbed wire entanglements.

It was not surprising that Soviet troops who had forced the North Donets had to wage a fierce and persistent fight before they succeeded in breaking through to inhabited places lying at some distance from the river bank. Longer counter-battery work

was necessitated, while small assault parties systematically dislodged the Germans from the forest. Little by little Soviet troops advanced from the north of Zmiyev and the adjacent large village of Zamostye. The Germans tried to cover Zamostye and, as deserters relate, demanded that their soldiers hold this line at least two or three days, promising that they would then be withdrawn to the rear.

While these Soviet forces were drawing in step by step on Zmiyev from the north, other groups bypassed the city from another direction. After repulsing the counter-attack of a German battalion near Zamostye, Soviet troops reached and forced the River Mzha, northwest of this village, and by nightfall reached Zmiyev, which was seized by a vigorous assault.

Some idea of the intensity of the fighting in this sector may be gained from the fact that here in one day the Germans lost up to 1,200 officers and men. That day Soviet forces destroyed two mortar batteries and 28 machine guns, besides capturing two tanks, 14 mortars, eight machine guns and five ammunition dumps. They also seized a number of villages in this area. All were deserted, the Germans having driven the inhabitants to the rear.

IN THE BRYANSK AREA

By Major V. Koroteyev

MOSCOW, August 19.—In the Bryansk area Soviet troops, continuing their offensive and breaking down the enemy's resistance, advanced in some places from six to ten kilometers and captured over 40 inhabited places, including the large villages of Orlya, Kalinino and Ovsorok. In some sectors the enemy counter-attacked. At one point one of our regiments repulsed three successive counter-attacks by German infantry. In another area the Germans, counter-attacking with one battalion of infantry, six tanks and four self-propelled guns, endeavored to press back our troops and recover lost positions, but without success.

Large detachments of Soviet cavalry ceaselessly attacked and penetrated to the enemy's defenses, surrounding their strong points and disrupting their inter-coordination. Soviet cavalry by their daring and dashing attacks disorganized the enemy's resistance. The Germans as a counter-measure intensified the action of the Luftwaffe, which in groups of five to 40 planes tried to stem the advance of Soviet troops but without result.

In spite of the difficulties created by the wooded, swampy nature of the territory, Soviet troops are exploiting their successes in this area.

Very heavy fighting developed in one of the southern sectors of the Bryansk Front, with Soviet troops inflicting a heavy loss on the enemy. Here the Germans lost over 500 officers and men and left large quantities of armaments and materiel on the battlefield. Soviet bombers dealt a series of telling blows at the retreating enemy, destroying a railway bridge, 12 railway cars, two locomotives and scores of motor vehicles.

Soviet Fliers Ram 300 Enemy Planes

Ramming—an air combat tactic first used thirty years ago by the Russian flier Peter Nesterov, was most frequently used during fascist air raids over Moscow. Since the outbreak of the war Soviet fliers have effected over 300 rammings of enemy aircraft on the various fronts.

SERGEI ILYUSHIN, AIRPLANE DESIGNER

The attack plane Ilyushin-2—a development of the TSKB plane, also designed by Sergei Ilyushin, in which Kokkinaki made his trip to America in 1939 and in which he broke a number of international records—and the Ilyushin-4 bombers which raided Berlin, Koenigsberg and Ploesti—have proved their worth in action.

Sergei Ilyushin is one of the organizers of aviation in the USSR. Born on March 31, 1894, in the Vologda Region, he finished the country school in 1905, and until he reached the age of 15 worked at home helping his mother, as did his brothers and sisters. He was one of a family of 11, poor peasants with little land. At the age of 15 the Ilyushin brothers would leave home to earn money in the industrial districts.

Thus in 1909 Sergei went to Kostroma and then to Ivanovo-Voznesensk, where he worked in various factories. He became a laborer on the highway near Vologda, then went to St. Petersburg, where he worked in a dye factory and in the Neva shipyards. He regarded his stay in St. Petersburg as temporary and did not attempt to become a skilled worker. Until he was called up for the army he changed jobs many times, and the autumn of 1910 found him a laborer in the Hippodrome, where preparations were being made for "Aviation Week"—the first in Russia.

The first Russian military and civilian fliers were to demonstrate their achievements during this week. Ilyushin's job was rolling the flying field and attending to the aircraft. He helped in assembling and transporting the machines, cleaned and polished them and helped hold them down while the motors were being started.

When Ilyushin was called up for the army in December, 1914 he managed to get into the air arm. In January, 1917 he was sent to St. Petersburg, where until 1918 he served at an airdrome, first as a hangar worker, then as an assistant mechanic and finally as a mechanic. He studied flying and passed the examination for his pilot's license in the school of the All-Union Club.

For one year after he was demobilized he worked at jobs which had nothing to do with aviation, but in May, 1919 he returned to the Red Army and worked for two years as an aviation mechanic. In 1921 he was appointed manager of the repair shop of the aviation department of the Special Caucasian Army. From there he was sent to the Moscow Institute of Aerial Engineering, which soon became the Zhukovsky Military Aviation Academy. Ilyushin was graduated from the Engineering Department of the Academy in 1926, but began independent work as a designer during his second year in the Academy.

He applied his experience first to the construction of training gliders. His gliders, the "Mastyazhart" and "Rabfakovets," laid the foundation for mass glider designing in the Soviet Union. His glider "Moscow" took part in the international contest in 1925.

For five years after he was graduated from the Academy Ilyushin worked as Chairman of the Aircraft Construction Section of the Scientific and Tech-



Straight out of the clouds—Soviet dive bombers descend on a target somewhere in Central Russia

nical Committee under the Red Army Air Force, and from the spring of 1930 in the Scientific Testing Institute also.

Only in 1931 did he begin to work as a designer. He created the well-known twin-engined TSKB transport plane, which proved suitable for altitude and speed flights. When Kokkinaki, flying this plane, made the first loop in a twin-engined plane, it became clear that the TSKB could become an all-purpose fighting craft. The designer gradually developed and perfected this machine; and in the same way developed his Ilyushin-2 and Ilyushin-4 attack planes.

Artificial Limbs Mass-Produced

Red Army men whose legs have been amputated will now be able to get artificial limbs immediately. A Leningrad factory has begun mass-production of artificial limb components which can be assembled into different sizes. Professor Vichevsky is responsible for the idea. Formerly artificial legs were made specially for each individual, so that a Red Army man often had to wait several months for them.

SOVIET SELF-PROPELLED GUNS IN ACTION

By Captain M. Liloian

A German tank attack was expected and a group of Soviet armored vehicles prepared to meet it. The orders were: "Prevent deployment of the enemy tank column." Self-propelled guns, moving at 200 to 300 meters' distance from the tanks, were assigned to deal with the enemy bunkers, pillboxes and heavy tanks.

Soon the 60-ton German Tigers appeared and opened up at long range. Soviet tanks took advantage of the terrain and holding back their fire began to creep up. The self-propelled gun commanded by Lieutenant Tovlenko moved forward to engage the Tigers, which were firing vigorously. The first three shots of the self-propelled gun were ineffective, but the fourth hit the bull's-eye. Encouraged by success, Lieutenant Tovlenko transferred his fire to the next enemy machine, which was smashed with the eighth round.

The heavy vehicles retreated, but the engagement between the medium and light tanks continued. The Germans were closely supported by artillery fire, and

the self-propelled guns of Lieutenant Tovlenko and Lieutenant Tretyakov made for the enemy battery. They soon neutralized it and again turned their fire against the tanks.

A few days ago a self-propelled gun commanded by Senior Lieutenant Rtishchev of the Guards was the first to break into a village which had been turned into a strong point by the Germans. Rtishchev circled around the village and drove full speed at the German positions. Three machine-gun nests, two anti-tank guns and about 40 enemy soldiers were destroyed by fire or crushed under the gun treads. When several Germans leaped onto the gun, Rtishchev turned it to the right and left and drove in and out of shell-holes. The Nazis lost their grip and fell, several being crushed under the treads. Due to the effective action of Soviet self-propelled guns, the support point was captured.

Artillery men manning Soviet self-propelled guns have a high opinion of their weapons and consider them superior to the German Ferdinands.

NEW FILMS FROM CENTRAL SOVIET NEWSREEL STUDIOS

By Elena Kuznetsova

In the two years of the Soviet people's war against the German invaders, the man with the camera has taken his place beside the fighting men. In the advanced firing lines, in blindages, in fighter planes, in submarines and in the enemy rear—wherever action is heaviest—the Soviet cinema reporter is to be found with his camera and tommy gun. And many times he has put aside the camera to use the gun. The cinema reporter withstood the blockade of Leningrad, the siege of Sevastopol, of Odessa and of Stalingrad. One of the last to leave territory temporarily given up by the Red Army, he is now in the front ranks of the advancing Red Army.

Alexander Kuznetsov, a former miner who is now director of the Central Newsreel Studio, was chief of a group of cameramen working for several months on the Stalingrad Front. Kuznetsov is one of the authors of the scenario of the well-known documentary film on Stalingrad. Under his guidance the Central Newsreel Studio has achieved substantial success, and has been awarded the Honorary Red Banner by the All-Union Central Committee of Trade Unions and the Committee on Cinematography.

"The war has greatly heightened the interest of our people in newsreels," Kuznetsov said in a recent interview. "They want to see on the screen a reflection of the struggle at the front, the heroic work of enterprises in the rear and the activities of the scienti-

fic and cultural institutions. The Central Studio issues full-length documentary films, some of which, including *Moscow Strikes Back*, *Leningrad in Struggle*, *Stalingrad* and *Black Sea Sailors*, have been highly appraised by Soviet and foreign audiences and have received Stalin Prizes.

"Our studio also issues the Union Cinema Newsreel six times monthly, each number containing a foreign section with material from the United States and England. *Sovietskoye Iskustvo* (Soviet Art) and *Pioneers*, a children's newsreel, are issued monthly."

Kuznetsov stated that a number of new documentary films are in preparation. Belyakov, Stalin Prize Winner, is working on a new film, *The People's Avengers*, dedicated to guerrilla warfare in the enemy rear. Seventeen cameramen have crossed the enemy lines to film scenes for this picture.

A new film, *Wings of the People*, will record the lives and exploits of the heroes of Soviet aviation. Joseph Doselsky, who has many documentary films to his credit, is the producer. Joseph Solntsev is working on a film on the struggle of the unsubjugated Ukrainian people against the German invaders. Alexander Dovzhenko, noted Ukrainian director, is consultant, while the actual filming is being done by a group of cameramen in the Ukraine, far behind the Nazi lines.

Notes from Front and Rear

In a recent article on Soviet aviation, Lieutenant General of Aviation Nikolai Shimanov stated that the latest types of YAK fighters are superior to the latest Messerschmitt models in armament, speed and flying qualities, while the Lavochkin-5 has become the terror of German fighters and bombers. Citing figures, Shimanov states that of the 43,000 aircraft lost by the enemy in the two years of war, a considerable part of these losses were inflicted by Soviet fliers in the air and on the ground. Many Soviet fliers have shot down 20 or more German aircraft.



A number of Soviet scientists have recently been elected to British scientific organizations as honorary members. Lieutenant General of Medical Service Burdenko, Chief Surgeon of the Red Army, and Professor Yudin, Stalin Prize Winner, have been elected honorary members of the Royal College of Surgeons; Academicians Bach, Yelinsky and Frumkin have been elected honorary members of the British Society of Chemical Industry; Academician Fersman has been elected an honorary member of the London Geological Society and awarded the medal of the Society; and Professor Artamonov, Director of the Institute of the History of Material Culture (under the Academy of Sciences of the USSR), has been made an honorary member of the Scottish Society of Archaeologists.



For valor in action the title of Guards has been conferred by the People's Commissariat of the Navy on Submarine M-172, commanded by Hero of the Soviet Union Captain Fisanovich. Submarine Shch-402, commanded by Captain Krutsky, Submarine Shch-422, commanded by Captain Viyayev and the Patrol Cutter SK-65 have also been awarded the title of Guards, while the Submarine Brigade of the Northern Fleet has been collectively decorated with the Order of the Red Banner.



An exhibit opened recently in the State Historical Museum in Moscow cites figures on the damage inflicted on German shipping by the Red Fleet. The number of German ships sunk in the two years of war is 960, with a total displacement of 2,700,000 tons, while 270 enemy ships have been damaged.

A fund for the building of a new hospital in Stalin-grad, established under the auspices of the Joint Committee for Soviet Aid, has been increased by a contribution of 5,000 pounds from the Mineworkers' Federation of Great Britain. Mr. Will Lawther, president of the Federation said: "Our miners regard this as their tribute to the Soviet miners to show them that, as in the past, they are together in the struggle."



The Moscow regional budget for the third quarter of this year is to be considerably increased. The bulk of the increase—17,000,000 rubles—will be spent for local reconstruction and development of social services. Half the entire budget is for social and cultural services, including new nurseries, kindergartens and children's hospitals. A considerable part of the budget is to be devoted to aid for the families of Red Army men and for men invalided out of the Army.



On one and the same day the Government conferred the title of Hero of the Soviet Union on two Red Army men—the Russian Stepan Suvorov and the Mari, Sergei Suvorov (a native of the Mari Republic, northwest of Kuibyshev). They fought on different fronts, never knew each other and did not resemble each other in any way. The only thing they had in common was their surname Suvorov, which they share with the great Russian general of the 18th Century.



The French Normandie Fighter Squadron in the USSR has shot down 30 German aircraft. Of this number 17 have been shot down in recent engagements, with high scores for individual pilots.



More than 100 soldiers of various nationalities, including Danes, Czechs and Slovaks, have deserted the German army and joined Soviet guerrilla detachments in the Polesye region in southwest Byelorussia. A large group of Slovaks on their way to the front, hearing that guerrillas were operating nearby, overpowered their guards and escaped. These Slovaks have issued the following statement: *We soldiers of the Slovak Reserve Division, as true sons of the great family of Slav peoples, have joined the guerrillas to help fight the Germans in the rear. In Byelorussia we are fighting to liberate all the Slavs in occupied countries. We are fighting for a free and independent Czechoslovakia.*

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THE MOST HEINOUS CRIME OF ALL

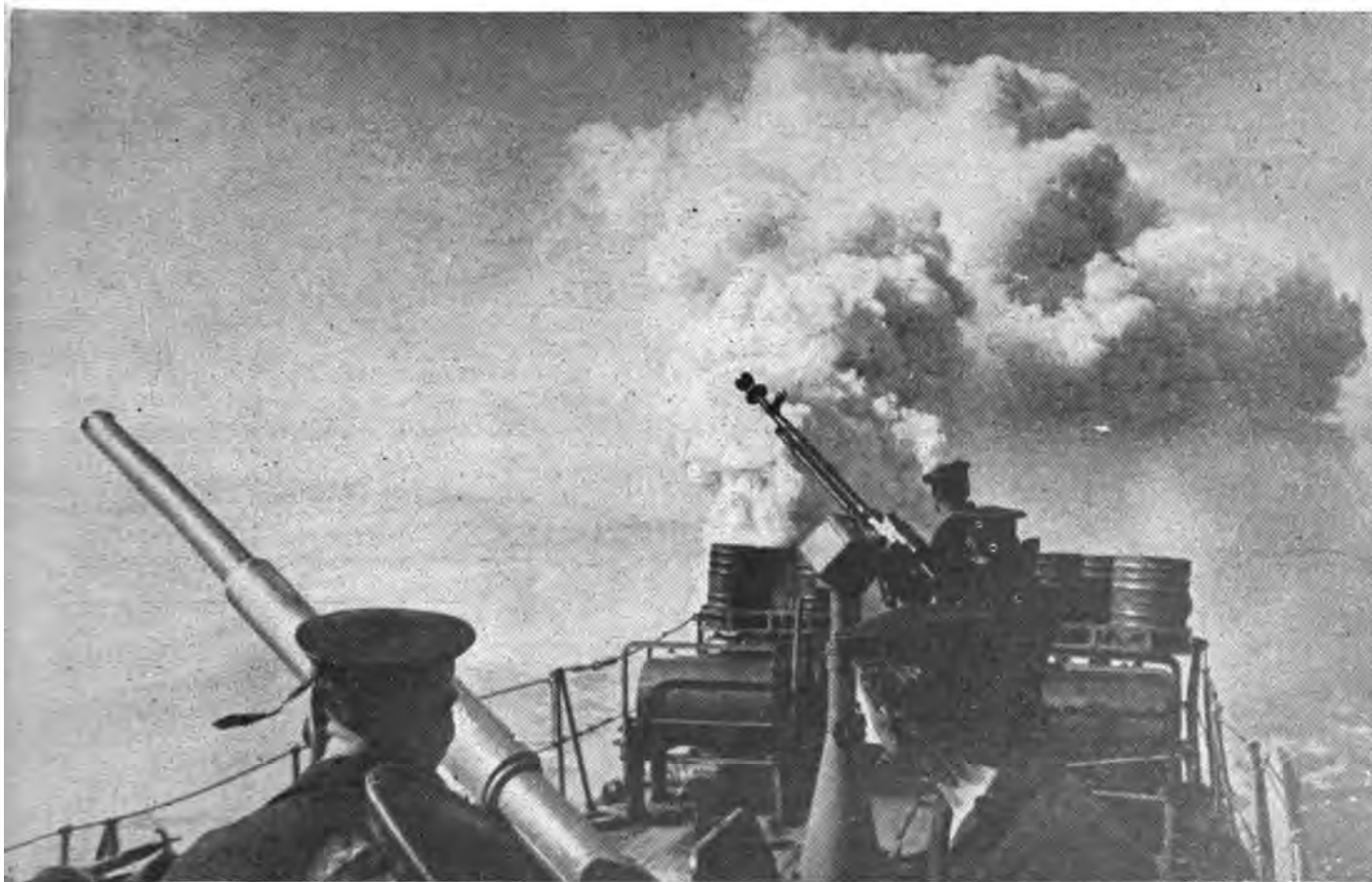
By Ilya Ehrenburg

On August 11 the German telegraphic agency Transocean sent out the following report from Berlin:

"In pursuance to orders of the High Command of the German Armed Forces, the post of Inspector General of War Prisoners captured by the German army has been set up. The new Inspector General, who will hold the rank of Corps General, is directly subordinated to the Chief of the High Command of the German Armed Forces. This post has been created chiefly with the view of insuring the most effective utilization of war prisoners in the German army, as part of the scheme for the utilization of all forces for war needs."

In other words, the High Command of the German Armed Forces cynically confesses to atrocious crimes. Germans are forcibly pressing war prisoners into their army and compelling the unfortunates who have fallen into their hands to fight their own countrymen.

Need it be said that the Hitlerites trample upon all international standards and conventions, upon all laws and customs built up in the course of centuries of civilization? We learned recently that the German Command gave orders that all Red Army men taken prisoner should be branded with a hot iron. That seemed to us the depth of villainy. But there



A ship of the Soviet Black Sea Fleet opens fire on the enemy

are no limits to villainy, and now we find the Hitlerites have decided to brand the souls of those who fall into their clutches—they are compelling the Russians to shed Russian blood. They make no concealment of their crime, and coolly announce that war prisoners will be utilized in the German army.

Long is the list of crimes perpetrated by the High Command of the German Armed Forces, as corroborated by the High Command's own documents. The Hitlerites make war on the peaceful civilian population. They have introduced a system of hostages. They execute wholesale and murder with gas old folk, women and children in vehicles specially constructed for the purpose. They burn down towns and villages. Like primitive nomad tribes they convert the inhabitants of seized territories into their slaves and carry them off to Germany.

They force Russian women, at the imminent risk of their lives, to build fortification works, thus compelling them to act against their own country. The sign of the Red Cross, which has always been a protection for the wounded, means nothing to them, and they kill people in war hospitals. They carry off to Germany cultural treasures, statues, pictures and rare books. They torture war prisoners to extort information from them, they burn them alive, practice the most refined cruelties on them, and brand them with the brand of shame.

And if we now draw attention to the Hitlerites' new crime, it is only because it surpasses all others in hideousness, for there is no torture so terrible to a man as to become an involuntary traitor and to be made, against his own conscience, to take part in a war aiming at the enslavement and devastation of his country.

I see Russians, more dead than alive from starvation, maltreatment and humiliation. Herr "Inspector General" informs them that they—these Ivanovs, Pe-

trovs, Pavlovs and Andreyevs—are henceforward soldiers of the German army. They are to be orderlies of oberleutnants, they are to drag guns, carry shells to Ferdinands, pave roads with their own bodies for the Tigers. Can torture more atrocious be imagined?

Several days ago men of the Fifth Orel Division found a pathetic appeal from Red Army war prisoners—involuntary "soldiers of the German army." It read: "We were forced into it. Save our souls."

The German army does not know how to fill the breach made by the blows of our troops. The Italians are falling out of the running and other vassals are ready to follow their example. With whom, then, have the German generals decided to replace killed Germans and wavering Italians? With war prisoners: Russians, Ukrainians and Byelorussians. They clap these unfortunates into German uniforms and throw them into the line of fire. The nearer the hour of retribution, the more venomous the Nazi scorpion becomes. Seeing that its end is near it strives to humiliate, disgrace and destroy mankind.

We cannot regard Hitler's army as an army: it is a gigantic assemblage of criminals who know neither traditions nor laws nor the rudiments of civilization. We treat German war prisoners humanely not because they are entitled to humane treatment, for they are accomplices in crimes without parallel in history. We treat them humanely because we cannot sink to cruelty, because ours is a land of culture and human dignity.

We thirst for one thing only: justice. Herr "Inspector General of War Prisoners" will find himself in the prisoner's dock. And his immediate chief, that vile assassin Schickelgruber, alias Adolf Hitler, will also find himself in the prisoner's dock. He who dares to force Russian war prisoners into German uniforms is not a soldier but a vile butcher, bereft of honor and conscience. We say this now, at the gates of Kharkov. We shall not forget it in Berlin.

VLADIMIR FEDOROV, INVENTOR OF AUTOMATIC RIFLE, DESIGNS WEAPONS FOR PRESENT WAR

The automatic rifle, main weapon of the infantry in modern warfare, was invented on the eve of the first World War by the Russian designer Vladimir Fedorov. It has since been improved by designers of various countries.

Fedorov, oldest designer of infantry arms, is now over 70, but tirelessly continues to improve his work. He recently completed a collection of some 20 scientific papers on the theory of automatic arms. The automatic rifle is not his only invention: he has also designed several types of aviation machine guns, rapid-firing guns and various cold steel weapons. The Fedorov saber is a special favorite of Soviet cavalry-

men; its balance is so perfect the saber's weight is scarcely felt.

Fedorov, who holds the degree of Doctor of Technical Sciences, now heads the Scientific Technical Council under the People's Commissariat of Armaments of the USSR, and teaches in several academies. His name is well-known abroad. During the first World War he was sent to England and France to visit armament plants, and spent considerable time studying the latest foreign technical trends. His impressions of this trip and his meetings with the outstanding inventors of that period are described in his recently published memoirs, *In Search of Arms*.

COMING THROUGH THE RYE

By Valentin Katayev

Valentin Katayev is a well-known Soviet journalist and playwright.

At first we crouched as we went, then got down on all fours, and finally crawled with the utmost caution through the rye, which was very thick and tall here. Fifty meters ahead we saw our outpost.

Several men were lying on clean straw in their snug little nests. A Kazakh anti-tank gunner, a little fellow with a shiny, clay-colored face, had placed his gun barrel so that it protruded far ahead—very thin and unnaturally long, with a cube on the muzzle. All the soldiers were well-camouflaged: over their helmets they wore a species of broad straw lampshade and some had nets with grass sewn on them, which gave them something of the appearance of the fishermen one sees in very old drawings. The Germans were here only yesterday, but during the night had been dislodged. Before the infantry's arrival a small force of tommy gunners and anti-tank gunners had held this position, and it was these men we found here.

When the men observed that one of the crawling newcomers was a general, they made an attempt to rise, but he sharply told them to remain as they were and they again curled up like babies in their cribs. Rising to a kneeling position the General moved the rye very gently and began a slow and careful scrutiny of the German positions through his khaki-colored field-glasses. Not more than a half-kilometer strip of no man's land separated us from the Germans.

"Where's our infantry?" I asked.

"It will be here presently," the General replied, without lowering the glasses.

This Guards General was in ordinary khaki uniform; the dusty tops of his rough soldier's boots could be seen below his trouser legs. He called an artillery officer, who crept up at once with another glass, and they both fell to scrutinizing the locality.

A little wood, darkly blue in the distance, beyond a buckwheat field that looked like a patch of cotton print, attracted their special attention. The General's opinion was that a battery must be there, but the artillery officer held that two guns had been noted yesterday.

"The map," said the General, reaching behind him. An adjutant crawled forward and the General's outstretched hand closed upon a much-worn, much-marked map, folded like a dinner napkin. This he spread out on the dusty ground strewn with fallen ears of grain, smoothed it as much as possible, and plunged into a study of it.

"Order about four shell splinters sent over to see if they'll retaliate," he said.

The artillery officer crept up to his radio. It was a box with an antennae in the shape of a thin rod adorned with three long triangular green leaves, which gave it somewhat the appearance of an artificial palm.

A mortar bomb came over—then two more. Another soon followed and from that time until the attack began the heavy bombs kept coming over at regular intervals. They exploded nearby and far away, right and left, but the men no longer paid any particular attention to them, since they were well aware that the Germans were firing at random and everything was a matter of chance.

Having marked the terrain on the map, the General gave several orders in case enemy tanks should appear on the flank, and then, bending low, proceeded to the neighboring clover field where the reserve command



The Red Air Force—A radio operator and gunner tests out his gun before a flight

post had been prepared. This was an ordinary slit trench, already occupied by a signaller in a helmet. From his earthen niche he was ringing up tank battalions held in readiness at starting points wherever the locality afforded cover.

The General glanced at his watch: it was 15 minutes before the attack was timed to start. All was quiet . . . that is to say, quiet in the sense that the fire from our side and from the German side had acquired a calm, unhurried rhythm, foretelling nothing. All kinds of guns were firing. In the faraway rear this fire probably sounded like merged peals of thunder, overwhelming in its sinister warning. But the accustomed ears of those in the midst of this varied cannonade could detect and define without error which sounds might be dangerous and even deadly for them, and which were not.

"Non-dangerous" sounds—no matter how loud they were—did not engage the men's attention, but existed, as it were, in some middle distance. The dangerous sounds were in their turn divided into the moderately dangerous and deadly dangerous, and in accordance with this occupied a more or less important place in their consciousness. For example . . . the nerve-racking crash of heavy air bombs which the Heinkels occasionally showered from a high altitude with marked inaccuracy on the roads nearby received almost no attention, since it did not threaten us directly, although the monstrous black explosions rose many-tiered and menacing on all sides and in the distance. To the whine of shells—ours and the Germans'—whizzing back and forth, we paid little heed, even though it was loud and annoying. But the sensitive ear caught by some miracle the swishing sound of a flying trench-mortar bomb one second before it came, and the men had time to flatten themselves to the ground or to jump into the slit trench.

The practiced eye noticed the lightning-swift passage of the shadow of a Messerschmitt, of something black and yellow like a wasp and marked with crosses. It swept over our field, raking it with all its machine-guns, raising spurts of dust. Sometimes, from behind some huge, doubtful-looking tattered cloud three or six bombers scarcely distinguishable against the sun would emerge, heading straight for us. Then we would all crane our necks, trying to discern whether they were ours or "his." And inevitably some optimist would venture, "They're ours"—and invariably some pessimist would retort gloomily, "They're Germans."

After a last sweeping survey of this field which, as he better than anyone else knew, would within five minutes be the scene of incredible happenings, the General gave orders to ring up all the battalions for the last time, and with each commander he had a brief friendly talk.

Then I saw a company of infantry coming straight

toward us, climbing a slope leading from a hollow. Without any attempt to crouch or stoop, they advanced in a broad chain across the rich summer meadow gay with raspberry red, mauve, white and green clover. With the straps of their steel helmets drawn tightly, and greenish-yellow camouflage cloaks and nets, they marched with their free stride over the magnificent Orel land. Some carried machine guns on their shoulders, some trench-mortar barrels, some cases of cartridges or bombs, others tommy guns held at the ready.

"Lie down!" shouted a dark young Signals Corps officer with a dusty face and childish beads of perspiration on his chin. They did not hear him. "Lie down! Crawl!"

A few bombs exploded in the space between us and the infantry. The men exchanged glances, but none lay down—they only quickened their steps. Now they were almost running, and they soon reached us, looming large against the flowering hillside with its backdrop of limitless, sultry, dust-blue Orel sky across which the banked pearly clouds drifted.

"Just look! Guardsmen! Regular eagles!" the General exclaimed in admiration, as the company dashed past, or rather through us, toward the enemy, and about 40 paces away finally lay down.

At last the hand of the General's big watch was dead on the appointed hour. I have neither the gift nor the colors to paint what followed in the next ten minutes. It was a magnificent artillery squall which had the speed of lightning. Over our heads hundreds of shells, small, large and medium-sized, flew westward. The German positions were veiled in smoke and dust, and over them everything seemed to flare up, explode, whirl upward and fall back in a black rain, only to fly up again.

As a culmination to this ten-minute symphony, the fire of the Guards trench mortars burst like a mighty chord. Then our infantry line rose! A husky voice shouted "For country! For Stalin!"—and we heard a long, pealing cheer as machine guns and tommy guns opened fire.

"The boys are off!" said the General, springing onto the breastworks.

Half an hour later the signaller was yelling hoarsely from his slit trench, "Comrade Major General! The commander of the Second Battalion reports enemy dislodged from his positions and retreating."

"I know . . . I can see that," said the General, without taking his eyes from the field-glasses.

Then he turned to me. "Perhaps you've never seen

Germans on the run? I can give you a chance right now."

I took the field-glasses he offered. Dust was rolling in clouds through the middle distance toward the horizon. Evidently it was dust raised by German trucks, self-propelling guns, field kitchens and tanks heading westward. I thought I had never seen a pleasanter sight.

"The first part of our program is over," the General

said, mopping black perspiration from his brow and nose. "Now I've got to go as quickly as possible to the railway, where the right flank is. Car, Adjutant!"

We left that lovely ryefield and descended into a hollow. Now we were crossing plowed land. One felt a marvelous lightness of heart. I looked at the General's back—a perspiring worker's back—and for some reason I was reminded of that passage in *War and Peace* which tells of General Bagration trudging through a plowed field "as though laboring."

WASH AND BRUSH UP

By Kiril Levin

Passing through the last station before the front line of the Orel advance, I saw a remarkable train labeled along the whole length of its dark green coaches: "A gift to the gallant commanders and men of the Red Army, from the workers of the Omsk Railway." It sidled cautiously for several miles along the line and stopped under cover of a large wood where there used to be a wayside halt, nothing of which now remained but the half-ruined platform, a shed and a little siding.

This present from Siberia is a bath train: 200,000 Red Army men have already refreshed themselves in it. It has a barber shop, a dressing-room and a room where clothes are disinfected before they go to the laundry coach. There is also a clothing store with stacks of underclothes all washed, ironed and folded, and finally a bath, with as much steam as even Red Army men could want.

A column of troops comes swinging through the forest. They have just come from the front line trenches, and the world could offer them no greater pleasure than a Russian steam bath. Pipes carry steam from the engine to the vapor bath. From here the men return to the dressing-room, where they find clean underclothes awaiting them. A new relay comes to take their place, and is already noisily undressing.

The train is no civilian—it is a veteran of many battles. The Germans have hunted and bombed it. Last month it put in at a station where it was due to serve a Guards regiment. Two Junkers-88s appeared and began dive-bombing the cars. Lev Chalik, the second driver, whose work has already earned him a decoration, took up the challenge.

The train had to arrive on time, or the regiment would go to its forward positions without a bath, and Chalik could not bear to disappoint the gallant Guardsmen. He opened the throttle to the full, sped forward, braked suddenly, then went forward again at

top speed. Four bombs were aimed at him, one after another, but only one did some slight damage to the last coach. Chalik arrived at the station on time, and the Guardsmen had their baths.

When I visited the train a crowd of Siberians were bathing, and Siberians are extremely fond of the vapor bath. As they came aboard they had called out to the old engine driver, Mikhail Kalbeko: "Hey, Dad, don't be stingy with the steam. We're Siberians!" The driver gave them such a good steaming that they left a letter of thanks in the visitors' book.

This train receives an enormous "fan mail," addressed to its box number! The workers on the train are mostly girls. Their particular concern is that the men who come to wash and brush up shall feel that for a short while they are in peaceful surroundings. The pine forest hides the train from enemy eyes, the huge engine puffs away earnestly, and columns of cheerful soldiers rapidly disappear into the dressing-room.

Four-Volume History of English Literature

The first volume of a "History of English Literature," compiled by the staff of the Institute of World Literature, under the Soviet Academy of Sciences, will shortly come off the press. This volume covers the pre-Shakespearean period. The second volume, dealing with English literature from Shakespeare to the end of the 18th Century, is complete and will be available soon after the first.

The third volume is almost complete; it deals with English romanticism and the classical realism of the mid-19th Century, and contains detailed studies of Byron, Shelley, Scott, Thackeray, Dickens and Keats. The fourth and last volume will bring the history of English literature up to our own day.

WHAT IS BEHIND THE EAST EUROPEAN FEDERATION SCHEME?

This article is reprinted from the new Moscow periodical called WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS, issued twice monthly:

In the two years of the Soviet people's heroic struggle against Hitlerite Germany there has been an immeasurable growth of the Soviet Union's authority in the international arena, and, above all, of its role in the camp of the United Nations. Every right-minded person understands that one of the leading roles in the organization of post-war Europe, and of the whole world, will belong to the USSR, the largest continental power, which in the course of war has displayed its state and military might.

Anti-democratic and semi-fascist elements, however, are striving to prevent the participation of the USSR in the organization of the post-war world, setting up the most fantastic plans in this direction, plans obviously hostile to the Soviet Union . . .

These groups are doing everything they can to stir up troubled waters, playing into the hands of Hitler and his associates, helping to split the camp of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition. They have developed feverish activity, circulating such worn-out bogeys as the threat of "Bolshevization," inventing and placing before their readers dozens of plans for the reconstruction of Europe hostile to the USSR.

There are quite a few such plans, starting with the plan for the creation of a United States of Europe, Pan-Europe, and ending with the plan for creating a Europe divided into various federations, confederations and regional blocs of states . . .

An attentive scrutiny of these plans immediately and completely gives away the imperialistic intent of the Polish gentry, though they try to conceal them by verbiage about the security of the Central European States, about the political balance in Europe, and about securing a long and stable peace . . .

The authors of the plans for the establishment of an East European Federation bring forward the necessity of securing a European balance, and say that to this end the small and medium East European States should form a bloc of States comprising a population of 100 to 125 millions.

But their plans are obviously built on shifting sands. Can the circumstance be ignored that the East European Federation is to be the political union of democratic Czechoslovakia and feudal Hungary, republican Poland and monarchical Rumania? Is it possible to count on the stability of such a politically heterogeneous federation?

Or take the question of internal relations within a "European Federation." Who is not aware of the irreconcilable territorial antagonisms between Hun-

gary and Rumania over the question of Transylvania, and also the differences about the Teschen region, on which the Polish and Czechoslovakian governments have been unable to reach any agreement whatsoever for several years past? Who can believe that such a rickety and clearly unstable federation could satisfy the strivings of the peoples of these countries for their security and for their common defense?

It is not hard to see that the plans of this federation, to be ostensibly formed for combating possible aggression by Germany in the future are, and by no means least of all, leveled against the Soviet Union.

The defenders of the idea of an East European Federation . . . say, without mincing matters, that in the plans for forming a Federation between the Baltic and the Black Sea, it is a matter of security from outside aggression, from both the west and the east, that is, both by Germany and, they allege, by the Soviet Union.

Just the same attitude to the west, in other words to Germany, is being propagated as to the east, in other words to the Soviet Union, which, as is recognized by honest people the world over, is heading the struggle of liberation against the monstrous aggression of fascist Germany, not only in the interests of its own people, but in the interests of the liberation of those very countries to be included in this Federation, about which so much is being written at present, but which can never return to freedom and independence without the victory of the USSR over Germany.

That the project for an East European Federation is directed against the Soviet Union is also evident from the following fact. As is known, an agreement was concluded in 1940 between Czechoslovakia and Poland on the Polish-Czechoslovakian Confederation, which is to serve as a basis for an East European Federation.

But it is also known that in 1942, public figures of Czechoslovakia have declared more than once that the creation of the Polish-Czechoslovakian Confederation must be carried out in agreement with the Soviet Union, on which both Czechoslovakia and Poland border. President Benes has emphasized the necessity of reaching agreement with the Soviet Union on the question of the Polish-Czechoslovakian Confederation. He has repeatedly and persistently defended his view, but has not met with support from Polish public figures who are particularly rabid supporters of the idea of the Confederation.

It follows, then, that these Polish public figures by no means consider it necessary to settle these questions on the basis of friendly collaboration with the USSR. This cannot but be regarded as further proof of the fact that the above-mentioned Polish public

figures are harboring their plans for a Confederation with by no means friendly intentions toward the Soviet Union.

It would seem easy to understand that in the planning of post-war Europe and in particular of European federations and confederations, it is impossible to lose sight of such an important historical fact as the Anglo-Soviet Treaty of Alliance and Post-War Collaboration in Europe. But how can one reconcile the recognition of the Anglo-Soviet treaty with the policy of struggle against a menace from the west and from the east?

How can one possibly reconcile support of this treaty aimed at securing collaboration and mutual aid between the USSR and Great Britain for the prevention of aggression on the part of Germany in the post-war period, with the task of establishing an

East European Federation aimed both against aggressive Germany and against the Soviet Union, which in the future, as well, must be one of the decisive factors in the struggle against possible new aggression on the part of Germany?

Plans for the establishment of an East European Federation hostile to the Soviet Union can be built up, but only with the renunciation of the necessity for friendship and collaboration between the USSR and the Allies in the post-war period as the point of departure, only if the renunciation of the Anglo-Soviet treaty be considered.

Honest supporters of the Anglo-Soviet treaty cannot uphold post-war plans hostile to the Soviet Union and Great Britain, or hostile to even one of these countries.

SOVIET GOVERNMENT RAPIDLY RESTORES SCHOOLS IN LIBERATED AREAS

In an article in *Izvestia* on public education in liberated Soviet regions, Deputy People's Commissar of Education of the RSFSR Ivanenko emphasizes the wide scope of restoration work being conducted in these regions by the Soviet Government with the support of the entire people. He points out that of 18,000 schools in 12 liberated regions, 10,500 have already been restored. Representatives of the People's Commissariat of Education have visited the liberated regions to render practical assistance in the restoration of educational institutions.

It is planned to assign 8,000 teachers to these districts in 1943; 4,000 have already been designated, of whom 2,750 are now at work preparing for the new school year. During the first half of this year some 2,000,000 books were sent to the liberated districts, and more than 1,000,000 textbooks will arrive by the beginning of the school year. In addition, more than 2,000,000 rubles' worth of school necessities and 3,500,000 notebooks have been delivered.

During 1943, 280 children's homes were established in the freed areas, and great care has been taken to provide for orphaned children. In the Krasnodar and Stavropol areas and Stalingrad Region the number of kindergartens exceeds the prewar figure. The People's Commissariat of Education of the RSFSR has allotted industrial commodities to the value of 4,649,000 rubles for children's institutions in the liberated regions, including 1,234,000 rubles' worth of cotton fabrics; ready-made clothing, 1,087,000 rubles; footwear, 732,000 rubles; knitted goods, 389,000 rubles, and woolen fabrics, 153,000 rubles.

About 300 libraries have been selected for liberated

districts of Smolensk Region, and 421 rural dining rooms opened. The Pyatigorsk, Krasnodar, Stavropol, Kabardino-Balkar, Maikop and Cherkessk Pedagogical Institutes have reopened. The Moscow Pedagogical Institute sent 25,000 copies of various textbooks to the institutes of the Northern Caucasus.

This year the Government has allotted over 67,000,000 rubles to the People's Commissariat of Education for restoration work. As our troops liberate new towns and villages, the picture of the tremendous destruction of Soviet cultural institutions—schools, libraries, museums and houses of culture—is seen in all its clarity. But no sooner had the last shots died away than the whole people, with tremendous enthusiasm, proceeded to the restoration of the schools. Studies literally commenced the day following the entry of the Red Army, even before the organization of regular places of education. Schools were conducted in village houses, and during bombings even in basements.

The workers of districts in the rear give great assistance to those who experienced the trials and horrors of the German occupation. They assist in the restoration of the ruined economy, and particularly of institutions of public education.

Our Soviet teachers did not bow to the invaders. We know the glorious names of many patriotic teachers who joined guerrilla detachments. Many were brutally tortured to death or shot for resistance to the Hitlerites. Thousands of teachers have been awarded medals and Orders by the Soviet Government for their courage and valor.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF AUGUST 20, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

The Hitler Command has concentrated large forces in the Kharkov and Bryansk areas in order to stem the Red Army offensive. But the great battle which has already been raging for six weeks over an area of hundreds of kilometers continues. Aware of the strategic importance of the Kharkov battleground, the Hitler Command has intensified its counter-attacks in the past week. After rushing aircraft, infantry and tanks to Kharkov from western Europe and other sectors of the Soviet-German front, the German Command tried by incessant counter-attacks to retrieve the positions lost in previous battles. The Red Army units, however, have repelled the German counter-attacks, inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy.

The last few days has seen the ring tighten around Kharkov. After capturing Chuguyev, Soviet troops strengthened their positions by occupying the town of Zmiyev, 30 kilometers southeast of Kharkov. The capture of Zmiyev is very important, as it narrows the southern corridor along which German supplies are moved up to Kharkov. Moreover, Soviet troops are 23 kilometers from the railway junction of Meref, the only enemy point of railway communication between Kharkov, Dnepropetrovsk, Zaporozhye, and Poltava. Soviet troops pushing from the southwest have taken Polevoye, a large inhabited point, and are fighting 12 kilometers northwest of Kharkov. In the north, battles are raging in several inhabited points near the outskirts of Kharkov.

Despite stiff enemy resistance in the Kharkov area, Soviet troops have launched offensive operations in several sectors. The enemy counter-attacks are followed by Soviet assaults. One of the Soviet groups is pressing on in the Kharkov direction along the Belgorod-Sumy railway. Having made considerable progress in recent days it is now fighting 12 kilometers southeast of the town of Sumy, an important railway junction. Sumy lies 45 kilometers southeast of the railway junction of Vorozhba, a strategic point on the Kursk-Kiev line.

Another group of Soviet troops attacking west of Kharkov, after taking the town of Akhtyrka crossed the Vorkskla River and occupied the inhabited point of Oposhnya, on the right bank of the river 40 kilo-

meters north of Poltava. Soviet troops continue to press forward in this sector of the front.

In the Bryansk direction the Red Army is pushing along the Orel-Bryansk and Moscow-Bryansk railway lines. Soviet troops have made considerable progress in these sectors and have captured several inhabited points 32 kilometers northeast and 25 kilometers east of Bryansk. The Hitler Command is hurling reinforcements to the Bryansk direction, endeavoring by counter-attacks to stop the Red Army advance. Soviet troops are fighting in difficult country near Bryansk, crossing forest swamps, numerous small rivers and lakes. The roads are bad. The enemy is utilizing all these advantages for defense, but despite all odds, Soviet troops continue their offensive.

The fierce fighting on the Soviet-German front, where Soviet troops are dealing the enemy a crushing blow, is undermining the Hitler war machine. This accounts for the Hitler propaganda calling upon Germany's population "to bear up at any price." It should be remembered that the same appeal was made in the critical days of 1918 in Kaiser Germany by Ludendorff and Hindenburg. It was of little help, however, as the Kaiser's army was forced to capitulate in November, 1918.

Soviet Heroine Honored in New Film

Who Is She? is the title of a motion picture now being made of the life of Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya, the heroic young girl guerrilla who was tortured to death by German officers for refusing to give information about her comrades. For her bravery she was posthumously made a Hero of the Soviet Union.

The film will show the life of the Soviet people in recent years and the circumstances which helped to form the character of Soviet youths and girls so staunchly fighting the Hitlerite invaders. The picture will be shot in Moscow and in the area where Kosmodemyanskaya was slain.

A student of the Moscow Institute of Cinematography, Galina Vodynitskaya, will play the lead, and the music will be written by Dmitri Shostakovich.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

AUGUST 23, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Konev, Army General Vatin and Army General Malinovsky:

Today, August 23, the troops of the Steppe Front, with the active assistance of the troops of the Voronezh and Southwestern Fronts on the flanks, as a result of fierce engagements crushed enemy resistance and captured the city of Kharkov by storm.

Thus the second capital of the Ukraine, our own Kharkov, has been liberated from the yoke of the German-fascist scoundrels.

In the offensive engagements for the capture of the city of Kharkov our troops displayed a high degree of military training, valor and skill in maneuvering.

In the fighting for the city of Kharkov the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under the command of Major General Managarov, Lieutenant General Kriuchenkin, Lieutenant General Shumilov, Lieutenant General Gagen, Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Rotmistrov and the fliers commanded by Lieutenant General of Aviation Goryunov, also units of the 33rd Infantry Corps of Guards under the command of Major General Kozlov and the 34th Infantry Corps under the command of Major General Kolchigin.

To mark the liberation of Kharkov the name of "Kharkov" shall be conferred on the 89th Belgorod Infantry Division of Guards, the 252nd, 84th, 299th, 116th, 375th and 183rd Infantry Divisions, and the 15th, 28th and 93rd Infantry Divisions of Guards, and henceforth they shall be named:

The 89th Belgorod-Kharkov Infantry Division of Guards, the 252nd Kharkov Infantry Division, the 84th Kharkov Infantry Division, the 299th Kharkov Infantry Division, the 116th Kharkov Infantry Division, the 375th Kharkov Infantry Division, the 183rd Kharkov Infantry Division, the 15th Kharkov Infantry Division of Guards, the 28th Kharkov Infantry Division of Guards and the 93rd Kharkov Infantry Division of Guards.

As a mark of celebration on the occasion of the victory achieved at Kharkov, today on August 23, at 9 p. m., the capital of our motherland—Moscow—will salute on behalf of the motherland our gallant troops which liberated Kharkov, by 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all troops under your command which took part in the operation for the liberation of Kharkov.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the liberty and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German occupationists!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

ENTERING KHARKOV

By Evgeni Krieger

Today I saw two Kharkovs. The first . . . which I saw in the middle of the day . . . made me think of a person who had just come out of a dead faint, peering avidly into the world, not believing his own eyes.

The houses, streets and squares—even those which had not suffered from fire and explosions—looked dead. Here and there walls were undamaged, but broken windows gaped dark and blind. Behind them was no life . . . for many months the people of Kharkov had avoided appearing in their apartments. They hid in cellars on the outskirts of the city or fled to the suburbs. The city was dying. A Soviet citizen cannot live without the air of freedom . . . cannot live in the suffocating atmosphere of slavery.

There were other and simpler reasons for the slow extinction of the city, for the decay of its stone flesh. The absence of the most elementary conditions for human existence during the German occupation left its mark on the appearance of the once gay, brightly lit, laughing streets and squares of Kharkov. For many months there was no electricity in the houses. Only the Germans had light. If the electricity was turned on in rooms where the Germans lived, other inhabitants of the house were forbidden to use the current. There was no water.

Germans Looted Everything of Value

There were no street cars. At one period the street cars ran for a very short time. Only Germans were permitted in the first car; in the second car representatives of the administration, dregs who associated with the Germans, were allowed to ride. The cars were closed to others. But even so they did not run long; the Germans needed iron too badly. They tore wires from poles, pulled up the rails and dragged everything to Germany, where there is not enough metal for shells and guns. Thus they carried away, ripped to pieces, plundered and murdered a great, rich city. When everything of value had been removed, the Germans even took the pails and basins.

The buildings of Kharkov, in which darkness reigned, shrunk into a kind of death. Even sections that escaped destruction are unrecognizable, especially in the central part of the city . . . life left them a long while ago and is only now returning . . .

"If you hadn't come today," said a woman in the street, "many of us would not be alive. Oh, that last night under the Germans! How terrible it was! They blew up the houses . . . if they had not been in

such a hurry they would have burned and destroyed everything."

Soviet Order Reappears

A few hours later I saw another Kharkov. The confident, mature power of our summer offensive was evident in the rapidity with which Soviet order was reestablished in the city, still smoking from the fierce street battles. Guns still thundered on the outskirts, German shells still exploded, nearby sappers had not yet managed to discover and render harmless all the German mines hidden and buried here.

Yet the Soviet power appeared in the Kharkov districts and immediately set to work. While the troops were still fighting, Soviet militiamen entered the city and went to their assigned districts to begin the work of rehabilitation. During the day bridges blown up by the Germans were inspected and by evening one bridge had already been restored and narrow bridges for pedestrians built. Special teams were sent out to search for German mines, and inscriptions on the walls of houses requested citizens to report mines and unexploded bombs.

In the very first hours of occupation, four fire engines were discovered and put into action. Local residents, men and women, volunteered and worked side by side with the militiamen. The people came out of their cellars to save Kharkov. It is their city . . . they are again in possession of it. Public order was immediately established.

I asked one man, "When did you notice the first signs of German alarm?"

"On the evening of August 5," he said. "German civilians started running around with suitcases, shouting 'Packen, packen alles, packen!' What happened that day?"

"That day," I said, "our troops took Orel."

Our regiments are passing through Kharkov going southward and westward. In the twilight I listened to the sounds of the city . . . motors buzzed evenly in nearby and distant districts, automobile tires hummed along the asphalt. The huge, unrestrainable stream surged through the streets.

I remembered the noises of former Kharkov, a giant among cities. The giant is coming to after his long faint. He is returning to life.

AFTER KHARKOV

By Ilya Ehrenburg

The German newspaper *Der Neue Tag* writes: "These are difficult, very difficult, weeks for us. Today, toward the end of the fourth year of war, Germany is on the defensive, everywhere subject to the enemy's pressure. We are confronted by superior hostile forces."

The German journalist headed his lamentations, "A Summer Without Special Communiques." When the Germans were advancing, Hitler's headquarters every now and again issued "special communiques." Now Hitler is silent. However, this summer is not without its special events: Orel has been followed by Kharkov.

In vain did Hitler strive to retain the Ukraine's second capital. In vain did he hurl division after division of fresh troops into action. The Germans clung to every house. It seemed to them that new losses would be intolerable. And if the Red Army is in Kharkov, it means that the Red Army is stronger than the Germans.

The Germans declare, "Without experiencing enemy pressure the German army evacuated Kharkov according to plan. The city is now of no value." The beaten Fritzes are still preening themselves. They are trying to make out that their defeat was only a promenade, as though they were tired of living in Kharkov and had decided to move westward. They were driven out of Kharkov, but they declare "Kharkov was of no value to us."

Was it so long ago they wrote, "Kharkov is the key to the Ukraine?" Was it so long ago they spoke of "the supreme value of Kharkov?" They have lost too much and that is why they are protesting "We've lost nothing." I have no doubt that when the last

emaciated Fritz arrives full tilt in Berlin with his tongue hanging out he'll declare, "I left of my own accord because the Ukraine is of no value."

Last winter the Red Army liberated an immense territory from Vladikavkaz to the Northern Donets, from Voronezh to Lgov, from Stalingrad to the first cities of the Ukraine. Kharkov was the last reverberation of the winter thunder. The bases were already far in the rear. Snowdrifts and then thaw rendered country roads impassable. It was troops exhausted by a long campaign who entered Kharkov then. The Germans mustered their forces and retook the city. Last winter Kharkov was the last chapter. Now our offensive is gaining in breadth and scope. It is spreading to ever-new sectors of the front. This time Kharkov is only one chapter in an epic.

The gallant Kharkov Divisions have recovered the precious, much-suffering city. Their standards are wreathed in glory. But in the background we see other divisions. How will they be called? Poltava? Bryansk? Smolensk? Holy impatience has seized the Red Army. In this impatience are the tribulations of two years, the yearning for the last decisive victory, the tears of the outraged Ukraine, the pride of Orel, Belgorod, Karachev and Kharkov.

It is vain for the Germans to console themselves by saying "the front is now shorter." The front is now shorter not only for the Germans but also for us. In every sector of this front our troops will strike at the Germans and strike hard.

We are on our way. Let the winged foot of the Red Army be heard by all the world. Let it crush our enemies. Let it inspire our friends.

COUNTRY REJOICES WITH LIBERATED CITY

On the evening of August 24, at 8:30 P. M., the announcer of the Moscow radio read with especial feeling Stalin's Order on the capture of Kharkov. The news flashed over the capital like lightning; people rushed into the streets, filled with joy and pride.

After the first salvo of the artillery salute to the heroes of the Red Army, bursts of tracer bullets illuminated the evening sky and colored flares hung over the housetops. When the salute ceased, people threw their hats into the air and cheered. Strangers

shook hands, congratulating each other on the great victory.

Crowded meetings held that evening at all Moscow enterprises became powerful demonstrations of the people's love and devotion to great Stalin, organizer of the historical victory of the Red Army.

From all over the country came reports of the nation-wide rejoicing of the Soviet population at the news of the liberation of Kharkov. "Kharkov is ours!" sounded in Leningrad as the forerunner of the early and inevitable defeat of the Germans at that city also.

SOVIET DECISION ON "URGENT MEASURES FOR ECONOMIC REHABILITATION OF DISTRICTS LIBERATED FROM GERMAN OCCUPATION"

On August 22 the Soviet press published the decision of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on "Urgent Measures for the Economic Rehabilitation of the Districts Liberated from German Occupation." The decision begins:

With a view to the earliest economic rehabilitation and rendering of aid to the population of districts liberated from German occupation, the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union resolve:

(1) To bind the Regional Soviet and the Party organizations of the regions and republics listed in the decision to return to the collective farmers of the Kalinin, Smolensk, Orel, Kursk, Voronezh, Stalingrad, Rostov and Tula Regions, and the Krasnodar and Stavropol territories, the cattle evacuated from these regions and territories, totaling 197,166 heads of cattle, 341,421 sheep and goats and 50,939 horses. These cattle to be dispatched so as to reach their destinations in the period between October 1 and 15, 1943.

The decision also provides for a number of measures on the organization of the return of the cattle, its supply of fodder en route, etc.

(2) In order to increase the herds of cattle on the collective farms of regions liberated from German occupation, the decision provides for the conclusion of supplementary contracts for the purchase of calves and lambs; also a number of other measures, in particular the exemption of all collective farms of the liberated regions from the delivery of horses for the needs of the Army and the national economy in 1943, 1944 and 1945.

(3) The third section of the decision specifies concrete and detailed measures directed toward the restoration of collective farm poultry breeding.

(4) The Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union establish a number of privileges for the collective farms, collective farmers, individual farmers, workers and office employees, in the delivery of agricultural produce to the State, and in particular exempt from these deliveries the families of Red Army men and guerrillas lacking able-bodied members. The collective farms of the liberated regions are also exempted from certain deliveries this year.

(5) To insure winter crop sowing the Government supplies 50,000 tons of seed to the collective farms of the liberated regions, and also extends to them other kinds of assistance and privileges.

(6) The sixth section of the decision provides for the restoration of machine and tractor stations and repair shops.

(7) The seventh section makes it an urgent task of the Party and the Soviet bodies in the liberated regions to restore the damaged houses and to build new dwelling-houses in towns and villages liberated from the German occupation, so as to insure accommodation in livable quarters for collective farmers, workers and office employees now living in mud huts or demolished houses.

Further concrete measures are outlined for the realization of this part of the decision.

(8) The urgent task of the People's Commissariat of Railways and the local bodies is the speedy restoration and construction of railway lines, railway stations, track structures and dwellings along railways liberated from the enemy.

(9) The ninth section of the decision deals with the allotment of land plots to railway track workers and their exemption from obligatory deliveries of agricultural produce.

(10) To provide for the education and upbringing of the children of Red Army men and guerrillas of the Patriotic War, as well as of the children of Soviet and Party workers, industrial workers and collective farmers, who perished at the hands of German invaders.

The decision outlines the following measures: To organize nine Suvorov military schools after the model of the old cadet schools, with accommodation for 500 students each, with a seven-year educational term with board and lodging for students; 23 special vocational schools (12 for boys and 11 for girls), with accommodation for 400 students each, with a four-year educational term; special boarding schools with a total enrollment of 16,300, and infant homes accommodating 1,750 children each and 29 receiving and distribution centers for 2,000 children each.

The Suvorov Military Schools have as their object to prepare the boys for military service in the capacity of officers and to give them a general secondary education.

The students of special vocational schools, in addition to an industrial trade, must receive a general education not lower than that of the seven grades of the secondary school.

The direction of work in the economic rehabilitation of the districts liberated from German occupation, and the control over the fulfillment of the Government's decisions referring to these districts, is placed in charge of a committee under the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR on "The Economic Rehabilitation of the Districts Liberated from the German Occupation." The Committee consists of Chairman G. M. Malenkov and members: L. P. Beria, A. I. Miko-yan, N. A. Voznesensky and A. A. Andreyev.

Stalingrad Rises from Its Ashes



(Left, top downward) A tent city houses part of the workers rebuilding Stalingrad; Laying foundations for new housing—several large buildings will be constructed this year; Women clearing rubble from streets—in the house with semi-circular facade, headquarters of the 16th German army, the Red Army captured von Paulus and his generals; (Right, top downward) Public parks and playgrounds were immediately cleared up for the children, who helped in the work; Actors of the badly-damaged Maxim Gorky Theater, one of the most beautiful of Stalingrad buildings, aid in the restoration of their theater; This kindergarten was completely wrecked by the Hitlerites, but women of the city are quickly rebuilding it

STALINGRAD . .

By .

The author of this article recently returned from Stalingrad. He is one of the oldest Russian architects, designer of Moscow's Kazan Railway Station and the famous Hotel Moskva.

Stalingrad's wrecked houses and mutilated streets and squares cannot easily be repaired. But we are determined to make the city even more beautiful than it was before the war. It must be a memorial to the courage of its people and their love for their country.

A general plan has been drawn up for its reconstruction. Without waiting for the completion of all details, the people of Stalingrad themselves are already setting about the work of repairing and rebuilding, but in such a fashion as not to conflict with the general plan. The houses now being repaired have a total floor space of 350,000 square yards. This year 70 of the largest buildings, including a theater, hospitals, schools and some big apartment houses, will be rebuilt.

Stalingrad is teeming with building workers, carpenters, bricklayers and concrete-layers from the Urals and the Volga Region. All work with intense enthusiasm. The City Architectural Board is receiving many requests from individuals for plots on which to build small cottages, and such houses are already springing up.

But that is only the beginning. The Stalingrad of tomorrow will demand the efforts of our most talented architects. The State City Planning Institute and

Builders

Trainloads of people from Uzbekistan, Kirghizia and Azerbaijan, from the Volga valley and other regions of the USSR arrive almost daily at Stalingrad. They are volunteers come to participate in the restoration of the heroic city. Among them are men and women of various trades: bricklayers, carpenters, engineers, doctors, shoemakers and seamstresses.

Youth of the town of Kokand, Uzbekistan, brought complete equipment for a children's home, playground and nursery. Residents of Turkmenia sent equipment for a print shop, a telephone exchange and a railway station, and everything necessary for the establishment of three hospitals of 600 beds. The medical personnel for these hospitals arrived with the equipment. The miners of the Rostov Region who restored the Rostovugol mines, demolished by



(Top) Bricklayers, mechanics, painters, carpenters and other workers have come from all parts of the Soviet Union, eager to help in the restoration of Stalingrad; (bottom) Children already busy at their studies in the partly-destroyed buildings take an examination in the Russian language.

ay and Tomorrow

husev

the Academy of Architecture have enlisted the services of a large body of experts. A group of members of the Academy of Architecture, including Alabyan and Mordvinov, have made a thorough study of the city and are preparing plans. Stalingrad's natural surroundings are beautiful. It stands on the Volga—a magnificent site for a city. We are all determined to put our very best into its rebuilding. And for these three reasons I think we can promise that we shall accomplish our task successfully.

Special attention will be paid to the center of the city, and to buildings which are intended to serve as monuments and memorials. Even our oldest and most experienced architects are carried away by the magnitude of the task confronting them.

A special department for the restoration of Stalingrad has been set up by the People's Commissariat of Municipal Services. It is truly unprecedented for a whole country to devote such attention to one city. To work under these conditions is an inspiration to its architects and builders.

I should like to see Stalingrad rebuilt as one great monument to the great Patriotic War, with splendid theaters, museums, public buildings and parks. All the genius of our architects will be employed to make it one of the most beautiful cities of the Soviet Union. The most urgent work will be planned and executed with the least possible delay, for Stalingrad must be rebuilt not only for posterity, but also for the present generation.

New City

the German invaders, delivered a trainload of high-grade anthracite coal to the city.

At the close of their regular working-day all Stalingrad citizens become builders. Their labor has already restored 13 bridges, 25 schools, bakeries, confectioneries, garment and footwear factories, a dairy, a cannery, and the water works. Libraries, clubs, a theater, four hospitals, 19 polyclinics and 33 restaurants have been opened.

One of Stalingrad's primary schools is located in the basement of a demolished house from which not long ago Hero of the Soviet Union Bykov's battery was annihilating the Germans. A bathhouse has been opened in the dugout on the Volga bank where Guardsmen of General Rodimtsev's famous Division used to rest.



(Top) Children and teachers on their way to classes in a ruined school which will soon be rebuilt; (bottom) A line-man repairs telephone wires, while in the background heavy motor trucks cart away the debris of war from living Stalingrad

NEW ARCHITECTURE FOR LIBERATED AREAS

By Academician Karo Alabyan

Karo Alabyan, Vice President of the Academy of Architecture of the USSR, was born in 1897 in Kirovabad, Armenia. Noted for his designs for the Armenian Pavilion at the All-Union Agricultural Exhibit and for the Central Red Army Theater in Moscow, Academician Alabyan has been decorated with the Order of the Red Banner of Labor and the Badge of Honor. In 1937 he was elected a member of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from Erivan. The Royal Institute of British Architects made him an honorary member in 1936. For his part in building the Soviet Pavilion at the New York World's Fair of 1938-39 he was awarded a silver medal and named an honorary citizen of New York. At present Alabyan is assisting in planning the restoration of Stalingrad.

Dozens of Soviet cities, hundreds of towns and thousands of villages have been reduced to ruin by the Hitlerites. Numerous historic monuments have been demolished. A vast work of reconstruction confronts us in the areas liberated from the German invaders.

This work has already begun and the Academy of Architecture of the USSR is taking a direct part in it. Four special scientific research institutes have been organized by the Academy. One is investigating problems in city planning and building, a second draws up projects for public and industrial structures, a third designs dwelling houses and a fourth investigates problems of building technique.

The city planning institute is already at work in the liberated areas. We do not intend to reproduce mechanically the former appearance of cities. Many were built hundreds of years ago and in an architectural sense were far from perfect. Our aim is to create cities of a modern style, well-ordered and with a harmonious architectural aspect. The Academy is already drawing up model projects for urban architectural ensembles and elaborating principles to be applied in laying out streets and public squares.

Another branch of the Academy's activity is the planning of workers' housing developments, with special emphasis on modern municipal services. The mass-construction institute is devoting special attention to the architecture of comfortable urban dwellings. In rebuilding workers' housing developments we intend to make wide use of American experience in the construction of one and two-story residences.

In planning collective farm villages, the climatic and traditional national characteristics of the respec-

tive regions are being taken into consideration. Here, too, our object is not to restore everything as it was, but to design architecturally new types of villages. We are at present compiling an album of village dwellings. New designs of convenient homes for collective farmers are being worked out, with the aim of achieving well-appointed dwellings whose architecture will reflect the national characteristics of the respective districts.

In wartime special importance attaches to the activity of the institute of building technique, which studies and makes practical tests of new types of construction for their sound and heat conductivity and resistance to fire.

The Academy is devoting special attention to the reconstruction of Stalingrad. A committee composed of outstanding architects recently visited the city and studied reconstruction plans drawn up before the war, introducing corrections in the plans for immediate restoration work. This group of experts designated by the Academy has permanent headquarters in Stalingrad, where it directs the architectural planning and organization of construction.

According to the new plans, Stalingrad will have a number of large parks. On Mamayev Kurgan, the height which was the scene of historic fighting, a panorama of the defense of Stalingrad will be erected. It will include the actual trenches remaining there after the great battle. The architects are also preparing projects for a monument in honor of the Stalingrad defense, which will be built in a square dedicated to the heroes of the present Patriotic War.

The foremost architects, artists and engineers have been enlisted to draw up projects for the principal ensembles and embankments of Stalingrad.

Sverdlovsk Miners Produce Coal Above Plan

The miners of the Sverdlovsk Region in the Urals have increased output by 66 per cent this year and the productivity of labor increased fourfold. The Sverdlovsk coal combine completed its half-yearly plan several days before schedule. One mine produced 21,500 tons of coal in excess of plan during the first 27 days of June. Two pits, which were among the first to fulfil their June plan, hewed 30 trainloads of coal in excess of plan before the end of the month.

BOOKS AT THE BATTLE FRONT

By Major Andrei Zhukov

The fighting men of the Red Army find time to read books and appreciate them. When *Pravda* published several chapters of Mikhail Sholokhov's war novel, *They Fought for Their Country*, they were read and discussed in the trenches.

"I like the way Sholokhov points out how much depends on the men's strict obedience to the officers' orders," said Private Algirov of the Southwestern Front. "Reading him is like reading my own life in the Red Army. If, for example, I had turned tail when a German tank was coming at me, it would have been the death of me and my comrades."

You find Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace* and *Sevastopol Tales* and the stories of Mikhail Saltykov-Shchedrin, the humorist of the last century, as well as modern fiction, in the blockhouses of the Volkhov Front. In the club of one unit on the Western Front I found the men reading much of Russia's two great poets, Mikhail Lermontov and Alexander Pushkin. The works of Vladimir Mayakovsky, and those of Nikolai Ostrovsky—a hero of the Civil War—are very popular, particularly Ostrovsky's *How the Steel Was Tempered*. I have seen Red Army officers and men carry books of these writers into battle, placing them beside letters from families or sweethearts.

On the Bryansk Front a conference was held devoted to the life and work of Nikolai Ostrovsky. It was attended for the most part by men who had distinguished themselves in battle, and the discussion centered around the moral strength of Ostrovsky's well-loved hero, Pavel Korchagin, whose life's aim was to promote the happiness of his fellowmen and to serve his country.

During a lull on the Bryansk Front Lieutenant Colonel Gritsenko and his comrades got together for a party. When the talk turned to literature, the Colonel began to recite Boris Gorbатов's popular tale, *About Life and Death*, and when he forgot a line, one of the officers was always ready to prompt him.

On the Kalinin Front I met Nikolai Korzhev, who served in the artillery and had traveled over 400 kilometers of territory, fighting all the way. "Pushkin's *Poltava* is a poem that goes straight to the heart," Korzhev said. "I've read it over and over, and the more I read it the better I like it." He recited parts of this long poem to me.

Group readings of books are widely held in the front lines. When *March and April*, the book of war stories by Vladimir Kozhevnikov, a young Soviet writer, arrived at the Volkhov Front, Private Suzdaev was asked by his comrades to read the stories aloud. After each reading there were lively discus-

sions, the men comparing their personal experiences with the writer's descriptions.

Just before a battle on the North Caucasus Front I heard a senior lieutenant read passages from Ilya Ehrenburg's *The German* to the men of his battery.

"We had group readings of Wanda Wasilewska's *The Rainbow* and found it absorbing and realistic," said Sergeant Serov, of the Kalinin Front. "The book makes you want to take up a rifle and win back the Ukraine." In these words Sergeant Serov explains why books are so popular at the front: they are a battle cry and a powerful means of raising morale. It is in this light that the men of the Leningrad Front regard Vera Inber's Leningrad epic in verse, *Pulkovo Meridian*, written in the most trying days of the siege. "Your poems have made me hate the enemy more than ever," Sergeant Korzhavin wrote the poetess. "Your books were passed from blockhouse to blockhouse and from company to company," Private Dvoretzky told Vera Inber. "You've written a stirring poem and we say with you, 'Leningrad lived, lives and will live!'"

Their sincere interest in books makes Soviet fighting men want to meet writers, to listen to them read their new works and to discuss literature with them. Recently there was a lively get-together of officers and men of the Bryansk Front with the prominent Soviet writers Fedor Gladkov and Vladimir Bakhmetyev, who came to visit them in the trenches.

Books have become a part of Red Army life, or as the men affectionately say, "listed as Red Army equipment." What the Soviet writer has to say is a matter of the greatest interest to the man at the front.

Woman Directs Arctic Meteorological Station

The chiefs of the Red Army hydro-meteorological service have expressed high appreciation of the work of Pavla-Chuprova, 66-year-old woman director of an Arctic meteorological station, who has also been awarded a large bonus. Pavla-Chuprova began work as an observer at the station 46 years ago, and has remained ever since. The local people elected her their deputy to the District Soviet. When war broke out her four sons left for the front. She recently contributed all her savings, 8,500 rubles, to the fund to build planes for the Red Army.

THE "CULTURAL" POLICY OF THE GERMANS IN OCCUPIED LATVIA

By Andrei Upits

Goebbels' classic phrase, "I want to shoot every time I hear the word culture," has found practical expression in Latvia in its most radical form.

The modern Langobards, upon reaching the shores of Daugava, began by shelling "Old Riga," situated on the water front, with its lofty buildings of modern architecture, its small quaint homes built during the Hanseatic period, its dark, narrow, winding streets and towering, spear-pointed Gothic church steeples, which lent much charm to our ancient city of Riga, the historical pillar of Middle-Age culture. The Germans also destroyed St. Peter's Belfry, 434 feet in height, famed throughout Europe, and in a most barbaric fashion deprived their great grandmother of her nose.

The further "deeds" of the Hitlerite hordes, occupied with the destruction of historical and modern culture, and their Latvian guardians and creators, have often been discussed in the press of Allied and neutral countries. More detailed reports are given by witnesses of these Bartholomew hecatombs, the pits of which are filled with thousands of mutilated bodies of tortured people. They are to be found in the Bikkerniek woods, on the islands of Daugava, in the vicinity of Liepava, and in many other places in Latgolia. Here also one will find Daugavpils in ruins and pillaged peasant homes.

During this period of bloody orgies the present "Reichsminister for the Eastern Provinces," a "philosopher" and ideologist of fascism and a most zealous aide of Hitler and Alfred Rosenberg, declared that his predecessors—the famous "Dog-knights" of the 13th Century—committed an unforgivable error by not destroying all the native Letts and thus relieving the Hitlerite executioners of this lengthy and dull job, as well as the unpleasant mess with the Lettish guerrillas and other ill-meaning elements of this "German Eastern Province."

This was at the beginning of the "blitzkrieg" when the Germans, capturing one Soviet village after another, were unable to pack and send the blood-spattered shirts of Soviet children to their Claras and Hildas, while in Germany itself long lists were being prepared of famished Michaels wishing to move to the vast fertile spaces in the East captured for the "ruling race." However, Hitler's triumphal chariot was stalled in the blood-soaked Russian ground and later overturned altogether.

The fascist beasts, receiving a terrific punch in their teeth, growled but were forced to retreat and bury themselves deep underground, to hide and prepare for a drawn-out and hopeless defensive war, only to be driven still further back in the face of the

ever-growing might of the Red Army forces. The Germans are greatly alarmed as they look behind them at the occupied countries, now raging with hatred toward their oppressors.

Under the influence of the severe blows of the Red Army on the Soviet-German front, the leaders of the fascist robber gangs have adopted a different attitude in their propaganda. Goebbels stuck his revolver into his pocket and suddenly began to mumble about "European culture," which must be defended by the same hordes who trampled upon and continue to stamp out culture with their hobnailed boots. All sorts of gauleiters and commissars in the occupied countries started to talk of "national culture" and other "freedoms" of the peoples, which would be presented to them for unconditional subjugation and voluntary aid to the frightened fascist scoundrels.

The thick-skulled Teuton has thought of a new trick, speculating on the naivete and credulity of the weary inhabitant of an oppressed country. This new course in the "cultural" policy of the German fascists is being manifested in occupied Soviet Latvia in a "singular manner." Nowhere else in Europe, I believe, has pure German hypocrisy, outrageous lies, fraud and swindling been more closely woven into a thick net to catch fools than in my unfortunate country.

The campaign to "patronize" national Lettish culture was inaugurated by none other than the German "Reichsminister" himself. He warmly greeted Wilhelm Purvit, professor and painter, whose name in previous years was changed to Purfit by the Germans whenever necessary. In the summer of 1942, the commissar for Zemgalia, Baron von Medem, ordered a national holiday of Lettish folk music to be held on St. John's Eve on the famous Staburag Cliff on the Daugava River. The commissar himself was soloist on the program, addressing the audience and performers. The Baron wasn't a bit embarrassed, but looked straight down at his audience as he delivered his speech packed with lies. He declared that Latvian national music had been suppressed during Soviet rule and that now, you see, the fascists have permitted the Letts to sing and dance to their hearts' content.

This summer the Hitlerites, foreseeing their approaching defeat, have been doing their utmost to replenish their ragged armies and muster slaves for their industries. Besides their whip and stick policy, they are adopting "cultural measures." In one of the columns of *Oteshestvo* (Fatherland), a newspaper published by the fascists in the Lettish language, a certain mercenary individual expresses his admiration of the "cultural films" which the German "educators"

are presenting to the people of occupied Latvia. One film, declares this individual, describes the free life and joys of city dwellers who have been sent to timber camps and farm fields—where they toil under the lashes of German overseers. He speaks of a second film which shows laughing men who have “volunteered” for service in the German army signing up, and Lettish girls being sent off to slavery in Germany. He applauds still a third film showing these girl-slaves in Germany during their “recreation” hours after work.

This venal hack, however, gives himself away. “These films,” he says, “have been produced in Germany and only certain necessary details carry the stamp of local Riga production.”

This is but one more standard German ersatz for mass consumption in all the occupied countries. It is difficult to determine whether these films intend to ridicule the “volunteers” recruited by means of fraud, threats and direct violence, or whether the thick-headed Germans thought the inhabitants of Latvia would believe the German propaganda films more than their own eyes and ears. They heard the fire of machine guns and trench mortars when General Banger-sky’s “voluntary legion” boarded a troop train. They have the letters full of despair sent by the Lettish girl-slaves in Germany. They know of the Latgalian labor camp “volunteer” who shot Fedor Jakushonok, the fascist overseer in the Stravolost area, and joined a guerrilla column. The von Medems, Drexlers, Fusts and other gauleiters and commissars of occupied territories do not rule flocks of sheep, but sober Latvian people who never cease to think of freedom.

The occupation authorities who speak falsely of “national culture” and offer roguish promises of various forms of freedom and advantages, trying thus to compel the Latvian population to forget its bitter present and become volunteer defenders of the fascist “new order” in their country, are greatly mistaken in their calculations. The city resident, stripped

to his last thread, and the peasant, crushed by various taxes and assemblies and groaning under the weight of the corvee, well remember that it was namely the “Kulturantraeger” who from the very beginning of their rule deprived them of everything, destroyed the last non-fascist Lettish book, closed all the schools, drove 14-year-old school children to hard labor in the fields to grow vegetables and grain for the filthy Hitlerite landsknecht and the German Michael and his wife, starving-somewhere in Pomerania or Mecklenburg.

This summer I saw a picture in *Ostland*, a magazine of my Latvian university, with a caption “Das Vorlesungsgebäude in Riga” (Riga Home for Reading). In an explanatory item beneath this picture the fascist “educator” sarcastically speaks of the “mammoth educational institution which existed in the small state until recently,” where once thousands of students studied, taught by hundreds of professors in scores of faculties. It is quite clear that the “educators” destroyed this monster in a hurry and in its place there appeared the “Riga Home for Reading,” where lectures would deal with “professional branches of knowledge” necessary for faithful farm serfs.

Not a single soul in Latvia will be misled by the “cultural” films produced in Berlin nor the holiday speeches of von Medem, nor the articles of the fascist “kulturtraeger.”

When the occupation authorities order church bells to be rung and pastors to deliver sermons on the subject of the “gloomy times under Bolshevism,” the Lettish villager shrugs his shoulders as he passes by, while he thinks of the priest of the Rundan sect tormented in a fascist prison. He remembers how in December, 1942 Alvis Brocke, a high school director, and Aglon, a priest popular among the Latgalians, were arrested and carried off to Germany; and how Alexander Truck, a priest of the Tsbli parish, was brutally murdered by the fascists.

Soviet Citizens in German Slavery

“Many in despair have thrown themselves under the wheels of trains, and many have died of starvation. British planes sometimes fly here. Our hearts grow lighter when we hear them,” wrote a Ukrainian girl carried off to Germany. Three letters addressed to her people were smuggled into the Soviet Union by a comrade in servitude, whom the Germans sent back because she was too ill to work.

Maria K., the writer of the letters, describes the bitterly hard work and suffering on the estate of a rich German landowner who has 80 slaves working for him.

Girls Build Ship Under Bombings

A ship built almost entirely by girls between the ages of 18 and 26 was recently turned over to the Soviet Naval Command. The ship was designed and all specifications drawn up by chief designer Natalya Dimitrieva, who was graduated from the Leningrad Shipbuilding Institute in 1941, and her assistant, 26-year-old engineer Zoya Petrova.

The shipyard workers were former housewives and secondary school and college girls who had but recently learned to tend lathes and milling machines. The shipyards were frequently bombed by the Luftwaffe, but the intrepid young women remained on the job even when bombs exploded in their immediate vicinity.

TRAVELERS' INNS SAFEGUARD AGAINST EPIDEMICS

By E. Finn

One autumn day in 1941, when the Germans were pressing toward Moscow, an incident which caused some alarm in public health circles occurred in a certain remote little village among the dense forests of the Vologda region, miles away from the front and from any lines of communication.

In the hamlet of some twenty-five farmsteads one of the peasants fell ill, and typhus was suspected. Mikhail Gorshkov, head of the Public Health Department, was duly notified. He determined to find out exactly how infection could have penetrated to that remote spot.

For centuries the main means of communication in the Vologda Region have been the rivers that flow through the dense, stately forests. Railway lines and highways are few and far between. The thick forests are threaded by countless pathways, short cuts which the local inhabitants use in preference to the road which runs along the outskirts of the forests by rivers and lakes. The winter cold is often no less intense than the famous frost of Siberia. But even in the depth of winter there is a busy traffic of pedestrians and skiers through the forests. Railways and river steamers are all very well, but the Vologda peasants trust to their legs.

Flying Doctors Prevent Spread of Disease

In actual fact, the patient referred to above was found not to have typhus after all, and soon recovered, but the case in question led to some very interesting consequences. I met Dr. Gorshkov in Moscow, at a conference convened by the People's Commissariat of Public Health. We began discussing rural health problems.

"You know, of course," he said, "how drastically we deal with infectious diseases. Directly we hear of any case of infection we mobilize all our resources to localize the disease. Swiftly as any fire brigade, our disinfectionists rush to the danger spot. We have hospital aircraft always at our service.

"Thanks to all these precautions, we have had no epidemics—a great contrast to the days of the first World War. That made the case in that remote hamlet all the more alarming. We had kept careful watch over the railway stations and landing places, where all arrivals must undergo medical examination. The only people we hadn't been able to keep a check on were the pedestrians who made their own way

through the forests without the aid of road, rail or river. They eluded our vigilance. With whom and where they stayed at night we had no means of knowing. It was clear that the permanent inhabitants of this or that village were not involved, but chance travelers.

"So we decided to set up special inns for these people. The first one was opened toward the end of last winter in the village of Kubinskoye, situated on the high road connecting Vologda with a number of other regional points. Numerous forest paths converge at Kubinskoye. As well as the numerous travelers passing through the village in motors or peasant sledges, a goodly number make their way on foot.

Carriers Isolated

"A good commodious dwelling to serve as an inn was placed at our disposal by the local collective farm, and one of the women farmers was given the task of looking after the visitors. She had to heat the great Russian stove, boil the water, cook the dinners, and what was most important, she had to see that the place was kept scrupulously clean. Lodging for the night and all other services were free of charge. For a simple dinner a charge of 20 kopeks was made.

"The project was a success. The travelers were kept from contact with the local inhabitants, and they all enjoyed putting up at the inn. We could rest assured that if there should prove to be a carrier of some dangerous infection among them, he would not infect the local inhabitants. If any visitor was discovered to be ill, the matron immediately notified the local doctor.

"News of the establishment of a travelers' inn in Kubinskoye soon reached other districts, where similar facilities for travelers were not long in appearing. We men of the medical profession heartily welcomed these houses and did our very best to get them going. Our main interest was of course to fight against the introduction of infection, but it was also a great advantage to travelers to be assured of warm accommodation during the bitter frosts and violent snowstorms.

"This innovation, with other preventative measures, is of great importance in safeguarding rural health. We now have eighty such inns in the Vologda region. They will be vacant during the summer, but as soon as the autumn cold sets in, and the winter with its frosts, they will serve thousands of people."

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KHARKOV IS OURS

By Nikolai Virta

Nikolai Virta, talented young Soviet author and journalist, was awarded the Stalin Prize in 1941 for his novel SOLITUDE.

Every Russian heart beat faster with the news that Kharkov is again our native city. Scarred and bleeding Kharkov, I greet you! The banner of the Soviet

country, the banner of my homeland, again waves over you. Twice you have experienced bitter hours. On October 29 the Red Army left Kharkov. The struggle at that time was too unequal. In February, 1943 the Red Army dislodged the Germans from the town, but in March the Gestapo was again torturing the people of your great city.



MOSCOW SALUTES THE HEROES OF KHARKOV—Tracer bullets illuminate the sky above the Kremlin on the night of August 23

Radiophoto

The hour of liberation has struck! Red Army men have once again displayed to the whole world their courage, their will to victory, their hatred of the enemy. All who are with us in Europe and America and other countries are happy today to applaud and salute the Red Army of Russia. The Germans have again been beaten in this Ukrainian city; the Hitlerite soldiers have again been smitten to the very heart. The appeals of the enraged Fuehrer, the cries of Goebbels, all attempts of the German generals to stall the mighty advance of the Red Army, were futile. Belgorod fell, Kharkov fell . . . the Byelorussian and Ukrainian lands, the Byelorussian and Ukrainian towns and villages, are being liberated from German slavery.

Sons of Byelorussia and the Ukraine, I send you my greetings—again you are free!

But many lands and many peoples are still under the terrible fascist yoke. Many Russian, Slav and other lands are groaning under the Nazi heel. Today all who are oppressed, who suffer, whose hearts bleed, will say: How soon will our bitter lot be ended? How soon will our towns be set free so that no one will dare to persecute us? Who will reply to those awaiting their liberation? When will the hour of happiness strike for them?

Why do not those who are armed to the teeth hurry?

Why are the huge forces of the United Nations inactive?

When will the blow be dealt from the west to strengthen the blows of the Red Army?

These questions are asked by everyone who cares for the lives of mankind and the happiness and peace of his own family.

I, a Russian, also ask myself this question. I saw our Red Army fight at the approaches to Stalingrad. I know how, after beating off the fierce attacks in July, they themselves passed to the offensive, inflicting heavy blows on the enemy. But when, asks my war-weary, unfortunate heart, will this blow merge with yet another blow promised long ago and expected in every corner of the earth?

When?

I again ask myself this question in the hour of triumph of Stalin and Russian will.

Kharkov is again ours. Ours will be the towns and villages which have been ours. When will the bleeding world be in a position to say: "Today we, too, are free?"

SOUTHWEST OF VOROSHILOVGRAD

By Major B. Glebov

MOSCOW, August 24.—During the fighting southwest of Voroshilovgrad Soviet troops broke through a strongly fortified German defense area and penetrated to a depth of 30 to 35 kilometers, seizing a number of inhabited points. Breaking the enemy's stubborn resistance and repulsing his counter-attacks, our troops persistently advanced and after seizing the railway point Donetsko-Amvrosiyevka dealt the enemy another series of telling blows.

The territory in the area of fighting is rough and undulating. The Germans have erected countless strong points here in the villages and on the hills and are doing everything in their power to stem the advance of Soviet troops, bringing into action every type of gun and maintaining powerful fire at the approaches to their lines. In addition they are transferring bomber craft to this sector and actively maneuvering their reserves in an attempt to fill the breach in the threatened areas.

Simultaneously the German command is resorting to every measure to bolster the tenacity of their troops. Orders keep pouring in to regiments and battalions demanding one thing: that the positions

be held at any price. These orders are backed by measures which the Germans apparently think may be more effective. They were referred to during the interrogation of German prisoner Private Herbert Schleich of the 12th Company of the 686th Infantry Regiment, who stated, "We were ordered not to surrender our positions under any circumstances, and to prevent the soldiers from running away Lieutenant Colonel Lucht, the regimental commander, had particularly trustworthy machine gunners posted behind the trenches with orders to shoot anyone who attempted to retreat or to go over to the Russians. Furthermore, the soldiers knew that mines had been secretly laid and carefully concealed in front of the trenches. This was also done to keep the soldiers from deserting to the Russians."

But neither the written pledge to hold his position at any price, which every German soldier here was made to sign, nor other special measures, are of any avail against the fire of Soviet guns or the attacks of Soviet tanks and infantry. Our troops are achieving success by coordinated action and skilful maneuvering on the battlefield. Heavy fighting is still raging in this area.

THE LENINGRAD HIGHWAY

By Lev Nikulin

The Leningrad Highway is the old road from St. Petersburg to Moscow. We drive through the cities of Klin and Kalinin, torn from the clutches of the enemy . . . past the ruins of beautiful dwellings . . . a concrete water tower inclined like the Leaning Tower of Pisa . . . past Torzhok, in the Kalinin Region, a picturesque little town turned into a heap of ruins.

Many times the great poet Pushkin traveled this road. In the cool morning hours he passed by crystal Lake Valdai, with the little island in the midst from which rises the walls of an old Russian monastery. The highway stretches away to the northwest . . . to wonderful Lake Ilmen and the ancient city of Novgorod.

Beyond a bend in the road we come suddenly upon barbed-wire entanglements, anti-tank ditches, enclosures with the warning sign—"Mines!"—trenches and grass-grown blindages. This is where the enemy strove to pass; where he attempted to break through the front, to emerge to Lake Valdai and onto the Leningrad Highway. Instead, he found himself in the famous Demyansk cauldron, where he met his end.

The road runs downhill, then ascends and again

descends, cuts through forests and crosses the advanced line of the German defense. Everywhere we see the German blindages and barbed-wire entanglements—brick spikes with coils of rusty wire between. Neatly-made benches stand before the blindages, apparently for the convenience of officers who felt like having a breath of air or enjoying the view of the low, wooded hills on the horizon.

Here begins the Demyansk district . . . devastated villages, gutted churches, the ruins of brick buildings . . . and graveyards filled with German soldiers and officers. Here the German passion for the birch, that picturesque tree, found complete satisfaction. An entire regiment of Chasseurs, with its commander and officers, lies under the birches near Demyansk. Nearby repose Hitler's Grenadiers. The SS men chose another beautiful grove for their cemetery. There are thousands of such graves. The Germans held on to Demyansk tooth and nail . . . but in the end they were forced out of these regions . . . or buried here together with their hopes of breaking through at Valdai to the old St. Petersburg Road.

Besides the graves, the Germans left behind an execrable road made of horizontally placed poles.



LENINGRAD'S DEFENDERS—These young people have just had the special medal "For the Defense of Leningrad" pinned on their Red Army tunics

Parts of the road still remain and trucks move over it, plunging, rising and falling like boats in a storm. One needs only to ride a few kilometers to understand how helpless the German road-builders were in these regions. What a sigh of relief comes from our drivers and passengers when they finally reach another unusual military road, rescuing them from the muddy, swampy stretches. This road is made of wood—smoothly planed boards placed parallel, like rails on ties. Such roads were built in the difficult time when the question of supplying the front was exceptionally urgent, when the railway line was cut and food, shells and reinforcements were supplied with extreme difficulty. In those days the titanic work of the sappers actually determined the issue of fighting operations. Napoleon once observed, "Communications are victory." In these regions the laying of roads was indeed the guarantee of victory.

The wooden road squeaks slightly under the weight of the powerful Dodge and Studebaker trucks, which move as if over an endless bridge. A pedestrian needs only to step off the road to sink to his knees in mud. At half-kilometer intervals the road widens to allow machines to pass. Thus through tens of kilometers of swamp land runs this extraordinary road built by Red Army sappers.

The battles here were extremely fierce. For ten kilometers the forests along the road were destroyed by artillery fire. The stripped trunks of trees are studded with myriads of shell fragments . . . they are, so to speak, saturated with metal. A saw makes no headway in such trees, and timber for building the road had to be brought from far off.

We are now passing over the battlefield. At 100-meter intervals are piled heaps of bullet-ridden helmets, broken machine guns and discharged mines. Five months have passed since the memorable Dem-

yansk battle, but trophies are still being gathered and mines still lurk for the unwary who venture off the beaten path. It is reported that the Germans left 2,000,000 mines here; to date several hundred thousand have been found and rendered harmless.

In the evening we arrive at the headquarters of a regiment. The blindages resemble structures built on piles. Small bridges lead from blindage to blindage, for the front here is in the swamp. Clouds of mosquitoes swarm about. Silence reigns . . . then a cuckoo cries dismally from the advanced lines.

"You've come from the Orel Front?" the battalion commander asks my companion. "I envy you . . . out here it's like a summer home, except that the mosquitoes don't give us any peace."

But at two in the morning trench-mortar fire begins. At five the Germans open fire from machine guns. Shells fly about the woods and fragments can be heard scraping the trunks of pines.

"The Fritzes are getting nervous," says the battalion commander, screwing up his eyes slightly. This is a sensitive spot . . . several kilometers away lie Staraya Russa and Lake Ilmen. A bit further to the west are Novgorod, Pskov and the border of Estonia.

The sun comes up. All night and all day trucks honk and motorcycles sputter along the road. It is an ordinary front-line road, except that it is under enemy fire. A mile-post knocked down by a shell explosion bears the inscription "To Novgorod—," with the number of kilometers added.

The day is coming when at the crossroads of these two old Russian highways a Red Army man will stand, regulating the traffic . . . and the little flag in his hand will tell us the way is clear to Great Novgorod and ancient Pskov.

NEW WORKS OF SOVIET SCIENTISTS

A number of works by prominent Soviet scientists and Stalin Prize Winners have recently been issued by the Publishing House of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

The Russia of the Kiev Era, by Boris Grekov, Member of the Academy of Sciences, based on historic documents, shows the rise of the Ukraine, Byelorussia and Great Russia from the Kiev State. Corresponding Member of the Academy Yakovlev is the author of *Serfs and Serfdom in Muscovy in the 17th Century*, which illumines social relations under Tsars Mikhail and Alexei. Various historic documents are cited, including 150 records of legal cases over 300 years old.

The second volume of a monograph on the Crimean War by Academician Eugene Tarle, awarded the Stalin

Prize in 1942 for the first volume of this work, will appear shortly.

Also in preparation is a volume on the work of the Biogeochemistry Laboratory of the Academy of Sciences, compiled by Vladimir Bernadsky, one of the oldest members of the Academy and founder of the School of Genetic Mineralogy.

A volume of new works by the staff members of the Physics Institute of the Academy of Sciences, edited by Academician Vavilov, will soon be published. It will include the best theses for the doctor's degree by young Soviet scientists on problems of the physics of the atomic nucleus.

Academician Eugene Chudakov, founder of the Soviet school in the field of automobile transportation, has submitted for publication his new work on the history of automobile transportation.

Seven Air Heroes Again Decorated

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has awarded a second Gold Star to Heroes of the Soviet Union Major Bondarenko, Captain Glinka, Guards Captains Golubev and Yefremov, Guards Lieutenant Colonel Zaitsev and Guards Majors Pokryshev and Pokryshkin. All are aces of the Red Army Air Force. The Gold Star is the decoration awarded with the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

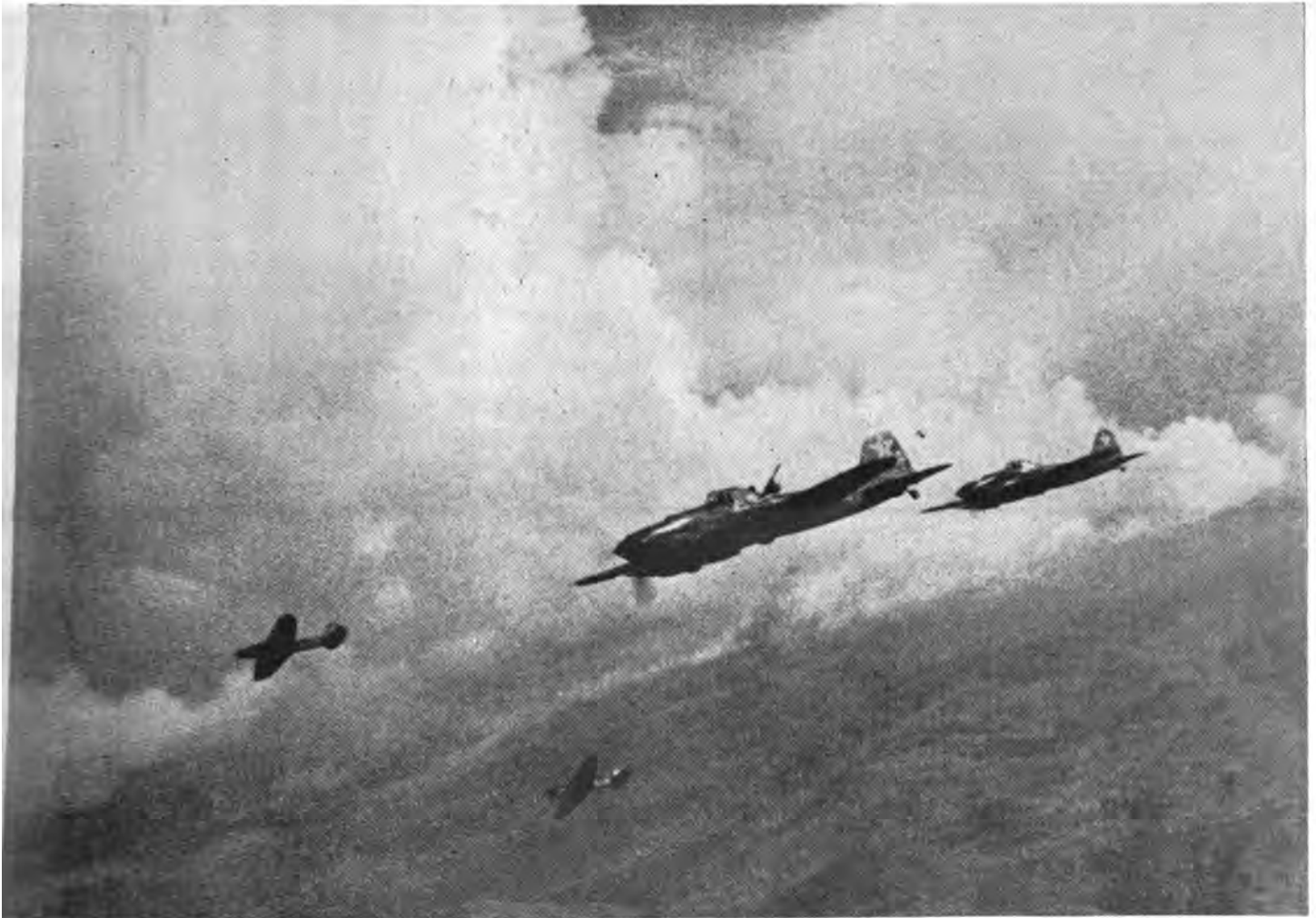
Attacking enemy airdromes, tank columns and railway junctions and crossings, Major Bondarenko personally destroyed 48 tanks, smashed some 20 aircraft and 25 carloads of supplies. He was wounded three times, but on each occasion, with exceptional courage and endurance, made his way back to his home airfield.

Captain Glinka, hero of aerial battles over the Kuban valley, has shot down 36 enemy aircraft, 29 singly and seven in group combats. Captain Golubev has some 50 destroyed tanks to his credit, 20 aircraft

and a large number of wagonloads of supplies, and has killed about 1,000 enemy officers and men. Since the outbreak of the war Golubev has not had a single breakdown.

Captain Yefremov, native of Stalingrad and one of its defenders, has made 204 night bombing flights against enemy troops and equipment. Lieutenant Colonel Zaitsev is commander of an air unit which brought down 150 enemy planes in air combats. Zaitsev personally shot down 25 enemy aircraft and has made 307 operational flights.

Squadron Commander Major Pokryshev shot down 29 enemy aircraft, of which 22 were brought down in single combat, and in addition has made many daring reconnaissance flights. Fighter pilot Major Pokryshkin personally shot down 37 enemy aircraft in **single combat and six with other fliers**. He has made 455 operational flights and is one of the most experienced Soviet pilots.



Soviet Stormoviks attacking in a snowstorm, through heavy clouds

SANATORIUM FOR UKRAINIAN GUERRILLAS

By Stanislav Radzinsky

Outside a certain city of the USSR, standing in beautiful grounds among shady trees, where birds sing in the bushes and fountains gently murmur, stands an old mansion which the Government of the Soviet Ukraine has turned into a sanatorium for guerrillas brought here from behind the German lines in the Ukraine. It lies many hundreds of miles from guerrilla-land.

The sanatorium has two departments: one for severely wounded patients, the other for light cases, or for people needing only rest for recuperation. Convalescent patients stroll in the grounds. They wear the sanatorium costume of light drill, but some still sport their peaked caps with the brave red rectangle—the guerrilla's badge—stuck in them. Inside the wards are men brought from the Ukraine by plane only a few days ago. Most of the patients are between 25 and 35 years of age. Before the war they were factory workers, collective farmers, clerks, schoolteachers, agronomists.

The convalescents greedily drink in the morning air. The long sanatorium day lies before them. They rose at eight o'clock and have already completed their daily course of treatment. Now they are waiting for the breakfast gong. Four meals are served daily, and the food is abundant and wholesome.

Tomorrow evening there will be a lecture on Soviet literature. On the following day a company from the Stanislavsky-Nemirovich-Danchenko Theater will play excerpts from operas and musical comedy. During the day nearly everyone plays chess, either in the wards or under the trees.

In the billiard room I found a venerable old man with a wonderful flowing beard playing a game with a dashing young fellow. I amused myself by trying to guess their identity. That nice-looking old man, I said to myself, must be a doctor who found his way

into a guerrilla detachment; and his young opponent obviously specializes in desperate enterprises—a scout, undoubtedly.

I asked the orderly about them: "Oh, the old man's an amazing character," he replied. "We call him Father Christmas. He commands a guerrilla detachment. The Germans think he's a regular terror: they've put an enormous price on his head. The young fellow? Oh, he's in an ambulance section."

I suppose I must have looked surprised, because the orderly went on to explain that the dashing young man wasn't an ambulance driver, but chief of the ambulance section, which in a large guerrilla detachment is quite a unit. The chief has at least 70 people under him, and in battle there is plenty of work to do. Wounded have to be carried from the battlefield and, if necessary, evacuated.

Later I talked to the young man. His one regret was that usually he is so immersed in his duties that he hasn't a chance to take a crack at the Germans, and he's a first-class shot, a regular sniper. He was appointed chief of the ambulance unit because he is an assistant surgeon by profession.

The patients in this sanatorium are cared for by some of the finest physicians and medical specialists in the Soviet Union. The sanatorium wall newspaper run by the guerrilla patients devotes much space to heartfelt praise of the devotion of the staff.

One of the patients, a Ukrainian poet, has written a poem in praise of the doctors and nurses. "In the battles for the Ukraine which are to come," he says, to put his lines roughly into English, "we guerrillas will not forget your loving kindness. We will split the Germans' criminal skulls and spill their black blood, and as we firmly clutch our rifles, our minds will be filled with the warm memory of your loving kindness."

VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOLS

PRODUCE FOR FRONT

Vocational training schools in the USSR have prepared over 1,300,000 skilled young workers for industry and transport. During their training young Soviet industrial students mined 3,000,000 tons of coal, 600,000 tons of ore and over 130,000 tons of oil. They also built a number of ships, locomotives and machine tools. The students of a Magnitogorsk school

smelted enough high-grade steel in excess of plan to make 80 heavy tanks, 110 guns, 40,000 mortars, 55,000 automatic rifles and 320,000 hand grenades.

The total value of goods produced by young Soviet industrial students since the war began amounts to over 1,000,000,000 rubles.

THE CENTRAL RED ARMY CLUB

By O. Savich

Colonel Vasili Maximov, chief of the Central Red Army Club in Moscow, was born in Moscow in 1901, the son of a working man. In his childhood he went to work in a factory. At the age of 17 he volunteered for the Red Army, which had just been formed. Besides the Badge of Honor received for long and fruitful service in the cause of culture, he wears the medals awarded the veterans who have served with the Red Army from the day of its formation. He fought in the Civil War on the southern and southwestern fronts. From a raw private he rose to command a detachment, then a battalion.

When the Civil War ended Maximov was faced with the problem of choosing a career. Two sentiments dominated him. One was love for the Red Army which had been his school of life, of fidelity and courage. The other was love of culture, knowledge, art. These two sentiments merged into one, and found a common outlet.

This year Maximov might justly celebrate a jubilee: he has devoted 20 years of his life to the service of culture and the Red Army. In 1923 he definitely chose cultural work as his career; the modest pupil, the inexperienced lecturer, the timid organizer became head of the largest cultural institution in the Soviet Union.

He began by forming small Red Army clubs, arranging entertainment and occasional lectures. Then he opened the Red Army House in Odessa and the chief Red Army House in Kiev. Now, for the second time, he is directing the Moscow Red Army House.

He has a son who was graduated from high school and will join the Red Army this year, and a daughter who is in the fourth class in high school.

This is what Colonel Maximov says of the work of the Central Red Army Club:

"Every month we send about 80 theatrical companies to the front, made up of actors from Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev theaters and the 'theaters of the nationalities.' Every week we send at least 150 lecturers, who deliver about 10 lectures. We have a Red Army art studio staffed by 40 artists, who spend as much time working at the front as in the rear. Among our lecturers are artists and scientists.

"We publish a large amount of literature to help the army's amateur dramatic and concert groups. We have representatives at the front who collect documents relating to the war. Some of this material is displayed in our permanent exhibition. In days to come it will serve as material for historians. We also collect specimens of enemy weapons and arrange for them to be examined by experts.

"What results can we claim for our work? First of all, the immense cultural progress of our officers and men. The themes of our lectures and traveling exhibitions range from Reconnaissance to modern American painting, from modern tactics to British music, from literary classics to sports, from Russian history to choral singing. Actors draw up programs for the army amateur dramatic societies. Artists teach men with a gift for art. Composers compose—or help to compose—regimental songs. Writers initiate budding army authors into the art.

"Our job is to bring what we are defending right into the front line."

BLIND SOVIET MUSICIAN IN CONCERT

At a recent concert of students of higher musical schools of the USSR, the blind 22-year-old pianist Leonid Zyusin, one of the most talented graduates of the Moscow Conservatory, attracted especial attention. According to Professor Grigori Ginsburg, teacher of many noted pianists, Zyusin is one of the most gifted representatives of the young generation of Soviet musicians.

Zyusin lost his eyesight at an early age, but despite this completed his work in high school and because of his unusual ability in music was admitted to the Moscow Conservatory. He possesses a remarkable

memory. Everything his comrades and instructors play for him is quickly memorized and he can learn by heart within ten days the most complex compositions of 50 and 60 pages, including every shading of sound. His repertoire includes no less than 250 lengthy musical pieces. This remarkable faculty extends beyond music, and Zyusin can recite in detail the contents of some 800 books. Soviet scientists are much interested in his extraordinary memory.

The blind musician has a cheerful disposition which, with his wide education, makes him an interesting companion. He has many friends and is married to a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory.

Notes from Front and Rear

The Germans on the Orel front tried putting Tommy gunners in front-line trenches behind barbed-wire entanglements, with the object of separating the Soviet infantry from the tanks. It didn't work. Soviet tankmen devised a contrivance which tore down hundreds of yards of the barbed wire and dragged it behind the tanks, raising a terrific cloud of dust. The German Tommy gunners lost their heads.

★

One of the largest of the newly-discovered Soviet coal basins is the Angrensk in Uzbekistan, where one mine is already in operation, a second is to open shortly, and three more will begin production before the end of the year. Uzbeks working the new mines quickly mastered their jobs and a number already occupy managerial posts. Extensive developments are planned for this coalfield.

★

A number of officers of the French Normandie Squadron fighting on the Soviet-German front were recently decorated by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR for exemplary execution of combat assignments of the Command in fighting the German invaders, and for valor and courage displayed in action. The Order of the Patriotic War, First Degree, was awarded to Lieutenant Castelain, and the Order of the Patriotic War, Second Degree, to Lieutenant Albert, Senior Lieutenant Begain and Captain Preziosi.

★

Georgian schoolchildren are playing an important part in agriculture this summer. They prepared for this work in training courses at children's technical centers where they even turned out simple agricultural implements. Each detachment of children working in the fields has study circles, a librarian and a newspaper editor. Children from the upper grades work in nurseries and children's playgrounds. Last year 99 Georgian teachers and schoolchildren were awarded the Distinguished Agricultural Badge by the Soviet Government for their summer work on State and collective farms.

★

Galina Kletskaya, formerly a stenographer in Odessa, is a marine in the Black Sea Fleet and has received mention in dispatches. Volunteering for the Red Navy when the war broke out, she has now been promoted to the rank of assistant commander of an automatic rifle company. Kletskaya has taken part in many dangerous fighting operations and has been wounded four times.

Residents of the liberated districts of the Ukraine report that the Ukrainian people in the occupied regions ignore the Hitlerite measures and evade German labor mobilization. The July mobilization was frustrated in most of the towns and villages of the Kharkov, Rovno and other Regions because all the young people fled to the forests and joined the guerrillas. Guerrilla detachments attacked German recruiting bureaus and destroyed the lists of persons subject to mobilization. In recent months guerrillas in the Zhitomir Region have liberated thousands of Soviet citizens being escorted to Germany for penal servitude.

★

Since the outbreak of the war Siberia has become a second home for many southern fruits and other crops, including sugar beet. Strawberries, high quality plums and apples are being cultivated there with great success.

★

The Ivanovo Medical Institute has just graduated 240 new doctors, most of whom will work in the liberated areas. A regulation of the People's Commissariat of Health gives first call on the services of newly-qualified doctors to rural public health departments, medical staffs of war factories and children's consultation centers.

★

In two months the Sverdlovenergo Power Station has saved 4,000 tons of coal and 2,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity. The system of premiums for workers who effect economies of this kind contributed to these results. Workers in the thermo-electrical department of a factory in Krasnogorsk who saved 500 to 600 tons of fuel received premiums amounting to several thousand rubles.

★

The Soviet Research Center for Tropical and Southern Fruits has produced a new fruit by crossing the tangerine, lemon and orange. The fruit is pear-shaped and its skin is easily removed, while the flavor is that of a tangerine with the acid piquancy of a lemon. The plant stands winter more successfully than the tangerine and is very prolific. The fruit ripens in November. The Research Center has also produced several new types of peaches and plums.

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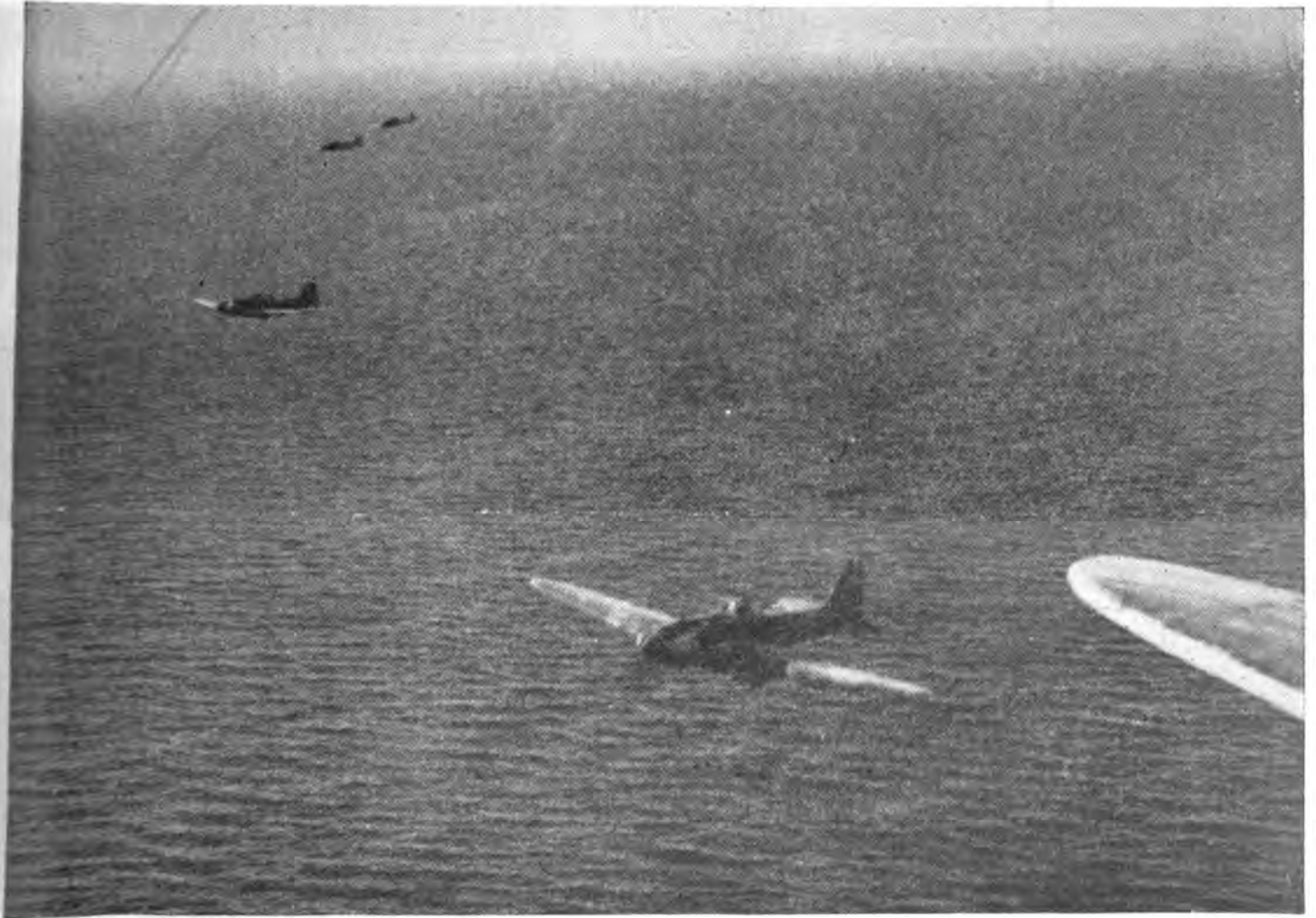
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USSR RECOGNIZES FRENCH COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

On June 17 the French Committee of National Liberation conveyed to the Soviet Government its declaration of June 3 and its application on the subject of its recognition.

On August 26 the People's Commissariat of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Soviet Government communicated the following to the French Committee of National Liberation:

"The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics having acquainted itself with the declaration of the French Committee of National Liberation has decided to recognize the French Committee of National Liberation as the representative of the State interests of the French Republic and leader of all French patriots fighting against Hitlerite tyranny, and to exchange with it plenipotentiary representatives."



THE RED AIR FORCE—Soviet Stormoviks patrolling the Black Sea

MOSCOW SALUTES

By A. Mikhailov

Twilight has fallen over the Capital and the glow of sunset is blazing over Gorky Street . . . over the Leningrad Highway. People continue to stand near the loudspeakers and maps of the Soviet Union. They are excited. The stirring contents of the Order of the Day issued by the Commander-in-Chief and broadcast a few moments ago still rings in their ears: Our forces stormed and took Kharkov! Kharkov is ours!

This wonderful message flies over evening Moscow, over factories and fields, cities and villages. It is heard not only in our country, with pride in its sons at the front and their arduous struggle which brought the victory . . . millions of people throughout the world sit by their radios, hearing the news again and again.

The broadcast is over, but the people do not go their separate ways; they still surround the silent loudspeakers. One civilian, wearing rubbers and carrying an umbrella, takes a pocket map of the USSR from his pocket.

"How far is it from Oposhni to Poltava? That's my home town. Is the scale 50 kilometers or 40?" The people bend over the small map with pencils in their hands. Someone produces a magnifying glass and a match and measures the scale.

"I'll have to ask my boy. He's only 14, but he knows the geography of Russia better than you or I ever knew it. You see, he studied it in the war bulletins."

A major smiles. "Your son will be a famous geographer," he says. "He'll have to study the villages and cities of the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Bessarabia and the Baltic Republics."

We approach a dark square. The steady hum of the city, blending with the sound of a faraway steam-hammer, whistles, locomotives on freight sidings, the purring motors of night planes patrolling the skies above the Capital, is broken by shouts and cheers from houses and gardens. The violet and red rays of automobile headlights and the dimmed lights of trolley buses and streetcars flash past in the darkness of the August night . . . the night of the Kharkov victory.

Suddenly lightning blazes in the sky . . . a reflection of the flashes of distant batteries. The sound arrives later: the sixth, seventh, eighth . . . twentieth . . . volleys. With 20 artillery volleys from 224

guns, Moscow salutes the valiant forces which liberated Kharkov. An old tradition has been restored. The Capital marks the new triumph of Russian arms with a cannonade, and streams of red, green and white rockets light up the sky as tracer bullets pierce the night's darkness. The fireworks of victory shoot into the air.

The wind blows through the streets and squares of Moscow. In a large city it is difficult to determine . . . and at night more so . . . which direction is south. Is it beyond Zatsepa or Solyanka? The wind now sweeping over Moscow, however, comes from the Ukraine . . . it is the wind of Zolochiv, Bogodukhov, Kharkov and Zmiyev. It flutters the battle standards there . . . under the folds of which the Red Army is advancing to the west.

Moscow is now dark. Closed and blacked-out are the windows of factories and mills where the mighty rhythm of labor does not pause for a second. The solemn, five-minute meetings near the loudspeakers have ended and the lathe operators, locksmiths, milling-machine hands and other workers have returned to their machines. Steel smelters pour molten metal, and trench mortars, field-guns, airplanes and trucks are assembled and mounted in spacious shops. Trucks loaded with shells, bombs and mines leave the factory yards one after another.

Moscow tonight is forging the weapons of victory.

Factories To Produce Prefabricated Houses in 1943

Various People's Commissariats of the USSR have begun to put into effect the Government's decree on the economic rehabilitation of districts liberated from the German invaders.

Assistant People's Commissar of the Building Materials Industry Kretov states that 1,000 apartments per month will be built for citizens whose homes were destroyed by the Germans.

"Factories for the production of prefabricated houses are being constructed in the Smolensk, Kalinin and Orel Regions," said Mr. Kretov. "Three such factories are being built in the Kalinin Region, including one in Rzhev, and 13 will be launched this year. High-speed methods of construction are being employed."

THE TREAD OF WRATH

By Leonid Leonov

Kharkov—another step along the road to victory!

And when Moscow's thunderous salute to the front was heard and the evening stars suddenly dimmed, yielding place in the skies to the blinding glory of human exaltation, our people experienced an emotion almost beyond the power of the heart to endure. It was an overwhelming admiration for those brothers and husbands who wear the Red Army uniform: and amazement at themselves. The source of that proud and noble rejoicing lies in the consciousness of being a worthy son of a country which is sweeping on to world-wide and unexcelled renown.

Not in vain, then, were those long shifts you, the worker, put in at your machine; nor the painstaking care with which you, the farmer, watched over your crops; nor the curves of the splendid war machines which you wrought in your designs, draftsman; nor

the song of the poet, which proved as imperative as the order leading men into action. It was you who applauded Moscow's evening skies . . . who helped the Red Army to accomplish the deed for which no word has yet been found, even in the most emotional human speech.

For we know the enemy we are fighting today. It is a Germany who has accepted the ravings of a base and dastardly ignoramus for her national Bible. We are fighting a Germany who for a whole century nurtured within the walls of her military academies the mathematicians of her future gains; a Germany who permitted her neighbors to exist only for the time being; a state which prepared the doom of all who were not German in spirit and blood—this is the Germany now retreating, stunned, before us . . .

Kharkov is no doubt still burning, this spacious,



ON THE BRYANSK FRONT—Joyfully and gratefully the collective farmers of Kanevskoe village, Orel Region, welcome the Red Army tankmen who liberated them from the Nazi yoke

Radiophoto

splendid city . . . the heart of the Ukrainian Republic. Never since ancient times has it known such a baptism of fire. Somewhere in the forward distance Stalin's artillery is crashing and hammering, firmly driving another nail into the coffin of German fascism. It is probably quiet over Kharkov now . . . Acrid smoke still drifts through its famous streets and young mothers grown old in German captivity weep for their infants, for their trampled dreams and the ashes of their homes. Only the Red Army's solemn tread echoing hollowly through the distorted streets arouses them from their bitter grief . . .

Our countless, battle-scorched regiments—who have seen Stalingrad, Moscow, Orel, Belgorod—tramp through the wreckage and ruin. Germany has been here. For half a thousand kilometers our troops fought their way to this city, and all this way was a monotonous, artificial desert—one long unbroken chain of direct evidence. They saw the experienced hand of the Hitlerite pillager in every detail of this witches' sabbath of ruin and desolation. Truly an evil-doer had been here!

Our old-world cities, than which there are none more lovely to us; the ancient shrines, familiar and well-loved from the time of children's tales and school days; the mighty industrial construction, the legacy we were leaving for generations to come, for our children themselves: all these were flung down by the enemy into chaotic heaps . . .

He who has seen his mother's abdomen slashed by the murderer's knife cannot be held back. His tread will be more formidable than that of the iron Tigers and long-muzzled German Ferdinands—this measured, majestic, noiseless tread of a great wrath.

To earn such hatred as this called for much labor, but you have earned it, Hitlerite Germany.

What shall we tell you, liberators of Kharkov, great Stalin's soldiers and generals? You fought like lions? It is not enough! Like eagles you clawed the alien abomination on the battlefield? It is not enough! You did battle as your fathers before you, as those renowned heroes of legend and song, as those of whom you yourselves sing. You have equalled them now in valor and devotion to your country. Alexander Suvorov himself might have boasted of such brave soldiers. Let the world, which must feel shame for its tardiness, marvel at you again and again—and learn from your example loyalty to the sacred ideals of true humanism.

Experienced people draw their strength and confidence from each victory and are not to be beguiled until they have finished their job with honor. They know that today everything is at stake—honor, life itself. Our duel is not ended yet. The wolf does not die at once. He has to be beaten for a long while with a club—across his narrow muzzle, across his back, between his ears and everywhere, until the waters of death spurt from his stinking nostrils.

Nevertheless, the great holiday of which Stalin spoke in our darkest days approaches. The familiar freshness of the Dnieper's autumnal waves is sharp in our nostrils. Fascism's Roman patriarch has been laid low: his Berlin apostle has not long to wait. Soon, very soon now, the day will come when the enslavers, weakened by our blows, will be beaten and exterminated with whatever weapons are at hand, at every crossroads, in all the subjugated capitals of Europe. When that day comes, let Germany, betrayed and ravished by her Adolf, bemoan her fate.

TEA A NEW SOVIET CROP

Many attempts were made to develop tea plantations in Tsarist Russia. But these efforts were on a very small scale and received little encouragement from the government. Tea cultivation remained an unprofitable business in pre-Revolutionary Russia.

Within the last two decades tea planting has come into its own. Soviet tea plantations stretch along the shores of the Black Sea. Tea grows in Georgia in places formerly thought to be entirely sterile. From these areas—humid, stifling, swampy, oppressed with vapors from the heavy rainfall—the Tsarist authorities ordered the Georgian peasants to move and seek more fertile habitations.

This part of the Caucasus is called Kolkhida (Colchis). The Soviet Five Year Plans transformed it

into a blossoming country and the beginning of 1940 saw 60,000 farmsteads united in collective farms.

The Samarkand Oasis, in Soviet Uzbekistan, is one of the most fertile plains in the Soviet Union. Sub-tropical plants grow there in great abundance, but for a long while tea could not be persuaded to flourish. It withered in the extreme heat. Professor Peter Shyet outwitted nature by planting alongside the tea plants a special variety of sweet corn which sheltered the newcomer, helping it to endure the strange climate and soil, yet leaving sufficient sun for life and growth. The roots of the corn absorb alkali injurious to the tea plant.

Samples of Uzbek tea have proved that its flavor is in no way inferior to the tea of Georgia.

GUERRILLAS GIVE HITLERITES NO PEACE

By I. Chernyshev

On July 9, when the battles in the Orel-Kursk direction were at their height, Hubert Trenckwalder, a private in the 3rd Company, 52nd Motorized Rifle Regiment, 18th German Tank Division, was among those taken prisoner.

What had he to say for himself, this German so suddenly snatched from the midst of that stupendous conflict in which scores of divisions, thousands of tanks and guns and many hundreds of airplanes participated? Curiously enough, in his war biography the prisoner dwelt in great detail on the guerrillas. The explanation is simple: the guerrillas had made it hot for him and he couldn't forget it.

Trenckwalder had spent only a few days at the front. Before that he had been in the rear in the occupied town of Polotsk, where he was serving in the 2nd Company, 719th Reserve Regiment. All through the winter and spring this regiment fought the guerrillas. For weeks at a time the soldiers had

to be constantly on the alert. They never dared take off their clothes and rest at night. The 2nd Company was guarding the Polotsk-Vetrino section of the railway, along which the Germans had constructed support points with fire nests every two kilometers. In spite of these measures the guerrillas contrived to mine the roadbed and derail trains loaded with troops, tanks and war materiel.

Guerrillas Never Surrender

On the Polotsk-Vetrino section of the railway alone during these three months the guerrillas killed 15 soldiers of the 2nd Company, destroyed 15 trains and blew up railway bridges. "The guerrillas," according to Trenckwalder's account, "fight desperately and never surrender. I saw a guerrilla who was surrounded by a group of German soldiers refuse to lay down his arms. He threw a hand grenade which killed four Germans and himself. Frequently the skirmishes last a long time and are very stubborn,



BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES —Forests and swamps bristle with Soviet guerrillas who relentlessly attack the enemy supply lines, communications and garrisons

Radiophoto

but never once have we been able to find any guerrillas left dead or wounded on the battlefield. They often came to the village of Vetrino, killed German soldiers and set fire to stores and guardhouses. They used to write their slogans and draw caricatures of Hitler on the walls and fences. The officers made us clean these off during the day, but at night they would appear again.

"Life in this so-called 'rear' was unbearable. The very word 'guerrilla' is enough to make my flesh creep. Many of our men were honestly glad when they were sent to the front, thinking that when a lull came you could at least snatch a little sleep there and forget the word 'guerrilla.' But it was a case of out of the frying-pan into the fire: we were thrown straight into battle."

The German-fascist invaders force the Hitlerites to dash hither and thither in search of peace—which they will never find on occupied Soviet soil. Guerrilla warfare is spreading and gaining momentum day by day. Even the Hitlerites are obliged to admit this. War prisoners assert that in a very short time the 208th German Infantry Division lost no less than 7,000 officers and men killed or wounded in battles against the guerrillas in the Bryansk District.

Private Waslav Skoratsky, a prisoner, said that on his way to the front in May, 1943 he saw many wrecked trains and automobiles. Obergefreiter Munzengruber, who served with Skoratsky, told his men when he returned from leave that between Bryansk and Orel he had seen three troop trains derailed by the guerrillas. Alfred D., who came over to our side from the 320th German Infantry Division, told us that as he was passing through Minsk on June 11, 1943 he saw wrecked and overturned trains along the railway not far from the town. All around lay squashed gas masks and scraps of anti-mustard-gas caps. A German railwayman remarked to Alfred D.: "I've been working here six weeks, and in that

time the guerrillas have derailed 48 trains."

Heinrich N., a soldier from the 218th German Infantry Division, informed us that in the spring the guerrillas operating in the Brest-Litovsk District smashed a police battalion. Some of the Nazis escaped, throwing away their arms, boots and overcoats, which hampered them in their flight. In this half-naked state, having lost all semblance of soldiers, they reached a town at night.

The prisoners' stories are augmented by letters found on dead and captured Germans. On the body of Peter Zimmel, a soldier of the 8th Company, 747th German Infantry Regiment, Orel guerrillas found a letter to his sister in Germany. A few days before his death Zimmel had written: "I am back with the Company again. Things are getting worse every day. We are living in a nightmare. There are a terrible lot of guerrillas around and they make no end of trouble for us every day. We went out combing the woods today at three o'clock, but though we tramped 30 kilometers we didn't find a soul. Then when we were dog-tired and had settled down for a rest the guerrillas started shooting from God knows where. Two soldiers were hit. We followed the guerrillas but didn't catch anyone. It's a regular thing every day now for some of our men to be knocked off."

Every German soldier knows of the Soviet guerrillas and dreads them. Stories about them have reached the ears of German fathers, mothers, aged, decrepit grandfathers and grandmothers. Alarmed Hitlerites send warnings to their offspring in Russia: "Beware of those guerrillas!" "Never go out anywhere alone!" German hatred of the Soviet patriots pervades many of the letters.

The enemy rages; he is infuriated. That is a very good sign. If the enemy is whining and howling, if he complains of the guerrillas and vilifies them, it means they are carrying out their noble task thoroughly and well.

Salaries for Teachers Greatly Increased

About 17,000 teachers for primary and secondary schools will be graduated from educational institutes of the RSFSR in 1943, and a proportionately large number in the Soviet national republics. In Turkmenia, for example, 3,200 teachers will be graduated this year.

Schoolteachers' salaries have been considerably increased by a decree of the Soviet Government. The new salaries vary with the experience, education and length of service of the teachers. Salaries of teachers in upper grades of secondary schools who have had over 20 years' experience are increased 75 per cent; those with less experience will receive increases of 50 to 70 per cent.

Correspondence courses for pedagogues will be greatly extended in the autumn. Over 44,000 persons will study in the correspondence departments organized this year in universities, normal schools and pedagogical institutes.

Leningrad Students Decorated

A large group of students of Leningrad vocational schools was recently decorated by the Soviet Government for important achievements in production. These young people worked without interruption on orders for the front in the most difficult period of the siege of Leningrad.

GERMANY'S INTERNAL SITUATION IS WORSENING

By K. Velikanov

The major reverses suffered this summer by the Wehrmacht on the Eastern Front have had serious political repercussions in Germany. One of the results has been the recent reshuffling of the Nazi cabinet and the centering of administrative powers in Himmler's hands. The Gestapo head has been named Minister for Prussian and Reich Home Affairs and Chief of Reich Administration. This makes his position in the German government second only to that of Hitler himself. Himmler's influence over the Fuehrer has been on the increase ever since the Stalingrad disaster. He directed the purge of the German generals, and when Hitler's Chief of Staff, Colonel General Halder, was ousted, Himmler's protege Zeitzler got the post. As commander of the SS Troops, Himmler has a say in all questions of strategy.

When the direct threat to Kharkov arose after the loss of Orel and Belgorod, the Nazi General Staff was called together to discuss the situation. Sensing the effect the fall of Kharkov would have on his own prestige and that of his army, Hitler again, as in February, demanded that the city be held at all cost, although the undertaking was obviously hopeless.

The Fuehrer's demands were upheld by Himmler, and SS Troops were sent to fill the breach in the German lines. They could do nothing to fulfill Hitler's orders, however. Kharkov's fall is another knot in the string of Hitler's strategic blunders. Fearing that a new defeat would hasten the process of demoralization inside Germany, Hitler decided to "reorganize" the cabinet and to take urgent measures to cement the "inside front." The granting of increased powers to Himmler indicates that Hitler sees in terror and complete Gestapo control the only means of bridling the German people's growing opposition. It is, furthermore, proof of the fact that on the threshold of the war's fifth year the Third Reich is entering the crucial phase which the Nazis always feared most.

The time is past when Goebbels could harangue that "1918 was an exception for the German people rather than the rule." The whole world sees that the crushing Soviet blows at the main body of German troops and the Allied air offensive are undermining German morale and weakening the Third Reich's defensive capacity.

Himmler wrote that if wartime propaganda cannot maintain morale at a satisfactory level, then the "introduction of ruthless discipline and direct intimidation;" i. e., a reign of terror, are the most effective methods to be used.

Goebbels' propaganda weapons are no longer what

they used to be. When total mobilization was announced by Germany after the Stalingrad catastrophe, Hitler placed Goebbels at the helm of the mobilization. His propaganda machine worked at top speed. Goebbels declared that his "total mobilization of spirit" would create the prerequisites for the successful mobilization of manpower and material resources. But under the influence of the spring and summer defeats Goebbels' machine began to sputter and stall.

What Goebbels failed to achieve with his propaganda has now been entrusted to the hands of Himmler. The Gestapo chief is out to terrorize the millions of Germans who are dissatisfied but still passive.

Two years of fighting the Russians have had such a potent effect on the internal situation of the Third Reich that the Nazi clique is now obliged to take extreme measures. Industrial sabotage is spreading. Here and there strikes flare up. The German papers report a steadily increasing number of death sentences passed by the Nazi courts for "attempts to undermine the German war effort." This shows that the number of people who see that the means of saving Germany is through a struggle against the Hitlerite regime is growing.

This is the kind of struggle the "Free Germany" National Committee has called upon the German people to wage.

Himmler and the Gestapo are Hitler's last remedy to prolong the existence of his doomed regime. Hitler has his eye on developments in Italy. By granting new powers to Himmler he is trying to demonstrate to the outside world that measures are being taken in advance to prevent the appearance of a Badoglio in Germany. In this respect Himmler's new appointment is to a certain extent a repercussion of events in Italy.

But the main reason for the measures being taken by Hitler is the failure of his armies in the East. By adopting extreme methods against the German people Hitler is involuntarily making a further aggravation of the internal German situation inevitable. The weakening of the Nazi home front is making the United Nations' task of crushing Hitler Germany easier.

Promotions to Rank of Army General

On August 27 the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR promoted Colonel Generals I. Konev and M. Popov to the rank of Army Generals.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF AUGUST 27, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

The Soviet summer advance has been marked by two major battles: the Kursk-Orel and the Kharkov. The Kursk-Orel action resulted in the collapse of Hitler's summer offensive and the capture by Soviet troops of the Orel springboard for a possible German thrust at Moscow. The Kharkov action led to the rout of large enemy forces and the capture of the big Ukrainian city which is an important communications center.

Following the capture of Kharkov, Soviet troops are pressing forward northwest and south of the city. An offensive has also been launched in the Donets Basin south of Izyum and southwest of Voroshilovgrad. Here Russian divisions cut the Taganrog-Stalino railroad and captured the station of Donetsko-Armvrosevka, 70 kilometers from the Sea of Azov.

The German forces driven from Kharkov were re-

inforced and struck a series of counter-blows northwest of the city, but Soviet troops repulsed these counter-attacks and continued their westward advance. Having lost Kharkov, the Germans now have little room for maneuver south of Kharkov between the North Donets and Dnieper Rivers. The extent of this area is about 300 kilometers from north to south (from Zmiyevka, 30 kilometers south of Kharkov to Mariupol). The Germans are in possession of only two big railroad junctions here: Lozovaya and Sinelnikovo. That is why they are making every effort to hold the Red Army divisions on their intermediate defense lines.

The victories won by the Red Army in the Orel and Kharkov areas have brought about a most favorable situation for active operations of our Allies on the European continent.

NALCHIK—ONE-TIME HEALTH RESORT

By Margaret Wettlin

Yesterday I happened to meet on Sadovaya Boulevard a handsome black-eyed Caucasian who looked even handsomer in his captain's uniform. I first knew this Captain as a student at the Moscow Theater Institute, and later as an actor in the Kabardinian Theater in Nalchik, capital of the Kabardino-Balkarian Republic—the city brought so conspicuously into the spotlight of the world when the German advance into the North Caucasus was stopped just beyond Nalchik.

Since the first days of the war this boy had been at the front, promoted from rank to rank by virtue of unsuspected military talent. He was decorated for bravery and matriculated at the Moscow Military Academy to become a specialist in the motorized division. But he still insists that he belongs to the theater, that his new career as a soldier is only for the duration of the war.

"I've just flown back from Nalchik," he said.

"Nalchik? Tell me, what did you find there?" I asked.

"Ruins."

"But not all ruins?"

"Practically all. The hotel, the theater, the art center where we lived, were all blown up. The new postoffice was burned, so was the Palace of Pioneers; the Pedagogical Institute, the Hospital, the Government buildings—everything in the new section of the town—was burned or blown up."

Nalchik! Only two years ago it was the haven selected by the Soviet Government for Russia's most famous artists, musicians and actors. They were sent from raided Moscow to this dreamy southern mountain resort under the icy eye of Elbrus, where snowy peaks, swift rivers, sunlit valleys and fabulous forests made a total of natural beauty difficult to parallel.

There in the fall of 1941 the late Nemirovich-Danchenko sat on the porch of his hotel suite, drawing inspiration from the blue distances. There Sergei Prokofiev hastened with a basket on his arm to the exotic, sunny market held on the plain at the edge of the town. Olga Knipper-Chekhova, widow of Anton Chekhov, strolled through the park in the evening breeze sweeping down from the heights.

Nalchik was made for holidays, and during the last 10 to 15 years the Government bent all its efforts toward reconstructing the city so that its beauty should harmonize with the natural setting. White asphalt avenues unrolled. Modern buildings architecturally appropriate to a southern resort were constructed. The city was filled with flowers. Everything was clean, colorful, festive.

Then came the blight.

"But surely they must have left something," I persisted.

"Plenty," said the Captain. "Smoke, charred ruins and a stricken population."

Material in this Bulletin may be quoted or reproduced

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Washington, D. C., September 2, 1943

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

AUGUST 30, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Tolbukhin:

As a result of violent battles the troops of the Southern Front routed the Germans' Taganrog group and today, August 30, have captured the town of Taganrog.

This new victory won by our troops in the south has been achieved as the result of a bold maneuver of cavalry and mechanized formations which broke through into the rear of the enemy troops. As a result of the operation they carried out, our troops completely liberated the Rostov Region from the German invaders.

In the fighting for the liberation of the Rostov Region and the town of Taganrog, the following troops distinguished themselves: The Kuban Cossacks—cavalrymen under Lieutenant General Kirichenko of the Guards; the tankists, defenders of Stalingrad, under Lieutenant General of Tank Troops of the Guards Tanaschishin; and the troops under Lieutenant General Tsvetaev, Lieutenant General Zakharov, Lieutenant General Gerasimenko and Lieutenant General Khomenko, and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Khryukin.

To mark the liberation of the Rostov Region and the town of Taganrog, the name of "Taganrog" shall be conferred on the 130th Infantry Division, and the 416th Infantry Division composed of Azerbaijanians, and henceforward these Divisions shall be named:

The 130th Taganrog Infantry Division and the 416th Taganrog Infantry Division.

In honor of the victory at Taganrog, today, August 30th, at 7:30 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, will salute our valiant troops which liberated the Rostov Region and the town of Taganrog—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I express gratitude to all troops under your command which participated in the operation for the liberation of the Rostov Region and the town of Taganrog, and in the first place to:

The 130th Taganrog Infantry Division under Colonel Sychev, the 416th Taganrog Infantry Division under Colonel Syzranov, the 15th Mechanized Brigade under Major Tatirov, the 6th Tank Brigade of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Shidkov, the 32nd Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Grinevich, the 4th Mechanized Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Yepanshin, the 9th Kuban Cavalry Division of Guards under Major General Tutarinov, the 30th Cavalry Division under Major General Golovsky, the 31st Infantry Corps of Guards under Major General Utvenko, the Machine Gun-Artillery Battalions of Guards of the First Fortified Area under Colonel Sakseyev, the Second Artillery Division of Guards under Colonel Alexeyev, the 236th Fighter Air Division under Colonel Kudryashev, the 270th Bomber Air Division under Colonel Chuchev, the 9th Fighter Air Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Morozov and the 31st Fighter Air Regiment of Guards under Major Yerevin.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom of our motherland.

Death to the German occupationists!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

SOVIET LONG-RANGE AIRCRAFT

By V. Ilyenkov

Among the heroes of the Soviet air force, the fliers of long-range planes are in a class by themselves. If the lighter plane can be compared to a swift cavalry steed racing on slender legs across a short field of attack, then a long-range bomber is more like the peculiar breed of stumpy-legged Russian cart horse trained to tireless trotting with a wagonload of iron.

The flier of a long-range craft is easily recognized by his steady gait, ready reply and business-like manner. His whole appearance gives an impression of imperturbable calm—of a man who has seen things. Fliers of long-range planes have grown accustomed to viewing things in a big way: they measure the distance to their objectives in thousands of kilometers, they fill their tanks with thousands of gallons of fuel, under the wings of their planes they carry bombs weighing several tons each. The wheels of their "cart horses" are so big that . . . well, let a flyer tell his own story:

Transatlantic "Hopping"

"Mine is a land ship, but I have twice crossed the Atlantic in it. Below, billows as high as a six-story house rose angrily to meet ice floes from Greenland, while north winds bringing Arctic cold and south winds carrying tropic heat whirled in the air. But it didn't matter much, for I knew my horse wouldn't let me down—and he didn't, until we swooped down to the airdrome and his hoofs came unshod . . . the terrific heat was too much for the rubber tires . . . so I couldn't pull up in full style at the door as I had intended. The wheel had to be changed.

"The American engineer said, 'Sorry . . . we don't make 'em this size. But we'll repair it quick enough.'

"The factory was 600 miles from the airdrome, which meant the wheel had to be transported by plane. One plane rolled up, but the wheel wouldn't go into the fuselage. Then a second plane came, but still the wheel wouldn't go in. Finally we got it into the third plane by rumpling the rubber.

"When we got our horse back his hoofs were beautifully shod. We climbed into the plane and again hopped across the Atlantic . . ."

The "hopping" was done by Hero of the Soviet Union Endel Pusep, who speaks of his transatlantic flight as nonchalantly as if he had crossed the level Ukrainian steppes. After the Atlantic experience, flying over Berlin or Budapest is like a snap of the fingers to him. He has already flown over German towns seven times, and over other long-range objec-

tives 14 times. Still, I don't believe it was as simple as he makes out. But I suppose Pusep, being accustomed to "big things," thinks nothing of difficulties which to me, poor land creature, seem formidable. Pilot Shtepenko, who has been flying with Pusep, says of him: "A heavy ship in his hands is like a violin in the hands of a virtuoso."

Bombers Smash Enemy Tanks

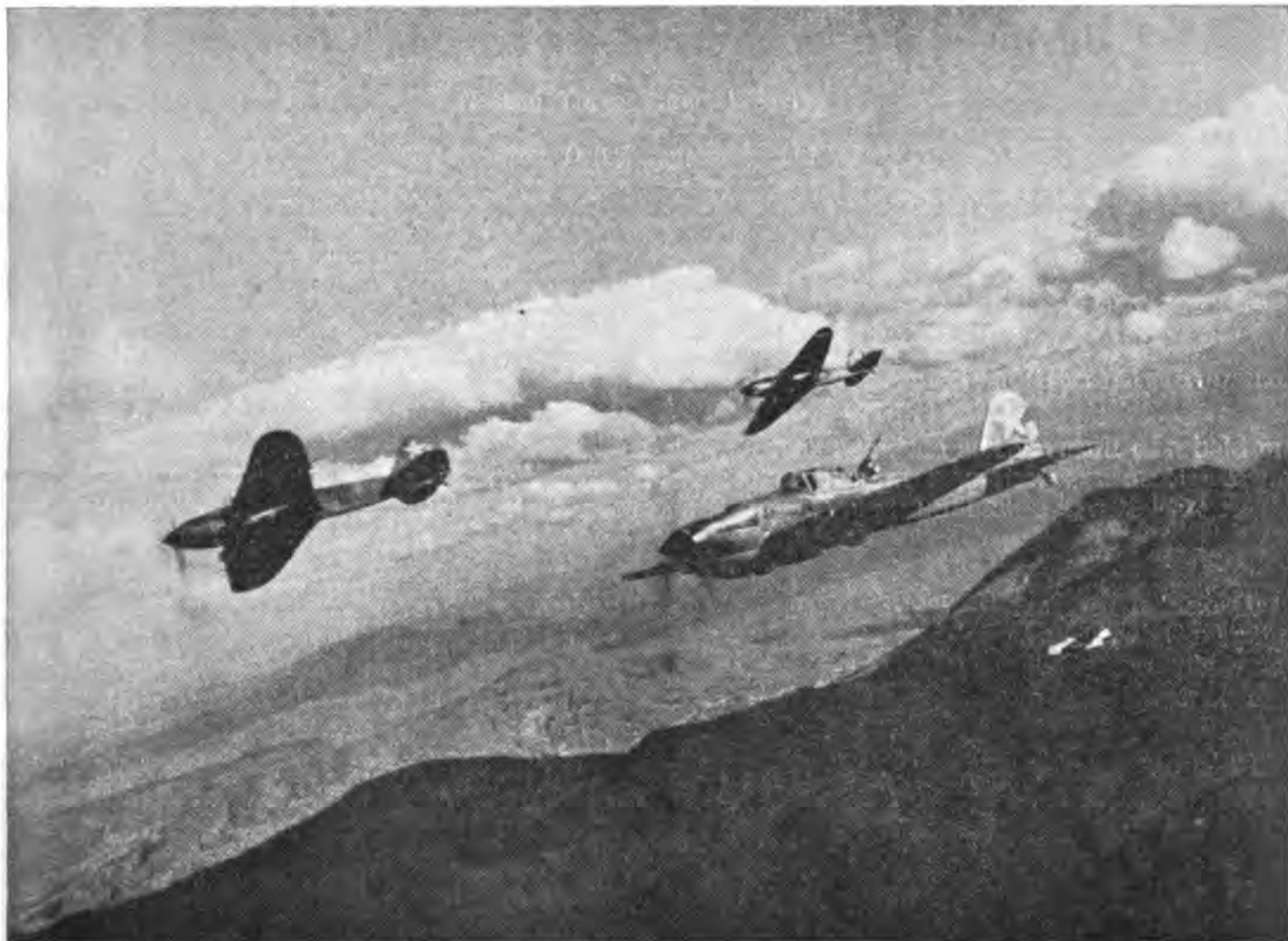
The country's finest, most persevering fliers, who have cut airways across the broad expanses of the Soviet Union, have joined our long-range aviation. They had learned to guide planes over the Siberian taiga, over the mountainous country of the Far East and over the Polar regions. The flier Simonov, Hero of the Soviet Union, is the youngest airman in his formation, but his record already runs up to 120 days in the air and he has covered 950,000 kilometers. Simonov has made 240 flights during the war. He slid down to meet Guderian's tank columns near Grodno and later raced after them, fighting near Kursk until the enemy forces dwindled in the Ukrainian steppes under the blows of Soviet aviation.

In the summer of 1941 German bombers made frequent raids on Moscow. They were taking off from the Krupki and Dokudovo airfields near Mogilev. Soviet long-range aviation was assigned to smash the enemy airfields. It took the long-range craft a few nights to bomb the enemy airfields out of existence and destroy much craft. The pilots were officially thanked by Joseph Stalin. Thus they defended Moscow by harrying the enemy rear. They often struck where they were least expected; they bombed Berlin, Budapest and Koenigsberg and set Insterburg, Tilsit and other enemy towns ablaze. The flames lit their paths on enemy territory.

"It gladdened our hearts to see the German lairs burning," flier Sugak says. . . .

The Germans were concentrating troops and materiel for an offensive. Railway junctions were bursting with troops; trains and platforms were loaded with guns and oil tanks. At night Soviet long-range ships slid down over Orsha, an important railway junction, and blasted the enemy trains into the air. Long after the bombs were dropped the vari-colored flashes of exploding tracer shells and blazing cars lit up the sky.

In Vitebsk our long-range planes caused such panic the German guards of a war prisoners' camp abandoned their posts, enabling 2,000 captives to escape, while in Mogilev German units harassed by Soviet long-range craft fled the town.



THE RED AIR FORCE—Soviet Stormoviks on a bombing mission cross Europe's highest mountain range, the Caucasus

It must be remembered that Orel is not only the victory of Soviet infantry. Long-range aviation, which gave the enemy no peace, paved the way for the success of the gallant infantry.

Long-Range Fliers Know Enemy Tricks

Captain Kokorev was born in Sychevka, a peaceful green town on the bank of the Vasuz River. He loved to listen to the chimes of the clock in the tower of the hydroelectric station overlooking the city's shady gardens and small wooden cottages. He liked to catch fish and to plunge into the water on a hot summer day. . . .

As he neared Sychevka to bomb the railway station, Kokorev seemed to live his childhood days again. He could see the town hospital, the main square, the tiny houses. He knew that in one of these houses his old dad and mother and his sister with her children were listening to the droning of his plane.

There was the railway station with its cobweb of

rails and the trains looking like long, black curling worms. A button was pressed and the bombs whizzed straight down to the station, while the wind carried the din of explosions from ammunition dumps and trains to the little house where Kokorev's people lived. . . .

Enemy anti-aircraft guns spit endless fire at Soviet long-range planes, searchlights try to catch them in their blinding rays and enemy planes lay traps for them. A German fighter beckons with lights: "Here I am—shoot at me." But the crews of the long-range ship are wise to these German tricks. They know that somewhere in the dark a second German destroyer is waiting to pounce on the plane should Soviet fliers fall into that trap. So here you have to keep your eyes open. Fliers of long-range craft have sharp eyes. Day and night, regardless of weather conditions, they cover long distances to strike at the enemy.

Regimental Standard Saved by Woman Farmer

A Soviet correspondent reports the following story of the heroism of a woman collective farmer of Vataly village, Znamensky District, Smolensk Region:

Last autumn a superior force of Hitlerites broke into Vataly village, held by a Red Army artillery regiment. The commissar, who was gravely wounded, entrusted the battle standard of the regiment to Olga Piskareva, a woman collective farmer, asking her to hide it. She wrapped the flag around her body and wore it until after the Germans had made their usual search of the collective farm homes, plundering them completely. On the following night she placed the standard in a pail and buried it.

The Hitlerites ravaged the district, shooting old people, women and children, burning alive the wounded Red Army men, and driving young boys and girls to Germany for forced labor.

During the winter the Germans shot Piskareva's daughter-in-law because the latter's husband, Peter Andreyev, was a Red Army man. They threw the young woman's body into a barn and under pain of death forbade the mother to bury her. Soon afterward they shot Piskareva's nephew, and later caught and killed her husband.

The Hitlerite atrocities failed to intimidate this faithful daughter of the motherland. In the dark days of the German occupation many Red Army men and officers found refuge and maternal care in her home. And when the Army of liberation again entered the village, she brought the regimental standard from its hiding place and turned it over to the Red Army Command.

A few days ago a meeting was held in Vataly village, honoring this Soviet patriot. Present were representatives of the Red Army, the Party and Soviet organizations. Dedushkin, Secretary of the District Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, spoke warmly of Piskareva's self-sacrifice and courage. "The profound faith of collective farmer Piskareva in the invincibility of our valiant Red Army and in the power of the Soviet Government," he said, "enabled her to remain calm and to emerge with flying colors from the struggle with the fascist fiends.

"Under this battle standard, Soviet artillery, not sparing their lives, defended their native land from the German invaders. Under this standard they execute vengeance upon fascist scoundrels for the blood of the Soviet people, for the death of comrades killed in repulsing the German hordes who treacherously invaded our land."

Major Starikov, representative of the Political Department of the X. Red Army formation, expressed deep gratitude to Olga Piskareva for her heroism in saving the regimental standard.

Piskareva replied, "I knew the German hordes would never conquer the Russian people . . . that the time would come when the Red Army would rout the fascist army and drive it from our native land. That time has now come. The Red Army is successfully battering the Hitlerite bandits. Let our fighters strike the hated enemy still more ruthlessly under this standard, which I was able to preserve during the terrible days of the German occupation."

117 GENERALS AND OFFICERS RECEIVE HIGHEST MILITARY ORDERS

For skilled and courageous direction of operations against the German-fascist invaders and successes achieved as a result of these operations, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has conferred Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov on 117 generals and officers of the Red Army. Other decorations were awarded a number of generals and officers, heroes of the summer offensive operations, at the same time.

Commenting on these honors, *Izvestia* writes: "Only the display of supreme skill in leading troops—borne out by the results achieved—entitles one to Orders bearing the names of the great military leaders Suvorov and Kutuzov. These Orders are testimonials to great courage, to the highest skill than can be displayed by a Red Army officer, and to the honor in which his services are held by the motherland.

"This honor was won in the latest battles by a galaxy of Red Army generals and officers. Their names rank with those of the heroes of Stalingrad, the heroes of the Red Army's winter offensive. To the list of immortal names of the defenders of Moscow, Leningrad, Odessa and Sevastopol—masters of the art of defense—are now added the names of the masters of Soviet offense, and their numbers are steadily growing."

Krasnaya Zvezda comments: "Never were the troops of both warring parties saturated with military equipment to such an extent as now. The ability to skillfully employ this equipment, to combine the efforts of infantry, artillery, tanks and aviation, to put into the foreground just that arm which would prove most effective in a given circumstance, sealed the issue of many battles in the present summer campaign."

HUMOR AT THE BATTLE FRONT

By Eugene Severin

The Happy Landing Theater, a front-line vaudeville group of the All-Russian Theatrical Society, recently gave a performance in the Moscow Actors' Club. The invitation cards showed a parachute about to land a group of musicians, actors and clowns at the front. Their arrival was being heartily welcomed by Red Army men waiting below.

The Happy Landing Theater is a great favorite with men and officers of the Southern and Southwestern Fronts, where for a year and a half the artists have been sharing all the hardships and dangers of army life. Their repertoire consists of songs, jokes, humorous readings, monologues and scenes from plays.

The performance in Moscow was opened by Vladimir Polyakov, director of the theater. "Five days ago we returned from five months on the Southwestern Front," he explained. "We want to show you Muscovites the new program we presented there. Five days is a long time at the front—long enough to give 15 performances."

The new program was a gay mixture of variety sketches, song-and-dance numbers and musical recitations, some lyrical and others humorous or pointing a moral. There is no scenery. Occasionally the action is carried on from the audience, with remarks coming from all directions, or a player will step up and give a number with the pretense that it has been improvised on the spot. A girl chauffeur from the audience complains, for example, that she can't wait any longer, her machine is outside. The next moment she is on stage, doing a lyrical monologue telling how she lost her heart to a tank driver who shielded

her truckload of shells with his tank while going up to the front.

Just as the master of ceremonies announces an intermission a commotion is heard backstage. Two old collective farmers, a man and a woman, force their way to the front, striking up a humorous dialogue making fun of faint-hearted folk.

One of the sketches—"Don't Wait for Me!"—is a parody on the popular poem and play by Konstantin Simonov, *Wait for Me*, the story of a faithful wife patiently awaiting her husband's return from the war. In the parody two young nurses at the front discover they have both been wooed by the same man. Together they write their feather-brained admirer a letter—"Don't Wait for Me!"

An impersonator of Charlie Chaplin sings couplets on topical themes to the tune of a song from the film *Modern Times*. The program closes with a song-and-dance number by a trio of cooks at the front, all of different nationalities, who sing about their specialties in food.

After the performance I met a sunburned young tank driver with front-line stripes who used to be a pupil of mine at the studio of the Kamerny Theater. We talked of the performance and the young tankman smiled.

"Perhaps some of the numbers are not top-notch," he said, "but you should see how they are appreciated at the front, where humor is so much needed."

Billions of Rubles Granted Families Of Red Army Men

Deputy Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR Perov writes in a recent article in IZVESTIA:

During the Patriotic War the Soviet Government has paid about 14,000,000,000 rubles in annuities and pensions to the families of Red Army men. This is in addition to the huge sums expended for single allotments.

The Government also spends enormous sums for the maintenance of the children of Red Army officers and men in nurseries and kindergartens, and for the organization of diningrooms for children. During the past four months alone 430,000 children of service men have been accommodated in children's institu-

tions, and diningrooms have been organized for another 350,000.

Social maintenance institutions keep a record of all the families of service men and assist them in numerous ways, such as helping wives to acquire industrial trades and giving legal and other help. Families of service men evacuated from collective farms in occupied districts receive financial assistance in settling in new localities. They are provided with cattle, seed and building materials free, and receive credit on easy terms from the Agricultural Bank.

Besides the aid rendered by the Government, various public organizations also actively assist the families of service men.

CHILDREN'S AIR EXPRESS FROM GUERRILLA LAND

By K. Levin

This story began one warm night last month at a front line airfield, and ended at a children's home near Moscow. Three YU-2 planes were preparing to set out on an important mission. These little planes, which became famous as "aerial motorbikes" during the Stalingrad battles, have one inestimable quality—they can slip through where more powerful machines could not pass unnoticed.

These YU-2s were bound for the German rear. They rose one after the other and started on their trip westward. The faint humming of their engines soon died away. A small crowd remained at the airdrome to await their return: they must be back before the end of the short summer night.

Just before dawn they came back. When the first machine landed, Lieutenant Melkov clambered out, looked anxiously inside, and asked: "Well, were you scared?" The answer came from two thin voices: "No, uncle. Not a bit. We loved it!" He lifted two little girls from the plane—Luba and Valya.

The second YU-2, flown by Lieutenant Alekhin, brought a boy of eleven and a girl of five. The boy had nursed the younger child tenderly all the way. Last to return was Lieutenant Fedorov, also with two children—a brother and sister, one seven and the other five years old.

The ground staff crowded around the children as they stood—such tiny, pitiful little citizens. The

eleven-year-old told their story, hugging the little girl tightly as though protecting her from danger. They were all from the same big village in occupied Soviet territory. The Germans sent punitive detachments to plunder the place. They murdered some of the villagers and drove most of the others to slavery in Germany. The last time they came they drove the children's father and mother away.

The boy, trying not to cry, told how it happened. Three Germans had hammered at the door and ordered the parents to dress and come outside. The father sullenly obeyed, but the mother began to beg the Germans to permit her to remain with the children, who, she said, would die without her. The Germans would not listen. One of them began to hustle her out of the house. She tried to pull herself out of his hands. But they dragged her off to the railway station with a crowd of the neighbors and put her aboard the slave train. The village children were left to shift for themselves. They starved.

"Once we found a turnip in the garden," said the seven-year-old boy, "but a German soldier hit us and took it away."

These children were lucky enough to run into a detachment of guerrillas, who took them to the forest and asked the Soviet pilots who fly regularly to guerrilla land to deliver them to the Soviet rear. Scores of children have been brought from occupied Soviet territory in this way.

TRAINING OF RESEARCH WORKERS IN USSR

Entrance examinations for postgraduates have begun in the colleges and research institutes of the USSR. A Soviet correspondent recently visited Alexander Kodadov, Assistant Chairman of the University and College Board attached to the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR. Speaking of the work in these institutes, Mr. Kodadov said:

"In the first days of the great Patriotic War, when a number of the higher scientific institutions were evacuated to the east and some of the postgraduates went to the front as volunteers, there occurred a brief break in the training of postgraduates. But in the autumn of 1942 the training was completely reestablished.

"The training of postgraduates by correspondence has also been organized in the USSR. There are 832 vacancies for postgraduates in these institutions. A number of applications have been handed in by officers of the Red Army. A period of three years has

been allotted for postgraduates of correspondence courses for their training and examinations and the preparation of their theses. During this period the professor under whose special guidance the postgraduate works gives the student advice concerning his thesis. Besides this, the postgraduate is allowed a month's holiday each year for work in his correspondence institute. Application papers are now being handed in. Forty applications have been received by the Historical Faculty of the Moscow University and 45 in the Philological Faculty. It is expected there will be great competition for admittance to the other faculties.

"In 1943 all postgraduates unable to continue work on their theses because of being called up for the Red Army will be recalled from military service and provided with everything necessary to speed up completion of their research work. Our country is going through great hardships at this time, but research work is continuing as before, and new cadres of young Soviet scientific workers are being trained."

Ammunition Production Soars in Soviet Factories

By M. Markov

According to the testimony of war prisoners, the Germans used more ammunition on the first day of their July offensive in the Kursk sector than during the whole of the Polish campaign. In three days they fired more shells than in the whole battle of France. That gives a vivid idea of the burden carried by the branch of Soviet industry that keeps the Red Army supplied with ammunition.

Soviet ammunition production was profoundly affected by the German occupation of the Ukraine and other Soviet regions. Over a third of the munition factories of the USSR had to be evacuated and production resumed in areas remote from enemy interference. It was necessary to build hundreds of factory buildings, supply the evacuated enterprises with electricity, expand existing plants, gear non-war factories to the war effort and mechanize production processes so that fewer hands would be required to operate them.

It should not be forgotten that in the production of

ammunition there are many processes harmful to health, and this necessitates a supply of special food for the workers. These difficulties, like so many others, mount as the war goes on and the tension of the work increases month by month. But despite these problems, the Soviet ammunition industry has grown tremendously as compared with the pre-war period. Output for the first half of 1943 was 50 per cent higher than for the first half of 1942. Production of certain types increased eight-fold.

In 1943 the industry began to produce immense quantities of shells of terrific armor-piercing capacity. This enabled us to increase the power of our artillery fire to such a degree that neither the German 60-ton Tiger tank with its heavy armor protection nor the 70-ton Ferdinand self-propelled gun, with its even heavier armor plating, has been able to stand up to our gunners.

(Continued on page eight)



A team of women Stakhanovites—outstanding workers who set new records in production—assembling shells for the Red Army

DEATH OF A CITY

Andrei V., a resident of Gomel, recently escaped from the German hell and crossed the front lines. He had lived for more than 20 months in occupied Byelorussia and had witnessed monstrous atrocities committed by the Germans in the Byelorussian towns and villages. Following is his statement:

Gomel in 1943 resembles a vast, neglected cemetery. Its population of 150,000 has been reduced to barely 10,000, and even these people do not live in the town itself, which has been demolished by the Hitlerites, but in the suburb of Zalineinoe. Not a single building was left standing in Sovetskaya, Kooperativnaya and other principal streets. Quite recently the only house which had escaped destruction in Novoprudkovskaya Street was blown up.

From the first day of their occupation the Germans instituted a regime of bloody terror. They first wiped out the families of Communists, Red Army men and Jews, and then proceeded to the massacre of intellectuals, Soviet employees and workers. The land around Gomel is soaked with the blood of guiltless Soviet citizens. Anti-tank ditches surrounding the town are filled with corpses. Many victims of the brutal outrages of the Germans were buried alive.

On Easter, 1943, the Gestapo monsters drove some 100 women and children to Privokzalnaya Square, branded them as "guerrilla accomplices," herded them into a brick-shed and hurled smoke pots among them. Agonized cries resounded from the shed for an hour, then silence fell. Children who had managed to creep through the loft to the roof were run through with bayonets and thrown back to their tortured mothers.

On the order of the Hitlerite commissioner in Byelorussia, Wilhelm Kube, a so-called "committee of

peace and order" was set up in Gomel. At first the "committee" engaged in mass shootings of townsfolk, then it transferred its activities to neighboring villages. The "committee" scattered handbills demanding assistance from the peasants in the struggle against the guerrillas. When this design fell through, the Germans destroyed one village after another. The villages of Krynki and Liski, which numbered about 1,000 farmsteads each, and many others, were burned down with their inhabitants. The farmers were locked in barns, petrol poured over the walls and the barns set on fire. Those who crept out of the fire were machine gunned.

Punitive detachments armed to the teeth set out for the forests almost daily, but the guerrillas continue to operate as resolutely and relentlessly as before. They derail German trains, blow up bridges and kill hundreds of occupationists. Recently in Gomel the German mess hall was blown up and 150 officers and men killed.

The Hitlerites adapted the Selmash agriculture machine plant for repairing their tanks. But they were not fated to lord it there for long—the plant was blown up with its machinery and tanks.

Striving to excel even themselves in atrocities, the Germans in May herded together several hundred women and drove them into a forest in which guerrillas were hiding. The guerrilla detachment commanded by A. encountered this column.

"Lie down, sisters, daughters, mothers!" he shouted. The women dropped to the ground and at the same moment a shower of lead struck the Germans. In the confusion the women were able to escape to the guerrillas, while the SS Troopers lost over 200 soldiers in the forest.

MUNITIONS PRODUCTION

(Continued from page seven)

The introduction of the conveyor system into many more plants has greatly stepped up their capacities. Mass production of new and more effective types of ammunition has been organized this year. Labor productivity went up 51 per cent during the first half of 1942 as compared with the first half of 1941 and in the first half of 1943 it increased 78 per cent. Production costs for the chief types of ammunition have been considerably reduced.

Those who produce the shells, bombs and mines know that the offensives launched against the Nazis

begin at their machines. Production drives under the slogan "We'll turn out everything the front calls for" have been launched by the trade unions, and the workers have responded ardently. Their enthusiasm is the key to the successes of the Soviet ammunition industry in 1943.

New Hospitals for Radium Treatment

Hospitals specializing in radium treatment have been established in 18 additional Soviet towns, including Baku, Tbilisi, Erivan, Tashkent, Ashkhabad, Samarkand, Alma-Ata and Frunze.

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Information Bulletin

(Issued Three Times Weekly)

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

SEPTEMBER 2, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Vatutin:

Today, September 2, the troops of the Voronezh Front captured in fighting an important regional center in the Ukraine—the town of Sumy.

The troops commanded by Lieutenant General Chibissov, and especially the 340th Infantry Division under Colonel Zubarev, the 167th Infantry Division under Major General Melnikov, and the 232nd Infantry Division under Major General Ulitin, distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Sumy from the German invaders.

To mark the successes they achieved, the name of "Sumy" shall be conferred upon the 340th, 167th and 232nd Infantry Divisions, and henceforth they shall be named:

The 340th Sumy Infantry Division, the 167th Sumy Infantry Division and the 232nd Sumy Infantry Division.



Cavalry Platoon Commander M. Gordeyenko, decorated with the Medal for Valor

Today, September 2, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland, will salute the valiant troops which liberated the town of Sumy—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions and valor I express gratitude to all troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Sumy.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

AUGUST 31, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Sokolovsky:

A few days ago the troops of the Western Front pierced the enemy's heavily-fortified defense zone, and developing the offensive in the Smolensk direction, yesterday, August 30, captured the operationally important large roads junction and most important base of resistance in the Smolensk direction—the town of Yelnya.

In the battles at Yelnya the following troops distinguished themselves: Tankists of the Guards under Major General Burdeiny; the troops under Lieutenant General Gordov, Major General Krylov and Lieutenant General Trubnikov, and the fliers under the command of Marshal of Aviation Golovanov and Lieutenant General of Aviation Gromov.

To mark the victory achieved by our troops at the town of Yelnya, the name "Yelnya" shall be conferred on the 29th Red Banner Infantry Division of Guards, the 76th Infantry Division, the 25th Tank Brigade, the 26th Tank Brigade, the 23rd Independent Tank Brigade of Guards and the 119th Independent Tank Regiment, which distinguished themselves in the battles at Yelnya, and henceforward they shall be named:

The 29th Red Banner Yelnya Infantry Division of Guards, the 76th Yelnya Infantry Division, the 25th Yelnya Tank Brigade, the 26th Yelnya Tank Brigade, the 23rd Yelnya Independent Tank Brigade of Guards and the 119th Yelnya Independent Tank Regiment.

On behalf of our motherland, today, August 31, at 7:00 P. M. our Capital, Moscow, will salute our gallant troops which achieved the victory at the town of Yelnya—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions and skill in maneuvering, I express gratitude to all troops under your direction which participated in the operations in the Smolensk direction.

I especially note the skilful operations of the: 29th Red Banner Yelnya Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Stuchenko, the 76th Yelnya Infantry Division under Colonel Babayan, the 25th Yelnya Tank Brigade under Colonel Shevchenko, the 26th Yelnya Tank Brigade under Colonel Nesterov, the 23rd Yelnya Independent Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Kalinin, the 119th Yelnya Independent Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Losik and the 63rd Infantry Division under Colonel Laskin.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and honor of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

AUGUST 31, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

The troops of the Central Front pierced the enemy's heavily-fortified defense zone in the Sevsk area and on August 30, as a result of a vigorous offensive, captured the towns of Glukhov and Rylsk and entered the Northern Ukraine.

In the battles for the liberation of the towns of Sevsk, Glukhov and Rylsk from the German invaders the following troops distinguished themselves: Tankists of the Guards under Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Korchegin; tankists under Major General Rudchenko; troops under Lieutenant General Chernyakhovsky, Lieutenant General Batov, Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Bogdanov, and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko. To mark the victory achieved, the following names shall be conferred on the divisions and tank and artillery formations which especially distinguished themselves in the battles at Glukhov, Rylsk and Sevsk: The name of "Glukhov" on the 70th Red Banner Infantry Division of Guards, the 226th Infantry Division, the 23rd Tank Brigade and the First Artillery Division of Guards; the name of "Rylsk" on the 121st Infantry Division and the 112th Infantry Division; the name of "Sevsk" on the 69th Red Banner Infantry Division, the 60th Infantry Division, the 103rd Tank Brigade, the 43rd Mechanized Brigade, the 255th Independent Tank Regiment, the 68th Gun Artillery Brigade and the 100th Red Banner Heavy Artillery Brigade, and henceforth these formations shall be named:

The 70th Red Banner Glukhov Infantry Division of Guards, the 226th Glukhov Infantry Division, the 23rd Glukhov Tank Brigade, the First Glukhov Artillery Division of Guards, the 121st Rylsk Infantry Division, the 112th Rylsk Infantry Division, the 69th Red Banner Sevsk Infantry Division, the 60th Sevsk Infantry Division, the 103rd Sevsk Tank Brigade, the 43rd Sevsk Mechanized Brigade, the 255th Sevsk Independent Tank Regiment, the 68th Sevsk Gun Artillery Brigade, the 100th Red Banner Sevsk Heavy Artillery Brigade.

On behalf of the motherland, today, August 31, at 8:30 P.M., our Capital, Moscow, will salute our gallant troops which liberated the towns of Glukhov, Rylsk and Sevsk—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns. For splendid combat actions and skilful maneuvering I express gratitude to all troops under your direction which participated in the battles at Sevsk, Glukhov and Rylsk, and in the first place to:

The 70th Red Banner Glukhov Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Gusev, the 226th Glukhov Infantry Division under Colonel Petrenko, the First Glukhov Artillery Division of Guards under Major General of Artillery Godin, the 23rd Glukhov Tank Brigade under Colonel Demidov, the 121st Rylsk Infantry Division under Major General Ladygin, the 112th Rylsk Infantry Division under Colonel Gladkov, the 69th Red Banner Sevsk Infantry Division under Colonel Kuzovkov, the 60th Sevsk Infantry Division under Colonel Bogoyavlensky, the 103rd Sevsk Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Khalaev, the 43rd Sevsk Mechanized Brigade under Major General Barinov, the 255th Sevsk Independent Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Mukhin, the 68th Sevsk Gun Artillery Brigade under Colonel Vasiliev, the 100th Red Banner Sevsk Heavy Artillery Brigade under Colonel Kuznetsov, the 6th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Anufrienko, the 322nd Infantry Division under Colonel Lashchenko, the 150th Independent Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Ugryumov, the 178th Destroyer Anti-tank Artillery Regiment under Colonel Pegov, and the fliers of air formations under Major General of Aviation Denisov, Major General of Aviation Antoshin, Major General of Aviation Karavatsky, Colonel Komarov and Colonel Bugelev.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

One Man in Battle

By I. Marinin

Hero of the Soviet Union Peter Shlukov is 21 years old. He received his military training during the war and was graduated with the rank of lieutenant. At the front he was known as a good machine gunner.

One day Lieutenant Shlukov and six men were ordered to retake a height captured by the Germans. During the night the squad safely made its way to the height and dislodged the enemy. Next morning the Germans counter-attacked. The six Red Army men resisted stubbornly, but it was an unequal battle and one by one they were struck down. Then Shlukov himself was wounded.

But this young commander found in himself the strength to continue the fight. One of his men, Ivanov, was still able to move. With his help, Shlukov turned on the Germans a gun captured from them, but during this effort Ivanov was felled by another bullet.

Left alone, Shlukov opened fire on the attacking Germans, who retreated and lay down. Incautiously he looked out from behind the gun shield and the next second a German bullet struck it, rebounding and wounding him in the face. The Germans counter-attacked again, and still a third time, but Shlukov continued to fire incessantly, driving them back. Suddenly his gun fell silent—he had run out of shells. The Germans, seeing they had only one man to deal with, rushed forward. There were seven of them.

Shlukov had only one cartridge in his revolver and one anti-tank grenade. Not much—but enough to keep on fighting. The grenade struck the Germans, killing four of them. The remaining three closed in. Certain it was the end, Shlukov drew his revolver,

intending to kill himself with the remaining bullet. His eye fell on a sharp knife suspended from his belt. Another weapon, and not a bad one! He snatched the knife and struck out at the Germans, felling two of them in a few seconds. The third took to his heels. Shlukov sent a bullet after him from a tommy gun picked up from the dead Germans, but missed.

With two tommy guns in his possession and ammunition for them, Shlukov thought he could take a little rest. Suddenly he felt a pair of hands on his throat. It was the escaped German, who had crawled up from behind. Was it really death this time? Was he to perish after having escaped so many deaths? Again Shlukov remembered his knife, snatched it from his belt and struck over his shoulder at the unseen foe. The blow went home—the German unclenched his hands and in another moment was wiped out by a bullet from his own tommy gun.

Everything was quiet now. But as Shlukov moved away from the dead German he was struck by a bullet fired from the German positions. He lost consciousness and fell to the ground.

The whole thrilling fight had been witnessed by the commander of Shlukov's regiment from his observation post. He had been powerless to help—the height was within the German fire range and any attempt to send men to it during the day was foredoomed to failure. As soon as darkness fell, however, a group of Red Army men was sent out to bring in the wounded.

Shlukov is now up and about, and will soon be ready to go into battle again. The Order of Lenin and the Gold Star of Hero of the Soviet Union adorn his tunic.

Sculptor-Anthropologist Helps Reconstruct Faces of Wounded Red Army Men

The well-known Soviet sculptor and anthropologist Gerasimov has completed a number of busts of outstanding figures of past eras, reconstructed with the help of anthropological materials. Among these are sculptural portraits of Timur and several Timurids whose skulls were discovered during excavations near Tashkent, and a bust of Prince Yaroslav, the wise author of the first Russian legal code. He has also made portraits of Dostoevsky's mother, and of the well-known French sportsman, Loustalot, the first man to swim the English Channel. Loustalot died

in Russia, where he taught boxing and fencing. Former pupils have confirmed the likeness of the portrait to the original.

Now Gerasimov's art has found an unexpected and important wartime use. He is frequently consulted before facial plastic surgery, when there is no person or photograph to tell what the wounded man's face was formerly like. Here Gerasimov's tremendous experience is most valuable, and saves many a man from returning to active life with "another man's face."

THE RED ARMY SINGS

By Mark Fradkin, Soviet Composer

For fifteen months, I, a kind of wandering minstrel, have been touring dugouts on the Soviet front with my accordion. Two of those months were spent on the Don Front and at Stalingrad itself, at the climax of the battle.

The austere, calm faces of the men who fought at Stalingrad will remain in my memory as long as I live. In those terrible days the song, the soldier's constant companion in good days and bad, acquired a new meaning. I remember how during a savage spell of night bombing, in between the crashing of guns and the zooming of planes, I heard a crowd of Red Army men singing that mighty song that begins—

*"On the Volga rears a rock,
All overgrown with moss."*

I don't know who they were. They were ordinary Soviet soldiers. The men of the Red Army have a particularly keen sense of life. I remembered that episode later, and wrote my "Volga Song of Stalingrad" . . .

I set off from the command point to meet some airmen who were helping to smash the Germans in the Stalingrad ring. Pilots are great fellows for singing. They are lyrical at heart. In every dugout, between sorties, our airmen gather in close friendly company and sing their favorite songs.

I and my accordion were always welcome guests. At these meetings many new songs were born. No outside noises disturbed the perfect concentration of emotion, of hearing, of imagination. Together we tried over every phrase again and again, altered it, improved it. That was how, in close cooperation with the airmen of Stalingrad, I wrote two marching songs and several lyrical tunes.

Over and over again I have noticed how musical our pilots are. They love inventing songs, and it is a great delight to collaborate in their compositions. I once arranged to visit the pilots at a fighter airdrome. When I reached my destination, presented my identification papers and explained my business the chief of the political department welcomed me most eagerly.

But there was some mistake. My hosts were not fighter pilots, but bomber pilots. It didn't matter, they assured me. I had come to the wrong airdrome—but bomber pilots like music just as much as fighter pilots. They had some grand songs, they said, and wouldn't I please stay and help put them down on paper?

So I stayed, and then rushed off to keep my first

appointment. But fate was having a joke with me. A major gave me a lift in his car, and took me to an airdrome situated in a large village on the bank of the Volga. The major introduced me to his comrades. They were charming fellows. But they were not fighter pilots. They were attack-bomber pilots, and they too liked singing.

I spent some days with the glorious 62nd Army, in dugouts hollowed out of a steep bank. The fighting was raging about 500 yards away. Here are some entries from my diary, giving some account of the most eventful days I spent at Stalingrad.

January 25. Today I received a letter of invitation.

"Dear Comrade," it said, "The Divisional Command has the pleasure of inviting you to attend an evening dedicated to the anniversary of the Division's being awarded the title of Guards. The festivity is to be held on January 25, 1943, at 8 P. M., at the old command point (the underground main)."

(Signed) *The Divisional Command,
City of Stalingrad."*

At 8 P. M. precisely the car of Hero of the Soviet Union General Rodimtsev drove us up to the underground main. Imagine a huge factory drain pipe (the Division was located in the factory area) about sixteen feet wide and the same in height. The sides were draped with tarpaulin, bunting and slogans. At one end there was a sort of platform.

It was an unforgettable evening. The singing never stopped. The song and dance ensembles of two divisions were on the job. On the program, I remember, were Khrennikov's "Fine Little Town in the North," Khachaturyan's "Guardsmen's March," several of my own songs, and battle songs of the 62nd Army written by local composers and poets.

The dancers performed with such spirit they infected the audience. Army Commander Lieutenant General Chuikov was not behind the performers in rendering a dashing turn. And all the time above us the iron ring around the invaders was pressing ever closer.

January 26. An historic day. This was the long-awaited junction of General Rokossovsky's troops with the 62nd Army. Evgeni Dolmatovsky, the poet, and I went with Major General Rodimtsev, his aide-de-camp and several commanders to meet the van-guard marching from the west.

(Continued on page seven)

Natalya and Marusya

By Lev Rubinstein

The field where the tournament was played was not covered with green turf, nor was it spread with yellow sand. It was made of smooth concrete and covered with metal trays to catch the constant flow of shavings from machines. The competition took place not amid the roar of spectators, but of machines, in an atmosphere filled with steam and the smell of oil—in the machine shop of an arsenal. This is how it started:

Natalya Kirpina, working on a turret lathe, turned out 80 machine gun parts per shift. Her shift relief, Marusya Nedikova, did about the same. Both were regarded as promising turners. Human destinies, however, are often changed in most unexpected ways. Natalya Kirpina's sister was killed at the front while serving as a stretcher-bearer in a Guards tank unit. Natalya hung a picture of her sister over her lathe. Then there was an event in Marusya's life—her

brother, a Stormovik pilot, was awarded the Order of the Patriotic War, and Marusya hung his picture over the same lathe.

There is no doubt that hatred for the German murderers gave strength to the hands of Natalya Kirpina. During the first shift in which she worked face to face with the picture of her sister she turned out 120 parts. And perhaps faith in victory inspired Marusya Nedikova to turn out 140 parts that same night.

Top production for a turret lathe had been 140 parts. The foreman of the group phoned the factory Workers' Committee and congratulated the chairman on the "two front-line soldiers." But two days later 180 was chalked up beside Natalya Kirpina's name on the record board, and by morning the same figure ap-



IN THE TURKMENIAN REPUBLIC—G. Vereshchagina, a Stakhanovite turner in a machine and tractor repair shop, daily produces two to three times her quota

peared beside the name of Marusya Nedikova. The ceiling had been raised by 28 per cent.

The wall newspaper carried pictures of the two girls, and people gathered around the competition bulletin board every day during the lunch period to discuss the results. The figures continued to rise. Natalya's output went up to 200; Marusya varied between 180 and 185 and then suddenly jumped to 210 the day an urgent order came in and a meeting on output was held in the shop. The same day Natalya turned out 233 parts.

The streamer headline in the wall newspaper announced: "Competition Continues." Natalya Kirpina commented with a shrug of the shoulders, "And we don't intend to end it, either. I'd like to know who said 140 such jobs was the ceiling for a turret lathe."

"That's what it was formerly," I said.

"Who cares about 'formerly,'" replied Natalya. "Production depends less on the 'possibilities' of the lathe than on the will of the operator. You know, people are used to shouting 'impossible,' . . . 'technology doesn't permit it.' And technology would be glad to permit it if man wasn't obstinate . . . Excuse my philosophical speech, but I noticed this a long time ago . . ."

"Yes," broke in Marusya, "who cares about 'formerly?' In this war a person can lose what is most dear to him in a single minute. How can you be so cautious when it is a matter of life and death, of women and children? No, excuse me . . . but I don't understand it and I never shall."

New Methods in Soviet Building Industry

By E. Finn

The Central Scientific Research Institute of Industrial Construction in Moscow is doing much fruitful work. It is concerned not only with the design of fortifications and anti-aircraft defenses, but also with construction of factories and dwellings. Members of the Institute are constantly seeking substitutes for building materials of which there are shortages. Discussing this phase of the Institute's activity, the director, Professor Boris Skramtayev, Doctor of Technical Sciences, stated:

"We have drawn up practical instructions for the use of the simplest types of wood, ferro-concrete and stone constructions, and have revised the standards applying to ferro-concrete and stone buildings. This has resulted in a 20 per cent economy of material. In some cases, bricks have been entirely replaced by earth blocks and slag concrete. Greater use of three-ply boards is effecting an economy in nails. In the construction of certain heavy metallurgical plants we have succeeded in finding substitutes for cement. We recommend in its place highly durable gypsums and materials made of slag, clay and tar.

"Experimental buildings have been put up to test new methods of factory construction, and we are encouraging our builders to make the widest possible use of local materials. On some sites in the South Urals we are using the local stone—a conglomerate of highly durable gypsum magnesite—and are getting along without any materials imported from outside."

Skramtayev also told of highly successful projects

for restoring war-damaged buildings. Many structures that would have been considered fit only for demolition have been made serviceable again. The Institute's methods have been tested at Mozhaisk and Stalingrad. "The latter city," Skramtayev concluded, "will serve as a school of restorative building."

RED ARMY SINGS

(Continued from page five)

Senior Lieutenant Stotland and other Red Army men came running toward us. Stotland began to make a formal report, when suddenly the tears streamed down his cheeks, and we all embraced. We all felt festive and elated. Dolmatovsky and I composed a merry song about it, which we called "The Little Ring" . . .

Someone once asked me whether I could have composed my songs about Stalingrad if I had never been there. Of course composers who have never been in Stalingrad can and will write about it, but I am convinced that these stirring themes can be grasped and profoundly felt only by those who have been in the thick of events.

One has to be bound up with the front, to feel its breath, to live among its men, in order to respond to the front's craving for a good song.

Notes from Front and Rear

Guerrillas of a detachment operating in the Polesye Region who recently crossed the front line report that in the town of Mogyr seven trainloads of wounded German officers and men were hospitalized. The Hitlerites then rounded up 500 children whose parents had been driven to Germany or to forced labor in the southern districts of the Ukraine, and took blood from them in such excessive amounts that many of them died. The blood was used for transfusion to German soldiers. In the village of Rudnya Ozeryanskoe, Zhitomir Region, the German vampires forcibly took blood from a group of children of pre-school age for transfusion to wounded Hitlerites, with the result that 25 of the children died.

★

Camels are being used on collective and State farms in Azerbaijan and have already proved a great success on the Beria, Komsomol and other collective farms, where 500 helped with the plowing this year. This addition to the number of draft animals has enabled the collective farmers to extend considerably the area under cultivation.

★

A large tank group and a fighter squadron which took part in the capture of Orel were built for the Red Army with funds secretly contributed by the inhabitants and guerrillas of the city and Region of Orel. The commander of the tank group, Nikolai Yablochkin, knew the terrain perfectly because he had fought over it as a guerrilla for 18 months.

★

To improve the quality of output, the Burevestnik Footwear Factory, which produces for the Red Army, has made each production team fully responsible for its work. Spoilage has been reduced to a minimum, resulting in the saving of material for tens of thousands of pairs of shoes above plan. Young people's "front-line teams" have greatly helped to improve the quality, and women workers replacing men now at the front set an example in production.

★

In a recent broadcast to the Red Army Vladimir Novikov, Assistant Commissar of the Armaments Industry, stated that leading Soviet arms designers are working on new weapons for the Red Army. "The inventor of the Soviet anti-tank rifle is working on weapons of a new type. Designers, technicians and production experts are carrying out tremendous work in Soviet arms factories to greatly strengthen the fighting power of the Red Army."

Evening schools are to be opened on October 1 for Soviet workers wishing to continue their general education. There will also be morning and afternoon classes for shift workers. These schools, staffed by qualified secondary school teachers, will be organized in or near the factories. The course will be nine hours a week, 48 weeks a year. There will be an additional nine hours a week for personal tutoring for those who wish it. Books and equipment will be supplied by the schools.

★

German prisoners captured in the Orel-Bryansk offensive were astounded when told the Berlin radio claimed that Orel and Bryansk were of no particular importance. "If these places were of no consequence, why should we have to die for them?" said an Oberleutnant. "We were ordered to hold the Russian offensive at all costs."

★

Veteran Soviet newsreel cameraman Ivan Belyskov has just completed a documentary film on German atrocities in Vyazma, Gzhatsk and Sychevka. He accompanied Metropolitan Nikolai of Kiev and Galich on his visit to these devastated towns as a member of the Extraordinary State Commission investigating Nazi crimes.

★

When the invaders swept over the Ukraine, Vasili K., member of the Central Committee of the Miners' Union, formed the Donets Basin Coal-miners' Guerrilla Detachment with 30 of his comrades. Many of them were expert dynamiters. Their first operation was to blow up a large railway bridge, destroying an enemy munitions train. In two years of operations the detachment has destroyed 12 enemy troop trains, five tanks and seven bridges, and killed hundreds of enemy soldiers. Recently they defeated a superior SS force supported by four tanks, destroying two of the tanks and wiping out the entire SS force.

★

During July the Soviet tank industry took another big step forward, output being far greater than in June. Quality of production has also improved. Tank and diesel engine plants worked to a daily production chart and created the foundation for still better work in August. Tank builders of the Kirov factory exerted particular effort as a response to Stalin's Order of the Day and fulfilled their July plan well ahead of time. One team of workers turned out six quotas in one shift. Two other teams in the same factory achieved similar results.

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ON UKRAINIAN SOIL

By B. Galin

It was at night, while he was on a scouting expedition, that Likhodko saw again the collective farm cottages flooded with moonlight, the windmill standing by itself in the open on a little rise, the narrow shadows of the plane trees, and the clay pots on the fence palings. His heart, hardened by war, suddenly burned within him. He stopped as though rooted to the spot.

"What's the matter with you?" asked the second scout, Sergeant Gladkikh, in surprise.

"Mother Ukraine," said Likhodko softly. To him in his lot of scout had fallen the happiness of being with the first regiment to set foot on Ukrainian soil. There was the farmstead, with the windmill standing on a little rise. The wings of the windmill were broken and trailing helplessly. It was a little bit of

Ukrainian soil . . . the first to be taken in battle, wrested from the enemy with blood and sweat.

Anton Illarionovich Likhodko's eyes, sunk with weariness, traveled slowly over the cottage, the mill and the silver plane tree reaching toward the sky. Both scouts were breathing heavily with fatigue, both were sweaty and dusty. Likhodko leaned over to the sergeant and whispered, "Now we're nearer home . . . let's get down to business."

In the past, scout Likhodko had been a collective farm brigade leader. He looked on war as something difficult but necessary. In 1941 he fought in the streets of Zaporozhye. A German machine gun at the crossroads had all the approaches under fire. The lieutenant in command left Likhodko at the crossroads and set out himself with a small detach-



AN ANTI-TANK BATTERY MOVES UP TO THE FRONT—In recent fighting the Red Army's anti-tank artillery has destroyed hundreds of German tanks, including the huge and supposedly invincible Tigers

Radiophoto

ment to outflank the gun emplacement. He fought his way across two streets and was about to make a dash for a third when suddenly somebody touched his sleeve. The lieutenant turned and there was Likhodko. The officer went purple with rage.

"To leave the crossing . . . to forget your orders!"

"I've already fixed it," said Likhodko.

"You fixed it, yes!" the lieutenant shouted in fury.

"I gave it a dose of grenades," explained Likhodko, almost phlegmatically. "The street's open, so what do we do next?" He asked this quietly, as he used to talk in Chervona Yaruga, in the collective farm office, when he and his brigade had fulfilled their harvesting assignment.

Likhodko had long awaited this hour when he would return to the Ukraine . . . to his native soil. In the dawn or late at night the two of them, the other scout and himself, would make their way into farmsteads and villages. The rough-hewn Anton Likhodko and the wiry little Siberian with his waddling gait were warmly welcomed by the people, weary with longing for their own folk.

As they passed the first farmsteads and came to the large villages, Likhodko felt the pull of the country ahead, of his native Chervona Yaruga, grow ever stronger. He became restless, sought out danger, was never still.

"Getting near . . . getting nearer . . ." he would say. But he never said, "Nearer home . . . nearer my little wife." This was the wound he never referred to. Only once, near Graivoron, flinging himself across a parapet he had cried hoarsely, "*Where are my children? Where are they now?*" Only old hands in the scout platoon knew the reason for his taciturn and even stern manner. Last winter, with

an advancing regiment, he had burst into Chervona Yaruga. He rushed to a cottage near the commander-in-chief's quarters . . . a little blue cottage with a thatched roof. There was not a place in the world for which he would have changed it. . . . But the cottage stood half-ruined, empty, orphaned. His wife was not there; she had hidden herself somewhere with the children. He had heard that the older girl, Tosya, and the younger, Manya, had been deported to Germany.

Likhodko went up onto the porch of his home . . . then turned abruptly and groping for the steps like a blind man came down slowly. In a voice hoarse and strange he said, "It's all ruined." From that day he was gloomy and silent; the only thing that seemed to give him pleasure was a little mouth organ. When loneliness and grief became too much for him, he would softly play over old songs and snatches of melodies remembered from his childhood.

In August, 1943, Likhodko's character underwent a sudden change. He had forgotten nothing of the past, but he seemed to draw new strength from his native soil. He came to life again and his eyes shone. As the unit advanced he saw much: villages freed of the Germans and the first great joy of the people meeting the Red Army. In the village of Strelechy, in Kharkov Region, they showed him trenches in the hospital grounds in which were buried the bodies of 435 peaceful citizens shot by the Germans.

Likhodko's lucky star led him along the dusty steppe roads scorched by the hot breath of August, through the yellow stalks of wheat, while far off on the horizon the blue villages with their windmills hovered in the sultry air. Everything under the Ukrainian sky on soil freed from the Germans pleased him.

But the enemy was still in Poltava and Kiev.

On the Azov Seacoast

By Major B. Glebov

Following the liquidation of the Taganrog group at the mouth of the Mius River, Soviet mechanized and cavalry troops negotiated several more kilometers after heavy fighting and captured a large number of inhabited points, including the town of Budyonovka. German reinforcements which had just come up attempted unsuccessfully to break away from the advancing Soviet forces and to entrench along a water barrier. But Soviet mobile divisions pressed forward relentlessly and gave the enemy no time to put his battered troops in order. Some strong points the Soviet troops took in their stride, others were outflanked, while still others were by-passed and subsequently reduced.

Near the river the enemy threw into the counter-

attack a large infantry force supported by 30 tanks, three artillery brigades and 12 six-barreled mortars. Soviet troops hurled the enemy back with heavy losses and forced the river. Our troops advanced so swiftly that enemy garrisons at storm points were caught unawares and surrendered.

The inhabitants of the villages situated along the coast say that the German officers and men often broke into their houses and at the point of a gun demanded civilian clothing. Then, throwing off their uniforms, they disappeared.

The enemy made a determined effort to hold Budyonovka. Bringing up fresh reserves, he attacked in force but suffered heavily and was obliged to retreat.

THE FALL OF SUMY

By Major N. Bukovsky

The first battles for Sumy began at its approaches. A number of villages tucked away in the forests had been converted into strong points by the Germans. They mined the forest paths, erected log-wall barriers and installed flanking fire-nests.

In these conditions it was natural that the chief brunt of the fighting should fall upon our infantry. An important part was played by tommy gunners and sappers, who by-passed the enemy's resistance centers, combed the forests and surrounded the fire-nests. After stubborn fighting the enemy was dislodged from the left bank of the Pszol River.

Retiring to the right bank the Germans blew up all bridges, carried off the boats and mined the bank. The key positions in this area still remained in their hands. The right flank of the enemy defenses was covered by a tank division concentrated in the elbow of the Pszol. It was here that our troops began to force the river, their aim being to liquidate the enemy salient formed by the bend of the river and to secure a foothold on the right bank, thus enabling our troops to cross freely.

Under cover of darkness our sappers built pontoon bridges. Careful preliminary reconnaissance had been made of the enemy's fire-nests on the bank and also of his artillery positions. A Soviet rifle regiment forced the river and seized several villages on commanding heights. This created a direct threat to the flank of the enemy's Sumy group.

The Germans regrouped their forces, brought up fresh reinforcements and counter-attacked the Soviet units which had crossed the river, pressing them to the bank, where fierce fighting developed. Although at this stage the Germans outnumbered Soviet troops on the right bank several times over, they were unable to secure any decisive success. Artillery fire from the left bank and anti-tank weapons of Soviet troops on the right bank inflicted severe damage on the German tank division, which had already been badly mauled in preceding battles. Soon the enemy counter-attacks lost their violence.

Meanwhile Soviet troops continued to cross the Pszol, and neither the enemy's attempts to hurl them back into the river nor his fire could stop them. Substantial support was rendered by the Soviet air force in silencing the batteries which were maintaining fire at the bridges. Finally all Soviet troops and materiel were transferred to the right bank, the enemy was definitely driven off and a large strong point captured on the right bank.

This created a direct threat from the south to the enemy's army group in Sumy itself. Almost simultaneously Soviet forces reached the Germans' flank from the north.

The simultaneous attack from the east, north and south placed the Germans in an extremely serious plight. They had built their strongest fortifications in the eastern part of the town. But at the very beginning of the battle Soviet troops overwhelmed the enemy's screening forces in the northern and southern outskirts of Sumy. This could not but affect the position of enemy troops defending the river bank. They began to retire, clinging to their strong points, all the time menaced by the threat of being cut off from the flanks. Consciousness of this accelerated their retreat and they were unable to make full use of their already prepared defenses.

The liquidation of the Germans' Sumy fortified zone is of the highest importance. It removes the menace of flank blows at advancing Soviet troops. Furthermore, the Red Army has crossed another big water barrier in its advance into the Ukraine. The loss of the Sumy fortified zone, with its dense forests and convenient natural cover has deprived the Germans of many advantages.

The German defeat at Sumy testifies to the strategic skill of the Red Army commanders. Sumy is a link in the chain of large-scale Soviet offensive operations. It is another proof of the increased mastery of tactics by Soviet officers and generals, whose skilful flank actions and maneuvering forced the Germans to relinquish Sumy.



Ivan Merkulov, a worker on the Volkovo State Farm in the Orel Region, and his family, tell Red Army men what they endured from the Nazis during the year and ten months of the German occupation

THE "STRIKING DIVE" IN RAMMING ENEMY PLANES

By Hero of the Soviet Union Captain P. Shavurin

Our air unit was guarding an important main-line railway along which troops, stores and ammunition moved to the front. One day we received information that an enemy air formation flying at a high altitude was approaching from our rear. Our commander ordered Pilot Fedor Kozlov and myself to intercept the enemy.

We took off and began climbing. Soon Kozlov radioed that his oxygen apparatus was not working and I continued alone. At 21,000 feet I saw a Junkers-88 bomber on a long-distance reconnaissance flight behind our lines. The Junkers was flying a straight course. I took advantage of this to get closer to him. Knowing a serious fight was ahead, I had been sparing my engine, but now I put on speed and climbing to 1,500 feet above the Junkers I tried to approach him from the sunny side unobserved.

Selecting a suitable moment for attack I dived, aiming my guns at the gunner and the pilot's cabin. The German gunner immediately replied with a stream of tracers which passed somewhere to my left. Suddenly the Junkers turned off its course and made for the clouds. In two or three seconds he would be hidden and so get away. The only thing left to do was to ram the German bomber straight from a dive, as I would have no time to recover and turn after him.

The speed of my plane during the dive was very great. To avoid becoming entangled in the enemy

aircraft I made for the plane's tail. My propeller struck the rudder and stabilizers of the Junkers and my right wing struck his left wing. The German bomber turned over on its back and went in to a spin from which it never recovered. The whole crew was killed in the crash. My own propeller buckled and my right wing was torn completely off. The plane, out of control, began to dive tail first. I tried to parachute but this was extremely difficult—some force seemed to press me down in the seat. After many attempts I succeeded in placing my foot on the seat, the pressure relaxed somewhat and I threw myself out of the cabin. After I had dropped some distance my parachute opened and I landed safely.

What conclusions may be drawn from this dangerous air combat? I rammed the enemy from a dive—what we call a "striking dive." This differs from the usual ram, which can be made only with the propeller and usually leaves your own aircraft undamaged. The striking dive is employed only in critical circumstances, when the enemy must be destroyed at all costs and there is no other way of dealing with him.

The "striking dive" must be carefully calculated and the blow delivered at the tail or some other easily damaged part of the machine. Above all it must be made coolly, keeping in mind that the enemy must be destroyed. The slightest weakening of will may lead to disaster.

RED ARMY MEN RECEIVE UNIVERSITY DEGREES

Red Army officers and men on leave have worked on a number of interesting theses in the Lomonosov State University in Moscow, the oldest educational institution in Russia.

Nikolai Semenov, a former student in the College of Fine Arts and now a lieutenant in a unit on the Leningrad Front, presented a project for the restoration of world-famous buildings demolished by the Germans in the suburbs of Leningrad. Semenov personally inspected the ruins of palaces and mansions built by famous architects of the past—Rastrelli, Voronikhin, Guarengi and others. His thesis also discusses the restoration of buildings designed by the Scotch architect, Charles Cameron, including the palace in Slutsk and the Gallery in Detskoye Selo. Semenov's thesis, written during brief lulls in the fighting, reveals exceptional ability and has earned him the degree of Master of Arts. He has now returned to the front.

The thesis by Victor Bobrov, a 26-year-old teacher in the Voronezh Pedagogical Institute, who for almost a year fought as a guerrilla in the Kursk and Voronezh Regions, deals with the subject of old English literature. Bobrov used over 1,500 original sources for his work. He now carries on a voluminous cor-

respondence with British literary critics, particularly with professors of Nottingham and Cambridge Universities. In the opinion of such well-known students of Soviet literature as Academician Tolstoy and Professors Yegolin and Timashevsky, Bobrov's work is of great interest both for Russian and English students of literature. Bobrov received the degree of Master of Philology and is now translating Marlowe's dramas and Edmund Spenser's *Faerie Queen* into Russian.

10,000 New Buildings Erected During War

A conference of leading Soviet architects held in Moscow recently discussed the two main problems of war construction—new housing and reconstruction of liberated towns. It was stated that although the main work of Soviet architects during the first year of the war was concerned with camouflage and construction of military objectives, more than 10,000 new buildings have been built in the Soviet Union since the beginning of the war. As each town is liberated, a group of architects is assigned to work on its reconstruction. All architectural colleges and the building industry in general are studying United States methods of construction of apartment blocks.

GERMAN PRISONERS OF THIS SUMMER

By Lieutenant G. Rudoy

Gefreiter Ignaz Ulfig, taken prisoner on the Bryansk Front, is a heavy, asthmatic man, 41 years old. His small, malignant eyes peer out from under a low forehead. Gefreiter Ulfig formerly led an easy existence in a rear supply base. But the Russian offensive put an end to all that. Together with 300 other rear service men, Ulfig was sent out in a makeshift unit with the pompous name of "Special Purpose Battalion." The soldiers were given German, Belgian, Dutch and Czech rifles. The battalion possessed no means of anti-tank defense. Most of the men were in their forties and hardly fit for fighting. They did not even know how to shoot properly.

"In a word, it was a rabble, not a battalion," said Ulfig. Naturally enough, when a few Russian tanks appeared, the battalion turned tail and was almost totally destroyed.

"In fact, we were doomed from the very beginning," Ulfig continued. "We knew it was madness to fight tanks with rifles. But our officers!"—here Gefreiter

Ulfig swore most forcefully—"they should have been shot for their cowardice."

Herbert Malinovsky, non-com of the 350th Guard Battalion, also mentioned the disgraceful conduct of some of the German officers. "Seeing Russian tanks approaching, the battalion commander, Captain Weiss, immediately climbed into a car and drove off, leaving his men to the mercy of fate."

Malinovsky had been at the front since the outbreak of the war. "In 1941 morale was high and the army was altogether different," he declared. "After the Stalingrad disaster and this summer's defeats, the number of soldiers still believing in German victory has decreased sharply. Many men are indifferent to the final outcome. All they want is for the war to end."

In their unsuccessful attempts to stem the Soviet advance, the Germans are throwing in their last reserves. Private Franz Tangel was taken prisoner a few days after his division arrived on the Eastern



German and Rumanian prisoners taken by Soviet troops in the summer fighting northeast of Novorossisk

Front from France. For their Kursk offensive the enemy brought up reserve units from Western Europe and the Balkans. "Until June, 1943," said Private Tangel, "our division was doing garrison duty on the English Channel. We had a fine time there. The possibility of an Allied landing did keep us in suspense, but the Anglo-Saxons apparently decided not to trouble us. The German command is continuing to transfer troops from France to the Eastern Front. The soldiers faced the trip to Russia without enthusiasm, although the officer said that the Russians were badly trained and armed. But in the very first battle we realized that the reverse was true. The platoon was almost annihilated by Russian artillery fire. The company commander was wounded. I may add that the lucky few who remained alive more than felt the difference between the life in France and the Russian fighting."

AIR-TAXI, A NEW MOTION PICTURE BY EUGENE PETROV

By Timofei Rokotov

The late Eugene Petrov is famed both in the Soviet Union and abroad as co-author with Ilya Ilf of *Twelve Chairs*, *The Golden Calf* and *Little Golden America*. Petrov had a wide range of interests. During the war he combined the duties of editor of the magazine *Ogonyok* with the work of scenario writer and literary critic, and was in addition one of the most active Soviet war correspondents. He was killed in an airplane crash while returning from an assignment in besieged Sevastopol. For valor displayed as a war correspondent for the North American Newspaper Alliance, Petrov was posthumously awarded a medal by the National Headliners Club in the United States.

Air Taxi is Petrov's third successful screen play, the first two being *Musical Story* and *Spring Song*. The hero of the new film now being shown on Soviet screens is a veteran air-liner pilot, Baranov, who has flown over a million kilometers and is considered one of the best commercial fliers. But Baranov is dissatisfied. He thinks he has become nothing more than an "air cabby." On one of his regular flights he meets a young singer who is about to make her opera debut. They fall in love, but are beset with numerous difficulties. The girl is also courted by a well-known tenor who is approved by the heroine's mother.

Then the war begins. Baranov asks to be transferred to a fighter corps, but is refused. He begins to realize, however, that his work as an "air cabby" is no less important. He is assigned to carry ammunition to Soviet troops operating behind the enemy lines. On return trips he brings back wounded offi-

Evidence given by German prisoners is indicative of the spirit of German soldiers in France. Furthermore, the very fact that German divisions are being shifted from Western Europe to the Soviet-German front shows the groundlessness of the arguments put forth by some papers that the threat of an Allied invasion is sufficient to immobilize the German troops in Western Europe. In reality the German divisions there and in the Balkans are not immobilized at all.

If the threat is made good, then the Germans in Western Europe will really be engaged and some will, moreover, be drawn from the Eastern Front. That would not only be a real help to the Red Army, which for over two years has been bearing the main burden of the struggle against the Nazi menace, but would enable the war to be concluded victoriously with a minimum loss of time and men.

cers and men. His assignments are brilliantly carried out. On one occasion his crew shoots down one of three enemy fighters attacking their plane. But the radio operator loses contact with Moscow and unexpectedly tunes in on a broadcast of *The Queen of Spades*, in which the girl Baranov loves is making her debut. With the music as a beacon, he safely lands in Moscow.

Air Taxi has numerous comedy sequences and a gay musical score. But the picture is more than a light comedy—it shows the character of Soviet patriots, who are ready to put aside their individual interests for the sake of their country.

Baranov is played by Mikhail Baranov, a winner of the Stalin Prize and one of the finest Soviet motion picture actors. *Air Taxi* is typical of Eugene Petrov's work. He was not only a master of humor and characterization, but a great fighter in the cause of freedom.

Moscow Theaters Come Home

Eight Moscow theaters—The Kamerny, The Moscow Soviet, the Theater of Satire, Theater of the Revolution, Musical Comedy Theater, Jewish Theater, Central Children's Theater and the Theater for Young Spectators—will shortly return to the Capital after an absence of 22 months. During this time the players appeared before audiences in towns, factories and collective farms of the Urals, Siberia and Central Asia, and made many tours of the front lines.

CORK FROM THE TAIGA

In the Caucasus there grows a remarkable evergreen oak of great industrial importance. Its thick bark consists mainly of cork tissue. The tree reaches complete maturity at about fifteen years, when it is first stripped of its cork bark. After that it may be stripped again every eight to ten years.

But even the exceptionally fertile Caucasian earth bears few of these oaks—they require a particular combination of soil and climatic conditions. It seems, however, that this Caucasian cork tree has a brother, or at any rate a cousin, which goes by the attractive name of Amur Velvet.

The Amur is one of the great rivers of the Soviet Far East, 1,875 miles in length. Near the river in the Khabarovsk region, in the midst of the impenetrable virgin taiga, grows this other version of the cork-bearing oak.

A prospecting party discovered a wealth of these valuable trees, and the manufacture of cork from Amur Velvet is now in full swing. It is excellent

cork for aircraft construction, for the electrical industry, and for countless other purposes.

Transport through the roadless taiga was a difficult problem. It is hard enough for a man to push his way through these jungles, to say nothing of motor trucks. The trees grow close together in absolute disorder. Storms and time have thrown them down across the narrow paths. They have become interwoven in a most fantastic fashion. And there among these fallen giants, the young trees are already stretching up toward the sun.

But war would not wait, and the cork hunters found a way out of the difficulty. Hundreds of tiny streams run through the taiga, carrying their waters to bigger rivers which in turn flow into the mighty Amur. The cork hunters floated the cork down the streams to the Amur, whence it is transported to all parts of the Soviet Union.

Thus, the Amur Velvet, cousin of the Caucasian cork tree, growing in dense jungles where until a few years ago the foot of man never trod, now reaches Soviet factories, where it serves the war.



Labor reserves in the USSR are trained not only in various vocational schools, but also in factories. A new worker in a Soviet aircraft plant receives instruction from the foreman

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

The Red Army's offensive has been gaining momentum and spreading to new sectors. Whereas at the beginning of August the fighting on the Soviet-German front took place mainly in the Orel and Kharkov directions, the Red Army is now conducting the offensive in the directions of Bryansk and Smolensk, the northern Ukraine, west and south of Kharkov, the Donets Basin and along the shore of the Sea of Azov. The Red Army is now waging a battle on a 1,000-kilometer front. Large masses of infantry, tanks, artillery and aviation are fighting day and night in a vast area, and on the Moscow-Smolensk motor highway in the north and the Sea of Azov in the south. In this battle the Red Army continues to inflict crushing blows on the Hitlerite troops, which are sustaining heavy losses in men and materiel.

After the defeats suffered by the Germans in Orel and Kharkov, they have sustained further heavy losses during the past few days in the Taganrog area. Here Soviet troops captured Taganrog and surrounded large German forces. In severe fighting Soviet Cossack and tank troops smashed the remnants of the German Taganrog army group, wiping out four German infantry divisions and inflicting a heavy defeat on three more infantry divisions and one Panzer division. Pressing the offensive along the Azov Seacoast, Soviet troops captured the city of Budyonovka about 35 kilometers east of the large industrial center and port of Mariupol, which is connected by railroad with the Donbas.

This blow at the right flank of Hitler's front is of great importance, for it makes the situation difficult for Hitler's army group on the Azov Seacoast which is covering the important railroad center of Zaporozhye, the Crimea and the approaches to the Dnieper.

The German defeat in Taganrog has sharply changed the strategic situation in the southern sector of the Soviet-German front and facilitates the advance of the Red Army in the Donets Basin, where Soviet troops made further headway during the past few days and captured the cities of Lisichansk, Voroshilovsk, Chistyakova, Pervomaisk, Irmino, Kadyevka and many other places. Soviet troops have thus penetrated into the heart of the Donets Basin and are continuing their successful advance.

On the Central Front Soviet troops, after breaching strong German fortifications south of Bryansk, entered the northern Ukraine. Here the Red Army in the course of a few days captured the cities of Rylysk, Glukhov, Krolovets, Shostka, Pitivl and

other places, including Vorozhba, an important railway junction on the Kursk-Kiev line. By capturing these towns Soviet troops rendered it difficult for the German groups in the Bryansk area and the Donbas to maintain strategic cooperation. Southeast of Vorozhba Soviet troops captured the city of Sumy on the Psyl River, an important road center and German base from which the Germans threatened the flanks of the Soviet troops which had crossed the Psyl and were advancing northwest and west of Kharkov. The break-through effected by Soviet troops in the northern Ukraine has created favorable conditions for the Red Army's offensive along the Kursk-Kiev railway line.

Further north, Soviet troops after capturing Yelnya, Dorogobuzh and scores of other places, are continuing their advance along the Moscow-Smolensk railway and motor highway. After the capture of Yelnya on the Sukhinichi-Smolensk line, Soviet troops reached a point 75 kilometers southeast of Smolensk.

The Red Army is continuing its offensive in important strategic directions. The Hitlerites are making lame attempts to explain the retreat of the German troops by "the necessity of strengthening the front line." These explanations cannot cover up the defeats suffered by the German troops, which are sustaining heavy casualties and falling back under the crushing blow of the Red Army and not because the German command desires it.

Sugar Beet Flourishes in Central Asia

The sugar beet crop, introduced on a large scale in all the Central Asian Republics in 1942, yielded a harvest of 400 to 500 centners per hectare, and in some areas reached 900 centners. This is above the average for the yield in the west, the former center for this crop. Moreover, the sugar content of the beets was 18 to 20 per cent, also higher than in many of the old sugar beet growing districts.

Last year's excellent results led to the extension of the area sown to sugar beet this year in Central Asia. In Kazakhstan the area now in sugar beet is two and a half times greater than before the war. Refineries in Kirghizia are producing thousands of tons of sugar, and during the first half of this year new refineries were launched in that Republic. Soviet scientists studying soil conditions in Central Asia have concluded that this territory has a great future as a sugar beet producing area.

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LITHUANIANS

By Ilya Ehrenburg

On the map of Europe Lithuania is only a small green spot. It might easily be forgotten. But it must not be forgotten. It is a little country with a big heart. Neither can the Germans forget Lithuania, and the vice-regent of "Ostland" curses this tiny nation which merely refused to submit to the yoke of all-powerful Germany.

It is a green country of forests and pastures. It had few factories. Its simple cities dozed in quiet slumber. Its heroic history seemed to be irrevocably

of the past. What was there in common between a peasant raising corn and hogs and the heroes of by-gone battles? But those who thought to tame these silent peasants little knew the heart of Lithuania.

The Lithuanians are a silent people, but their silence is of iron: they are silent but they do not submit; they are silent but they do not surrender. "Stubborn people," complained the Germans. Untamable people, say we. Hitler sought in vain in Lithuania for hirelings. The Lithuanians know how to say no . . . and



DEFENDERS OF LENINGRAD—These friends, Golubev and Kostylev, are both naval fighter pilots, both captains, both Guardsmen and both Heroes of the Soviet Union. Their joint score is 860 battle sorties and 75 German planes shot down

Radiophoto

it is a weighty no. The Germans recently dissolved the "Lithuanian Legion." Even this troop of mercenaries proved intractable. Now Hitler has no Lithuanian hirelings . . . and that is the finest thing one can say of a land which for over two years has been languishing under Hitler's yoke.

Lithuania's University has been closed. Its students mutinied; they refused to acknowledge the Germans as "supermen." In Lithuania, that green and silent land, rugged liberty has not submitted.

The Lithuanians are fighting far from Lithuania on Russian soil, on the soil of Orel. The Lithuanian Division has played a large part in the history of this summer. It withstood the blow when the Germans began their offensive against the Kursk salient. The Lithuanians did not allow the Germans to pass. They stood firm, and a few days later passed to the offensive. Many bitter surprises awaited the Germans this summer, and the Lithuanian Division was one of them.

Just before the Germans launched their offensive one Lithuanian proved a coward—there's a black sheep in every family. He surrendered to the Germans. At German headquarters he declared the Lithuanians did not want to fight and would surrender at once. The Germans struck at that sector of the front held by the Lithuanian Division, confident it would prove a weak spot. But the Lithuanians did not flinch. Two German divisions were shattered in that battle. Thereupon the Germans hanged the deserter: they decided he had deliberately deceived them.

In the Lithuanian Division there are peasants and writers, workers and schoolmasters. Lieutenant Navoliunos is a man with the muscles of an athlete, the smile of a child and the soul of a musician. He loved opera more than anything on earth. He had a pleasant voice and dreamed of becoming a singer. But Hitler interfered with this career and he became commander of a platoon of automatic riflemen. He led his men into action with a song. True, he did not sing what was appropriate to the occasion, but an aria from an opera. On the other hand, he wielded his automatic rifle in the best tradition. Hand-to-hand fighting took place in the trenches. Navoliunos killed an oberleutnant and seven Fritzes with his own hand. The singer brought everything into play—his helmet, a German dagger and grenades. Wounded in the arm and leg, with a burned face, he went on fighting and disposed of another seven of the enemy. He was supported by noble fury . . . he loved harmony far too much to tolerate the existence of Hitlerites on earth.

How did the Lithuanians fight? Perhaps that had best be told in commonplaces. Two sergeants, Zolotas and Ragutskas, were stunned by a mortar bomb.

They say that a box of shells had caught fire and they found the strength to extinguish the flames with earth. These two sergeants slew over 20 Germans between them. The wounded signaler Jatsenevicius did not leave his telephone, but bathed in blood went on transmitting orders, and when the Germans took him prisoner was still shouting into the instrument. The Germans tried to extort information from him as to the disposition of our units. They tortured him—dislocated his arms, tied him to a tree and lit a fire under him. But a Lithuanian knows how to keep silent. Jatsenevicius kept silent, and Russia will not forget his silence.

Signaler Grigoravicius had two fingers of his hand torn off by a bomb splinter. He did not leave his phone, but calmly continued to report conditions. When he was later asked how he had found strength to stick it out he replied, "It wasn't my wound that worried me then . . . but how to give the Germans hell."

Joffe, a young machine gunner, found himself alone. The Germans surrounded him crying, "Surrender, Russian!" Joffe's reply was to shoot down four of them with his automatic rifle. The fifth German shot him in the throat. Joffe stuck to his post. This may sound like a fabrication, a sensational story, a legend. But it was an episode of battle. That is how the Lithuanian Division fights. I could tell of others, but heroism requires either the scant lines of a battle report or a bulky-volumed novel.

The Lithuanians have advanced westward 120 kilometers. They have liberated 60 Russian villages from the Germans. They have saved thousands and thousands of people. In Nikolskoce the Hitlerites were rounding up girls to send to Germany. The Lithuanians arrived in time to rescue them, and more than one Russian mother will remember these deliverers to the end of her days.

The Lithuanians in their advance on Bryansk occupied a village called Lithuania. It is a Russian village and I do not know to what it owes its unusual name. "Lithuania" was how it was designated on the signboard. "Lithuania"—the peasants confirmed. "Lithuania" . . . repeated the Lithuanians, deeply stirred. It may be mere chance, a coincidence, but it may be a happy omen: Lithuania, silent, stricken, conquered but unconquerable, awaits her liberation.

Government Honors Memory Of Hero of Izyum

On August 27 the People's Commissariat of Defense announced the death of Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Peter Volokh, who perished in action in the area of Izyum. To honor General Volokh's memory the Council of People's Commissars will erect a monument to him in Izyum and will confer his name upon the Second Tank School in Saratov and upon one of the streets of his birthplace, the city of Engels.

RED ARMY UNITS CAPTURE KONOTOP

By Major Petrov

MOSCOW, September 6.—Yesterday our troops, after hard fighting, advanced considerably and emerged on the Seim River at Konotop, where the Germans had prepared strong defenses. The enemy kept all crossings under continuous artillery and machine-gun fire. Fierce engagements were fought at these crossings; the Germans striving at all costs to hold them. The Soviet command then started what seemed to be an offensive in this district, and feigned attempts to force the river. This immediately attracted the attention of the enemy. Simultaneously our units concentrated for a thrust in other places, forced the Seim River and attacked the Germans from the flank.

The Germans were obliged to retreat even in the sector where they held all crossings. Soon our units successfully forced the river here also, with the result that the jumping-off place on the left bank of the Seim was extended so far as to permit our units to undertake decisive attacks in the direction of Konotop. In the next few hours the attacking troops captured several inhabited places, but meanwhile the enemy brought up fresh reinforcements from the rear. This enabled him to attempt furious counter-attacks simultaneously in several sectors, and heavy fighting followed in the marshy district north of Konotop. Here the tactics adopted by our troops took the form of thrusts by small groups which penetrated the marshes and woods, and emerging on the enemy's flank or rear caught him unawares. This tactic brought excellent results. The German counter-attacks

were unsuccessful and they retreated.

In the neighborhood of the inhabited place of Gvin-tovoye the enemy counter-attacked six times with tanks and infantry. Lieutenant Zhuk's artillerymen distinguished themselves here, destroying several tanks and helping the infantry to repulse the counter-attack. Senior Lieutenant Martynenko's battery was fighting in a sector where the enemy counter-attacked with particular ferocity. The artillerymen set four tanks on fire, whereupon the remaining enemy machines retreated. The German infantry, left without armored cover, attempted to counter-attack, but our mortars, infantry and artillery attacked simultaneously, forcing them to retreat with heavy losses.

Having repulsed the German counter-attacks at the approaches to Konotop, our units made a rapid drive ahead and were soon at the town itself, where the engagement began with renewed force. Backed by the railways, the Germans put up a stubborn defense, but the losses they had sustained in the previous battles could not but influence the course of the fighting. After desperate resistance, the Germans were pressed back from the Krolovets-Konotop railway. This decided the fate of Konotop, and very soon our troops captured the town.

Other inhabited places in the direction of Bakhmach were also captured by our units.

U. S. Distinguished Service Medal Awarded Soviet Submarine Hero

By Captain Nikolai Kovalyov

The President of the United States has awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to Sergei Kukushkin for outstanding services to his country aboard a submarine of the Northern Fleet. Kukushkin's sub has sunk 10 enemy transports and one submarine.

At the ceremony of presentation, Admiral Duncan, United States Naval Attache, looked somewhat puzzled as he surveyed the broad-chested submarine fighter.

"I'm having difficulty finding a place to pin the medal," Admiral Duncan said. During the Patriotic War Kukushkin's battle history has been marked by the Order of the Red Banner, the Order of the Patriotic War—First Degree, the Medal for Valor, the

First-Class Submarine Personnel Medal and the Guards Medal.

Several years ago, when Kukushkin was employed as a fitter at an industrial plant, he used to go three times a week to the training-ship on the Moscow River, zealously studying naval art. Two years of service aboard a submarine were a further schooling for him. He became senior of a group of hold enginemen.

On the fourth day of war he went out for the first time in his submarine to fulfill an assignment. After searching for some time for the enemy in the open sea, the submarine entered a fiord where a German transport was anchored and sunk it—the first fascist transport to be sunk.

HIS NATIVE VILLAGE

By Captain A. Denisovich

Gerasim Grigoriev had been away from home for three years. He had last visited his folks after finishing his pilot's training course at the flying school. What a welcome he had received! His father and mother could not tear their gaze from their favorite—the youngest of four sons. Not so long ago he had spent his days on the river, in the fields or herding cattle. The years had passed quickly . . . now he had returned wearing an officer's uniform. The pride of his parents knew no bounds. Their son was a man of note . . .

A plane flies low over the countryside, the wheels skimming the tree tops. According to the map there should be villages here, but not a house is visible. Now and again a pile of bricks and jutting chimneys can be seen. The Germans have been here. They were driven out by the Red Army.

Gerasim Grigoriev is back in his old surroundings. Many things have happened in the two years of war. Today he is a captain and a Hero of the Soviet Union. Two days ago he received a letter from his father, Afanasi Grigoriev. It read: "*Dear Son: The Germans have taken or burned down all we had. I am ill. We have lost everything . . .*" Reading the letter Gerasim cried—this brave pilot who had so often faced death without turning a hair.

We are now flying over the place where his village, Novo Teterino, once stood—where Gerasim Grigoriev spent his childhood. Here is a winding stream. One of its banks is covered with trees, on the other is a dugout near which women and children stand, waving at us. A little to the left are the remains of a village, a wrecked barn and several tents and dugouts.

Captain Grigoriev glances at the map and then at the barren land. This must be his native village, every house and every fence of which he knew. But the Germans have left nothing. The cottages are all burned down, the orchards destroyed. We circle around looking for a suitable landing field. The plane glides down and comes to a standstill near a fence—or what remains of a fence. It gives the impression that here was once a cottage and a garden.

Children run to meet us; and behind them come men and women. The pilot, surrounded by his friends, makes his way to the plot of ground which for many years had been his home. He can hardly recognize the village. There is not a single cottage left standing; the people are living in dugouts. Gerasim's people have put up a tent.

News of Grigoriev's arrival soon spreads to the neighboring villages and the people gather in Novo Teterino. They question us about the situation at the front. With tears in their eyes and rage in their voices they relate the woes and hardships they suf-

fered under German rule.

"We'll never forget the Hitlerites," said Captain Grigoriev's father. "They robbed us of our last grain, potatoes, onions, and even knives and forks. On several occasions the Nazis threatened to shoot me. They had evidently been told that my four sons are in the Red Army. They had come to the cottage and on seeing a model plane which I had made said with a sneer, 'The Russians are done for.' Then flourishing their guns at me they shouted, 'You are a Communist. We'll shoot you.'"

"Once Mother and I were nearly deported. The people had been ordered to the village of Piguidino to clear snow from the roads. Afterward the Germans announced that everyone would be sent to another locality for more work. We escaped by sheer accident. Three girls, Tonya Bistrov, Marusya Kazenaya and Shura Mikhailova, couldn't get away and were deported. Each was only 15 years old."

"And what did the robbers do in Ordulov!" said Grigoriev's mother. "There were 250 inhabitants in the village, most of them women and children. The German commandant ordered them to gather at the central square, then the brutes shot them in small groups. One old man was told to carry the bodies into a barn; and when it was full, they shot him and set the barn on fire. Altogether 150 people were killed."

"One day four German soldiers entered our village. They seemed in a hurry. At first we didn't know what they had come for. They went to the cottage of Nastya Klunking and set it on fire. Then they followed with the others. The children wept, the women screamed. We didn't know what to do. Afanasi Grigoriev was sick. We took him to a dugout with friends while my daughters-in-law and I rescued a few things from the flames. All night we stayed near the smouldering fire. A cold, strong wind was blowing and it rained. When Red Army scouts entered the village next morning we all felt as though we had come out of our graves. There was no peace for us under the German yoke . . ."

Sometimes, after an operations flight, Captain Grigoriev climbs out of his fighter plane with a grim look in his eyes. I saw that same look now, as he listened to his parents and village friends.

"Mother . . . Father," he said softly, "since the beginning of the war I have shot down 17 Nazi planes. I shall never forget you . . . and after what I have seen here I shall fight even more bitterly. Believe me . . ."

In the evening our U-2 plane took off, piloted by Hero of the Soviet Union Captain Grigoriev. His parents and friends waved from below. But Grigoriev was eager to get back to his fighter plane.

TWO CITIZENS OF KHARKOV SPEAK

Glory to the Russian Soldier!

By Academician Vladimir Obraztsov

Academician Obraztsov is a Stalin Prize Winner and has also received the Order of Lenin and the Order of the Red Banner of Labor.

Kharkov is free! It is again a Soviet city. I was born in the Ukraine and the dearest memories of my life are connected with Kharkov. It was here, as a student in the Kharkov Institute of Technology I received my practical experience and later worked on a railroad. In the years of Soviet power I designed the Kharkov Central Railway Station.

The Germans stubbornly clung to Kharkov, fighting fiercely for every foot of ground against the Soviet fighters approaching the second capital of the Ukraine. But our Red Army men advanced implacably, recapturing the territory occupied by the enemy. At last the Soviet flag was unfurled over Kharkov.



Academician V. N. Obraztsov

I picture to myself the streets, the wonderful parks, the striking vistas of our beautiful city. The marvellous buildings are destroyed. I can still see them—they were erected before my eyes. The theaters, schools and museums are plundered. We shall never forget nor forgive the Nazis for their crimes. The Hitlerites shall answer for them in full!

I picture to myself the Red Army men marching through the great city . . . the Red Army men who have brought freedom and happiness to the harassed people. They move past the burning homes and scorched parks. Their faces are beaming with joy of the victory won with such labor. It seems that the stones . . . the sacred stones of Kharkov . . . come to life under their feet.

Glory to the Russian soldier, valiant liberator of our native soil! On with the offensive!

I Am Back in Kharkov!

By Ukrainian Guerrilla Nikita

Beautiful is my native land, fertile its fields, shady its groves, deep its lakes and rivers!

I was born in Kharkov, was graduated from high school there and worked in the famous Kharkov Tractor Plant. I soon became an assistant shop head. The plant's interests were my own.

Immediately after the war broke out I joined a guerrilla detachment. I am 42 years old, but as strong as a 22-year-old. I have carried out dangerous missions involving risk of life. Numerous trains with German troops and munitions have been blown sky-high with dynamite planted by Ukrainian guerrillas. Numerous Hitlerite invaders have met death in field and forest, pierced by guerrilla bullets. I have spent close to two years in the detachment and have become a real guerrilla, tireless and ruthless against the enemy.

I have often dreamed of the moment when I would walk through the streets of my native Kharkov, cleared of the Germans. This moment has come. I am back in Kharkov. I have come back to the free Soviet city for which my soul longed. I found wrecked houses, burned streets, naked parks. Smoke hovered over the city . . . it had been set on fire.

What if the Ukraine is not as she was only two years ago? I know she will be the same again—and even better and more beautiful—when we are rid of the Nazi tyranny. Life will be happy and work a joy in the regenerated Ukrainian land!

GUERRILLAS KILL 300,000 HITLERITES IN TWO YEARS

Incomplete information from occupied Soviet districts indicates that since the German invasion Soviet guerrillas have killed over 300,000 invaders, of whom 30 were generals, 6,336 officers and 1,520 pilots, while 2,747 enemy officers and men were taken prisoner.

During the same period no less than 3,000 enemy trains and 3,363 railway and road bridges have been wrecked; 1,191 tanks and armored cars, 476 planes, 378 guns, 14,645 trucks and cars have been destroyed and large numbers of ammunition and fuel dumps set on fire. The guerrillas have captured 76 tanks, 163 guns, 3,320 machine guns, 2,531 automatic rifles, 25,393 rifles and large quantities of ammunition.

The contributions of the Byelorussian guerrillas to these totals are 150,000 German officers and men killed, including 13 generals. They have routed dozens of Nazi headquarters.

Soviet Geographers in Wartime

By E. Finn

Professor Andrei Grigoriev, Head of the Institute of Geography of the Academy of Sciences, has returned to Moscow from Central Asia after a lengthy stay in Kazakhstan. He told me of the work done by the Institute during the past two years.

"I shall have to wait until after the war to speak in detail of the many-sided geographical service we have rendered the Red Army," said Professor Grigoriev. "All I will say now is that the activities of our Institute have frequently been commended by our High Command.

"But side by side with our services to the front, we have continued to make an intensive study of the hinterland of our country. Our task is to uncover the natural resources so necessary for the struggle against the invaders.

"To this end, expeditions were organized to the South Urals, West Siberia, the Volga Region, Kirghizia and Kazakhstan. We devoted the greatest attention to this latter region, since the Kazakh Republic is an inexhaustible source of mineral wealth and agricultural raw materials. Of particular importance for husbandry in this area, which embraces steppe and desert, is the distribution of its water supply, and its climatic regime. In view of this, we devoted much attention to compiling maps of the water resources. We also made a detailed investigation of the possibility of extending the sowing area and introducing new crops adapted to the bio-climatic peculiarities of various parts of the Republic.

"Our Institute has drawn up an agro-climatic atlas

of the land reserves, of the possible distribution of crops on Kazakh territory, and of the fodder resources of the Republic, which will be useful in developing cattle breeding. This is the first survey of the kind ever drawn up for the Kazakh Republic.

"We have also surveyed the distribution of its industries. The non-ferrous metals and coal resources of Central Kazakhstan are of enormous importance to the war effort.

"This is a tremendous area, where water supplies are highly uncertain because of the meager rainfall. We have therefore studied the conservation of the plentiful waters of springtime.

"Of no less significance to the national economy is south Kazakhstan and the adjacent northern part of Kirghizia, where treasures hidden in the bowels of the earth are being uncovered, and agriculture and cattle-breeding are being intensively developed. Cotton, sugar beet and new technical crops are being sown.

"Our Institute has drawn up monographs on the districts of Djambul, Chimkent, Frunze and Lake Issyk-Kul, with particular reference to problems of transport. A special expedition investigated resources of the mountain regions of Tian-Shan (the 'heavenly mountains,' as they call them in China) and southern Mangishlak.

"Soviet geographers have coped splendidly with their wartime tasks, maintaining the best traditions of the great school of Russian scientist-travelers, such as Przhevalsky and Semenov of Tian-Shan."

NEW MINERAL SOURCES

Chairman I. I. Malyshev, of the Geology Committee of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, writes in a recent issue of *Pravda* of the successful work of Soviet geologists in supplying the country with mineral raw materials formerly obtained in large quantities in the territory now temporarily-occupied by the enemy.

Malyshev points out that the iron and steel industry has made the greatest demands on the geologists; hundreds of millions of tons of high-grade iron ore have been discovered in the Magnitnaya and Blagodatskaya Mountains and in other parts of the Urals, forming the source of iron-ore supply for the Urals industry and the Magnitogorsk Iron and Steel Works.

A large-scale iron-ore industry has been established in Gornaya Shoriya and Khakassia as a base for the Siberia iron and steel works. Large ore deposits for new iron and steel plants have been discovered in

Eastern Siberia and in the Far East. The Mazur manganese deposits almost completely cover the requirements of Siberian metallurgy.

The Polunokhnoye deposit in the Urals has become one of the main sources of high-grade manganese ore for Urals metallurgy. Important sources of fire-clay, high-grade fluxes and other auxiliary metals have been found for the Urals, Siberia and Central Asia metallurgical works. During the last two years a number of deposits of molybdenum, tungsten, mercury, tin, antimony, and other materials have been discovered, and production can be launched in the immediate future without large investments of capital.

Much has been achieved in the exploration of raw material bases for the aluminum industry in Central Asia, the Urals and other localities. New and large non-ferrous metal deposits have been found and marked for exploitation.

GUERRILLAS FLY GERMAN AIRCRAFT

A Soviet guerrilla recuperating from wounds behind the Soviet lines tells his own story in an interview with Stanislaus Radzinsky:

I am fighting the Germans for the third time. The first was during the war of 1914, the second during the German occupation of the Ukraine in 1918. Weapons have changed, so have tactics, but German psychology remains the same. They are afraid of everything not mentioned in the service regulations.

We take advantage of this. We never remain in one place long. The Germans cannot distinguish one guerrilla detachment from another: this frightens them. In areas where there's only one group, they imagine there are three; where there are several detachments, they know of only one. The Germans are brutal and cruel when they have the upper hand, but cowardly and docile when captured. In the first year of the war we did meet determined, stubborn Nazis who behaved arrogantly at cross-examination. There are few of them left. Now-a-days when the average Nazi falls into our hands he bursts into tears.

I captured a high-ranking police officer. He begged us to let him go. "My superior officers will gladly exchange me for a thousand prisoners out of any concentration camp," he said.

Each guerrilla commander has his own favorite operations. For instance, I am fond of attacking airdromes. How is this done? Enemy planes follow our movements, but we in our turn keep watch on them. When we notice that the same reconnaissance planes circle over us time after time, we know an airdrome must be near. Then our scouts get busy. When all the necessary information is at hand, the attack begins. It is successful. But we cannot remain near the airdrome for long, as the Nazis immediately bring up large reinforcements. What is to be done with the captured planes?

Several of our men were aircraft mechanics before the war. They can fly planes if they have to. These mechanics have a quarter of an hour to decide what is to be done with the German aircraft. If the machine

(Continued on page eight)



Soviet guerrillas harass the Germans day and night. Here a group creeps up to a railway to mine the roadbed

Radiophoto

ATLANTIC WALL AND GERMAN BLUFF

By I. Chernishev

The language used in German war communiques and official documents during the present war has undergone considerable change. Many words in the German lexicology which appeared in print in the early stages of the conflict were short-lived and have now disappeared completely. One-time popular words among the Germans, such as "blitzkrieg," "lightning victory," "pincers," "wedges" et cetera, have become archaisms.

The Germans are using new fancy words. Instead of "pincers" and "wedges" we now often meet foggy and muddled phrases such as "elastic defense," "mobile defense" and others. New times have given birth to new songs. The most popular of all new words in the German dictionary, we must admit, is "wall."

"We've built a colossal wall," the German radio magpies chatter from morning till night. "We've built an impregnable wall, beginning in northern Norway and ending in Greece," the Berlin hack-writers threaten. They describe the mighty defensive positions on the coast. But the devil isn't so terrible and God is merciful. . . .

The German coastal fortifications are in a larger measure the creation of Goebbels' department than of Todt's organizations. This fact has been certified by German prisoners of war sent to the Soviet-German front from countries occupied by the Hitlerites.

Gerhardt Peltzel, a soldier of the 108th Regiment, 38th Infantry Division, said: "In January of this year our division was transferred from Amsterdam to St. Nazaire, where we were engaged in garrison duty. The coast is lined with ordinary trenches and a small number of concrete pillboxes. Anti-tank guns are placed at a considerable distance from each other. I noticed very few guns of large caliber."

Paul Bials, a soldier of the 315th Regiment, 167th Infantry Division, stated: "The men in our division were trained while guarding shore positions in Holland. I never saw any concrete fortifications there. Trenches and machine-gun nests cannot be considered impregnable positions. My company occupied a wide section. Our men said among themselves that if British forces opened active operations on the coast with strong support from the air they would crumble the German defense."

Corporal Antony Gonschik—a Pole by nationality—of the 677th Regiment, 322nd Infantry Division, had been in France. After three months' training the company in which Gonschik served occupied a three-kilometer stretch of defense territory near Havre.

Firing positions were already established on the coast. They consisted of one or several blockhouses, trenches and machine-gun nests surrounded by barbed-wire entanglements. The soldiers and officers considered the German defense line to be wishy-washy and unreliable.

Captain Otto Rushinzik, commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion, 581st Regiment, 306th German Infantry Division, declared, "The officers in our division believe that the invasion of northern France or Belgium is quite practicable, because the Germans are unable to hamper this move. The 306th Division guarded the coastline from Ostend to Dunkirk. We were therefore familiar with the fortifications. There are large open spaces between the forts and reinforced concrete pillboxes, where opposing forces may trickle through. Supported by air forces and paratroops the German defense may be quickly disorganized."

Lieutenant Lehman, chief pilot of a Junkers 88 bomber, said, "No one in Germany believes that the Atlantic Wall is impregnable. German propaganda as usual exaggerates and heaps up a lot of color and lies. They are screaming about the Atlantic Wall obviously to put spirit into the population and a new scare into the enemy."

Sergeant Major George Paul, a German pilot, declared that the Atlantic Wall was a grand bluff. According to Paul this "wall" was built with a scrap of paper and German propaganda.

We have quoted different statements made by German prisoners of war. Each one said what he knew and thought of the "Atlantic Wall." In spite of rank and origin, they all agree on one point: an impregnable wall does not and cannot exist.

GUERRILLAS

(Continued from page seven)

is undamaged and there is enough fuel, it must be flown across the front line. That is a risky job, because we have no time to repaint the plane. In other words, it must be flown through the accurate Soviet anti-aircraft barrage. But that does not stop our fellows. It is particularly fortunate when the plane is loaded with bombs, because then we can pass the time plastering Germans on the way.

We move from place to place, but always we control the district where we are operating. In every town we have our agents, who report everything that happens in the locality.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

SEPTEMBER 8, 1943

Order of the day of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Tolbukhin and Army General Malinovsky:

As a result of a skilful maneuver and a vigorous offensive the troops of the Southern and Southwestern Fronts achieved an important victory over the German invaders in the Donets Basin.

Having smashed the enemy's resistance our troops in the course of six days' fighting captured the towns of Debaltsevo, Ilovaisk, Lisichansk, Yenakievo, Gorlovka, Chistyakovo, Slavyansk, Artemovsk, Kramatorskaya, Konstantinovka, Makeyevka, Krasnoarmeiskoye, Yesinovataya and the regional center of the Donets Basin—the city of Stalino.

Thus the troops of the Southern and Southwestern Fronts have recovered from the Germans and restored to our motherland the Donets Basin—the most important coal mining and industrial district of the country.

In the fighting for the Donets Basin the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Tsvetayev, Lieutenant General Kreiser, Lieutenant General Lelyushenko, Lieutenant General Zakharov, Major General Zherebin, Major General Makovchuk, Major General Belov and Major General Rosly, and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Sudets and Lieutenant General of Aviation Khryukin—and especially the 126th Infantry Division under Colonel Kazartsev, the 127th Infantry Division under Colonel Krymov, the 271st Infantry Division under Colonel Govorov, the 346th Infantry Division under Major General Stankevsky, the 266th Infantry Division under Colonel Rebrikov, the 279th Infantry Division under Major General Potapenko, the 259th Infantry Division under Colonel Vlasenko, the 50th Infantry Division of



Moscow's salute to the men of the Red Army who liberated the Rostov Region and the city of Taganrog from the German invaders

Radiophoto

Guards under Colonel Vladichansky, the 301st Infantry Division under Colonel Antonov, the 230th Infantry Division under Colonel Ukrainsky, the 54th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Danilov, the 297th Infantry Division under Colonel Matveyev, the 61st Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Lazanovich, the 59th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Karamyshev, the 34th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Brailyan, the 40th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Ponomarev, the 320th Infantry Division under Major General Shvygin, the 96th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Levin, the 5th Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade of Guards under Colonel Bugayev, the 135th Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Beznoshchenko, the 179th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Major Savchenko, the 243rd Independent Tank Regiment under Major Podlesny.

To mark the victory achieved the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the Donets Basin:

The name of Stalino on the 50th Infantry Division of Guards, the 301st Infantry Division and the 230th Infantry Division; the name of Yenakievo on the 34th Infantry Division of Guards, the 40th Infantry Division of Guards and the 320th Infantry Division; the name of Ilovaisk on the 96th Infantry Division of Guards; the name of Chistyakovo on the 127th Infantry Division; the name of Gorlovka on the 126th Infantry Division and the 271st Infantry Division; the name of Debaltsevo on the 346th Infantry Division; the name of Artemovsk on the 266th Infantry Division and the 259th Infantry Division; the name of Lisichansk on the 279th Infantry Division; the name of Konstantinovka on the 135th Tank Brigade, and the 179th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment; the name of Makeyevka on the 54th Infantry Division of Guards; the name of Slavyansk on the 61st Infantry Division of Guards and the 297th Infantry Division; the name of Kramatorskaya on the 59th Infantry Division of Guards, the 5th Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade of Guards and the 243rd Independent Tank Regiment—and henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 50th Stalino Infantry Division of Guards; 301st Stalino Infantry Division; 230th Stalino Infantry Division; 34th Yenakievo Infantry Division of Guards; 40th Yenakievo Infantry Division of Guards; 320th Yenakievo Infantry Division; 96th Ilovaisk Infantry Division of Guards; 127th Chistyakovo Infantry Division; 126th Gorlovka Infantry Division; 271st Gorlovka Infantry Division; 346th Debaltsevo Infantry Division; 266th Artemovsk Infantry Division; 259th Artemovsk Infantry Division; 279th Lisichansk Infantry Division; 135th Konstantinovka Tank Brigade; 179th Konstantinovka Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment; 54th Makeyevka Infantry Division of Guards; 61st Slavyansk Infantry Division of Guards; 297th Slavyansk Infantry Division; 59th Kramatorskaya Infantry Division of Guards; 5th Kramatorskaya Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade of Guards; 243rd Independent Kramatorskaya Tank Regiment.

To celebrate the occasion of the important victory in the Donets Basin, today, September 8, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our valiant troops which liberated the Donets Basin from the German invaders—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For splendid combat actions I express gratitude to all troops under your command which participated in the liberation of the Donets Basin.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STATEMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY STATE COMMITTEE

On September 7, 1943 the following statement was issued by the Extraordinary State Committee for the ascertaining and investigation of crimes committed by the German-fascist invaders and their associates, and the damages caused by them to citizens, collective farms, public organizations, State enterprises and institutions of the USSR:

On the Crimes Committed by the German-Fascist Invaders in the City of Orel and the Orel Region

Having occupied in 1941 the city of Orel and part of the Orel Region, the German-fascist invaders, trampling upon international regulations and the usage of war, established there a regime of violence, sanguinary terror, plunder and slave and serf labor, and proceeded to the systematic demolition of the towns and villages of the Orel Region and the destruction of the cultural and historical monuments of the Russian people.

These crimes of the occupationists are confirmed by numerous protocols on destruction and atrocities, by the testimonies of victims and witnesses, by the findings of medical and legal experts, by the occupationists' own documents captured by the Red Army, and by the investigation carried out by member of the Extraordinary State Committee Academician Burdenko.

Destruction of Towns and Villages and Plunder of the Peaceful Population

The German-fascist invaders plundered and demolished the ancient Russian city of Orel. The Hitlerites reduced to ruins the factories, plants, hospitals, sanatoria, museums and theaters. They almost completely destroyed the cultural institutions, dwelling houses, business blocks and equipment of industrial and municipal enterprises, and the structures and tracks of the railway junction and tramways.

Of 36 educational institutions in the city, with an enrollment of 18,000 children, youths and girls, only six restorable buildings remained. Only one museum and library remained in the city, but they too were partly demolished and looted. Only piles of rubble and pieces of iron scrap remained of the fine hospital with its 600 beds, named for the International Labor Aid. In the same barbarous manner the Hitlerites dealt with the Semashko City Hospital. They demolished the brick buildings of the Maternity Home, the Children's Polyclinic, the Children's Hospital, the Mother and Child Center, the Children's Sanatorium and other medical and prophylactic institutions.

In the very first days after their arrival in Orel the Hitlerites converted the Krupskaya Regional Library into barracks for their soldiers. They sent to Ger-

many all valuable books, all maps and all atlases. In the Central Children's Library the German soldiers ransacked and destroyed 20,000 books, in the Pushkin Library 25,000, and in the Turgenev Library 22,000. The Germans carried away to Germany 15,000 books from the Railwaymen's Technological Library.

In the same manner the fascist invaders also lorded it in the districts of the Orel Region. They demolished the towns of Mtsensk, Bolkhov, Kromy and others. According to incomplete data, in 19 districts of the Orel Region they destroyed or demolished 583 buildings of State institutions, 317 buildings of industrial enterprises, 316 buildings of transportation institutions, 881 buildings of educational and cultural institutions, 161 buildings of medical and sanitary institutions, 284 municipal buildings, 493 buildings of trade enterprises and 56,866 agricultural structures. Only piles of ruins and ashes remained where before the coming of the barbarians—the German occupationists—stood fine towns and flourishing collective farms.

Breaking into the towns and villages of the Orel Region, German officers and men, on the explicit instructions of the military command and the civilian occupation authorities, looted the properties and food of peaceful citizens, and on encountering the least resistance burned down their houses and meted out bloody reprisals.

They seized from the population and collective farms 11,986 horses, 17,161 head of cattle, 38,004 sheep and goats, 10,994 pigs, 334,415 fowls and 82,054 tons of grain and foodstuffs. They took away everything they saw: foodstuffs, clothes, footwear, bedding, furniture, groceries and even children's toys.

Mass Extermination of the Peaceful Soviet Population And of War Prisoners

In a mad fury against the Soviet people, caused by defeat at the front, the commander of the Second German Tank Army, General Schmidt, and the commander of the Orel administrative area and military commandant of the town, Major General Hamann, formed special demolition squads for the destruction of the towns, villages and collective farms of the Orel Region. These squads of burglars and incendiaries

Guards under Colonel Vladichansky, the 301st Infantry Division under Colonel Antonov, the 230th Infantry Division under Colonel Ukrainsky, the 54th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Danilov, the 297th Infantry Division under Colonel Matveyev, the 61st Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Lazanovich, the 59th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Karamyshev, the 34th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Brailyan, the 40th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Ponomarev, the 320th Infantry Division under Major General Shvygin, the 96th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Levin, the 5th Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade of Guards under Colonel Bugayev, the 135th Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Beznoshchenko, the 179th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Major Savchenko, the 243rd Independent Tank Regiment under Major Podlesny.

To mark the victory achieved the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the Donets Basin:

The name of Stalino on the 50th Infantry Division of Guards, the 301st Infantry Division and the 230th Infantry Division; the name of Yenakievo on the 34th Infantry Division of Guards, the 40th Infantry Division of Guards and the 320th Infantry Division; the name of Ilovaïsk on the 96th Infantry Division of Guards; the name of Chistyakovo on the 127th Infantry Division; the name of Gorlovka on the 126th Infantry Division and the 271st Infantry Division; the name of Debaltsevo on the 346th Infantry Division; the name of Artemovsk on the 266th Infantry Division and the 259th Infantry Division; the name of Lisichansk on the 279th Infantry Division; the name of Konstantinovka on the 135th Tank Brigade, and the 179th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment; the name of Makeyevka on the 54th Infantry Division of Guards; the name of Slavyansk on the 61st Infantry Division of Guards and the 297th Infantry Division; the name of Kramatorskaya on the 59th Infantry Division of Guards, the 5th Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade of Guards and the 243rd Independent Tank Regiment—and henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 50th Stalino Infantry Division of Guards; 301st Stalino Infantry Division; 230th Stalino Infantry Division; 34th Yenakievo Infantry Division of Guards; 40th Yenakievo Infantry Division of Guards; 320th Yenakievo Infantry Division; 96th Ilovaïsk Infantry Division of Guards; 127th Chistyakovo Infantry Division; 126th Gorlovka Infantry Division; 271st Gorlovka Infantry Division; 346th Debaltsevo Infantry Division; 266th Artemovsk Infantry Division; 259th Artemovsk Infantry Division; 279th Lisichansk Infantry Division; 135th Konstantinovka Tank Brigade; 179th Konstantinovka Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment; 54th Makeyevka Infantry Division of Guards; 61st Slavyansk Infantry Division of Guards; 297th Slavyansk Infantry Division; 59th Kramatorskaya Infantry Division of Guards; 5th Kramatorskaya Independent Motorized Infantry Brigade of Guards; 243rd Independent Kramatorskaya Tank Regiment.

To celebrate the occasion of the important victory in the Donets Basin, today, September 8, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our valiant troops which liberated the Donets Basin from the German invaders—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For splendid combat actions I express gratitude to all troops under your command which participated in the liberation of the Donets Basin.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STATEMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY STATE COMMITTEE

On September 7, 1943 the following statement was issued by the Extraordinary State Committee for the ascertaining and investigation of crimes committed by the German-fascist invaders and their associates, and the damages caused by them to citizens, collective farms, public organizations, State enterprises and institutions of the USSR:

On the Crimes Committed by the German-Fascist Invaders in the City of Orel and the Orel Region

Having occupied in 1941 the city of Orel and part of the Orel Region, the German-fascist invaders, trampling upon international regulations and the usage of war, established there a regime of violence, sanguinary terror, plunder and slave and serf labor, and proceeded to the systematic demolition of the towns and villages of the Orel Region and the destruction of the cultural and historical monuments of the Russian people.

These crimes of the occupationists are confirmed by numerous protocols on destruction and atrocities, by the testimonies of victims and witnesses, by the findings of medical and legal experts, by the occupationists' own documents captured by the Red Army, and by the investigation carried out by member of the Extraordinary State Committee Academician Burdenko.

Destruction of Towns and Villages and Plunder of the Peaceful Population

The German-fascist invaders plundered and demolished the ancient Russian city of Orel. The Hitlerites reduced to ruins the factories, plants, hospitals, sanatoria, museums and theaters. They almost completely destroyed the cultural institutions, dwelling houses, business blocks and equipment of industrial and municipal enterprises, and the structures and tracks of the railway junction and tramways.

Of 36 educational institutions in the city, with an enrollment of 18,000 children, youths and girls, only six restorable buildings remained. Only one museum and library remained in the city, but they too were partly demolished and looted. Only piles of rubble and pieces of iron scrap remained of the fine hospital with its 600 beds, named for the International Labor Aid. In the same barbarous manner the Hitlerites dealt with the Semashko City Hospital. They demolished the brick buildings of the Maternity Home, the Children's Polyclinic, the Children's Hospital, the Mother and Child Center, the Children's Sanatorium and other medical and prophylactic institutions.

In the very first days after their arrival in Orel the Hitlerites converted the Krupskaya Regional Library into barracks for their soldiers. They sent to Ger-

many all valuable books, all maps and all atlases. In the Central Children's Library the German soldiers ransacked and destroyed 20,000 books, in the Pushkin Library 25,000, and in the Turgenev Library 22,000. The Germans carried away to Germany 15,000 books from the Railwaymen's Technological Library.

In the same manner the fascist invaders also lorded it in the districts of the Orel Region. They demolished the towns of Mtsensk, Bolkhov, Kromy and others. According to incomplete data, in 19 districts of the Orel Region they destroyed or demolished 583 buildings of State institutions, 317 buildings of industrial enterprises, 316 buildings of transportation institutions, 881 buildings of educational and cultural institutions, 161 buildings of medical and sanitary institutions, 284 municipal buildings, 493 buildings of trade enterprises and 56,866 agricultural structures. Only piles of ruins and ashes remained where before the coming of the barbarians—the German occupationists—stood fine towns and flourishing collective farms.

Breaking into the towns and villages of the Orel Region, German officers and men, on the explicit instructions of the military command and the civilian occupation authorities, looted the properties and food of peaceful citizens, and on encountering the least resistance burned down their houses and meted out bloody reprisals.

They seized from the population and collective farms 11,986 horses, 17,161 head of cattle, 38,004 sheep and goats, 10,994 pigs, 334,415 fowls and 82,054 tons of grain and foodstuffs. They took away everything they saw: foodstuffs, clothes, footwear, bedding, furniture, groceries and even children's toys.

Mass Extermination of the Peaceful Soviet Population And of War Prisoners

In a mad fury against the Soviet people, caused by defeat at the front, the commander of the Second German Tank Army, General Schmidt, and the commander of the Orel administrative area and military commandant of the town, Major General Hamann, formed special demolition squads for the destruction of the towns, villages and collective farms of the Orel Region. These squads of burglars and incendiaries

destroyed everything along the road of their retreat. They demolished the monuments of culture and art of the Russian people and burned down towns and villages.

In the Orel city prison the German-fascist occupationists set up a camp for war prisoners and civilian population. It has been established by the testimonies of liberated war prisoners—in particular of Topubeyev, Rafkin, Kabaldin, Zhiltsov and others—that the Hitlerites exterminated Soviet citizens in the Orel camp. The food the war prisoners received did not insure even a starvation existence. The war prisoners were daily given 200 grams of bread with an admixture of sawdust, and a liter of soup cooked from rotten soybeans and moldy flour.

The chief of the camp, Major Hofmann, beat the war prisoners and forced people exhausted by hunger to do hard manual work in stone quarries and in unloading shells. Boots and leather shoes were taken away from the war prisoners and wooden shoes issued them instead. In winter the wooden shoes became slippery and in walking and especially in ascending to the second or third floors, the war prisoners slipped on the staircases and were crippled.

Doctor Isvetkov, who had been in a war prisoners' camp, testified as follows: "I can describe the attitude of the German command toward the war prisoners during my stay in the Orel camp as a deliberate extermination of manpower represented by war prisoners. Food which contained at the utmost 700 calories, in conditions of hard work beyond the war prisoners' strength, led to the complete exhaustion of the organism (cachexia) and resulted in death, with hunger edemata and irreparable intestinal afflictions. In spite of our emphatic protests and struggle against this mass murder of Soviet people, the German camp doctors Kuper and Beckol asserted that the food was wholly satisfactory. Moreover they denied that the edemata of the war prisoners were caused by starvation and with perfect coolness ascribed them to heart and kidney conditions. It was forbidden to use the words 'hunger edema' in diagnoses.

"There was mass mortality in the camp. Of all the people who died, 3,000 perished as a result of starvation or complications caused by undernourishment. The war prisoners lived in horrible conditions which defy description: a complete lack of fuel and water, an enormous number of lice, and unbelievably crammed prison wards—50 to 80 people placed in a ward with an area of 15 to 20 square meters. Five or six war prisoners would die in a ward and living men slept upon the dead bodies."

Recalcitrant war prisoners and active civilian workers, irrespective of sex or age, were put by the assistant chief of the camp, Captain Matern, in the first block. The prisoners called it the "death block." Here they were starved, and shot in groups of five or six persons on schedule on Tuesdays and Fridays.

"The doomed people," testified war prisoners Levitin and Shirokov, "were led by a Gestapo man to the shooting site in groups and forced to lie prone or ranged up to face the wall. War prisoners and peaceful citizens were shot through the back of the head in the presence of German doctor Kuper and corporal Diel."

On March 10, 1942 war prisoner Levitin witnessed from the prison window the shooting of Soviet citizens. "The shooting," he says, "was done about 10:30 A.M. on the usual site, at the wall of the prison yard. Six girls, one woman and eleven men were led out of the first block in groups of four. Subsequent groups were shot while those shot earlier were still writhing in their death agonies. The Hitlerites shot the prisoners with pistols, through the backs of their heads."

Member of the Extraordinary State Committee Academician Burdenko personally ascertained that war prisoners had been systematically exterminated in the camp and in the prison "hospital," where wounded Red Army men were kept.

"The scenes which I had a chance to witness," reports Academician Burdenko, "defy imagination. Our joy at the sight of the liberated people was marred by the fact that their faces bore expressions of stupor, which made one wonder what was the matter. Evidently the sufferings they have been through have put a question mark between life and death. I observed these people for three days, bandaged their wounds, evacuated them, but their state of psychic stupor remained unchanged. Something similar could be seen in the doctors' faces in the first days.

"People perished in the camp of disease, of hunger, of beatings; in the prison 'hospital' they died of wound infections, of sepsis, of hunger. Civilians perished from shootings, which were effected in the prison yard with German pedantry, on schedule—on Tuesdays and Fridays—in groups of five or six people.

"The Germans also took condemned people to remote places where there were trenches dug by Russian troops before they abandoned the town, and shot them there. Those who were shot in the town were carried away and dumped into trenches, mostly in wooded terrain. Executions in prison were done in this way: the men were lined up facing the wall and a policeman discharged his pistol into the backs of their heads. This shot injured the vital centers and death was instantaneous. In most cases the women lay prone and the policeman shot them through the backs of their heads.

"The second method was that groups of people were forced into a trench, made to turn their faces in one direction, and were shot from tommy guns also aimed at the backs of their heads. In the trenches were found the bodies of children who, according to eyewitnesses, had been buried alive."

According to eye-witnesses not less than 5,000 war prisoners and peaceful Soviet citizens were buried in the cemetery near the town prison during the occupation of Orel by the Germans. There were dozens of such graves of victims of the German-fascist occupationists in the city of Orel and Orel Region.

Residents of the territory under the administration of the Lomakovo Rural Soviet of the Orel District—N. Filatov, Oblepov, Kusmin, Bysheva and P. Filatov—testified: "Near the village of Nekrasovo was a children's camp. Having occupied this locality the Hitlerites set up here a concentration camp for the civilian population. Many inmates, including children and adolescents, died in the camp every day from hard labor beyond their strength and from hunger. German Sergeant Majors Winkler, Atricks and Scholtz tortured the Soviet people. In August, 1942, the following took place: the Germans forced four inmates to dig a grave. At this grave they shot eight Gypsies and then also shot the four who had dug the grave."

The chief doctor of the Kishkinka Psychiatric Hospital, Delyaev, Chief of the Supplies Department Konokotin, and workers Dronov, Barionova, Puchkova and Romanchik, stated: "On July 26, 1942, Gestapo men accompanied by the German doctor Schirmann came to the Psychiatric Hospital and stated that the hospital was to be closed down and the patients evacuated to the rear in Byelorussia. Schirmann's statement was confirmed by the German garrison doctor Ehrlich. The Germans forcibly put all the patients into cars, into which they also loaded the hospital linen, crockery and food, and sent them off toward the village of Nekrasovo, where the patients were shot."

How the Germans Tested Anti-Pyrite Preparations

Taking advantage of the fact that artisans in an Orel tinware shop needed sulphuric acid, Chief of the German economic kommandatur Schmidt offered to furnish the shop manager sulphuric acid from the stores of the economic kommandatur. When the "acid" was brought to the shop many workers were nauseated, Nozdrunov and Cherenkov in particular.

One morning in the month of September all the workers of the shop became blind and were sent to the town hospital, where the doctors diagnosed their cases as grave pyrite poisoning, but could not render them any medical aid as the German authorities had ordered that all patients with pyrite poisoning be placed in the German hospital. In that hospital the Germans subjected the poisoned people to thorough clinical laboratory study, repeatedly photographed them and showed the patients to German doctors who came from Kiev, Kharkov and Odessa.

A commission of medical experts composed of Member of the Extraordinary State Committee Academician Burdenko; Chief Medico-Legal Expert

of the Front Colonel of the Medical Service Ogarkov, and Doctors Bikenev, Preobrazhensky, Marchenko, Saburov, Gusev and Protopopov of the Orel Hospital established on the basis of the testimonies and examination of the victims Nozdrunov, Kharkhardina and Nesterov that the German occupationists had deliberately poisoned the shopworkers with pyrite.

A committee of medical experts composed of Member of the Extraordinary State Committee Academician Burdenko, Chief Medico-Legal Expert of the Front Colonel Ogarkov, Chief Pathologist of the Front Professor Voropaev, Army Pathologist Assistant Professor Konstantinovich, Army Medico-Legal Expert Drobyshevsky, and Senior Lieutenant Dorokhov, Doctor and Pathologist of the Anatomical Laboratory, held an inquest on 932 bodies exhumed near the town prison and the brick kilns, in a gully at the village of Nekrasovo, in a former children's camp, in Medvedevo Forest and in a forest near the village of Malaya Gat.

The committee established that these were the bodies of Soviet citizens shot from one year to 18 months ago. They were shot in the back of the head at close range. In particular, in a grave at the bottom of a gully near the village of Nekrasovo 72 bodies were found lying in disorder. On the bodies of adolescents and women were found white and gray linen shirts with the stamp "Regional Psychiatric Hospital."

Doctor Belyaev, former head of the Psychiatric Hospital; Ryabtsev, chief of one of its divisions, and Senior Medical Nurse Yeliseyeva, were present at the excavation. They recognized the clothes found on the bodies as belonging to the Psychiatric Hospital and were able to identify the bodies of many patients by their clothing.

Institution of a Regime of Serfdom and the Abduction of Soviet Citizens to German Slavery

As soon as the German-fascist invaders had occupied the city of Orel they proceeded to the forcible abduction of Soviet citizens to slavery in Germany. This abduction to slavery was conducted by a "labor exchange" especially set up for the purpose, headed by a German named Lowe. His deputy was one Focht, and his two assistants were Mutze and Platz. A camp was set up in connection with the "labor exchange," of which one Loch was the head.

On December 5, 1941 the first issue of the newspaper *Reich* carried an announcement signed by the commander of the Orel administrative area, Major General Hamann, ordering the population of the city of Orel to report for registration at the "labor exchange." The German-fascist enslavers forced Soviet citizens to sign "labor pledges." Citizen Sysoyeva, who lived at Number 48 Sacco-Vanzetti Street

in Orel, stated: "For refusal to sign 'labor pledges' of 'voluntary' departure to Germany the military kommandatur arrested Soviet citizens and kept them in the basement from three to five days, forcing them to sign the pledges."

During the period of German domination in Orel more than 20,000 women and girls alone were driven to slavery. To avoid the horrors of German slavery Soviet citizens inflicted serious injuries on themselves. Many girls and women, unwilling to become slaves, deliberately crippled themselves rather than endure fascist penal servitude. For this purpose, for example, Alexandra Sysoyeva and Alexandra Kovaleva burned their hands with sulphuric acid and became invalids. There were quite a number of such cases.

Only at the cost of dreadful suffering could Soviet people escape abduction to German slavery or dispatch to forced labor. Those who shirked working for the Germans were arrested and sent to concentration camps, where they were shot. For instance, on January 15, 1942 three young men from 18 to 21 years of age were hanged in Pervomaisky Square because they refused to work for the hated enemy. In this connection, on January 16, 1942, the newspaper *Reich* published the following announcement: "For failure to fulfill the order of the local commandant to report daily for work, which is sabotage, Alexey Matveyev, Ivan Kochergin and Dmitri Kluchnikov, unemployed, were hanged as saboteurs on January 15, 1942. Signed: Local Commandant."

Before the retreat of the German-fascist troops from Orel the military commandant, the hangman Hamann, published an announcement stating: "Orel is proclaimed a military zone. Civilians must immediately leave the town in the western direction. Attempts to leave the town in another direction will be prevented by force of arms. Men from 15 to 55 years of age capable of bearing arms will be detained as previously. They may escape detention only if they report immediately to the camp for war prisoners in Kazarmennaya Street. Every civilian found in the streets after nightfall will be shot. Signed: Major General Hamann, military commandant."

The German invaders proclaimed all male residents of Orel war prisoners and ordered them evacuated to the rear. But the Soviet patriots, unwilling to go to fascist slavery, hid wherever they could. The Hitlerites hunted out those who hid in houses and everyone whom they came across was sent under escort to the rear. Like beasts of prey the German-fascist scoundrels scoured about in search of their prey.

The residents of Pistnitskaya suburb of Orel hid in caves in quarries under a precipice on the right bank of the Oka River. In the area of the Pistnitskaya suburb there were four such caves, each about 400 to 500 meters long. The men, women and chil-

dren of Pistnitskaya suburb and of other city districts tried to save themselves in the depths of these caves. Residents of this suburb—Navozin, Loginov, Chepelovich, Kudrina, Pospeshinskaya, Perelygina, Boyev, Klochkova, Kozhin, Gavrillov, Kaznacheyeva and Semenov—stated:

"On August 2, 1943, having learned where the residents were hiding, the fascist police arrived at the caves. They demanded of those who were hiding in the caves to come out, threatening if they did not to blow up the caves. The women and children yielded to this demand, whereas the men refused. Then the fascists set off explosives at each cave, intending to block up the entrances. The Soviet patriots were suffocating from the gases caused by the explosions, but they did not come out, preferring to perish rather than to surrender to the Hitlerite hangmen.

"Having gained no success the fascists departed, but next day, August 3, they came again to the caves in automobiles loaded with explosives. They brought along several Soviet war prisoners and at pistol point forced them to plant aviation bombs and cases of ammonal at the entrances to each cave. Neither the pleas of the children nor the implorings of the women could deter the Hitlerites. By the explosions they blocked the entrances to the caves, but they failed to kill the Soviet patriots. Women and children plowed up the debris and freed the exhausted Soviet citizens."

For the crimes committed in the city of Orel and the Orel Region; for the mass murders of guiltless peaceful residents; for the murders and tortures of wounded and sick war prisoners; for the plundering and abducting of Soviet citizens to German slavery; for the destruction of collective farms, villages and towns; for the looting of the properties of State, cooperative and public institutions—the Extraordinary State Committee holds responsible the commander of the Second German Tank Army General Schmidt, the commander of the Orel administrative area and military commandant of the city, Major General Hamann, and also the direct executors of these monstrous crimes:

The chief of the Orel camp for war prisoners, Major Hofmann, the assistant chief of the Orel war prisoners' camp, Captain Matern, the garrison doctor Ehrlich, the German doctor Schirmann, the German doctor at the war prisoners' camp Kuper, chief of the labor exchange Lowe, assistant chief of the labor exchange Focht, assistants Mutze and Platz, chief of the economic kommandatur Schmidt, chief of the camp of the labor exchange Loch, Sergeant Majors Winkler, Stricke and Scholz and Corporal Diel.

All of them must bear severe punishment for the monstrous crimes they have committed against the Soviet people during the temporary occupation by the German-fascist troops of the city of Orel and the Orel Region, which have now been freed by the Red Army.

BONDWOMEN'S SORROW

By Ilya Ehrenburg

Before me lie dozens of postcards. They are from Ukrainian girls carried off to Germany. They reached the villages of the Western Ukraine from camps in Frankfurt, Berlin and Kustrin. They were passed by the German censor. Little can be said on these postcards, but there is so much grief in them I cannot read them without emotion: the Ukraine sheds bitter tears.

Irene P. was among those taken. A tag with a number had been attached to her breast. Only a short time ago she was called Irene; she had a mother, an aunt, and a friend, Opanas. Now she is slave girl No. 558,271. Half a million Ukrainian girls have already been driven into slavery. Where have they taken Irene? To Frankfurt-on-the-Main. There in the munitions plant Ukrainian girls must make shells. Perhaps one of these shells will kill her friend Opanas. . . .

There are 1,500 girls here, mostly Ukrainians. . . but some are from Yugoslavia and some from Bulgaria and Poland.

"We Ukrainian girls live in a separate camp. Lithuanian girls live nearby, and further along is a camp for Russians. We get up at half-past five in the morning. At ten in the evening we wash our dresses. My dears, if you have no bread, send me some cereal. The camp superintendent used to forbid us to cook, but we are allowed to now. Some girls eat cereal. I would like to eat my fill after eight months . . . If you only knew how we live here."

"Dear Dad and Mother," writes a girl named Fedosia, "you complain that my letters are too short. I would have written longer ones if I could. But we have no postcards and letters are not sent. You want to know when I'll come back . . . I know when I was brought here, but only God knows when they'll let me out."

Irene wanted to send her mother a photograph. In January she wrote, "I want to send you my picture, but Russians are not photographed here." Finally Irene managed to have her picture taken. She is shown with a tag reading "Ost" attached to her jacket. The photograph reached the Ukrainian village, and in March Irene wrote her mother, "You want to know about that piece of paper on my jacket . . . I don't wear it of my own free will: I am forced to wear it."

The girls try naive tricks to get around the German censors. But the censors apparently have much work on their hands, for the postcards are passed: "I am safe and sound now, but don't know what will happen next. We received the underclothing and wear what

we brought with us." "You say you sent eight postcards . . . I haven't received them yet. Don't worry about me. I am all right so far. I wouldn't want you to experience what I have experienced, but I do wish it to those who have brought me here."

The girls are languishing like birds in a cage. On official German postcards they give vent to their feelings. "Oh fly, little leaf . . . oh fly eastward among the clouds," sighs Maria N. But the saddest and most moving letters come from Irene, the one who sent the photograph. "I thought we would remain together forever, but evil people have separated us. Even cattle resist being driven from their home. So do people . . . Summer will come, it will be warm and gay back home. Birds will sing, doves will coo. There are no birds here either winter or summer."

The slaves are being led along the streets of a large German city, past jeering German women. "Move faster," shout the overseers. One slave is Irene. She has a tag on her breast . . . and in her breast she bears a great sorrow. If only the smallest bird would fly here from the east and sing of the faraway Ukraine . . . Everything is strange and alien to her. Walk faster, slave. Hitler needs shells to kill Opanas and to hold your native village, Volyn.

Gallows are more terrible than postcards. Mutilated bodies shake you more than tears. But to me Irene's sorrow is more terrible than any torture. The Germans have broken young hearts. They have trampled upon man's right to die in his native land.

Tomorrow, perhaps, Irene's jailer will try to appear human. But we will not forget the enormous camps where bondwomen weep in silence. A terrible curse will hang over the land of jailers: the curse of silence. Justice will walk silently along Germany's wide streets. Perhaps birds still sing in the Black Forest and in Harz. Irene did not hear them. The bondwomen cannot hear them. Let the birds disappear from the sky over damned Germany. Let the jailers have neither words nor names—only numbers.

Dmitri Donskoi, New Soviet Film

Sergei Borodin, who received the Stalin Prize for his novel *Dmitri Donskoi*, has prepared a screen version of the story, and the film is now in production. The picture will show how the Russian people, led by the talented general and statesman Prince Dmitri Donskoi, crushed the Tatar hordes of Mamai in the great battle on Kulikovo Field.

They Knew the Red Army Would Come Back

Writing of the capture of Makeyevka, Konstantinovka, Kramatorsk and Slavyansk, Captain Tokarev says of the last-mentioned city:

Slowly but steadily the burning city was cleared of Germans, and toward the end of the day Slavyansk was in the hands of our troops. The enemy paid dearly with the blood of his soldiers and officers for the conflagration he lighted in Slavyansk.

A long procession of people are now returning to their homes, hastening toward their relatives, their homes and the coal mines where they formerly worked.

But they return to desolation. Dead mines, a dead community, gaping roofs, broken windows, doorless houses, streets overgrown with grass and nettles. Not a sound is to be heard in that deserted place. The houses are all empty . . . plundered . . . even the floor boards have been torn up by the Germans.

Anna Terekhova, who lived through all the horrors of the German occupation, told us: "We dug trenches, although we were so weak we couldn't stand. We starved . . . we were frozen. We used to cry . . . but we never lost faith that the Red Army would come back."

CHURCHES CONVERTED INTO GESTAPO DENS BY GERMANS

By Valerian Malyarovsky

Vicar of Rozhdestvensko-Bogoroditskaya Church, Krasnodar Region

On January 30, 1943 a party of German convoy guards and police officials demanded that I give up the building of my church to them immediately for military use. When I refused to open and turn over the church without an official order from the military commandant and permission to remove the sacred objects and valuables beforehand, the ruffians replied by breaking the locks on the doors and forcibly entering the church.

The German commandant's offices roughly refused my request for help. I was not even allowed to enter the church to remove the sacred appurtenances—the chalice, font, New Testament, altar, crosses and sacred banners. Moreover, the German robbers turned me and my family out of our apartment without providing us with any other housing.

As a result of these outrages the buildings belonging to the church and the church itself were occupied by the Hitlerites and all the sacred objects and valuables carried away or destroyed. The interior appointments of the church were wrecked, some of them demolished and others burned. An ikon stand containing some 120 holy images, an altar decorated with costly ancient paintings, and priests' vestments and church records were all completely destroyed.

After this outrage and robbery the German murderers used the church buildings to house war prisoners. About 1,000 men were crowded into them. It is not difficult to imagine what this meant to the scantily clothed, starving, exhausted captives. Since no heating was provided when the thermometer showed 20 degrees below zero, the immense stone building with its cold concrete floor meant an agoniz-

ing death to hundreds of unfortunate sufferers. The moans of those dying of cold and hunger and cruel beatings, and their cries for help, issued unceasingly from the church. Daily 20 or 30 bodies of men who had suffered a martyr's death were thrown from the church into the street. If any of the victims showed signs of life he was promptly finished off with a shot or a bayonet stab by the black-helmeted German monsters.

One can hardly believe that a human being can change into a beast. Yet the Germans are worse and more fierce than a bloodthirsty wild animal. They respect nothing. A house of God, the most sacred place to the pious, was converted into a prison hell. For six days the prisoners remained in the church, and only 50 to 60 of them survived. These figures tell their own tale of the hideous nightmare that has descended upon the Russian land. The blood-drenched walls and floor of the church will bear witness for all time to the black days of the German terror in the Kuban.

Cursed be the mothers of Germany, who have brought forth sons to disgrace the name of man!

Stalingrad Theater Opens New Season

On August 24 the new season of the Stalingrad Regional Dramatic Theater, which bears the name of Maxim Gorky, opened with a performance of Konstantin Simonov's *The Russian People*. The Theater's own splendid building was destroyed by the Germans last winter, and performances are being given in the Stalingrad Workers' Club.

GUERRILLA WARFARE IN KARELIA

By Joseph Galperin

Karelian guerrillas are waging a bitter struggle against the enemies who have temporarily occupied several regions of their native country. Conquering dense forests, marshes, lakes and roadless territory, a guerrilla detachment led by G. recently conducted a 1,000-kilometer expedition behind the enemy lines, attacked Finnish sentinels, destroyed roads and repeatedly harassed the enemy.

The Finnish command dispatched several punitive detachments to surround and wipe out the people's avengers. Neither their overwhelming superiority in manpower and technique, nor the proximity to their base proved to be of advantage to the enemy. Tense battles continued for over a month. Having learned to maneuver unnoticed, the guerrillas maintained the initiative; they adopted the direction, place and time of attack advantageous to them, conducted fierce raids from ambush and disappeared as swiftly as they appeared. The Finns never knew exactly where the guerrillas were located or where to move their main forces.

The operation ended with victory for the guerrillas, who wiped out more than 700 Finnish officers and men. Among those killed were two Finnish

battalion commanders, Haskanen and Pirkula. The guerrillas took a number of prisoners and captured a large quantity of machine guns, trench mortars, rifles, hand-grenades, cartridges and other booty.

Heavy losses were inflicted on the Finns by another guerrilla detachment. Approaching undetected an inhabited point occupied by the enemy, the guerrillas hurled hand grenades into houses and blockhouses occupied by the enemy garrison. The log buildings caught fire immediately, while the blockhouses were blown up and most of the Finnish soldiers killed. Those who escaped were laid low by rifle shots of guerrillas lying in ambush. The guerrillas safely returned to their base, having destroyed a number of blockhouses and two traction machines, wiped out close to 100 Finnish soldiers and captured important documents.

Within a period of six weeks a single guerrilla detachment derailed an enemy train carrying war materiel, set fire to four trucks and four oil tanks, blew up four bridges, destroyed five kilometers of telegraph and telephone lines and wiped out about 1,000 Finnish soldiers and officers.



BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES—While one of a group of guerrillas stands guard, others lay the mines which will blow up an enemy troop train

Radiophoto

DAUGHTER OF THE UKRAINE

By Kocharyants

I had heard a great deal about the Ukrainian woman who became manager of a collective farm in Uzbekistan, in Central Asia. Several days ago I visited this farm and met Oksana Voronchuk, a young, sun-burned woman in Ukrainian dress, with a red kerchief on her head. She was manager of the Krasny Partisan collective farm. This is her story:

I left Zhitomir, in the Ukraine, one night in June, 1941. The town was in flames. Women, children and aged men carrying bundles made their way along the roads. Carts and combines, sowing machines and threshers, rattled past. Cattle bellowed. I followed the stream of people with my mother, my two children and my brother.

We left our house with its sunflowers and roses. . . I set out for the Ukrainian forests to save my children. The earth quivered. Everything was on fire . . . the mills, stores, villages, towns, wheatfields. My heart was on fire, too.

We marched through Kiev, through the towns of Sumy and Voronezh . . . and from there went to Uzbekistan . . . a city surrounded by snow-covered mountains, tall poplar trees and hundred-year-old oak trees . . . an unfamiliar country.

We settled on the Krasny Partisan collective farm. My husband was at the front. I was determined to help the Red Army to the best of my ability. There was plenty of work. Before long I was elected manager of the farm. At first it was hard . . . the farm was lagging behind. I had studied at an agricultural school and done some gardening at home, but here everything was new to me.

The farm was comprised of people of various nationalities, with different habits and outlooks on life. I doubted if such people could work together, but all my misgivings were groundless. They were all nice people and many of them became my good friends. The kind-hearted Uzbek Chairman of the



Wearing the special medal "For the Defense of Leningrad"—Anya and Nina Zhdanovskiy, sisters, who cut wood for the blockaded city

Radiophoto

Regional Soviet, Rakhim Kaimakov; the Kazakh, Tokbayev, our brigade leader; the Russian from Serkov, a hard-working fellow; the ever-smiling Kirghiz, Shirin Sultanov, and energetic Fanny Kaufman, a Jewess evacuated from Kharkov—all lived and worked like one friendly family. Each strove to do more than was asked of him, and before long others followed this example.

We worked hard. Most of the men were in the Red Army; there was a shortage of hands and machinery and it took some time before the young people learned to work well. After the first winter we felt we could have done more. The people on the farm spoke different languages—Uzbek, Russian, Ukrainian and Kirghiz—but all were united by the desire to help their motherland.

At the beginning I felt ill at ease, but now I almost feel that we have done better than any of the neighboring collective farms—with the cows, sheep, fields, crops and everything. The collective farm has in the last 18 months changed so you would not recognize it. We now have five stock-breeding farms, 700 hectares in crops, a truck garden and an apiary.

Our vineyards alone cover 47 hectares. Despite the shortage of labor our harvest promises to be excellent. People are scarce—but work is plentiful. We have to work for ourselves as well as for the men at the front.

Three months ago when I went into town I received the news that my husband had been killed in action. I was stricken with grief. When I returned home I called the farmers together and told them the sad news. I also spoke about our people who were suffering in German slavery, of the hungry and weary whom the Germans robbed of everything. I could not control my tears. My friends cried, too. They realized that the only way to defeat the enemy was to sacrifice everything. That was how we started the collection of funds for the building of tanks and planes. The farmers contributed money and valuables. Some gave cattle or sheep . . .

Oksana Voronchuk stopped suddenly. She was evidently thinking of her husband. But she has not given way to grief. She works . . . and she has earned the love and respect of her fellow-farmers and found a new home in far-off Uzbekistan.

PUBLIC SCHOOL NO. 267

By Irina Grekova

Public School No. 267 in the Rostokino District in Moscow is a typical Soviet school. About 600 children are enrolled. Since the fathers of most of these children are with the fighting forces, the pupils are often called upon to help their mothers at home, doing the work of adults. Despite this they do their homework regularly and pass tests with excellent grades.

The curriculum reflects the severe days of war. In history, for example, a new topic, the Patriotic War, has been introduced. The children study the battle experiences of the Red Army in the struggle against the Hitlerites, and the deeds of war heroes and guerrilla columns are stressed. This subject is closely related to militant episodes of the past.

Tolstoy's masterpiece, *War and Peace*, receives special attention in the upper grades. The youngsters are fond of this great novel with its remarkable description of the struggle of the Russian people against Napoleon.

All pupils receive military and athletic training, learning to handle rifles, tommy guns and machine guns. They are also instructed in administering first aid. A two weeks' military training course recently conducted at a camp disclosed that children are quick to master this new subject.

It has become difficult both to study and to teach in these days of war. Many children in the upper grades work in factories after classes. Lydia Kari-lova, an eighth-grade pupil, sews clothing for the Red Army in a Moscow needle factory, earning as much

as 700 rubles per month. She is disciplined and accurate, both in school and at work. Leo Maximov studied dentistry after school and is now working in a hospital.

Fifteen boys from the upper grades who have learned carpentering repair school desks and other furniture. They also help the teachers to unload firewood from barges and trucks. School authorities are laying in a supply of wood for the coming winter. Children in this group receive the same rations as industrial workers.

Special care is given to pupils who are not in good health. They have their own playground, are fed four times daily and are under the constant supervision of a doctor. These youngsters spend most of their leisure time in the city recreation parks.

This summer most of the pupils of Public School No. 267 went to a State livestock farm for their vacation, helping to get in the hay and to prepare winter ensilage for the stock. Things did not go too well at first—the children were unaccustomed to work with rakes and mowers. But they were persistent, and soon were doing the work of adult farmers. The management of the State farm warmly thanked them for their help.

A slogan hangs in the large auditorium of the school. It reads, "We ardently love our country, and despite all hardships we shall work and study to the best of our ability." This slogan is the motto of the pupils of Public School No. 267.

Notes from Front and Rear

The inhabitants of Ukrainian towns and villages in the path of the advancing Red Army are giving a jubilant welcome to their liberators. The people bestow gifts upon the officers and men and invite them into their homes. Numerous youths who had hidden from the Germans are now besieging Army headquarters and Government authorities, asking to be accepted into the Red Army as volunteers. When Yakov Leschenko and his three sons were accepted by one regiment, the father declared: "We shall now fight in the ranks of the Red Army for the liberation of the Ukraine. We have no other aim in life than to drive the German curs from our native land."

★

To increase production for the front the ordnance plant directed by Hero of Socialist Labor Ellyan mobilized all its internal resources. A new rolling shop and an open-hearth furnace were launched by the plant's own forces and the production of gun steel in the main open-hearth furnaces was mastered. The creative cooperation of the plant's technologists, metallurgy experts and Stakhanovites made possible a great economy in production time, amounting in some cases to three-quarters of the time formerly required for certain operations.

★

The schools of the Moscow Region have enrolled 530,000 children for the fall term; 54,000 more than last year. There are over 3,000 schools in the Region and the number of teachers will be increased to 20,000. Work on the construction of new schools and repair and decoration of old ones was finished on August 15. Teachers' conferences on the results of the last school year and preparations for the new term have taken place in all districts. In 33 districts the average of school attendance last year reached 99 per cent.

★

The pharmacological committee of the Medical Scientists' Council under the Commissariat of Health of the USSR has authorized the output of a new drug named vesulpan. This drug was discovered in the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Chemistry and Pharmacy. It has been tested in a number of Soviet hospitals, and specialists have found it highly effective against common dysentery and other gastric diseases. It was first prepared by Rubtsov, working under the guidance of Professor Meditsov, Stalin Prize Winner. The chemical-pharmaceutical industry is undertaking mass production of vesulpan.

The everyday life of Soviet people working on the home front is the theme of three new Soviet films. In *The Great Earth*, Sergei Gerasimov, well-known scenarist and producer, describes a working day in the Urals, the arsenal of the Red Army. Katerina Vinogradskaya is preparing a script on the war work of Russian women, and the playwright Boris Brodsky deals with the search of Soviet geologists for more coal, oil and metal for the front.

★

In a report on the work of the Lesgaft State Institute of Physical Culture in Leningrad, its director stated that during the war the staff has trained 1,500 specialists in curative physical culture. Three groups of students have been graduated during the war period. Many of these graduates are now working in the liberated areas.

The institute has also carried out valuable research in methods of training junior and apprentice workers in physical culture and curative physical culture treatment in hospitals. A branch of the institute has been set up in Kirghizia.

★

A new serum especially effective in cases of injury to the bones is now being used in the USSR. The serum leads to quick healing of wounds which have resisted treatment for many months. It will be produced on a mass scale in Soviet institutes. Further investigations will be made as to the effect of the serum in a number of illnesses.

★

The Cinema Committee of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR has organized a studio to produce films dealing with the Patriotic War and with Russia's history. Playwrights and war correspondents will prepare the scenarios. A series of epic films of the four heroic cities—Leningrad, Odessa, Sevastopol and Stalingrad—will be made, portraying the struggle of each city against the German-fascist invaders, its individual features, background and historical traditions.

THE NEW ORDER IN DEMYANSK is the title of a new film which tells the story of collective farmer Korolev, who was transported from his native Demyansk to Brandenburg, Germany, for slavery, and who escaped. The picture, which was directed by Anatoli Pogorely, has been shown in Moscow with much success.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

SEPTEMBER 10, 1943

Order of the day of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Malinovsky and Colonel General Tolbukhin:

Today, September 10, the troops of the Southwestern Front, continuing the successful offensive, captured the town of Barvenkovo, and the town and most important railway junction of Chaplino.

Also, today the troops of the Southern Front, by a vigorous thrust, captured the town of Volnovakha, the most important railway junction in the Azov Sea area, and advancing along the Azov Sea Coast, liberated from the German invaders the town and port of Mariupol, the important center of the southern metallurgical industry. This new success has been achieved by our troops in the south as a result of a daring maneuver of cavalry and mechanized formations which broke



MOSCOW—The big guns thunder another salute as the mighty offensive of the Red Army rolls on

Radiophoto

through to the rear of the German troops.

In the fighting for the towns of Mariupol, Barvenkovo, Volnovakha and Chaplino, the following troops distinguished themselves: The Don Cossack Cavalrymen under Major General Selivanov, the tankists under Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Pushkin and Lieutenant General Rusikanov, the troops under Lieutenant General Chuikov, Lieutenant General Lelyushenko and Lieutenant General Khomenko; the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Sudets, Lieutenant General of Aviation Khryukin and Major General of Aviation Aupikov; and the seamen under Rear Admiral Gorshkov, who landed troops west of Mariupol.

The following troops particularly distinguished themselves: The 11th Don Cavalry Division of Guards under Colonel Salenov; the 130th Taganrog Infantry Division under Colonel Sychev, the 221st Infantry Division under Colonel Blazhevich, the Third Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Tsalikov, the 39th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Leshchinin, the Ninth Fighter Air Division of Guards under Colonel Dzussov, the Fifth Mechanized Brigade of Guards under Colonel Safronov, the Sixth Mechanized Brigade of Guards under Colonel Artemenko, the 12th Motorized Infantry Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Zharov, the Third Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Devyatko, the 39th Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Bespalov, the 31st Independent Tank Brigade of Guards under Major General of Tank Troops Burdov, the 65th Tank Brigade under Colonel Shevchenko, the 1,890th Independent Self-Propelling Light Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Gurin, and the 517th Independent Tank Battalion under Captain Nesterov.

To mark the victory achieved, the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Mariupol, Volnovakha, Chaplino and Barvenkovo:

The name of Mariupol on the 221st Infantry Division and the Ninth Fighter Air Division of Guards; the name of Volnovakha on the 11th Don Cavalry Division of Guards, the Third Infantry Division of Guards, the Fifth Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the Sixth Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the 12th Motorized Infantry Brigade and the 65th Tank Brigade; the name of Chaplino on the Third Tank Brigade and the 39th Tank Brigade; the name of Barvenkovo on the 39th Infantry Division of Guards, the 31st Independent Tank Brigade of Guards, the 1,890th Independent Self-Propelling Light Artillery Regiment, and the 517th Independent Tank Battalion. Henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 221st Mariupol Infantry Division, the Ninth Mariupol Fighter Air Division of Guards, the 11th Volnovakha Don Cavalry Division of Guards, the Third Volnovakha Infantry Division of Guards, the Fifth Volnovakha Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the Sixth Volnovakha Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the 12th Volnovakha Motorized Infantry Brigade, the 65th Volnovakha Tank Brigade, the Third Chaplino Tank Brigade, the 39th Chaplino Tank Brigade, the 39th Barvenkovo Infantry Division of Guards, the 31st Barvenkovo Independent Tank Brigade of Guards, the 1,890th Barvenkovo Independent Self-Propelling Light Artillery Regiment, and the 517th Barvenkovo Independent Tank Battalion.

The 130th Taganrog Infantry Division, which distinguished itself for a second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, September 10, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the towns of Mariupol, Volnovakha, Chaplino and Barvenkovo—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which took part in the fighting for Mariupol, Volnovakha, Chaplino and Barvenkovo.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

SEPTEMBER 9, 1943

Order of the day of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

Continuing the vigorous offensive, the troops of the Central Front forced the Seim River and on September 6 liberated the town of Konotop from the German invaders, while today, September 9, after two days of violent fighting, our troops carried by storm the town of Bakhmach—the most important railway junction, center of enemy communications and decisive base of German defense in the Kiev direction.

In the fighting for the towns of Konotop and Bakhmach, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Chernyakhovsky, Lieutenant General Bondarev, Major General Kozlov, and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko—and especially the 132nd Infantry Division under Major General Shkrylov, the 143rd Infantry Division under Colonel Kukin, the 280th Infantry Division under Major General Golosov, the 70th Glukhov Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Gusev, the 75th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Korishchnyi, the 221st Bomber Air Division under Colonel Buzylov, the Third Light Artillery Brigade of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Zhegal, the 56th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Shapovalov, and the 65th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Major Pavlov.

To mark the victory achieved, the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Konotop and Bakhmach:

The name of Konotop on the 143rd Infantry Division, the 280th Infantry Division and the 65th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards; the name of Bakhmach on the 75th Infantry Division of Guards, the 132nd Infantry Division, the 221st Bomber Air Division, the Third Light Artillery Brigade of Guards, and the 56th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, and henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 143rd Konotop Infantry Division, the 280th Konotop Infantry Division, the 65th Konotop Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 75th Bakhmach Infantry Division of Guards, the 132nd Bakhmach Infantry Division, the 221st Bakhmach Bomber Air Division, the Third Bakhmach Light Artillery Brigade of Guards, and the 56th Bakhmach Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards.

The 70th Glukhov Infantry Division of Guards, which distinguished itself for the second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, September 9, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of our motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated Konotop and Bakhmach—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which took part in the fighting for Konotop and Bakhmach.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

DONETS COAL

By Gabriel Lomov

Chief of the Technical Department, People's Commissariat of the Coal Industry

Engineer Gabriel Lomov is an outstanding expert in the coal industry. He worked for 15 years in the Donets Basin, where he started as a mine manager and later became chief engineer of a group of mines. He was in charge of the construction of the finest Donbas mine, No. 18, in Snezhnoye. For his services in the coal industry Lomov has been decorated with the Order of Lenin, the Order of the Red Banner of Labor and the Badge of Honor.

In their forced retreat the Germans in impotent rage set fire to and demolished the industrial structures of the Donbas, flooded or blasted the best mines and burned down the miners' cottages. Among the demolished mines is Mine No. 18, into which I put a great deal of work. The Donets Basin has the richest coal deposits in Europe. Its known coal resources are estimated at 70 billion tons, of which 18 billion tons represent high-grade coking coal, essential for the machine-building industry, chemical industries and ferrous metallurgy. In Soviet times the Donets Basin made rapid technological progress. Ninety per cent of the entire coal output was mined by machines.

The Germans were well aware of the value of the Donbas and asserted that it would be their second Ruhr. Here was a highly developed industrial area.

The Makeyevka metallurgical works, one of the largest iron and steel works in the Soviet Union, played an important part in the country's economic life. Gorlovka, in the center, is a very rich coalfield. Here 100,000 workers lived in fine homes. At Lisichansk experts experimented successfully with the subterranean gasification of coal.

All this wealth has been wrecked by the Nazis. But now that the Donbas is again in our hands we will build it up anew. The earth has not yet cooled off after the hot fighting, but the coal experts who followed in the wake of the Red Army are already on the job, organizing the restoration of the mines. Work that formerly took months is now accomplished by Soviet builders in weeks or days. In fact, we are already receiving coal from the south. In the Rostov Region the mines closer to the surface have already been restored. New small mines have been sunk and are being sunk, and many are already producing coal. Restoration work is in progress in all other mines.

The Nazis have done the greatest damage in Gorlovka and Stalino. The restoration job there will be the hardest. We are starting with the restoration of the smaller mines, so as to make coal immediately available for the factories, railroads and power plants.

We Will Resurrect the Donbas

"I find it hard to express what I felt when the radio announced the news that the Donbas had been liberated by the Red Army," said Alexei Pryanov, now working as a coal cutter in the Moscow Basin. "My friends and comrades came over, shook hands and congratulated me. The pit in Gorlovka where I had worked for 30 years had been sunk 40 years before the outbreak of the war. I remember the hard life of the miner before the Soviet rule. The pits were not mechanized, cutting was done by hand and we had to haul the coal from the face literally on our own backs. The Revolution changed the face of Gorlovka. The Donbas mines became highly mechanized.

"I remember the last evening when we left Gorlovka before the Germans came. The houses where we spent our lives were silhouetted against the sunset and behind us lay the pits, which we had flooded. I went to work in Pit No. 2 in the Moscow mines. I thought often of our home in Gorlovka, where my father and grandfather lived and where I was born and lived for

58 years, and dreamed of the day when the Nazis would be driven from the Donbas.

"I was made welcome in the Moscow mines. My wife and I were given an apartment, and I began to work as a cutter. I also taught the art of mining to young workers. Many young people had come to work in our mine from Moscow, Tula and Ryazan, and I showed them the most efficient methods of proping. For high output, our pit was awarded the Challenge Banner of the People's Commissariat of Coal, and I am proud of the achievements of my pupils.

"I have two sons, both at the front. The elder is a lieutenant in a tank brigade and has been twice awarded the Order of the Red Star; the younger, a sergeant, has been awarded the Medal for Valor. We will resurrect the Donbas, pump out the pits which we flooded ourselves—and again the pneumatic picks will be hammering at the coal face and trainloads of Donbas coal will leave for all parts of the Soviet Union, to supply warmth and power to homes, factories and railways."

SUNDAY IN LENINGRAD

By Vera Inber

August is beautiful in Leningrad. The deep blue sky forms a fathomless cupola over the green-robed city. The white nights of summer grow darker and a host of stars find golden reflection in the Neva. It rains occasionally, but the showers pass quickly, leaving Leningrad fresh and sparkling.

But the people of Leningrad have no time for the beauties of nature. On one such fine Sunday—August 8, 1943—Nevsky Prospect, the main thoroughfare of the city, was so animated one could almost believe it to be the Nevsky of peacetime. The girls' faces were wreathed in smiles as they passed by.

One beautifully sunburned girl, striking in her pastel dress, hatless and with her blond plaits wound about her small head . . . a girl with a bunch of flowers in her hand . . . stopped at a mailbox and dropped a letter into it. It was not hard to guess where the letter was going. It bore a field postoffice number, and out there at the front—which by the way is so near—someone was expecting it with the utmost impatience.

The day wore on, sunny and peaceful. At the soft-drink stands the syrup sparkled ruby and amber in the glass tubes. The picture at the Colossus Central Cinema must have just ended; people were streaming from the theater laughing and talking. Three of the city's main tramway lines intersect at this point, and the tram stops were crowded. Inside the cars there was a smell of fresh vegetables . . . many Leningrad citizens were homeward bound from their truck gardens, laden with carrots, beets, cabbages and other green things. Several scientists were on their way to their vegetable gardens to weed and tend their plants. Short-handled spades protruded from professional brief cases, the only "arms" carried by these civilians.

Near a cathedral on the square children were playing guerrillas. "I want to be 'Elusive Yan,'" shouted one of the youngsters. "No! It's my turn today," cried another. "You can't be 'Yan' every day."

It was into the heart of this scene, so bright and peaceful, that a cold-blooded, stone-hearted German artilleryman somewhere on the outskirts of the city fired his first eight-inch shell. It found its "target"—children, young girls and old people enjoying the fresh air and sunshine of that fine Sunday afternoon.

The crossing in front of the magnificent Public Library was splashed with blood, and it took the fire brigade some time to wash away the bright red pools. Forty-nine people were killed and 62 wounded at the three tram stops. Among them was Galya Yarnina, a schoolgirl in the sixth grade. That morning Galya had gone to the movies. Then she sat in the park, and later went to a store to select some buttons for

a new dress. An hour later she lay dead in a hospital morgue. The doctor's certificate read, "Wounds."

Next to Galya were the bodies of Zina Yakovleva, Valya Sakharova and Volodya Lysenko, her schoolmates, who were returning from their truck gardens. Their death certificates bore the same statement. Little Rose Kostrakova's arm was amputated. Lying on her hospital bed she said, "My sister Galya (another Galya) and I were playing hide and seek in the park. Suddenly I felt a terrible blow and was thrown off the sidewalk. I still don't know where Galya is . . ."

"And it's well that you don't, my dear child," I thought. For at that moment Galya's body, mutilated by a huge shell splinter, was lying in the morgue. Her gay dress was soaked in blood, her fair plaits were in disorder and one blue bow covered her torn mouth. Galya's mother, who works at a laundry, collapsed when she learned of the tragedy.

A few moments after the bombardment began, dozens of mangled bodies lay on the tracks and sidewalks. Torn-off limbs had been flung in all directions. Here was a familiar bunch of flowers lying in a pool of blood. Nearby was a plait of hair we recognized . . . only one, for half the head was gone. The letter dropped into the mailbox would reach its destination, but the girl who had written it was no more.

Another young girl was stricken at the entrance to a bookshop whose windows displayed a new edition of *War and Peace*. She just managed to breathe her name . . . Lydia. It was learned at the hospital that she was Lydia Lakne, employed at the Machine Repair Works. She was seriously wounded in the shoulder and stomach and there is little hope that she will live.

Antonina Lysenkova, a bookkeeper at Printing House No. 10, was fatally burned. Anna Tropova, zoologist, was hurrying home to work on her thesis, which she was to present at the end of the month. She will never finish it. Fifteen-year-old Lyuda Sidorenko lost her parents during the famine in the winter of 1941-42. Kind people sheltered her, fed her and saved her life. In the bombardment Lyuda's leg was torn off.

Today when anyone in Leningrad leaves his home, he cannot be sure he will return. "Let me kiss you, darling," one sister says to another as they part in the street. And they embrace as if for the last time. No . . . neither is leaving the city—one is merely going to Vasilievsky Island and the other to the Moscow Station. But who knows whether they will ever meet again!

Leningrad is not only a city of heroes. It is a city of martyrs. It would be well for all to bear this in mind.

THE WHOLE WORLD SHOULD KNOW OF THIS

By **Khachatour Kostoyants and Krikor Kekcheyev,**
Professors of Moscow University

New and horrible data have been published by the Extraordinary State Committee for the investigation of crimes committed by German fascists.

In the city of Orel and parts of the Orel Region which the Germans occupied for two years, the Nazis destroyed 881 buildings of educational and cultural establishments and 181 medical establishments; and if we count the number of State and municipal institutions, trading organizations and dwelling houses, then the total number of wrecked buildings reaches the enormous figure of 60,000. The Nazis blew up hospitals containing hundreds of beds, destroyed maternity homes and children's clinics and sanatoriums, women's welfare centers and many other medical institutions. The Nazis did everything in their power to leave this large city and the whole region without any medical aid.

The Hitlerites destroyed museums and libraries. The Pushkin Library was plundered of 25,000 books, the Turgenev Library of 22,000 and the Central Children's library of 20,000. The most valuable of these books, especially technical books, maps and atlases, were carried off to Germany. The Regional Library was turned into a barracks and only one museum was left in the city.

Hatred of culture in general and of Russian culture in particular led the German military authorities to destroy with all the thoroughness of the German nation everything connected with education—libraries, schools and museums. We have long known that the Germans consider that they alone are supreme, of a "higher race." They tried to convert Soviet citizens into slaves who would need no learning, or cultural or medical aid.

Now that the Germans are retreating westward under the blows of the Red Army and in some places abandoning everything in their flight, we are able to establish exactly how the Soviet people lived under

the fascist yoke. The Extraordinary State Committee established by the Soviet Government is investigating all the crimes of the German troops. In Orel the investigations were carried on by the world famous surgeon, Academician Nikolai Burdenko.

Monstrous facts without parallel in history were laid bare during these investigations. The bodies of patients of a mental hospital who had been shot were discovered. The Germans also shot those refusing to go to Germany to work, people active in Soviet State organizations, and war prisoners. These crimes were carried out methodically on certain days, as on Tuesdays and Fridays, at 10:30 A. M. The murderers shot their victims in the back; they shot men, women and children, young and old, sick and healthy, and many thousands of these bodies have already been recovered.

Sometimes the Germans tested out the effectiveness of poison gases on the Russian people, after which the victims were subjected to clinical and laboratory examinations in German hospitals, photographed and demonstrated to German doctors who came from Kiev, Kharkov, and Odessa. What can be more horrible than a doctor who carries out experiments with poisons on human beings and "scientifically" studies their effects?

These are examples of German-fascist culture; this is what awaited the peoples of the whole world if the Nazis with their colossal war machine had not been checked and then driven back by the Red Army. Civilized mankind must realize the brutality of the Hitlerites. All facts mentioned here are confirmed by documents, by the evidence of witnesses, and more convincing still—by the tortured bodies of victims, the blown-up buildings and plundered museums and libraries.

Not only the Soviet people should know about this but the whole world of people fighting against fascism—that malignant tumor in the body of mankind.

Artists of the Battle Front Exhibit Works

Some 500 pictures by artists of the Grekov Red Army Studio—painters who work in the front lines—are being shown in the Central Red Army Club in Moscow.

"We have exhibited our work a number of times during the war," said Leonid Golovanov, a member of the Studio on leave from the Southwestern Front. One large group of artists spent six months on the Western Front, while others, including Denisov, Zhukov, Gorelov and Kirpichev, have worked in Karelia, in Vyazma, in the Smolensk Region, at Rzhev, Stalingrad and Rostov.

The sketches made in the Stalingrad area will form valuable basic material for the gigantic panorama "The Defense of Stalingrad," planned for the reconstructed city. The artists made the sketches in the immediate vicinity of the enemy, from blockhouses and firepits, and even from crippled tanks. They shared all the hardships and dangers of the front line.

Gogoberidze, the Studio's talented Georgian artist, was killed at the front. Belyaev, who lost his right arm, is determined to overcome this handicap and to continue his painting.

KHARKOV WILL BE REBUILT

By Vladimir Zabolotny

Director of the Ukrainian Branch of the Academy of Architecture

The city of Kharkov has been badly wounded. Nothing but ruins remain of its splendid edifices and the creative effort which went into their construction. After the German retreat the streets were blocked by heaps of broken glass, bricks and iron. The city was burning, ignited by German torches.

Yet in spite of the German ruthlessness a new town is arising from the smoke and ashes. The Soviet people are helping us with our work. The Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, which had been evacuated from Kharkov, began a year ago to draw up plans for the restoration of Ukrainian towns and villages. A special committee and several groups of scientists were organized to take part in the rebuilding of liberated areas.

One group is working on the reconstruction of towns and plans for the erection of subways. Another group, under the direction of Academician Peter Budnikov, is searching for new building materials. I have already compiled an album of typical designs for workers' housing developments and collective

farms, in which durable plaster will be used instead of wood and concrete. Houses of this type have been constructed experimentally in Bashkiria, and this experience will enable us to build quickly in the Ukraine. Parts of the houses will be pre-fabricated and assembled on the building site.

We have also been studying the problem of producing building materials locally without special equipment. Brick kilns will be built of the same type of brick to be baked in them. Special building blocks are being manufactured from semi-plastic materials.

Every scientist is doing his part toward the restoration of the liberated Ukrainian towns. Academician Alexander Sokosko, for example, has evolved a simplified system of drainage.

Kharkov will rise again, the ruins will be rebuilt. This work will be done by the hands of Ukrainians, whose one desire is to liberate the entire Ukraine, the entire Soviet Union, from the hands of the German invaders.



Citizens of Kharkov reading the first Soviet newspapers received in the liberated city

Radiophoto

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

After stubborn fighting Soviet troops captured Mariupol, the Azov seaport and large metallurgical center connected by railway with the Donbas. Soviet divisions now hold the most important part of the coast of the Sea of Azov and are within 170 kilometers of Melitopol. The fall of Mariupol is still another blow at the right flank of the German army and a threat to the enemy's communications with the Crimea.

The divisions which had liberated the Donets Basin are now pressing forward toward Pavlograd and along the Donbas-Dniepropetrovsk and Donbas-Lozovaya railways. A number of inhabited places have been captured in these areas, including Barvenkovo, 50 kilometers east of the important junction of Lozovaya, and Chaplino, 95 kilometers from Dniepropetrovsk. From Chaplino runs the railway to the port of Berdyansk (Osipenko) situated on the Sea of Azov west of Mariupol.

With the capture of Barvenkovo rose the threat of a flank thrust at the German positions south and southwest of Kharkov. The Germans recently concentrated large tank and infantry forces west of the city, with the aim of pushing back the Soviet troops between the Vorskla and Psol Rivers and creating a flank threat to the Red Army divisions advancing

southwest of Kharkov. The German counter-attacks were repulsed and the enemy's attempts to stem the Soviet advance west of Kharkov failed.

Soviet troops pushing forward in the northern Ukraine along the Kursk-Kiev line on September 9 captured Bakhmach, the important junction and strong point 180 kilometers northeast of Kiev. South of Bryansk on September 9 the Red Army forced the crossing of the Desna water barrier between the northern Ukraine and Byelorussia. Meanwhile Soviet troops north of Bryansk took Lyudinovo and are continuing to advance westward.

Thus the two-month-old Soviet offensive has resulted in a break-through of German positions. Repeated blows struck along the 1,000-kilometer front are giving the Germans no opportunity to hold out on their second defense lines. In a large measure this has been brought about by skilful maneuvering on the part of mobile units. The liberation of the Donets Basin and the rout of the powerful enemy forces concentrated there was accomplished in six days. The Soviet offensive has disrupted all the enemy's plans. The Nazis no longer talk of "elastic strategy," but are forced to admit that they are being hard pressed on the Eastern Front.

HARVESTING IN LIBERATED AREAS

The North Caucasian and southern regions of the USSR which were liberated from the German invaders have efficiently coped with the sowing and are now completing the harvest. Winter and summer crops covering an area of over 2,000,000 hectares have already been reaped by the collective farms of these regions.

In these areas the dislocation of agriculture by the German occupation was so great that tremendous efforts were necessary to restore the situation. Practically no agricultural machinery escaped destruction, and collective farm buildings were demolished and implements looted. But the liberated people vigorously undertook the restoration of the farms, repairing machines wherever possible and rebuilding the wrecked houses. The State rendered great assistance, sending hundreds of tractors, sowing, threshing and

other machines. People of other regions also helped the local collective farmers, presenting them with large numbers of machines. Seven hundred machine and tractor stations were quickly established and the farmers were able to go ahead with the cultivation of the land and later with the harvesting.

The Government also sent about 11,000 specialists—mechanics, harvester combine operators, personnel for the machine and tractor stations and agronomists—to the liberated areas. Scientific agricultural research is gradually being resumed and experimental farms have been reestablished. The Institute of Oil Seeds in Krasnodar has reopened.

Thousands of residents of Rostov, Krasnodar and other cities are now helping the collective farmers with the harvest.

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WHAT THE GERMANS DID TO OUR CHILDREN

By Senior Lieutenant G. Krivich

Guerrillas operating in the Chernigov Region recently rescued a group of Soviet children from German bondage. Among them were boys and girls between the ages of four and thirteen years, whose parents had either perished at the hands of the German butchers or been driven off to Germany as slaves. Left to themselves, these children hid with relatives or friends, afraid of being seen by the German bandits who ruthlessly murder village populations en masse.

The guerrillas seized their chance and raided the village, rescuing these orphans. Yesterday I had a talk with the children, who have not yet grown accustomed to safety. If anyone mentions the word "German" or "police," a frightened look appears in their faces. These one-time happy youngsters have forgotten what it is to smile.

Misha Bogdanov is 13 years old and his sister Olga is 10. "I was at home with mother when the Ger-



BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES—Soviet guerrillas set fire to an enemy supply train

Radiophoto

mans came into our village," said Misha. "Some women and children began to cry in the streets. Two Germans ran into our cottage and one of them shouted, 'Give pig!' They took our little pig, the last one we had, and led away our cow. Then a lot of Germans came into our yard, drove us all out of our cottage and began to drink and shout. At night the Germans raided all the cottages. Mother took us and ran away to the marshes to hide. But the Germans chased us and began to shoot. We scattered in different directions. One woman was carrying a baby about a year old. The Germans kept shooting and shooting at her, and then I saw her drop dead."

Olga added, "Daddy was caught by the Germans and killed. Then they ordered our eldest brother, who lives alone, to dig a hole and bury him."

Sometime later, according to the children, the guerrillas raided the village, which had long been known as the Red Partisans' village, and in the fighting killed 12 Germans. "The fascists were furious and sent men to punish us," said 13-year-old Alyosha Semenenko. "They surrounded our village, put sentries at the cottage doors and wouldn't let anybody out, while other Germans ran from cottage to cottage, pouring lamp oil over them and setting them on fire with torches. They set fire to 240 cottages in our village. We counted them. Cottages belonging to the Kuakimenkos, Lyashkos, Bylikas, Sherstyukas and Pelekhayas were burned to the ground and over 80 of our people burned alive.

"The Germans also set fire to our cottage. When I ran into the street I saw my eldest sister, Paraska, coming toward our house carrying her six-months-old baby in her arms. The German who had set fire to our cottage took aim and shot Paraska, killing the baby and wounding my sister in the side. Paraska began to crawl along to the cottage of a neighbor named Gusy. There were about 30 people near the cottage. The German pulled a big hand-grenade from his belt and threw it right among the people.

Nearly all were wounded and Gusy's daughter was killed. A grenade splinter caught me in the left leg, and my sister was hit by splinters which broke the fingers of both her hands and wounded her in the head.

"After this many people went away and joined the guerrillas. The Germans became still more furious. They would get hold of our men and shout at them. 'You are guerrillas!' I remember when the Germans caught Nikolai Romanenko in the street and fired three shots into his stomach. He dropped and the Germans thought he was dead, but he managed to creep along a little way with the blood pouring from him. Then another German walked past and when he saw Romanenko he fired another shot and killed him."

The fascist murderers and panderers are ruthlessly exterminating the Soviet folk. Alyosha Semenenko also told how on one occasion the Hitlerites killed 50 men because someone had shot a dog belonging to a German officer.

Borya Brko is eight years old. His father is in the Red Army, and his mother was flung into prison by the Germans. Little Borya was left with his six-year-old sister. Their grandmother cared for them, but the Germans set fire to her cottage. Then an aunt took them, but her cottage too was soon burned. The helpless children wandered in the back lanes of the village, afraid to show themselves in the main streets lest the Germans shoot them. They suffered terrible pangs of hunger. Said Borya, "The Germans send boys and girls off to their Germany, and kill all the grandpas, grandmas and little children."

Now these children are safe and free in Soviet territory, surrounded by an atmosphere of affectionate care. Those who look after them do all in their power to make the children forget as soon as possible the nightmare of their lives under the fascist brigands. The older children are being sent to schools and trade schools, while the little ones are placed in children's homes.

Major of Guards Completes Doctor's Thesis While Fighting Nazis

While on duty with the Red Army, Major of the Guards Gennady Ivanov, 32-year-old aerial navigator who heads the Aero-Navigation Service for large air formations, completed his doctor's thesis on "The Economy of the Pacific Ocean and Its Islands."

Ivanov was formerly assistant professor and staff member of the Pacific Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and has a thorough knowledge of the geography and ethnography of the Pacific area. His works have twice been published in England and

the United States, and in 1940 he was awarded a diploma by the American Geographical Society.

The young scientist joined the Army as a volunteer at the outbreak of war. Because of his knowledge of astronomy and topography he chose navigation as his military profession, and has made some 280 operational flights. In one raid on enemy troop concentrations the crew of his plane shot down three German aircraft. Ivanov was recently decorated by the Soviet Government.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN SOVIET RURAL DISTRICTS

By M. Amshinsky

Many of Russia's finest writers—Nekrasov, Tolstoy, Chekhov, Gorky, Korolenko, Veresayev—dealing with the plight of the Russian peasantry in pre-revolutionary years, refer particularly to the misfortunes arising from inadequate medical aid. Before the October Revolution over one-third of the children in Russian rural districts died from intestinal and infectious diseases before their first birthday. Typhoid, dysentery and epidemics of cholera and plague ravaged the adult population. Certain localities were permanent incubatory sources of tuberculosis, syphilis, trachoma and malaria.

No precautions whatever were taken to safeguard the health of mother and child. Peasant women often delivered their children in an open field, in haystacks or under wagons, and had not the faintest idea of what we know as maternity care. Such medical aid as was available was mainly confined to the peasants of European Russia. Those of other rural districts were wholly at the mercy of quacks and "witches."

The surprising thing is that for all this, the villages had better medical facilities than the towns, because the most advanced doctors were usually imbued with a sincere desire to serve the people, and went to work in the villages. To them old Russia was indebted for such medical institutions as there were in the rural districts. But they were very few. In the central provinces there was one doctor to serve every 24,500 inhabitants, in the Caucasus one per 38,000 people, and in Central Asia one per 93,000 people.

According to the Home Ministry, the entire territory of Russia in 1913 had only 4,142 rural medical centers and 4,941 so-called medical posts run by assistant doctors, and 75 per cent of these posts were concentrated in the rural centers. Altogether, 6,500 doctors worked in the Russian countryside.

During the first World War and the Civil War even this small network of public health services almost entirely disappeared. Thus the Soviet public health authorities were confronted with a difficult task: not only to restore the shattered medical units without delay, but to expand the public health services to cover many millions of Russian peasants. It was necessary to uproot age-old sources of infection, to mitigate the scourges of malaria, tuberculosis and venereal diseases, to found maternity and child welfare institutions.

The rural medical center still remains the main vehicle of medical aid to peasants. But the range of its activity has changed beyond recognition. In Soviet Russia the rural medical center consists of several institutions. Its job is to prevent disease, to conduct public health propaganda, to run tubercu-

losis dispensaries, to fight against malaria, venereal diseases and skin diseases, to provide women's and children's consultation clinics, permanent and seasonal nurseries and collective farm lying-in hospitals.

The system of medical treatment in the villages is orientated to the special character of agricultural labor. At sowing and harvesting time, the rural medical center sends its doctors and nurses into the fields; and in the fields temporary tent nurseries for nursing mothers are erected, so that the women need not waste time going to the village to feed their babies. At these times thousands of doctors and nurses migrate from the cities to provide medical assistance in rural districts.

The entire village community participates in the work of the rural medical center. The people elect sanitary inspectors, who are particularly active in the winter months. They help to keep an eye on the purity of the water supply and the efficiency of the sewage system, and do their best to propagate a knowledge of hygiene among the peasants. They all know how to administer first aid in case of emergency.

Each peasant woman gets a month's vacation before childbirth. During this period she receives half her average earnings, paid out of the collective farm funds. Childbirth generally takes place in a maternity home; home confinements are attended by a midwife and a doctor. The newborn receives regular visits from a children's nurse, who teaches the mother how to feed and care for her baby. During sowing and harvesting, the child is generally taken care of at the nursery attached to the farm.

During the past quarter of a century, the Soviet public health authorities have transformed the rural medical centers into highly influential organizations in the cause of health. There are 13,500 rural medical centers in the USSR, employing 20,000 doctors—which is equal to the number of doctors in the whole of pre-revolutionary Russia—and 39,500 assistant doctors and child delivery posts. The number of hospital beds in the villages is three and a half times greater.

Moreover, the rural medical centers are now evenly distributed throughout the country. The nationalities inhabiting the most obscure corners of the Far North and the Caucasus, the Far East and Central Asia can now rely on regular medical aid.

Localities suspected of being sources of venereal infection, trachoma and malaria, are visited by commissions of specialists, who are instructed not to leave the district until all sources of the disease have been removed and all the afflicted cured. The Soviet countryside is today completely cleansed of such scourges as smallpox, cholera and plague.

The International Seamen's Club in Murmansk

By Victor Mescheriakov

Allied seamen know the two log buildings in Murmansk which house the International Seamen's Club. Great difficulties attended the setting up of a club in this northern seaport—the bomb craters surrounding the buildings and the shell-pocked roofs are proof of this. Often during film showings air raid sirens shriek, and the audience and staff rush out to help extinguish fires. After the all-clear signal, British and American seamen gather in the hall again to look at Soviet, American and British films. When Soviet films are shown, a member of the club staff translates the Russian text for the visitors.

The club reading room is stocked with books, magazines and newspapers in many languages. Discussions on the situation on the Soviet-German front and in the Atlantic and Mediterranean theaters of war are held daily. Lectures on international affairs and on recent Red Army victories are given from time to time. At the request of American seamen, several lectures have been delivered on the organization of the Soviet State, the part played by women in the country's war effort, et cetera.

Moscow actors often visit Murmansk and play at the Seamen's Club, and the ensemble of the Northern Fleet Musical Society has given concerts there. There

are also regular entertainments at which Allied and Soviet seamen dance, sing and join in games with the young people of Murmansk. Soccer matches between British and Soviet seamen are occasionally played, with honors alternating between the representatives of the two countries.

Commander S. B. Frankel, Assistant United States Naval Attache, recently addressed the following letter to the director of the International Seamen's Club:

Dear Sir: May I take this opportunity to express my personal and official appreciation for the very important part the club has played during the past seven months in entertaining the visiting merchant seamen and armed guard personnel. This has been accomplished despite the exceedingly difficult conditions in which we worked, and all credit is due to you and your capable staff for your ready cooperation and tireless efforts to provide entertainment and amusement for those of us who find ourselves far from our native soil.

I am sure our future relations will be as cordial and pleasant as they have been during the past, and I wish you continued success.

BIRTH OF A MINE

By Mikhail Siyukov

You can still see the thick stumps of trees in the streets of this new mining town. The forest is gradually retreating—the timber has been used to build dwellings, an electric power station and a tallow factory. Traces of pioneering are to be seen everywhere, even in the interiors of houses, with their crude tables and chairs roughly put together from new lumber.

Only a year ago the whistle of an engine sounded for the first time in this dense forest, announcing that the molybdenum mine of Boslyun, Siberia, had been supplied with electricity. Discovered and prospected during the war years, the mine was developed rapidly and put into operation earlier than had been planned. It has a long history. The young fireman, Nikolai Timofeyev, told us something of it.

"About 25 or 30 years ago," said Nikolai, "my grandfather, an expert hunter, was tracking a reindeer through a thick forest. He came within 30 feet of the animal, a very fine one, and took careful aim. As he was about to press the trigger, his foot suddenly slipped and he fell. The frightened reindeer vanished. Angered, the hunter looked for the cause of his mishap—a treacherous stone. He picked

up the stone and examined it attentively—it was white with veins of soft, silvery ore. Nearby were a number of similar stones.

"'Here's the friend I've been looking for all my life,' the old man said. He carefully smoothed the disturbed earth and made a mark on a big tree nearby. But illness kept him from returning to explore the treasure. Before his death he said to his son, 'Listen, Pavlin. In the fall go to Boslyun—there you will find an old pine tree with a mark on it. Dig up the earth nearby . . . I found gold there.'"

According to Nikolai's story, Pavlin Timofeyev wandered through the river valley for a long while and finally found the tree and the white stones. He turned them in to the State Trust for Geological Prospecting. Soon this organization informed him that the stones contained molybdenum, not gold. Several days later the son of the old hunter guided a party of prospectors to the site where the precious rocks were found. Near the stream where reindeer and wild boar used to come in the evenings to drink rose the white tents of the geologists, and a little later the isolated house that proclaimed the birth of a new mine.

The first supplies of molybdenum concentrate were

collected by hand. Meanwhile mines were sunk, roads laid, timber cut and an alloy plant constructed. The workers never paused—in their spare moments they went down to the stream to gather the heavy, whitish stones. At each step new difficulties confronted these determined people who had set themselves the task of wresting from the bowels of the earth the metal needed for the manufacture of tanks, field guns and shells. They were deep in the forest, hundreds of miles from the nearest town, and there were no skilled workers. The two old drillers, Akim Chekhovsky and Boris Maleyev, trained the young people, and soon their pupils, Fedor Kultin, Pavlin Boldyrev and Ivan Romanov, who had had no previous experience in mining, were excelling their teachers.

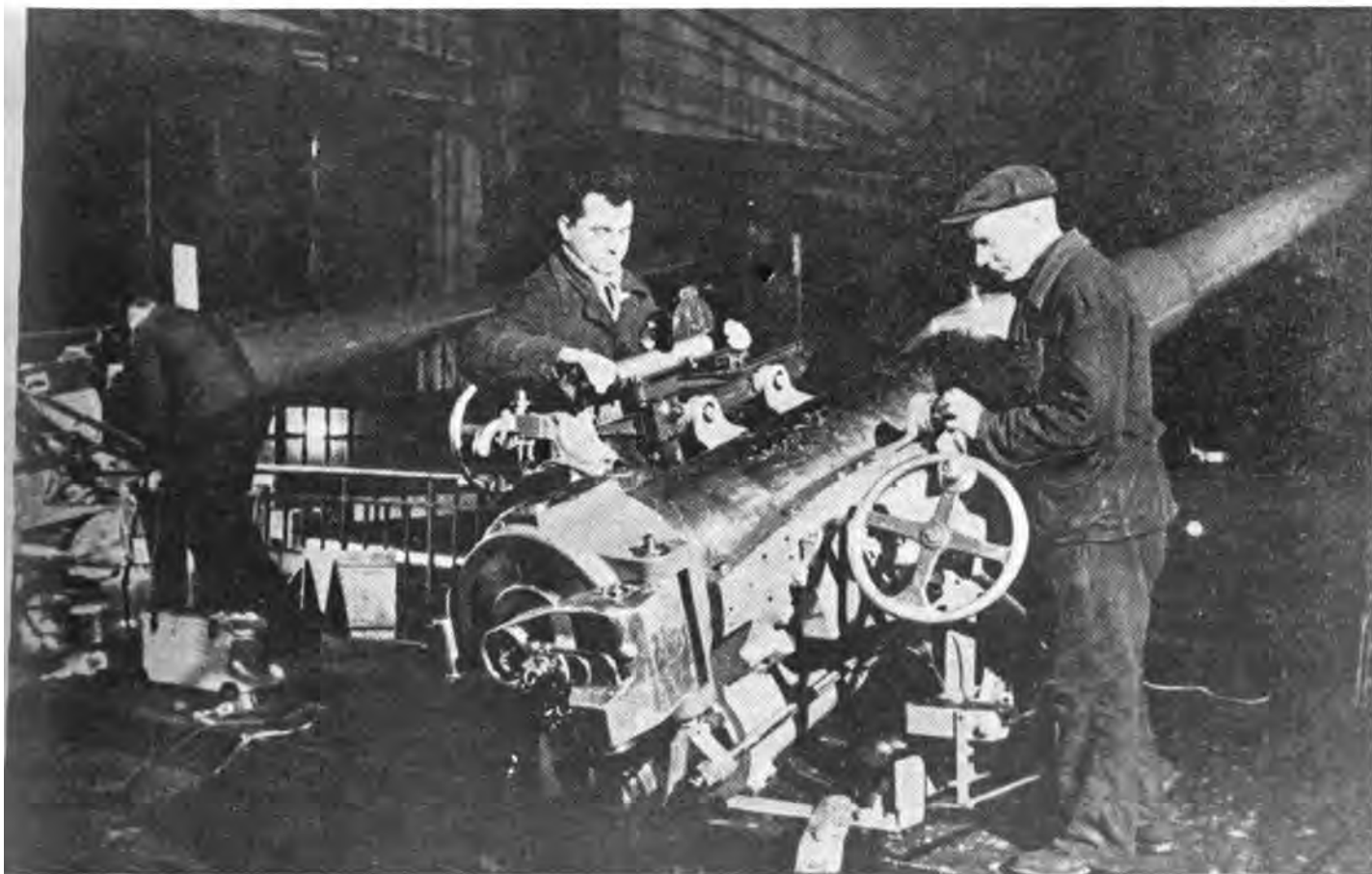
The workers would come up out of the mine and go directly to help the builders, to work in the mechanical department or in the alloy plant. When Paul Soldatov, the engineer, came to the mine, there was no engine—it was stuck somewhere on the road. And there was no building in which to house it.

"You'll have to get the engine here yourself," the manager said. It did not occur to Paul to protest. He found means to get the heavy equipment over the

almost impassable roads and through the forest. He trained new workers to operate the engine. By the time the building was completed and electricity installed, Soldatov had a crew of mechanics ready to keep the machine in condition and to assist him in running it.

Time went swiftly. The young people acquired skill. Two girls, Tatyana Golovkina and Tatyana Nekrasova, formerly unacquainted with machines, became efficient compressor operators, able to set up and repair their machine. The grandson of the old hunter, fireman Nikolai Timofeyev, learned the trade of turner and fitter in spare moments, and there was no one better able to deal with a leaky pipe.

On one occasion Nikolai worked for 27 hours repairing a leak and when the job was finished fell asleep on the spot. He slept on grass pressed down by human feet and the weight of machinery . . . on the spot where his gray-bearded grandfather had stalked a reindeer and suddenly discovered precious ore. Now on this spot rose the superstructure of the mine that daily yielded carloads of earth and ore from which came the metal to strengthen the armor of Soviet tanks.



Technicians at work in one of the Soviet armament factories turning out big guns for the front

THE SECOND FRONT

The following article was published in No. 5 of the Moscow periodical, WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS.

The situation today is such that the victory of the freedom-loving peoples over Hitlerite Germany is possible in the very near future. In the course of the war a turning point has been arrived at. It is enough to recall the following facts: The brilliant results of the Red Army's winter offensive, the defeat of the Germans before Stalingrad, on the Don and in the Caucasus, the rout of the armies of Hitler's allies on the Soviet-German front, the defeat of the German and Italian troops in Tunisia, the present successes of our Allies, the downfall of Mussolini marking the bankruptcy of Italian fascism and the prospects of Italy's withdrawal from the war, the failure of Hitler's summer offensive against the Soviet Union and the successes of the Red Army offensive in the Orel direction.

The enemy camp is passing through a deep crisis. The necessary factors have been created for the defeat of Hitler, who set himself to achieve the domination of Europe, and later the world.

Never since the war began have conditions been so favorable for victory over Hitlerite Germany as they are today. But the possibility of victory is not identical with victory itself. It must particularly be borne in mind that there is no stronger and more perfidious enemy than Hitlerite Germany.

Lost Opportunities in the Past

The history of wars has examples of opportunities allowed to slip. The opportunities once missed, the victories receded. The war was drawn out and the peoples suffered countless additional sacrifices. Today, millions of people throughout the world are with great concern raising the question whether everything is being done to make timely use of the possibility of victory over fascist Germany. And here the question of the second front in Europe arises in all its magnitude.

Much has been written on the question of the second front. Yet actually the question is quite clear. The brigandly attack by Hitler on neighboring European countries and then on the Soviet Union brought into being the Anglo-American-Soviet coalition. The coalition was established for joint, armed struggle over the common enemy.

The anti-Hitlerite coalition was formed for armed struggle against fascist Germany and its accomplices, for their defeat and the safeguarding of a lasting and just peace. The participators in the anti-

Hitlerite coalition—the Soviet Union, Britain and the U. S. A.—undertook a mutual obligation: viz., to wage a joint war on the common enemy.

Iron Pincers

From the very beginning it was clear that the enemy was strong and dangerous, it was clear that the struggle against such an enemy would require the mobilization and exertion of all the forces of those taking part in such a coalition. Consequently one had the right to expect that the members of the coalition would hurl themselves on the enemy in full force.

What are the ways in which the common struggle of the anti-Hitlerite coalition can be waged? These ways do not have to be found; they are pre-determined by the whole geographical and military-strategic position of Germany, by the whole historic trend of the struggle against German aggression. The task is to grip Hitlerite Germany in iron pincers from two sides, from the West and the East, to force her to wage war on two fronts, dividing her forces and reserves between the two.

For a long time German imperialism has avoided war on two fronts. Bismarck was always afraid of the nightmare of coalition. The victory of the Allies over Kaiser Germany was won precisely because Germany was forced to fight a war on two fronts.

For over two years now the Soviet Union has been shouldering alone the full brunt of the struggle against the main forces of Hitler's war machine. It is precisely the absence of the second front in Europe which made it possible for the Germans to win temporary successes in the first stage of the Soviet-German war. In the summer and autumn of 1941, Hitler was able to send all his own troops and those of his allies against the USSR, to maintain a starvation blockade of Leningrad, to put Moscow in jeopardy, to reach Rostov, for no hostile forces menaced their rear from the West.

It was the absence of the second front in Europe which saved fascist Germany from defeat in 1942. More than this, the absence of the second front in the summer of 1942 enabled Hitler to move all his reserves onto the Soviet-German front, to build up a big superiority of forces in the southwest direction, and to reach Stalingrad and the approaches to Grozny.

Agreement of July, 1942

Finally, this year again the Germans were able to venture a fresh summer offensive only because the absence of the second front in Europe allowed them once more to concentrate all their forces in the East.

Yet, in June, 1942, it was declared that complete agreement had been reached with regard to the urgent task of the creation of a second front in Europe in 1942, as stated in two official communiques concerning the negotiations conducted by Comrade Molotov, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, with the heads of the American and British Governments in London and Washington. Nevertheless, no second front was opened in 1942.

Already then it was made clear, however, that in the spring of 1943, at any rate, the second front in Western Europe would be opened, and that our British and American Allies would see to it that it was opened. Yet the spring passed and the second front in Europe was not opened. The Anglo-American troops restricted themselves to various operations to clear the German and Italian forces out of North Africa.

In January, 1943, Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt met in Casablanca. In an official communique on this meeting it was stated that the leaders of Britain and the U. S. A. and their Military Headquarters had reached complete agreement concerning war plans and measures to be adopted during the campaign in 1943.

The Casablanca Decision

Reporting in February, 1943, on the results of the meeting with Roosevelt and the decisions arrived at at Casablanca, Churchill, in a speech in the House of Commons, stated that the Allies had an exhaustive plan of operations determining the appointment of armed forces and the direction of their operations and that they intended to put this plan into effect in accordance with their policy in the course of the next nine months.

Thus, at the meeting at Casablanca in January, 1943, on the joint plan of military operations of the Allies, it was decided that during the first nine months of the current year our British and American Allies would put into effect an exhaustive plan of operations which naturally included the opening of the second front in Europe. However, the nine months are nearing their end and the second front in Europe still does not exist.

Recently the third session of the Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee took place in Moscow at which, as is known, the question of the opening of the second front in Europe this year was also discussed. The position being such as we have outlined, however, what could the Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee say on this question?

The Soviet people, waging what is virtually a single-handed struggle against the whole monstrous war machine of Hitler and his brigandly accomplices in

Europe, has made the greatest sacrifices on the altar of struggle for the common cause of the Allies. The Soviet Union has withstood, and still is withstanding, the frenzied onslaught of the German-fascist hordes. But on the Soviet-German front many more German officers and men have been put out of commission or killed than on all the other anti-Hitler fronts taken together, where a struggle has been waged and is still being waged against Hitler.

On the Soviet-German front the picked divisions of the German-fascist armies, the flower of the Hitlerite troops, have been wiped out. The Soviet troops have thoroughly battered the Hitlerite war machine, which met no defeats in Western Europe. The blows of the Red Army have once and for all time dispelled the myth of the invincibility of the Hitlerite army, of the superiority of the much-vaunted German strategy and tactics and German weapons of war.

We consider it incorrect to underestimate the importance of the military operations being carried out by our Allies, the great importance of the numerous bombings of Germany by Anglo-American aircraft, and also the importance of the aid which the Allies afford us in war material and supplies. But, nevertheless, the fact remains that on the Libyan front the Allies were confronted by only four German divisions and some ten Italian; and in Sicily by only two divisions of German troops and a few Italian.

These figures are sufficient to indicate the actual scale of these operations as compared with those on the Soviet-German front, where in the summer of 1942 Hitler had 180 German divisions and about 60 divisions supplied by his allies. This year 200 German divisions and about 30 divisions of Hitler's allies are concentrated on the Soviet-German front.

What Is the Second Front?

All these figures point to the fact that the troops of our British and American Allies have not yet really come to grips with the troops of Hitlerite Germany, that the second front has not yet been established.

But what, in point of fact, is the second front? There is actually no need to enter into arguments with people who pretend not to understand what is implied in this term and who talk a lot about there already existing not only a second front, but even a third—and who even go to the length of talking about a fourth, fifth and sixth front, including the submarine front, the air front and so on. The British and American press have also aired utterances to the effect that the Allied air raids on German towns have practically taken the place of a second front.

By a second front in Europe, if considered in earnest, is meant a front, as Comrade Stalin pointed out in the autumn of 1942, which draws on itself, let

us say, 60 German divisions and about a score of the divisions of Germany's allies. When we talk about a second front we must remember that it is a question of such military operations of our Allies on the European continent as would force Hitlerite Germany to divide its available forces and move to the Western front one-third—or at any rate one-fourth—of its land troops.

Key to Victory in 1943

Hence it follows that the creation of a second front in Europe would radically change the situation and would immediately insure a big superiority of our forces over the Hitlerite army on the Soviet-German front. This would also mean that the opening of the second front would conclusively shorten the war and that the second front would be the key to victory over Hitler already in 1943.

After this, what is to be said for those who call the demand for the second front, and the profound sympathy for it apparent among the masses of the people of the Allied countries, nothing more than a striving for a cheap effect? We know that there exist many excuses to justify the postponement and protraction of the opening of a second front in Europe. What else are the arguments about the mythical Atlantic wall, about the allegedly insoluble problem of tonnage, about the risk of invasion?

Meanwhile, we know that the invincible Atlantic wall only exists in the imagination of those who want to believe these fabrications, and nowhere else. The much-loved argument about the shortage of tonnage has long ago lost any appearance of conviction, and has repeatedly been smashed by the figures published on the huge growth of shipbuilding in the Allied countries, particularly in America.

After the successful and very large landing of Allied troops and equipment in North Africa last year and after the brilliant successes of the landing operations in Sicily, a reference to the tonnage difficulties in carrying out a landing in Western Europe should have been relinquished. For a long time past all reference to tonnage has been merely in the nature of an excuse.

"Risks of Invasion"

As to the references concerning the risks of invasion which have been repeated for more years than one, in 1943 one cannot advance such arguments to an army which for over two years has shouldered the full brunt of the struggle against the Hitlerite war machine and

which has not hesitated before any sacrifices in the struggle against the common enemy.

Without doubt there are some public circles, though very few, who are not at all interested in a rapid termination of the war. But big State affairs obviously cannot be entrusted to such people—armament manufacturers, army caterers—whose first interests are not the wide masses of the people, people now groaning under the Hitlerite yoke in the occupied countries, but their own personal interests.

The bankruptcy of Italian fascism, which has been the center of events recently, illustrates not only the bankruptcy of Hitler's largest ally in Europe, although the process is not yet complete and various transformations are still taking place in the Italian theater. The events in Italy give a new and at the same time most powerful impetus to the military and political disintegration in the Hitlerite camp, which will help to finish once and for all with Hitler's striving for the domination of Europe, and put an end to his aspirations for world domination.

Shortening the War

For Hitlerite Germany there will be as yet unprecedented difficulties on the Soviet-German front, where the Red Army is inflicting on the enemy one powerful blow after another.

Sicily is on the eve of complete occupation by the Allies. Italy has no way out but complete capitulation. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that the brilliant successes of our Allies in the Mediterranean became possible primarily thanks to the two years' heroic struggle of the Red Army against the main forces of the common enemy and thanks to the most self-sacrificing, mighty pressure recently launched by our army along the whole Soviet-German front.

The question of the second front in Europe is of such great importance precisely because the question of whether or not the war will be allowed to drag out and more colossal sacrifices permitted depends on the solution of this problem. The opening of a second front in Europe in 1943 will mean that in the present favorable conditions, the anti-Hitlerite coalition will be filled with determination to end Hitlerite tyranny and the war imposed by Hitler, that the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition will not permit the war to drag on, will not allow further colossal sacrifices.

In this it will have the support of the tremendous forces of the people filled with an unswerving determination to finish now with accursed Hitler and extricate themselves from the Hitlerite-imposed war.

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75

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 1943

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

Today, September 15, after two days of violent fighting, the troops of the Central Front, continuing the offensive, captured the important railway junction and town of Nezhin—the most important German center of resistance on the way to Kiev.

In the fighting for Nezhin the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Chernyakhovsky and Major General Kozlov, tankists of the Guards under Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Korchagin, and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko. The following troops particularly distinguished themselves: The 280th Konotop Infantry Division under Major General Golosov, the 132nd Bakhmach Infantry Division under Major Gen-



SOVIET MOTORIZED INFANTRY MOVING UP TO THE FRONT

eral Shkrylov, the 24th Mechanized Brigade of Guards under Colonel Maksimov, the 25th Mechanized Brigade of Guards under Colonel Artamonov, the 26th Sevsk Mechanized Brigade of Guards under Major General Barinov, the 57th Tank Brigade of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Silov, the 299th Attack Air Division under Colonel Krupsky and the 286th Fighter Air Division under Colonel Ivanov.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Nezhin shall be conferred on the Seventh Mechanized Corps of Guards, the 24th Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the 25th Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the 57th Tank Brigade of Guards, the 299th Attack Air Division and the 286th Fighter Air Division who distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of Nezhin, and henceforth these formations shall be named:

The Seventh Nezhin Mechanized Corps of Guards, the 24th Nezhin Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the 25th Nezhin Mechanized Brigade of Guards, the 57th Nezhin Tank Brigade of Guards, the 299th Nezhin Attack Air Division, and the 286th Nezhin Fighter Air Division.

The 280th Konotop Infantry Division, the 132nd Bakhmach Infantry Division, and the 26th Sevsk Mechanized Brigade of Guards which distinguished themselves for the second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, September 15, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Nezhin—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which took part in the fighting for the liberation of Nezhin.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

GERMANS FOUGHT DESPERATELY FOR NEZHIN

KRASNAIA ZVEZDA, September 15.—On September 9 the troops of the Central Front captured the large railway junction and town of Bakhmach. Scarcely a week later our units scored another remarkable victory on the road to Kiev. Within six days our troops covered about 60 kilometers as the crow flies and captured the large railway junction and town of Nezhin, on the Moscow-Kiev railway, 126 kilometers from Kiev. Here the railway to Chernigov and Gomel branches off, and through Nezhin also passes an important trunkline connecting the northern part of our country with the south.

Situated in a marshy locality at the crossing of several highways and dirt roads, Nezhin played an important part in the German defense. The enemy attached great value to it, converting it into a well-fortified strongpoint. The German defenses here were based on four railway lines and water barriers. The almost impassable marshes were also used by the

Germans for strengthening their defense. All this reveals that the enemy, dislodged from Nezhin, has lost one of the most important centers of resistance on the road to Kiev.

The path covered by the troops of the Central Front from Bakhmach to Nezhin was marked by large-scale and fierce battles. The success of our troops of the Central Front is due, first of all, to the fact that they succeeded in splitting the German defense into separate sectors by driving several wedges into it. In this area the Germans have no uninterrupted defense line, and they now exert every effort to retain railways, highways and water barriers. They are especially stubborn in their resistance in some of the large inhabited localities which they have converted into centers of resistance.

The present situation in this sector of the front

(Continued on page four)

The Making of a Hero of the Soviet Union

Dmitri Ostapenko, Hero of the Soviet Union, was born and grew up in Zheltoe village in the Voroshilovgrad Region. Before the war he was a tractor driver on a local collective farm, and regularly fulfilled double the quota set for his work. Several times he was awarded bonuses for economy in fuel and careful maintenance of his machine. When the Germans attacked he volunteered for the Red Army, at the age of 18, and has done most of his fighting in his native Voroshilovgrad Region.

Asked about his fighting career, Ostapenko said: "I got my first wound in an engagement against German tanks. Our troops were holding the onslaught of a powerful enemy tank formation. Early in the morning, after fierce air bombing and a tremendous artillery barrage, the Germans hurled a large number of tanks into action. The monsters crawled out of the mist, spitting fire. Twenty of them were moving in my direction.

"I gripped my anti-tank rifle and waited. I thought—*How can my bullet pierce that chunk of steel?* When the leading tank was 150 meters away I took careful aim and fired. Sparks flew from the turret, but the machine came right on, and I fired again from 130 meters' distance. The tank stopped, thick black smoke pouring from it. While the other tanks were by-passing it, I fired as rapidly as possible at their fuel tanks and was able to destroy seven more. The enemy withdrew, but an hour later repeated the attack. This time I got five more tanks. When my ammunition and hand-grenades were exhausted I pulled out my revolver and began shooting. Then a bomb exploded close by, wounding me in the right ankle. A tank began ironing out the trench in which I was lying. My comrades thought I was dead, and I was left behind in territory occupied by the Germans.

"I hid in the steppe for five days. The pain from my foot was bad and I had nothing to eat. My brain got hazy and I no longer knew where I was. Finally, when I was about dead from exhaustion and loss

of blood, I was found by a German patrol only about 20 meters from my home village. The Nazis beat me up, took me to Sulin station and threw me into a barn with other Red Army men. The brutalities we endured are hard to describe. Beatings, cross-examinations and executions of war prisoners went on daily. We suffered extremely from the cold, because the Germans stripped us of everything they happened to want. They gave us only 200 grams of cooked millet a day for food.

"I decided to try to escape with the little strength I had left. My comrades helped me and during the night I managed to reach a cottage where a farm woman hid me in the cellar. Three days later I heard firing, then shouts. After that everything became quiet. Suddenly the woman called down joyously, 'Come up! The Red Army men are here!' I crawled out of the cellar and was invited to supper with our men. Soon they moved on and I was sent to a hospital."

For knocking out 13 German tanks, Ostapenko was made a Hero of the Soviet Union. But his career as a warrior had only begun. As soon as his wound healed he returned to the front. "It was when Soviet troops were liberating my birthplace," he continued, "that I got my second wound. I had killed a Nazi in the yard of my own home and opened the door to enter the house when another German hiding around a corner fired a bullet into my neck. But I recovered soon and went back into action. Now I'm back in the hospital with a third wound.

"My parents are still living, but my younger brother Vasili, who volunteered at the age of 17, was severely wounded in the Voroshilovgrad fighting and died in August in a Moscow hospital. My sister Natalya fell in action at Stalingrad. My brother Ivan is fighting as a tank destroyer and has received the Order of Lenin.

"Soon I'll leave for the front again, to take vengeance on the German invaders."

Surgeons of Leningrad Decorated

Over a hundred Leningrad Surgeons have been decorated with the "Defense of Leningrad" medal. Thousands of operations on Red Army men of the Leningrad front and on civilians wounded by shells and bombs were performed by them under the most difficult conditions.

A Soviet airman whose intestines were pierced in twenty places was operated on in an unheated hospital in midwinter. He had to be wrapped in blankets on the operating table. The nurses and surgeon in attendance wore fur coats under their white gowns. The only light was from a feeble kerosene lamp, over

which the surgeon had to hold his numbed hands for a long time to warm them before he could begin.

But the operation was successful, and the airman recovered to fight the Germans so well that he was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Professor Ivan Vinogradov, one of the most eminent of Leningrad's surgeons, 70 years old, himself chopped wood for the small portable iron stove with which he heated the operating room of his hospital, carried water and worked in the garden growing vegetables for his Red Army men patients.

Scientific Conference of Trained Nurses

By Dr. Nikolai Krainov

One of the Moscow hospitals is now holding its 28th Scientific Conference of Trained Nurses. Elena Ginsberg, a young nurse who assists at operations, is speaking. She isn't quite sure of herself—her voice trembles. She is shy before the large audience that fills the hall, but she gradually regains her poise and becomes more at ease.

Nurses and doctors listen attentively to the young nurse's talk on the use of plastic surgery in face and jaw wounds. Elena has been working as a nurse only a short time, but because of her innate ability has acquired much expert knowledge and is now an excellent nurse. She has read much in medicine. Her report is a profound study of the history, methods and technique of complicated operations. She goes on to speak of the duties of nurses attending jaw and face operations, passing on her experience and knowledge to younger nurses and beginners.

Olga Shlyakhtina, another trained nurse, next takes the floor. She speaks on bullet wounds and fractures and the treatment of them. She is followed by two young nurses, Ludviga Kovalevskaya and Paulina Volotina. At the outbreak of war they entered and finished the regular Red Cross and Crescent nurses' course. They dreamed of being sent to front-line positions, but were kept in the rear for hospital work, where general practitioners, surgeons and nurses with

years of experience in operating rooms spend much time and pains in teaching the newcomers. The hospital is their school. Young nurses working in Red Cross trains and ships also come to the hospitals for practice work.

The nurses make every effort to improve their care of the wounded. Nurse Maria Anpilogova, working with the well-known surgeon Academician Nikolai Burdenko, succeeded in eliminating all sound in the operating room, a condition which had heretofore seemed unattainable. Her methods are now being used in most hospitals.

Elena Ginsberg and Olga Shlyakhtina went through a course in theory in a hospital; now they will enter a medical institute.

After the conference I talked with Nikolai Vinogradov, Assistant People's Commissar of Health of the RSFSR, on the training of medical workers. He stated that in the RSFSR there are over 200 medical schools which train nurses and assistant doctors. In 1913 there were over 37,500 medical workers. Before the outbreak of the present war there were 460,000. Thousands of our men at the front owe their lives and health to them. Many of these medical workers have been decorated with Government orders and medals.

NEZHIN

(Continued from page two)

is the result of skilful application of the same tactics of maneuver which helped our troops to surround and completely annihilate the remnants of the four German infantry divisions south of Bakhmach. As a result of this brilliant operation, a large breach was formed in the German defense. Our troops immediately poured into it and advanced rapidly toward Nezhin.

By this time the Germans' Nezhin group found itself in a rather precarious position, since our troops also threatened it from the flanks. German units began to retreat along the Bakhmach-Nezhin road. The success of our troops at Nezhin was also due to the fact that they resorted to night operations on a wide scale.

At the near approaches to Nezhin our advancing forces encountered units of a German division just hurled into action straight from the march. Officers and men taken prisoner testified that this division

was ordered to retain Nezhin at any cost. But the position of these fresh forces was already very difficult.

In the northwest our units cut the Nezhin-Chernigov road, drove the Germans into the marshes east of the town and captured Kunashevka, five kilometers east of Nezhin. Last night the Germans made a desperate effort to unclasp the ring of our troops tightening around Nezhin. Two regiments of infantry with tanks were hurled into the counter-attack on Kunashevka. Our troops approaching from the west were also counter-attacked by large enemy forces, but they repulsed all these counter-attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

On the same evening Soviet aviation effected a powerful raid on enemy positions and when darkness fell repeated the raid. That night our troops broke into Nezhin and engaged the enemy in the streets. The town square was the center of German resistance. Red Army men approached it from various directions and carried it by storm. On September 15 Nezhin was cleared of the enemy.

OREL REGION DEVASTATED BY GERMANS

By Captain Liloyan

Practically all the villages in Khvastovichi District, Orel Region have been burned down and the greater part of the civilian population driven to German captivity during the 22 months of German occupation. In the village of Dolina, the Hitlerites burned 212 houses at the beginning of their occupation, and killed 286 women, children and old people. Many villages were razed to the ground, with the inhabitants perishing in the flames. Taras Kurbatov, 50-year-old chairman of the Molotov Collective Farm, was hanged. This happened in December, 1941. In Reseta, 80 houses were burned and over 165 persons killed. Mere children were snatched from their mothers' arms and flung into the flames. Gallows were set up in all the villages of Khvastovichi District.

Alexander and Maria Novikov and Mikhail Svidov, inhabitants of this district who escaped, state: "The Germans started wholesale robbery as soon as they occupied Khvastovichi on October 7, 1941. First they took away the cattle, fowls and all valu-

able personal goods. Then they drove the families from their homes and wouldn't let them take anything with them. Anyone who resisted was killed on the spot. More than 500 young people were forced to go to Germany and dozens of girls and young married women were sent to brothels in Orel and Bryansk. During the occupation all the local people between the ages of 12 and 60 were obliged to work from dawn till dark in lumber camps or on defense works. German Tommy gunners kept watch. Many people became sick from the cold and hunger and died.

"Corporal punishment was introduced in every village of the District. The Germans used rubber clubs—and used them unmercifully. The people were given 25 strokes for refusing to wear a tag bearing their number and village. They were also beaten if they happened to have relatives who were guerrillas. Oberleutnant Hotman gave Ulti Komova a terrible flogging with a rubber club because she is related to a guerrilla."



ON THE BRYANSK FRONT—Residents of one of the many hundreds of villages freed by the advancing Red Army return to their shattered homes. At the right is a disabled German gun

Radiophoto

When the Red Army dislodged the Germans from Orel Region the Hitlerite incendiaries burned down 18 out of 23 rural Soviet offices. All the premises belonging to 76 collective farms were destroyed by fire; 1,000 out of 1,300 houses belonging to collective farmers, workers and office workers were reduced to ashes. Inhabited places like Khvastovichi and Bresovka were razed to the ground. In one village, only 30 out of 500 houses remain; in Buyanovich, 550 out of 600 houses were burned. Not content with this, the Hitlerites blew up and set on fire the dugouts and pits where the homeless villagers had sought shelter. They also filled the wells. Four sawmills, one glass factory, flour mills and workers' housing developments were all reduced to ruins. Telegraph poles, all bridges and even small wooden foot-bridges were destroyed. Railway buildings and installations were blown up, and in three places rails were blown up.

The Germans wrecked 76 schools and 36 first aid stations and hospitals. They showed their contempt for the religion of the people by burning and blowing up 10 churches in their line of retreat, among them the ancient Russian church in Buyanovich. They poured gasoline over the rye fields and set the fields ablaze. Rye already stacked was burned too. Thus 500 hectares of grain was willfully destroyed.

During the occupation the Germans drove away from Khvastovichi about 1,000 head of cattle, 15,000 hogs, no fewer than 20,000 sheep and more than 100,000 fowls. They also wrecked beehives and apparatus on the collective farms. Simultaneously the German command issued orders for the local people to be driven to the rear. Very few of the population of 53,000 remained. Some inhabited places were left entirely deserted.

Newsreel of Battle for Orel

By Roman Grigoriev

A great effort is being made to record in documentary films all the most important stages of the Patriotic War. One of the latest war newsreels is the *Battle for Orel*. Filmed by 19 Soviet cameramen, it shows the collapse of the summer campaign of the Nazis and the liquidation of their Orel springboard.

The first scenes were taken on July 5 when the Germans, with large forces of tanks, infantry and planes, assumed the offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions, only to be flung back by Soviet troops who held firmly to their positions and repulsed one fierce assault after another. In those tense days newsreel cameramen were constantly in the advanced lines. They filmed the battles of artillery versus tanks, of infantrymen and sappers, mortarmen and anti-tank gunners. These varied scenes give a composite picture of the staunchness and stamina of the Red Army men, who not only brought the enemy to a halt, but launched a counter-attack.

The German soldier of the summer of 1943 is seen sitting beside his big gun, seized by Red Army men after a daring blow at an attacking enemy column. Thus the cameraman found him on the battlefield—hundreds of Nazi dead lying all around, and among them this one live German, with his head drooping. Yes, he has plenty to think about.

We see the Red Army offensive on the night of July 11—the artillery pounding away at the German defenses, forcing the enemy to cover, and behind this wall of fire the storm detachments of infantry advancing in close ranks. The blow dealt the enemy on land is coordinated with blows from the air. Enemy

airdromes are in flames, the earth rocks and trembles. The whole dynamic battle in all its intensity is shown in the film.

On the right wing, excellent shots were made of Soviet cavalry in action. With a daring maneuver the horsemen outflanked the enemy and broke into the German rear.

Closely pursuing the retreating enemy, Soviet tanks draw near Orel and Belgorod, and with the first tanks to enter Orel were the newsreel cameramen. Here in the film is a record of the operations, and step by step, with a skilful use of enlarged maps, a vivid pictorial description of liberated Orel: piles of rubble where once stood fine buildings—a dead and plundered town—the Germans in their retreat blowing up and burning the remaining buildings. Simultaneously the Red Army liberates Belgorod, finding the same picture of ruthless devastation. This city—before the war a prosperous Soviet center, beautiful with its trees, shrubbery and many flowers—is now desolate, devastated, only a few dozen inhabitants remaining.

But the Soviet flag waves on high again over Orel and Belgorod, and the camera records that joyous moment when the Command of the Red Army units which liberated Orel turns the town over to the civil authorities.

The film ends with shots of Moscow at night. Artillery salvos honor the gallant troops who freed the two cities. The salvos are followed by bursting rockets which illuminate the Soviet Capital and the rejoicing people, saluting the glorious victory of the Red Army.

AUGUST SPORTS REVIEW

By Leonid Hecker

Regional sports meets were held during August in Siberia, the Urals, the Far North and the Volga areas. The participation of a Stalingrad team lent particular interest to the Volga area meet. Most of the members of this team were among the defenders of the heroic Volga fortress city and are now active in restoring it. Athletes from Gorky captured the first place in the Volga area sports contest.

Athletic programs were held throughout the country for junior sportsmen, many of whom show great promise. In the Moscow schoolchildren's meet, Vladimir Pastukhov was a four-event star, winning the 10,000-meter sprint in 22:57.2 minutes, throwing a hand grenade 61.5 meters, putting the shot at 11.56 meters and topping the high jump at 165 centimeters.

Four Soviet records were shattered and one world record established during the month of August. Fedosia Vasilieva established a world record and one Soviet record in running. She covered 800 meters in 2:12 minutes, slicing 14 seconds off the world record set 10 years ago by Kubkova, the well-known middle-distance woman champion of Czechoslovakia. Vasilieva's new time for the 800-meter event is exceptional. A week later she broke the Soviet record for the 1,000-meter dash for women. Rain and wind made running difficult, but Vasilieva went through with the race and hung up a new record of 2:56 minutes. She passed the 800-meter mark in 2:20.8 minutes and sped to the tape to lower the former USSR record by two-tenths of a second.

Alexander Pugachevsky, crack middle-distance runner, likewise clipped two-tenths of a second off the previous USSR track record, taking 3:54.2 minutes for the 1,500-meter sprint. He had trained for sev-

eral months, and in one of his practice runs had covered the distance in the unofficial time of 3:53.4 seconds.

A fourth All-Union record was established by the Moscow swimming champion Vitali Ushakov. In a meet held on the Caspian Sea he won the 800-meter free style event, covering the distance in 10:43.2 seconds and lowering the previous record set by V. Kitayev of Leningrad in 1941 by 7.5 seconds. The present war has demonstrated the need for all Red Army men to be able to surmount river obstacles. Therefore Ushakov's new record is significant.

The highest number of goals in the history of matches for the Soviet Soccer Cup was scored in the final game in this year's tournament, played in Moscow between the Torpedo team and the Dynamos, the champion eleven of the country. Lagging behind at the half, the Torpedoes managed to bring their score up to make the game a 4-4 tie at the whistle. In an additional 30 minutes of play the Torpedoes scored another goal to take the cup. The final score of 5-4 is unusual for soccer finals.

August was a busy month for boxers seeking the Soviet heavyweight boxing title. In all, six heavyweight and middleweight matches were fought this month. The Soviet heavyweight champion, Nikolai Korolyov of Moscow, who was favored to retain the title, strained a ligament in his arm and dropped out. The new champion is Honored Master of Sports Eugene Ogurenkov, a middleweight weighing 72 kilograms—the first in the history of Soviet boxing to win an All-Union title. Eugene Ogurenkov has 116 bouts to his credit, of which he lost only three.

Swift Reconstruction of Liberated Areas

In accordance with the Soviet Government's decision on the rehabilitation of liberated districts, construction is being speeded in these areas. In the city of Serafimovich new apartment houses are going up, hospitals and polyclinics are functioning, the electric power station and water works have been restored and the House of Culture reopened.

Extensive restoration is in progress in the villages. The Cossack collective farmers have repaired thousands of houses and restored schools and village medical centers. New dwellings and public buildings are being constructed by the farmers of the liberated districts of the Smolensk Region with the help of the people of the Kuibyshev Region, who have "adopted"

this freed area. The Kuibyshev farmers have sent 1,000 horses, 4,000 head of cattle, 10,000 goats and 10,000 fowls to the Smolensk Region; also trainloads of construction materials, machine tools and instruments, household utensils and equipment for 25 machine and tractor stations.

Much aid is also going to liberated Kharkov. The people of the town of Barnaul, deep in Siberia, have collected money and materials for Kharkov citizens. The workers of the Barnaul Railway station have collected 95,000 rubles for them, and the local lumber trust has sent 10 carloads of timber for rebuilding the city.

Notes from Front and Rear

Soviet cavalry is cooperating with the infantry fighting in the difficult forest terrain on the Bryansk Front. One cavalry unit, having broken through the German defenses, struck at the flank of the retreating enemy. The cavalymen forced their way forward and then struck again at the Germans, this time from the rear. The demoralized enemy units suffered heavy losses. The cavalymen captured a group of populated places.

When the cavalymen come up against strongly fortified populated places or river banks, they do not attempt a direct assault. They penetrate in small groups into the depth of the enemy defense line, completely encircle the fortified positions and cut all communication lines. After the cavalry come the infantry units with their protecting artillery, who proceed to wipe out the encircled enemy.

★

Sixteen new pits, some of which will be producing before the end of this year, are to be sunk by the Tula Coal Trust, which controls part of the Moscow coal field. Ten pits of this field overfulfilled their five months' output plan by 60,000 tons and contributed the excess coal to the Special Defense Fund of the Supreme Command.

★

For courage and gallantry displayed in guerrilla warfare against the German-fascist invaders, 89 guerrillas of the Ukrainian Republic have been decorated by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

★

Siberian collective farmers are experimenting with deer as draft animals. Andrei Abanov, a Siberian collective farmer, has been very successful in training the animals for plowing, averaging six and a half acres a day.

★

The remains of an ancient castle have been discovered during excavations for the Farkhad Hydro-Electric Power Station in Uzbekistan, Soviet Central Asia. There are very rich remains of ceramic art in and near the castle dating back to the tenth century. The Academy of Sciences has sent a special expedition to the site.

The following statement was made by German war prisoner Walter Kranzmann: *When the Russians begin to fire, many soldiers poke their hands out of the trenches so as to get slightly wounded—a wound for the fatherland. Fifty per cent of the men in my company and in the regiment were elderly. Few had had more than two weeks' training in reserve battalions, after which they were conscripted in the total mobilization order. I was assigned to a machine gun, but as I did not know how to shoot I was made an ammunition carrier. None of us had hopes of coming out of Russia alive.*

★

Ten thousand amateur art circles are now participating in a great All-Union exhibit of amateur art organized by the Council of Trade Unions and the State Committee for Art Affairs.

More than 100 leading personalities in the Moscow art world assisting these amateurs include Moskvina, director of the famed Moscow Art Theater, Igor Moiseyev and V. G. Zakharov, choreographers of the Leningrad and Moscow Ballets; I. N. Bersenev, director of the Lenin Young Communist Theater, and others. Students of Moscow art schools and institutes are helping amateur groups in Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov and Stalingrad. A preliminary three-day review held in Irkutsk had over 300 participants in singing, dancing and musical contests.

★

For successful execution of the Government's assignments for the production of tanks and gun carriers, 364 workers of the tank industry have been decorated by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

★

Storehouses of ice, for preserving potatoes and vegetables, have been designed by Doctor of Technology Krylov, staff member of the Institute of Eternally Frozen Soil of the Academy of Sciences. Tests show that these storehouses reduce losses to less than one per cent per season. They can be cheaply and easily built, requiring in addition to ice only a small amount of lumber. A permanent temperature of from 0.5 to one degree below zero can be maintained in them.

Several storehouses of this type with capacities of from 100 to 1,000 tons have been tested in the USSR during the past three years. It is believed they can be effectively used in Canada, Alaska and the Scandinavian countries.

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75

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE LIBERATION OF BRYANSK AND BEZHITSA

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Popov:

Continuing to develop the offensive, troops of the Bryansk Front successfully forced the Desna River and today, September 17, with a simultaneous blow from the north and east, crushed the enemy's resistance and captured the most important German centers of resistance on this river, the large industrial centers of Bryansk and Bezhitsa. In the fighting for Bryansk and Bezhitsa, the 339th, 110th, 707th, 95th, 299th and 134th German Infantry Divisions were routed. Thus, as a result of a skilfully carried out flanking maneuver



The commander of a Soviet tank battalion explains an operation to his men

effected in difficult wooded and swampy terrain, the troops of the Bryansk Front forced a second breach in the Germans' defenses along the Desna River.

In the engagements during the forcing of the Desna River and for the possession of the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Fedyuninsky and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Naumenko. The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 197th Infantry Division under Lieutenant Colonel Abashev, the 323rd Infantry Division under Colonel Ukrainets, the Fourth Infantry Division under Colonel Vorobyev, the 273rd Infantry Division under Colonel Valyugin, the Third Fighter Air Division of Guards under Colonel Ukhov, the 313th Night Close-Range Bomber Air Division under Colonel Vovevodin, the 277th Engineers Battalion under Colonel Mamonov, the 140th Engineers-Sapper Battalion under Major Lisin, the 310th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kovchur and the 74th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Major Dzaridze.

To mark the victory achieved, the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the forcing of the Desna River and for the liberation of the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa: The name of Bryansk on the 197th Infantry Division, the 323rd Infantry Division, the Third Fighter Air Division of Guards, the 277th Engineers Battalion and the 140th Engineers-Sapper Battalion; and the name of Bezhitsa on the Fourth Infantry Division, the 273rd Infantry Division, the 313th Night Close-Range Bomber Air Division, the 310th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards and the 74th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, and henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 197th Bryansk Infantry Division, the 323rd Bryansk Infantry Division, the Third Bryansk Fighter Air Division of Guards, the 277th Bryansk Engineers Battalion, the 140th Bryansk Engineers-Sapper Battalion, the Fourth Bezhitsa Infantry Division, the 273rd Bezhitsa Infantry Division, the 313th Bezhitsa Night Close-Range Bomber Air Division, the 310th Bezhitsa Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards and the 74th Bezhitsa Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards.

For the successful forcing of the Desna River the Army Commander and also the commanders of the formations and units which distinguished themselves shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of Suvorov.

Today, September 17, at 9:30 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which successfully forced the Desna River and liberated the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting during the forcing of the Desna River and the liberation of the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 17, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE LIBERATION OF NOVOROSSISK

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Petrov and Vice-Admiral Vladimirsky:

Today, September 16, after five days of violent fighting, in the course of which the 73rd German Infantry Division, the Fourth and 101st German Mountain Infantry Divisions, the Fourth Rumanian Mountain Infantry Division and the port squads of the German Marine Infantry were routed, the troops of the North Caucasian Front in cooperation with ships and units of the Black Sea Fleet, as a result of a daring operation with a blow on land and the landing of troops from the sea, carried by storm the important Black Sea port and town of Novorossisk.

In the fighting for Novorossisk the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Leselidze, sailors under Rear Admiral Kholostyakov, and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Vershinin and Lieutenant General of Aviation Yermachenkov. The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 318th Infantry Division commanded by Colonel Brutsky, the 55th Irkutsk Infantry Division

of Guards named for the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, decorated with the Order of Lenin and three Orders of the Red Banner, commanded by Major General Arshintsev; The 83rd Red Banner Independent Marine Infantry Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Kozlov, the Fifth Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Aburankov, the 290th Independent Infantry Regiment of Troops of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs under Lieutenant Colonel Piskarev, the 393rd Independent Marine Infantry Battalion under Captain Lieutenant Botylev, the 11th Attack Air Division of the Black Sea Fleet Air Arm under Lieutenant Colonel Gubriy, the 88th Fighter Air Regiment of Guards under Major Maksimenko, the 889th Light Night Bomber Air Regiment under Major Bocharov, the Second Brigade of Torpedo Cutters under Captain of the Second Rank Protsenko, the First Red Banner Squadron of Patrol Cutters under Captain Lieutenant Klukhov, the Fourth Squadron of Patrol Cutters under Captain Lieutenant Sipyagin, the 81st Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Akhtyrchenko, the 69th Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Petrunya, the 169th Gun Artillery Regiment under Colonel Tarasov, the 108th Anti-tank Artillery Regiment under Major Vagnych, the 195th Mountain Pack Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ibanyan, the First Independent Artillery Battalion of Guards under Major Tushenko, the 251st Independent Mobile Artillery Battalion under Captain Soluyanov, the Eighth Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Makaryan.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Novorossisk shall be conferred on the following formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Novorossisk: The 318th Infantry Division, the 83rd Red Banner Independent Marine Infantry Brigade, the Fifth Tank Brigade of Guards, the 290th Independent Infantry Regiment of Troops of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs, the 393rd Independent Marine Infantry Battalion, the 11th Attack Air Division, the 88th Fighter Air Regiment of Guards, the 889th Light Night Bomber Air Regiment, the Second Brigade of Torpedo Cutters, the First Red Banner Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the Fourth Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the 81st Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 169th Gun Artillery Regiment, the 108th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 195th Mountain Pack Trench Mortar Regiment, the First Independent Artillery Battalion of Guards, the 251st Independent Mobile Artillery Battalion and the Eighth Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, and henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 318th Novorossisk Infantry Division, the 83rd Red Banner Novorossisk Independent Marine Infantry Brigade, the Fifth Novorossisk Tank Brigade of Guards, the 290th Novorossisk Independent Infantry Regiment of Troops of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs, the 393rd Independent Novorossisk Marine Infantry Battalion, the 11th Novorossisk Attack Air Division, the 88th Novorossisk Fighter Air Regiment of Guards, the 889th Novorossisk Light Night Bomber Air Regiment, the Second Novorossisk Brigade of Torpedo Cutters, the First Red Banner Novorossisk Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the Fourth Novorossisk Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the 81st Novorossisk Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 169th Novorossisk Gun Artillery Regiment, the 108th Novorossisk Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 195th Novorossisk Mountain Pack Trench Mortar Regiment, the First Novorossisk Independent Artillery Battalion of Guards, the 251st Novorossisk Independent Mobile Artillery Battalion and the Eighth Novorossisk Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards.

The 55th Irkutsk Infantry Division of Guards named for the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, decorated with the Order of Lenin and three Orders of the Red Banner, which more than once distinguished itself in fighting the enemies of our motherland, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of Suvorov of the Second Degree.

Today, September 16, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Novorossisk—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns. At the same time the ships of the Black Sea Fleet shall salute with 12 salvos the troops and ships which liberated the second base of the Black Sea Fleet—Novorossisk—from the German-fascist yoke.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Novorossisk.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 16, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF NOVGOROD-SEVERSKY

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

The troops of the Central Front, continuing the offensive, successfully forced the Desna River, and today, September 16, captured in fighting the town of Novgorod-Seversky, an important German center of resistance on this river. Thus the defenses on the western bank of the Desna River prepared beforehand by the Germans were pierced as a result of the skilful and determined actions of the troops of the Central Front.

In the fighting for the forcing of the Desna River and for the liberation of the town of Novgorod-Seversky, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Romanenko, Lieutenant General Batov and Lieutenant General Pukhov. In the fighting for Novgorod-Seversky, the following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 102nd Far Eastern Infantry Division under Major General Andreyev, the 140th Siberian Infantry Division under Major General Kiselev, the 162nd Infantry Division under Major General Senchilo, the 478th Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ostapenko, the 120th Anti-tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Dmitriev, the 94th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kovalenko, the 235th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment under Major Popov, the 14th Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Gaber, and the 321st Engineers-Sapper Battalion under Major Popov.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Novgorod-Seversky shall be conferred on the above formations and units and henceforth they shall be named: The 102nd Far Eastern Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 140th Siberian Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 162nd Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 478th Novgorod-Seversky Trench Mortar Regiment, the 120th Novgorod-Seversky Anti-tank Artillery Regiment, the 94th Novgorod-Seversky Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 235th Novgorod-Seversky Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment, the 14th Novgorod-Seversky Engineers-Sapper Brigade, and the 321st Novgorod-Seversky Engineers-Sapper Battalion.

In addition, in the fighting for forcing the Desna River the following troops distinguished themselves: The 69th Red Banner Sevsk Infantry Division under Major General Kuzovkov, the 37th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Ushakov, the 307th Infantry Division under Major General Yenshin, the 73rd Infantry Division under Major General Smirnov, the 137th Infantry Division under Major General Alferov, the Eighth Infantry Division under Colonel Gudz, the 74th Infantry Division under Major General Kazaryav, the Sixth Independent Artillery Regiment under Major Chichkan, the 1,168th Heavy Artillery Regiment under Major Ogarkov, the Sixth Independent Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Colonel Ostapov, the Seventh Storm Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Barash, the Ninth Independent Pontoon and Bridge Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel Shklyar, the 49th Independent Pontoon and Bridge Battalion under Major Pavlov and the 50th Independent Pontoon and Bridge Battalion under Major Fedorov. For the successful forcing of the Desna River the Army Commanders and also the commanders of the formations and units which distinguished themselves, shall be recommended for decoration with Orders of Suvorov.

Today, September 16, at 10:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which successfully forced the Desna River and liberated the town of Novgorod-Seversky—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting during the forcing of the Desna River and in the liberation of the town of Novgorod-Seversky.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 16, 1943

SOVIET INFANTRY ON THE OFFENSIVE

By Major Boris Korol

Soviet infantry is playing a leading role in the Red Army's offensive. This is due not only to its abundant armament and highly perfected tactics in general engagements—which infantry actions nowadays essentially are—but also to the situation prevailing at the front at the beginning of the summer offensive.

Having inflicted major defeats on the Germans during the winter, Soviet troops reached the regions which the Germans had seized in 1941, and in which they had therefore had plenty of time to create solid defensive positions. The Germans' Orel salient, for example, presented a complex system of numerous and successive defense zones. Besides strongly-fortified main defense lines, the Germans erected here a large number of intermediate defense lines based upon heavily fortified strongpoints, each line lying within a short distance of the last. These defenses are typical of the whole theater of war.

Germans Replenished Winter Losses

As we know, special methods had to be devised to break through the German defenses at Taganrog. It must also be borne in mind that as a result of the Red Army's winter victories the line of the front had been considerably shortened, but the total number of German divisions remained unchanged, as the enemy replenished his enormous losses with reserves transferred from the West. The entire mass of the German army was disposed in dense groups, each in close contact with the other. Naturally, under such circumstances the systematic coordination of all arms, with the infantry as axis, is essential in offensive operations. To be able to maneuver against a defense system built in great depth and in successive zones, a prime role must be assigned to the infantry. The infantry, moreover, must be thoroughly reliable, fired with offensive elan and perfectly trained to coordinate with artillery, tanks and aviation.

These qualities are being fully displayed by Soviet infantry in the operations now in progress. One cannot but be impressed by the extraordinary indefatigability shown by Soviet infantry commanders and men. At one stage of the battle for Orel, one infantry division massed during the night for an attack, and all the following day engaged in heated action, demolishing an enemy center of resistance. Then, without pause or rest, the division performed a night maneuver in a dense forest, reducing the enemy's strongpoints in the rear and annihilating his troops operating between these strongpoints. During the night the division fought its way forward 12 kilo-

meters and reached a river. In this battle the enemy division, which the German command had considered most adapted for forest fighting, was practically annihilated. Altogether this division advanced 150 kilometers as the crow flies, and if flank movements are taken into account, as much as 250 kilometers. Neither dust nor the hot sultry days could abate the ardor of the officers and men, although they were subjected to an intense physical and moral strain.

Some idea of this strain may be obtained from the following incident. Reaching the above-mentioned river, one battalion was counter-attacked simultaneously from the right flank and the rear—in the latter case by a group of German officers and non-coms who were trying to fight their way through to their main forces. Several times the battalion was involved in hand-to-hand fighting, but it repulsed all counter-attacks and with the help of the regimental commander's reserves finally annihilated the group of officers and non-coms. Fierce engagements such as these were not uncommon, as the Germans, who were often threatened with encirclement, fought with unusual ferocity.

The new linear formation and the constant coordination of artillery, tanks and aviation enable the infantry to maneuver with crushing effect. This, combined with the moral factor, explains the successes of Soviet infantry. While exploiting a break-through, one Soviet regiment by-passed a large enemy strongpoint based on a group of several villages and penetrated nine kilometers into the enemy position, demining the roads ahead of them and dragging their artillery behind. Realizing that their road to the south had been cut, the Germans undertook several counter-attacks supported by tanks and self-propelled guns. These were repulsed, after which the Soviet regiment, supported by two other regiments which had arrived from the north, attacked the strongpoint and carried it.

Soviet Aircraft Gives Powerful Support

It should be stated that never before has the air force cooperated so effectively with the infantry. During the operation for the break-through of a powerful intermediate position, Soviet aircraft hovered incessantly over the enemy lines for days on end. The infantry was likewise aided by masses of tanks.

The offensive power of Soviet infantry forms the basis for the complex actions of all arms, in the direction of which Soviet officers have already obtained considerable mastery.

Scientific Conference of Trained Nurses

By Dr. Nikolai Krainov

One of the Moscow hospitals is now holding its 28th Scientific Conference of Trained Nurses. Elena Ginsberg, a young nurse who assists at operations, is speaking. She isn't quite sure of herself—her voice trembles. She is shy before the large audience that fills the hall, but she gradually regains her poise and becomes more at ease.

Nurses and doctors listen attentively to the young nurse's talk on the use of plastic surgery in face and jaw wounds. Elena has been working as a nurse only a short time, but because of her innate ability has acquired much expert knowledge and is now an excellent nurse. She has read much in medicine. Her report is a profound study of the history, methods and technique of complicated operations. She goes on to speak of the duties of nurses attending jaw and face operations, passing on her experience and knowledge to younger nurses and beginners.

Olga Shlyakhtina, another trained nurse, next takes the floor. She speaks on bullet wounds and fractures and the treatment of them. She is followed by two young nurses, Ludviga Kovalevskaya and Paulina Volotina. At the outbreak of war they entered and finished the regular Red Cross and Crescent nurses' course. They dreamed of being sent to front-line positions, but were kept in the rear for hospital work, where general practitioners, surgeons and nurses with

years of experience in operating rooms spend much time and pains in teaching the newcomers. The hospital is their school. Young nurses working in Red Cross trains and ships also come to the hospitals for practice work.

The nurses make every effort to improve their care of the wounded. Nurse Maria Anpilogova, working with the well-known surgeon Academician Nikolai Burdenko, succeeded in eliminating all sound in the operating room, a condition which had heretofore seemed unattainable. Her methods are now being used in most hospitals.

Elena Ginsberg and Olga Shlyakhtina went through a course in theory in a hospital; now they will enter a medical institute.

After the conference I talked with Nikolai Vinogradov, Assistant People's Commissar of Health of the RSFSR, on the training of medical workers. He stated that in the RSFSR there are over 200 medical schools which train nurses and assistant doctors. In 1913 there were over 37,500 medical workers. Before the outbreak of the present war there were 460,000. Thousands of our men at the front owe their lives and health to them. Many of these medical workers have been decorated with Government orders and medals.

NEZHIN

(Continued from page two)

is the result of skilful application of the same tactics of maneuver which helped our troops to surround and completely annihilate the remnants of the four German infantry divisions south of Bakhmach. As a result of this brilliant operation, a large breach was formed in the German defense. Our troops immediately poured into it and advanced rapidly toward Nezhin.

By this time the Germans' Nezhin group found itself in a rather precarious position, since our troops also threatened it from the flanks. German units began to retreat along the Bakhmach-Nezhin road. The success of our troops at Nezhin was also due to the fact that they resorted to night operations on a wide scale.

At the near approaches to Nezhin our advancing forces encountered units of a German division just hurled into action straight from the march. Officers and men taken prisoner testified that this division

was ordered to retain Nezhin at any cost. But the position of these fresh forces was already very difficult.

In the northwest our units cut the Nezhin-Chernigov road, drove the Germans into the marshes east of the town and captured Kunashevka, five kilometers east of Nezhin. Last night the Germans made a desperate effort to unclasp the ring of our troops tightening around Nezhin. Two regiments of infantry with tanks were hurled into the counter-attack on Kunashevka. Our troops approaching from the west were also counter-attacked by large enemy forces, but they repulsed all these counter-attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

On the same evening Soviet aviation effected a powerful raid on enemy positions and when darkness fell repeated the raid. That night our troops broke into Nezhin and engaged the enemy in the streets. The town square was the center of German resistance. Red Army men approached it from various directions and carried it by storm. On September 15 Nezhin was cleared of the enemy.

OREL REGION DEVASTATED BY GERMANS

By Captain Liloyan

Practically all the villages in Khvastovichi District, Orel Region have been burned down and the greater part of the civilian population driven to German captivity during the 22 months of German occupation. In the village of Dolina, the Hitlerites burned 212 houses at the beginning of their occupation, and killed 286 women, children and old people. Many villages were razed to the ground, with the inhabitants perishing in the flames. Taras Kurbatov, 50-year-old chairman of the Molotov Collective Farm, was hanged. This happened in December, 1941. In Reseta, 80 houses were burned and over 165 persons killed. Mere children were snatched from their mothers' arms and flung into the flames. Gallows were set up in all the villages of Khvastovichi District.

Alexander and Maria Novikov and Mikhail Sviridov, inhabitants of this district who escaped, state: "The Germans started wholesale robbery as soon as they occupied Khvastovichi on October 7, 1941. First they took away the cattle, fowls and all valu-

able personal goods. Then they drove the families from their homes and wouldn't let them take anything with them. Anyone who resisted was killed on the spot. More than 500 young people were forced to go to Germany and dozens of girls and young married women were sent to brothels in Orel and Bryansk. During the occupation all the local people between the ages of 12 and 60 were obliged to work from dawn till dark in lumber camps or on defense works. German Tommy gunners kept watch. Many people became sick from the cold and hunger and died.

"Corporal punishment was introduced in every village of the District. The Germans used rubber clubs—and used them unmercifully. The people were given 25 strokes for refusing to wear a tag bearing their number and village. They were also beaten if they happened to have relatives who were guerrillas. Oberleutnant Hotman gave Ulti Komova a terrible flogging with a rubber club because she is related to a guerrilla."



ON THE BRYANSK FRONT—Residents of one of the many hundreds of villages freed by the advancing Red Army return to their shattered homes. At the right is a disabled German gun

Radiophoto

When the Red Army dislodged the Germans from Orel Region the Hitlerite incendiaries burned down 18 out of 23 rural Soviet offices. All the premises belonging to 76 collective farms were destroyed by fire; 1,000 out of 1,300 houses belonging to collective farmers, workers and office workers were reduced to ashes. Inhabited places like Khvastovichi and Bresovka were razed to the ground. In one village, only 30 out of 500 houses remain; in Buyanovichi, 550 out of 600 houses were burned. Not content with this, the Hitlerites blew up and set on fire the dugouts and pits where the homeless villagers had sought shelter. They also filled the wells. Four sawmills, one glass factory, flour mills and workers' housing developments were all reduced to ruins. Telegraph poles, all bridges and even small wooden foot-bridges were destroyed. Railway buildings and installations were blown up, and in three places rails were blown up.

The Germans wrecked 76 schools and 36 first aid stations and hospitals. They showed their contempt for the religion of the people by burning and blowing up 10 churches in their line of retreat, among them the ancient Russian church in Buyanovichi. They poured gasoline over the rye fields and set the fields ablaze. Rye already stacked was burned too. Thus 500 hectares of grain was willfully destroyed.

During the occupation the Germans drove away from Khvastovichi about 1,000 head of cattle, 15,000 hogs, no fewer than 20,000 sheep and more than 100,000 fowls. They also wrecked beehives and apparatus on the collective farms. Simultaneously the German command issued orders for the local people to be driven to the rear. Very few of the population of 53,000 remained. Some inhabited places were left entirely deserted.

Newsreel of Battle for Orel

By Roman Grigoriev

A great effort is being made to record in documentary films all the most important stages of the Patriotic War. One of the latest war newsreels is the *Battle for Orel*. Filmed by 19 Soviet cameramen, it shows the collapse of the summer campaign of the Nazis and the liquidation of their Orel springboard.

The first scenes were taken on July 5 when the Germans, with large forces of tanks, infantry and planes, assumed the offensive in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod directions, only to be flung back by Soviet troops who held firmly to their positions and repulsed one fierce assault after another. In those tense days newsreel cameramen were constantly in the advanced lines. They filmed the battles of artillery versus tanks, of infantrymen and sappers, mortarmen and anti-tank gunners. These varied scenes give a composite picture of the staunchness and stamina of the Red Army men, who not only brought the enemy to a halt, but launched a counter-attack.

The German soldier of the summer of 1943 is seen sitting beside his big gun, seized by Red Army men after a daring blow at an attacking enemy column. Thus the cameraman found him on the battlefield—hundreds of Nazi dead lying all around, and among them this one live German, with his head drooping. Yes, he has plenty to think about.

We see the Red Army offensive on the night of July 11—the artillery pounding away at the German defenses, forcing the enemy to cover, and behind this wall of fire the storm detachments of infantry advancing in close ranks. The blow dealt the enemy on land is coordinated with blows from the air. Enemy

airdromes are in flames, the earth rocks and trembles. The whole dynamic battle in all its intensity is shown in the film.

On the right wing, excellent shots were made of Soviet cavalry in action. With a daring maneuver the horsemen outflanked the enemy and broke into the German rear.

Closely pursuing the retreating enemy, Soviet tanks draw near Orel and Belgorod, and with the first tanks to enter Orel were the newsreel cameramen. Here in the film is a record of the operations, and step by step, with a skilful use of enlarged maps, a vivid pictorial description of liberated Orel: piles of rubble where once stood fine buildings—a dead and plundered town—the Germans in their retreat blowing up and burning the remaining buildings. Simultaneously the Red Army liberates Belgorod, finding the same picture of ruthless devastation. This city—before the war a prosperous Soviet center, beautiful with its trees, shrubbery and many flowers—is now desolate, devastated, only a few dozen inhabitants remaining.

But the Soviet flag waves on high again over Orel and Belgorod, and the camera records that joyous moment when the Command of the Red Army units which liberated Orel turns the town over to the civil authorities.

The film ends with shots of Moscow at night. Artillery salvos honor the gallant troops who freed the two cities. The salvos are followed by bursting rockets which illuminate the Soviet Capital and the rejoicing people, saluting the glorious victory of the Red Army.

AUGUST SPORTS REVIEW

By Leonid Hecker

Regional sports meets were held during August in Siberia, the Urals, the Far North and the Volga areas. The participation of a Stalingrad team lent particular interest to the Volga area meet. Most of the members of this team were among the defenders of the heroic Volga fortress city and are now active in restoring it. Athletes from Gorky captured the first place in the Volga area sports contest.

Athletic programs were held throughout the country for junior sportsmen, many of whom show great promise. In the Moscow schoolchildren's meet, Vladimir Pastukhov was a four-event star, winning the 10,000-meter sprint in 22:57.2 minutes, throwing a hand grenade 61.5 meters, putting the shot at 11.56 meters and topping the high jump at 165 centimeters.

Four Soviet records were shattered and one world record established during the month of August. Fedosia Vasilieva established a world record and one Soviet record in running. She covered 800 meters in 2:12 minutes, slicing 14 seconds off the world record set 10 years ago by Kubkova, the well-known middle-distance woman champion of Czechoslovakia. Vasilieva's new time for the 800-meter event is exceptional. A week later she broke the Soviet record for the 1,000-meter dash for women. Rain and wind made running difficult, but Vasilieva went through with the race and hung up a new record of 2:56 minutes. She passed the 800-meter mark in 2:20.8 minutes and sped to the tape to lower the former USSR record by two-tenths of a second.

Alexander Pugachevsky, crack middle-distance runner, likewise clipped two-tenths of a second off the previous USSR track record, taking 3:54.2 minutes for the 1,500-meter sprint. He had trained for sev-

eral months, and in one of his practice runs had covered the distance in the unofficial time of 3:53.4 seconds.

A fourth All-Union record was established by the Moscow swimming champion Vitali Ushakov. In a meet held on the Caspian Sea he won the 800-meter free style event, covering the distance in 10:43.2 seconds and lowering the previous record set by V. Kitayev of Leningrad in 1941 by 7.5 seconds. The present war has demonstrated the need for all Red Army men to be able to surmount river obstacles. Therefore Ushakov's new record is significant.

The highest number of goals in the history of matches for the Soviet Soccer Cup was scored in the final game in this year's tournament, played in Moscow between the Torpedo team and the Dynamos, the champion eleven of the country. Lagging behind at the half, the Torpedoes managed to bring their score up to make the game a 4-4 tie at the whistle. In an additional 30 minutes of play the Torpedoes scored another goal to take the cup. The final score of 5-4 is unusual for soccer finals.

August was a busy month for boxers seeking the Soviet heavyweight boxing title. In all, six heavyweight and middleweight matches were fought this month. The Soviet heavyweight champion, Nikolai Korolyov of Moscow, who was favored to retain the title, strained a ligament in his arm and dropped out. The new champion is Honored Master of Sports Eugene Ogurenkov, a middleweight weighing 72 kilograms—the first in the history of Soviet boxing to win an All-Union title. Eugene Ogurenkov has 116 bouts to his credit, of which he lost only three.

Swift Reconstruction of Liberated Areas

In accordance with the Soviet Government's decision on the rehabilitation of liberated districts, construction is being speeded in these areas. In the city of Serafimovich new apartment houses are going up, hospitals and polyclinics are functioning, the electric power station and water works have been restored and the House of Culture reopened.

Extensive restoration is in progress in the villages. The Cossack collective farmers have repaired thousands of houses and restored schools and village medical centers. New dwellings and public buildings are being constructed by the farmers of the liberated districts of the Smolensk Region with the help of the people of the Kuibyshev Region, who have "adopted"

this freed area. The Kuibyshev farmers have sent 1,000 horses, 4,000 head of cattle, 10,000 goats and 10,000 fowls to the Smolensk Region; also trainloads of construction materials, machine tools and instruments, household utensils and equipment for 25 machine and tractor stations.

Much aid is also going to liberated Kharkov. The people of the town of Barnaul, deep in Siberia, have collected money and materials for Kharkov citizens. The workers of the Barnaul Railway station have collected 95,000 rubles for them, and the local lumber trust has sent 10 carloads of timber for rebuilding the city.

Notes from Front and Rear

Soviet cavalry is cooperating with the infantry fighting in the difficult forest terrain on the Bryansk Front. One cavalry unit, having broken through the German defenses, struck at the flank of the retreating enemy. The cavalymen forced their way forward and then struck again at the Germans, this time from the rear. The demoralized enemy units suffered heavy losses. The cavalymen captured a group of populated places.

When the cavalymen come up against strongly fortified populated places or river banks, they do not attempt a direct assault. They penetrate in small groups into the depth of the enemy defense line, completely encircle the fortified positions and cut all communication lines. After the cavalry come the infantry units with their protecting artillery, who proceed to wipe out the encircled enemy.

★

Sixteen new pits, some of which will be producing before the end of this year, are to be sunk by the Tula Coal Trust, which controls part of the Moscow coal field. Ten pits of this field overfulfilled their five months' output plan by 60,000 tons and contributed the excess coal to the Special Defense Fund of the Supreme Command.

★

For courage and gallantry displayed in guerrilla warfare against the German-fascist invaders, 89 guerrillas of the Ukrainian Republic have been decorated by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

★

Siberian collective farmers are experimenting with deer as draft animals. Andrei Abanov, a Siberian collective farmer, has been very successful in training the animals for plowing, averaging six and a half acres a day.

★

The remains of an ancient castle have been discovered during excavations for the Farkhad Hydro-Electric Power Station in Uzbekistan, Soviet Central Asia. There are very rich remains of ceramic art in and near the castle dating back to the tenth century. The Academy of Sciences has sent a special expedition to the site.

The following statement was made by German war prisoner Walter Kranzmann: *When the Russians begin to fire, many soldiers poke their hands out of the trenches so as to get slightly wounded—a wound for the fatherland. Fifty per cent of the men in my company and in the regiment were elderly. Few had had more than two weeks' training in reserve battalions, after which they were conscripted in the total mobilization order. I was assigned to a machine gun, but as I did not know how to shoot I was made an ammunition carrier. None of us had hopes of coming out of Russia alive.*

★

Ten thousand amateur art circles are now participating in a great All-Union exhibit of amateur art organized by the Council of Trade Unions and the State Committee for Art Affairs.

More than 100 leading personalities in the Moscow art world assisting these amateurs include Moskvina, director of the famed Moscow Art Theater, Igor Moiseyev and V. G. Zakharov, choreographers of the Leningrad and Moscow Ballets; I. N. Bersenev, director of the Lenin Young Communist Theater, and others. Students of Moscow art schools and institutes are helping amateur groups in Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov and Stalingrad. A preliminary three-day review held in Irkutsk had over 300 participants in singing, dancing and musical contests.

★

For successful execution of the Government's assignments for the production of tanks and gun carriers, 364 workers of the tank industry have been decorated by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

★

Storehouses of ice, for preserving potatoes and vegetables, have been designed by Doctor of Technology Krylov, staff member of the Institute of Eternally Frozen Soil of the Academy of Sciences. Tests show that these storehouses reduce losses to less than one per cent per season. They can be cheaply and easily built, requiring in addition to ice only a small amount of lumber. A permanent temperature of from 0.5 to one degree below zero can be maintained in them.

Several storehouses of this type with capacities of from 100 to 1,000 tons have been tested in the USSR during the past three years. It is believed they can be effectively used in Canada, Alaska and the Scandinavian countries.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE LIBERATION OF BRYANSK AND BEZHITSA

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Popov:

Continuing to develop the offensive, troops of the Bryansk Front successfully forced the Desna River and today, September 17, with a simultaneous blow from the north and east, crushed the enemy's resistance and captured the most important German centers of resistance on this river, the large industrial centers of Bryansk and Bezhitsa. In the fighting for Bryansk and Bezhitsa, the 339th, 110th, 707th, 95th, 299th and 134th German Infantry Divisions were routed. Thus, as a result of a skilfully carried out flanking maneuver



The commander of a Soviet tank battalion explains an operation to his men

effected in difficult wooded and swampy terrain, the troops of the Bryansk Front forced a second breach in the Germans' defenses along the Desna River.

In the engagements during the forcing of the Desna River and for the possession of the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Fedyuninsky and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Naumenko. The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 197th Infantry Division under Lieutenant Colonel Abashev, the 323rd Infantry Division under Colonel Ukrainets, the Fourth Infantry Division under Colonel Vorobyev, the 273rd Infantry Division under Colonel Valyugin, the Third Fighter Air Division of Guards under Colonel Ukhov, the 313th Night Close-Range Bomber Air Division under Colonel Vovevodin, the 277th Engineers Battalion under Colonel Mamonov, the 140th Engineers-Sapper Battalion under Major Lisin, the 310th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kovchur and the 74th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Major Dzaridze.

To mark the victory achieved, the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the forcing of the Desna River and for the liberation of the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa: The name of Bryansk on the 197th Infantry Division, the 323rd Infantry Division, the Third Fighter Air Division of Guards, the 277th Engineers Battalion and the 140th Engineers-Sapper Battalion; and the name of Bezhitsa on the Fourth Infantry Division, the 273rd Infantry Division, the 313th Night Close-Range Bomber Air Division, the 310th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards and the 74th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, and henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 197th Bryansk Infantry Division, the 323rd Bryansk Infantry Division, the Third Bryansk Fighter Air Division of Guards, the 277th Bryansk Engineers Battalion, the 140th Bryansk Engineers-Sapper Battalion, the Fourth Bezhitsa Infantry Division, the 273rd Bezhitsa Infantry Division, the 313th Bezhitsa Night Close-Range Bomber Air Division, the 310th Bezhitsa Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards and the 74th Bezhitsa Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards.

For the successful forcing of the Desna River the Army Commander and also the commanders of the formations and units which distinguished themselves shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of Suvorov.

Today, September 17, at 9:30 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which successfully forced the Desna River and liberated the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting during the forcing of the Desna River and the liberation of the towns of Bryansk and Bezhitsa.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 17, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF NOVOROSSISK

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Petrov and Vice-Admiral Vladimirsky:

Today, September 16, after five days of violent fighting, in the course of which the 73rd German Infantry Division, the Fourth and 101st German Mountain Infantry Divisions, the Fourth Rumanian Mountain Infantry Division and the port squads of the German Marine Infantry were routed, the troops of the North Caucasian Front in cooperation with ships and units of the Black Sea Fleet, as a result of a daring operation with a blow on land and the landing of troops from the sea, carried by storm the important Black Sea port and town of Novorossisk.

In the fighting for Novorossisk the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Leselidze, sailors under Rear Admiral Kholostyakov, and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Vershinin and Lieutenant General of Aviation Yermachenkov. The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 318th Infantry Division commanded by Colonel Brutsky, the 55th Irkutsk Infantry Division

of Guards named for the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, decorated with the Order of Lenin and three Orders of the Red Banner, commanded by Major General Arshintsev; The 83rd Red Banner Independent Marine Infantry Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Kozlov, the Fifth Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Aburankov, the 290th Independent Infantry Regiment of Troops of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs under Lieutenant Colonel Piskarev, the 393rd Independent Marine Infantry Battalion under Captain Lieutenant Botylev, the 11th Attack Air Division of the Black Sea Fleet Air Arm under Lieutenant Colonel Gubriy, the 88th Fighter Air Regiment of Guards under Major Maksimenko, the 889th Light Night Bomber Air Regiment under Major Bocharov, the Second Brigade of Torpedo Cutters under Captain of the Second Rank Protsenko, the First Red Banner Squadron of Patrol Cutters under Captain Lieutenant Klukhov, the Fourth Squadron of Patrol Cutters under Captain Lieutenant Sipyagin, the 81st Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Akhtyrchenko, the 69th Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Petrunya, the 169th Gun Artillery Regiment under Colonel Tarasov, the 108th Anti-tank Artillery Regiment under Major Vagnych, the 195th Mountain Pack Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ibanyan, the First Independent Artillery Battalion of Guards under Major Tushenko, the 251st Independent Mobile Artillery Battalion under Captain Soluyanov, the Eighth Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Makaryan.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Novorossisk shall be conferred on the following formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Novorossisk: The 318th Infantry Division, the 83rd Red Banner Independent Marine Infantry Brigade, the Fifth Tank Brigade of Guards, the 290th Independent Infantry Regiment of Troops of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs, the 393rd Independent Marine Infantry Battalion, the 11th Attack Air Division, the 88th Fighter Air Regiment of Guards, the 889th Light Night Bomber Air Regiment, the Second Brigade of Torpedo Cutters, the First Red Banner Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the Fourth Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the 81st Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 169th Gun Artillery Regiment, the 108th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 195th Mountain Pack Trench Mortar Regiment, the First Independent Artillery Battalion of Guards, the 251st Independent Mobile Artillery Battalion and the Eighth Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, and henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 318th Novorossisk Infantry Division, the 83rd Red Banner Novorossisk Independent Marine Infantry Brigade, the Fifth Novorossisk Tank Brigade of Guards, the 290th Novorossisk Independent Infantry Regiment of Troops of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs, the 393rd Independent Novorossisk Marine Infantry Battalion, the 11th Novorossisk Attack Air Division, the 88th Novorossisk Fighter Air Regiment of Guards, the 889th Novorossisk Light Night Bomber Air Regiment, the Second Novorossisk Brigade of Torpedo Cutters, the First Red Banner Novorossisk Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the Fourth Novorossisk Squadron of Patrol Cutters, the 81st Novorossisk Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 169th Novorossisk Gun Artillery Regiment, the 108th Novorossisk Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 195th Novorossisk Mountain Pack Trench Mortar Regiment, the First Novorossisk Independent Artillery Battalion of Guards, the 251st Novorossisk Independent Mobile Artillery Battalion and the Eighth Novorossisk Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards.

The 55th Irkutsk Infantry Division of Guards named for the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, decorated with the Order of Lenin and three Orders of the Red Banner, which more than once distinguished itself in fighting the enemies of our motherland, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of Suvorov of the Second Degree.

Today, September 16, at 8:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Novorossisk—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns. At the same time the ships of the Black Sea Fleet shall salute with 12 salvos the troops and ships which liberated the second base of the Black Sea Fleet—Novorossisk—from the German-fascist yoke.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Novorossisk.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 16, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF NOVGOROD-SEVERSKY

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

The troops of the Central Front, continuing the offensive, successfully forced the Desna River, and today, September 16, captured in fighting the town of Novgorod-Seversky, an important German center of resistance on this river. Thus the defenses on the western bank of the Desna River prepared beforehand by the Germans were pierced as a result of the skilful and determined actions of the troops of the Central Front.

In the fighting for the forcing of the Desna River and for the liberation of the town of Novgorod-Seversky, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Romanenko, Lieutenant General Batov and Lieutenant General Pukhov. In the fighting for Novgorod-Seversky, the following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 102nd Far Eastern Infantry Division under Major General Andreyev, the 140th Siberian Infantry Division under Major General Kiselev, the 162nd Infantry Division under Major General Senchilo, the 478th Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ostapenko, the 120th Anti-tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Dmitriev, the 94th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kovalenko, the 235th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment under Major Popov, the 14th Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Gaber, and the 321st Engineers-Sapper Battalion under Major Popov.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Novgorod-Seversky shall be conferred on the above formations and units and henceforth they shall be named: The 102nd Far Eastern Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 140th Siberian Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 162nd Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 478th Novgorod-Seversky Trench Mortar Regiment, the 120th Novgorod-Seversky Anti-tank Artillery Regiment, the 94th Novgorod-Seversky Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 235th Novgorod-Seversky Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment, the 14th Novgorod-Seversky Engineers-Sapper Brigade, and the 321st Novgorod-Seversky Engineers-Sapper Battalion.

In addition, in the fighting for forcing the Desna River the following troops distinguished themselves: The 69th Red Banner Sevsk Infantry Division under Major General Kuzovkov, the 37th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Ushakov, the 307th Infantry Division under Major General Yenshin, the 73rd Infantry Division under Major General Smirnov, the 137th Infantry Division under Major General Alferov, the Eighth Infantry Division under Colonel Gudz, the 74th Infantry Division under Major General Kazaryav, the Sixth Independent Artillery Regiment under Major Chichkan, the 1,168th Heavy Artillery Regiment under Major Ogarkov, the Sixth Independent Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Colonel Ostapov, the Seventh Storm Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Barash, the Ninth Independent Pontoon and Bridge Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel Shklyar, the 49th Independent Pontoon and Bridge Battalion under Major Pavlov and the 50th Independent Pontoon and Bridge Battalion under Major Fedorov. For the successful forcing of the Desna River the Army Commanders and also the commanders of the formations and units which distinguished themselves, shall be recommended for decoration with Orders of Suvorov.

Today, September 16, at 10:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which successfully forced the Desna River and liberated the town of Novgorod-Seversky—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting during the forcing of the Desna River and in the liberation of the town of Novgorod-Seversky.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 16, 1943

SOVIET INFANTRY ON THE OFFENSIVE

By Major Boris Korol

Soviet infantry is playing a leading role in the Red Army's offensive. This is due not only to its abundant armament and highly perfected tactics in general engagements—which infantry actions nowadays essentially are—but also to the situation prevailing at the front at the beginning of the summer offensive.

Having inflicted major defeats on the Germans during the winter, Soviet troops reached the regions which the Germans had seized in 1941, and in which they had therefore had plenty of time to create solid defensive positions. The Germans' Orel salient, for example, presented a complex system of numerous and successive defense zones. Besides strongly-fortified main defense lines, the Germans erected here a large number of intermediate defense lines based upon heavily fortified strongpoints, each line lying within a short distance of the last. These defenses are typical of the whole theater of war.

Germans Replenished Winter Losses

As we know, special methods had to be devised to break through the German defenses at Taganrog. It must also be borne in mind that as a result of the Red Army's winter victories the line of the front had been considerably shortened, but the total number of German divisions remained unchanged, as the enemy replenished his enormous losses with reserves transferred from the West. The entire mass of the German army was disposed in dense groups, each in close contact with the other. Naturally, under such circumstances the systematic coordination of all arms, with the infantry as axis, is essential in offensive operations. To be able to maneuver against a defense system built in great depth and in successive zones, a prime role must be assigned to the infantry. The infantry, moreover, must be thoroughly reliable, fired with offensive elan and perfectly trained to coordinate with artillery, tanks and aviation.

These qualities are being fully displayed by Soviet infantry in the operations now in progress. One cannot but be impressed by the extraordinary indefatigability shown by Soviet infantry commanders and men. At one stage of the battle for Orel, one infantry division massed during the night for an attack, and all the following day engaged in heated action, demolishing an enemy center of resistance. Then, without pause or rest, the division performed a night maneuver in a dense forest, reducing the enemy's strongpoints in the rear and annihilating his troops operating between these strongpoints. During the night the division fought its way forward 12 kilo-

meters and reached a river. In this battle the enemy division, which the German command had considered most adapted for forest fighting, was practically annihilated. Altogether this division advanced 150 kilometers as the crow flies, and if flank movements are taken into account, as much as 250 kilometers. Neither dust nor the hot sultry days could abate the ardor of the officers and men, although they were subjected to an intense physical and moral strain.

Some idea of this strain may be obtained from the following incident. Reaching the above-mentioned river, one battalion was counter-attacked simultaneously from the right flank and the rear—in the latter case by a group of German officers and non-coms who were trying to fight their way through to their main forces. Several times the battalion was involved in hand-to-hand fighting, but it repulsed all counter-attacks and with the help of the regimental commander's reserves finally annihilated the group of officers and non-coms. Fierce engagements such as these were not uncommon, as the Germans, who were often threatened with encirclement, fought with unusual ferocity.

The new linear formation and the constant coordination of artillery, tanks and aviation enable the infantry to maneuver with crushing effect. This, combined with the moral factor, explains the successes of Soviet infantry. While exploiting a break-through, one Soviet regiment by-passed a large enemy strongpoint based on a group of several villages and penetrated nine kilometers into the enemy position, demining the roads ahead of them and dragging their artillery behind. Realizing that their road to the south had been cut, the Germans undertook several counter-attacks supported by tanks and self-propelled guns. These were repulsed, after which the Soviet regiment, supported by two other regiments which had arrived from the north, attacked the strongpoint and carried it.

Soviet Aircraft Gives Powerful Support

It should be stated that never before has the air force cooperated so effectively with the infantry. During the operation for the break-through of a powerful intermediate position, Soviet aircraft hovered incessantly over the enemy lines for days on end. The infantry was likewise aided by masses of tanks.

The offensive power of Soviet infantry forms the basis for the complex actions of all arms, in the direction of which Soviet officers have already obtained considerable mastery.

TWO YEARS IN GERMAN CAPTIVITY

By Vladimir Shestakov

Parish Priest of the village of Bely Kolodez, Orel Region

Following is the statement of this venerable monk, 91 years of age, who for two years was a witness of German outrages against the Soviet civilian population, and who was himself subjected to insult and brutality:

I have lived a long time in the world, but never have I seen any people so brutal and hard-hearted as the Germans. They are the devil's offspring from hell. They not only kill the body—they torment the soul, mock at faith, and bring honor and human dignity to shame.

The Germans robbed our villagers, took their clothing, boots, bread and potatoes, devoured their sheep, pigs and fowls. In two or three days they reduced the well-to-do Soviet people to beggary. A free, happy people were made slaves, deprived of all human rights. All the inhabitants of Bely Kolodez—myself included—were given arm bands with num-

bers and forced to wear them under pain of death. We had to go about like branded convicts; from that day I had no name—I was only number 23.

Children Brutally Beaten

For not washing the German officers' clothes clean enough, Tanya Makeyeva, a girl of 14, was beaten before my eyes until the blood ran. She became deaf from a blow over her ear with a club. Pelageya Bychkova's two-year-old child took candy from a German soldier's table. The child was grabbed by the arm and flung into the streets like a puppy, and his mother found him in the snow with his little arm dislocated. In the village of Probuzhdeniye, three soldiers violated collective farm women in broad daylight.

Last winter when the Germans were driving war prisoners through the district our people saw them



A church in the village of Pushkarnoye, Kursk Region, wrecked by the Germans

stab or shoot Red Army men who lagged behind or fell from exhaustion. In the neighboring villages of Anafino and Tiganovo, the Germans shot or hanged 68 men, women and adolescents in two years. Two boys of 14 and 12 years, Nikolai Chernyshev and Alexander Borisov, left work in Deshkino to go to relatives in Rozhinsk. They were caught, cruelly beaten and forced to work until night, when both were killed.

One evening Nadezhda Nikolayeva, a collective farm woman from our village, went for water to a well about 30 meters from her house. When she returned the German patrol shot her in front of her own home, because she had broken the rule forbidding people to go in the streets at night. Nikolayeva left four small children. All of them died of starvation. Not long ago Maria Pankova, a sick woman, was hanged by the Germans for hiding potatoes.

In the village of Shumovo, a drunken German soldier entered the house of collective farm woman Trifonova, and although her husband and 70-year-old mother were present, annoyed her with most disgusting suggestions. She pushed the bandit away, saying, "Take your ugly German face out of here," whereupon he shot both her and her husband, killing her and seriously wounding her husband. With deepest sorrow I buried this poor victim of German license.

Germans Burn Village Church

Nothing is sacred to the Germans. They burned down our village church, and old as I am, and a priest, they mocked and maltreated me as heartlessly as they did all Russians. I was living in collective farmer Bychkov's house in Bely Kolodez. Last winter the Germans drove us out—Anastasia Bychkova, her little child and me. In my old age I was forced to seek shelter in barns and dugouts.

Once I spent the night in a house in Probuzhdeniye. Two officers entered while I was asleep and roughly threw me out of bed. They lay down in my place and ordered me to stand guard like a sentry at the head of the bed. When I told them I was a priest they burst out laughing, saying in Russian, "That's fine—you can preserve us from the devil. Stand there and don't move, or you'll get a bullet in your belly."

Another time I was called to officiate at a funeral in Anafino. Quite a number of people had gathered in the house. Suddenly I noticed under an ikon in a corner a portrait of that bloody hangman, Hitler. It roused my wrath to see such sacrilege. I tore the picture down and flung it into the fire in the stove. Someone reported to the German authorities that I had burned the picture.

That night the police seized me and threw me into a deep, dark cellar. Each day they dragged me out

to interrogate me, threatening to torture and shoot me if I did not confess. Then, sinner that I am, I was tempted to lie and said that Hitler's portrait had been blown off the table into the stove. Still they kept me for six days without food, and on the seventh day dragged me out, nearly dead. I fell down on the spot and lay unconscious for a long time.

I was thrown into that cellar a second time because I dared to ask the Germans not to send Elena Makeyeva's sick little girl to work. They made her work nevertheless, called me an old swine and threw me into the cellar. Soon I was forbidden to conduct services in the houses because they suspected me of agitating.

Knew Red Army Would Free Them

In those dark days the cursed invaders strove to make us believe the Red Army would never return to the Orel Region and that the Germans would take Moscow and Leningrad. But I never believed their lies and at every opportunity told our Soviet people the Germans would assuredly be driven out. I prayed for the Soviet troops and their glorious leaders.

Now the happy days have come: The Red Army has smitten the base Hitlerite hordes and freed us from oppression and captivity. All the people welcomed their liberators with tears of joy. I am happy to have lived to see this day.

May he be cursed—this anathema, this bloodthirsty beast Hitler—and all his black horde of murderers and robbers!

Hereunto I sign my name, for I bear witness that this is the truth.

(Signed) Shestakov

Children's Homes in Preparation

Preparations for the organization of special homes for children of Red Army men and guerrillas of the Patriotic War and for children of Soviet and Party workers and industrial workers and collective farmers who perished at the hand of the German occupationists, are under way in the districts liberated from the Germans. In the Kalinin and Orel Regions several houses have been set aside for this purpose. The Kursk Regional Health Protection Department has placed orders for furniture for these new institutions with local industries. The People's Commissariat of Health Protection of the USSR has allotted necessary materials and medicines, and doctors are being dispatched from Moscow to various regions to render assistance in the organization of the new homes.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF SEPTEMBER 17, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

From the Moscow-Smolensk railway southward the Soviet-German Front is in a constant state of movement. The Red Army is successfully pressing its offensive and dealing the Germans incessant blows which prevent them making a stand on intermediate lines and stemming the Red Army's advance. Soviet armored units, motorized infantry, artillery and cavalry are constantly breaking through the Germans' defenses and driving spearheads into their positions in the most important strategical areas.

On September 17, as a result of a skilfully executed outflanking of the fortified positions on the Desna River and by combined assault, the important industrial centers of Bryansk and Bezhitsa and the system of fortifications on its west bank which the Germans called their "eastern wall" and considered impregnable, were captured, thus liquidating the formidable stronghold covering the approaches to Smolensk and Gomel. Soviet troops which advanced south of Bryansk and in the Kiev area and captured the important strongpoint of Nezhin on September 15, and Novgorod-Seversky on September 16, have created a strategical situation which favors the Red Army's further advance along the whole sector between the Bryansk-Gomel and Kursk-Kiev railways, while making it very

difficult for the Germans to maneuver their reserves between the Byelorussian and Ukrainian theaters.

In the south, Soviet ground forces in cooperation with the Black Sea Fleet, on September 16, as a result of five days' fighting, demolished three German divisions and one Rumanian division, besides German marine units. The capture of Novorossisk, the second largest Black Sea naval base, will enable the Black Sea Fleet to operate more effectively.

On September 17, Soviet troops advancing along the coast of the Sea of Azov captured the port town of Berdyansk. The fall of the ports on the Sea of Azov as well as of Novorossisk has created a serious threat to the German communications with the Crimea.

Thus along a considerable sector of the front the Red Army continues to press its offensive with ever-increasing vigor, advancing on an average of from 10 to 15 kilometers per day. The Germans are relinquishing their vital lines, being unable, owing to heavy losses, to stem the Red Army's impetuous onward march.

Art in the Liberated Areas

By Andrei Konstantinov, Assistant Chairman, Arts Committee of the USSR

The people of Soviet districts freed from the German barbarians are avid for art; they are starved for their actors, singers and musicians. Among the first groups to enter recaptured towns in the wake of the Red Army are the artists—actors, singers, musicians and scenic designers. They often give a performance the day following the liberation of a town or village.

Theater troupes are returning to their native cities. In Stalingrad, Stavropol and Krasnodar the dramatic theaters evacuated during the struggle are now playing regularly, and the players of Rostov, Voronezh and Orel are preparing to resume work in their home cities. But these returning artists find ruins and desolation where once stood beautiful theaters and concert halls.

We are now faced with the gigantic task of rebuilding the cultural institutions so wantonly destroyed by the German vandals. For this purpose special brigades of engineers and architects are being sent to various cities. Large sums have been allocated for

restoring the Dramatic Theater in Stalingrad and for repairing the buildings housing the Musical Comedy and Children's Theaters. In Rostov the magnificent Gorky Dramatic Theater, among others, was almost completely wrecked by the Hitlerites.

The Government has set aside 1,200,000 rubles for restoration of theaters in Voronezh and 650,000 for Stavropol theaters. Work has already begun on the reconstruction of theaters in Novocherkassk, Kamensk, Shakhty and Salsk. The Colossus Cinema Theater in Krasnodar is being equipped for dramatic performances, and concert halls seating 700 to 800 persons are being rebuilt in Voronezh, Kursk, Stavropol and Krasnodar.

Traveling art exhibits have also been sent to the liberated cities, and some 50 concert ensembles are already appearing in Orel, Belgorod, Rylysk and Sumy. In all cities and regions freed by the Red Army where but recently the boots of German soldiers trampled upon art and science, Soviet culture is rapidly being revived.

Material in this Bulletin may be quoted or reproduced

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75

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF DUKHOVSHCHINA AND YARTSEVO

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Yeremenko and Army General Sokolovsky:

As a result of violent engagements which lasted four days, the troops of the Kalinin Front broke through the strongly fortified enemy zone, smashed his permanent strong points of Ribshevo, Verdino, Lomonosovo, Kulagino and Pankratovo, and captured by storm the most important base of German defense on the road to Smolensk—the town of Dukhovshchina. Troops of the Western Front after stiff fighting crushed the enemy's resistance and captured the important base of German defense at the approaches to Smolensk—the town and railway station of Yartsevo. Thus the Germans' strongly fortified permanent defensive zone locking the so-called Smolensk gate has been pierced.

The troops under Lieutenant General Berzarin, Lieutenant General Glzudovsky, Lieutenant General Golubev, the tankists under Colonel Dremov and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Gromov and



IN LIBERATED BRYANSK—Joyous citizens welcome the Red Army with flowers and food

Radiophoto

Major General of Aviation Papivin, distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Dukhovshchina and Yartsevo. The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 91st Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Ozimin, the 17th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Kvashnin, the 184th Infantry Division under Colonel Tsukarev, the 46th Mechanized Brigade under Colonel Manchzhurin, the 47th Mechanized Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Mikhailov, the 21st Artillery Division under Major General of Artillery Samborsky, the Fourth Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade under Colonel Pavlevich, the Fourth Storm Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Matuzas, the 306th Infantry Division under Colonel Kucheryavenko, the 134th Infantry Division under Major General Dobrovolsky, the 234th Infantry Division under Colonel Turjev, the 178th Infantry Division under Major General Kudryavtsev, the 185th Infantry Division under Major General Andryushchenko, the 82nd Red Banner Infantry Division under Major General Pisarev, the 274th Infantry Division under Colonel Shulov, the 359th Infantry Division under Colonel Kosolapov, the 233rd Attack Air Division under Lieutenant Colonel Smolovik, the 123rd Bomber Air Regiment of Guards under Major Dymchenko, the Second Motorcycle Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Polubochko, the 529th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Vyborov, the 72nd Engineers Battalion under Major Mosenzon, the 90th Independent Pontoon and Bridge Building Battalion under Major Semenov.

To mark the victory achieved, the following names shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting to break through the Germans' strongly fortified defensive zone and for the liberation of the towns of Dukhovshchina and Yartsevo: The name of Dukhovshchina on the 91st Infantry Division of Guards, the 17th Infantry Division of Guards, the 184th Infantry Division, the 46th Mechanized Brigade, the 47th Mechanized Brigade, the 21st Artillery Division, the Fourth Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade, and the Fourth Storm Engineers-Sapper Brigade; the name of Yartsevo on the 82nd Red Banner Infantry Division, the 274th Infantry Division, the 359th Infantry Division, the 529th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 90th Independent Pontoon and Bridge Building Battalion, the 72nd Engineers Battalion, the Second Motorcycle Regiment of Guards, the 233rd Attack Air Division, and the 123rd Bomber Air Regiment of Guards; the name of Ribshevo on the 306th Infantry Division, the name of Verdino on the 134th Infantry Division, the name of Lomonosovo on the 234th Infantry Division, the name of Kulagino on the 178th Infantry Division, and the name of Pankratovo on the 185th Infantry Division.

Henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 91st Dukhovshchina Infantry Division of Guards, the 17th Dukhovshchina Infantry Division of Guards, the 184th Dukhovshchina Infantry Division, the 46th Dukhovshchina Mechanized Brigade, the 47th Dukhovshchina Mechanized Brigade, the 21st Dukhovshchina Artillery Division, the Fourth Dukhovshchina Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade, the Fourth Dukhovshchina Storm Engineers-Sapper Brigade, the 82nd Red Banner Yartsevo Infantry Division, the 274th Yartsevo Infantry Division, the 359th Yartsevo Infantry Division, the 529th Yartsevo Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 90th Yartsevo Independent Pontoon and Bridge Building Battalion, the 72nd Yartsevo Engineers Battalion, the Second Yartsevo Motorcycle Regiment of Guards, the 233rd Yartsevo Attack Air Division, the 123rd Yartsevo Bomber Air Regiment of Guards, the 306th Ribshevo Infantry Division, the 134th Verdino Infantry Division, the 234th Lomonosovo Infantry Division, the 178th Kulagino Infantry Division and the 185th Pankratovo Infantry Division.

Today, September 19, at 9:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our valiant troops which broke through the German defenses on the road to Smolensk and captured the towns of Dukhovshchina and Yartsevo—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the engagements for Dukhovshchina and Yartsevo.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,

MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 19, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF PRILUKI, ROMNY, PIRYATIN, LUBNY, ROMODAN, MIRGOROD, KRASNOGRAD AND PAVLOGRAD

As a result of the vigorous offensive in the Ukraine, on September 17 and 18 our troops liberated from the German invaders the towns of Priluki, Romny, Piryatin, Lubny, Romodan, Mirgorod, Krasnograd and Pavlograd.

In the fighting for the liberation of these towns the following troops distinguished themselves: The 167th Sumy Infantry Division, the 163rd Infantry Division, the 337th Infantry Division, the 237th Infantry Division, the 309th Infantry Division, the 373rd Infantry Division, the 93rd Infantry Division, the 218th Infantry Division, the 72nd Infantry Division of Guards, the 81st Infantry Division of Guards, the 58th Infantry Division of Guards, the First Mechanized Corps, the Second Tank Corps, the 161st Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 115th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 292nd Attack Air Division, the 60th Infantry Division of Guards, the 172nd Infantry Division, and the 42nd Infantry Division of Guards.

To mark the successes achieved the following names shall be conferred on the above formations and units: The name of Priluki on the 42nd Infantry Division of Guards; the name of Romny on the 163rd Infantry Division; the name of Lubny on the 337th Infantry Division; the name of Piryatin on the 309th Infantry Division and the 237th Infantry Division; the name of Mirgorod on the 373rd Infantry Division and the 93rd Infantry Division; the name of Romodan on the 218th Infantry Division; the name of Krasnograd on the 72nd Infantry Division of Guards, the 81st Infantry Division of Guards, the 58th Infantry Division of Guards, the First Mechanized Corps, the 161st Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 115th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment of Guards, and the 292nd Attack Air Division; and the name of Pavlograd on the 60th Infantry Division of Guards and the 172nd Infantry Division.

Henceforward these formations and units shall be named: The 42nd Priluki Infantry Division of Guards, the 163rd Romny Infantry Division, the 337th Lubny Infantry Division, the 309th Piryatin Infantry Division, the 237th Piryatin Infantry Division, the 373rd Mirgorod Infantry Division, the 93rd Mirgorod Infantry Division, the 218th Romodan Infantry Division, the 72nd Krasnograd Infantry Division of Guards, the 81st Krasnograd Infantry Division of Guards, the 58th Krasnograd Infantry Division of Guards, the First Krasnograd Mechanized Corps, the 161st Krasnograd Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 115th Krasnograd Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 292nd Krasnograd Attack Air Division, the 60th Pavlograd Infantry Division of Guards and the 172nd Pavlograd Infantry Division.

The 167th Sumy Infantry Division which distinguished itself for a second time in fighting the German invaders shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner. The Second Tank Corps shall be reorganized into the Eighth Tank Corps of Guards. The Corps Commander is Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Alexei Popov. The Standard of the Guards shall be presented to the reorganized Corps of Guards.

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 19, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF TRUBCHEVSK, SOUTH OF BRYANSK

On September 18, south of Bryansk, troops under Lieutenant General Kolpakchi forced the Desna River on a wide frontage and having captured the town of Trubchevsk successfully developed the offensive westward.

For daring and resolute actions in forcing the Desna River the Army Commander and also the commanders of the formations and units which distinguished themselves shall be recommended for decoration with Orders of Suvorov.

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 19, 1943

VICTORIES WHICH WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR CENTURIES

From a recent editorial in PRAVDA:

The armed forces of our motherland are scoring more and more brilliant victories. With great joy the Soviet people glorifies its Army, its Navy and its guerrillas. Red Army men are striking continuous blows at the hateful enemy. The Germans are falling back; the mass expulsion of the Hitlerite bandits from the Soviet land is in full swing. The liberation of the Ukraine, Orel and Smolensk Regions and the Taman Peninsula is under way. During the summer offensive thousands of square kilometers of our native land were cleared of the German invaders.

New and glorious victories are going down in the heroic history of the Patriotic War. Stalin's Orders announcing to the country the fresh successes of the Army and Navy will fill the pages of a great book—a book of the glory of our people, the glory of our heroic Red Army men. Unforgettable are the Moscow salutes which fill our hearts with joy and pride.

The offensive spirit of Soviet troops is growing daily; their fighting traditions are multiplying, their military skill and ability growing. In the course of

the successful offensive of our troops the enemy is losing his most important strong points. He has been dislodged from a defense line he had been fortifying for almost two years, hinging on it his hopes for future operations.

Soviet generals and officers have mastered a great art; from the experience of war they have learned to coordinate the actions of various arms in the field, to execute daring maneuvers and to act resolutely against the enemy's flanks and rear. Armed with Stalin's science of victory, they strike the enemy unerringly. The superiority of our strategy and our arms over those of the enemy has been irrefutably proved. The country highly appreciates the strategic art of our brilliant Soviet generals. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has decorated a large group of generals and officers with the Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov. The Soviet people warmly congratulates them.

The successful operation in the Novorossisk area was a brilliant demonstration of the cooperation of Soviet land troops with the ships and units of the

(Continued on page six)



Red Army men build a pontoon bridge across the Desna River, west of Bryansk

Radiophoto

NOVOROSSISK IS FREE

By Vladimir Cherevkov

After five days of fierce fighting, Novorossisk was finally retaken on September 16 by storming forces of the Red Army. This port of world significance, second in importance on the Black Sea, has been wrenched from the grasp of the Nazis.

Novorossisk is a city of cement and wheat. A trestle runs from its famous grain elevator toward the sea, where the cars dump their loads into ships' holds. Passenger, livestock, oil and cement docks line the waterfront. The ever-smoking cement mills send their noiseless overhead cars down to the sea. And finally, on the outskirts of the city stands the huge gray electric power house.

All these impressive enterprises crowd the coastline. But the apartment buildings boldly clamber up the steep slopes of the hills directly behind the industrial and waterfront sections. Such was Novorossisk in the memory of those who had known the thriving port before the war. . .

But the accursed Nazis have reduced the city to a chaos of crumbled brick, stone and rubble. Whole streets and sections lie in ruins. The Central Railway Station, the mammoth grain elevator, the cement mills and other industrial plants have been completely destroyed. The city park, favorite recreation spot of Novorossisk's citizens, has been turned into a cemetery. The city's central square is furrowed with the graves of Rumanian soldiers and officers. Considerable sections of Razevskaya and Goncharov streets have also been dug up for burial grounds.

The fascist invaders conducted a campaign of plunder, rape and murder throughout their rule in Novorossisk. Bodies of Soviet victims swing from gallows

on Chaikovsky Street—as usual the Germans had forbidden the population to remove the bodies. All able-bodied men were driven to labor and concentration camps established in the suburban villages of Kirilovka and Vladimirovka and near the brick kilns. The prisoners were led to and from work under heavy escort. Thousands of men, women and children were sent to Germany.

The rules and regulations of the Hitlerite regime were stringently enforced and the penalty for the slightest infringement was death. The population was forbidden to appear in the streets after 5:00 P. M. Whoever dared enter the so-called forbidden zones was shot on the spot. The same rules applied in the suburbs of Novorossisk. In the suburb of Borisovka workers in the famous Abrau Durso wineries were shot, together with their wives and children.

The Germans put to death 44 inhabitants of the village of Razevskoye. The village of Dorstroi, consisting of 18 homes, and the villages of Bolshoi Kumatyr and Maly Kumatyr, with a total of 40 homes, were reduced to ashes by the Nazi vandals last January. The inhabitants fled from these horrors, but many perished. Those who escaped joined guerrilla columns organized by workers of Novorossisk railways and cement and metal mills. Refugees from nearby villages and from Anapa, further up the Black Sea coast, joined the ranks of these People's Avengers. They wreaked vengeance upon the enemy for the blood and tears of their relatives and friends, and helped the Red Army in the attack for the liberation of Novorossisk.

The nightmare of German oppression is now past history. Liberated Novorossisk is reviving.

THE PEOPLE WILL AVENGE

The following letter was written by a group of guerrillas operating in the occupied areas of the Ukraine:

Each of us has witnessed many horrors in the towns and villages of the Ukraine still under the fascist yoke. Human memory cannot preserve everything. We are keeping a detailed record of the fascist crimes and the Hitlerites shall pay for every drop of blood they have caused the Soviet people to shed, for every person they have tortured to death and for every home they have demolished.

Nothing but chimneys remain of the peaceful Ukrainian villages of Ostrovka, Pasetskoye, Strogino, Zhukhovka, Chetovka and Uvarovka, in the Kozelchinsk District, Poltava Region. Driving the residents into their homes, German soldiers headed by

officers made the rounds of the houses and coolly killed the entire population, including women, children and old people. Then the murderers set fire to the houses, burning over 2,000 bodies.

Recently in the village of Gorzhanka the Hitlerites lined up the mothers in front of a bonfire, and before their eyes proceeded to burn their children. Many of the mothers went mad, whereupon the Germans shot them. Because a German officer passing in a car three kilometers from Melkorechye village was shot, the entire village was razed to the ground.

The collective farmers have been robbed of food, clothing and agricultural implements, all of which were sent to Germany. The people cannot but become merciless avengers. The Hitlerites, who have lost every semblance of humanity, will be exterminated.

Soviet Hero Decorated by Roosevelt Flies American Airacobra

By M. Sherstobitov

Alexander Pokryshkin entered the blindage. Despite the heat of summer it was cool and redolent of fresh-cut grass. Between flight assignments the pilots rested here; some read newspapers or letters, while others merely day-dreamed. There is much to think of before a battle—a girl back home, one's family, and the joy of victory. Pokryshkin paused in the center of the blindage and said quietly: "We're in the lead. Ten of us will take off. Everyone at his plane within 15 minutes."

The faces of the fliers at this moment were intent, but one also felt the confidence, imperturbability and strength of the men. All the pilots were eager to go with Pokryshkin. They knew his vigilance, his capacity for making correct decisions in a split second, his all-round knowledge of flying, and his ability to be at the same time wary and daring. Added to his knowledge of flying he had a natural talent for air fighting which invariably brought him victories.

A passenger car carried the flyers to their machines. Donning his parachute, Pokryshkin climbed into the cockpit of his Airacobra. The long-nosed fighter quickly gained altitude. Describing the traditional circle over the airdrome, the Airacobras sped over the Kuban fields to meet the enemy. . . .

Up to 30 Stukas, covered by eight Messerschmitt 109s, were approaching a Soviet city from the west. Pokryshkin radioed, "Teterin—four of you tackle Messes. Rest follow me."

They met the German bombers over our front lines. Pokryshkin's squadron came on in a frontal attack from an altitude slightly lower than that of the enemy machines. Approaching to within firing range Pokryshkin opened up with his cannon and machine guns, sending one German bomber flaming to the ground. The Junkers' battle formation was broken by the Airacobras, which repeatedly attacked from behind, above and below.

Junior Lieutenant Moiseyenko and Lieutenant Stepanov each brought down an enemy bomber. The Junkers' pilots, alarmed at this devastating attack, released their bomb loads on their own forces and turned back. Continuing the patrol over the assigned area the Airacobras fought and cleared from the air other small formations of Messerschmitt planes.

Shortly another large group of Junkers bombers was sighted, also accompanied by fighters. Again Pokryshkin decided to attack. Two Messerschmitt 109 fighters dove down on his squadron from the sunny side just as the Russian planes neared the enemy bombers. The Airacobra flight commander ordered

Senior Lieutenant Vechkanov and Junior Lieutenant Tabachenko to accept battle with the Messerschmitts. The two pilots engaged the enemy fighters while the other Airacobras pounced on the bombers in three separate groups. The Germans lost three more aircraft. The plane piloted by Junior Lieutenant Tabachenko was hit, but the flyer managed to land the crippled machine safely behind the Soviet lines. . . .

After the hot battle Majors Pokryshkin and Kryukov, both Heroes of the Soviet Union, rested in the shade of the thick bushes near the blindage. A light wind fanned their tanned faces. They lay silent in the grass for a long time. This peaceful interlude was interrupted by the approach of Lieutenant Colonel Isayev, Regimental Commander. "I have good news for you," the Commander said, thrusting a newspaper into Pokryshkin's hand and pointing to an article on the front page.

Pokryshkin read: "Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, has awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to Alexander Pokryshkin. The Major earned the medal by his courage and ability to engage the enemy in his American Airacobra fighter plane. Pokryshkin has a record of 41 German machines brought down to date. Many of these German buzzards were destroyed while flying the faithful Airacobra. Nazi airmen know and fear the Soviet ace and whenever they learn that Pokryshkin has taken off in his Airacobra the German pilots radio one another: 'Achtung! (Attention!) . . . Pokryshkin's in the air!' Pokryshkin's name alone spells terror to all fascist airmen."

VICTORIES

(Continued from page four)

Black Sea Fleet. In the fighting for Novorossisk our heroic marines also distinguished themselves.

To the historic Orders of the great Stalin the Red Army and Navy are responding with fresh victories at the front. To the Moscow salutes in honor of their heroic sons who are liberating our native land from the German invaders, the workers in the rear respond by straining their forces still further to increase production of armaments and ammunition.

The Red Army is advancing. The rear supports it by selfless labor, strengthens its blows by a labor onslaught in the factories, in transport and on collective and State farms. The Red Army is liberating Soviet cities and villages. The workers of the rear must restore them as soon as possible.

Onward to the west, Soviet fighter! Death to the German invaders!

A DAY IN A FUR FACTORY

By Olga Grebeneva

Director of the Second Moscow Fur Factory

My day in the factory begins at eight in the morning, when I make a tour of inspection, talking with the chief engineer and the shop heads. Many of our workers are very young, but they are instructed and guided by others who have worked with furs for many years, and soon become expert at their jobs.

I usually finish my round of the factory at the kitchen, where I sample the meal in preparation for the workers. After this there is a management meeting, at which we discuss our present work and what must be done to eliminate shortcomings. At noon I receive visitors from various organizations connected with the factory. We prepare furs for the Red Army and for the home and foreign market. Thus, like other industries of our country, we are doing what we can for the Red Army and the front.

As director of the factory I am responsible for food for the workers and fuel for the winter. These are now difficult problems. Coal is limited and firewood must be brought from distant places. Our subsidiary factory farms have yielded abundant crops, but we are short of hands, and after the working day our people must set out for the vegetable gardens to bring in the food.

At five each evening there is a conference. Today

the manager of the factory restaurant reports on the work of his department. At these conferences we criticize our work and make suggestions for improvement. A few days ago I reported on the factory's preparations for the coming winter.

I have been working in the factory nine years. Each year our production has increased. Before the October Revolution the plant was a private enterprise employing only 100 people. Later it was re-equipped and there are now a thousand workers.

My father was a peasant in the little village of Fedorovo, in Vyatka Region. There were 10 of us and life was hard in the village. We moved to the city, where I began work as an apprentice in a trade school and later succeeded in passing an examination for teaching. But I was forced to abandon teaching for factory work.

My opportunity came after the Revolution and in 1932 I was graduated from the Foreign Trade Academy. My husband, a working man, finished the courses at the Food Industries Academy and now works in the People's Commissariat for Food. One of my brothers is a major general at the front and has received two decorations, and my younger sister, whom I brought up, is a surgeon. She has also been decorated.

Railway Workers Honored for Heroism

Many Soviet railway workers have been decorated by the Government. Chief conductor Idris Akmagombetov, who wears the Order of the Patriotic War, First Degree, works on the Gorbachevo-Sukhinichi railway, which until the recent offensive of the Red Army ran through the front-line zone. One night enemy bombers attacked Akmagombetov's train. Bomb splinters set fire to a car loaded with fuel bottles, threatening neighboring cars of ammunition and fuel. At the same time a group of German attack planes swooped over the train, machine-gunning the crew. Under this concentrated fire Akmagombetov and senior conductor Ishanov uncoupled the burning car, left it on the track and drove the train to safety.

Women railway workers equal the men in selflessness and heroism. When fascist bombers raided a station on the Kalinin railway and gravely wounded an engineer, his assistant, Sofia Shvarenko, drove his train to a siding. The locomotive of another train had been hit by a bomb, but Shvarenko also drove this train away from the station. She was wounded, but

did not abandon her post, thus saving dozens of carloads of ammunition.

The famous guerrilla leader Zaslonov was formerly chief of the Orsha station of the Western railway line, captured by the Germans at the outbreak of the war. Zaslonov did not leave the station until he had destroyed all equipment, putting the section out of commission for a long time. Then he fled to the guerrillas and organized local railwaymen into a detachment which struck terror and confusion into the Hitlerites. Zaslonov's detachment has killed about 1,500 of the enemy, derailed scores of trains and blown up several bridges.

Mobile Cinemas in Harvest Fields

Fifty-four mobile cinemas have been at work during the past month in the fields of the Ivanovo Region, Central Russia, serving 1,500 villages. Over 120,000 collective farmers saw the film *She Defends Her Motherland*.

SOVIET PEOPLE CATALOG THEIR PAST

By Y. Rykachev

The People's Commissariat of Education of the USSR has undertaken a huge task—the listing of the property of all the museums in the Soviet Union and the preparation of a unified catalog of all exhibits of historic or cultural interest.

These precious relics are to be found not only in Moscow, Leningrad and other great cities, but also in the smallest towns. An unpretentious collection may contain a Russian warrior's ancient armor, or old household utensils, or an excellent Dutch still life brought to Russia by some nobleman of the time of Catherine the Second, or a 15th Century ikon of workmanship not unworthy of an Italian master of the early Renaissance. A conversation with the curator of a small Russian museum affords real pleasure, for he can tell you the story of every object. He knows the history of his native town in minutest detail.

All museums in the USSR, large and small, are subsidized by the Government. Each is allowed sufficient funds for maintenance, for the purchase of new objects, and also for the equipment of any necessary archaeological expeditions. The exhibits in the various Soviet museums total several million. Among them are several hundred thousand unique relics—ancient weapons, ikons, pictures, miniatures, manuscripts, books, rugs, textiles, china.

Since the war the Soviet museums have been busier than ever, for the people's love of their country

has become even more intense than before, and everyone is turning to the study of the past with profound interest and respect.

The catalog now being prepared by the People's Commissariat of Education will contain a detailed description and photograph of every one of the rarer exhibits. This will be of great assistance to students. The first items have already been indexed, and some very interesting discoveries have been made. For example, the museum at Epifan, a small town in the Tula district, has yielded ancient Russian swords and armor found on the battlefield of Kulikovo, where the Russians routed the Mongolian hordes in the 14th Century. In another district museum a priceless 14th Century ikon was found.

Among the first thousand items registered are articles which belonged to the famous Russian writer Ivan Turgenev, including the robe he wore as Doctor of Law and his degree from Oxford University. Objects belonging to Timiryazev, one of the founders of Russian agronomy, who was a friend of Charles Darwin, have also been entered, as well as the possessions of Nikolai Ostrovsky, author of *How the Steel was Tempered*, and the personal belongings of the great Russian airman Valery Chkalov, who flew to the United States over the North Pole.

It is expected that the completion of this catalog will take several years.

Sailor-Scientist Named Hero of Socialist Labor

Professor Alexei Krylov, member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, has recently been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labor. Krylov is a typical representative of the older generation of Russian sailors. He was a pupil and collaborator of Admiral Mikhail Makarov, the founder of the modern science of naval construction, and has achieved world-wide fame in this sphere of work by his tables of non-immersion, which facilitate the rapid restoration of a damaged vessel, and his researches on pitching and rolling in heavy seas. The significance of these works has been appreciated by the Royal Society of Naval Engineers in Britain, which awarded their gold medal to Krylov—the first foreigner to receive this honor.

Krylov has done work of great scientific and practical importance on vibration in ships, the gyroscopic theory of shell trajectories, as well as work in astronomy and theoretical mechanics.

After the battle of Tsushima in the Russo-Japanese

war, Krylov helped in the construction of the Baltic Fleet. He directed work on the plans for the battle cruisers "Petropavlovsk," "Sevastopol" and "October Revolution," which are today taking part in the war. During the Stalin Five-Year Plans, when the Soviet Union was building a powerful navy, Krylov put all his experience and knowledge at the service of the State.

Soviet warships which have taken part in the fight against the German fascists in the Barents Sea and the Baltic and Black Seas were constructed with his direct participation. Krylov has also helped to construct and equip Soviet naval bases. During his many years as a teacher at the Naval Academy, Krylov has developed a whole school of Soviet specialists in the theory and practice of naval construction.

In 1939 the Soviet Government awarded Krylov the Order of Lenin and the title of Merited Scientist and Technician. He has also received a Stalin Prize for his outstanding scientific work.

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Washington, D. C., September 25, 1943



STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE LIBERATION OF CHERNIGOV

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

Today, September 21, the troops of the Central Front, continuing the vigorous offensive, successfully forced the Desna River and by a skilful flanking maneuver after three days of fierce fighting carried by storm the town of Chernigov, regional center of the Ukraine—the most important German center of resistance in the lower stream of the Desna River.

Thus the defenses prepared by the Germans along the western bank of the Desna have been overcome by our troops all along that river, and the German plan for checking the offensive of our troops on the line of the Desna River is to be regarded as a failure.

In engagements during the ferrying of the Desna River and the capture of Chernigov the following troops



Red Army men moving up to a new firing position

distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Pukhov, Major General Nechaev and Lieutenant General Bondarev, and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko. Particular distinction has been won by the 148th Infantry Division under Major General Mikonko, the 181st Stalingrad Infantry Division decorated with the Order of Lenin, under Major General Saraev, the 211th Infantry Division under Major General Makhlinovsky, the 77th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Askalopov, the 76th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Kirsanov, the 16th Cavalry Division of Guards under Colonel Belov, the 129th Tank Brigade under Colonel Petrushin, the 874th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov, the 476th Trench Mortar Regiment under Major Gladky, the 1,287th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ostroglazov and the Second Attack Air Division of Guards under Colonel Komarov.

To mark the victory achieved the name of Chernigov shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting during the forcing of the Desna River and the liberation of the town of Chernigov—the 148th Infantry Division, the 211th Infantry Division, the 77th Infantry Division of Guards, the 76th Infantry Division of Guards, the 16th Cavalry Division of Guards, the 129th Tank Brigade, the 874th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 476th Trench Mortar Regiment, the 1,287th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment and the Second Attack Air Division of Guards, and henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 148th Chernigov Infantry Division, the 211th Chernigov Infantry Division, the 77th Chernigov Infantry Division of Guards, the 76th Chernigov Infantry Division of Guards, the 16th Chernigov Cavalry Division of Guards, the 129th Chernigov Tank Brigade, the 874th Chernigov Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 476th Chernigov Trench Mortar Regiment, the 1,287th Chernigov Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment and the Second Chernigov Attack Air Division of Guards. The 181st Stalingrad Division decorated with the Order of Lenin, which distinguished itself for the second time in fighting the invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

For the successful forcing of the Desna River the commanders of formations and units which distinguished themselves shall be recommended for decoration with Orders of Suvorov.

Today, September 21, at 9:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our valiant troops who successfully forced the Desna River and liberated the town of Chernigov—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting during the forcing of the Desna River and the liberation of the town of Chernigov.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, September 21, 1943

VASILI GRABIN, DESIGNER OF ARTILLERY ARMS

One of the creators of Soviet artillery, which is playing a great role in the present Red Army offensive, is Lieutenant General of Engineering Troops Vasili Grabin. A Hero of Socialist Labor, Grabin enjoys deserved fame as an outstanding designer of artillery arms.

Vasili Grabin is 43 and comes of a worker's family. After only three years at school he was compelled to abandon his studies and go to work as a laborer in a boiler factory. In 1923 the future designer joined the Red Army and saw a heavy gun for the first time.

He became deeply interested in artillery and was sent to the Artillery School and later to the Artillery Academy. By 1930 he had already attracted attention as a gifted designer.

Several years before the war Grabin and several other military designers were asked to create a new type of gun. Grabin's was found by military experts to be the best and was immediately accepted for use in the Red Army. His further achievements in perfecting artillery have been recognized several times by the Government with high awards.

THE FRESH BREEZE OF LIBERTY

By Major P. Troyanovsky

On a signpost near a bridge over the Kleven River someone had written, "Mother Ukraine." Thousands of Red Army men marching by bow their heads before this signpost as before a shrine.

Beyond the river stretches the Ukraine with its white cottages with their neatly thatched roofs, its poplars pushing needle-like tips into the luminous sky, its orchards. We reach the village of Sopych, in the Sumsky region. The streets are hot and dusty, but the old men and women and the children lining them, clad in holiday dress, gaze eagerly into the faces of the troops marching and riding past.

"Comrade, you don't happen to have met Taras Ostapenko?" asks a gray-haired old man with his arm in a sling under his coat. He adds falteringly, "We haven't heard from him for two years." The old man's son Taras, we learn, had joined the Red Army. His 20-year-old daughter Lyuba had remained at home. But she was not in the street.

"The Germans flogged her almost to death," the old man said. "They mobilized her to dig trenches. She refused. 'I won't help protect you from our Red Army men,' she said. Then they flogged her and threatened her with jail, but she still refused." The father hid her in a forester's cottage until the Germans were driven back. . .

We leave Sopych behind. The roads lead through fields, steppe and forest into the Northern Ukraine. At last we reach Glukhov, the ancient city which was once the capital of the right bank of the Ukraine. The Red Army reached Glukhov so swiftly the Germans had no time to burn it down. Later, in impotent fury, they bombed it unmercifully for several days, but in the main the city stands.

I visited the priest of the Church of Salvation. His house was littered with broken glass and smashed crockery; three German bombs had fallen near the church. Father Ivan, who is 70 years old, said, "Evidently they aimed at my church. There are no military installations, as they call them, in the vicinity. My parishioners and I waited for you with great impatience. The people, especially the women, stood in the church for hours praying for your victory and the preservation of your lives. As to the Germans—they are wild beasts and bandits. Drive them out of our country. We will pray for you."

Guerrilla Alexander Rumyantsev told us of some

of the German crimes in Glukhov. On September 27, 1942, the enemy made a night raid on all the villages in the region, arrested 600 leading collective farmers and took them to barracks at Baturin. They were not questioned and no reason was given for the arrest. Later all 600 disappeared. Only yesterday, in a pine wood, two pits filled with corpses were discovered. Some of the bodies were identified as the missing collective farmers; evidently they had all been shot. On the ramparts around the city the bodies of 250 Red Army prisoners were found. It is roughly estimated that 5,000 persons were taken from Glukhov and the surrounding district to Germany. The Teachers' College, the Agricultural College and the Hemp Research Institute were burned to the ground by the Germans.

The city is gradually returning to life. Several factories are already working. Electric lights will soon be available, the post office is functioning and the water supply is being restored.

En route to Shostka we pass the spot where the village of Guta once stood. Nothing remains. On March 8, 1942 the Germans burned the village and shot all of the inhabitants, except Maria Samokhvalova. Her two children perished in their burning home. She told us of the tragedy of Guta. Some of the villagers had several times supplied food to guerrillas. The Germans learned of this and a punitive expedition was sent. The people refused to disclose the names of the offenders, and the Germans shot all the inhabitants with machine guns and burned the village.

As we neared Shostka a pall of smoke hung over the city. Factories, houses in the workers' districts in the center of the city, the Technological College, Library and Polyclinic were all burning. People thronged the streets, but the joy of liberation was marred by the terrible destruction. The Germans had tried to hide the traces of their crimes—in the basement of the Technological College numerous corpses of men and women were discovered, many bearing marks of torture.

We reached Putivil late in the evening. The divisional commander's observation post was on the high bank of the Seim River—from it we could see the entire area around Putivil in flames. The retreating Germans were destroying everything. Far to the south stretched the Ukrainian land, tortured by fire and strewn with ashes, but eternally alive and hungrily inhaling the fresh breeze of liberty.

THE PEOPLE'S AVENGERS

A Guerrilla Film Shot Behind The German Lines

By Oleg Leonidov

The People's Avengers, a new film dealing with Soviet guerrillas, was shot by 16 cameramen under the direction of Vasili Belyaev, whose documentary of the heroic defense of Sevastopol—*Black Sea Fighters*—has been acclaimed in the Soviet Union and abroad. Belyaev has won two decorations for outstanding courage in battle and has received the Stalin Prize for high craftsmanship in documentary films.

The new film brings to the screen in vivid form the struggle of the people's avengers, the unconquerable guerrillas. Much of the action takes place behind the German lines, in areas wrested from the enemy. Here the guerrillas train new recruits from local youth to swell their ranks.

Soviet airmen are frequent visitors to the districts in Byelorussia held by guerrillas. They bring in automatic rifles, medicines, cigarettes and other supplies. Cameraman Veinerovich was flown into guerrilla territory, where he took pictures of the hero, Andrei, who has wrecked four German trains, and also of his young wife, Maria, another veteran guerrilla fighter.

Underground Printing Shops

The film records the day-to-day life of the guerrillas, and abounds in thrilling scenes. The people's avengers have their underground print shops where proclamations, leaflets and orders are issued in large numbers and distributed on the same day by horsemen to Nazi-occupied villages. The guerrillas have excellent weapons, many of which they have captured from the Germans. One group has even contrived an ingenious anti-aircraft defense—an anti-tank gun strapped to a cart wheel.

There is an exciting scene of guerrillas taking a number of German prisoners and finding on one of them a copy of a Nazi newspaper, the *Minsker Zeitung*, published in occupied Minsk. On the first page is a list of German generals and officers killed by the people's avengers. The Byelorussian guerrillas have wiped out many Nazi party leaders in Minsk, including General Ehrenleitner, chief of the Minsk military district.

Many guerrillas have been decorated with orders and medals, and many have been made Heroes of the Soviet Union, among them the famous "Grandfather," a guerrilla fighter who has been elevated to the rank of Major General.

All the cameramen who participated in the filming of *The People's Avengers* did so at the risk of their lives. Cameraman Alexander Frolov spent one and one-half months in reaching a guerrilla detachment behind the German lines in Byelorussia. On his return he was encircled by the enemy, but by great luck met a party of guerrillas who had captured a Nazi general. When a Soviet plane came for the prisoner, Frolov returned with it as the general's guard. With them were two other passengers, 13-year-old Valentin Sokolov and 14-year-old Victor Pashkevich, from the German-occupied town of Borisovo. The boys' parents had been killed by the Germans and the youngsters, to avenge their death, joined the guerrillas. One day they hid a mine in a broom and placed it near a gasoline tank at a German fuel base. The entire base was destroyed. Frolov made a short of the two boys' adventures for the children's newsreels. They are now attending school in Moscow and have been recommended for a military decoration.

Cameraman Boris Makaseyev, who made a documentary in Spain during that country's heroic fight against fascism, shot many of the episodes in *The People's Avengers*. He spent some time in a reserve base in a forest in Byelorussia where the guerrillas came for spare arms and special assignments. There was also a guerrilla rest home there, and Makaseyev's camera recorded many interesting scenes of the life at the base.

Guerrilla warfare in the Ukraine was filmed by the veteran newsreel cameraman Mikhail Glider, who visited the famous detachment commanded by "Grandfather." This group is always on the move, and often covers as much as 1,500 kilometers on wheels and horses in making forays into enemy lines. One day they may be fighting in the Bryansk woods; a little later they suddenly pounce on the Germans near Kiev or beyond the Dnieper, only to reappear shortly in the Bryansk forest.

Cameraman Dropped by Parachute

The mobility of this Ukrainian detachment is an example of the incredible daring of guerrilla tactics. Since these elusive forest raiders had no permanent base, the cameraman reached them by descending by parachute during a raid.

The persistence and courage of the 16 Soviet cameramen made possible this stirring documentary, which faithfully portrays the heroic stand of the people's avengers against the German-fascist invaders.

NEW FORCES ADDED TO CZECHOSLOVAK UNIT FIGHTING ON SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT

The Czechoslovak Military Unit fighting valiantly on the Soviet-German front has already covered its battle standard with unfading glory. A few days ago new units, which with the present unit will make up an entire formation, were placed under this standard. On the occasion of the transfer of the banner to the formation, a meeting of Czechoslovak officers and men was held, at which were present the Czechoslovak Ambassador to the USSR Firlinger, members of the Czechoslovak Parliament Gotwald, Schwerma and Slansky, Professor Needly of Prague University, a group of Red Army officers, and British and American correspondents.

In a speech on this solemn occasion Ambassador Firlinger called upon the Czechoslovak officers and men fighting the Hitlerites to multiply the glorious traditions of their unit, whose mettle has already been shown in action. He remarked upon the excellent armament and training of the formation, which represents a strong military force.

"Here on Russian soil," said the Ambassador, "side by side with the brave Russian soldiers and officers, you are blazing the road of liberation for our country from the fascist yoke."

Colonel Svoboda, commander of the formation, speaking of the close ties of fraternity between the Russian and Czechoslovak people, said, "Great Russia rendered us fraternal help and gave us first-class arms. The Red Army sets an example of fighting for the honor and independence of our country. Let us be worthy of the heroic Red Army, of its staunchness and its selfless loyalty to the sacred cause of liberation of the native land."

The Czechoslovak and Soviet national anthems were sung, after which a parade was held. The formation is equipped with first-rate modern arms: tommy guns, anti-tank and anti-aircraft artillery, armored cars and tanks. The impressive tank column was headed

(Continued on page six)



Members of the Czechoslovak Military Unit fighting on the Soviet-German front

FAMINE IN FINLAND

By Joseph Galperin

During the two-odd years of war between Finland and the Soviet Union, the Finnish government has led its country to catastrophe. Famine is rampant throughout Finland. The food stores are empty. Cereal, sugar and butter have disappeared entirely and bread has become a rarity. Hundreds of letters from the Finnish rear to the men at the front offer convincing evidence of the privations suffered by the Finnish people. Women write desperately to their husbands, brothers and sons in the fighting services. The following letters were found on war prisoners and on the bodies of dead Finnish officers and men.

"It is a difficult problem to find food and bread these days," writes the wife of Corporal Toivo Tamminen, from the city of Turku. "The shelves of our stores are bare and everyone is nervous and short-tempered." "Nothing new has happened here," Helva Alajarvi tells her soldier husband in another letter from Turku. "We are still experiencing a bread crisis and flour can't be found anywhere. It is the same with other products." "What am I to do?" Irja, also from Turku, asks her husband, Onni. "There is nothing on sale. I stood in line a whole day and came home empty-handed and hungry. People are simply perishing from lack of food."

"The people of Helsinki are starving," stated war prisoner Murtomaa. They stand in lines for hours on end, only to go away disappointed. Many drop in the streets from hunger . . . frequently a person will suddenly slump to the pavement and close his eyes in eternal sleep."

To ease the critical situation in the cities, the Finnish government confiscates grain, fodder and livestock from the peasants and imposes new food taxes on them. These extreme measures are ineffectual. Finnish soldiers frequently receive letters from home reporting the illness or death from hunger of their relatives and friends.

"Salimaki's mother will be buried Sunday," Private Unto Lampinenis was told in a letter from his mother,

Natspaala. "All our old people are dying, unable to survive the famine." The following note was found on the person of Finnish war prisoner Kempanen: "Due to hard times, father has committed suicide."

Not only the aged are perishing of hunger in Finland. Mortality is extremely high among Finnish children, who are suffering gravely from malnutrition. "I am penniless and without firewood," Meeri Sivonen writes her husband Toivo Sivonen from the city of Bjerko. "If I still have something to feed the children this Sunday, they'll be hungry on Monday because I have run out of food and can't find any more."

Finnish children are suffering from diseases caused by emaciation and malnutrition. This fact was revealed in the notes of the consulting physician investigating children's diseases in the district of Kuopio, which were found among other documents taken from Finnish prisoners of war. In his notes the doctor mentions that he investigated 2,730 juvenile cases, of which 1,961 were children between the ages of two and seven, and the remainder children under two. Of this total, 70 per cent were suffering from various diseases. The physician concluded his notes with the statement: "Many children are emaciated from lack of food. A thousand-odd children were stricken with contagious diseases, 134 with tuberculosis and 461 with skin disorders. As many as 1,540 children were suffering with rickets, 1,105 of whom were over two year of age."

Unable to see their way out of this grave situation, the Finnish population has been driven to despair. "What have we to live for?" Lulu Haapalainen asks in her letter to Private Napaeanches. "Why must there be a war and so many people killed? In whose interests?"

This letter illustrates the moral state of the Finnish people, who are tired of war and who openly express their discontent with the policy of the present Finnish government and desire peace as soon as possible.

CZECHOSLOVAK UNIT

(Continued from page five)

by the "Lidice tank," built with money contributed by officers and soldiers of the first Czechoslovak Unit.

A company of Slovaks marched past in review. This company was formed by the Germans—but upon reaching the Soviet-German front the men had crossed over in a body to the Red Army and requested the permission of the Soviet Command to fight against the fascist enslavers.

The Czechoslovak officers and soldiers demonstrated

a high degree of military training and an ardent desire to meet the German occupationists in battle at the earliest possible date.

HEROES OF NOVOROSSISK HONORED

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has conferred the title of Hero of the Soviet Union on seven naval officers for exemplary execution of assignments of the command in the landing of troops in the area of Novorossisk and for valor and heroism.

EYEWITNESSES STATE . . .

By Ovady Savich

On August 6 a Red Army unit operating in the Bryansk direction liberated from the Germans the small, ancient town of Kromy and the village of Vazhovo adjoining it. The inhabitants of the village who had escaped the Germans showed the Red Army men two huge ditches. These ditches were opened in the presence of the Red Army men and a medical commission headed by Instructors Bashkirekova and Leonid Popov of the Medical Institute and Doctor Sophia Braslavskaya. The medical commission established that of the 149 dead—including 42 children—102 had been asphyxiated by carbon monoxide in murder cars, eight buried alive, 27 strangled and 12 Red Army men shot. The inhabitants of Vazhovo stated that cars had brought the bodies to Kromy at night.

The news that the pits had been opened spread, and people came to identify their dear ones. The following day the front-line newspaper carried the accounts of Red Army men who had witnessed this nightmare. Sergeant Semyon Sumny wrote: "The Red Army men carefully removed the corpses from the ditch and each was closely examined by the medical experts. In a corner of the common grave lay a mother embracing her two children; their arms were decayed. Examining the mouths and throats of the mother and children, the doctors discovered earth in them, proving they had been buried alive. The Rakhilson family, consisting of the mother, Maria, carrying her six-months-old baby, Vladimir, seven, and Galina, three, stood at the open grave moaning and crying at the sight of their beloved husband and father, Solomon Rakhilson, shoemaker. And there lay a young girl, Nina Chernova, whose mother Anastasia

was able to recognize her only by her long braids and canvas shoes."

Red Army man Pavel Samenkov wrote: "I was witness to the harrowing sight of the huge common grave which revealed a mountain of dead bodies. Some lay with arms outstretched, while others were curled up. They were huddled so closely together it was difficult to distinguish one from another. There was a corpse with an amputated leg and when I expressed horror at the killing of an invalid, Instructor Popov assured me that this person's leg had been amputated long ago."

Red Army man Andrei Zukashev stated: "When I saw the mutilated bodies of tortured people my blood curdled and my eyes blurred, but the sight of the corpses of little children made me almost cry out with wrath and indignation. What harm could these little ones possibly have done the Germans? The doctor showed us several corpses with bitten tongues and smashed heads; others had earth in their mouths. For every hair on their heads, for every drop of blood, for every tear, we shall exact ruthless vengeance as long as one Hitlerite defiles our Soviet soil!"

Senior Sergeant Semelkin wrote: "As long as I live I shall remember what I saw. I shall write home about it, so that my friends and relatives can tell their children and grandchildren that there are people on this earth worse than wild beasts."

Red Army Man Nikolai Blinsky wrote: "Never in my life shall I forget what I witnessed in the village of Vazhovo."

People of the Remote Taiga Help the Front

By Matvei Korn

In Northern Siberia and west to the Yenesei River, along the shores of the Okhotsk Sea, stretches the taiga. Here are the hunting grounds and reindeer pastures of Soviet Evenkia, a land covering 869,000 kilometers, where a semi-nomad people called the Evenki, or Tungus, lives.

This sparsely populated area is known to be rich in gold, non-ferrous metals and coal. Its 40,000 people are chiefly engaged in hunting, reindeer breeding and fishing. Sometime ago I visited the Siberian Taiga. On the shores of remote lakes stand the dwellings of the Evenki fishermen. I spent several nights around their bonfires and on the high plateau where the herdsmen take the reindeer to graze in summer. I talked to the Evenki huntsmen.

Shepherd Ekonda Eldogir, mounted on a reindeer,

was on his way to the Evenkian Regional Center, Tura. He told me, "We are hundreds of kilometers from the administrative center, but as soon as we heard the joyful news of the Red Army offensive, our fishermen decided to increase their catch—to make it 100 tons instead of the scheduled 80. The extra 20 tons will be sent as a gift to the Red Army."

"Our hunting season will soon begin. The hunters will trap squirrels, sable and ermine. Each man has promised to give his best furs to the Red Army. The Evenkis have already delivered a million rubles' worth of valuable furs to the State."

Here too, in the fastness of the forest, hundreds of miles from town or village, the people were thinking of the welfare of the Red Army.

Notes from Front and Rear

The Latvian Infantry Division of Guards recently celebrated its second anniversary in a sector of the Soviet-German Front within a few kilometers of the front line. In two years of fighting the Latvian infantry men have killed or wounded tens of thousands of German soldiers, captured 300 machine guns, many large guns and a great quantity of other war materiel. The Division was re-formed into a Guards Division one year ago. Over 2,000 of its officers and men have been decorated for heroism. The second anniversary was marked by a parade and an entertainment by the Division's own amateur song and dance ensemble.

★

Schoolchildren returning to Kharkov find their schools in ruins and many teachers missing . . . slain by the Germans. The children are eagerly helping to restore their wrecked schools. A crowd of youngsters who came to the ruins of one building to offer their services found there the People's Commissar of Education of the Ukraine, the famous poet, Academician Pavlo Tychina. Recognizing their beloved poet, the children embraced and cheered him.

★

For skilful and courageous direction of operations in forcing the Desna River and for successes achieved as a result of these operations in fighting the German-fascist invaders, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has decorated Lieutenant General Ivan Fedyuninsky and Lieutenant General Ivan Boldin with the Order of Suvorov, First Degree; Lieutenant General Mikhail Kazakov with the Order of Kutuzov, First Degree; eight Red Army generals and officers with the Order of Suvorov, Second Degree, and six generals and officers with the Order of Kutuzov, Second Degree.

★

Hundreds of collective farms in the Smolensk Region, liberated during and since the first Red Army offensive, have not only restored their own farms but are now helping collective farms liberated this spring by sending them part of their crops.

★

Private Nikolai Gorbatenko, once a baker but now a well-known sniper on the Northern Front, has killed 169 Finnish officers and soldiers. On one occasion Gorbatenko got tired of waiting for the enemy to show his head. He began to sing in his place of concealment; finally the Finn's curiosity overcame him and he raised his head for a look—his last.

Soviet architects are now working on monuments to the heroes of the Patriotic War. A triumphal arch to be built at the head of Moscow's central thoroughfare is being designed by Vice President of the Academy of Architecture Mordvinov. Academician Kolli is working on plans for a forum on the bank of the Moscow River, to commemorate the defenders of the Capital. Stalingrad's central square will have a memorial museum designed by Academician Zholtovsky.

★

The Moscow-Leningrad railway has almost doubled its car loadings during the past two months, and in the second quarter of this year effected an economy of 13,500 tons of coal. This line has received the Railway Competition Banner for the third time in succession. Many of its workers have been decorated for their part in the defense of Leningrad. On the Moscow-Ryazan line three fast trains were run on schedule by an engineer who used only wood as fuel. On the third trip he saved 10 of the 26 cubic meters of wood previously used. Longer runs are to be made by this means.

★

Statement of Willi Peltz, private of the 50th Detachment of Tank Destroyers, 9th German Tank Division, taken prisoner on the Bryansk Front: *After Hitler's speech was read to us on July 4 the captain made a speech saying the capture of Kursk would be followed by occupation of Voronezh, and then Moscow would be outflanked. He said the enemy had never seen such forces, such armament and such an offensive as we were going to make.*

★

Alexei Semivolos, a famous miner of Krivoi Rog in the Ukraine, was evacuated to the Urals at the outbreak of war. He has spent his time since in teaching a whole new school of miners, who now daily deliver to their country several trainloads of ore above the plan. In eight months of this year Semivolos has produced two-and-a-half annual quotas and by the end of the year will have produced four.

★

In the national cycling finals in Tula, the Moscow, Leningrad, Tula, Gorky and Sverdlovsk teams competed. The Leningrad team, all of whose members have been decorated with the Defense of Leningrad Medal, was greeted with loud applause. Dyakonova led the Tula team to victory in the women's five-kilometer relay, while Batayev captained the Moscow team for top honors in the five-kilometer relay for men.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF SMOLENSK AND ROSLAVL

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Sokolovsky:

The troops of the Western Front, continuing the successful offensive, forced the Dnieper River and today, September 25, after a stubborn engagement, carried by storm the city of Smolensk—the large regional center and most important strategic center of German resistance in the western direction.

Today also the troops of the Western Front, after two days of violent fighting, crushed the enemy's resistance and captured the town of Roslavl—strategic center of enemy communication lines and powerful center of German resistance in the Mogilev direction.

In the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Smolensk and Roslavl the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Gluzdovsky, Lieutenant General Krylov, Lieutenant



A Red Army tank crew loading up with ammunition

General Polenov, Colonel General Gordov, Lieutenant General Sukhomlin, Lieutenant General Zhuravlev, Lieutenant General Popov and Lieutenant General Grishin and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Gromov and Marshal of Aviation Golovanov. The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 331st Red Banner Infantry Division under Colonel Berestov, the 215th Infantry Division under Major General Lovlev, the 133rd Infantry Division under Colonel Kasishvili, the 222nd Infantry Division under Major General Gryzlov, the 312th Infantry Division under Colonel Moiseyevsky, the 199th Infantry Division under Colonel Konenko, the 56th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Kolabutin, the 42nd Infantry Division under Major General Multan, the 153rd Infantry Division under Colonel Krasnov, the 32nd Cavalry Division under Colonel Kolyuzhny, the Fourth Gun Artillery Division of Guards under Major General of Artillery Kozhukhov, the Second Attack Plane Air Corps under Major General of Aviation Stepichev, the Third Bomber Air Division of Guards under Colonel Andreyev, the 303rd Fighter Air Division under Major General of Aviation Zakharov, the 309th Fighter Air Division under Lieutenant Colonel Vusye, the 367th Independent Machine Gun and Artillery Battalion under Major Savenkov, the 392nd Krasnoyarsk Corps Artillery Regiment under Colonel Serguyev, the 644th Gun Artillery Regiment under Colonel Krivochapov, the 873rd Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Vildin, the 549th Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Sotskov, the 317th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kopnin, the 201st Independent Trench Mortar Battalion of Guards under Major Vogoveyev, the 35th Independent Trench Mortar Battalion of Guards under Major Bogorodsky, the 49th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division under Colonel Kaminsky, the 341st Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Khilko, the 1,478th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Semenov, the 42nd Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Ketov, the 153rd Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Kruty, the Fourth Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Savchenko, the First Young Communist Storm Engineers Brigade under Colonel Petrov, the First Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade of Guards under Colonel Basov, the 247th Infantry Division under Major General Mukhin, the 139th Infantry Division under Colonel Kirilov, the 326th Infantry Division under Colonel Gusev, the 49th Infantry Division under Major General Chizhov, the 277th Infantry Division under Major General Gladyshev, the 344th Infantry Division under Colonel Strakhov, the 231st Attack Plane Air Division under Colonel Chiznikov, the 564th Gun Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Gusev, the 447th Red Banner Gun Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Chyvkov, the 542nd Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Rachenko, the 992nd Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Pupkov, the 345th Engineers Battalion under Major Gusev, the 303rd Engineers Battalion under Captain Petukhov, the 306th Engineers Battalion under Major Sinitsyn, the 1,268th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment of Guards under Major Lavrinovich, the Second Independent Trench Mortar Battalion of Guards under Major Yerevin, the 36th Long Range Air Division under Major General of Aviation Dryanin, the Second Long Range Air Regiment of Guards under Colonel Balashov, the Third Long Range Air Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Glazkov, the 14th Long Range Air Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Zenkov, the 455th Long Range Air Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Chebotayev, the 13th Long Range Air Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Dmitriev, the 17th Long Range Air Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Matrosov, and the 19th Long Range Air Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Shaposhnikov.

To mark the victory achieved, the names of Smolensk and Roslavl shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Smolensk and Roslavl. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named: The 331st Red Banner Smolensk Infantry Division, the 215th Smolensk Infantry Division, the 133rd Smolensk Infantry Division, the 222nd Smolensk Infantry Division, the 312th Smolensk Infantry Division, the 199th Smolensk Infantry Division, the 56th Smolensk Infantry Division of Guards, the 42nd Smolensk Infantry Division, the 153rd Smolensk Infantry Division, the 32nd Smolensk Cavalry Division, the Fourth Smolensk Gun Artillery Division of Guards, the Second Smolensk Attack Plane Air Corps, the Third Smolensk Bomber Air Division of Guards, the 303rd Smolensk Fighter Air Division, the 309th Smolensk Fighter Air Division, the 367th Smolensk Independent Machine Gun and Artillery Battalion, the 392nd Krasnoyarsk-Smolensk Corps Artillery Regiment, the 644th Smolensk Gun Artillery Regiment, the 873rd Smolensk Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 549th Smolensk Trench Mortar Regiment, the 317th Smolensk Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 201st Smolensk Independent Trench Mortar Battalion of Guards, the 35th Smolensk Independent Trench Mortar Battalion of Guards, the 49th Smolensk Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division, the 341st Smolensk Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment, the 1,478th Smolensk Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment, the 42nd Smolensk Tank Brigade of Guards, the 153rd Smolensk Tank Brigade, the Fourth Smolensk Tank Brigade of Guards, the First Smolensk Young Communist Storm Engineers Brigade, the First Smolensk Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade of Guards, the 36th Smolensk Long Range Air Division, the Second Smolensk Long Range Air Regiment of Guards, the Third Smolensk Long Range Air Regiment of Guards, the 14th Smolensk Long Range Air Regiment of Guards, the 455th Smolensk Long Range Air Regiment, the 247th Roslavl Infantry Division, the 139th Roslavl Infantry Division, the 326th Roslavl Infantry Division, the 49th Roslavl Infantry Division, the 277th Roslavl Infantry Division, the 344th Roslavl Infantry Division, the 231st Roslavl Attack Plane Air

Division, the 564th Roslavl Gun Artillery Regiment, the 447th Red Banner Roslavl Gun Artillery Regiment, the 542nd Roslavl Trench Mortar Regiment, the 992nd Roslavl Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 345th Roslavl Engineers Battalion, the 303rd Roslavl Engineers Battalion, the 306th Roslavl Engineers Battalion, the 1,268th Roslavl Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 54th Roslavl Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the Second Roslavl Independent Trench Mortar Battalion of Guards, the 13th Roslavl Long Range Air Regiment of Guards, the 17th Roslavl Long Range Air Regiment of Guards, and the 19th Roslavl Long Range Air Regiment of Guards.

Today, September 25, at 9:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our valiant troops which liberated the towns of Smolensk and Roslavl—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for Smolensk and Roslavl.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

Moscow, September 25, 1943

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF POLTAVA

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Konev:

The troops of the Steppe Front, successfully developing the offensive, forced the Vorskla River and after three days of stiff fighting, today, September 23, captured the regional center of the Ukraine—the town of Poltava—the powerful German center of resistance in the regions of the Ukraine on the left bank of the Dnieper.

In the engagements for the liberation of the town of Poltava, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Zhedov and Lieutenant General Managarov and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Goryunov. Particular distinction has been won by the Ninth Air-Borne Division of Guards under Colonel Sazonov, the 13th Infantry Division of Guards decorated with the Order of the Red Banner and the Order of Lenin under Major General Baklanov, the 66th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Yakshin, the 95th Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Nikichenko, the 97th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Antsiferov, the 84th Kharkov Infantry Division under Major General Bunyshin, the 42nd Light Artillery Brigade under Colonel Skorodymov, the 301st Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov, the 431st Engineers Battalion under Engineer Lieutenant Colonel Boltusevich, the 294th Fighter Air Division under Lieutenant Colonel Taranenko and the 266th Attack Air Division under Colonel Vadyakin.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Poltava shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Poltava. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named: The Ninth Poltava Air-Borne Division of Guards, the 13th Poltava Infantry Division of Guards decorated with the Order of the Red Banner and the Order of Lenin, the 66th Poltava Infantry Division of Guards, the 95th Poltava Infantry Division of Guards, the 97th Poltava Infantry Division of Guards, the 42nd Poltava Light Artillery Brigade, the 301st Poltava Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 57th Poltava Tank Regiment, the 431st Poltava Engineers Battalion, the 294th Poltava Fighter Air Division and the 266th Poltava Attack Air Division. The 84th Kharkov Infantry Division which has distinguished itself for a second time in fighting the German invaders shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, September 23, at 9:00 P. M. the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Poltava—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your direction which participated in the engagements for the liberation of the town of Poltava.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

Moscow, September 23, 1943

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF UNECHA

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Popov:

Today, September 23, continuing the vigorous offensive, the troops of the Bryansk Front captured in fighting the most important railway junction and strong German center of resistance in the Gomel direction—the town of Unecha.

In the engagements for the town of Unecha, the troops under Lieutenant General Fedyuninsky and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Naumenko distinguished themselves. Particular distinction has been won by the 197th Bryansk Infantry Division under Colonel Danilovsky, the 217th Infantry Division under Colonel Mesonov, the 117th Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Voronkov and the 30th Motorized Infantry Brigade under Colonel Smirnov.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Unecha shall be conferred on the formations which distinguished themselves in the engagements for the liberation of the town of Unecha. Henceforward these formations shall be named: The 217th Unecha Infantry Division, the 117th Unecha Tank Brigade and the 30th Unecha Motorized Brigade. The 197th Bryansk Infantry Division which has distinguished itself for a second time in fighting the German invaders shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, September 23, at 10:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Unecha—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your direction which participated in the engagements for the liberation of the town of Unecha.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

Moscow, September 23, 1943

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

SMOLENSK AREA BITTERLY DEFENDED

By Major General Semyonov

The town of Dukhovshchina and the surrounding countryside were the arena of extremely heavy fighting. Dukhovshchina is the key to the so-called "Smolensk gateway" between the western Dvina and the Dnieper River. Through this gateway passed Napoleon's army, and through it Hitler's troops advanced upon Moscow before being halted and hurled back in the winter of 1941.

Realizing the strategic importance of the Dukhovshchina area, the Germans turned it into one of the most heavily-fortified defense zones covering Smolensk. A number of picked divisions garrisoned there were ready to go into action at a moment's notice. By the time the Soviet offensive began the Germans had constructed a fortified zone 20 kilometers in depth consisting of six interconnected defense

belts. Each belt in turn was made up of two or more full-length line trenches and numerous positions for machine guns, mortars and anti-tank guns. There were six to eight pillboxes on every kilometer of the front, including portable steel ones weighing 16 tons, with armor of 15 centimeters' thickness. Before the German positions were barbed wire entanglements and extensive minefields. Areas of possible tank attacks were protected throughout by anti-tank ditches and other obstacles. The marshy and woody nature of the terrain was also favorable to the Germans. . . .

Fully aware of the area's military importance, the Germans concentrated their forces at the approaches to Dukhovshchina and continued to offer stiff re-

(Continued on page five)

GERMAN LYRICS

By Ilya Ehrenburg

The Germans were very keen on geography until a short while ago, and every German newspaper had its detailed maps. Germans of both sexes learned by heart names they found it hard to pronounce, like Verkhne-Kumoyarskaya or Novoderevenskaya. These maps have vanished from the pages of the newspapers. Abstract poetry has replaced geography.

The recent battlefields are defined in the Fuehrer's communiques as "west of Vyazma or west of Kharkov." He might as well say "east of Orsha or east of Zhitomir." But although they have scorned geography, the German papers have taken up economics with gusto. One Nonnenbruch, writing in the *Voelkischer Beobachter*, asserts, "We alone possess economic reserves—for after all the Ukraine is in Germany's hands."

Geography, however, adds a footnote to economics: while Fritz Nonnenbruch was composing his review, his countrymen were dashing westward. The district which Hitler defines as lying to the west of Kharkov is more than 280 kilometers west of that city, and only 50 or 60 miles from Kiev. Vainly does Nonnenbruch strive to comfort the Germans with the resources of the Ukraine: German troops are clearing out faster than the German economists can count them. Two thirds of the Ukraine east of the Dnieper has been liberated from the invaders.

"We can get on without victories since the Ukraine's flourishing territories are in our hands," writes another German in the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*. But this lout has forgotten one thing—that when the Red Army wins its victory the Germans will be minus those flourishing territories.

To the German women Hitler is serving poetry instead of geography and economics. On September 14 the Berlin radio broadcast an article entitled "Evenings on the Dnieper." Here is the stuff Fritz the lyricist offers the German women:

"Bright sunshine bathes the hills over which Kiev is spread. This is the center of the Ukraine. There's enchantment in the very word Ukraine; beautiful old buildings, charming scenery! What a pleasure to sit here and gaze at the landscape! You feel like closing your eyes and being borne away in thought to Germany. Fields stretch farther than your eye can reach along this side of the Dnieper. The soil is very fertile hereabouts; there are some wheatfields still unreaped. The sun beams a kindly warmth and you fancy yourself on the banks of the Rhine. My eyes closed, I was filled with quiet confidence and peace.

"Then the strains of a rough Ukrainian song reached my ears. The spell was broken—I was recalled to reality; I was not on the Rhine but on the Dnieper."

I doubt if it was this rough song that broke in upon the inspired German's day-dreams. It is much more likely that he was recalled to reality by quite different sounds—very rough, if you like—the booming of artillery. For while Fritz was dreaming, composing and sending his essays to Berlin, the Red Army had taken Chernigov and Yagotin. There remains no doubt that he was borne to Germany—in reality and not in thought.

Their ruses are ridiculous, their falsehoods blatant and abominable, their silence despicable. Base in their days of victory they remain base in their days of defeat. Nothing can raise the robbers above their crime. They hide the truth from each other and pretend to be rich and powerful. They are still blustering: "We are holding the Ukraine; we're fighting west of Kharkov; we're dreaming peacefully on the Dnieper's banks. . . ."

But even while they bluster they are clearing out hell for leather—this contemptible tribe!

SMOLENSK AREA

(Continued from page four)

sistance despite ever-increasing numbers of casualties. They hurled all available reserves into action, including rear-service men—clerks, bakers and musicians.

But the Soviet divisions advancing along a front of 75 kilometers could not be stopped either by enemy counter-attacks or unfavorable weather conditions. On September 19 Dukhovshchina was taken by storm. In heavy fighting remarkable for the skill and determination displayed by Red Army officers and men, Soviet troops routed a numerically equal German force, advanced 50 kilometers along a wide front and liberated 3,500 square kilometers of territory.

Following the capture of Dukhovshchina the Germans made an attempt to entrench themselves along the rivers east and southeast of Demidov, the next important strongpoint in the direction of Smolensk. But Soviet troops took the water barriers in their stride, and after heavy fighting gained possession of the town.

CHILDREN OF WARTIME LENINGRAD



(Top) Victor Panfilov, talented seventh grader, plays Tchaikovsky; (center) Games in the garden of the Palace of Pioneers; (bottom) An exhibit of school-children's art

THEIR FATHER

By O

Anatoli's mother found him at the airdrome. He had tied some leaves to his arms and hands, which were painted yellow and green. They were wings and they were camouflaged, said Anatoli.

"Where did you get the paint?" his mother asked. She had come to take him to the children's dining room for his dinner.

Anatoli was especially irritated by the question because mother asked it in the presence of two strange little girls. "I'm glad you came," his mother said to the girls. "I really don't know what to do with him. Katya's in the kindergarten, but I only see Anatoli during the dinner hour. He's getting terribly spoiled."

"He's a nice boy," said one of the girls, casting a side glance at him. "I'm sure we'll be friends."

They were schoolgirls, Galina and Valya. The girls in their school had decided there was a way they could help the front—they could take care of the children of Red Army men while the mothers were working. They had been assigned to Anatoli's family.

His father, a radio gunner, had gone to the front in 1941. Grandmother had died and the mother was left with two-year-old Katya and seven-year-old Anatoli. Katya became ill and the mother stayed home to nurse her. At this time letters from her husband ceased, and as she was not working she was beginning to be short of money.

How Soviet Childr

Tens of thousands of Soviet children have returned to the towns from summer camps to begin the new school year. They traveled on foot, by boat or bicycle. During the holidays they built their own tents and dugouts and cooked their food over camp fires.

Every group of children performed a specific task. Urals boys and girls prospected and studied useful minerals. Excursions in this area gathered large collections of minerals which will be sent by air to schools all over the Soviet Union.

IN THE SUMMER OF 1943

AT THE FRONT

enko

First to come to her aid was the children's doctor, Olga Cherniak, who arranged for Katya to go to the kindergarten and for meals for Anatoli at a children's dining room. After this the mother went back to work and her only worry was Anatoli. Now the girls were taking care of him.

Anatoli discussed with Galina and Valya why his father had not written. The radio gunner and his son had been the best of friends.

"He's probably encircled . . . don't you think?" asked Anatoli. "Or maybe he's joined the guerrillas. . ."

As it happened, Anatoli's father had actually spent several months with the guerrillas in the Orel Region. When a letter finally came from a hospital the girls were firmly convinced that Anatoli's father was a great hero. During an air battle his crew had shot down two enemy planes and landed their own blazing machine in a forest. The crew jumped out of the machine just before it blew up.

A collective answer was written to the letter from the hospital. Mother wrote that they were receiving help—the house committee had sent men to white-wash their rooms; the school had given new shoes and galoshes to the children. Anatoli drew a parachute very much like an open umbrella and wrote that next time papa was in danger he should bail out. The girls wrote: "Defend our motherland and don't worry about your family. The country and we will help them."

ent Their Holidays

Moscow schoolchildren visited areas on the Central Front liberated this year, including Vyazma, Rzhev, Kursk and Orel. They made drawings of cultural and historical monuments demolished by the Nazis, and recorded statements by local inhabitants on the fascists' barbarism, in order to convey this information to schoolchildren who live far from the front.

Youngsters from Gorky collected 310 tons of medicinal plants. Schoolchildren from other towns have handed over to hospitals hundreds of tons of berries, mushrooms, medicinal herbs, etc.



(Top) Leningrad children examining an exhibit of their own work; (center) The dinner hour in a children's dining room; (bottom) A concert in the Palace of Pioneers

HOW POLTAVA WAS TAKEN

Beautiful Poltava, with its gorgeous parks and orchards, symbol of the abundance of the Ukrainian land, has again become a Soviet city. The German command made desperate efforts to check our offensive in the Poltava direction, and the Red Army's victory here was preceded by many days of fierce and bloody fighting.

German officers had been ordered to explain to their men that Poltava was essential to the German defense system in the Ukraine. While fighting was still going on south and southwest of Kharkov, the Germans were already fortifying the distant and near approaches to Poltava. Thousands of so-called "civilian war prisoners"—more simply, residents of Ukrainian towns—were mobilized at pistol point, driven to Poltava under escort and forced to dig trenches and anti-tank ditches and to build blindages. German sapper units feverishly built fortifications, including many of reinforced concrete. The new invention of German engineers—metal pill-boxes—were used here on an especially wide scale. In one sector of the front, on the left bank of the Vorskla River, no less than 30 of these armored hoods were counted. The approaches to Poltava were thickly mined. The terrain, which abounds in streams, gullies and ravines, was favorable for the German defense. As a rule the river banks are marshy. Nothing was easier than to transform such terrain into a natural fortress, which was defended by the best German divisions. The fighting on the Merefa and Usta Rivers lasted several days, but despite the enemy's huge concentration of artillery and mortars and the dozens of heavy and medium tanks he hurled into battle, our troops advanced steadily and inexorably. The offensive spirit of the Red Army was so great that many wounded officers and men refused to leave their units for the hospital.

The next stage of the battle for Poltava was marked by a vigorous thrust of our troops, which had already broken into the depth of the Hitlerite defenses. The breaches were quickly widened and our infantry and tanks poured into them. The German retreat began. Thousands of inhabited places were liberated.

Now a picture of horror opened before the eyes of Soviet fighters. The smoke of conflagrations veiled the horizon, as the Germans burned the villages and drove the people westward. To save our Soviet people the Red Army men have been doing the impossible; they have dislodged the Germans from many places with such speed that the fascists had no chance to drive away our people or to evacuate war

materiel. Tens of thousands of Poltava citizens who were being driven west were liberated by our tankmen and cavalry.

One after another the defenses built by the Germans before Poltava fell. On September 21 our advance units approached the last line of German fortifications near the town. The faultless coordination of tankmen, infantry and artillery broke up the last German line—the Red Army troops were at the edge of Poltava. The last stage of the battle began—the forcing of the Vorskla River.

The Germans had a large number of artillery and mortar batteries, but our artillery proved stronger and its fire was more effective. The long artillery duel terminated in our favor. Remnants of the Germans fighting on the left bank were compelled to retreat. Our artillery thundered throughout the night of September 21-22, and under its cover our troops began to cross the Vorskla. Rafts and launches were lowered into the water. No matter how the Germans resisted, or what cunning tricks they resorted to, they could not halt our Guardsmen. More and more troops crossed the river. But still the Germans did not surrender. It was necessary to wage hand-to-hand battles for every street, almost for every building. The Germans fired the city. When morning came fighting was in progress in streets and courtyards and inside houses.

Citizens who had hidden from the Germans began to come out of cellars and shelters. Their tales of the German occupation infuriated our troops. Thousands of inhabitants of the city had been executed by the Germans. Any German could send a Soviet citizen to the Gestapó—from whence no one returned. The German secret police building was located in Malopetrovskaya Street, and during the winter bloody tracks led from this building through the snow to the forest outside the city, as wounded and tortured people were taken away to be shot.

No one knows how many Soviet citizens were killed here. When the common graves are opened the terrible truth will be revealed. Several thousand inhabitants of Poltava were driven to Germany; of most of them nothing is known. The town was meshed in a thick web of police espionage; it was forbidden by the town commandant to read Soviet books or to sing Soviet songs. The local fascist paper announced that several Poltava girls were sentenced to penal servitude for singing *Katyusha*.

THE ARMY OF THE BRYANSK FOREST

GUERRILLAS HOLD REVIEW IN OREL; PEOPLE CHEER "FOREST BROTHERS" WHO KILLED 150,000 GERMANS

In the liberated city of Orel, before the reviewing stand in Lenin Square, "The Army of the Bryansk Forest"—the heroic Bryansk guerrillas—deploys in broad rectangles. It is a day of celebration. From all parts of the city the people have gathered to greet the People's Avengers who in some two years of fighting have killed 150,000 Germans. For their selfless struggle against the fascist invaders seven guerrillas have been honored with the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, 1,677 decorated with military orders and medals and 1,516 with the "Guerrilla of the Patriotic War" medal.

Until recently only brave scouts dared appear

in Orel and Bryansk, but the bodies of dead German officers and men found in lonely by-streets testified to the constant activities of the invisible fighters. The people knew their avengers were near. Now that the Red Army is surging westward—and the recent enemy rear has become the deep Soviet rear—the citizens are greeting their forest brothers . . .

General Gorshkov mounts the platform. His cap is adorned with the red ribbon of the guerrillas; several days ago he was promoted to the rank of general—a guerrilla general. Before this he was known as Anatoli Petrovich—one of the organizers of the



Engineer Peter Ignatov, commander of a guerrilla detachment, and his wife, who fought at his side with their three sons. Two sons killed in action have been posthumously named Heroes of the Soviet Union. Ignatov's detachment within a short period blew up six bridges, four German trains, eight armored cars and 30 trucks, and killed some 2,000 Hitlerites

dynamiting of the famous "Blue Bridge." Now he commands the southern guerrilla group, and from the platform reads the report of the Orel guerrillas to the Supreme Commander-in-Chief:

"We abandoned our homes, but we did not abandon our posts. Filled with fury and wrath, we took to the forests. To live as victors or to die in glory—this was our choice!"

Alexander Matveyev, one of the leaders of the Orel Region and chief of the headquarters of the united guerrilla detachments, makes a fiery speech.

"This summer German punitive detachments moved against the Orel guerrillas," he says. "In addition to units already engaged in this activity the German command sent against the People's Avengers five divisions withdrawn from the front, several independent regiments and battalions, about 120 tanks and a large amount of artillery and other equipment. The German troops lost over 3,250 officers and men killed and a large quantity of arms. But they failed to achieve their purpose—to suppress the guerrilla movement—and were forced to retreat."

Maria Ugarova, a doctor, speaks on behalf of the men and women guerrillas of the Bryansk forest. After she finishes a group of working women, housewives, delegates of block committees and girl Pioneers

mount the platform, bringing flowers and gifts for the guerrillas, among whom are two Heroes of the Soviet Union, Alexei Bondarenko and Dmitri Emlyutis. With thunderous applause guerrillas and citizens approve a proposal to send a message of greeting to Marshal Stalin and to the troops of the Central and Bryansk Fronts.

The speeches end and the parade begins. To stirring music, famed guerrilla detachments bearing the names of "Stalin," "Molotov," "For the Motherland," "For Soviet Power," "Hero of the Soviet Union Strelets" and "For Kravtsov," file past the reviewing stand. Among the marchers are guerrilla scouts and sappers—masters of the surprise raid—carrying tommy guns and anti-tank guns of Russian make. Hungarian carbines and German sub-machine guns. The famous sapper, thick-set Alexei Izhukin, and guerrilla Hero of the Soviet Union Major General Mikhail Duka, are in the ranks.

The parade is followed by festivities in the park. In the city squares orchestras play and actors from Moscow and Leningrad theaters give performances. Collective farm women from neighboring villages have brought baskets filled with apples and press them on the guerrillas.

With merry-making and song continuing until far into the night, Orel celebrates its meeting with "The Army of the Bryansk Forest."

BROTHERLY AID

By Gregory Rudoy

A close friendship exists between the people of Novosibirsk Region in Siberia and those of Voronezh Region in Central Russia. This friendship began early in August when a delegation from Novosibirsk visited the devastated areas of Voronezh Region and presented five brood mares to the True Road Collective Farm in the Gremyachinsky District. In accepting the animals the veteran farmer Matvei Titov assured the Siberians that with their aid the horse-breeding farm would be reestablished.

The Novosibirsk delegates were deeply impressed by their visit. They traveled through districts where the Germans had wiped out every village. In the city of Korotyak, on the Don River, they found not a single building. They were told of the monstrous outrages of the Germans, who murdered 500 patients of a psychiatric hospital. They also saw how quickly the people were restoring the liberated areas.

In far-off Siberia, a large streamer above the gate of the May Morning Collective Farm proclaims, "We support the noble cause of fraternal solidarity." And from the live-stock farms of the Siberian steppes,

from the workers and engineers of Novosibirsk and Tomsk, from Siberian scientists and from the hunters and fishermen of Naryn, comes aid for the Central Russian region.

In August more than 500 carloads of lathes, tools and iron were shipped to Voronezh Region. Collective farmers sent agricultural machinery and cattle; medical workers sent medicines and hospital equipment, and schoolchildren and teachers contributed textbooks. More than 25,000 head of cattle and 3,000 farming implements were included in this brotherly aid.

The Voronezh Agricultural Academy, one of the largest higher educational institutions in the country, was almost completely destroyed by the German vandals. The main building was burned to the ground; all laboratories with their valuable equipment and more than 300,000 scientific volumes went up in flames. The experimental and research stations were demolished. The people of Novosibirsk are also helping to restore this institution.

Women Run Cattle-Breeding Collective Farm

By Yuri Medvedovsky

The village of Samets in the Kostroma District, Yaroslavl Region, has 63 farmsteads. Nearby lie rich pasture lands on which the collective farmers of the village raise high-grade cattle. This hitherto obscure village has won wide renown for a new pedigreed cow developed there. Each cow weighs more than 500 kilograms and yields an average of 3,000 liters of milk yearly.

Visiting the village with me was a group of zoologists and collective farmers from the Saratov and Chkalov Regions, who had traveled thousands of kilometers to buy calves for the collective farms in their districts. Nor were these the first purchasers of the new breed. In the past eight years, 700 head of cattle have been sent from Samets to improve the stock of other collective farms.

Praskovya Malinina, organizer and director of this

cattle-breeding collective, took us through the farm buildings, showing us the well-lighted cow barns and the silos. Malinina has a remarkable memory; she can recite the pedigree of each of the 970 cows which have been in her care during her eight years at the farm. Many of the animals have won medals and certificates at All-Union Agricultural Shows and have been sold to near and far-off districts.

"We've had some difficulties since the war," said Praskovya. "The ton and a half of concentrated food allotted each cow per year in peacetime has been reduced to 250 kilograms. Almost half this amount goes to cows not producing milk. Milk cows now receive in a year what they formerly got in one month. In spite of this, the cattle are well-nourished and the number of milk cows has not decreased. Since we did not have concentrated foods, we resorted to silage.

(Continued on page twelve)



A team of collective farm women of the Yaroslavl Region set out for the fields

The Past of the Alaska Peoples

By N. Elizov

Despite the war, the Ethnography Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR continues extensive investigations. Of considerable interest are the new studies of the Russian ethnographer, Maria Stepanova, dealing with the past of peoples inhabiting Alaska and the Aleutian Islands. In a recent interview Maria Stepanova stated:

"Alaska presents an interesting field of study for the ethnographer: it lies on routes along which the various peoples who inhabited the northern part of the American continent and northern Siberia migrated. This migration was apparently in both directions. A study of the peoples inhabiting the North American continent may help us to elucidate a number of problems relating to the past of the peoples of the Soviet North, with whom they have much in common."

For her study Maria Stepanova made use of the rich ethnographic collections of Soviet scientific institutes, which include a number of ancient household utensils, articles of clothing, war and hunting equipment, and articles employed in the religious rites of the Eskimos and Aleutians.

"A study of these materials," continued Stepanova, "casts new light on the question of the social organization of the peoples of Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, especially the Eskimos, and refutes the opinion of certain scientists who maintain that these peoples had no social organization in the past. In my opinion the view that these people lived in scattered, isolated families is wrong. A detailed analysis of the new material at hand has led me to the opposite conclusion."

"The past social organization of the Eskimos must be regarded as more complex. Undoubtedly there were among them groups consisting of several families who combined for hunting and fishing, for making long journeys and exchanging the products of their hunting for other needed goods. Such combined families had a common dwelling, which made possible a saving of fuel and mutual aid in case of disaster. Every family was bound to submit to very strict rules in the common interests of the entire population."

"A study of the ethnographic material casts new light also on questions pertaining to the past war organization and mode of life of the Aleutians."

WOMEN FARMERS

(Continued from page eleven)

"Our people are working much harder than before the war. There is scarcely one who does not have someone at the front, and we do all we can in the rear to help them in their noble struggle. During the last two years we have increased the livestock on our farm by 112 head, thus exceeding our plan for animal breeding by two and one half times."

"The number of workers on the farm has decreased, and to avoid taking people from other jobs we have organized into teams, achieving much more this way. The milkmaids do the milking at three in the morning, and they also feed calves and store fodder. Seventeen-year-old Zina Simonova rakes the grass and Klavdia Simonova, wife of a machine gunner who

has received two decorations, is in charge of important work. There is no rest for any of the 32 women working on the farm. Last autumn our teams got in 570 tons of silage. We now have 690 tons prepared, although before the war we never prepared more than 160 tons in a season."

We talked with Maria Stepanova—who had wrapped her coat around a calf, although she herself was shivering with cold—and with the milkmaids Nina and Maria Baranova, who do not leave the cow barns for days if a cow is sick. We also met 23-year-old Nadezhda Klimova, who for nearly two weeks, while the cows were calving, took hardly any time off for rest.

Each of these women tries to outdo the other in her work and devotion to our country in these difficult years of war.

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THE BEGINNING OF THE END

By Ilya Ehrenburg

In this solemn hour we desire to think, to look back. September, 1941 . . . German columns march along the main street of Kiev. Every day, to a beating of drums, to a whistling and rapping, to Hitler's barking and the ululation of hundreds of commentators, the Berlin radio announces the capture of more towns.

Countrywomen watch the retreating Red Army with dry, hard eyes. Field Marshal von Reichenau poses

for his photograph against a background of Kharkov. The Nazi newspapers caption it briefly—"Conqueror."

Dust whirls over the roads: Guderian's tanks tear along from Putivl, from Konotop, toward Orel. Women trudge eastward with their little babies. German fliers shoot them down and returning to their airdromes toast "an early victory."

Trains laden with Ukrainian wheat roll into Ger-



Automatic riflemen of a Red Army Guards unit attacking in the Novorossisk area

many. Hitler shouts: "The Red Army is no more." Hitler and Mussolini pose amid the ruins of Smolensk. A venerable professor lectures in Heidelberg: "Russia is a colossus with feet of clay."

The Germans break into the Donbas. The autumn wind swings the bodies of hanged miners. Berlin cackles worriedly: "We haven't enough commandants or police." To them it seems that their game has been won. And even the American newspaper, the *New York Times*, writes: "With the loss of the Donbas the organized resistance of Russia becomes practically unthinkable."

That was nearly two years ago, and it is worth while recalling it today—today, when the colossus of Russia strides westward on its feet of steel, when many people abroad cannot think of adequate words to glorify the Red Army, when women crying with relief embrace the dust-covered Red Army men, when no one even remembers Mussolini who posed in Smolensk, and when Hitler keeps silence, having nothing more to say, when every day we learn about the liberation of a dozen towns, when the expulsion of the enemy has begun.

Yes, what is happening now is not just one more battle. It is the expulsion of the enemy. For the first time we sense, with all our being, the beginning of the end.

For two years the Germans have been writing about the importance of the Donets Basin. Multi-colored maps of the Donets Basin hung in German consulates in Argentina, in Sweden, in Portugal, just under Hitler's portrait. Triangles, diamonds and squares symbolized the riches of the captured territory. Economists wrote studies about the past, present and future of the Donets Basin. Military observers, referring haughtily to the "incomprehensible obstinacy of the Russians," pointed out that with the loss of the Donets Basin the Soviet Union could not resist for long. The *National Zeitung* titled one of its leading articles in December, 1942, "A Country Without Coal."

We knew well enough what the loss of the Donbas meant for us. We never concealed our wounds from ourselves. We have endured the unendurable. We lost the coal of the Donbas, the ore and grain of the Ukraine, the Kuban, the Don, the plants of Dnepropetrovsk, Kharkov, Voronezh, Stalingrad, the oil of Maikop. We lost a great deal.

Now the Red Army has won back the Donbas. It has won back this great workers' anthill, the heat and light of our country. We have the right to celebrate the liberation of the Donbas. But even the Donbas is now but one chapter. Something bigger is happening: the expulsion of the enemy.

The Konotop Region figured in the communiques for three days. Konotop is ours. We know what Bakhmach means. . . . Ukrainian eyes sparkle! Kiev

already hears a faint rumbling at nights: it is freedom coming.

In these days of victories I wish once more to recall that there is something in our war which distinguishes it from all other wars; our war is waged not only by the intellect of the people, not only by its ardent affection for its land. It is waged by the indignant conscience. Justice and Russia march hand-in-hand.

The advancing Red Army sees the black, devilish mark of the invader in the ashes of towns, in the bodies of men and women tortured to death. Wherever they can, the Germans drive away all the population. Before me lies an order of the German command on the "evacuation" of the Navlya district: "Everyone shall immediately set out with his family, cattle and movable property in a westerly direction. Whoever takes the eastern direction will be fired at."

The dying snake stings. Hitlerite Germany, perishing, wants to drag the whole world with her. Mined houses leap into the air and Russian children die on the roads.

When one hears the stories of those who remained, when one looks into their eyes, blurred by fear and humiliation, one sees another "desert zone"—this time in their hearts, emptied by two years of intimidation and oppression. Our soldiers see how the Germans introduced feudal labor service for the collective farmers, how they whipped people for insubordination, how they raped, intimidated and infected girls. The invaders will answer for everything. The army of justice is marching westward.

Germany trembles. The sword of justice has flashed before her. The Fritzes are in confusion. Only two months ago Hitler promised them a victorious offensive. A captured German officer, Siegfried Manzke, mumbles: "There is no sense in continuing the war." There was sense in the war when they were out for great plunder. Then the war meant bacon for the German soldiers and petrol for the herren officers. Now the war has lost its sense for them.

But it is full of significance to us. We will cure them of their fighting lust. We will kill their desire to set out, every quarter-century, to grab other people's property. They will learn the price of a pound of bacon and a gallon of petrol.

Within two months our soldiers have accomplished a great thing: they have struck down Germany. All the nations of the world will say with us: "It is time to finish! Let us save Europe while the slaves are still alive."

The Red Army, proudly marching at the head of mankind, continues on its path. Before it lies the Dnieper. Before it is life. There was retreat, counter-offensive, defense, offensive.

And now?

Now the expulsion of the enemy.

THE END OF WILHELM KUBE

By Ilya Ehrenburg

For two years our country was torn by ravening wolves. Then the hunt began. The wolves are being slain wholesale. The Red Army is approaching the long-suffering Byelorussian frontiers, and the salute it received was the shot fired by the Byelorussian patriot who destroyed Wilhelm Kube, one of the big wolves.

The ruins of Minsk were still smoking when an extremely self-assured German by the name of Kube arrived, with his title of Commissar General of Byelorussia and his greedy eyes. This gentleman had been dreaming of riches for a long time. In Berlin he had once studied what are called the humanities. But Willi had never been a simpleton. Humanism did not attract him as much as profit. He got into the Brandenburg Chamber of Commerce; he was the broker whose dirtiest deals were concealed by high-flown speeches. No better label was to be found for brokers of his kind than deputy to the Reichstag. So Willi, always smart at these things, considered how best to get into the Reichstag.

Various parties hesitated to have anything to do with this rogue. But Kube was not to be daunted. He knew there was one party that would cherish him—at that time the crazy Hitler was already gathering his followers for some downright dirty work. Before the Germans had time to look about them, Kube had made himself a deputy. After this it was all plain sailing: he became chairman of the Berlin and Brandenburg Chamber of Commerce. Kube stole—but since all the people around him were Kubes, too, he learned that thieves find it difficult to steal from thieves. So Willi dreamed of something with more scope.

War meant grief, blood and death to millions. War was a very profitable enterprise for Willi. When the robbers flung themselves on their prey this Herr Professor of Humanities, this Councillor of the Chamber of Commerce, helped himself to a rich morsel: he got Byelorussia.

His idea was to do some quiet robbery and to write



A German tank put out of action by the Red Army

Radiofoto

plays in his spare time. All the Hitlerites are graphomaniacs. It is not enough for them to hang people: they need to write verses as well. Goebbels scribbles novels, Rosenberg composes mystical cantatas, the English estate where Hess lived was snowed under with sonnets. As for Kube—he dreamed of becoming a dramatist. He even wanted to build a theater in Minsk where his plays would be performed—only those Byelorussians proved so undisciplined.

Kube took offense and decided to show them that he could not only write, but hang people as well. The sound of hammering came from Theater Square, where the gallows were built. Kube nodded approvingly. "Now I'll write a remarkable tragedy," he said. He ordered this masterpiece to be produced in Minsk. It was enacted by the Andsberg City Theater Company. The audience was supposed to applaud, but preserved silence. Then Kube gave orders for several city blocks to be burned and a dozen recalcitrants hanged.

Plunder of Byelorussia

However—art is art and business is business. The Professor of the Chamber of Commerce did not forget the main thing. He robbed Byelorussia. He exported grain, matches, glass and cotton goods. Even peasant embroideries were not beneath his notice. "Heavens, how I adore folk art!" he exclaimed, and robbed the museums of their most valuable pieces. A picture gallery attracted him—not that he looked at the pictures—he had them packed and exported. He thought both of the Fuehrer and himself. To please the former he dispatched new slave contingents to Germany. Not forgetting himself, he placed "savings" to the account of the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

This tradesman's innate cruelty came out. For 54 years he had lived the life of an ordinary German pork butcher: thieved on the sly, pronounced beautiful speeches at birthday parties, and pinched housemaids. And now—three million lives were in his hands. Kube blossomed out. "Our fuehrer's grown very noticeably," those nearest him remarked. It was only natural: had he ever dreamed that he would preside at mass executions?

Kube Murdered 100,000

Minsk became the scaffold of Byelorussia and Europe. To Minsk were brought the condemned from various countries—to be gassed while Kube looked on and chuckled and wrote plays. Two hundred women and children were burned by him in Rudobelka. These were not sufficient. He burned another 700 in Karpilovka. Minsk's three gibbets were never empty. A hundred thousand was the number of his victims during his rule: he wrote two plays.

He was a real pedigreed Prussian. He did not simply kill his victims, he made a mockery of them. He instituted the "Belorutenin Academy of Sciences" and appointed himself president. He wrote in the *Minsker Zeitung*, "I am in love with Byelorussian culture." And immediately afterward signed an order for the execution of seven Byelorussian teachers.

He was fond of visiting the concentration camp at Komarkova, where Byelorussian scientists, doctors and engineers carried barrels of water. At these times Wilhelm Kube, Professor of Humanities, threw restraint to the winds. He goaded his unfortunate victims, bawled to the soldiers, "Stir up that fellow with the beard!" The outstanding Byelorussian, Doctor Sitterman, died before his eyes: he was harnessed to a cart. It made Kube laugh. "Now that I've learned to write dramas, I'll write the most marvelous comedy," he said. Thus did vice-fuehrer Kube live and prosper.

Suddenly the people of Minsk were warned: "Prepare for festivities. The Herr Commissar General will celebrate his 55th birthday." With great pomp did Kube celebrate this birthday. He received a telegram from Hitler, presented himself with a hundred thousand in cash, ordered raids on a colossal scale and executed another 130 citizens of Minsk. In a florid speech he said, "Under German protection Byelorutinen life will be illumined by the gold of the sun." He expected to live in that fairyland for many long years.

The People Avenge

But the Byelorussians thought otherwise. Two of his colleagues were killed by guerrilla bullets this summer. The people's judges executed the regional head, Ludwig Erenleutener; government inspector Heinrich Kloze; chief of the regional agricultural administration Gunther Benevitzin and chief constable of the gendarmerie Karl Hall.

Willi grew depressed. He was given to bromides and ultra-violet ray treatments. He began to dread everything—both noise and silence. He even gave up writing his new comedy. And so the day of justice came at last. Long before that the Byelorussian people had pronounced their verdict: the guerrillas carried the sentence into execution.

Berlin sent telegrams: "Find the culprits guilty of the dastardly murder." Berlin shrieked: "Who killed the Herr Commissar General?"

It was the people who killed him. And our country does honor to the unknown avenger. He is the forerunner of justice. And soon the others will answer—for Vitebsk's death ditches, for Gomel's ashes, for Minsk's ruins, for those who were burned, hanged and shot. For everything, for everyone. They will answer . . . these hangmen of the Byelorussians. And the dead Kube's master, Hitler, who is still living—he will answer, too.

THE RED ARMY IS MARCHING WESTWARD

From a PRAVDA editorial of September 27:

A great historic epoch divides the Smolensk of July, 1941, from the Smolensk of September, 1943. The July days of the first year of war will never fade from the people's memory. Despite the heroic resistance of Red Army men, the German hordes then forged ahead through the smoke and flames of burning Soviet towns and villages.

The Germans called Smolensk the gate to Moscow. They believed that gate would easily open under the blow of their mailed fist. But they suffered a great defeat there: their plan for a lightning war fell through. Like a solid wall the Red Army barred the way to Moscow. Due to the suddenness of their attack, the Germans were able to capture Smolensk, but their thrust aimed at Moscow was frustrated. The young, inexperienced Red Army, which had not been completely mobilized at that time, retreated from Smolensk, but the Soviet people knew that it would return.

Now this day has come. Matured in fighting, tempered in the fire of victorious battles, the Red Army men have thrown open the Smolensk gate to the west, to Byelorussia. The Red Army has entered Byelorussian soil. Liberation has dawned for the brother Byelorussians languishing in German bondage, but never ceasing their heroic struggle even for a single day. In addition to the Gomel direction, those of Vitebsk and Mogilev have appeared in Soviet

communiques. The Red Army advances toward the Dnieper . . .

The great river on whose banks grew up the state and culture of three great Slav peoples has become the temporary boundary between the Red Army and its enemies. But the Red Army has already acquired skill in forcing rivers. The coordination of air and land forces, artillery, sappers and scouts—this is the force overcoming the water barriers, the minefields and the blockhouses with armored hoods.

In the summer of 1941 the Red Army thwarted at Smolensk the Hitlerite plans for lightning war; upset the insane strategy of the arrogant German lance corporal who imagined himself a great strategist. In the autumn of 1943 at Smolensk the Red Army frustrates the plans for a protracted war in which the Germans still seek escape from ultimate utter defeat. Hitler's day is gone. He seeks its prolongation in a strategy of protracted and stiff defense. The Germans try to make a stand, to create fortified lines far in their rear. The Red Army thwarts these plans of the bankrupt Hitlerite politicians and strategists. Its offensive continues. Yesterday it liberated over 820 inhabited localities. In the Dnepropetrovsk, Kremenchug and Kiev directions, Soviet troops have reached the bank of the Dnieper.

In the name of great Stalin the valiant Red Army men triumphantly advance, in the name of great Stalin the soldiers of the Red Army will daily inflict still heavier blows on the enemy until he is ousted from the whole Soviet land and completely defeated.

"Black Devil" Guerrilla Detachment In Byelorussia

The Byelorussian motorized guerrilla detachment—called by Germans the "Black Devils"—was organized by tractor drivers soon after Germany's attack on the Soviet Union. The commander, Fedor N., was formerly director of a machine and tractor station. In tanks and armored cars captured from the enemy, mobile groups from this detachment raid railway stations and headquarters deep in the enemy rear. The guerrillas have an almost complete set of German tank models, including the heavy T-4.

Recently the detachment raided a strongly-fortified station where a large number of troop trains en route to the Bryansk Front were concentrated. The station was protected by a large garrison, equipped with tanks and artillery. The guerrillas attacked simultaneously from three directions. The Germans replied with a hurricane of artillery and mortar fire,

and sent out tanks against them. The guerrillas feigned retreat, inveigled the enemy tanks into pursuit and then, rapidly regrouping, attacked the station from the opposite direction. The German tanks and artillery, cut off from their base, were quickly disabled. The success of this action was largely due to the action of the guerrillas' tank-borne assault group. Under incessant mortar and machine gun fire, the guerrillas then broke into the station, captured the telegraph office and severed the enemy's communications.

Another group of guerrillas lying in ambush on the highway captured a German armored car in which the commandant of the station, a colonel, and several other officers carrying important documents were trying to flee.

AZERBAIJANIANS LEARN WARFARE

By a Front-Line Correspondent

Marshal Stalin's Order of the Day on the capture of Taganrog mentions an Azerbaijanian division among those which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the town. This Order was more than a recognition of the bravery of the people of Azerbaijan, the little Caucasian Soviet Republic whose capital is Baku, the oil town.

Nations are neither brave nor cowardly. There are brave or cowardly individuals. But nations are either experienced or inexperienced in warfare. That is to say, they may or may not have accumulated fighting traditions.

The Azerbaijanians were not a warlike people. For a long time, under Tsarism, they were not even called to the army. They are kindly, peaceable, industrious folk, exceptionally fond of home and family. They rarely leave their native republic. But this war has shown that they possess courage to match their other virtues. I saw them near Mozdok and Pyatigorsk in the winter of 1942. In the spring I went with them through the Kuban swamps. They were unaccustomed to war. It was a hard school, but they applied themselves unflinchingly to learn this strange art.

At first they were brave, but unskilled. They had to pay more dearly than the soldiers of other Soviet peoples for their experience. They became famous for their readiness to sacrifice themselves. In one of those early battles Meshadi Gaidarov, a stretcher-bearer, was removing a wounded officer, a Russian, from the field. The officer had some vital information to convey to the Command. But the enemy fire was so intense it was impossible to make any headway, and they both took shelter in a shellhole.

Convinced that he would not survive, the officer handed the stretcher-bearer his dispatch case and ordered him to go and deliver the documents to headquarters. But Gaidarov shook his head. He didn't know much Russian, and was afraid he would bungle things.

"But it's necessary, it's important," the wounded man shouted desperately. "If we're both killed, nobody will get that map."

"It's all right. Calm yourself. You will not be killed," Gaidarov said.

He was no longer a young man, and this was his first battle. He lay on top of the wounded man, protecting him from shell splinters. About an hour later he was killed. The next morning the wounded commander was picked up and removed safely to a hospital.

By the winter of 1942, however, the Azerbaijanians in the Red Army were beginning to show that they had fully mastered the art of war. One of the best snipers at Stalingrad was Balkochkhama Absova, an Azerbaijanian. Junior Lieutenant Kyazima Alieva, of Kuban fame, has 32 wearers of Government orders in his subdivision. Rasulov, an Azerbaijanian scout of fantastic brilliance, who fought at Rostov, used to be a baker.

The Azerbaijanian, like the Uzbek, has been a tiller of the soil for generations, and so has an inherent talent for digging in. The shovel can be a wonderful weapon in the right hands, and the Azerbaijanians have shown themselves to be gifted sappers. Their trenches are not only neat, they are something to be proud of. Beyond each dugout there is generally a tiny vegetable plot with radishes and onions, and very often flowers and shrubs set off by borders of stones or German shell splinters.

As soon as he moves to another trench the Azerbaijanian promptly looks around and chooses himself a new vegetable plot. I myself knew an Azerbaijanian rifleman who grew a magnificent tomato plant outside his dugout. When the order came to move on to a new sector he packed it devotedly, roots and all, into a German helmet, and took it along with him. It was the same variety as he had in his garden at home, he explained.

Azerbaijanians fully appreciate the value of labor, and once they've dug in the Germans find them next to impossible to dislodge. To them, the trench they've dug becomes nothing more or less than home. They are such gentle people, it is surprising to find them so relentless. In the Kuban they have a saying that Uzbeks and Azerbaijanians are as tough as tanks. I can imagine them surrounding the Taganrog fortified line, pulling themselves resistlessly forward over the earth they know and love so well. They go into battle with earth as their armor.

They are a proud and self-respecting people. They have mastered the difficult art of modern war in an exceptionally short time. At Taganrog they earned the admiration of the entire USSR. Henceforth Azerbaijan will be regarded as having established a new and splendid fighting tradition.

Generals Promoted

The Council of Peoples Commissars of the USSR has promoted Lieutenant Generals Ivan Zakarkin, Mikhail Malinin and Vyacheslav Tsvetayev to the rank of Colonel General, and Lieutenant General of Artillery Vasili Kazakov to the rank of Colonel General.

IN STALINGRAD TODAY

You can still see, scrawled on the walls of Stalingrad, the promise the Red Army men made to themselves, their country and the world: *We shall defend this city.*

Now there is another promise scrawled alongside: *We shall rebuild you, our dear city!*

It is not comfortable living in Stalingrad today. But it is exhilarating. Every day the city Soviet gets hundreds of letters that run something like this:

"I fully realize what I'll be up against . . . but I want to work in Stalingrad and help rebuild it." That came from a woman. Or this . . . "We, a family of eight, request you to help us to return to Stalingrad. We are ready to do any work that is required."

All Soviet roads lead to Stalingrad. All the peoples of the USSR helped to defend the city . . . Russians, Ukrainians, Tatars, Uzbeks, Georgians, Tadzhiks. And all the peoples of the USSR are helping to rebuild it . . . Byelorussians, Chuvashes, Kazakhs . . .

Akhat Belyakov is a Tatar, and an ace bricklayer. He has organized a "youth brigade" of young girls who are helping to rebuild the houses in one of the factory settlements. He taught them how to lay bricks, and now he gets dizzy at the pace they set. Maria Sagaidak, a girl from Kremenchug, made a record by laying 7,445 bricks in six hours. Then her friend, Lydia Babkina, seized the laurels by laying 7,487. Akhat's brigade completed the walls of the house on which they are now working in 18 hours.

Even today all the mines the Germans left have not been cleared up. Sappers are still poking about mountains of stone and metal, and scouring out-of-the-way places for these vicious relics of the enemy's retreat.

Stalingrad today is a city of violent contrasts. In parts of the outlying areas everything is just as it was left after the battle. A fresh wind stirs the dust from the heaps of brick and rubble, and sends scraps of paper and tattered rags whirling down the desolate streets. Wrecked tramcars, garlanded with torn overhead cables, still stand where they lurched to a standstill. Here and there tank turrets poke up from the ruins.

But in the Voroshilov district there is a cheerful bustle of robust life. In that district are situated the city administrative offices and various institutions concerned with culture and child welfare. Over a

MEN AND WOMEN WHO DEFENDED STALINGRAD FIGHT TODAY ON OTHER FRONTS



(Top) Nina Arkhipova is a tank radio gunner—she has been twice decorated for bravery; (center) Guards Senior Lieutenant Nikolai Golikov returns from an operational flight; (bottom) One of the most cherished decorations is the special medal "For the Defense of Stalingrad"

Radiophoto

thousand houses have been repaired in that neighborhood, to house young builders, industrial workers and office employees. Rebuilding goes on at an exultant speed. From early morning until late at night the

streets are full of young people on their way to the sites, carrying beams, planks, bricks and sand in roughly-made wheelbarrows.

Most of Stalingrad's people are still roughing it in cellars and dugouts, tents and shacks. On one of the main city streets, near the Volga embankment, is a dormitory for girl river transport workers. Unless you were taken there, you would never find it. The courtyard is pitted with bomb craters. Above ground, nothing is left of the buildings but piles of brick and stark, ragged walls.

A wooden stairway leads down to a big, vaulted cellar. It is astonishingly cheerful. The girls excavated the ground on one side, exposing the wall, in which they cut windows. They scoured the place until it was clean as a new pin, whitewashed the walls and hung family photographs over their bunks.

Stalingrad is a city of builders. Many of them wear the "Stalingrad Defense" medal—showing they are as good with the rifle as with the trowel. The builders are Stalingrad's notables. The most famous of them is Gregory Christov, who beat all records by laying nearly 10,000 bricks in one shift.

But everyone in Stalingrad, irrespective of his trade or profession, is something of a builder. Factory workers, clerks, doctors, students—all seize axe, pick and spade when the day's work is done, and help to repair houses or pave roads.

All the remaining squares and parks have been

turned into children's playgrounds. A hundred children whose fathers work at the tractor plant spent the summer in a camp on the bank of the Volga.

The sawmills are working. The confectionery factory is working. The boot repairers are able to mend your shoes. Workshops are turning out clothing and beds. The women have started a cooperative garment-making shop in a small house in Karl Liebknecht Street. They salvaged their sewing machines from under the ruins of their homes. They explain: "We do mostly civilian work—mainly children's clothes. But now we have an Army contract."

Moscow Bolshoi Theater Opens New Season

The Bolshoi State Academic Ballet and Opera Theater of the USSR opened its season on September 26 with the patriotic opera *Ivan Susanin*, by Glinka.

Muscovites will never forget that during one of the air raids on the Capital, German fliers dropped a bomb on the Bolshoi Theater, demolishing the vestibule and damaging the upper foyer. Despite exceptionally difficult and complex conditions of war, the theater was completely repaired during the autumn of 1941, while the Red Army was fiercely repulsing the German-fascist hordes at the approaches to Moscow.

Now the works of the great masters of Russian and world art will again be heard in the famous Bolshoi Theater.

Shostakovich Completes *Eighth Symphony*

Dmitri Shostakovich gave a piano rendition of his recently-completed *Eighth Symphony* before an audience of Soviet composers and orchestra conductors a few days ago at the House of the State Committee on Arts, in Moscow. Present were Nikolai Myaskovsky, Boris Asafyev, Marian Kovalevsky, Tikhon Khrennikov, Victor Bely and Nikolai Chemberdzhly.

"In this symphony Shostakovich's creative genius appears in all its power," said composer Nikolai Myaskovsky. "The symphony impresses with its great strength and philosophic depth."

The *Eighth Symphony* consists of five movements. The first is adagio; the second, third and fourth are marches of varying character and tenor—the cheerful, optimistic notes of the first two marches giving place

in the fourth movement to sorrow and grief. The last movement, an original pastoral, is permeated with great optimism. The symphony as a whole is an optimistic, life-asserting composition.

Shostakovich's new symphony will be performed for the first time in Moscow at the opening of the December Festival of Soviet Music, under the baton of the Leningrad conductor, Eugene Mravinsky.

The All-Union Society for the Advancement of Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (VOKS) will shortly complete the transcription of the score of the *Eighth Symphony*, and copies will be forwarded to the United States and Great Britain within a few days.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF KREMENCHUG

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Konev:

After three days of stiff fighting the troops of the Steppe Front crushed the enemy's resistance and today, September 29, captured the town of Kremenchug—the Germans' strong bridgehead on the left bank of the Dnieper River.

In fighting for the liberation of Kremenchug the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Zhadov and Lieutenant General Managarov and fliers under Lieutenant General of



(Left foreground) Senior Sergeant of the Guards Kuznetsov, who has received the Order of the Red Banner, with his machine-gun crew

Aviation Goryunov. Particular distinction was won by the 97th Poltava Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Antsiferov, the Sixth Air-Borne Division of Guards under Colonel Smirnov, the 214th Infantry Division under Colonel Grovchen, the 233rd Infantry Division under Colonel Sokolov, the 219th Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Pilovox, the 469th Trench Mortar Regiment under Major Chernyavsky, the 308th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Goldin, the 1,902nd Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Grdzlishvili.

To mark the victory achieved the name of Kremenchug shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Kremenchug. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named: The Sixth Kremenchug Air-Borne Division of Guards, the 214th Kremenchug Infantry Division, the 233rd Kremenchug Infantry Division, the 219th Kremenchug Tank Brigade, the 469th Kremenchug Trench Mortar Regiment, the 308th Kremenchug Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 1,902nd Kremenchug Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment.

The 97th Poltava Infantry Division of Guards which distinguished itself for the second time in fighting the German invaders shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, September 29, at 11 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our valiant troops which liberated the town of Kremenchug—with 12 salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Kremenchug.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

September 29, 1943

THE DONBAS FOUGHT FOR ITS FREEDOM

By I. Ostrovsky, Ukrainian Writer

Do you remember the comfortable cottages in pleasant gardens set back from the broad paved streets of the Donbas mining centers? I recall my surprise that these should be the homes of coal miners, who before the October Revolution knew neither rest nor recreation. Now their homes were clean; factories and mines had their clubs and rest homes; there were theaters and cinemas in all the towns.

The cultural level of the Donbas miners had risen by leaps. Many had become mechanics, engineers and managers of mines. Before the war began, 17,600 students, most of whom were the children of miners, were enrolled in Donbas mining institutes and technical schools.

These institutes, schools and cottages have been leveled to the ground. The German savages deported the young girls to Germany or drove them into brothels. In Gorlovka one young girl who had escaped from a brothel told of 30 girls who were brought there. Of this number nine were shot for resisting and five went insane. Several, like herself, succeeded in escaping.

In the struggle for the liberation of their land from the German invaders, old and young, intellectuals and the brave Donbas miners, fought stubbornly with every means at their command. Ukrainians will never forget the 55 young men and women of the town of Krasnodon who on their own initiative formed an underground organization to fight the criminals who had degraded their youth and turned their fathers and mothers into voiceless slaves.

These young people listened to the Moscow broadcasts under the very noses of the Germans and circulated the Soviet war communiques among the people. They set fire to the offices of the Nazi "labor exchange" and destroyed the lists of inhabitants doomed to deportation to Germany. On November 7, anniversary of the October Revolution, these young people hoisted 25 Soviet flags over the city.

Every member of this detachment eventually perished in the unequal struggle, but the proud and liberty-loving Ukrainian youths did not flinch even in the face of death. Some had their eyes gouged out, their hands and feet sawed off; other were burned

with hot irons—but not one word did the executioners extract from them. Before her execution Ulyana Gromova scratched on the wall of the prison cell with her fingernails: *I shall soon die. Dear brother, fight for your native land!*

To traitors the people of the Donbas showed no mercy. In Kramatorskaya a traitor joined the German police. He did not serve his masters long—he did not even live to stand trial before the Soviet courts. His own wife killed him.

The Donbas guerrillas ceaselessly fought against the Germans—on the railways, in villages and towns and in the mines. On Christmas Eve they attacked a group of German officers who had gathered for a celebration, hurling hand-grenades into the room and killing 20 of the Nazis. On the same night they destroyed 175 cases of shells and killed the sentinel guarding them, while another detachment blew up two bridges and attacked a village occupied by the Germans, annihilating 300 enemy officers and men, de-

stroying 16 trucks and capturing a large number of machine guns.

The valiant Red Army has liberated the most fertile and most highly industrialized sections of the Ukraine, and the day is not far off when this whole rich land will again be in the hands of its real masters—the Ukrainian people.

The world honors the Ukrainian heroes—Alexander Molodchy, twice Hero of the Soviet Union; Bondarenko; sniper Ludmila Pavlichenko, who has killed more than 300 Hitlerites; Filipchenko, who hurled himself under an enemy tank with a handful of grenades. Behind these known heroes is the whole Ukrainian people, who will not lay down their arms until the last Hitlerite gangster has been cleared from our land.

The Donets Basin has been liberated. It is scarred . . . drenched with the blood of its sons . . . but it will recover.



A Soviet anti-tank gun crew calmly carries on under bursting shell-fire

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN YAKUTIA

By Nikolai Ostalishin

*Chief of the Communications Department,
Yakutian Autonomous Republic*

Nikolai Ostalishin, who has been decorated by the Government for his work in Yakutia, Eastern Siberia, began his career as a postman in the Ukraine 15 years ago, at the age of 25. When the Germans invaded the Ukraine, Ostalishin was evacuated and put in charge of all communications in Yakutia. There, under the most adverse conditions, he organized a model communications system. During a brief visit to Moscow he gave the following account of his work:

The Yakutian Republic stretches over 3,000,000 square miles—the greater part of Eastern Siberia. Its population of 400,000 is occupied in hunting, fishing, breeding reindeer and mining the rich Aldan goldfields.

The postal communications of this Republic are unique. Mail is delivered by 3,500 reindeer, 1,200 horses and 1,000 dogs, as well as by hundreds of motorboats, automobiles and airplanes. Last year these various types of transport covered 23,000 kilometers of country roads, 2,600 kilometers of highways, 13,600 kilometers of waterways and 14,000,000 kilometers of airlines and railways.

During the spring thaws only certain sections of the road network are passable by motorcar, but throughout the entire year all urgent mails to Aldan are delivered by pack animals. Almost forgotten is the time when those Yakutians who lived many hundreds of kilometers from the larger towns were obliged to travel that distance to one of the few post offices for their letters, parcels or money orders. In those days the delivery of letters was often entrusted to chance travelers.

Yakutia now has 206 post offices efficiently serving the workers of the goldfields, the fisheries and the lead and coal-mining regions. Even in the most remote areas the delivery of letters, war pensions and allowances to families of Red Army men have been carried out on schedule—although the main lines of postal communication are the most difficult; for example, the Olenek route crosses the tundra and the Santar route crosses the taiga.

In October a new motor highway for all-year traffic connecting Aldan with Yakutsk, capital of Yakutia, will be opened. The Arctic region will be served by the planes of the Tiksy and Kolyma air transport groups, while the fishing districts of the extreme north will receive mail by motorboat.

The field staff of the communications system must

overcome heavy obstacles. From Yakutsk to the city of Osipenko the telegraph line spans a stretch of taiga 1,500 kilometers in length, crosses the steep Aral Mountain range over terrain where the soil is frozen the year around, and encounters many of the rapid rivers and deep lakes of Siberia. In the spring hundreds of square kilometers of this territory are turned into one vast lake; flooded rivers wash away telegraph poles and trees felled by hurricanes crash down upon the wires. In winter tremendous blizzards and frosts of 60 degrees below zero succeed each other and the ground is covered with several meters of snow.

True heroism and sacrifice on the part of the field staff are required to keep the lines in perfect order against such terrible odds. But the members of the staff are accustomed to this unkind weather; each is a good skier who can cover dozens of kilometers daily, a sharpshooter and a skilful hunter. A break in the line will not escape the notice of a linesman who can shoot a squirrel in the eye as it sits atop a cedar tree.

In the autumn of 1942 an expedition headed by Ivan Gritsenko, Inspector for the People's Commissariat of Communications, was sent to repair wires and equipment of the telegraph line from Yakutsk to Osipenko. The expedition started on August 1, 1942 after thorough preparation, and by June 1, 1943 had completed its work, traveling 1,500 kilometers by foot and surveying and repairing all telegraph stations along the route. Under the supervision of the expedition, local workers replaced hundreds of telegraph poles and installed new ones, cut broad lanes through the forest on either side of the poles to prevent falling trees from breaking the lines, and welded countless severed wires.

For their excellent work in this difficult and hazardous undertaking, the People's Commissar of Communications of the USSR, Colonel General Ivan Peresypkin, awarded each member of the expedition the badge of Excellent Communications Worker and a cash bonus.

Memorials for Heroes

A monument will be erected in Belgorod to Army General Joseph Apanasenko, who was killed while defending the city. In Orel, a monument will be raised to Major General Leonti Gurtyev, one of the heroes of Stalingrad, who perished in the fighting for Orel.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR NAZI CRIMES

By Professor A. Farrin

The following article was published in the Moscow periodical, WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

Among the questions which concern the Allies, and which will become urgent after the defeat of the fascist army, is the question of who is to be held personally responsible for the crimes committed by the fascist hordes.

This question of the individuals on whom the responsibility for fascist crimes is to be laid is already a subject of discussion, and is viewed in different lights by different strata of society. Some judges are more or less inclined to be lenient. It is the duty of the Soviet legal profession to discuss the matter in accordance with the principles of international and Soviet law.

Responsibility of the Guilty State

It must be recognized quite definitely that the aggressor state can and must bear political responsibility, e. g., through disarmament, and material responsibility, e. g., through restitution of war damage. It is perfectly clear, however, that the state as such cannot bear criminal responsibility. Since a state cannot be brought before the criminal court, there at once arises the question of the criminal responsibility of parties representing the state and acting on its behalf.

It should be borne in mind that the state as such cannot act as a party to a court suit, criminal or otherwise. The state functions and acts through its machinery of government. The responsibility of the state, both political and material, which is generally recognized under international law, also arises as a result of the actions of the state authorities, its representatives and agents.

Accordingly, responsibility for criminal actions committed in the name of the state, or on behalf of the state, rests on the actual perpetrators of these acts, the individuals actually invested with the authority of government, its representatives and agents.

To say that it is not Hitler and his clique that should be in the dock, but the German state, would be a gross distortion of historical truth. It would amount to the substitution of a pernicious figment for definite individuals and indisputable facts. The state cannot be absolved of its responsibility for the crimes which the war involves, but this responsibility is political and material.

Criminal responsibility, on the other hand, must be laid at the door of the individuals who carried out policies violating the laws humanity has made and

the canons of the international code.

Such is the principle in broad outline. It should be most specifically applied, so that the individual responsible for Hitlerite crimes may be seen in his true light, as regards both the place he has occupied and the role he has played.

Responsibility of the German People

Whoever speaks of the responsibility of Germany and the German people for this war and for all the crimes perpetrated by the Hitlerite hordes, whoever speaks of the great burden of guilt resting on them for all the outrages they have committed on the orders of the Hitlerite government and the German army command, naturally has in mind moral, political and material responsibility. That responsibility admits of no question.

But the responsibility of the German people cannot be defined in terms of criminal law. On this subject a pertinent remark was made in a work examining German crimes during the first world war, which said: "The nation as a whole is to blame, and it must be penalized in the person of those of its members who carried out the plan of hatred and revenge." The author is A. Merignat, writing in the *Revue Generale* of January-February, 1917.

The millions of German people cannot be brought before the criminal court as the collective accomplice in Hitler's crimes. Not only is that impracticable; it would be politically false, for one should constantly bear in mind Stalin's revealing remark that "Hitlers come and go, but the German people and the German state continue."

Thus, in deciding the problem of Nazi responsibility under the criminal code, it is essential to determine quite definitely and specifically which individuals or groups of individuals are to be regarded as the instigators, organizers and perpetrators of Hitlerite crimes, or accomplices in these crimes.

Responsibility of the Actual Perpetrators of Crimes

But first of all let us examine the nature of the actual perpetrators. The general run of fascists are callous, brutal and avaricious. They plunder and kill on the orders of their superiors. They also plunder and kill of their own accord, actuated by the cruelty and ferocity of a beast that has broken loose.

But these men are not the instigators or organizers of governmental banditry. They are not concerned with world problems, but with the private business

of plunder. Accordingly, the German soldier who kills a Soviet collective farmer, outrages the collective farmer's wife, or burns down a building that is the property of the collective farm, is responsible for these particular offenses of banditry, murder or arson.

It is he who actually commits these criminal offenses, and he will not escape responsibility for them, even if he was carrying out the orders of his superiors. Even the Imperial Court of Leipzig, before which Germany staged her mock trial regarding responsibility for the war of 1914-1918—even this Court at Leipzig, trying the case of Ditmar, who torpedoed a British hospital ship on his submarine commander's order, did not absolve Ditmar of criminal responsibility. This is recorded in the *Voelkische Zeitung* of July, 1921.

Such is the role and responsibility of the rank and file of fascist soldiers who carry out the orders of their gangster chiefs.

Responsibility of the Nazi Chiefs

Very different is the position of these chiefs themselves, or the men in command. It is they who devise and put into effect this whole system of militarized crime. It would accordingly be wrong to regard them merely as associates in the criminal offenses committed by the Nazi officers and men.

The responsibility of the men in command is of another order, a different quality. They are guilty of other offenses, of grave offenses of their own commission, of working out and pursuing a policy the whole of which is an outrage against the principles of international law, a system of organized governmental banditry. They are the perpetrators of these crimes against international law.

Specifically this category of worst offenders against international and criminal law include first and foremost the head and members of the German government, Hitler and his cabinet ministers. This is the first, most dangerous, most vicious body of international offenders.

They took the lead in preparing, organizing and perpetrating the most heinous crime in the history of the human race, the perfidious attack on the Soviet Union, accompanied by the flagrant violation of all human standards and all the canons and regulations of international law.

Inseparably connected with this governing group is another body of criminals, the fuehrer and the members of the fascist party, great and small. By the law of the unity of the party and the state, published on December 3, 1933, the Nazi organization was organically tied up with the German government machine.

The heads of the government departments are at the same time the leaders of the party. The men at the head of the local authorities are simultaneously in charge of the local party branches. It follows that the government fuehrer and the party fuehrer are closely associated in their political and criminal activities, and must be held equally responsible for Hitlerite misdeeds.

The German army command organizing and directing the operations of this army of plunder is also to be classed with these criminal leaders of the party and government. And finally, immediately associated with this group are the numerous officials and deputies, commissioners and gauleiters who are putting into practice the policy of terror, plunder and violence in the occupied territories and in Germany itself.

V. M. Molotov, in his Note of May 11, 1943, stated:—

"The Soviet Government places the whole responsibility for these vile crimes, which are being committed in flagrant violation of the universally accepted rules governing the conduct of war, in the first place upon the ruling Hitlerite clique and the command of the German-fascist army. The Soviet Government also holds fully responsible for the above crimes all those Hitlerite officials who are in charge of the recruitment, abduction, transport, maintenance in camps, selling into slavery and inhuman exploitation of Soviet peaceful citizens, forcibly carried from their native country to Germany."

Hitler and his ministers, the Nazi party, the army command, the Hitlerite government commissioners, have all engaged in a policy of unbridled government banditry, a policy involving the systematic violation of all the traditions of international law, perfidious aggression, terror, violation of international obligations and customs of war and the organization of military banditry.

All these most grievous crimes against law and man, all these criminal outrages against human beings and nations are their handiwork, although it is not their hands that are burning towns and murdering civilians. They are the real organizers and perpetrators of these crimes.

Complicity in International Offenses

It is well known that the Hitlerite ruling circles, Hitler and his clique, have their social basis. They are maintained by the big financial and business magnates. Are these a party to the Hitlerite crimes?

Complicity in crime may take various forms. The individual members of a gang or group may not be known to one another, and may yet be responsible for all the crimes the gang or group commits.

With regard to complicity in international offenses, the position is even more involved. The machinery at work in such cases is highly ramified and composed of a whole system of interconnected links, and accordingly the threads between the confederates are even more delicate and tangled. Herman Bucher, the proprietor of an electric concern, or Ernst P., the steel king, are not posted outside to keep a lookout while the German soldiery dispersed over Europe plunders civilians and burns the property of Soviet collective farms.

In the vast majority of cases they do not know the actual perpetrators of these crimes and are not interested in knowing them. Yet they do keep a lookout, not in the technical sense as the term is used in the underworld, but in a deeper and more pernicious sense. They, the financial magnates, stand guard for the Hitlerite clique.

For with their funds, factories and guns they support and maintain the system of governmental banditry. Thus, the financial sharks, too, must not be absolved from legal responsibility. By determining the policy of the fascist party and helping to put it into practice, and by action in concert with the other participants in these offenses, the German financial magnates, too, are accomplices in the organization of these fascist crimes, accessories to these acts.

In enumerating the culprits, we cannot omit to mention the private individuals who, while not endowed with any lofty titles and not holding any official position in the German government machine, and not enrolled in Germany's armed forces, yet have been and are guilty of criminal complicity in acts of Nazi violence and plunder.

There are two species of violations of rights by private individuals to be singled out: The offense of exploiting the forced labor of civilians deported against their will into fascist servitude, and that of receiving goods known to be stolen or obtained by plunder in the occupied territories.

The fascists endeavor to invest both these offenses with a fictitious semblance of legality. The forced labor is supplied by the state, the plundered property is sold by the state. But the persons guilty of appropriating slave labor and the property of others are not absolved thereby from criminal responsibility. The criminality of Hitlerite policy is by now well enough known inside Germany, too! It has long ceased to be a secret.

Moreover, the acts in question themselves bear all the features qualifying them as punishable under every code of law in the world. For the labor relations existing in Germany between the imported laborer and his master are not at all the relations of hired employment even under the exploiters' law of

the capitalist state, which does formally assume that the individual is a free agent in respect of his labor power and does include certain, though of course very insufficient, regulations governing working conditions.

Forcible deportation to servitude in fascist Germany, the master's unlimited authority over the laborer and the brutal exploitation of the latter involve actions and proceedings constituting specific criminal offenses, including assault and battery, unlawful imprisonment, maiming and others.

It is accordingly with every justification that V. M. Molotov's Note of May 11, 1943, states:—

"At the same time the Soviet Government holds fully responsible also those private persons in Germany who are inhumanly exploiting at their enterprises or in their households the forced labor of peaceful Soviet citizens. These private persons must bear their full responsibility for the countless privations and sufferings they have brought to the Soviet people."

Similarly the purchase of factory equipment removed from the occupied territories or of factories or real estate belonging to institutions of the occupied territories, which are not and cannot be regarded as the property of the occupation authorities, is tantamount to receiving goods known to be stolen, for which private individuals, too, must be held to be responsible.

Summary

Thus the criminal responsibility of the members of the international fascist criminal organizations may be defined as follows:—

Hitler and his cabinet ministers, the fascist party leaders and the German army command, Hitler, Goering, Hess, Goebbels, Himmler, Ribbentrop, Rosenberg and the rest, and Hitler's commissioners and representatives in the occupied areas, are the organizers and perpetrators of these grievous violations of the principles of international intercourse and human ethics. The heads of the financial or industrial concerns supporting them are the organizers of these crimes and associates in them. All of them, as members of the Hitlerite clique, are members of a gang of offenders against international law.

At the same time all of them are the organizers of the innumerable and atrocious criminal offenses committed by the Hitlerite hordes. For these latter offenses, moreover, the full measure of responsibility must be laid at the door of the persons guilty of their actual commission: the actual thieves, murderers, incendiaries, violators of personal rights, exploiters of slave labor and receivers of stolen goods.

For these heinous crimes against the life, liberty and culture of the nation stern punishment must be meted out to all the culprits.

Notes from Front and Rear

For their skilful and courageous direction of operations in the landing of troops in the battles of Taganrog and Osipenko, and for successes achieved in fighting the German fascist invaders as a result of these operations, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has decorated Rear Admiral Sergei Gorshkov with the Order of Kutuzov, First Degree; two naval officers with Orders of Suvorov, Second Degree, and four officers with Orders of Suvorov, Third Degree.



Enrollment at the University of Kharkov is now in progress. In addition to new students, 200 young people whose studies were halted by the German occupation have registered. Scientific Research Institutes have also resumed work, and 10 vocational schools will be opened in October.



A brigade of artists in Novosibirsk, in the Urals, is now restoring the famous painting, "Panorama of the Defense of Sevastopol in the Crimean War," formerly one of the show pieces of the Black Sea port. When the museum housing the painting was fired by German bombs during the siege of Sevastopol, student sailors of the Black Sea Fleet rescued the celebrated canvas. It was taken by cutter to another port and later removed to the Urals.



The first prize in the All-Union socialist competition for State farms has been won by the Maxim Gorky farm in Moscow Region, which over-fulfilled its plan by 65 per cent and produced more than 860 tons of vegetables for the Capital.



During two years of war one Ambulance Squadron of an Air Regiment of Guards has evacuated several thousand wounded men and brought tons of blood for transfusion, dressings and other medical supplies to the front. During the battles in the Orel and Bryansk directions the fliers made as many as six and seven flights daily between the front lines and the hospital in the rear.



The Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Society has trained during the past two years 516,000 medical assistants, nurses and orderlies for the front, industry, civilian hospitals, civil defense units, etc.

A Polish private in a German infantry division, Victor B., recently helped eight Soviet citizens who had escaped from a German concentration camp to cross the front line to freedom. Finding the Soviet people hiding in a forest, the Polish soldier marched them before him to the front line, with his Tommy gun at the ready, telling Germans he met on the way that he was escorting them to prison. On reaching the front line, the eight men and their "guard" hid for five days in an abandoned observation post and at a favorable moment crossed over to the Red Army.



Smolensk Region, where last spring the farmers were forced by the Germans to cultivate 67,000 hectares with spades and rakes, is celebrating the return of its modern agricultural machinery. Machine and tractor stations are being restored to prewar dimensions, and plowing with tractors is in full swing.



The following letter was received by 13 Red Army men of the Karelian Front whose families and homes have been destroyed by the Germans. The letter was signed by 500 members of a collective farm many hundreds of miles from the front: *I, our distant Khakas village of Yuvino we write to say that we are thinking of you and to tell you that you are not alone. You have been torn from your families, but we are your new families. When you come back from the front we offer each of you a house and a barn, sheep, geese, a garden and membership in our collective farm.*



Four Soviet aces, Major Ryazanov, Major Shmelev, Senior Lieutenant Leshchenko and Senior Lieutenant Fleishman—recently named Heroes of the Soviet Union—have together destroyed 129 enemy planes. Ryazanov has to his credit 19 planes shot down singly and 16 in group combat, Shmelev 18 singly and 15 in group combat, Leshchenko 24 singly and 12 in group combat, and Fleishman 13 singly and 12 in group action. Together the four aces have made a total of 1,300 operational flights.



The city of Gorky recently sent 10 libraries totaling 17,000 volumes to liberated Kalinin Region, and 75 trainloads of factory equipment, tools and industrial raw materials. Gorky has also sent some 300 carloads and nine shiploads of various supplies and equipment to Stalingrad.

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THE SUN RISES OVER POLTAVA

By Petro Panch

Petro Panch, an outstanding Ukrainian writer, was born in Kharkov Region in 1891; he studied at the Poltava Surveyor's Institute, and in the first World War fought the Germans as an artillery officer. He is one of the leading figures in the Union of Soviet Writers in the Ukraine, and since the present war has published a volume of stories entitled NATIVE EARTH.

Nature endowed Poltava with all the beauty of Ukrainian fields, the soft rustle of gardens, the murmur of streams and the tender blue sky of the steppes. The little river Vorskla encircles the three hills on which the city stands. On one hill gleams the ancient building occupied by the Executive Committee of the Regional Soviet; on the brink of the second rises a cathedral in Ukrainian baroque style; while on the



Guardsmen sappers at work in the Kuban. In the foreground is Senior Sergeant Adeyev, who under enemy fire rendered 311 mines harmless

third, in the midst of century-old oaks, stands the Krestovozdvizhensky Monastery.

Poltava was founded as far back as the 12th Century, but it entered the political arena only in the 17th Century, in the time of Bogdan Khmel'nitsky, when a Poltava regiment firmly supported the Ukrainian Hetman in his determination to join forces with Russia.

In 1709 the world heard of Poltava: here the strongest European army of its time found its grave. The Swedish King, Charles 12th, buried near Poltava not only his army of 30,000 men, but the military prestige of his country. Of little help to him was Hetman Mazeppa, who shamefully betrayed Russia. The Ukrainian people remained true to their Russian brothers.

The victory of Poltava won by Tsar Peter I over the Swedes is commemorated by a column bearing an eagle which stands in the center of the city, testimony to the power of the Russian and Ukrainian peoples.

In the beginning of the 12th Century a beautiful ensemble of buildings was raised about the square, forming a wonderful architectural monument. Not far from the cathedral, from which there is a wide view over ten kilometers, stood the home of Ivan Kotlyarevsky, founder of Ukrainian literature. Beyond the city park in Poltava lived the Ukrainian writer Panas Mirny. In this city the world-famous Nikolai Gogol studied, and in a quiet spot adjacent to the park lived Vladimir Korolenko.

The people of Poltava have erected monuments to their beloved countrymen Kotlyarevsky and Gogol, and in one of the central squares of the city there was also a monument to the poet Taras Shevchenko.

Under Soviet power the homes of these writers were turned into museums, which attracted numerous visitors. Poltava is also proud of the buildings housing the historical museum. This edifice is a fine example of Ukrainian architecture, delightfully harmonizing folk and modern art.

These buildings and the citizens' homes were drowned in the dense verdure of gardens, groves and parks, and lanes of chestnut, poplar and acacia trees. On summer nights the nightingales sang almost in the very central streets, the air was heavy with fragrance and when the moon rose it seemed to illumine a fairyland.

Before the October Revolution, Poltava lived a quiet provincial life. The city had neither plants nor factories and not one higher educational institution or permanent theater. After the Revolution, textiles and knitted goods, clothing, shoes and furniture were manufactured and a meat combinat was built. The city boasted three institutes, several technical schools and its own Ukrainian theater. The population had increased from approximately 80,000 before the Revolution to 140,000 before the present war.

It was a happy life—among the gardens and fields and in the city on the three hills. Beyond the river the trains passed, headed for Kiev, the Donbas, Kharkov and Nikolayev.

During the period of their occupation of the Ukraine the German bandits reduced to ruins this gracious and flourishing city. They quartered their officers and soldiers in the finest buildings, the poplars and chestnuts went for firewood, and the people who survived were driven off to Germany for forced labor.

Now Poltava is greeting its liberators with flowers!

New Discoveries of Byelorussian Scientists

In a discussion of the work of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences, the well-known chemist Lipatov, Vice President of the Academy, stated that despite difficulties caused by evacuation to the East, Byelorussian scientists have achieved more for their motherland this year than ever before. Working in the laboratories they succeeded in evacuating, the Byelorussian scientists have solved some 30 important defense problems this year, and a considerable number of their discoveries have already found practical application.

Of particular value is the Academy's research on the kok-sagyz plant, from which synthetic rubber is derived. Another valuable discovery is a new raw material from which high-quality plastics can be produced for airplane sheeting and parts. Production

of these plastics is now being launched in a number of plants.

In medicine and pharmacology several discoveries have been made, including new and highly efficacious methods of treating wounds inflicted by modern weapons. In the field of food research, one institute has evolved 27 new varieties of vitamin-enriched dehydrated foods which will be supplied to guerrillas, while the Agricultural Institute has successfully solved the problem of sugar beet cultivation in the highlands of Uzbekistan.

Thus the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences—one of the most cherished institutions of Soviet Byelorussia—continues to serve its people, who are self-sacrificingly fighting the Hitlerite "new order."

FIGHTING IN THE MOGILEV DIRECTION

By Colonel Pavel Leonov

The Red Army's offensive in the Mogilev direction is proceeding under peculiar conditions. The nature of the fighting is determined by the terrain, which abounds in woods, marshes, rivers and streams. All this considerably hampers the movements of the attacking forces and favors the enemy's defense. The rainy autumn weather which has now set in also impedes the advance of Soviet troops.

After crossing the Desna and Ostyor Rivers and capturing Roslavl, Soviet troops penetrated the territory which the enemy held for over two years. On the one hand this enables our troops to deal blows to the German rear bases and to inflict heavy damage to the enemy's materiel resources; on the other hand they are ever more frequently confronted by large enemy resistance centers and the necessity to breach previously-prepared defense lines.

In the course of two years the Germans adapted for defense purposes practically every tactically advantageous fold of ground, every inhabited locality, stream and gully. Soviet troops are advancing over damaged roads and through wrecked inhabited places which naturally presents numerous difficulties. De-

spite all this, however, they are pushing steadily ahead, breaking down enemy resistance.

The enemy does not give up a single position without fighting; at each one he has massed large quantities of automatic weapons, mortars and artillery. When losing positions, the Germans invariably launch counter-attacks in an effort to restore the status quo. Sometimes they counter-attack five, six, ten and even twelve times. Only after sustaining severe casualties do they fall back. Heavy losses in manpower compel the Germans to re-form battalions and regiments while on the march. As a rule they merge remnants of regiments and battalions, thus reducing their number.

The usual maneuver applied by Soviet troops in dealing with enemy groups is to outflank them in individual directions. Experience has shown that frontal attacks exact a heavy toll, whereas with proper reconnaissance it is possible to dislodge the enemy through skilful penetration on the flanks and in the rear.

One such instance was an engagement at the ap-



American jeeps are highly praised by Red Army officers and men for their performance on the Soviet-German front

Radiophoto

proaches to Roslavl. The Germans defending Roslavl feared that our troops would break through in the direction of the Warsaw highway. Their fears were well-founded. The Warsaw highway and adjoining area were very convenient for offensive operations; infantry, artillery, tanks and motorized infantry could easily pass here. That was why the enemy concentrated his attention on building powerful defense positions in this locality. The Soviet Command, however, while leaving a small auxiliary group against these positions, sent their main forces to outflank them from another direction. Moving through woods and marshes, our men reached the Ostyor River south and northwest of Roslavl, and the city was then taken by storm. Sustaining heavy losses in materiel and manpower, the Germans retreated westward in disorder. In not every case, however, can flanking movements be employed. Often assault groups have to be formed and the enemy's defenses breached by surprise frontal attacks.

The Red Army's swift advance in the Mogilev direction is compelling the Germans to destroy their stores and bases and to abandon large quantities of ammunition. For instance, after an engagement for one rather small forest west of Roslavl, Soviet troops captured an ammunition dump where the Germans had left over 20,000 artillery shells in neatly packed

and still unopened crates, and numerous boxes of cartridges and firearms. In another sector a detachment of Soviet tommy gunners captured an enemy battery with 150-mm. guns deployed for firing. The guns and ammunition were immediately used against the enemy.

Wherever the Germans succeed in slowing down our advance and withdrawing under cover of rear guards they profusely mine the locality. Furthermore they employ a new method of mine laying. Previously they stuck to a definite system of planting mines in forests, on roads and in front of their positions. Now the mines are scattered about haphazardly without any system. This, however, is done purposely, as it makes the detection of mines harder.

At present the enemy is not able to confine himself to rearguard action in the Mogilev direction, but must throw in his main forces. This shows that the Germans failed in their attempts to break contact with the Red Army's pursuing troops. Neither the Desna nor the Ostyor enabled the Germans to make a prolonged stand. The Red Army overcame these barriers from the march and continues to pursue the Germans westward hot on their heels, attacking their communications, intercepting the roads of retreat and inflicting heavy losses in men and materiel.

Soviet Snipers Write to Inventors

By Captain Nikolai Voronov

Four defenders of Leningrad—Senior Sergeants Fedor Reznichenko, Akha Akhmetyanov, Pavel Shabanov and Andrei Kostyukhin—have never met the famous Soviet arms inventors, Fedor Tokarev and Vasili Degtyarev. But a close friendship exists between the four crack snipers and the renowned weapon designers. And it is no exaggeration to say that Tokarev and Degtyarev have many such friends among the generals, officers and privates of the Red Army.

One evening, after a successful day, the four Senior Sergeants got together in their blindage. Fedor Reznichenko, pausing between sips of tea, remarked, "We'll soon round out the number of Germans we've put away forever."

"How many?" asked Akhmetyanov.

"Take a pencil and figure it out yourself."

The four sharpshooters found that together they had killed 1,000 Germans. "And to whom are we obliged for such a total?" Reznichenko asked, and without waiting for an answer, added, "To the men who created our rifle. Let's write a letter to Fedor Tokarev. I think he might appreciate it."

The letter was brief and in plain soldier's language. The quartet told of their experiences in battle; of

how with the aid of the Tokarev self-loading rifle their comrade, sniper Mikhail Popov, had emerged victorious from an engagement with 30 Hitlerites, and of how Popov had said, "The man who invented this weapon has my eternal gratitude." The Leningrad defenders also told of the brave exploit of the Kazakh, Aipan Zhunusov, serving in their company. Armed with the Degtyarev sub-machine gun, Zhunusov stopped two furious German attacks. "I would like to meet the creator of this weapon, to thank him personally," Zhunusov had said.

Sending their letter off to Moscow, the snipers went on picking off careless invaders. Soon Tokarev's reply came and was read aloud to the Red Army men and officers.

"Dear Comrades," wrote the inventor. "I am happy that my labor of many years is serving the great cause of liberating our motherland from the cursed Nazis. I am 71, but I work constantly on the creation of new automatic weapons and the improvement of existing arms. May my labor and strength aid all the Red Army fighters."

The sharpshooters replied, and the correspondence thus begun further strengthened the friendship between the creator of Soviet weapons and those using them.

SAILOR GIRLS

By Ivan Korshunov

A steamer was due to leave Khabarovsk, in the Far East, at 10 o'clock for a run down the Amur River. Three hours before sailing, an order came to take aboard 200 tons of cargo for the workers of Komsomolsk-on-the-Amur, and to sail on schedule. Conveyors were immediately set in motion and longshoremen began rushing back and forth, but it was soon apparent there were not enough hands for the loading. Captain Vladimir Krimov ordered all hands ashore to help. Among the hurrying crew I saw a number of girls.

"Who are they?" I asked the Captain.

"Our sailors. Just watch how well they work."

The girls deftly hoisted sacks of flour on their backs and set out for the ship's holds. I learned that one of them, Galina Pavlichenko, had worked in the cosmetics section of a large department store before

the war. It was easy work and she was happy in it. She had never expected to carry sacks of flour on her back. Then in the spring of 1943, Galina Pavlichenko heard there were not enough longshoremen and sailors for the river transport service. She looked at her white hands, patted her coiffeur, smiled and said, "I'm going to change my trade." She went to work on a ship and now is as good a deckhand as any man.

There is little time left. Galina, her face flushed, has loaded 30 sacks. Sweat runs down her face, her hair is flying in the breeze: she is tired, but she doesn't pause.

Alongside Galina works 18-year-old Nina Pytkina. When the war started she was still in school. She finished school, took a course in bookkeeping and went

(Continued on page eight)



Field Nurse Lida Gagarina, who wears the Medal for Valor, has saved many lives on the battlefield. Here she carefully checks a tankman's first-aid kit, and his skill in rendering medical aid to wounded comrades

A SOVIET MATERNITY HOSPITAL

By Doctor Nikolai Krainov

Professor Agrippina Bliznyanskaya, Doctor of Medical Sciences, has been engaged in the practice of obstetrics and gynecology for 30 years. She heads a department in the Third Moscow Medical Institute and for the past 17 years has been director of the Clara Zetkin Maternity Hospital, the foremost in Moscow. Recently Dr. Bliznyanskaya gave the author the following facts concerning the work of the hospital:

Eighty thousand infants have been born in the Clara Zetkin Maternity Hospital during Professor Bliznyanskaya's 17 years as director. The hospital serves three large Moscow districts—the Pervomaisky, Tagansky and Molotov—in which live many workers.

In the Soviet Union there is a consulting office in connection with each maternity hospital, where expectant mothers come regularly throughout their pregnancy period for examination and advice. If the pregnancy is complicated by a heart ailment, toxic condition or other cause, the mother-to-be enters the hospital some time before delivery is expected and remains as long as is necessary afterward.

In normal cases women are discharged from the hospital seven days after delivery. However, they remain under the regular care of the consulting office, which keeps a record of each case, with the medical report on the delivery and any complication that may have arisen.

The doctors of the consulting office and the hospital keep in close touch with each other. The former visit the patients assigned them by the hospital, and in addition serve at the hospital once each week. Joint conferences are held each month, at which difficult and complicated cases are discussed and reports made on them.

Post-natal medical care in the home for both mother and child is offered by the consulting offices. Nurses teach new mothers to care for and feed the children.

The Clara Zetkin Hospital includes the regular maternity department, pathological pregnancy department and gynecology department. In addition, there is a tuberculosis lying-in department of which Professor Bliznyanskaya is justly proud, for hers is the only hospital so far to introduce such a department.

"There is a prejudice," said Professor Bliznyanskaya, "against women with tuberculosis bearing children—the opinion being that tubercular lungs are always aggravated by pregnancy and the children born infected. It has been proved that this is not true—everything depends upon the form of tuberculosis and the social and living conditions of

the expectant mother. If pneumothorax is applied at the proper time during pregnancy and the patient placed in a sanatorium where she can receive correct treatment and care, her state of health will not only not be aggravated, but the mother will give birth to a sound and healthy infant. I deal with this problem in my monograph on tuberculosis and pregnancy. After handling thousands of such cases we have proved that it is exceptionally rare for a child to be born with tuberculosis."

As a rule, methods of painless childbirth are practiced at the Clara Zetkin Hospital. A study of the medical records for the past five years reveals that exceptions were made only where the health of the woman rendered it inadvisable to use such methods, or where delivery proceeded so rapidly they were unnecessary.

In addition to expert obstetricians the hospital staff includes three pediatricians, a consulting physician, a tuberculosis specialist and an ear and throat specialist. The hospital is equipped with the most modern X-ray, clinical and bio-chemical laboratories and a dissecting room.

There is a telephone at each bed for the convenience of patients, and friends and relatives may call at stated hours. Meals are appetizing and nourishing. Patients in need of extra nourishment receive double portions, and special diets are given where indicated.

The patients include women from every occupation and profession: a worker from a clothing factory, the wife of a professor, a woman lathe operator in a war factory, a doctor in the Red Army, an engineer, a student from the Agricultural Academy. The hospital services are entirely free.

While the mothers remain at the hospital, talks are given daily by doctors on post-natal care, how to care for the child, the prevention of contagious diseases, the importance of nursing in the development of the child, etc. These talks are of great help, especially to mothers bearing their first child.

The highest tributes to the hospital are the entries made by patients in the visitors' book. It is filled with enthusiastic praise of the work of the personnel, their consideration, and the excellent care and attention. Gratitude to the hospital and best wishes for its continued success are expressed over and over.

And indeed, Professor Bliznyanskaya and her personnel have done splendid work. During the war year of 1943, 1,800 women have been admitted to the hospital. There were 70 Caesarian operations without a single fatality.

RESTORATION OF MACHINE AND TRACTOR STATIONS

By Stephen Khondraletny

Stephen Khondraletny is a 33-year-old mechanical engineer who was graduated from the Machine Building Institute in Nikolayev, in the Ukraine, in 1931. He placed his experience and knowledge at the service of the Red Army, directing the divisional auto and tractor services during the Patriotic War. Wounded in action and unfit for further fighting service, Khondraletny was invited to work as Chief Engineer in the People's Commissariat for Agriculture. He is now supervising the rehabilitation of machine and tractor service stations in Soviet districts liberated from the Germans.

The damage done to Soviet agriculture by the Hitlerites is great. Many cities, villages, collective farms and machine and tractor service stations have been burned down and the fields trampled in the districts occupied by the Nazis. Pressed back by the Red Army, the Germans are endeavoring to destroy those machine and tractor service stations they were unable to demolish during their occupation. I was convinced of this in a recent visit to several liberated regions.

The Soviet Government has mapped out an extensive program for the rehabilitation of agriculture in liberated districts. The program calls for the return of evacuated machine and tractor stations and the building of new ones. These State enterprises, amply provided with tractors, harvester combines, intricate agricultural machinery, repair shops, electric power stations and oil tanks, were first established in 1929, when the peasants of the Soviet Union began to unite in collective farms. Plowing, sowing, harvesting and other agricultural labor was done on collective farm fields by the machine and tractor service stations for a fixed remuneration. Each station usually served up to 10 nearby collective farms. The system was recognized as the most effective in the exploitation of tractors and harvester combines.

Agronomists, engineers, building workers, mechanics and other specialists have been sent to the liberated areas by the People's Commissariat of Agriculture to rehabilitate the machine and tractor service stations. Following in the wake of the advancing Red Army, these specialists frequently begin work immediately after the liberation of a district where a station once existed. In the Orel Region, 35 machine and tractor stations were restored by September 5. Upwards of 600 tractors were sent to this region from the neighboring Tambov and Ryazan Regions.

Numerous difficulties are being encountered in this gigantic undertaking. The Soviet Union quickly achieved first place in the world in the output of tractors before the war. The Hitlerite vandals destroyed two world-renowned tractor plants—in Stalingrad and in Kharkov—which had been modeled

upon the latest American tractor works and equipped with machinery from the United States. Since our fighting forces must have a great number of tractors, it is not an easy matter at present to meet the requirements of agriculture. The production of spare parts has been started in a small machine works, which had previously turned out entirely different articles. Restoration of old spare parts is being undertaken on a large scale throughout the country.

One must thank the eastern regions of the USSR for sending tractors to the liberated districts. These regions will have an increased work load for their remaining tractors, in order not to hamper agriculture in their respective areas. The complete rehabilitation of economic life in districts devastated by the Nazis and liberated by the Red Army will require an extensive development of the tractor output. Training of skilled tractor drivers and mechanics is another complicated problem, due to the fact that many men in these professions have been called up for the Red Army. A nation-wide network of training courses for women tractor drivers has been established.

In beating their hasty retreat the Hitlerites did not have time to destroy all the crops in the Orel Region. Rehabilitated machine and tractor service stations have harvested several scores of thousands of hectares and sowed winter grain. Seeds were provided by collective farmers in the eastern district of the Orel Region. Another 15 machine and tractor stations are now being restored in the Orel Region and 15 new shops are being built for current and major repairs. All tractor repair shops in this region were destroyed by the Germans before their retreat. One of the new shops includes a large forge department, suggested by engineer Andrei Starikov, which did not exist in prewar years. This shop has repaired scores of damaged enemy tractors abandoned on the battlefield by the Germans.

We are faced with gigantic problems in the Soviet regions which suffered most at the hands of the Nazi invaders. In Smolensk Region everything was burned to the ground. The machine and tractor stations will have to be built anew. Six stations have been completed and are functioning; another 11 stations will be ready for work within the next few days and 13 are under construction. Approximately 250 tractors have been sent to Smolensk Region from Gorky, while 17 lathes and machines arrived from the Kuibyshev Region.

Rehabilitation of machine and tractor stations will shortly begin in Spas Demyansk, Yelnya, Ludinovo and other districts of the Smolensk Region recently liberated by the Red Army. Winter corn sowing, with seed from other Soviet regions and from the United States, is in full swing.

GERMAN SLAVE MARKETS

Valentina Kachura, a Ukrainian peasant girl who fled from Germany after seven months' captivity, gave the following account of the horrors of the fascist forced labor camps:

One can hardly imagine a greater humiliation than being sold in a slave market in Germany. The Germans, men and women, scrutinized us for a long time as we stood in a row. They marched around us, halted in front of a selected victim and examined her eyes, mouth and teeth, like horse-dealers buying horses.

Many of the girls of our group, who had been forcibly brought from the Ukraine, were purchased by Lansdorf Germans; the rest, including myself, were taken to the town of Auspitz, where we were confined in a camp fenced with two rows of barbed wire. One hundred and fifty to two hundred persons were huddled in each small barracks. Once a day we were given a muddy, watery soup made from rotten beets and cabbage leaves.

All day long we dug earth, loaded it into wagons and carried it to vegetable plots. Girls who were exhausted by hunger and literally unable to stand

were forced to carry rails and girders.

Russian, Ukrainian, Yugoslavian, Polish and French slaves were continuously lashed and clubbed. Each morning and evening the owners counted us. Those who attempted to escape and were caught had their hair cropped close and were given special striped clothes and confined in concentration camps, where most of them were beaten to death.

Dozens of persons died daily as a result of hunger, exhaustion and diseases rampant in the camp.

Unable to endure these sufferings and humiliations, I made up my mind to flee even at the risk of my life. Four Polish girls shared my determination, and at an opportune moment we fled from the camp and with great difficulty reached a Polish village where friends of mine once lived. Their parents sheltered us and gave us food.

I rested there for a while, then proceeded on my way and at last reached the motherland. Seven months in this fascist hell has made me old and practically unable to work.

SAILOR GIRLS

(Continued from page five)

to work in a flour mill as a bookkeeper. Like Galina Pavlichenko she came to the ship herself to apply for the job. When Nina Pytkina was asked why she did this, she answered, "As long as the war lasts I am going to work where the work is hardest." Two other girls, Larissa Vyalkina and Vera Zaprochina, both firemen, were also loading flour.

At Nikolayevsk-on-the-Amur, Galina Pavlichenko and Nina Pytkina once loaded as many boxes in six hours as would normally be loaded in that time by three longshoremen. They attributed this record to their skill. The boxes were not heavy and they loaded them "on the run." During the whole six-hour period they left work for only 15 minutes.

"These girls are really helping the Red Army," said Captain Krimov. "They've become good sailors. What's more, our girls aren't afraid of hard work. The ship has never once been delayed because of them."

The hands of the clock were approaching 10. The vessel sailed on schedule with a full load.

25 Years of Soviet Health Protection

An exhibit entitled "Twenty-five Years of Soviet Health Protection," recording the great achievements of Soviet medicine in health protection, eradication of social diseases and the rearing of a new and healthy generation, has opened in Moscow.

The exhibit reveals that the present number of hospitals in the USSR is 4.5 greater than that in the Russia of 1913. In 25 years the number of institutions of medical science has increased from 14 to 213, and the number of higher medical schools from 13 to 72. In 1913, 1,200 doctors were graduated in Russia; in 1941 Soviet medical institutions graduated 15,000 specialists. In 1938, the last prewar year in Europe, the birthrate in Moscow and Leningrad was twice that of Paris, London, New York and Berlin.

The section of the exhibit devoted to the work of Soviet health protection institutions during the war shows how Soviet medical workers achieved such splendid results as the return of a very high percentage of wounded to the ranks, the reduction of mortality and disability and the elimination of epidemics.

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ERSATZ TIGER

By Nikolai Tikhonov

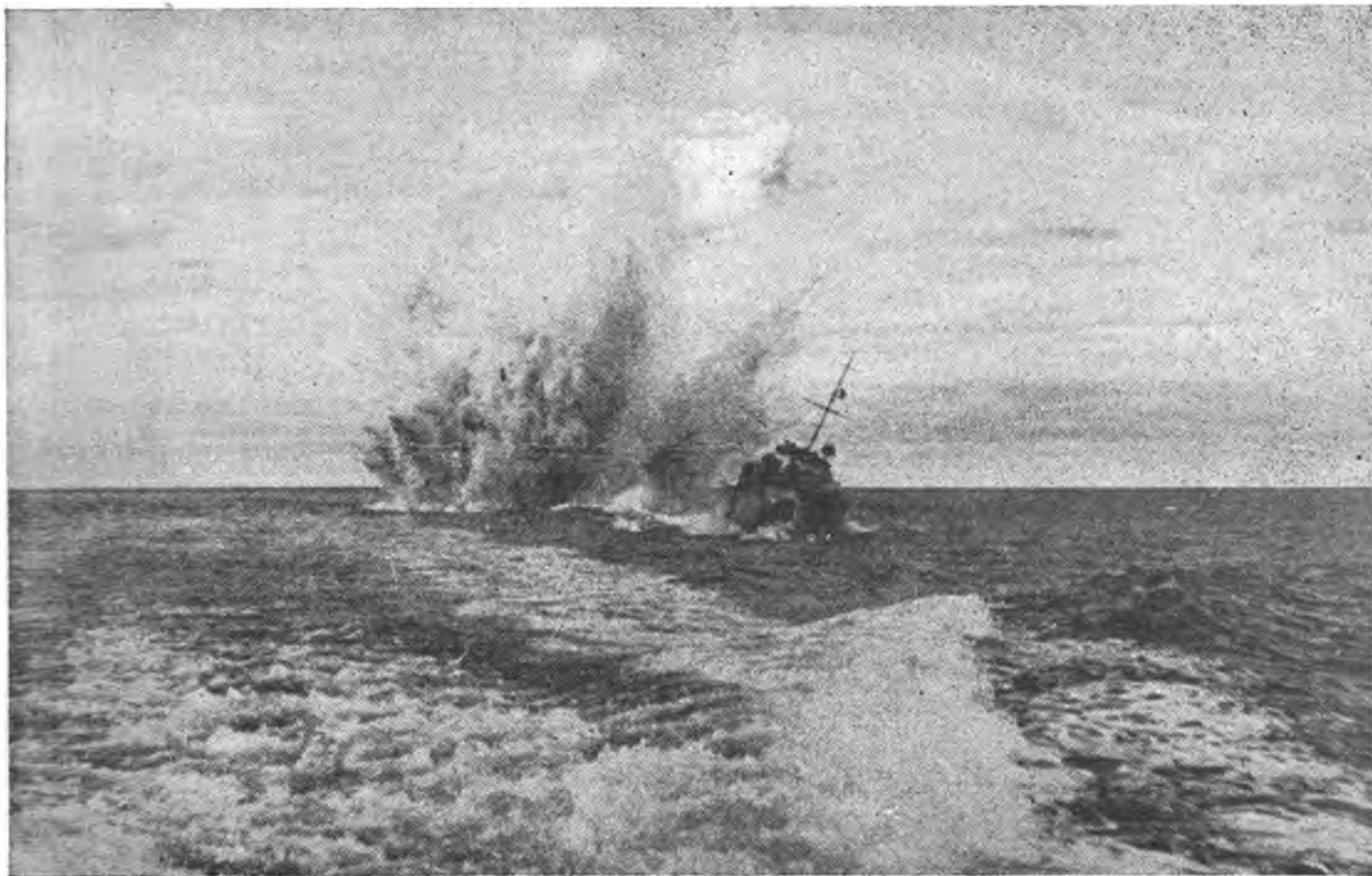
Once, traveling in Central Asia, I trekked through a jungle lying along the banks of the wide and yellow Oxus, which we call the Amu Darya. With a friend of mine, a native of those parts, we plunged deeper into the "tugai," flooded with rich cascades of the generous southern sun.

It was like swimming through an ocean of sparkling green, and above this iridescent world sang choruses of unseen birds. Invisible little beings darted with

a rustle under our feet. The jungle was full of life. And then suddenly a deep silence paralyzed the green universe. From far off came the sound of a crackling reed. Then amid the depressing silence there sounded a low, wheedling, thin mewing, as if a stranded kitten wept.

"Back, and hurry!" said my friend. "Do you hear that mewing?" I nodded, puzzled.

"It's a tiger. He is coming, and everything around



A Soviet submarine chaser of the Northern Fleet pursues a German sub

becomes silent. All live beings run to shelter, giving him right of way. And that's what we must do."

So we too retreated, and as we moved hastily away we still heard from behind the soft, penetrating, all-pervading voice of the boss of the jungle.

Several years later I visited Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia. In the excellent Museum of Natural History I bumped into a giant tiger—stuffed, of course. I thought he must have been killed and brought from some remote part. But, no. The beast had been killed almost in the suburbs of Tbilisi.

He had come from Iran, this old tramp. He made a good living for himself, quietly devouring sheep and cows, and pondering over the problems of philosophy while taking a sunbath outside the cave he had selected for residence. In the evening he gazed at the city lights spread out beneath him and waved his tail. He was killed by accident. Hunters thought the source of the nuisance to be a bear, and were quite surprised to meet a tiger. They fired a volley. One bullet entered right between the eyes. Such marksmanship could only be the result of fright.

I remember I wrote some verses about the beast—about the peaceful tiger who ran away from his mate, abandoning his comfortable den for the sake of adventure: about the romantically-minded beast who gazed at Tbilisi at night and yawned at the stars.

Once, on a visit to London, I read these verses to some student friends. One girl liked them so much that ever since she has been sending me pictures of tigers of all sizes and shades. . .

Next I saw a tiger in a very precarious situation.

This tiger coped with it with great dignity. During the terrible cold of the first blockade winter in Leningrad, the tiger in the Zoo one day ceased to get his meat ration. He felt lonely, sucked his paw as the bear does. His keepers stuffed rabbit skins with porridge, and the tiger pounced at the "rabbit," tore him to pieces, and wondered at the strange fauna one encounters in this world. He learned to eat "shchi"—cabbage soup—without a trace of fat.

By that time I thought I knew the whole species of tigers. But now Leningrad has another specimen, caged amid the green of the park, devoid of beauty of form, nothing but a huge steel box. It is a tiger made in a German war factory, the ugly creation of a dull mind: Hitler's tiger, which wanted to pounce on Leningrad.

It was created to tear the human body to pieces, to kill women and children, to wallow in streams of blood. It was stopped by a Russian tank crew. And then they led it into the city, so that everyone could see the tamed monster.

There he stands, flat-headed and stupid, a mechanical beast, and the children prick him with sticks. Of course he was horrible when he roared and belched fire, but he became a nonentity in front of the simple Russians, who allowed him to approach within 50 yards, and then knocked out his frenzy.

The whole edifice of fascism seems to me like a monstrous, blind machine driven for the sake of killing everything in its path. This German ersatz tiger is utterly ugly and disgusting. Everyone looks at him with contempt. He is the only cannibal tiger of all the tigers I have seen.

Army of Engineers

By M. Makarov

The Kharkov airdrome is busy once again with ordinary commercial traffic. Although the regular air line from Moscow to Kharkov has not yet been reestablished, plane-loads of highly qualified engineers are arriving daily.

Hundreds of veteran workers are returning to the wrecked factories from villages where they had gone into hiding to avoid being driven to forced labor in Germany. A commission from Moscow is hard at work estimating damage and deciding on urgent measures of restoration. So far Moscow has supplied most of the imported workers, but contingents from other cities will arrive in a few days.

On August 25, exactly 48 hours after the last German soldier disappeared from Kharkov, experts from the People's Commissariat of Heavy Machine-Building arrived to survey the remains of a big turbo-generator plant. They are headed by the former director of

this plant, which was evacuated in 1941 to the interior of the USSR. He is to be in charge of reconstruction. Another group sent by the same Commissariat is reporting on the state of the Lenin Hoisting and Conveying Machinery Plant. A third group is looking over the welding equipment plant and the Kharkov Machine-Building Institute.

A special commission from the Food Industry Commissariat is examining Kharkov's bakeries, confectioneries, soap works, distilleries and the famous "New Bavaria" brewery.

Not only the factories need rebuilding; houses, hospitals, schools and institutes were also wrecked by the Nazis. Officials of the Ukrainian Municipal Services Commissariat, cooperating with the city authorities, are getting the water supply system going again. The executive committee of the Kharkov City Soviet has already met and the repair of dwellings was one of the main items on the agenda.

HOW AND WHY?

By Ilya Ehrenburg

A book with the title *How and Why?* was formerly very popular in Germany. In it inquisitive little Fritzes asked questions and a venerable old Fritz provided the answers.

It seems to me that at the present time the grown-up Fritzes must rack their brains over unanswerable questions. On September 22 the German supreme command communique contained the following: "Heavy fighting took place, in the course of which, after repulsing Soviet attacks, German troops evacuated Velizh."

After reading this statement, even a fairly incurious Fritz is bound to ask, "If our troops repulsed the Soviet attacks, then why did we evacuate Velizh?"

An announcement issued by Hitler's headquarters on September 23 read as follows: "Fierce Soviet attacks west of Poltava miscarried. Following the destruction of all military objectives, German troops abandoned the city." This should make every self-respecting Fritz cry out: "Why is it that after routing

the Russians our famous grenadiers left Poltava?"

How can Doctor Goebbels answer the adult Jerries? Perhaps he'll declare that the Germans got tired of Poltava. But didn't the *Voelkischer Beobachter* call Poltava the "Pearl of Ostland" only three weeks ago? Perhaps Goebbels will say that kilometers are of no importance. A fortnight ago, however, the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* wrote, "The Donets Basin is farther from the German frontier than from the Caucasus."

How and why?

The Jerries know. Not Hitler's communiques but Russian shells provide the answer. The Fritzes are retreating because the Russians are advancing. One of the Fritzes, a certain Corporal Rudolf Leinan, wrote his wife: "We are running away as fast as we can. Traveling at this damned rate we may easily find ourselves in Berlin. . ."

Hardly. The Red Army has other plans: It is advancing to the west, but the Germans will be driven into the grave. They'll be less nuisance there.

A Soviet Tankman Comes Home

Junior Lieutenant Ivan Ivchenko, a Red Army Tank Commander, writes:

Our unit was the first to enter Bogodukhov, 13 kilometers west of Kharkov—my home town, where I know every street and every house. As we rode into the town on our tanks, the women, children and old people standing on the sidewalks tossed flowers and fruit to us.

War is a terrible thing . . . but to enter your native town which you yourself have helped to liberate is a joy well worth any sacrifice. I peered into the face of every passerby, hoping to see my wife, my son or my brother. Were they alive? Had they escaped German slavery? Then, suddenly—there was my wife Ekaterina with our son. We who had parted two years ago with little hope of seeing each other again were once more united.

My wife told me of their sufferings under the German yoke. What had once been a picturesque town was now only a heap of rubble. My wife's sister had been deported to Germany. Besz, the baker, had been hanged. Peter Bondarenko, the bookbinder,

had been shot. Hundreds of people had been imprisoned; few had ever been seen again.

There were seven high schools, two technical schools and a trade school for combine operators in our small town. After finishing these schools hundreds of young men and girls continued their education in the larger cities, becoming engineers, agronomists and artists. The Germans destroyed all these schools, all cultural institutions. They wrote in local newspapers that the Ukrainians had no need for towns or universities.

The people of the village starved. Rations consisted of 214 grams of bread for the able-bodied and 142 grams for all others, and even this meager ration was not always available. Some 5,000 inhabitants of the town were deported to Germany—nearly a third of its population. "The Germans intended to deport us all," said my wife. "Then you would never have seen us again. The Red Army saved us."

I bade my wife goodbye and our tank continued its journey westward. We cannot think of rest until every Ukrainian town—all Ukrainian soil—has been cleared of the Hitlerites.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE USSR HOLDS GENERAL SESSION

The Academy of Sciences of the USSR opened its general session on September 25. In an interview, President of the Academy Vladimir Komarov made the following statement:

From the very beginning of the Patriotic War the Academy of Sciences of the USSR adapted its work to the demands of the front. The attention of scientists was directed toward coordinating the problems on which they were working with the needs of the country's defense and the national economy.

The Presidium of the Academy organized committees for mobilizing the resources of the Urals, Western Siberia, Kazakhstan and the Volga and Arctic regions, a committee to locate reserves and a committee for geological and geographical aid to the Red Army. The work of these committees had considerable practical results. In order to establish closer contact with industry, institutes of the Academy allocated their scientific workers among various industrial enterprises. Great attention was paid to utilizing in production the results of completed research.

The Academy of Sciences of the USSR is working on problems connected with the reestablishment of economic life in areas freed from the German occupationists. The Mining Institute has practically completed technical plans for restoration of the productive power of the Donets and Moscow coal basins. The Institute of Geological Sciences has drawn up a report on the geophysics of the Donbas, pointing out new areas which may be explored and exploited. The Institute of Metallurgy has solved a number of problems connected with the rebuilding of the metallurgical industry in the south and the obtaining of new raw materials. The Institute's researches deal with the setting up of open-hearth steel-smelting, rolling and pipe-rolling processes and the production of steel alloys. Scientists in the field of transport have worked out problems affecting the restoration and development of railroads and other means of transportation.

The division of biological sciences has devoted considerable attention to improving medical and sanitary work in the Red Army and the rear. Effective methods have been developed for dealing with various complications arising from wounds such as shock, hemorrhage and nervous reaction.

A number of works connected with the great Patriotic War have been completed by the historical and philosophical divisions. A collection of articles and documents entitled *Yasnaya Polyana*, dealing with Nazi outrages in the home of Leo Tolstoy, has already

been published, and a similar collection under the title of *Istra* is in preparation.

A committee on the history of the Patriotic War is preparing a "Chronicle of the Patriotic War." Seven monographs devoted to the defense of Moscow, Stalingrad, Sevastopol and Odessa have been completed. Of great interest is a work drawn up by the Institute of Law—*Compensation of Material Damage Caused by the War From the Standpoint of International Law*.

In the first half of the current year 154 scientific studies were completed in various divisions of the Academy. The Government has marked the scientific activity of many of the Academy members. Academicians A. N. Krylov and N. N. Burdenko were honored with the title of Hero of Socialist Labor. Stalin Prizes were awarded this year to 32 academicians, 11 corresponding members and 13 professors and research workers of the Academy.

At this general session of the Academy a report will be made on scientific activity in 1942 and 1943, and the main trend of work for 1944 will be determined. A number of papers will be read by outstanding scientists. Supplementary elections of academicians will be held, and those new corresponding members elected at meetings of divisions of the Academy will be approved. Of the 224 scientists proposed for membership in the Academy, 36 will be chosen, and of the 467 candidates for corresponding memberships, 42 places will be filled. This large number of candidates testifies to the increasing growth of Soviet scientific cadres in wartime.

STUDY OF COSMIC RAYS

The Soviet Academy of Sciences recently sent an expedition headed by Professor Alikhanyan, a Stalin Prize Winner, to the summit of Mount Ararat to study cosmic rays.

The group spent several weeks on Mount Ararat last year and collected extremely valuable data on cosmic rays. These materials were the subject of study during the winter by experts of the Physico-Technical Institute of the Academy of Sciences. In the composition of the cosmic rays a considerable quantity of proteins, nuclei of hydrogen atoms, were discovered, the exact nature of which has not yet been investigated. The further examination of this question is one of the most important tasks of the present expedition.

HIGH-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN THE USSR

By Professor Evgeni Medinsky

Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences

After the October Revolution, high-school education was made widely available to the working people of the USSR. During the first years of Soviet power the number of middle schools—combined elementary and high schools—increased two-and-one-half times as compared with 1914. Moreover, most of these new schools were opened in rural localities where practically no schools had existed previously. Particular attention was paid to the opening of middle schools in areas inhabited by non-Russians, who before the Revolution had had no opportunity whatever to obtain a high-school education. Among these nationalities were the Turkmenians, Uzbeks, Tadjiks, Bashkirs, Kalmyks and other Eastern peoples, and the Yakuts, Nentsi, Chukchi and other peoples of the North.

To make secondary education available to adult workers and peasants, soon after the Revolution a special type of middle school known as the "workers' faculty" was created, in addition to the extensive network of regular middle schools. In these "workers' faculties" adults could obtain a secondary education preparatory to entering a higher educational institution.

In their early years the middle schools offered a nine-year course of study, but in 1930 this was increased to 10 years—for pupils from the ages of eight to 17. Until 1943 all middle schools in the USSR were co-educational, boys and girls attending the same schools and taking the same courses.

The children of the numerous peoples inhabiting the USSR are taught in their native language and make Russian as a special subject. Because of the particular attention given to the study of Russian, the children of all nationalities of the country get a sound grounding in this language and are able to speak and write it fluently.

Since 1930 the number of students in senior classes of the middle schools (which correspond to American high schools) has been growing very rapidly, averaging an annual increase of 200,000 throughout the USSR.

In addition to the middle schools there is a network of junior high schools, which have a seven-year course and a curriculum corresponding to the first seven classes of the middle schools. In cities and workers' districts attendance at the seven-year school is compulsory. Graduates from the seven-year school may follow one of three courses: transfer to the near-

est middle school and continue with the eighth, ninth and tenth grades; enter a vocational school; or begin to work and at the same time take advantage of the many opportunities to complete their middle-school education, either by correspondence courses or in evening schools.

The following subjects are taught in Soviet secondary schools: the Russian language and literature, history, citizenship, geography, a foreign language (English, French or German), mathematics, physics, chemistry, natural science, astronomy, penmanship, drawing, sketching, singing, physical culture and military training. There are many forms of extracurricular activities such as study circles in literature, natural history, singing, music, drawing and painting, drama, and others.

A number of new measures have already been introduced in the middle schools, or will be shortly. Beginning with the 1943-44 school year, boys and girls will attend separate schools in 72 large cities of the USSR. Logic and psychology and two new subjects on the theater have been added to the curriculum, and pedagogy is also being introduced in girls' schools. Children will enter school at the age of seven, instead of eight.

Among other changes planned are increased military and physical culture training; also practical studies—two hours each week in junior and one hour in senior classes—to equip children with the knowledge, skill and habits essential in everyday life. This practical work will include vegetable gardening, horticulture, training in workshops, an elementary knowledge of electricity and radio; and for the girls domestic science, including housekeeping, cooking, sewing, care of children, and similar subjects.

In the study of literature and history, special stress is laid on fostering love of country, on the heroic past of the Russian people and the precious achievements of Russian culture. In the teaching of geography, particular attention is devoted to the knowledge of maps and topography and the elements of military geography; and in chemistry a special study is made of anti-chemical defense, etc.

Of great importance for the improvement of educational work are the rules recently approved by the Soviet Government covering the behavior of schoolchildren in senior classes in the middle schools. These regulations make for stricter discipline and the development of a keen sense of duty, honor and responsibility. Twenty brief rules define the duties of

schoolchildren with regard to their studies and their conduct in and out of school. Instructions are given for behavior toward teachers, comrades, older people and children, and a love for their school and a desire to uphold its honor is instilled.

Teachers and pupils of the Soviet middle schools have done a great deal in wartime to aid their country in the rear to hasten the victory over the German invaders. They have collected funds for planes and tank columns totaling several million rubles, collected thousands of tons of metal scrap and medicinal herbs, rendered extensive aid to hospitals (including the collection of bottles and other containers, repairing

of linen and similar tasks), and have put in several million workdays on the collective and state farms. They are most energetic in sending gift packages to the men at the front. Many middle schools have their own shops for the front. Many children in the senior classes have learned to drive cars and tractors. Military activities, especially target shooting, are very popular in the middle schools.

The Red Army is sweeping the fascist hordes from the Soviet land. Victory is already near. That Hitlerism will be completely smashed is inevitable. Soviet middle schools have played a worthy part in this struggle for freedom and democracy.

MINSK TODAY

By I. Sokolov

Two-thirds of this great city is dead. The buildings in the central streets are in ruins—dreadful monuments to the German bombings of the first days of the war. In the dead parks only stumps remain—the trees were long since cut down for firewood. At street-crossings, fenced off with barbed wire, are machine-gun nests in which sit live Germans. Rare pedestrians with emaciated faces look about apprehensively as they hasten homeward—anything may happen and it is always safest to keep out of the way of the Germans.

At dusk the streets are deserted: the population is strictly forbidden to be outside after dark. Only patrols tramping by, or drunken German officers and men thronging the doors of brothels, are to be seen. Over the building of the Kuibyshev Institute in Zemledelchesky Lane waves a sinister black velvet flag with a swastika—this is the headquarters of the Gestapo.

This is Minsk today—Minsk, proclaimed by the Germans to be “a city of special importance” . . . Minsk, the tormented, plundered capital of Soviet Byelorussia . . . where over 100,000 citizens were shot, hanged, killed in concentration camps or deported to Germany as slaves. Soviet people who have escaped from this inferno bring terrible details of intolerable oppression and the city’s strangulation in the grip of the German occupationists.

A member of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences and corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Nikolai Prilezhayev, and Professor Ivan Vetokhin, director of the Minsk Institute of Clinical and Theoretical Medicine, recently escaped from Minsk. They tell of long months under the nightmare of the German yoke. The fascists outrage and humiliate Soviet people in every way, and display particular ferocity in their treatment of the Soviet intelligentsia. Scores of physicians and professors

have been murdered in Gestapo dungeons.

The Germans instituted a regime of forced labor in Minsk. The German “chefkommissaren” in charge of factories have unlimited power over the workers. These slave drivers strut through the shops with rubber truncheons, beating up anyone who seems to be working slowly or inefficiently. The working day is 16 hours, and in every factory there is a branch of the Gestapo. The workers of the Slep'yanka plant, which produces for the German army, are never allowed to leave the shops. Those who become ill or are found unnecessary are killed. Minsk's entire production, including that of the food industries, is shipped to the German army and to Germany.

The Soviet people are deprived of even the most elementary medical services. The few dozen wretched hospital beds available to the population of 100,000—all that remain of the city's former 300,000—are unoccupied because the price of treatment is exorbitant. Medicines are practically unknown.

The Byelorussian people retaliate upon the invaders with guerrilla warfare, keeping the enemy in constant terror. The Germans are afraid to venture beyond the environs of Minsk, but even within the city they feel besieged. The houses in which the Germans live are protected by barbed-wire entanglements. In the eyes of all Byelorussians the Hitlerites read only hate and contempt; hatred pursues them at every step. At a German newsreel showing a battle between Nazi and Soviet planes, the audience broke into applause when the fliers with the five-pointed star appeared. The show was immediately stopped and the audience driven from the theater and beaten with rubber truncheons.

But despite terrorism and outrage the Byelorussian people are strong. They have never submitted to the Germans and they are firm in their faith that Minsk and all Byelorussia will again be Soviet.

MARIUPOL INDUSTRY DESTROYED

By Peter Popov

Peter Popov is a metallurgical engineer who for five years headed various blast furnace and steel-smelting departments in Mariupol plants.

Soviet metallurgists were elated when they heard of the liberation of Mariupol—that important center of southern metallurgy. Prewar Mariupol was the largest port town on the Sea of Azov. Many ships carried its products to various harbors of the Soviet Union and other nations. In the immediate vicinity of Mariupol were first-class coke, chemical and metallurgical works—the Azovstal, Ilyich and Kuibyshev plants. These enterprises produced enormous quantities of pig iron, high-grade steel and a great variety of rolled metal.

The Ilyich plant produced the metal required for the Soviet boiler industry, for merchant and naval vessels and for tank building enterprises. This plant alone contained two blast furnaces with a combined ca-

capacity of 1,040 cubic meters, three open-hearth departments including 16 furnaces, and a number of rolling mills. The Kuibyshev plant supplied the oil industry with 280,000 tons of six to 16-inch pipeline yearly.

Construction of the Azovstal plant was begun 10 years ago and when completed it was to have exceeded the production of all similar enterprises in Western Europe. Although the war interrupted construction, the greater part of the enterprise had been completed, including the coke and chemical works, the blast furnace and the open-hearth department. The coke department contained two batteries of 268 ovens, capable of producing as much as 2,000,000 tons annually. Its four blast furnaces, two of which had a capacity of 1,300 cubic meters each, produced 4,200 tons of pig iron per day. About two-thirds of the molten metal passed through a 1,300-ton mixer in the open-

(Continued on page eight)



In the Urals an outstanding worker—a Stakhanovite—instructs a group of young people in the methods whereby he has greatly increased production

Bolshoi Theater Opening a Symbol

By Nikolai Volkov

The recent resumption of performances at the Moscow Bolshoi Theater of Opera and Ballet was an outstanding event in the Capital. Involuntarily one recalled those ominous days of the autumn of 1941, when the Germans were frenziedly tearing at the heart of Russia—Moscow—and when by order of the Soviet Government the Bolshoi Theater was evacuated to Kuibyshev.

Although operas and ballets continued to be presented in Moscow in the Affiliated Bolshoi Theater, for nearly two years the great music of Glinka, Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov was not heard in the splendid Bolshoi Opera and Ballet Theater. The vestibule and foyer were damaged by the German air pirates, but the building has been completely and beautifully restored. The interior has been regilded, the loges upholstered and the fine paintings in the

plafond restored to their original freshness. These repairs were made while the Red Army was routing the Nazis from our land.

The opening of the Bolshoi Theater in the autumn of 1943 is a symbol of the spiritual might of the Russian people. The immortal music of Glinka's *Ivan Susanin*, and the heroic deeds of the Kostroma peasant who sacrificed his life for his country, acquire greater significance in the light of today's advances of infinite numbers of our patriots. With their bodies they blocked the embrasures of enemy fortifications and dauntlessly forced river crossings.

The triumphant epilogue of *Ivan Susanin*, depicting exultant Moscow of the 17th Century greeting its heroic leaders, Minin and Pozharsky, and the steel-clad ranks of Russian fighters, presaged the complete and final victory of our glorious Russian arms.

MARIUPOL

(Continued from page seven)

hearth department. Three great machines moved the rest of the metal to other southern enterprises. The open-hearth department produced 1,000,000 tons of steel per year. Equipped with the most modern machinery and many innovations of both Soviet and American make, this enterprise was the pride of Soviet metallurgy. Availing themselves of American methods, the builders of Azovstal had mechanized all processes, and many were automatically performed.

The blast furnaces of Azovstal were supplied with ore from the mines in Kerch, in the Crimea. This ore was concentrated at the Kamysh-Burunsk works on the shores of the Black Sea near the Kerch Straits. A splendid harbor equipped with two giant cranes was built in the immediate vicinity of Azovstal to receive the ore. Auxiliary departments of huge dimensions in Azovstal were themselves a complement to the giant plant and included an iron-smelting works and machine and electric power departments.

Unable to put these plants into operation (their equipment and personnel were evacuated in 1941), the Nazis completely ruined the giant enterprises. The destruction wrought by the enemy here defies description, and an enormous amount of labor, funds and material will be required to restore Mariupol's enterprises.

War and Peace

The Moscow Art Theater is working on a stage version of *War and Peace*. The performance will take two evenings, since it is impossible to cover the main theme of the novel in one performance.

Simultaneously the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow is working on the new opera by the noted Soviet composer Sergei Prokofiev, also based on *War and Peace*. Prokofiev began work on this opera at the outbreak of war and completed it in 15 months. It consists of five acts and eleven scenes. Prokofiev wrote the libretto himself, and preserved Tolstoy's text practically throughout the work.

The opera includes not only the outstanding events of the war of 1812, but those immediately preceding it. The main theme is the Russian people's struggle against Napoleon's invasion, but it also includes the narrative woven round the characters of Natasha Rostova, Prince Andrei Bolkonsky, Pierre Bezukhov and others.

The opera opens with an epic interlude, to be sung by the chorus, from Tolstoy's text and notes on the war of 1812 by the guerrilla poet Denis Davidov. The historic battle of Borodino and the great Moscow fire will also be shown. The last scene depicts the retreat of the French troops along the Smolensk road. A popular chorus crowns the opera—the Russian people celebrating victory over the enemy.

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RED ARMY MEN ADOPT WAR ORPHANS

By Sofia Polyakova

By the dim light of flickering oil lamps, in blindages and dugouts, you can hear the hasty scratching of pencils on paper torn from notebooks. Red Army commanders and men are busy writing to their dear sons and daughters . . . adopted during the war.

The Germans attempted to destroy our families and homes—to make orphans of our children. But here, too, they miscalculated. Disrupted families are being reunited, and new families built by the adoption of the little orphans of war as one's own beloved children . . .

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Here is another letter written by Commander Andrei Lienshovo: "I want to adopt a child who has lost its parents during the war. I was born in 1911,

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A grandmother and grandchild who had never heard of each other before the war became related when old Natalya Rodina's son adopted little Irina Zheltukhina from Children's Home No. 62 in Moscow. Irina recently opened a letter from her grandmother. A pressed field flower and a twig of heather fell from the page, on which was written in a trembling hand:

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My dear daughter Irina: This is a good season. There are plenty of berries, but not so many mushrooms. As soon as the war is over, you and grandmother and I will go berry-picking together.

These simple, fatherly words to seven-year-old Irina were written in the heat of the battle for Orel by a Red Army commander.

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"Everyone knows the great importance of the Urals, the Central Asian Republics and the Eastern

districts of the Soviet Union to the defense of the country," he stated. "It gives me, an old scientist, particular pleasure to know that in the dark days of the autumn and winter of 1941, at a time when the mobilization of all the country's resources was a decisive factor in stemming the onslaught of the enemy, a large number of the Academy's workers stood shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet miners and metal workers, shoulder to shoulder with the patriots in the Urals, and brought to the surface the mineral riches of the region to be converted into weapons for the destruction of the German-fascist gangsters. Fully conscious of having done its duty, the Academy of Sciences may also speak of the part

it played in the transfer of the main centers of the defense industry to the eastern part of the country."

Komarov then called upon the audience to make every effort to render still greater scientific aid to the Red Army.

"We have arrived at the stage in the war when almost every day our hearts are gladdened by the tidings of fresh victories of the Red Army and the liberation of our country from its enemies," he continued. "This new phase of the Patriotic War brings with it new tasks to those connected with the work of restoring the areas liberated from the Germans. I have confidence in the power of science and in the creative powers of our Academy. I am certain that with our help the Donets Basin, the country's largest coalfield, will be restored in the shortest possible time."

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The last session of the general meeting was devoted to the reports of Academician Ilya Trainin and Eugene Tarle on Hitler Germany's responsibility for the crimes and losses caused by her aggression.

Alexei Tolstoy, Boris Vedeneyev and Nikolai Burdenko spoke on the same subject.

Alexei Tolstoy, noted Soviet novelist, personally investigated German crimes in the Stavropol Region. Under his direction an anti-tank ditch at Mineralnye Vody was excavated and the bodies of over 6,000 murdered Soviet people discovered. A few days ago Tolstoy returned from Kharkov. In his speech he said:

"The first thing the Germans destroy in retreating are the schools, scientific institutions, theaters, museums and architectural monuments. I have seen Kharkov . . . Rome probably looked like this after the German barbarians passed through it in the Fifth Century. The city is one huge cemetery. There are ruins and the aftermath of fires where huge factories formerly stood. In Kharkov I met professors, engineers, doctors and actors who told me horrible details of two years of life under the German yoke. Many thousands of people died of hunger during the winter of 1941-42—the majority of them intellectuals. The Hitlerite murderers began their bloody pogroms with the Jewish population, then turned their attention to the Russian and Ukrainian people. Well-known scientists, doctors and artists were compelled to earn their living by making matches, cutting flints for pocket lighters, making blacking and stitching together old rags for the market."

Nikolai Burdenko, famous surgeon, also personally visited areas liberated from the Germans. He spoke of German crimes committed against Red Army prisoners, and in particular against the wounded. "The Germans massacre the wounded, contrary to all international agreements," said Burdenko, citing a number of cases.

The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution stating that members of the Academy of Sciences, like all the people of the Soviet Union, are horrified at the crimes committed by the fascists and are confident that the Hitlerite government and its agents—the organizers of murder, plunder and destruction—will be severely punished for their monstrous crimes. Together with all the Soviet people the scientists demand compensation for the damage caused by the German-fascist aggressors.

Inspired by the great victories of the Red Army and the noble aims of our great Patriotic War, and confident in the inexhaustible creative powers of the Soviet people and the life-giving strength of Soviet culture, the scientists of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR solemnly pledge to work ungrudgingly to accelerate victory and to restore in the shortest possible time all that has been destroyed by the savage enemy hordes.

NINA OF THE FORESTS

By Tatyana Tess

Recently I had an occasion to visit a sanatorium for Ukrainian guerrillas. Most of the patients there had spent many months behind the German lines, and now after medical treatment and rest were about to return to their detachments.

The life stories of these guerrillas would make a most interesting book. Among them are collective farmers, teachers, agronomists, employees of regional committees, turners, doctors, actors and tractor drivers. One, a most dignified and scholarly-looking man, has killed 67 Germans. Another is a factory manager who worked for several months under the Hitlerites—and all the time directed wrecking activities against them.

These people do not in the least resemble the guerrillas of the earlier days of the war. They are men and women of the forests of 1943. During the past two years the Red Army has changed and acquired new fighting qualities. The guerrillas have also changed: their discipline, military training and operational skill have reached a higher level. What were formerly small detachments have become a formidable force.

In the "war of nerves" so greatly feared by the Germans the guerrillas play a particularly important part. In the areas where they operate the fascists never draw an easy breath. They fear the night; they fear to go about alone. But the guerrillas fear nothing: they are at home.

During my visit to the sanatorium I was standing one afternoon on a terrace leading to the gardens. Strains of music came through the closed doors of the hall where a movie was being shown. A slim girl with large shining dark eyes came up the steps. On her blue dress was a Government decoration. She stopped to listen to the music, gazing out at the vastness of the sky, the picturesque autumn scene and the flowers below.

She lifted her thin childish hand and rested it on the balustrade, and I saw that the hand was shockingly marred by scars and bullet wounds.

Later she told me her story. She was known as Nina. Before the war she had lived a quiet, sheltered life in a small town in the Kiev Region. She was finishing school and was very much interested in literature. She wrote romantic and flowery compositions and poetry, which she kept in a special book.

Her mother, with true Ukrainian hospitality, loved to fill the house with guests and was always baking and cooking delicious things. They had a nice little orchard with apple and cherry trees. Nina liked to help her mother and together they would make lots

of jams and jellies each summer. Their life was calm and peaceful.

When the Germans invaded our country, Nina's father joined the Red Army. The fascists bombed the little town; the orchards were red with cherry juice and blood. The enemy was drawing nearer and nearer. Nina's literature teacher decided to join a guerrilla detachment and Nina went with him.

The rest of the story was told me by the leader of the detachment in which Nina found a place. At first the young girl was afraid of the darkness of the forest; afraid of mice and lizards. But she did not fear death. Danger was something she never recognized. She carried out the most hazardous assignments with amazing courage and composure.

In her bag she carried, next to her cartridge case, a volume of Pushkin's poems. She would munch a piece of chocolate while crawling under a bridge to plant explosives. Her name became famous when, under the very noses of the Germans, she carried off large stores of fat, flour and tobacco which the villagers had prepared for the guerrillas. That night she crossed the river 20 times.

Another time she took part in a raid on the office of a German commandant and killed him with point-blank fire. That was her first German. Later, while helping to carry out a raid on her native town, she made her way to her own home. At the gate a scrawny cat stood, mewing piteously . . . beyond, where the house had been, was a heap of stones, debris and ashes. The neighbors said her mother had been carried away by the Germans. Nothing had been heard from her father.

Now the guerrilla detachment became Nina's family, a dugout in the woods her home. Her tender heart had been tempered and hardened in battle. Sometimes she would dream of her mother, all rosy and glowing as she stood over the stove cooking good things . . . of her father in his spectacles, reading a book in the garden. But these dreams did not interfere with her battle assignments. Four times she was wounded, and each time returned to the ranks before her wounds had fully healed. She was finally sent to the sanatorium for a rest.

The Red Army is now approaching her native town. The hour of liberation is near. Nina's eyes light up and her cheeks flush when she talks about it. Looking at her, I can almost see her ardently reciting poetry at her graduation exercises . . . this girl who for over two years has fought the enemy with implacable will and fearlessness.

To mark the victory achieved the name of "Nevel" shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Nevel. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 21st Nevel Infantry Division of Guards, the 28th Nevel Infantry Division, the 360th Nevel Infantry Division, the 47th Nevel Infantry Division, the 31st Nevel Infantry Brigade, the 78th Nevel Tank Brigade, the 236th Nevel Tank Brigade, the 143rd Nevel Tank Brigade, the 163rd Nevel Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 827th Nevel Howitzer Artillery Regiment, the 240th Nevel Fighter Air Division and the 211th Nevel Attack Air Division.

Today, October 7, at 10:30 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland salutes our gallant troops which liberated the town of Nevel—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Nevel.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the battles for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

October 7, 1943

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

LITHUANIAN UNITS ANNIHILATE 13,000 GERMANS

By J. Simkus

Colonel Shurkus, an officer of the Lithuanian Army who has distinguished himself in the ranks of the Red Army, is well-known to Lithuanians. He has been decorated with the Order of the Red Star for outstanding courage. When he was wounded in battle he did not leave the front line. His men call him "Father."

Recently, in a talk with Colonel Shurkus, I asked him about the morale of the Lithuanian troops.

"Their morale is splendid," said the Colonel, "In less than a month our troops advanced 120 kilometers and freed 60 inhabited places. The number of Lithuanians decorated with orders and medals has already reached 2,009, and 300 others have been cited for decorations. With other Red Army troops who fought in the Orel direction we were twice publicly thanked by the Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Stalin, and this is marked in the personal record of each soldier.

"Our Lithuanian troops have annihilated 13,000 Hitlerites. The Germans are very stubborn, but they cannot withstand the onslaught of our forces. Their casualties are approximately three-and-one-half times greater than ours. German morale is deteriorating. War prisoners state that in the opinion of the soldiers Germany has lost the war. A considerable number of Germans have voluntarily come over to our side. The prisoners say they are resisting stubbornly be-

cause they are afraid of being shot by SS troops if they retreat—nevertheless they do retreat, abandoning great quantities of war materiel. In one engagement our troops captured four ammunition dumps with over 54,000,000 artillery shells. We have also taken great quantities of other booty, including tanks, artillery pieces, machine guns and automatic rifles."

"How do you find the attitude of the population in the liberated districts?" I inquired.

"We were welcomed as dear brothers. The old women literally bless our men. In one place we caught the Germans in a pincers and cut their roads of retreat, thus saving some 400 families who were about to be deported to Germany."

"Were your troops among those who went into Orel?"

"We by-passed Orel and marched on to the west. But I visited the city and saw what the Germans had done to it. Nearly all the buildings and bridges were blown up or burned, the churches dynamited. The German atrocities so infuriate our men that despite fatigue they are eager to advance, overcoming every obstacle in order to drive the German beasts from Soviet land as speedily as possible."

A field automobile came for the Colonel. As we parted his final words were: "Until we meet again in Lithuania."

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Alexei Tolstoy, Boris Vedeneyev and Nikolai Burdenko spoke on the same subject.

Alexei Tolstoy, noted Soviet novelist, personally investigated German crimes in the Stavropol Region. Under his direction an anti-tank ditch at Mineralnye Vody was excavated and the bodies of over 6,000 murdered Soviet people discovered. A few days ago Tolstoy returned from Kharkov. In his speech he said:

"The first thing the Germans destroy in retreating are the schools, scientific institutions, theaters, museums and architectural monuments. I have seen Kharkov . . . Rome probably looked like this after the German barbarians passed through it in the Fifth Century. The city is one huge cemetery. There are ruins and the aftermath of fires where huge factories formerly stood. In Kharkov I met professors, engineers, doctors and actors who told me horrible details of two years of life under the German yoke. Many thousands of people died of hunger during the winter of 1941-42—the majority of them intellectuals. The Hitlerite murderers began their bloody pogroms with the Jewish population, then turned their attention to the Russian and Ukrainian people. Well-known scientists, doctors and artists were compelled to earn their living by making matches, cutting flints for pocket lighters, making blacking and stitching together old rags for the market."

Nikolai Burdenko, famous surgeon, also personally visited areas liberated from the Germans. He spoke of German crimes committed against Red Army prisoners, and in particular against the wounded. "The Germans massacre the wounded, contrary to all international agreements," said Burdenko, citing a number of cases.

The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution stating that members of the Academy of Sciences, like all the people of the Soviet Union, are horrified at the crimes committed by the fascists and are confident that the Hitlerite government and its agents—the organizers of murder, plunder and destruction—will be severely punished for their monstrous crimes. Together with all the Soviet people the scientists demand compensation for the damage caused by the German-fascist aggressors.

Inspired by the great victories of the Red Army and the noble aims of our great Patriotic War, and confident in the inexhaustible creative powers of the Soviet people and the life-giving strength of Soviet culture, the scientists of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR solemnly pledge to work ungrudgingly to accelerate victory and to restore in the shortest possible time all that has been destroyed by the savage enemy hordes.

NINA OF THE FORESTS

By Tatyana Tess

Recently I had an occasion to visit a sanatorium for Ukrainian guerrillas. Most of the patients there had spent many months behind the German lines, and now after medical treatment and rest were about to return to their detachments.

The life stories of these guerrillas would make a most interesting book. Among them are collective farmers, teachers, agronomists, employees of regional committees, turners, doctors, actors and tractor drivers. One, a most dignified and scholarly-looking man, has killed 67 Germans. Another is a factory manager who worked for several months under the Hitlerites—and all the time directed wrecking activities against them.

These people do not in the least resemble the guerrillas of the earlier days of the war. They are men and women of the forests of 1943. During the past two years the Red Army has changed and acquired new fighting qualities. The guerrillas have also changed: their discipline, military training and operational skill have reached a higher level. What were formerly small detachments have become a formidable force.

In the "war of nerves" so greatly feared by the Germans the guerrillas play a particularly important part. In the areas where they operate the fascists never draw an easy breath. They fear the night; they fear to go about alone. But the guerrillas fear nothing: they are at home.

During my visit to the sanatorium I was standing one afternoon on a terrace leading to the gardens. Strains of music came through the closed doors of the hall where a movie was being shown. A slim girl with large shining dark eyes came up the steps. On her blue dress was a Government decoration. She stopped to listen to the music, gazing out at the vastness of the sky, the picturesque autumn scene and the flowers below.

She lifted her thin childish hand and rested it on the balustrade, and I saw that the hand was shockingly marred by scars and bullet wounds.

Later she told me her story. She was known as Nina. Before the war she had lived a quiet, sheltered life in a small town in the Kiev Region. She was finishing school and was very much interested in literature. She wrote romantic and flowery compositions and poetry, which she kept in a special book.

Her mother, with true Ukrainian hospitality, loved to fill the house with guests and was always baking and cooking delicious things. They had a nice little orchard with apple and cherry trees. Nina liked to help her mother and together they would make lots

of jams and jellies each summer. Their life was calm and peaceful.

When the Germans invaded our country, Nina's father joined the Red Army. The fascists bombed the little town; the orchards were red with cherry juice and blood. The enemy was drawing nearer and nearer. Nina's literature teacher decided to join a guerrilla detachment and Nina went with him.

The rest of the story was told me by the leader of the detachment in which Nina found a place. At first the young girl was afraid of the darkness of the forest; afraid of mice and lizards. But she did not fear death. Danger was something she never recognized. She carried out the most hazardous assignments with amazing courage and composure.

In her bag she carried, next to her cartridge case, a volume of Pushkin's poems. She would munch a piece of chocolate while crawling under a bridge to plant explosives. Her name became famous when, under the very noses of the Germans, she carried off large stores of fat, flour and tobacco which the villagers had prepared for the guerrillas. That night she crossed the river 20 times.

Another time she took part in a raid on the office of a German commandant and killed him with point-blank fire. That was her first German. Later, while helping to carry out a raid on her native town, she made her way to her own home. At the gate a scrawny cat stood, mewing piteously . . . beyond, where the house had been, was a heap of stones, debris and ashes. The neighbors said her mother had been carried away by the Germans. Nothing had been heard from her father.

Now the guerrilla detachment became Nina's family, a dugout in the woods her home. Her tender heart had been tempered and hardened in battle. Sometimes she would dream of her mother, all rosy and glowing as she stood over the stove cooking good things . . . of her father in his spectacles, reading a book in the garden. But these dreams did not interfere with her battle assignments. Four times she was wounded, and each time returned to the ranks before her wounds had fully healed. She was finally sent to the sanatorium for a rest.

The Red Army is now approaching her native town. The hour of liberation is near. Nina's eyes light up and her cheeks flush when she talks about it. Looking at her, I can almost see her ardently reciting poetry at her graduation exercises . . . this girl who for over two years has fought the enemy with implacable will and fearlessness.

WHAT IS THE DONBAS?

By A. Krol

Hundreds of volumes, thousands of pamphlets and articles, have been written about the Donbas. You may learn from them that the Donbas has immensely rich coal deposits, large metal works, great engineering and chemical industries. But, to the Soviet people, the Donbas is more than the sum total of its riches.

I have visited the Donbas many times, and each time I go am more profoundly impressed by this district and its people, their way of life and their culture.

The best way to get a first impression of the Donbas is to go there by plane. You see—or rather, you used to see—a forest of tall chimneys belching smoke day and night, long batteries of coke ovens, fiery and glowing, steel pylons—and, of course, the inevitable conical heaps, like miniature Egyptian pyramids, scattered all over the Donets steppe. All this was interspersed with verdant patches marking the workers' districts, and the lines of tall buildings marking the avenues of fine new towns.

70,000,000,000 Tons

The known coal deposits of the Donets basin are estimated at 70,000,000,000 tons. Over a quarter of this quantity is coking coal, indispensable to the metal, engineering and chemical industries.

In the past 25 years the Soviet people made the utmost use of these treasures. Their constructive labor transformed the face of the Donbas. Giant modern mines replaced old collieries worked by primitive methods. At the outbreak of the present war the Donbas had 300 mines, of which 100 had been sunk in Soviet times.

Ninety per cent of the entire output was mechanized. The hand pick had given way to coal-cutting machines and pneumatic picks. Output increased enormously. In 1938 the mines of the Stalinugol Combine alone produced over 41,000,000 tons of coal—13,000,000 tons more than the entire output of Tsarist Russia in 1913. In 1938 the Kirov metallurgical works in Makeyevka produced as much steel as all the steel plants of Poland and Italy combined.

The capital of the Donbas is Stalino. Before the October Revolution, Hughesovka, as it was then called, was a typical old-time factory town with a population of 30,000, housed mostly in slums. Twenty-five years later no one would have recognized the place. At the outbreak of the present war Stalino was a city of 500,000—a pleasant city to live in, with tall buildings, fine architecture, broad asphalted

streets, parks and public gardens, a complex streetcar and trolleybus system, magnificent theaters and three colleges.

The Stakhanov movement was born in the Donbas. The coal miners Alexei Stakhanov and Nikita Izotov, the engine-driver Peter Krivonos, the famous Korobov family of metallurgical workers, and steel smelter Makar Mazai are children of the Donbas.

The vast wealth of the Donets basin was long coveted by the fascist robbers. When they captured the Donbas they thought they would grab its riches, and at the same time undermine the economic might of the Soviet Union, depriving us of coal and metal and so forcing us to our knees. But the enemy overlooked the fact that the farsighted policy of the Soviet Government had enabled the Soviet people to create a second coal and metallurgical center in the east, large enough to supply the needs of the Red Army.

The Black Night Ends

The temporary loss of the Donbas was a bitter experience. We lost something we held dear. But we knew we would recover it. The Donbas lived through a black night. Its blast furnaces and open-hearth furnaces were extinguished, its mines became desolate. The scoundrels who invaded the Donbas found bare steppes, dead factories, flooded mines—and implacable hatred.

They vented their spite on the people, wrecked everything we had created. The tombs of the innocent and the charred ruins of our factories mark the invaders' road through the Donbas.

But the gloom of night is now dispelled. In the radiance of the new day the Donbas is regenerated, grown young again, with all stain of the fascist occupation washed away—our Donbas, fantastically beautiful in the promised flowering of its creative forces.

Reconstruction in Kursk Region

The president of the Kursk Regional Executive Committee, Volchkov, reports that by September 1 about 9,400 collective farmers' cottages had been rebuilt in the Region, as well as 856 new blocks of housing, with accommodation for 43,000 persons. This Region has many war orphans, of whom 7,380 have been placed with foster parents and 5,430 in children's homes.

CHEKHOV'S TOWN

Taganrog, on the Sea of Azov, recaptured by the Red Army on August 30, was founded 200 years ago on the site of a fortress built by Peter the Great. Because of its favorable location, it became one of the most important trading centers in South Russia, but toward the middle of the last century Taganrog's harbor grew shallow. Trade declined, and gradually the town drifted into complete obscurity.

The great Russian writer Anton Chekhov was born there in 1860. He called it a "filthy, dull, sluggish town . . . an unnecessary, useless town." In 1902 the journalist Svetlov blackened it still further. "A dingy, provincial town immersed in quiet lassitude," he shuddered. "Even the main streets are dead."

In those days Taganrog had no water supply, no sewerage system, no electricity, not a single street car line. But after the Revolution Taganrog began to develop rapidly, expanding beyond its boundaries. Huge factory buildings and new apartment blocks sprang up. The gross capital invested in industry in Taganrog at the beginning of the first Five-Year Plan was estimated at 48,000,000 rubles. During the years of reconstruction over 200,000,000 rubles were allocated for industrial reconstruction in the town.

One third of the town's area was taken up by up-to-date factories. The erstwhile obscure, drowsy town became one of the most important centers of South Russia—a town of metal and machine building. Steel boilers, turbines, hydraulic presses, lathes and leather

products poured off the assembly lines. By 1936 one of Taganrog's plants was producing more metal tubing than all the plants of pre-Revolutionary Russia put together.

Modern workers' apartments, with all up-to-date conveniences, were built. Squares and streets were paved with asphalt. The standard of living greatly improved. The town itself, with its many trees and gardens, became much pleasanter. "This city is like an orchard," said Alexander Vishnevsky, the celebrated Moscow Art Theater actor, when he attended the Chekhov Jubilee at Taganrog. Public welfare institutions sprang up. The metallurgical plant alone spent over 1,000,000 rubles to equip a model nursery. Just before the war the Stalin Plant built a new nursery. Thanks to the improved conditions of life, the mortality rate dropped to one third of the pre-Revolutionary figure. The population increased from 86,444 in 1926 to 188,808 in January, 1939.

In 1941 Taganrog fell to the Germans. They held it for two months. They could not take advantage of its industries, for all the machinery had been evacuated in good time, but they most efficiently destroyed Taganrog's beauties—its palaces and sanatoria, its museums and parks, its Chekhov Museum, its fine library, its factory buildings, schools and colleges.

Not a single Jew survived the German occupation of Taganrog.

Botanical Gardens Serve Farms

By Y. Rykachev

The Shugan Range is very far and very high. It takes about seven or eight days to travel there by train from Moscow and then from the railhead by all sorts of ways to the Pamirs.

This region, very rich in gold and other minerals, lies in the extreme northwestern corner of Soviet Central Asia and borders on three countries: China, Afghanistan and India. Only a quarter of a century ago this mountain area was considered almost inaccessible. The Soviet people have created there the only alpine botanical garden.

The work of laying out the garden on a wide mountain terrace was begun in the height of winter, when everything was covered with deep snow. The gardeners cleared the area and set up their hothouses, battled through snowstorms to bring up fertilizer, and built a laboratory. There wasn't much time. Spring was near, and in spring the garden had a big job to do, helping the collective farms of the Western Pamirs.

In the Soviet Union there are no botanical gardens

which serve only as places of interest, mere museums of vegetation. They have that function, of course, but Soviet botanical gardens are above all nurseries serving the collective farms and State agriculture.

The spring sun melted the snow in the Western Pamirs, and the spring waters flowed over the alpine fields. And the botanical garden gave the collective farms 4,000 young fruit trees and other plants: peach, apricot, cherry, apple, pear, raspberry, strawberry. Hardy fruit trees were planted for the first time some 10,000 feet above sea level.

At the botanical garden there are short training courses for collective farmers, who come from hundreds of miles around to study the cultivation of fruit trees and other crops. And so orchards have been laid out in the alpine collective farms of the Western Pamirs.

But the botanical garden has done much more. In the valleys of the Pyanja and Bartang Rivers the staff has discovered large areas covered with wild malva and kena. The fibers of these plants can be worked up into excellent thread and string.

Notes from Front and Rear

Iron and steel plants in the USSR considerably increased their output of rolled metal, steel and pig iron during August. Compared with the July output of rolled steel, the August figure shows an increase of more than 10 per cent. The Magnitogorsk iron and steel works raised the output of pig iron in August of this year by 11 per cent compared with the figure for August, 1942; of steel by 18.7 per cent; and of rolled metal by 19.4 per cent. The Nizhne-Tagil plant, the Gorky plant and the Stalin iron and steel works in Kuznetsk considerably exceeded their programs.



Father Ivanov, 70-year-old priest of Glukhov, in the Ukraine, welcomed the liberating Red Army vanguard with these words: *We awaited your coming with great impatience. The people, especially the women, prayed to God for your victory and your safety. . . Go forward, further and faster. We shall pray for you.*



Children began their studies in the lower grades of the Kharkov secondary schools on September 6. Teachers and pupils are working together to put the schools in order. Students of the senior grades began their studies on October 1. Higher educational institutions are inviting students to enroll.



More than a hundred new pits are to be opened in the Donbas. Preparations to handle coal from the Donbas are now in progress on the Moscow-Gorlovka railway line—the main link between Moscow and the Donbas. Depots and machines destroyed by the enemy are being put in working order. Barracks and signal-boxes and passenger shelters are being built.

Regular air mail services are in operation from Moscow and Kharkov to Stalino and other Donbas towns. The first 1,800 letters were dispatched by air from Moscow for Stalino on the morning of September 8.



Recently the score of enemy ships sunk by Soviet naval aviation in the Barents Sea reached 101. It is by way of the Barents that the German command supplies its troops in northern Norway. The total displacement of the first 100 ships sunk was 440,000 tons.

Statement by war prisoner Lieutenant Hans Rosenbaum, Commander of the 4th Company, 317th Regiment, 211th German Infantry Division:

In mid-August the regimental commander, Colonel Flinzer, made a speech at a meeting of officers of the 317th Regiment. He said an order had been received from Hitler, instructing us to hold our lines at all cost. Flinzer added that the Eastern front remained the decisive front, and demanded that an end should be put to absurd rumors to the effect that the division was to be withdrawn to France for a rest. Rest was out of the question, he said, at such a critical moment for the German army. On the contrary, we were receiving, and would continue to receive, reinforcements from reserve units quartered in occupied countries. At the conclusion of the meeting an order of the commander of the Second Army was read. This gave the names of five officers sentenced to be shot for cowardice . . . and of 15 officers sentenced to long-term imprisonment for defeatist views.



The Germans did great damage to the vineyards of the Northern Caucasus. Nursery gardens for the propagation of vines are being laid out in the Stavropol and Krasnodar areas, and Rostov Region is working hard to increase the yield and extend the areas of the vineyards. Stations for the reception and treatment of grapes of the new harvest have already been built at Tsimlyanskaya. The Novocheboksarsk and Nozemtsev wineries, demolished by the Germans, have been completely rebuilt.



The State Control Vitamin Station has been organized in Moscow, with a number of sub-stations in large cities of the USSR, to test the effects of various vitamin preparations. During the war it has been established that vitamin C is exceedingly helpful in the healing of wounds, and that fliers also require it because they expend this vitamin very quickly.



The Krasnodar motor repair plant will be in full operation by the end of this year. Certain sections are already completed, and in a few days will be turning out spare parts for the machine and tractor stations.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE LIBERATION OF THE TAMAN PENINSULA

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Colonel General Petrov:

By blows on land and landing parties from the sea, the troops of the North Caucasian Front as a result of stubborn engagements which lasted many days, completely cleared the Taman Peninsula of the German invaders.



SOVIET COSSACKS ON RECONNAISSANCE—*In the vicinity of the enemy the Cossack scouts split up into small groups. The three shown above usually work together*

Thus the operationally important German bridgehead in the Kuban which insured them the defense of the Crimea and the possibility of offensive operations in the direction of the Caucasus has been finally liquidated.

In the fighting for the liberation of the Taman Peninsula the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Leselidze, Lieutenant General Grechko, Major General Grechkin, Major General Khizhnyak, Major General Provalov, Major General Sergatskov and Major General Luchinsky; fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Vershinin, and seamen under Vice Admiral Vladimírsky and Rear Admiral Gorshkov.

The following troops especially distinguished themselves: The 83rd Turkestan Mountain Infantry Division under Colonel Koldubov, the 176th Infantry Division under Major General Bushev, the 383rd Infantry Division under Colonel Gorbachev, the 89th Infantry Division under Colonel Safaryan, the 242nd Mountain Infantry Division under Colonel Lisinov, the Second Red Banner Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Zakharov, the 32nd Red Banner Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Vasilenko, the 339th Infantry Division under Colonel Kulakov, the 395th Infantry Division under Major General Turchinsky, the 255th Red Banner Marine Infantry Brigade under Colonel Kharichev, the 62nd Gun Artillery Brigade under Colonel Efimov, the 103rd Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Colonel Zasekin, the 44th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Zakharov, the 35th Independent Pontoon Bridge Battalion under Major Ivanov, the 63rd Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Melnichuk, the 229th Fighter Air Division under Colonel Stepanovich, the 46th Light Night Bomber Air Regiment of Guards under Major Bershanskaya, the 502nd Attack Plane Air Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Smirnov, the 276th Infantry Division under Major General Savostyanov, the 227th Infantry Division under Colonel Preobrazhensky, the 316th Infantry Division under Colonel Okhman, the 174th Engineers Battalion under Major Popov, the 50th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Szarkov, the 414th Infantry Division under Colonel Kurashvili, the 230th Attack Plane Air Division under Colonel Getman, the 125th Red Banner Independent Heavy Howitzer Artillery Brigade under Major General of Artillery Poreshin.

To mark the victory achieved the names of "Taman," "Temryuk," "Anapa" and "Kuban" shall be conferred upon the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the liberation of the Taman Peninsula. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 89th Taman Infantry Division, the 242nd Taman Mountain Infantry Division, the Second Red Banner Taman Infantry Division of Guards, the 32nd Red Banner Taman Infantry Division of Guards, the 339th Taman Infantry Division, the 395th Taman Infantry Division, the 255th Red Banner Taman Infantry Brigade, the 62nd Taman Gun Artillery Brigade, the 103rd Taman Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 44th Taman Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 35th Taman Independent Pontoon Brigade Battalion, the 63rd Taman Tank Brigade, the 229th Taman Attack Plane Air Division, the 46th Taman Light Night Bomber Air Regiment, the 276th Taman Infantry Division, the 227th Temryuk Infantry Division, the 316th Temryuk Infantry Division, the 174th Temryuk Engineers Battalion, the 50th Temryuk Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 414th Anapa Infantry Division, the 230th Kuban Attack Plane Air Division, and the 125th Red Banner Kuban Independent Heavy Howitzer Artillery Brigade.

The 83rd Turkestan Mountain Infantry Division shall be re-formed into the 128th Turkestan Mountain Infantry Division of Guards; the 176th Infantry Division shall be re-formed into the 129th Infantry Division of Guards; and the standards of the Guards shall be presented to these re-formed Divisions of Guards.

The 383rd Infantry Division shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner for especially skilful and resolute actions.

Today, October 9, at 10:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the Taman Peninsula—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the Taman Peninsula.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

October 9, 1943

TWILIGHT OF THE GERMAN ARMY

By Ilya Ehrenburg

German newspapers write a lot about the "Eastern wall." However, not only fortifications count. German soldiers may prove less stable than German fortifications. In vain Goebbels tries to reassure the Germans: "The Desna is still far from the Oder." There is something else, too: radical changes are taking place in Fritz's mentality. He is passing from self-admiration to confusion. He is now on his way to despair: that may prove nearer than the Oder.

On July 2, Major-General Fichtner, commander of the Eighth Tank Division, said to his soldiers: "Remember, I have never yet been in command of a division which retreated." Two weeks later they respectfully reported to the general: "The soldiers are running."

Replenishments arrive from Germany. The replacement battalions are mainly composed of "total" Fritzes: one limps, another suffers from chronic diarrhea, a third cannot walk more than three kilometers without getting out of breath, a fourth has not even been taught to shoot a rifle. The Germans send forcibly mobilized Frenchmen from Alsace Lorraine to our front. A replacement battalion of the 19th Tank Division consists of 60 per cent French, the rest Slovenes.

In the 137th Infantry Division half the soldiers are Austrians. Of course, Austrians speak German, but these are not Germans. They were dragged into Germany by force. The Austrians say: "We have nothing to do with it. They sowed, let them reap. For us it is time to go home." While the Austrians want to go home, the French cross over to the Red Army to win back France. Men from Alsace Lorraine come over in groups with their arms. They will not save Hitler.

And the Fritzes are beginning to surrender, too.

"Total" Fritzes are learning to think. Distressed, non-com Dirsus says: "Formerly every order was fulfilled without a word. The soldiers did not argue. And when the ersatz soldier receives an order he begins to argue." They go so far as to criticize their officers.

Lance Corporal Brandit relates: "Our commander, Captain Rentschler, is drunk day and night, walks around with a cane and beats us."

Sergeant Major Buete is offended: he expected Senior Lieutenant Haenneker to tell him something consoling. But instead Haenneker muttered: "The Russians are advancing. And you look rather bad today," and rode away. The Sergeant Major then hastened to surrender.

The microbe of thought has penetrated even the heads of the German officers. Lieutenant von Wedel says: "It is like 1918. We are speeding toward disaster." Oberleutnant Wick disagrees with Goebbels: "We retreat because we are now weaker than the Russians." Lieutenant Elwin admits: "I fought in France. I fought in Russia from the very beginning. But firstly we were beaten at Orel. Secondly my brother has been killed. I said to myself: To hell with it all! And I surrendered." Lieutenant Kalkroit, one of the most thoroughbred Aryans, declared: "I don't want to fight for Hitler's crazy ideas. I don't believe in Germany's victory any more."

Many officers now speak very disrespectfully of their Fuehrer. Oberleutnant Bakker sighs: "Of course Hitler is a great politician, but why did he assume military leadership? True, he was a corporal in the World War, but a corporal isn't a general."

Lieutenant von Wedel says: "The majority of the officers blame Hitler for the latest failures. It was he who caused the loss of the Sixth Army at Stalingrad. And this summer he blundered again."

Lieutenant Gutmann also has a low opinion of the Fuehrer's strategical genius: "Our officers frequently say: 'What a misfortune that Hitler took von Brauchitsch's place.'"

But there are other sorts of Nazi officers. Oberleutnant Sonntag, now in captivity, said dully: "And still the Red Army is weaker than ours." Officers still place hopes in the "Eastern wall," in the procrastination of Germany's adversaries, in a miracle. Besides, they have bound their fate to that of the German army.

One of the duties of German officers is to give propaganda talks to the soldiers. The talks are not always successful. Lieutenant Redel was saying that the Red Army was exhausted. At this juncture the orderly whispered something to him, and the Lieutenant finished his lecture in a somewhat unexpected manner: "Each one for himself!"

Sielemann of the Sixth Infantry Division says to his friends: "I went to visit my uncle in Dortmund. But I found neither house nor family. It turned out that my uncle was under the debris. There is nothing left of Dortmund." The Fritzes sigh, and the most intelligent of them suddenly mutters: "What then are we doing here on the Desna?"

I don't want to exaggerate by any means the significance of such scenes. By nature, Fritz is not

a rebel. Fritz is a good-natured sheep trained as a wolf.

Oberleutnant Walter Baecker says justly: "Obedience is in the blood of every German." Fritzes, even those who criticize, obey their superiors. They will obey until the very end. Germany will collapse as if all of a sudden: the Germans have "blitzes" at the beginning and at the end. This collapse is being prepared now—by the expulsion of the Germans.

In the winter of 1941-42 the Fritzes looked very miserable. Then I wrote: *One should not be misled by icicles under noses and the lamentation of prisoners—Germany is stronger than she seems.*

Now great changes have taken place. Now the Germans are weaker than one might think. At the end of the first World War no one realized how internally weakened the German army was.

On October 25, 1918, 17 days before Germany's complete surrender, the commander of the British troops, Haig, said: "Germany is not yet broken militarily. Her army retreats in full order, showing great staunchness in action." On October 31, 11 days before the capitulation, Marshal Foch believed that "the German Army is still strong."

The nature of the Germans is such that even their agony will look like strength. It is not our business to make guesses as to when the end will come, but to bring this end nearer by more and more blows. The German army has been undermined. No "Eastern" or any other "Wall" will save it. For the Germans the road does not lead to the west only. It leads to despair.

Strike at Germany from the west. Drive the Fritzes from Russia. Then the end may come sooner than we expect it.

Work of Engineers and Sappers Never Ends

In a dispatch from the front, *Izvestia* correspondent Evgeni Krieger describes the tremendous work being carried out by Soviet engineers in the area of the offensive. In one 30-kilometer sector alone, sappers removed and decharged 70,500 mines of all types—anti-tank, anti-personnel and those of the jumping variety.

"Theoretically," Krieger writes, "one mine can kill 10 men, and thus this number represented nearly three-and-a-quarter million potential deaths. Of course no such number of troops would ever be stationed in so narrow a sector, and even under the worst conditions all the mines would not be exploded—but this will give an idea of the scale of work carried out by the sappers."

"In the same area the retreating Germans blew up 70 bridges, all of which were restored in eight days, even though the ruins were filled with all sorts of mines and the most treacherous booby traps.

"This is only a small part of the titanic work of the engineers. When the Red Army enters territory recaptured from the enemy, road scouts and bridge and road builders scatter in every direction. They find the most convenient routes for troops and detours for motorized vehicles; they set up pointers and markers and make sure that the roads chosen will not be within sight of enemy gunners; they take stock of all available shelters from aerial bombardments and calculate their capacity.

"The retreating enemy also befouls and demolishes

wells, and these must be cleaned and restored, or if this is impossible, new wells must be drilled or dug.

"Meanwhile advancing divisions have moved to new positions and the work begins all over.

"Lastly," the correspondent concludes, "during the war my car covered over 100,000 kilometers of front zone roads—more than two-and-one-half times the circumference of the globe. And not once in this enormous distance did we fail to see traces of the work of engineers and sappers—the great toilers of the war."

Suvorov Military Schools

Lieutenant General Morozov, head of the Military Schools of the Red Army, states that the Suvorov Military Training Schools to be established for boys whose parents have been killed by the Germans, and for the sons of Red Army men and guerrillas, will be organized along the lines of the old cadet schools.

The preparatory work for the establishment of these schools has commenced. Representatives of the People's Commissariat of Defense have arrived in the places where they are to be set up—Maikop, Novocherkassk, Astrakhan, Voronezh, Chuguyev, Kursk, Yelets, Kalinin and Stavropol.

A large number of Soviet officers have already applied for their sons to be admitted to the Suvorov Schools, which will have places for 4,500 students.

KUBAN COSSACKS

By Peter Pavlenko

"IF THE GERMANS DON'T LIKE IT, THEY SHOULD HAVE STAYED AT HOME IN GERMANY."

The word Cossack has sounded insultingly in German ears ever since the Seven Years' War, when General Chernishov's cavalry took Berlin. In 1812 Ataman Platov's Cossacks routed Napoleon's Bavarian and Saxon Corps. In 1914, 102 years later, Cossack forces led by Samsonov invaded East Prussia.

Yes, the Germans know the Cossacks, and the Cossacks know them. The memory of 1918, when the corrupt Ataman Krasneyov led Eichhorn's German forces to the Don, sharpened the sabers of Dovator's men when they struck behind the German lines before Moscow, of Belov's men when they scourged the

Germans near Kaluga. Cossacks fought at Leningrad, Odessa and Sevastopol.

In the early spring of 1942 there was a tremendous rallying of Kuban Cossacks of the older generation to the Red Army. Graybeards wearing the Cross of St. George, awarded for distinguished service in the Tsarist wars, gathered to volunteer. Many of their sons were already majors and colonels; they, the fathers, joined up as rank and file fighters.

I was their guest for a few days. They were holding a sort of training course in saber fighting. Niki-



By secret paths through fields and forests and across swollen streams, the Cossack patrols make their way behind the German lines

for Natluck, a Cossack from the stanitsa (village) of Labinskoy, a patriarchal old man, whose sons are prominent Red Army commanders, proposed that young Cossacks should be taught the immortal saber blow of the famous Zaporozhye Cossacks.

"The German must be slashed from the shoulder to the groin," he said. "Anyone can cut off a head or slice off an arm, but a Cossack must wield his saber as his great-grandfathers did."

Another of the instructors was Trofim Njegoduyko, whose forefathers came with the first settlers from the mouth of the Dnieper in the time of Empress Catherine II. His great-grandfather knew Suvorov, who built forts on the shores of the Sea of Azov and formed the Kuban Corps. Trofim's grandfather took part in the defense of Sevastopol in 1854-55. In the Turkish War of 1877 he crossed the Balkans with General Gurko, took Plevna with Skolobev, saw the minarets of Stamboul and the hills of San Stefano.

Trofim's father fought in Manchuria with Colonel Samsonov's detachment. In the 1914-18 war both father and son were in General Samsonov's army which broke into East Prussia, thus saving Paris from a German invasion. Later Trofim made the acquaintance of General Brusilov, in whose convoy he was, saw the Carpathians, where he slew many Hungarian Hussars, and came back with three St. George Crosses. In the days of the Civil War he fought the Germans in the Donbas in young Voroshilov's detachment, defended Tsaritsyn under Budenny, and followed later to Lvov.

Now, at 54 years of age, he is a senior sergeant, a volunteer in the Red Army. He fought near Moscow with the immortal Dovator, and later back home in the Kuban in Tseplyayev's motor brigade.

"I've known 16 generals in my time," he told me, "and honestly they all treated me like a brother."

"Why was that?"

He smoothed the flowing gray-black beard which spreads over his Circassian coat, and kept silent for some time, loving to keep our curiosity suspended in midair. Finally he said, "I do a Cossack's job well. What do they want from a Cossack? Fierceness. They expect him to deal heavy strokes. Well, I deal such strokes. A good stroke, boys, is never forgotten. It lives forever."

Trofim's grandfather hewed through a Turkish horseman from shoulder to waist before Skobelev's eyes. All the papers were full of it at the time. In 1914, near Gumbinen, Trofim's father cut up a German in six parts with two blows of his sword. It was the famous "criss-cross" blow, and the fame of it drew young officers to study with Alexander Njegoduyko. He showed them how to cut a calf in two, or a piece of cloth thrown up into the air.

Trofim Alexandrovich has upheld the honor of his

family. Back in the days of the Civil War his comrades presented him with an old, silver-hilted sword with an Arabian inscription on the blade: "I serve the eagle-hearted." The silver hilt is now covered with 131 copper dots like freckles. That is Trofim's score of killed Germans. Trofim Alexandrovich says that eight dots are missing; they dropped off by accident.

Not all the 139 Germans were cut up: many of them tasted lead bullets, other were destroyed with the rifle butt or crushed under Trofim's horse. With his sword he killed 43 Germans. One of his slashes he dedicated to his grandfather. "Even Grandfather Petro would have approved of it." It was near Rostov . . . with one blow he cut a German officer in three parts: head and shoulders, half the body and an arm, and the rest of the body.

Now he has been invited to show young Cossacks the art of sword play. Upright on his horse, he gallops spiritedly up to the clay figure of a German with outspread arms. The young folks have been hacking away unsuccessfully at this "German" since the early morning. But their swords have got stuck in the moist clay at the level of the heart, or they have struck off only the head, which of course cannot be considered a decent stroke. Even a child can strike off a head.

So 54-year-old Trofim Njegoduyko, with set teeth, dashes up on his russet horse. The sword glitters brightly in his hand. He rises in his stirrups, raises the blade, and the clay German falls in two pieces.

The young folk shout "Hurrah!" Trofim, reining in his horse, explains: "The hardest thing, my lads, is to cut clay. I can feel no hatred for a clay figure, and therefore there is no heat in doing it. Why do I cut it? Only for the sake of your education.

"But my heart's not in it. I feel no anger. The conclusion to be drawn from this is that it is easier to strike at a German. In the first place, he usually turns tail. So if you stick a sword into him he'll run up it himself. He'll cut himself up. In the second place, you've got to apply pressure along the length of the blade, not downwards. It's not the same as chopping wood.

"Use your imagination. Pretend that the German is very broad and you're cutting him open like a cake. Don't hurry. Take it easy, and everything will turn out well.

"Of course, psychology plays a part, too," adds Trofim mockingly. "But it's none of our business if a German yells. If the Germans don't like it, they should have stayed at home in Germany. But once they've come onto our territory, friend, crying won't help. Run, damn you, run up the blade!"

Germans No Longer Drink Novorossisk Champagne

By Vladimir Rudny

Recently I received a telegram which read, "The Germans no longer drink Abrau Durso champagne." There was no signature.

Last summer, when the Germans broke through to Novorossisk, the marine detachment led by Captain Oleg Kuzmin—a former instructor in the Frunze Naval Academy and a close friend of mine—was the last to leave the city. Kuzmin was a small, energetic man who had a habit of appearing in 10 different places in the course of five minutes. The orders of the Soviet command to fall back were very painful to him, but he endeavored to maintain an orderly retreat.

At the railway station Kuzmin met a group of his men, from whom emanated a strong smell of wine. He was indignant—his detachment had been strictly forbidden to drink. The marines explained they had not touched wine; their clothes were merely soaked with it. They had found at the station a freight train loaded with cases of the famous Novorossisk Abrau Durso champagne. There was no time to evacuate the train and the marines could not endure that this prize should fall into the hands of the Germans, so they blew up the cars with hand grenades. The champagne splashed over them, and the sharp, intoxicating odor of wine mingled with the smell of gunpowder, blood and fire.

"The day will come," Kuzmin told me, "when I shall send you a wire saying, 'Germans are no longer drinking Abrau Durso.' We will positively return to Novorossisk—and I want to be among the first to enter."

Oleg Kuzmin never sent me the telegram. The marines who had destroyed the champagne fought in the mountain passes above the city, preventing the Germans from reaching the main highway running along the coast. Last winter, when the Red Army liberated the Krasnodar area, Kuzmin landed his detachment at the foot of Mount Myskhako, where the sailors gained a permanent foothold.

This location soon received the symbolic name of "Little Volcano." When I visited the place I realized how appropriate this was . . . every foot of land held by the marines was constantly showered with shells from enemy field guns and trench mortars. Kuzmin's men held this sector of 25 square kilometers from February until September, when they were joined by the Soviet forces entering Novorossisk from the south. According to German estimates, which later became known, five long-range shells were expended by the Nazis for each marine of the "Little Volcano" garrison.

Oleg Kuzmin was killed in action while leading a shore raid on Novorossisk. But when his marines entered the streets of the wrecked Black Sea port they raised their first glasses of champagne to the memory of their brave commander, and it was they who sent me the telegram promised by my friend . . .

Several times before the war I visited Novorossisk . . . the lovely seaside city with its great cement mills and harbor filled with ships. I was there in June, 1942, while Sevastopol was being heroically defended and Novorossisk was supplying the Black Sea bastion with reinforcements and munitions.

This year I returned to the outskirts of the city, visiting the front lines established in the cement mills. From the tower of the mills I could see Novorossisk quite clearly—a dead city where trenches, ruins and pillboxes filled the once-gay streets. That night I saw our torpedo boats dash into the port and crush the German pillboxes at the piers; next day I watched our artillery wipe out the German motorized columns moving through the center of the city. Novorossisk had become a front-line city.

A letter of a German of the routed 73rd Nazi Infantry Division mentions the terrific strength of the storms which frequently rage over Novorossisk. The shore raid on Novorossisk by hundreds of landing barges of the Black Sea Fleet, and the liberation of this large naval base, must have sounded in German ears as an omen of approaching catastrophe.

Taganrog Breathes Again

Taganrog, devastated by the Germans, is returning to life. Hundreds of builders, aided by the population, are rebuilding and repairing the houses. Lodging and public dining facilities are the two chief concerns of the municipal authorities. People who fled after eviction by the Germans are now moving back to their homes, or if these have been destroyed, to other quarters; while 13 public dining rooms have been opened. All local industry has been restored, the cinema theaters are again open and the post office is functioning normally.

Aid is coming from all sections of the USSR. The bakery of the city of Yeisk has promised Taganrog 15 to 20 tons of bread daily. Workers of the Molotov plant, which was evacuated from Taganrog to the East, have sent warm congratulations to their fellow townsmen on the liberation of their home city and have contributed 100,000 rubles to the fund for Taganrog's restoration.

NEWSREEL MEN AT THE FRONT

One hundred and twenty front-line cameramen who travel with the advancing Soviet troops are busy recording every phase of the Red Army offensive. Each day thousands of meters of film are delivered by plane to the newsreel studios in Moscow.

The Alexeyev brothers, two well-known cameramen, who were recently in Moscow on a short leave, gave the following account of their work in the field:

"We spent eight months on the Kalinin Front with officers and men of the famous Panfilov Guards Division. Our truck was equipped for the immediate development and printing of film, and also with couches for sleeping. Our driver voluntarily undertook the additional 'profession' of cooking, and is now an accomplished chef.

"The newsreel 'The Fighting for Bezmyannaya Hill,' now being shown on the Soviet screen, was an exciting assignment. Scouts reported to our Command that for several days the Germans had been practising the storming of heights—apparently in preparation for an offensive in this important sector.

"We immediately left for the regiment defending this height. After a 24-hour wait we heard the first German salvos at dawn and set out for a closer view. We found a tall fir tree and from that vantage point, under constant enemy fire, shot the entire German

attack, which was successfully repulsed by our troops.

"Leaving the truck in the rear and proceeding on foot, we followed a unit of Soviet troops assigned to force the river. In our haste we got lost and found ourselves on the German side of the front, from which we were able to film not only the forcing of the river but also an attack on a height at village K.

"For several days we were swept ahead by the rapid pace of the offensive. Moving into a forest, we reached a sector of the enemy defenses which our troops had just finished clearing. Here we encountered Soviet scouts making their way to the German rear. We filmed the fresh traces of recent battles and the bombing of the Germans' front lines by Soviet planes.

"On one occasion we spent three days in German blindages which had somehow escaped destruction. In this sector the Germans had concentrated all their aircraft from the Smolensk airdromes. Over 100 fascist planes constantly rained bombs on this small area. We succeeded in recording the shooting down of a German bomber by a Lavochkin-5 fighter plane.

"We also filmed the entire operation for the capture of Dukhovshchina and Smolensk, which is now being shown on Soviet screens."

Introduction of Titles and Insignia for Railway Workers

By a decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, personal titles and new distinguishing insignia have been introduced for the Soviet railway transport staff.

Part 1 of the decree establishes titles for the higher commanding personnel of railway transport under the Director General of Railways: five colonel directors, five lieutenant colonel directors and five major engineers for the senior commanding personnel; five captain engineers, five lieutenant engineers and five lieutenant technicians for the intermediate commanding personnel; and five technicians, five senior brigadiers and five brigadiers for the junior commanding personnel.

Part 2 of the decree states that "all railwaymen who have no personal titles will be called 'Railway Transport Workers.'"

Part 3 states that "These personal titles for the high commanding personnel of railway transport will be introduced by an Order of the Council of People's

Commissars of the USSR."

Part 4 states that models and description of the new distinguishing insignia for the commanding personnel and rank and file of the railway transport have been approved.

Part 5 states that the People's Commissariat for Railways will decide the moment for the introduction of the new distinguishing insignia for the commanding and rank and file personnel of railway transport.

Railwaymen of the higher ranks will now wear epaulettes and all ranks will have winter and summer uniforms. The uniform of the Director General of Railways will be decorated with gold braid around the epaulettes, and the railway workers' emblem—the crossed pliers and hammer—will be in gold.

Director Generals of train movements, construction and administration, etc., will have a varying number of stars on their epaulettes to denote their ranks, from one for the third rank to three for the first rank.

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THE THIRD AUTUMN OF WAR

By Vera Ketlinskaya

"How beautiful is autumn in Leningrad! No season becomes Leningrad so well as the early golden autumn, when its many gardens are filled with yellow, red and lavender foliage, and the outlines of its austere, majestic buildings stand out so clearly in the transparent air. The leaves rustle softly as they drift down to be carried away by the slow-flowing water of the canals. The steps of pedestrians sound hollowly in the stillness.

In this third autumn of war Leningrad is particularly still and deserted. There are few people in the streets, few children in the gardens. There seem to be very few people left in the enormous city. But this deserted appearance is deceptive.

Naturally the population of Leningrad has decreased considerably during the war; its inhabitants are to be found on every front and in every factory



LENINGRAD IN 1943—Despite the ferocity of German bombardments, the citizens have succeeded in saving the finest historical monuments of the indomitable city. Above, the famous Kazan Cathedral

in the rear. Hundreds and thousands of children have been evacuated to safer parts of the country. The first winter of war, with its famine, cold and blockade, and the bombardment of the city, also cut down the population.

Yet in spite of its deserted appearance the city is teeming with life in its buildings and factories. The people of Leningrad are very busy—everybody works. It would be hard to find anyone who could afford to be idle. Every citizen, young or old, is busy at something. At the X factory work goes on day and night. The workers won't tell you what this factory produces; they only say, "We are working fast and well and producing large quantities of what the front needs." Most of the workers are women and youngsters.

Enthusiastic Young Factory Workers

Ask almost any woman what she did before the war and the answer would probably be, "I was a housewife . . . my husband worked and I stayed home with the children." It would be useless to ask the youngsters, for before the war they were studying and playing. Today they are important people in the factory. A 16-year-old skilled worker and Stakhanovite will complain to you that in accordance with the labor code he is not allowed to work more than six hours, and add: "In time of war this code should be disregarded." But the code is strictly adhered to all the same.

After hours the young workers study. Special homes have been assigned by the Government for those who have no families. There is a great deal of merrymaking in the evening, when important foremen become children once more. The head of the Liberty factory will tell you that it became necessary to change the selection of books in the library—the young workers prefer adventure stories, fairy tales and fantastic novels.

Here is a school which at the beginning of summer was without window panes, all the glass having been smashed by an explosion. Now the panes have been replaced, the ceilings whitewashed and the walls painted. The classrooms are immaculate. This autumn, for the first time, boys and girls are studying in separate buildings. The children spend the entire day in school, receiving three hot meals in the cozy dining-hall. The food is nourishing and varied. Looking at the children of Leningrad this autumn one is happy to note that their tanned little cheeks have rounded out; the majority have been to Pioneer camps and playgrounds. As a result they have gained weight and their health has been greatly improved.

Take a look at the yard of any house—there, too, work is in full swing. Women in overalls are busy

wrapping padding about waterpipes in preparation for the winter, and sawing and piling up wood. "Roofers" who were recently housewives hammer away, repairing the roofs.

Today many people of Leningrad work outside the city, digging peat, cutting trees and cultivating vegetable gardens. It is interesting to have a talk with these peat-diggers and wood-cutters. Among them you'll find pastry cooks, saleswomen, manicurists, seamstresses, watchmakers, textile workers, students, housewives and artists. They won't deny that in the beginning it was difficult—but immediately they will announce with pride that they are exceeding their quotas and that Leningrad has been assured the necessary fuel for the coming winter.

It is a pleasure to take a look at the universities and the Leningrad institutes. Classes start in October. There will be both day and evening courses, as many students combine study with work in the factories in these wartime days.

Toward evening the streets become livelier. Streetcars are crowded with people hurrying home. Women, children and old folk are rushing about in every direction, carrying shopping bags. Carrot tops, heads of cabbage and lettuce, beets and green cucumbers show enticingly at the tops of the bags.

Theaters Crowded

Many persons hasten toward theater entrances, lecture halls and moving picture houses. In one hall lectures are being given on "The United States at the Present Stage of the War" and "The Capitulation of Italy and the Situation in Southern Europe." In the theaters one may see the ballet *The Hunchbacked Horse*, the opera *Eugene Onegin*, the play *The Road to New York*, the operetta *Sylvia*, the play *Restless Old Age*—about the great Russian scientist Timiryazev—and others. Tickets must be secured ahead of time, for the theaters are overcrowded.

In the evening the city is gripped with excitement. People are grouped about the radios in their homes waiting for the war news, for the announcement of new victories at the front. Pencils and maps are ready. Everybody has become a war expert and various opinions and forecasts are hotly discussed.

Before I had time to finish the last sentence a terrible crash shook the house. I ran into the hall. Another crash rocked the house to its foundations. I went downstairs, where some women in overalls excitedly told me that only that morning they had finished veneering the broken windowpanes in the hallway on the third floor. Now the shell had destroyed their work . . . they would have to begin all over!

(Continued on page seven)

ON THE ROADS TO GOMEL

By G. Ponomarev

Their trenchcoats wet, driving rain streaming from their helmets, the Red Army men keep pushing ahead. The barrels of their ordnance swing along behind the muddy green trucks. Autumn has come into its own along the Desna.

Yet the men along these rainswept roads are elated, Their happy expressions prove this, although they are frequently compelled to make forced marches of 20 to 30 kilometers, to lie in the wet grass under intense enemy fire for hours, then to dash forward through sloughs, fields and gullies. The same expression of cheerful certainty may be observed in the faces of the wounded, through the swathes of bloody bandages. Forgetting their pain they talk of their recent experiences. Particularly happy are those Red Army men who are greeted by the joyful people they have liberated.

The enemy has been severely mauled during the recent engagements and is fighting with ferocious tenacity. German artillery, trench mortars and tanks keep hammering at the roads of the Soviet advance. Of late the German tanks frequently operate as nomad guns. Again and again the Luftwaffe descends upon Soviet columns along the road and strikes at liberated villages.

The retreating enemy is straining every effort to keep his plunder and to prevent the rightful owners from reclaiming their goods. Unable to carry off everything, the Germans are wantonly destroying things of great value created by the Russian people during long years of effort. Special incendiary squads drench peasant cottages with kerosene and ignite them.

Four hundred charred chimneys mark the sites of



An anti-tank rifle crew of the Third Special Motorcycle Regiment of Guards waits for the Germans. This Guards Regiment has destroyed 32 German aircraft, 14 tanks, hundreds of trucks and supply wagons, 230 machine guns and 33 guns, and has blown up three railway bridges and killed or captured 17,000 Germans

400 houses in the village of Vorobyevka. The cattle have been driven off. Whatever the Nazis could not take with them they burned. Of 203 houses in Arkhipovka village only 15 remain; of 230 in Buchki village, 40 remain; of 300 in Pechenyugi village, 100. Weeping survivors of the Mikhailovna Sloboda village told how their 200 cottages were consumed by flames.

The enemy's wanton destruction infuriates the Red Army men and imbues them with the determination to prevent the Germans from exterminating the people, to catch the robbers red-handed and deal with them on the spot.

In the fighting for Kostober village several Soviet trench mortar men observed German soldiers setting fire to a building. Other houses were already in flames. Slipping through a hail of enemy bullets toward the outskirts of the village, Sergeant Chinarev, Junior Sergeant Zaitsev and their men unleashed murderous fire against the Nazis. Twenty incendiaries were blown to bits in the village streets and the others fled. Following close upon their heels the Red Army men extinguished the flames and thus saved most of the houses.

The men of another Red Army unit are particularly proud of the fact that they were able to recover from the enemy some 124 tons of rye, 29 tons of barley, 400 head of cattle and 35 tons of pressed hay. The Nazis intended to ship this to Germany, but were overtaken by the rightful owners.

Retreating westward the Germans are driving before them hundreds of thousands of Russian women, children and adolescents. Thanks to the speed of the Red Army's advance thousands of these people have been freed. When the Soviet striking unit in one sector attacked the Nazis on the flank the latter were forced to beat a hurried retreat from the villages of Bugrinovka and Stakhorshchina. Red Army men here descended upon the enemy with such suddenness they came upon 4,000 local inhabitants who were lined up to be marched to the German rear. Taken by surprise the German guards were captured as they attempted to escape to the surrounding forest, and the villagers returned to their homes, weeping with joy.

Russian patriots along the banks of both the Dnieper and the Desna have not only been waiting for their liberation—but fighting as well. A young doctor and his wife who crossed the front to meet the Red Army were able to guide the troops to a shallow sector of the Seim River unknown to the Germans and therefore unguarded. That night the doctor forded the river at the head of a regiment. The enemy, taken unawares, was wiped out.

When Red Army men captured the village of Baranovka they discovered a column of 30 carts and 50 horses stuck fast in a nearby swamp. Taken prisoner, the Germans on the carts told how they had been led into a trap by a 12-year-old boy who promised to show them a short cut. No sooner were they stranded in the slime than the youngster disappeared. The name of this young hero was not learned.

FRITZ SHIVERS

There was a time when the Fritzes sang:

*Everything passes, everything goes away.
After every December, at last comes May.*

Now they have somewhat amended this song: "Everything passes, everything goes away. Hitler and his Party will also go away."

The Fritzes have lost interest in the seasons of the year. They have realized that what matters is not frost or heat, but the Fuehrer. In their eternal obtuseness they hope that Hitler will go away, just as summer and winter go away.

But Hitler will not go away. Hitler will be put away.

With what does the Nazi Government console the Fritzes? With the coming frost.

These sausage-makers are incorrigible. For two years they claimed summer as their own. Now without embarrassment they say, "Never mind, it will soon snow," and expect the Fritzes to take comfort from the fact.

But the Fritzes refuse to cheer up. They see a premonitory vision—a terrible exit from Russia over snow-covered fields.

The Red Army marches westward without waiting for the frost. Only the other day the German newspapers were describing the Desna as a reliable barrier. Our troops crossed the Desna. How does the Herr Kommandant of Zaporozhye feel after Chaplino? Aren't the sausage makers shivering in the warm Crimea? On which cart is the burgomaster of Priluki jogging away?

The Germans are perturbed. Why this retreat?

Separate Education for Boys and Girls in High Schools of Large Cities

By Nadezhda Parfenova

Nadezhda Parfenova is a Member of the Board and Chief of the Administration of Elementary and High Schools under the People's Commissariat of Education of the RSFSR.

On July 16, 1943, the Government of the USSR issued a decree introducing separate education for boys and girls in the high schools of large cities and industrial centers.

In pre-Revolutionary Russia, as in a number of European countries today, the majority of progressive teachers insisted on a co-educational system of education. They cited several reasons of both a pedagogical and practical character to support their arguments. However, it was the idea of granting women equal rights with men in matters of education that dominated all their considerations. It may be said that it is mainly reasons of a political character which underlie the argument for or against the co-educational or the separate system of education.

In Tsarist Russia women did not enjoy equal rights with men. Women could not become civil servants and their lot was mainly family and housework. Most working-class women were employed in factories and on landlords' estates and domains. Very few knew how to read and write and this was especially true of the women of non-Russian nationality. Women's chances for entering high schools and universities were limited. As a result, there were few women with secondary or higher education to be found among the broad masses of the population. The only type of school which girls of these strata could attend were the church and parish schools.

But it was not only here that the rights of women were curtailed. The Tsarist government did everything to limit the education received by women. This may be seen in the example of the women's gymnasia: in these the program differed considerably from that of the men's gymnasia, where mathematics, for instance, was taught much more fully. As a result, most of the women had considerable difficulty in entering universities. The champions of equal political and economic rights for women advocated a co-educational system in the high schools, and those who were against granting equal rights to women were also against the co-educational system. Here the considerations of education and psychology gave way to political interests.

It is therefore only natural that with the advent of Soviet power the question of a co-educational sys-

tem of education was decided in the positive sense. In May, 1918, a decree was issued introducing the co-educational system, which at once enabled all girls to enter every elementary and high school in the country on an equal footing with boys. This was enhanced still further by a subsequent law introducing universal compulsory education. As they completed their high school education, girls filled the technical schools and universities, studying to become technicians, engineers, teachers, physicians, scientists, and specialists in other professions. In this way the Soviet Government proved that it indeed stood for equal rights for women.

In the Soviet Union women enjoy equal rights with men. The idea of the equality of the sexes has taken firm hold in the minds of our people; no one could imagine a different status. Thus the main problem which the introduction of a co-educational system was intended to solve—realization of the equality of the sexes—has been solved.

But the question of the value of the co-educational system is far from being settled. On the contrary, after solving the political aspect of the matter, serious problems of a pedagogical character arose. It must be explained that throughout the entire existence of the Soviet State the best pedagogical experts in the country have been working on these problems. In 1940 the People's Commissariat of Education proposed to the Government the introduction of a system of separate education for boys and girls, but the events then developing somewhat delayed the realization of that proposal.

Thus the reform of the high schools is nothing new or unexpected. A test which had been carried out in Moscow schools during the 1942-43 school year, when separate education was established in the higher grades—from the fifth to the tenth—fully justified the innovation. Separate education resulted in a higher level of military and physical training, a better order of school life and better discipline.

In addition, practice has shown that with separate education for the tremendous masses of pupils in the high schools it is easier to take into consideration the physical peculiarities and physical development of boys and girls. Considering the tendencies and physical abilities of the children of both sexes, as well as the practical need for boys and girls to receive corresponding working habits for their future life and work, it becomes necessary to use different approaches in selecting the kind of work for them, a

thing which does not work out in practice under a co-educational system. With the introduction of a separate system of education, these shortcomings will be eliminated.

There will be a single scholastic program in both boys' and girls' schools. Therefore both girls and boys will be assured an equal level of knowledge and

an equal chance of entering the universities after being graduated from high school.

The reform applies only to the high schools in large cities where it is possible to organize separate schools for boys and girls. In small towns and rural localities the co-educational system in the high schools will remain.

Inventors of Baku

By Y. Rykachev

When the Government of Iran drove the Germans out of the country, the German Minister said to the Iranian Prime Minister: "Very well then, expel us, but just the same we'll be in Baku in six weeks' time, and then we will return again to Iran." Everybody remembers Hitler's scheme to return to Iran, by way of Baku, and what happened to it. The German pin-cers were chopped off at the source by the Red Army.

In the meantime, the town of Baku, the center of the Soviet oil industry, was not in the least disturbed as to its fate. It continued to work calmly and confidently. Of course, many of the things that the city used to receive without any hitch from other regions of the USSR it now has to produce itself. But Baku does not grumble. It seeks for a way out, and always finds one.

An exhibit was recently opened in the house of the Azerbaijan Scientific and Technical Society. This exhibit gives the visitor a clear notion of the extraordinary inventiveness and mental vigor of Baku folk in overcoming wartime difficulties.

Buzdakov's Old Chisels

Here, on one of the stands, is a mutilated chisel that has outlived its day. If we were to calculate how many miles it has covered in its time, penetrating the unsubmissive earth's crust with its sharp edge—made from the strongest rare metal—we would get quite imposing figures. What should be done with it now? Throw it on the scrap heap? No! Engineer Buzdakov absolutely refuses. It is impossible, says he, that no particles of valuable super-hard alloy remain in this well-used blade. Well, three and a half tons of precious alloy were collected from such outworn chisels. The result is that new high-speed cutting instruments have made their appearance in the factories of Baku, made from valuable particle extracted by engineer Buzdakov from his old chisels.

And here is a bynamograph—also a war product. It is a sort of window into the bowels of the earth, through which everything is visible to a depth of over half a mile. The instrument is of simple construction. It is linked up with a pump sunk into a pit and it provides you with a complete report of what is

taking place in the depths of the earth.

According to the graphs it draws, you can judge not only where a disorder is taking place, but you can also understand exactly what this disorder consists of, and even the cause of the disorder. In a word, it is as though with your own eye you checked the thickness of the earth to a depth of half a mile.

Also illustrated at the exhibit are numerous large and small improvements in the process of oil extraction, and the number of production processes. Here are scrapers which cleanse the pipes of paraffin without having to raise them to the surface. Here is wire for electric lamps made of waste salvaged from old automobiles. And here is a way of using waste steam suggested by engineers Rustam Zade and Lavrukhin.

Rich Harvest of Ideas

From the very smallest to the biggest idea, from a small rationalization proposal for using waste to a brilliant invention, all these serve one aim: to help the front and the country, to raise output, to manage with the resources nearest to hand. Graphs and diagrams give vivid figures testifying to increased output, and at the same time to the tremendous economies achieved in the use of materials, particularly those which are scarce. Economy in materials means economy in transport, in labor power, in machinery.

During the two years of war, 3,860 rationalization suggestions and inventions proposed by engineers, technicians and workers have been put into effect in the oilfields. The total economies effected are valued at some 50,000,000 rubles, and most of this has been done not so much in two years as during the past year.

Nine New Heroes of Soviet Union

For exemplary execution of combat assignments of the Command in the struggle against the German invaders and for gallantry and heroism displayed therein, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has conferred the title of Hero of the Soviet Union on nine Red Army officers, non-commissioned officers and men.

NOVOROSSISK CRIES FOR VENGEANCE

By M. Andriasov

During the two days I spent climbing over the rubble and through the ruins of Novorossisk, I rarely came upon a building left intact. Everywhere the streets and alleys were filled with the debris of shattered houses. I have seen many of the cities burned by the Nazis during the war, but always there were individual structures still standing, rendering the towns roughly recognizable. This was not true of Novorossisk. The utter destruction here was comparable only to that in Stalingrad.

In other towns delivered by the Red Army, people emerge from their hiding-places to talk to their liberators. But there were scarcely any survivors in Novorossisk. Only a handful of the city's 100,000 population remained. Tens of thousands had been driven off to slave labor in Germany. Among the ruins Red Army men found German notices addressed to the population which read "Every inhabitant found in the city will be shot." Thousands perished at the hands of the Nazis by execution or simply starved to death. Their bodies were found in yards, in alleys and on the floors of gutted apartment buildings. Amid the ruins of one building in Pervomaisk Street a group of Red Army men stood silently about a cradle containing the emaciated corpse of an infant boy. The child had died of hunger.

The Germans brought death and destruction to Novorossisk. All the harbor equipment of this great port has been destroyed. The city's grain elevators, the largest of their kind in the country, were also razed. All industrial enterprises were blown up. The Germans also destroyed the great refrigerators of the local cannery, four hospitals, six polyclinics, 15 club buildings, five cinemas, the drama theater and the local museum. Gone are the trees which once lined the streets. Now there is nothing but the chaos of ruins overgrown with weeds.

The city was still blazing when I reached it. The remains of the rest home for mothers and children were still smouldering. Smoke filled the air. I saw the charred bodies of Red Navy prisoners burned alive by the Nazis and was present when the following affidavit was signed:

"We, the undersigned, Captain Nazaruk, Third Company, Captain Safonov, Lieutenant Okorodumov, and Red Navy man Golovakh, hereby testify that when Novorossisk was captured we discovered the bodies of six sailors of the Red Navy burned alive, one of them a girl. The corpses bore traces of tortures: The eyes had been put out, the skulls crushed, the fingers and toes broken. The sexual organs of

one of the victims had been severed. Next to the bodies we found iron tongs, a heap of charcoal ashes, a bottle of benzine and several instruments of torture. The names of the victims could not be ascertained."

I watched the stretcher-bearers remove wounded Red Army man Kiril Seleznev from a cellar. He had been there for three days. Though only 28 years old, Seleznev had turned gray. "My unit was hard pressed," he said. "Red Army man Abduladze and I were wounded. I managed to crawl into the cellar of a burned-out house, and through a crevice in the wall saw the Germans capture Abduladze. They drenched him with kerosene and burned him alive. Not satisfied with this, they prodded the dying man with bayonets and finally hurled a hand grenade toward him." The charred body of Red Army man Abduladze was found in the street.

In a German officer's dugout I saw the corpse of a young girl, horribly mutilated; her ragged uniform indicated that she was a Soviet stretcher-bearer. Her face had been burned, her fingers broken and her breasts severed.

Thousands of similar enormities were perpetrated by the Nazis in the city. I could see traces of only part of them during my two days there. The ruins and the dead of Novorossisk cry for vengeance.

THIRD AUTUMN

(Continued from page two)

This was the fifth German shell to strike the building in which I live. It isn't so safe on the sixth floor. As soon as the shelling ceased I went into the yard. The apartments of two writers had been smashed; a friend of mine, the writer Dobin, lived in one. He is in Kronstadt at the moment . . . poor fellow, he'll return to find he has no home.

The bank of the canal near our house is covered with broken glass and plaster, with shelled and broken iron gratings. The janitors are busy repairing the shell hole so that nobody will fall into it in the dark. Golden autumn leaves float on the surface of the canal. Ambulances hurry by, taking the wounded to the hospitals.

Yet in spite of everything the people of Leningrad still look forward to the evening with the same joyous excitement . . . all Leningrad waits for news of the war—for news of fresh victories.

FINLAND UNMASKED

Commenting on the pamphlet *Finland Unmasked*, by Kuusinen, PRAVDA writes that the numerous facts cited in this book give the lie to Finnish assertions that Finland is waging a defensive war. As far back as 1937 the Finnish and German general staffs proceeded with preparations for war against the Soviet Union. Ten times as many airfields as were necessary for Finnish aviation were built in Finland—and of these, 40 large airdromes were built along the Soviet frontier.

In violation of the international convention on the demilitarization of the Aaland Islands, a submarine and air base for German aviation were built there. The Mannerheim Line, which in the summer of 1939 was inspected by the chief of the general staff of the German army, General Halder, was built in the Karelian Isthmus.

During the war which Finland flagrantly provoked against the USSR, Germany was tied hand and foot elsewhere and dared not intervene. But in the summer of 1940, as soon as Hitler defeated France he at once entered into a complot with the Finnish ring-leaders for an attack on the USSR. Long before Germany's attack on the USSR the Finnish government carried out a general mobilization of reservists up to 42 years of age.

In the autumn of 1940 German troops began to arrive in Finland. On June 17, 18 and 19, 1941, German troops were hastily putting military supplies ashore in Helsinki. On June 20 and 21 German troops were moved to the frontier for the assault on the Soviet Union. On the night of June 21 to 22 a large group of planes based on Finnish territory tried to make a first raid on Kronstadt. Then, in a number of places, German and Finnish troops launched an offensive and invaded the territory of the USSR.

The Finnish gamblers hoped for easy spoils. They were not content with plans for the seizure of Karelia. They coveted the Leningrad Region. Extremists in Finland demanded that the Soviet Union's access to the Baltic Sea be barred forever.

The Finnish stooges now thought they would be able to get away with their talk about a "defensive war" and make world public opinion forget Mannerheim's order to the Finnish army about the struggle for a "Greater Finland."

All these adventurous designs have now suffered failure. Dreading the coming retribution, the Finnish adventurers try to maneuver. Finland, Kuusinen writes, is not the only country which is in a military alliance with Germany. But, characteristically, the Finnish government is the only one of Hitler's allies which tries to conceal and deny the fact of its military and political alliance with Hitler.

Finnish ruling circles still have friends and patrons among the reactionary circles of certain countries. These circles willingly picked up the yarn made in Helsinki about Finland's "separate war."

Everyone in Finland understands, Kuusinen writes further, that this talk about a "separate war" is meant to throw dust in the eyes of some foreign simpletons. And some of Hitler's agents have thrown all such diplomatic tricks overboard and stated frankly—as did, for instance, Ajan Suunta—that "there can be no talk about any separate war of Finland."

In conclusion the pamphlet points out that the vital interests both of the Finnish people *itself* and those of the Soviet people call for the creating of reliable guarantees which would preclude the possibility of a repetition at any time of Finland's bandit attack on the USSR.

Increase in Livestock Resources

During the four months of the German occupation, the Kalmyk Republic, south of the Stalingrad Region, famous for livestock breeding, suffered heavily. Hundreds of thousands of head of cattle were taken to Germany, and the retreating Germans slaughtered about 23,000 head of cattle, 132,000 sheep and 1,500 hogs. Freed now of the Hitlerites, the Kalmyk farmers are busy restoring their animal husbandry. They have brought in over 4,000 head of cattle roaming the steppes, while horses and sheep evacuated before the Germans arrived have been returned. Many new collective farms, including cattle-breeding stations, have been set up.

To aid in off-setting the losses in the Kalmyk Republic, the cattle breeding collective and State farms in Kazakhstan, the Chuvash Autonomous Republic, the Ivanovo and Gorky Regions, and Kirghizia and the Maritime territory report outstanding success in carrying out this year's plan. In the past year the number of cattle in Kazakhstan has increased 21 per cent, pigs 13.6 per cent, and sheep and goats 17.5 per cent. In the collective farms of the Chuvash Autonomous Republic, the number of cattle has increased 40.3 per cent, pigs 28.6 per cent, and sheep and goats over 74 per cent.

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EMBASSY OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF ZAPOROZHYE

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Malinovsky:

Continuing the successful offensive operations, the troops of the Southwestern Front crushed the enemy's violent resistance and today, October 14, carried by storm the large regional and industrial center of the Ukraine, the town of Zaporozhye—the most important railway and waterway junction and one of the Germans' key strongpoints in the lower reaches of the Dnieper.

In the fighting for the liberation of the town of Zaporozhye the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Chuikov, Major General Danilov, Lieutenant General Lelyushenko, Major General Kuprianov, Major General Semenov and Major General Guryev; tank units under Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Pushkin and Lieutenant General Russianov, and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Sudete and Major General of Aviation Tolstikov.



Rivers present no insurmountable barriers to Soviet troops

Particular distinction was won by the 266th Artemovsk Infantry Division under Major General Rebrikov, the 333rd Sinelnikovo Infantry Division under Major General Golosko, the 59th Kramatorsk Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Karamyshev, the 79th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Vadin, the 39th Barvenkovo Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Loshchinin, the 88th Infantry Division of Guards under Colonel Pankev, the 78th Infantry Division under Colonel Mikhailov, the 50th Infantry Division under Major General Lebedenko, the 82nd Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Makarenko, the 60th Pavlograd Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Monakhov, the 244th Infantry Division under Major General Afanasyev, the 203rd Infantry Division under Colonel Zdanovich, the Third Chaplino Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Devyatko, the 39th Chaplino Tank Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Bespalov, the 305th Pavlograd Attack Air Division under Lieutenant Colonel Mikheyevich, the 295th Novomoskovsk Fighter Air Division under Colonel Seliverstov, the Fifth Attack Air Division of Guards under Colonel Kolomeitsev, the Sixth Attack Air Division of Guards under Major General Mironenko, the Seventh Artillery Division under Colonel Pavlov, the Ninth Artillery Division under Major General of Artillery Ratov, the 23rd Trench Mortar Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Ussik, the 22nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division under Colonel Danshin, the Ninth Tank Brigade of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Murashko, the 20th Tank Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Dobrodeyev, the Fifth Tank Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Grotsky, the 141st Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Danilov, the 1,443rd Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment under Major Myshkov, the 1,544th Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Pankov, the 11th Engineers Attack Brigade under Colonel Konoplev, the 99th Gun Artillery Regiment under Colonel Kobrin, the 141st Trench Mortar Regiment under Major Zubov, the 531st Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Chechetin, the 1,248th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Captain Merkulov, the 103rd Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Anokhin, the 35th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Oleinik, the 100th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Zyrin, the 61st Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kirilov, the 62nd Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kisitsky, the Eighth Independent Reconnaissance Artillery Battalion of Guards under Major Mansky and the 304th Fire Correcting Air Squadron under Captain Yudichev.

To mark the victory achieved the name of "Zaporozhye" shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the battles for the liberation of the town of Zaporozhye. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named: The 79th Zaporozhye Infantry Division of Guards, the 88th Zaporozhye Infantry Division of Guards, the 78th Zaporozhye Infantry Division, the 50th Zaporozhye Infantry Division, the 82nd Zaporozhye Infantry Division of Guards, the 244th Zaporozhye Infantry Division, the 203rd Zaporozhye Infantry Division, the Fifth Zaporozhye Attack Air Division of Guards, the Sixth Zaporozhye Attack Air Division of Guards, the Seventh Zaporozhye Artillery Division, the Ninth Zaporozhye Artillery Division, the 23rd Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Brigade, the 22nd Zaporozhye Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division, the Ninth Zaporozhye Tank Brigade of Guards, the 20th Zaporozhye Tank Regiment of Guards, the Fifth Zaporozhye Tank Regiment of Guards, the 141st Zaporozhye Tank Regiment, the 1,443rd Zaporozhye Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment, the 1,544th Zaporozhye Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment, the 11th Zaporozhye Engineers Assault Brigade, the 99th Zaporozhye Gun Artillery Regiment, the 141st Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Regiment, the 531st Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Regiment, the 1,248th Zaporozhye Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 103rd Zaporozhye Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 35th Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 100th Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 61st Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 62nd Zaporozhye Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the Eighth Zaporozhye Independent Reconnaissance Artillery Battalion of Guards, the 304th Zaporozhye Fire Correcting Air Squadron.

The 266th Artemovsk Infantry Division, the 33rd Sinelnikovo Infantry Division, the 59th Kramatorsk Infantry Division of Guards, the 39th Barvenkovo Infantry Division of Guards, the 60th Pavlograd Infantry Division of Guards, the Third Chaplino Tank Brigade, the 39th Chaplino Tank Brigade, the 305th Pavlograd Attack Air Division and the 295th Novomoskovsk Fighter Air Division, which have distinguished themselves for a second time in the battles against the German invaders shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, October 14, at 11:30 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland salutes our gallant troops which liberated the town of Zaporozhye—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Zaporozhye.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.
Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, October 14, 1943

OVER THE ROAD OF JULY, 1941...

By Pavel Voinov

The Germans called it "Shmolengs." How barbarous this sounded to the Russian ear in those terrible days of July, 1941, when Smolensk was lost to us.

The commander of a Soviet infantry company, trying to hide his emotion, smiled bitterly and was silent. His tall, enormous frame was grayed by time and the biting dust of the July retreat. Suddenly he rose to his feet and with a sharp intake of breath said slowly and hoarsely, "Shmolengs? Well, I guess we'll have to wait and see. If they can't master a Russian name, then it's certain that some day they'll choke on the soil of Smolensk. It will prove too much for them . . . they'll be strangled."

* * *

In September, 1943, I hastily took off for Smolensk and Chernigov, just liberated from the Germans. Within two months the Soviet offensive which started east of Orel had thrown the German army back to the vicinity of the battles of July, 1941 . . . and in thought I returned to those dreadful, sorrowful days . . .

In the dust and blood of retreat the Soviet divisions passed along the Smolensk roads, stemming the avalanche of German tanks. Not one of the men returned the silent, entreating and at the same time somber glances of the women and old men left behind in the villages, reluctant to see them go. The men of the retreating army turned aside, harboring within themselves the shame they felt before their gray-haired fathers, their sisters . . . their strong sense of pride preventing them from giving way to their emotions before all these people who must shoulder the mortal pain of the German invasion.

This feeling of shame was not deserved. The soldiers had flung themselves against the German tanks with hand grenades, perishing under their treads; had fired pointblank at the oncoming panzers from heavy howitzers. Hitler had already learned that blitzkrieg was out of the question. Russian courage had proved of stronger stuff than German steel. But still a burning sense of shame tortured the hearts of the Red Army men under the dumb reproach in the eyes of those moving along the roads with small children in their arms, with their last belongings slung in bundles over their shoulders.

Yet in this tragic hour, under the hail of German bombs, the women passed calmly down the roads, without tears or groans, knowing that Hitler could not be victorious. Their faith in the Russian soldier and in Soviet arms was a tremendous faith that no suffering could destroy.

I remember July in the town of Roslavl . . . wrapped in flames from German bombings. We war correspondents, still unskilled in distinguishing our planes from those of the enemy, heard the indescribably weird drone of engines overhead and leaped from the truck, fleeing in all directions. An old village woman passing along the road looked pityingly at us, in our officers' uniforms, and said in a heartening tone:

"But those are ours, my dears. Don't be afraid . . . those are Yakovlev planes."

Wonderful old woman! Perhaps they were not Soviet planes . . . not Yakovlevs . . . but there was so much confidence and good faith in the old woman's words that we were ashamed of our inexperience, and quickly scrambling into the truck we drove on into the smoke and flame of Roslavl, waving to this splendid woman until she was lost from sight.

But on that sinister, unfortunate morning of July 15, 1941—on our way to Chausa, a point which we still believed to be in the rear of our army—we saw thick columns of dust rising above the road and heard the clanking of iron treads. German tanks were crossing the road at a distance of some 300 meters.

Only a few minutes before we had been serenely jogging along in our light car listening to Konstantin Simonov, who was reading Kipling's poems aloud. There wasn't a soldier nor a vehicle to be seen, with the exception of our car. And suddenly . . . German tanks.

Again we were to experience the same uncomfortable sensation we had felt when we heard the planes. We had just begun to test our hand grenades when three village lads came toward us from the direction of the tanks. The shirt of one was torn and covered with blood; his whole back was bloody, and blood was trickling down his arm from a light wound in his shoulder. The boys were from a nearby village—the eldest was no more than 15. They had caught sight of the German tanks as unexpectedly as we had, and had flung themselves down in a roadside ditch.

These boys had wanted to damage the German tanks in some way . . . even with nothing more than stones. They had thought there were only two—and had tried to stop them. But there were more. The tanks had fired indifferently and haphazardly at the lads. The boy who was wounded was frightened,

but too furious to cry. They were real Russian lads!

And now I was traveling back over the roads of July, 1941 . . .

In October, 1943, it is clear that the faith of the Russian women in the Red Army was not misplaced. The daring, confident plans of Soviet generals, the driving punch of Soviet infantry, the fury of Soviet guns, have turned the Soviet wedge into a broad sword which has slashed through the German defenses from the Black Sea to Vitebsk. The narrow

corridor made by the initial thrust has been widened so that our dilapidated car travels farther and farther over land recovered from the Germans. And it is no longer a corridor . . . it is a broad, boundless space . . . it is Byelorussia itself.

And it is with joy that I turn my thoughts from July, 1941 to October, 1943. The same soil . . . the same roads . . . but now it is the soil of victory and the roads lead westward.

THE OFFENSIVE CONTINUES

By K. Velikanov

When in the beginning of October a short lull set in on the Soviet-German front, some foreign observers were inclined to think the Soviet offensive had come to a stop and that the Dnieper would become the initial line for the winter campaign.

Nazi propaganda made every attempt to strengthen this viewpoint. German military observers hastened to represent the temporary lull as a sort of "achievement." They announced the beginning of "a new phase" of the Eastern front operations. "The new phase," according to them, is characterized by a "stable position" along the Dnieper. This "stability" they added, was brought about by the German use of the famous "elastic defense," and "voluntary shortening of the front."

Subsequent developments showed that these Nazi arguments had no basis whatsoever. But the Nazi representation of the war situation is revealing in that it indicates the acute need of the Wehrmacht for a prolonged respite, and the hope the Germans placed in their strongpoints along the Dnieper.

The Red Army has disrupted the German plans. Soviet troops reached the Dnieper in the beginning of October, and having brought up their rearward services crossed the river at three points. This was preceded by the destruction of enemy strongpoints on the Dnieper's left bank around Kremenchug. The considerable German forces on the right bank are making every effort to crush the Russian divisions which have crossed over. Fighting for bridgeheads continues, Soviet troops overcoming stiff enemy resistance.

Soviet drives in other sectors are also frustrating whatever plans the Germans may have cherished for a respite. The Red Army is pressing forward along the whole front, from Vitebsk to the Sea of Azov. The Taman Peninsula has been entirely cleared of Germans. In the north the important railway junction and strongpoint of Nevel has been captured. Thus the Red Army is securely holding the initiative and delivering one powerful and well-aimed blow after another.

Recent German statements reveal the importance they attached to their defenses along the Dnieper. Nazi military commentator Dietze wrote a few days ago, "We had previously been unable to disclose the strategical projects of the German supreme command without imparting valuable information to the enemy, but may now state that they consisted in withdrawing troops to the Dnieper and taking up positions favorable for defensive operations."

Another military review transmitted by the German Information Bureau contained the following: "The German retreat to the Dnieper line had for its aim the concentration of forces and the creation of favorable conditions for the winter campaign." But Soviet troops are forcing this defense belt before the coming winter.

It is obvious to everyone that the Germans are not in a position to choose initial lines for further operations on the Soviet-German front. These lines are being determined solely by the Soviet Command. The Red Army liquidated the Orel fortified zone, which according to the German plans was to serve either as a springboard for the drive to Moscow, or a bastion of defense in the central sector. Similarly Soviet troops captured Taganrog, where the enemy built fortifications which he considered more powerful than the Siegfried line. The Red Army also smashed the Smolensk fortified zone, to defend which the Germans spared neither men nor materiel.

How can anyone believe that the Germans voluntarily abandoned these areas and withdrew their forces to new positions?

Nazi assertions that the Wehrmacht possesses sufficient resources to counteract any new Soviet drive have been disproved by the latest developments. The Red Army is rapidly gaining in strength. Soviet troops are delivering crushing blows to the Nazis at all times of the year. The ever-widening Soviet offensive is making the situation extremely favorable for the final defeat of Hitler Germany in the near future.

THE GREAT TREK EASTWARD

By Anna Karavayeva

There is nothing in history to be compared with the big trek in the grim autumn of 1941 of innumerable Soviet factories hastily evacuated from the front districts to new homes far in the interior.

I, too, was on my way to the Urals at that time. Passenger trains took twice to three times as long as normal to reach their destinations, because of protracted stops at small and large stations to allow trainload after trainload of factory equipment to pass by in the great rush eastward. These trains were bound for the Urals, Siberia and the Altai, where urgent work awaited them. The fronts were demanding more planes, tanks, shells and other armaments. While we were parked on sidings, giving the factory trains the right of way, military trains bound for the front sped past endlessly, carrying arms and munitions for our men.

I remember we were standing at a small station one cloudy October morning when a factory train of innumerable flatcars and boxcars came to a stop directly opposite us. A man jumped swiftly from one of the boxcars and boarded a flatcar, adjusting a tarpaulin the wind had blown aside, revealing the gleaming metal parts of machines. Then with surprising agility he slid beneath the flatcar for a few minutes, afterward repeating the proceeding on the opposite side.

"Those look like milling machines," I said.

"Right you are. The wind keeps uncovering the stuff. I didn't imagine it would be so cold this time of year . . . it's quite warm in the Ukraine in October."

I noticed other men and women leaving the boxcars and inspecting the machinery. I learned they were brigade leaders and here on the road were looking after the machinery of their departments, the same as they did in the factory back home. They kept their equipment protected from the weather and rain and guarded it carefully from damage and exposure. The brigade leaders remained brigade leaders throughout the journey, and the same held true for section chiefs and engineers. They knew they had been entrusted with a great power of resistance against the treacherous enemy—that in their hands lay the wherewithal for retrieving the misfortune that had befallen the country, and their own personal sorrows and losses as well.

Another evening comes to my mind, when a heavy rainstorm had turned the snow into slush. As we drew into a station we could hear angry voices. I looked out. A factory train was standing there with

its endless freight cars and loaded platform cars. By the light of a lantern I made out two men engaged in a heated argument. One of them was the station-master, a corpulent elderly man wearing the cap of an official and the other a lean man in a big overcoat. The lean man demanded that the station-master give them another locomotive, to which the other replied that he had none available. Both were evidently hot-tempered individuals and had exchanged some uncomplimentary words. The chief of the station turned and walked away, but the lean man caught him authoritatively by the sleeve.

"Don't tell me you haven't got another locomotive. I saw it in the depot."

"I'll thank you to keep out of my affairs," the other retorted angrily. "It's my business and I won't have any interference."

"You're wrong," said the lean man. "It's not your business or my business alone—it's the business of the Soviet State and as such concerns us all. Look—I'm chief engineer of a factory evacuated from the Leningrad District to Siberia. I've given my word that within two months we'll be producing for the front. Do you mean to say you are not interested in those supplies coming through two months from now? Don't you want our boys to get them in time?"

"I certainly do!" replied the station-master, and forgetting their differences and united by a single purpose the two men rapidly went off in the direction of the depot or dispatcher's office. Five minutes later the factory train was on its way. Regardless of difficulties on the road and arguments about one thing or another, duty came first.

Railwaymen young and old, from station chief to switchman, forgetting sleep, food and family, often stayed at their posts for days on end, dispatching hundreds of trains daily. And those who accompanied the factory equipment went about their duties with the calm seriousness of people who know they are engaged in an important task and are fully certain of its success.

Numerous and splendid indeed are the great new factories set up in the rear of our country—those that were saved from the fascist hordes as well as the new ones that have sprung up in the Urals and Siberia. A mighty industry has been developed far in the interior of the Soviet Union in this unprecedentedly short space of time.

And the up-to-date equipment it turns out is being put to good use by our advancing Red Army—a tribute to the triumphant will of the Soviet people.

The Valiant Czechoslovak Troops



(1) A Czechoslovak company drawn up for review; (2) In front of staff headquarters . . . the standard-bearer; (3) After presenting Colonel Ludvik Svoboda, Commander of the Czechoslovak troops in the USSR, with the Order of Lenin, Mikhail Kalinin, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, congratulates this gallant soldier, exemplary commander and faithful son of his people; (4) The Czechoslovak standard at the front; (5) Nadporuchik Otakar Jarosh, posthumously awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union—the first foreigner to be so honored (story on page twelve)

Fight on the Soviet-German Front



(1) Young stretcher-bearers of the Czechoslovak Unit in the USSR; (2) Czechoslovak troops were stationed in this village before leaving for the front . . . they came as friends and left as brothers; (3) Ambulance presented to the troops by the Canadian Red Cross—standing before it are Doctor Poruchik Engel, Doctor Podporuchik Sher, Rotni Malvina Fridmanova and Rotni Kral; (4) In a lull between battles Chetarzh Nedvidek gives an imitation of Hitler setting out to conquer the Soviet Union; (5) Rotni Raicin instructing his troops; (6) The bugler sounds assembly

(Continued on pages eight and nine)

Sons and Daughters of Czechoslovakia



(1) Colonel Ludvik Svoboda, Commander of the Czechoslovak troops in the USSR; (2) Sniper Maria Lalkova, who has been awarded the Soviet Order of the Red Star for heroism; (3) An anti-tank rifle team; (4) Machine-gun crew awaiting an attack on the outskirts of a village; (5) Anti-tank rifle crews on the firing line; (6) Czechoslovak troops have cleared a Soviet village of the Germans—tommy gunners hasten in pursuit of the fleeing enemy

Battle the Enslavers of Their Homeland



(1) Signalmen report the capture of a village to their commander—Rotni Bogush Polanski (left) and Private Bogumil Pupal have both received the Soviet Medal for Valor; (2) Field Nurse Greta Goldmanova, also awarded the Medal for Valor, gives first aid on the battlefield; (3) For the first time Czechoslovak women are serving as soldiers in the regular army—Sniper Vanda Banevska; (4) Among the first to break into this village, Sniper Maria Lalkova killed four Germans

The Father of Russian Automobiles

By Anna Kalma

Academician Eugene Chudakov, the greatest Soviet automobile specialist, is called the father of Russian automobiles. This energetic 63-year-old scientist has traveled an eventful road from peasant boy to member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Stalin Prize winner and member of many American and European scientific societies.

Chudakov was attracted to science from childhood. His mother wanted him to be an agronomist, but the boy was interested in machines and dreamed of a technical education. Study in higher schools in pre-Revolutionary Russia was beyond the means of a peasant family, but Eugene was bent on having his way. He took his examinations for the Moscow higher technical schools and simultaneously entered a machine-building plant as a locksmith. Studying and working he managed to help his mother with part of his earnings. He soon became a foreman, then a technician, and finally head of a testing station: he had able hands, a searching mind and the knack of grasping the newest in engineering.

On receiving his engineer's diploma Chudakov left for England, where he began to study the automobile industry. He dreamed of returning home to build modern automobiles. In 1917 the young engineer set out for his native land via Sweden. No trains were running from Finland, nor were there any other means of travel. He decided to walk. Un-

daunted by the severe winter frosts and his light clothing, or by the sullen reluctance of the Finns to sell him even a handful of small fish, the young man forged ahead and finally made his way across the border.

In Russia, Chudakov visited Leningrad and Moscow. He found frozen cities, lifeless factories. With passionate enthusiasm he set out to organize the first Russian automobile laboratory. He searched factories for chance automobile parts, hauled equipment in sleighs and got people together. On his initiative an automobile faculty was instituted in the Moscow Higher Technical School. His work *Stability of Automobiles* was translated into all European languages. He became head of the automobile faculties in a number of higher schools in the country.

Later Chudakov also visited the United States, where he studied the Ford and General Motors automobile plants. He was elected to the Society of Automobile Engineers of the United States, and served as a Vice President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR for three years.

At present Academician Chudakov is especially interested in working out an entirely new automobile model which the Soviet Union will begin producing after the war. This is to be a strong, economical machine adapted to any road and any fuel and giving the maximum mileage possible.

ENROLLMENT IN HIGHER SCHOOLS INCREASES

By Victor Krasilnikov

In a recent interview, Alexander Khodjaye, Assistant Chairman of the Committee on Higher Schools of the Council of People's Commissars, stated:

"The number of applicants for enrollment in educational institutions has increased considerably this year. The following figures will serve as an illustration of this: At the Moscow Medical Institute, 8,000 applications were received for the 800 vacancies; in the Pedagogical Institute for Foreign Languages, 2,500 applied for the 540 vacancies, and even at such a specialized higher technical school as the Institute of Non-ferrous Metals and Gold, 3,000 applications were received for the 500 vacancies.

"Several new higher schools have been organized this year. In Moscow a Fourth Medical Institute was opened, as well as a Forestry Institute and an Institute for Horse Breeding under the People's Commissariat of Agriculture. A number of new technical

schools are being opened in the industrial regions (Sverdlovsk, Molotov and others).

"The heroic efforts of scientific workers and students, and the very considerable aid given by Government organizations, has helped to restore the Stalingrad Medical Institute in the shortest possible time. Studies will be resumed there on October first in new buildings. Among the students are heroes of the city's defense. The Stalingrad Pedagogical Institute has resumed work in Uriupinsk, since its main building, destroyed by the Germans, has not yet been restored.

"The Rostov University, the Krasnodar Institute of Food Industry and the Stavropol higher schools will soon open in their home cities. The Odessa Industrial and Dniepropetrovsk Mining Institutes belong in the list of functioning Byelorussian Institutes evacuated to the rear. Two medical institutes will be opened in Leningrad in 1943."

THE TRAGEDY OF THE VILLAGE OF TIMONOVICHI

By Captain G. Ponomarev

The Red Army men had to billet for the night in this still smoldering, devastated village in Semenov District, Chernigov Region. At the cost of precious minutes of sleep they hastily armed themselves with buckets, pails and axes, and along with the few remaining inhabitants put out the fires in the burning buildings.

Field kitchens had been set up in the gardens along the edge of the river. Nearby were white clay cottages on an embankment that had been spared by the flames. Cooks were busily paring potatoes and cutting up meat, while the men chopped wood and carried water.

A group of soldiers gathered near the cottage of 69-year-old Timofei Alyoshin. In his meandering tale, interrupted now and then by the excited interjections of the men, he resurrected the whole nightmare of the last days of German rule in this village. The old men, Grigori Chirva, Yakov Kryukov and Grigori Shlipikov, and a barefoot boy of 12, Alyosha Gorshkov, from time to time added new details to this story of horror.

The Germans had become uneasy, and three days previously a detachment of soldiers had put in a sudden appearance, driving all the villagers down to the crossing with their rifle butts. The men and women were told they were to leave with the German army. No one wanted to abandon his home, and the weeping women flung themselves to the ground, sheltering their small children with their bodies. The infuriated soldiers trampled upon them, clubbed them with their rifle butts and bayoneted the children, but the people would not move, preferring to die on the thresholds of their homes.

Then a young snip of an officer ordered the men to be lined up on one side. A number of them were shoved up to the front. The first was collective farmer Alexander Garbuz. The officer shot him with his revolver through the mouth and ear and even after Garbuz fell went on firing at his arms, shoulders and stomach. Five more were shot—Vasili Benik, 26 years old; Sergei Ivanchenko, 58; Grigori Michka, 26; Stepan Tarnabsky, 43 and his 16-year-old son Ivan.

After this the Germans, yelling and shouting, drove a column of men across the river. The women, struck dumb with horror, stood watching this ghastly scene. Then a Hitlerite officer drove into the crowd of women, bent down from his saddle and seized six-year-old Fyodor Stuzkov, who had been hiding behind his mother, by the hair. The boy let out a piercing shriek, and clutching the officer bit his hand. The officer jerked his hand back and barked out a brief com-

mand. Two soldiers bound little Fedya to the officer's horse and the horse galloped around the field and over the bridge several times. The boy, more dead than alive, was then shot before the eyes of his mother.

Then a motorcyclist drove up to the officer. A few moments later the frantic women were driven away and forced to dig trenches. In the evening, when these unfortunate women lay down to rest in the trenches, the German guards attacked and violated them.

In the morning German columns passed through the village. The din of cannonading was carried with the wind from the east. Toward evening German incendiaries burst into the village and that night 384 out of 527 houses and 10,000 sheaves of grain were burned in the village of Timonovichi.

By the next morning the firing was very close. German artillery batteries dashing through the village halted to drive out to the road women who had sought refuge in cellars, using them as cover against Soviet planes. Four tractor-drawn guns were flanked on all sides by Russian women and girls, who were driven along together with their cattle. Sixteen red-starred planes swooped down over the road, but on seeing the Russians hesitated to bomb.

On the outskirts of the village the Germans set up a six-barreled mortar in plain view of our troops. In order to camouflage it they ordered six women to drive up 12 cows and group themselves around the mortar, which was keeping up incessant fire. At the same time endless herds stolen from the inhabitants of neighboring villages were being driven away. In Timonovichi alone the Germans herded together 11,600 sheep, goats, pigs and cows. When the Soviet troops were almost on top of the village, the German soldiers, realizing that they could no longer take the cattle away, shot 50 cows and 96 horses with their tommy guns.

Everything for the Donbas!

The largest Soviet industrial enterprises are working at top speed to aid in the restoration of the Donets Basin. A Leningrad plant which received a Government order for a powerful and complicated unit to be completed by December 15—an extremely short period—has promised to finish the job by December first. The Kuznetsk iron and steel workers have sent 160 tons of rails for mine tracks and a large number of electric motors, while much valuable equipment has been provided by the Kuibyshevugol coal-mining trust.

Notes from Front and Rear

Nadporuchik Otakar Jarosh (picture on page seven), who fought with the Czechoslovak troops in the USSR and was posthumously awarded the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star of Hero of the Soviet Union, died a glorious death in action. "Do not let the enemy pass, Brother Jarosh," said his commander, Colonel Svoboda. "He shall not pass," Brother Colonel," Jarosh replied. He kept his word, remained faithful to his people and to the pledge he made on the day he realized that his place was at the front fighting the enemy of his country and of the fraternal Soviet Union. Jarosh's memory will remain forever fresh in the hearts of the Czechoslovak and Soviet peoples. A nation with such sons will never be subjugated.

★

Eighteen enemy planes shot down in his first 20 days of fighting—this is the record of Lieutenant Zelenkin, a Soviet pilot. Fourteen of these were shot down by Zelenkin personally and four in group action. On his first operational flight he brought down a Messerschmitt 109, and in a subsequent flight shot down three planes.

★

One of the largest opera companies in the USSR—the Kiev-Kharkov Amalgamated Opera Theater—which has spent more than two years in the eastern part of the country, has now returned to the Ukraine. The company includes such famous singers as People's Artists of the USSR Litvinenko, Patorzhinsky, Zoya Gaiday, Smolich and others.

★

Twenty thousand graduates of Soviet trade schools are leaving for the Donets Basin to assist in its restoration. These skilled young workers—turners, welders, electricians, mechanics, builders and others—asked for the privilege of being sent to the Donbas, where under the guidance of their instructors they will help to rebuild 80 important power stations and the iron and steel plants of the region.

★

A Lithuanian mother, Maria Stankuvėne, has given nine sons to the Red Army. Four of them—Pranas, Mikolas, Justinas and Piatras—who are fighting together in a Lithuanian unit, distinguished themselves in the recent offensive and were decorated with orders and medals. The Command of the Lithuanian Unit sent a message of thanks to the mother who brought up these heroic fighters. Maria Stankuvėne's five other sons are fighting in various sectors of the front.

Chief of the Administration of Theaters Bondarenko reports that more than 30 of the theaters wrecked by the Hitlerites have already been repaired or rebuilt. Soviet citizens who for over two years have been isolated from the life of their country are hungry for art, and it is not accidental that in the liberated cities local authorities include the restoration of theaters in their very first plans.

★

The Germans retreating in Byelorussia are abandoning great quantities of equipment and munitions. Soviet troops seize whole trainloads of supplies and tremendous stores in forests and at stations. The German losses defy precise estimation—equipment is frequently swallowed up by the bogs or stuck in swamps where it is destroyed by guerrillas, and many dumps and depots are blown up by the fleeing Nazis.

★

German officers and men assiduously execute the order of the German command, about which war prisoner Private Paul Fisher says: "The command of the German army issued an order to German troops to destroy all inhabited localities on their road of retreat and to drive to the rear the whole civilian population. In our division there are special squads of bicyclists who are sent ahead of retreating troops to carry out the destruction and burning down of inhabited localities. Similar squads are included in the rearguard troops. These squads are staffed with the most loyal and reliable soldiers; almost 50 per cent are non-coms and sergeant majors."

★

Regular air communication has now been reestablished between Moscow and the liberated cities. Passenger planes leave daily for Stalino, Kharkov, Voroshilovgrad, Rostov-on-Don and other important points. The greatest number of passengers leave the Capital for Kharkov and Stalino.

★

Many new homes are springing up around the plants, factories and mines in the Urals, Siberia and the Central Asian Republics, as well as in districts newly-liberated from the Germans. The Soviet Government has allotted credits of up to 10,000 rubles on favorable terms and payable over a five to seven-year period to citizens desiring to build their own homes. No less than 25,000 cottages will be built with these credits this year. Industrial and trade union organizations are also giving great assistance in building materials, tools, transport facilities and consultation.

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ON THE EVE OF THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE

In an editorial, "On the Eve of the Moscow Conference," IZVESTIA writes:

The recent months were replete with events which radically changed the course of the World War. The victories of the Red Army on the Soviet-German front, won in stubborn and hard battles with the German invaders, also the successful actions of our Allies in the Mediterranean theater of war, brought about a new, extremely favorable change in the entire military and political situation for the Anglo-Soviet-

American coalition.

These months have given obvious proof of the aggravation of the crisis in the Hitler camp under the effect of military defeats, and have brought the Hitlerite coalition to the brink of disintegration. At the same time these months have given new examples of the developing cooperation of the countries united in struggle against Hitlerite Germany and her vassals.

It is natural that as the successes of the struggle



An observer has signaled "Enemy planes!" Soviet riflemen prepare to give them a warm reception

bring nearer the achievement of the common aim, the countries heading the struggle for the defeat of Hitlerite Germany feel the need of further development of cooperation.

One can point out a number of important instances of joint coordinated solution by Britain, the U. S. A. and the USSR of the general and specific problems which arise before them in the course of the war.

Of great importance, for instance, was the fact of the coordination of the actions of the Allies in the matter of the armistice with Italy which ended as is known in Italy's declaration of war on Germany. The existence of such coordination came as an unpleasant surprise to our enemies and their agents in the various countries who in every way played up rumors of "discord" and "friction" in the anti-Hitler camp.

Very significant also from the viewpoint of the development of cooperation between the USSR, Great Britain and the U. S. A. was the decision adopted on the initiative of the Soviet Union on the creation of a military-political committee of the Allied countries, which will shortly begin its work.

Universally known also is the growing scope of cooperation in the economic sphere which, in particular, found expression in the work of the International Food Conference in Hot Springs, U. S. A., in which the Soviet delegation also took part, as well as in the joint drafting of a statute of administration for the relief and rehabilitation of the United Nations, which must develop its activities during the transition from war to peace conditions.

The press of Britain and the U. S. A., as well as the newspapers of the neutral countries, attach especially great importance to the forthcoming conference of the three Allied powers in Moscow, where Great Britain will be represented by Foreign Minister Anthony Eden, the United States by Secretary of State Cordell Hull and the Soviet Union by the People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs Molotov.

Numerous conjectures are made as regards the program and the nature of the forthcoming negotiations and though no official statements have been made as yet, the attention of the world press is already drawn to the Moscow meeting.

The development of cooperation of the USSR, the U. S. A. and Britain in many spheres—in the military, political and economic—advances a number of problems which should be solved jointly. A need has arisen for the discussion of big problems which follow from the common nature of the struggle, and for the coordination of views and actions. They concern various aspects of the prosecution of the war.

Foreign newspapers raise a great number of ques-

tions which in their opinion should be discussed at the conference of the representatives of the three powers.

Along with the fundamental problems of the conduct of the war, of the creation of a permanent organ for contact between the Allies, of the strengthening of economic ties, numerous postwar problems are also advanced, such as the attitude toward defeated Germany, the situation in the Balkans, the role of the small nations, the future of Hitler's vassals—Rumania, Hungary, Finland, etc.

These latter problems even command the major attention of many press organs, which are ready to bring them up and discuss them without end; while along with the voices of sincere supporters of the development of friendly relations with the Soviet Union are also to be found unexpected intercessors for Germany's satellites, who exert themselves to prove the necessity of making a discount for the small beasts of prey who had dreamed of making some gains at the expense of the territories of the USSR with the help of Hitlerite Germany.

Naturally the problems of postwar organization are of great importance for all the Allied countries and it is necessary to prepare now, in the period of wartime, for the solution of the many problems of the postwar period, especially in the political and the economic sphere.

However, events have their own logic. The peace period is preceded by the more or less coordinated prosecution and victorious termination of the war. Postwar problems can be solved successfully under conditions in which the military, political and economic factors are so considered as to bring nearer that postwar period.

The basic feature of the present international situation, brought about by the successful offensive of the Red Army and by the growth of the military forces and successes of the Allies, is that it brings to the forefront the most vital problem for all peoples—that of the duration of the war.

As is well known, Hitler staked on a "lightning" defeat of the Soviet Union, a method by which he had succeeded with regard to certain European countries. The Red Army, however, thwarted the calculations of the German General Staff for a "lightning war," and imposed upon the Germans a protracted war for which they were not prepared. This, incidentally, enabled our Allies to complete the necessary preparation of their equipment and materiel and to deploy their war potential. The factor of time became a weapon in the hands of the anti-Hitler camp.

The military situation has radically changed. The plans of the Hitlerite robbers have also changed. Compelled to pass from offensive to defensive, or to

be more precise, from offensive to retreat, the Hitlerites now build all their plans on dragging out the war in order to put off their final defeat and to create difficulties for the Allies by the protraction of the war.

And now the main task of the Allies is to knock the weapon of time from Hitler's hands, to inflict on him complete and decisive defeat. Speedy and determined action becomes a powerful means for the defeat of the Hitler armies.

For almost two-and-one half years the Red Army and our people have been waging a mortal struggle with the enemy, confronting nearly the entire might of the Hitler war machine. The military and political situation is favorable for our Allies. To fail to take advantage of that, to extend the duration of the war, would mean to assume political responsibility for the immeasurable sufferings of tens of millions of people, for the prolonged grave dislocation of the entire political and economic life of the world.

Undoubtedly the problem of the resolute shortening of the duration of the war and of the achievement of victory in the shortest time is inseparably bound with the problem of opening a second front in Western Europe.

When an agreement exists on the problems of primary importance advanced by the progress of the war, it is easier to solve also all other necessary problems. Hitler's camp dreads the Moscow conference. To reassure their people, they yell hysterically about the irreconcilable "contradictions" between the Allies. But the Hitlerites have already, on more than one occasion, deceived themselves by hopes of contradictions in the camp of the Allies.

The old German policy of playing on contradictions has long since outlived itself, and during the war has more than once led to directly opposite results. Even the Hitlerites themselves begin to realize this and point out, for instance, through the German Information Bureau, that: "The contradictions between the three Allies will never concern the essence of the problem."

"The essence of the problem" is the task of defeating Hitlerite Germany. It will be accomplished by the common efforts of the Allies. The conference must bring nearer the accomplishment of this task. The forthcoming conference of representatives of the three Allied powers is called upon to play an important part in its solution, as well as in other pressing problems.

Capturing a Forest Stronghold

By Captain V. Melentyev

At a crossing of two forest roads used by enemy supply columns and reserves, the Germans built a strong fort consisting of several blockhouses and pill-boxes linked by communication trenches. There were numerous machine-gun emplacements and slit trenches for riflemen and tommy gunners. Well in the middle of these defenses the Germans had placed their trench-mortar batteries, and were thus able to send their fire in all directions with equal effect. Such an arrangement enabled the enemy to dispose of his fire according to his needs—he had the range of all the approaches, and the first attempt of the Soviet force to take the place by storm was repelled.

Regrouping in the woods the Red Army men deployed to flank the place. Emerging at the edge of the clearing about the stronghold they were unable to gain another step; the moment any striking units showed themselves they were forced by the German tommy gunners to fall flat. The place seemed invincible, unless artillery could be brought to bear on it. But the woods were too dense to yield passage to even a battalion of ordnance, while the roads were constantly swept by enemy fire.

Captain Zabishevich hit upon a solution. Withdrawing his infantry somewhat he drew up his anti-tank riflemen, commanded by Senior Sergeant Degtyarev.

The armor-piercers coordinated their fire with that of the trench mortars. From the edge of the clearing they opened intense fire at the enemy's embrasures and pillbox slits. When the German retaliated, the trench mortarmen got the range of their nests and immediately let fly. After several moments an anti-tank rifleman with his incendiary bullets set one blockhouse ablaze. Another blossomed into flame under the fire of Sergeant Degtyarev's gun. Smoked out, the Germans crowded into the trenches.

Now it was imperative to deprive the enemy of this last advantage—communication trenches. The Soviet vanguard force brought its machine guns to bear upon the trenches, thereby riveting the attention of the enemy's machine gunners. Trench mortarmen concentrated upon all visible enemy fire nests.

Instead of moving up in small groups, which would draw the enemy's fire in turn, the Red Army men rushed the place in force from all directions. Prevented from firing by the anti-tank riflemen, the enemy blockhouses were silent, while our trench mortars kept the German tommy gunners from raising their heads. This enabled us to take this key fort on the crossroads.

Thus, concerted action, and particularly the fire of all infantry arms, can overcome even the strongest forest stronghold.

Guerrillas of Byelorussia Salute the Advancing Red Army

The skies over Byelorussia are aglow with fires. The marshes reclaimed by the heroic toil of the Byelorussian people have been burning all summer long. But the earth is burning under the feet of the Hitlerites in more than one sense. The Byelorussian people have risen. On the banks of the Pripyat, Ptich, Oressa and other rivers and lakes of Byelorussia the peasants are bringing out rifles and tommy guns hidden long since and are rising in arms against the German invaders.

Here they say: "All roads in Byelorussia lead to the guerrillas." In any part of the Minsk or Polesye Regions you have to travel only 10 or 15 kilometers from any German garrison, from any railway or highway, and you will find yourself in a guerrilla zone. Everybody is certain that the grain sown this autumn will sprout in Soviet Byelorussia.

Near one town only 800 meters from the last German outpost I saw a signboard: "Guerrilla Zone." Not a single German policeman ventures beyond this sign. And though ripe grain fields shimmer in plain sight of this German sentry, not a single ear of wheat, not a single potato, from these fields have fallen into the Germans' hands. In the fields the guerrilla sentries stand guard with machine guns. The Germans live as in a besieged camp. Long past are the times when they slept in the homes of private citizens; now they gather for the night in a brick building in the center of the town, surrounded by a high palisade, and all night they keep sending up flares.

Recently in the vicinity of another township blockaded by guerrillas I witnessed an interesting scene. Bearded Magyars rode along the road ahead of a tractor with a threshing machine in tow. Behind them moved a train of 150 cars with a strong escort of 600 soldiers and police. They were on their way to a village 12 kilometers away from the garrison to thresh the peasants' wheat.

As the news of the Magyars' approach spread, peasants dropped their work and with scythes and pitchforks rushed for the forest. Women and children drove cattle and poultry before them. Carts laden with domestic goods went galloping across the fields. Clouds of dust, as if before a thunderstorm, rose over the roads and in the twinkling of an eye all the villages in the neighborhood became empty.

Arriving in the fields the Magyars chose a position for the threshing machine as one does for a gun—on the hidden slope of a hill. Soldiers entrenched

themselves around it; machine guns were moved into position around the village—and only after that did the threshing start.

But hardly had it commenced when a guerrilla mortar struck. A black funnel rose over the hill, the threshing machine stopped and the Magyars opened furious fire at the forest. Again the machine started . . . and again the whine of a flying mine came from the forest. It burst so near that the "threshers" scampered in all directions. The Magyars then put wheat sheaves on their heads and charged into an attack. Then from all sides the heretofore silent guerrilla rifles, machine guns and tommy guns spoke. The robbers fell flat and returned to their initial positions on their bellies.

That night the threshing machine again started. This time it was the guerrillas who went into the attack. A powerful "Hurrah!" rose over the fields. The Magyars beat a shameful retreat, leaving the threshing machine in the field. But the road to the town had already been mined by the guerrillas, and first one truckload of troops was blown up, then another.

* * *

We travel along the Byelorussian road a day and a night and another day, and all around us is guerrilla land. Men with rifles over their shoulders work in the fields. Guerrilla sentries stand at the outskirts of villages. One often sees men carrying mines as if they were huge loaves of bread.

In Byelorussia the hour has come when every tree, every bush and every stone near which a German passes fires at him . . . hides mortal danger for him.

In the evening we sit in the hut occupied by a Hero of the Soviet Union who since the grave and bitter days of July, 1941, has been at the head of the guerrilla forest detachments. The tubes of a radio set are aglow. From the forest comes the hooting of owls and the rustle of trees. Suddenly over the radio we hear the voice of Moscow . . . the thunder of a gun salute! And then, quite near, the sound of repeated explosions. The earth trembles until after midnight.

These are the guerrillas . . . they have reached the railroads and are blowing up the tracks. These are the guerrillas . . . saluting the Guardsmen's Divisions of the Red Army which have entered on Byelorussian soil!

WAS IT FEAR?

By Nikolai Gavrilov

Nikolai Gavrilov, well-known sculptor, has worked at the front and also in guerrilla detachments behind the German lines, doing sculptural portraits of guerrillas and fliers. He recently completed a bust of Army General Konstantin Rokossovsky.

We became acquainted one evening in a hospital. If the term "wounded bird" ever applied to any flier, it applied to Flight Lieutenant Peter Yermasov. Leaning on a crutch and a cane, his deep-set gray eyes blinking at me from his stubborn, strongly-molded face, there was indeed something of a wounded bird about this gravely injured pilot. The Gold Star of Hero of the Soviet Union glittered on his tunic.

Major Goncharenok, who was with us, remarked that the Flight Lieutenant would do well to gain a bit of weight.

Yermasov smiled. "It's doing nothing that makes me lose weight. Some people gain when they are idle, but not I. I feel best when I am at work in the air."

I said I would like to make a bust of him. "That's

interesting," he answered. "I used to draw, but I know nothing of your art. It must be difficult?"

While he sat for me I had a better opportunity to study Yermasov. He is a night flier; all his assignment were carried out in the dark. They consisted mainly of helping the guerrillas—ferrying supplies to them no matter what the distance or weather, or how difficult the terrain on which he must land. No precise meteorological reports were available to the flier outside his own territory. Flying over vast areas held by the enemy, he was obliged to rely on his intuition, supplemented by his experience and powers of observation.

I asked him one day whether he had ever experienced a feeling of fear.

"Well," he said, "you may think I am boastful if I say I never have. Fear, as a matter of fact, would imply losing one's control—a weak will. In action this would mean the loss of one's plane and the men in it. Do you realize what the crew of big plane means to us? They are more precious than I can say.



For two years the Germans held the ancient city of Smolensk. Then along the road by which Napoleon retreated from Moscow the Red Army returned and liberated the burning city

Besides, the situation is usually such that one has no time to think about fear. I'll tell you a little story and you can judge for yourself whether one would be likely to experience extreme terror under such conditions . . .

"One day we took off, loaded to capacity with an extremely valuable cargo, and moreover one as dear to the guerrillas as manna from heaven. The lives of many people and the success of an important operation depended on our flight. Our crew knew this well.

"I must explain that only down here on the ground do I appear a bit nervous . . . in the air I am always calm, never raising my voice . . . and I had a crew of picked men, each one able and ready to do the work of his neighbor, should it become necessary.

"We continued along our route . . . there was not much farther to go and we were all feeling rather elated. Suddenly I sensed that something was wrong with the motors. They seemed to be failing, and in a moment we were dropping. Our load, as I said, was heavy and a landing in this forest region out of the question. I struggled to keep the plane from going into a spin. Visibility was poor and I felt that the engine would stall at any moment.

"By now we were skimming over the tree-tops and could feel the swish of branches and leaves. My skin turned to gooseflesh, but I pressed on the stick as hard as I could. To level off and get away was all I thought of . . . and suddenly the motors roared into full action, we gained altitude and were saved.

"That's all . . . except that when I turned to look at the crew, who were already smiling, I found that I was soaked with perspiration. If that means terror, then I felt terror. At the same time I was able to

fight it down . . . which means that it couldn't get the best of me. Had I lost my head, you wouldn't be making a bust of me. Haven't you had enough of it for today? Let's quit and go for a walk in the park . . ."

While we were strolling I asked him from what part of the country he came.

"I am a Saratov man, from the Volga. A fine place . . . lots of fruit." He was silent for a while. Suddenly he continued:

"For a long time I never saw a German. I've been at the front since the early days of the war . . . but you see I've been in the air most of the time. Sometimes they chased me, but I never managed to get a look at them. Then one day, flying over enemy territory, I saw an automobile on the road below. Curious, I took a good look . . . it was a fine car and I decided there were at least several generals in it. So down I went and opened up with my machine guns . . . which I believe stopped that car for good."

The bust was nearly finished now and Flight Lieutenant Yermasov and I spent a good deal of time in the park. One day an American fighter plane swooped down and landed nearby. Yermasov's eyes rested on it with longing.

"The surgeon says I will be able to leave the hospital in about a month," he said.

I looked at him closely. There was little of the "wounded bird" about him now. The old hawk was recuperating and his eyes no longer expressed envy of strong and healthy men. Their expression was calm and certain . . . aware that soon there would be wings again with which to fly into the darkness against the enemy tormenting his homeland.

THE MOOD OF GERMAN SOLDIERS

By Major V. Kolybelnikov

Facing me sits George Schrutke, Corporal of the 510th Infantry Regiment, 293rd Infantry Division, taken prisoner near Novgorod-Seversky. He is a 20-year-old from Koenigsberg, the son of a lawyer, and has been at the front since June, 1943. Until then he had been exempt because of poor eyesight.

I noted how different his attitude and his utterances were from those of former war prisoners. In the first place he was happy to have fallen into the hands of the Russians. That "stupid war" started by the "madman Adolf Hitler" was over as far as he was concerned. In the second place, he had long ago come to the conclusion, especially after Stalin-grad, that "Germany is doomed to defeat and the sooner we make peace the better. Resistance is futile. We began well but finished poorly."

Schrutke is no exception. Here is what others say: Corporal Gutner Kushat, 195th Sapper Battalion, 86th Infantry Division, captured west of Kursk, near Rylsk, related: "The happenings of the last two months are hard to conceive. We are retreating. The loss of Orel, Belgorod and Kharkov was the beginning of the end. I have been on the Eastern front since October, 1942, but what I witnessed near Rylsk I will remember for the rest of my life. Our losses in manpower were frightful. When only 20 or 30 per cent of the men in our companies remained, our sapper battalion was ordered to cover the retreat of the division. But after the first Russian onslaught few of our men escaped. I was fortunate enough to be taken prisoner."

Corporal Frank Bal, 45th Infantry Division, taken

prisoner near Karachev, stated: "The Russian offensive caused confusion in the minds of the majority of soldiers and officers. Some spoke openly, others kept quiet, but one hardly ever heard an optimist—there weren't any. Everybody viewed the situation gloomily. If we were retreating it meant that we were short of men and lacked ammunition. We were permitted to fire only when the Russians attacked. The Russian army has more armaments and ammunition than we have."

Fear of the consequences of inevitable defeat gnaws at the heart of the average German. This summer the Hitlerites have suffered many defeats. They have buried many millions in the Russian steppes.

A number of the German soldiers recently captured are bald-headed, others are sick—these are the

"fruits of total mobilization." Corporal Rudolf Roderams, captured in September, is 53. He was formerly a cook in the town of Gruenberg. This old rheumatic arrived at the front in July. "I have never before served in the army," he said. "I was exempt because of ill health, but was finally mobilized. I will tell you frankly that I wasn't very enthusiastic about joining up because I had long ago decided the game was up. I saw it in Orel, and there realized the strength of the Red Army."

It would be a mistake to think that all German soldiers are of the same opinion and are ready to lay down their arms. The Germans continue to put up fierce resistance. The German army has not yet been routed, but the fact is inescapable that the Germans are fighting with "death in their hearts," and few believe in victory.

The Excellent Workers of Tankograd

By A. Slavytsky

In July the Kirov Works, the colossus of the Soviet tank industry, where the legendary KVs are produced, pushed up output still further, without adding to the number of its workers or increasing its equipment.

The Kirov workers were evacuated from Leningrad soon after the outbreak of war. They brought their efficiency to the Urals and have already trained a new young generation of experts. At Tankograd, where the Kirov plant has settled down for the duration, over 450 "front-line youth brigades" are working under the direction of veteran engineers. Vasili Tsaplinsky's team did 427 per cent of its plan during July. Alexander Solomatov's did 400. Fedor Kapustin has a brigade of 15-year-olds whose motto is "Four quotas daily."

At the beginning of July, executives and leading workers held a conference to discuss proposals for increasing labor productivity. Reorganization has begun on the basis of these proposals. The direction and control of production have been considerably simplified.

The second mechanical department, responsible for supplying certain items to the main friction conveyor, was lagging behind. Titov, the department chief, was given 48 hours to catch up with the schedule. Everyone helped him to the utmost. He had only to put through a request to the factory inspector or the chief engineer, and it was met on the instant. When the stipulated time was up Titov was able to report: "Caught up with schedule. Friction assembly amply supplied."

Many thousands of separate parts go to make a

huge KV tank. To ensure uninterrupted assembly not only the principal but also the auxiliary departments must work scrupulously to schedule, treasuring every minute. The wheel-band fitting shop is one of these auxiliary departments. Until July the band-makers had to carry the metal used for the wheel bands on their shoulders. This arduous process was mechanized. Result—doubled output in July, 1943.

More than 50 teams have been competing for the title of best tank assembly brigade. Those led by Suzik and Malozemov carried off the honors in July. They stayed at their benches until the production index rose to 200 per cent. A team led by the outstanding Stakhanovite, Chernyavsky, produced seven tanks above plan.

Twenty-six-year-old Yegor Levoshkov, leader of a team of connecting-rod fitters, has speeded up connecting-rod production. Experts allotted 55 minutes for the process. "Too much," said Levoshkov. He took his place at the vise, and 26 minutes later the job was done. The connecting-rods he sent to the engine assembly room were pronounced excellent by the exacting inspectors. Levoshkov began to instruct his friends—Kuznetsov, Manakov, Nekrasov, Mikhailov. Production soared.

Levoshkov's youth brigade, and Yudakov's, have given Tankograd a new slogan: "What is an Excellent Worker? An Excellent Worker is he who fulfills and overfulfills his plan, and gives high-quality production." Now every Kirov shop and section is striving to get all its people into the "Excellent Worker" class. And Tankograd has gone over to the offensive with the Red Army.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

Only one week has elapsed since the close of the pause necessary to move up the Red Army's rearward services. During this week the Red Army, after resuming its offensive, gained several more victories.

Soviet troops cleared the entire Taman Peninsula of enemy forces and liquidated the strategically important positions of the Germans in the Kuban, which they regarded as indispensable for the defense of the Crimea and which they also hoped to use as a springboard for another drive into the Caucasus.

On October 14 the Red Army gained another important victory, taking by storm the city of Zaporozhye, an important center and junction of railways and waterways. Zaporozhye represented one of the most decisive strongholds of the Germans in the lower reaches of the Dnieper. In the area of Zaporozhye and on the left bank of the Dnieper the Germans built strong fortifications which covered the crossings over the river and the railway communications with the Crimea. By railway bridges across the Dnieper, Zaporozhye junction was connected with Krivoi Rog and Apostolovo, large railway junctions on the right bank of the Dnieper, through which run railway lines to the Black Sea coast, to the cities of Nikolayev and Kherson and into the Western Ukraine.

The Germans connected their strong fortifications in the Zaporozhye area with their fortified zone in the Melitopol area, which covers the right flank of Hitler's army in the southern end of the Soviet-German front. The nature of the terrain enabled the Germans to build up very strong defensive positions in this area. In the Zaporozhye and Melitopol areas the German high command concentrated large forces consisting of several infantry and panzer divisions. The Germans were bent on holding this area regardless of cost, for the fall of the Zaporozhye and Melitopol positions was the greatest direct threat to the German forces in the Crimea and in the Dnieper estuary.

Despite the fierce resistance of the Hitler troops, the Red Army breached the enemy's defense lines in the areas of Zaporozhye and Melitopol, captured the city of Zaporozhye and broke into Melitopol, where at this moment street fighting is in progress. Soviet troops also cut the Melitopol-Crimea railway line in two places and isolated Melitopol from the Crimea.

With the loss of the Zaporozhye-Melitopol group the German troops have at their disposal a rather small area bounded in the west and southwest by the Dnieper and the Black Sea and on the southeast by the Sea of Azov. From the town of Genichesk, on the Sea of Azov, to Kherson, where the Dnieper flows into the Black Sea, the distance in a straight line is 180 kilometers. The distance from Melitopol south to Sivash Bay, where the Crimean Peninsula adjoins the mainland, is only 100 kilometers. The latest developments, therefore, have created a direct threat both to the Crimea and to the right flank of the German Army in the area bounded by the northeastern coast of the Black Sea and the Dnieper estuary.

The Germans have thrown in large forces of infantry and tanks, with abundant air support, but all their counter-attacks failed to halt the Red Army's advance. As a result of their heavy casualties the Germans were unable to mount a counter-thrust on a large scale in order to hold their positions or to recover lost ground. The continuous blows dealt by the Red Army are more and more shattering Hitler's war machine and forcing the enemy to clear out of Soviet territory.

Citizens Eagerly Rebuild Kharkov

The population of Kharkov increases daily. Former inhabitants continue to return to the city from the villages where they had hidden from the German occupationists. The first concern of all these people is to restore their city.

Red Army engineers clearing up the principal thoroughfares of Kharkov in the first days of its liberation soon had ardent helpers. One unit sent to repair bridges near the Spartak Hotel and the Hammer and Sickle Works found they were not needed—the people of the neighborhood had already done the job. The City Commandant tried to find out who had organized the bridge repairs, but nobody knew. People had simply turned up with spades, axes and picks, and beams and boards had been found. A tall, lanky man whose name nobody seemed to know had assumed the role of foreman.

Kharkov shines again in the glorious constellation of Soviet cities.

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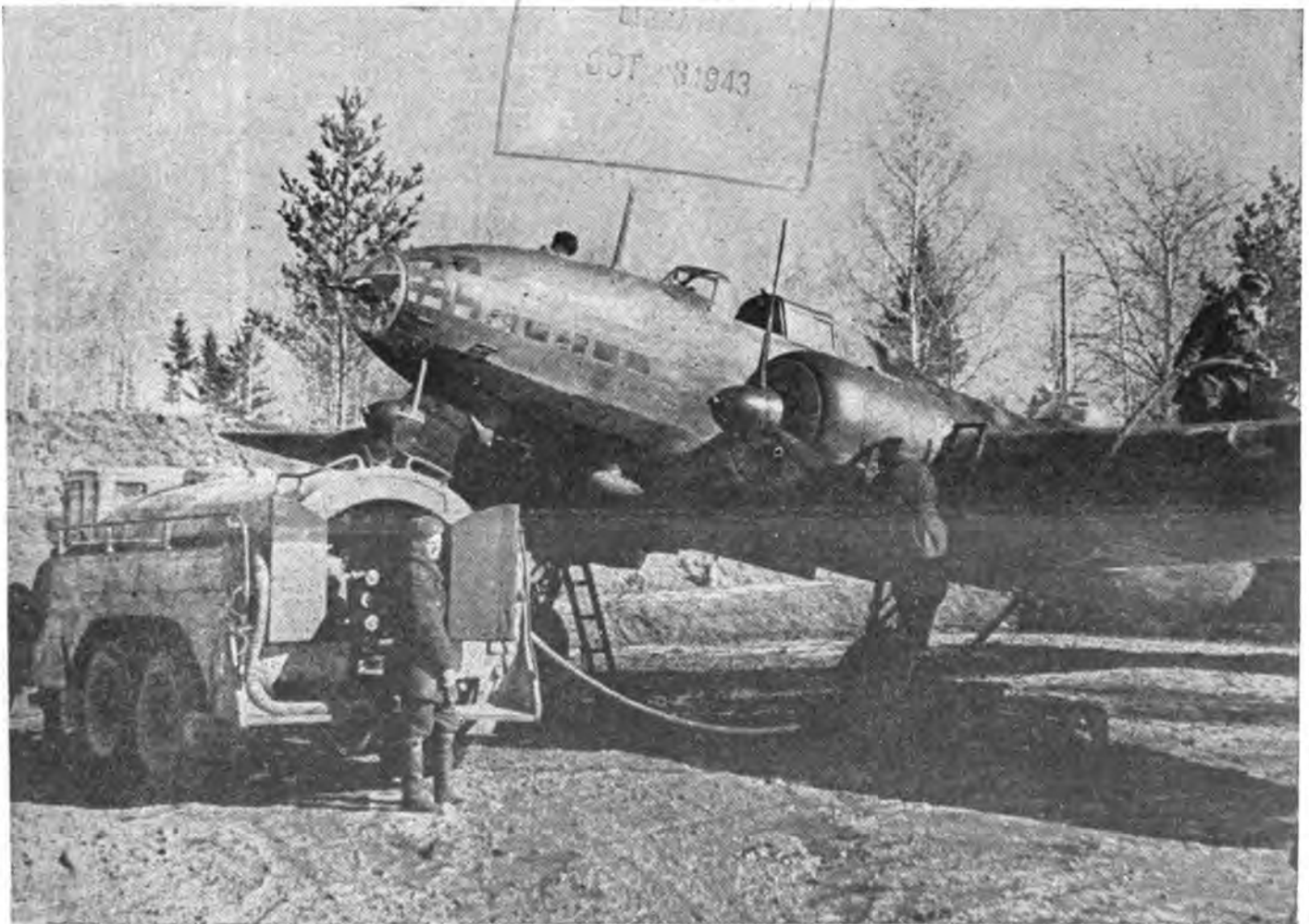
BATTLE OF THE KREMENCHUG BRIDGEHEADS

A Pravda correspondent with Soviet troops on the right bank of the Dnieper southeast of Kremenchug writes:

Now that Soviet troops during the protracted engagements at the Dnieper bridgeheads have taken many prisoners and seized many letters and documents, one can state with certainty that it was on the Dnieper the Germans rested all their hopes regarding the defense of the Ukrainian regions lying west of that river.

"Our officers told us, and we told the soldiers, that the Dnieper was the line of defense of our own homes—that we must die rather than permit the Russians to cross the Dnieper," stated war prisoner Sergeant Major Kurt Kunz. Realizing the great importance of the Dnieper as a powerful, practically impregnable water barrier, the German command tried to make a stand there at any cost.

Aware of the enemy's intention, the Soviet Command ordered its vanguard troops not to fall behind



The ground staff of a Soviet airdrome refuels a long-range bomber for a night raid

the retreating Germans for one hour, and following close on their heels to rush the Dnieper and mount its impregnable, steep right bank. Soviet troops heroically accomplished this task. Without waiting for the arrival of reinforcements and pontoons—in fishing boats and yawls, or even swimming with planks and logs and frequently carrying only small arms—Soviet infantry forced the half-kilometer wide stream, and keeping the Germans at the point of their bayonets, rushed the right bank on their heels.

The Germans clearly realized the danger hidden in the small plots of ground captured by Red Army men on the right bank of the Dnieper, and threw all their available tanks, artillery and aviation to this area. They literally showered these bridgeheads with shells, mines and bombs. One can judge the frequency and violence of the enemy air raids by the fact that anti-aircraft gunners under Commander Pavlov shot down 23 German bombers in one day.

Striving to check our troops by a squall of artillery fire and incessant air bombing, the Germans at the same time continued to feverishly transfer to the Dnieper all forces from the immediate and distant rear, bringing up reinforcements not only by rail and truck but even by air. On the third day of the fighting beyond the Dnieper there had already appeared troops brought from Poland, and on the fifth and seventh days appeared divisions urgently transferred from France and Holland . . .

Meanwhile, day and night, the Soviet forces destined for the breakthrough were concentrated along the river, in gullies and ravines and in the dense scrub on the bank. Tanks were secretly drawn up to initial positions; they did not take part in defensive

engagements, awaiting their hour. And this hour came.

Early one morning the formations concentrated on the banks of the Dnieper were ordered to launch an offensive. At dawn Soviet artillery opened fire and kept it up for over two hours. From the riverside heights one could clearly see the shells of the Soviet artillery literally plowing up the German defense lines and concentrations of infantry and tanks. By the end of the third hour the heavy guns began gradually to shift their fire to the depth of the German defenses.

Under cover of the fire barrage Soviet infantry rushed into the attack. All the forces concentrated in those days beyond the Dnieper came out against the enemy. When the din of artillery subsided, Soviet bomber squadrons appeared in the sky. Our fliers bombed the enemy from a low altitude without haste, as the Germans, still stunned by the artillery squall, were unable to put up a fire barrage.

Then, when the infantry had secured the breaches in the first line of the German defenses, the tanks of the breakthrough joined in the action, accompanied by IL-2 planes. After three heights commanding the river crossings had been wrested from the Germans and the enemy had abandoned his first fortified lines, he hurled his tank reserves into action. A tank battle followed—it was extremely stiff but the results speak for themselves: the German were hurled to the west.

As a result of two days of hard-fought engagements Soviet troops broke through the heavily-fortified enemy defense line along a frontage of 45 kilometers to a depth of 25 kilometers. Soviet troops are pouring into the breach. The battle on the right bank of the Dnieper is growing more bitter.

In the Melitopol Area

MOSCOW, October 20.—Street fighting in the Melitopol area grows in violence. Disregarding their tremendous losses the Germans continue to hurl large tank and infantry detachments into counter-attacks. In the past two days the enemy launched 24 counter-attacks in the Melitopol area.

In the southwest section of the town, where the struggle is particularly violent, Soviet units increased their pressure and cleared 13 blocks of the enemy. This success was preceded by the storming of a large brick building at the intersection of two streets, which had been converted into a fortress by the Germans. Soviet mobile troops crushed the walls of the two neighboring houses, outflanked the brick building and attacked it from the rear, wiping out the enemy garrison in hand-to-hand fighting. The fall

of this building determined the outcome of the struggle for neighboring blocks.

The fighting in Melitopol is waged by small units of Soviet infantry and sappers, supported by individual guns.

South of the city our troops recaptured a State farm which had changed hands several times.

A strong counter-attack launched by about one German infantry regiment was repulsed in a sector where Soviet troops straddled the road linking Melitopol with the Crimea.

For two days intense engagements were fought in the area of two inhabited localities. After repulsing several enemy counter-attacks, our troops dislodged the Germans from both villages.

USE OF TRENCH MORTARS IN REPULSING COUNTER-ATTACKS

By Major I. Adov

Trench-mortar crews, advancing in the ranks of attacking infantry platoons, cooperate with riflemen, machine gunners and tommy gunners. Reinforcing the infantry platoons they play a prominent part, always being ready to open fire on the retreating enemy. With the advance riflemen, the trench-mortar crews frequently burst into the enemy trenches, occupy positions and assist in the further development of offensive operations. Trench mortars are particularly valuable in repulsing enemy counter-attacks.

In a recent battle a Soviet unit had driven the Germans from their trenches and begun to consolidate its new positions. The enemy had suffered considerable losses and had fallen back, but soon launched a counter-attack, endeavoring to regain the lost positions. A reinforced German company, supported on the flanks by heavy machine guns, charged the Soviet unit, while the German machine gunners swept the trenches with heavy fire.

The Soviet trench-mortar crew stationed in the forward trench was ordered to silence the enemy's machine guns. Corporal Payev, crew commander, found the range. Four mortar shells were sufficient to wipe out the enemy machine-gun nest and its crew. Another German machine-gun company suffered a similar fate. Both of these nests had been hidden by boulders, and infantry fire was ineffectual, but the trench mortars, possessing a steep trajectory and exceptional precision in firing, quickly solved the problem.

Another time a Soviet detachment had launched a swift attack and forced the enemy to withdraw from important firing positions. It was obvious that the Germans, who had retreated to a wooded area, would soon start a counter-offensive to recover their former positions. The commanding officer of the Soviet detachment ordered his trench-mortar crews to occupy the firing positions on the right flank and to open fire on the Germans in the woods.

The simultaneous fire of the three mortars forced the enemy to abandon the wooded area and to retreat farther. But half an hour later Soviet scouts reported that the enemy infantry was again concentrating on the outskirts of the woods. The Germans advanced, hiding behind trees and bushes. The Soviet commander ordered the mortar gunners to reopen fire. The enemy suffered heavy losses from their accurate fire, but apparently decided to retake the positions at all costs. They continued to advance, but on entering the zone of concentrated fire from the trench mortars, rifles and machine guns, were slowed up and finally forced to retreat.

Lieutenant Ivlev, the Soviet commander, directed this operation to a successful end mainly because he

used trench-mortar fire with great skill. All the mortar crews had been merged into one unit, headed by platoon officers, to carry out this specific assignment. The trench mortars were likewise essential at the beginning of the operation, when the detachment occupied the enemy positions. While Soviet infantry men hurriedly dug in, the trench mortars had blazed away, throttling all attempts of the Nazis at a counter-charge.

Many battles have been won by the flexible maneuverability of trench-mortar fire and the ability of Soviet commanders to concentrate these weapons at the decisive moment.



Raising the Soviet flag in Lenin Street, Smolensk

Radiophoto

Kindergarten No. 48 Writes to the Front

By Irina Grekova

One autumn night in 1941 Nazi raiders dropped a load of bombs on "a very important military target"—Kindergarten No. 48 in the Rostokino district in Moscow. Fortunately the children were safe in the shelter. Work was immediately begun on the rebuilding and refurnishing of the kindergarten. Although the builders were at the same time fulfilling an urgent State order at their factory, they still found time to make saucepans and pots for the kitchen of the kindergarten. Many workers contributed their ration of yard goods for the needs of the school, which was soon able to accommodate 150 children, many of whose fathers were now serving at the front. Mothers and wives of men at the front made up the staff of the school.

The children write and send gifts to the men at the front. Svetlana wrote the following note to accompany a packet of tobacco: "Dear soldier, my name is Svetlana. I attend kindergarten. Mother works at the factory. My daddy was killed at the front. Nearly all the fathers of the children in the kindergarten are at the front, but I have no one to write to. If I had been older I should have gone to fight the Germans myself, for they killed my daddy. Dear soldier, avenge my father." After this Svetlana inquired for a letter every day. Finally it came . . . it was from a Red Navy man, Peter Vasilyev. "Dear Svetlana," he wrote, "I am on a warship which gives the Germans peace neither day nor night. I am avenging your father's death. I wish you to grow up to hate the Nazis as I and our whole country hate

them."

Svetlana has received many letters from her friend. He calls her his sister and shows interest in all her activities. Recently Peter Vasilyev sent the school a money order asking that it be used to buy toys for the children.

"My daughter is in your kindergarten," reads one letter from the front. "My wife writes that the child has grown strong and healthy. The State is taking good care of my child while I am defending my country to the best of my ability."

The father of Boris Poletayev, one of the children in the kindergarten, wrote: "Your letter came just as we were about to go into action and I read it to my comrades in the dugout. We fought thinking of you. The letter lay in my pocket, and while firing at the Germans I realized that I was defending Boris and all the other children of the kindergarten."

Alexander Korvyachkov's mother and father are both at the front and the boy has seen neither of them for over a year. The last time his mother visited him she wrote in the visitor's book before leaving: "I was happy to see my child in the best of health. I can't tell you how grateful I am for your care of the children. When I return to the front I shall devote all my efforts to the care of the wounded, and shall not worry about my boy. Now I know he is in good hands."

KRASNODAR LIBRARIAN CARRIED BOOKS AWAY ON STRETCHER

After the liberation of Krasnodar, Red Army men were amazed to see one of the city libraries immediately begin to issue books. This was all the more remarkable since the Germans make a habit of burning and destroying libraries first of all.

It was later learned that this library—and two others as well—were saved by its director, Polina Udovenko. In August, 1942, when the Germans occupied Krasnodar, Polina Udovenko determined to save her books. With the help of two boys who were regular readers at the library she carried away 20,000 volumes on a stretcher to a secret hiding place, separated only by a thin partition from a building occupied by the Germans, whose voices and footsteps could be distinctly heard.

Udovenko discovered that the German command intended to occupy the Pharmaceutical School, which also had a fine library. She sent the two boys on a scouting mission and they learned that the books had not yet been touched. On the same stretcher the three carried away an additional 5,000 valuable books and textbooks, literally under the eyes of the Germans. Later the boys reported that the library of the Industrial Cooperatives was threatened with destruction, and this also was saved.

When the retreating Germans set fire to the town. Udovenko, ignoring danger, rushed to the house where the books were stored. Fortunately the building was spared by the fire.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE IN THE USSR

By Professor N. I. Propper-Graschenkov

Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and Chief of the All-Union Institute for Experimental Medicine

A system of public health service quite unknown in Tsarist Russia has been operating for 26 years in the Soviet Union. The Government pays particular attention to the public health service, for which provision has been made in the Stalin Constitution. Each year, not excluding the war years, enormous sums have been spent to give free medical care to every citizen of the country.

Notable results have been achieved in the care of children and mothers. The Government has set up a network of children's and women's health centers, milk kitchens to provide babies with excellent food, nurseries, children's homes and children's clinics and hospitals. Twenty-two scientific research institutes for the protection of mother and child have been established. Special help is given to mothers of large families, to whom the State has paid out more than 5,000,000 rubles in allowances during the last five years.

The Fight Against Infectious Diseases

Each year new measures are taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. The public health service includes a network of diagnostic, bacteriological and other laboratories, as well as hospitals where patients suffering from infectious diseases are immediately placed. There are also numerous disinfecting stations. Lastly, millions of our citizens are vaccinated against infectious diseases. Several bacteriological institutes prepare serums for the prevention of infectious diseases, and also study problems of immunization—reducing the number of inoculations, raising their effectiveness, etc. Thanks to the strict State system of triple obligatory inoculations against smallpox, cases of this disease are extremely rare in the USSR and usually occur in areas adjacent to the frontier where the infection has been brought from neighboring states.

The war has caused mass concentrations of people evacuated from west to east, or returned to their native regions after the German barbarians were driven out. This creates conditions for the spread of epidemics and infectious diseases.

But in the Soviet Union there are few cases of the outbreak of intestinal diseases, such as dysentery, or typhoid fever or paratyphoid. Mass vaccination against such diseases has prevented their incidence. The same applies to typhus, which as we know always follows in the wake of widespread war. Before the October Revolution, Russia had served as

the gateway for such terrible infectious diseases as cholera and plague, which came from the Eastern countries. Throughout the 26 years of Soviet power, and especially in the last 20 years, no outbreaks of such epidemics have been known in our country. Even now, despite war conditions and the fact that cholera has broken out in some neighboring Eastern countries, this disease has not penetrated the USSR.

In our medical practice bacteriophage is used to a great extent. Without exaggeration it may be stated that from the point of view of scientific research and practical application, the study of this type of bacteria has been developed more greatly in our country than elsewhere.

It is well-known that practical medicine cannot achieve extensive results unless it is based on a broad foundation of medical science. In the Soviet Union there are more than 100 scientific research institutes in various branches of medicine, such as physiotherapy, tuberculosis, Roentgenology, children's and women's diseases, skin and venereal diseases, the study of health resorts, climatology, etc. Each year about 20,000 physicians are graduated from our higher medical institutes. Physicians' assistants, midwives and nurses are trained in the medical schools.

The Soviet Government has built thousands of hospitals all over our country, which accommodate hundreds of thousands of patients. In addition a wide network of clinics and first-aid stations with the necessary physio-therapeutical departments has been built in cities and rural districts, where medical advice and treatment are given.

Prompt Aid to Wounded

During the Patriotic War against the German invaders the Soviet Military Medical Service has assured immediate medical aid to the wounded and their prompt removal from the battlefields. Very near the firing line medical battalions give surgical aid and the wounded are then removed to first or second line field hospitals, where their treatment is completed and the more complicated operations, including operations on the skull, are carried out. Within each army sector are hospitals specializing in skull operations.

From field hospitals the wounded are transferred to the nearest rear hospitals, from which they are evacuated to special hospitals maintained by the People's Commissariat of Health, where they remain

until completely cured. Our Military Medical Service has achieved wonderful results—more than 70 per cent of the total number of wounded being returned to the front lines. It goes without saying that all Soviet wounded, even those most gravely injured, are given prompt attention—whereas the Nazis finish off their gravely wounded, whom they consider a burden to the state.

All our medical workers, physicians, assistants, midwives and nurses have been educated in a spirit of selfless devotion to the interests of their country and of bitter hatred for the enemy. No matter what the conditions under which they must work at the

front or in the rear, they give their utmost to the people, and first of all to the gallant warriors who are fighting for the honor and freedom of our country.

Soviet physicians are deeply grateful to their American colleagues and to the American public organizations which are helping us with instruments and medicines. But at this time, when the Red Army is pressing the enemy more and more furiously, annihilating large numbers of his manpower and destroying quantities of his equipment, the task of all democratic countries is to see that their armed forces join in the fight with all their power, so as to complete the defeat of the Nazi barbarians.

New Giant of Urals Industry

Urals industry has been reinforced by another powerful metal industry plant. A few days ago the second section of the Chelyabinsk pipe-rolling plant was launched. The plant will produce annually tens of thousands of tons of large seamless steel pipe for the petroleum and defense industries and for electric power stations. The plant equipment is working smoothly and the country has already received the first 1,000 tons of steel pipe.

The Chelyabinsk pipe-rolling plant is one of the greatest industrial enterprises built during the Patriotic War. A number of shops were completed and the largest pipe-rolling equipment in the country assembled in a very short time. Previously it took at least two years to build such a plant, but high-speed methods were utilized and even under exceedingly difficult conditions the work was accomplished in record time—the first section in five months and the second in six.

At present the plant is using metal brought from various parts of the country, but a source of metal supply is now being developed—a large open-hearth

furnace department with five furnaces will be in operation by December. The builders are making efforts, which promise to be successful, to launch two furnaces before that time.

All processes requiring a large outlay of manual labor have been mechanized as far as possible. Excavators removed 120,000 cubic meters of earth, eliminating the use of wheelbarrows or handcarts. Mechanization reduced the necessary labor power by at least 40 per cent. Pre-fabricated structures and machine parts were widely used in construction. Assemblers and builders worked at the same time: for example, while workers were assembling metal structures, builders were laying the concrete foundations for equipment.

The Stakhanov movement was widely developed during the building. One of the outstanding bricklayers, Meshcheryakov, and his team, fulfilled 900 to 975 per cent of the norm. The bricklayer Sokolov, an instructor from the People's Commissariat of the Building Industry, who trained 15 bricklayers, established a record by fulfilling 990 per cent of the norm.

Colored Cotton Grown Extensively

This year the Stalin collective farm in Uzbekistan is gathering a crop of auburn-colored cotton on a 1,000 acre plantation. Two State farms near Tashkent are gathering a crop of dark brown cotton, and a plantation in Turkmenia has developed blue, dark green, emerald and khaki-colored varieties of cotton.

Seeds gathered this year will make it possible to increase the area planted to naturally-colored cotton to many thousands of acres next year. The first lots of the colored fiber have been delivered to the Tashkent cotton mills, where already some 500 samples of fabric have been manufactured from them.

The color fastness of fabrics made from this fiber is far greater than that of fabrics made from cotton dyed with the truest artificial dyes.

Soviet Photographer at the Front

Lieutenant Sergei Strunnikov, well-known Soviet photographer, has spent almost two years in the front lines. He recorded with his camera the defense of Moscow in the winter of 1941, was in Leningrad during the blockade, saw the rout of the Hitlerite army at Stalingrad, and was with the advancing Red Army that captured Orel.

Strunnikov's camera has also recorded the bloody crimes of the Hitlerites in the temporarily-occupied Soviet areas. He photographed Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya, the guerrilla heroine tortured to death by German officers. Many of his photographs have appeared in foreign publications. Before the war he was noted for his pictorial record of the industrial and cultural progress of the Soviet Union.

1,000 INHABITANTS OF KARACHEV MURDERED BY NAZIS

By V. Kolbelnikov

Following is a statement on the atrocities perpetrated by the Germans in the town of Karachev, Orel Region.

We citizens of the town of Karachev, I. Vinogradov, a worker in the May First factory; I. Kotinsky, a mechanic; I. Akulov, a watchman in a lumbermill; A. Axenov, a worker in a cord-making factory and E. Maslova, a housewife, testify to the following:

When the Germans seized the town of Karachev in the autumn of 1941, they murdered many of the inhabitants. The Nesterov brothers and their families were shot only because they were Jews. The Soviet State employees Soshenko and Kondrashev were hanged. On October 10, 1941 the Germans shot 100 of Karachev's inhabitants, among them Professor Levin. On May 2, 1942, 260 Jews were executed. During the 22 months of their rule in the town the Germans shot and hanged more than 1,000 people.

For the slightest infringement of a Nazi "order" the inhabitants were subjected to corporal punishment, or, if fortunate, were heavily fined. Receiving nothing but 100 to 150 grams of bread a day per

person, the population starved wretchedly. No medical aid was available and in the winter of 1942-43 a typhoid epidemic took a heavy toll of the inhabitants.

Before the arrival of the Germans the town had cord-making, cardboard and furniture factories, a lumbermill, a machine and tractor station, a shoe factory, two technical schools, a pedagogical school, two high schools and a number of elementary schools, two theaters and five cinemas. On August 5, 1943, just before their retreat, the Germans began systematically to destroy the town. All the buildings were blown up or set on fire block by block. Of 1,850 buildings in the town, only 50 remained. Its industrial enterprises, schools, theaters and clubs were reduced to ashes.

In May of 1943 most of the inhabitants between the ages of 16 and 26 were forcibly shipped to slave labor in Germany. Only a few managed to escape the Nazi hunters.

(Signed) I. VINOGRAD, I. KOTINSKY, E. MASLOVA,
A. AXENOV, I. AKULOV
Karachev, August 21, 1943



Citizens of liberated Smolensk who escaped the German terror emerge from their hiding-place with the few belongings they were able to salvage

Radiofoto

An Opening Night in Stalingrad

By Sofia Polyakova

The autumn of 1942 . . . Stalingrad is ablaze. The Volga seethes with streams of burning oil. Methodically the Hitlerites are demolishing street after street. Stalingrad is reduced to ruins. It would seem that life had been extinguished there forever.

The autumn of 1943 . . . Stalingrad is vibrating with the sounds of peaceful labor and the voices of those who have come from the most distant parts of the country to build the city anew. Blows of axes mingle with the whistling of saws, and both are drowned in the clashing of cranes. The smell of fresh paint fills the air.

At dusk the noises of construction cease. The curtain rises on the stage of the rebuilt theater, revealing the opening scene of *The Russian People*—the play

by Konstantin Simonov, who was in Stalingrad during its fiercest battles.

Simonov's play is being presented exactly one year from the day the magnificent Stalingrad Theater was razed to the ground by German bombs. It is performed by Stalingrad actors who were rescued by the Red Army.

The forceful lines of the hero, Captain Safonov, rise in a powerful crescendo: "I want to live! I want to live a long time . . . until I see with my own eyes the last German dead!"

The theater and stage are both filled with those strong, tenacious, life-loving people who would not permit the enemy to trample upon them. And each felt in his heart that soon the Russian people would see the last German dead on Russian soil.

AIR GATES OF THE CAUCASUS

By Alexander Titkov

It is 20 years since Soviet climbers first scaled the summit of Kazbek, one of the highest peaks in the Caucasus. Last autumn the Germans, pressing frantically through the Caucasus foothills, were only 20 miles or so from the foot of Mount Kazbek. We know where they are now.

Kazbek is interesting not only to mountain-climbers and tourists—for the past 11 years a small but very important meteorological station has been operating 12,000 feet up the mountain, amidst the eternal snow and ice. Its main concerns are high altitude meteorology, aerology and magnetology. Its reports are of great value to Soviet collective farmers and cattle breeders, seamen and airmen. Irakly Imnadze, one of the oldest members of the staff, says that on Kazbek the air gates of the Caucasus open and shut.

In the days when the battle front was approaching the Caucasus, the staff worked day and night without rest. Wireless operators, meteorologists, scientists, all have a "second" trade. The meteorologist could replace the wireless operator and vice versa. The station broadcast weather reports and forecasts every hour. This proved of inestimable service to Soviet airmen operating in this difficult country. It should

be added that all the station's personnel were trained in the use of arms.

Nowadays news of war reaches Kazbek only in radio reports of the Soviet Information Bureau, in newspapers and letters from the front, which the guide, Vakhtang Arabuli, regularly carries up to the station. A large, comfortable house now takes the place of the modest hut that once stood here. Well-equipped laboratories are at the disposal of the staff.

Life on Kazbek is not without its perils. The road leading up to the station is menaced at every step by avalanches, violent storms and snow-covered fissures in glaciers. It is not easy to breathe in the mountain atmosphere.

Paul Rukhadze, director of the Kazbek Meteorological Station, describes how the wind rages so that the observers have to rope themselves together to reach the instruments. Fingers freeze in a few minutes, even in the warmest gloves. Recently the wind almost tore away the iron roof of the house. Rukhadze and his colleagues had first to rope themselves together so as not to be carried away, and then fasten down the roof with steel cables.

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ADDRESS OF AMBASSADOR GROMYKO ON MARCH OF TIME PROGRAM

Following is the text of the radio address delivered by the Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Andrei A. Gromyko, on October 21, on the NBC MARCH OF TIME program:

My American Friends:

Today I am very glad to convey to you the warmest greetings from the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Recently, the great honor of representing the

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in this country as its Ambassador has fallen to my lot; of serving the cause of mutual friendship and cooperation between two great countries of the world.

I hope that my words—friendship and cooperation—will be understood not as a mere diplomatic gesture and expression of diplomatic courtesy. I consider that friendship and cooperation between our countries and peoples are the expression of their



COSSACK PATROL ON RECONNAISSANCE—The Soviet Cossack is an incomparable scout . . . resourceful, clever and determined

basic interests.

The progress of this war, our successes in the struggle against our common enemy—Hitlerite Germany and her satellites—and the price at which victory and peace are achieved will, to a great extent, depend on how firm our friendship is, and how successful is the cooperation between our countries.

The firmer our friendship, and the more active the cooperation between our countries in military as well as other spheres, the sooner victory will be achieved, and the fewer will be the sacrifices necessary for the destruction of the enemy.

Everyone knows what this decrease in sacrifices, necessary for achieving victory, means. The decrease in sacrifices means the decrease in destruction, by the Nazi barbarians, of the material and cultural values created by the efforts of the peoples in the course of centuries; it means the cessation of destruction of thousands of cities and towns in the countries and regions occupied by Hitlerite troops. It also means the preservation of hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of human lives, the sacrifices of which cannot be estimated in any kind of values.

The fruitful and working cooperation between our countries, as well as the cooperation among the United Nations as a whole, will help to draw nearer the liberation of enslaved peoples of Europe from the Nazi yoke, from want and from starvation. It will hasten the removal of the threat of Nazi enslavement which is hanging over the world.

What could be loftier and nobler than these aims to which the peoples of our countries, as well as the other freedom-loving peoples of the world are striving. The historic mission of our countries, together with the other United Nations, is the liberation from the fascist yoke of the French, Czech, Polish, Norwegian, Greek, Yugoslav, and other oppressed peoples of Europe.

The fulfillment of this honorable historic mission of liberation demands the maximum exertion of strength, resources and energy on the part of the United Nations, and first of all, on the part of the most powerful and the most active members of the United Nations. The war has now entered a phase in which it is evident that its course has turned in favor of the United Nations.

Millions of Nazi officers and soldiers have found their graves in the Russian steppes and rivers. After the defeat suffered by the Nazi troops at Stalingrad, further defeats in the Caucasus, at Rostov, Kharkov, Donbas, Smolensk and many other cities, have followed.

At present, battles of exceptional severity are taking place at the Dnieper River where the enemy is trying to hold ground at any price. The Nazi army

has also suffered serious defeats from British-American troops in North Africa, Sicily, and southern Italy. Thus, the enemy has already suffered many severe defeats from the armed forces of the powerful Anglo-Soviet-American coalition.

As a result of the serious blows inflicted upon the enemy, his gang, created for the purpose of the plunder and enslavement of other peoples, has begun to disintegrate. Germany lost its main ally in Europe—Italy—whose decayed fascist regime fell apart like a house of cards after the first serious blows inflicted upon it by the British-American troops.

All these successes have created a situation in which the correlation of forces between fascist Germany and her satellites on the one hand, and that of the United Nations on the other, has definitely changed in favor of the latter.

It would, of course, be unwise to underestimate the strength of the enemy. He still has at his disposal certain reserves created, to a great extent, at the expense of the enslavement of other peoples. The stubbornness of the enemy is in proportion to the increasing hopelessness of his situation, but the irrevocable fact remains, that the present strength of Nazi Germany is far weaker than that of the United Nations. Not only are she and her satellites weaker than the potential forces of the Allies—this was so at the beginning of the war—but she is greatly weaker than those real forces of the Allies, which may be brought into action at any time.

There is no doubt that the enemy will continue to resist stubbornly; to cling to every piece of occupied territory. Having lost hope in victory, he is using all efforts to prolong the war and thereby postpone his final defeat. He has tried, and will, doubtless, in the future, try to introduce dissension into the ranks of the Allies, to weaken their unity, to weaken the will of the peoples of the United Nations in this struggle.

Needless to say, the Hitlerite enslavers would like, most of all, to see the absence of coordinated action on the part of the Allies. But what is in the interests of the enemy is contrary to the interests of the United Nations, whose task it is to utilize, to the utmost, their strength and resources for the infliction of coordinated blows upon the enemy. Speedy, decisive, and coordinated action by the Allies against Hitlerite Germany and her satellites in Europe is not only the shortest road to victory, but also the most economical one.

The confidence of the Soviet people in the possibility of a speedy victory over the enemy in the present military-political situation, favorable as it is to the Allies, did not originate in the quiet of studies. This confidence was born to the Soviet people on the field of battle, among the ruins of Stalingrad, in the fire of Orel, Smolensk, Kharkov, Poltava and other recaptured

cities—in mortal struggle against the hated enemy. It was born after a number of temporary setbacks in the initial period of the war, and as a result of the subsequent successes of the Red Army, that have amazed the world.

A long and hard road has lain between the explosions of the first bombs, discharged by the Germans on the peaceful cities and villages of my country in the first months of the war, and the triumphant sound of the cannon salutes in Moscow, announcing the liberation by the Red Army of still more cities and regions from the Nazi invaders.

The faith of the Soviet people in victory over the enemy was forged in the fire of this great war of liberation of the fatherland. The Soviet peoples estimated the strength and the weakness of the enemy. Their confidence in the inevitability of victory has grown stronger, from a consciousness of the fact that they are not alone in this fight. They feel a moral as well as material support from the other freedom-loving countries. In this fight the peoples of the Soviet Union are receiving support from the friendly American people in the form of military equipment and other supplies, for which support they are grateful and appreciative. At the present time this support is not limited to material support only. In the fight against the Nazi enslavers, not only the supplies received from the United States and used by the Red Army men take part, but American troops in the Mediterranean theater take part as well, having already distinguished themselves in battles against

the common enemy.

In order to withstand the onslaught of the enemy, to stop him, and then to launch counter-offensive operations, the greatest exertion of all the material and spiritual strength of the people was necessary. The hardships that the Soviet people had to suffer and are suffering are exceptionally severe and hard, as it fell to their lot to bear the main brunt of the fight against Hitlerite Germany and its satellites. Every citizen of my country, whether in civilian dress or in military uniform, has given and is giving all his strength to the cause of defense of the fatherland. That particular exertion has made it possible for them to undermine, to a great extent, the strength of the enemy.

In the course of the present struggle against the common enemy the foundations of a still more close and fruitful collaboration between our countries are being laid. The present common struggle has strengthened the ties between our peoples. Now these ties and friendship between our countries and our peoples are consolidated by blood, shed by their best sons, on the field of battle. Everybody knows, that friendship born in the process of common struggle in the face of danger and in the course of severe trials is the firmer. Real friends make themselves known in misfortune—says an old proverb. I should like to express my confidence that the ties binding our countries will grow stronger and stronger in the course of our mutual military efforts, and our cooperation will become more and more active and fruitful.

ON THE WEST BANK OF THE DNIEPER

In a dispatch from the west bank of the Dnieper, a PRAVDA correspondent reported on October 21:

With a group of Guardsmen tommy gunners I jumped on the ferryboat. Slowly rocking on the clear waters of the Dnieper, it set out for the other bank.

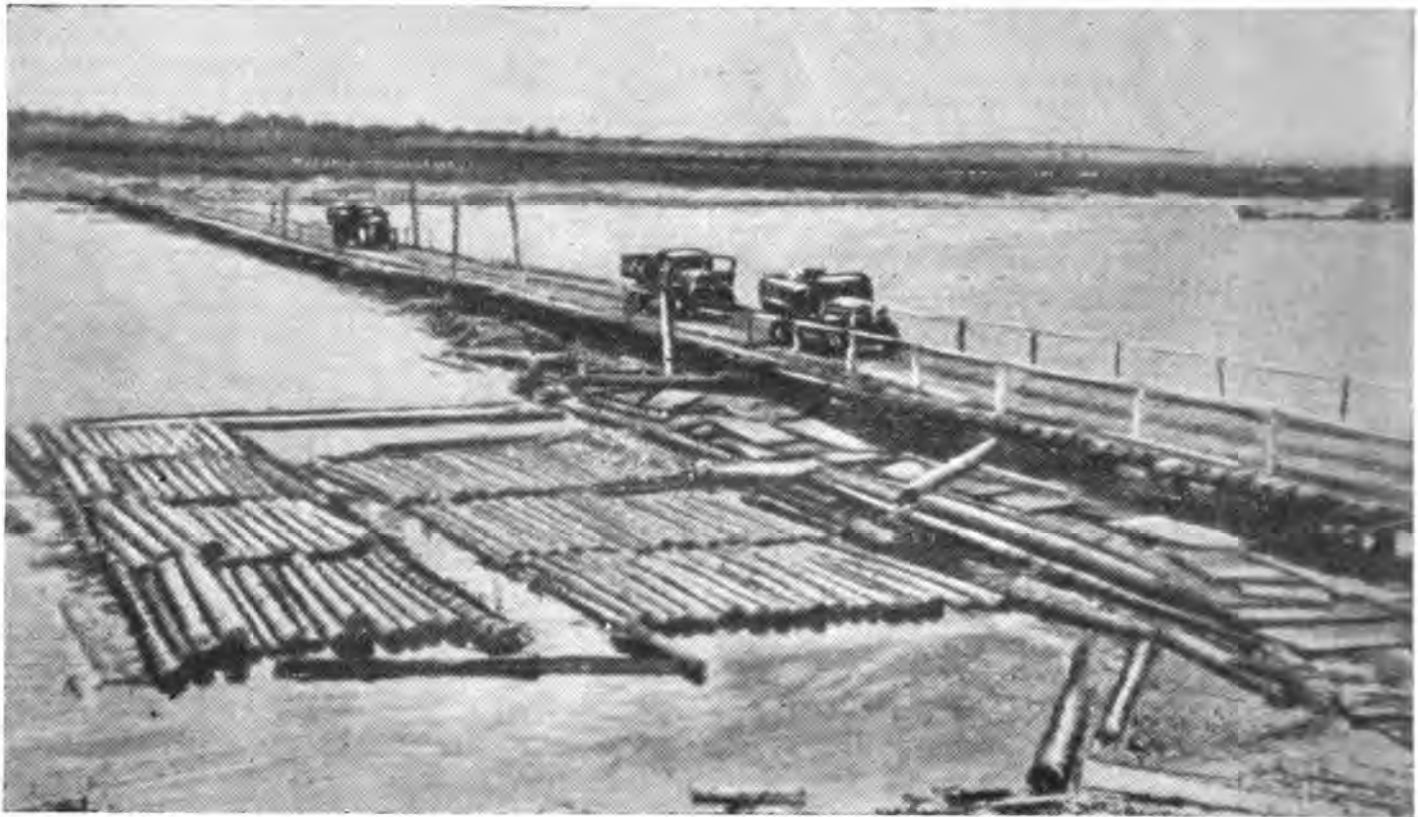
I remembered another great battle on another great river. One year has passed since that time . . . and now we are on the Dnieper. The water lapping the sides of the rubber boats flows quietly; infrequently shells pass overhead with a whistling sound. But these are large-caliber shells from long-range guns—the Germans were long since hurled from the banks of the river. Much time has passed since they frantically brought up troops from all sides; literally withered our bridgeheads, or rather toe-holds, on the right bank with their fire; tried to surround them with a steel girdle and to pull it tight and crush our forces.

Now it is no mere strip of land we hold on the right bank . . . but a real place d'armes on which whole formations are deployed in the battle for the right bank.

It was not by accident the comparison to Stalingrad occurred to me. Both battles very much resemble each other: in the concentration of the forces of both sides on a narrow frontage; in the devastating artillery fire; in the amount of equipment involved, and in the violence of the struggle for every foot of ground.

We ride past a village which has been erased from the face of the earth—only heaps of clay remain where the farmers' cottages stood, and the orchards are literally mown down by artillery fire. This village changed hands six times. In the effort to recapture it the enemy launched 28 counter-attacks with infantry and tanks. Two thousand of the enemy fell at its outskirts. In the village street, on the roadside and on adjacent hills we counted 21 German tanks and three gun-carriers. In a ditch beyond the village we saw still more wrecked equipment. This, too, reminds one of Stalingrad, where the Germans lost thousands in the fighting for each street.

But we held the village, which stands on a longitudinal road laid by the Germans along the right



THE FORCING OF THE DNIEPER—In boats and on rafts, or by swimming, Soviet Guardsmen crossed the broad river and established the bridgeheads. After this pontoon bridges were constructed and the main forces followed in trucks Radiophoto

bank of the river, and which they had used for maneuvering their reserves. On this road we saw a steel milepost on which I counted 18 bullet indentations and two shell-splinter holes—a memorial to the great violence of the battle of the Dnieper.

While on our way to the observation post we witnessed a big air battle. About 100 German bombers appeared over the steppe, heading for the crossing. They were flying high, in three successive echelons, in strict formation. Instantaneously the sky was pockmarked with anti-aircraft shell bursts. A wall of fire rose before the German bombers and compelled them to change their course.

Suddenly their formation was broken and the machines scampered in all directions. Then we saw the agile little "Lavochkins" coming out of the sun, hidden by its rays, spitting fire from their pointed beaks. The air was filled with a brief crackling, as if someone were tearing pieces of cloth. These sounds seemed quite harmless. Then a German bomber went tumbling down, rocking from wing to wing, like a falling autumn leaf; then another, a third, and a fourth. The first echelon of German planes scattered and turned tail, breaking the formation of the second and third echelons. Everything was thrown into confusion. The Germans were in full flight and

the agile fighters were reaching over and clawing them from above.

Tanks Routed

The Division's observation post—which we finally reached—was situated on a sandy hill from which spread a wide view of fields and villages, of the ribbon of the Dnieper sparking in the distance, and of a hill to the west, for which the fighting now raged. On this hill the naked eye could make out the zig-zagging line of trenches on its slope and an emerald-green field of winter sowings, over which the German tanks moved in loose formations. In their wake, like a cloud of dust, followed the infantry. This was all so near to us that at times a gust of wind brought the clanging of tank treads.

The tanks reached the very foot of the hill, but no sound came from it. Suddenly our artillery thundered forth. The guns were invisible, but the spouts of earth which rose amid the German tanks showed that the machines had been caught in a pincers of fire. The leading tank was hit and blew up at once; then a second and a third in the center of the column. A terrific explosion rocked the field—a Tiger tank whose ammunition had caught fire went up into the

(Continued on page six)

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

GERMANY'S RESPONSIBILITY

By Ilya Ehrenburg

The Soviet State Publishing House for Political Literature has published the first volume of a collection of documents entitled *Documents Accuse*. This volume includes Molotov's two Notes, as well as some 200 documents, evidence of the unparalleled crimes committed by the German Army on the territory of the Soviet Union.

This volume is not exhaustive. It relates to 1941 and the beginning of 1942, whereas the most horrifying proofs of German atrocities fell into our hands after the liberation of the Don, the North Caucasus, the Donbas and the eastern Ukraine, the Russian towns of Vyazma, Rzhev, Kursk and Orel. But even this first volume suffices for the passing of a verdict. It relates how the Germans robbed the peaceful population, how they drove our citizens to Germany, how they destroyed the treasures of our culture, how they tortured and hanged defenseless townsfolk, peasants and war prisoners.

The most striking thing about the crimes of the Germans is their premeditated character and the vast scale on which they have been committed. The initiative belongs not to individual bandits, monsters or sadists, who might be found in any society, but to the high command of the German army.

"... to Reduce the Population of Ostland"

If the matter concerned one Fritz, or even one thousand Fritzes tempted by easy gain, one might explain it in terms of the wantonness of the soldiery. But then we are faced by Goering's "Green File," by the notorious order of Field-Marshal von Reichenau and other orders of the German high command which show that the devastation of our country and the extermination of Soviet citizens was regarded by Hitler and his generals as one of their war aims.

Everyone knows that man's darkest instincts come to the surface during a war. In the heat of battle people are not prone to feel sentiments of mercy. The chronicles of any war abound in instances of cruelty, along with lofty examples of self-sacrifice and valor.

But the massacres by asphyxiation in "murder vans," the smearing of children's mouths with poison, the destruction of whole villages together with their populations, the branding of war prisoners, cannot be classed as the psychological excesses of a handful of people. We are confronted with an unparalleled crime, of which hundreds of thousands, if not millions, are guilty, beginning with Hitler and ending with the soldiers who killed infants in Krasnodar and in Vi-

tebsk, in Kiev and in the villages of the Kalinin Region.

At the beginning of the war one German newspaper let the cat out of the bag when it stated: "It is necessary to reduce the population of Ostland by thirty or forty per cent."

Amateurs and Professionals

Of course, there are among the Germans very many sadists for whom murder is an amusement. These monsters try to vary the process of manslaughter. They "invented" the two-storied gallows, various systems of torture, burying people alive. I recall a toy gallows in one village in the Kalinin Region: a kitten was swinging from it. There were no more Russians left in the village, and the German officers, missing their amusements, hanged cats. But the "murder van," i. e., a truck in which the victims are killed by gas, is not an amateur device. It is a state method. Such "murder vans" are manufactured by a Berlin factory, and form part of the equipment of the German army.

The brutal abduction of the population is similarly not the improvisation of some officer, but the fulfillment of a plan drawn up by the Berlin government. The German press refers frankly to the slave labor of millions of Soviet citizens forcibly brought to Germany. The slave trade is plied openly in Germany. Kiev students are compelled to be housemaids to German women, and the German newspapers write: "Russian and Ukrainian girls have eased the existence of many German housewives."

And the destruction of cultural treasures is not the vandalism of individual Fritzes, but the fulfillment of von Reichenau's order. The German wishes to destroy the culture of the Soviet peoples in order to "make better use of Ostland."

Now that the mass expulsion of the enemy from our country has begun, now that we see the dawn of victory, the problem of responsibility becomes more acute. Our people and entire mankind cannot be reconciled to the idea of the impunity of the instigators of these horrible crimes. The conscience of the people will not be lulled. Hitler and his associates will not be able to "resign."

This time not only the diplomats, but the peoples, raise the question of punishment. People who would speak of forgetting would be classified not as humani-

tarians, but as hypocrites and covert adherents of the hangman.

The Zealots

I do not think that mere dozens, or hundreds, of higher chiefs are responsible for what has been committed. The SS troopers have displayed not only obedience, but a veritable zeal in murdering and torturing. Can the problem of the responsibility of the SS men be restricted to Hitler and a dozen of his henchmen? Can we forget the tens of thousands of commandants and Gestapo men, burglars from Rosenberg's battalions, the "agricultural sonderfuehrers," the punitive detachments?

The list of identified criminals is long. No doubt in their extremity they will attempt to plead orders as an excuse to shift the blame on to other heads, to play the downtrodden subordinate. But they will hardly fool anyone: events are too fresh in the memory of mankind.

Cruelty has demoralized not dozens, but hundreds of thousands of Germans. A German corporal describes in his diary the massacre of the inhabitants of a Byelorussian village. Two hundred men killed one thousand villagers. For economy, the children were to be killed without spending cartridges. The chief asked for volunteers, pointing out that this required people with strong nerves. There were found among the two hundred soldiers eleven "amateurs" who volunteered to kill the children by smashing their heads against tree trunks.

Thus an ordinary German battalion contained one hundred per cent rank and file executors of murder, and five per cent of sadists for whom the murder of children is a pleasure.

Our Concern Is for Our Children

The conscience of the peoples, as well as the desire to make the world safe, demands the isolation of such sadists, demands their punishment. The question will arise: are these 95 per cent of the soldiers who shot women and old people without protest responsible? In my mind there is no doubt regarding Germany's responsibility for the destruction and crimes wrought in Russia and the other occupied countries.

But inasmuch as we have to deal with the responsibility of hundreds of thousands, we are not interested so much in punishment as in the safety of our children. For a hundred and fifty years Germany has done her fighting on foreign territory. This has fostered not only a liking for war, but also cruelty. The Germans were trained to the idea of conquest and destruction of foreign property, as to a peculiar form of economic management.

During the first World War in France, I saw Germans retreating to the Hindenburg Line. They were not only burning factories, they were also cutting down the orchards. It was a kind of preliminary

sketch of the "desert zone" which they left behind them in the Smolensk and Orel Regions. The world must be protected against the recurrence of such things. The German appetite for bandit raids, for gallows and "murder vans," must be eradicated. German housewives must be made to regret that Kiev student girls were their housemaids.

I consider that the expiation of these crimes demands the creation of conditions under which the guilty may expiate their crimes by labor, and return to the standards of human society. The responsibility of those who executed death sentences, who participated in mass requisitions or exploited slave labor is indisputable. Responsibility means expiation, opportunity to make up for crimes. Responsibility is associated with the problem of safety for our country and the whole world.

It is not my business to discuss the organization of postwar Germany. But in speaking of the crimes of the Hitlerite army I wish to stress the need for protecting the world from the recurrence of such "campaigns." The re-education of men and peoples is a long affair. The time will come when the German people will really devote themselves to peaceful labor, and the spirit of international obligations will penetrate them.

But before us we now have not only brute rulers, but morally crippled subordinates. The blood of their victims demands that we protect the world from new Goerings, and from new anonymous lovers of other people's wheat or oil. That is the moral of *Documents Accuse*.

ON THE DNEIPER

(Continued from page four)

air. In a few seconds seven huge smoke-belching bonfires were ablaze on the emerald green. The tanks halted. The leading machines began to back up, keeping up fire. Those behind started to turn around, running into each other and losing what little formation they had. The leading machines were still backing out, covering the retreat of the rest. But two more of them caught fire, then the rest flinched and turned about in full flight. Behind the tanks ran the infantry . . . it never even tried to make a stand.

Then through the din of the cannonade came a distant "Hurrah!" It was our Infantry Guardsmen, counter-attacking.

One hour later our Chief of Staff placed pins with tiny red flags on three more heights on the map . . . west of the Dnieper. Three more giant strides have been made into the expanses of the Ukraine on the right bank of the Dnieper.

CANS FROM AMERICA

By O. Tishenko

"Cross my heart," said Boris to his grandmother, "that's real American canned food! We went into the kitchen ourselves to have a look . . . and they gave us one of the cans," he finished triumphantly.

The twins, Boris and Igor Simakin—both first-year junior high school students—received tickets for extra dinners, along with other children of service men, and every day after school they trooped off to a dining room near the airport subway station.

Hundreds of children gathered around the flower-decked tables in the large bright hall. Many had been sent here by the district doctor, others received tickets from their schools. These were the delicate children particularly in need of extra meals. In the dining room they were served a well-prepared three-course dinner. But today the dinner was especially good—they had noodle soup, canned pork and beans and sweetened condensed milk. Someone said that these were American products.

Boris and Igor, sitting at a table by the window, put down their spoons and listened attentively to their neighbor, a round-faced lad.

"I knew right away they were American," the boy said, not without pride. "They send them here straight from America in ships. And did you see the sugar? That's American cane sugar. And the smoked sausage and yellow honey are also from America."

"Maybe the potatoes we ate yesterday were also American," Igor said, a bit sceptically.

"Also American," said the boy, quite unabashed. "They were brought over in a boat, too . . . only that

was 200 years ago. I read that in a book myself."

After they finished dinner the boys made for the kitchen, where they saw rows of shining cans with black lettering. Boris wanted his brother to go home, but Igor said he was going to ask cook for one of the cans. "I'm sure he'll give it to me . . ." Igor asserted.

When the kind old cook heard Igor's plea, he gave him a can. Igor chose a large bronze-colored one and carried it home. The Simakin twins showed the can to their folks at home and to their friends, to illustrate the story of the delicious dinner.

That evening when the boys were in bed their mother sat down to sew on a soldier's tunic. The old grandmother, Maria Simakina, took the can and quietly left the room.

Nikolai Gorokhov, a neighbor of the Simakins and a former cashier, was now an invalid, living on a pension. For the past two years he had been studying English by himself.

"Look! America sent this to help the Soviet Union," said Maria Simakina, showing him the can. The invalid put on his glasses and taking the can, translated: "'Pork and beans. Ingredients: fat, beans, water and salt.' . . . They're from Chicago," he concluded.

"And they don't write anything on the can about how they're fighting," the old grandmother remarked, in her brusque manner.

"No, there's nothing about the war here," the invalid said, turning the can around in his hand.

HOSPITAL COUNCILS DISCUSS REHABILITATION OF WOUNDED

The third joint plenary session of Hospital Councils under the People's Commissariats of Health Protection of the USSR and the RSFSR recently met in Moscow for five days.

A report on surgery, describing the successes achieved in this field in wartime, was delivered by Assistant People's Commissar of Health Protection of the USSR Kolesnikov. Another report revealed the large number of hospitals, clinics and sanatoria for invalids of the Patriotic War which have been created in the country.

Scientific problems connected with the restoration of the health of Red Army men are being studied by the Central Traumatology and Orthopedics Institutes, the Institutes of Health Resorts, of Psychiatry,

and other research institutes. In the USSR the word invalid has lost its former meaning. Recuperative treatment has made it possible for thousands of persons to return to the ranks of the Red Army or to productive work.

The plenary session discussed extensively the problems of bullet and splinter injuries of large joints, curative physical culture in evacuation hospitals, and the treatment of ulcer lesions.

In summing up the work of the Plenary Session, the People's Commissar of Health Protection of the USSR Miterev particularly stressed that the discussion of these problems will find wide response in medical circles and will help medical workers to achieve still greater successes in the cure of the wounded.

Notes from Front and Rear

On October 21 the President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Kalinin presented the Order of Lenin and the Gold Hammer and Sickle Medal, together with the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, to People's Commissar of the Iron and Steel Industry Tevosyan and his deputy Korobov, in recognition of their special services in the field of production of high-grade metal for all kinds of arms, tanks, aircraft and ammunition under the difficult conditions of wartime.

Similar honors were conferred upon People's Commissar of the Coal Industry Vakhrushev for special services in raising the output of coal and in supplying fuel to the defense industry.

★

Attacking a German garrison in the Minsk Region, Soviet guerrillas recently blew up over 10 enemy blockhouses, broke into the garrison, destroyed several fuel and ammunition dumps and stores of spare parts for tanks and trucks, blew up the power station and a garage of staff buses and trucks, and wrecked the offices of the police administration, the district council and the bank. Fighting in the town lasted six hours. When it was over, 600 German officers, men and officials were dead. In addition the guerrillas captured several hundred rifles.

★

A complete Armenian translation of Longfellow's *HIAWATHA* has been issued by the Armenian State Publishing House. At the beginning of this century Longfellow's famous poem was translated in part by Ovanes Thumanyan, noted Armenian poet. These first excerpts aroused wide interest among readers. The complete translation now issued, made by the Armenian poet Hachi Dashtents, remains close to the original and retains the spirit of Longfellow's work. The volume is illustrated and contains a foreword by the critic Artashes Kalinjan.

★

The Polish Tadeusz Kosciuszko Division in the USSR has a Soldiers' Theater which is extremely popular. Early in June, actors and musicians fighting with the Division got together a small company and orchestra. They specialize in Polish songs and dances. Major General Berling, commander of the Polish Corps, takes a particular interest in the theater.

Four Messerschmitts and one Focke-Wulf shot down in one operational flight is the new record of Hero of the Soviet Union Boris Glinka. Returning from a flight over the Vorskla River, Glinka shot down a Focke-Wulf, and was then attacked by six Messerschmitts which dropped from a cloud bank. The pilot caught the leading plane in his sight and with one shell sent it crashing. The Germans then paired off and tried to catch his plane in a vertical maneuver. But Glinka sent another Messerschmitt hurtling to the ground. He had just enough gas left for a 10 or 15 minute flight and his ammunition was also running low. Veering sharply at top speed with his propeller he smashed to bits the wing of a third enemy fighter. The other three turned tail. Taking advantage of his edge in speed Glinka overtook them and with a shell sent a fourth plane to the earth.

★

A new film, *ONE FAMILY*, was recently completed by Grigori Alexandrov, Stalin Prize Winner and director of the well-known films *JOLLY FELLOWS*, *CIRCUS*, *VOLGA-VOLGA* and *TANYA*. *ONE FAMILY* was shot in Baku with the cooperation of the Azerbaijanian cinema workers. Many scenes were made in the Baku oilfields. The film is a series of stories with a common hero; one shows the friendship which binds the men at the front and the workers in the rear; others are tales of the heroism on the battlefields and the home front.

★

The People's Commissariat of Post and Telegraphs of the USSR is preparing an issue of postage stamps dedicated to Heroes of the Soviet Union. There will be five stamps in the series, the first dedicated to Alexander Matveyevich Matrosov, of the 254th Guards Infantry Regiment of the 56th Guards Infantry Division, whose name has been given to the regiment in which he served. Two stamps will be dedicated to girl snipers who died in battle against the German invaders. Other stamps will commemorate the pilot Safonov and a Red Army cavalryman who killed 927 Hitlerites, captured seven machine-guns and took 12 Germans prisoner.

★

On the day of its liberation the population of Belgorod was 150. It is now about 17,000. The people are working tirelessly to rebuild their city: factories, bakeries, dairies, a hospital, a drug store, post office, schools and a library are already functioning.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF MELITOPOL

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Tolbukhin:

After many days of stiff fighting the troops of the Fourth Ukrainian Front have crushed the enemy's fierce resistance, caused him heavy losses, and today, October 23, completely captured the town and railway station of Melitopol—the most important strategical center of the Germans' defense in the southern direction, which locked the approaches to the Crimea and the lower reaches of the Dnieper.

Thus the Germans' powerful defensive zone along the Molochnaya River, even more powerful than that they had on the Mius River, both as regards its fortification with anti-tank obstacles and its saturation with infantry, artillery and tanks, has been pierced in a decisive sector.

In the fighting for the liberation of the town of Melitopol the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Kreiser, Lieutenant General Kolomyets; fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Khryukin, and artillerymen under Lieutenant General of Artillery Krasnopevtsev.

Particular distinction was won by the 91st Infantry Division under Colonel Pashkov, the 126th Gorlovka Infantry Division under Major General Kazartsev, the 315th Infantry Division under Major General Kuropatenko, the 416th Taganrog Infantry Division under Major General Syzranov, the 118th Infantry Division



The Ukrainians joyfully welcome their liberators. Galya Zamorskaya pours a refreshing drink of milk for Sergeant Shevchenko and Corporal Kleshu

Radiophoto

under Colonel Dobrovolsky, the 347th Infantry Division under Major General Yukhimchuk, the 116th Fortified Area under Colonel Petryuk, the 206th Attack Air Division under Colonel Chumachenko, the 265th Fighter Air Division under Lieutenant Colonel Koryagin, the Eighth Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Kazachkov, the 125th Trench Mortar Regiment, under Major Kostoglot, the Eighth Independent Long-Range Reconnaissance Air Regiment under Colonel Sitkin, the 76th Attack Air Regiment of Guards under Major Semenov, the First Stalingrad Attack Air Division of Guards under Major General of Aviation Tokarev, the Eighth Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade under Colonel Gorbunov, the 1,105th Gun Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Sobolkin, the 204th Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Vedut, the 101st Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 67th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Major Vlasenko, the 22nd Independent Tank Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Barabash, the 12th Engineers Storm Brigade under Colonel Pavlov, the 121st Independent Engineers Battalion under Captain Rostovtsev.

To mark the victory achieved the name of "Melitopol" shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in fighting for the liberation of the town of Melitopol. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 91st Melitopol Infantry Division, the 315th Melitopol Infantry Division, the 118th Melitopol Infantry Division, the 347th Melitopol Infantry Division, the 116th Melitopol Fortified Area, the 206th Melitopol Attack Air Division, the 265th Melitopol Fighter Air Division, the Eighth Melitopol Independent Long-Range Reconnaissance Air Regiment, the 76th Melitopol Attack Air Regiment of Guards, the Eighth Melitopol Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade, the 1,105th Melitopol Gun Artillery Regiment, the 204th Melitopol Howitzer Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 101st Melitopol Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 125th Melitopol Trench Mortar Regiment, the 67th Melitopol Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 22nd Independent Melitopol Tank Regiment of Guards, the 12th Melitopol Engineers Storm Brigade, the Eighth Melitopol Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment and the 121st Melitopol Independent Engineers Battalion.

The 126th Gorlovka Infantry Division, the 416th Taganrog Infantry Division and the First Stalingrad Attack Air Division of Guards, which distinguished themselves for the second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Red Army men and officers who especially distinguished themselves in the fighting during the breakthrough of the Germans' fortified zone and the liberation of the town of Melitopol shall be recommended for the highest award—the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Today, October 23, at 10:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland salutes our gallant troops which liberated the town of Melitopol—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Melitopol.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, October 23, 1943

WOMEN GUERRILLA DOCTORS

A woman doctor who has been serving with the Orel guerrillas for the past two years has described how hospitals were organized in the woods. The medical bases had to be moved often, to evade the Germans. In the last phase of the battle the guerrilla hospital stood on floats in a swamp.

Serving with the Crimean guerrillas is a 23-year-old woman surgeon, Olga N. She joined them nearly two years ago, when the Red Army was compelled to evacuate all the Crimean towns except Sevastopol. It took her a long time to reach the guerrilla camp. She had to ford rushing mountain streams and make her way through steep mountain passes. At times her

only food was the grass she gathered by the way.

Upon arriving at the camp she set about organizing a hospital. She had only extremely primitive equipment at her disposal, and several times had to perform operations by the light of a home-made candle, with a pen-knife disinfected in the flames of a bonfire.

Helped by other girl guerrillas, she gathered medicinal herbs. One day when they were gathering herbs in the forest they came across a wounded naval officer, who after the fall of Sevastopol had set out to find the guerrillas. They carried him to the hospital and nursed him back to health.

Great Tank Battles in Krivoi Rog Direction

KRIVOI ROG DIRECTION, October 25.—The first breach in the fortifications of the "Eastern wall" was made chiefly by our infantry, with the powerful support of artillery and the famous Guardsmen mortars. Only comparatively small tank forces participated in the breach. But when by the end of the day the main fortifications were smashed, the big tank formations joined in the action. The mailed fist came down upon the Germans with all its weight. Our tanks quickly crushed the last defense zones of the enemy's fortified area—then the steel armadas poured irresistibly through the breach into the expanses of the Ukraine on the right bank of the Dnieper.

Following the development of these operations on the staff map, we could see how the tank columns were splitting the German defenses and rushing to the southwest, sweeping aside the enemy tank and infantry units which tried to stem their tide. On a map drawn to larger scale one could see how this movement in turn divided into numerous smaller sharp wedges which by various roads by-passed the

German strongpoints, joined again in their rear, and then left it to the successive tank echelons to do the mopping up of the surrounded German garrisons, while they themselves continued their irresistible sweeping movement.

Following in the wake of the advancing tanks we also saw the results of the fighting. Some of the villages were completely demolished. They had been the scene of hot fighting, repeatedly changing hands, and the Germans had time to raze them. Others, such as Annovka Likhova, Poss Popelnastoye and others are nearly intact. Even the windowpanes have not been shattered, though these villages also lay on the main road of the German retreat. Here the Germans had other things to think of than arson; here they had to think mainly of saving their skins. They fled before the tanks, abandoning not only their loot but even their personal arms. Near Krasnyi Kut village we saw a German battery ready to fire, with ammunition cases accurately stacked and camouflaged with greenery. It was only necessary to load and fire the



The Red Army rolls across the Dnieper

Radiophoto

guns, but they were never fired . . . not a single shell.

The farther runs the road of our offensive the more numerous becomes our booty. We come upon cart trains with grain but without horses—the cart drivers fled on them. At a roadside stands a wagon with ammunition, to which two melancholy Ukrainian oxen are hitched. Further we see the command car stuck in the mud, with the officer's overcoat lying on the seat. Then a column of ammunition trucks. Over the road in groups and singly come people who smile at every car they meet. These are residents who were being driven to slavery but at the last moment were liberated by our troops.

However, it would be wrong to describe the heroic battles of our tankists as an unchallenged forward movement. The Germans realize perfectly the great danger which this breakthrough represents for them. They resist furiously; they have forces—and large forces at that. They counter-attack incessantly in an effort to cut the communications of our advancing troops, to cut off our wedge at its base. But after every such attempt they bounce off, leaving their smashed and burning tanks on the field. Those German units which try to carry out the orders of their command, "Not a step backward," share the fate of the 23rd Tank Division, which has been caught in our steel pincers. The commander of this division was killed, and our tankists brought to headquarters, together with the staff documents, his cap, his personal papers and shoulder-straps.

The deeper our tanks penetrate into the German defenses the more obvious become the traces of the Germans' panicky flight. "Your tanks have performed a miracle; they appeared before us like

ghosts," says war prisoner Captain Georg Hofmann. "We had men, we had arms—too many arms, even—which you have now captured. But still we failed to hold out. And just because of your damned suddenness. I, an old officer, should be ashamed to speak of this, but I must admit that you have dealt us a beating and you did it according to all the rules."

He is seconded by tankist Hartman: "Your tanks must have been charmed. Our shells bounced off them like nuts."

At Zheltaya station our tankists captured a large quantity of gas, refueled and continued their triumphant march into the steppes of the Ukraine. Naturally the tankists are the main heroes of this raid, but their actions would have hung in the air if they had not been coordinated with the actions of other arms. Our amazing infantry shouldered the nearly impossible task of piercing the German defense—and then in the most difficult conditions advanced and consolidated the territory captured by tanks. Our artillerymen pulverized the fortifications of the "Eastern wall" and then beat off furious counter-attacks at the flanks of the wedge. Our aviation, especially the attack and fighter craft, won absolute supremacy in the air and protected the crossings over the Dnieper for our tanks.

The heroic combination of skill and the efforts of all arms, directed by able generals, won the day in this great tank raid, and those who witnessed this gigantic battle will forever remember these October battles—a powerful demonstration of the strength and mastery of our armies, which have won supremacy over the Germans in every branch of arms.

The battle beyond the Dnieper continues.

Plenty of Pilav

By S. Radzinsky

Not long ago a train arrived in Moscow from Uzbekistan, in Central Asia. It consisted of 30 cars laden with food—a gift from Uzbek collective farmers to men at the front. With the train came a delegation of five persons: one of Uzbekistan's leaders, a worker from an aircraft factory, the chairman of a collective farm, a working girl from a parachute-making factory and a poet.

The poet's name was Hamid Alimidjan, a young man with almond-shaped eyes, nurtured on the poetry of Omar Khayyam, Firdousi and Navoi, and at the same time a student of Russian literature, of the poetry of Pushkin and Mayakovsky. He told me they had 1,000 tons of rice with them.

"They'll be able to make plenty of pilav," he laughed.

"You know, we Uzbeks are very fond of pilav, and are enthusiastic propagandists for our national dish. But, besides rice, pilav requires juicy meat and sweet raisins, and we are bringing plenty of both.

"And we haven't forgotten the sweet course—dried fruits, khalva and kuraga. And wine—no good Uzbek meal is complete without wine, and we've got 30,000 liters here, besides 10,000 liters of strong Uzbek vodka. Then there are sausages, biscuits and canned foods.

"Our countrymen have also entrusted us with 30 gold watches, to be presented to Uzbek Red Army men who have distinguished themselves in action. Each has the recipient's name engraved on it. We also have dozens of silver cigarette cases with inscriptions

saying that they are being presented to distinguished airmen, distinguished tankmen, distinguished scouts, and so on.

"Our collective farmers have given some ancient Uzbek daggers as gifts to the men. Turgun Tashmatov, who is chairman of a collective farm, has brought with him an Uzbek dagger inherited from his ancestors, and he is determined he's going to kill a German with it. We have tried to tell him he's

not a Red Army man, nor even a guerrilla, and that it's hardly likely he'll get a chance to go into action. However, he won't listen. He says he'll be ashamed to return to his native village if he can't say he's accounted for at least one of the enemy."

The aircraft worker's name was Ubai Salikhadjaev. The parachute maker, Halima Tashmuhamedova, was very beautiful and merry, with wonderful gray eyes and long black hair.

150 SOVIET WAR PRISONERS BURNED ALIVE IN SUMY

By Captain Alexander Shabanov

On March 3, 1943 a German passenger car was seen to drive up to the former Frunze Artillery School in Sumy. Two German army surgeons and four officers stepped out of it. They walked up to the vegetable storehouse, which had been built there a long time ago. It was a cellar dug in the ground, 15 meters long by eight meters wide and three meters deep. It was roofed by a thick layer of earth supported on solid timber struts.

The Germans examined the vegetable store and seemed satisfied. They ordered some soldiers to strew the floor with a yellowish powder which they had brought in four cans, each holding about 20 to 25 kilograms. After this a sentry was placed at the storehouse and the surgeons and officers left.

About an hour later three trucks arrived, crowded with Soviet war prisoners. The German escort quickly herded them into the vegetable store, around which a cordon of German soldiers was thrown. No person living in the residential settlement attached to the Artillery School was allowed to approach. However there were eye-witnesses who observed that the Germans lit a fuse which led into the vegetable store. After this they heard several small explosions and the dry bark of tommy guns. The smell of burning sulphur spread over the surrounding area.

For a whole day the Germans carefully guarded the approaches to the store, and only when the roof collapsed were the sentries removed. The fire continued for several days and passersby saw thin wreaths of pungent smoke rising from the mass of collapsed earth.

In September, 1943, the Red Army entered Sumy. The sounds of the receding battle had scarcely died down in the distance when measures were taken to restore order in the town, which had been wrecked and disfigured by the Germans. Then the full horror of the crime perpetrated by the Germans on the grounds of the Frunze Artillery School was revealed. The secret they had hoped to bury beneath the ruins of the vegetable store was brought to light. Step by step eye-witnesses and a commission of Red Army

representatives reconstructed the story of the massacre.

The excavations and the medical examination revealed that not less than 150 Red Army men had been asphyxiated with sulphur fumes and then burned alive in the ensuing fire. Among the piles of charred bones 11 skulls were found with bullet holes through them—probably of men who had tried to escape from the fiery hell. Crutches, splints and fragments of scorched bandages testified that among the prisoners were wounded men. There were signs that the legs of some of the victims were bound with rope, to preclude all possibility of escape. Here, too, were discovered the four cans in which rifle powder had been brought, and from the fumes and flames of which 150 Soviet war prisoners perished. The charred personal articles found showed that all victims belonged to the Red Army.

Several identity papers had escaped destruction. They established that among the martyrs were Private Ivan Petrov, 20, of Krasnosulinsk District, Rostov Region; Private Ignat Krivosheyev, 34, a collective farmer from the village of Yuzkul, Zaporozhye Region, and Private Shishkin. Other victims were similarly identified.

Improved Railway Transport

The Moscow-Leningrad railway has almost doubled its car loadings during the past two months, and saved 13,500 tons of coal in the second quarter of this year. This line has received the Railway Competition Banner for third time in succession. Many of its workers have been decorated for their part in the defense of Leningrad.

Three fast trains were run on time on the Moscow-Ryazan trip by an engineer who used only wood as fuel. On the third trip he saved 10 of the 26 cubic meters of wood previously used, and is to make longer runs by the same means.

Approximately 10,000 men and women railway workers have been awarded orders and medals for bravery and skill in their work during the war.

RESEARCHES IN NUTRITION

By Professor Olga Molchanova

The Soviet Government recently awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor to Olga Molchanova, Professor and Doctor of Medical Sciences, in recognition of her outstanding work in the physiology of nutrition. Professor Molchanova, who is 57 years of age, is Chief of the Department of Physiology and one of the directors of the Central Institute of Nutrition of the People's Commissariat of Public Health of the USSR.

The last 20 years of my life have been devoted to the study of the physiology of nutrition. This most interesting branch of general physiology appealed to me greatly because its results may be quickly applied in practical life. This is especially true in our country, where so much attention is paid to the question of rational nutrition for the population. The subject of physiology also appealed to me because its study necessitated research in various parts of the country. I have headed expeditions to the Pamirs, the Kara-Kum Desert and Lake Ladoga.

Diets for High Altitudes

In the Pamirs a comprehensive study was made of the nutritive value of food supplied to the frontier troops. We determined the influence of high altitudes on the state of the organism and its metabolism, and were able to suggest new varieties of foods for frontier troops and for the population in these high regions. The consumption of large quantities of vegetables was indicated. Persons living in high altitudes suffer from lack of appetite, but under proper diet regain the desire for food. The study of nutrition in high altitudes also led to the introduction of a special diet for high-altitude pilots.

As a result of the expedition to the Kara-Kum we were able to determine the influence of high temperatures on the human organism. Before leaving for the desert a great deal of preliminary study was done in certain Moscow factories where it is necessary to work in high temperatures. We have now developed a diet which assures the highest assimilation of foods and does not require much water.

During our work in the Kara-Kum we traveled as far as possible into the heart of the desert by automobile, then made various trips on foot, taking along camp laboratories. The people under observation were weighed regularly and a check made on their assimilation of food. We even succeeded in collecting all the perspiration of the subjects for 24 hours, by an interesting though tedious method which we were the first to work out. This enabled us to determine the losses of the organism through the skin as

well as the kidneys, in conditions of high temperatures.

In the beginning I found it difficult to endure the heat. My temperature would rise as high as 102.2. But this was only during the earlier period of acclimatization; later I became accustomed to it and withstood the winds and heat of the desert with comparative ease.

Our expedition to Lake Ladoga was of great value. A study was made of the food used by our Red Navy men serving on fast cutters; I accompanied them on a number of trips and ascertained the effect of the rolling and pitching of the boats on the human organism. A great deal of energy is expended under such conditions, and if the food normally required need contain no more than 3,000 calories, this amount should be increased to 4,000 or 4,500 calories under conditions of rolling and pitching. We were able to suggest the proper diet for the crews of these boats.

For more than 10 years I have been studying problems connected with diets for children. A certain amount of albumen is necessary for the proper development of a child. As a result of our investigations we have been able to establish the proper amounts for children of various ages. Children's institutions now know that youngsters between the ages of one and three years should be given about three-and-one-half grams of albumen daily per kilogram of body weight; those from three to seven not less than three grams, while older children should have two to two-and-one-half grams.

Feeding Sick Children

During the past few years our institutes have been studying the problems of diets for children suffering from various infectious diseases such as scarlet fever, dysentery and typhoid fever. There is a common belief that children suffering from scarlet fever should not be given foods containing albumen. We have proved that albumen is harmless, but that what is necessary for a proper diet is a correct proportion of various foods.

In our laboratories we have worked out a regime for feeding sick children which accelerates their recovery. At the model Children's Hospital where we carry on our practical work, cases of death among child patients have become extremely rare.

The war has raised many food problems. There is less fat and meat; as a result the organism receives less albumen. Our Institute has begun researches

with the aim of developing new sources of food. Good practical results have been obtained in the assimilation of oil-cakes, which contain up to 40 per cent of albumen, and mushrooms, which are rich in nitrogenous matter.

We have also taught public dining rooms to use food products to better advantage by correct proportioning: for example, millet contains only a low-grade albumen, but when combined with vegetables and other cereals and with yeast and potatoes, it will help to furnish the organism with a sufficient quantity of high-grade albumen.

The study of yeast should be regarded as one of the most important researches in wartime. In this field we have achieved excellent results. Yeast contains large quantities of albumen and the various

vitamins of the B group. Thus the addition of yeast enriches food and improves its quality. Yeast raises the tone of the organism and causes a feeling of satiation. The scientific researches of the Central Institute of Nutrition were the basis upon which the Government ordered the manufacture of yeast and its introduction in public dining rooms.

Since the war I have worked on the preparation of a special condensed food for parachute troops. I have also developed condensed food-stuffs for cases of jaw wounds, since these wounded are unable to chew and are usually fed a thin porridge. Our condensed foods contain such cooked products as meats and cereals, dried milk and powdered eggs.

I am now continuing my researches on the problem of discovering additional varieties of foods for the population.

Siberian Coal Miners Increase Output

Great changes have taken place in the Kuznetsk Coal Basin in Siberia in the past year. The average daily output of coal in September, 1943, as compared with August, 1942, showed an increase of 6,320 tons. The Kuznetsk Coal Basin combine fulfilled its plan both in August and September, 1943. The Kemerovo coal combine fulfilled its September plan by 100.7 per cent and its output of coking coal by 103 per cent.

The miners of the Kaganovich coal combine produced 15,000 tons of coal above schedule in August, and 13,500 tons in September. During the past year this combine increased its daily yield by 1,623 tons.

The Stalin combine miners have increased their output by 1,595 tons per day. Special attention is paid to increasing the yield of coking coals, to provide for the growing demands of the metallurgical industry. The average daily output of high-grade coal in the Molotov combine during the same period increased by 54.5 per cent and in the Kaganovich coal combine by 80 per cent.

The Kapitalnaya coking coal mine doubled its yield. The highest results were obtained by the Baidayevka mine, which increased its output of coking coal several times.

The Government greatly assists the Kuznetsk Coal Basin, supplying all necessary manpower and equipment and taking all possible care of the welfare of the miners. Their wages have been raised considerably and their food rations increased in 1943, with additional meals given to basic categories of under-

ground trades occupied in the coking coal mines. The network of canteens and stores has been extended. In the Prokopievsk mines alone 16 dining rooms were added during the year. The acreage of the auxiliary farms of the coal industry was increased by 41 per cent for potato crops, 42 per cent for vegetables and 23 per cent for grain and cereals. The total area of individual gardens was increased by 15,000 acres.

A large army of new workers has arrived in the Kuznetsk Basin, the greater part of whom are young people seeing this industry for the first time in their lives. The training of newcomers is carried out mainly by the highly-qualified workers. Quite a number of the younger workers compete successfully with the more experienced miners.

Alexander Golubtsov, a miner working in a shaft of the Stalin combine, accomplished his year's plan within eight months. To celebrate the liberation of his home town, Gorlovka, in the Donbas, Golubtsov undertook to fulfill his scheduled daily output sevenfold, and is succeeding.

A youth, Vorosh, of the Prokopievsk combine, called on the young miners of the Basin to produce 100 trainloads of coal above the scheduled amount, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Komsomol. This met with hearty response and many trainloads above schedule were produced during this campaign. Vladimir Kovzel, a miner in the Kizel mines in the Urals, inspired by the Red Army's victorious advance, over-fulfilled his program in one day by 41 times.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF OCTOBER 22, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

A battle of decisive importance is raging on the right bank of the Dnieper southeast and south of Kremenchug. It is a battle for the liberation of the Ukraine west of the Dnieper—a difficult task which the Red Army has begun to carry out with success. After Soviet troops had crossed the Dnieper and breached strongly-fortified German positions on the so-called "Eastern wall," southeast of Kremenchug, the Red Army's summer offensive entered a new strategic stage.

After breaching the German fortifications southeast of Kremenchug along a front of 45 kilometers and a depth of 25 kilometers on October 17, the Red Army, exploiting its success, captured the important railway junction of Pyatikhatka on October 19. Thereby it cut the railway communications of the Germans between Dniepropetrovsk and Kiev. As a result of the loss of Pyatikhatka the Germans are now compelled to send supplies and reinforcements for their Dniepropetrovsk group in a roundabout way, via Znamenka and Krivoi Rog along the railway line Znamenka-Nikolayev.

The Red Army is continuing to widen the wedge it has driven in the German defenses and is pushing southward and southeast in the direction of the railway communications of the Dniepropetrovsk group of German troops, which run to Krivoi Rog and Apostolovo. Pyatikhatka is 60 kilometers north of Krivoi Rog, an important railway center of the Ukraine west of the Dnieper.

The distance from Dniepropetrovsk to Krivoi Rog is 135 kilometers and to Apostolovo, another important railway junction, 140 kilometers. Only a distance of 35 kilometers lies between Krivoi Rog and Apostolovo, the two main railway junctions through which run the lines from Dniepropetrovsk, Zaporozhye and Nikopol southeast to the Black Sea Coast and the ports of Nikolayev and Kherson, and also in the direction of the southwestern Ukraine.

The spearhead of the Soviet wedge has reached a number of inhabited places 30 kilometers north of Krivoi Rog. On the right flank the wedge of Soviet troops crossed the Inguletz River and captured Petrovo, 30 kilometers east of the railway line Znamenka-Nikolayev.

On the left flank, Soviet troops captured a number of places on the banks of the Dnieper, north of Dniep-

rodzerzhinsk, an important industrial center on the right bank.

The battle southeast and south of Kremenchug is therefore being fought on a large area along a 100-kilometer front between the Dnieper River and the Inguletz.

The German high command attaches great importance to the positions on the Dnieper, which the Germans refer to as the "defense line of the German home," for west of the Dnieper there are no river lines presenting as serious a barrier as the Dnieper. German troops are fighting fiercely to halt the Red Army's advance. The Germans are continually moving up fresh reserves to the area south of Kremenchug, where in recent days there appeared forces hurriedly transferred from France and Holland and even from Denmark. The Germans also massed large air forces in this area. But the Soviet air force, giving successful support to the ground troops, engages the Germans in aerial combats, inflicting heavy losses on Hitler's Luftwaffe. In one day, October 21, Soviet fliers fighting south of Kremenchug shot down 52 German planes.

The breakthrough of the German fortified zone southeast of Kremenchug is of considerable strategic importance, for in the present stage of the offensive in the southern direction Soviet troops threaten the communications of the Dniepropetrovsk-Melitopol group of the German army and the German positions south of Dniepropetrovsk and Zaporozhye.

Continuing the offensive, the Red Army has thwarted all the plans of the Germans, who expected to establish themselves in "winter quarters" on the Dnieper.

TASS STATEMENT

A Geneva correspondent of the Reuters Agency has transmitted a dispatch according to which Soviet parachutists were allegedly landed recently in all Balkan countries with the purpose of finding out how the population of these countries would react to "the establishment of a Pan-Slavic bloc."

TASS is authorized to state that the assertions about the landing of Soviet parachutists in the Balkans are without foundation.

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75

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF DNEIROPETROVSK AND DNEIPRODZERZHINSK

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Malinovsky:

The troops of the Third Ukrainian Front, with the decisive assistance from the flank of the troops of the Second Ukrainian Front under the command of Army General Konev, continuing the successful offensive operations on the right bank of the Dneiper today, October 25, carried by storm the regional center of the Ukraine, the city of Dnepropetrovsk, and the city of Dneprodzerzhinsk (Kamenskoye)—the most



Guards Captain Kuryatnik, Hero of the Soviet Union (center) brings a newspaper to his friends of a long-range bomber unit—Guards Pilot Junior Lieutenant Korostelev (right) and Guards Navigator Lieutenant Avdeyev

important industrial centers in the south of our country, and large German centers of resistance in the bend of the Dnieper River.

In the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Dniepropetrovsk and Dnieprodzerzhinsk, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Major General Glagolev, Major General Kosobutsky and Major General Alferov; fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Sudets, and artillerymen under Lieutenant General of Artillery Nedelin and Major General of Artillery Alekseyenko.

The following troops especially distinguished themselves:

The 152nd Infantry Division under Colonel Kulizhsky, the 236th Infantry Division under Colonel Fessin, the 195th Novomoskovsk Infantry Division under Colonel Suchkov, the 353rd Infantry Division under Major General Kolchuk, the Sixth Red Banner Orel Infantry Division under Major General Grechany, the Third Long-Range Air Division of Guards under Colonel Brovko, the 11th Fighter Air Division of Guards under Colonel Osadchi, the 58th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Lineko, the 437th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Major Borodko, the Fourth Pontoon and Bridge Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Balandin, the Fifth Pontoon and Bridge Brigade under Lieutenant Colonel Nominas, the Eighth Mechanized Pontoon and Bridge Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Korzhov, the 518th Gun Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Mironov, the 1,114th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Golubchikov, the 109th Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards under Major Kostenko, the 51st Engineers Sapper Brigade under Colonel Vizerov and the 52nd Independent Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Shkadov.

To mark the victory achieved the names of Dniepropetrovsk and Dnieprodzerzhinsk shall be conferred upon the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Dniepropetrovsk and Dnieprodzerzhinsk. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The 152nd Dniepropetrovsk Infantry Division, the 236th Dniepropetrovsk Infantry Division, the Third Dniepropetrovsk Long-Range Air Division of Guards, the 11th Dniepropetrovsk Fighter Air Division of Guards, the 58th Dniepropetrovsk Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the Fourth Dniepropetrovsk Pontoon and Bridge Brigade, the Fifth Dniepropetrovsk Pontoon and Bridge Brigade, the Eighth Dniepropetrovsk Mechanized Pontoon and Bridge Regiment, the 518th Dniepropetrovsk Gun Artillery Regiment, the 1,114th Dniepropetrovsk Anti-Aircraft Artillery Regiment, the 353rd Dnieprodzerzhinsk Infantry Division, the 437th Dnieprodzerzhinsk Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 109th Dnieprodzerzhinsk Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 51st Dnieprodzerzhinsk Engineers Sapper Brigade and the 52nd Dnieprodzerzhinsk Independent Tank Regiment.

The 195th Novomoskovsk Infantry Division and the Sixth Orel Red Banner Infantry Division, which distinguished themselves for the second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, October 25, at 10:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland salutes our gallant troops which liberated the towns of Dniepropetrovsk and Dnieprodzerzhinsk—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For splendid combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the towns of Dniepropetrovsk and Dnieprodzerzhinsk.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland.

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, October 25, 1943

A MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GUERRILLAS

In one day Fedor Dubrovsky, commander of a large guerrilla formation in Byelorussia, received three honors—the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, the Order of the Red Star and the rank of Major General. Dubrovsky is a Byelorussian who before the war directed a district machine and tractor station in the Vitebsk Region. When the Hitlerites occupied the district in 1941, he fled to the forest

and with 38 collective farmers formed a guerrilla detachment.

In two years this detachment has grown into a force which controls three large districts of the Region. In these districts the farmers pay no taxes to the Hitlerite authorities, do not turn in their agricultural produce and do not obey the orders on mobilization for work in Germany.

BREACHING THE "EASTERN WALL"

By Boris Polevoi

When Soviet troops launched the offensive from Kharkov in the direction of the Dnieper, our reconnaissance pilots and scouts reported that the Germans were building strong fortifications on the heights and in the villages on the right bank of the Dnieper. Thousands of people driven there at the point of the bayonet were engaged in the construction of those strongholds. Everything pointed to the fact that the Germans were determined to make a desperate stand at the Dnieper, should they fail at other points.

The Germans called their defenses in this sector the "Eastern wall," and in fact they were exceptionally formidable and appeared inaccessible. But there is nothing impossible for daring men who know their jobs and are eager to smash their enemy. When the Germans were hurled back to the right bank in the middle reaches of the Dnieper, small groups of fearless soldiers landed on the enemy side under cover of darkness, climbed the steep slopes and entrenched along a stretch of ground 40 kilometers in length. Fifteen such points were established, and the crossing began.

This was the most difficult part of the operation—accumulating the forces for the extension of the bridgeheads. Fierce battles ensued, during which some regiments had to repel as many as 10 and even 15 counter-attacks, and when the success of the day's fighting was measured in dozens of meters of captured ground. The advantage was certainly with the Germans; they had very good communication lines, a good circular road and well-organized defenses. Their forces were numerically superior in infantry, guns and tanks, and they had transferred from outlying airdromes and from Western Europe strong bomber units.

The Red Army held small patches of ground subject to mortar fire. Their communication lines depended upon the narrow river crossings, liable to be blown up at any moment. The men who landed had nothing but their rifles and machine-guns. Only on the second or third day were we able to bring over guns, and still later tanks. Despite all these obstacles, the little stretches of land continued to grow, and the Germans—counter-attacking fiercely and incessantly, and losing heavily in manpower and materials—were forced to gradually fall back.

The German command rushed strong reinforcements against the Soviet bridgeheads. They brought up divisions from the deep rear, from other sectors of the front, and even from Western Europe, employing all means of transport, including aircraft. Hardly a day passed without our scouts coming back with prisoners of a battalion or regiment or division just arrived in this sector. The prisoners told how they

were packed in trucks, rushed to the front and hurled into battle on the run. They said the officers emphasized that the fate of their homes was being decided here, and demanded that they fight to the last man and die if need be, but hold the Dnieper.

The Germans died by the hundreds and thousands. The liberated villages on the western bank are strewn with German dead, with dozens of disabled tanks, guns and trucks. The day came when the Soviet command decided to deal the decisive blow. After fierce artillery preparation, Soviet units went into action, crushing everything in their path. Every branch of the service—air force, artillery, tanks and heroic infantry—took part in the battle, which continued non-stop for 48 hours.

The superior tactics and foresight of the Soviet Command soon became evident. On the first day of fighting a junction was effected between the various landing parties and our front line, which now stretched for 45 kilometers. A powerful springboard was formed, enabling strong Red Army units to maneuver. Toward the close of the first day's battle Soviet troops captured several important strongpoints in the enemy's "Eastern wall," some of which were on the main highway. The Germans were thus deprived of their ability to transfer troops from one sector of the front to another.

On the second day Soviet units dealt the Germans a few more crushing blows and pierced their second and third line of defenses. A number of desperate tank battles ensued, during which the Germans lost over 50 machines and Soviet units drove wedges into the enemy positions. The Germans counter-attacked fiercely, but with every hour their assaults weakened. One could feel that the strain of two days of incessant fighting was wearing out the enemy; in some sectors the Germans passed over to the defense, making no attempt at counter-action. In view of this, Soviet tanks attacked, dislodged the Germans from their last strongpoints and pierced the enemy defenses for many kilometers.

The fortifications of the "Eastern wall" were well-conceived, evidently with a view to lengthy defense. Trenches, dugouts and blockhouses were constructed on surrounding heights and in populated localities, with numerous pillboxes and gun emplacements, which enabled the defenders to maneuver with the forces at their disposal. Their defenses were 25 kilometers in depth. They were really strong—but toward the end of the second day Soviet units broke through on a wide sector, and our mobile tank units and motorized infantry developed their operations on the broad expanses of the right bank of the Ukraine.

Melitopol a Graveyard for the Germans

By M. Shur

The following article was written at the front during the long and bloody fighting which ended in the capture of Melitopol:

Captured Germans say that Hitler ordered them to hold Melitopol at any cost. They were watched by officers filled with fear, malice and desperation. Prisoners were dragged by force from cellars, pulled out of attics, dugouts and trenches. There was nowhere for them to escape; to retreat meant to be stopped by a bullet from their second-line troops or to be lynched by the Gestapo. But the large number of prisoners taken is not the most typical feature of the street fighting in Melitopol.

When Major Barabash's tankmen tore into the center of the city and were met by intensive gunfire from the German barricades, Soviet artillery opened a barrage to suppress the enemy anti-tank weapons. Meanwhile our tanks coursed along the streets and through courtyards, smashing countless nests of enemy tommy gunners. This action continued furiously for a long time. Skilfully evading the enemy's gunfire Soviet tankmen—all seasoned and tough fighters—combed the city blocks so thoroughly that German tommy gunners were killed by the hundreds.

An infantry commander who directed the battle in the southern outskirts kept repeating, "I've never seen so many dead Germans." In the Melitopol battles the German troops are going through a "meat-grinder" more terrible than any they have met elsewhere. Hundreds of Germans are killed daily—old and young, veterans and rookies. Here among the heaps of decaying bodies can be found those who not long ago were on the shores of the Kerch Straits. After surviving the battle of the Taman Peninsula they found their graves in Melitopol. They were brought here by trains rolling at express speed and then herded in a forced march to positions on the Molochnaya River.

Street fighting in Melitopol is fierce and stubborn; large forces are participating on both sides. In the last few days strong winds were blowing, raising heavy screens of sandy dust. When the battle for the city began and a battalion under Major Kachalov and Captain Skoryi broke into the southern outskirts, the wind, dust and sand blinded the men. They wrapped their rifles and tommy guns in their raincoats, but this did not help, and their weapons became full of sand. Then they attacked with hand grenades.

We traveled along the right bank of the Molochnaya

River. The extensive traffic here crosses over many rapidly-built pontoon bridges. Endless files of carts and vehicles move along the river banks. In deep bomb craters and trenches Soviet anti-aircraft gunners stand at the ready. The field artillery is also stationed here; its batteries hammer away at the western outskirts of the city, at the gardens where the German tanks are concentrated. Battles are already raging beyond the center of the city. Just now the Cathedral was taken and Cathedral Square cleared.

Riflemen under officer Pashkov are attacking the enemy in the direction of the Children's Home. The Germans executed 175 families there last night.

In the center of the city German tanks and self-propelled guns are counter-attacking. "How many tanks are there?" shouts a commander into the telephone, from his post on the outskirts of the city.

"Sixteen," is the reply.

"When you've repelled them, report . . ." the commander orders. Two minutes later comes a report . . . "Two tanks destroyed . . . standing cross-wise on street. Rest turned back." The Germans, seeing there is nothing their tanks can do in this street, turn them about and approach the center of the city from the western side. Soviet guns instantly fill the air with powerful volleys. Hundreds of shells whine overhead. Behind us we hear the roar of the Guardsmen trench-mortar crews . . . and up into the air, for God knows how many times today, soar the Stormoviks. Fighting flares up in adjacent streets.

At the approaches to Melitopol, on the day the attack began, a young Red Army private named Osmanyanyan, a native of Armenia, who was about to receive his baptism of fire, said to the veteran fighter Soko Lovst: "I swear on my honor that we will enter Melitopol!" The two men embraced and went into battle side by side. Osmanyanyan rushed headlong into the fighting, killing Germans with his tommy gun. Bumping into an enemy machine gunner, he smashed the Nazi's skull with the butt of his gun and raced on.

The furious resistance of the Germans did not come as a surprise. They have no place to retreat. The city has already become a huge graveyard for the German army. It is a battle of annihilation for the Hitlerites. Every officer and man of the Soviet forces firmly believes that the city will be taken.

POLISH TROOPS IN THE USSR GO INTO ACTION

By P. Lidov

A few days ago Polish troops went into action on the Soviet-German front. The Kosciuszko Division, strengthened by additional artillery and mortar units, was assigned the task of breaking through a line of German defenses.

The long-awaited day had come. Polish soldiers at last faced their age-long German foes, to exact vengeance for the devastation of their native land and the destruction of Warsaw, for the murder of thousands of their countrymen and women. The order to advance was greeted with great enthusiasm.

"God is above us and Poland in front of us!" was the slogan of the day. The officers had spent the night before the attack with their men. The divisional chaplain, Franciszek Kupsz, was in the trenches, blessing the men and praying with them for victory.

The assault was preceded by powerful preparation. Polish and Soviet gun crews worked side by side to pave the way for the infantry. Calm and unperturbed, Major General Berling directed the action from an observation post under incessant enemy fire. Finally he ordered the infantry to advance. The Polish soldiers rose as one man and under a hail of bullets and shells rushed to engage the Germans at close quarters. Soviet artillerymen watching the attack applauded the valor of their Polish comrades-in-arms. The chaplain stood on the parapet of a trench and blessed the men going over the top.

The enemy defenses were forced all along the sector held by the Polish Division. Troops led by Officers Czerwinski, Piotrowski and others made their way inside the German defense zone, and Polish tankmen driving excellent Russian machines drove into the gap thus formed. These were men of the "Heroes of the Westerplatte" unit, named for the gallant Poles who in 1939 fought against the Nazis on the Westerplatte sandbar, which covered the entrance to the port of Gdynia. Armed only with small arms the heroes of the Westerplatte held the German onslaught from the sea, air and land. Now, with the aid of their Russian neighbor, Polish soldiers fighting the Nazis are equipped with the best of modern arms, including heavy artillery, first class tanks and fast planes.

After breaking through the enemy defenses the Poles took several villages and captured prisoners and booty. The Germans brought up reinforcements and counter-attacked, supported by tanks, self-propelled guns of the Ferdinand type and bombers. In two days of fighting about 1,200 enemy sorties over the



Wanda Wasilewska, Polish author and President of the Union of Polish Patriots, with Major General Sigmund Berling, Commander of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko Division in the USSR, hear the troops take the oath to liberate Poland and defeat Germany



Men and officers of the Kosciuszko Division. Their slogan: "There is no return to Poland except across the battlefield!"

Radiophotos

Poles' positions were registered. The battle was unusually fierce. Major General Berling's coolness and confidence at critical moments gave courage and verve to his men. Numerous instances of outstanding gallantry were reported.

We heard the story of a true Polish patriot—Podporucznik Czarkowski, who made his way from German-occupied Poland to take part in the struggle against the Nazis. He had hoped to join General Anders' army, but was bitterly disillusioned. He could not remain with those who engaged in empty talk and intrigues instead of actual fighting. When the League of Polish Patriots announced the formation of the Kosciuszko Division, Czarkowski was one of the first to enlist. This time he made no mistake. He achieved what he had been striving for: armed struggle against the mortal foe. Czarkowski fought with great bravery. At the climax of the battle he received a fatal stomach wound from a shell splinter.

During one of the counter-attacks a handful of

soldiers led by the veteran Polish Uhlan, Porucznik Adolf Wysocki, was surrounded by Germans. Although wounded, Wysocki fought back furiously until his ammunition was exhausted, then with his last cartridge he shot himself rather than fall into the hands of the Nazis.

Colonel Sikorski's personal courage was a source of inspiration to his men. Polish soldiers gave numerous instances of patriotism and love for their officers during the battle. There were sick people in the ranks who had run away from hospitals to take part in the attack. The wounded Porucznik Gorszenia was carried to safety by his men, who did not abandon him even when they themselves were wounded.

In their first battle the Polish officers and men displayed not only eagerness to fight the Nazis, but high morale and outstanding military skill. They will march to victory shoulder to shoulder with the Red Army.

THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN HERE

By V. Kirsanov

We traveled all night along rugged roads—bypassing minefields and blown-up bridges—and at day-break arrived at Lozovaya. The road led to the railway station, but as we drew up at the station square we saw only heaps of debris. The buildings surrounding the station were also in ruins, and when we later drove about the city we saw only wrecked houses in place of the fine streets.

The Germans had spared no effort to reduce Lozovaya to a heap of rubble, but despite the terrible devastation we saw people in almost every street. How they managed to live is strange. For three days the air had been rent by deafening explosions and huge fires had raged, but the people survived because of their desire to again be free citizens of their native town.

Soviet troops had been liberating towns daily, and when the German garrison at Lozovaya saw that it would have to retreat, the soldiers hurried to fulfill the orders of their command to deport the population. All who resisted were marched off under escort and some were shot. Anastasia Kislenko and her two-year-old son were killed by a German policeman because she flatly refused to leave her home.

Girls and young men were especially persecuted, but the desire of the people to remain in their city was so great they risked their lives to escape deportation. Young and middle-aged men and women dug holes in the ground under cover of darkness, and

taking a supply of food and water to last several days, hid in the earth. Aged people covered the holes with hay, logs or rubbish, and in this way many younger citizens escaped German slavery.

A 70-year-old resident of the town, Agrippina Kazak, told of German outrages during the last days of their stay. "I saw the robbers come in trucks and set fire to the houses. They spent a long time near the House of Culture. It was a fine building where many of our people went in their leisure hours. At first the Germans converted the building into a slaughter house; then they used it to manufacture beer and lemonade. When retreating they blew it up. All the wells were destroyed and we have had to go to the river for water."

In the evening we talked to Major Nikolayev—Chief of Staff of one of the units which had fought for Lozovaya. He showed us a document found at the command post of a routed enemy battalion. It was issued by the command of the 97th Infantry Regiment of the 46th German Infantry Division and reads as follows: "In case of withdrawal, everything that may be of use to the enemy, such as buildings, dwelling houses, dugouts, machinery, mills and wells must be destroyed. Wells particularly must be rendered useless."

"You see," said the Chief of Staff, "the Germans do as they are instructed." Knowing the end is near, the fascist beasts are exterminating innocent people and destroying towns and villages.

22 Years of Soviet Georgia

By Nikolai Abramov

The Georgian people recently celebrated a national festival, the 22nd anniversary of Soviet power. Georgia, which before 1917 had a poorly-developed industry and a backward agriculture, revived and has flourished during the Soviet regime.

Over 5,780,000,000 rubles have been invested in the national economy of Soviet Georgia during the past 20 years. Eight hundred and fifteen new enterprises were built and old plants and factories totally reconstructed. Machine building, oilfields, iron smelting and other branches of industry were developed. The production of coal and oil has increased many times during the past 10 years, compared with 1913, and the power of electric stations is 22 times greater. Agriculture, too, has changed completely. The huge expanses of land stretching along the coast of the Black Sea were put to good use in this Caucasian Republic, and new areas have been plowed in the mountain valleys. Georgia yields abundant harvests of tangerines, lemons and oranges.

The land under crops has increased by 50 times in the last 20 years. Instead of the 20 hectares of tea grown in 1917, there are now 50,000 hectares. The excellent Georgian wine is exported even to the remotest regions of the Soviet Union. Tobacco growing and sericulture are widespread.

The cultural achievements of the Republic are also outstanding. The number of schools has increased two-and-one-half times; 21 higher educational institutes have prepared some 30,000 engineers, agronomists, doctors, teachers and other specialists. The Academy of Sciences has developed a wide network of scientific research institutes.

Georgia is a land of health resorts. Before the war the wonderful climate and rich mineral springs attracted tens of thousands of people yearly to

Georgia. Abastumani, Borzhomi, Zhaltubo, Gagra and Sukhumi are known far beyond the borders of the USSR.

Never in all their history did the Georgians enjoy such happy days as those under the Soviet regime. But Hitler, cherishing his design of conquering the Caucasus, hoped to set up a German colony in the freedom-loving Georgia Republic. The Caucasus has not forgotten the terrible invasion of Tamerlane, Genghis Khan and Shal Abass, but these did not offer as grave a threat to the culture and national independence of the peoples of the Caucasus as did Hitler's black divisions. Every Georgian fully understood this. Hundreds of thousands of the best sons of the Caucasus went to the front, commanded by their people to fight bravely and stoically, as befits a Georgian.

This command was sacred to the Georgian fighters. Shoulder to shoulder with the Russians they fought in defense of Stalingrad and Rostov, Leningrad and Vyazma. The entire country honors the names of the Georgian Heroes of the Soviet Union: Chahokidze, A. Gechekidze, V. Kankava and N. Gogishvili. A Georgian hero of the defense of Sevastopol, N. Adamia, wiped out 200 Hitlerites. Many similar examples might be cited.

Day and night the Georgians in the rear work tirelessly, producing many articles never before manufactured in the Republic. Plants formerly producing agricultural machinery are turning out arms and ammunition. Georgian farmers send large quantities of grain, fruit, milk and wheat to the front. During the past few months alone Georgian collective farmers have sent the Red Army and Soviet cities 4,000 tons of grain. Citizens of the Republic have contributed 273,000,000 rubles from their personal savings to build tanks and planes.

SOVIET WEIGHT LIFTERS TO COMPETE

An important autumn sports event will be the Soviet weight lifting championship, to be held in Gorky. Soviet weight lifters, who hold 26 of the 30 world records, have already left for Gorky. Among them are two Red Army officers, Kutsenko and Mekhanik. Yakov Kutsenko, a former Kiev mechanic and now a tankman, has more than once won the Soviet championship. He also holds three world records, one of which he established during the war. For 22 months he fought at the front, and is now resting after a wound.

In more than one battle Kutsenko's strength stood him in good stead. On one occasion, when making

his way from the German rear, he carried a gravely-wounded man and his rifle for 10 kilometers. In another engagement he received a leg wound, but refused to go to a hospital and travelled 300 kilometers with his unit.

Sergo Ambartsumyan, Armenian world record holder, will also take part in the weight lifting event.

The final contest of autumn will be for the wrestling championship. Six outstanding Soviet heavyweights and lightweights will contend for the Soviet championship. There will be a contest between the absolute champion of Europe, Kotkas, an Estonian, and the ex-champion of the USSR, Koberidze, a Georgian.

PUBLIC HEALTH EXHIBIT IN MOSCOW

By G. Nikiforov

An exhibit on the theme "Twenty-five Years of Health Protection in the Soviet Union" is being held in Moscow. Diagrams and photographs show vividly the immense development of the public health services in Russia during the last 25 years, since the establishment of Soviet power. Since 1913 the incidence of typhoid has been reduced by 80 per cent, of diphtheria by 75 per cent and of scarlet fever by 55 per cent.

Thirteen billion rubles were set aside for health protection in the State Budget of 1941, whereas in 1912 only 147 million rubles were set aside for health protection in Tsarist Russia.

Health resorts and sanatoria are immensely valuable in maintaining the health of Soviet workers. In 1940 there were places for 1,131,924 workers in Soviet sanatoria. In addition, there were rest homes with accommodation for 2,737,874.

In 1941 there were 16,000 hospitals accommodating 840,000 patients, 33,000 dispensaries and clinics employing 120,000 doctors and 450,000 nurses and assistants. There were 4,720 health consultation

centers, visited by 15,586,700 patients.

The improved well-being of the people of the Soviet Union is reflected in the increasing birth rate. Moscow's birth rate is 28.5 per 1,000 people, and Leningrad's 27.4 per 1,000. The calling-up of young people to the Red Army showed that the incidence of physical defects had fallen to a remarkably low level.

The exhibit illustrates the striking growth of health protection in the western regions of the Ukraine and Byelorussia. In 1940 the number of hospital beds in these two western regions increased from 20,000 to 33,000. Many new health resorts were opened for workers and office employees. A similar development was evident in Latvia, Lithuania and Esthonia.

It is interesting to observe the growth of the pharmaceutical industry in the USSR. Taking 1924 as 100, there was in 1933 an increase of 318 per cent, and in 1941 of 488 per cent. In 1942 Soviet pharmaceutical enterprises manufactured 193 new medicines which had hitherto been imported from abroad.

BOBRIK HILLS

By M. Viktorov

The fresh timber of a newly-built bridge deadened the sound of our tires as we drove through the spacious stone gate. A graveled lane swept up to the colonnaded entrance of the rest home for Moscow coal miners, in the Bobrik Hills.

The walls had been freshly whitened. There were still unpainted patches of woodwork here and there. Trails of yellow sand led to hot-houses and stables.

In the early days of the war the Germans held this bit of country. They settled down in the rest home, and when they were driven out they carted off the furniture, burned the library and farm buildings, and disfigured the park and oak grove beyond the river. The question of restoring the home was raised at a plenary Trade Union session soon after the Germans were sent packing from the Tula Region. The place had to be almost entirely rebuilt.

The Bobrik rest home accommodates 125 to 150 miners monthly. About half of them are Stakhanovites and leading workers, who are admitted without

charge. The other guests pay about 30 per cent of the cost. In accordance with Soviet social insurance laws, all the miners continue to draw full wages while resting or receiving medical care at rest homes and sanatoria. The director, Vera Klimenko, showed us the clubrooms. Huge armchairs invited one to relax. Glossy chessmen waited for the first players.

A model farm is attached to the rest home. We admired 10 pedigreed cows rustling among the hay in their stalls. "We'll have six more within a few days," said Vera Klimenko. They have plenty of pigs, chickens and geese. There is no dearth of fresh milk, cream, vegetables and fruit at Bobrik Hills.

The guests put in a good deal of their time at the stream skirting the grounds, for nearly all Moscow miners are ardent fishermen. One of the most important people at the home is the Master of Entertainment. He organizes games, dancing and amateur shows. Every night there is something going on—a film, or perhaps a performance by actors from the Stalinogorsk Dramatic Theater.

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MOBILE PURSUIT DETACHMENTS

By Major P. Davidenko

The Germans could not withstand the crushing blows of our infantry, artillery and tanks. Disorganized by withering fire and driven from their first line of defense by our infantry units, they fled in small groups. It was now up to our columns to prevent the scattered Germans from getting away and reorganizing their resistance. In other words, the enemy had to be pursued persistently, surrounded and wiped out.

At first the pursuit was conducted in full battle order. Our battalions and companies, headed by special groups of tommy gunners and sub-machine gunners, continued to press onward. The advanced tommy gun companies disrupted the enemy communications and spread panic in the Nazi camp by appearing unexpectedly on the German flanks and in the rear.

But these measures were not enough. The Soviet Command then decided to organize two mobile pursuit detachments. One detachment was to move in for the main blow and at the same time carry out reconnaissance assignments. The second was ordered to advance toward a bridge where two important highways crossed and to cut off the enemy retreat.

Captain Vasilyev, commanding officer of the first mobile pursuit detachment, gave the signal for the tommy gunners to board the tanks, and the detachment moved rapidly down a road toward a wooded area where, according to reconnaissance reports, the Germans were concentrating their harassed forces. The main road of enemy retreat passed through the forest. A small height on the northern outskirts of the forest, from which the surrounding territory could be clearly viewed, had to be taken. If the enemy intended to give battle he would first of all



Motorized infantry units of the Red Army moving up to battle positions

make use of his advantageous position. Our reconnaissance reports strengthened this surmise. Captain Vasilyev decided to skirt the woods and then strike at the enemy on the height from the rear. His detachment was headed by two tanks carrying reconnaissance tommy gunners and sappers. Lieutenant Kucherov had two radio transmitters, with which he kept in contact with the nucleus of the detachment, and with a group of tommy gunners accompanying a light tank on the right flank.

The detachment came up behind the Germans unnoticed. Captain Vasilyev split his force into two groups, ordering one group to attack the southern outskirts of the forest while the other charged up the hill. The Germans were caught unawares. Unable to put up serious resistance, many of them were wiped out while the rest scattered for their lives. Two Nazi artillery and trench-mortar batteries and several machine guns and anti-tank rifles were destroyed.

After reporting this encounter to his commanding officer, Captain Vasilyev moved toward the village four kilometers from the forest. Here another small enemy unit was quickly routed.

Similar success was enjoyed by the second mobile pursuit detachment led by Senior Lieutenant Kopeikin. His tommy gunners and armor-piercing riflemen, under cover of the night and moving silently along circuit roads, reached the bridge and quietly removed the seven Hitlerites who were guarding it. The detachment let several small squads of enemy soldiers pass, since our scouts had reported that a German motorized column and infantry were moving down the road. Senior Lieutenant Kopeikin arranged an ambush on both sides of the bridge, and at the moment when the main forces of the enemy were passing over the bridge our men opened a terrific cross fire from machine guns and automatic rifles. Anti-tank riflemen blazed away at the Nazi machines. The Germans fled in all directions, losing 72 soldiers and officers killed, and seven trucks and armored cars.

These examples prove the effectiveness of mobile pursuit detachments. Operating in front of the main forces they clear the way, hamper all attempts of the enemy to organize new lines of defense, and disrupt counter-attacks.

ASSAULT BY STORMOVIK

By Captain M. Vlasov

It was an ordinary day's work for Captain Dmitri Nesterenko, commander of an IL-2 Stormovik Flight. As on the day before, he led his formation of eight Stormoviks to raid enemy tanks and trucks on the right bank of the Dnieper. Reaching the river the Russian pilots encountered 30 German bombers on their way to bomb Soviet forces crossing the Dnieper. Despite the overwhelming numerical superiority of the enemy, Captain Nesterenko decided to give battle.

"Close in, comrades," he ordered, "we're going to attack the Junkers."

The Stormovik pilots quickly complied. When the first group of German bombers started to dive on their target, the Russian planes cut into their formation. The Germans, not expecting such a bold move, were confused. They swerved off their course, dumped their bomb loads on the heads of their own infantry and started back toward their base.

Coming out of the dive the Stormoviks met a second wave of Junkers. Captain Nesterenko peppered one Nazi craft with his cannon. The Junkers wobbled, then plunged toward the ground in flames. Lieutenant Stepovik, Junior Lieutenants Kuzin, Kulichev, Sidyakin, Babkin and the two Petrov brothers repeated the tactics of their commander. Several more Junkers were brought down by the accurate fire of the Stormoviks.

A third wave of the enemy bomber command, which

had come up from behind the Soviet planes, made an attempt to clear the skies of the intruders in a lightning attack. But Captain Nesterenko swung his formation around and launched a frontal attack. The Soviet flight commander soon crippled another German machine. The engagement ended when this group of Junkers also released its bombs on the German ground forces and scattered for safety behind its own lines. In this battle, which lasted 20 minutes, the daring Stormovik airmen brought down eight bombers without a single loss to their own machines. They then sped ahead to carry out their raiding assignment, playing havoc with an enemy tank column.

"The secret of our victory, in my opinion, is due to three elements," said Captain Nesterenko, analyzing this battle. "First, we have excellent machines. It must be remembered that we fought the battle from beginning to end with full bomb-loads, which undoubtedly lowered the maneuverability of our Stormoviks. In spite of this, our machines permitted us to attack like fighter planes. Second, my men know how to fight in close formation, supporting one another with their fire. Third, the unexpectedness of our attack—we took the enemy by surprise and discouraged all attempts at resistance."

The commander of the air force in that sector, who had watched the engagement from the ground, highly appraised the flying skill of Captain Nesterenko, awarding him the Order of Alexander Nevsky and a gold watch.

ZAPOROZHYE AFTER THE BATTLE

By M. Telepin

The smoke of the recent battle still envelops the city. In the streets are blasted German tanks. Near one of them lie two fascist soldiers, their arms extended in the direction of the Dnieper.

People emerge from cellars and basements where they hid from the Germans, excitedly pouring forth everything pent up in them in the two long years of slavery. At the corner of Troitskaya and Sobornaya Streets Vera Lisenko, a woman worker at the Zaporozhstal metallurgical plant, has buried her face in the gray coat of a tommy gunner, and unashamed of her tears says, "My dear ones! At last you're here! How long we have waited for you! Under the Germans we kept our shutters closed even during the day. We stopped the mouths of our children for fear they would cry and be thrown into the street by the Germans. Fascist soldiers would wander from house to house searching cellars and attics, prying into closets and driving women, children and old men across the Dnieper."

Vera Lisenko accompanies us down Sobornaya Street. To the left is a city park where the children of the Zaporozhye workers used to play. The Germans turned it into a cemetery, with the 1,500 wooden crosses arranged strictly according to rank.

We visited the Kommunar combine-harvester building plant. The Prussian industrialist Lanz tried to organize the manufacture of shovels, picks and crowbars, utilizing prisoners of war for this purpose, but the attempt fell through. The retreating Hitlerites

blew up the main buildings of the plant. Smoke is still rising from the ruins of the City Polyclinic No. One, and dust hangs heavy over the remains of the Aviation Institute, the railroad station and the Palace of Culture. The Hitlerites destroyed even the city parks, chopping down all the fruit trees.

During the German occupation all schools were closed down and the intellectuals doomed to death by starvation. Thousands of inhabitants were tortured and shot. Even now the people shudder at the remembrance of the labor market, the city prison, the concentration camp near Plant No. 29, the ditch on the State farm where mass shootings took place.

Through all the horrors of German bondage the people of Zaporozhye kept firm belief in their liberation. We saw two houses on Sobornaya Street decorated with Red Flags. For two long years patriotic Yevdokia Panferova had carefully guarded them. On the day the first Soviet tanks entered Zaporozhye she went out to meet them, kissed the commander and then hung out the Red Flags. These were the first Soviet banners to appear in the newly liberated city.

Zaporozhye has returned to life. Local Soviet institutions are beginning to function; bakeries and dining rooms are already working. Everything is proceeding as in other cities from which the Germans have been driven. Rolling up their sleeves, the inhabitants have begun to restore their city.

Girls Drive Armored Train

By Anna Kalma

Nina Gorbacheva and Maria Kozmenko are friends. They are both 20 years of age, short, with soft round faces and blonde hair, and they give an impression of fragility and helplessness.

In 1939 the two friends went to work in the engine yard of the Kursk railroad station, learning to become assistant engineers. When the Germans neared Kursk the engine yard decided to build an armored train. Nina and Maria took an active part in this work and on its completion were rewarded by being included in the locomotive crew.

On their first trip one of the girls drove the engine while the other sat at the telephone receiving orders from the Command. The armored train was assigned to sweep a certain sector with its fire. This demanded quick and skilful maneuvering, and the engine responded to the driver's touch as if it were a live thing.

Near Yelnya the train fell under heavy trench-mortar and machine-gun fire. The girls heard the

shells rattling on the armor. Nina turned pale, grasped her friend by the sleeve and whispered, "Maria . . . this must be the end for us!" But the commander ordered full speed ahead, Maria put on steam and the train gradually left the enemy fire behind. Standing at the slit, Nina watched the little gray figures of German soldiers make for the woods as the armored train blazed away at them.

Another time when the girls were driving, an enemy mine broke the tender and funnel of the engine. The girls coolly drove to a safe place and repaired the damage, although it took 24 hours of hard and continuous work.

The two friends have taken part in many battles, and have many times driven the armored train through heavy enemy fire. Now they are in Moscow . . . walking through the streets in their soldiers' caps and heavy boots with the seasoned tread of front-line fighters. But this does not prevent them from hoping that the two young lieutenants who are taking them to the movies will not be late.

Oldest Russian Designer of Arms Receives Order of Lenin

By a decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Order of Lenin was recently awarded to Professor Vladimir Fedorov, Doctor of Technical Sciences.

Professor Fedorov has devoted 40 years of intensive research and practical work to the improvement of armaments and the strengthening of the military might of his country. He is author of over a score of important scientific works which lay down the basic principles for the construction of automatic weapons. His first book, a research in the history of tactics, *The Influence of Infantry Fire on the Actions of Artillery*, was published in 1903 by the Infantry Officers' School. In 1906 appeared his *Fundamentals of the Construction of Automatic Arms*, the first textbook in this field, which has become a standard reference work for all arms designers and inventors. At the same time Fedorov began practical work in the designing of the automatic rifle.

A study of the collection of ancient oriental sabers in the Artillery Museum was the basis of a new work: *Fundamentals of the Construction of Cold Steel*, which is still the only scientific study in this field. Fedorov's work, *Innovations in the Armaments of Foreign Armies*, and his lectures published not long before the World War on *Arms and Fire of Infantry*, and *Small Arms and the Machine Gun*, are of great interest.

Just prior to the First World War Fedorov devoted special attention to the study of German arms, and during the war was sent to Japan, England and France to purchase infantry arms for the Russian Army. (This trip is described in his memoirs, *In Search of Arms*, published in 1941-42). At the same

time Fedorov continued his work as a designer of automatic arms and the small caliber cartridge with improved ballistics. After tests were made in 1913 Fedorov's cartridge was pronounced the best.

Fedorov continued his work without interruption after the October Revolution. Together with Degtyarev and Shpagin he designed the first experimental models of light aviation and tank machine guns of 6.5 millimeters caliber. Under Fedorov's direction the Designing Bureau constructed new models of the Degtyarev system of arms for the Red Army. In this period Fedorov published a number of scientific works of outstanding theoretical and practical significance, among them *The Work of the Designing Bureau in the Establishment of Armaments Production*, *Modern Problems of Rifle and Machine Gun Production*, and *The Fundamentals of the Construction of Automatic Arms*. His two works, *Armaments on the Borderline of Two Epochs* and *The Evolution of Infantry Arms* (two volumes), sum up the rich experience and wide knowledge of this oldest Russian arms designer.

In 1920 Fedorov was appointed honorary member of the Artillery Committee. In 1933 he was awarded the Order of the Red Star for his outstanding services in strengthening the Red Army. He also holds the rank of Lieutenant General.

Fedorov has trained and educated some of the country's most brilliant armaments designers. For decades his studies have served as basic textbooks in armaments construction; he was the founder of the scientific literature of this sphere in Russia. During the Patriotic War his theoretical and practical works have acquired special significance.

YOUNG FARMERS

By Kiril Levin

Boys and girls from the Molotov district of Moscow spent a camping holiday on the banks of the Klyasma, a tributary of the Moscow River. They ran a sort of "children's republic." During their stay they tried their hands at farming and raised excellent crops of cabbages and beet.

I went down to see them while they were getting in the crops. A little girl was walking among the children, and writing in a notebook. She was about 15. Her name was Sonya Kasatkina, and she was the leader of the Pioneers. The products of the garden were being stored away carefully for the winter. "We dug the cellar ourselves," she explained. "The carpenter only built the shed, and our boys even helped him with that."

Tomato plants, beautifully staked and heavy with

luscious fruit, were displayed with pride. "The agronomist gave us some advice and showed us things, of course," conceded Sonya. "But we have our own experts. Some of our boys and girls have taken agricultural courses themselves. I've been doing market gardening for three years. Just look at our cabbages—there's not a leaf worm-eaten. That's because we go out every morning and evening to pick off caterpillars and spray the plants."

She showed me over the camp buildings. In the girls' dormitories the beds were made with special care. Flowers stood on all the tables and windowsills. The boys' rooms had maps instead of flowers.

"All they think about is how to get into the war," said Sonya. "Two of them left for military school a few days ago."

RESTORATION OF THE KUBAN

By P. Tylayev

Chairman Executive Committee, Krasnodar Regional Soviet

With the liberation of the Taman Peninsula the entire Kuban area has been cleared of the German invaders. The Kuban was one of the richest sections in the Soviet Union—truly a land of plenty. The farming was most highly mechanized, with grain crops averaging 17 metric centners per hectare. Before the war the Kuban supplied the State with 17 million metric centners of grain per year.

During the period of the German occupation, when the whole Kuban was in the hands of the enemy, the economy of this region gravely deteriorated. In Kushchevskaya District only 345 hectares were sown to winter crops under the Germans, as against 50,000 hectares sown normally. The situation was about the same in other districts. The Cossack population refused to work for the enemy and sabotaged the measures taken by the invaders.

The Germans grabbed the entire harvest of 1942. Apart from this every soldier sent packages of Kuban butter, bread and bacon home to Germany. For six months the Hitlerites pillaged the Kuban region. During their retreat they burned houses, smashed farming machinery and killed cattle.

Economic restoration began the first day after the liberation of the Kuban from the Germans. While fighting was still going on in neighboring villages, a village from which the Germans had been dislodged was already engaged in restoration work. Collective farm life was coming back into its own.

The State plan for the spring sowing was carried out 105 per cent. The seed used was given by collective farmers. The Kuban Cossacks contributed 1,700,000 metric centners of wheat to the Red Army's grain fund. Now that the territory has completed the harvest of grain crops, it is gathering corn, sunflower seeds, millet and tobacco.

Both the harvesting and the autumn sowing have been attended by grave difficulties. Although the territory already has at its disposal about two thirds of the number of tractors it formerly possessed, part of them must be repaired before they can be used at all, and the rest are in such bad shape they often break down. A great deal of work will have to be put in before the tractor fleet is properly restored. The number of harvester combines now in use is 2,100 as against 5,200 before the German invasion. The number of horses and oxen has also decreased.

Before the war 95 per cent of the grain crops was harvested with modern agricultural machines. Now Cossack women must do the reaping by hand. Often

cows must be employed as draft animals. And yet 20 districts completed the harvest of grain crops at a higher speed than before the war!

Women collective farm members displayed very high labor productivity during this harvest. Many girls are accomplishing two and two-and-a-half times the standard quota.

On the State farms 45 per cent of the sown area was harvested with combines, which worked not only during the day but at night also.

The industries of the Territory are also coming into their own. The official plan called for the restored butter dairies to reach a monthly capacity of 300 tons of butter by September 1. Actually the monthly capacity of the restored dairies is already 570 tons. Granaries were supposed to reach a capacity of between one and two million cans by September 1, but they are already producing 13,000,000 cans of food per month. Many canneries started to work even before all of the buildings and machinery had been repaired or restored. Two large sugar refineries are scheduled to begin operation within the next few days.

Railway junctions have all been restored and are operating normally. The first section of the Krasnodar Electrical Power Plant is already working; the Maikop and Yeisk power plants have been completely restored and the Armavir power plant has one section restored.

A great deal has already been accomplished in the matter of restoring the economy of this region. But it was only recently, after the publication of the Government decision on the measures to be adopted for the restoration of wrecked economy in the liberated districts that this work assumed State-organized forms and was conducted on a very large scale. The fact that while severe fighting is still in progress, the Soviet Union is attacking the job of large-scale restoration testifies not only to the far-sightedness of the Government but also to the strength of our system and our firm confidence in early victory.

The State is rendering the liberated regions, including the Kuban Region, generous material assistance. It is obvious that by local means alone it would have been impossible to bring back the livestock evacuated from the region. The State allocated half a million rubles for defraying the expenses involved in bringing back evacuated livestock. Schools

for training assistant veterinary surgeons and four schools for zoo-technicians are now being organized in the Kuban.

The Government has allotted 8,000,000 rubles for restoration of machine and tractor stations and machine and tractor repair shops and also the Krasnodar motor repair works. The foundry of this works is already in operation, and a large part of the equipment for other shops has been installed. Red Army units stationed here are rendering considerable assistance in the restoration of the tractor and combine fleets by assigning expert mechanics to help in repair work. Damaged houses are being restored and new ones built. The State has allotted 1,000,000 rubles advance credits to individual house builders. The Krasnodar Region is also receiving large quantities of building materials.

tities of building materials.

The Government is taking special care of the children of men at the front and of orphans. Such children will find accommodations in 15 new children's homes, two trade schools and the Suvorov Military School. There will be no homeless orphans in the Kuban.

Everything in the region is now subordinated to the job of restoring the economy. After experiencing the yoke of German occupation, the Kuban Cossacks feel particularly grateful for the solicitude of the Soviet Government. The Cossacks on their part are exerting all efforts to deliver to the State even larger quantities of wheat, butter, meat, fish and other products as early as possible.

Soviet Sailors Study English

By G. Leonidov

Of all foreign languages studied by the sailors of the Soviet merchant marine, English is the most popular. According to information received from the People's Commissariat of the Merchant Marine, and also from some of the sailors' trade union leaders, nine-tenths of all those who study in circles aboard ship and in port have chosen English as their subject.

In one of the first numbers of the *Morskoi Flot* (Merchant Marine), the journal of the central committee of the Sea Transportation Workers' Trade Union, which has been appearing in Moscow for the last three months, there appeared an article by Captain D. Lukhmanov, who advised the members of the merchant marine "to take more seriously to the study of the English language, in which so many books have been printed that are valuable and useful for sailors."

Lukhmanov's advice met with a lively response. The editorial offices of the paper have received many letters from its readers, who state from their personal observation that "a knowledge of foreign languages, especially of English, is very important for sailors of all nationalities." The correspondents point out that today it is particularly important for Soviet sailors to know English, since the English-speaking countries are our Allies in the struggle against fascist tyranny, and when caravans of ships flying the flags of the United Nations are plying the oceans with loads of arms and ammunition.

Dozens of English circles have been organized on Soviet sea-going vessels and in ports. Captains, mates, helmsmen, boatswains, radio operators, mechanics, ship employees and dockers are among the

students. One sailor who has spent much of his time in foreign waters told me that the members of his English circle were making great progress. Although conditions on long-distance voyages were very trying, the men managed to get together for their lessons, and found time to prepare their "homework."

The purpose of these circles is to give the students a good enough knowledge of the language to enable them to read the sailing directions in commercial documents written in English, to make themselves understood should they wish to buy anything on shore, and to discuss ship repairs.

On land, students of the English language have to follow a much stricter program. Every port has special two and three-year study courses with a staff of qualified teachers. These courses are attended by the ships' officers and members of the port administration. Officers also have a correspondence department which examines them when they come to port and supplies them with textbooks and a program of study before they leave. Those who take these correspondence courses—mainly captains and mates—get English conversational practice in the foreign ports they visit.

The Sailors' Trade Union helps by organizing study circles and courses in English, and by supplying the necessary textbooks. The Union also arranges competitions among the students. At seamen's clubs and on board ship amateur art groups often give recitals of English songs popular with American and British sailors.

Archbishop of Krasnoyarsk Heads Military Hospital

By S. Karamurza

Luke, Archbishop of Krasnoyarsk, was one of the archbishops of the Russian Orthodox Church who recently welcomed the visiting British clergy in Moscow. His history is most interesting.

Christened Valentin, Archbishop Luke is the son of a Kiev druggist, Felix Voyno-Yasenetsky. He studied at the Kiev grammar school, and was a diligent pupil and very religious. He chose the career of physician and entered the Medical Department of Kiev University, completing the course in 1903.

Soon after receiving his medical diploma, Valentin Voyno-Yasenetsky served in the Russo-Japanese war in 1904, gaining considerable experience as a surgeon. After the war he worked for 13 years as a country doctor. In 1915 he received the degree of Doctor from Moscow University for his thesis on the subject "Regional Anaesthesia."

During the first World War, Voyno-Yasenetsky

served in the war hospital at Pereyaslav-Zalesky, where he increased his experience in surgery. Afterward he became chief surgeon in the city hospital of Tashkent and in 1920 was appointed Professor of Operational Surgery and Anatomy at Tashkent University.

In 1921 Professor Voyno-Yasenetsky took holy orders. While continuing his lectures in the university and serving in the city hospital, he officiated at the Tashkent Cathedral. In 1923 he was annointed bishop, with the name of Luke. At present he is Archbishop of Krasnoyarsk, and at the same time superintends one of the Krasnoyarsk military hospitals.

Archbishop Luke was invited to attend the Convention of Bishops in Moscow, at which the Patriarch of all Russia was elected, and at which he himself was elected one of the six members of the Holy Synod.



The Archbishop of York recently visited Moscow with a delegation from the Church of England. Shown above (left to right), front row: Metropolitan Alexei of Leningrad, the Archbishop of York, Patriarch Sergei, and Metropolitan Nikolai of Kiev. Back row: the Archbishop of Gorky, the Reverend F. H. House, the Reverend H. M. Waddams, the Archbishop of Ryazan and Dean Nikolai.

Notes from Front and Rear

Gomel guerrillas are helping the Red Army clear the Germans from Byelorussia. During the first 20 days of September the Gomel guerrillas derailed or blew up 109 trains loaded with troops and materiel. According to the last figures for the first 10 days of October, 48 more enemy trains were wrecked. The Germans are compelled to bring up reserves for the front in trucks or by foot over long detours, since the guerrillas control the main communications. The Shchors detachment has liberated some 5,000 Soviet citizens who were being driven to Germany.

★

A Moscow correspondent reports that since the war 200,000 workers in various spheres of science and the arts have been graduated from higher educational institutes in the USSR, and many thousands of specialists from industrial academies. New technological specialists are also being trained in factories, where they work as junior technicians or foremen.

★

In the Vaksh Valley of Tadzhikistan, in Central Asia, a miniature hydro-electric station has been constructed to supply current for radio sets. The installation is worked by a waterfall only two feet high. It supplies current for 25 loudspeakers in collective farms of the neighborhood. Fifty more stations on this model are to be put into operation this year.

★

To combat locusts in the Azerbaijan Republic the agricultural air service sent out two squadrons of planes. Fields covering 40,000 acres and fruit orchards extending over 15,000 acres were treated from the air.

★

Alexander Kosmodemyansky, younger brother of the famous girl guerrilla "Tanya" (Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya), who was tortured and killed by order of Colonel Ruederer, Commander of the 332nd German Infantry Regiment, left his school for a military college when he heard of his sister's death in December, 1940. Now 19-year-old Alexander is commander of a heavy KV tank and is fighting in the sector where the 332nd German Infantry Regiment is operating.

★

Sulphur springs discovered near Surafan have now been developed into a spa. The waters here are equal in efficacy to those of the famous springs at Pyatigorsk in the North Caucasus.

There have been numerous instances when submarines, coming close to enemy convoys, have been able to sink two ships with one torpedo salvo. Recently—the first time since the outbreak of war—a submarine sank three German ships simultaneously.

Off the Norwegian coast where the German convoys pass, Captain of the Third Rank Komarov sighted three German minesweepers at work. The ships were close together, their mine-cutting cables compelling them to maintain a regular distance from each other. Without exposing his sub, Komarov maneuvered into a good position, from which the hulls of the three vessels seemed to merge into one, forming almost a single target. He released three torpedoes from the fore tubes. Three heavy explosions followed. A few moments later when the submarine surfaced to check results, only debris and a cloud of smoke were to be seen in the area where the minesweepers had been.

★

After a break of two years, five higher educational institutes reopened in Leningrad on the same date as those of the rest of the country. Over a hundred students have enrolled for the first-year course at the Chemico-Technological Institute. Four applications for each vacant place at the Institute for Railway Transport Engineers were submitted.

Former students of Leningrad institutes who went into factories when the schools closed under siege conditions will be afforded special facilities for resuming their studies this year while continuing to work in the factories.

★

For able direction of operations in forcing the Desna and for successes achieved as a result of these operations, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has decorated 50 generals and officers of the Red Army with Orders of Suvorov of the Second and Third Degree and the Order of Kutuzov of the Second Degree.

★

A long-distance militarized mixed relay race has begun in the Kirov Region—the contestants traveling on foot, by motorcycle, bicycle, boat and horseback. They will converge on the city of Kirov from six different directions. The race is expected to continue for two weeks.

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ADDRESS OF AMBASSADOR GROMYKO DELIVERED AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NOVEMBER 8

Text of speech delivered by Andrei A. Gromyko, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on November 8, in connection with the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of American-Soviet Friendship, held under the auspices of the Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very glad to be present at this meeting. I am

also glad of the opportunity to speak here before this audience. I wish to thank the organizers of this meeting for their efforts and their desire to mark a notable date—the date of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, which also coincides with the 26th Anniversary of the existence of the Soviet Union. I also wish to thank all those present at the meeting for this expression of friendly feeling and sympathy toward my country, its peoples, and its army.



Commanders of one of the ships defending Leningrad

The tenth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the United States of America is really a very important historic date. The importance of this date becomes even clearer when one looks back and appraises the past. Ten years ago two of the biggest countries of the world entered into normal relations, the establishment of which was persistently called forth by the fundamental interests of both countries. Looking back now, everyone can convince himself that this historic act has justified itself.

The past decade—since 1933—being the witness of tragic historical events which have left their mark on the life of many countries and peoples, has shown that the maintenance of normal and friendly relations between our countries is necessary and corresponds with the interests of not only the peoples of the Soviet Union and the United States, but also with those of the other freedom-loving countries of the world. The present stage in the relations between both countries, characterized by the strengthening of the bonds of friendship between them, is not an accidental phenomenon but springs from the identity of the basic interests of the peoples of both countries in their present struggle against aggression.

The strengthening of the bonds of friendship between the Soviet Union and the United States in the course of the present struggle has already yielded great benefits to the peoples of both countries. But still greater potential possibilities exist, as they existed in the past, for the further strengthening of the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union.

If these potential possibilities had been used more extensively in the past, humanity might not have experienced such a tragedy as it is experiencing now.

Now our task is to consider the lessons of the past, to draw the appropriate conclusions and to exhaust the existing potential possibilities to a maximum extent. Efficient cooperation in the course of our mutual military efforts as two great powers of the world is capable of influencing to a great extent the duration of the war, and also of laying a firm basis for still more successful cooperation between the two countries in the postwar period.

One of the causes, and possibly the principal one, of the present war forced upon the world by the Hitlerite gang, was the lack of unity on the side of the strongest world powers in the task of preventing aggression. They say that history is a good teacher. If this is so, then the lesson of the past should be taken into full account. From this instructive historical experience one can only draw the conclusion that peace and security cannot be attained without the unity of the largest and the most powerful countries of the world. The lack of this unity has already cost humanity rivers of blood and tears, and countless sacrifices.

Only through the unity of the great peace-loving countries can a secure and lasting peace be provided and aggression prevented. In the struggle against aggression all freedom-loving countries and peoples must proceed from a full awareness of the significance of their efforts.

At the present time, when we are marking the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, the world is living through a critical period of the war. The raging elements of war have reached in their intensity unprecedented limits. Battles of unheard-of ferocity are being waged on the Eastern Front. In the battles on the Russian steppes, in the battles in the mountains of Italy, the fates of the freedom-loving peoples of the world are being decided.

The Hitlerite armies are exerting all efforts toward the holding of the seized countries and regions. Nazi Germany and her satellites in Europe are trying and will try at any price to withstand the growing forces of the Allies.

Nevertheless, in spite of the desperate efforts of the enemy, despite his stubbornness, the fact is evident that the course of the war has turned in our favor. The strength of the enemy has been undermined. The Hitlerite armies of the present day are not the armies of 1942, and even more so, they are not the armies of 1941.

The defeats inflicted upon the enemy by the armed forces of the powerful Anglo-Soviet-American coalition have not only weakened in the military sense the strength of Nazi Germany, but have brought about the beginning of the disintegration of the criminal gang headed by her. The decayed fascist regime of Italy, which plunged the country into war in the interests of the Hitlerite gangsters, collapsed under the blows of the valiant Anglo-American troops.

At the beginning of the war, the armies of Nazi Germany, armed to the teeth, relatively easily enslaved more than a dozen European countries. Nazi Germany, intoxicated by its successes in Western Europe, treacherously attacked the Soviet Union in 1941. Utilizing the advantage of this sudden attack, German troops, in the first stage of the war against the Soviet Union, achieved temporary successes. The Nazi octopus began to spread its feelers further and further. These feelers reached beyond the limits of Europe; they even reached Africa; and it seemed that they were capable of extending even farther, to the West, to the South, and to the East.

The Soviet people, to whose lot has fallen the main brunt of efforts and sacrifices in this war, has mobilized all its strength for the fight against the enemy. By exerting all of its strength and resources, the Soviet people stopped the enemy, and then by powerful successive blows, inflicted serious defeats upon him, and launched the counter-offensive. Everybody knows now that the summer offensive of the Hitlerite

armies in 1943 failed, and instead, we are now witnessing the offensive of the Red Army. Millions of Nazi graves have been spread on Soviet soil. Such is the price the Hitlerite bandits have paid for their insane attempt to enslave the Soviet people.

Thus, the severe defeats already suffered by the enemy on the Eastern Front and the successful operations of the Anglo-American forces in the Mediterranean theater of war have lead to a change in the correlation of forces between Nazi Germany and her satellites on the one hand, and that of the United Nations on the other, in favor of the latter. The so-called Hitlerite European fortress, about which Nazi propaganda makes so much noise, is becoming more like a fortress under siege. Its vulnerability lies not only in the fact that it has no roof, but also that its walls are capable of cracking and collapsing when serious blows are dealt upon them by the forces of the Allies. Its vulnerability also consists in the fact that untold explosive material has been accumulated inside that fortress, in the form of the hatred and indignation of the peoples of Europe enslaved by Hitlerite Germany, who are impatiently awaiting their liberation from the Hitlerite yoke.

The question now cannot be as to who will win this war. The question now is how to speed the final defeat of Nazi Germany. The defeats already inflicted upon her have created a military-political situation favorable for the Allies, and they have also created an opportunity to inflict swift and decisive blows upon the enemy.

The utilization of this favorable military-political situation by the Allies makes its possible to speed up the collapse of Hitlerite Germany through powerful coordinated blows from the East and the West, and thus reduce the common sacrifices of the Allies in achieving final victory.

A full and speedy defeat of the enemy is possible because now the Allies are stronger than he is. His strength and his reserves are considerably weaker than the forces and reserves of the Allies. Potentially, Germany and her European accomplices were weaker than the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition even before the war, as well as in the initial period of the war. But now the Allies have at their disposal not only superior potential forces, but superior real forces in the military sense, which can be used in the field of battle.

The confidence of the Soviet people in the possibility of a decisive and speedy defeat of the enemy grows the more from the awareness that in this fight it has numerous friends. It feels the support of the other freedom-loving peoples. The Soviet people is proud that in this struggle it has as its ally the great American people, from which it receives a highly appreciated support in the form of military supplies, foodstuffs, etc., and whose sons are taking an increasingly greater part in the common struggle

with arms in hand, and who have already inflicted heavy blows upon the enemy.

Undoubtedly, the foe, like a wounded but still unkilld and dangerous beast, will continue to show fierce resistance. He will undertake all possible measures to put off his inevitable collapse. Like a maniac he may throw himself from one side to another. He may continue to pour his hatred on the innocent civilian population of the occupied countries and regions as his consciousness of the ever increasing hopelessness of his situation grows.

But these actions of the foe will not save him. On the contrary they will forge the stronger the will of the freedom-loving peoples to carry on the war to the victorious end. There can be no doubt that the Nazi hangmen will pay in full for all the crimes they have committed, and are still committing against the innocent civilian population. The Soviet people will never forget and will not forgive the crimes of the Hitlerites committed against the peoples of the occupied territories of the Soviet Union.

The Nazi ringleaders, realizing the approach of their end, will try, as they have done before, to bring dissension into the ranks of the United Nations, to sow distrust among them. That is why the task of the peoples of the United Nations is the unmasking of Nazi propaganda and constant struggle against it.

The interests of collaboration between the Allied countries demand a struggle against the dissemination of the seeds of distrust and suspicion of one ally toward the other, no matter from what sources these seeds originate.

I wish to express my confidence that the bonds of friendship between the Soviet Union and the United States will develop and grow stronger. Mutual sympathies, which also existed in the past between our peoples, have, at the present time, taken the form of armed cooperation between our countries in the process of mutual military efforts, directed toward the defeat of the common foe.

There is every possibility for this cooperation to grow stronger in the future. The possibility of fruitful cooperation between our countries was demonstrated at the just-concluded Moscow Conference of the three powers.

The Moscow Conference demonstrated to the whole world the strength of the Anglo-Soviet-American fighting comradeship. It demonstrated the firm determination of the Allied powers to use their strength and resources for the speediest defeat of Nazi Germany and her accomplices in Europe.

I wish to express my confidence that the present stage of Soviet-American relations will form a firm basis on which will be erected a building of still more active and efficient cooperation between our countries in the future, in the period of the final stage of the war, as well as in the postwar period.

RESULTS OF THE RED ARMY'S SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Communique of the Soviet Information Bureau on the results of the summer campaign of the Red Army from July 5 to November 5, 1943.

As a result of four months of intense fighting, the Red Army has successfully carried out the operational strategical plan of the Supreme Command. The task set for the armed forces of the Soviet Union of driving out the enemy troops during the summer and autumn beyond the line of Smolensk, the Sozh River and the middle and lower reaches of the Dnieper, and of liquidating the Germans' Kuban place d'armes, has been fully accomplished.

As is known, the summer campaign of 1943 commenced on July 5 by the decisive—as put by the Hitlerite command—offensive of the German-fascist troops in the Orel-Kursk and Belgorod-Kursk directions. The enemy set himself the task of surrounding and annihilating Soviet troops stationed in the Kursk salient, emerging in the deep rear of the Red Army and sealing the outcome of the war in his favor.

Collapse of German Strategical Plan

The results of the summer battles proved that this new strategical plan of the Germans, outlined without a realistic estimation of relative strength, was adventurist from beginning to end and it disgracefully collapsed.

In stubborn, decisive battles the Red Army wore down and exhausted the main forces of the German-fascist army which began the offensive on July 5. The Germans suffered tremendous losses but failed to achieve success.

Having routed the German-fascist troops advancing on Kursk on July 12, the Red Army on the order of the Headquarters of the Supreme Command assumed a decisive offensive, broke through the heavily-fortified German defenses, and after many days of violent fighting, on August 5, exactly one month after the beginning of the German offensive, captured the towns of Orel and Belgorod.

Thus the enemy's Orel fortified strategic place d'armes, the most powerful and dangerous for our country, which the Hitlerite command intended to use as a springboard for the offensive on Moscow, was liquidated.

The second most important fortified place d'armes of the German army was the area of Belgorod and Kharkov. The Germans concentrated in this area their main group of tank troops, including picked SS tank divisions, created large stores of armament and ammunition and erected powerful fortified defenses. Our troops launched an offensive in the Kharkov

direction, pierced the enemy's defenses, crushed his stubborn resistance and took Kharkov by storm on August 23.

Thus the Germans' Belgorod-Kharkov place d'armes was successfully liquidated. The liquidation of the enemy's Orel and Belgorod-Kharkov place d'armes was the most important operation of our troops since the German defeat at Stalingrad. The victories of the Red Army in the area of Orel and Kharkov laid a strong foundation for the further development of the offensive of our troops and for the execution of the plan of the Supreme Command for the liberation of the Donets Basin and the entire territory of the Ukraine on the left bank of the Dnieper.

The third most important German fortified place d'armes was the eastern part of the Donets Basin, with the main line of defense along the Severny Donets and Mius Rivers.

On the order of the Supreme Command our southern armies launched an offensive, forced the Mius and the Severny Donets Rivers, pierced the German defenses and achieved an important victory over the German invaders in the Donets Basin. During the six days of the vigorous offensive of our troops, the entire Donets Basin, the most important coal-mining and industrial area of our country, was liberated.

Developing the success of our offensive our troops rapidly drove the Germans westward, liberated practically the entire coast of the Sea of Azov and emerged to Melitopol and Zaporozhye—heavily-fortified areas at the approaches to the Crimea and to the lower reaches of the Dnieper.

Water Barriers Forced

Having suffered grave defeats at Orel, Belgorod and Kharkov and in the Donets Basin, the German command made a desperate attempt to check the offensive of Soviet troops on the Desna River line, the whole length of which had been converted into a powerful line of modern defenses, fortified in the course of two years and considered by the Germans impregnable.

By resolute actions our troops forced the Desna River under difficult conditions and broke through this line of German defenses.

While our troops south of Bryansk were driving the Germans westward, a blow was also struck at enemy troops in the Smolensk and Roslavl directions. Our troops broke the enemy's heavily-fortified permanent defensive zone, forced the Dnieper in its upper reaches, captured the territory between the Zapad-

naya Dvina and the Dnieper Rivers—the so-called Smolensk gate—and liberated the town of Smolensk, the most important strategical center of the German defense in the western direction.

By decisive actions our troops in the Kuban Valley also broke the enemy resistance in the area of Novorossisk, in the lower reaches of the Kuban River and in the Taman Peninsula. Thus was liquidated the Germans' operationally important place d'armes in the Kuban, which secured their defense of the Crimea, as well as the possibility of offensive operations in the direction of the Caucasus.

Having sustained grave defeats in preceding battles, the Germans attempted at any cost to check the advance of Soviet troops on the Dnieper River. The German command concentrated the main forces of its army to hold the powerful zone of defenses along the Dnieper and Molochnaya Rivers, calculating upon making a firm stand on this line advantageous for defense.

Red Army Crosses Dnieper

However, these German calculations fell through as well. The Red Army forced the largest water barrier, the Dnieper, broke through the enemy's powerful permanent defenses and established a number of strategically important bridgeheads on the right bank of the Dnieper.

Developing the offensive, the Red Army inflicted a grave defeat on the German-fascist troops in the bend of the Dnieper and liberated Dniepropetrovsk and Dniprodzerzhinsk—the most important industrial centers in the south of our country—and also the Piatikhatka railway junction. At the same time our troops broke through the German powerful defensive zone on the Molochnaya River, which for its anti-tank barriers and for the density of concentration of infantry, artillery and tanks was still stronger than the German defense on the Mius River.

Thus our troops broke up the entire enemy defense zone from Zaporozhye down to the Sea of Azov and emerged on the lower reaches of the Dnieper, having cut off enemy troops in the Crimea by land.

As a result of these operations, skilfully carried out according to the plan of the Supreme Command, the Red Army liberated tremendous territory from the enemy and deprived the Germans of strategically important areas and communications. Along a frontage of 1,200 kilometers, from the mouth of the Sozh River to the Black Sea, the enemy was flung beyond the Dnieper. The entire territory of the Ukraine on the left bank of the Dnieper was liberated from the German invaders within a short period.

In the course of the offensive battles our troops forced four important water barriers—the Severny Donets, the Desna, the Sozh and the Dnieper—displaying in this high maneuvering capacity and military skill.

Thus in less than four months of the offensive on the Soviet-German front the Red Army restored to the motherland a tremendous territory of 350,000 square kilometers, of supreme economic and strategical importance. The Krasnodar territory, and the Rostov, Voroshilovgrad, Stalino, Kharkov, Poltava, Sumy, Chernigov, Kursk, Orel and Smolensk Regions have been wholly cleared of the German-fascist invaders. Considerable parts of the Zaporozhye, Dniepropetrovsk and Kiev Regions have been liberated. The expulsion of the Germans from Byelorussia has begun.

While pursuing the offensive on a 2,000 kilometer front the Red Army advanced westward by 300 to 450 kilometers and liberated over 38,000 inhabited localities, including 162 towns. Millions of Soviet people have been delivered from fascist slavery.

The liberation of the Donets Basin, Kharkov, Orel, Taganrog, Bryansk, Smolensk, Dniepropetrovsk, Dniprodzerzhinsk, Zaporozhye and other important industrial centers considerably increases the economic resources of the Soviet Union and further raises the might of the Red Army by clearing the vast territory between the Severny Donets and the Dnieper of the German-fascist invaders.

The Red Army has restored to the motherland the richest granary and one of the most fertile agricultural belts of the country. With the loss of this vast grain-growing territory the Hitlerites lost the large source of food supply to which they clung so furiously.

Cities Liberated

The Red Army liberated from the enemy the important railway junctions of Smolensk, Roslavl, Nevel, Bryansk, Krichev, Unecha, Orel, Khutor Mikhailovsky, Vorozhba, Konotop, Bakhmach, Nezhin, Kharkov, Poltava, Sumy, Romodan, Grebenka, Debaltsevo, Yasinovatya, Nikitovka, Pavlograd, Krasnograd, Lozovaya, Krasnoarmeiskoye, Volnovakha, Sinelnikovo, Piatikhatka, Dniepropetrovsk, Zaporozhye and others.

Thus, into the hands of the Soviet troops fell the most important railway trunk lines: Moscow-Smolensk, Moscow-Orel-Kursk-Belgorod-Kharkov-Rostov, Kharkov-Stalino-Mariupol, Moscow-Bryansk-Novobelitsa, Kursk-Vorozhba-Darnitsa, Orel-Bryansk-Roslavl-Smolensk, Kharkov-Krasnograd-Dniepropetrovsk, Sukhinichi-Bryansk-Vorozhba, Vyazma-Bryansk-Konotop, Krichev-Unecha-Vorozhba-Sumy-Kharkov, Bakhmach-Romodan-Poltava, Novobelitsa-Nezhin-Grebenka, Zolotonosha-Foma-Kharkov-Poltava, Kremenchug-Kharkov-Poltava-Romodan-Darnitsa, Stalino-Volnovakha-Pologi-Zaporozhye, Zaporozhye-Melitopol-Ganichesk, Dniepropetrovsk-Piatikhatka, et cetera.

Thus the Red Army won back the most important railway trunk-lines connecting the center of our country with the south and by this fact substantially improved conditions for the maneuver of troops by

changing the operational-tactical possibilities of further struggle in its own favor. At the same time, with the loss of those important strategical communications the Germany army to a considerable extent was deprived of favorable conditions for the maneuvering of troops, and its operational-tactical possibilities have declined.

In the course of the offensive our troops liberated from the invaders the sea ports of Anapa, Taman, Taganrog, Mariupol, Osipenko (Berdyansk), and the most important port and second naval base of the Black Sea Fleet—Novorossisk.

From July 5 to November 5, 1943, the Red Army inflicted on the German-fascist troops heavy losses in men and equipment. Within this period our troops routed 144 enemy divisions, including 28 tank and motorized divisions. All those divisions had been repeatedly replenished with manpower and equipment in the course of the summer campaign.

The enemy lost about 900,000 officers and men in killed alone; 98,000 German officers and men have been taken prisoner, of which more than half were wounded. Altogether, during the summer battles the enemy lost over 2,700,000 officers and men in killed, wounded and prisoners.

During this period our troops destroyed 9,900 enemy aircraft, destroyed or disabled 15,400 tanks—including 800 Tigers and Panthers—896 armored cars, 13,000 guns of various calibers—including 1,350 Ferdinand gun-carriers—about 13,000 trench mortars,

over 50,000 machine guns, 60,500 trucks, 390 gasoline trucks, 2,500 motorcycles, 900 tractors, 13,000 carts with supplies, over 4,000 railway cars, over 300 locomotives, and over 2,000 various stores.

During the same period our troops captured the following trophies: 289 planes, 2,300 tanks—including 204 Tigers and Panthers—190 armored cars, 6,800 guns of various calibers, including 139 Ferdinand gun-carriers, 6,180 trench mortars, 24,600 machine guns, 7,759,000 shells, 2,100,000 mines, 300,000 aviation bombs, 1,500,000 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines and fougasses, over 450,000 ordinary and automatic rifles, 100,500,000 rifle cartridges, various cables totalling over 50,000 kilometers in length, 15,482 trucks, 414 locomotives, 13,210 train cars, 5,400 carts with supplies, 30,400 horses, 873 tractors, 1,889 stores of various military supplies, about 3,000 motorcycles, 16,685 bicycles, and 1,201 radio stations.

From July 5 to November 5, 1943, the enemy lost in all 10,189 airplanes, 17,700 tanks, 19,800 guns, 74,480 machine guns, 19,180 trench mortars and 75,982 trucks.

The coordination of actions of the troops of the various fronts and the assistance in direction of operations of our troops of all arms was effected by representatives of the Supreme Command Marshal Vasilievsky, Marshal of Artillery Voronov, Marshal Zhukov and Marshal Timoshenko, and for aviation by Marshals of Aviation Golovanov and Novikov, and Colonel Generals of Aviation Vorozheikin, Falalayev and Khudyakov.

Another Soviet City Rises From Ashes

By A. Popov

On the very first day after the liberation of Stalino, in the Donbas—while the charred ruins were still smoking, the walls of buildings dynamited by the enemy still crumbling, the faces of the people still stunned by terror—a new life was beginning.

Notices announcing the opening of dining rooms, offices and factories were visible everywhere. Bakeries, hospitals, drug stores, schools, the water supply system and the power station, had all been destroyed by the enemy. By September 12, however, there was electric light in the city, and on the same day the first mail arrived. The following day saw some of the city's communications restored. Three days later several water main junctions were working. By the end of September, numerous dispensaries and clinics, seven medical stations, eight drug stores and the Institute for Blood Transfusion were reopened.

With all citizens helping, the courtyards, streets and squares were soon cleared of debris. Seventy stores, 18 dining rooms, six bakeries and 11 flour mills were repaired by the end of September. As soon as the town has an adequate power supply,

several trolley buses and 35 streetcars will begin running. Telephones have been installed in many offices, and repairs of the telegraph lines are under way. The telephone connection with 13 town and district centers of the region has been established. In the town and its vicinity 30 shoe repair shops and the same number of barber shops, as well as other establishments, have been set up.

Sixty-five schools with 16,000 pupils in attendance were reopened, and in the near future studies will begin at the Donets Industrial Institute and the Stalino Medical College, although the buildings of the two colleges were blown up by the German barbarians.

The reading room of the local library is now open to the public. Moscow newspapers and various books are at the disposal of visitors. A few days ago the cinema received its first audience and the Theater of Opera and Ballet had its opening night.

On October 5, the first train from Moscow, bringing passengers, luggage and mail, pulled into the station of the liberated city.



HITLER: "By how much has the front been lengthened, Goebbels?"

GOEBBELS: "How do you want me to measure—by miles or by our annihilated divisions?"

Cartoon by Boris Efimov

IN THE CRIMEA TODAY

By E. Stepanov

Our transport plane landed at night on an airdrome built by Crimean guerrillas. Signal fires were burning on the field.

"We have wounded men here . . . hurry!" said a voice from the field. "The enemy's nearby!"

The wounded were placed in the plane; the powerful motors roared and the huge aircraft took off. These guerrillas had been wounded in a battle which took place some hours before we landed. In advancing on the airdrome the guerrillas had encountered a group of Germans; the People's Avengers attacked and drove the Hitlerites from the airfield.

Many towns and villages have been reduced to ruins by the Nazi vandals. Sevastopol, Kerch and Theodosia are totally destroyed. The tall stacks of the giant metallurgical works of Kerch are smokeless. Dozens of peaceful and picturesque villages on the peninsula have been wiped from the earth.

In Simferopol, Eupatoria, Kerch and other cities, anti-tank ditches are filled with the bodies of thousands of peaceful Soviet citizens murdered and tortured to death by the Hitlerite occupationists. The population refused to be driven away to slave labor in Germany. Many hid themselves from the German police or escaped along the roads, while others committed suicide. People flung themselves in front of speeding trains and automobiles. Several women leaped to death from the third floor of the Gestapo headquarters in Simferopol.

The Crimea refused to be humbled by the Nazi invaders. The best sons and daughters of this region joined guerrilla detachments in the woods and mountains. The Germans on many occasions sent punitive expeditions to track down the People's Avengers, combed the woods for them, and then announced in their newspapers that the guerrillas had been wiped out. Hardly had this announcement appeared when German troop and munition trains again plunged down embankments, and ammunition dumps and trucks were blasted sky-high.

In 1943 alone the Crimean guerrillas derailed more than 20 enemy trains. We spoke with the commander of one guerrilla column, who had just carried out a daring operation. He got past the German railway guards and buried mines under a track, destroying a locomotive, 15 cars carrying armaments, 18 flatcars

loaded with automobiles and some 800 soldiers and officers. The Hitlerites surrounded the woods on both sides of the railroad and searched for the guerrillas in nearby ravines and on the steppe. But the People's Avengers were already far away.

Despite the German terror, acts of sabotage constantly take place in all enterprises. A tannery works spoils a large shipment of leather; in another district tractor drivers irreparably damage their machines; the equipment of a large electric power plant is destroyed, as well as the boiler and dynamo. Soviet newspapers and leaflets are systematically distributed among the population. The people of Simferopol frequently find copies of *Pravda*, war bulletins of the Soviet Information Bureau and various leaflets pasted on the walls and fences.

German forces in the Crimea, frightened by the successes of the Red Army, try to mobilize the population to build fortifications. Mass shootings of defenseless people are being carried out, and strong Nazi forces have been sent against the guerrillas.

But Soviet guerrillas continue to deal heavy blows to the German communication lines, effectively supporting the victorious offensive of the Red Army.

New Works by Mikhail Zoshchenko

The well-known Soviet writer Mikhail Zoshchenko recently completed the scenario of a film to be titled "A Soldier's Happiness." In an interview with a Moscow correspondent, Zoshchenko said that the hero of the film would be a Russian soldier who distinguished himself by his resourcefulness and native wit. The film is a comedy.

Zoshchenko has finished a book called *Stories About the War*, including 30 feature articles, some of which have already been published in periodicals. The book will shortly be published by the State Literature Publishing House.

At the present time Zoshchenko is writing a long trilogy, the first two parts of which have already been published. They are called *Resurrected Youth* and *The Blue Willow Tree*. The third part, *Before Sunrise*, is about to be published in serial form in the periodical *October*.

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STALIN'S REPORT ON 26th ANNIVERSARY OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION

Report of the Chairman of the State Committee of Defense, Joseph V. Stalin, at the celebration meeting of the Moscow Soviet of Deputies of Working People with the Party and public organizations of Moscow on November 6, 1943

Comrades!

Today the peoples of the Soviet Union celebrate the 26th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. For the third time our country marks the anniversary of her people's Revolution in the conditions of the Patriotic War.

In October, 1941 our motherland lived through hard days. The enemy approached the Capital. He surrounded Leningrad from the land. Our troops were compelled to retreat. It demanded enormous efforts of the Army and the exertion of all the forces of the people to check the enemy and to strike a serious blow at him at Moscow.

By October, 1942 the danger to our motherland had become even greater. The enemy stood then barely 120 kilometers from Moscow, had broken into Stalingrad and entered the foothills of the Caucasus.

But even in those grave days the Army and the people did not lose heart, but staunchly bore all trials. They found strength to check the enemy and to deal him a retaliating blow. True to the behests of great Lenin, they defended the achievements of the October Revolution without sparing their strength and their lives.

As is well known, those efforts of the Army and the people were not in vain. Shortly after the October days of last year our troops passed over to the offensive and struck a fresh powerful blow at the Germans, first at Stalingrad, in the Caucasus, in the area of the middle reaches of the Don, and then, at the beginning of 1943, at Velikie Luki, at Leningrad, and in the area of Rzhev and Vyazma. Since then the Red Army has never let the initiative out of its hands. Its blows throughout the summer of this year became increasingly strong, its military mastership grew with every month. Since then our troops have won big victories and the Germans have suffered one defeat after another.

No matter how hard the enemy tried he still failed to score any success on the Soviet-German front that was of the least importance.

1. A year of radical turn in the course of the war.

The past year—between the 25th and 26th Anniversaries of the October Revolution—marked a turn in the Patriotic War. This year marked a turn, in the first place, because in this year the Red Army, for the first time during the course of the war, succeeded in carrying through a big summer offensive against the German troops, and under the blows of our forces the German-



Marshal Joseph V. Stalin

Radio Sketch

fascist troops were compelled to abandon hurriedly the territory they had seized, not infrequently saving themselves from encirclement by flight and abandoning on the battlefield huge quantities of equipment, stores of armaments and ammunition, and large numbers of wounded officers and men.

Thus the successes of our summer campaign in the second half of this year followed up and completed the successes of our winter campaign at the beginning of this year.

Red Army's Powerful Summer Offensive

Now, when the Red Army is developing the successes of the winter campaign and has dealt a powerful blow at German troops in summer, it is possible to consider as finally dead and buried the fairy tale that the Red Army is allegedly incapable of conducting a successful offensive in the summertime. The past year has shown that the Red Army can advance in summer just as well as in winter.

As a result of these offensive operations in the course of the past year our troops were able to fight their way forward from 500 kilometers in the central part of the front up to 1,300 kilometers in the south and to liberate nearly 1,000,000 square kilometers of territory—that is, almost two-thirds of the Soviet land temporarily seized by the enemy.

Along with this the enemy troops have been hurled back from Vladikavkaz to Kherson, from Elista to Krivoi Rog, from Stalingrad to Kiev, from Voronezh to Gomel, from Vyazma and Rzhev to the approaches of Orsha and Vitebsk.

Having no faith in the stability of their earlier successes on the Soviet-German front, the Germans had been building powerful defense lines for a long time beforehand, especially along the big rivers. But in this year's battles neither rivers nor powerful fortifications saved the Germans. Our troops shattered the Germans' defense and within only three months of the summer of 1943 skilfully forced four very serious water barriers—the Northern Donets, the Desna, the Sozh and the Dnieper. I do not speak even about such barriers as the Germans' defense in the area of the Mius River—west of Rostov—and the defense in the area of the Molochnaya River—near Melitopol.

At present the Red Army is battering the enemy successfully on the other side of the Dnieper.

This year also marked a turn, because the Red Army within a comparatively short time was able to annihilate and grind down the most experienced old cadres of German-fascist troops, and at the same time to steel and multiply its own cadres in successful offensive battles in the course of the year.

In the battles on the Soviet-German front during the past year the German-fascist army lost more than 4,000,000 officers and men, including not less than 1,800,000 in killed. During this year the Germans also lost more than 14,000 aircraft, over 25,000 tanks and not less than 40,000 guns.

The German-fascist army now is not what it was at the outbreak of war. While at the outbreak of war it had sufficient numbers of experienced cadres, now it has been diluted with newly-baked, young, inexperienced officers whom the Germans are hurriedly throwing onto the front, as they have neither the necessary reserves of officers nor the time to train them.

The picture presented today by the Red Army is quite different. Its cadres have grown and been tempered in successful offensive battles in the course of the past year. The numbers of its fighting cadres are growing and will grow further as the existence of the necessary officer reserve gives it time and opportunity to train young officer cadets and promote them to responsible posts.

It is characteristic that instead of the 240 divisions which faced our front last year, 179 of which were German divisions, this year the Red Army at the front is faced with 257 divisions, of which 207 are German. The Germans evidently count upon compensating for the lower quality of their divisions by increasing their numbers. However, the defeat of the Germans in the past year shows that it is impossible to compensate for deterioration in the quality of divisions by increasing their numbers.

Battles of Stalingrad and Kursk

From a purely military point of view the defeat of the German troops on our front at the close of this year was predetermined by two major events: the battle of Stalingrad and the battle of Kursk.

The battle of Stalingrad ended in the encirclement of a German army 300,000 strong, its rout and the capture of about one-third of the surrounded troops. To form an idea of the scale of that slaughter unparalleled in history which took place on the fields of Stalingrad, one should know that after the battle of Stalingrad was over, there were found and buried 147,200 dead German officers and men and 46,700 dead Soviet officers and men.

Stalingrad signified the decline of the German-fascist army. As is well known, the Germans were unable to recover after the Stalingrad slaughter.

As to the battle of Kursk, it ended in the rout of the two main advancing groups of German-fascist troops, and in our troops launching a counter-offensive which turned subsequently into the powerful summer offensive of the Red Army.

The battle of Kursk began with the offensive of the Germans on Kursk from the north and south. That was the last attempt of the Germans to carry out a big summer offensive and in the event of its success to redeem their losses. As is well known, the offensive ended in failure. The Red Army not only repulsed the German offensive, but passed over to the offensive itself and by a series of consecutive blows in the course of the summer period hurled back the German-fascist troops beyond the Dnieper.

If the battle of Stalingrad foreshadowed the decline of the German-fascist army, the battle of Kursk confronted it with disaster.

German Calculations Upset

Finally, this year marked a turn, because the successful offensive of the Red Army radically aggravated the economic and military-political situation of fascist Germany and confronted her with a profound crisis. The Germans counted on carrying out in the summer of this year a successful offensive on the Soviet-German front to redeem their losses and to bolster their shaken prestige in Europe. But the Red Army upset the Germans' calculations, repulsed their offensive, launched an offensive itself and proceeded to drive the Germans westward and thereby crushed the prestige of German arms.

The Germans countered on taking the line of prolonging the war, started building defense lines and "walls" and proclaimed for all to hear that their new positions were impregnable.

But the Red Army again upset the Germans' calculations, broke through their defense lines and "walls," and continues to advance successfully, giving them no time to drag out the war.

The Germans counted on rectifying the situation at the front by "total" mobilization. But here, too, events upset the Germans' calculations. The summer campaign has already consumed two-thirds of the "totally" mobilized men; however, it does not look as if this circumstance has brought about any improvement in the position of the German-fascist army.

It may prove necessary to proclaim another "total" mobilization, and there is no reason why a repetition of such a measure should not result in the "total" collapse of a certain state.

The Germans counted on retaining a firm hold on the Ukraine in order to avail themselves of the Ukrainian agricultural produce for their army and population, and of the Donbas coal for the factories and railways serving the German army.

But here, too, they miscalculated. As a result of

the successful offensive of the Red Army the Germans have lost not only the Donbas coal but also the richest grain-growing regions of the Ukraine, and there is no reason to think that they will not lose the rest of the Ukraine, too, in the nearest future.

Naturally all these miscalculations could not but impair and in fact did impair radically the economic and military-political situation of fascist Germany. Fascist Germany experiences a profound crisis. She faces disaster.

2. Nation-wide assistance to the front.

The successes of the Red Army would have been impossible without the support of the people, without the selfless work of the Soviet people in the factories and plants, collieries and mines, in transport and agriculture.

In hard wartime conditions the Soviet people proved able to insure its Army everything most necessary and constantly perfected its fighting equipment. Never during the whole course of the war has the enemy been able to surpass our Army as regards quality of armaments. At the same time, our industry has supplied the front with ever greater quantities of fighting equipment.

The past year marked a turn not only in the progress of hostilities, but also in the work of our rear. We were no longer confronted with such tasks as evacuating enterprises to the east and of switching industry to the production of armaments. The Soviet State now has an efficient and rapidly expanding war economy.

Thus all the efforts of the people could be concentrated on the increase of production and on the further improvement of armaments, especially of tanks, aircraft, guns and self-propelling artillery. In this we have gained big successes. Supported by the entire people, the Red Army received uninterrupted supplies of fighting equipment, rained millions of bombs, mines and shells upon the enemy, brought thousands of tanks and aircraft into battle.

There is every ground to say that the selfless labor of Soviet people in the rear will go down in history along with the heroic struggle of the Red Army as an unexampled feat of people in defense of their motherland. The workers of the Soviet Union who in the years of peaceful construction built up a highly-developed, powerful socialist industry, have during this Patriotic War been working with a real fury of energy to help the front, displaying true labor heroism.

Everyone knows that in the war against the USSR the Hitlerites had at their disposal not only the highly-developed industry of Germany, but also the

rather powerful industries of the vassal and occupied countries. Nevertheless the Hitlerites failed to maintain the quantitative superiority in military equipment which they had at the outbreak of the war against the Soviet Union. Now the former superiority of the enemy as regards the number of tanks, aircraft, mortars and automatic rifles has been eliminated. If our Army now experiences no serious shortage of arms, ammunition and equipment, credit for this goes in the first place to our working class.

The peasants of the Soviet Union who during the year of peaceful construction, on the basis of the collective farming system, transformed backward farming into up-to-date agriculture, have displayed during the Patriotic War a high degree of understanding of the common national interest which has no parallel in the history of the countryside. By selfless labor to help the front they have shown that the Soviet peasantry considers this war against the Germans its own cause, a war for its own life and liberty.

It is well known that as a result of its invasion by the fascist hordes our country was deprived temporarily of the important agricultural districts of the Ukraine, of the Don and the Kuban valleys. Nevertheless, our collective and State farms supplied the Army and the country with food without any serious interruptions.

Naturally, without the collective farming system, without the selfless labor of the men and women collective farmers, we could not have coped with this most difficult task.

If in the third year of the war our Army experiences no shortage of food, if the population is supplied with food, and industry with raw materials, this is evidence of the strength and vitality of our collective farming system and of the patriotism of our collective farm peasantry.

Vital Part Played by Transport

A great part in helping the front has been played by our transport, by railway transport in the first place, and also by river, sea and motor transport.

As is known, transport is a vital means of communication between the rear and the front. One may manufacture great quantities of arms and ammunition, but if transport does not deliver them to the front in time they may remain a dead weight as far as the front is concerned. It must be said that transport plays a decisive part in the timely delivery to the front of arms, ammunition, food, clothing, etc.

And if in spite of wartime difficulties and shortages of fuel, we have been able to supply the front with everything necessary, this should be credited in the first place to our transport workers and employees.

Nor does our intelligentsia lag behind the working class and peasantry in helping the front. The Soviet intelligentsia is working with devotion for the defense of our country, constantly improving the armaments of the Red Army and the technology and organization of production. It helps the workers and collective farmers to expand industry and agriculture, and promotes Soviet science and culture in the conditions of war. This does credit to our intelligentsia.

Friendship of Peoples

All the peoples of the Soviet Union have risen as one to defend their motherland, rightly considering the present Patriotic War the common cause of all working people, irrespective of nationality or religion.

By now the Hitlerite politicians have themselves seen how hopelessly stupid were their hopes of discord and strife among the peoples of the Soviet Union. The friendship of the peoples of our country has withstood all hardships and trials of war and has become tempered still further in the common struggle of all Soviet people against the fascist invaders.

This is a source of the strength of the Soviet Union.

As in the years of peaceful construction, so in the days of war, the leading and guiding force of the Soviet people has been the Party of Lenin, the Party of the Bolsheviks. No other party has ever enjoyed or enjoys such prestige among the masses of the people as our Bolshevik Party.

And this is natural. Under the leadership of the Party of the Bolsheviks the workers, peasants and intelligentsia of our country have won their freedom and built a socialist society. In this Patriotic War the Party stood before us as the inspirer and organizer of the nation-wide struggle against the fascist invaders.

The organizational work of the Party has united and directed toward a common goal all the efforts of the Soviet people, subordinating all our forces and means to the cause of the enemy's defeat. During the war the Party has cemented still further its kinship with the people, has established still closer connections with the broad masses of the working people.

This is a source of strength for our State.

The present war has forcefully confirmed Lenin's well-known statement that war is an all-round test of a nation's material and spiritual forces. The history of wars teaches that only those states stood this test which proved stronger than their adversaries as regards the development and organization of their economy, as regards the experience, skill and fighting spirit of their troops, and as regards the fortitude and unity of their people throughout the war.

Ours is just such a State. The Soviet State was

never so stable and solid as now in the third year of the Patriotic War. The lessons of the war show that the Soviet system proved not only the best form of organizing the economic and cultural development of the country in the years of peaceful construction, but also the best form of mobilizing all the forces of the people for resistance to the enemy in time of war.

The Soviet power set up 26 years ago has transformed our country within a short historical period into an impregnable fortress. The Red Army has the most stable and reliable rear of all the armies in the world.

This is a source of the strength of the Soviet Union.

There is no doubt that the Soviet State will emerge from the war even stronger and even more consolidated. The German invaders are desolating and devastating our lands in an endeavor to undermine the power of our State. To an even greater extent than before the offensive of the Red Army has exposed the barbarous bandit nature of the Hitlerite army. In the districts they seized the Germans have exterminated hundreds of thousands of our civilians. Like the medieval barbarians of Attila's hordes, the German fiends trample the fields, burn down villages and towns and demolish industrial enterprises and cultural institutions.

The German crimes are evidence of the weakness of the fascist invaders, for only usurpers who themselves do not believe in their victory act in this way. And the more hopeless the position of the Hitlerites becomes, the more viciously they rage in their atrocities and plunder.

Our people will not forgive the German fiends for these crimes. We shall make the German criminals answer for all their misdeeds.

Restoration is Great National Task

In areas where the fascist cutthroats have for a time been masters we shall have to restore the demolished towns and villages, industry, transport, agriculture and cultural institutions; we shall have to create normal living conditions for the Soviet people delivered from fascist slavery. The work of the restoration of the economy and culture is already going full blast in the districts liberated from the enemy. But this is only the beginning.

We must completely eliminate the consequences of the Germans' domination in the districts liberated from German occupation. This is the great national task. We can and must cope with this difficult task within a short time.

3. Consolidation of the anti-Hitler coalition. Disintegration of the fascist bloc.

The past year has marked a turn not only in the Patriotic War of the Soviet Union but in the whole World War. The changes which have taken place during this year in the military and international situation have been favorable to the USSR and the Allied countries friendly to it, and detrimental to Germany and her accomplices in brigandage in Europe.

The victories of the Red Army have had results and consequences far beyond the limits of the Soviet-German front; they have changed the whole further course of the World War and acquired great international significance. The victory of the Allied countries over the common enemy has come nearer, while the relations among the Allies, the fighting partnership of their armies, far from weakening have, contrary to the expectations of their enemies, grown stronger and more enduring.

Eloquent evidence of this also are the historic decisions of the Moscow conference of representatives of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States of America recently published in the press. Now our united countries are filled with determination to deal the enemy common blows which will result in final victory over him.

Allied Operations

This year the Red Army's blows at the German-fascist troops were supported by the combat operations of our Allies in North Africa, in the Mediterranean Basin and in southern Italy. At the same time the Allies subjected and are still subjecting important industrial centers of Germany to substantial bombing and thus considerably weakening the enemy's military power. If to all this is added the fact that the Allies are regularly supplying us with various munitions and raw materials, it can be said without exaggeration that by all this they considerably facilitated the successes of our summer campaign.

Of course the present actions of the Allied Armies in the south of Europe cannot as yet be regarded as a second front. But still this is something like a second front. Obviously the opening of a real second front in Europe, which is not so distant, will considerably hasten the victory over Hitlerite Germany and will consolidate even more the fighting partnership of the Allied countries.

Thus the events of the past year show that the anti-Hitler coalition is a firm association of peoples, and rests on a solid foundation.

By now it is obvious to everyone that by unleashing this war the Hitlerite clique has led Germany and her flunkies into a hopeless impasse. The defeats of

the fascist troops on the Soviet-German front and the blows of our Allies at the Italo-German troops have shaken the whole edifice of the fascist bloc, and it is crumbling now before our very eyes. Italy has dropped out of the Hitlerite coalition never to return. Mussolini can change nothing because he is in fact a prisoner of the Germans.

Hitler's Vassals Seek Way Out

Next in line are the other partners in the coalition. Finland, Hungary, Rumania and other vassals of Hitler, discouraged by Germany's military defeats, have now finally lost faith in an outcome of the war favorable for them, and are anxious to find a way out of the bog into which Hitler has dragged them. Now, when the time has come to answer for their brigandage, Hitlerite Germany's accomplices in plunder, but recently so obedient to their master, are in search of a vent, looking for an opportune moment to slip out of the bandit gang unnoticed.

In entering the war the partners in the Hitlerite bloc counted on a quick victory. Already beforehand they had allotted who would get what: who would get buns and pies and who bumps and black eyes. They naturally meant the bumps and black eyes for their adversaries, and the buns and pies for themselves. But now it is obvious that Germany and her flunkys will get no buns and pies, but will have to share the bumps and black eyes.

Anticipating this unattractive prospect, Hitler's accomplices are now racking their brains for a way to get out of the war with as few bumps and black eyes as possible. Italy's example shows Hitler's vassals that the longer they postpone their inevitable break with the Germans and permit them to lord it in their states, the greater the devastation in store for their countries, the more suffering their peoples will have to bear.

Italy's example also shows that Hitlerite Germany has no intention of defending her vassal countries, but means to convert them into a scene of devastating war if only she can stave off the hour of her own defeat.

The cause of German fascism is lost, and the sanguinary "new order" it has set up is on the way to collapse. An outburst of the people's wrath against the fascist enslavers is brewing in the occupied countries of Europe. Germany's former prestige in the countries of her Allies and in the neutral countries is lost beyond recovery, and her economic and political ties with neutral states have been undermined. The time is long past when the Hitlerite clique clamored boisterously about the Germans winning world domination. Now, as is well known, the Germans have other matters than world domination to worry about, they have to think about keeping body and soul together.

Thus the course of the war has shown that the alliance of fascist states did not and does not rest on a reliable foundation. The Hitlerite coalition was formed on the basis of the predatory, rapacious ambitions of its members. As long as the Hitlerites were scoring military successes, the fascist coalition seemed to be a stable association. But the very first defeats of the fascist troops resulted in the actual disintegration of the bandit bloc.

Hitlerite Germany and her vassals stand on the verge of disaster.

The victory of the Allied countries over Hitlerite Germany will put on the agenda the important questions of the organizing and rebuilding of the state, economic and cultural life of the European peoples. The policy of our Government in these questions remains unchanging. Together with our Allies we shall have to:

First: Liberate the peoples of Europe from the fascist invaders and help them rebuild their national states dismembered by the fascist enslavers—the peoples of France, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, and other states now under the German yoke must again become free and independent;

Second: Grant the liberated peoples of Europe the full right and freedom to decide for themselves the question of their form of Government;

Third: Take measures that all fascist criminals responsible for this war and the sufferings of the peoples bear stern punishment and retribution for all the crimes they committed, no matter in what country they may hide;

Fourth: Establish such an order in Europe as will completely preclude the possibility of new aggression on the part of Germany;

Fifth: Establish lasting economic, political and cultural collaboration among the peoples of Europe based on mutual confidence and mutual assistance for the purpose of rehabilitating the economic and cultural life destroyed by the Germans.

Turning Point of War

During the past year the Red Army and the Soviet people have achieved great successes in the struggle against the German invaders. We achieved a radical turning point in the war in favor of our country, and now the war is heading for its final outcome.

But it is not like the Soviet people to rest on their achievements, to exult in their successes. Victory may elude us if complacency appears in our ranks. Victory cannot be won without struggle and strain. It is won in battle. Victory is near now, but to win

it a fresh exertion of strength is needed, selfless work throughout the rear, skilful and resolute actions of the Red Army at the front.

It would be a crime against the motherland, against the Soviet people who have fallen temporarily under the fascist yoke, against the peoples of Europe languishing under German oppression, if we failed to use all opportunities to hasten the enemy's defeat. The enemy must not be given any respite. That is why we must exert all our strength to finish off the enemy.

The Soviet people and the Red Army clearly see the difficulties of the coming struggle. But already now it is clear that the day of our victory is approaching. The war has entered that stage when it is a question of driving the invaders completely from Soviet soil and liquidating the fascist "new order in Europe."

The time is not far distant when we shall completely

clear the enemy from the Ukraine and Byelorussia and the Leningrad and Kalinin Regions, liberate from the German invaders the peoples of the Crimea, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia and the Karelo-Finnish Republic.

Comrades! For the victory of the Anglo-Soviet-American fighting alliance! For the liberation of the peoples of Europe from the fascist yoke! For the complete expulsion of the German fiends from our land!

Long live our Red Army!

Long live our Navy!

Long live our gallant men and women guerrillas!

Long live our great motherland!

Death to the German invaders!



As they place a wreath on the tomb of the Grand Duke Golenishchev-Kutuzov, under whose leadership Napoleon's Grand Army was driven from Russian soil in 1812, these Red Army men swear to smash the German invaders



"I don't know which of us the Fuehrer loves best—but he plunders us all equally."

Cartoon by Y. Gani

IN LIBERATED KIEV!

Report to the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Stalin, from the Secretary of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, Nikita Khrushchev, on the situation in Kiev:

At dawn on November 6, 1943, the troops of the First Ukrainian Front liberated Kiev from the German occupationists. Leading workers of the city, Party and Soviet organizations arrived in the city with the vanguard troops.

The fine organization of artillery fire by our artillerymen should be especially noted. Our accurate and exceptionally powerful artillery fire at once silenced the enemy artillery and thus facilitated the vigorous advance of our infantry and tanks.

Fearing complete encirclement in Kiev, the Germans fled in panic from the city and had no time to burn and blow up Kiev as they did Poltava and other towns of the Ukraine east of the Dnieper. However, the enemy did blow up and set fire to several important objectives. Kiev University, the House of Defense, the city's Public Library and two power stations were burned down; two shops of the Bolshevik works, the mechanized bakeries, the waterworks, all bridges, viaducts and a number of large apartment houses were blown up. Almost all the theaters of the city escaped destruction. (The Circus, the Red Army Theater, the Theater of Young Spectators, and all movie houses in the central part of the city had been burned earlier).

The Germans pillaged almost all houses in the city; from several buildings—the buildings of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic—they carried away even the door-knobs, window sills, doors, window frames, hardwood floors and marble slabs.

The Germans attempted to abduct the whole population of the city. They organized a hunt after residents, making use of dogs specially trained for man-hunts. The people of Kiev devised various methods to escape the roundups; they hid in the sewers and wells, buried each other in the basements of houses and hid under various junk in attics.

Doctor Pashkov told me that in order to get the police dogs off his trail he decided to hide in a basement, and before going there greased the soles of his shoes with ichthyol ointment, later pouring kerosene around his hiding place. Numerous cases of suicide were registered in Kiev during the roundup. Professor Lozinsky, on hearing the police enter his

apartment, swallowed poison, as did his wife and daughter.

The Germans carried out mass shootings of those who hid from abduction. Many bodies of residents who tried to hide were found in Podvalnaya, Mikhailovsky and Fruktovy Streets. The Germans shot and burned them. They succeeded in abducting from the city an overwhelming majority of the population.

Kiev gives the impression of a dead city. At present people are returning in large groups from the neighboring forests, marshes and cemetery vaults. After the horrors, humiliations and privations they have lived through they present a terrible sight. They greet the Red Army men with indescribable emotion.

We are now engaged in establishing order in the city, registering the property which escaped destruction and restoring the most important branches of the municipal economy. Within a few days we shall be able to restore the waterworks, partly blown up by the Germans, and the city will have water. Electric equipment which escaped destruction at the plants will make it possible to supply the town with power sufficient for the first section of the waterworks and for lighting houses.

Part of the machinery and several of the ovens of the mechanized bakeries escaped destruction. In addition to this about 50 small bakeries will be used. This will enable us to organize the baking of bread within a few days.

We are taking every measure to build a railway bridge across the Dnieper as soon as possible.

On November 6 and 7, while in Kiev, I talked with many of the citizens, who spoke with tears of the horrors of the German occupation. Wherever I went, the people asked me personally to convey to you their most profound gratitude for the liberation of their native city and for saving them from death.

85-Year-Old Archeologist Honored

The Order of the Red Banner of Labor has been awarded by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet to Ivan Bychkov, corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences, on the occasion of his 85th birthday. The award was made for his outstanding services in the field of archeology, Slav-Russian paleography and library work.

SUPREME HEROISM OF TANK TROOPS IN BATTLE FOR KIEV

A PRAVDA correspondent describes the brilliant operations of Soviet tank troops in the battle for Kiev:

One tank formation emerged on the Dnieper when our motorized brigade, which had forced the river previously, was defending itself on the other bank against vastly superior enemy forces. Although replenishments were continuously ferried over on boats, pontoons, rafts, etc., this trickle could not sustain resistance against a vastly superior enemy. Immediate relief with large forces was imperative if our troops were to retain the bridgehead on the other bank.

The Command ordered the tankists to build a bridge over the Dnieper and to build it quickly. The task seemed almost impossible. The river in this place was wide and swift, the approaches to it were under enemy artillery fire, and lastly there were too few engineers among the tankists. But the order had to be carried out. The tankists went into the water, located the shallowest places, marked them with poles and thus laid a line for a future bridge.

Meanwhile the Command issued an appeal to carpenters among the local inhabitants and with them began to fell giant firs and oaks. Right on the spot they shaped them into prefabricated links for a bridge. Then the tankists, on rafts made from empty German gasoline drums, sailed out into the middle of the stream and drove in piles for the future bridge.

It was a stupendous job. The swift current carried away the men; the piles would not remain straight. The men had to dive and by their own weight hold down the end of the pile while it was being driven in from above. And there were hundreds of such piles to be driven in. To make it more difficult, the enemy rained shells on the builders and planes swooped down, knocking out piles and men. But by that time the work was already proceeding simultaneously in numerous places. Casualties in both men and piles were quickly replaced and the bridge kept growing. At last it was ready and the tankists exchanged their builders' axes for the steering gear of their tanks and rushed to the other bank.

No less heroic was the feat of the tankists under General Kravchenko. This tank formation was speeding towards the scene of the violent battle for Kiev. But its road to the Dnieper was barred by the Desna. Narrower than the Dnieper, but swift and with an uneven bed, this river presented a serious obstacle. Ordinarily, heavy pontoons and ferries would have been needed to cross it. But time was short.

"We must get to the other bank and quickly," said General Kravchenko, and they did. The men went

into the water, and diving and feeling for the ground with their feet at last found a place where fording of the river seemed possible.

A course 300 meters wide was marked out by poles for the fording. In some places it was two meters deep. Kravchenko's tanks were not amphibians, but the Command decided to ford the river. All night the tankists stopped up holes and crevices in their tanks, preparing for the crossing. Of course the tanks were not hermetically sealed and water, lots of it, was bound to seep in. But the idea was that before the water reached the engines and stalled them the tanks would already be on the other bank.

At dawn the best tank drivers descended from the bank into the river. They steered blind, while the tank commanders, peering through the hatches of the turrets, gave them instructions. The water seeped into the tanks, poured over the drivers and penetrated the motor compartments, but strong blowers drove it out and to the onlooker it appeared that whales were swimming across the river, ejecting water-spouts.

Finally the tanks reached the other bank. The first machines were over, then a tank battalion, followed by one tank brigade after another. Thus this unparalleled amphibian march was made. Not a single machine was lost in the crossing.

This daring raid had far-reaching effects. Right afterward the tankists forced another river, the Irpen, and struck out eastward through a forest tract, surprising a German group advancing northward from Kiev. The Germans lost thousands of men, abandoned 40 guns and scores of mortars and staff cars. The general commanding one of the routed German divisions fled in his underwear. Important staff documents were found in his headquarters.

As a result of this bold maneuver, the commanding heights on the right bank, north of Kiev, fell into our hands.

Ukrainian Air Ace

The Ukrainian air ace, Vyacheslav Leshchenko, who has just been awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, only began to fly after the outbreak of war. He first distinguished himself during the defense of Stalingrad, when he destroyed 16 enemy planes in battle against the fliers of Richtofen's air fleet. Later he took part in the violent Kuban air fighting, destroying 11 enemy planes in a short time. This summer he has distinguished himself on the Central front. At Bryansk alone he shot down, personally or in group combat, 19 enemy planes.

Russian-American Friendship

By Andrei Sizov

The fighting collaboration between the Soviet Union and the United States by no means evolved as a fortuitous military combination, but has its roots in history.

In its time the independence of the United States stimulated the struggle for democracy in all countries and caused great elation in Russia. Alexander Radyshchev, famous Russian writer and democrat of the 18th Century, spoke with warm enthusiasm of the American militia and of George Washington in his book *Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow*. And in his poetry he refers to George Washington as "an unbending, invincible warrior—freedom's leader."

In 1784 Nikolai Novikov, another Russian classicist, wrote: "Rome had its Camillus, Greece its Leonidas and Sweden its Gustav Adolphus, but none of these heroes can compare with George Washington. He has founded a republic which will probably offer refuge to those fighters for freedom driven from Europe." In answer to Novikov were the words of Philip Freneau, poet of the War for Independence, who in an ode to the rights of man spoke of the flame of liberty which shed its light even upon the waters of Russia.

The traditions of 19th Century America lived again when the Decembrists, aristocrat revolutionaries, rose against the absolute monarchy in St. Petersburg on December 14, 1825. This rebellion was suppressed, but the uncompromising Decembrist V. Rayevsky declared: "Oh Brutus, oh Washington! I will not degrade myself! I will not be a weak and willess slave, lest I earn the contempt of those who are near and dear to me."

While in prison, Kakhevsky, one of the five Decembrists who were executed, wrote: "The North American States and their Government will serve as a shining example to our descendants in the distant future."

The spiritual descendant of the Decembrists, the Russian democrat Alexander Herzen, at the end of his play *William Penn*, mentions George Washington and Benjamin Franklin as two of the greatest Americans.

The Civil War in the United States coincided with the peasant rebellions in Russia during the Sixties of the 19th Century. In those days analogies were frequently drawn between the struggle in the United

States and that in Russia. In a sketch, *Pennsylvania and Carolina* (dedicated to those sections of the Ukraine on the left of the Dnieper recently liberated from the Germans by the Red Army), Grigori Danilevsky compared the reactionary conservative section of Russian landowners who defended the institution of serfdom with their counterparts in Carolina who defended slavery. The progressive men of the Kharkov and Poltava Regions in Russia he compared with the Pennsylvanians. In this sketch Danilevsky indicated the many similarities between colonization as carried out in the New World and in certain sections of Russia.

Nikolai Chernyshevsky, great Russian writer, scientist and democrat, expressed Abraham Lincoln's ideas in the journal *Sovremennik* (Contemporary). Chernyshevsky believed the North would be victorious; he knew that the liberation of slaves in America would come as inevitably as the liberation of Russian serfs.

In literature, the American classics have always been popular with Russian youth, generations of whom have read Harriet Beecher's Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The works of Mark Twain, J. Fenimore Cooper, Longfellow and Jack London have been widely read in Russia.

Leo Tolstoy wrote: "Great literature is born when society undergoes moral regeneration. A good example of this is the period of the abolition of slavery, when Russia was in the throes of the struggle against feudal law, and the abolitionist movement was gaining momentum in the United States. What sort of writers did America produce then? Harriet Beecher Stowe, Emerson, Thoreau, Lowell, Longfellow, Harrison and Parker. In Russia there were Dostoevsky, Turgenev and Herzen."

When Lincoln Steffens arrived in Paris in 1919 from cold and hungry Moscow, he spoke words which electrified the West: "I have seen the future, and it works."

Soviet and American scientists and scientific institutions maintain contact and collaboration. Over 100 Soviet scientists have been elected to membership in various American scientific organizations. Americans have also played an important role in the reconstruction of Soviet industry.

"We respect American efficiency in all things—industry, technique, literature and life," said Joseph Stalin, in reply to a question by the writer Emil Ludwig.

WE SHALL REBUILD DNIeproGES

By Maxim Rylsky

The author of this article is one of the most outstanding Ukrainian poets.

The Red Army has crossed the Dnieper. What thoughts and emotions these words awaken in the mind and heart of every Ukrainian, of every Soviet patriot! The Dnieper—in that one word is contained all the history, all the strength and tenderness of the Ukraine. The liberating army has passed the great boundary which divides our republic into two parts, different in nature but the same in soul—the Ukraine east and west of the Dnieper.

For every Ukrainian the thought of the Dnieper evokes all the passion, all the love, pain and joy of his heart. It evokes dear memories of the past, wherein shines latent the bright joy of the future.

I remember the famous Dnieper rapids. When we began to build the Dnieper hydro-electric power station, known as Dnieproges,* I sometimes felt a vague, romantic regret at the disappearance of those rocky witnesses of the past, that splendor of whimsically raging foam.

"Proud Nature Prostrate"

But my regret at once yielded to another emotion, a hundred times stronger: a consciousness of the might of the human intellect and the greatness of the human will. Anyone who has visited the Dnieper power plant, who has seen the busy life of the factories it served, who knows what wonderful changes Dnieproges brought about in Ukrainian agriculture, will appreciate the pride with which I wrote: "And you, O man, will see proud nature prostrate at your feet."

Our own hands had to destroy Dnieproges for the sake of victory. We destroyed Dnieproges for the sake of the bright future. We shall rebuild an immeasurably more magnificent Dnieproges.

Just before the war I made a trip by water from Kiev to Odessa: immortal Kiev, its golden cupolas glittering in the sun, its green gardens, its landing stage farewells with their faint atmosphere of bright sadness. And as the white steamer sailed away over the caressing Dnieper, blue in the distance and brown-yellow at close quarters, people, poplars and willows were reflected in the water, stacks of green and fragrant hay, and the shapely, bronzed, clear-voiced girls raking the freshly-mown grass in the meadows.

In the fragrant early morning we descended to the Dnieproges sluices. Below us streamed the blue Dnieper, gloriously reborn, and in the mist appeared the banks from which the brave Zaporog Cossacks

sailed forth in their light canoes, seeking fantastic sea adventures.

At white-green Kherson, slumbering in the blazing sun, we transferred to a large sea-going steamer which brought us to Odessa, so pervaded with the romantic enchantment of the sea.

In the spring of 1939 I attended the Shevchenko conference, when bards of all the peoples of the Soviet Union, *askugs* (story-tellers) and *kobzars* (minstrels) reverently placed flowers and wheat ears from their native fields at the feet of the immortal singer of the Ukraine, the unforgettable nightingale.

At the sacred grave great words of friendship, words "of truth and love" were spoken, and it seemed that the Dnieper listened, and carried the words, proud and rejoicing, to the Black Sea, and the Black Sea conveyed them to other seas and oceans, and throughout the world ranged our joy and our glory.

Brother Dnieper, Sister Volga

It was of the Dnieper that Shevchenko wrote in his first printed line of verse: "The broad Dnieper raging and groaning." It was to the Dnieper that Gogol dedicated some of his most inspired pages. The Dnieper is the soul of the Ukrainian land, and when we say that the Russian and Ukrainian peoples breathe as one, and that their hearts beat together, this is how we express it: the Dnieper and the Volga—brother and sister.

Evil vultures swooped to torment the Ukraine's flowering body, the Dnieper waters became troubled, red with our blood and the blood of vicious enemies. But we knew that none could drink the Dnieper dry, none could drain the sea. We had faith in our victory. The sons of the Ukraine, their brothers and cousins, were glad to die for our Kiev, for our Dnieper.

And now the warriors are watering their horses in the sweet Dnieper, and our artillery is thundering death to the foul German hordes.

The Dnieper is implacable to those who have raised hands against the flowering, free Soviet Ukraine. Lighting our victory, zig-zagging amid the clouds of great battles, it illumines the world.

*Dnieproges, the most powerful hydro-electric station in Europe, was built in 1932 on the Dnieper near the town of Zaporozhye. In 1936 it produced over two billion kilowatt hours, i. e., more than all the electric stations of Tsarist Russia produced in 1913. The dam was 760 meters long and over 60 meters high. It was destroyed by the Soviet people when the Red Army retreated beyond the Dnieper.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE 26th ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

Comrades Red Army and Navy men, sergeants, officers and generals, men and women guerrillas! Working people of the Soviet Union!

On behalf of the Soviet Government and of our Bolshevik Party I greet and congratulate you on the 26th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

We are celebrating the 26th Anniversary of our Great Socialist Revolution at a time of glorious victories scored by the Red Army over the enemies of our country. For over two years now our people have been waging a war of liberation against the German-fascist subjugators. One year ago our homeland was experiencing grim days. The enemy had at that time seized a large part of our territory. Millions of Soviet people were languishing in German bondage. The enemy hordes were pressing toward the Volga to turn Moscow from the east; they were besetting the approaches to Transcaucasia.

But with the very bodies of its men the Red Army barred the enemy's way. Our troops halted the hordes of foreign marauders and after routing them at Stalingrad began to drive them rapidly to the west. Without exception the Red Army has ever since held the initiative of operations in its hands.

In the winter of 1942-43 our gallant troops routed the crack German, Italian, Rumanian and Hungarian armies, killed or captured over a million enemy officers and men and liberated a vast territory covering up to half a million square kilometers.



KREMLIN—MOSCOW

In the summer of 1943 the Red Army dealt the enemy another staggering blow. In the space of a few days our forces frustrated the German summer offensive and by so doing buried Hitler's plan of defeating the main forces of the Red Army and turning Moscow from the Orel and Kursk side. Moreover, the Red Army itself went over to a determined offensive, broke up the enemy's powerful defense zones and in the space of three months drove him back to the west, at some points for 400 to 500 kilometers.

In the course of the summer campaign our forces ejected the enemy from the whole of the Ukraine east of the Dnieper, from the Donbas, Taman, Orel and Smolensk Regions, entered the Ukraine west of the Dnieper, captured Kiev, Capital of the Soviet Ukraine and also entered Byelorussia, captured the approaches to the Crimea and liberated over 160 towns and over 38,000 inhabited localities.

In the past year the Red Army has recovered from the Germans nearly two-thirds of our territory previously seized by the Germans and has delivered tens of millions of Soviet citizens from the German yoke.

In the past year the Germans have lost on the Soviet-German front over 4,000,000 officers and men, including at least 1,800,000 killed. On the Soviet-German front the crack cadre divisions of the German-fascist army have met their inglorious end; and together with them Hitler's plans of conquering the world and subjugating nations have been buried for all time.

True, the German army is still fighting stubbornly, it is clinging to every position. But the reverses the Germans have sustained since the defeat of their forces at Stalingrad have undermined the fighting spirit of the German army. Today the Germans dread encirclement like the very plague, and when in danger of being outflanked by our forces they flee, abandoning their equipment and their wounded on the field.

In the offensive operations of the past year our forces have gained experience in modern warfare. Our officers and generals are ably directing their troops, they are successfully mastering the art of military leadership. The Red Army has become the most powerful, most tempered of modern armies.

The Red Army's victories have further consolidated the international position of the Soviet Union.

Our Army's offensive has been supported by the operations of the Allied forces in North Africa, in the Italian islands and in the south of Italy. The air forces of our Allies have subjected Germany's industrial centers to telling bombing attacks.

There is no doubt that the Red Army's blows at the German forces from the East, seconded by the blows dealt by the main Allied forces from the West, will crush the military might of Hitler Germany and result in the complete victory of the anti-Hitler coalition.

The Red Army could not have achieved this year's great victories without the aid rendered to the front by the whole people. The Soviet people are giving all their efforts to support their Army. An endless stream of arms, ammunition, provisions and equipment is flowing to the front. The Urals and the Kuznetsk Basin, the Moscow and Volga country, Leningrad and Baku, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, Georgia and Armenia—all of our republics and regions—have come to be a mighty Red Army arsenal.

The Soviet people are successfully rehabilitating the industrial and agricultural areas recaptured from the enemy, rebuilding the factories, mills, mines, and railways, restoring the State and collective farms and enlisting the Soviet forces in the liberated areas to serve the front.

Our successes are indeed great. But to rest content with the successes we have achieved so far would be naive. Today, when the Red Army is battering the enemy beyond the Dnieper and is pressing forward to our country's western frontiers, it would be particularly dangerous to lapse into self-satisfied complacency and to underrate the grave difficulties of the struggle that still lies ahead. The enemy is now going to fight more viciously than ever for every scrap of territory he has seized.

Our Army's advance hastens the hour of reckoning with the Germans for the crimes they have committed on our soil. The struggle for final victory over the German-fascist invaders will call for still greater exertion and more deeds of valor on the part of our Army and our people.

Comrades Red Army and Navy men, sergeants, officers and generals, men and women guerrillas!

You have scored great victories in the titanic battles against our mortal enemy and have covered the battle standards of the Red Army and Navy with unfading glory. The Red Army and Navy now enjoy every opportunity to clear the whole Soviet land of the German invaders in the near future.

In the name of our country's victory over the German-fascist fiends I hereby order:

1. All our rank and file and sergeants tirelessly to improve their fighting efficiency, to observe strictly the regulations and orders of commanders and superiors, and everywhere and always to maintain exemplary order, firm discipline and a high degree of organization;

2. Officers and generals of all arms of the service to improve continually their direction of troops in action and the coordination of all arms, to consolidate the successes of the offensive, effectively to follow in swift pursuit of the enemy's forces, to bring up their rear services faster and to be bolder in using their reserves for fresh blows;

3. The whole of the Red Army boldly and resolutely to break up the enemy's defenses, to pursue the enemy day and night, giving him no chance to entrench on intermediate lines, to cut the enemy's communications by able and daring maneuvering, to surround and split up the enemy's forces and to annihilate or capture his men and materiel;

4. Men and women guerrillas to rouse the Soviet people to armed struggle against the Germans, to increase by every means their assistance to the Red Army in its advance, to wreck the enemy's rear services and headquarters, to save Soviet citizens from being killed or sent to servitude in Germany, and to ruthlessly exterminate the German-fascist blackguards.

Men of the Red Army and Navy, men and women guerrillas! Forward to the complete defeat of the German-fascist invaders!

Long live the 26th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution!

Long live our victorious Red Army!

Long live our victorious Navy!

Long live our gallant men and women guerrillas!

Long live our great motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, November 7, 1943



American trucks loaded with ammunition en route to front-line positions near Vitebsk

Radiophoto



HITLERITE HORIZONS—Views to the East and West

Cartoon by Boris Efimov

KIEV TODAY

With every hour Kiev becomes more animated. People are returning from the nearby towns and settlements of Vasilkov, Svyatoshino and Belichi, where they had fled before the retreat of the Germans to escape abduction to Germany. Only a few hours ago the big building in Institutskaya Street was empty, and now we see people carrying trunks, bedding and iron stoves into it.

Everything betrays the impatient desire of the people to restore the city to life. Railwaymen are repairing the smashed tracks; communication workers are putting up telephone wires. The engineer of the power station reports to the City Soviet. The Germans did much to put the station out of commission, but our people also did much to save the equipment. The engineer says that a great deal of it was hidden in the sub-stations, and that much can be restored in a comparatively short time. Soon a turbine, assembled from the parts of demolished ones, will shortly be put into operation: the city will have electricity.

Another visitor to the City Soviet is the director of the laundry. He also had preserved his equipment and some soap. The laundry will start work immediately. After him comes a man who discloses where he had hidden a ton of benzine. Another tells of flour hidden from the Germans.

Citizen Heroes

How was this done? After the liberation of the city, representatives of local authorities went to the tobacco factory which also had been saved from destruction. At the gates they found armed workers. "Who stationed you here?" they asked. "Yasha," was the answer. This was the name of a member of the underground organization active in Kiev during the occupation. Invisible threads of this organization extended to the citizens in their homes and factories. On the orders of the underground, the workers of the river transport scuttled cutters and valuable equipment lest they fall into the hands of the Germans. On the orders of the underground the measures of the occupationists were sabotaged in the plants, arms were hidden and destruction carried out at the railway.

When the Germans evicted the population from most of the districts of Kiev, some citizens still remained in hiding in basements and sheds, watching every move the Germans made and taking advantage of every false step. When the fascists made one of their roundups, these people hid in sewers, but continued to wage a relentless war against the enemy, which proved no less terrible for the Germans than the guerrilla warfare.

On the eve of the German retreat the underground committee issued a handbill calling upon the citizens of Kiev to resist in every way abduction to slavery in Germany. It is not surprising, therefore, that on the very first days after the liberation of the city the workers of many of the most important factories were on the spot, and proceeded at once to restoration work.

The city now has a festive appearance. In every flat where the residents remained red flags hang from the windows. Many of the houses are decorated with portraits of Lenin and Stalin, which the citizens had preserved during the occupation at the risk of their lives. Everyone who can walk is in the streets.

People Eager for News

The people halt Red Army men and officers and shower them with questions about the situation at the fronts, about life in the Soviet Union. And when Army General Vatutin and the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine Khrushchev appear on the streets, the jubilation of the people knows no bounds. They make a solid ring about them, cheering loudly.

Meanwhile citizens evicted by the Germans from their flats continue to return to their homes. In every street one sees them pushing wheelbarrows and carts with goods. Many come from distant villages, where they have been in hiding for the two years of the occupation. First they ask that the sappers inspect their homes. The sappers make the rounds of the houses, extracting mines from stoves, from under staircases, and digging out explosive charges planted under floor planks and in the walls. In one house sappers found a time bomb set to explode a month later.

The people of Kiev bravely defended their city from destruction. Before retreating the Germans drove away all the fire brigades. But the firemen took advantage of the confusion in the enemy's ranks, returned to the city with their vans and horses and on their own initiative began fighting fires. The Germans bombed Kiev; the mines continued to explode. There was no water—the enemy had blown up the waterworks—but the firemen bravely fought on and by three P. M. on November 7, the chief of the city fire brigade, staggering from fatigue, was able to report to the Military Commandant: "All fires in the city localized."

At night Kiev is shrouded in a strict blackout. But the city is not asleep. Tank columns roll through the streets, tractors pull guns, the infantry marches. Our troops are on their way to the west.

Separate Education for Boys and Girls

By Professor M. M. Tsusmer

The introduction of separate education for boys and girls in Soviet schools is an important step in the development of national education in the USSR.

Among the many problems which confronted our country after the October Revolution, one of the foremost was the establishment of the social equality of the sexes. Soviet public schools played a great part in the solution of this problem. The children and young people of both sexes who were to realize this equality in practice were educated in these schools.

In the 26 years of building the Soviet State, this problem has been successfully solved. The full social equality of the sexes has become a fixed fact in Soviet life. The public schools of our country educated those reserves of women who have taken their places beside men in industry, transport and agriculture, in sciences, education and public affairs. The public schools educated the women who with guns in hand have taken their places beside the men defending their country against the Germans, and who have replaced their husbands, fathers and brothers in industry and agriculture in the rear.

But in the Soviet Union social equality has never been regarded as a leveling process, crushing all those valuable attributes stemming from the difference in sex. When the Soviet State was first faced with the problem of destroying the social inequality of the sexes, co-education was a progressive step. Now we are faced with other problems: to further strengthen the Soviet family by fully developing those characteristics of manhood and womanhood essential for two equal heads of a family—the father and the mother; and to strengthen still further the defense of our country by developing to the fullest the physical and moral traits of both sexes.

The principal role in the correct solution of this problem falls primarily upon the schools. The time has come for such changes in the Soviet educational system as will give the schools greater opportunities for developing manly traits in the defenders of our country and its future fathers, and traits of conscious motherhood in the bearers of the new generation.

The achievement of this aim at the present time—when the social equality of the sexes is an established fact—depends in a large measure upon separate education in the secondary schools. One of the shortcomings of co-education is that it relegates to the background some of the most valuable characteristics of both boys and girls. Some of the prominent educators in the United States, the classical land of

co-education—for example, the well-known educator and psychologist, Professor Stanley Hall—while finding no particular drawbacks in co-education for children up to the age of 11 or 12 years, state, and with reason, that co-education for youth from the ages of 12 to 18 has some harmful effects, in that it tends to make boys effeminate and girls masculine.

On the basis of equal education for boys and girls as carried on in the USSR, different approaches to school studies and habits are needed—the differences conforming to the nature of the sexes. This approach can be achieved only if there is a division of education. Several necessary changes will have to be made in study outlines and programs. The study of hygiene will cover the rudiments of anatomy and physiology; the curriculum will include elementary psychology, and there will also be physical training, military training and training in domestic science.

One must bear in mind that the physical and psychological development of boys and girls from the ages of 11 to 17 do not run parallel. The school program which the boy of 11 to 14 can carry on with ease is too great a strain for girls of the same age, while the general capacities of boys from 14 to 17 are somewhat lowered. It is therefore clear that boys and girls require different pedagogical regimes and different discipline. In co-educational classes it is also difficult to introduce certain subjects of physical and hygienic character; this is true primarily of questions of sex.

Finally, one must take into consideration the differences in the psychology of young boys and girls. In teaching children steadfastness, discipline and comradeship, a boy has one historical and literary conception of a hero—a girl has another; a boy is influenced in one way—a girl in another. There are undoubted advantages in separating the education of boys and girls from the ages of 11 or 12 to 18.

New Chairs in Art Institutes

A number of new chairs have been established in higher educational institutes of the USSR, under the Committee for Arts, which is attached to the Council of People's Commissars. They include chairs of the History of Russian Music, at the Moscow, Leningrad and Saratov Conservatories; of the history of the Russian Theater, at the Moscow Institute of Theatrical Art and the Leningrad Theatrical Institute; and of the History of Russian Art, at the Moscow and Leningrad Art Institutes.

THE FARMERS RETURN

Creative work is developing on an ever wider scale in the liberated areas. It begins as soon as the Red Army has driven the last Germans from the recaptured places. It is carried out with high enthusiasm, as a great national task.

Restoration goes hand in hand with liberation. As soon as the thunder of guns dies away towards the west, the busy song of saws takes its place. People flock from all directions to their native places. The terrible picture of destruction fills them not only with indignation and the desire to avenge these crimes, but also with creative, constructive energy.

The collective farmers are returning to their villages. Those who hid in the forests, those who escaped in time to wait and work relentlessly for the liberation of their native places, are coming back.

The cattle evacuated to the east are now returning home. Herds of large and small cattle are moving along the roads leading west. The collective farmers welcome them joyfully. Warm shelter and ample fodder await them.

According to a decision of the Government 600,000 cattle are being returned from the eastern regions to the liberated areas, which have also received over 340,000 fowls from the State.

The tractor stations are being restored. They are a guarantee that the collective farms will flourish again.

In the Kuban 1,100 schools have already resumed their work, as well as many children's homes, technical schools and institutes. The people who return are even more concerned about the schools than about their homes. Russian children in German slavery have been longing for their schoolbooks, for books with honest Russian words.

Power of Unity in Work

The collective farm system was built up by hard work and self-sacrificing struggle for the sake of a cultured, happy life. Life was hard in the past. People were unable to cope single-handed with the difficulties. They overcame them jointly, by uniting in collectives.

And now that the German plunderers in the occupied territories have destroyed everything created in many years of work, now that they have destroyed the collective farms and turned Soviet collective farmers into solitary slaves, helpless and suppressed, our people have realized with added force the whole

significance of Soviet unity in work, and the great power inherent in the collective farm system.

These Soviet people took up the restoration of their native collective farms with indescribable zeal. The Hitlerites were bent on exterminating the human being in the farmer. They deprived him of his own name, treated him like cattle, put humiliating marks on him. From whom could he ask for help in German slavery? On whom could he rely?

And now, having returned to his free family, the eyes of the Soviet citizen light up, his back straightens, he feels new strength in his hands. The urge for work, for free, honest work for their own motherland, for their own collective farm, for their family, grips the people who have been returned to life. This is why the liberated territories seethe with such prodigious exertion.

Seed Ready for Day of Liberation

The liberated districts feel our whole country behind them. The whole country felt for them and cared lovingly for them in the days when they were under the German yoke, cut off from us by the front line. Far back in the Soviet rear collective farmers sowed in excess of the plan, so that districts captured by the Germans might have seed when the Red Army liberated them.

They carefully reared and fattened for them the collective farm cattle evacuated to safe areas. And now the whole country is restoring the territories which have suffered.

National friendship is proved in misfortune. From every corner of the Soviet Union trainloads of building material, timber, iron and coal are coming in. Industrial and cultural workers are coming. The workers and collective farmers of the Kuibyshev Region regard it as their sacred duty to help the collective farmers of the Smolensk Region.

Guerrillas Lead Reconstruction

The best of the collective farmers were organized for the guerrilla struggles. They are now being organized for energetic work to restore the shattered economy. News of the successful completion of field work is coming in from the liberated districts. Overfulfillment of quotas is becoming a commonplace.

This is history in the making. Tremendous efforts are required of us all. While the enemy has not yet been completely driven out of our country, while he is still hitting back furiously, we are restoring our land.

Notes from Front and Rear

The people of Stalingrad celebrated the 26th Anniversary of the October Revolution in streets and squares which last year were the scene of bloody battles. A great meeting was held in the Voroshilovsk District, after which delegations from factories and institutes placed wreaths on the graves of soldiers who perished defending the city.

The speeches at the meeting were characterized by an earnest desire to reply to Stalin's report by hastening the restoration of Stalingrad—by new labor heroism. Ten thousand apartment houses have been built or repaired; theaters, clubs, schools, restaurants, hospitals and baths are functioning, and new industrial enterprises are being launched.

★

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has instituted additional military ranks for the higher commanding personnel of the Red Army. The new ranks are: Chief Marshal of Artillery, Chief Marshal of Aviation, Chief Marshal of Armored Tank Troops, Marshal of Signals Service Troops, Chief Marshal of Signals Service Troops, Marshal of Engineering Troops and Chief Marshal of Engineering Troops.

★

Colonel General Petrov, commander of the troops of the North Caucasian Front, has been promoted to the rank of Army General and decorated with the Order of Suvorov, First Class. Lieutenant Generals Grechko and Leselidze have been promoted to the rank of Colonel General and awarded the Order of Kutuzov, First Class. The Order of Kutuzov has also been awarded to Lieutenant Generals Grechkin and Laskin and Major General of the Commissary Service Bayukov.

★

A monument honoring the memory of Lieutenant General Zygin, who died in action in the Poltava area, will be erected in the city of Poltava.

★

The Shakespeare Bureau of the All-Russian Theatrical Society has arranged a series of lectures on the stage history of Shakespeare's most popular plays. Some 50 critics and actors are giving the lectures. Professor Troitsky talked two evenings on the history of *Twelfth Night*. His large audience heard new information from unique documents on the performance of this play in many countries.

The Order of Suvorov, First Class, has been awarded to Marshal of the Soviet Union Semyon Timoshenko for successful fulfillment of Government assignments in the liberation of the Taman Peninsula from the German invaders, and for assistance rendered in the direction of operations of troops of the North Caucasian Front.

★

The Peoples Commissar of Light Industry of the USSR, S. G. Lukin, states that during the first eight months of 1943 the output of the leather goods industry was 258 per cent of that for the same period of 1942, of the textile industry 148 per cent, of the glass industry 137 per cent, of the parachute industry 112 per cent.

★

Tens of thousands of Soviet women are busy getting in stocks of firewood for the winter. Anna Vershinina, a 43-year-old collective farm woman, headed a team of women who during the summer cut down twice as much timber as a team of skilled men lumberjacks. Vershinina, famous in the Volga Valley forests of Yaroslavl Region, was decorated with the Order of Lenin for her splendid work as a lumberjack last year. She has now brought her four daughters to the forest and challenged the lumbermen of Yaroslavl Region to a competition in wood-cutting.

From Siberia large quantities of very valuable timber arrive daily, a large part of which was cut by women. At one timber camp in the Krasnoyarsk area 27 women's teams are at work. One of them, headed by 19-year-old Lomtina, cut twice the quota for skilled lumberjacks. The women have opened clubs, stores, restaurants and laundries in the taiga settlements, and have built fine highways through the forest, enabling the lumber to be removed much more quickly than was formerly possible.

★

Scientific institutes in the Transcaucasus, where the autumns are warm and humid and the winters short, have been experimenting with winter crops. Particularly fine results were obtained by the Abkhazian Scientific Station from a winter sowing of peas. The spring harvest yielded 60 tons per hectare. This fall thousands of hectares were sown to winter crops on the collective farms of Transcaucasia.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY ON THE LIBERATION OF ZHITOMIR

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Vatutin:

On the night of November 12 to 13, continuing the successful offensive, the troops of the First Ukrainian Front, as a result of the vigorous thrust of cavalry and infantry, captured the large regional center of the Ukraine—the town of Zhitomir—the most important German junction of communications and a powerful center of resistance.

In the fighting for the liberation of the town of Zhitomir the following troops distinguished themselves: Cavalrymen under Lieutenant General Baranov and the troops under Colonel General Moskalenko.



Soviet cavalrymen force a crossing of a Byelorussian river

Radiophoto

Special distinction was won by the First Stavropol Cavalry Division of Guards bearing the name of Blinov, decorated with the Order of Lenin and of the Red Banner, under Major General Ovar; the Second Red Banner Crimean Cavalry Division of Guards named for the Council of People's Commissars of the Ukraine, under Colonel Mamsurov; the Seventh Red Banner Cavalry Division of Guards under Colonel Vasiliev, the 61st Independent Tank Regiment under Major Yermolenko, the 87th Independent Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ivashov, the 230th Independent Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Shcherbakov, the 1,461st Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Nikulin, the 23rd Kiev Infantry Division under Colonel Basteyev, the 30th Kiev Infantry Division under Colonel Yankovsky, the 218th Romodan-Kiev Infantry Division under Major General Sklyarov, the 17th Kiev Artillery Division under Major General of Artillery Volkstein, the 83rd Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Golubev, the First Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Serdnyak, the 143rd Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Kalashnikov, the 222nd Kiev Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Major Kodyakov, the 1,660th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Chernyak, the 839th Kiev Howitzer Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Bogatyrev.

To mark the victory achieved the name of Zhitomir shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in fighting for the liberation of the town of Zhitomir. Henceforward these formations and units shall be named:

The First Zhitomir Cavalry Corps of Guards named for the Council of People's Commissars of the Ukraine, the Seventh Red Banner Zhitomir Cavalry Division of Guards, the 61st Zhitomir Independent Tank Regiment, the 87th Zhitomir Independent Tank Regiment, the 230th Zhitomir Independent Tank Regiment, the 1,461st Zhitomir Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment, the 23rd Kiev-Zhitomir Infantry Division, the 30th Kiev-Zhitomir Infantry Division, the 17th Kiev-Zhitomir Artillery Division, the 83rd Zhitomir Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the First Zhitomir Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 143rd Zhitomir Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 222nd Kiev-Zhitomir Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 1,660th Zhitomir Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 839th Kiev Howitzer Artillery Regiment.

The First Zhitomir Cavalry Corps of Guards named for the Council of People's Commissars of the Ukraine, the Second Red Banner Crimean Cavalry Division of Guards named for the Council of People's Commissars of the Ukraine and the 218th Romodan-Kiev Infantry Division, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner. The First Stavropol Cavalry Division of Guards bearing the name of Blinov, decorated with the Order of Lenin and of the Red Banner, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of Suvorov, Second Degree.

Today, November 13, at 7:30 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Zhitomir—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Zhitomir.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION, STALIN

Moscow, November 13, 1943

GUARDS FORMATION HONORS SINGER

Ekaterina Orleneva is a popular singer of Russian folk songs. As a very young girl she took part in the Civil War; during the years of peace she perfected her marksmanship and became an expert rifle shot. A few years ago she made an airplane tour of the Arctic with Cherevichny, famous Polar flier, and gave concerts for winter residents who had been stationed there for several years.

When the Germans invaded her country Orleneva went to the front to entertain Red Army units. When she found herself in a battle sector she joined in the

fighting as a tommy gunner or rendered first aid to the wounded. During an enemy air raid Orleneva was gravely wounded by bomb splinters. For some time her life was in danger, and when she finally recovered she was almost completely blind. Despite this handicap she returned to the front and continued her concerts.

As a tribute to her valor, Orleneva was made a member of a Red Army Guards unit—the first actress of the Soviet Union to be so honored. Only recently the Government conferred on her the title of Merited Artist of the Republic.

FROM KIEV TO STALINGRAD—AND BACK

By a Soviet War Correspondent

In the anxious days of September, 1941, I was returning to Moscow from Ufa. The boat was crowded to capacity. Most of the passengers were recently mobilized men en route to their units. It was the third month of the war against the Germans. Every day at 10 o'clock in the morning the passengers of our small boat gathered around the loudspeaker. At that hour broadcasts were given from the three besieged cities, Kiev, Odessa and Leningrad. We approached the loudspeaker with anxious hearts and waited tensely to hear whether the voice of beleaguered Kiev would come over the radio or not. Particularly intense fighting was going on there.

My attention was attracted to a Senior Lieutenant—tall, black-haired, with a face handsome yet sad—who listened to the broadcasts from the three cities as one listens to a doctor reporting the state of health of a very dear person dangerously ill. From the way his face lit up when Kiev's call signals resounded over the Northern Kama, I knew the Lieutenant was from the Ukrainian city.

We struck up an acquaintance. Senior Lieutenant Golovko, a Ukrainian and formerly a physics in-

structor in a Kiev school, was returning from Ufa, the city to which his family had been evacuated. He had been summoned there by the serious illness of his son.

Now he was desperately anxious to reach Kiev, which his unit was defending, and throughout the entire voyage he was distracted and grieving.

"I haven't any military experience," he said, "but I feel that I must be there."

* * *

I met Golovko again only recently. At first I did not recognize him, in his faultless uniform of Major of a Guards Regiment. The gray in his hair and his worn face revealed that he had acquired his military bearing in hard campaigns against the enemy. He looked much older.

We spoke of our earlier meeting, his anxiety to reach Kiev.

"Did you get there in time?" I asked.

"Yes, I got there . . . and I was one of the last to leave my native city," he said with a bitter smile.



After the Germans were routed, this lifetime resident of Letki village, Kiev Region, returned from his hiding-place in the forest to find the village in ruins, his home destroyed

Radiophoto

"The German armies we encountered in 1941 had triumphantly marched all over Europe; they were already advancing, simply by momentum, while we were still raw recruits on the battlefield.

"I remember one battle near Peryatin in the summer of 1941 . . . I commanded an anti-aircraft battery. The infantry regiment to which we were assigned was retreating. We were ordered to move back and withdraw the guns from the forward lines. Suddenly a formation of German planes started to attack us. I lost my wits, and instead of opening fire against the dive bombers I gave orders to cover the guns, but there was no time to camouflage them, and as a result we lost two. The infantry didn't fire a single shot at the bombers—at that time many regarded the attacks of the Germans as some satanic force let loose, and tried to hide from them in one way or another, but no attempts were made as yet to use infantry fire against them.

"There's no gainsaying that our troops went through hard, tragic trials, but now the peaceable Soviet citizen has become a soldier who has tasted the joy of victory. I myself lived through a lot in those two years. I traveled the road of retreat from Kiev to Stalingrad over several hundred kilometers of Ukrainian soil. In the summer of 1941 the Ukraine blossomed as never before . . . but perhaps it only seemed so to us because we did not know for how long we were leaving it. People were still left in the villages when we retreated—it's not easy for a peasant to leave the place where he has lived all his life, abandon his home and leave the fruits of his long years of labor to fall into the invaders' hands.

"I will probably never be able to forget those bitter days. But I was fortunate—I retraced the whole road from Stalingrad to Kiev. Now the situation at the front has so entirely changed that episodes of the retreat of 1941 sometimes seem utterly impossible. This summer our formation broke through four German defense lines near Mtsensk in 45 minutes. The breakthrough was very swift, but it had been prepared methodically, with strict coordination of all branches of the service, according to an exactly drawn plan. The attack was preceded by an artillery barrage, after which sapper troops, the so-called 'de-miners,' went into action. After the mines had been removed, tanks started across the fields followed by infantry. Our planes were patrolling overhead all the time. The operation was brilliantly carried out in record time. The Germans hurled tanks into a counter-offensive, but it was futile.

"In general, the German tank attacks have lost their former significance. Not because the Germans have fewer tanks—from the number we smashed in the Orel and Belgorod campaigns . . . about 500 daily . . . it is easy to judge that now, too, the Germans are concentrating an enormous number of tanks at the

fighting positions. But our troops no longer fear tank attacks. The 'monsters' proved easily vulnerable. Stormoviks, anti-tank guns, mortars and combustible bottles are sufficiently reliable weapons in fighting them, and our troops have learned to handle these weapons superbly.

"There was a certain Sergeant, Seanokov, in my regiment, who had been mobilized in the first month of the war and was a cook for almost a year. During the Stalingrad defense he acquired two new military professions—'de-miner' and tank destroyer. He learned to handle an anti-tank gun like an expert, smashing three tanks himself in the battle near Mtsensk.

"The Germans maintain in their bulletins that they are retreating in absolute order, taking all wagon trains and materiel with them. The traces which they leave on the roads of retreat, however, point to the opposite. On the night of September 21 our unit took Pereyaslav, and on the morning of the 22nd we approached Gorodischche. All along the road we encountered abandoned German guns, trench mortars and cases of mines. The last twelve kilometers of the road before the Dnieper crossing were strewn with the carcasses of slaughtered animals—oxen, cows, horses, pigs—by the tens of thousands. The Germans had tried to drive the farmers' livestock across the Dnieper, but as we found out later the guerrillas had prevented them and the Germans had turned the road into a slaughterhouse.

"They even abandoned 'trophies' they had won—my orderly found a cage with a canary in it on the road, children's striped socks and a child's blue angora hat. The Germans abandoned 13 Tiger tanks and nine Ferdinand guns stalled in the mud on the left bank of the Dnieper."

"Did you take part in the crossing to the right bank?"

"Yes . . . I caught my first sight of the Dnieper at noon on September 22. It is difficult to express the feelings which gripped me at that moment. I had dreamed of that day for two years . . . and here before my eyes stretched the landscape familiar since my childhood—low reeds, creeks and thinly-wooded banks. But there was no time to indulge in retrospection—the Germans kept up a hurricane of fire from the right bank, and it was necessary to act without delay. Our artillery began a duel with the Germans. Orders were given to start the crossing.

"An orderly brought to my command post a man who had just emerged from the reeds on the embankment. He was a guerrilla . . . and in 20 minutes a whole guerrilla detachment arrived. When I saw the People's Avengers in the flesh, they were just as I had imagined them—in patched Ukrainian coats and

bast shoes . . . two years of roving in the forest had worn out their boots . . . their faces covered by a heavy growth of beard.

"The guerrillas dragged out canoes, flat-bottomed boats and even trophy gasoline, hidden beforehand in the reeds. The first to be ferried over on the rafts were the motorcyclists and light tanks. The guerrillas and sub-machine-gunners crossed in boats under enemy fire and engaged the Germans in battle on the right bank. Meanwhile we started laying a pontoon bridge for ferrying the heavy tanks and guns across. The German aircraft made five attacks. Twice they succeeded in destroying the crossing, but the third time we finished the bridge and ferried the tanks and self-propelled guns over to the right bank.

"Our sappers extricated intact the nine Ferdinands and 13 Tigers abandoned by the Germans in their retreat. They were among the first to be ferried over the Dnieper on the heels of their former owners.

"Yes, I have tasted the joy of returning to my native land. But this return was also accompanied by no little grief. The Ukraine as I remember it no longer exists. Chopped down orchards and burned and demolished villages met us there. All this was by no means necessary for military reasons.

"The Germans have special incendiaries. When our troops press back the German units and force them to retreat from a village, incendiaries go through the place from end to end with lighted torches and set fire to all the houses. In the village of Demki, for instance, not a single house was left

standing—every one had been burned. The few surviving inhabitants live in mud huts roofed with pieces of tin or piles of straw. The village of Taratul is a wasteland, with four cherry trees growing side by side, miraculously preserved, emphasizing the devastation of the land through which the Germans have passed.

"It will be a long time before the Ukraine heals its wounds, and not all those fighting for the Ukraine will live to see that day. Many of the comrades with whom I started my soldier's life are no longer living. Here in Moscow I learned of the death of my close friend Nikolai Rublev, a classmate of mine at Kiev University. He was killed in the battle for Taganrog.

"Yesterday I heard a salute of honor to the troops which liberated Melitopol. You will pardon me if what I tell is perhaps very well-known and ordinary, but each time you hear a salute of honor for the victors, just think what sacrifices, what straining of moral and physical forces, this new victory demanded. Nobody loves life as a soldier does, and nobody thinks as little about death as he does. But the bitterness of losing comrades-in-arms is one of the greatest tragedies of the war."

"Tell me, Comrade Major, what are you doing in Moscow? Have you come to study?"

"No, I am only here on special business, and tomorrow am leaving for the area of Kiev. I hope to celebrate the November 7th holidays there with new victories."

Soviet Trade Unions in Wartime

By Nikolai Ritikov

The trade union movement in Russia dates as far back as 1905-1906, but only after the October Revolution were the conditions created for its unhampered development. Under Soviet power the trade unions became mass organizations, uniting nine-tenths of the working population. By 1940, 25.5 of the 30,000,000 workers and employees in the Soviet Union were union members. The 180 Soviet trade unions were organized on the industrial principle—that is, all those working in the same place belong to the same union.

At the head of union organizational activities stands the local committee, which supervises the work of the shop committees and group organizers. The plant committees are responsible to the Regional Union Committees, or in the case of especially large enterprises, directly to the Central Committees of the unions. The latter report to the Trade Union Con-

gresses, and between congresses to the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

The trade unions of Russia played an active part in the October Revolution, and in the Civil War hundreds of thousands of their members went to the front as volunteers. In the reconstruction period which followed, the unions carried on a broad campaign to raise the productivity of labor. Their organizers and leaders created the idea of competition in work, which played a large part in successfully carrying out the industrialization program of the country.

At the same time, the union organizations are active in providing for the economic and cultural needs of their members. They gave great aid to the Government in organizing public education and abolishing illiteracy. Before the war with the German

invaders, Soviet trade unions had 6,000 clubs, 15,000 libraries, 18,000 radio-broadcasting centers and 1,000 cinema outfits.

Huge funds were spent for labor protection in the period of 1932-37, more than 500 million rubles being assigned for this purpose. Even under the difficult conditions of war the trade unions have not relaxed their attention to the problems of labor protection. Work in this field is carried on by thousands of labor inspectors and special committees.

When Hitlerite Germany perfidiously attacked the USSR the unions immediately rose to the defense of the country. Tens of thousands of union members volunteered for the Red Army or went into the guerrilla detachments.

At the outset of war the unions began to reorganize their work, making it their main task to utilize labor productivity for the supply of all necessary equipment to the Red Army. They initiated the nation-wide competition for maximum aid to the front which has been extremely effective in increasing production. In the past year, for example, labor productivity increased by 30 per cent in the aviation industry, by 15 per cent in the arms industry, by 38 per cent in the tank industry and by 50 per cent in factories producing shoes and clothing.

Soviet trade unions took an active part in evacuating enterprises to the interior from front-line regions and in settling the workers who accompanied them in new homes.

The war brought millions of new workers into industry and the task of training them fell in a large measure upon the trade unions. Old hands guided these inexperienced workers and helped them to master the most efficient methods of work, thus raising the general labor productivity.

The introduction of food rationing necessitated by the war stimulated the trade unions to search for additional sources of food supplies. These were found in individual and collective vegetable gardens, which in 1942 were cultivated by 5,000,000 workers and office employees and in 1943 by 10,000,000. The unions helped their members to acquire garden plots and seeds, and organized lectures and consultations in agronomy for the gardeners.

In 1940 the trade unions had a social insurance budget of 8,779,000 rubles. They maintained 230 sanatoriums and rest homes where 2,120,000 workers usually spent their vacations.

The unions are paying great attention to needs created by the war. They provide their members with medical treatment and strive to lessen the number of cases of illness and accident. In some unions these cases have been decreased below the prewar level. During 1943 large sums were expended for

labor protection, diets for sick workers, the restoration of sanatoriums and rest homes devastated by the Germans, the organization of children's summer camps, etc.

Soviet trade unions have done much to directly increase the fighting power of the Red Army. At the outset of the war they turned most of their sanatoriums and rest homes into hospitals. This year the Red Army received complete aviation units and tank columns built from funds contributed by union members. The unions furnished many bath trains, field repair shops for shoes, laundries, barber shops and portable libraries. They organized special training courses which turned out large numbers of nurses and nurses' aides for the Army.

Elements of military training were introduced into the work of the All-Union Sports Societies. In the winter of 1942-43, these societies trained 1,000,000 members, many of whom took part in the militarized cross-country run held this summer.

The military efforts of the Soviet Union have been accompanied by the setting up of friendly relations with the trade union movements of the United Nations. Soviet trade unions are convinced that in close collaboration with the trade unions of the United States and Great Britain they can do much to further the final defeat of Hitlerism, and by shortening the duration of the war prevent the needless destruction of more millions of lives.

"Power Trains" Aid Restoration Work

"Power trains" are the latest invention of Soviet electricians working on the rapid restoration of areas devastated by the Germans. These trains are made up of the locomotive, which serves as a steam generator, coupled to a flatcar on which a turbine is mounted, followed by cars with transformers, distribution boards, control panels, and living quarters for the personnel.

When the "power train" reaches a town liberated from the Germans, a temporary line is strung and power at once supplied to begin restoration on a large scale. Wherever possible the power is used first to restore the local power station and thus put local industries on their own feet.

The first of these trains was built for Stalingrad. The innovation involved certain new problems: the elimination of vibration in the turbines mounted on such unusual support as flatcars, and others. With the aid of eminent Soviet scientists these problems were solved and the experiment has proved so successful that nine trains are now functioning in the liberated areas.

PETER TCHAIKOVSKY—50th Anniversary

By M. Zagorsky

November 6 marked the 50th anniversary of the death of Peter Tchaikovsky. In this great Russian composer were embodied love of country and musical genius.

"I am passionately devoted to all that is Russian . . . the Russian himself, his language, the Russian intelligence and Russian beauty," wrote Tchaikovsky. And this love, which formed an integral part of all Tchaikovsky's work, was sensed by every Russian who heard his compositions . . . and every Russian reacted to him with equal devotion.

That is why today Tchaikovsky may be justly called a true people's "poet-musician." His melodies have taken root in the very hearts of the people, who sense in him above everything else truth and sincerity.

Tchaikovsky himself was aware of his particular genius as a musician. In 1891 he wrote to V. Pogozheva: "It seems to me that I am truly gifted with the ability to give accurate, sincere and simple expression, through the medium of music, to those feelings, sentiments and images brought out in a text. In this I am a realist and a true Russian." It was Tchaikovsky's realism in music which the two realists in Russian literature, Ivan Turgenev and Anton Chekhov, valued and esteemed. Turgenev was enraptured by Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*. Chekhov wrote to M. Tchaikovsky, the composer's brother, "I would willingly stand in attendance day and night at the entrance to the house where Peter Tchaikovsky lives. If one were to speak of ranks in Russian art he would today take second place only to Leo Tolstoy. I would give third place to Repin, and the 98th to myself."

Tchaikovsky's biography is as simple and lyrical as Russian nature. He was born April 25, 1840. His father, Ilya Tchaikovsky, was a mining engineer and director of a metallurgical plant. From early childhood the boy was "haunted" by musical phrases and at the age of five once cried out, "Oh that music . . . music! Take it away! It is here inside of me and gives me no rest!" And he broke down and cried, pointing to his head.

His talent as a musician was so outstanding it upset all his parents' plans for the brilliant professional career indicated after his completion of the St. Petersburg Law School in 1859.

In 1862 he began to study at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. This was the beginning of a smooth upward path for Tchaikovsky, who has contributed 10 operas, three ballets, seven symphonies, 102 romances and a number of symphonic suites, concertos, overtures, cantatas, marches and other musical pieces

to Russian and world music. He died in St. Petersburg in 1893, supposedly a victim of cholera.

Tchaikovsky's operas and symphonies have gained such world-wide popularity there is no necessity to discuss them here in detail, nor to explain their importance in the history of music. His finest operas were based on stories of the great Russian writers. *Eugene Onegin*, *Mazeppa* and *The Queen of Spades* follow the verses of Pushkin; *Cherevichki* is based on a tale by Gogol. His *Voyevoda* was inspired by A. Ostrovsky's writings. Tchaikovsky's *Maid of Orleans* is devoted to Schiller's creation and his *Manfred Symphony* to Byron's poem; his *Overture to Hamlet*, his symphonic fantasia *Tempest*, and the *Overture to Romeo and Juliet* to the world of Shakespeare; his *Iolanthe* to Anderson, and his *Nutcracker Suite* to the romanticism of Hoffman.

As Tchaikovsky explained, he could only react to those themes capable of receiving great depth of musical emotion. In a letter to a friend he wrote, "Dukes and knights and ladies of the Middle Ages might dazzle my senses, but not my heart, and where the heart does not feel there can be no music."

For a long time Tchaikovsky's music, and particularly his *Fourth*, *Fifth* and *Sixth Pathétique Symphonies* were considered the expression of a pessimistic conception of the world—man's submission to fate and destiny and to forces alien to his nature. Soviet musical experts have definitely refuted this view, pointing out that a pessimist could not have written such optimistic works as his *Manfred*, *Italian Capriccio*, *Iolanthe* and *Sleeping Beauty*. At first Tchaikovsky intended to call his *Sixth Symphony* "Life," which alone proves that the struggle against death and destiny and their final conquest were expressions of the composer's own innermost concepts. This is particularly clear in his last large opus, the opera *Iolanthe*, in which the blind Iolanthe's attainment of light through love forms the basic triumphal theme of the entire composition.

Tchaikovsky's works were warmly received by the American public. He visited the United States in 1891, playing many of his compositions on the concert stage. While in New York he made the following entry in his diary regarding the immediate success of one of his symphonic concerts, at which he himself played. "I was called back repeatedly, the audience waved their handkerchiefs—in other words, I had won the heart of my American audience. Most valuable of all to me was the enthusiasm of the orchestra." To M. Tchaikovsky he wrote the following about the city itself, "New York is a very handsome and unique town," and in another letter he said, "I can see that I shall carry away the fondest memories of America."

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

After the capture of Kiev, the Red Army continued to advance, extending the captured terrain on the right bank of the Dnieper west of Kiev. The Germans continue to retreat, unable to check the Soviet offensive. The battles west and northwest of Kiev resulted in the Soviet troops forcing the Teterev River and capturing a number of populated points on its western bank. Soviet units also cleared a large territory northwest of Kiev in the direction of the Kiev-Korosten Railroad, advancing 80 kilometers northwest of Kiev. On the Kiev-Zhitomir highway, Soviet forces advanced 110 kilometers and are now 25 kilometers northeast of Zhitomir.

The Soviet advance in the western Ukraine threatens vital enemy communications from Poland and the western Ukraine in the southeasterly direction.

The main railway lines supplying German troops in the Dnieper Bend between the southern Bug and Dniester Rivers and the Black Sea Coast are the Brest-Fastov-Krivoi Rog and Lvov-Odessa railways. With the capture of Fastov by the Red Army, the Fastov-Krivoi Rog line has been cut and communications between the German forces operating in Kiev and Krivoi Rog have been severed. Thus the Lvov-Odessa line has to bear the burden of carrying sup-

plies and German troops on the southern sector of the front.

The fierce battles raging west and southwest of Kiev and the stubborn enemy resistance are due to the German striving to preserve these vital communications. Red Army units continue to drive wedges into the enemy defenses. Red Army tank units are cutting up the enemy communications and inflicting heavy casualties on the Germans in men and armaments.

On the Kerch Peninsula in the Crimea, Soviet troops are continuing to extend the captured terrain. The Germans have launched fierce counter-attacks with strong forces of infantry and tanks, which Red Army units have repulsed, considerably improving their positions. The battles in this sector continue.

The Red Army offensive during the summer and autumn of 1943 has laid the foundation for a speedy and complete rout of Nazi Germany. The power and significance of the blows are clear from the net results of the Red Army's summer offensive and the defeat of the Nazi troops near Kiev.

Red Army blows have already weakened the German war machine, rendering the rout of Nazi Germany at an early date quite possible.

In Search of Subterranean Waters

By I. Andronov

A geological committee under the Council of People's Commissars has surveyed the subterranean waters of the Soviet Union. Its findings are recorded in a wealth of maps, tables and volumes of explanatory material. Hundreds of thousands of water sources have been recorded, described and marked on maps. Thanks to our hydro-geologists, Soviet industry and agricultural enterprises now have tremendous documentary material at their service.

In distributing Soviet industry through the eastern and southeastern areas of our land, it has not always proved possible to relate our building projects to the available surface waters. Subterranean waters must often be the main source of water supply for new factories in the steppes of Siberia and Trans-Baikal and in the sands of middle Asia.

The old conception of Turkmenia as a waterless area has been completely discredited. An extensive zone of subterranean waters has been found adjoining

the Koret Dag mountain ridge. It is enough to supply vast areas of land, right up to the Kara-Kum desert.

On the Caspian Sea lies Krasnovodsk, the only port on the eastern shore, and the starting point of the Central Asian railway line. This large town used to suffer from an almost complete absence of vegetation and fresh water. A glass of fresh water was worth its weight in gold in the hot, dry summer. Special machinery distilled sea water, and water was also delivered by steamer from Baku, nearly 200 miles away.

For years explorers had been looking for sources of fresh water in this area. Until recently it was the opinion of many experts that the Krasnovodsk Peninsula, because of its geological structure, could have no subterranean water sources. But Soviet hydro-geologists persisted in their prospecting, and at last their stubbornness was rewarded. Krasnovodsk now has its own waterworks.

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THE CONSOLIDATION OF SOVIET-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

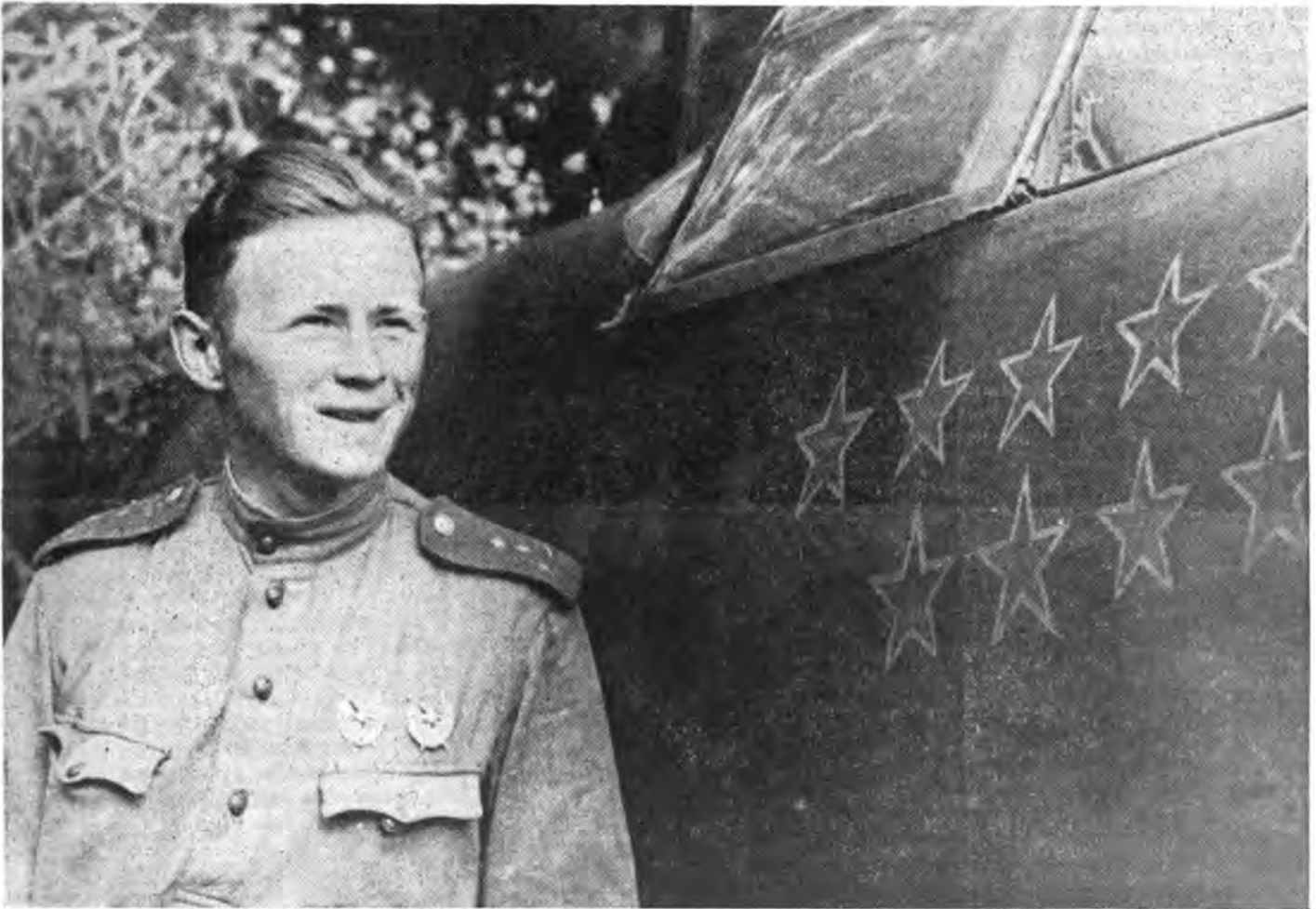
In an editorial, "The Consolidation of Soviet-American Friendship," IZVESTIA writes:

Ten years have passed since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the United States of America. On November 16, 1933 letters were exchanged in Washington between President Roosevelt and Maxim Litvinov. These letters expressed in identical form the hope that the relations now established between the two peoples would remain normal and friendly forever and that

henceforward the two peoples would be able to collaborate for their mutual benefit and for the maintenance of peace throughout the world.

Soviet-American friendly relations were fated to undergo many trials, but now it is apparent that as a result they have gained strength, and acquire ever greater significance not only for the two countries but also for all the peoples of the world.

The act of November 16, 1933 was an expression of the realization of leading political circles of the



Stars on Soviet Captain Mikhail Rakitin's plane show that he has downed 15 German aircraft

United States of the fact that the prolonged isolation which existed previously, and which divided the United States and the USSR, was not in accordance with the basic and vital interests of the two peoples. On the contrary, these interests insistently demanded the overcoming of the former separation—the more so, that the interests of the United States and the USSR did not clash anywhere. A realization of the community of interests of the USSR and the United States, both in economic and commercial relations as well as in the cause of insuring universal peace, to which great importance was always attached in the USSR, gradually penetrated to ever-wider sections of the public in the United States, as the danger of approaching Hitlerite aggression became more clearly outlined.

In his well-known Chicago speech in October, 1937 President Roosevelt stated that war is an infection which might spread to states and nations far from the original theater of hostilities, and he called for an effective quarantine against this infection.

The further course of events, the unleashing of the war in Europe by Hitlerite Germany and especially Germany's attack on the Soviet Union, served as a powerful impetus to the strengthening of friendly relations between the United States and the USSR, relations which later grew into a fighting alliance against a common enemy.

In November, 1941 Stalin stated: "One may say with certainty that the coalition of the United States of America, Great Britain and the USSR is very real, and that it is growing and will continue to grow for the benefit of our common cause of liberation." Stalin's statement was fully confirmed by the course of further events. The signing of the "Agreement Concerning Principles Applied to Mutual Aid in the Prosecution of the War Against Aggression," signed in June, 1942, during the visit to Washington of People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov, marked an important step forward in relations between the USSR and the United States.

The experience of the common struggle against Hitlerite Germany, and of mutual aid, has shown what a real force is the unity of action of the largest world powers in the solution of their national and international problems. It is impossible not to see that the effective meetings between representatives of the USSR, the United States and Great Britain have seriously contributed to the consolidation of the camp of the anti-Hitler coalition.

The participation of the United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull in the recent Moscow Conference of the three ministers was especially important in strengthening the friendship and collaboration between the USSR and the United States. The military collaboration of the USSR and the United States has already been of great benefit to the peoples of the

two countries and to all the United Nations. The American public realizes very well the invaluable contribution made by the Soviet Union and its Red Army to the cause of the defeat of the common enemy in the historical battles at Moscow, Stalingrad, Orel and Smolensk, Kharkov, at Kiev on the Dnieper, and in the Crimea.

The message of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship recently published in the United States expresses the essence of the relations between the United States and the USSR by saying that profound interests demanded the collaboration begun 10 years ago, which was of mutual advantage. Today this collaboration, which has turned into a fighting alliance, has become a cornerstone of victory itself.

The heroism of the Soviet people, the staunchness and great victories of the Red Army, showed the entire world the strength of Soviet patriotism, the loyalty of the Soviet people to their country, and the noble greatness of the Soviet people which bodily defends the whole world from the Hitlerite invaders.

The Soviet people highly values the aid rendered to the Red Army by our Allies—the United States and England—in the struggle against Hitlerite Germany. Stalin more than once pointed out the importance of this aid. In his report on November 6, 1943 Stalin stated: "This year the Red Army's blows at the German-fascist troops were supported by the combat operations of our Allies in North Africa, in the Mediterranean Basin and in Southern Italy. At the same time, the Allies subjected and are still subjecting important industrial centers of Germany to substantial bombing, and thus considerably weakening the enemy's military power. If to all this is added the fact that the Allies are regularly supplying us with various munitions and raw materials, it can be said without exaggeration that by all this they considerably facilitated the successes of our summer campaign."

The military tasks now facing our Allies are of major importance. The anti-Hitler coalition possesses a real superiority of forces over fascist Germany and her vassals. How soon victory comes now depends on how quickly and fully this superiority is brought to bear on the enemy in combined combat efforts.

The peoples of the USSR and the United States display a live and growing interest in each other, and a desire to understand more deeply the character, customs and peculiarities of a friendly nation. The political rapprochement and the strengthening of cultural relations contribute to the abolition and the overcoming of a number of prejudices regarding the Soviet country in the United States, prejudices which at times overcast and hindered the development of friendly relations between the United States and the USSR.

Much has been done in the United States and the USSR to prevent poisonous weeds from overrunning the road of mutual trust and understanding. Close collaboration demands a struggle against the sowers of nettles of mistrust and suspicion. How many times have the accessories of our enemies tried to frighten the American public with horrible tales about the USSR, and how many times have they failed together with their prophecies! Quite recently they foretold the failure of the Moscow Conference—the reality has shown what such prophecies are really worth.

Events have shown, and Stalin pointed this out in his report of November 6, 1943 that: "... the anti-Hitler coalition is a firm association of peoples, and rests on a solid foundation." In the same report,

Stalin stated: "The victory of the Allied countries over the common enemy has come nearer, while the relations among the Allies, the fighting partnership of their armies, far from weakening have, contrary to the expectation of their enemies, grown stronger and more enduring."

The recently concluded Moscow Conference showed that the collaboration between the USSR, the United States and Great Britain, which grew stronger during the war against Hitlerite Germany, has every basis for continuing to grow stronger, as a foundation for the quickest termination of the struggle against Hitlerite Germany and her satellites, and as a basis for the postwar collaboration of all large and small peace-loving peoples.

THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE

The following editorial appeared in Number 11 of the Soviet publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The Moscow Conference of the Foreign Secretaries of the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union focused the attention of the world to a greater degree than any other meeting of the leaders of foreign policy of these or other powers. This is quite natural. It was the first meeting of authoritative representatives of all the three Allied powers which head the anti-Hitler coalition of freedom-loving nations.

This meeting took place at the stage in the struggle against Hitler Germany and her allies when, as a result of the splendid victories of the Red Army and the successful operations of British and American troops, every possibility had been created to carry defeat to the common enemy by the united efforts of the Allies.

No one can doubt that the success of the Moscow Conference represents a substantial contribution to the struggle against Hitler Germany and her satellites, as well as to the task of insuring a durable and stable peace after the war.

The success of the Conference is all the more significant for the fact that the tasks confronting it were by no means simple or easy. The present stage of the war demands clear and unambiguous decisions, both as regards the further conduct of the war and as regards the establishment of a firm postwar order which will safeguard the peace-loving nations against the threat of aggression.

There were plenty of difficulties in the way of such decisions, as will be clear to everyone. The Soviet public and press, like the public and press of our Allies, were fully alive to the complexity of the tasks confronting the Conference. On the other hand, these difficulties were speculated upon by the Hitler-

ites, who prophesied that the Conference would end in failure. Nor is it a secret that a note of "skepticism" regarding the Moscow Conference was struck in the columns of certain British and American press organs which maintain an unfriendly attitude toward the Soviet Union. By coping with the difficulties of the tasks confronting it, the Moscow Conference defeated the expectations of enemies and their accomplices.

Naturally the Conference focused its attention in the first instance on the urgent problems relating to the conduct of the war, as well as on the more mature problems of the postwar period. Documents published by the Conference made it perfectly clear that the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States are fully determined to work together in accomplishing the tasks confronting them in the war and after the war.

As we had occasion to say prior to the Moscow Conference, the fundamental condition for the strengthening of friendly cooperation between the three powers both during the war and after the war is that they unite their military efforts to shorten the already protracted war.

The need to shorten the war, which with pardonable insistence was stressed by the Soviet public, has now, as a result of the Moscow Conference, been officially recognized by the Governments of the Allied countries. Expressing the will of their peoples, the Governments of the three countries unanimously recognized at the Moscow Conference that the shortening of the war was their prime task.

It is to be presumed that the "definite military operations with regard to which decisions have been taken, and which are already being prepared" referred to in the communique of the Conference, will defeat Hitler's last trump, his hope of protracting the war.

The thing now is to put the measures which are recognized to be of prime importance and urgency into practice. The thing now is to give effect to the adopted decisions, the significance and value of which will be determined by how and in what degrees and at what speed they are put into effect. This is fully understood by the peoples of all countries which have drained the cup of suffering and humiliation caused them by the hated Hitler tyranny. It is extremely important that the obligations assumed by our Allies and now confirmed at the Moscow Conference be carried out promptly.

Highly important in this connection will be the attitude of certain states—Turkey, for example—which to this day adhere to a policy of neutrality. The adoption by such neutral states of a policy of direct support to the anti-Hitler coalition in its fight against the already undermined German fascism, which is the enemy of all freedom-loving countries, will be of immense significance in solving the problem of shortening the war.

The Moscow Conference was a demonstration of the unanimous desire of the peoples of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States to continue their present close cooperation after the war as well, with the purpose of insuring a stable peace and security for all peace-loving nations. The declaration on general security in which the Governments joined during the Conference marks out ways and means of solving the problem of world security.

This declaration of the four nations represents the development of a number of analogous intra-national documents published during the war, and at the same time favorably differs from them, inasmuch as it contains the first concrete expression of the idea governing the international kernel in the shape of the four leading world powers. This is of the highest importance for the defeat of the common enemy of the freedom-loving nations and for further international development generally, and especially in the matter of uniting all freedom-loving nations, large and small, in the interests of their national security and general peace.

Particularly noteworthy is the decision to establish a postwar international organization open to membership by all freedom-loving states, large and small. This organization should certainly draw a lesson from the history of the prewar decades, when the League of Nations was unable to fulfil its mission as an instrument of peace and security owing to the absence of an agreed policy among the major peace-loving states, which opened the door to fascist aggression. The experience of history in the period between the First and Second World Wars demonstrates how great are the difficulties in the way of insuring a durable peace in Europe.

On the other hand, in the present war the formation of the anti-Hitler coalition shows that ground

exists for broad cooperation between the great democratic powers: the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union. The examination of European problems at the Moscow Conference brought out all the importance of broad cooperation between these three great powers. So unfortunate a feature of the earlier period as the withdrawal of the United States from European affairs is a thing of the past.

The common decisions arrived at between the three Allied powers showed that they fully recognize, for the establishing of a stable postwar order, that their responsibility has been laid upon them by the whole course of history.

The principle, proclaimed in the declaration, of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving states belonging to the international organization, defeats the malicious attempts of the Hitlerites and their echoers to sow distrust of the great peace-loving powers among the small and medium nations.

As we know, particularly zealous in this respect are the reactionary circles of the Polish emigration, whose divorcement from their own people is becoming ever more manifest. From these circles emanate diverse artificial plans for the creation of a federation of states in Central and Eastern Europe. These plans envisage the formation of permanent groups of states by the emigre governments, which for the most part lack a sufficiently strong contact with the people.

Furthermore, these plans provide for the union in one and the same federation of the countries which have been victims of the Hitlerite bandits and the countries which abetted the Hitlerites in their banditry. It is likewise clear that under the guise of federation it is intended to resurrect the policy of the notorious "cordon sanitaire" against the Soviet Union.

The harmfulness of artificially encouraging such projects, which may result in violating the genuine will of the sovereign nations by imposing all sorts of political combinations upon them, is only too obvious.

As for the Soviet Union and its relations with other European countries, a definite step forward may be noted. As we know, for several months past preparations were being made for the conclusion of a Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty on the pattern of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty. The obstacles in the way of the conclusion of this treaty, which our readers are aware of, have now been removed, and the arrival in Moscow of Eduard Benes, President of the Czechoslovak Republic, is expected shortly for the signing of the treaty with the Soviet Union.

The Conference agreed to insure joint examination on the part of the three powers of European questions arising out of the war by the setting up of a European Advisory Commission in London, composed of representatives of the United States, the Soviet Union and Great Britain. This Commission should undoubtedly

play a big part in promoting cooperation between the three great powers.

Noteworthy, too, is the establishment of an Advisory Council for matters relating to Italy, which in the first instance will be composed of representatives of the three Allied Governments and the French Committee of National Liberation, with the subsequent addition of a representative of Greece and Yugoslavia. This Council will have to deal with serious questions as military operations develop in Italy and the Mediterranean generally.

The declaration regarding Italy confirms the policy of the Allies to restore democracy in Italy, a policy which the Soviet public has consistently advocated, and therefore particularly welcomes. The declaration holds the position that fascism and all of its evil consequences must be utterly destroyed in order that the Italian people may be given every opportunity to establish a government and other institutions based on the principles of democracy.

The principle of establishing democracy in Italy, proclaimed in Moscow on behalf of Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union, must be made the basis for the revival of the political life of the Italian people. It defines the general policy of the three Governments toward other analogous cases.

The declaration on Austria is a blow at Hitler Germany and a demonstration of the determination of the Allied powers to obliterate all consequences of the Hitlerite aggression.

The declaration of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and the head of the Soviet Government, Stalin, on the responsibility of the Hitlerites for atrocities perpetrated by them is a solemn warning to the Hitlerite bandits. The Allied powers declare that the Hitlerite criminals will be pursued to "the uttermost ends of the earth" and will be delivered to their accusers in order that justice may be done.

The success of the Moscow Conference has added to the confusion and dismay in the enemy camp. On the eve of the Conference the Hitlerites croaked in dull monotony that it was bound to be a fiasco, and asserted that the camp of the enemy was torn by contradictions. Now that the Conference has proved a success they have set up the cry that in Moscow the Allies surrendered Europe to the Bolsheviks. This falsehood is not only stupid, but utterly threadbare, and is not even fit to serve as a screen for retreat in the face of facts against which Hitler's futile propaganda has proved impotent. Evidently the dismay of the Hitlerites is such that they are unable to think of anything new.

The Conference of the three Foreign Secretaries was held in Moscow, the capital of the Soviet Union, which is bearing the main burden of the struggle against the German-fascist bandits and their satellites.

The Moscow Conference was held on the eve of the 26th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet regime. Granted that this is a chance coincidence, it is none the less profoundly symbolical. Ever since the birth of Soviet power all the forces of international banditry and aggression, as well as the abettors of these forces in the countries which were fated to become victims of the aggressors, pursued a policy making for the international isolation of the Soviet Union. The fascist bandits, and all the "appeasers," who connived at the acts of the bandits, strove not only to isolate the Soviet Union, but also to lay upon it the blame for this isolation.

Now, in the light of the events of the past years, it is clear to everyone that attempts to exclude the Soviet Union from the decision of cardinal questions of international policy can only benefit the forces which are inimical to the vital interests of peace-loving nations.

From its very inception the great Soviet power has been a firm bulwark of peace among nations. When Hitler Germany treacherously attacked the Soviet Union the latter proved to be a wall of steel against which the Hitlerite imperialist marauder broke its teeth. Our country not only stood firm in the face of trials which no other country in the world could stand; it dealt staggering blows to the war machine which Hitler Germany created for the conquest of world dominion—blows which make the defeat of the enemy by the united forces of the Allies at an early date quite feasible.

The power and significance of these blows are once more eloquently attested by the results of the Red Army's summer campaign. The Red Army's victories in the summer and autumn of 1943 have laid a firm foundation for the rapid and complete defeat of Hitler Germany. The sacrifice made by the Soviet people to the common Allied cause is now clearer than ever.

The Moscow Conference was the natural result of the present development of cooperation between the three great powers which head the anti-Hitler coalition; at the same time it marks a new stage in the relations of these powers. Now when the contours of future victory have become clear and distinct, it is particularly important that the chief Allied States should insure an agreed line on the major questions of the war in Europe, and, in the first instance, in the matter of shortening the war; and should also lay down definite guiding principles of policy for the postwar period, with the object of paving the way for a stable peace and general security.

It would be a mistake to minimize the difficulties which will inevitably arise in the solution of these problems. But these difficulties can be overcome, and the successful work of the Moscow Conference of representatives of three leading world powers is a token of this.

POLISH PATRIOTS ARE FIGHTING HITLER

By Wanda Wasilewska

President of the Union of Polish Patriots in the USSR

The Union of Polish Patriots was formed at the moment the Soviet Union broke off relations with the Polish emigre government in London. Such a Union had to be formed in order to organize the several hundred thousand Poles who were evacuated to the Soviet Union and left to their fate by the Polish emigre government.

We wanted to organize all the Poles who recognize the following three principles: the necessity for the extermination of fascism; the necessity for the participation of the Poles in the armed struggle against Germany; the necessity for friendship with the Soviet Union. We pay no attention to the political views and party affiliations of people in the past. All we want is to unite all Poles to create a Polish armed force here on Soviet territory and to show that the pro-Hitler and anti-Soviet views that influenced the emigre government in London do not represent the Polish people, are not their convictions, hopes and faith.

Of the various problems with which we were confronted in this organization, the armed force was the most important. The army which General Anders had formed left the Soviet Union more than two years ago and is inactive to this day. We were simply ashamed to look Soviet citizens in the face. In the Soviet Union there is no home without someone participating in the sanguinary and heroic struggle of the entire Russian peoples.

The Soviet Government satisfied all our requests and enabled us to form a division at once, and now even an army corps of armed forces on Soviet territory. We were given excellent arms—the best in the world—and plenty of them. Poles who wished to fight the German invaders arrived from every part of the Soviet Union. In the ranks of our First Division and in the Army Corps you will find literally all representatives of the Polish people—peasants, workers, intellectuals, painters and artists—representatives of every stratum of society.

The Division had only one wish, one desire—to complete its training and join the struggle as rapidly as possible.

On October 12 the First Polish Division, named for Kosciuszko, was assigned its first military task: to break through the German defense in a certain sector of the front, to advance eight kilometers and to cross the Dnieper. This task was carried out by the Kosciuszko Division.

Of other Polish units which are to follow the Kosciuszko Division, some are completing their training, others are being formed, and still others will soon be formed.

There are several hundred thousand Poles on Soviet territory. The majority are evacuated women and children, who have gone through many privations and much grief since 1939. Here in a country friendly to us they naturally lived under the same conditions as all citizens of the Soviet Union, but they were less prepared for the difficulties arising from the war, and their situation was more difficult. With the consent of the Soviet Government we have organized a commission for material help to the Poles. The Union of Polish Patriots tries to assure material security for the women, children, old people and invalids.

The care of children is the third task of the Union of Polish Patriots. The Soviet Government has given us the right to open Polish schools wherever there are 25 Polish children. Our main aim is to instill into the Polish population evacuated to the USSR a feeling which for years was eradicated: a feeling of friendship for the Soviet Union and for the fraternal peoples—the Ukrainians, Byelorussians and Russians—who have always been and will be our closest neighbors.

Our aim after the war is to return to Poland not as a crowd of refugees, but as citizens who have understood and seen much during the war and have come to the conviction that a future Poland will only exist if it is a genuine Poland, a just state, without oppression; a Poland which will live in friendship with all its neighbors, especially its Slav neighbors.

We must stress the fact that we receive enormous support and help from every organ of the Soviet power, beginning with the most outstanding leaders of the country and ending with the local authorities, who are helping us most willingly. Our Soviet friends do everything for us and we are forgetting the differences and enmity which have separated us not only for tens but for hundreds of years. This we saw clearly when Soviet girls were bidding goodbye to our fighters about to leave for the front; this we saw when a collective farm near Smolensk which delivered milk and other products for the Division on its way to the front, sent the following note, instead of the bill requested:

(Continued on page eleven)



(1) "So help me God!" Major General Zigmund Berling, Commander of Polish troops in the USSR, repeats after Chaplain Kupsz; (2) Polish troops take the oath to fight fascism to the last drop of their blood; (3) The Poles revive a century-old slogan . . . "For Your Freedom and Ours!"—(4) Girls of the Polish Division receiving Holy Communion; (5) Prayer before battle; (6) In the Divisional Chapel in the woods a special band plays solemn music

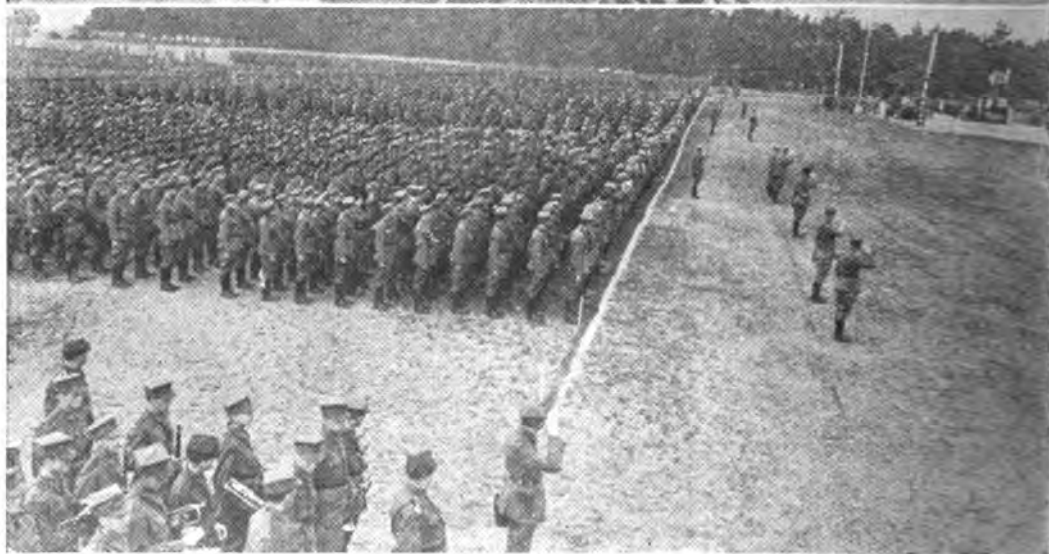
The battle standard of the Polish Kosciuszko Division bears on one side the words, "Honor and the Fatherland!" . . . on the other, "For Your Freedom and Ours!"



"The only return to Poland is across the battlefield!" . . . slogan of the Polish troops in the USSR



A Polish regiment drawn up for review. In the foreground is the Divisional band

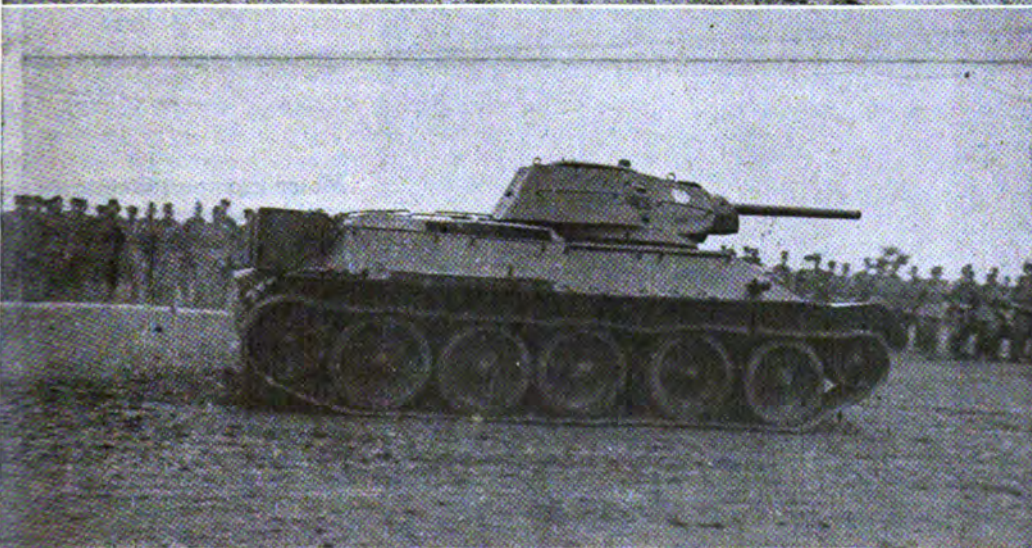




The Kosciuszko Division is completely equipped, even to horse transport for terrain impassable to motors



Type of heavy tanks now breaking their way toward the Polish homeland



Soldiers cheer the tanks, which bear the Polish State emblem, the White Eagle, on their turrets



As they watch these guns drawn by powerful tractors Poles who took part in the campaign of 1939 say, "Now we've got the weapons with which to fight the Germans!"



Mechanized artillery on the march. Polish troops have mastered the handling of modern technical equipment



Motor transport facilitates the rapid movement of Polish troops. Infantrymen en route to the front

Over 200 Heroes of Polish Division Decorated in USSR

By G. Makarenko

For valor and heroism in battle, more than 200 men and officers of the Polish Kosciuszko Division have been awarded high military honors by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. Three Polish patriots received the title of Hero of the Soviet Union; the Order of Lenin was awarded to Major General Berling, commander of the Division, and other awards to men and officers include the Order of Lenin, Order of the Patriotic War, Order of the Red Star and Order of the Red Banner.

The Kosciuszko Division, named for the great Polish patriot, emerged victorious from its first battle with the hated enemy. Fighting like heroes the Poles penetrated the enemy's defenses and captured a number of inhabited places. Units of the Division forced the Dnieper in one sector of the front and inflicted heavy losses on the Germans. Disregarding the hurricane of enemy fire, General Berling followed the course of battle from his observation post. Tears of joy ran down his cheeks as he watched his gallant troops smash the enemy.

When the Union of Polish Patriots in the USSR called for the formation of the Kosciuszko Division,

thousands of volunteers responded. They came by various paths and held different convictions, but the hearts of all burned with hatred for the German invader. They learned the art of warfare and became tempered in front-line conditions.

The ranks of the Division contain thousands of men who, deceived by General Anders, found with General Berling an outlet for their desire to engage the enemy. Now they have proved their mettle; the standard of the Kosciuszko Division has been carried with honor through the smoke and blood of the battlefield. Men who had long thirsted for this opportunity were cheered by their first successes.

In their first large action the Polish troops displayed their splendid fighting qualities and revealed themselves as true sons of their motherland. Shoulder to shoulder with the Red Army they are paving the way for the creation of a strong and independent Poland, for the liberation of Polish soil from the German invader.

No, Poland is not vanquished. Her mighty spirit lives on in the blood and deathless deeds of her fearless patriot sons.

POLISH PATRIOTS

(Continued from page six)

"You are fighting our enemies together with us; therefore you should eat together with us." And they refused payment.

These small incidents testify to much: they testify to the generous, warm hearts of the Soviet people, who during the 25 years of existence of the Soviet Union have seen from the Poles little that was pleasant. But relations today are such that no one will ever forget them during his or her life. People are taking lessons in friendship, lessons in love. They are getting to know each other, and they look with different eyes at life and at the future of Poland. The Poles now living in the Soviet Union will be people who will build a Poland of which we could only dream—a just, strong, democratic Poland.

Of course, for the moment our armed struggle is the most important thing. We firmly believe the day is not far off when Polish troops coming from the USSR will meet the Polish People's Guard on Polish territory—and then we shall be able to say that the Union of Polish Patriots has fulfilled its task.

Cavalry Units Save Villages

The swiftness of the Soviet offensive and the skilful maneuvering of single units have prevented the destruction of many villages in Byelorussia. In the village of Vyazovka an old man told how his village had been saved from the German incendiaries.

He said: "Along the road that runs through the village German transports passed day after day moving towards Gomel. In the morning five groups of Germans arrived. Soldiers jumped out and set up a mortar and two guns in the garden that runs along the road here. Suddenly, from the side where Gomel lies, Soviet cavalry appeared, galloping straight ahead to cut across the German line.

"There seemed to be no more than a squadron or two of them, but they created a real panic among the Germans, as they came on waving their sabers over their heads. They dealt with the enemy like cabbages in a garden. The German guns only had time to fire twice."

Cavalry Steppe Song

The Soviet press recently reported that in the American film *BATTLE OF RUSSIA* the popular Russian song *POLYUSHKO* is used. This song forms part of the score of Lev Knipper's *FOURTH SYMPHONY*. The composer was asked for his personal impressions of the life of this song among the Soviet people, and in response related the following incidents:

In 1939 six young workers and engineers from a Soviet airplane factory started out to ascend one of the snow-capped peaks of the Central Caucasus, planning to return to their tent before dark. By noon the alpinists reached the summit, and according to world-wide custom buried there a metal box containing a record of the ascent, signed by the climbers.

During the descent Klavdia Nikolayeva, the group's leader, sprained her ankle. The accident delayed the alpinists. It began to rain, 3,500 meters above sea level. The surface of the steep slopes froze at that altitude, endangering the life of one climber when he slipped. Klavdia Nikolayeva suggested that the party spend the night in the mountains and resume the descent in the morning when the ice had melted.

The alpinists found a narrow ledge offering shelter from the rain. They were tired and sleepy, but the ledge was none too safe—a sleeper could lose his balance and plunge to death on the rocks below. Klavdia therefore urged her companions to keep awake, and suggested that everybody sing.

The first song was *Polyushko*. Soon the rain stopped and the evening stars were reflected on the ice-covered mountain. The six young voices rang out in the clear air. After *Polyushko* came popular arias from Tschaikovsky's operas, followed by gypsy tunes and the latest dance music. When the sun appeared in the distant east there were lusty cheers. The icy surface melted rapidly in its warm rays and the Russian alpinists, repeating *Polyushko* for the third and last time, resumed their downward journey. This story was told me by Klavdia Nikolayeva that same evening at tea in the large tent.

* * *

The following incident was described by Senior Lieutenant Boris Grachov, a tall, quiet man of about 30, awarded a high military order for his distinguished services on the battlefield:

The scene was late autumn of last year, when snow had already fallen in the mountains. The Germans were pushing on toward sunny Georgia. Old folk, women, children and cripples bade farewell to the cornfields, the cherry gardens and white houses, and fell back with the Red Army southward, making slow progress across the difficult mountain passes at that

time of the year. Shepherds and their dogs drove large herds of sheep and goats.

When the people and livestock were safely across the mountains, the Russian alpine forces, including many leading athletes of the country, took up defense positions in the snow-covered passes. One of the units was commanded by Boris Grachov. At dawn some days later his scouts spied a black figure approaching from the north . . . a figure unknown to them, who suddenly stumbled, fell, then slowly got up and plodded on. Two scouts hurried down the slope . . .

The stranger was a young woman carrying her three-months-old son. She had escaped from the Germans with her infant wrapped in a warm shawl. The young mother had walked for three days.

The men brought her inside a small hut and put her into a sleeping bag. While the mother was being revived with hot tea Boris Grachov unwrapped the crying infant, bathed him in warm water and wrapped him again in the shawl and a warm blanket. The woman fell asleep, but the child continued to cry at the top of his lungs. The Senior Lieutenant took the baby to comfort it.

"I didn't know a single lullaby," Grachov told me later. "But I began to hum *Polyushko*. And do you know, the youngster fell asleep. I held him in my arms for about three hours, until his mother awoke."

* * *

Here is still another story about *Polyushko*. This time it was sung by four Russian alpinists at midnight January 1, 1943, in a cave dug under the snow at the foothills of a steep mountain pass. The Germans had occupied the pass, 3,800 meters above sea level. Although the temperature was 30 degrees below zero, it was warm and cozy inside the cave. A small portable primus stove was burning, and tinned meat, bread and a pocket flask of spirits were spread on a tarpaulin covering a heavy machine gun.

"Here's to the New Year and our victory!"

After the toast the men sang *Polyushko*. The song reminded Captain Alexander Gusev, of Moscow, of his brother Victor, the well-known Soviet poet, who wrote the verses for *Polyushko*. On New Year's Day, after the pass had been captured by Red Army men and the echo of tommy-gun and machine-gun fire had died down, the men dug a grave on the summit and buried three of their comrades who had sung *Polyushko* the previous night.

Captain Alexander Gusev arrived in Moscow on a short leave a few days ago, wearing a medal and two Orders, and it was then he told me this story.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

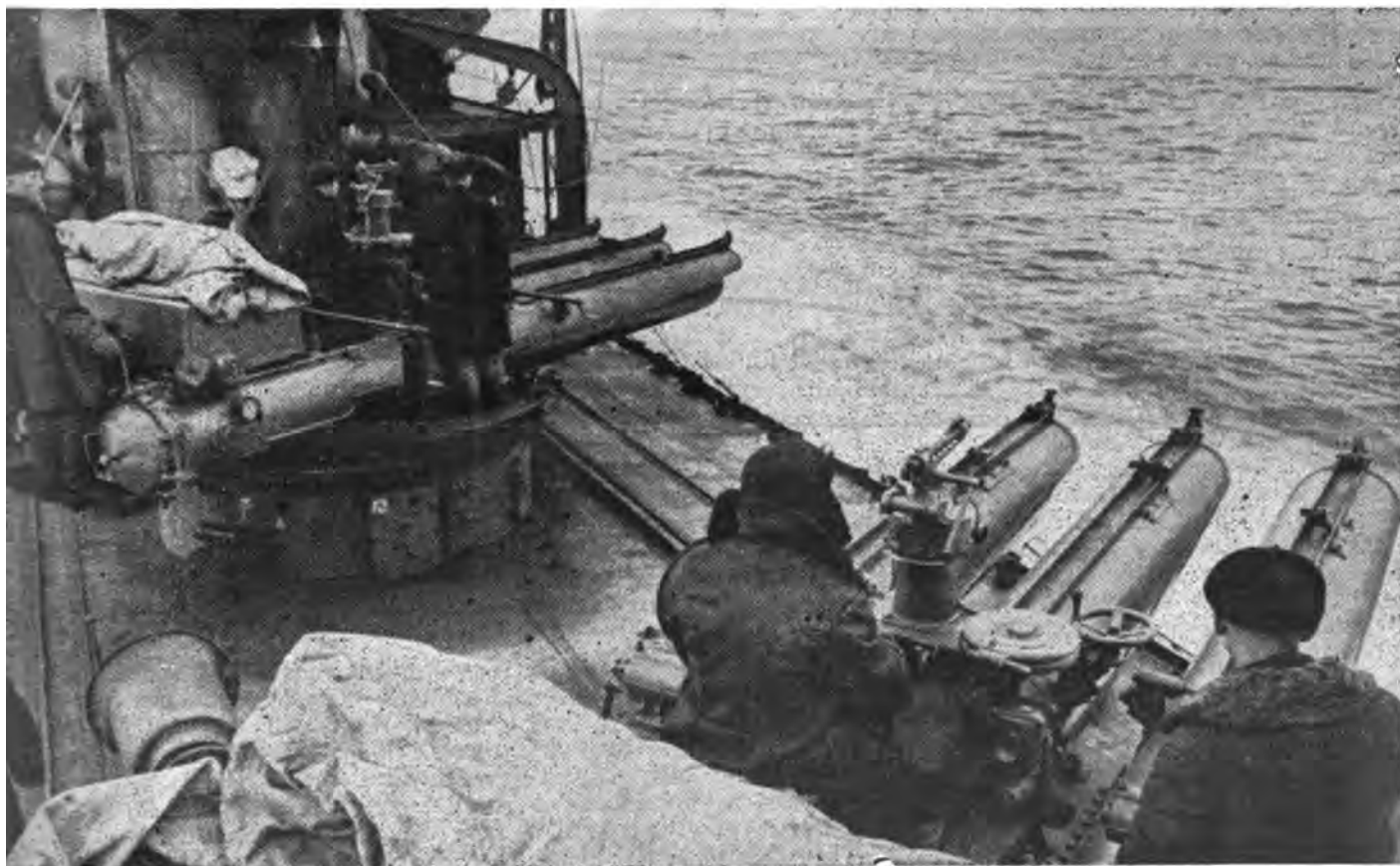
ON THE LIBERATION OF KOROSTEN

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Vatutin:

Continuing to develop the offensive the troops of the First Ukrainian Front in two days of stiff fighting pushed the enemy's resistance and by the end of November 17 captured the town of Korosten—an operationally-important railway junction and large strongpoint of the German defense.

The troops under Lieutenant General Chernyakhovsky distinguished themselves in the fighting for the capture of the town of Korosten. Especial distinction was won by the 226th Glukhov-Kiev Infantry Division under Colonel Petrenko, the 288th Konotop Infantry Division decorated with the Order of the Red Banner under Major General Golossov, the 143rd Konotop Infantry Division under Colonel Zaikin, the 112th Rylsk Infantry Division under Colonel Gladkov, the 150th Independent Kiev Tank Brigade under Colonel Ugryulov, the 130th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Colonel Rossomakhin and the 316th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Khlopenko.

To mark the victory achieved, the name of Korosten shall be conferred on the formations and units which



Gunners of the Soviet Northern Fleet

distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Korosten. Henceforth these formations and units shall be named: The 280th Red Banner Konotop-Korosten Infantry Division, the 143rd Konotop-Korosten Infantry Division, the 112th Rylsk-Korosten Infantry Division, the 150th Kiev-Korosten Independent Tank Brigade, the 130th Korosten Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment and the 316th Korosten Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards.

The 226th Glukhov-Kiev Infantry Division which distinguished itself for the third time in fighting the German invaders shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today November 18, at 11:30 P. M. the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Korosten—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Korosten.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, November 18, 1943

STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF RECHITSA

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

On the night of November 17 to 18, as a result of a vigorous offensive of mobile formations and infantry after three days of violent fighting, the troops of the Byelorussian Front captured the town of Rechitsa—a large junction of communications and an important German strongpoint on the right bank of the Dnieper in its middle reaches.

In the fighting for the capture of the town of Rechitsa, the following troops distinguished themselves: Troops under Lieutenant General Batov, Lieutenant General Romanenko, Major General Alexeyev, tankmen under Major General of Tank Troops Panov, cavalymen under Major General Konstantinov and fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko.

Special distinction has been won by the 37th Infantry Division of Guards, decorated with the Order of the Red Banner, under Colonel Brushko; the 162nd Central Asian Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division under Colonel Chernyak, the 170th Infantry Division under Colonel Tsyplenkov, the 194th Infantry Division under Colonel Opyakin, the 15th Tank Brigade of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Kozhanov, the 16th Tank Brigade of Guards under Colonel Filipenko, the 23rd Glukhov Independent Tank Brigade under Colonel Demidov, the 218th Dnieper Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Novikov, the 478th Trench Mortar Regiment under Colonel Ostapenko, the 543rd Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Colonel Goncharuk, the 20th Stalingrad Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade under Colonel Zelmsky, the 35th Trench Mortar Brigade of Guards under Colonel Sovolev, the 479th Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Tarasov, the 68th Sevsk Independent Gun Artillery Brigade under Colonel Travkin, the Fourth Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade of Guards under Colonel Znachenko, the Second Howitzer Artillery Brigade of Guards under Colonel Telegin, the Third Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division of Guards under Major General of Artillery Seredin, the 1,168th Gun Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ogarkov, the 220th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment of Guards under Major Bublikov, the Second Chernigov Attack Air Division of Guards under Colonel Komarov, the 271st Stalingrad Night Bomber Air Division under Colonel Borissenko, the 241st Bomber Air Division under Colonel Kurienko.

To mark the victory achieved the name of Rechitsa shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in fighting for the liberation of the town of Rechitsa. Henceforth these formations and units shall be named: The 37th Red Banner Rechitsa Infantry Division of Guards, the 170th Rechitsa Infantry Division, the 194th Rechitsa Infantry Division, the 15th Rechitsa Tank Brigade of Guards, the 16th Rechitsa Tank Brigade of Guards, the 23rd Glukhov-Rechitsa Independent Tank Brigade, the 218th Dnieper-Rechitsa Trench Mortar Regiment, the 478th Rechitsa Trench Mortar Regiment, the 543rd Rechitsa Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 20th Stalingrad-Rechitsa Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade, the 35th Rechitsa Trench Mortar Brigade of Guards, the 479th Rechitsa Trench Mortar Regiment, the 68th Sevsk-Rechitsa Independent Gun Artillery Brigade, the Fourth Rechitsa Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade of Guards, the Second Rechitsa Howitzer Artillery Brigade of Guards, the Third Rechitsa Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division of Guards, the 1,168th

Rechitsa Gun Artillery Regiment, the 220th Rechitsa Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment of Guards, the Second Chernigov-Rechitsa Attack Air Division of Guards, the 271st Stalingrad-Rechitsa Night Bomber Air Division, the 241st Rechitsa Bomber Air Division.

The First Don Tank Corps of Guards and the 162nd Central Asian Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, which distinguished themselves for the second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, November 18, at 10 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Rechitsa—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Rechitsa.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!
Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, November 18, 1943

A MATTER OF CONSCIENCE

By Ilya Ehrenburg

I have just made a journey of over six hundred miles—from Orel to the Sozh, from Rylsk to Slobodka, a suburb of Kiev. I have no words adequate to describe the grief which the enemy has brought to our country.

Near Gomel one night we passed some villages recently abandoned by the Germans. The embers glowed. The Byelorussian villages of Vasilievka, Gornostayevka and Terekhovka were dying amidst smoke and tears.

I saw Chernigov one transparent autumn day. It looked like a phantom: charred stone against pale blue sky. A woman whispered over and over again: "They brought people here, stripped them, and buried them..."



Ilya Ehrenburg

Memorial tablets are still intact on the facade of a demolished house: here lived Taras Shevchenko, here in the Tsargrad Hotel Pushkin stayed. ... The Spassky Cathedral, as old as Saint Sofya in Kiev, has been mutilated. It was built in the middle of the eleventh century by Mstislav the Brave. The centuries spared it, but not the hand of the German vandal. Another monument of the eleventh century has been burned—the Boris and Gleb Cathedral. The library, containing many rare books and collections of ikons and archives, was destroyed. Ancient Chernigov on the

Desna, Kiev's own brother, with its chestnut trees and gay gardens, has been burned.

I passed dozens of burned villages, one after another, and everywhere the same sights of human misfortune. All through the cold nights homeless children warmed themselves by the glowing embers; in the daytime they rummaged in the rubbish looking for broken household goods. They huddled for shelter in pits, in dugouts, in shacks.

They Machine-gunned the Herds

The Germans slaughter the cattle as they retreat. They used to drive away the cows and eat the hogs and geese. But here the retreat was hasty, and so Tommy-guns shot the pigs. The Germans machine-gunned the herds. Dead cows with split bellies lie around the fields.

Gentle, pure as a maiden, is Byelorussia. Irresistible is the charm of her villages with their crane-like wells, with crosses on the village boundaries, with golden-haired, bashful children. I wish to tell of the death of Vasilievka. It was a big village of 640 houses. Twenty-eight are left standing. They stood apart from the main streets, and the Germans did not pass there. "Torchbearers" methodically set fire to the straw.

The peasant women tried to hide the cows in a gully. The Germans found the cows and shot them. Motorcyclists killed off the hogs. The people of Vasilievka hid in the forest. The Germans seized 37 of them, took them to a meadow and shot them. They murdered the old man Semyon Polonsky, and they murdered 13-year-old Adam Filimonov.

I spoke to Mefody Vaskovtsev. The Germans took him to the place of death, wounded him, but did not kill him. He looks at the world with terrible eyes

which understand too much. He says, "I do not think I will be able to live. My spirit will not hold out."

I saw Maria Selitskaya sobbing among the ashes: the Germans had killed her son Vanya. She stretched out her arms to the empty gray sky and in her black shawl, stricken with grief, she was Niobe, the symbol of inconsolable motherhood.

The village of Vasilievka was put to death on September 26. Soldiers of the Sixth German Infantry Division, under the command of Lieutenant General Grossmann, burned and murdered. Prisoners say indifferently: "We had our orders."

The Brovary district was a place of gardens and orchards: Kiev got its vegetables and fruit from there. Brovary exists no more: of 2,300 houses, 160 escaped destruction. It is not easy to find any trace of life in this district.

Here is the village of Bogdanovichi. One cottage and one 70-year-old man. Here are the ashes of another village—Semipolki. This smell of burning, the ghosts of the homeless under the autumn sky, will haunt me as long as I live.

The commandant of Kozelets, von Dippol, had his residence in Kiev. He used to come to Kozelets on visits. In this small town the Germans shot 860 people. On March 19, 1943 they shot 274 people. They turned the bank into a prison. There doomed people were undressed and taken out of the town in their underclothes. All the Jews in Kozelets were killed. An old tailor spat in the face of a German before he died and shouted something.

The Grave at Piryatin

What else can I add? That a child saved by its mother remained alive in Rylsk? The mother lay on the little boy. She was killed by a bullet in the back of the head. The three-year-old boy remained alive under the dead body of his mother. Or perhaps that in Sumy, in the basement of School No. 5, 300 Ukrainians were tortured to death? Or shall I recall how in Piryatin the mound over the grave of 1,600 people moved? The people were not shot dead. They were buried alive.

Where are the apple trees of Ponyri? Where are the orchards of Poltava? Where is the theater of Sumy? Where are the antiquities of Chernigov? Where are the schools? Where are the tractors? People huddle in pits. They plough with cows, or pull the plough themselves. There are no more gay girls in the Ukrainian villages—they are in Schweinfurt, in Swinemunde, dying among heartless jailers.

It seems as if all the birds have deserted the orchards, and the cherry trees have dried up. There are no more old Jews, quaint old men, and dreamers, tailors and shoemakers in the Ukraine. Hundreds of thousands of children have been killed by the Germans. That army, equipped with the most up-to-date weap-

ons, officers with Zeiss field glasses, with Leica cameras, with monocles and fountain pens, murdered infants.

Perhaps people will forget this, some day. But we who have seen will not be able to forget anything. The retreating Germans destroy everything. They do this methodically: such are the orders of the supreme command. "Torchbearers" are sapper detachments of the German army. "Torchbearers" are helped by infantry, by tankmen, by cart-drivers.

I have a bundle of documents that seem to smell of smoke and blood. Here is an order of the commander of the 34th German Infantry Division, dated July 30, 1943:—

"All local residents from 14 to 55 are to be seized and treated as prisoners of war. If, because of the absence of sufficient guards, they cannot be used on the spot as labor power, they are to be sent to war prisoner collecting stations. The compulsory abduction of the remaining population is to be carried out in accordance with previously established rules. Demolition is to be effected by special units... In the first place, grain reserves, agricultural machinery and public buildings are to be destroyed. Small agricultural implements are to be taken along whenever possible."

Here is another order, issued by the commander of the 19th German Tank Division on September 5, 1943:—

"Men from 16 to 55 are to be evacuated as prisoners of war. They are to be directed to the collecting center of the 19th Artillery Regiment. Other residents to be sent under guard and put at the disposal of the district sonderfuehrer. Only persons affected with contagious diseases to be left in districts subject to evacuation. All other persons to be detained, and in case of resistance, shot. People may be employed by units to build defenses on condition that they are kept under continuous surveillance. They should be marked by numbers on their backs. The numbers one to 99 are assigned to the 73rd Motorized Regiment and from 100 to 199 to the 74th Motorized Regiment. Later on these people are to be evacuated as prisoners of war."

Here is a letter from a private of the 12th Motorized Infantry Regiment of the Fourth German Tank Division: "The day before yesterday we left Novgorod-Seversk. We burned down the whole town. We also burn all the villages we abandon. Today we burned down another big village. The people must stand by and see their houses burn."

A Gangster to his Wife

Here is a letter from Private Johann Hauster, Field Post 11981: "Dear Wife—Retreating at night, we burn everything. Whole villages burn, the entire harvest in the field must also be burned. We ransack the houses as the residents leave the villages. What

do you think—is it better to drag the goods around or send them to you?”

Here are excerpts from the diary of Otto Berger, staff lance corporal of the Second Security Battalion: “Stary Bykhov is completely demolished; 250 Jews were shot. . . . We have eaten well. . . . The prisoners of war dug their own graves. We lined them up and shot them, row after row. . . . Shot a Communist. We drove him to the forest with a whip and made him dig his own grave. . . . In the evening we shot two men. They dug their grave, kissed each other, and lay down. They were father and son. . . . It is surprising that the Ukrainian population is hostile to us. . . . Our field police shot 60 Ukrainians. Shostka is a pretty little town. Fifty prisoners were brought here and given to us to use for target practice. . . . The prisoners of war eat rotten potatoes. They have no strength at all. . . . Dead bodies lie in three or four layers. . . . All the Jews were shot on New Year’s Eve in Smolensk. . . . We are in Fishgovo. There are two Russian girls here, seventeen and eighteen, very pretty. We shall have to rape them. . . . We are in Navarovo. Shot 156 guerrillas today. . . . I wonder where the boundary of the power of the German state will be. . . . Retreating to Novozybkov. All the villages on the way burned. This was fine territory for German colonization. Big Russian forces pierced the front.”

Can one speak of retribution? All right, this staff lance corporal was killed. But can the black life of this stupid, vile murderer atone for everything he did?

Two “Agricultural Directors”

I spoke to two criminals, sonderfuehrers, “agricultural directors.” They tormented the Buryn district of the Sumy Region. Kurt Ruescher is 36. He owns 110 acres of plough land. Five slaves till this land, one Serb, two Poles and two Frenchmen. In Kassel, Kurt Ruescher attended training courses in banditry. Kurt Ruescher has 25,000 reichsmarks in his bank account.

Nikolaus Bohrmann is two years younger than Kurt Ruescher. He, too, is a farmer. He has 100 acres and five slaves, three of whom are Russians. He has 60,000 reichsmarks to his account.

What did these sonderfuehrers do? They drove 4,500 Ukrainian girls to Germany. They seized from the peasants and sent to Germany 3,964 cows, 2,306 horses, 42,000 chickens, 17,000 geese, 3,700 tons of grain, 51 tons of butter, and much besides. When they had to leave the Sumy Region the thieves became incendiaries. Kurt Ruescher and Nikolaus Bohrmann burned 2,140 houses, 149 barns full of grain, 26 windmills, 84 collective farm stables, 93 schools and hospitals and 2,415 tons of grain. Kurt Ruescher went with a party of motorcyclists to the village of Mikhailovka and burned down the cottages. Nikolaus Bohrmann got his soldiers together and burned 434 houses in the village of Cherepovka. He blew up the hospital and burned three cottages with his own hands.

They do not refuse to talk. They describe their crimes in pedantic detail. Bohrmann has a long slippery face, like an eel, with fishy eyes. He says, “I received a written order to burn Cherepovka.” He adds, “We sent 1,965 hogs to Germany. There weren’t many hogs.” He relates how he pulled an old peasant, Leonid Yanov, by the beard, how he beat up Alexandra Davydova, and explains: “They worked lazily.”

Kurt Ruescher repeats, “I received an order.” This one has the grin of a polecat and small, malicious eyes. He is neither better nor worse than hundreds of thousands of Hitlerites: standard hangmen, rank-and-file robbers, assiduous incendiaries.

Ashes and the silence of death reign in the Buryn district. “There’s no place to lay our heads,” a woman said to me. Children clung around her. Who will pay for her grief? Who will pay for the dead in Kiev? Who will pay for the ruins of Kremenchug? Who will answer for everything?

Our people are great and good. In the Sumy Region 70-year-old Illistratov has built five cottages for others. His own cottage was burned down. He says, “I’m old, I will die soon. I’ll get on somehow with my old woman. But here are soldiers’ wives and children without roofs over their heads.” And the old man is building a sixth cottage.

Help comes from Siberia, from the Urals, from the Volga. Like a loving mother Russia bends over the wounds of the Ukraine and Byelorussia.

I know that the day will come when the dead towns and burned villages will rise again. But now a horrible crime is before us. It cries for retribution. I heard people curse the Germans more than once, but the simplest word seems to me the strongest. I heard it from an old woman: the Germans had driven her granddaughter away and burned down her cottage. Hardly moving her dried lips, she kept repeating, “Conscienceless.”

One could not say it better. The incensed conscience of the people has pierced the front of the powerful Hitlerite army, swept from the Volga to the Dnieper, and stepped across the wide river as across a little stream.

The conscience of the people seethes day and night. In wrath and in sadness the Red Army men at Kiev think of the conflagrations, of the graves, of everything they have seen.

My generation has lived through much. This is not the first war I have seen. But I cannot write calmly about what I see here. A tommy-gun, not a pen, is needed.

We do not dare to die, we older people, without saying to ourselves before death: this will not happen again. Conscience demands vengeance, expiation, the triumph of justice.

STATEMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY STATE COMMITTEE

For the ascertaining and investigation of crimes committed by the German-fascist invaders and their associates, and the damages caused by them to citizens, collective farms, public organizations, State enterprises and institutions of the USSR

On the destruction wrought by the German-fascist invaders upon the industry, municipal economy and cultural-educational institutions of Stalino Region.

Stalino Region is the most important coal mining and metallurgical center of the USSR. Over 14,000 tons of high-grade coal were mined daily in the 152 coal pits of the Stalinugol coal-mining trust. Powerful electric stations generated up to three billion kilowatt hours of electric power. From their 78 coking batteries, the combined coking-chemical works produced annually 8,500,000 tons of high-grade coke, and processed Donets Basin coal into chemicals.

At the iron and steel works, 22 blast furnaces produced annually 5,000,000 tons of pig iron, and 43 open-hearth furnaces produced over 4,000,000 tons of steel. Three blooming and 34 rolling mills produced over 3,000,000 tons of rolled metal.

The Stalino Region had widely developed the production of high-grade cement, glass, technical porcelain, ceramics, red brick, alabaster, fire-clay and granite. Fifteen mining, metallurgical and chemistry institutes and technical schools were engaged in training highly-skilled personnel. During Stalin's Five-Year Plans, the towns of Stalino, Gorlovka, Yenakievo, Konstantinovka, Kramatorsk, Makeyevka, Mariupol and others had grown into large cultural and industrial centers.

The German-fascist invaders and their accomplices, acting on the plan of the German supreme command, destroyed the coal-pits, power-stations, metallurgical, chemical and machine-building works, cultural institutions, schools, hospitals, theaters and museums, and the municipal economy of the towns and settlements of the Donets Basin.

In their bestial hatred of the Soviet people, the fascist blackguards tortured and massacred the peaceful population and abducted the Soviet people to German slavery.

By secret instructions dated September 2, 1943, No. 1-313-43 G, the leader of administration of the group of southern armies ordered army leaders and leaders of the administration squads to effect the complete demolition of industrial enterprises, coal-pits, power-stations and industrial structures of the Donets Basin, and also to carry away to Germany all valuable properties and equipment. Issued at the time when

the Soviet troops had pierced the German front on the Mius River and started to liberate the Donets Basin from the fascist invaders, these instructions ordered all the equipment of eight electric sub-stations of the water-supply system, and the equipment of the tool-shop, laboratories, factory restaurant and factory administration building, to be carried away.

Before the retreat from Mariupol, the German occupation authorities burned down 1,593 houses, all the 68 schools, 17 kindergartens, 101 libraries and the Palace of Pioneers, and put out of commission the tramways and electricity.

"The whole Donets Basin east of the 'Turtle' position must be evacuated in respect of its economy and completely demolished." "... Whatever cannot be evacuated must be demolished. In particular water-works and power-stations, factory buildings, means of production of all kinds, and crops which cannot be carried away." "... the destruction should be effected not at the last moment when the troops will already be fighting or retreating, but well in advance." "... All the administrative organs and squads, the Society for the Exploitation of the East ("Oestgesellschaft"), and branches of private firms ("Paternfirmen"), must detail all persons suitable for this purpose to take part in the work of evacuation and demolition." "... Army administration leaders must report summaries every night to the headquarters of the group administration leader of the armies of the south. In Stalino they should transmit every evening a brief review on the situation in the Donets Basin to Headquarters No. 1, to Major Pauls." *Signed:* Southern Group of Armies. On Instructions: Administration Leader of Army Group Nagel."

On the basis of documentary data, statements of victims, testimonies of eyewitnesses and findings of technical and medical experts, as well as by visits to formerly occupied towns and districts by a Special Committee, the Extraordinary State Committee ascertained the facts of the barbarous destruction of industry, municipal economy, dwellings, schools, hospitals, cultural and educational institutions, and of the monstrous crimes committed by the German-fascist invaders.

The Destruction of the Coal-Mining Industry

During the occupation and at the time of their retreat, the German-fascist invaders almost completely destroyed the coal-mining industry of the Stalino Region and carried away the most valuable equipment to

Germany. The fascist blackguards put out of commission and demolished 140 coal-pits. Only 12 small coal-pits with an aggregate daily output of 500 tons of coal escaped destruction.

The German invaders blew up and demolished 154 shafts, 192 pitheads, 292 hoists and 189 ventilating fans. Out of 526 boilers, 393 were put out of commission. Out of 268 surface coal-pit buildings, 241 had been blown up or burned down. The occupationists destroyed 266 machine-houses, 183 buildings of transformer sub-stations and 161 stockades. They destroyed the compressors, the coal-grading installations, the warehouses and mechanical shops. Before retreating they destroyed or flooded in the coal-pits 1,900 coal-cutting machines, 1,209 conveyors, 802 mechanical trolleys, 1,651 scraper winches and 4,155 pneumatic hammers.

The German invaders did not confine themselves to the destruction of the coal-pits, the industrial buildings and equipment, but also demolished and burned down workers' houses, clubs, kindergartens, nurseries, public dining rooms, schools, hospitals, stores and parks of culture and rest. In the Stalinugol coal-mining trust alone they demolished houses totaling 1,126,900 square meters of living floor-space.

According to preliminary data, the damages inflicted by the German-fascist invaders upon the coal-mining industry of the Stalino Region are estimated at two billion rubles.

Destruction in the Town of Stalino

The German occupationists demolished the industrial and cultural center of the Donets Basin—Stalino. In Stalino they demolished the largest industrial enterprises, the cultural institutions and dwelling houses. The Stalino metallurgical works had supplied with its production the Soviet machine-building, ship-building, automobile and tractor industries. Over 12,500 workers were employed at the works.

The Hitlerites turned this works into a heap of debris. Before their retreat they blew up the blast furnace, the open hearth, the rolling mill, tool departments, the compressor station, the laboratory of the works and the main office; they put out of commission the blast furnaces, the boiler cranes, the ladling machines and the turbo-generator. They demolished the Palace of Culture, the Club of Engineers and Technicians, the building of the Factory Apprenticeship School, nurseries and warehouses of materials.

The German-fascist occupationists blew up the structural steel works which manufactured girders for railway bridges, blast-furnaces, dams and sluices. They also demolished the Stalino Olyaninovo Mushketovo Rutchenkovo coking and chemical works, the

Don Energo, the nitrate works, machine-building works, repair shops, and other works.

Tremendous destruction was wrought by the German-fascist invaders on the municipal economy of the town of Stalino. They burned down the tramway depot, 89 cars, four electric trolleys; destroyed 35 kilometers of tramway track, 35 kilometers of tramway powerlines and 10 new trolley buses, and destroyed the electric power system of the town.

Before retreating from Stalino, the Hitlerites completely demolished 3,761 houses with a total living space of 1,207,470 square meters, 113 schools, 62 kindergartens, 390 stores, the Summer and Winter Theaters, the Palace of Pioneers, the Radio Theater, the Museum of the Revolution, the Art Gallery, the Dzerzhinsky Club and other finest buildings of the town. Special squads of sappers made the rounds of the schools, poured inflammatory liquid over them and set fire to them. Soviet people who tried to extinguish the fires were shot on the spot by the fascist scoundrels.

War prisoner Lance Corporal Johann Gold, of the 574th Infantry Regiment of the 304th Division, stated: "In the town of Stalino I personally burned down one house and blew up two more big buildings. Two houses had been tenanted by civilians and the third was a grain store. Before the explosion I did not warn the tenants and did not think it necessary to warn them, as we were ordered not to do any talking, but to blow up and burn down buildings regardless of whether there were people in them. Immediately after the explosion in one house, I heard shrieks and wailing of women and children and saw the killed and wounded among them crushed by bricks and timbers, but I did not pay any attention to it. I was acting on the orders of my superiors."

The fascist invaders plundered the valuable property and equipment of the Palace of Pioneers, the Children's Agricultural Station and the Bureau of Excursions. Exceptionally heavy damage was caused by the occupationists to the medical institutions of the town. They burned down and completely demolished the Children's Hospital, which had 2,000 beds, the Voroshilov Clinical Hospital with 1,000 beds, 12 medical institutions with a total of 2,000 beds, and five polyclinics. The valuable apparatus and equipment of the hospitals was wholly ransacked by the German occupationists. The Medical Institute, a model scientific institution with an enrollment of 2,000 students, was smashed. All the buildings of the Industrial Institute named for Khrushchev, which had an enrollment of 15,000 students, were burned down. Together with the Institute, the Germans burned down the Students' Polyclinic, the dormitories and auxiliary premises. Five hundred and thirty thousand volumes of scientific literature and fiction out of 600,000 were burned by the Hitlerites.

Destruction in the Town of Kramatorsk

The German-fascist invaders destroyed the whole industry of Kramatorsk, including one of the finest machine-building works—the Novokramatorsk plant named for Stalin, the Starokramatorsk machine-building works named for Ordzhonikidze, the metallurgical works named for Kuibyshev, the heavy machine-tool building works, the cement, coking-chemical, eternite and other plants.

The Novokramatorsk machine-building works named for Stalin manufactures equipment for blast, open-hearth and coking furnaces, rolling mills and coal-pits. The plant occupied a territory of 200 hectares and consisted of 20 basic and 10 auxiliary departments. The cost of all the factory buildings, equipment, transport and the system of power supply was 900,000,000 rubles. Twenty thousand workers, engineers, technicians and employees were engaged at the works. The German occupationists put out of commission 1,113 machine tools; they carried away to Germany the equipment of the press department and pumping stations; they blew up a 300-ton hydraulic horizontal press; they demolished the open hearth furnaces; they carried away the steam boilers of the coal-gas stations. The Hitlerites destroyed the power supply system of the plant, all the boilers of the heat and power-generating station, the electrical equipment and over 100 kilometers of power lines. They destroyed and demolished the factory hospitals, clubs, nurseries, schools, a summer theater seating 1,200 persons and three cinema houses. Two hundred and four out of 247 many-storeyed apartment houses of the works were burned down.

In the town of Kramatorsk the occupationists burned down and blew up the Palace of Culture, the Pushkin Theater, the "Shturm" Club; they demolished the Stadium and burned down more than 1,300 of the finest houses. Only three schools out of 18 remained in the town. Three hospitals, two polyclinics, the children's hospital and the maternity home were burned down.

Destruction in the Town of Makeyevka

The Makeyevka metallurgical works named for Kirov was one of the biggest iron and steel works in the Soviet Union. Before the war 20,000 workers, engineers, technicians and employees were engaged at the works. During the occupation and at the time of their retreat, the Hitlerites converted the plant into a heap of debris. The German occupationists carried away from the works to Germany part of the equipment of the power sub-stations, ladling machines, two steam hammers and the machine tools and the electrical equipment of the mechanical department. They blew up and burned down the factory school, three nursery buildings, the hotel, theater and 186 apartment houses. Altogether the invaders blew up,

burned down or demolished 2,867,000 cubic meters of industrial and auxiliary buildings and apartment houses belonging to the works. At the Staro-Makeyevsky coking and chemical works, the "East" Joint-stock Company was in charge at the beginning, then the German "Kolin" firm, and finally, most recently, the German "Otto" firm. The German invaders carried away part of the equipment from this plant and before their retreat burned down and blew up the crushing and batching departments, the machine house, six conveyors, six grading machines and 89 coking furnaces; they blew up the machine house in the chemical department, the gas mains of 12 gas-cooling installations and the ammonium and benzol departments, the chemical laboratories, four boilers, the pumping and water-purifying installation, the ventilation installations in the boiler department. In the town of Makeyevka, the German-fascist invaders destroyed the tramways, the lighting system and the waterworks; they blew up and burned down the building of the Town Soviet, the hotel, the Club of Engineers and Technicians, the town theater, the circus, 49 schools, 20 nurseries and 44 kindergartens.

On orders from the town commandant Vogler, 35,000 books from the Gorky Central Library were burned in a bonfire.

Destruction in the Town of Gorlovka

During the years of the Stalin Five-Year Plans, the town of Gorlovka had grown into a big coal mining and industrial center of the Donets Basin, with powerful industrial enterprises and numerous cultural institutions. Twenty-one very large coal pits with a daily output of 15,000 tons of coal functioned in the territory of the Gorlovka District. In Gorlovka there were 13 big factories and plants, including a nitric fertilizer plant named for Ordzhonikidze, a coking-chemical plant, a machine building works named for Kirov, and others.

The German-fascist invaders blew up and flooded all the mines, together with their equipment and machinery, demolished and burned down the plants, the power stations and other structures in the town. The Ordzhonikidze nitric fertilizer plant was totally demolished. The damages caused by the German occupationists, according to preliminary estimates, amount to 243,300,000 rubles.

At the coking-chemical plant, the German occupationists blew up and burned down all 25 industrial buildings. In the Gorlovka District, the occupationists demolished the following plants: the Kirov machine-building works, which manufactured equipment for the entire coal-mining industry of the Donets Basin, the Nikitovka mercury works, the Gorlovka pipe works, the enterprises of the trust for the subterranean gasification of coal, the Dolomite combined

works, three mechanized bakeries, the huge Gorlovka meat-packing plant, and many enterprises of the local industries.

The fascist scoundrels demolished the central power station, three powerful pumping stations and 632 dwelling houses, and thus left the population of Gorlovka without lighting, water or shelter. They destroyed in the town 32 schools with an enrollment of 21,649 pupils, they burned down the town hospital, five polyclinics, a church, the buildings of the House of Soviets, the Don Energo trust and the Palace of Culture.

Destruction in the Town of Yenakievo

In Yenakievo the occupationists demolished and put out of commission the metallurgical works, equipped with up-to-date machinery. Before the war it employed 14,500 workers. The German invaders carried away from the works to Germany over 60,000 tons of metal and metal articles, as well as a large quantity of equipment and machine tools; they dismantled the blooming mill and carried away its main parts. In Yenakievo the German-fascist scoundrels completely demolished the Novoyenakievo and Staroyanakievo coking-chemical plants and the cement and other works; they wrecked the tramways and carried away the tracks to Germany. They blew up and burned 505 dwelling houses, the Palace of Pioneers, the Town Soviet building, the cinema, the First and Second Tuberculosis Hospitals, the Sanatorium for Osteal Tuberculosis Cases, two town polyclinics and other medical institutions.

Destruction in the Town of Konstantinovka

There were 13 large plants in Konstantinovka. The German-fascist bandits completely demolished the Avtosteklo coking-chemical plant, the metallurgical, chemical, zinc, glass, bottle, refractory materials, the Krasny Oktyabr and other plants. The occupationists blew up and burned down the town power-station, the waterworks, 226 houses, all of the 25 town schools, two cinema houses, the central town library with 35,000 volumes, the Pioneers' Club, the children's technical station and the town hospital and nurseries; they blew up the House of Soviets, the post office and other institutions.

Destruction in the Town of Mariupol

The town of Mariupol was the largest industrial center of the Soviet south. There were 47 industrial enterprises in it: the Ilyich metallurgical works, the Ordzhonikidze Azovstal works, the coking-chemical, the Kuibyshev pipe-rolling, structural steel and radiator plants, the fish cannery, the ultramarine, graphite and other plants. The German occupationists turned the first-class Mariupol metallurgical plant named for Ilyich into ruins. At the Azovstal works the occupationists completely wrecked the blast-furnace de-

partment with its four furnaces, three gas-cleaning installations, the open-hearth department with six 400-ton tilting furnaces, the compressor building with its system.

The Extermination of the Peaceful Population and the Abduction of Soviet Citizens to German Slavery

During the occupation of the Stalino Region the German-fascist invaders established a regime of slavery and serfdom for the population. The able-bodied population was driven to German penal servitude. The Germans engaged in outrageous violence, plunder and the extermination of Soviet citizens everywhere. Thousands of Soviet people were tortured to death or shot. The unspeakable crimes of the fascist scoundrels have been proved by numerous witnesses and documents, the protocols of committees and the findings of legal-medical experts at the disposal of the Extraordinary State Committee.

Over 3,000 Soviet citizens—women, children and old men—had been shot or tortured to death on orders of the German commandant of the town of Artemovsk, Major von Zobel. Bodies of Soviet citizens were immured in a tunnel of the quarries of the alabaster plant. The Special Committee established that:

"Two kilometers east of the town of Artemovsk, in a tunnel of the quarries of the alabaster plant, at a distance of 400 meters from the entrance, there is a small aperture walled up with bricks. When this aperture was forced open, there was discovered an extension of the tunnel ending in a wide oval cave. The entire cave was filled with human bodies. Only a small space near the entrance and a narrow strip in the center were free of bodies. All the bodies are pressed close to each other, with their backs turned toward the entrance of the cave."

The German invaders committed monstrous atrocities in the town of Kramatorsk. On September 25, 1943 the Special Committee excavated three pits on the northern outskirts of Kramatorsk in an old clay and chalk quarry. "Upon removal of the upper layers of soil to the depth of 20 centimeters to one meter," reads the Protocol of the Committee, "bodies of Soviet citizens lying in layers, face downward were discovered. Eight hundred and twelve bodies were exhumed from these three pits. In the course of the investigation it was established that there were 740 bodies of men, 50 of women and 22 of children; 126 bodies were identified. Legal-medical experts established that 761 bodies had bullet holes in the skull, 40 bodies had bullet wounds in the back of the neck. In all the 812 cases examined, it has been proved that death resulted from a shot from light firearms in the back of the head at close, almost point-blank, range."

The shootings of civilians in Kramatorsk were

executed on orders of German commandant of the town, Lieutenant Meuschke. One kilometer from the town of Stalino, the German-fascist scoundrels tortured to death or shot tens of thousands of civilians and flung them into a shaft of Kalinovka coal-pit 4-4¹. In order to hide the traces of their sanguinary crimes, the Hitlerites blew up the pithead and thus blocked the pit.

The Regional Committee for ascertaining the crimes of the German-fascist occupationists is carrying out excavations and exhuming the bodies. In the town of Stalino, the German invaders drove and herded all the tenants of a professor's house into a shed, blocked its entrance, poured petrol over the shed and set fire to it. All the people in the shed, except two little girls who escaped by mere chance, perished in the fire. On September 11, 1943 the Special Committee excavated the debris of the burned shed. The Committee discovered 41 charred human bodies.

A camp for war prisoners and civilians was located in Stalino on the territory of the Lenin Club and in the building of the Central Polyclinic. The Red Army men Plakhov and Shatsky, who escaped from this camp, reported: "We were starved in the camp. There were no panes in the windows of the building in which we were kept. There were mass cases of frostbite. During the hot summer months war prisoners who were suffering from heat were given no drinking water for three to five days. We were beaten on the slightest pretext. As a result of this regime, the mortality among war prisoners was as high as 200 men per day." The Special Committee established that no less than 25,000 Soviet citizens were buried in the territory of the camp near the Lenin Club and the Central Polyclinic.

The extermination of Soviet people and the outrages against them were committed on instructions and with the direct participation of the camp chief, German Officer Gabfel.

On September 14, 1943 the Special Committee discovered 25 graves on the territory of the military camps beyond the northern railway station of the town of Artemovsk. The Committee established: "that about 3,000 bodies of Soviet citizens who were confined in the camp located on the territory of the military camps, were buried in 25 graves on its territory."

During the occupation of the Stalino Region, the German-fascist authorities forcibly drove to Germany under pain of death over 125,000 Soviet citizens. The Extraordinary State Committee established that together with the Hitlerite government, responsibility for all these brutal crimes is borne by the following German-fascist officers and other persons:

Economic leader of the group of armies Nagel;

former commandants of the town of Stalino Colonel Peters and Lieutenant Colonel Lenz; the assistant commandant, Military Counselor Naruschat; chiefs of the Gestapo, obersturmfuehrers Moor and Leunstein; directors of concentration camps obersturmfuehrer Domnik and Captain Trom; technical director of the "East" Joint Stock Company, chief General Winacker, his assistant Doctor Brans; commandant of the town of Kramatorsk Lieutenant Meuschke, Burgomaster Schopen; commandants of the town of Makeyevka Vogler, Major Fuchs, assistant commandant Captain Mueller, Chief of Security Police Captain Rosenthal; commandant of the town of Yenakievo Lieutenant of Gendarmerie Fischer, Oberleutnant of Gendarmerie Schohing, Director Streckenbach, Chief Engineer Benschmidt; commandants of the town of Mariupol, field-commandant General Hofmann, commandant Michel, his assistant Oberleutnant Huck, leader of SD Six Squad, Oberleutnant Wulf, leader of schutz-police Oberleutnant Schalert; commandant of the town of Artemovsk von Zobel, Counselor Herd Schmock and Captain Gerhardt.

In addition the following persons also share the responsibility for the above-mentioned crimes: field inspector of justice Steckert, burgomaster Eichmann, senior inspectors Oberleutnant Ley and Mommsen, field inspector of justice Stolz, ober-inspector Kruetner, Captain Brandt, counselor Doctor Meer, Lieutenant Baas, Captain Doctor Hayde, military inspector Doctor Frank, Captains Mailink and Schneider, chief doctors Hellendorf and Kuchendorf, Oberfeldarzt Roll, head doctor of hospital Trommer, representative of "Dortmunder Unumn" Firm Willi Manik, director of the plant of the same firm Brueckenbrau-Baecker, chief engineer Altfeldt, production managers Smied and Kaemper, Captain Schenk, sonderfuehrers Gebhardt and Huss, Captain Kauermann, chief of power supply group Doctor Butler, sonderfuehrer Vogel; chiefs of departments of "East" Company; Captain Rellesmann, Oberleutnant Kruemmer, Captain Schumt, administration manager Jakob Kuhn; former directors of mines: Oberleutnant Brans, sonderfuehrer Fuld, von Felsen, administration manager Kleber, Director Oberleutnant Steff and his assistant Lieutenant Tebel, administration managers Offenmann and Reutetsch, technical director Fleuter, sonderfuehrer Laschner, director Shubert; representatives of "East" Joint Stock Company Rufus, of the "Kolin" Firm chief director Jakobs, of the "Otto" firm director of plant Renkhof; commercial director Form, chief of blast furnace and coking departments Baecke, sergeant major Peckers; director of "Artemugol" Trust Miller, his assistant Horsch; Lance Corporals Johann Gold, Hermann Ferholz, Sergeant Major Filler.

All these criminals must suffer stern punishment for their monstrous crimes against the Soviet people.

The Toast of the Regiment

By Leonid Lerov

Major Yarovoi, commanding officer of an aviation regiment, invited me to a dinner in honor of Anna Gritsenko, whose name was to be entered in the regiment's Roll of Honor.

"Who is she, a pilot?" I inquired.

"No, she's an old miner's wife," Major Yarovoi replied.

"What has she to do with the regiment?"

"Well, you might say she's a kind of mother to Peter Nikodenko, one of our airmen."

"Then it's for some action of her son that you're putting her name on the Roll of Honor?"

"No, you've got it wrong. Come to the celebration and you'll hear all about it."

So I went along. Anna Gritsenko stood proudly under the regimental colors. She was an elderly woman with a weatherbeaten face that still retained traces of typical Ukrainian beauty. Her eyes shone

as the Major read: "We express our deepest gratitude to Anna Gritsenko, whose name will henceforth be recorded in our regimental Roll of Honor."

Then Peter Nikodenko, the airman whom the Major had called Anna Gritsenko's son, came up to her, kissed her heartily, cleared his throat and said formally: "I owe my life to you."

Later, when the banquet was in full swing, Peter told me how it happened.

During the Donbas battle his plane was hit. He bailed out and found himself in enemy territory. The first person he saw was Anna Gritsenko, busy in her garden.

"Come here, sonny," she said, and hid him among the sunflowers, though the Germans were scouring the place.

At first Peter lived in a pit. Anna Gritsenko brought him food regularly. Then she borrowed a suit from a neighbor, made him discard his uniform, and hid him in her cellar. The Germans, knowing their number was up, ran wild. They ransacked all the cottages, looting the last remnants in every pantry. Somehow they got wind that the flier they had seen bail out was hiding near the village. They began questioning Anna, but got nothing out of her. So they kicked her around and took her cow and pig away. Several days later she came rushing to the cellar late at night. "Our boys are coming. Run to them round the back way through the woods and tell them to hurry, or the Germans will burn the whole place down."

They did not get a chance. The Red Army vanguards arrived earlier than the Germans expected.

When Peter returned to his regiment and told his story, the commanding officer ordered that Anna Gritsenko should be sent for by plane, to be appropriately honored. And that is how the name of an old miner's wife came to appear among the heroes of the air, on the Honor Roll of Yarovoi's regiment.

Vengeance for Zoya

The notorious German 197th Division, responsible for the murder of the Soviet guerrilla Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya, has suffered a fresh defeat. The Germans were established in well-protected positions on the western bank of a river, but Soviet Guardsmen burst into their trenches. The Germans were driven out in murderous hand-to-hand fighting. They later launched seven counter-attacks in 24 hours, but each time were bloodily repulsed. In two days' fighting, Guardsmen of one unit alone killed 520 officers and men of the German 197th Division. Soviet artillery destroyed 20 enemy guns and their crews.



The Red Army Air Force—Captain Kuzmin, Navigator

Keeping House in Leningrad

By Maria Tikhonova

Maria Tikhonova is the wife of the noted Russian poet, Nikolai Tikhonov.

Much of my time is spent in working for the Puppet Theater. I make puppets for the front-line theaters, and my tiny actors perform in dugouts and trenches for the defenders of Leningrad.

In addition, I am my husband's secretary and do all my own housework, cooking for several people on a small iron stove, barely large enough to hold two saucepans. During the winter of 1941-42 the stove was heated with chopped-up furniture, old magazines and planks from blitzed houses. Now we have regular firewood—but I have to cut it myself and carry it up to the sixth floor.

Almost every meal we eat reminds us all how many good friends we of Leningrad have throughout the world. One day we had meat from the Urals, brought by a delegation of railway workers. On other days we have had smoked fish from the Volga, canned reindeer meat from the North, and sausages from Chicago. For dessert, we have had fruit from Daghestan in the Caucasus and jam from Melbourne in Australia. Red Army men often bring us mushrooms, and a sniper who is very fond of our puppets presented me with a partridge. Another brought

some bilberries gathered on the shores of Lake Ladoga.

My tablecloth was made in an air raid shelter during alerts. The grapes in the window were grown from raisins sent to Leningrad as a gift from Central Asia. The flowers in the Wedgwood jar were given me by a war correspondent who picked them at the front.

And the kitten which runs around the kitchen comes from the village of Pasa. Leningrad is stocking up with kittens, to replace the cats which died out during the hard days of the blockade.

We live mainly in the kitchen, the warmest room of the flat. Water must be carried to the sixth floor in pails, and the greatest kindness which people living on this floor can show one another is to offer water for the evening tea.

My day is entirely filled, and it is only late in the evenings that my husband and I can be with each other. Mostly we read aloud, as in the old days—usually poetry.

I was born in Leningrad; I have spent the 50 years of my life here. I did not leave in 1941, because I knew that the enemy would never pass.

Where No Ship Ever Sailed

In a vast country like the USSR it is inevitable that many collective farms and other agricultural and industrial enterprises should lie far from railways, on shallow rivers where even the smallest steamer cannot pass. Until recently these enterprises could rely on motor transport to take away the goods they produce, and to bring them oil, fuel and raw materials.

But now trucks and fuel are needed by the front. The people "out back" had somehow to replace the trucks by some other means of transport. "The front demands it—we shall do it," they said. And, of course, they succeeded.

They argued that with the approach of spring, when the shallow rivers are no longer icebound, it should surely be possible for some form of mechanized water transport to be used, though even the smallest steamers could not pass. Moscow shipyard engineers put their heads together. It took engineer Dolgikh only a few days to design a freight launch drawing no

more than 40 centimeters, worked by a gas generator and constructed entirely of wood.

Two other engineers, Efremov and Sazonov, designed a light barge of no greater draught. It had a capacity of eight tons, and required no metal parts. The gas generator type of vessel can tow a caravan of 25 such barges carrying 180 tons of freight. This caravan is highly maneuverable and clears the shoals and sandbanks.

The Moscow shipyards organized the mass-production of vessels for the "shallow river fleet." So well was the work planned that one ship's carpenter and three assistants turned out 15 barges monthly. Work began only in February of this year, but by the beginning of March the shipyards had already turned out a hundred vessels. The fact that they could be built of ordinary building timber, abounding in the Moscow district, and did not require special ship's timber, made them much less costly.

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF OVRUCH

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Vatutin:

As the result of a vigorous offensive on the night of November 18 to 19, the troops of the First Ukrainian Front captured the town of Ovruch, an important railway junction in the direction of Polesye.

The troops under Lieutenant General Unikhov distinguished themselves in the fighting for the town of Ovruch. Special distinction was won by the Fourth Airborne Division of Guards under Major General Rumyantsev.

To mark the success achieved the name of Ovruch shall be conferred on the Fourth Airborne Division of Guards and henceforth it shall be named the Fourth Ovruch Airborne Division of Guards.

Today, November 19, at 10 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Ovruch—with 12 artillery salvos from 124 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank the troops which liberated the town of Ovruch.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

Moscow, November 19, 1943



Under furious enemy shell-fire, Soviet troops ford a river and dislodge the Germans from their positions

War Correspondent Honored

The first Soviet war correspondent to be distinguished with the title of Hero of the Soviet Union is Sergei Borzenko, of the army newspaper *Znamya Rodiny* (Banner of the Motherland).

Borzenko accompanied a party of marines which crossed the Kerch Straits and seized the first foothold on Crimean soil. The Germans spotted the group, focused searchlights upon it and literally set up a wall of fire. In spite of this the marines landed and dislodged the Germans from their first line of trenches.

Correspondent Borzenko, who had had special training for the landing operation, fought with his tommy gun alongside the marines, helping to win back Soviet soil foot by foot. As soon as the men had consolidated their positions in the captured trenches, Borzenko sent the following dispatch to his paper:

"German counter-attacks are incessant. The enemy is resolved to throw us into the sea at any cost. Today we repelled 19 tank attacks. German tommy gunners infiltrated our battle formations, and on one occasion two tanks were within 100 meters of our command post. The entire piece of land we have taken is covered by enemy rifle fire. All officers are with their men in the firing line, keeping the enemy off.

"When the two enemy tanks approached the command post, artillery from the Taman Peninsula

opened fire. One heavy German tank was smashed. Under the direction of officers Koveshnikov and Movshovich, the situation was restored. By nightfall reinforcements came, and with relief we thought of snatching a bite and a sip of vodka."

Borzenko told of a girl, Galina Petrova, who was with the first party of men to land on the beach. She ran to the barbed-wire entanglements to see if they were mined, turned to the men and cried, "No mines! Follow me!" The correspondent also wrote of Sergeant Major Peter Znoba, who after having been gravely wounded killed eight Germans, insisting that he would die rather than leave the Peninsula before the assignment was completed; of Red Navy man Nikolai Dubkovsky, who disabled a German tank with an anti-tank rifle; of Sergeant Nikolai Krivenko, who destroyed a tank with an anti-tank grenade, and of a Cavalier of the Order of Suvorov, Third Class, Major Koveshnikov, who directed the battle against the enemy tanks.

All these brave people whose names were mentioned in Borzenko's dispatches were subsequently awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Borzenko remained on Crimean soil. When the editor of his paper summoned him back to the Taman Peninsula, he begged for permission to be left with the landing party.

LATVIAN, LITHUANIAN AND ESTONIAN GUERRILLA UNITS INCREASE

In spite of the Hitlerite terror, the guerrillas of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia continue their heroic struggle against the German invaders. Peasants, workers, artists and students—representatives of the most diverse groups—are united in the struggle against their eternal enemies, the Germans, who have exterminated 600,000 Letts, Lithuanians and Estonians.

Latvian guerrilla formations, which only a year ago represented small groups of poorly-armed men, are now well supplied with machine guns, mortars, tommy guns and grenades captured from the enemy. According to incomplete data, within the past two months a few Latvian guerrilla detachments fought 30 major engagements with the Hitlerites, derailed 25 troop trains, blew up eight large bridges and killed over 2,000 Hitlerites.

Throughout Lithuania resounds the fame of the elusive Vilnius and Zhalgiris guerrilla detachments, which have killed not less than 1,000 Hitlerites, dynamited several German troop trains and destroyed a large quantity of enemy equipment. Recently the

Zhalgiris detachment routed an enemy garrison stationed in an inhabited locality. Skilfully fighting in the streets, the guerrillas killed 60 Germans and burned down a truck garage and clothing stores. On the same night, men of the Vilnius detachment derailed three German trains, smashing 19 troop cars and 17 cars loaded with armaments.

When news of the victorious Red Army offensive reached occupied Lithuania, thousands of Lithuanians left the towns and villages to join the guerrilla detachments. Among them were several hundred students and professors of the Vilnius and Kaunas Universities.

Thousands of patriots are taking part in the guerrilla movement in Estonia. Almost every day dozens of German officers and men disappear without trace in Tallin, Tartu and other towns. The guerrillas control the railways and highways and strive to prevent the front-bound enemy trains from getting through the territory of Estonia. In one week alone guerrilla detachments derailed six German troop trains, smashing two locomotives and 60 cars, and picked off about 100 Hitlerites from ambushed positions.

SOVIET AGRICULTURE IN WARTIME

By Semyon Chuenkov, Deputy People's Commissar of Agriculture of the USSR

Radical changes took place in Soviet villages at the end of the last decade and the beginning of the present one, when the peasants realized that the system of small holdings, where each one cultivated his own plot of land, did not justify itself. The individual peasant could not afford to buy modern agricultural implements and fertilizer to raise the productivity of his soil, and thus was faced with ruin. The decline of agriculture led to the lowering of the national income and the economic exhaustion of the country.

With the cooperation of the Soviet Government, the peasants voluntarily began to unite into collective farms and to till the land in common. The Government supplied these farms with hundreds of thousands

of tractors, harvester combines and trucks, and also with fertilizer, at exceedingly low prices.

Agriculture in the USSR now holds first rank in the world for its level of mechanization. Soviet agriculture has become stronger and the harvests larger each year, and experience has convinced Soviet farmers of the advantages of the collective farm system.

The war set the collective farms the difficult task of supplying the Red Army and the country with food products and necessary raw materials, despite the fact that the majority of the most highly-qualified collective farmers were in the Red Army, and that a large number of tractors and horses were being



During the harvesting in the liberated Kuban valley, anti-aircraft squads protected the collective farmers from enemy raids

used for defense purposes. Also, the number of machines, spare parts for tractors, and amount of fertilizer sold to the collective farms had been considerably decreased. The plants which produced them were working on war orders.

But Soviet agriculture can be said to have passed its "war examination" with flying colors. The war has proved the strength of the collective farm system. This can be illustrated by several facts: During the war of 1914-1918 the acreage under grain crops in Russia declined by 12 per cent, the gross harvest of food products by 21 per cent and the harvest of fodder by 50 per cent. The number of cattle declined sharply, entailing great hardship in supplying the Army and the population with foodstuffs.

Acreage Increased in 1942

In the past, war ruined the peasants. In the present war the situation is entirely different. Because of the temporary occupation by the Germans of the most fertile regions of the USSR—the Ukraine and part of the Northern Caucasus—the collective farms in the rear were obliged to fill in the gap in the gross acreage under crops by enlarging their own acreage. In spite of wartime difficulties they fulfilled this task. The 1942 acreage under crops was increased by millions of hectares. In 1942 collective farms sold the government 49 per cent more livestock than in 1941—yet in 1942 the number of horned cattle, sheep, and goats on collective farms increased by 11 per cent. In 1943 the number of cattle in Central Asia and in several of the Volga districts increased considerably.

One can be easily convinced of the advantages of the collective farm system by the example of the Gorky Region. During the two years of war from 1914 to 1916, the acreage under crops in the present borders of this region declined by 218,000 hectares, while in two years of the present war the collective farms of the Gorky Region increased the acreage under crops by 155,000 hectares. A number of technical and vegetable crops were also grown. The number of horned cattle increased by 30 to 35 per cent. In 1942 the collective farms of the Gorky Region sold to the Government 75,000 tons of grain, 830,000 tons of vegetables, 35,000 tons of potatoes and 3,000 tons of flax above the figures for 1941.

In 1942, the collective farms of the Yaroslavl Region considerably increased the acreage under crops and the number of cattle. They sold to the Government 55,000 tons of grain, 5,600 tons of potatoes and 25,000 tons of vegetables more than in 1941.

Agriculture Reorganized in Many Regions

War necessitated the reorganization of agriculture in many regions. Uzbekistan, in Central Asia, was

always the main cotton base of the USSR, and grain was sent there from the European part of the country. During the war the collective farms of Uzbekistan maintained the acreage under cotton, while increasing the acreage under grain to 800,000 hectares, thus entirely satisfying the Republic's demand for grain products.

During the war, Siberia, the Urals and Kazakhstan have become the main regions supplying the Red Army and the population with grain. These regions have also increased the area sown to sugar beet and oil-yielding plants, in order to make up for the temporary loss of regions in the southern part of the USSR. Seeds and grain received from the United States played a great part in this increase in acreage.

The strength and advantages of the collective farm system can best be seen in the regions freed from German occupation. Formerly if a peasant lost a horse or a cow it took years for him to save enough money for a new one. Very often such a peasant could never get on his feet again, and was ruined.

A number of districts of the Tula, Moscow and Kalinin Regions were temporarily occupied by the Germans in 1941. Retreating under the blows of the Red Army, the Nazi bandits burned the collective farm buildings, drove away or killed the cattle and plundered the collective farm possessions. Whole villages were reduced to ashes.

Restoration of Farms in Liberated Areas

After the German retreat the collective farmers of the freed districts applied themselves energetically to the rebuilding of their ruined farms. During the past year-and-a-half the collective farmers of the Moscow Region increased the number of their cattle almost to the prewar level, and sowed and harvested in 1942 an acreage equal to the prewar area. The collective farms of Tula Region restored 80 per cent of the prewar acreage under crops, 97 per cent of the prewar number of horned cattle and 79 per cent of the prewar number of sheep and goats.

The Red Army continues to drive the Germans from the Soviet land, freeing more and more districts from the German yoke. Collective farms in the rear are helping those already freed by sending them cattle, seeds, food and agricultural machines from their own supplies. The collective farms of the regions of Kemerov, Novosibirsk, Chita and Kuibyshev have set apart 18,000 swine and 1,200 horses for the collective farms of the freed regions.

In 1943 Soviet collective farmers are fighting in the Red Army and working in the rear, heroically defending the motherland which gave them a prosperous and cultured life.

Doctor of Poltava

By Kiril Levin

Doctor Semichev, of Poltava, has come to Moscow to get medical and surgical apparatus for his hospital. He lived for two years under the Nazis. This is his story, exactly as he told it to me:

During the first days of the invasion my only thought was to get away. But then I changed my mind. Why? Because it occurred to me that if I stayed I might somehow be of use to my fellow creatures.

I continued working in the hospital, which the Germans did not touch, as they wanted labor, and so allowed us to maintain to some extent the health standard of the people who slaved for them. We took advantage of this, but unfortunately what we were able to do was sorely inadequate, as we had neither essential drugs nor food to give to the patients. Still, the sick were very glad to stay in the hospital, and to be attended by their own people.

All the hospital equipment—the dentistry and surgical departments were particularly well equipped—was taken away by the Germans. One day a German doctor called. He was excessively courteous, called me “colleague” and asked to be shown around the hospital.

After examining everything and making notes constantly, he said, in the same civil tone, that I was to consider myself personally responsible for the safety of the hospital equipment, which was shortly to be shipped to Germany. I was naive enough to suggest that we would find it rather difficult to administer treatment without the necessary apparatus. He replied with a suave smile, “Oh, you’ll get along somehow. Germany needs it.”

The hospital did not close down, although it was stripped clean of everything. Still, we were happy that our routine was not interfered with and we were allowed a certain amount of independence. This made it possible for us to render secret aid to the wounded.

One night some townsfolk brought in an injured Soviet airman, whose plane had been brought down in the neighborhood of the town. We gave him civilian clothes and faked identification papers. At that time we had no correct information about what was going on at the front. For almost a year the Germans had been spreading lies about the “defeats” of the Red Army, and it was from the airman we learned of the rout of the Germans near Moscow and von Paulus’ surrender at Stalingrad. We drank in every word, as you can imagine. We had been living like slaves in some medieval age.

The airman remained with us for two weeks. Then, with the guerrillas’ help, he was taken across the front line to the Soviet side. On several occasions we helped wounded soldiers. We knew we were

doing it at great risk. We would have been shot if the Germans had caught us.

By the end of the occupation there were very few people left in Poltava. Many had been killed, and a good many carried off to Germany’s slave yards. A large group of Poltava citizens intended for deportation were intercepted by the Red Army. The people who took refuge in the woods are coming back.

The town is in ruins, the buildings tottering and charred. The orchards have been felled. Poltava looks as if it had been scalped. Still, we are happy beyond measure to be free again. I want to get back as soon as possible, with the new equipment for the hospital.



Anti-aircraft machine gunners checking ammunition

Research in Turkmenia

By Professor Valentin Dityakin

The Turkmenian Soviet Socialist Republic is situated in Central Asia. It stretches from the shores of the Caspian, along the borders of Iran and Afghanistan, to the middle reaches of the Amu Darya River. This vast territory, with its many deserts, including the well-known Kara-Kum, or "Evil Sands," is very sparsely populated.

In Tsarist times, Turkmenia was a remote, extremely backward, poverty-stricken borderland: only one to one-and-a-half per cent of its people attended school. In the 26 years since the Revolution, Turkmenia has become one of the most prosperous and culturally developed sections of the USSR.

In 1941 a Turkmenian branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences was opened. About 50 research institutions, employing over 500 scientists, function under its auspices. All of them work with a single coordinated plan, which helps to avoid overlapping and insures that laboratory research and expeditions answer the practical needs of the country.

The first task was to provide a scientific description of Turkmenia, which was very little known. Explorers studied the geology of the country. Extensive hydro-geological exploration was carried out in the Kara-Kum desert. To this we owe the first scientific description of the Kara-Kum. Vast deposits of magnesium, minerals and coal were discovered, as well as some 50 new salt mines.

A special study was made of building methods suitable for use in Turkmenia and other areas of Central Asia subject to earthquakes.

The Botanical and Zoological Institutes of the Turkmenian branch of the Academy studied the flora of the Republic with a view to utilizing it in local industry. A number of tannic plants were discovered, as well as medicinal herbs yielding vitamin C, so much needed in war conditions. These herbs are now widely used in Turkmenia.

Agronomists have concerned themselves with increasing the crop yields. It was found possible to achieve a 150 per cent increase by applying modern agricultural methods. Some 20 new deposits of mineral fertilizer have been found in Turkmenia. They are already being mined.

Shifting sands, the bane of agriculture, were one of the most difficult problems. A bush of extremely rapid growth has been found, which is expected to be useful in dealing with this problem.

The study of the fauna of Turkmenia was the province of the Zoological Institute. Its object was to produce the best possible local breeds of camel, sheep and zebu. Expert breeders have succeeded in completely stamping out a local pestilential disease which used to carry off enormous numbers of cattle.

The industrial committee of the Turkmenian branch of the Academy has found rich deposits of brick clays which will satisfy the heavy demands of the Republic's new building industry.

There has been some interesting research into the practical utilization of the heat of the sun, a problem which has long occupied the minds of heliologists. Various types of helio-apparatus have been constructed, some of which have proved of practical value. Especially valuable are the water-distilling devices invented by members of the Academy staff. These may prove of interest to countries such as Arabia.

The spread of education in Turkmenia has stimulated in the people a deep interest in their historical past, their literary and artistic heritage. The Institute of History, Language and Literature collects historical material and makes records of unwritten folklore. It is working on a scientific grammar of the Turkmenian language. Two big dictionaries, Turkmenian-Russian and Russian-Turkmenian, are now complete.

The museum at Ashkhabad, capital of Turkmenia, possesses collections of great interest to the orientalist.

Subsidiary Farms for Factories

Soviet cities and industrial centers are supplementing their food supplies in wartime with meat, vegetables and dairy products from their own farms. Every factory, plant and institution has a subsidiary farm. Some grow vegetables, others breed pigs or poultry, and there are even fisheries. The result is a greatly increased supply of food for workers and office employees and their families, and for the workers' dining rooms in factories. In 1942 the factories of the People's Commissariat of the Iron and Steel Industry received 62,000 tons of vegetables from their own farms, and this year the area under cultivation is even larger. In the 1943 competition of subsidiary farms, the farms of the People's Commissariats of Armaments, Aviation and Chemical Industries were awarded first prizes.

A THOUGHT ON TCHAIKOVSKY

By Dmitri Shostakovich

There was no Russian composer at the end of the 19th or the first half of the 20th Century who was not indebted for some phase or other of his creative work to Peter Tchaikovsky. The author of six symphonies and the most important and most popular operas in the Russian repertory was a true builder of the great Russian musical culture.

The personality of this genius happily combined an unusual natural talent with immense creative activity uninterrupted for decades. There is literally not a single musical genre in which the heritage left by Tchaikovsky does not occupy a conspicuous place. Song and symphony, opera and romance, sonata and ballet, concerto and musical humoresque—all were native to the genius of the great composer.

Tchaikovsky influenced his contemporaries independently of their creative trend and the bent of their musical thought. But even more considerable is the influence of the great composer on posterity. His pupils Taneyev, and later Scriabin and Rachmaninov, continued the traditional line of Russian musical culture taken up by Tchaikovsky from Glinka. Among the Soviet composers of our generation I know of literally none who has not to some degree or other felt his influence. Shaporin, Sebalin, Myaskovsky, Prokofiev, Khachaturyan and Dzerzhinsky have in different measure "emerged" from the melodic and harmonic traditions of Tchaikovsky. The philosophical and musical peculiarities of Tchaikovsky's work have also left a deep trace on many minds. When I sit down to write a score my thoughts always involuntarily turn to the method used by that unsurpassed master, our great teacher in the art of composing.

I should find it difficult to answer the question: On what exactly is my love for Tchaikovsky founded? That would demand a special exhaustive article. But if I were permitted to express in a sentence the reason for my extraordinary esteem and fond admiration for the creative work of Tchaikovsky I would say: It contains no creative indifference or idle sound recording. Tchaikovsky is near and dear not only to men of music; like Pushkin he has penetrated to the very heart of the Russian national consciousness. We cannot live without Tchaikovsky in these days of our national sorrow; his name is with us in the time of victory, and in the years of the greatest creative upsurge of the Russian national spirit.

I would like to clarify two contestable points here. It is often said that Tchaikovsky's work is "touched" by a spirit of pessimism. This error arises from the circumstance that some modern investigators, as well as most of the pre-revolutionary musicologists and critics, confuse pessimism with keen perception, the

perception of the tragic. In all the centuries of world art, no one has depicted man's tragic world perception better than the writers of Greek tragedies. Nevertheless no one has ever thought of reproaching them with pessimism.

Tchaikovsky has that same feeling for the tragic in the conflicting development of man's personal and social life. With the insight of a true thinker, with the intuition of a great artist, he sensed the contradictory, dialectical path of the development of life in the world, the fate of individual man and mankind as a whole. But Tchaikovsky was by no means marked with the stamp of fatalism, gloom or a belief in blind fate. His most tragic works are pervaded with the spirit of struggle, the striving to overcome blind elemental forces.

Tchaikovsky believed in the inexhaustible force of the human mind and in the power and harmony of creation, and this radiant rational faith colors his entire creative heritage. As with the classics of Russian realistic literature and painting, so with Tchaikovsky in his most tragic works (as for example his *Sixth Symphony* and *The Queen of Spades*), it is not the idea of resignation that predominates, but the theme of struggle and the overcoming of tragic "fate."

It has been the custom up to now to speak of the school of Rimsky-Korsakov as the outstanding Russian school of composition. It is high time, however, to give its due to the school of Tchaikovsky, and to do justice to all the richness and diversity of his technique as a composer. He is unequalled in his ability to develop musical thought and to orchestrate composition. I bow to him as a splendid orchestrator; he did not as a rule orchestrate already written works, but seemed to compose a priori for orchestra, to think "orchestally." And whenever I experience creative difficulties in working on some composition I always find an exhaustive answer in Tchaikovsky's technique.

It should also be stressed that when in his creative work Tchaikovsky turned to the materials of Russian literature, he was never a musical interpreter of great literary works in the generally accepted sense of the term. His operas based on Pushkin are by no means poems translated into musical language. The figure of Tatyana, Onegin, Lensky, Herman and Mazeppa as created by Tchaikovsky are not simply borrowed from Pushkin, but are co-works of genius.

The national character of the composer is determined by his deep insight into the souls of his Russian contemporaries and his subtle feeling for Rus-

(Continued on page eight)

HORSE RACING REVIVED IN MOSCOW

By Leonid Hecker

This fall horse races were held in Moscow for the first time since the beginning of the war. Thousands of Muscovites thronged the Hippodrome Track, and many record-breaking performances were given by horses of pure Russian and Russo-American stock bred and trained at State and collective horse-breeding farms.

When the German invasion began, the Hippodrome Track was closed. Several hundred race horses, including Podarok, who ran the 1,600 meters in 2:2.1 minutes, and Ulov, the famous trotter, were shipped to the eastern regions of the USSR. Older jockeys and trainers were likewise evacuated from the Capital, while the younger Hippodrome employees joined the fighting services.

When the Hippodrome opened this fall it still bore the marks of the war. The stands, stables, tracks and extensive fields suffered from enemy air raids in the summer and autumn of 1942. Heavy explosive bombs damaged the stands and dug huge craters in the tracks. A great deal of work had to be done before the first races could be held. Three-quarters of the fields had been plowed and sown to vegetables, and in the center of the circular race course—once given up to flower beds, refreshment booths and seats for spectators—women gathered crops of potatoes, cabbage and carrots.

I talked with Alexander Yurkov, manager of the Hippodrome Track, who explained that a small number of horses had been returned to Moscow, including thoroughbreds from the State and collective horse-breeding farms of the Tula, Gorky and Ryazan Re-

gions. Among the favorites at the Hippodrome are Triumph, who was bred at a Moscow suburban farm and has run the 1,600 meter course in 2:11.5. This was the best time made in the first three days' racing after the tracks opened this fall. Motive and Haiti, two horses owned by Hero of the Soviet Union Lieutenant General Mikhail Gromov, of the Red Army Air Force (who made the non-stop flight from Moscow to the United States via the North Pole in 1937), are two other favorites at the track. Haiti is the granddaughter of a famous trotter brought from the United States.

Yurkov also stated that excellent two and three-year-olds have been developed during the war, who will undoubtedly make noteworthy records. The performances of grandsons and granddaughters of trotters brought from the United States in recent years are being followed with keen interest. The offspring of these American trotters are stud horses on the collective farms, and in their turn sire trotters of excellent stock.

The present war has confirmed the tremendous importance of the Hippodrome races, Yurkov said. The selection of the best and most valuable stock considerably influenced the improvement of thoroughbreds for the cavalry units of the Red Army.

Speaking of jockeys, Yurkov mentioned that Anna Chizh, an assistant rider before the war, is now a full-fledged jockey. The first woman jockey to enter competitions at the Hippodrome, Anna Chizh competes with riders of many years' racing experience, among them Mikhail Stasenkov, who has taken part in racing events in the United States.

TCHAIKOVSKY

(Continued from page seven)

sian nature. Tchaikovsky was no nationally limited artist, and often made use of non-national subjects, as in his ballets *Iolanthe* and *Italian Capriccio*. However, despite their non-Russian subject matter these works are not less national in spirit and character than other creations of the composer. Tchaikovsky's music is not merely one of the foundation stones of Russian, and indeed world, musical culture; it is also a sort of creative and technical encyclopedia to which every Russian composer is forced to have recourse in the process of his creative work. How amazing is Tchaikovsky's talent for varying musical material! Recall, for example, how different the theme of fate

sounds in the beginning of the first movement and in the waltz of the *Fifth Symphony*.

The artistic heritage of Peter Tchaikovsky is especially dear to the hearts of contemporary Soviet people. That is why the German vandals, bent on strangling Russian Soviet culture, devastated Tchaikovsky's house in Klin. Severe punishment will be dealt to the inspirers and executors of this unparalleled crime.

In the darkest period of the Patriotic War we thought of Tchaikovsky, and in the hour of national rejoicing his music rings in our hearts. It will be organically woven into the fabric of the triumphal march which will resound over the boundless spaces of our great and beautiful country on the day of the final defeat of the Hitlerite hordes.

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Soviet Industry Today

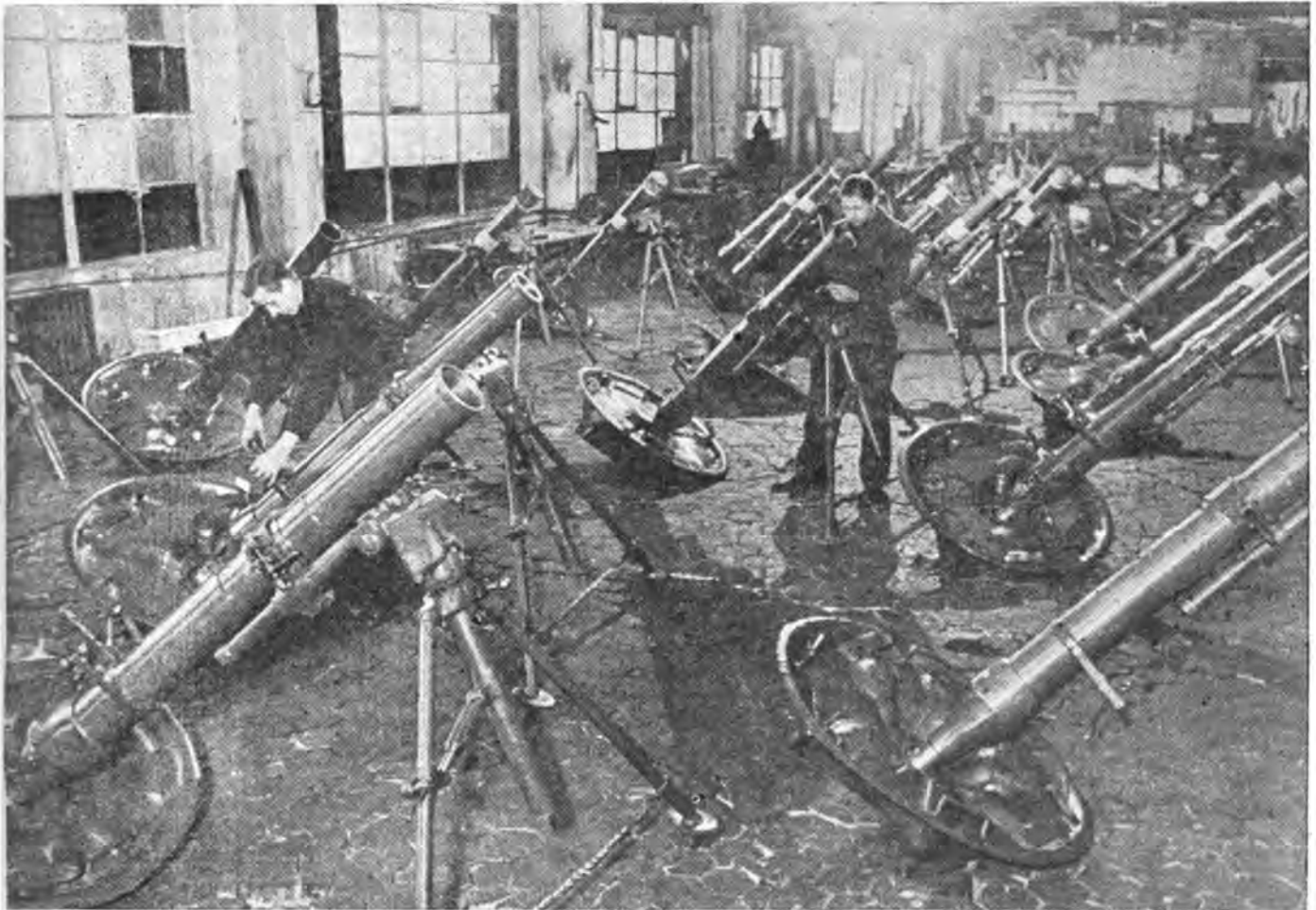
By I. Verkhovtsev

The Soviet people celebrated the 26th Anniversary of the Soviet State during the victorious offensive of the Red Army. They are legitimately proud of the Red Army's victories, and justly proud of the fruits of their labor, which insured these victories.

The German army no longer possesses its earlier superiority in war equipment. Soviet factories are supplying the country's armed forces with tanks,

planes and guns of splendid quality and in steadily-increasing quantities. The Red Army is receiving adequate shells, mines, bombs and cartridges.

The striking successes of Soviet industry are all the more remarkable if its youth is taken into account. It dates back not to the end of 1917, when Soviet power originated, but considerably later. The four years of the First World War and the three years of



IN A MORTAR FACTORY—Young graduates of Soviet trade schools putting the finishing touches to these effective weapons

struggle against the enemies of Soviet power reduced the country to a state of ruin. Transport was destroyed and the majority of enterprises were idle.

In 1920 the output of Soviet Russia's large-scale industry was seven times smaller than in Russia in 1913. During 1921 the country's steel mills produced 116,000 tons of pig-iron, or about three per cent of the pig-iron smelted before the war. The population suffered from a shortage of food and consumers' goods.

Restoration of Industry

Only at the end of 1920 did the country have the possibility of undertaking the restoration of industry. This gigantic job was crowned with brilliant results. By 1925 the output of Soviet large-scale industry reached three-fourths of the prewar level, and a year later exceeded the prewar volume of production.

The restoration period ended, and Joseph Stalin, leader of the Soviet people, set the task of making the USSR an industrial country with up-to-date technique. This involved radical reconstruction of old enterprises and the construction of machine-building, iron and steel, chemical, automobile, machine tool, tractor, aircraft and tank factories, and locomotive depots and shipyards, which did not exist in pre-revolutionary Russia.

This colossal construction work was carried out in accordance with the Five-Year Plans, worked out in the minutest detail. Powerful factories, plants and power stations were built in various parts of the country between 1928 and 1941.

By the end of 1937, Soviet industry stood at seven times the prewar level, while its volume of output secured it a place in the world ahead of Great Britain and Germany and second only to the United States. As for the output of tractors, combine harvesters and peat production, the USSR attained first place in the world.

Growth of Stakhanov Movement

The Soviet Union became a mighty industrial power. Its plants, factories, coal mines and oilfields, equipped with modern machinery, were manned by well-trained engineers and skilled workers. The initiative of the Donets miner, Alexei Stakhanov, who in 1935 set a record exceeding the ordinary norm of coal production by 14 times, gave rise to the Stakhanov movement in various branches of industry. Stakhanovites are experts in their particular fields, who have acquired an excellent mastery of the machinery in their charge and are attaining steadily-growing labor productivity. Today they form a vast army in industry, transport, construction and agriculture.

New Demands of War

The war placed heavy demands on Soviet industry to supply the Red Army and Navy with armaments and ammunition in the quantities necessary for the struggle against the strong German army. These demands increased, especially after the temporary occupation of a part of Soviet territory, including the Ukraine, with the Donets coal basin and steel mills.

Hitler and his clique believed that the Soviet Union, deprived of the Ukraine, was doomed to defeat. It was a hard loss, but it did not weaken the will of the Soviet people to victory. Losing its coal and metal base in the south, the Soviet State still had at its disposal the Urals and Kuznetsk bases, not to mention the numerous industrial enterprises built in the Urals, Siberia and Central Asia.

Soviet aircraft, machine-building and ordnance factories evacuated to the East from the war zone were rapidly reassembled and put into operation. Naturally the blast furnaces, open hearths and mills could not be evacuated; hence it was necessary within the shortest possible time to increase the productivity of the fuel and metallurgical industry in the East and to adapt it to war needs. This was a difficult task. Armor for tanks was mainly produced by plants in the south—at Mariupol, Makeyevka and Dniepropetrovsk. The Eastern factories were not adapted for the production of armor plate. But the front needed tanks. Scientists, engineers and technicians, together with the skilled workers, solved what seemed to be an insoluble problem.

Equally successful production of pipes for the war industry—for mortars in particular—was organized in the Urals. Pipe mills evacuated to the East were restored to production in record time and by the end of last year attained prewar capacity.

Development of New Coal Bases

No small effort was required for the further development of the Eastern coalfields in the Kuznetsk, Karaganda, Chelyabinsk, Kizel, Cheremkhov and Sukchan basins, to provide fuel for the war industry in the East and for transport. Simultaneously, the importance of the Moscow coal basin was greatly increased. In the autumn of 1941 its mines were put out of commission during the German occupation. Restoration began in January, 1942, and in September of the same year the basin exceeded the prewar output, insuring a fuel supply to Moscow industry and transport and to the central districts of the country, eliminating the necessity of hauling coal from Siberia, the Urals and Central Asia.

Beginning with the summer of last year, a great number of engineers and workers of the leading enterprises

initiated the country-wide competition movement for better service to the front. Each month the winners were awarded the Challenge Banners of the State Defense Committee, and thousands of enterprises in various branches of the national economy vied for this high honor. Due to the competition, many plants, mines, oilfields and construction projects considerably stepped up their productivity despite wartime difficulties, leaving prewar standards far behind. One large ordnance factory, for example, increased the output of armaments 18 times during the war; another equally large ordnance factory increased its production 14 times. Hundreds of similar examples could be cited.

Improvement of War Equipment

The war years have seen persistent efforts to improve war equipment and to produce new types of armaments. The Hitlerites have had occasion to feel on their own skins the qualities of the Soviet fighter planes: the Yakovlev, Lavochkin, Ilyushin, Stormovik and Petlyakov dive bombers, the KV and T-34 tanks, and the cannon which reduced to scrap iron the German Ferdinands and Tigers on which the German command had pinned so much hope.

Prominent Soviet scientists, designers and inventors are devoting their activities entirely to aiding the Red Army, and this aid is absolutely effective.

Soviet industry is shouldering a tremendous burden. But the Soviet people remember that despite the Red Army's important victories the enemy still continues

to resist, and that much effort will still be required to bring about his final debacle. Hence the Soviet people draw the conclusion that production must be constantly expanded, to provide the front with increasing quantities of armaments and ammunition, to render existing enterprises most efficient and to build new ones.

The Soviet people are bearing the main brunt of the struggle against the strong enemy, and at the same time have never ceased the construction of new plants, factories, shops, open-hearth and blast furnaces, power stations and railways. An iron and steel works built in record time will soon begin production in Kazakhstan, which never before had an iron and steel industry. Several hydro-electric stations, including the powerful Farkhad station, are under construction in Uzbekistan.

During the war, the most powerful blast furnace in Europe was built in six months at the Magnitogorsk works. In two years of war the capacity of the Urals power stations increased by 80 per cent. New projects completed in 1942 have a capacity seven times that of 1940 and 3.5 times that of 1941.

The retreating Germans, ousted from Soviet districts, are destroying all industrial enterprises, hoping that these "desert zones" will weaken the Soviet Union. But in the most difficult conditions, and frequently under the open sky—since houses were burned by the German savages—the Soviet people immediately begin the restoration of industry in the liberated districts.

1,300 Decorated for Construction Work

New railroad lines—the North Pechora and lines on the right bank of the Volga—have recently been completed. Lieutenant Colonel Khudyakov, member of the directing staff of these jobs, stated that the completion of the North Pechora trunk line has made it possible to tackle seriously the development of the Pechora coal basin and to create in the Soviet Union a third coal-mining base beyond the Arctic Circle. Coal mined in this area is already being delivered over the new railway to Leningrad, Moscow, Murmansk and Archangelsk. This coal has a high caloric value and stands up well in comparison with the high-grade coking coal of the Donets Basin.

The North Pechora trunk line has become one of the most important railways of the USSR. During the past two years the output of the basin has increased two-and-one half times. The entire economy of the extreme north is now undergoing a radical transformation. In particular, a great impetus has

been given to the development of the timber and oil industries and to agriculture. Thanks to the growth of industry, the population of these regions has increased more than three-fold.

The Soviet people who built the North Pechora line displayed true selflessness and inexhaustible energy and initiative, completing the construction of the extensive line in two years. Over impassable bogs and through zones of perpetually-frozen soil, where for ages reindeer and dog teams were the only means of transportation, the builders laid a first-class railway.

For their successful work in the construction of the North Pechora railway, the development of the Pechora coal-mining basin and the construction during wartime of new railway lines on the right bank of the Volga, the Soviet Government has decorated more than 1,300 workers and engineers.

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THE YOUNG GUARDS OF KRASNODON

Radi Yurkin, member of a "Young Guards" underground organization in Krasnodon during the German occupation, tells of the work of this group, which he joined at the age of 16:

When the Germans entered our city I carefully hid all the rifles I had managed to pick up in the streets. They would be useful. Then I decided to leave Krasnodon. Fierce fighting was going on beyond Millerovo. I attempted to cross the front line but failed, and started home in low spirits.

On the way back I accidentally wandered into a former battleground. There I found some mines, and took along seven. In Krasnodon I got hold of fuses for them. One evening I met my best friend, Stepa Safonov.

"Do you want to join the Young Guards?" he asked.

"Of course," I said eagerly.

Safonov showed me a radio set he had made himself and told me to put it together. This was my first practical work and a test for the right of membership in the Young Guards. I was proud that my comrades trusted me. At the end of October I was accepted as a member of the Komsomol. On November first a group of us was instructed to make preparations for the celebration of the anniversary of the Revolution on November seventh.

We got hold of a piece of red cloth for a banner, and I brought the mines I had found at Millerovo. On the eve of the holiday we set out to fulfill the assignment.

It was raining and the weather was terrible, but our spirits were high. We entered the Voroshilov School through the back door and climbed to the top floor, where a heavy iron door opened into a narrow staircase leading to the attic. Seryozha Tyulenin went up first and we followed with the mines. Stepa Safonov and Seryozha climbed up under the roof. Lenya Dadyshev stood watch at the tiny window. I attached the Red Banner to the water pipe. Everything was ready.

Stepa Safonov—we called him our senior sapper—stated that the mines were ready for action if anyone touched the flag-pole. Stepa was just about to start singing when Lenya stuck a cap into his mouth. I looked out of the window and saw six policemen. They passed without noticing anything. Then I climbed up on the roof to look at the banner which we had so carefully raised. It waved proudly in the air—and underneath in the attic lay the anti-tank mines, attached to the flag-pole.

We went away. In the morning many people gathered near the school-building. A policeman dashed into the attic in fury, but came right back, mumbling something about mines. The banner was

still flying. That same night leaflets and caricatures of the Germans were posted in all the streets and squares. After November seventh the leaflets appeared regularly.

At the end of the month we took the oath of guerrillas of the Patriotic War. We gathered at the home of one of the boys at six in the evening. There were 12 of us. After we took the oath we left to carry out a new assignment. Our group was sent to Mine No. 22, where an ammunition dump was located, to get grenades and cartridges. When we came out into the street it was drizzling. We reached the mine in the afternoon, did away with the policeman on guard, and toward evening were ready to start home with the ammunition. After stumbling about for several hours we came to Mine No. One, near Krasnodon. Here the SS patrol stopped us and took us to the police station. We pretended we had been to a village in search of food and were carrying potatoes home. We were lucky. Taking down the false names we gave and ordering us to pay a fine, the police let us go. After this incident we were more careful.

The leaflets kept appearing, infuriating the chief of police. A few days later we wrecked a German truck carrying mail and Christmas presents, then a truck with uniforms and warm clothing. After that four of us wrecked a truck with officers' baggage—army coats, boots and camouflage gowns. This alarmed the police, and at last they found a clue. Three of the boys were arrested. It was necessary for the rest to hide. Seryozha Tyulenin and Valya hid in time. We couldn't find Dadyshev or Ostapenko. Vanya Turkenich, our chief of staff, was missing. Stepa Safonov and I were the only two left of this group. The police were on guard day and night near Seryozha Tyulenin's house. A tommy gun and three clips of cartridges were hidden in the attic and the police were sure to find them.

I met Seryozha's sister in the market square and asked her to help me. She took the tommy gun from the attic, put it into a sack and put the sack in the shed under the hay. There was one policeman on duty in the yard and another in the house. Taking advantage of a moment when the policeman outside went in the house to get a light from the other one, I crawled to the shed, took the tommy gun and got away. When I got home, Stepa Safonov was waiting.

"They're looking for us everywhere," he said. "Let's get away before it's too late." We started out. We killed several policemen we met on our way, took their arms and documents and hurried on. Next day we separated—it was too dangerous to remain together. Stepa left for Kamensk and I for Krasny Luch and then Voroshilovsk. Stepa was killed in Kamensk.

The YU-2 is an Old-Timer

By Nikolai Polikarpov

Nikolai Polikarpov, Hero of Socialist Labor, is one of the leading Soviet aircraft designers.

The Germans once credited us with having a bomber that could fly up to a window and look over the sill to see whether there were any Germans inside.

That was the YU-2, come out of peaceful retirement to astonish observers. Because it could land on such a small space, it proved extremely useful for picking up wounded almost on the battlefield. It worked as a transport during the Caucasus battles. It proved useful as a night bomber at Stalingrad, and later began to go out on day missions.

Very "Forgiving"

My team of designers, one of the oldest in the Soviet Union, built the YU-2, the "flying flea" or "aerial motorbike," over 15 years ago. Normally it would be obsolete by now. However, owing to its fundamental qualities—safety of flight and capacity—it still lives and works well in supplying the Red Army. It is not only good for training, but has also proved excellent for first aid work, communications and supplies, and is also fulfilling direct military operations in short-distance bombing, short-distance reconnaissance, communications with guerrillas, and similar work.

Thanks to its first-class flying and landing qualities, simplicity of operation, and the fact that it can "forgive" even serious mistakes on the part of its pilot, the YU-2 has become a great favorite of young recruits to the air force. Guards bomber regiments have many YU-2 planes. Soviet airmen perform downright miracles in this machine.

The I-16 fighter, another old machine, is still operating successfully.

My team of organizers produces fighter planes, light and heavy aircraft, bombers, gliders and powered-gliders. It has already created a number of new models which have successfully passed their tests and received high praise for their flying and fighting qualities. Our work has been highly appreciated, and received a First Degree Stalin Prize in 1943.

We know that if we do not progress we go backward, as Comrade Stalin wisely said. We must improve the quality of aviation technique day by day, hour by hour. In our sphere, the slightest failure to perfect the flying and fighting qualities of a plane means loss and sacrifices.

The great and important task of improving military aircraft cannot be accomplished merely by modifying existing planes. That is only one way of doing it. It is a very useful way, involving small risk—but also comparatively small improvement in flying qualities. The main thing is to create new types of planes, because only by so doing can we achieve a radical improvement.

Our team pays special attention to the protection of the crew—by armor and the construction of models less vulnerable. The war has clearly shown the importance and necessity of using cheap, easily obtainable material, such as timber, plywoods, various kinds of steel, linen, etc., in aircraft construction. It has also shown the urgency of simplifying the actual process of producing planes.



Fighter plane pilot Lieutenant Valeria Khomyakova, formerly an engineer in the Frunze plant in Moscow, brought down a German bomber in an air battle

Hitler's Irrational Impulses

By K. Velikanov

In his latest review, the main purpose of which was to gloss over the unfavorable impression created among the Germans by Hitler's hysterical invocations of November 8, the Hitlerite General Dietmar paid his Fuehrer a truly left-handed compliment. Unable to give a more or less articulate explanation of Hitler's flourishes, and to bolster them by "military theory," the Hitlerite general made this amazing statement: "It would be a great mistake to try to analyze in complete detail the Fuehrer's way of thinking, which is based on irrational impulses that elude the assessments of reason."

In other words, don't look for any elements of normal logic in the Fuehrer's judgments. The "commander-in-chief" does not proceed in his plans from laws of strategy, but is guided by "irrational impulses." Applied to the present situation at the front, Dietmar's statement means that Hitler stubbornly refuses to take any stock in the conclusions at which some of his generals have arrived after the collapse of all hopes of holding the Dnieper line for prolonged winter defense.

This is not the first time representatives of German military circles have made public reference to the Fuehrer's "irrational way of thinking." A year ago the official military historiographer, Colonel Scherf, of the German general staff, wrote in a review—"The First Year of the Soviet-German War"—that Hitler had time after time lent the course of operations in the USSR a character "determined by the Fuehrer's personality," hinting at the adventurous character and defectiveness of Hitler's strategy, and also at the generally-known fact that in carrying out important operations Hitler relied, as Colonel Scherf put it, on his "intuition."

The whole world remembers where Hitler's "irrational impulses" and strategical improvisations landed the German army a year ago. On November 10, 1942 the Red Army assumed the offensive at Stalingrad. Surprising the German high command, Soviet troops pierced the German front in the Stalingrad area, directing their thrust not at the weakest link of the German defenses, but at the massed forces of the German army, at a point where the enemy thought he was strongest. Stalingrad became a grave for the German Sixth Army.

Since then a new term has appeared in German military lingo—"the Stalingrad psychosis." Hitlerite soldiers and officers are seized by this psychosis whenever Soviet or Allied troops surround German units during offensive operations. This psychosis proved fatal for the Germans in operations on the

Soviet-German front following the Stalingrad debacle, and on other fronts. It was, for one thing, the contributing factor that speeded up the liquidation of the German beachhead in Tunisia and facilitated the Allied operations which brought Italy to terms. Therefore, when the German generals again refer to Hitler's "irrational impulses," they deliberately or inadvertently seek to emphasize that the cause of Germany's severe defeats lies in Hitler's defective strategy, from which they would now like to dissociate themselves.

Realizing that General Dietmar had gone too far in his characterization of the Fuehrer's way of thinking, Goebbels decided to rectify the mistake. And so on the next day the *Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau* published a statement which purports to set forth the opinion of German military circles. In this statement not a word is said about the Fuehrer's "irrational impulses," but instead an attempt is made to prove that the events which took place during the summer campaign contributed to the "growth and consolidation" of the forces of the German army, and that the German command achieved "big successes" during the summer campaign.

If, however, the affairs of the Germans are in such good shape, why did Hitler himself state that in all her existence Germany had never had to wage a harder war than the one against the USSR? What prompted Hitler to state that on the Soviet-German front German soldiers are dying in thousands and tens of thousands?

Goebbels' juggling merely emphasizes that, like the German army, German propaganda has landed in a blind alley. Under the blows of the Red Army the Germans lost two-thirds of the territory they seized in the USSR. Hitler's troops are powerless to stem the victorious Soviet offensive. The Red Army is giving the enemy no respite, but dealing it new crushing blows.

Not for nothing does *Das Schwarze Korps*, whose disquisitions are not intended for the broad masses but for the SS cutthroats, admit that "wars are distinguished by one unpleasant feature—they are hard to end. They are also distinguished by the fact that as the hostilities become protracted, the initial pluses are transformed into minuses."

Thanks to the efforts of the Red Army and the troops of the Allies, so many of these minuses have now accumulated that Germany is facing disaster.

(Continued on page seven)

THE MOUNTAIN REPUBLIC OF KIRGHIZIA

By Grigori Babenyshev

The Kirghizian Soviet Republic, covering an area of 200,000 square kilometers and with a population of 1,500,000, is situated in the heart of Asia, bordering on China. This mountainous land lies among the ranges of Tian-Shan and the Pamirs, and is deeply furrowed by river valleys.

Many parts of the Kirghizian Republic were until recent times almost inaccessible to explorers. Not very long ago there were neither highways nor railways. The nomad people were chiefly engaged in cattle-raising. Today a visitor to Kirghizia may reach the heart of the country by rail. Hundreds of miles of track have been laid during the years of Soviet power.

Fifteen years ago there were only 35 kilometers of highway suitable for motor transport in the Republic—today there are 4,000 kilometers of motor highways. The Frunze-Nzhalal-Abdalossh Highway was built by the labor of tens of thousands of collective farmers. Four hundred kilometers in length, and cutting across the mountain ranges at levels as high as 3,700 meters, this road is the shortest route between the northern and southern parts of the Republic, and puts the fertile alpine meadows within reach of the collective farmers.

The highway and railway lines have also laid bare the vast mineral wealth of the Kirghizian mountains. When Soviet prospectors discovered there enormous deposits of coal and non-ferrous rare metals and oil, it became apparent that Kirghizia was the richest mineral country of Central Asia.

The industries of the Republic developed rapidly. In 1913 there were only 55 tiny industrial enterprises in Kirghizia; in 1941 there were 5,411 enterprises, including 308 large plants. Industrial output has increased by 160 times during the years of Soviet power. Kirghizia now has 134 electric power stations and many highly mechanized coal mines. The first oil enterprises began operation a few years ago. Various plants produce lead, zinc, antimony, mercury and molybdenum.

Great changes have also taken place in agriculture. 1939 was a momentous year in the Republic's history; the last nomads of the remote mountain districts joined the collective farms. Although livestock still engages the Kirghizian farmers, the animals of the alpine meadows have changed. One now sees pedigreed cattle, sheep and horses hitherto unknown to the region. By crossing pedigreed English and Don horses, the Kirghizians are obtaining fine animals for the Red Army.

While developing its livestock farming, Kirghizia

is rapidly increasing its cultivated area. The collective farmers have built hundreds of kilometers of canals to turn the stormy mountain brooks upon the arid land. In addition to wheat and cotton, Kirghizia now grows sugar beet and tobacco. Her augmented cultivated area has played an important role in the country's supplies during the war. Thousands of tractors, seeders and harvester combines are now operating on land until recently fallow. Thousands of men and women, nomads of yesterday, now operate complex agricultural machines.

Dozens of enterprises have sprung up to utilize the rich harvests: sugar refineries and cotton mills, dairies and cigarette factories. The great packing plants in the cities of Frunze and Osh are as highly mechanized as any of their American counterparts. In 1942 Kirghizia produced 30,000 tons more of wheat, meat, vegetables and other foodstuffs than in 1941. During the same year there were bumper crops of sugar beet and tobacco.

The economic development of Kirghizia has been accompanied by a general rise in the country's cultural level. During the years of Soviet power Kirghizia has built 1,500 schools, where 300,000 children receive tuition in their native language. Today the Republic also has six higher institutes, and publishes 67 newspapers and thousands of books in the Kirghizian language, including translations of the works of Shakespeare, Pushkin, Tolstoi, Gorky and other classics.

The working people of this Republic have sent tens of thousands of presents to the men at the front. During the severest days of Leningrad's blockade, the people received several trainloads of food from their compatriots in Kirghizia.

IRRATIONAL IMPULSES

(Continued from page six)

Hitler continues to wage a lost war in the hope that some "irrational" unforeseen factors may yet crop up.

The successes of the Red Army have aggravated the dispersion in the Hitler camp and given rise to widespread dread of imminent catastrophe. No new injections of last reserves can give back to the German army its lost strength. Hitler's hastily-mustered, poorly-trained ersatz divisions cannot make up for the crack troops which he lost at Stalingrad, then at Orel, Kursk, Kharkov, Taganrog, Rzhev, Smolensk, Zaporozhye, Kremenchug, Melitopol and Kiev.

REVIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS ON THE SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS OF NOVEMBER 19, 1943

By Colonel Alexander Andreyev

After fierce battles Soviet troops captured the city of Korosten on November 17 and the city of Rechitsa on November 18, both of which are important railway junctions and strongly-fortified points of the German defense. The occupation by Soviet troops of Rechitsa on the Byelorussian Front and of Korosten on a section of the First Ukrainian Front is of great operative importance.

Having occupied Korosten, the troops of General Vatutin have extended and strengthened to a still greater degree the wedge driven into the German defense. Despite stubborn attacks by large forces of German infantry and tanks, General Vatutin's troops are holding their positions, which form a line stretching from Fastov and Zhitomir to Korosten. The powerful wedge of Soviet troops thus threatens the most important communications connecting Germany with the Hitlerite armies still in the Ukraine west of the Dnieper, between the confluence of the Dnieper and Dniester Rivers and the northeast coast of the Black Sea.

In addition, the occupation of Korosten is of great significance because of its importance as a railway junction. In Korosten, five railways meet, connecting Byelorussia and the western Ukraine with the Ukraine west of the Dnieper. Korosten is connected by direct railway with Kiev, Gomel, Vitebsk, Tarnopol, Kovel and Brest-Litovsk. By utilizing the Korosten railway junction the Hitlerite command was able to maneuver with its reserves between the Byelorussian and Ukrainian Fronts, and by taking advantage of short distances it was also able to transfer troops from Poland, the western Ukraine and Byelorussia to the threatened sections of the Soviet-German front. With the loss of Korosten the Germans lose a junction through which they had been sending supplies to their troops stationed between the Pripyat River and the Korosten-Kalinkovichi railway.

Developing the offensive north of Korosten, Soviet troops occupied a number of inhabited areas within 20 miles east of the city of Ovruch, an important junction of railways and highways, connected by the Gomel-Kalinkovichi railway. Thus the Hitlerite troops were hurled back to the northwest in the district of the Pripyat Marshes, between Gomel and Korosten.

By the occupation of Rechitsa, a threatening position is created for the Gomel grouping of German troops, who find themselves pressed into a corner

formed by the confluence of the Dnieper and Sozh Rivers.

A special feature of the Red Army offensive against Rechitsa is that this operatively important communications junction and strongly fortified base on the right bank of the Dnieper was taken from the rear—from the west. The Hitlerite command had put up strong fortifications in the Rechitsa district on the right bank of the Dnieper, as Rechitsa links up important roads running in the northwesterly direction between the Berezina and Ptich Rivers to Minsk, the capital of the Byelorussian Republic.

The occupation of Rechitsa is a new, great defeat for the Hitlerite army and a further miscalculation of the Hitlerite command, which counted on the Rechitsa fortifications to retard the offensive of the Red Army—which, according to German calculations, should have been carried out from east to west. By a skilful flanking maneuver and a sudden blow by tank units, the Red Army broke through the German defense south of Rechitsa, developed the offensive on the right bank of the Dnieper in a northwestern direction, and captured Rechitsa by a blow from the west. The remnants of the German troops could do nothing but save themselves by flight to the east, crossing the Dnieper and retreating to Gomel. At present the Gomel grouping of German troops has at its disposal the railway to Zhlobin as its only line of communication.

After the capture of Rechitsa, Soviet troops continued to develop their offensive in the northwestern direction and occupied a number of inhabited areas within 10 kilometers of the Berezina River and 20 kilometers of the Kalinkovichi-Zhlobin railway. In this way the advance of the Red Army along the Berezina River enables it to emerge into a district with a greater number of roads.

The Red Army thus continues to conduct the offensive on a wide front, inflicting one crushing blow after another on the Hitlerite troops. During the last few days exceedingly large battles have developed in the Zhitomir-Korystyshev district and in the Gomel-Rechitsa district, where the Hitlerite command is bringing up large forces and is striving to stop the advance of the Red Army at any cost.

Successfully repulsing German counter-attacks, the Red Army continues to advance in the most important directions its operations leading to the liberation of Byelorussia and the Ukraine from the Germans.

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MARSHAL JOSEPH VISSARIONOVICH STALIN
Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars and Supreme Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces of the USSR



VYACHESLAV MIKHAILOVICH MOLOTOV
Vice Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars and People's Commissar of
Foreign Affairs of the USSR

"The Anglo-Soviet-American coalition is already being felt as a liberative and creative force in the world of the future." . . . (Izvestia)

THE RED ARMY'S HISTORIC VICTORIES

It is now the third year the Soviet people are celebrating the Anniversary of the October Revolution in the midst of war. For the third year the most ferocious war in history has been raging on a considerable part of the Soviet territory.

But this year the Soviet people are celebrating the anniversary under conditions different from the two previous years. The year 1943 witnessed an abrupt turn in the course of the war and the beginning of the mass ejection of the Germans from Soviet territory.

What was the position a year ago? The enemy had reached the Volga and fierce fighting was in progress in the streets of Stalingrad and in the North Caucasus. Only a few dozen kilometers separated the German hordes from Grozny. The Germans held the rich region of the Donbas. They had invaded the fertile lands of the Kuban. They were only 150 kilometers from Moscow. Leningrad, the second capital of the Soviet Union, was blockaded, and the Germans asserted that its doom was certain.

Speaking on September 30, 1942, in connection with the opening of the winter help campaign, Hitler boasted: "The Volga has been cut. With the capture of Stalingrad, which will be accomplished, this bridgehead will be deepened and strengthened. You may be certain that no one will dislodge us from this place."

On the October Anniversary last year the Soviet people were engaged in stern defensive fighting. The whole country was fired with one determination—not to allow the enemy to penetrate any deeper into the country. We recall that a year ago at the end of October, almost on the eve of the anniversary, the Soviet Information Bureau reported: "During the night of October 30 our troops fought the enemy in the Stalingrad area, northeast of Tuapse and in the Nalchik area." All through October the Germans launched incessant attacks in the northern part of the Stalingrad factory districts. The Germans dropped tens of thousands of bombs on the factory area and the workers settlements.

But what is the situation now? The Red Army has recovered two-thirds of the territory occupied by the Germans. It has hurled the enemy back from the Volga to the Dnieper and from Stalingrad to Kiev, a distance of over 1,000 kilometers. The Red Army has forced the Dnieper and is successfully advancing into territory west of the river.

Here are a few landmarks in the Red Army's bril-

liant offensive. On August 5: the liberation of Orel and Belgorod. It is worth while recalling that on October 11, 1941, the German newspaper *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* wrote: "The announcement that Orel has been in our hands since October 3 reveals what remarkable depth the German breakthrough reached on the second day after the beginning of operations. The successful consummation of these operations will determine the issue of the eastern campaign. The adversary has been deprived of every chance of turning back the course of events or affecting the issue of the eastern campaign."

There's a Russian saying: "When boasting, see that you don't choke." Orel stuck like a bone in Hitler's throat.

August 23: the liberation of Kharkov; August 31: the liberation of Taganrog; September 8: the liberation of Stalino. There was a time when the Germans wrote, "The loss of Stalino is a severe blow to Russian industry, as with it they have lost their coal and war industry. At the most modest estimate, Russia has lost half her industry. What then has she left to fight with? The industry of all Europe has been mobilized for Germany's victory. Can any government withstand such force?"

August 13, 1943: The German radio announced that the Fuehrer had taken the defense of Kharkov into his own hands. But the Fuehrer made a failure of this, too. On August 23 the Red Army retook Kharkov.

September 10: the liberation of Mariupol; September 16: the liberation of Novorossisk; September 23: the liberation of Poltava; September 25: the liberation of Smolensk.

It is worth while recalling the jubilations of the Germans in July, 1941. "The capture of Smolensk by German troops reflects the whole situation on the front. This city will enable the German command to exploit its offensive. It is beyond question that the victory of the German army is fully assured in the not distant future."

On October 9 the Taman Peninsula was cleared of the enemy. On October 14: the liberation of Zaporozhye; October 23: the liberation of Melitopol. Yet at one time the *Voelkischer Beobachter* wrote: "Melitopol is the gate to the Crimea. We have closed it with a lock which the Russians will never be able to break."

October 25: the liberation of Dnepropetrovsk. The forcing of the Dnieper by the Red Army and



(1) "An Anti-aircraft Battery in Moscow"—drawing by Alexei Laptev; (2) "Portrait of Alexander Molodchy," (famous Soviet pilot, twice honored with the title of Hero of the Soviet Union), by Kukriniksi



Army General A. I. Yeremenko

the establishment of bridgeheads on the right bank are feats without parallel in the history of wars. It demanded extreme heroism on the part of the men and officers, and military maturity and foresight on the part of the generals, to accomplish this difficult task.

The battle of the Dnieper is a demonstration of the skill and organization of the offensive plan of the Red Army. Military science and precision were combined with daring and valor, and wisdom and knowledge with bravery and fortitude.

The base of supply of armaments, munitions and food for the Red Army has now been considerably enlarged. The invaders have been deprived of valuable economic resources. The Donbas and Mariupol, major coal and metallurgical centers, and Kharkov, Bryansk, Bezhitsa and many other large industrial cities, have been liberated. And when they are restored the country will acquire additional potentialities for output of war materials, and the railroads will be considerably relieved of the necessity of transporting coal and metal from the east. The liberation of the Ukraine east of the Dnieper will make it pos-

sible in the very near future to considerably increase the supply of agricultural produce.

In November, 1941, the Germans expected to capture Moscow by a frontal blow, compel the Red Army to surrender and thus terminate the war in the East. It was the delusion on which their soldiers were fed. But their calculations, as we know, were not to be realized. Having burned their fingers in 1941 by attempting a frontal blow at Moscow, the Germans in November, 1942 planned to take Moscow by an enveloping movement and thus end the war in the East.

Now in November, 1943, they've given up all hope of taking Moscow. They are presumably calculating on how long it will be before they have to surrender Berlin. Times have changed.

Just listen to what the swindling radio station of Goebbels has to say. Two years ago they "destroyed" the Red Army several times. On October 27, 1941, they boasted, "There's no salvation for the Soviets today. Their armies which were to protect Moscow have been surrounded at Vyazma and Bryansk and completely annihilated. They are now forced to hurl their last reserves against us. The strategical significance of the double battle for Vyazma and Bryansk needs no lengthy commentary. In this battle the last efficient forces of the Bolsheviks have been destroyed and the issue of the Eastern campaign has thus been decided."

This record in bragging was beaten by Hitler when in his order "To the soldiers of the Eastern Front," on October 2, 1941, he said: "In these three-and-a-half months conditions have at last been created for the last gigantic blow which will crush the enemy before the advent of the winter." Next day, October 3, in his speech on the occasion of the winter help campaign, he declared: "We were not mistaken in our plans. Today I am in a position to state that the enemy has been crushed and will never be able to rise again."

Today the Germans are exposing themselves as ar-rant liars. The *Deutsche Zeitung* in Norway stated, on September 28, 1943: "We know full well that the Soviets possessed immense reserves and that they possess them now in indefinite quantities." *Das Schwartze Korps* on October 14, 1943, bitterly confessed, "The military problem called the Soviet Union cannot be settled by means of conquest, as it was possible to settle the military problem of France. Whether we were at the Dnieper, the Don, the Volga, or even the Urals, all the same we would have had Soviet Russia behind us."

THE GERMANS SOWED THE WIND AND REAPED THE WHIRLWIND

By Colonel Nikolai Ivanov

The Soviet people are greeting the 26th Anniversary of the October Revolution with a record of brilliant Red Army victories. The epic of Stalingrad was the turning point in the war. In Stalingrad, by a brilliantly executed operation, two enemy armies were completely destroyed. This powerful blow caused Hitler's war machine to totter. It sowed dejection and panic among the German people, started the crisis in the Italo-German bloc and robbed the Germans of their last hope of winning the war.

The shadow of Stalingrad hangs over Germany as a portent of the fate which awaits the Hitlerite aggressors and their allies for having invaded the USSR. A German officer who was taken prisoner in September, 1943 stated: "Every German soldier carries the thought of Stalingrad in his knapsack."

The Soviet winter offensive of 1942-43 lasted four

months and 20 days. The Red Army recaptured a vast territory of 480,000 square kilometers. It cleared the enemy out of regions of first-rate economic and strategical importance. It pushed the enemy westward and recovered vital water and rail communications, including the Volga, severed by the Germans in the autumn of 1942, and the Don along its whole course. In the winter campaign of 1942-43 German casualties amounted to 850,000 dead, and 343,000 taken prisoner. The Germans also lost 5,090 aircraft, 9,190 tanks and 20,360 guns.

The Germans sowed the wind and reaped the whirlwind. The Red Army's offensive operations for this year have lasted eight months in all. No other army in the course of this war has conducted operations for such a lengthy period. It was something beyond the power even of the vain-glorious German



GENERALS DECORATED—(Left to right) Army General Konstantin Rokossovsky, Marshal of Artillery Nikolai Voronov and Army General Fedor Tolbukhin, awarded the Order of Suvorov, First Degree, and Lieutenant General M. Gromadin, who received the Order of Kutuzov, First Degree

generals. In 1941 the Germans advanced for five months. In 1942 they advanced for only three months, while in 1943 their offensive lasted a mere ten days and ended in a debacle.

The Red Army presses its offensive in winter, summer, spring and autumn, unlike the Germans—who whenever their offensive was brought to a standstill complained of the Russian winter and the mud, of sultry heat in summer, and of the rains in autumn.

A noteworthy thing about the Red Army's offensive is that it is being waged in the third year of the war on a costly and sanguinary front of 1,500 kilometers. In this past year the Red Army has traveled enormous distances. In the stern fighting against the German-fascist hordes it has advanced 1,100 kilometers from the suburbs of Ordzonikidze to Melitopol, 1,050 kilometers from the Volga to the Dnieper, and 650 kilometers from Voronezh to Gomel.

As we know, the Germans were able to make advances like these only in the first year of the war. In 1942 they advanced along a front of only 300 to 350 kilometers, while in 1943 their abortive offensive was confined to a stretch of front only a score of kilometers.

The juxtaposition of these figures alone convincingly proves that the strength of the Red Army is mounting from day to day, while the offensive power of the German army is steadily decreasing. This prolonged offensive testifies not only to the heroism of the officers and men of the Red Army but also to its abundant armaments and equipment.

It should be noted that this offensive is being carried on in the face of frantic enemy resistance. The Germans turn to account every natural obstacle in their attempt to stem the Soviet advance. And when the Red Army smashes the Germans' resistance and seizes their defensive lines, forces rivers and compels the Germans to retreat, the latter try to persuade us that they are retreating voluntarily, thereby only making themselves a laughing-stock in the eyes of the world.

The statements of numerous war prisoners make it clear that the German Command had no intention of voluntarily relinquishing occupied positions, but on the contrary made every effort to hold them. One war prisoner Karl Kreis stated, "Hitler addressed us at the railway station of Orel, and said, 'Fight for Orel without sparing your strength. If it falls, the Russians will get to Berlin.'" On August 14, at Kharkov, Hitler likewise exhorted his troops to stubborn resistance. He said, "The situation is grave, but not hopeless. I call upon you to fight to the last drop of blood for Kharkov, our basic defense point in the eastern Ukraine."

But the appeals of the frenzied Fuehrer were without avail. The Hitlerites, unable to withstand the Red Army's crushing blows, surrendered Kharkov and the Donbas and within two months were hurled

beyond the Dnieper. And the Germans call this "elastic defense."

This past year witnessed the defeat of the Germans at Stalingrad and the collapse of their summer offensive. History does not know such a defeat as that suffered at Stalingrad. The defeat of the French army of 80,000 at Sedan, and of the Austrian army of 120,000 at Ulm, pales before the defeat of Hitler's army of 330,000 men at Stalingrad. Here German casualties were six times as large as in Napoleon's historic battle at Borodino.

The Germans will remember the Russians of Stalingrad for generations to come.

Another severe blow to the Germans was the failure of their summer offensive. They had prepared for months the liquidation of the Kursk salient, for which purpose they had instituted total mobilization in Germany and in the vassal countries, draining every ounce of strength from the people and from industry. They concentrated large numbers of divisions and huge quantities of armaments on the Kursk salient.

The entire propaganda machine was put to work at full blast. Hitler encouraged his menials with the assurance that he was bringing new miracle-working weapons into action. He spurred his army on by declaring that in Orel "We will wipe out the disgrace of the defeat of the Sixth Army at Stalingrad." Hitler promised the Germans that he would take revenge for Stalingrad by putting the Russian troops of the Kursk salient in a sack. More, Hitler went so far as to proclaim that he rested all his hopes of victory on the issue of the Kursk operation. On July 4, when the offensive began, Hitler boasted that this great battle would be decisive and that its success would determine the whole issue of the war.

The German command was eager to take revenge for Stalingrad and made intensive preparations for the summer campaign of 1943. It publicly bragged that success would not be long in forthcoming. Hitler confidently declared that "the crisis which had attacked the German army is now past, and all conditions have been created for a final victory in the next few months." To replace the exploded myth of German invincibility, Goebbels issued a new cry: "Winter is the time for Russians, summer for the Germans."

The Germans launched their offensive on July 5. The world awaited the issue of the battle with bated breath, knowing that if the operation failed, the effect on the Germans would be deplorable. The German command concealed from the German people and the world generally the fact that the offensive had been undertaken.

The Germans struck at the Kursk salient with the idea of surrounding and destroying the Soviet forces west of Kursk, capturing that city, and then making a dash eastward and advancing on Moscow. Thirty divisions and later 38 took part in the offensive, con-

centrated in the two narrow sectors of Orel-Kursk and Belgorod. The enemy made ample use of his latest innovation, his Tiger tank and the Ferdinand self-propelled gun, and tried to force a break by massed employment of armor and aircraft.

But things turned out differently from the expectations of the German command. The Red Army was not caught unawares. Its commanders are familiar with the Germans' stereotyped tactics. The Germans attacked where they were expected to attack, and in these sectors Soviet fire-power was ten times as intense as the fire-power at Verdun, which as we know was then unparalleled in the history of war. The issue of this gigantic battle showed indisputably that the initiative had passed to the Red Army and that the time for German offensives had passed.

Hitler's offensive in the summer of 1943 ended in a complete debacle. The Red Army halted the enemy almost before he had taken his first step. This alone was a major victory. But the matter did not end there. Before the Germans could recover, the Red Army launched an offensive, on July 12. The transition from defensive to offensive has always been considered one of the most difficult operations in military art. Clausewitz said, "Rapid and powerful assumption of the offensive, that gleaming sword of retribution, is the most brilliant moment in defense." The Red Army's passage from defensive to offensive was executed with supreme vigor and skill.

In the past year, the vassal armies were either exterminated or captured. Thirty-eight divisions ceased to exist. The past year saw the defeat and the beginning of the irreparable exhaustion of the vassal states.

The past year undermined the German army's faith in victory. Most German soldiers now say, "If the Russians are defeating us in summer, which is supposed to be the time for German offensives, what is going to happen in winter?"

Only a year ago the Germans believed that without the Donbas, without the fertile fields of the Ukraine and the Kuban, without a short route from Baku to Moscow, the Russians would be doomed to an easy defeat. There was no limit to the stupidity of the vain-glorious, bragging Germans. In an interview he gave to correspondents of the Turkish press in the autumn of 1942, Goebbels confidently asserted that the Russian army would be crushed by winter and would cease to represent any danger. "I will ask you, gentlemen, to recall my words a few months hence," he said.

Bismarck used to say, "He lies like a dispatch." In Germany today they say, "He lies like Goebbels."

But what do the Hitlerites say? On September 28 Goebbels howled over the radio, "Never in the history of Germany has the danger been as great as it is now." In his speech on the capitulation of Italy, Hitler frankly admitted that the Germans had relinquished something in this war. But he omitted to say that this "something" was equivalent to twice the territory of Germany, that it meant the wheat of the Kuban, the coal of the Ukraine, the oil of Maikop, and hundreds of thousands of square kilometers of "living space," for which the Germans sacrificed the lives of millions of their soldiers and mountains of armaments.

The Germans have had another opportunity to convince themselves that the "Russian does not joke with the sword."



Musicians of an anti-aircraft battery tune up for a concert

Designers of Powerful Planes and Weapons for the Red Army Who Have Received the Soviet Union's Highest Award—the Title of Hero of Socialist Labor



(1) A. Yakovlev, aircraft designer; (2) N. Polikarpov, aircraft designer; (3) V. Degtyarev, arms designer; (4) N. Kostikov, arms designer

JUSTIFICATION OF HATE

By Ilya Ehrenburg

Of all the Russian writers the Nazi ideologists show the most forbearance toward Dostoevsky. The scenes of moral torment depicted by the great Russian writer are to the Nazis' liking. The fascists, however, are not very discerning readers; to grasp the genius of Dostoevsky who, in delving into the darkest recesses of the human soul illuminates it with the light of compassion and love, is something beyond them.

One German "critic" wrote in a magazine article: "Dostoevsky is the justification of torture." Stupid and vile words. The Hitlerites are making an attempt to justify Himmler by Dostoevsky. They are powerless to understand the self-sacrificing nature of Sonya, the benignity of Grunya. To them the Russian soul is a sealed book.

The Russian by nature is gentle, passionate, easily pacified, ready to understand and forgive. Many French writers of memoirs mention how the Russian soldiers who were in Paris after the defeat of Napoleon carried water for the French women, played with their children, shared their meals with the poor of Paris. Even in those black years when Russia was attacked by a foreign foe the Russians always adopted a benevolent attitude toward prisoners of war. After the defeat of the Swedes at Poltava, Peter the Great had a kind word for the war prisoners. Sauvage, an officer in Napoleon's army, writes in his memoirs of 1812 that the Russians are "good-natured children."

Some ten years ago I happened to be in the Transylvanian town of Oradea Mare. What surprised me was the number of people in the stores, cafes and workshops who understood Russian. Many of the inhabitants of this town, it appeared, had been taken prisoner by the Russians during the first World War. All of them had the most pleasant memories of the years they spent in Siberia or Central Russia and spoke at great length about the kind treatment and sympathetic attitude of the Russians. Time and again at the beginning of this war I saw our men chatting peacefully with war prisoners, sharing their tobacco and food with them. How did it happen then that the Soviet people came to abhor the Nazis with so implacable a hatred?

Hatred was never one of the traits of the Russians. It did not drop from the skies. No, this hatred our people now evince has been born of suffering. At first many of us thought that this war was like other wars, that pitted against us were human beings dressed only in different uniforms. We were brought

up on the grand ideas of human fraternity and solidarity. We believed in the force of words, and many of us did not understand that opposing us were not human beings, but frightful, loathsome monsters, and that the principles of human brotherhood imperatively demand that we deal ruthlessly with the fascists, that with the Hitlerite one can speak only in one tongue—the tongue of shells and bombs.



Ilya Ehrenburg

The Russians have a saying and in it the people have expressed their attitude toward just and unjust wars: "Wolf-hounds are justified, where cannibals are not." It is one thing to destroy a mad wolf, it is another thing to raise one's hand against a human being. Now every Soviet man and woman knows that we have been attacked by a pack of wolves.

A savage may smash the most exquisite statue, a cannibal may feast on a world-famous scientist who happens by chance to land on an island inhabited by cannibals. But the German fascists are civilized savages and conscientious cannibals. Looking recently through the diaries of German soldiers I found one of them who, it appeared, took part in the Klin pogrom, was fond of music and particularly "admired" Tchaikovsky. Desecrating the house of the composer, that man knew what he was about. Ravaging Novgorod the Germans wrote long-winded dissertations on the "architectural beauties of Naugart"—that's what the Germans call Novgorod.

In the pockets of one dead German our men found a baby's underclothing spattered with blood and a photograph of his own children. He murdered a Russian child, but his own children he undoubtedly loved. To the Germans murder is not a manifestation of an unsound mind but a premeditated act. After slaughtering thousands of children in Kiev one Nazi wrote: "We are annihilating the offspring of a terrible tribe . . ."

Of course, there are good and bad men in the ranks of the German aggressors; but the point is not the psychic qualities of this or that Nazi. The German "good fellows"—those who at home give way to

sentimentalities, give pick-a-backs to the kiddies and feed the German cats with morsels of their rationed hamburgers—murder Russian children with the same pedantry as do the bad Germans. They murder because they have come to believe that only people with German blood are worthy of living on this earth of ours.

At the beginning of the war I showed one Nazi war prisoner a leaflet. This was one of the first leaflets we published and it breathed the naivete of a man who had been roused from bed in the dead of night by German bombs. The leaflet stated that the Germans had made a wanton attack on us and were conducting an unjust war. The Hitlerite read it through and shrugged his shoulders: "That does not interest me in the least," he said. The question of justice did not interest him in the least: he was out for Ukrainian pork. It had been dinned into his ears that wars of aggression were a means of making something. He was out for "vital territory" for Germany and "booty" stockings for his wife.

What astounded us was the businesslike and efficient manner in which the Germans robbed. This was not the perniciousness of individual marauders, but the flagrancy of a hoodlum soldiery—the principle on which Hitler's army is built. Every German soldier is materially interested in the robber campaign. Personally I would write a very short leaflet for the benefit of Hitler's soldiers, a leaflet containing only five words: "You won't get any pork." This is all they are capable of understanding, all that actually interests them.

Diaries of Infamy

In the diaries of the Germans one can find a record of what they rob; they keep accounts of the chickens they gobble up and the number of blankets pilfered by them. They pillage and steal without any qualms of conscience, as though it was not live people they were stripping but gooseberry bushes. If a woman refuses to hand over her baby's dress to a German soldier—he'll threaten her with his rifle. And if she dares to



Residents of the town of Gartmanovka identify the bodies of their relatives, railway workers murdered by the Hitlerites

defend her property—he'll murder her. He does not consider it a crime: he'll as soon murder a woman as go into a forest and break twigs—without thinking twice about it.

Forced to retreat, the Hitlerites consign everything to the flames: to them the Russian non-combatant population is as much an enemy as the Red Army. To leave a Russian family without a roof over their heads is considered a military achievement by them. At home, in Germany, they are forced to toe the line, they will not so much as throw a match on the floor or dare to walk on the grass in a public square. In our country they have trampled underfoot entire regions, defiled entire cities, turned museums into latrines and converted schools into stables. This is done not only by clodhoppers from Pomerania or herdsmen from the Tyrol, it is being done by assistant professors, writers, "doctors of philosophy," and "learned counsel" reared by Hitler.

When our Red Army men—our collective farmers of yesterday—saw for the first time, in the Moscow or Tula Regions, entire villages in which only the chimney-stacks and dove-cotes had remained, they thought of their own villages on the Volga or in Siberia. They saw women and children exposed to the bitter frosts, robbed by the Germans of every bit of clothing. And a savage hatred gripped them.

One German general, ordering his subordinates to show no mercy to the civilian population, added: "Sow fear in their midst." Fools and dolts—they do not understand the Russian nature. They sowed not fear but the wind that will reap the storm. The first scaffold set up by the Germans on Soviet soil made many things clear. Now everybody in our country knows that this war does not in any way resemble the wars that went before. For the first time our people have found pitted against them not human beings but vile, malicious monsters, savages, armed with everything that modern science can give, fiends who act according to rules and regulations and refer to science, and for whom the slaughter of infants in arms is the last word in statecraft.

The Price of Hatred

Hate did not come to us easily. Entire cities and regions, hundreds of thousands of human lives—this was the price we paid for it. But now our hatred is ripe; it no longer goes to the head like young wine; it has become cold and deliberate. We have realized that the world is too small a place to hold both us and the fascists. We have realized that there can be no question of compromise or coming to terms, that the question at issue is plain and simple: our right to exist.

And having learned to hate, our people have not

lost the good inherent in them. Need one mention that what they have been through has quickened their hearts. One cannot think without emotion of the mothers of large families who, in our trying times, are adopting orphans and sharing their all with them.

I recall to mind young Lyuba Sossunkevich, a military nurse. Under enemy fire she rendered first aid to the wounded. The dugout was surrounded by Germans. Revolver in hand she fought single-handed against a dozen German soldiers, defended the wounded men under her charge and saved them from the inhuman treatment and torture that would have been their lot. Or take the modest work of another Russian girl—Varya Smirnova—who under rifle and trench-mortar gunfire delivers letters to the very front lines, guarding them as something most precious. She said to me: "It's only natural . . . after all everybody's so anxious to get a letter. Life would be so dismal without letters from home . . ."

Sufferings of Others Understood

But the Russians do not evince a deep concern only for their own people. They understand the sufferings of other people, too. What profound human sympathy emanates from the declaration of the women of much-suffering Leningrad to the women of London. How many times have Red Army men questioned me about the sufferings of desecrated Paris. I happened to be present once when the Red Army men were listening to a newspaper report telling how the Nazis had doomed the people of Greece to death from starvation, and one of the men, a collective farmer from Saratov Region, said: "It's a real calamity. . . . Everywhere it's the same. We've got to wipe out those Fritzes as quickly as possible so as to help people."

Our hatred for the Hitlerites is dictated by love—love of our country, love for man, love for humanity. And in this is the force of our hatred. In this is its justification. Coming to grips with the Hitlerites we see how blind hatred has destroyed Germany's soul. We are far from such hatred. We hate each and every Hitlerite because he is a representative of a misanthropic principle, because he is a convinced murderer, a robber on principle; we hate every one of them for everything they have singly and jointly done in our country and in other countries, for the tears of the widows, for the blighted children's lives, for the dreary caravans of refugees, for the fields trampled underfoot, for the millions of lives and the fruits of long years of highly creative labor they have destroyed.

We are fighting not against human beings, but against robots who resemble human beings but do not have a grain of humanism in them. Our hatred is so much stronger because in appearance they look like human beings, because they can laugh, because they can pat a horse or a dog, because in their diaries

they indulge in introspection and because they have taken on the guise of human beings and civilized Europeans.

We often use words whose original meanings are changing. It is not of base hatred that our people dream in calling for vengeance. It is not for this that we brought up our boys and girls, that they should stoop to the level of the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis. Never will our Red Army men murder German children, set fire to Goethe's house in Weimar or to the libraries in Marburg. Vengeance—that means to pay one back in one's own kind, to speak to one in one's own tongue. But we do not have a common tongue with the fascists.

What we are yearning for is not vengeance, but justice. We are out to destroy the Hitlerites so that the principles of humanity shall again flourish on the earth. We rejoice at life in all its variegated and intricate forms and aspects, the native traits of nations and peoples. There is sufficient room for everybody on this earth of ours. And the German people, too, shall live, having purged themselves of the monstrous crimes of the Hitler decade. But even the widest latitudes have their boundaries: just now

I do not want to think or speak about the future happiness of a Germany rid of Hitler—such thoughts and words would be out of place and insincere as long as millions of Hitlerites are running amok on our soil.

Iron exposed to bitter frost sears like fire. The antithesis of hatred is life-giving love. "Death to the German invaders!"—these words sound like a vow, like an oath of allegiance to life. The Red Army men who are meting out death to the Hitlerites do not stint their lives. What inspires them is a magnanimous integral feeling, and who can say where fury against the ruthless enemy ends and the ties of blood which bind one to one's country begin. The death of every Nazi evokes a sigh of relief on the part of millions of people. The death of every Nazi is a pledge that the children of the Volga Region will know no sorrow and that the ancient liberties of Paris will again be reinstated. The death of every Nazi is the elixir that will save the world.

A Christian legend tells how St. George slew the dragon to liberate the fair prisoner. Today the Red Army is slaying the Nazis in order to bring liberty to harassed mankind. The struggle is stern, the task is no easy one. But no task can be loftier than this.



The only resting-place for Germans on Soviet soil

"THAT WAS A GIRL!"

By Nikolai Tikhonov

The flowers of late autumn were flaming bright against a pale sky. Overhead a dog-fight was in progress. In the distance we could see a burst of shrapnel over a road along which two trucks were slowly making their way.

Everything else—fields and roads and the bushes with their wet, tin-like leaves—bore the stamp of the declining year . . . steel-gray, cold and gloomy! Only the flowers burned with a hard brilliance against this somber background.

The political instructor said thoughtfully, "When a man makes up his mind to do or die, he doesn't think about it, but does it quickly—like something that must be. That's how it is. Several days ago during a battle for a village I saw some of our men hurl themselves at the enemy with all the fury and hatred in them. It wasn't with rifles they attacked, but with hand grenades—and not the ordinary kind,



Soviet front-line nurse

Painting by Pavel Malkov



A young girl guerrilla

Painting by A. Odintsov

but anti-tank grenades, which play havoc in a radius of 200 meters. They knew when they threw these grenades that they themselves might be blown to pieces.

"They went to their deaths—but the fascists were wiped out by the score. Then our soldiers charged into the flames and finished off the rest with bayonets. The fire of those grenade and bayonet charges proved too much for the Germans and they succumbed. I don't know why, but there's something about these brilliant flowers that reminds me of that battle and the heroes who flung the anti-tank grenades."

After a pause he added, "Those were men. But I knew a girl, an ordinary girl from a Kolpino factory, who displayed remarkable fighting qualities. She

was a volunteer who became a stretcher-bearer. She carried wounded men from the field . . . like many others she never gave a thought to herself. She used to crawl into a hole with bullets whistling and shells screeching all around her. She would crouch there until someone was wounded . . . and in a second she would be at his side, giving him first aid and dispatching him to the dressing-station. Then she'd crawl back to the hole again. She would sleep there, too, all rolled up like a kitten.

"There are many girls like that. You would never think to look at them . . . so quiet and small and soft-voiced . . . that they can fight furiously.

"Well, one day there was such a battle that the very sky was broiling. The fascists bombed and blazed away at our trenches with a veritable inferno of mines and fire. One of the commanders was put out of action, then a second and a third. The soldiers lost heart . . . they looked about, slowly crept from the trenches and headed back. They were abandoning the positions—retreating. This girl, who was giving aid to a wounded man, saw them. She finished her work and like a flash stood up and barred their way.

"Where are you going?" she commanded. "Follow me! Forward into battle! For our beloved Lenin-grad!" And she dashed forward with the men behind her.

"The men went back to the trenches and resumed their positions. Facing the incessant enemy fire the girl commanded the company and they obeyed her. Where had she learned to command? Nobody knows. All night she remained in the battle, directing the men and their fire. She restored the severed communications and sent for a commander. When he came she turned the company over to him and returned to her job of giving first aid to the wounded.

"That was a girl! Such confidence and self-possession in battle, such fighting spirit, such organizational ability. And facing a cannonade where you couldn't lift your head! Talk about grit and courage . . ."

"Where is she now?" I asked.

"Gone," he said, in a tone of deep regret. "She was killed shortly afterward. I don't even know her first name—she was called Stasyuk . . . a wonderful girl of working-class stock, simple and strong."

There was silence. The air battle had ended. Puffs of black smoke still lingered in the sky.

900 OF CENTRAL ASIAN DIVISION DECORATED

By Vassil Krainev

Among the units which especially distinguished themselves in the forcing of the Desna River and the liberation of Novgorod-Seversky was the 162nd Infantry Division under Major General Sergei Senchilov. Nine hundred of its men and officers have been decorated for bravery in battle, and the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Stalin, has twice commended the Division. In addition, the troops have captured many trophies.

It happened that I witnessed the creation of this Division in a small town in Central Asia. After the arrival of the troop trains, the streets from the railway station, narrow and with low clay walls, would be thronged with groups of young Uzbeks, Tajiks and Turkmenians in their national costumes. Workers from the cotton fields of Ferghana, shepherds from Bokhara, wine makers from Samarkand, workers, office workers and students from Tashkent, Ashkabad and Stalinabad—all marched briskly through the streets, singing their national songs.

The young soldiers quickly learned the use of the rifle, hand-grenade, machine gun, anti-tank gun and cannon. They made long night marches across the country, trained in sniping, camouflage and reconnoitering. Finally they set off for the front.

For many months the 162nd Infantry Division fought against the German invaders; it was in the Kursk-Belgorod sector when the Red Army defeated the German summer offensive and after wearing down the enemy's strength launched its counter-offensive, driving the Germans westward.

Before one battle the Uzbek Akhmed Tashkuliev said to his commander, "It is not hard to die when you know what you are dying for. In defending Orel I am defending my vineyards and my own native land." One night during a German counter-attack Akhmed Tashkuliev, who was a machine gunner, carefully watched the approaching enemy. When they were within rifleshoot he opened fire, forcing the German infantry to take cover and wiping out nine of them. At the same time he was wounded by a mine splinter, but continued to fire until the attack was repulsed.

At another time 18 soldiers of the Pamir Regiment of the 162nd Division found themselves considerably in advance of their unit. The Germans counter-attacked, surrounding the dugout where the 18 were entrenched. The men from the Pamirs died to the last man—but 80 German corpses were found on the field when the attack ended.

A Romance of the War

By A. Agranovsky

It happened one year ago in Siberia. Maya Schreibman, a beautiful and spirited girl of 18, had come to Krasnoyarsk from Kiev with her family, fleeing the Nazi invasion. She entered the Pedagogical Institute, but after some months the arrival of a group of wounded Red Army commanders and men at the city hospital impelled her to give up her studies and take up the duties of a nurse.

The most pitiful and helpless patient in Maya's ward was Leonid Lobanov, a 23-year-old lieutenant. Blinded and disfigured, he lay quietly, seldom uttering a word, but turning his face continually toward the window . . . as if he could feel the light.

Was it love that awoke in the young girl's heart? Hardly. Love came later. Her first feeling was undoubtedly one of deep pity and a fervent desire to help the unfortunate man, to ease his sufferings.

Whatever it was, when Leonid left the hospital, Maya went with him as his wife.

It was a painful thing for Maya's parents. Their only child, their joy and hope, was binding her fate with that of a blind man. But they said no word in opposition—had not Lobanov given his eyes to his country?

It seemed to the young man that he could distinguish the bright light of a sunny morning from the darkness of night, and Maya's family were determined that every effort should be made to restore his sight. So the young couple journeyed to Tashkent to visit the famous eye specialist, Professor Filatov. It was an unusual honeymoon trip. Maya tended her husband as if he were a little child; taught him to orientate himself in new surroundings, to distinguish between different sounds.

Bitter disappointment rewarded their journey. The renowned specialist could only tell them that Leonid's sight was irrecoverable.

They decided to remain in Tashkent. Maya found work, while her husband began to prepare for entrance to the university. He had been graduated from the secondary school, but war had halted his studies. Maya coached her husband; after work she studied Braille, guided Leonid's hand along the page, read aloud to him.

As a result of their joint efforts, the blind lieutenant was enrolled in the literature faculty of the university and soon revealed genuine talent as a poet. The young people are continuing their work together, and life holds out rich prospects of achievement and happiness for them.

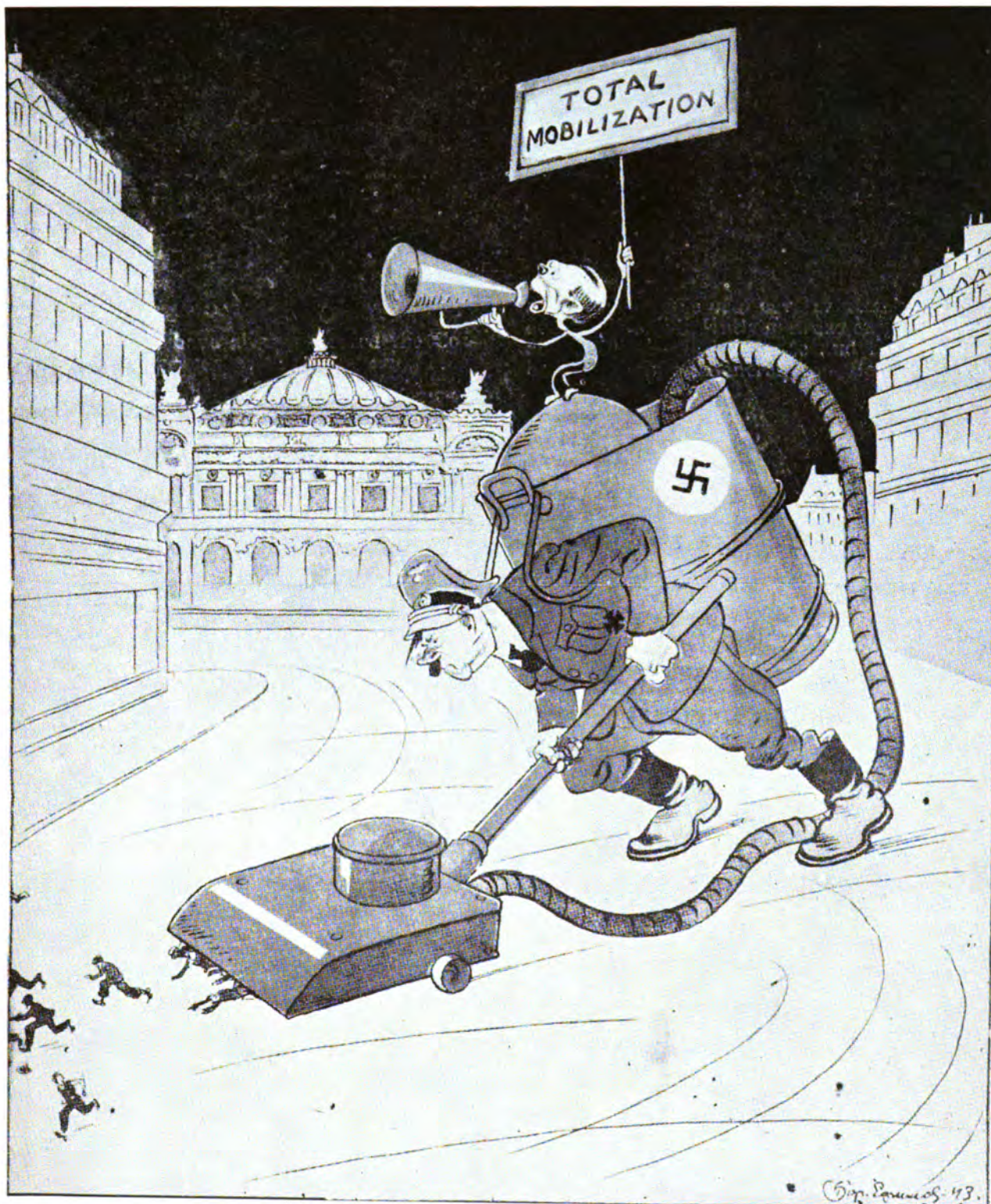


Doctors and nurses of a front-line hospital



PARADE OF THE INVINCIBLE GERMAN GENERALS

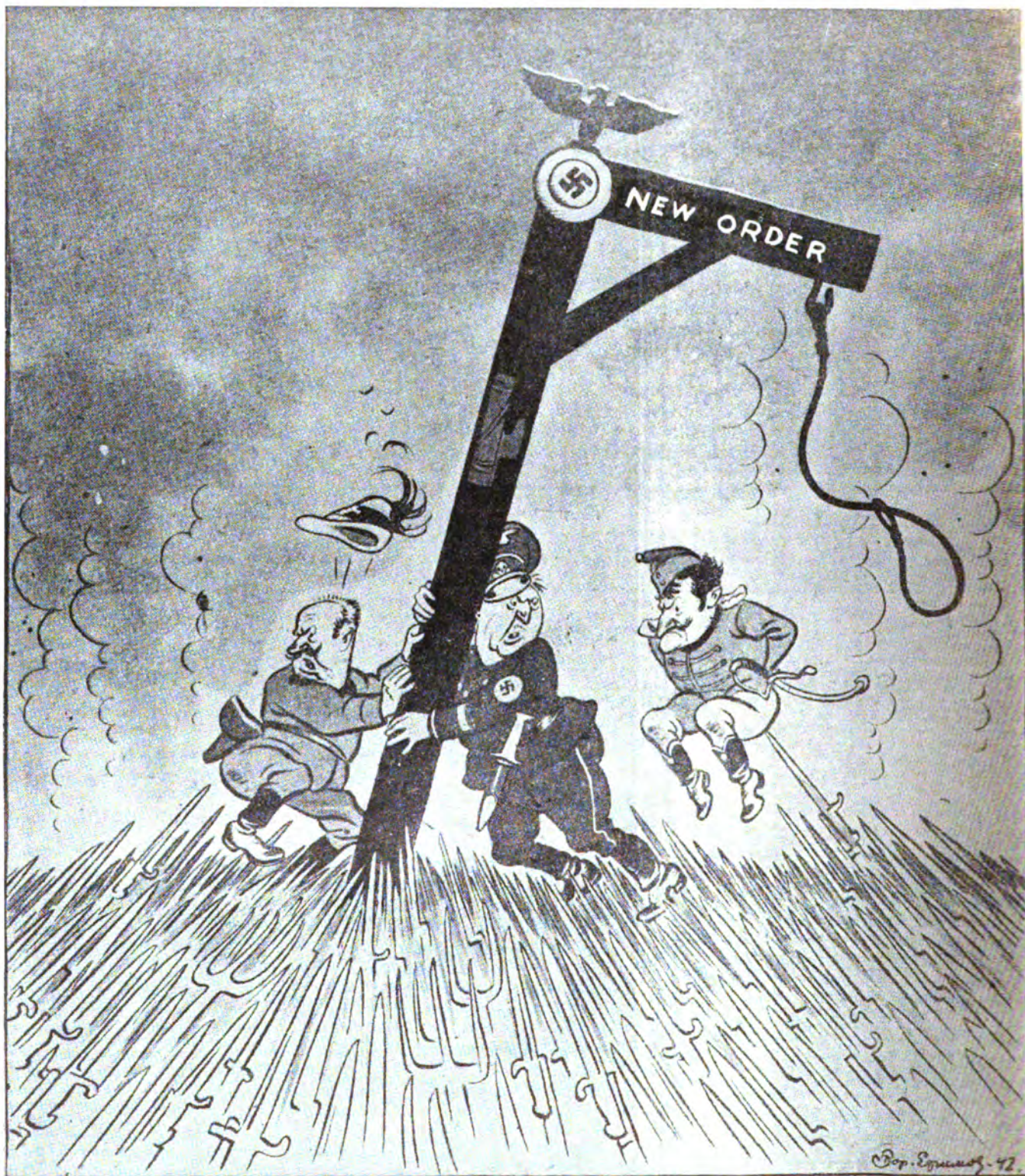
Cartoon by Boris Efimov



SPRING HUNTING

"... the streets of our cities seem dead."

(Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung)



NOT THE MOST SUITABLE FOUNDATION

Cartoon by Boris Efimov



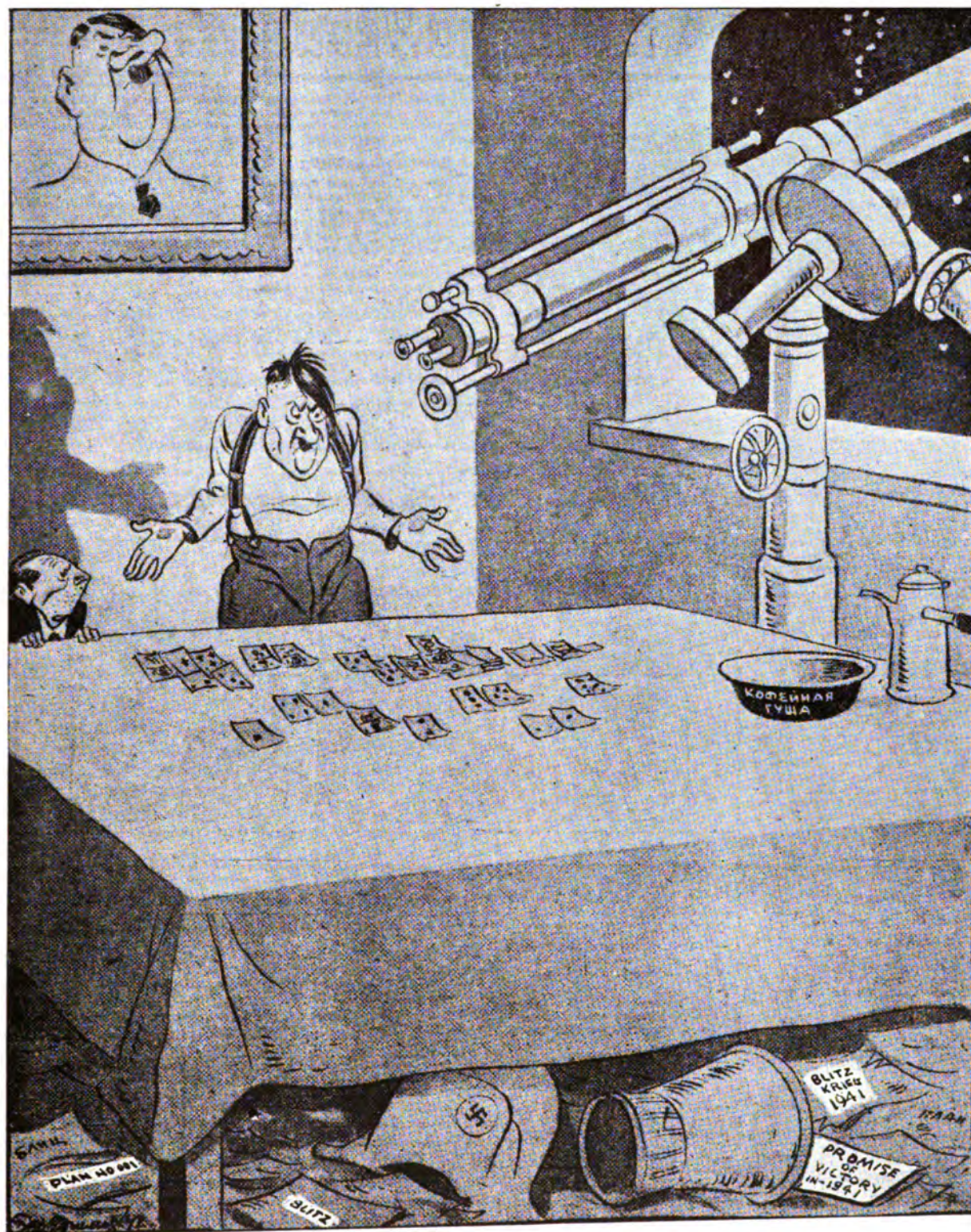
THE HITLERITE GARRISON IN FRANCE

Cartoon by Boris Efimov



Mussolini continues to maintain his position in the Mediterranean

Cartoon by Boris Efimov



The commander-in-chief of the German army at work

Cartoon by Boris Efimov

WHO ARE THE COSSACKS?

By Lieutenant Colonel Hadji Murat Muguyev of the Guards



(1) Cossack horsemen; (2) Scouts on reconnaissance capture a German "tongue"; (3) Cossack formations and tank units are strong allies in the Red Army

In old Russia the Tsars used to send single soldiers, without families, to guard the frontier. These vanguards of the Moscow army were joined in their borderland settlements by runaway serfs, freedom-loving peasant dissenters persecuted by the church, audacious highwaymen—in fact, everyone who was hard-pressed by the Tsarist administration. There was room for everyone on the borderlands. Everyone found something to do and a place to do it. Restless, rebellious men went to the frontiers and settled free and unhampered in the Cossack detachments. Whole villages and hamlets, complete with their womenfolk and children, made the big trek.

That was how the Cossack villages were founded along the Don, Ural and great Siberian rivers. That is how the free Cossackdom of the Don, Ural and Siberian forces came into existence.

It is difficult to say just when the Cossacks as such first appeared. Russian chroniclers mention them for the first time in 1444. And so next year, 1944, will mark the 500th anniversary of the existence of the Cossacks, and that will be a holiday not only for our Soviet cavalry, but for the whole Red Army and all the people of the USSR.

The Caucasian Cossack forces and those of the Terek and the Kuban had a different origin. The Caucasian Cossacks came originally from Zaporozhye, on the Dnieper. Those who live in the Kuban Valley are descendants of Cossacks who came from "Zaporozhye Sech," or the Free Cossacks' Camp, which was abolished by the Empress Catherine II at the end of the 18th Century. The Terek Cossacks are descended partly from the state serfs who settled along the Terek, and were proclaimed Cossacks by Government decree, and partly from a large group of Cossack "old believers," who left the Urals after the failure of Pugachev's rebellion.

Detachments of soldiers who arrived from Russia to reinforce the Caucasian "line" were renamed "Line Cossacks," that is to say, dwellers on the frontier by decree of the Empress Catherine.

Living on the frontier in a permanent state of military alertness, the Cossacks acquired the experience and habits of professional soldiers. They were splendid horsemen, fearless trackers, hunters and soldiers who could sense the approach of an enemy by the quivering of reeds, the crackling of a twig or the flight of a bird. The Caucasian mountains and foothills became their native land. From their enemy, who matched them in agility and courage, they learned the cautious and original tactics of mountain and forest warfare.



A Soviet cavalry charge

The Russian people have always treated the Cossacks and their fighting past with respect and pride. "Cossack" has always been a synonym for fearless bravery, military resourcefulness and endurance. Russian writers and artists have found many themes in the life of these militant people. Pushkin and Lermontov, Bestuzhev and Davydov, Maikov and Tyutchev, Tolstoy and Sholokhov wrote about the Cossacks, this vivid, original and at the same time deeply national element of Russian history.

Where has the Russian Cossack not been? In what river has the Cossack horse not drunk? Paris in 1814 saw the Cossacks riding down her streets. The names of Cossack generals—Platov, the "whirlwind ataman" as the Cossacks called him, Baklanov, Vlasov—were known to the whole world. The Cossacks won undying glory at Borodino. On Kutuzov's order, Platov's corps forded the Voina River above the village of Bezzubovo, outflanked the enemy and cut into his columns. This surprise attack upset Napoleon's plans and gave Kutuzov time to regroup his reserves.

Platov's regiments battered Napoleon's retreating troops at Gorodnya, Medyn, Vyazma. Near Smolensk the Cossacks slashed the Italian viceroy's corps, utterly routed the troops under Napoleon's best marshal, Ney, and captured the German cavalry brigade under General Hugo von Normann. Daring cavalry charges at Leipzig, Dresden and Kulm, and near the small French village of Fer Champenoise, spread the fame of the wonderful Russian Cossack warriors throughout the world. In the Don valley there is a village named Fer Champenoise in honor of the Don Cossacks' astounding charge at the Prince of Wurttemberg's corps.

Chernyshev's Cossacks took the keys of Berlin from the hands of the terrified burgomaster.

In the First World War

During the first World War the Cossacks revived the military splendor of their ancestors. The capture of a German heavy artillery battalion by five squadrons of the Second Labinsky Cossack Regiment was

a classic example of a cavalry attack against a well-defended and vigilantly guarded enemy position. The attack by the Don brigade and the capture of the headquarters of General von Botner's 19th Army



Cossack Samodurov, veteran of the battles of 1918 against the Germans in the Ukraine, is now a volunteer in a Kuban Cossack formation

Corps at Gorlitsa and the capture of 3,500 Austrians by a single Cossack regiment were typical examples of Cossack fury in battle, selfless bravery and precise calculation.

Although trench warfare reduced the scope of cavalry action, the Russian cavalry continued to show all the skeptics that the cavalry still had a considerable part to play in modern war. The raid made by General Baratov's First Caucasian Cossack Division into the rear of the Turkish army, the crossing of the Klych-Kithadug and Mergemir passes, the winter fighting at Sarykamysch and, lastly, the junction of the Russian troops with the Allies, are all part of the epic of the Russian cavalry. Fighting their way over hundreds of miles of mountains and waterless steppe, the Cossack Squadron of the First Uman Regiment reached Baghdad at the appointed time and joined the British cavalry units sent to meet them.

The names of Podtelkov, Krivoshlykov, Kuzheyev and Mironenko, who gave their lives for the Soviet power and for the people, will live forever. Cossack soldiers who joined the Red detachments in the days of the Civil War made up the nucleus of Budyonny's world-famous Cavalry Army.

Defending the Young Republic

The First Cavalry Army, created and directed by Stalin, was a perfect instrument of victory. The battles at Tsaritsyn, the routing of Pokrovsky and Ulagay's corps at Velikoknyazheskaya, the battle at Voronezh, the capture of Rostov, the annihilation of General Pavlov's Don Army at Yegorlyk, the capture of Tikhoretskaya, the break-through of the Polish front at Zhitomir, the routing of the Polish Uhlan divisions at Zhitomir, the fighting in northern Tauria, the capture of Zehongar, are all glories of the Soviet Cossack cavalymen who defended the young Republic from its many enemies.

During the years of peaceful construction the Soviet cavalry changed, along with the entire Red Army. New weapons appeared. But Stalin never forgot the importance of the cavalry, and was confident that the Soviet cavalymen would yet prove themselves in the defense of their country.

June 22, 1941. . . . Every Cossack capable of bearing arms rose to fight the enemy. The great shades of the Cossack heroes came to life—Golovaty, Krukovsky, Baklanov, Platov. Gray-whiskered Cossacks who had sabered Wilhelm's soldiers mounted horses alongside their sons.

An enemy group pushed ahead and captured the town of Balta: mobile units advancing through the plains reached the town of Pervomaisk. The Second Cavalry Corps was sent to close the gap. Covering over sixty roadless miles and sweeping the enemy's screen units from their path, the Cossacks came out on the German flank and wiped out the German

293rd and 297th Infantry Divisions and 19th Mechanized Division. Pursuing the routed enemy, they captured Balta and destroyed the headquarters and transports of the German group stationed there.

Somewhat later the same corps successfully carried out the Shtepovka operation. In December, 1941, under its new name, the First Guards Corps, it battered Guderian's tank divisions at Moscow.

The Cossacks operated so devastatingly at the German rear communications that as far back as 1941 the German High Command issued an order demanding "the encirclement and complete annihilation of the Cossack corps which broke into the rear." The reference was to General Dovator's famous raid. This exploit so petrified the Germans that it was enough for one scared Fritz to shout "Cossacks!" for whole enemy battalions to scatter.

Here is a paragraph from the diary of a German lieutenant, Otto Hatzel, Commander of the Second Company, 94th Mountain Sapper Battalion:

"The Don and Kuban Cossacks are against us. My father, who fought them in 1915, told me a lot about them, but his horrible stories are nothing compared to the reality. These are real Scythians, who do not fear death. Yesterday they attacked an SS battalion from the march and slashed them up badly. The sight of the saber-cut bodies was simply horrifying. Today my company was sent to help Lieutenant Hauff's infantry company, which was surrounded by Cossacks, but when we got to the river and began to cross the Cossacks charged at us. They fell on us like wild beasts and began to slash right and left. My soldiers ran away: those who couldn't move fast enough were killed. I was knocked down by a horse. My knee was broken. I crawled to the reeds and hid there. Only 11 men escaped of the entire company."

The action of Kirichenko's Cossack Guardsmen at Kushchevskaya railway station was a model operation, in which a small cavalry force utterly routed a numerically superior enemy. The Cossacks dismounted and pretended to retreat. The Germans were decoyed into an ambush, forgot themselves in pursuing the retreating Cossacks, and bared their flank. The Cossacks attacked. Over 1,300 Germans were sabered to death; the rest fled in panic.

The recent action of Lieutenant General Kirichenko's Guards corps at Taganrog, and the daring raid into the German rear carried out by Major General Krykov's Second Cavalry Corps of Guards, which forced the Desna, are evidence that our cavalry is capable of solving independently extensive operational and tactical tasks.

We are proud to say that our cavalry is the best in the world. It has been glorious for many generations. Led by Stalin, the Don, Kuban and Terek Cossacks will astound the entire world.

Two Soviet Guerrillas

By E. Vilensky

There is something about the people who come from guerrilla units that puts them apart from other folk . . . something about the set of their faces and about their eyes, which have seen so much more than most of us. Then these people have an amazing inner calm, a calm born of constant tension of will and the inexhaustible hatred that burns within them. They are not easy to talk to, these guerrillas. There are so many questions one would like to ask, but they are always pressed for time, always bent on some important mission. They are always in a hurry to return to their forests and villages, to the enemy railway bridges and headquarters where they sow death and destruction among the fascists.

* * *

Fedya lived in a village with his father and mother, his brother and two sisters. He went to school, romped and played and did all that is usually done by a young man of 12. But one day the Germans came, and his elder brother Ilya and his sister Tanya, who had just turned 20, went off to the forest to join the guerrillas.

The unit grew rapidly. It harassed the Germans sorely, and at length they decided to put an end to it. They sent out a large punitive expedition armed with machine guns, trench mortars and field pieces. They meant business.

Father and mother said the family had better go into hiding, or the Germans might find out about Ilya and Tanya. Father took Fedya, while mother carried Fedya's little sister, and they went down into the cellar. They sat there as quiet as mice, listening to the shooting up above. But the Germans found them and dragged them out into the yard.

"We have been told that your son and daughter are members of a guerrilla detachment," the German officer said to Fedya's father. "Now, you are a sensible man. We will discuss the matter with you on that basis. We shall wait 10 days. If your guerrillas surrender in that time you will go free; we shall not molest you. But if they fail to appear at the end of 10 days you will be shot—you and your wife and children."



BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES—Guerrillas cross a river on an improvised raft

The Nazis then locked them all up in a stable. One night a neighbor tapped lightly on the wall. "I'm going off to the detachment," he whispered through a crack. "What message shall I take to your son and daughter?"

"Tell them to keep on fighting the Germans and not to worry about us."

Fedya's heart beat faster at his father's words.

The days passed. Each day a soldier brought them some food. Sometimes the officer would come and ask if father had anything new to say. But Fedya's father kept silent.

The last two days they were given nothing to eat or drink. Fedya was terribly thirsty but he said nothing and scowled at his little sister when she cried for water. Then six Germans came and drove them out onto the square in front of the commandant's house. It was a fine spring day early in May. The sun was shining brightly and the leaves on the birches rustled gaily. Fedya could not help thinking what a lovely day it was for a frolic with his pigeons.

The Germans stood them up with their backs to the stone wall of the shed and at the officer's command the soldiers fired from their automatic rifles before the little boy realized what was happening. Fedya could not see the firing squad properly. Only much later did he realize that his father had deliberately stood in his way. The next instant he heard a stifled cry from his little sister, whom his mother had tried in vain to cover with her body. He saw his mother clutch at her breast. Then she staggered forward and dropped heavily to the ground. Father fell in a pool of blood. He was a large heavy man. In falling he knocked Fedya over and almost crushed the boy under his dead weight. "The next bullet will hit me," thought Fedya. But the shooting ceased.

Fedya lay still, his heart beating so loudly he was afraid the Germans would hear it and come for him. He kept his eyes tightly closed. He was wet with his father's blood. With an effort he finally opened his eyes and through a mist saw the German soldiers lighting cigarettes. He closed his eyes quickly and lay motionless.

The Germans came up and kicked the bodies. Fedya got a painful blow in the side from a German jackboot, but he clenched his teeth and kept silent.

"Let no one dare to bury them," the officer cautioned the collective farmers through his interpreter. "Let them lie here like dogs as an example to the others!"

Fedya lay there all day. It was a terrible, seemingly endless day. As soon as it was dark he crawled out from under his father's body, kissed the cold, dead faces of his parents and his little sister, and crawled away across the vegetable patch toward the woods. By dawn he had reached the guerrillas.

So now there are three of them in the detachment—Ilya, Tanya and Fedya. Fedya was given a rifle—a German automatic rifle. And now he is fighting the Germans. He goes on scouting sallies right into the heart of the German positions. He takes part in battles and ambushes, helps to mine roads and bridges, hides in the bushes at crossroads and makes a note of the number of German cars, tanks and men passing along the road.

We sometimes smile to see this youngster acting like a grownup. But Fedya really is grown up and has earned the respect and admiration of everyone.

* * *

One morning when the first glimmer of dawn was beginning to appear over the tree tops, a Red Army sentry hidden in the bushes heard the sound of approaching footsteps.

"Who goes there," he challenged in a low tone.

"Friends, friends," was the reply. "Where is the dressing station here? Quick, please . . ."

Three figures appeared out of the gloom. Two of them wore uniforms, although not of the regular variety. Automatic rifles hung from their shoulders. The third was barefoot, hatless and unarmed. He walked slowly between the two armed men, who supported him carefully. Glancing at the face of the barefoot man, the sentry started . . . it was the face of a corpse, waxen-hued, with a patch of dried blood at the lips.

This man had been a village schoolteacher. He had not had time to leave with the Red Army units. When the Germans captured the village they did not molest the teacher. The commandant, on the contrary, was extremely polite. He summoned the teacher and had a long talk with him about the younger generation which, he said, ought not to be harassed by the war.

"You will agree that under German rule there is no need of special national schools," he said. "We, however, are in favor of promoting the cultural development of the peoples, and hence have no intention of closing your school. But, of course, you must bear in mind that a new order, a German order, will be introduced. You and your pupils had better get accustomed to the idea that the Slav peoples will always have to work for Germany."

The teacher said nothing; he seemed to agree. He went to the school and gathered his pupils.

"The Germans," he said to them, "are scoundrels and bandits. They want to turn us into beasts of burden. To them we are not human beings. I may be arrested and shot for these words, but you must always remember that the Germans are our worst enemies. And if I die, let my memory help you."

fight the Germans until the last one is driven out of our land!"

That night the teacher was arrested. He was locked in a shed and kept there for six days without food or water. Then he was taken to the school, tied to a chair and made to look on while the Germans cross-examined and tortured the peasants. Ten people were tortured. But the most terrible torture of all was that suffered by the teacher, who had to look on, helpless.

"That is not all," the German in charge of the torture said to him on the third day. But the teacher could stand no more.

That night he escaped.

For a whole month he lived on berries and roots and drank swamp water. By day he slept in the woods in a state of complete exhaustion. But at night he roused himself and wandered on toward the east. He was moving toward the front. One day

he chanced upon a guerrilla detachment. He was taken to headquarters in a state of complete collapse. The guerrilla doctor said that he would have to be sent across the front lines for treatment. The guerrillas had managed to get him across.

I spoke to the teacher a week after he had reached the Soviet side. I said I would write about him and his experiences.

"I don't mind," he said, "but I beg you not to mention my name. As soon as I am strong enough I intend to go back to join the guerrillas."

Some time later I received a note from the teacher. "I promised to let you know how I was getting on," it read. "I am already on the job. Working in my own line, so to speak . . . teaching the Germans about the guerrilla movement in the Soviet Union. It's a fascinating subject. The pupils are learning, and their teacher isn't doing so bad, either—or at least so my comrades say. I'll write you again at the first opportunity. Greetings."



Red Army men found this child in a liberated village . . . one of the few inhabitants to survive the German occupation

LITHUANIANS, ESTONIANS AND LATVIANS— A FAMILY OF SOVIET PEOPLES

By Willis Lacis

The victories of today are the victories of the great October Revolution. It was the October Revolution that laid the foundations of the gigantic force which in these grim days is saving mankind from obscurantism, slavery and medieval savagery. The whole world knows that our heroic Red Army, our mighty Soviet people bears the brunt of this titanic struggle. The coming generations will remember with gratitude and admiration the Soviet peoples of our epoch, the vanguard of humanity, which did not permit the light of truth and justice to be extinguished.

There is no greater honor in our times than to be fighting in the ranks of the Soviet peoples and to take part in the struggle against Hitler fascism, the worst enemy of all mankind. The peoples of Soviet Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia are in these ranks and are contributing their share in the common cause. For many centuries the Estonians, Lithuanians and Latvians suffered under the inhuman yoke of the German robbers. The historic path of these peoples was in many respects analogous and together they joined the great family of Soviet peoples and became its actual members.

Everything that the October Revolution had given to the peoples of the Soviet Union became the possession of the Estonians, Lithuanians and Latvians in the summer of 1940. With enthusiasm they embarked on the building of the new life of their young Soviet Republics, heading toward an era of unprecedented economic prosperity and cultural progress. Union with the Soviet State opened before the peoples of Lithuanian, Estonia and Latvia a high road to the realization of their cherished aspirations.

In the brief period of 11 months the workers, peasants and intelligentsia of the Soviet Baltic achieved great success in all spheres of political, economic and cultural life. Unemployment was completely abolished. Scores of thousands of landless peasants received land. Hundreds of thousands of children and working people obtained the opportunity to study in schools and colleges. New factories and mills were under construction. The national cultural arts received powerful stimulus for their development. The rate of constructive activity and the successes achieved were so high under Soviet rule there was every reason to expect that in a few more years Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia would be among the most advanced Republics of the Soviet Union. One guarantee for this development was the assistance

and support which they received from other Soviet republics.

The Lithuanian, Estonian and Latvian peoples could not and did not forget this. When the storm broke they felt they were not alone in facing their traditional enemy, the German robbers. They knew their own strength—the strength of the harmonious family of Soviet peoples—and rose against the enemy. Lithuanian, Estonian and Latvian guerrillas are waging a selfless struggle behind the lines of the German army. The population of the German-occupied Baltic Republics is fighting the invaders by sabotage, by refusing to carry out the orders of the occupationist authorities, by concealing their agricultural produce and by evading conscription and labor services.

The Estonians, Lithuanians and Latvians are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the sons of all the other peoples of the Soviet Union in the ranks of the Red Army. The Latvian Rifles took part in smashing the German-fascist troops before Moscow in the winter of 1941-42, heroically fought the Germans on other sectors of the front and earned the title of Guards troops. Estonian troops took part in the battle of Velikie Luki and in the annihilation of the German garrison in that city. Thus was written a new glorious page in the history of a people struggling against foreign invaders and oppressors. Lithuanian units fought in the ranks of the Red Army in the battle of Orel and took part in defeating the Germans in that city and in driving them from the Orel Region.

The people will never forget the names of the heroes who distinguished themselves in these historic battles. Lithuanian, Estonian and Latvian warriors are daily adding to their achievements in the field.

Fighting in the Orel-Kursk direction the soldiers of the Lithuanian Red Army formation annihilated 13,000 Germans, captured 4,000,000 shells, artillery dumps, 100 machine guns, five heavy batteries, 15 field artillery batteries and a large quantity of other war materiel.

In the fighting in Velikie Luki alone the Estonian Red Army formation destroyed 123 pillboxes, 161 fire positions, 10 heavy guns, 21 mortars and 10 tanks. The Germans lost 3,500 men and officers killed and 1,550 who were surrounded and taken prisoner, among them the commandant of the Velikie Luki garrison, Baron Von Sass, and his assistant Major Von Schwabe.

The Latvian Rifle Division put over 10,000 German soldiers and officers out of action, 3,000 of whom were killed. It captured rich booty and liberated several dozen inhabited places. Over 2,000 men and commanders of the Division were decorated. The heroic son of the Latvian people Janis Velhelks received the high title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Our brothers and sisters in the interior of the Soviet Union are working unselfishly in the factories and mills and on the collective farms, eager to help supply the Red Army with all it needs for the speediest defeat of the enemy.

Squadrons of combat planes, tank columns and howitzer batteries produced with funds collected from evacuated citizens and soldiers of the Latvian, Lithua-

nian and Estonian Republics are taking part in the fighting and helping to beat the enemy in the various sectors of the front.

The echo of great battles reaches the shores of the Baltic Sea. Salutes in Moscow honoring the liberators of Smolensk and Nevel were heard by our brothers and sisters in Tallin, Riga and Kaunas. They know that the hour of liberation for the Soviet Baltic is drawing nearer, that the hour of reckoning with the enemy for the innocent blood shed, for the torments and suffering under the heel of the fascist monster, is not far off. In the family of Soviet peoples the wounds inflicted by the war and the depredations of the invaders on Latvians, Lithuanians and Estonians will quickly heal, and the Soviet Baltic will flower again.



Johannes Vares, President of the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian Republic, inspects a tank presented to the Estonian units in the Red Army by evacuated citizens

Stalingrad--a Tradition of Glory

October 21 marked the 25th anniversary of the heroic defense of Tsaritsyn—now Stalingrad. In an article devoted to this historic date the noted author Alexei Tolstoy wrote:

What steeled the hearts of the young soldiers? Why did they boldly prefer death or victory to the disgrace of retreat? Why did a detachment of Black Sea Marines who last December crossed the Volga downstream to Stalingrad, stripped of their overcoats and tunics, down to their striped jerseys—fight in the bitter cold for a whole week, battering the Germans?

These were the questions I put to a general of the Stalingrad battles.

"There were many reasons," he answered, "but one of them—if not the main one—was that there began to revive among the troops in Stalingrad and among the arriving replenishments, the old traditions of the victorious battles for Tsaritsyn. We found here veterans of the defense of Tsaritsyn. Their reminiscences were recorded in a letter telling the story of the three encirclements of Tsaritsyn by the army of Krasnov, armed and supplied by the Germans—who at that time were plundering the Donets Basin, the Ukraine and the Crimea, and who dreamed of maintaining their hold.

"Tsaritsyn was defended by the Tenth Army under Voroshilov and the detachments of the Tsaritsyn workers. The heart and soul of the defense of the city was Stalin, whose name was later to be conferred upon it.

"There were few arms and very little ammunition in Tsaritsyn. The whiteguard army outnumbered the Tsaritsyn army many times, was better equipped and supplied with ammunition, tanks and planes. But the white generals Mamontov and Fitzkhelaurov had dared to challenge the future conqueror of the German hordes hurled into battle for the conquest of the globe, the strategist who built the finest army in the world and created the great victories of the modern Red Army.

"Seventy-five thousand of Krasnov's troops, which had already seen the domes of Tsaritsyn through the dust of battle, were routed, annihilated, scattered. Tsaritsyn—the strategic key to the Volga, to Siberia, to Moscow—was saved. The Revolution had won its main victory.

"A tradition of glory was thus created. The sons of Stalingrad were consecrated by the heroic deeds of their fathers. It was not mere earth the young soldiers trod—it was the sacred soil of Tsaritsyn, the soil of the great motherland."



A submarine of the Black Sea Fleet

ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING OF STATE LABOR RESERVES

By Peter Moskatov

Chief of the Central Labor Reserves Board of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR

On October 2, 1940, on the initiative of Joseph Stalin, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR issued a decree "On State Labor Reserves of the USSR." The preamble read:

The task of the further development of our industry demands a continuous influx of new labor power in the mines, in transport, factories and plants. Without uninterrupted replenishment of the ranks of the workers, the successful development of our industry is impossible.

In our country unemployment has been completely eliminated and poverty and ruin in town and countryside forever ended. Consequently, no constant labor reserve for industry exists.

Under these conditions, the State is faced with the task of organizing the training of new workers and thus creating the labor reserves necessary for industry.

Such are the reasons that impelled the Soviet Government to create State labor reserves. To provide for the organized and regular training of new cadres of industrial workers, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR considered it necessary to enroll from 800,000 to 1,000,000 boys [girls later became eligible] each year, to be taught certain trades.

It was decided to open two-year trade schools in a number of towns and cities for the training of skilled metal workers, iron and steel workers, chem-



Students of the trade schools have a special uniform and insignia. They take pride in their soldierly bearing and discipline

ists, miners, oil workers, etc., as well as skilled workers for the merchant marine, river transport and communications. For the training of skilled railway transport workers—assistant locomotive engineers, locomotive and railway car repair mechanics, firemen, line repair gang foremen and other skilled trades—railway schools were organized which also have a two-year course of study.

It was also decided to organize factory training schools with a six-months' course of study for the training of workers in the mass trades, primarily for coal and ore mining, iron and steel work, the oil industry and the building trades.

The decree provided that instruction at trade, railway and factory training schools should be given free of charge, and that enrolled apprentices should be supported by the State during the entire period of training. By a decision of the Council of People's Commissars, a special uniform and insignia were provided for the pupils. All schools were put on the State budget. In 1940 the sum of 1,000 million rubles was assigned by the Government for equipping and maintaining the schools. In 1941, a total of 4,200 million rubles was assigned for the training of the labor reserves. Special premises were set aside for schools and dormitories, and over 23,000 metal-working lathes and numerous other machine tools were turned over to the school shops.

Study Programs

The Central Labor Reserves Board drew up special study programs for trade and other schools. Besides the experts who compiled these programs, Alexei Stakhanov and other leading workers were asked to collaborate. In 1940, about 45,000 experienced teachers, industrial training experts and other personnel were selected to staff the labor reserve schools and boards.

As a result of this organizational work, completed in an extremely short time, over 600 trade schools, more than 120 railway schools and some 800 factory training schools were established in the large cities, at industrial enterprises, railway junctions, construction jobs and sea and river ports of the Soviet Union.

On November 10, 1940, the first enrollment of 600,000 was announced. Physically fit boys of 14 to 15, with at least an elementary school education, were eligible for enrollment at trade and railway schools, while youths of 16 to 17 could enter the factory training schools with no special educational requirements.

Soviet youth responded with enthusiasm to the call of their country. Their eagerness was shown by the fact that 1,100,000 applications for enrollment were received for the 600,000 places. In 15 days the full contingent had been enrolled. The ranks of trainees accepted in the large cities and industrial districts such as Moscow, Leningrad, the Sverdlovsk

Region and the Maritime and Khabarovsk areas, were swelled by 100,000 lads from the villages.

All trade, railway and factory training schools began functioning on December 1, 1940.

Learning by Doing

Training is based on the principle of teaching trades to apprentices under conditions approximating as closely as possible those to be met in industry. From the very outset the trainee works on material actually used in industry, he runs real machinery and turns out finished goods. There is no make-believe.

In all trade and railway schools, five-sevenths of the study time is devoted to industrial training, and the rest to theoretical and general subjects: the special and general technology of metals, draftsmanship, the fundamentals of physics or chemistry, and mathematics. Theoretical work has been included so that the trainees may emerge as skilled workers technically well-grounded, familiar with different types of machine tools and their functioning, able to make a drawing, understand the technology of production and read the technical literature in their field.

In factory training schools, where workers are trained for the so-called mass trades—trades requiring less skill than, for example, machine building, the study program does not include general educational subjects. All training takes place in the shops or mines, on construction sites or at the oilfields. But certain programs provide for certain theoretical instruction to precede each new cycle of practical work. Before beginning practical work, the trainees receive all necessary advice from the instructor, become acquainted with the production process, the tools and measures for prevention of accidents.

Results of First Months of Study

On June 10, 1941, a large exhibit of the output of hundreds of schools in various parts of the country was opened in Moscow. The exhibit gave a graphic picture of the accomplishments of the trainees. The young people had overcome all initial difficulties; 15 and 16-year-old lads and girls who a few months before had never seen the inside of a workshop were well on their way to becoming skilled workers. Some of the schools already had in work orders amounting to several millions of rubles, while the sum total of Government orders placed at the schools exceeded 250,000,000 rubles.

The proficiency of the first contingent of trainees released by the schools proved the success of the undertaking. About 250,000 young people went to work in industrial enterprises, in mines and on railways. This influx of a quarter of a million young workers, keen and eager to get down to their jobs, played a substantial part in fulfilling the expanded plan of industrial development in 1941.

(Continued on page thirty-six)

**Youth of the Soviet Trade Schools Work in Industry and Agriculture,
Train for the Red Army, Study and Go in for Sports**



(1) Repairing trucks; (2) Dmitri Chepelev, 15 years of age, can "cure wounds in any type of tank"; (3) Ski champion of his school; (4) Studying mortar gunnery—at 18 the boys are ready to take their places in the ranks of the Red Army; (5) Instruction in telegraphy

STATE LABOR RESERVES

(Continued from page thirty-four)

On June 22, 1941, fascist Germany suddenly attacked the USSR. Since that time, work for the requirements of the fighting forces has become the foremost and highest duty of all Soviet patriots. The trade school apprentices have applied themselves with the greatest enthusiasm to the production of arms and munitions for the Red Army and Navy. The Soviet country has become a huge arsenal, supplying the front with everything needed to strike at the bloody aggressor.

Our trade schools are all combining instruction with the production of war materiel. The aggregate value of munitions, arms, repairs to military equipment and the like produced or carried out by the apprentices began to run into millions of rubles per month, then into tens of millions. A stream of mortar shells, rifles, sub-machine guns, mortars, flame-throwers, etc., and a large number of tools of various kinds began to flow from the workshops of the trade schools.

One school, with a comparatively small number of trainees, has turned out over 50,000 large caliber mortar shells, repaired about 6,000 rifles, overhauled 230 pieces of artillery and 250 machine guns, and produced 240,000 rubles' worth of parts for aircraft. Another trade school, with the cooperation of an officer of an Engineers' Corps, designed a highly original mobile device for combating parachute landing groups, using a specially-adapted machine gun. The apprentices of a Moscow trade school turned out a shipment of anti-tank armament sufficient to equip an army brigade. Many similar instances might be cited.

As contingent after contingent of graduates go to swell the ranks of the army of industry and transport, new trainees take their places. In all, 16 contingents were enrolled between 1940 and 1942.

Despite wartime difficulties, the Government has enabled the trade schools to function smoothly. The evacuation of schools from frontline areas, the expansion of the network of schools in the eastern part of the country, and the resumption of work at schools in the liberated districts, account for the increase in the number of trade, railway and factory training schools from 1,550 in 1940 to 1,726 in 1942. Output to the value of 1,667,000,000 rubles had been produced by apprentices by the beginning of 1943, two-thirds of this sum being the 1942 output.

Agriculture also comes in for its share of assistance. Brigades of young workers repair tractors and other agricultural machinery and turn out a large supply of tools and spare parts. In the spring of 1943, 175 apprentice brigades were sent to the villages for repair work.

The trade schools endeavor to instil in the ap-

prentices a love for their vocation. Skilled workmen and instructors help them to realize the importance of labor productivity as the basic factor in the existence of society; show them how they can develop in their trades, and explain the role of industry in wartime and their own place in the war effort of the Soviet people as a whole.

A Worker Today, a Fighter Tomorrow

Every Soviet citizen capable of bearing arms receives military training in one form or another. Regular elementary military training courses are conducted in all trade schools. In addition, the boys and girls belong to various sport circles, and participate by the thousands in mass sports events. In the winter of 1942-43, 260,000 young sportsmen of trade and factory schools took part in cross-country ski-runs. Military subjects taught in the various schools cover the machine gun, automatic rifle, first aid, horsemanship, sniping and anti-aircraft and chemical defense.

Many of the trade school students, on reaching the age of 18, become officers and soldiers of the Red Army, and they render as fine an account of themselves in battle as at school.

Cultural Development of Students

Cultural work among the students receives much attention. Soviet young people are deeply interested in international affairs, the political and economic life of their country and the progress at the front. They are drawn to everything which gives them a more thorough understanding of the history of Russia and the militant traditions of the workers. Studies at trade and factory schools are frequently accompanied by lectures on the war, the history of the Soviet peoples and the heroic figures of the Russian past.

All trade and factory schools have well-stocked libraries, which are frequently augmented by new volumes of non-fiction and fiction, and literature on the war. The libraries guide the reading of the young people, arranging discussions of new books at evening gatherings. The Government assigns millions of rubles yearly for books for the trainees.

At the beginning of 1943 a festival of amateur art circles of the trade school students was held, with more than 15,000 participating in the various dramatic groups, choruses, dances, etc. Art activities are more than a means of filling leisure time: they help the young people to develop their talents, and enrich them with the knowledge and understanding of mankind's cultural heritage. Outstanding actors, singers and writers of Soviet Artists and Writers Unions extend special patronage to the trade and factory schools, visiting them frequently. The youngsters react to life with all the fervor of their age; the art workers teach them to understand and appreciate its manifold beauties.

Care of the cultural and moral attributes of the younger generation of workers is one of the primary tasks of the Government, in which it receives the aid of the Soviet trade unions and the entire Soviet people. The first films and plays dealing with the life and work of the young trade school apprentices have already appeared on Soviet screens.

An Army of New Workers

In less than two years, from May, 1941 to March, 1943, the schools of the State labor reserves graduated 1,300,000 young workers, who have been absorbed into industry, transport and construction enterprises. There is no single enterprise in the Soviet Union, large or small, that does not employ these graduates, whose work is playing an increasingly important part in the country's output for defense and the national economy.

Having mastered their vocations at school and learned to practice them in Stakhanovite fashion, the newcomers are always on the lookout for im-

provements. Many submit efficiency proposals worked out by themselves. Some of the graduates have already won decoration for their devoted, Stakhanovite labor, and hundreds of young workers have been promoted to important posts. Future industrial executives are being developed in the schools and factories.

Everything for the Front! Everything for Victory!

The Soviet people and the young generation of workers know that the achievement of victory over fascist Germany demands and will continue to demand fresh efforts, will strain their powers to the utmost. But the Soviet people are inflexible in their determination to fight to the end, and together with their Allies, the United States and Great Britain, they will smash fascism—the enemy of all advanced mankind.

It is to this noble end that Soviet youth is working. Its motto is the motto of the whole Soviet country—“Everything for the front! Everything for victory!”



Youths from the trade schools visiting the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow. Cultural activities play an important part in the program of the trade schools

GERMANS MURDER WOUNDED AND SICK WAR PRISONERS

By Academician Nikolai Burdenko

Academician Burdenko has served in a number of wars, including the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05 and the First World War. In March, 1917 he became Chief of the Medical Service of the Russian Army. He is today Chief Surgeon of the Red Army, and also a member of the Extraordinary State Committee for the establishment and investigation of atrocities committed by the German-fascist invaders and their associates and the losses caused by them to civilians, collective farms, public organizations and State enterprises and institutions of the USSR.



Academician Burdenko

Perusal of reports on the infamous methods used by the Hitlerite butchers fills one with amazement. But the reality, when you come face to face with it, stuns the human imagination.

I have lived through a number of wars and have seen many of the tragedies inevitable in war-time. I have witnessed sublime moments of heroic death. I have been inside Chinese prisons, where the emaciated inmates were dying of hunger and cold. I have seen the victims of the tortures of Chinese bandits.

But the inventiveness of the Germans in these inhumanities is staggering. It is enough to mention such facts as testing the action of poisons on civilians, bleeding children white to obtain blood for transfusions and carving five-pointed stars in the flesh of guerrillas and Red Army men. I have personally seen victims of mustard gas tests.

Murder, plunder and the violation of women—these the Germans have reduced to a system.

I want to speak in particular of the crimes of the Germans against war prisoners, and especially against the wounded. I have proof that in Orel the Germans exterminated war prisoners, contrary to all international usages and agreements. Many prisoners were murdered by the Germans; others were confined to concentration camps, where the unfortunates died of starvation, unendurable toil, beatings and shootings.

The Germans also violated international law and

the agreements providing against using war prisoners in work of military significance or forcing them into enemy units. No less flagrant is their violation of the laws regarding wounded war prisoners.

There is evidence that here they are using their system of extermination. When the Germans occupied a city where there were hospitals for the wounded and sick, they immediately did away with these institutions. The wounded were removed to the worst possible quarters, hastily improvised; and the bed-clothes, blankets, instruments and other supplies were taken away and the patients left without medical aid. Words cannot describe the reality in all its ghastliness. One would have to see the wounded, the places they lay, and would have to inspect their wounds, to realize to the full their appalling state.

In Orel I personally established that in the winter starving people were piled row upon row in unheated quarters, with hoar-frost covering the walls. The latrine was in the room. In the morning the dead were removed from beneath the living—sometimes as many as five and six bodies from each cell—while the rest, barely alive, were driven to work by the Germans, who used rubber truncheons.

The prisoners became horribly lice-ridden, but nothing was done to combat this pest. They received no water for drinking, to say nothing of washing. They were not allowed to go to the yard to get a handful of snow. Whoever violated this rule was subject to cruel punishment. The guards sold water to the prisoners; there were times when a liter of water cost 500 rubles.

Needless to say, the healing of wounds was greatly protracted. Under the appalling conditions in which the prisoners lived, never undressing, and without food to strengthen their resistance, frequent complications developed. Soviet surgeons who became prisoners of war noted in particular the extremely slow process of healing of bone fractures and the presence of osteomyelitis on an enormous scale, accompanied by serious general manifestations, such as infections and festering and bloating of tissues. The death rate among wounded war prisoners was 30 per cent.

On entering the Orel prison "hospital," after the liberation of the city, I was struck with its foul odor and squalor. There were no surgeons' gowns to be found—the German assistant surgeon who was in

Each ward presented a spectacle painful to see. Fear of imprisonment in solitary confinement, physical pain, cruel neglect, punishments, and the executioners which awaited them—all these things had made the inmates indifferent as to whether they lived or died. The wounded had fallen into a psychic stupor. In every cell the gray, bloodless faces of the wounded showed what they had endured.

A solitary confinement cell held three of our prisoners. The cots stood so close together it was necessary to climb over a neighboring cot to attend to a patient. The clothing of the wounded was in shreds and they were bandaged with filthy rags. The thin pads which served as mattresses were never changed or aired. There was no ventilation.

The patients' wounds were covered with festering sores.

Soviet Treatment of German Wounded

It would be unpardonable to omit mentioning how sick and wounded prisoners—both Germans and their associates—are treated in the Soviet Union.

In conformity with the decree of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, wounded and sick war prisoners receive treatment: (a) at casualty clearing stations—like all other wounded; (b) in base and clearing hospitals of the People's Commissariat of Defense in special departments for war prisoners; (c) in the interior districts—in special clearing hospitals of the People's Commissariat of Health.

Medical personnel to treat the wounded and sick are chosen from among the war prisoners. Hospitals for war prisoners are amply supplied with medicines, according to the regulations for clearing hospitals of the People's Commissariat of Health. Due to their considerable emaciation and vitamin deficiency (particularly among the troops encircled at Stalingrad), wounded and sick war prisoners are provided with dietetic and vitaminized food products. Upon recovery the prisoners are sent to the concentration camps.

There you have the two systems for treating wounded and sick prisoners: first, the system of savagery practiced by the Germans; second, the humane methods of the Soviet Union.

REBIRTH OF STALINOGORSK

By Lev Nikulin

The Germans entered Stalinogorsk in the winter of 1941, on their eastward push toward Moscow. They stayed two weeks. The people are not likely to forget those two weeks. The ruins of the five-story hospital building are still there to remind them. And near the entrance to Pit No. 26 is the tomb of brave men who died in the battle for Stalinogorsk. The miners pass it every day, going to and from work.

Before the German invasion, Stalinogorsk was one of the most advanced industrial cities in the Soviet Union. Stalin's Five-Year Plans had given it magnificent buildings and superb amenities for the miners. When the necessity arose, Stalinogorsk destroyed itself as ardently as it had created itself. The miners flooded the pits and demolished everything that might be of use to the enemy.

The restoration of the Moscow coalfields began in the bitter winter of 1942. Dreadful blizzards stormed over the desolate land. The heroic rebirth of the coal pits began while the battle was still raging no more than 25 miles away. The westerly wind brought the rumbling of heavy artillery to the ears of the builders.

Moscow needed coal! Moscow must have coal!

Pit No. 26 is now almost completely restored. I visited it shortly after the pithead structures had been completed, just before the technical staff, miners and their families moved into their new living quarters. The underground jobs were still unfinished.

Three new shafts were being sunk. Before the war it took two years to get a new one going. Stalinogorsk expects to do the same job now in as many months. New methods are being applied—coffer dams, the so-called "closed" method of supporting new tunnels with tubing, copied from the Moscow subway. A contingent of Moscow subway builders is working at Pit No. 26.

Two of the Soviet Union's most eminent architects, Ginsburg and Milenis, designed the pithead structures at Pit No. 16a. They have evolved an ingenious, cheap and simple solution of the problems of surface building. On the front is a small inscription: "Erected in 1943." That is all.

The people of Stalinogorsk might add: "In that year of great battles we not only restored and built new coal pits here, but worked out cultural construction methods in detail." But history will need no reminding.

... FROM THE DIARY OF NINA BELONozhko

(A Resident of Kharkov During the German Occupation)

... The wind sweeps the streets of Kharkov. It sways the dead bodies hanging from gallows; its gusts tear away fragments of the grim orders pasted on the walls: "For Giving Aid to Guerrillas—the Death Penalty!" ... "For Sheltering Red Army Men—the Death Penalty" ... Death everywhere ...

Here is a crowd of hostages being led through the streets. These absolutely innocent people are threatened with death because someone dynamited the municipal waterworks. A radio loudspeaker thunders menacingly: "For non-delivery of private radio sets the penalty is death!" Again death! ...

* * *

On one such fearful day we drove along the deserted streets, moving from our house, which had been wrecked, to an apartment building in Sumy Street. Many people live there, but I don't know anyone yet. They all keep to their rooms, terrified. The Germans roam through the houses, looting anything they fancy ...

* * *

Our apartment is crowded with the tenants from our former house—all women. Riva Morduhaeva, a lovely girl with great dark eyes, sits with Shurik, a chubby toddler of two-and-one-half years. Near them is Miura, Shurik's mother, and Riva's two sisters, Sofya and Margarita, one older and one younger. Margarita has an austere and earnest face and big eyes, like Riva's. Miura is telling about her brother, who was graduated from the Military Academy in Moscow and is now with the Red Army. Where is he at this moment? ...

At the slightest sound everyone alarmedly stiffens to attention. What will happen now? The Hershelman family also lives in this apartment—the mother and two daughters. Mrs. Hershelman is an excellent pianist ... she taught at the Conservatory. In the evening she sits reading by the flickering light of a home-made wick lamp, while her daughters sew. A nice and friendly family. Both daughters, Miura and Sonya, have had a university education. Sonya came here from Lvov, where she was in charge of a library. She is never idle ...

* * *

With 12 tenants the apartment is very noisy. My mother is with me. My husband is in military service in Saratov, and of course I have no news of him. I am so terribly sorry I wasn't able to leave in time, to join him ...

It is dreadfully cold this winter. None of us have

stoves or firewood, and our food is giving out. I am working in a public dining room, without pay. For three days now they have had only watery borshch made from frozen fodder beets. No bread. Yesterday they began to give us casein—something whitish and sticky, with a disgusting taste, like rubber. I freeze all day long in the dining room, with its perpetual din and shouting. There is not even enough casein. At the dining room door people fall dead—from starvation. I am lucky—at least I can eat several portions of casein and bring some home ...

* * *

Things get worse day by day. Everyone sits in the kitchen, talking and talking endlessly ... and about one thing only, what they used to eat before the war. The kitchen stove barely smoulders; we are using the furniture for firewood. The tenants all huddle around the stove ...

Miura carries Shurik all the time now, as he can no longer stand on his feet and keeps crying ... "I'm hungry, I'm hungry ..."

Sonya and Miura are making match boxes. They receive one glassful of coarse bran for 100 boxes ...

* * *

A new order has been posted in the street. All Jews must leave the city within 24 hours. Dreadful processions begin winding through the streets. At four o'clock I dashed home and found the whole apartment in panic and tears. The janitor said the Morduhaevs must vacate instantly, because they are Jews and haven't got the requisite papers. After much trouble the family is allowed to remain temporarily. They are all too weak to do anything. Their big room, facing north, is colder than outside. Shurik keeps asking for something to eat ...

* * *

The first one to take to bed in our apartment was old Mrs. Hershelman. Sonya went to the south district to get some milk for her mother. But could one pint of milk save an aged woman dying of starvation? In our apartment now stands the first coffin, made from a dresser. It has stood here a long time. How are we to bury it? The earth is frozen 10 feet deep. At last the coffin is removed ...

Sonya and Miura work day and night making matchboxes. Sonya says that she sees matchboxes in her dreams. We often talk about the books we once read and about our studies. All this now seems a long-departed dream ...

* * *

Evenings in the kitchen we all apprehensively examine our feet and press them with our fingers to see if they are beginning to swell. Sonya's and Miura's feet are badly swollen, while the Morduhaev girls are simply melting away like wax. They never wash or comb any more; they make some concoction of potato peelings and snow and hungrily devour it raw, before it has time to cook. The whole apartment is infested with lice. They crawl everywhere . . .

* * *

Sonya and Miura are unable to drag themselves around any longer and lie in bed. Shurik, too, is in bed . . . he no longer cries, and even refuses to eat the soup I bring him from the dining room . . .

A second corpse lies in our apartment—Miura has died. And two days later Riva has also passed away. Some relatives came, wrapped the bodies in rags and removed them, together with what remained of their furniture. The furniture is needed to pay for the burial . . .

Margarita goes begging alms and reels with utter exhaustion. Her eyes have a wild look and it frightens me to see her. Her knees sag and she pitches to the ground, and then struggles to her feet. She must try to feed Shurik and Sofya. She is the eldest—19 years old . . .

* * *

Sometimes Germans come to our apartment, squeamishly wrinkling their noses as they go upstairs . . .

* * *

Still another corpse. Sonya has died in a hospital. The skin on her legs cracked, the wound became infected and she died of blood poisoning. We buried her in the common grave. Now there is no longer anyone with whom to while away the evenings, speaking about the splendid days of the past . . . no one in whom to confide cherished dreams. Margarita is also bedridden. It's hard to believe it can be like that . . . just to lie down in bed and die . . .

Yesterday Shurik asked for bread. My mother gave him a piece and he smiled and thanked her. In the evening Margarita told us he had died. She said she mustered her last strength and took his body to some relatives to have him buried . . .

* * *

Sofya and Margarita are both lying in bed now. I brought them some soup, but they didn't want to eat. They kept asking for tea. They both look ghastly . . . nothing but skin and bones and great big eyes . . .

Next morning Sofya and Margarita were both dead. Sofya lay on the bed while Margarita was on the floor. What are we to do? I went to the German burgomaster and he told me, "We don't bury Jews" . . .

* * *

The bodies have been lying unburied for 20 days now. . . . At last the remains are removed. The room must be put in order and I call in a neighbor, Petrovna. Just as she lifted the featherbed I heard an awful, horrified shriek. Under the featherbed lay little Shurik. . . . Had he died—or did Margarita deliberately put him there? Who knows? His body lay there six weeks. When will all this end? When? . . .

* * *

The glorious Red Army men march down the street! Kharkov is again a Soviet city! In the big room facing the north there is no wall—it was torn out by a bomb—and none of the passersby know of the tragedy which was lived out on the third floor. Is it all a dream? I can't believe it all really happened. And now it is past and will never return!

The wrecked wall is somehow reminiscent of a bleeding wound—one of the countless wounds the Germans inflicted on our city. These wounds cry for vengeance. Avenged they will be! Thousands of men march westward, carrying in their hearts the sacred vow: "Death to the enemy!" No Nazi will be left living!



"After the German Invasion"

Clay figure by Orlov

MUSIC IN MOSCOW

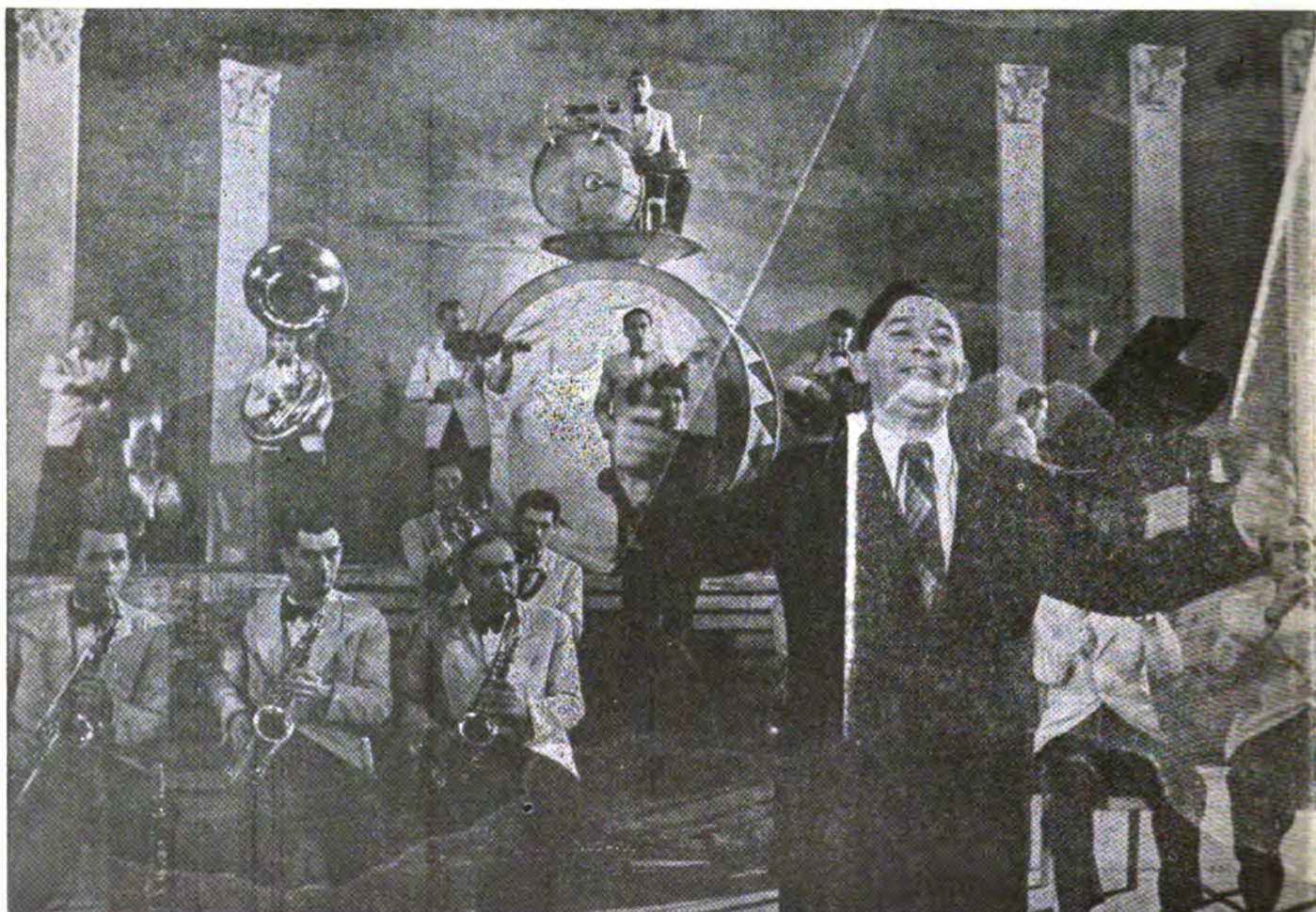
The winter season of the Moscow Philharmonic opened recently in the large hall of the Conservatory. The concert life of the city was interrupted in the autumn of 1941, when the Germans were threatening the gates of the Capital. But soon after the Nazis were defeated at the approaches to Moscow, artists began to appear in concert. In February, 1942 there were Sundays on which as many as 20 concerts were given to crowded houses in various parts of the city. The great event of that spring was the premiere of Dmitri Shostakovich's *Seventh Symphony*.

The summer season of 1942, and later the autumn and winter of 1942-43, became more or less normal with regard to concerts; but it was still comparatively rare to hear an entire symphony program, since the main orchestras were not in the Capital. The only large orchestra in Moscow, the All-Union Radio Committee Orchestra, was too busy at the microphone to give public concerts. It was an opportune time for

Moscow to hear its favorite soloists, as well as to bring forward several new musicians.

Foremost among these was the young Latvian singer, Efrida Pakul, who possesses a rare coloratura soprano and is a splendid musician. Her first appearance won high praise from the Muscovites. The pianist Svyatoslav Richter, a recent graduate of the Moscow Conservatory, is a player of brilliant talent who is passionately fond of modern Soviet music. His reputation was largely founded on his remarkable rendition of Sergei Prokofiev's *Seventh Piano Sonata*, which received the 1942 Stalin Prize. The summer of 1943 saw another addition to the concert stage. The 25-year-old pianist Leonid Zyusin, blind from birth, who is still a student at the Moscow Conservatory, astonished the city with his musical gifts and brilliant technique.

Toward the autumn of 1943 the State Symphony



"Concert at the Front"—Final scene in a variety film produced for the fighting men, in which classical, folk and jazz music are included



Scene from the opera "Crimson Sails"—Vladimir Preobrazhensky and Irina Tikhomirnova in a classical love duet

Orchestra returned from its sojourn of almost two years in the Urals and Central Asia and resumed its regular concerts with great success.

The monthly concerts of new symphonic and chamber music by Soviet composers proved exceedingly eventful. Some of the first numbers were the *Orchestral Suite 1941* by Sergei Prokofiev; the superb *Concerto-Vocalise* for coloratura soprano and orchestra by Rheingold Gliere; interesting symphonies by Tikhon Khrennikov, Valeri Zhelobinsky, Eugene Golubev and Leonid Polovinkin, and the symphonic suite on Iranian themes, *Maku*, by Lev Knipper. On the invitation of the Iranian Government Knipper conducted symphony concerts in Teheran during the winter of 1942-43.

Other works of deep interest were Sergei Prokofiev's *String Quartet*, a superb concerto by Vissarion Shebalin for which he received a Stalin Prize in 1942, the lovely lyrical *Eighth String Concerto* by Nikolai Myaskovsky, and the *Second Quartet*, full of the freshness of youth, by the young composer Yuri Levitan, a pupil of Shostakovich. The new, highly-trained State

Chorus for Russian Songs, directed by the well-known conductor Alexander Sveshnikov, is a worthy addition to the Moscow music ensembles.

An outstanding event of the present season was the premier of Shostakovich's *Eighth Symphony* on November 4. Other new compositions to be heard include Aram Khachaturyan's *Second Symphony*, Myaskovsky's *Twenty-Fourth Symphony*, a heroic patriotic cantata by Yuri Shaporin, and Sergei Prokofiev's *Ballad of the Unknown Boy*, portraying the heroism of Soviet youth in the war, his suite from the opera *Semyon Kotko*, and fragments from his new opera *War and Peace*, based on Tolstoy's great novel. A series of concerts are also in preparation to mark this year the 50th anniversary of the death of Tchaikovsky and the 100th anniversary of the birth of Rimsky-Korsakov.

The joy and happiness of Soviet people in the liberation of our native soil from the invaders by the glorious Red Army is reflected in the music of the current season.

Mothers of the New Generation

By Vera Yushova

Head of the Maternity Section, Public Health Department of the Moscow City Soviet

The Soviet State spends enormous sums on safeguarding the health of the working woman, and in particular, of the worker who is also a mother. All the larger factories, as well as all polyclinics and public health stations (branches of the larger Public Health Department), have obstetrical and gynecological consulting rooms. The medical staffs of these consulting rooms have functions quite different from those of the usual district consulting center for women.

The first duty of the factory obstetrician is to see that the women's work in the factory is properly organized. Properly organized work never leads to illness. On the contrary, well organized work and observance of the rules of hygiene actually improve a woman's health.

The factory doctor keeps the closest possible watch on his clients. He does not wait for patients to come to him. His task is not only to treat ailments, but also to prevent them. He acquaints himself with every aspect of the work done at the factory, with the labor conditions and their effect on the women. He sees that labor conditions comply with the rules of hygiene.

The workers themselves collaborate with him through the factory public health group—a voluntary association of factory workers who interest themselves particularly in improving the standard of physical well-being. The factory management and labor inspectors work closely with the doctors to eliminate possible causes of illness.

The larger factories have special departments completely staffed by nursing mothers. The best part of the factory premises is reserved for them. The women employed in these departments enjoy a number of privileges. The length of the working day is greatly reduced: they work only a morning shift, and get additional time off to feed their babies. A special room is provided at the factory for this purpose. In this room doctors are on duty during the entire working day. It is comfortably furnished both for mother and child.

"Mothercraft schools" are also held. The child welfare doctor teaches his audience how to feed and care for the babies. Other subjects—care of the eyes, ears, feet, posture, and so on—are dealt with by specialists.

In most factories there are "hygiene rooms," always the pleasantest rooms in the factory, airy, sunlit,

painted in cheerful colors. The nurse on duty takes every opportunity to advise the women on how to care for their health, and distributes leaflets on various aspects of hygiene. Similar rooms are provided for students from the trade schools. The medical staff is responsible for giving these young people instruction in individual and sex hygiene.



Battlefield into playground—A Soviet child climbs upon one of the deadly six-barreled mortars left behind by the routed Germans

Radiophoto

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WITHOUT A CONSCIENCE

By Alexei Tolstoy

Alexei Tolstoy is a noted Soviet author and member of the Extraordinary State Committee for the investigation of crimes of the German fascists.

One would think there could be no nation that had not tried during its existence to establish its national

pride. It is not man's nature to live without pride. We have organized our society so that man can live freely and proudly and fill his life's span with a happiness as profound and proud as eternity itself. With heavy toil and the blood of its army, our people through the centuries have raised a magnificent monument to its national pride.



TRAINING RED ARMY RECRUITS—Soldiers learn to dig in

But Germany is of a different opinion in this matter. We will never believe that she was deceived and betrayed by the Nazi gang; that she did not want this predatory war, but was dragged into it. The Nazis did not deceive Germany. They said quite openly: "Train your sons until they are as ruthless as murderers and thieves, and your daughters to become merciless overseers to sit above your future slaves. Prepare for world conquest."

With her conscience Germany agreed to this bargain—for the sake of the gigantic sausage that loomed temptingly before her. Avarice overshadowed everything—pride, shame, humanity. The conscienceless German armies invaded our land like monsters from another planet.

We are compelled to speak of these German people as monsters, even if we cite only the facts that have been investigated by the Extraordinary State Committee. In the present case, the facts concern the city of Kharkov.

City Reduced to Subhuman Level

Forty of the largest factories in Kharkov and its environs were looted, burned and destroyed between February and August of 1943. During the two years of the German occupation, the water mains, sewerage system, electric lights, gas and streetcar lines were destroyed. All electric wiring was stripped and taken to Germany. Baths and laundries were unable to function. The million people inhabiting the city were forced to live like primitive man, in caves and unheated houses, carrying water in buckets. The well-fed German soldiers were not ashamed to snatch buckets of water from the people who needed it. For two years the city had no soap; no linen could be washed; the people could not even wash themselves.

For two years the people of Kharkov received no bread, meat, salt, fats or sugar. During this time German soldiers, in their barracks and the yards of houses where they were quartered, freely fed bread to the pigs and grain to the chickens. During the winter of 1941-42, 100,000 persons, mostly intellectuals, died under this regime.

Here is an extract from the diary of Professor Nikolayev: "Near the Blagoveschensky market, on the embankment, there is a small slaughter-house. A crowd of starving people always surrounds it. Every half-hour the door opens and a German emerges, covered with blood and carrying a bowl of offal from the slaughtered animals. He pushes the starving women and children roughly aside and empties the bowl on the ground. A desperate scramble follows. My attention is drawn to a man in shell-rimmed glasses, apparently an intellectual. He has seized a lump of offal and presses it close to his body. The Germans gaze at this wild scene and laugh!"

Thirty-four higher educational institutes in Kharkov, including the University, were closed. Laboratory equipment was taken to Germany, or looted in an organized manner. The Germans burned down nearly all the schools, hotels, department stores and public buildings, including the magnificent and majestic block of offices of the State Planning Commission. The entire center of the city is a mass of burned and empty skeletons of houses, with the sky visible through gaping window-frames. It is only at some distance from the central part of the city that some blocks escaped destruction.

The German high command took at least 100,000 people fit for physical work to Germany; in addition, according to data from the commandant's office, they took 33,700 professionals. The remaining inhabitants were merely an encumbrance to the colonization plans of the Germans. They massacred this surplus population of Kharkov by various means: burning them alive, crucifying them, flaying them alive, shooting them en masse and starving them to death.

There is no doubt that people tormented by hunger, cold and other privations applied to the German labor recruiting offices, but they were few in number. Most of the people were forcibly driven to slavery by the Germans. Motor trucks drove through the streets and market squares; German soldiers jumped out, sprang upon the people, hurled them into the trucks and took them to the railway station, screaming and wailing. The prettiest girls were distributed to the brothels.

Here is one of the soldiers' brothel tickets. The left half of it is to be handed to the office as a 25 ruble payment, and the right half to be left with the woman, so that she can prove she has "fulfilled her quota."

Camps of Death

Here is evidence given by D. E. Mineyev, concerning a German labor camp near Berlin: *The imprisoned workers live behind barbed wire in barracks, lying on straw, without sheets or pillows. They are fed once a day on boiled grass or soup made from roots. The people are bloated with hunger and many die. On the first day of Easter, three Ukrainians took some grass from a pile without permission and were seen by the German cook. The whole camp was turned out of the cardboard houses, lined up and told that if those guilty of the theft did not confess immediately, 60 people would be shot. Those who took the grass stepped out of the ranks and were shot on the spot. The slightest offenses are punished by flogging, or a man is made to crawl on all fours, carrying a heavy load of timber on his back until he loses consciousness.*

Such is German slavery for all the Russians, Ukrainians, Byelorussians and other Slavs sent to slavery—the Germans are settling old accounts with

the Slavs who stand in the way of their penetration to the East. The Germans mock our sons and daughters to their heart's content; they make fun of our people. "Ostland" is what they wish to rechristen the Ukraine.

The Red Army has forced them to pay dearly for their pleasure; according to available data, they have paid with the lives of 10 million soldiers, and they are facing an inevitable catastrophe of such magnitude that the fires of haughty German hatred will be forever stamped out by the Slav boot.

German hatred of Kharkov is concretely expressed in the following figures: in two pits in the Drobitsky yard, behind the tractor works, the bodies of between 16,000 and 17,000 Jews were exhumed—most of them women and children; in Sokolniki and Pomerky the bodies of 4,000 to 5,000 Ukrainians and Russians were exhumed; in Kuryashy 2,000 bodies were found; in the yard of the Red Army hospital, between 400 and 500; and near the Mental Hospital and the Psycho-Neurological Institute, about 1,500.

In Kharkov we found in mass graves between 24,000 and 26,000 bodies of citizens killed by the Germans. To these must be added the considerable number of individuals who were murdered in the squares, parks, houses, and other places. It was impossible to obtain accurate figures on how many bodies had decomposed in the pits.

Here are some details of these murders: After a fire at the Zhuravyov market, the Germans seized the first 15 men who fell into their hands near the scene of the fire and shot them on the spot. After explosions at German headquarters on Dzerzhinsky Street and in the barracks on Feuerbach Square, the Germans seized 1,250 people as hostages, arresting whole families in the streets—old people and even newly-born babies. Two hundred and fifty of those arrested were hanged from trees and from the balconies of houses.

Extermination of Jewish Citizens

On December 14, 1941 the German commandant of Kharkov issued an order to the effect that "the whole Jewish population of the town leave for the outskirts and take up their abode in some old barracks which remained from the time the tank works were built. Removals to be completed within two days under penalty of shooting."

Thousands of people carrying bundles and children moved along the streets. Traffic was permitted in the city streets only up to four o'clock; therefore, with the approach of darkness the "exodus" was halted and the people had to sleep out in the open in the bitter cold. When the Jews moved on next morning, they left behind the bodies of those who had frozen to death.

Arriving at the barracks, they found that the win-

dows had no glass, that the water pipes and stoves had been destroyed. The barracks had been built for about 50 to 70 people each, but the Germans crowded from 700 to 800 in them. It was forbidden to leave the barracks for water, food or other purposes; those who went out were shot.

Thus the people passed two weeks, standing, or at best sitting, in these horrible icy houses in this ghetto. They were forbidden to remove their dead. Each day German soldiers went through the barracks, demanding any warm clothing or valuables the people had. Those who resisted were dragged into the yard and shot, and cast into a pit from which the groans of wounded came for a long time after the shootings ended and earth had been thrown over the bodies.

On December 26 the Germans announced registration of those who wished to go to the western Ukraine. On the following day covered motor trucks came up to the barracks and the Germans crowded the people



Sergeant Pirogov, one of Leningrad's defenders, has killed 230 Germans

into them. They realized they were being taken away for execution. As there were not enough trucks, the next day German officers came and drove away large groups on foot.

The truck-loads of victims and these huge crowds of people, half-dead from cold and hunger—including women, children and the aged—were first sent for a distance of five kilometers along the highway, then across the fields to the Dobritsky yards and into a narrow, winding gully at the end of which huge pits had been dug.

Anastasia Zacharovna Osmachko stated: "Hearing the shootings at the Drobitsky yards, I went with my 12-year-old son Vladimir and 11 other villagers from Rogan, to see what was happening. At the gully we saw a huge pit, several dozen meters long, with many dead bodies thrown into it. Before we could get away a motor truck drove up and German soldiers stopped us. They took us to the pit and one of them began to fire at us with a sub-machine gun. When my son fell, I fainted and dropped into the pit.

"When I returned to consciousness, I saw that I was lying on the dead bodies. Then I heard the cries of women and children whom the Germans had brought to the pit and were shooting. Their bodies fell into the pit. I pretended to be dead, and lay there from morning until about five o'clock in the evening. Throughout the day the Germans kept bringing more

and more people to the pits. Hundreds were shot before my eyes, and cries and groans came from the heap of bodies.

"At daylight, when the Germans went away, I crawled out of the pit and ran home. My son and all the other people from the village who had gone there with me were killed."

The Jews who remained in Kharkov—the aged, the infirm and the children who had been unable to go as far as the ghetto—were herded into a synagogue by the Germans, who then nailed up the doors. About 400 people died there of hunger and cold.

The Extraordinary Committee investigated the two pits at the Drobitsky yards and discovered 16,000 to 17,000 bodies in them. It is impossible to give a more accurate figure. Five hundred of the bodies were examined; almost all had ~~gun-shot wounds in the head~~. Among the dead bodies we found children's toys, balls and dolls.

Such was the German rule in Kharkov in their two years of occupation. The local people were considered undesirables and were doomed to extinction, with the exception of those who could be temporarily used by the Germans, who were condemned to slavery.

Those guilty of the crimes committed in Kharkov are known, and their names will be published in the findings of the Extraordinary State Committee.

Guerrilla Pilots

By A. Kukarkin

Soviet guerrillas operating in the deep rear against the German-fascist invaders receive immeasurable assistance from pilots who bring them arms, ammunition, medical supplies and food, and evacuate the wounded. Some Soviet aces are devoting themselves wholly to this dangerous work. They make dozens of flights behind the enemy lines, orienting themselves only by guerrilla landing torches.

One of the most famous guerrilla fliers is Nikolai Zhukov, who was the first to fly to the guerrillas in the Smolensk Region. He is now quite at home in his unusual air route, and quickly finds the guerrilla bases by the dark patches in the woods or the reflection from a lake or swamp.

On one occasion he was summoned to fly the wounded commander of a guerrilla detachment to a Soviet hospital. By this time, however, the Germans had learned his route. They organized a large punitive expedition, forcing the guerrillas to retreat farther into the woods, and then laid a trap of landing lights for Zhukov.

Familiar with Nazi tactics, Zhukov circled the landing field, scanning it closely for the guerrillas.

Instead he saw some Germans standing near the lights. He dropped a rocket, signaling "Friend landing," which put the Germans off guard, and meanwhile stepped on the gas and disappeared. He then made five successive trips in search of the guerrillas, until he finally located their new camps.

For his persistence, skill and valor, Zhukov has been awarded the Order of Lenin by the Command of the Western Front.

Flight Commander Senior Lieutenant Nikolai Vrontsov and Navigator Victor Skorikov, who have made over 70 flights far behind the enemy lines, are very popular with the guerrillas of the Smolensk and Leningrad Regions. Vasili Polzunov, a young ace, has made 50 night flights to the guerrillas, delivering over 7,000 kilograms of freight and removing 146 wounded.

Pilot Zachary Nokhov, a Bashkir, has delivered over 4,000 kilograms of freight to guerrillas and removed 36 wounded, within a short period of time.

Each of these guerrilla pilots has destroyed several enemy planes.



ON THE KARELIAN FRONT—Red Army men of the Saami nationality reading a copy of Pravda

Forever on the Rolls of His Regiment

By Major V. Kolybelnikov

On a sector of the Karelian Front, one dark autumn night, rockets soared periodically over the enemy's positions. As the night wore on, there were fewer and fewer rockets and finally all was quiet—a lull which Soviet reconnaissance scouts have learned to use to the fullest advantage.

Lieutenant Bayev's sub-unit was assigned to force a swamp, emerge in the rear of the enemy and wipe out one of his garrisons defending an important height. The Red Army men successfully carried out their flanking maneuver, crossed the swamp and turned up where no enemy troops dreamed of finding them. Sappers silently cut their way through the entanglements, soon clearing a convenient passage for the remainder of the men.

At that moment one of the group stumbled against

a signal rocket charged and suspended on a wire. Night turned to day as the ball of flame shot into the blackness. The Germans at once discovered the Soviet group and opened machine-gun fire. The Red Army men dashed forward, firing from their tommy guns. Lieutenant Bayev led the way, and Sergeant Nikolai Varlamov followed with his men.

Taking advantage of brief lulls in the enemy fire Varlamov's men pushed rapidly ahead, silencing one of the enemy machine-gun nests. Availing themselves of this advantage, the others also pushed ahead and took up a sheltered position.

Then, on the right, a well-camouflaged machine gun spoke up, forcing Varlamov's men to hug the ground. The fate of the entire group was now in the balance.

(Continued on page six)

The Brazenness of the Finnish Hitlerites

The following article appeared in Number 11 of the Soviet publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The Finnish rulers have long since beaten all records for hypocrisy. Before the war, when it was pointed out that the frontier districts of Finland had been converted into a springboard for an attack on Leningrad, they assumed a pose of offended innocence. While erecting a powerful line of fortifications on the Isthmus of Karelia, installing long-range artillery for shelling Kronstadt and Leningrad, and building numerous airdromes for heavy bombers, the Finnish adventurers piously rolled their eyes upward and protested, "How could little Finland menace the huge Soviet Union?"

When the Soviet Union took measures to secure the safety of Leningrad, the Finnish rulers copiously shed sham tears over the "injustice" allegedly done to "peaceable" Finland. And it must be admitted that in some democratic countries they found soft-hearted but apparently little-informed people, who willingly lent their bosoms to the weeping Finnish robbers.

Finland's part in Hitler's robber war against the Soviet Union demonstrated to the whole world how well-founded were the demands of the USSR, aimed at securing the safety of Leningrad. The small Finnish marauder, inordinately malicious and therefore particularly dangerous, rendered the German

robbers invaluable service in their dastardly action against heroic Leningrad. Would it have been possible for the Hitlerites to maintain their hunger blockade of Leningrad for many months and to inflict such untold privations on the civilian population of the great city if it had not been for the Finnish robbers, who invested the city in a semi-circle from the north?

Today even the most arrant knaves of the Mannerheim, Ryti and Tanner gang can no longer pose as simpletons who cannot understand what is meant by conditions for the security of Leningrad. And we are witnessing how the adventurers who beat all records for hypocrisy are now beating all records for brazenness. Lately the Finnish press and radio have put forward another so-called "argument" in favor of letting the Finnish bandits retain the pistol pointed at the heart of Leningrad. The "argument" is: Are Finns to blame if Peter the Great founded Petrograd on the banks of the Neva?

The authors of this "argument," however, apparently failed to realize that it overshoots the mark. For if we were to accept their logic, any aggressor who would like to keep, for instance, New York or Chicago under fire could argue: "Am I to blame if the settlers from Europe founded these cities at the particular spots where they happen to be standing?"

Brazenness will avail the Finnish marauders as little as hypocrisy.

FOREVER ON REGIMENT ROLLS

(Continued from page five)

Seeing that his men were nearest the enemy, Varlamov determined to block the machine gun.

"Forward!" he yelled, and leaped into the darkness, his men after him. Three of them fell, but the rest kept on going. When they were only 15 yards from the enemy, Varlamov hurled two grenades at the machine gun, but the fire continued. Then another enemy fire nest on the left blazed into action. Once more the men were forced to fall flat. Suddenly Varlamov leaped to his feet, flung himself forward and hurled his body against the machine-gun embrasure. The gun felt silent.

Infuriated by the death of their sergeant, his men broke through to the enemy trenches and communi-

cation passages, smashed all barriers and reached the interior of the stronghold. After 30 minutes of fierce hand-to-hand fighting the Soviet forces gained the upper hand. They killed over 100 enemy soldiers, seized all documents and various trophies, and withdrew. Reverently they carried away with them the body of Sergeant Varlamov.

For his heroic deed, Varlamov was posthumously named Hero of the Soviet Union. This man of supreme and selfless courage was born in Petrograd in 1905, and before the war was a plumber. He joined the Red Army in the first days after the German invasion.

His name will remain on the rolls of his regiment as long as it exists, and when the name of Varlamov is called the man at the right of his former place will answer: "Died a hero in the battle for his Soviet motherland."

HIGHER SCHOOLS IN THE USSR

By Professor Eugene Medynsky

Since the beginning of the Soviet State the number of higher schools in the country has increased to an enormous extent. Before the Revolution there were about 100 universities in all Russia, as against more than 600 today. Before the German invasion war the number of undergraduates in the USSR was 600,000. Women, who before the Revolution could receive a higher education only in a few women's institutes, are eligible to all Soviet universities and higher schools. Before the war they made up about half the total number of students in the country.

In Tsarist days the higher schools were concentrated in a few cities in European Russia—Petrograd, Moscow, Kharkov, Kazan, Saratov, Riga and Derpt. About 40 per cent of all higher schools were concentrated in Petrograd and Moscow. There was not a single institute in all Central Asia. In the enormous expanses of Siberia and the Far East there were only two cities with higher schools—Tomsk, which had three universities, and Vladivostok, where there was an Institute for Eastern Languages.

Today there is a dense network of all kinds of universities and higher schools covering the entire country. The capitals and large cities of every Central Asian and Caucasian Soviet Republic—Tashkent, Samarkand, Ashkhabad, Tbilisi, Erivan, Batum and Baku—dozens of cities in Siberia and even the comparatively smaller capitals of the Autonomous Republics along the Volga (the Mari, Komi, Chuvash and others) have higher schools. The peoples in the East and North of the USSR who were formerly completely deprived of a higher education now have their own universities.

There are also many pedagogical institutes, which were formerly almost unknown in the country, and special institutes which train staffs for libraries, for the cinema industry, etc. Post-graduate courses supply the country with large numbers of workers.

Even during the country's most difficult years, Soviet higher schools did not curtail their activities. In the winter of 1941-42, when the enemy was at the very gates of Moscow, several higher schools in the city carried on with their work. Moscow University continued its courses, although a section of its premises had been destroyed by a bomb. Part of the University was evacuated, but it did not cease work. Studies went on as usual in the Lenin State Pedagogical Institute in Moscow, the Moscow City Pedagogical Institute, the Library Institute and the Moscow higher technical schools.

In December, 1941 and January, 1942 the author of this article was often interrupted in his lectures in

history and pedagogy in the Lenin Pedagogical Institute by air raids. The lectures continued in the bomb shelter to which the students repaired in an organized fashion. Many theses for the degree of Master and Doctor of Sciences in different subjects were presented despite wartime conditions.

The German-fascist barbarians have demolished the premises of the higher schools, libraries and laboratories in the occupied areas. Many of the higher schools were evacuated from these regions, but only part of the equipment could be removed. Today, when the Red Army has freed many regions formerly occupied by the Germans and is driving the Nazi gangsters farther and farther westward, the higher schools of these regions are being rapidly restored.

In Stalingrad, Rostov, Kharkov, Kursk and Orel, most of the higher schools have already resumed work, though it is true that many had to start in temporary premises little suited for their purposes. The entire country is helping in the restoration of such higher schools. Carloads of building materials are being sent from every part of the Soviet Union, and many higher schools are sending books for libraries and equipment for laboratories.

After the victory over Hitlerism, which is coming much nearer, there will be a tremendous expansion of cultural activities and energetic work in every field of State and public life, for the Soviet country will need trained specialists of the highest qualifications.

Exhibit Honors Marlowe Anniversary

Soviet lovers of English literature have been visiting an exhibit arranged by the State Theater Library in Moscow to mark the 350th anniversary of the death of Christopher Marlowe, precursor of Shakespeare.

Marlowe's works, in the original and in translation, as well as critical surveys of his literary merits were on view. Among the critical works displayed were Professor Nikolai Storozhenko's *Forerunners of William Shakespeare* (published in Petrograd in 1872), of which half is devoted to Marlowe's life and works, and *Christopher Marlowe*, by the well-known Soviet Shakespearean scholar, Mikhail Morozov (Moscow, 1935).

The exhibit attracted crowds of Moscow writers, critics and reviewers, as well as many students of literature and the drama.

Notes from Front and Rear

For valor and courage in action, the famous sportsmen-guerrillas Sergei Shcherbakov, boxing champion of Moscow, and Eugene Ivanov, Master of Alpine Sports, have been decorated by the Soviet Government. Shcherbakov won distinction in the battle for Moscow, at the approaches to the Caucasus and behind the enemy lines. Ivanov, formerly a turner in the Stalin automobile works in Moscow, who has made 29 ascents of the highest peaks of the Caucasus and the Pamirs, joined a guerrilla detachment after the battle for Moscow. He blew up seven enemy trains and four bridges. In one engagement he was wounded in the head, blinded and his left hand torn off. Later he recovered his sight and undertook to deliver an important dispatch across the front lines and to lead a group of guerrillas from the German rear. He traveled over 300 kilometers on foot, his wounds still open, swimming deep rivers in spite of his maimed arm, and safely crossed the front with his comrades.



After an interruption of two years, caused by the German occupation, studies have been resumed in a number of elementary and secondary schools in liberated Smolensk.



Since the war, thousands of women have replaced men in the mines of the USSR. Mukanova, wife of a Red Army officer, sent a letter to all the women of the Karaganda coal basin urging them to come into the mines to take the places of their men at the front. As a result, 10,000 women are now working in the Karaganda coal mines, and Mukanova has been awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor. In the Urals mines, many brigades are composed entirely of girls, who have become skilled workers, constantly exceeding the normal quota of output.



Three hundred drawings, the work of the best draftsmen of Leningrad—Pavlov, Troshkin, Mochalov, Pakhomov, Malagov and Petrova—are now on exhibit in Moscow. The central theme of the exhibit is the aid rendered by the people of Leningrad to their native city. The drawings show them at work in munition plants and lumber camps, on collective farms, in transportation and at the front. There are also projects for the restoration of buildings destroyed by enemy shelling.

Recently a letter in verse, entitled A FAIR REQUEST, was printed in the Leningrad PRAVDA. The letter requested all women and girls of Leningrad to write to the author, Sergeant Alexander Chistov, commander of an anti-aircraft battery defending the city. The following night the army postman brought to Chistov's dugout a bagful of mail, and within four days he received over 2,000 letters from girls in Leningrad factories, women engineers, technicians, radio operators, collective farmers of the suburban districts, girls in the anti-aircraft defense, young schoolgirls and gray-haired mothers. Chistov wrote many answers in verse, and his comrades have undertaken to help him reply to the flood of mail which is still coming.



Twenty-four-year-old Senior Lieutenant Bunimovich, leader of the Baltic naval bomber pilots, has raised his individual score to eight enemy ships sunk, including five transports, one gunboat, one patrol ship and a large oil tanker. Bunimovich was formerly a speed bomber pilot—bombing German trains, tank columns and troop concentrations. He was especially happy to receive assignments to hunt enemy ships in the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic Sea. The young pilot was recently awarded his third Order of the Red Banner.



A new documentary film of the struggle of Soviet guerrillas, entitled "The People's Avengers" has had its preview in Moscow. The film, which has taken three months to produce, is based on the work of seventeen Soviet cameramen who lived in enemy-occupied territory—in Karelia, Byelorussia, the Ukraine and in occupied Leningrad regions.



A 30-kilometer marathon race recently took place near Rostov-on-Don, along the route of the heroic advance of the Red Army in 1943. The terrain still bore traces of the terrific and bloody battles. . . . In the heart of Siberia, in Irkutsk, deep snow fell and over a thousand skiers resumed their favorite sport . . . while in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, under the scorching sun of Central Asia, a swimming meet was held, with the best swimmers of the Soviet Union competing.

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Washington, D. C., November 30, 1943

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STALIN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

ON THE LIBERATION OF GOMEL

Order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to Army General Rokossovsky:

Today, November 26, the troops of the Byelorussian Front, continuing to develop the successful offensive, as a result of a daring outflanking maneuver captured the regional center and large industrial center of Byelorussia—the town of Gomel—an important railway junction and a powerful strongpoint of the German defense in the direction of Polessye.

In the fighting for the capture of the town of Gomel, the following troops distinguished themselves: troops under Lieutenant General Gorbatov, Lieutenant General Romanenko and Lieutenant General Feduninsky, and the fliers under Lieutenant General of Aviation Rudenko.

Special distinction was won by the 121st Infantry Division of Guards under Major General Chervoni, the 83rd Infantry Division decorated with the Order of Red Banner, under Colonel Konovalov; the 96th Infantry Division under Colonel Bulatov, the 217th Unecha Infantry Division under Colonel Massonov, the 102nd Far Eastern Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division under Major General Senchilo, the 22nd Artillery Division



Troops of a Red Army Guards unit going into an attack

under Colonel Korolev, the 584th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Ushakov, the 295th Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Podolsky, the 1,179th Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment under Colonel Yussupov, the 481st Trench Mortar Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Derbenev, the 37th Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards under Lieutenant Colonel Ostreiko, the 92nd Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards decorated with the Order of Red Banner, under Lieutenant Colonel Tsarev; the 741st Motorized Engineers Battalion under Major Fedorchuk, the 85th Pontoon Bridge Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel Massik, the 57th Engineers-Sapper Brigade under Colonel Loginov, the 253rd Tank Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Andreyev, the 231st Tank Regiment under Major Poleshchuk, the 1,444th Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Myachev, the 301st Bomber Air Division under Colonel Fedorenko, the 282nd Fighter Air Division under Lieutenant Colonel Berkal, the 273rd Fighter Air Division under Colonel Fedorov, the 299th Nezhin Attack Air Division under Colonel Krupsky, the 286th Nezhin Fighter Air Division under Colonel Ivanov, the 506th Independent Machine Gun-Artillery Battalion under Major Fedorov.

To mark the victory achieved the name of Gomel shall be conferred on the formations and units which distinguished themselves in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Gomel. Henceforth these formations and units shall be named:

The 121st Gomel Infantry Division of Guards, the 283rd Red Banner Gomel Infantry Division, the 96th Gomel Infantry Division, the 22nd Gomel Artillery Division, the 584th Gomel Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 295th Gomel Gun Artillery Regiment of Guards, the 1,179th Gomel Anti-Tank Artillery Regiment, the 481st Gomel Trench Mortar Regiment, the 37th Gomel Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 92nd Red Banner Gomel Trench Mortar Regiment of Guards, the 741st Gomel Motorized Engineers Battalion, the 85th Gomel Pontoon Bridge Battalion, the 57th Gomel Engineers-Sapper Brigade, the 253rd Gomel Tank Regiment, the 231st Gomel Tank Regiment, the 1,444th Gomel Self-Propelling Artillery Regiment, the 301st Gomel Bomber Air Division, the 282nd Gomel Fighter Air Division, the 273rd Gomel Fighter Air Division, the 506th Gomel Independent Machine Gun-Artillery Battalion.

The 217th Unecha Infantry Division, the 102nd Far Eastern Novgorod-Seversky Infantry Division, the 299th Nezhin Attack Air Division and the 286th Nezhin Fighter Air Division, which distinguished themselves for the second time in fighting the German invaders, shall be recommended for decoration with the Order of the Red Banner.

Today, November 26, at 9:00 P. M., the Capital of our motherland, Moscow, on behalf of the motherland will salute our gallant troops which liberated the town of Gomel—with 20 artillery salvos from 224 guns.

For excellent combat actions I thank all the troops under your command which participated in the fighting for the liberation of the town of Gomel.

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the freedom and independence of our motherland!

Death to the German invaders!

Moscow, November 26, 1943

(Signed) SUPREME COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION STALIN

GUERRILLA TACTICS

A guerrilla detachment operating in the Leningrad Region managed recently to set two German detachments at each other's throats during an all-night battle. The guerrillas made contact with the enemy near a populated place, and there was a brisk exchange of fire. The Germans apparently decided to ask for reinforcements, and sent up a rocket. Seeing this, one of the guerrillas who happened to have some captured rockets sent up some white and green flares. This muddled the Germans, who withdrew their reserve detachment to the rear.

The fighting raged in the darkness. The guerrillas

moved off to one side and changed their direction. Moving forward, the enemy detachment that had been engaging the guerrillas mistook some Germans entrenched in a village for guerrillas and opened fire.

A German plane appeared above the scene of battle. The German garrison, sure that it was fighting the guerrillas, sent up a red rocket showing the flier where to drop his bombs. Another detachment of Germans also saw the plane and sent up a red rocket, but in a different direction. The German flier gave impartial attention to both signals, and bombed both points. Not until morning did they manage to straighten things out.

PAYMENT OF REPARATIONS BY HITLER GERMANY AND HER ACCOMPLICES

By Academician Eugene Varga

From an article appearing in Number 10 of the Soviet publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The just war of liberation waged by the peoples of the democratic countries against Hitler Germany and her vassals has entered its decisive phase. Stern battles are still to come, but confidence in the victory of the anti-Hitler coalition is so firm that the problem of postwar world construction is arousing ever wider interest, especially in the United States and Great Britain. More, one even gets the impression that certain circles in these countries are more interested in postwar problems than in the problem of how to win the war as speedily as possible.

One of the knottiest of postwar problems relates to the compensation due from aggressor countries for the enormous damage they have done.

That it is incumbent upon the aggressor countries to compensate for all the damage they have done during the war is beyond question. In settling this problem it is essential to draw upon the experience of the First World War. Yet the situation today differs in many respects from what it was at that time.

The material damage already caused by Germany and her vassals in this war, which is not yet over by far, exceeds many times the losses suffered by the Allied countries in the First World War.

Vast Areas Devastated

First, the area of devastation is much greater in this war than in the last. Second, whereas in the last war the devastation was largely due to military operations themselves, in this war the Hitlerites—in the Soviet Union, for example—whenever they retreat destroy everything valuable with typical German thoroughness. In extensive areas of the Soviet Union the devastation far exceeds anything known in France in the First World War.

To this must be added the damage done by the Germans in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece, Belgium and other countries.

In the First World War the material damage suffered by France and Belgium was estimated at 14 billion gold rubles. Some economists—Keynes, for example—held that this figure was greatly exaggerated. But even if we reduce it by half, and if we further consider that part of the territories devastated in this war were less wealthy than the French regions which suffered in the last war, even so, bearing in mind the far larger extent of territory already devastated in the European Continent (30 to 40 times

more), the material damages may be assessed at no less than 200 billion gold rubles.

To this must be added the not inconsiderable damage done by aerial bombings in Britain and the heavy losses in Allied tonnage.

Losses of German-Occupied Countries

Besides compensation for ravages caused by destruction and bombing, the German-occupied countries undoubtedly have the right to demand compensation for diverse other forms of damage incurred under the aggressors' sway. These include occupation expenses, the requisition of war materials and other material values, et cetera. The Germans themselves admit that the conquered countries pay them 16 billion marks per annum to cover the expenses of occupation.

The actual losses of these countries—bearing in mind private pillage, widely practiced by German officers and soldiers—undoubtedly total twice this sum. For the period of the war, therefore, they already amount to about 50 billion gold rubles.

Together with the losses in shipping and the damage caused by air raids, the material damage alone attains a general total of 300 to 400 billion gold rubles.

After the First World War, Germany's reparations debt was fixed by the London ultimatum, as we know, at 132 billion gold marks, or 65 billion gold rubles. Two-fifths of this sum represented material losses and three-fifths personal damage; that is, chiefly pensions for ex-combatants. In the present war, to these forms of damage must be added the enormous damage to civilians in the occupied countries caused by their being forcibly sent to work in Germany or being mobilized by the occupation authorities for compulsory labor in their own countries.

If the same ratio between material and personal damage be taken in the present war as in the last war, the Allies' reparations claims on Germany should roughly amount to between 800 and 1,000 billion gold rubles. The bulk of this sum falls to the Soviet Union, where whole regions have been devastated, thousands of villages and hundreds of cities razed to the ground, and millions of civilians deported for forced labor in Germany, while a considerable proportion of the civilian population in the occupied regions have been physically exterminated or crippled and subjected to maltreatment and outrage.

This immense difference, compared with the last war, will demand a new approach to the problem of reparations when the war is over. Particularly it

will be necessary to avoid the mistakes committed after the war of 1914-18, the consequence of which was that Germany was virtually able to evade her reparations obligations.

Reparations may be met from three sources:

1. From properties held abroad by the reparations-paying countries at the end of the war;
2. From the national wealth of these countries;
3. From their postwar national income.

Germany's foreign investments when she started this war were not inconsiderable. They were either short-term investments in the form of bank credits, or long-term investments in the shape of plants or shares in plants. The total value of these investments may be set at five billion marks. Of Germany's "allies" only Italy has any foreign investments, and those are not very large.

Germany's National Wealth

Further, only a very small proportion of the claims for compensation for war damage can be satisfied from Germany's national wealth. Prior to the First World War, Germany's national wealth was estimated at about 150 billion gold rubles. No similar estimates are available for the period immediately preceding the present war. If we set the national wealth of prewar Germany with her enlarged frontiers at between 200 and 225 billion gold rubles, this figure would be exaggerated rather than otherwise.

The national wealth of all Hitler's satellites—Italy, Finland, Hungary and Rumania taken together—scarcely exceeded 120 billion gold rubles at the outbreak of the war.

The overwhelming bulk of national income consists in immovable property in the shape of land, buildings, railroads, highways, port equipment and the like. That part of the national wealth which is most suitable for the payment of reparations, such as shipping, rolling stock, industrial plants, goods, and livestock will have declined both in quantity and quality as a result of the war. We may set this part of the national wealth of the Axis countries before the war at roughly 120 billion gold rubles. By the end of the war its real value will undoubtedly be far less, as the goods and stocks will have been largely depleted and the machinery and equipment worn out, the livestock diminished in quantity and deteriorated in quality.

Only a small part of the claims for compensation presented to the aggressor countries at the end of the war can be met from this source. Consequently, levies on the national wealth can cover only a small part of the material damage.

This is corroborated by the experience of the First World War. Let us for the sake of simplicity assume that before the Dawes Plan came into force, all of Germany's payments (with the exception of seques-

tered German properties abroad), were made from the national wealth—actually a large part of the payments, for example, deliveries of coal and coke, came from current production—then, according to Moulton's estimates, these payments from Germany's national wealth totaled about eight billion gold rubles. But even if the greatly exaggerated German figures are taken as correct, the payments amounted to not more than 14 billion gold rubles (apart from the five billion gold rubles Germany offset as reparations payments against property confiscated from her and claims she had abroad). Actually, however, 10 per cent of the reparations claims were met from the national wealth.

Chief Source of Reparations

In the present war, in view of the gigantic dimensions of the material damage, this percentage is bound to be far less. Hence it follows that the chief source of reparations after the war can only be the current production of the countries responsible for aggression.

After the First World War, according to the Dawes and Young Plans, reparations were derived from this source, too. However, an analysis shows that although the Germans never tired of complaining about the burden of reparations, actually after 1922 Germany paid no reparations whatever. It is true that in the period of 1924-29 she formally paid in about three billion gold rubles under the Dawes and Young Plans. But in this same period Germany received far larger sums from abroad in the shape of foreign loans.

In the final instance, Germany's reparations payments proved sheer fiction. In the period of 1924-29 she paid back in the form of reparations only one-quarter of the loans she received from abroad.

The fact that Germany evaded payment of reparations in this way does not, of course, mean that her working population did not bear the burden of reparations. Within the country the funds for the payment of reparations were collected in the form of taxation.

The reason Germany paid no reparations after 1922 was not that her production was inadequate to meet the annual payment of two and one-half billion gold marks provided under the Dawes and Young Plans. The German Statistical Board officially estimated that Germany's national income from 1924-29 averaged about 60 billion marks annually. Reparations payments constituted only one and one-half to four per cent. The national income went into new capital investments and to increase Germany's war economic potential.

The reason for this failure lay in the problem of transfers. The German bourgeoisie, of course, did their utmost to sabotage the payment of reparations. The fact that in the period of 1919-22 the reparations had to be paid in foreign currency hastened the com-

plete depreciation of the mark, caused by the general disruption of the German economy. Producing no gold herself, Germany could only pay with goods, for which purpose her exports would have exceeded her imports by the value of the reparations payments. But sales opportunities in countries to receive payments—as in all capitalist countries generally—lagged far behind production capacity. The result was that German exports encountered obstacles in the shape of tariff barriers, import limitations and the like. This was a serious handicap to the payment of reparations by Germany from her current production.

Instead of real reparations payments, a fictitious form of payment was resorted to: part of the capital imported from abroad was returned under the guise of reparations. It was not Germany who paid the annual contributions laid down under the Dawes and Young Plans, but the capitalists of America, Britain and France, by granting Germany loans far exceeding the amount of reparations payments. With the economic crisis of 1929, the flow of foreign capital to Germany ceased. Short-term bank loans were foreclosed. This led to the credit and banking crisis of 1931 and the complete termination of reparations payments (the Hoover moratorium).

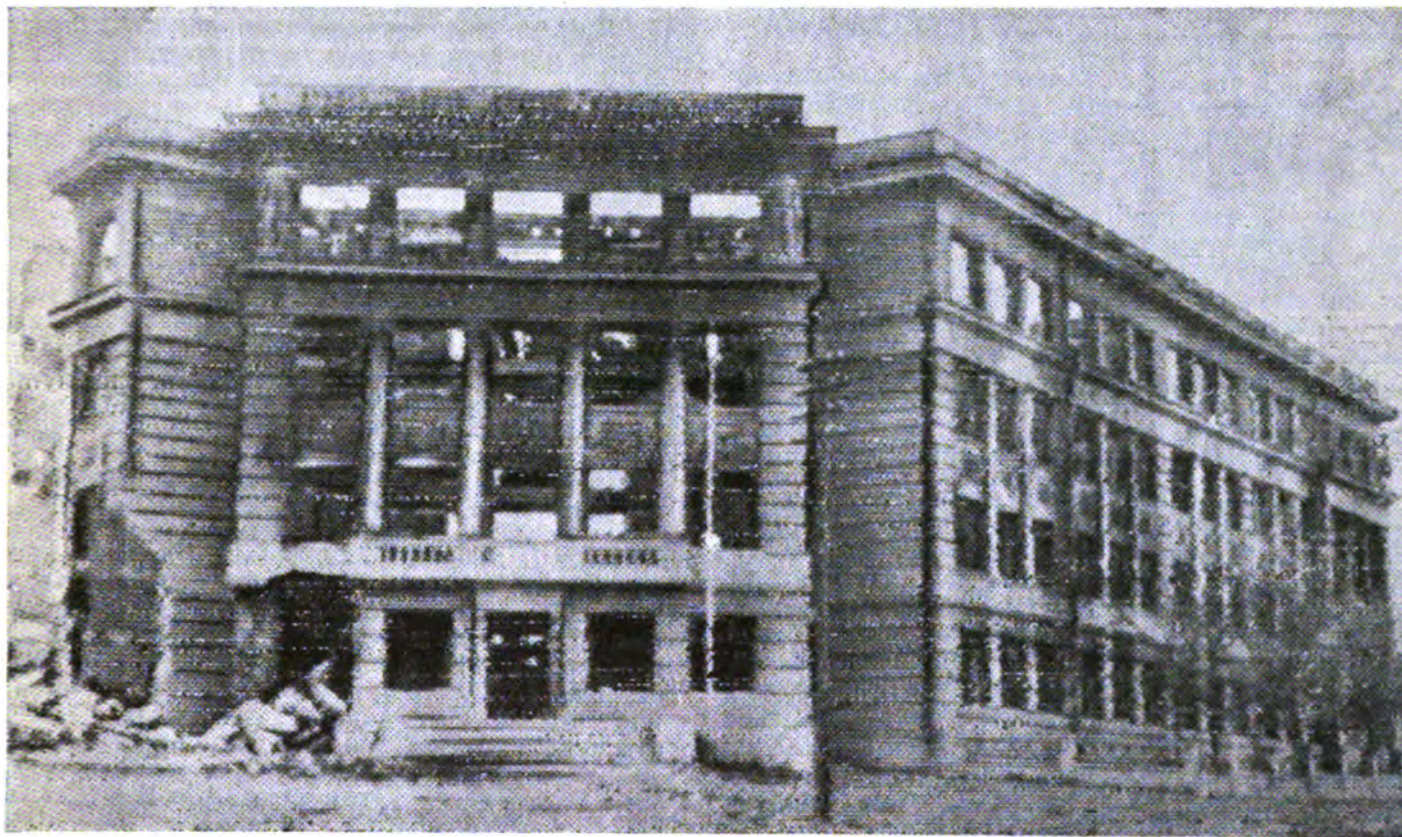
From what has been said, it will be clear how serious are the difficulties which will inevitably be

connected with the payment of compensation by the Axis powers for the damage done in this war. It can hardly be expected that full compensation can ever be made, bearing in mind the colossal extent of the damage. For that reason alone it would be wrong simply and mechanically to lump together all the various kinds of losses incurred by the Allied countries, as was done after the First World War, and then to distribute reparations in direct proportion to the losses.

Justice and practical expediency demand a different approach to the matter. First, compensation for material damage should be made before anything else. Only when this has been done should payments begin in compensation for personal damage (for compulsory labor, war pensions, et cetera). Secondly, contributions when received should not be distributed among the various countries in proportion to the absolute dimensions of the damage they have suffered; but rather, compensation should be paid in the first place to those countries whose damage is the largest compared with their total national wealth.

The justice and practical expediency of such an approach appear logically from the following considerations:

Some of the Allied countries—Poland, Greece and



A high school in Zaporozhye gutted by the German vandals

Radiophoto

Norway, for example—suffered such severe material damage that for their economic recovery after the war they will require immediate assistance. Justice and practical expediency demand that reparations be paid first to the countries which have suffered most, including the Soviet Union, which has undoubtedly suffered the greatest absolute damage, and most likely the greatest relative damage also—that is, in proportion to its national wealth.

Heavy as may be the material losses caused to the United States by the sinking of shipping and to Great Britain by aerial bombing in addition, yet in comparison with their total national wealth these losses are comparatively small. These countries will be in a position to switch their economy to a peacetime footing and to make good their war losses by their own efforts, even if they do not at once receive reparations from the aggressor countries.

On the other hand, a number of European countries, including the Soviet Union, in order to pass to a peacetime economy and to replace the vast material values destroyed in the war, will stand in urgent need of compensation from the aggressors for damage caused.

This order of allocation of reparations payments seems to me to be not only just, but also practically expedient, tending to insure the speediest possible restoration of the economy of all Allied countries.

As regards the apportionment of the obligation to pay compensation for losses, it seems to me that, in contra-distinction to the First World War, this obligation should be laid not only upon Germany but also upon Italy, Rumania, Hungary and Finland. The immense material loss incurred by countries which have suffered from occupation, and by the Soviet Union in the first place, embraces all branches of the national economy: agriculture, mining, manufacture and transport. It is therefore just, feasible and essential that all the countries which shared in Hitler's marauding campaigns should immediately after the war ends be made to take part in compensation for the damage they caused, by turning over a part of their national wealth to the victim countries.

The countries which have suffered from aggression need movable property of all kinds: industrial machinery, machine tools, tools, railways, locomotives and cars, motor vehicles, shipping, livestock, seed and other agricultural products, coal, metals, et cetera. Great Britain and the United States, who will not necessarily depend on deliveries in kind for the restoration of their economy, might have their reparations claims satisfied partly by the transfer to them of the foreign investments of the aggressor countries.

As regards the extent of compensation to be paid from the national wealth of the aggressor countries immediately upon the termination of the war, it would be a glaring injustice if they were not called upon to contribute to compensation for losses at least to an

extent which would leave them no better off economically than their victims. Justice further demands that the property of persons guilty of fomenting war and persons who enriched themselves by the spoliation of the occupied countries, be confiscated and used for compensation of damages.

The next question is the amount of compensation to be paid in subsequent years from current production. I consider the same principle applies here as in the case of contributions from the national wealth. It is not a question of punishing the peoples of the aggressor countries by making them pay reparations. The responsibility of the ring leaders of the Hitlerite gang for the aggression and barbarous spoliation and devastation of occupied countries and regions; the degree of guilt of the German soldiers who docilely obeyed orders to harry and lay waste, and who often enough looted without orders; and lastly the degree of guilt of the German people who tolerated and supported this piratical government—all these are questions beyond the scope of our theme. But it would certainly be unjust if the peoples whose armies have been guilty of unprecedented destruction were to live better after the war than the peoples who were victims.

Germany's Capacity to Pay

That Germany is in a position to pay large annual reparations is evident from the following: According to Hitler's own statement, in the period of 1933-38 Germany spent 90 billion marks for armaments, or an average of 15 billion marks per annum. Since there will of course be no such expenditure for armaments, these sums can be applied to the payment of reparations.

Regarding the method by which payments should be made, the experience of the First World War teaches us that the main stress should be laid on deliveries in kind, which in fact is the only possible method. For the Soviet Union, with its planned economy under which no discrepancy between production and consumption is possible and the supply never exceeds the demand—with the consequence that economic crises are out of the question—it would be positively desirable to receive compensation for damage done not in the form of money but of goods.

Lastly, it would be both just and practically expedient to requisition labor power from Germany and from the countries allied to Hitler for the postwar rehabilitation of devastated regions. The Hitlerite bandits trampled upon international law and forcibly deported to Germany millions of peaceful citizens from the occupied countries, particularly from the conquered regions of the Soviet Union, and compelled them to produce weapons for the struggle against their own country. Justice demands that after the war the Germans be made to take part in rebuilding the railroads, bridges, cities and factories they destroyed during the war.

THE VOICE OF A "TRUE FINN"

The following article appeared in Number 12 of the Moscow publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

After the Moscow Three-Power Conference, the Finnish Government press began to probe into the problem: Is Finland a peace-loving state or not?

This perplexing question has been raised in connection with the decision of the Moscow Conference which says that the future international organization is open to membership by all **peace-loving** states, large and small. But can Finland be regarded as a peace-loving state? That is the question.

Finnish newspapers are having a hard time answering this question, for it is not easy to prove the "peace-loving" nature of a state which in partnership with Hitlerite Germany treacherously attacked the Soviet Union, seized a number of Soviet districts in Karelia and helped the Germans to close a ring of blockade around Leningrad, and is still desperately continuing to wage its robber war, which is obviously doomed to failure.

No matter how much the Helsinki newspapermen try to gloss over these facts, they cannot represent them as actions of a "peace-loving" state.

In this, as it were, "diplomatic" discussion in the Finnish press, suddenly intruded the gruff voice of a "true Finn," writing in the Progressive (!) Party newspaper *Turun Sanomat*, published in the city of Abo. He has utterly spoiled the "peace-loving" song of the Helsinki newspapers. Referring to the history of the wanderings of ancient Finnish tribes through the milleniums, he says: "When you read the history of Finland since ancient times you find, unfortunately, that the Finns—perhaps the most warlike people of the world—at one time retreated before the Eastern peoples and gave up their claim even to the districts on the Volga. Finland had as much right as the Eastern peoples to dominate the Volga and to become a great civilized nation. But we must not lose hope. . . ."

Then the author, relegating hopes for "domination on the Volga" to the background, calls upon the Finns to fulfill their immediate "historic mission," namely: "our generation of Finns has been sent by God the historic task of liberating Olenetz and Eastern Karelia. Our independence is so fresh and young that many Finns are still unaware that Finland will expand to boundaries fixed by nature itself, and that Onega Lake will be a Finnish lake."

It goes without saying that this bellicose author and those of his way of thinking make light of all diplomatic talk about Finland's being "peace-loving." For one thing, he expresses his contempt for the group of 33 who reminded the Finnish Government that it was high time to work for Finland's withdrawal from the

war before she had been visited by utter disaster.

The author of the article in the *Turun Sanomat* flatly refuses to reckon with the actual situation on the fronts. He is prepared to "smash the Russians"—on paper. "So long as the Russians haven't been smashed," he writes, "fools like the 33 should keep their mouths shut. They can indulge in politics as much as they like after the Russians have been beaten. At present Germany is the power in whom we are placing our hopes and in whom we will place them in the future, too. We have no reason for apprehension. . . . We must wait calmly for the moment when our hopes are realized. Olonetz and Eastern Karelia belong to us and to us alone."

There is the voice of a rather stupid but very frank whiteguard Finnish robber. And in Finland such impudent persons call themselves "true Finns."

Finnish workers, however, call them by the name of a well-known Finnish breed of cattle. In the last four years it was these thoroughbred "true Finns" who actually determined the Government's political line. And if we were to believe the *Turun Sanomat*, they are still placing their hopes in Hitlerite Germany and want to "wait calmly" for their last moment. They will not have long to wait.

Famed Pulkovo Observatory Destroyed

The Pulkovo Observatory, near Leningrad, was completely destroyed by the Germans by cannon and air bombardment. The fascists deliberately set about its destruction, since it was a scientific institute, a center of human progress and culture. Recent photographs reveal only a heap of ruins where the observatory buildings stood.

But most of the valuable apparatus accumulated during the 102 years of the observatory's existence is safely stored in Leningrad. The workers of the institute were evacuated to Tashkent by plane toward the close of 1941 and continued their researches there, making good use of the Tashkent Observatory, a well-equipped institute which has existed for 70 years. The Soviet Government is planning a new observatory at Pulkovo.

Professor S. Belyavsky, director of the Pulkovo Observatory since 1937, has written more than 100 scientific papers, mainly on astro-physics. He was born in St. Petersburg in 1883 and became interested in the study of the stars while still in high school. After being graduated from St. Petersburg University he worked in France for two years in the sphere of astro-physics. In 1909 he was appointed director of the Simeiz Observatory in the Crimea, which had just been completed. He worked there for 28 years, until he came to Pulkovo.

Everyone Fights in His Own Way

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He further said that a new wave of German reprisals have begun in Poland, but that it is possible to bribe many German soldiers and even officers with American dollars.

Judging by this statement, Mr. Kwapinski's opinion is that at the present juncture it is not necessary to fight against the bloody regime of the Hitlerite invaders of Poland by means of guerrilla action, but by means of bribing German soldiers and officers with American dollars.

It is fortunate that the Polish guerrillas are continuing to wage the struggle in their own way and not by Kwapinski's methods. Otherwise the Hitlerite invaders would have no reason to worry about their heads, for in the employment of the tactics of bribes they have shown themselves no less astute than those who share Mr. Kwapinski's opinions.

SOVIET ACADEMICIAN TELLS OF TWO YEARS IN GERMAN-OCCUPIED MINSK

By Professor N. A. Prilezhayev

The author of this article is a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and a member of the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences.

I lived for over two years in occupied Minsk. I have seen things that will darken my memory until I die, and that have overshadowed all my previous conceptions of the Germans.

By June 24, 1941, the center of Minsk was a heap of ruins. The university, the Academy, the Polytechnicum and the medical institutions, and all their wealth of equipment that survived the air bombardment, fell into the hands of the Germans and were ruthlessly plundered and destroyed.

It was deliberate—there can be no doubt of that. They were acting under precise instructions. The same methods were employed on each occasion.

The first things to vanish from the laboratories were the optical instruments. Then all portable instruments and precious metals disappeared. Anything that remained after that was smashed up without rhyme or reason. The Germans only quieted down when they had reduced everything to a rubbish heap.

Rare editions, manuscripts and paintings were stolen from all the libraries and museums, and sent off to Germany, but the "culture-bearers" threw most of the books into the cellars or under the staircases.

I watched all this havoc with particular pain, since

I was head of the culture and esthetics department of the City Council. My assistants and I tried repeatedly, but without result, to save at least part of the equipment of the educational and research institutes. I did succeed in rescuing a few miserable remnants from the Lenin Library and the library of the Academy of Sciences.

While some German units specialized in this systematic plunder and destruction, others spent their time quite as systematically in killing prisoners of war and city and village folk. I have seen the streets of Minsk littered with the corpses of prisoners of war, shot on their way through the city because they were too enfeebled by starvation and disease to go any farther. I have seen the bodies of Soviet citizens hanging in groups from gallows at the crossroads. That was a favorite German method of attempting to terrorize us. Round-ups of people for forcible deportation to Germany were a common occurrence.

And all the time these two-legged beasts in their spotlessly shining jack-boots posed in their press as "the defenders of culture," fighters for the "new Europe." I think that nowhere was such a quantity of boot polish used as in Minsk.

Thanks to the assistance of some guerrillas, whose headquarters were some 50 miles from the town, I succeeded with my family in getting away from Minsk. I shall never forget the day we left. We met the guerrillas about 10 miles from a German airdrome. It was our great good fortune to spend five weeks with those courageous, friendly people before we crossed the front line to the "mainland."

A MATTER OF HONOR

By Academician Alexander Baikov

Vice President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR

Under the leadership of Marshal of the Soviet Union Stalin, the Red Army has scored splendid successes in its offensive operations against the German-fascist invaders. A territory of about one million square kilometers, possessing the greatest economic and strategic significance, has been liberated from the enemy, and millions of Soviet citizens have been freed from the fascist chain-gang.

The successes of the Red Army would have been impossible without the enthusiastic support of the Soviet people. Everywhere—in the sunny fields of Georgia, the plants and factories of the Urals, the fishing collectives of the Far East—Soviet people of all nationalities are working selflessly for the welfare of the country, for victory.

Although the invasion by the fascist hordes temporarily deprived the Soviet land of important industrial and agricultural districts of the Ukraine, Don and Kuban Regions, there has nevertheless been no serious interruption in the supply of necessities to the Red Army and the country as a whole.

Town and countryside have done all in their power to aid the front. Engineers and technicians, scientists and doctors, writers and actors, are all devoting their talents, knowledge and labor to help the Red Army.

The Academy of Sciences of the USSR and its branches, the Byelorussian, Ukrainian and Georgian Academies of Sciences, as well as the numerous research institutes connected with them, are concentrating all activities during the war to the solution of the most important problems relating to the consolidation of the country's might.

Radio and magnetics, optics and acoustics, mechanics and molecular physics, are extensively applied in military matters. Metallurgy, geology, mathematics and chemistry have rendered great service to Soviet arms. Physiologists and physicians have achieved great successes in the treatment of shock, tetanus, gangrene and blood transfusion. Scientists often carry on their work under front-line conditions, braving bombs and shells.

On the initiative and under the leadership of Vladimir Komarov, President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, important work is being done to open up the country's hitherto undeveloped resources. Considerable quantities of manganese, aluminum, nickel, glass and ceramics are now being obtained in the Urals, copper and coal in Central Asia and oil in the Volga and Kama Rivers. New

oil deposits have been discovered in the Caucasus and mercury in Kazakhstan. New sources of vitamins and nutritive substances have been found, considerably simplifying the problem of feeding the population and the Army. Soviet scientists have achieved important successes in finding substitutes for scarce materials, in simplifying technological processes and in introducing rationalization in industry. These varied activities of the scientists are combined with serious theoretical research work.

The selfless labor of scientists for the welfare of the country is highly appreciated by the Soviet Government. Academicians Nikolai Burdenko, Alexei Krylov and Evgeny Paton have been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, and Orders and medals have been conferred upon hundreds of scientists. During the war more than 200 outstanding representatives of Soviet science have received Stalin Prizes for their scientific labors, and over 300 for inventions.

The Anglo-American communique at the conference of the three ministers in Moscow states: "To hasten the end of the war is the primary aim of the United Nations." The Red Army has liberated two-thirds of Soviet territory from the enemy. But in the regions still in German hands—namely, the Ukraine east of the Dnieper and Byelorussia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Moldavia and the Karelian-Finnish Republic, as well as the captured districts in the Kalinin and Leningrad regions—the occupationists continue to torture and put to death the Soviet people and to plunder their property.

Scientists consider it a matter of honor to help the Red Army clear the Hitlerite savages completely out of the Soviet country and to make them answer in full for their atrocities.

Scientists of the world! It is in our power to help hasten the end of the war and bring nearer the day of liberation for the peoples of Europe languishing under the yoke of the fascist barbarians.

The past year has marked a turning point not only in the Patriotic War of the Soviet Union, but also in the World War as a whole. It has brought nearer the victory of the Allied countries against the common foe, and it has strengthened and consolidated the fighting collaboration of their armies. The United Nations are filled with determination to strike a concentrated blow against the enemy which will lead to ultimate victory. Let us devote all our knowledge and strength to the cause of freedom-loving nations, to the cause of progressive mankind.

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Tatyana—Subway Builder, Flier, Parachutist and Deputy to the Supreme Soviet

Twenty-seven-year-old Tatyana Fedorova, a Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, has worked for over 10 years on the construction of the Moscow subway, the third section of which was recently opened.

Tatyana was 17 years of age when, with 10,000 other young people, she responded to the call of the Moscow Soviet for volunteers to help build the Capital's subway. She worked as an ordinary laborer on the construction of the first line, meanwhile studying and preparing herself for skilled work.

"During the 10 years I've been with the subway I have acquired no less than 20 skills," Tatyana explains. "First I became an electrician, then a mason, a tunnel digger, a marble cutter, and many other things.

"In the evenings I studied at a glider school and also trained as a parachutist. I have made 35 parachute jumps. Then I entered a night school for fliers, and was able to take part in our Aviation Day celebrations. Valeri Chkalov called me 'our subway flier.'

"For a long time I couldn't make up my mind whether to be a flier or an engineer. It depended on me—since our higher educational institutes are open to all. I didn't want to give up the subway, where I had spent so many years, so I finally entered the Transportation Institute, from which I was graduated as a tunnel engineer in 1941, after the war began.

"Now I am again back at work on the Moscow subway."



A train leaving the beautiful Paveletskaya Station of the newly-opened branch of the Moscow subway, which links the center of the city with the Stalin plant in the suburbs. The new line, completed since the outbreak of war, cuts the traveling time of workers at the plant from the one-half hour required by streetcar to five minutes

Radiophoto



The Novo-Kuznetskaya Station of the new line of the Moscow subway. Each station, as in other branches of the subway, is richly decorated in an individual style

Radiophoto

"BLOOD RELATIONS"

By Anna Kalma

The blood donor movement in the Soviet Union has assumed mass proportions. Entire staffs of various institutions are enrolled in it—at the Second Moscow Medical Institute, for example, the students, faculty, porters and caretakers are all donors. Old, young and middle-aged, men and women, give their blood for the wounded Red Army men. Writers, factory workers, the great-granddaughter of the famous Russian General Kutuzov, collective farmers and office workers are found at the blood transfusion centers. The Government sees that donors receive food over and above the ordinary rations.

Recently a rally of over 3,000 blood donors was held in Moscow. Seated side by side were a blonde young woman with soft, luminous eyes, and a bronzed, broad-shouldered airman. They glanced at one another shyly. Their friends were smiling, and someone remarked that they should not be embarrassed, since they long ago became blood relations.

The young woman is Alexandra Tokaryova, a

student at the Moscow Institute of Foreign Languages. The flier is Nikolai Kazansky, whose life was saved by Alexandra's blood. Last year Kazansky bailed out of his burning plane; as he hurtled to the ground he was blazing like a torch. He was picked up and taken to a hospital, so severely burned it seemed impossible he could live. A blood transfusion was given him, and slowly, painfully, he began to recover.

Later a nurse showed Kazansky a slip of paper which had been attached to the container of blood given him. The young man read: *Dear fighter, whoever you may be—remember that I am thinking of you, and I hope my blood helps you to become well again.* Alexandra's name and address followed. Kazansky asked the nurse to write a letter to his unknown savior. A correspondence began, and when the flier was given leave he came to Moscow to personally thank the girl whose blood had restored him.

Now they sit side by side, a little solemn, still overcome by the unusual nature of their acquaintance.

NEW SOVIET BOOKS

By M. Zhivov

A recent number of the Soviet literary magazine *Znamya* contained a story by Nina Emelyanova, called *Surgeon*. This is the first attempt, I think, to present the heroism of the Soviet medical workers in the form of a novel. The story is set in a military hospital far from the battlefield. The principal character is Peter Alexandrovich, the chief surgeon, who is animated by a noble consciousness of responsibility for human life.

Another recent publication is a book of short stories by a Polish authoress. When in 1932 Elizabeta Shemplinska's first novel, *Birth of Man*, was published, the newspaper *Wiadomosci Literackie*, the leading Polish literary organ, described it as a most unusual creation. The following year, when she submitted her first book of poems, the same newspaper wrote of her "limitless possibilities."

But the road to Parnassus was closed to her in

prewar Poland. It was only when she left Poland, escaping from Hitler's armies, and settled in the USSR that she was able to publish her novel *Chains*, which no publishing house in Poland would have dared to print.

Shemplinska is now a member of the Union of Soviet Writers and her books are being printed in the Polish language, as well as in the languages of nationalities of the USSR. A few days ago the Foreign Language Publishing House in Moscow issued a book of Shemplinska's stories under the title *Farewell*. It describes the sufferings of the Polish people under Hitler and their struggle against the German invaders. These stories evoke the tragic days of autumn 1939: Warsaw relentlessly destroyed by bomb and shell, her people overtaken by death on endless bloody roads. Unforgettable are 13-year-old Alica "of strange loveliness," and the family of railway worker Lipitz.

Russian Choral Song

By Stanislaw Redzinsky

Deeply ingrained in the heart of the Russian people are its songs. "Show me a nation," wrote Nikolai Gogol, "which can boast of more songs than the Russians, who are rocked, wed and buried with song."

Perhaps the native tunes are so dear to the Russians because they reflect the age-old struggle, hopes, aspirations and fears of the people. Soviet composers draw inspiration from national melodies, and many of today's song hits of the battle front and home front have their origin in the country's folklore.

Because of the wealth of our heritage of song, it is natural that we should have an exceptional number of professional choruses and amateur groups. It is of three professional Moscow choruses that I want to tell you. Two of these have had their debut in Moscow within the past two months.

Of the song ensembles which became famous before the war, Pyatnitsky's chorus was undoubtedly the most outstanding. It guards the traditions of Russian peasant songs, the expression of the joys and sorrows of the Russian people. The Pyatnitsky chorus has recently enriched its programs with many new items, among them a Russian peasant wedding song. The performers act the ancient rituals which accompany the wedding feast in the Russian village.

These merry wedding tunes are regarded as gems of Russian folklore.

Another outstanding group of performers is the State Chorus of Russian Singers, led by Peoples' Artist of the RSFSR Sveshnikov. It is a child of the war. Apart from traditional peasant songs, its programs consist of old soldier songs, student songs and guerrilla melodies. During its recent concerts it has scored its biggest success with an old Russian student song, "From the Far, Far-off Land," the words of which were written by the Russian poet Yazikov, a contemporary of Alexander Pushkin.

The vast open spaces of Russia, Mother Volga and the merry-making of Russia's student youth are all interwoven into easy-flowing song. "The Wreck of the 'Varingians'" tells the gallant story of a Russian cruiser which went to the bottom in 1904, and of the seamen who manned it. Another song is devoted to the weavers of Ivanovo, center of the Russian textile industry. One of the most popular items on the State Chorus programs is a Ukrainian ballad to the mighty Dnieper, written by Taras Shevchenko.

The Republic Chorus of Russian Songs has also come into being since the outbreak of war. Recently it presented a program of old Russian melodies to packed houses.

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GREETINGS TO GOMEL

By Mikhas Lynkov

Mikhas Lynkov is a well-known Byelorussian writer.

The Germans began their systematic destruction of Gomel on the night of August 14, 1941. Wave after wave of the Luftwaffe showered their loads of death on the blocks of the city, on dwellings, schools, clubs, theaters and libraries.

During the early moments of the raids the Germans dropped flares, but in a short time these were unnecessary. There was a brilliant glow over the town, and the roar of flames drowned the cries of the unfortunate victims, the groans of the injured and dying.

Next morning the bombing continued with particular ferocity. This was to be understood, for tens of thousands of picked German troops had found an eternal resting place on Byelorussian soil at the approaches to Gomel. Red Army units, hastily-formed detachments of Gomel citizens, and people from other towns of the Republic, fought heroically for every inch of soil, beating off the rabid German onslaught and striking hammer blows at the enemy.

The odds, however, were too great. Disregarding their enormous losses the German hordes broke through to the city. Furious destruction from the



"For distinctive action against the German invaders" a Soviet guerrilla receives a Government decoration

air continued. The Germans were systematic, destroying the town block after block in accordance with a prearranged plan.

When we remember our Byelorussian cities and towns temporarily held by the Germans, one picture always rises before us: a blood-red glow over a burning town, an inferno of fire and death blindly destroying every living or flowering thing in its vicinity.

Need one speak of the great joy which we Byelorussians experienced when we learned of this new victory of the Red Army, the liberation of Gomel!

Gomel is the largest city in southern Byelorussia and an important railway junction. Railways run from Gomel to Chernigov, Bakhmach, Bryansk, Mozyr, and Mogilev. The Leningrad-Kiev arterial highway passes through Gomel. The navigable Sozh River connects it with all the towns on the Dnieper.

The city has a long history. It was first mentioned in the chronicles of the early 12th Century. At one time it belonged to Prince Igor, hero of the immortal ballad, *Igor's Hosts*. Gomel then came under the rule of Lithuania, and later of Poland; it was only in the 18th Century that it eventually threw off the foreign yoke and joined with Russia.

During the years of Soviet power Gomel became a manufacturing city of Byelorussia. In the town itself and in the suburb of Novobel, there were large furniture, match and other factories of the timber industry, and leather, footwear, knitted goods, chemical and food-packing plants. A huge factory turning out farm machinery and various enterprises serving railway and river transport were also established in Gomel. Nearby, in Dobrush, was one of the largest paper mills in the Soviet Union.

The city had many educational institutes, theaters, and an excellent museum housed in the former palace of Prince Paskevich. In the museum was a splendid art gallery with a large collection of portraits and pictures by Russian and European artists, an extensive collection of tapestries and porcelain and a num-

ber of absolutely unique exhibits. There were also drawings associated with the name of Griboyedov. Paskevich Palace stood on the steep banks of the Sozh, in a park containing many ancient trees. The park was a favorite haunt of Gomel citizens in their leisure hours.

In 1918, when Byelorussia was occupied by the Kaiser's hordes, the working people of Gomel put up a splendid resistance to the foreign invaders. The leadership of the mighty guerrilla movement of that time, which spread rapidly over the entire Gomel District, was in the city of Gomel. The railway workers disrupted all measures of the German command to send away grain, cattle and other goods stolen by the Germans.

Although the occupation at that time was comparatively brief, the Germans even then showed the character of blood-thirsty beasts. They introduced the practice of decimation of the Gomel District, took hostages and burned down whole villages, machine-gunning helpless women, children and aged people.

During the days of the Great Patriotic War the people of the Gomel Region have continued their great traditions of guerrilla warfare. The Nazis could not break or subdue them. German barracks were blown up, as well as the officers' quarters. As early as 1941 the guerrillas blew up a restaurant where German officers had gathered to celebrate the "capture of Moscow." Even at the height to which they were blown by this explosion the Hitlerite officers did not see Moscow.

Day and night the guerrillas gave the Hitlerites no peace; they destroyed their communications, derailed their trains, disrupted all their plans and destroyed their men and machines.

Gomel is again ours—a free Soviet city! Greetings to my native Gomel—to the people who have thrown off the bloody yoke of Hitlerism. Glory to our gallant and mighty Red Army which is liberating our native Byelorussia! Glory to our great Marshal Stalin!

NEW TROPHIES FOR RED ARMY ARTILLERY MUSEUM

The Artillery Museum of the Red Army, which was evacuated from Leningrad to Novosibirsk, has preserved its exhibits intact and is constantly replenishing its collections. Visitors to the Museum may see such precious exhibits as trophies captured from the Swedes in the famous Battle of Poltava, from the Prussians in the Battle of Kunensdorf, the keys of Berlin and of a number of fortresses captured by armies under the command of Alexander Suvorov, trophies of the First World War, etc., together with many trophies of the present war. Members of the

staff of the Museum frequently go to the front to collect trophies.

The Leningrad Museum is gradually being replenished with souvenirs sent in by officers and men of the Leningrad Front. Of special interest are the trophies associated with the piercing of the blockade of Leningrad: the Red Flag hoisted over the Town Hall of Schluesselburg by Private Avaliev on January 18, 1943, the mortar with which a crew of five brothers wiped out some 400 Hitlerites, and other items.

THE DARING GOMEL GUERRILLAS

By R. Moran

One cloudy October day two German soldiers were leading a young man along a forest path. He was under arrest, and any one of the three charges against him was enough to send him to the gallows. Kuzma, the young man, had been employed as a chauffeur by a German organization in occupied Byelorussia. He was accused of damaging three cars, plotting the dynamiting of an automobile repair shop and distributing Soviet leaflets among war prisoners.

Kuzma waited his chance, suddenly struck down one of his guards and eluded the other, escaping into the forest. That night he and a comrade, Nikolai, whom he had run into, equipped themselves with arms they had previously stolen from the Germans and hidden—a light machine gun, a sub-machine gun and grenades. They soon reached a highway. A German car passed; they killed the two Nazis in it. This was their first act of revenge.

After that they wandered through the forest until they found the guerrilla headquarters. They were accepted into a detachment, and two days later Kuzma took part in an attack on an enemy garrison, personally disarming and capturing two German soldiers.

All this happened last year. Since then Kuzma has become famous throughout the Gomel forests as a most daring and courageous guerrilla commander. He and his men attack the enemy in the dead of night . . . and sometimes in broad daylight. The attacks are always sudden, and the boldest of them are directed against the German police garrisons. In one day Kuzma and his group of four disarmed a German patrol detachment in a village, capturing 20 rifles and two machine guns. After this Kuzma and a companion went into one of the houses for a rest. Suddenly a German commander entered the cottage and through his interpreter ordered pork and fried eggs. Kuzma interrupted his orders, obliging the German to part not only with his life, but with his uniform, which the guerrilla commander immediately put on. His comrade killed the interpreter, and likewise appropriated his uniform.

Then Kuzma and his comrade, posing as representatives of the German command of a neighboring village, boldly walked into the police headquarters, shot the chief of police, burned down the barracks, captured 25 rifles and several machine guns and revolvers, and again disappeared into the forest.

Several days later Kuzma routed another enemy patrol, capturing a large quantity of arms and destroying several truckloads of ammunition. On another

occasion he and his comrades went to a village where the Germans were stationed and pelted their quarters with grenades. When the Nazis rushed out in their underclothes, the guerrillas mowed them down with machine guns and tommy guns.

A strong German garrison of some 60 men was stationed in a village commanding an important cross-roads along which enemy troops and ammunition were moving. This garrison was a great hindrance to the guerrillas in their raids on the road. Kuzma decided to eliminate it, and late one night went alone to a house where the Germans sat playing cards. He wiped out the whole group, disarmed another four soldiers and the commandant, and set fire to the garrison buildings and fuel dump. In this one operation the guerrillas acquired 10 cartloads of equipment.

Kuzma was disturbed by a bridge patrolled by eight Germans. He spent four days working out a plan to destroy it. The guerrillas then hid in a school-house near the village, waiting for an enemy transport which they knew was being escorted by three soldiers of Czech nationality. When the transport reached the schoolbuilding Kuzma leaped out and shouted "Hands up!" The Czechs promptly put up their hands. They not only knew the password, but were personally acquainted with the Germans patrolling the bridge. The guerrillas got into the carts and proceeded to the bridge. The German sentry, recognizing the Czechs, allowed the carts to approach. The guerrillas went into action with their tommy guns, killing the patrols and burning down the bridge. Kuzma himself killed four Germans.

Later the Czech who first surrendered became a well-known guerrilla fighter and has been decorated by the Soviet Government for his activities.

Kuzma made a particularly dashing raid on a German mail train. The Germans, fearing the guerrillas, sent their mail under heavy guard. Kuzma laid an ambush along the highway, a section of which he had already mined. The mail column appeared, guarded by 22 Germans, headed by an officer and armed with tommy guns, machine guns and rifles. The first cars struck the mined roads and were blown up; the guerrillas attacked, wiping out all but one of the 22 Germans and capturing 10 rifles, three machine guns, two revolvers, 12 bicycles and valuable documents.

Kuzma's comrade, Nikolai, with whom he began his struggle against the German invaders the year before, has also become famous in the Gomel Region. In the month of August alone, Nikolai's group destroyed 15 German cars, wiped out 80 Nazis and blew up eight bridges.

"PATRON" FACTORIES AID IN RESTORATION OF INDUSTRY

Throughout the liberated Nazi-wrecked districts on the banks of the Volga, the Dnieper, the Don and the Terek, on the shores of the Black and Azov Seas, in Smolensk and Orel, Stalingrad, Kiev and Novorossisk—recently the scenes of furious battles—unprecedented restoration work is forging ahead full blast. Factories, plants, hospitals, schools and large and small dwellings are rising out of the ashes and ruins into which the flourishing towns and villages in these regions had been converted by the fascist vandals.

In his report of November 6, 1943, Stalin put before the nation the great task of completely eliminating the consequences of German domination in the liberated districts. The call of the great leader met with the enthusiastic response of the entire country.

The Magnitogorsk iron and steel works has become patron of the iron and steel and coking-chemical works of Makeyevka in the Stalin Region, and has pledged to help restore them in the shortest possible time. The Kuznetsk iron and steel works has undertaken to restore the iron and steel and coking-chemical works of Yenakievo in the Stalinsk Region. The Novo-Tagil iron and steel works is sponsoring the Dnieprodzerzhinsk enterprise in the Dniepropetrovsk Region, and the Moscow Hammer and Sickle plant is assisting the Stalingrad Red October plant.

A delegation of engineers and workers from the Urals machine-building plant has left for the iron and steel plant in Yenakievo, which has been adopted by them. The delegation will determine exactly what is needed to repair the plant and will make plans for the work.

The Magnitogorsk, Kuznetsk and Novo-Tagil works were established in the Urals long before the war. Even the enterprises evacuated from the battle zone lend a hand in restoration work as energetically as the old-timers.

For example, the Ukrainian tank plant No. 183 was evacuated to the Urals in the autumn of 1941. Since then the plant has increased its output several times and raised labor productivity two-and-one-half times. For its outstanding services in augmenting the tank forces of the Red Army, the plant has been decorated by the Government with the Orders of Lenin, the Red Banner and the Red Banner of Labor. Now it has taken patronage over the Kharkov plant, while the famous Kirov works has become patron of the Stalingrad plant.

Factories producing munitions, guns, attack planes, bombers, motor vehicles and mortars are helping to restore the enterprises akin to them. This aid is being rendered in the most diverse forms.

The greatest sacrifices made by patron enterprises are in labor power, always at a premium in wartime. The Kirov works, for example, sent 100 engineers and technicians and 200 workers to the Stalingrad tractor plant, while the Urals tank plant No. 183 sent a large group of engineers and highly skilled workers to the Kharkov plant. With the latter again expanding production, the Government assigned it an additional 800 workers to insure fulfillment of its plan in the fourth quarter. But the Kharkov plant declined this additional help in favor of its patron, plant No. 183.

The patron enterprises are continually expanding and requiring more and more equipment, yet they are always able to dig up some for the enterprises which are being restored. One aircraft factory, for example, sent an enterprise over which it has taken patronage 15 metal-cutting machine tools and various instruments and standards, while an armaments plant undertook to prepare 100 metal-cutting machine tools, 200 jigs and fixtures and 10,000 tools and instruments above its fourth quarter plan, for delivery to the plant over which it had patronage.

From Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, Molotov, Kazan, Gorky and Yaroslavl, trains loaded with machinery, instruments and materials—as well as with grain, vegetables, meat, fats, cattle and seed—leave constantly for plants in the cities and regions of the liberated districts of the south and west. The contributions of provisions from collective and State farms are earmarked "For the population of both the town and countryside of the liberated districts." The trains are accompanied by delegations from the patron plants, cities and farms.

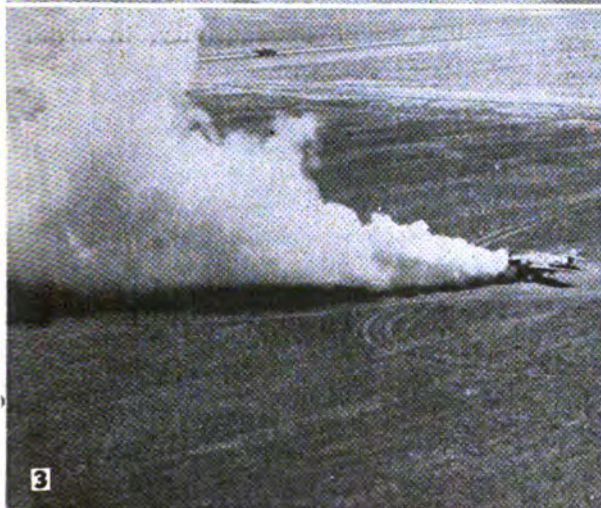
Bearing in mind that the restoration of the war-ravaged districts will require a huge army of workers, factories in the East are exerting every effort to further increase their labor productivity, in order to release more of their personnel to take part in reconstruction.

Houses for Stalingrad

At a recent session of the Stalingrad Regional Soviet it was reported that 8,400 houses have been built or restored in the city. Volunteer builder teams have played a great part in this work. With their help, 42 schools, 10 hospitals, 11 polyclinics, eight Mother and Child Consultation Centers, 99 kindergartens and a nursery were repaired. Twenty-five kilometers of water mains were also put into operation.



(1) Captain Ivan Tarasov, who has brought down 18 German planes, climbs into his YAK fighter for his 19th battle; (2) The enemy plane, already in flames from Tarasov's fire, tries to escape; (3) It is forced to make a crash landing in Soviet lines; (4) The German plane, a Messerschmitt 109-4D; (5) Soviet troops have put out the fire and are inspecting the plane; (6) Major General of Aviation Evgeny Savitsky congratulates Tarasov on the victory . . . one-half hour after his take-off



AUSTRIA'S DESTINY

The following article appeared in Number 12 of the Moscow publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

Austria was the first free country to fall victim to Hitlerite aggression. The German imperialists wanted Austria firstly as a base for aggressive action against the Slav peoples—primarily against Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia—as an intersection of important strategic roads and as a bridge between Hitlerite Germany, fascist Italy and feudal Hungary; secondly, Austria was essential to Hitler as a source of raw materials and an advantageously-situated armory. Lastly, Austria's seven and one-half million German-speaking population represented a new valuable reservoir of cannon-fodder for German imperialism.

The forcible annexation of Austria to Germany, which to the Hitlerites was their first step toward the enslavement of Europe, was represented by them as "the restoration of the state unity of the German nation." Actually, Austria in all her history never formed part of Germany and was always an independent state. In spite of this nationalistic demagoguery, the Hitlerites, owing to certain reasons, definitely influenced some sections of the Austrian people.

Some of these reasons are: the common language of the Austrians and Germans; the historic tradition of a long-standing military alliance between German and Austro-Hungarian imperialism, which proved so fatal for Austria; the feebleness of the Austrian Republic formed in 1918, whose economic and political development, far from being promoted by the victorious powers, was hampered by them in every way; the destruction of democracy by the Dollfuss-Schuschnigg-Stahremberg regime; and lastly, the ruinous foreign political orientation of the ruling circles toward the Italy of Mussolini, who betrayed Austria to Hitlerite Germany.

The greatest danger, however, lay in the skepticism of influential Austrian politicians, particularly the Social-Democratic leaders, with regard to the ability of the Austrian people to uphold its own independent state. The national self-consciousness of the Austrian people was being systematically undermined not only by the agents of German imperialism, but also by the impotent democrats who kept harping on Austria's "lack of vitality."

Despite all this, the majority of the Austrian people was determined to defend the country's independence against the German imperialists. In the weeks preceding occupation, there developed a widespread popular movement for the consistent defense of Austria's independence, which was threatened by Hitler. This movement developed despite the absence of democratic liberties in Austria. A considerable section of Catholics, Socialists and democrats

joined with the Communists in this popular movement. Although too late, the government of Austria also realized that only a democratic union of all sections of the people could save Austria.

A popular plebiscite was to be held on the question of the country's independence. Hitler forestalled the plebiscite by his armed invasion. He knew well enough that the vast majority of the Austrian people would vote against annexation to Germany. Surrounded by traitors, the Austrian government capitulated at the last moment. The invaders met with no armed resistance.

The capitulation of the government had a stunning effect on the Austrian patriots. The people felt not only betrayed by its own government, but left in the lurch by the democratic powers of Europe. The German Nazis and their Austrian accomplices were quick to take advantage of the confusion among the Austrians. While the experienced hand of the executioner destroyed a considerable section of the Austrian patriots, the people were promised mountains of gold in the great German "lebensraum," and the vision of peace and prosperity held out to them.

This brazen demagoguery succeeded in part owing to the fact that influential Austrian politicians, such as the former Social-Democratic Chancellor Karl Renner, who decided to capitulate to the German fascists, declared that "anschluss" represented "historic progress." During the first weeks the intruders managed to arouse certain illusions among one section of the Austrian people and a "wait and see" sentiment among another larger section of the population. In the opportunist behavior of many Austrians who "on the one hand" did not approve of forcible forms of annexation, and "on the other hand" regarded it as "historic progress," lies an essential part of the responsibility which Austria bears for her participation in Hitler's war.

In words the German fascists proclaimed that the Austrians were "Germans who have returned to their native fold." In fact, however, they treated the Austrians as a people that **does not belong** to the German nation, and upon which they decided to clamp down the lid of the severe regime of occupation.

Austrians were removed from all leading posts in the administration of their country (even Austrian Hitlerites had to be content with secondary posts): all government and economic key positions were held exclusively by the German intruders, who set out to plunder systematically both the state treasury and all the national wealth of Austria.

Austria became one of the principal arsenals of the German army. In recent years, particularly as a result of the bombings of western Germany by the Anglo-American Air Forces, many industrial enter-

prises have been moved from Germany to Austria. Today Austria accounts for no mean part of Germany's war production.

* * *

The regime established by the German Nazis, coupled with the unbridled looting of the country and the systematic national humiliation of the people, gave rise to a noticeable change in sentiment among the various sections of the population in Austria. Austrian patriots who at first represented isolated groups later won the public's attention and sympathy. Bitterness against the oppressors became widespread. It needed, however, the trying ordeals of the war started by Hitler for these sentiments to condense into patriotic anger against the foreign oppressors.

The Austrian people was, to say the least, indifferent to Hitler's announced "war aims" in 1939—Danzig, the Polish Corridor, et cetera. We must not overlook the fact, however, that the Austrians obediently entered Hitler's army and practically without offering any resistance joined in the war at the side of Hitlerite Germany. More: Hitler's initial successes gave rise to certain imperialistic sentiments also in some sections of the Austrian people. During the first years of the war Austrian service men were eager to prove to their German enslavers that they were not poorer soldiers than the soulless Prussian automatons.

Only in the course of Hitler's war against the Soviet Union have the Austrian soldiers become less reliable—which, for one thing, found expression in the fact that the Hitlerites were compelled to distribute the Austrian units among German regiments and divisions, and units made up in the main of Austrians have invariably been given German commanders and sergeants. Today the Austrians in the German army are fighting with less will than the Germans and are often trying to dissociate themselves from the latter. But they are still fighting. Austrians in the rear are working with less will than the Germans, but they are still working for Hitler and his war. Therein lies Austria's unquestionable responsibility, of which the Declaration of the Moscow Conference speaks.

What has been stated above does not imply, however, that there is no patriotic resistance in Austria. The fact is that ever-larger circles of the Austrian people are joining in the liberation struggle so as to make their own contribution to the cause of their liberation. The military debacle of Hitler's army at Stalingrad, as well as the military events in the area of the Mediterranean and the "total mobilization" in Germany, all led to the intensification of the liberation struggle in Austria.

The German occupation authorities have retaliated with a bloody reign of terror. There are reports of serious acts of sabotage on Austrian railroads. Acts of sabotage on a large scale have taken place also at some war factories. During last April a strike movement of large proportions flared up in the factories of the industrial city of Sankt Poelten. At the begin-

ning of November, a mass demonstration against Hitler was held in Vienna.

So far, however, the liberation movement in Austria lags far behind the liberation movement in other countries of Europe enslaved by the Hitlerites. Propaganda is carried on in Austria by means of illegally published newspapers and leaflets; solidarity is shown with the families of murdered or imprisoned fighters for freedom (and also with the starving and ill-treated Russian war prisoners); there are cases of minor sabotage and passive resistance. But the real underground nation-wide struggle against the enslavers, which the Austrian Front of Liberation proclaimed, is still lacking.

It is obvious that there is a wide disparity between the sentiments of the masses in Austria against the German oppressors, and the active struggle against them. One of the main reasons for this lies in the fact that hitherto the majority of Austrians have not seen their own way out of the disastrous situation. Unlike other enslaved peoples, they had no clear national aim before their eyes, despite the fact that the main slogan of the Austrian Front of Liberation has been "For a free and independent Austria!"

The Declaration of the Moscow Conference on Austria shows the Austrian patriots the way and aim of the struggle for Austria's liberation from German oppression.

* * *

The Governments of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States are agreed that Austria shall be liberated from German domination. They have stated that they wish to see reestablished a free and independent Austria, and thereby to open the way for the Austrian people themselves "to find that political and economic security which is the only basis for lasting peace."

At the same time the Governments of the Allied countries have reminded Austria that "she has a responsibility which she cannot evade for participation in the war at the side of Hitlerite Germany, and that in the final settlement account will inevitably be taken of her own contribution to her liberation."

Hence awareness of its own responsibility and its own contribution to the struggle for its liberation are particularly essential for the Austrian people if it truly strives to become free and wishes to build its independence on a firm foundation.

When an unsolicited champion of Austria such as Otto of Hapsburg, the well-known claimant to the "throne," seeks to exonerate Austrians by disclaiming their responsibility for participation in Hitlerite Germany's robber war, it merely betrays the hidden reactionary desire to curtail the development of the liberation struggle of the Austrian people, which may lead to the establishment of a democratic regime in Austria.

There are also other politicians who seek to divert

the Austrian people from the cardinal task of developing the struggle for liberation. At present they are busy sweating out all sorts of plans for Austria's future state and inter-state organization. Thus, for instance, a London group—the notorious “Revolutionary Socialists”—who only yesterday advocated a “greater Germany,” and opposed an independent Austria, is today in a hurry to distribute leading posts in a future Austrian state.

At the same time the Hapsburg monarchists, who dream of reviving the long-dead past, are drawing plans for the reestablishment of the “Danubian empire,” in the guise of the so-called Danubian Federation. The reactionary Polish emigrants go still further in their aspirations, and assign to Austria a place in their imperialistic anti-Soviet “federation,” which is to stretch from the Baltic to the Aegean Sea.

Nor can it be regarded as a mere coincidence that the majority of these schemers, from the above-mentioned group of “Revolutionary Socialists” to the megalomaniacal Polish gentry, have a long record of participation in anti-Soviet machinations.

The preposterous designs of these kinds of politicians and intrigue-mongers are in utter contradiction both to the interests of the common struggle of the European nations against Hitlerite Germany and to the particular interests of the Austrian people. This is so not only because those schemes serve to divert attention from the immediate tasks of the struggle waged today, but because at bottom their aim is to involve the Austrian people in shady international combinations, preventing it from relying on its own forces.

It is therefore of the utmost importance for the entire future development of Austria that all freedom-loving Austrians who are loyal to their country should lend no ear to idle combinations or speculations, but should unite on the basis of militant patriotism and not lag behind other peoples in their unanimous and determined struggle for freedom.

German imperialism is the mortal enemy of the Austrian people. The more actively and resolutely the Austrians today contribute their efforts to hasten the destruction of German Nazism, the more successful will they be in the work of reestablishing their national independence on a firm foundation.

Northern Land of Promise

By N. Andronov

Of the many expeditions sent out by the Soviet Academy of Sciences to explore the natural resources of the Urals, Siberia, Kazakhstan and other remote places, particularly interesting are those covering the Soviet North.

Several groups of scientists are working in the mountains and forests of that part of the Urals which stretches beyond the Polar Circle to the shores of the swift-flowing rivers of the North, the homeland of one of the Northern peoples called the Ziryian, or Komi, who live in the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic.

The remote Republic of Komi, at one time considered the most poverty-stricken corner of the Russian “back of beyond,” is now one of our lands of promise.

A Russian traveler to this frigid, inhospitable land once exclaimed: “What a miserable share of the earth the Ziryian people have; they live amidst somber forests, endless swamps and biting frosts.”

This concept of the North has been entirely repudiated. Great treasures have been found in its soil. Once an explorer could travel for hundreds of miles without seeing a single dwelling. Over 700 miles separated a forest hamlet from the nearest town, which could be reached only by boats sailing along perilous river rapids. Now there are roads and railways. The new North Pechora railway line

has been opened since the outbreak of war. It brings from this northern clime coal, oil, timber, furs and meat, the gifts of the Komi to the Red Army and their brother peoples.

Mining settlements, oilfields and throbbing factories have been born in the once impassable tundra and Polar regions. The grim darkness of the Polar night has been conquered by electricity. The merciless frosts of 60 below zero have capitulated to central heating.

Now one no longer speaks simply of the coal and oil of the North. One must also speak of the iron ore, manganese, limestone, lead, zinc and bauxite, tin, molybdenum, tungsten and rare metals. In the Verkhni Shugor and Ilyich basins, and in the Ker Shor hills, deposits of magnetite, manganese and chromite are being explored.

Oilfields are being developed throughout the North. Lumber mills are being set up in the forests, and the rich water power resources of the Komi Republic are gradually being put to use. Agriculture is developing apace. The barren lands are being cultivated. This year a group of scientists will publish a report on the soil and vegetation in the area of the North Pechora railway. Several experts are making a special study of the vitamin content of the wild herbs of the North.

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SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RED ARMY'S 1943 SUMMER OFFENSIVE

By Colonel Alexander Kononenko

Following up the successes of its winter campaign of 1942-43, the Red Army dealt the Wehrmacht a staggering blow in the summer of 1943 and thereby buried the Nazi fable that Soviet troops are unable to conduct successful offensive operations in summer. The defeats sustained by the Germans on the Soviet-German front during the summer campaign show that

the Red Army is able to advance in summer as well as in winter.

The successful 1943 summer campaign has altered the course of the war. The results of this campaign are felt far beyond the Soviet-German front and have also influenced the war throughout the world.



Ambushed Red Army reconnaissance troops find an enemy target

The defeat sustained by the Germans this summer was predetermined by two important events: the battles of Stalingrad and Kursk. The Germans never recovered from the effects of Stalingrad, and while the Stalingrad battles ushered in the decline of the Wehrmacht, the battle of Kursk led the enemy to the brink of final defeat. The battle of Kursk culminated in the collapse of the Wehrmacht's shock forces and precipitated the Soviet counter-drive which grew into a great offensive.

The Red Army's task for the summer and autumn of 1943 encompassed driving the Nazis from the line of Smolensk, the Sozh River and the middle and lower reaches of the Dnieper, and eliminating the German place d'armes in the Kuban. This strategic plan was carried out in full, thus realizing the operating strategic aims of the Red Army High Command.

Inglorious Failure of German Summer Offensive

When they launched their abortive summer offensive in 1943, the Nazi command intended to surround and destroy the Soviet troops in the Kursk salient, then to emerge in the remote rear of the Red Army and by a general offensive draw the war to a victorious close in the summer of 1943. This strategic plan of the Germans proved to be nothing more than a gamble from beginning to end and met with inglorious failure, since it was not based on a realistic view of the correlation of forces.

The driving axle of the German 1943 summer offensive consisted of 17 tank, three motorized and 18 infantry divisions. Never before had the German command massed such tank and artillery forces on so narrow a sector of the front. At certain sections where the Germans struck their primary blows, they massed on the front line as many as eight infantry battalions, 200 tanks and 130 to 140 guns per kilometer.

Regardless of this weight of manpower and armaments, the Germans failed to break through the Red Army defenses, which proved stronger than their offensive. Having mauled and thoroughly bled the Nazi shock forces, the Red Army soon launched an offensive along a wide section of the front and inflicted a severe defeat upon the Wehrmacht.

The elimination of the German place d'armes at Orel, Belgorod and Kharkov favored the development of the Red Army's offensive to liberate the Donbas and all the Ukraine left of the Dnieper, in accordance with the plan of the High Command. The Donbas was liberated in a remarkably short time. The impact of the Soviet drive, facilitated by able cavalry and tank maneuvers on the German flanks, hurled the enemy from the Donbas within six days.

Having lost the battle for the Donbas, the Nazi command made frantic attempts to check the Red Army at the Desna and Dnieper Rivers, both of which were strongly fortified and fully ready for defense. Despite furious enemy resistance the Red Army, fol-

lowing upon the heels of the retreating enemy, forced both the Desna and the Dnieper, liberated Dnepropetrovsk and Kiev and developed offensive operations on the right bank of the Dnieper. After breaking through the maze of German fortifications at Melitopol and on the banks of the Molochnaya River, the Red Army emerged at the estuary of the Dnieper, gained the shores of the Black Sea and cut off the German overland retreat from the Crimea.

Thus within less than four months of its summer offensive the Red Army regained a territory of 350,000 square kilometers and took a severe toll of men and armaments from the enemy. During this span the Red Army smashed 144 German divisions, among them 28 tank and motorized divisions. As a result of the summer offensive the Red Army, having liberated the Donbas, Kharkov, Dnepropetrovsk and other large industrial centers in the Ukraine to the left of the Dnieper, considerably augmented the economic resources of the Soviet Union and thereby the fighting capacity of the country's armed forces. The enormous liberated territory extending from the northern Donets to the Dnieper, a superb agricultural region, was one of the country's finest granaries. Deprived of this territory, the Nazis lost the important food supply base for which they fought so tenaciously.

The Red Army also regained a number of vital railway lines linking the central section of the Soviet Union with the south. This increased its maneuverability and its tactical facilities for the struggle. Losing these strategic lines of communication, the Wehrmacht's maneuverability declined considerably, as did its operative and tactical facilities.

The German strategy of a gamble for victory staked all on the temporary advantages to be derived from suddenness of attack.

Superiority of Soviet Strategy

Soviet strategy, based on the science of war and worked out by the Supreme Command of the Red Army in accordance with experience gained during the war and a realistic view of the correlation of forces and means, will lead to victory. The defective German strategy, which contradicts the principle of military science, has already earned the Wehrmacht severe defeats.

Having altered the course of the war by its 1943 summer offensive, the Red Army has now shunted the hostilities on to their final and culminating phase. The complete elimination of the occupationists on Soviet soil and of the fascist rule in Europe is now on the order of the day. The victory of the Allied Nations is drawing near. Their fighting collaboration has been strengthened.

The creation of a second front in Europe will hasten the victory over Hitlerite Germany and will further strengthen the collaboration between the Allied Powers. Concerted blows upon the enemy will lead to victory.

23rd ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN SOVIET REPUBLIC

By Agasi Sarkeyan

Twenty-three years is not a long time in the life of a nation—but this period has literally been a Golden Age of revival for the Armenian land. In this short space of time Armenia has become a country with a developed industry, a mechanized agriculture and an unparalleled cultural progress.

The treacherous brigand attack of German fascism on the USSR interrupted our peaceful creative labor. The Armenian people fully realized the mortal danger threatening the Soviet Union, and from the very first day of the war, side by side with the great Russian people, have been fighting a life and death struggle against the Hitlerite aggressors.

In one of his public utterances Goering spoke of the "particularly unfriendly attitude of the Armenians" toward the Germans. This instigation of the Germans against the Armenians was a continuation of the German policy of exterminating our nation. The sinister danger menacing the Soviet country was a call to arms to the sons of freedom-loving Armenia. Thousands have distinguished themselves in battle and their breasts are adorned with Soviet military decorations. Among Soviet generals there are some 30 Armenians. Over 20 Armenian privates, officers and generals have been given the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. The 89th Armenian Rifle Division particularly distinguished itself and by order of Marshal Stalin has been named the Taman Division.

Growth of Industry

Under Soviet rule Armenia has been converted from an agrarian into an industrial-agrarian country. Manufactured goods now represent 82 per cent of the total output of the Armenian Republic as compared with 24 per cent in 1913. Since the outbreak of war the Armenian industrial plants are producing 250 new varieties of goods. Workers, engineers and technicians have joined in the All-Union competition, and in the first 10 months of 1943 fulfilled the Government plan by 104 per cent. The food workers particularly distinguished themselves, fulfilling their quota for this period by 117 per cent.

Armenian collective farmers are also reporting remarkable successes on this 23rd anniversary of the establishment of Soviet Government in Armenia. Our country, which was notorious for its arid climate and poor crops, has become a fertile land with a highly-diversified agriculture. A number of large and small irrigation projects initiated by workers and collective farmers of the Republic have increased the irrigated area from 60,000 hectares in 1939 to 200,000 hectares today.

During the war the grain crop area has been increased by 10,000 hectares, the area under sugar

beet and potatoes has been doubled, the tobacco area increased by 60 percent, and the melon and vegetable area by 40 per cent. Since 1940 the total area of fruit orchards and vineyards has been increased by 14 per cent.

Inspired by the Red Army's victories, the collective farmers of Armenia are doing their utmost to assist the armed forces. A vivid illustration of this was the 580 tons of grain which the collective farmers of the Agin and Goriss districts donated from their own stocks to the Defense Fund of the Supreme Command of the Red Army.

Work has been resumed on the building of irrigation canals, extension of the area under orchards and vineyards and the building of factories for the working up of food products. Construction is already in full swing on the Norsk Canal, with over 2,000 Yerevan citizens participating. A two-months' program was finished in 35 days and work begun on another sector. The Adiaman Canal is under way, and the Uzinlar and Gori Canals are almost completed.

In 1918 there were only 166 schools in Armenia, with an attendance of 18,000 students; now there are over 1,000 schools with an attendance of 250,000, not counting the technical colleges and adult schools, which are attended by over 20,000 persons. Today there are more than 40 scientific research institutes and 10 higher educational schools in Armenia, staffed by five members of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, some 100 professors and Doctors of Science and over 170 Masters of Science.

Armenian Academy of Sciences Founded

In November of this year the Armenian Academy of Sciences was founded, thus meeting the aspirations of the Armenian people for a scientific center in their own country. The founding of this Academy in a time of war is evidence of the solicitude of the Soviet Government for the promotion of science.

Families of men serving with the armed forces are surrounded by the care of the Government and of the entire people. Over 222,000,000 rubles have been paid out in pensions and allowances since the outbreak of war.

The danger threatening their country has likewise aroused and rallied all Armenians living abroad who love their homeland. Every honest Armenian, in whatever part of the globe he may be, loves and cherishes Soviet Armenia, mother country of all Armenians. To aid the defenders of Soviet Armenia in the Red Army, Armenians in America, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iran, India, Palestine and other countries have formed leagues and committees, and have collected funds for the building of the "David Sasunsky Tank Column."

RESTORATION OF COLLECTIVE FARMS

By V. Pchelin

The collective farms in the southern districts of the Voronezh Region were known for their bounteous harvests and fine cattle. Six months of the German invasion set this thriving country back many years economically.

By employing force, the Nazis hoped to make the Russian farmer a slave for Germany and Hitler's army. At the same time they pursued their insidious underhand policy directed to completely discredit the collective farm system. They tried to inculcate in the people an antipathy for the collective farm system and to arouse instincts of petty ownership.

But today the picture of the mass rehabilitation of collective farms throughout the liberated areas has furnished incontrovertible proof of the futility of the enemy's schemings. The Russian farmers remained true to the collective farm system, which is rapidly coming into its own again. This is particularly evident in the remarkable successes scored in a brief time by the farmers of the Voronezh area.

This year the Krasny Bogatyr farm in the Mikhailovsky District gathered 1.4 tons of summer wheat per hectare, 1.2 tons of barley, 1.6 tons of oats, 1.5 tons of millet and 1.2 tons of sunflower seeds. Comparing these figures with the best harvests in recent years (1937, 1940 and 1941—the first year of the war), we find that the highest yield in all the above-mentioned crops occurred this year—the third year of the war. Only the 1940 crops of sunflower seed and wheat are on a par with those of the current year.

As regards rye and winter wheat, we find a very different picture. Only one-half a ton of rye per hectare was harvested this year, whereas in 1940 it was 2.2 tons per hectare—and only one-tenth ton of winter wheat per hectare as compared with 1.6 tons in 1940.

How do we explain the fact that in some crops the current year's harvest has been higher than the prewar yield, and in others much lower?

The explanation is simple. Winter wheat and rye were sown in the autumn of last year under German occupation, with the hateful conditions of slave labor imposed upon the people; whereas the summer sowing campaign was carried out in the spring of 1943, after the country was liberated from the Germans, and the farmers worked the land under their customary congenial conditions of collective labor. Thus the collective farmers of the Krasny Bogatyr farm demonstrated in deeds their hatred for the enemy and their loyalty to the collective farm system.

At the time the Germans were approaching, the Krasny Bogatyr collective farmers had over 40 tons

of sorted grain in the barns. The chairman of the collective farm determined to save the grain; at the risk of his own life he arranged for its distribution among the farmers, taking a receipt from each.

"Guard the grain as the apple of your eye," he said to them. "When the Soviets are back, we'll have the wherewithal to sow our land." Not a single kilogram of that grain fell into the enemy's hands.

The Germans, however, did everything to compel the farmers to sow winter wheat. "We had to sow the wheat, all right," the farmers said, "but we never intended it to grow. We played around with the plows, scattered the grain and made believe we were really sowing."

When the Germans were ousted in the spring, things were different. The collective farmers put their heart and soul into the plowing. There were many serious handicaps to be overcome. Since no winter plowing had been done under the Germans, it was no easy job to break the soil. Thirty oxen and 12 horses were all the draft-power available at the farm.

"Harness the cows to the plows. We can't get along without them," the chairman told the women. "And we'll have to work with spades as well."

Although in past years the farmers never used cows for plowing, or broke the soil with spades, this year they were ready to do anything to secure a successful harvest. Thus 460 hectares were plowed with cows and 80 hectares by hand. The soil was turned up to a depth of 18 centimeters. Among the fastest plowers were the soldiers' wives Natalya Bychkova and Evdokia Mogilnaya.

For sowing, the farmers used the sorted seeds they had saved from the Germans, and later made two thorough weedings of all crops. The grain grew to such a height that even the old folks said it was the finest in years. One of the best patches belonged to war veteran Vasili Martinenko's shock brigade.

The land rewarded the farmers generously. From an area of 32 hectares the first shock brigade gathered 2.2 tons of wheat. The collective farmers allocated 83.2 tons of wheat, 66.5 tons of oats and barley, 47.5 tons of sunflower seeds, 11.2 tons of potatoes and many other vegetables, to the Red Army Fund. The farmers are well-prepared for next year's harvest; this fall they sowed an area of 408 hectares and plowed 310 hectares.

The collective farms are being revived on the basis of collective tilling, and for this reason the farmers of the liberated areas spare no efforts to increase the yield.

FILMING *The Battle of the Ukraine*

By Yuri Karovkin

The command post was constantly moving nearer to Kharkov, and Valentin Orlyankin, Soviet newsreel cameraman, had great difficulty in finding it among the hills and ravines swept by the smoke and flame of battle.

A regiment under the command of Major Rudick had driven a narrow wedge into the German defenses. Orlyankin knew that Rudick himself was somewhere in the spearhead of this wedge, which was under enemy fire from three sides. The cameraman was determined to get some shots of Major Rudick, who had particularly distinguished himself in the fighting for Kharkov.

With his heavy camera in his left hand and a tommy gun in his right, Orlyankin inched his way across the open steppe, raced through patches of woods and scaled anti-tank ditches, pausing at times to shoot scenes of the battle for the second Ukrainian capital.

He was held up for a time in a trench occupied by a Russian artillery crew. The air rocked with volleys from Soviet and German guns. The officer in command advised Orlyankin to keep his head lower. The two men talked for a few moments; then the officer slowly raised his head above the trench to scan the field with his binoculars. Suddenly he slumped to the ground—a mine splinter had pierced his temple. Orlyankin had his camera on the officer; he filmed the entire incident, including the death of the artilleryman, who was mortally wounded. The acquaintance of the two men had lasted 15 minutes; in that time they had become friends, and Orlyankin heard the officer's last words:

"I am a Kharkovite . . . I wanted to enter my native city . . ."

* * *

Listening to the enemy's gunfire, Orlyankin noted that the Germans made a brief pause after each four volleys. He took advantage of one such lull to crawl out of the trench and continue his search for Major Rudick.

When he finally located the command post, he found Major Rudick on a stretcher. The gallant officer had been wounded in the spine when an enemy shell struck the observation post. He was still breathing when Orlyankin began to film him, but died a few moments later . . .

The death of Major Rudick on the battlefield is one of the most impressive scenes in *The Battle of the Ukraine*, a documentary recently released by the Central Newsreel Studios of the USSR. The film has been sent to the United States.

Orlyankin almost lost his precious film on one occasion. He hid the reels in a cottage in a village and

(Continued on page eight)



Red Army unit moving up to a new line

AUTUMN MAIL FROM GERMANY

By M. Vlasov

The stack of letters before me had apparently not been touched by German censors. What sort of letters were these, addressed to German soldiers by their wives, parents and friends? Opening a few at random I found the following from Irma Recknadel of Munich to her husband.

Dear Fritz—You write so seldom but probably you have little time for this, since you are busy withdrawing "according to plan," sleeping, or "organizing" food. Now that autumn is here, I am afraid to think what winter will bring. If this war would only end! I can't see any good that has come out of that awful business in the East. At the office we've got a new saying: "Make hay while the war is on; in peacetime it will be worse." Terrible, isn't it? Good luck, dear, and don't forget your glutton at home.

Here is a letter of a different sort:

Lately sirens have been sounded every evening. I expect they'll be on again in two hours. Like a runner on his mark, I'm waiting for them now, ready

to make a dash for the bomb shelter. Who would have dreamed that things would have come to this? Now all men are being called to the army. The turn of the office rats has finally come—and a good thing, too. It's about time they were unpasted from their chairs. These gentlemen have been leading the best life for a long time. Now they'll no longer yell at us and torment people. Now they shall at last learn something about the Eastern front, though it may be too late.

The wife of Willi Kraft, who penned the above, would have fared sorely had this letter been examined by "those who yell and torment people." As is known, the Gestapo has its own ways of dealing with those guilty of "pessimism and dissatisfaction."

In 1941 German women also sat about their radios, waiting then for Goebbels to tell them about new and fantastic victories in the East. In those days haus-fraus clapped their hands and exclaimed: "Heil Hitler!" Now, too, they are sitting about their radio receivers, no longer waiting for victories but for the



Germans and Rumanians taken prisoner during the summer campaign

air-raid alarm, to get up like "runners on their mark" and dash for the bomb shelters.

What cowardice and brutish fear are revealed in these "runners on their marks." More than once I saw Russian women in Moscow when the Luftwaffe was overhead. What cool courage they displayed, whether watching on the roof of a ten-story building, at their machine tools in factories or policing their beats in the city as militia.

Hundreds of letters from the German rear express the view that the war against the Soviet Union has been lost. They also express the fear of just retribution, hatred for the Soviet people and the Red Army, and a bestial fear of bombing. Often there is the lurking hope of getting a small scrap or something good pilfered on Russian soil.

The letters of German women to their men at the front are decidedly gloomy in the autumn of 1943.

THE SECOND "TOTAL MOBILIZATION" OF GERMANY

By K. Velikanov

The fifth war winter in Germany has been ushered in by a new "total mobilization." The summer campaign of 1943 wiped out the result of the first "total mobilization" carried out by the Germans in February and March after the debacle at Stalingrad.

In the first stage of the war, when German arms scored temporary successes, Goering boasted: "In the sphere of military-economic planning we stick to the principle that war feeds war. Every new victorious campaign increases our resources and provides us with everything we need for the next campaign." Now the Nazis are organizing "campaigns" in their own and in occupied countries, in an effort to muster still-remaining resources to continue the war which they have already lost.

When the Germans proclaimed the "total mobilization" of manpower reserves and material resources after the Stalingrad disaster, Goebbels' propaganda insisted that it was a question of emergency measures which would enable the Germans in a short period of time not only to make good their losses in manpower and armaments, but to build up new large strategic reserves and to accumulate a considerable amount of arms.

The summer campaign of 1943, from its very beginning, took a turn which soon made it necessary for the German command to fall back upon its strategic reserves. It became obvious that even after "total mobilization" the German army was unable to stem the offensive of the Red Army, which was abundantly equipped with new arms in many respects superior to those of the Germans.

Helpless Strategists

Now even the German munitions manufacturers have begun to complain about the defects in the German war plans. Thus the organ of the armaments concerns, the *Berliner Boersenzeitung*, reproached the helpless strategists in Hitler's headquarters in the following terms: "War materials in German factories are put into production at least half a year before they are put into action. That it why special farsightedness is required in drawing up military-economic plans.

Nor should we reckon exclusively with our war plans, but must also take into consideration the probable intentions of the enemy."

In other words, the manufacturers demanded of the German high command sober planning—i. e., exactly the thing that is precluded by the very nature of Hitler's strategy which, according to the authoritative explanation of General Dietmar, is based on the Fuehrer's "irrational impulses."

A second "total mobilization" was inaugurated by Hitler's decree on the concentration of war industry, issued September 2. On the strength of this decree, Todt, successor to Reichsminister of Armaments Speer, was given new wide powers. The entire industry has been placed under his control. His department has been re-named "Ministry of Armaments and War Production." Commenting on Hitler's decree, the fascist economist Nonnenbruch wrote in the *Voelkischer Beobachter*: "The Fuehrer's decree should be regarded as a further concentration of Germany's economic resources for the needs of total war."

The military, international and economic situation of Germany, amid which the second "total mobilization" is being carried out, is worse than at the time of the first "total mobilization." At that time, Germany disposed of considerably larger resources than at present. Italy was still fighting on the side of Germany. German troops were still in North Africa, from which various scarce raw materials reached Germany by way of France. Lastly, the German robbers still held the Donets Basin and the whole of the Ukraine. In spite of all this, the first "total mobilization" did not help the Germans to improve the position of their army on the Soviet-German front.

Two-Thirds of "Totally Mobilized" Already Lost

As pointed out by Joseph Stalin in his speech of November 6, 1943: "The summer campaign has already consumed two-thirds of the 'totally' mobilized." In the four months from July 5 to November 5, the Germans lost about a million men killed and about 100,000 taken prisoner on the Soviet-German front. In addition, they lost 17,700 tanks, 10,189 aircraft,

18,800 pieces of artillery, 75,982 motor cars and large quantities of other war material.

It is these enormous losses that the Hitlerites are trying to make good by means of the second "total mobilization," which they have been cautious not to proclaim openly, fearing that it might still further undermine morale at home. They are carrying it out on the sly, linking it with the first "total mobilization."

Hitlerites Powerless to Solve Labor Problem

Nazi economists speak of many bottlenecks which have not been eliminated by the first "total mobilization." For one thing, the problem of qualified labor power is as acute as ever, despite the enlistment of vast numbers of foreign workers. The Hitlerites have also proved powerless to solve the problem of raising labor productivity.

The intended contraction of a number of industries producing consumers' goods for the civilian population, and the transfer of their workers to war industries, cannot fill the yawning gaps in war production. Even after the first "total mobilization," the Hitlerites managed to release for the army only several hundred

thousand workers who were employed in industry. At present, the possibilities in this respect are still smaller. Germany's own manpower reserves have been almost completely exhausted.

The Hitlerites are now trying to supply the army's manpower requirements mainly by mobilizing men in some of the occupied countries. But this only leads to the intensification of the struggle for national liberation, which the German-fascist invaders are unable to crush even by the cruelest terrorism.

During the first "total mobilization" the Hitlerites demanded of their satellites that they should follow Germany's example and increase their help to Germany. Now the Germans cannot take the risk of enforcing the new "total mobilization" in the vassal countries. After Italy's capitulation, which showed all the satellites a way out of the war, Hitler can no longer be sure of any of his allies.

The second "total mobilization" will do the Hitlerites even less good than the first one. The new "total" measures which the Nazis enforce at home and in the occupied countries merely create additional prerequisites for Germany's total collapse.

HOLIDAY HOME

By A. Shustov

I recently returned from a visit to a rest home for young Leningrad workers. Birch and maple trees shaded the lane leading to the house. To my left a small stream wound among the trees. The ancient white mansion was partly hidden among the greenery, just touched by the first color of autumn.

It was three in the afternoon. Volley ball contests were in full swing in the playing fields. A young accordion player was singing a Baltic Sea ballad to a group of enthusiastic friends. Other young men and women were strolling in the nearby forest.

The first group of holidaying Stakhanovite workers arrived at the beginning of September. They had earned their rest. Most of them wore For the Defense of Leningrad medals.

The rest home library has 13,000 books, but most of the guests prefer to spend their time in the open air, walking, playing volley ball or rehearsing their numbers for amateur talent nights. There is always a show after supper. Actors from the Leningrad Musical Comedy Theater and the Bolshoi Dramatic Theater are frequent and welcome guests. Last month the song and dance ensemble of the Baltic Fleet gave a show. There is plenty of dancing. Wall newspapers come out regularly.

Two thousand young people come here every month.

They all gain weight and show a marked improvement in health. The management of the home pays great attention to diet. In fact, there is a special committee which supervises the menus to see that they are varied, delicious and nourishing. The young people have four meals a day. The rest home farm supplies meat and dairy produce. On the staff are eight doctors and 23 nurses.

BATTLE OF THE UKRAINE

(Continued from page five)

went on filming the battle. Heavy German guns shelled the village and many houses were burned. Watching from a distance, Orlyankin saw an enemy shell hit a house next to the one in which his film lay. Next moment he was racing toward the blazing buildings. Red Army men attempted to stop him, as another shell burst close by, demolishing a field kitchen. Only after he returned with the metal case did Orlyankin realize the extent of the risk he had run. Since that time he always carries the film with him.

Valentin Orlyankin has been awarded a Stalin Prize for his exceptional shots of front-line action. He was one of the intrepid cameramen who took part in filming *The Battle for Stalingrad*.

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CONFERENCE OF LEADERS OF THREE ALLIED POWERS IN TEHERAN

From November 28 to December 1, 1943, a conference of the leaders of the three Allied Nations—Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin, the President of the United States of America Roosevelt and the Prime Minister of Great Britain Churchill—took place in Teheran.

Participating in the work of the conference were:

From the USSR—the People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs Molotov and Marshal Voroshilov;

From the United States of America—special assistant to the President, Mr. Harry Hopkins; United States Ambassador in the USSR, Mr. W. Averell Harriman; Chief of Staff of the United States Army General George C. Marshall; Chief of the Naval Forces of the United States Admiral Ernest King; Chief of Staff of the United States Air Forces General H. H. Arnold; Chief of the United States Army Supply Service General Brehon B. Somervell; Chief of Staff to the President Admiral William Leahy; Chief of the United States Military Mission in the USSR Major General John R. Deane;

From Great Britain—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden; Ambassador to the USSR Sir Archibald Clark-Kerr; Chief of the Imperial General Staff General Sir Alan Brooke; Field Marshal Sir John Dill; First Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral of the Fleet Cunningham; Chief of Staff of the Air Forces of Great Britain, Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal; Chief of Staff to the Minister of Defense Lieutenant General Sir Hastings Ismay; Chief of the British Military Mission in the USSR General Martel.

The Conference accepted the Declaration on actions in the war against Germany and on postwar collaboration of the Three Powers, and the Declaration on Iran.

Texts of the Declarations are being published.

THREE-POWER DECLARATION

Following is the text of the declaration by President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin, signed at Teheran, Iran, December 1, 1943:

We, the President of the United States of America, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, and the Premier of the Soviet Union, have met in these four days past in this the capital of our ally, Teheran, and have shaped and confirmed our common policy.

We express our determination that our nations shall work together in the war and in the peace that will follow.

As to the war, our military staffs have joined in our round-table discussions and we have concerted

our plans for the destruction of the German forces. We have reached complete agreement as to the scope and timing of operations which will be undertaken from the east, west and south. The common understanding which we have here reached guarantees that victory will be ours.

And as to the peace, we are sure that our concord will make it an enduring peace. We recognize fully the supreme responsibility resting upon us and all the United Nations to make a peace which will command good will from the overwhelming masses of the peoples of the world and banish the scourge and terror of war for many generations.

With our diplomatic advisers we have surveyed the

problems of the future. We shall seek the cooperation and active participation of all nations, large and small, whose peoples in heart and in mind are dedicated, as are our own peoples, to the elimination of tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance. We will welcome them as they may choose to come into the world family of democratic nations.

No power on earth can prevent our destroying the German armies by land, their U-boats by sea, and their war plants from the air. Our attacks will be relentless and increasing.

Emerging from these friendly conferences we look with confidence to the day when all the peoples of the world may live free lives untouched by tyranny and according to their varying desires and their own consciences.

We came here with hope and determination. We leave here friends in fact, in spirit, and in purpose.

Teheran, December 1, 1943

(Signed) ROOSEVELT, STALIN, CHURCHILL

THREE-POWER DECLARATION ON IRAN

Following is the text of the Three-Power statement concerning Iran, signed on December 1, 1943:

The President of the United States of America, the Premier of the USSR, and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, having consulted with each other and with the Prime Minister of Iran, desire to declare the mutual agreement of their three Governments regarding relations with Iran.

The Governments of the United States of America, the USSR and the United Kingdom recognize the assistance which Iran has given in the prosecution of the war against the common enemy, particularly by facilitating the transportation of supplies from overseas to the Soviet Union. The three Governments realize that the war has caused special economic difficulties for Iran and they agreed that they will continue to make available to the Iran Government such economic assistance as may be possible, having regard to the heavy demands made upon them by their world-wide military operations and to the world-wide shortage of transport, raw materials and supplies for civilian consumption.

With respect to the post-war period, the Governments of the United States of America, the USSR and the United Kingdom are in accord with the Government of Iran that any economic problem confronting Iran at the close of hostilities should receive full consideration along with those of other members of the United Nations by conferences or international agencies, held or created, to deal with international economic matters.

The Governments of the United States of America, the USSR and the United Kingdom are at one with the Government of Iran in their desire for the maintenance of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran. They count upon the participation of Iran, together with all other peace-loving nations, in the establishment of international peace, security and prosperity after the war, in accordance with the principles of the Atlantic Charter, to which all four Governments have continued to subscribe.

December 1, 1943

(Signed) ROOSEVELT, STALIN, CHURCHILL

Exchange of Visits Between Leaders of USSR and Iran

On December 1 the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin visited the Shah of Iran, Mohamed Reza Pekkhevi, in his palace in Teheran.

The conversation with the Shah was of a friendly and cordial nature and continued for more than an hour.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov and the Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Iran Maximov, were present at the conversation.

* * *

On December 1 the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin received in the Soviet Embassy in Teheran the Chairman of the

Council of Ministers of Iran Soheli.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran Saed and the Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Iran Maximov, were present at the conversation.

* * *

On November 27 the People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, where he had a conversation with the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Iran Soheli and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran Saed.

The Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Iran Maximov was present at the conversation.

Presentation of Sword of Honor to Heroic Stalingrad

On November 29 in Teheran, the Prime Minister of Great Britain Churchill presented to the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin a sword of honor—the gift of the King of Great Britain, George VI, to the citizens of the city of Stalingrad, in token of their heroic defense of that city.

Guests at the presentation of the sword were the President of the United States Roosevelt, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov, Marshal Voroshilov, Foreign Secretary of Great Britain Eden, Ambassador of Great Britain in the USSR Clark-Kerr, Chief of the British Imperial General Staff General Brooke, Field Marshal Dill; First Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral of the Fleet Cunningham;

Chief of Staff of the Air Forces of Great Britain Air Chief Marshal Portal, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Defense of Great Britain Lieutenant General Ismay, Chief of the Military Mission of Great Britain in the USSR General Martel, special assistant to the President of the United States Hopkins, Chief of Staff of the United States Army General Marshall, and others.

Churchill and Stalin exchanged short speeches.

A guard of honor composed of units of the Red Army and of British troops was in attendance, and a military band played the State anthems of the USSR and Great Britain.

Churchill's Birthday Celebrated in Teheran

On November 30 in the British Legation in Teheran a supper was held in honor of the birthday of the Prime Minister of Great Britain Churchill, who was 69 on that day.

At this supper were present the members of the Teheran Conference, headed by President of the United States Roosevelt and Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin, and members of the British Legation in Teheran and other guests, among them the daughter of Prime Minister Churchill, Mrs. Sarah Oliver; the Prime Min-

ister's son, Captain Randolph Churchill and President Roosevelt's son, Colonel Elliott Roosevelt.

In accordance with British custom, 69 candles were lighted on the birthday cake.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs Molotov and Marshal Voroshilov attended from the Soviet side.

The supper took place in an atmosphere of friendship. Stalin and Roosevelt warmly congratulated Churchill and wished him health and successes.

Tank School Receives Order of Lenin

The First Kharkov Tank School, named after Stalin, has been awarded the Order of Lenin on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. The honor is bestowed in recognition of the school's outstanding successes in training officer cadres for armored and mechanized units, and for its military services.

Stalin sent the following congratulatory message to Major General of Tank Troops Dolakov, head of the school:

"I congratulate the officers, sergeants, cadets, privates and staff members of the Kharkov Order of Lenin Tank School on its 25th anniversary and on the high Government decorations awarded it. I wish you further successes in training officers for tank troops."

Communications Again Working

Over 15,625 miles of telegraph and telephone lines, with over 62,500 miles of wiring, have been restored in areas liberated in the Red Army's summer offensive. The Germans had completely destroyed all communications, sawing down or blowing up every telegraph pole along the main lines.

Post and telegraph communications have now been reorganized in 679 districts, including 18 regional centers. Over 200 telegraph and telephone junctions, about 400 radio stations and over 5,000 post offices are now working in these areas. Over 500,000 letters were delivered by air mail in the Kursk, Orel, Kharkov, Stalino and Voroshilovgrad regions during September alone, and over 600,000 dispatched from these areas to Moscow.

problems of the future. We shall seek the cooperation and active participation of all nations, large and small, whose peoples in heart and in mind are dedicated, as are our own peoples, to the elimination of tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance. We will welcome them as they may choose to come into the world family of democratic nations.

No power on earth can prevent our destroying the German armies by land, their U-boats by sea, and their war plants from the air. Our attacks will be relentless and increasing.

Emerging from these friendly conferences we look with confidence to the day when all the peoples of the world may live free lives untouched by tyranny and according to their varying desires and their own consciences.

We came here with hope and determination. We leave here friends in fact, in spirit, and in purpose.

Teheran, December 1, 1943

(Signed) ROOSEVELT, STALIN, CHURCHILL

THREE-POWER DECLARATION ON IRAN

Following is the text of the Three-Power statement concerning Iran, signed on December 1, 1943:

The President of the United States of America, the Premier of the USSR, and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, having consulted with each other and with the Prime Minister of Iran, desire to declare the mutual agreement of their three Governments regarding relations with Iran.

The Governments of the United States of America, the USSR and the United Kingdom recognize the assistance which Iran has given in the prosecution of the war against the common enemy, particularly by facilitating the transportation of supplies from overseas to the Soviet Union. The three Governments realize that the war has caused special economic difficulties for Iran and they agreed that they will continue to make available to the Iran Government such economic assistance as may be possible, having regard to the heavy demands made upon them by their world-wide military operations and to the world-wide shortage of transport, raw materials and supplies for civilian consumption.

With respect to the post-war period, the Governments of the United States of America, the USSR and the United Kingdom are in accord with the Government of Iran that any economic problem confronting Iran at the close of hostilities should receive full consideration along with those of other members of the United Nations by conferences or international agencies, held or created, to deal with international economic matters.

The Governments of the United States of America, the USSR and the United Kingdom are at one with the Government of Iran in their desire for the maintenance of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran. They count upon the participation of Iran, together with all other peace-loving nations, in the establishment of international peace, security and prosperity after the war, in accordance with the principles of the Atlantic Charter, to which all four Governments have continued to subscribe.

December 1, 1943

(Signed) ROOSEVELT, STALIN, CHURCHILL

Exchange of Visits Between Leaders of USSR and Iran

On December 1 the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin visited the Shah of Iran, Mohamed Reza Pekkhevi, in his palace in Teheran.

The conversation with the Shah was of a friendly and cordial nature and continued for more than an hour.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov and the Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Iran Maximov, were present at the conversation.

* * *

On December 1 the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin received in the Soviet Embassy in Teheran the Chairman of the

Council of Ministers of Iran Soheli.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran Saed and the Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Iran Maximov, were present at the conversation.

* * *

On November 27 the People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, where he had a conversation with the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Iran Soheli and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran Saed.

The Charge d'Affaires of the USSR in Iran Maximov was present at the conversation.

Presentation of Sword of Honor to Heroic Stalingrad

On November 29 in Teheran, the Prime Minister of Great Britain Churchill presented to the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin a sword of honor—the gift of the King of Great Britain, George VI, to the citizens of the city of Stalingrad, in token of their heroic defense of that city.

Guests at the presentation of the sword were the President of the United States Roosevelt, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Molotov, Marshal Voroshilov, Foreign Secretary of Great Britain Eden, Ambassador of Great Britain in the USSR Clark-Kerr, Chief of the British Imperial General Staff General Brooke, Field Marshal Dill; First Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral of the Fleet Cunningham;

Chief of Staff of the Air Forces of Great Britain Air Chief Marshal Portal, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Defense of Great Britain Lieutenant General Ismay, Chief of the Military Mission of Great Britain in the USSR General Martel, special assistant to the President of the United States Hopkins, Chief of Staff of the United States Army General Marshall, and others.

Churchill and Stalin exchanged short speeches.

A guard of honor composed of units of the Red Army and of British troops was in attendance, and a military band played the State anthems of the USSR and Great Britain.

Churchill's Birthday Celebrated in Teheran

On November 30 in the British Legation in Teheran a supper was held in honor of the birthday of the Prime Minister of Great Britain Churchill, who was 69 on that day.

At this supper were present the members of the Teheran Conference, headed by President of the United States Roosevelt and Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Stalin, and members of the British Legation in Teheran and other guests, among them the daughter of Prime Minister Churchill, Mrs. Sarah Oliver; the Prime Min-

ister's son, Captain Randolph Churchill and President Roosevelt's son, Colonel Elliott Roosevelt.

In accordance with British custom, 69 candles were lighted on the birthday cake.

People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs Molotov and Marshal Voroshilov attended from the Soviet side.

The supper took place in an atmosphere of friendship. Stalin and Roosevelt warmly congratulated Churchill and wished him health and successes.

Tank School Receives Order of Lenin

The First Kharkov Tank School, named after Stalin, has been awarded the Order of Lenin on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. The honor is bestowed in recognition of the school's outstanding successes in training officer cadres for armored and mechanized units, and for its military services.

Stalin sent the following congratulatory message to Major General of Tank Troops Dolakov, head of the school:

"I congratulate the officers, sergeants, cadets, privates and staff members of the Kharkov Order of Lenin Tank School on its 25th anniversary and on the high Government decorations awarded it. I wish you further successes in training officers for tank troops."

Communications Again Working

Over 15,625 miles of telegraph and telephone lines, with over 62,500 miles of wiring, have been restored in areas liberated in the Red Army's summer offensive. The Germans had completely destroyed all communications, sawing down or blowing up every telegraph pole along the main lines.

Post and telegraph communications have now been reorganized in 679 districts, including 18 regional centers. Over 200 telegraph and telephone junctions, about 400 radio stations and over 5,000 post offices are now working in these areas. Over 500,000 letters were delivered by air mail in the Kursk, Orel, Kharkov, Stalino and Voroshilovgrad regions during September alone, and over 600,000 dispatched from these areas to Moscow.

Second Anniversary of the Defeat of the Germans at Moscow

By Matyushkin

In the early part of October, 1941, Hitler trumpeted the news of a drive on Moscow. An enormous German force of 13 armored divisions, five motorized divisions and 33 infantry divisions was concentrated against the Soviet Capital. The enemy possessed a superiority in tanks of almost three to one.

The Nazi ringleaders made no secret of their confidence that the plan of surrounding and capturing Moscow would succeed. In one of his leaflets Hitler boasted that on November 7 he would review his troops in Red Square. On October 10 the Quartermaster General of the Wehrmacht issued an order in Hitler's name concerning the billeting of German troops in and around Moscow, and containing the names of the streets, towns and settlements where the various units would be quartered. On December 2 Berlin newspapers were ordered to leave space for the announcement of Moscow's capture. In a word, the Germans were confidently looking forward to the sack of the city.

Although the Capital was passing through hard times, its people did not for a moment lose their courage and self-possession. To every blow of the enemy, Soviet troops were replying with powerful counter-blows. The Germans continued to gain ground, but the tempo of their advance was steadily becoming slower. In November they pushed forward three to four times more slowly than in October. While retreating, the Russian divisions were exhausting and wearing down the Nazi invaders and inflicting tremendous losses on them. The whole world has heard of the glorious Soviet Guardsmen who engaged 50 tanks at the approaches to Moscow and stopped the panzers at the cost of their own lives.

Lieutenant Pakhotin, a Stormovik pilot, alone attacked a motorized column moving toward the front. Despite the fire of numerous machine guns and anti-aircraft guns, Pakhotin destroyed the whole column. When the plane returned from this sortie nearly a thousand dents and scratches were found on it.

The thoughts of Soviet soldiers were well-expressed by Mikhail Khudishvili, a Georgian, who addressed his countrymen as follows: "I was born in Georgia. Is there a man in our country who does not love his native land? There is no such man. Yet we all know where the heart of our country is located. It is beating in the great city of Moscow. . . ."

Help and concern for Moscow were shown in all

parts of the Soviet Union. The citizens of the Capital played an important part in the defeat of the Germans. Battle front and home front were firmly united. The Muscovites fought the enemy in the ranks of the Red Army and in numerous workers' battalions. They built formidable defenses in the city and in its suburbs. They helped the men in the field by their heroic work in the munitions plants.

All this goes to explain the outcome of the great Battle for Moscow. The failure of their first offensive in October did not bode well for the Germans. Not one of the tasks set for the enemy troops was fulfilled. Instead of a review in Red Square and warm winter quarters, the Nazis froze in snowdrifts and were bled white by the Red Army. The review of Soviet troops held on November 7, 1941 in Red Square, only a few score kilometers from the front line, was an indication of the power and tenacity of the Red Army and its determination to fight to the end.

While the world was awaiting news of the fall of Moscow, the Soviet Command was working out a plan to crush Hitler's hordes at the approaches to the Soviet Capital. In his speeches on November 6 and 7, 1941, Commander-in-Chief Joseph Stalin confidently called upon the Red Army and the whole Soviet nation to defeat the German invaders.

Following the failure of their first drive, the second Nazi offensive against Moscow in November was stopped. Under pressure of Soviet troops, and badly battered in fierce battles, the Germans began to retreat to the west. On December 6 Soviet troops of the Western Front assumed the offensive.

Nothing is considered more difficult for an army than to turn from defense to offensive. The Soviet High Command, in the person of Joseph Stalin, succeeded in fulfilling tasks of the utmost historical importance—the wearing down of the enemy in defensive actions and the accumulation of forces for a decisive blow. During the hardest battles, when the Red Army was forced to retreat and the enemy neared the Capital, troops were taking up positions assigned them around Moscow. On December 6, 1941, at the moment when the enemy's strength had reached its lowest point, these mighty reserves were hurled into action.

The Red Army struck back with such force that the Nazis broke and fled in panic, abandoning their weapons and ammunition. From December 6 to December 25, Soviet troops around Moscow captured

1,098 tanks, 1,434 artillery pieces, 1,615 machine guns, 12,233 automatic rifles, and a large amount of other materiel. Hundreds of thousands of enemy dead were left behind on the battlefield.

Pressing hard on the enemy's heels, Soviet troops found piles of ashes and debris and the mutilated bodies of Soviet people in the once-flourishing towns and villages. Wherever they could the Germans had burned down and wrecked dwelling houses and industrial establishments. In four districts around Moscow the Germans razed 130 settlements to the ground. In 13 other districts of the Moscow Region they burned down 4,208 dwelling houses and several score of thousands of collective farm homes. The town of Istra was completely destroyed; the towns of Ruza, Narofominsk, Borovsk and Solnechnogorsk suffered very heavily. Of 866 buildings in Bogoroditsk, 534 were burned down. In Stalinogorsk the damage to buildings alone is estimated at 278 million rubles. In the Tula Region 316 villages were com-

pletely burned down, and 19,164 collective farm homes and 2,250 barns, stables and cattle-sheds destroyed.

During the winter of 1941 the Red Army carried out a large-scale offensive. In the course of four months the enemy was forced back in some places to a distance of 400 kilometers. All of the Moscow and Tula Regions and a large part of the Kalinin, Smolensk, Kursk and other Regions were liberated.

The defeat of the Germans at Moscow is a factor of tremendous importance in the struggle against Hitlerism. The battle around the Soviet Capital showed that the Red Army was strong and that the Nazi war machine was not invincible. Soviet troops proved themselves capable not only of stopping the Germans, but of defeating them in open battle and driving them back. The myth of the invincibility of the Wehrmacht was buried under the walls of the great Russian city. All freedom-loving nations realized that the Nazis could be beaten.



A German prisoner is escorted through a liberated Soviet village

Dnieper Heroes

Hundreds of Government decorations have been awarded for skill and daring in the Battle of the Dnieper. Following are a few of the actions for which the title of Hero of the Soviet Union—the country's highest award for personal courage—has been bestowed upon Red Army men and commanders:

Sergeant Sobolev Takes Command

At the moment Sergeant Sobolev's company received the order to cross the Dnieper the company commander was killed. Delay meant holding up the operation. Sergeant Nikolai Sobolev assumed command, led the company across, secured a foothold on the right bank and began at once to widen the base of operations. Ahead of the Soviet infantrymen lay German tanks buried in the ground. Sobolev ordered his anti-tank riflemen to open fire. He himself damaged two tanks. Then Nazi bombers appeared. The sergeant and his men turned their fire on the Luftwaffe, and Sobolev again set an example by bringing down a Junkers 87 with his anti-tank rifle. Repulsing all counter-attacks by German infantry, Sobolev's company advanced deep into the enemy positions.

A Radio Operator Behind the German Lines

Carrying out an assignment of the command,

Guards Sergeant Peter Kharkovsky crossed the Dnieper with his portable radio and made his way behind the German lines. From there he transmitted to Soviet batteries the location of German firing positions. As usual, Soviet gunners did a magnificent job of silencing enemy batteries and machine guns, and the Red Army forces continued to widen their base of operations on the right bank.

As Sergeant Kharkovsky was returning to his unit he saw that a Soviet detachment had been surrounded by the Germans. Risking discovery and death Kharkovsky made his way through the enemy lines to the trapped troops and radioed the position of new targets for Soviet artillery crews. The latter immediately opened furious fire, breaking the encirclement.

A Skirmish at a Soviet Command Post

Immediately after crossing the Dnieper a Soviet company led by Lieutenant Jacob Achkasov was counter-attacked by the Germans, who attempted to push the Soviet infantrymen back into the river, hurling a large number of tanks against them. Lieutenant Achkasov ordered:

(Continued on page eight)



Red Army troops crossing the Dnieper under cover of machine-gun fire

Radlophoto

THE GRAVES OF PIRYATIN

By Ilya Ehrenburg

On April 6, 1942 in the town of Piryatin, Poltava Region, the Germans butchered 1,600 Jews—old men, women and children who were unable to get away in time.

Why did the Germans kill the Jews? An idle question. In Piryatin they also killed hundreds of Ukrainians. In the village of Klubovka they murdered 200 Byelorussians. They are slaying Frenchmen in Grenoble and Greeks in Crete. They have to slay the defenseless, for that is their reason for being.

The Jews were escorted along the Grebec Road and brought to the Prirogov Glades, about three kilometers from Piryatin. There commodious graves had already been dug. The Jews were stripped of their clothing, and the Germans and their policemen right there on the spot divided up the women's and children's things among themselves. They drove five persons at a time to the graves, and shot them down with tommy guns.

I cannot talk of the execution of babies at the breast. Words fail me.

The Extraordinary Commission for the investigation of German atrocities will have its say. History will pass its judgment. I will only tell of the torments of Peter Cherpurchenko. He was brought to the spot at three in the afternoon and with him over 300 other Piryatin inhabitants. They were given spades. They saw the Germans butchering babies. At five o'clock the German officer commanded: "Fill up the graves!"

From the pits and the ground issued shrieks. Beneath the thin layer of earth, human beings still alive stirred and writhed. "The earth heaved," Cherpurchenko says.

Suddenly a man rose from the earth. It was Cherpurchenko's neighbor, the Jew Ruderman, a carter in a felt-making factory. Ruderman's eyes were bloodshot; he was covered with blood.

"Put me out of my misery!" Ruderman cried. Behind him came an answering cry. "Put me out of my misery!" It was another acquaintance of Cherpurchenko's, Sima the carpenter, who had been wounded, but not killed.

At Cherpurchenko's feet lay a dead woman. A little boy of five crawled from under her body and whimpered, "Mama!" Cherpurchenko saw and heard no more. He lost consciousness.

Peter Cherpurchenko is still alive, but his life has

been poisoned. He cannot forget the day of April 6, 1942. He begins: "It was the second day of Easter . . ." and then breaks off. He stares fixedly in front of him, seeming to be listening to something. What does he see? A little boy shaking his dead mother? Ruderman's eyes?

On that day the Germans killed Cherpurchenko, too. I want you, the defenders of our country, to know this. When you see a German, remember the graves of Piryatin. Remember the little boy of five. You, too, have a young son or a young brother.

Conscience will give you no rest as long as the butchers walk the earth. The time is past for talk. The time is past for indignation. This is the time for one thing only—to slay the vile and unscrupulous assassins.



A German takes aim at a Soviet citizen standing at the edge of a ditch which will be his grave

(Photograph found on a German taken prisoner in the Fastov district, Kiev Region) Radiophoto

The Major Buys Some Books

By K. Levin

Red Army men passing through Moscow always make for the book stores in Gorky and Kuskovskiy Most Streets.

The other day I ran into my old neighbor, Major Sergei Makarov. He had just arrived from the front the day before. He had *The Fundamentals of Harmony*, by Ogolevets, tucked under his arm, and was busy doing various commissions for comrades in his unit.

The Fundamentals of Harmony was for himself. Young Andreyev, a scout, had asked him to get some books by Timiryazev, the agronomist, and Darwin. The staff runner, Eliseyev, wanted *Andersen's Fairy Tales*. Sergei's aide, who was an agronomist before the war, was longing for some Fenimore Cooper. Other books on his list were volumes by Tolstoy and Pushkin, and a self-instructor in the English language.

Knowing the difficulties civilians often have in getting hold of the books they want, I asked the major if he had had any luck with the list. He grinned slyly.

"It may be difficult for you Muscovites," he said,

"but it's different for us men from the front. I handed the list to the salesgirl and she had all the books ready for me next day."

The liberated areas are crying out for books. The Nazis emptied the library shelves in every town they captured. Millions of books were used for fuel and wrapping paper. The librarians did their best to save their treasures, hiding them in basements, sheds and attics. A librarian in Krasnodar rescued a whole library with the help of some youngsters. Similar cases have been reported from Sumy and other towns.

The People's Commissariat of Education has a department which is helping to re-stock libraries in Orel, Krasnodar, Voroshilovgrad, Gorlovka and scores of other liberated places. Each day great consignments of books leave Moscow. Over four million volumes have already been dispatched.

It was the school children who started this "book relief" campaign. In a Moscow school I saw a room stacked to the top with books, and was told they had all been collected by the students.

DNIEPER HEROES

(Continued from page six)

"Let the tanks through! At the enemy infantry! Fire!" The Soviet tommy gunners wiped out two companies of Hitlerites, while a group of armor-piercing riflemen crippled two German tanks.

Meanwhile 14 Germans crept up to the command point where Lieutenant Achkasov and four of his men were located. Outnumbered three to one, the Soviet fighters refused to lay down their arms, and the Lieutenant, who was wounded, led his men in a hand-to-hand battle with the enemy, himself killing a German officer and seven soldiers.

13 Nazis Wiped Out by One Soviet Gunner

The field gun commanded by Corporal Alexander Artemenko covered the flank of a Soviet battalion which had crossed the Dnieper. German tanks and tommy gunners launched a furious counter-attack on the flank of the battalion. Corporal Artemenko ordered his gun rolled out into an open position and began to fire point-blank at the advancing Hitlerites. The first shell disabled a German tank. The other tanks turned back. At the same time a German shell damaged Artemenko's gun, but he continued to

fire at the German infantrymen with his tommy gun, then engaged them in hand-to-hand fighting. In this bitter battle alone he wiped out 13 Hitlerites.

Corporal Artemenko has to date killed 50 German soldiers and officers, destroyed one tank, three trucks loaded with infantry, and two guns.

Gunners Build Rafts

Soviet infantry detachments crossed the Dnieper at a point chosen by the Red Army command. The first hours on the right bank were the most difficult: the Germans strained every effort to crush and hurl the Russians back into the river. This critical situation was observed and understood by Captain Alexei Poddubny, commander of an artillery unit. He decided to transfer his guns and trench mortars to the right bank to support the infantry detachments.

The gunners lacked pontoons, boats or a ferry. But there were logs, boards, fence-gates and empty gasoline barrels strewn about. Poddubny's men set to work and in a short time built rafts, on which they ferried their armament across the Dnieper under heavy fire. With the arrival of the gunners, the battle took a new turn, and the bases on the right bank remained firmly in the hands of the Red Army detachments.

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Red Army Greet's Declarations of Three Allied Powers

Some days have passed since the decisions of the Teheran Conference of the Three Allied Powers were published, but they continue to be the subject of animated discussions in the Red Army. The Declarations of the Three Powers have aroused lively comment in literally all units. Soviet fighting men attach

immense significance to these declarations, seeing in them an expression of the strength and power of the anti-Hitlerite coalition and the increase of mutual understanding among the Allies.

On the morning of December 7, as soon as fresh



Colonel Mikhail Sholokhov (center), author of "The Quiet Don," visits a group of tankmen at the front. Colonel Sholokhov is working on a new novel dealing with the Patriotic War

newspapers were received, the men of an artillery detachment held a meeting. Red Army man Karamazin spoke first. "The decisions adopted at the Conference in Teheran spell total defeat for the Hitlerite plans," he said. "The meeting of the leaders of the three great Powers has shown that the alliance of these Powers is firmer and more indestructible than ever and that the peoples of these Powers and of all other democratic countries are filled with determination to fight fascism until the final victory."

At a meeting of another unit, Sergeant Rogachkin stated: "It was with unusual satisfaction that the entire Soviet people and the peoples of the Allied countries heard by radio and read in newspapers the stern rallying words, 'Our attack will be relentless and increasing,' contained in the Declaration of the Three Powers. The Conference dealt a crushing blow to the criminal designs of Hitler. A plan for the complete defeat of the enemy has been worked out."

The officers of a certain Red Army cavalry unit unanimously accepted the decisions of the conference of leaders of the Three Allied Powers, and pledged to fight the German-fascist occupationists until their total defeat. Senior Lieutenant Kuzminsky asserted: "The decisions of the Conference are a program for the destruction of the German armed forces. The three great Powers, who possess immense resources of men and materiel, have agreed on the plans of their attack on the enemy. Our place—the place of the cavalymen of the Red Army—is among the first warriors who will deal the death blow to the fascist monster. We are prepared to carry out any order of our Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade Stalin."

At short meetings held in one unit now fighting southwest of Kremenchug, soldiers and officers expressed similar sentiments. Lieutenant Pavlyuchenko, a member of this unit, stated: "The declarations, bearing the signatures of three great men—Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill—are another big step on the road to the complete and final defeat of Hitlerite Germany. This is clear not only to the fighting men of the Soviet, American and British armies; it is evidently clear to the Hitlerites themselves. The Germans have already displayed nervousness following the first communication about the Conference at Teheran. They feel that blows are being prepared against them from which they will never recover. We and our Allies are determined to smite the enemy until his final defeat. Our concerted blows from the east, west and south will crush him completely."

The decisions of the Teheran Conference also aroused lively comment in units on the Leningrad Front. At a meeting of fliers, Captain Lukin, one of the foremost Leningrad fighter pilots, said: "The declarations adopted by the Allied Powers in Teheran bring nearer the coming hour of victory over the enemy. The decisions reached there will play a decisive role and point the way to the complete and final defeat of Hitlerite Germany. Our attack will be relentless and increasing. Nothing can save the Germans. They will not be able to withstand the crushing blows in store for them."

Talks and discussions on the decisions of the Conference are continuing in Red Army units with increasing spirit and enthusiasm.

SOVIET PEOPLE DISCUSS TEHERAN CONFERENCE

Moscow railway workers whole-heartedly approve the decisions of the Teheran Conference of the Three Allied Powers. Speaking at a meeting in the electric power station of the Yaroslavl road, Engineer Smirnov said, "After reading the declaration of the leaders of the three great Powers, the whole world is convinced there is no force which can prevent the Allied Nations from crushing Hitlerism." The workers at this station pledged themselves to increase labor productivity by 20 per cent.

A spirited meeting was held in the car repair works at Nikolaevka, which had already fulfilled its yearly plan. The enthusiastic employees announced their intention of repairing 80 cars above schedule.

At a meeting on the Conference held at the Kharkov station, Atamaev, one of the defenders of Stalingrad and now superintendent of the station, stated: "We railwaymen of the southern road pledge that we will continue to deliver the necessary freight to the front, without delays."

Engineer Tkachev, of the Kharkov power station, asserted that the declarations of the leaders of the three great Powers demonstrated to the world the strength of the fighting alliance between the USSR, United States and Great Britain. The collective of the station pledged to give the industry and inhabitants of the city more electric power.

The decisions adopted at the Teheran Conference were greeted with the greatest satisfaction by Soviet collective farmers. In Islavskoye village, in the Zvenigorod District near Moscow, a large meeting was held on the evening after the decisions were made known. Ivan Maxin, vice chairman of the farm, read aloud the declaration signed by Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. The audience listened with breathless attention.

"Now we know that victory is not far off!" exclaimed Alexander Odinov, veterinary surgeon of the collective farm. "The leaders of the Three Allied Powers have signed Hitler's death warrant."

"We must end this war as soon as possible," said farm woman Irina Melnikova. "The news of the Conference fills us with joy and hope for the speedy end of the war. We'll strike at the enemy with all our forces . . . we'll press him to the wall."

Vice chairman Maxin put before his fellow-farmers the question of how best to respond to the Teheran Conference in deeds. "We've already over-fulfilled all our obligations to the State and in addition have delivered from our personal reserves six tons of grain and forty tons of potatoes. To hasten victory, we must do more."

The farmers decided to begin the collection of additional foodstuffs to be delivered to the Defense Fund of the Supreme Red Army Command, as a contribution from the collective farm.

Newspapers with articles on the Conference reached the Ignatovsk Collective Farm, Ivanovo Region, during a meeting of the farm administration. All the farmers present agreed that the Conference of Teheran was new proof of the growing friendship between the three great Powers of the world.

Collective farm woman Shirokova said, "The meeting between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill is of immense significance for the course of the war. The hour of final reckoning for all crimes committed by the Nazi villains is approaching. Our duty is to work so as to speed the defeat of the cruel enemy."

As timely preparation for the spring sowing it was also decided to make ready all seed materials, repair all agricultural machines and prepare more fertilizer by January 1.

THE TEHERAN CONFERENCE

By Academician Eugene Tarle

The Teheran Conference winds up a very interesting page in the history of the gradual disillusionment of the Hitlerite hordes. After the German debacle at Stalingrad, Hitler pinned his main hopes not only on total mobilization, but also on a split between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-Saxon powers, which seemed to him possible. Recourse was had to an old ruse: the threat of the "Bolshevization" of Europe in the event the Allies continued to support Russia. Of Hitler's flunkies, it was the Finns who most assiduously helped in this propaganda during 1943.

Today it must be admitted that just as hope in "total mobilization" collapsed, along with the collapse of the German summer offensive and subsequent military reverses, so the hope of the Germans for a split between the Allies ignominiously collapsed at Teheran.

In November in Moscow was published the declaration of Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill to the effect that the vile German butchers who are burning alive prisoners of war and burying alive Soviet children and their parents, will not escape trial and punishment, and that the hand of justice will pursue them even to the uttermost ends of the earth. In Germany every effort was made at that time to keep this declaration from the army and from the German population. And in Finland, where the monstrous crimes of the Schutz Corps are well-known, the Tanners and Rytis tried to cheer themselves and their hoodwinked people by indulging in sham humor, by making light of these threats, and by discourses to the effect that "once an armistice is concluded," international law

would not permit the meting out of punishment for acts committed during the war.

The contemptible German and Finnish beasts who have exterminated hundreds of thousands of utterly innocent civilians have the audacity to talk of international law!

But even after the declaration of the three leaders published in November, Germany's satellites and criminal accomplices derived their main comfort from the still remaining hope, weak as it was, that there might develop differences of opinion among the Allies regarding the necessity of utterly smashing the Hitlerite gang. They did not foresee that the Moscow declaration of November would soon be followed by the Teheran declaration in December.

The three leaders left as friends. This phrase, uncommon in diplomatic usage, is very characteristic and highly significant. Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill know that the great work which history has laid upon them and with which their glorious names will be associated for ages to come—the work of utterly crushing accursed German and every other fascism—can be consummated successfully only on the condition of their close and truly friendly cooperation.

Now we are definitely confirmed in our hope that this time the Germans will not be able to deceive their victors. This time they will suffer their deserved punishment.

The Story of Fyokla Gulenko—Byelorussian Guerrilla

(As Told by Herself)

I worked as a scout for the guerrillas and succeeded in getting much information about the Germans. But during my last scouting venture my luck deserted me. I reached the village to which I had been sent, by-passed the German patrol without mishap, and was turning quietly down the street when I heard the cry, "Halt!" Soldiers armed with tommy guns ran up to me, twisted my arms and took me to the Gestapo. There they began to question me.

"You're a Communist! You're a guerrilla!" two red-haired German officers screamed at me. "Where's your guerrilla detachment? Where were you going?"

They showered more questions at me than the interpreter was able to translate. I denied everything. The Germans then dragged me up to their torture chamber. I covered my abdomen with my hands; I was pregnant and thought of the child. They beat me. When I finally raised myself, all my clothes were torn, my body burned and ached, and I was bleeding in several places.

"Where are the guerrillas?" the German again asked me. I remained silent. The officer struck me in the face with his revolver. My mouth filled with blood and I spat it into his face. The officer cried out something and sputtered saliva. Some soldiers pushed me away and squeezed the fingers of my left hand in a door, then my right hand. The pain was such that I wondered with terror whether I would be able to hold out.

But this was not enough for the hangmen. They began to wrench my arms. Two soldiers pulled on each arm, digging their feet into my sides. Feeling my last bit of strength ebbing I cried out: "Long live my free country! Death to the German dogs!"

The soldiers let go of my arms and began to pull out my hair. This inhuman torture was too much . . . I lost consciousness. The beasts, however, continued to torture me. They branded the words "guerrilla" and "Communist" on my legs with some sort of hot liquid, and a five-pointed star on my abdomen. Those marks are still there.

It was dark when I came to. I could see the German sentry through a little window. Whenever I made the slightest movement my whole body was filled with excruciating pain. It was too much for me . . . I broke into weeping, because the whole operation of the detachment depended on the information I was supposed to bring them, and now many of our guerrillas might meet their death. How could I help them now? The Germans would soon come again to torture and finally hang me. And my child . . . my

first . . . neither I nor his father, who was in the Red Army, would ever see him.

Suddenly I heard shots and cries. Several very loud explosions came from nearby, and someone began breaking down the prison door with the butt of a gun. The door gave way. Two men entered, picked me up and carried me away on a cape. They were guerrillas of our detachment. That day they had wiped out the German garrison in this village.

My son Leonid was born in January, 1943. My happiness was shared by the whole detachment. But it was difficult for me to continue my work with a baby in my arms. I obtained permission to take him over to the Soviet side of the front, 600 kilometers away. I had to cross four Regions—Polesye, Chernigov, Poltava and Kharkov. My legs were still covered with red sores from that poisonous substance applied by the Germans, and in my arms was a hungry, crying child.

Every Region was thick with German outposts and police. I walked for 86 days. Once I decided to rest in a village, but when I saw a German stabbing a child I hurried on, skirting villages and cities. I determined that my son was going to live.

In the 86 days of my trek I passed through parts of the Polesye and all of the Chernigov, Poltava and Kharkov Regions. And everywhere I saw our Russian, Ukrainian and Byelorussian women, old people and children suffering and shedding bitter tears. In the Ukraine I saw trucks loaded with the bodies of Red Army men tortured and killed in a German prison camp. They were taken to a gully and dumped in a heap.

When I was quite close to the front my last drop of strength left me. I lay on the ground, unable to move arm or leg. Then I heard our artillery cannonade, and I got up and moved on again. During the night I crossed the front line. I crept from bush to bush, from hillock to hillock. Suddenly I heard a deafening crash, felt a sharp pain in my hip and fainted.

I regained consciousness in a hospital. I was told that I had been picked up by Soviet scouts, who brought me with my son to a Red Army field hospital. I stayed there until July, when my baby and I were sent by plane to Gorky for treatment.

My joy was complete when my husband, Alexei Gulenko, an officer in the Red Army serving in a rifle regiment in the northwestern sector, came to visit us. We had so much to tell each other . . . and we thanked our good fortune that I was able to bear our suffering through fire and death.

SOVIET FLIERS OF AIRACOBRAS

By Captain V. Kirsanov

I recently talked with pilot Alexei Smirnov, Squadron Commander and Hero of the Soviet Union. With six other pilots he flies American Airacobras, excellent fighter planes. Speaking of recent air battles, Smirnov gave me the following details:

"Despite the short autumn days and unfavorable flying weather, we make ten and sometimes more flights daily. In the last 10 days we have shot down 27 enemy planes.

"Most of our opponents this fall have been Heinkels and Junkers. We have had to deal with large enemy bomber formations escorted by strong fighter forces, and have engaged the enemy on many occasions and under varying conditions.

"Once when we were returning from a successful reconnaissance in the enemy rear and were about 10 kilometers from our base, I spotted a group of Heinkel

111's flying in three formations, four machines in each flight, with about 10 meters between flights. The Germans were flying at about 5,000 meters—we were 3,000 meters up. I decided to attack and ordered my fellow-pilots to climb. My plan was to ascend to a greater height than the bombers, come to close quarters and attack them from a dive. The success of this operation depends on speed and dash.

"The Germans came in from the south, we from the west. They sighted us, and before reaching their targets began to turn in our direction. It was essential to attack before the planes got nearer the Soviet lines, so that the German bombs would fall on their own troops. I ordered four machines to attack the Heinkels from above and two to fall upon them at the height they were flying. During the first attack we shot down a flight of the Heinkels and during

(Continued on page eight)



Soviet pilot Captain S. Sibirin (left), congratulating a French fighter pilot of the Normandie Squadron, who has just brought down a German plane

Germans Destroy Art Treasures at Novgorod

The German barbarians have destroyed the centuries-old Russian churches near Novgorod—memorials of the beginning of the Russian State and jewels of ancient art.

The stern faces of princes and saints of old Russia, painted on ikons, stare through the broken walls of the Spass Nereditsy Church. Blocks of stone and heaps of rubble are all that remain of the strong walls built by unknown architects, which stood for seven and one-half centuries, until German artillery reduced them to ruin. Artists and scientists came from all countries of the world to view the wonderful frescoes, creations of the masters of those times, and to study the art and architecture of Kiev-Novgorod.

The blood boils with anger and grief when one walks through this land defiled by the fascist vandals—the land where over a thousand years ago the foundation of the Russian State was laid. Through a gap in the fallen walls the skyline of Great Novgorod can be seen. Marks of the German invasion are visible from afar. German shells have pierced the cupola of the Cathedral of St. Sofya, and the gold-leaf adorning it has been stripped off and sent to Germany.

Ancient Novgorod has become the den of Russia's eternal enemy. The Germans built barracks and pillboxes in the monasteries of Yuri, Kirill and Khutyn, near the city. Every stone of these buildings breathes of antiquity. The city of Novgorod—in itself a museum—has been methodically plundered and destroyed by the Nazi bandits. The bells of the Novgorod churches were sawn into sections and carried away to Germany; the same fate befell the bronze monument commemorating the one-thousandth anniversary of Russia. Ancient books were also pillaged by the vandals.

For the third year now the German-fascist occupationists have trampled and defiled Novgorod earth. They have made serfs of the Novgorod collective farmers and plundered and tormented the local population, carrying out their predatory colonization plans.

Russian speech is no longer heard in the streets of the city. In September, 1941 the entire population was driven away. Signs reading "Access to the city is forbidden under pain of death" are posted at the outskirts. This thousand-year-old city, this treasure house of the Russian people, has been crushed under the jackboots of the Hitlerites. Unable to conceal their monstrous act of vandalism, the Germans try to justify it by the "military situation."

During the September fighting in the Mga area an article by a German oberleutnant, Huenter Kaising—printed in the Nazi newspaper *Front*—fell into our hands. Lauding the "valor" of his fellow-bandits of the Volkhov Front, the oberleutnant poses

as a historian. "The ancient Kremlin"—(of Novgorod)—he writes, "and the innumerable churches with their gold cupolas, are daily falling into decay. Our positions are located in the streets. Firing-pits and artillery observation posts nestle in the ruins of towers and our infantry is stationed in cellars and vaults. Soldiers of Northern blood again defend Novgorod—the ancient fortress and rival of Moscow."

The descendants of the Teutonic Knights have forgotten for a time the bloody lessons learned by their forefathers at the hands of the people of Novgorod—on the ice of Lake Peipus in the 13th Century. But—as happened 700 years ago—this lake has again become a cemetery for the German invaders. Hundreds of thousands of "soldiers of Northern blood" have found their graves in the virgin forests and marshes of Novgorod Region and in the waters of the gray Volkhov.

Here Hitler's picked troops, led by two field marshals and one colonel general, met their end—and the same fate will overtake the rest of them.



Ruins of the Cathedral of the Assumption—part of the ancient Pecherskaya-Lavra Monastery in Kiev, which was totally wrecked by the Germans

Radloff

FINLAND AND HITLER'S "NEW EUROPE"

The following article appeared in Number 13 of the Moscow publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The rulers of Finland now keep silence about the fight for Hitler's "new Europe." They take pains to evade this question. Yet two years ago this was the favorite subject in Finland's government-controlled press. Today this press is trying to prove that belligerent Finland never had anything in common with Hitler's plans of conquest. And Finnish Prime Minister Linkomies hypocritically asserts that Finland is fighting only "for peace, freedom and security."

It is therefore in place to recall what tunes these gentlemen from Helsinki sang at the stage of the war when the Hitlerites were scoring military successes. Thus, for instance, the *Uusi Suomi*, main organ of Prime Minister Linkomies' party, wrote on August 21, 1941, in an article entitled "Finland and the New Europe":

"After the mighty war machine of Germany has broken the last resistance on the continent of Europe, there gradually begins to take shape a new Europe, which is being built up under Adolf Hitler's leadership of genius. At last a great statesman has begun to guide the destinies of Europe. Hegemony in Europe belongs to Germany. It is now only a question of time until Europe, Asia and North Africa will in their main portions represent support bases for the new Hitler-led Europe. After the capture of Southern Russia, Germany will obtain Russia's large oil-fields and at the same time open a road to Iran and the Suez Canal. There is no reason to doubt that sooner or later Germany's victorious divisions will cut this vital artery of the British Empire. And if Eng-

land does not surrender even then, Hitler will have to continue his advance farther, perhaps as far as India, where he can acquire one of the most essential parts of the British Empire. Consequently, by persisting in the struggle England has compelled Hitler to advance ever farther in order to create a solid military, political and economic base for the new Europe projected by him."

In this Hitlerite "new Europe," Finland was of course going to hold the profitable place of a privileged vassal of Germany. In that same article the paper wrote: "Germany has secured for Finland, too, a position of prominence in this new Europe. In the new Europe, Finland will maintain her age-old glorious role as an outpost of the West against the East. But the creator of the new Europe, as a true statesman, has understood that for the successful performance of this role Finland needs another sort of base of support and different boundaries from those which she has today. That is why in the new Europe Finland will be a greater, stronger and wealthier state than at present." In conclusion, *Uusi Suomi* expressed its "sincere wish that other nations of the North should find their way to the new Europe," adding, "although it is not so easy for all of them as for us."

It has turned out that for Hitler's Finnish accomplices it is not "so easy" either. In fact, it has turned out that it is impossible, since Hitler's "new Europe" plans have utterly collapsed beneath the blows dealt by the Red Army. That, and only that, is the reason why Hitler's Finnish accomplices are now trying to cover up their tracks and deny their part in the crimes of the German fascists.

Worsened Conditions in the German Rear

By K. Velikanov

Reviewing the results of Wehrmacht operations along the Soviet-German front, General Dietmar, Nazi commentator, in a recent broadcast was compelled to admit that the principal result of its summer campaign was "total" retreat.

Although Dietmar labored to prove that November had brought some improvement in the unenviable position of the German army in the East, he refrained from saying that German troops would not be compelled to retreat before the blows of the Red Army in the future.

The initiative rests firmly with the Soviet troops, and the development of the autumn and winter cam-

paigns has proceeded according to the plans of the Soviet Command.

The desperate attempts of the enemy to stem the Soviet advance have cost him an enormous price in manpower and armaments. The Wehrmacht's operative reserves were expended during the first months of the summer campaign. The German command was compelled to transfer a number of divisions to the Soviet-German front from the west, thus making inroads on its strategic reserves and thereby rendering its defenses in the west even more vulnerable. As the Soviet Information Bureau reported, the Red Army during its summer campaign routed 144 enemy divisions, of which 28 were tank and motorized divisions. The Germans lost 17,700 tanks, 19,800 guns, 10,189 air-

craft, 75,982 motor vehicles and large quantities of other war materiel. No "super-total" mobilization or intensification of production will avail the Germans in replacing what they have lost on the Soviet-German front.

The Red Army commands superior forces. Soviet war industry is producing ever greater quantities of armaments. There are no hitches in the matter of getting supplies to the front. Soviet transport is coping with all requirements arising from the lengthening lines of communication as the Red Army continues its westward movement.

German transport, on the other hand, is unable to cope with its autumn and winter shipping, despite the fact that German lines of communication are growing shorter. The *Berliner Boersenzeitung* sounded a note of alarm on this score. The newspaper declares that overloaded transports are interfering with supplies to the front and rear and that the abbreviated communication lines have not alleviated matters for transport, confronted with tasks of unprecedented difficulty in the fifth winter of the war.

The massed blows recently showered upon Berlin and its environs by Allied aircraft will undoubtedly cause further disorganization in the German hinterland, where conditions must inevitably grow worse, particularly since German anti-aircraft defenses are unable to effectively ward off the blows of Allied aviation.

Millions of Germans are now experiencing on their own hides to what extent Germany's fighting power has declined as a result of the reverses sustained by the Wehrmacht on the Soviet-German front. If the

Luftwaffe had been able to preserve the 10,000 aircraft lost during the four months of the summer campaign on the Soviet-German front, German anti-aircraft defenses would be far more effective.

As Christmas approaches, the German people are gripped with melancholy when they compare Germany's condition with the situation during the first years of war. The future looms ever darker. In autumn there was a curtailment of various food rations. What are the perspectives with regard to food in the future?

Germany's Minister of Agriculture Backe portrays the situation in far from rosy colors. He declares that an enormous effort will be required to maintain the present level of the sowing area. He admitted that this was no time for extending the sowing of grain. German agriculture, experiencing an acute shortage of labor, is unable to handle two problems at once—extending grain-sowing and truck-farming. They must choose between the two. Backe emphasized that during the next year it would be essential to increase the harvest of potatoes and turnips. The extension of truck-farming was projected for the current year. "Nevertheless," said Backe, "for various reasons we were unable to achieve the results desired in this sphere."

Germany's Minister of Agriculture was more eloquent two years ago when Nazi troops captured the Ukraine. They are now losing the Ukraine and all its agricultural potential. The Germans derived foodstuffs from the Ukraine. In the future their army can be fed only by curtailing consumption in the hinterland. At the same time, Germany is compelled to allot part of its foodstuffs to its vassals.

FLIERS OF AIRACOBAS

(Continued from page five)

the second three more. We broke up the enemy formation in the first assault. Our two fighters operating at the same altitude as the bombers were covered by enemy machines, so that the latter could not open up without danger of hitting their own planes.

"In another battle we were four—and the enemy formation consisted of 18 Junkers and an escort of six Focke-Wulf 190's. Senior Lieutenants Ivan Loginov and Victor Anisimov, two fighter pilots of my squadron, engaged the enemy fighters and brought one down, while Senior Lieutenant Anatoli Kozlovsky

and I attacked the bombers. We raced after the Junkers 87's in a dive, and during the attack shot down two of them. We then climbed and rushed six other Junkers as they were about to dive. Our sudden appearance caused the bombers to scatter. One of the Junkers attempted to get away by flying low in the direction of our positions. I followed it just skipping the trees. The German began to release his load, hoping to blow me up. I managed to stay to one side, and utilizing my advantage in speed began to climb. I kept after the Junkers and forced him to land in Soviet territory. The German gunner was killed during the battle, and the pilot was taken prisoner.

"The Airacobras sent us by our American allies are very popular with Soviet pilots."

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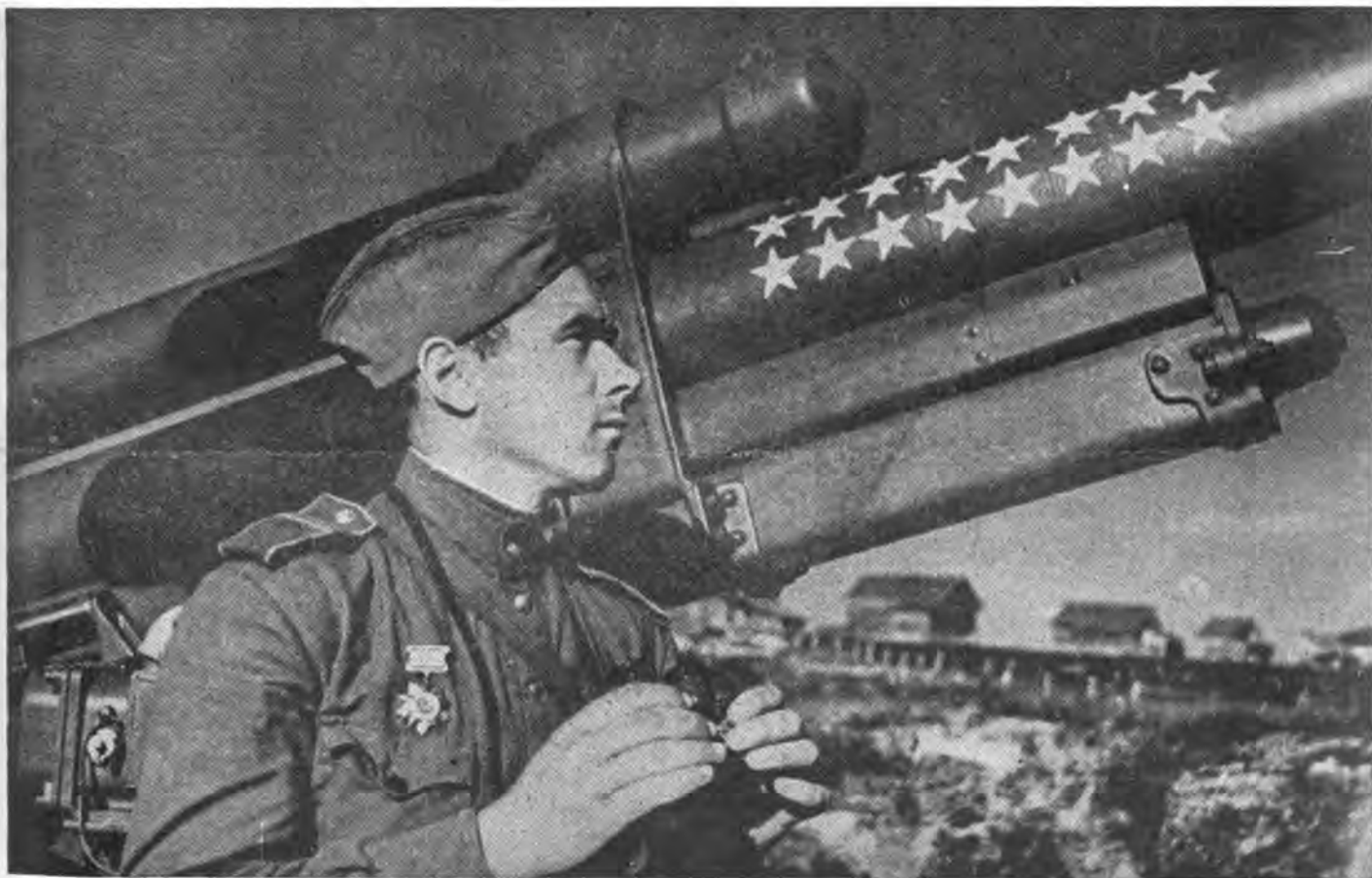
SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK TREATY

Treaty on Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Post-war Collaboration Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the President of the Czechoslovak Republic, desiring to modify and supplement the Treaty on Mutual Assistance existing between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic and signed in Prague on May 16, 1935, confirm the provisions of the Agreement between the Government of the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic on Joint Actions in War Against Germany signed in London on July 18, 1941, desiring to assist after the war in the maintenance of peace and in averting further aggression on the part of Germany and to insure continuous friendship and peaceful collaboration between themselves after the war, have decided to conclude a treaty with this purpose and appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

For the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—Vyacheslav Mi-



The Order of the Patriotic War, Second Degree, has been awarded Senior Sergeant Polyenko, commander of an anti-aircraft gun crew which has shot down 16 German planes

khailovich Molotov, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs; for the President of the Czechoslovak Republic—Zdenek Firlinger, the Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Republic in the Soviet Union, who upon the exchange of their credentials found in due form and good order have agreed upon the following:

Article I

The high contracting parties, having mutually agreed to unite in the policy of continuous friendship and friendly collaboration after the war as well as of mutual assistance, undertake to render each other military and other assistance and support of all kind in the present war against Germany and all those states which are associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

Article II

The high contracting parties undertake not to enter in the course of the present war into any negotiations with the Hitler government or with any other government in Germany which does not clearly renounce all aggressive intentions, and not to negotiate or conclude without mutual consent any armistice or peace treaty with Germany or with any other state associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

Article III

Confirming their prewar policy of peace and mutual assistance expressed in their treaty signed in Prague on May 16, 1935, the high contracting parties undertake that, in the event one of them finds itself in the postwar period involved in hostilities with Germany which would resume her "Drang nach Osten" policy, or with any other state which would unite with Germany directly or in any other form in such a war, the other high contracting party will immediately render the contracting party thus involved in hostilities every military and other support and assistance within its disposal.

Article IV

The high contracting parties, considering the interests of security of each of them, agree to maintain

close and friendly collaboration in the period after the reestablishment of peace and to act in conformity with the principles of mutual respect for their independence and sovereignty, as well as for non-intervention in internal affairs of the other State. They agree to develop their economic relations on the widest possible scale and to render each other every possible economic assistance after the war.

Article V

Each of the high contracting parties undertakes not to conclude any alliance and not to take part in any coalition directed against the other high contracting party.

Article VI

The present treaty comes into force immediately upon being signed and is subject to ratification within the shortest possible time; the exchange of the instruments of ratification shall be effected in Moscow as soon as possible. The present treaty shall remain in force for twenty years from its signature and, if at the end of the said period of twenty years one of the high contracting parties does not declare, twelve months prior to the expiration of the term, its desire to renounce the treaty, it shall remain in force for the next five years, and thus each time until one of the high contracting parties, twelve months prior to the expiration of the current five-year term, presents notice in writing of its intention to discontinue its operation. In testimony whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed this treaty and have affixed their seals thereto. Made in two copies, each in the Russian and the Czechoslovak languages. Both texts have equal force.

Moscow, December 12, 1943

(Signed)

On authorization of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR
MOLOTOV

On authorization of the President
of the Czechoslovak Republic
FIRLINGER

PROTOCOL TO THE TREATY ON FRIENDSHIP, MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND POSTWAR COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC CON- CLUDED ON DECEMBER 12, 1943

In concluding the treaty on friendship, mutual assistance and postwar collaboration between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic, the contracting parties have agreed that, in the event of some third country which borders on the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or on the Czechoslovak Republic and which formed the object of German aggression in the present war, desires to join this treaty she will be accorded the possibility, on the mutual consent of the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the Czechoslovak Republic, of signing this treaty which will thus acquire the quality of a tri-partite treaty. The

present protocol has been made in two copies, each in the Russian and the Czechoslovak languages. Both texts have equal force.

Moscow, December 12, 1943

(Signed)

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of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR
MOLOTOV

On authorization of the President
of the Czechoslovak Republic
FIRLINGER

"We must end this war as soon as possible," said farm woman Irina Melnikova. "The news of the Conference fills us with joy and hope for the speedy end of the war. We'll strike at the enemy with all our forces . . . we'll press him to the wall."

Vice chairman Maxin put before his fellow-farmers the question of how best to respond to the Teheran Conference in deeds. "We've already over-fulfilled all our obligations to the State and in addition have delivered from our personal reserves six tons of grain and forty tons of potatoes. To hasten victory, we must do more."

The farmers decided to begin the collection of additional foodstuffs to be delivered to the Defense Fund of the Supreme Red Army Command, as a contribution from the collective farm.

Newspapers with articles on the Conference reached the Ignatovsk Collective Farm, Ivanovo Region, during a meeting of the farm administration. All the farmers present agreed that the Conference of Teheran was new proof of the growing friendship between the three great Powers of the world.

Collective farm woman Shirokova said, "The meeting between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill is of immense significance for the course of the war. The hour of final reckoning for all crimes committed by the Nazi villains is approaching. Our duty is to work so as to speed the defeat of the cruel enemy."

As timely preparation for the spring sowing it was also decided to make ready all seed materials, repair all agricultural machines and prepare more fertilizer by January 1.

THE TEHERAN CONFERENCE

By Academician Eugene Tarle

The Teheran Conference winds up a very interesting page in the history of the gradual disillusionment of the Hitlerite hordes. After the German debacle at Stalingrad, Hitler pinned his main hopes not only on total mobilization, but also on a split between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-Saxon powers, which seemed to him possible. Recourse was had to an old ruse: the threat of the "Bolshevization" of Europe in the event the Allies continued to support Russia. Of Hitler's flunkies, it was the Finns who most assiduously helped in this propaganda during 1943.

Today it must be admitted that just as hope in "total mobilization" collapsed, along with the collapse of the German summer offensive and subsequent military reverses, so the hope of the Germans for a split between the Allies ignominiously collapsed at Teheran.

In November in Moscow was published the declaration of Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill to the effect that the vile German butchers who are burning alive prisoners of war and burying alive Soviet children and their parents, will not escape trial and punishment, and that the hand of justice will pursue them even to the uttermost ends of the earth. In Germany every effort was made at that time to keep this declaration from the army and from the German population. And in Finland, where the monstrous crimes of the Schutz Corps are well-known, the Tanners and Rytis tried to cheer themselves and their hoodwinked people by indulging in sham humor, by making light of these threats, and by discourses to the effect that "once an armistice is concluded," international law

would not permit the meting out of punishment for acts committed during the war.

The contemptible German and Finnish beasts who have exterminated hundreds of thousands of utterly innocent civilians have the audacity to talk of international law!

But even after the declaration of the three leaders published in November, Germany's satellites and criminal accomplices derived their main comfort from the still remaining hope, weak as it was, that there might develop differences of opinion among the Allies regarding the necessity of utterly smashing the Hitlerite gang. They did not foresee that the Moscow declaration of November would soon be followed by the Teheran declaration in December.

The three leaders left as friends. This phrase, uncommon in diplomatic usage, is very characteristic and highly significant. Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill know that the great work which history has laid upon them and with which their glorious names will be associated for ages to come—the work of utterly crushing accursed German and every other fascism—can be consummated successfully only on the condition of their close and truly friendly cooperation.

Now we are definitely confirmed in our hope that this time the Germans will not be able to deceive their victors. This time they will suffer their deserved punishment.

The Story of Fyokla Gulenko—Byelorussian Guerrilla

(As Told by Herself)

I worked as a scout for the guerrillas and succeeded in getting much information about the Germans. But during my last scouting venture my luck deserted me. I reached the village to which I had been sent, by-passed the German patrol without mishap, and was turning quietly down the street when I heard the cry, "Halt!" Soldiers armed with tommy guns ran up to me, twisted my arms and took me to the Gestapo. There they began to question me.

"You're a Communist! You're a guerrilla!" two red-haired German officers screamed at me. "Where's your guerrilla detachment? Where were you going?"

They showered more questions at me than the interpreter was able to translate. I denied everything. The Germans then dragged me up to their torture chamber. I covered my abdomen with my hands; I was pregnant and thought of the child. They beat me. When I finally raised myself, all my clothes were torn, my body burned and ached, and I was bleeding in several places.

"Where are the guerrillas?" the German again asked me. I remained silent. The officer struck me in the face with his revolver. My mouth filled with blood and I spat it into his face. The officer cried out something and sputtered saliva. Some soldiers pushed me away and squeezed the fingers of my left hand in a door, then my right hand. The pain was such that I wondered with terror whether I would be able to hold out.

But this was not enough for the hangmen. They began to wrench my arms. Two soldiers pulled on each arm, digging their feet into my sides. Feeling my last bit of strength ebbing I cried out: "Long live my free country! Death to the German dogs!"

The soldiers let go of my arms and began to pull out my hair. This inhuman torture was too much . . . I lost consciousness. The beasts, however, continued to torture me. They branded the words "guerrilla" and "Communist" on my legs with some sort of hot liquid, and a five-pointed star on my abdomen. Those marks are still there.

It was dark when I came to. I could see the German sentry through a little window. Whenever I made the slightest movement my whole body was filled with excruciating pain. It was too much for me . . . I broke into weeping, because the whole operation of the detachment depended on the information I was supposed to bring them, and now many of our guerrillas might meet their death. How could I help them now? The Germans would soon come again to torture and finally hang me. And my child . . . my

first . . . neither I nor his father, who was in the Red Army, would ever see him.

Suddenly I heard shots and cries. Several very loud explosions came from nearby, and someone began breaking down the prison door with the butt of a gun. The door gave way. Two men entered, picked me up and carried me away on a cape. They were guerrillas of our detachment. That day they had wiped out the German garrison in this village.

My son Leonid was born in January, 1943. My happiness was shared by the whole detachment. But it was difficult for me to continue my work with a baby in my arms. I obtained permission to take him over to the Soviet side of the front, 600 kilometers away. I had to cross four Regions—Polesye, Chernigov, Poltava and Kharkov. My legs were still covered with red sores from that poisonous substance applied by the Germans, and in my arms was a hungry, crying child.

Every Region was thick with German outposts and police. I walked for 86 days. Once I decided to rest in a village, but when I saw a German stabbing a child I hurried on, skirting villages and cities. I determined that my son was going to live.

In the 86 days of my trek I passed through part of the Polesye and all of the Chernigov, Poltava and Kharkov Regions. And everywhere I saw our Russian, Ukrainian and Byelorussian women, old people and children suffering and shedding bitter tears. In the Ukraine I saw trucks loaded with the bodies of Red Army men tortured and killed in a German prison camp. They were taken to a gully and dumped in a heap.

When I was quite close to the front my last drop of strength left me. I lay on the ground, unable to move arm or leg. Then I heard our artillery cannonade, and I got up and moved on again. During the night I crossed the front line. I crept from bush to bush, from hillock to hillock. Suddenly I heard a deafening crash, felt a sharp pain in my hip and fainted.

I regained consciousness in a hospital. I was told that I had been picked up by Soviet scouts, who brought me with my son to a Red Army field hospital. I stayed there until July, when my baby and I were sent by plane to Gorky for treatment.

My joy was complete when my husband, Alexei Gulenko, an officer in the Red Army serving in a rifle regiment in the northwestern sector, came to visit us. We had so much to tell each other . . . and we thanked our good fortune that I was able to bear our son through fire and death.

SOVIET FLIERS OF AIRACOBAS

By Captain V. Kirsanov

I recently talked with pilot Alexei Smirnov, Squadron Commander and Hero of the Soviet Union. With six other pilots he flies American Airacobras, excellent fighter planes. Speaking of recent air battles, Smirnov gave me the following details:

"Despite the short autumn days and unfavorable flying weather, we make ten and sometimes more flights daily. In the last 10 days we have shot down 27 enemy planes.

"Most of our opponents this fall have been Heinkels and Junkers. We have had to deal with large enemy bomber formations escorted by strong fighter forces, and have engaged the enemy on many occasions and under varying conditions.

"Once when we were returning from a successful reconnaissance in the enemy rear and were about 10 kilometers from our base, I spotted a group of Heinkel

111's flying in three formations, four machines in each flight, with about 10 meters between flights. The Germans were flying at about 5,000 meters—we were 3,000 meters up. I decided to attack and ordered my fellow-pilots to climb. My plan was to ascend to a greater height than the bombers, come to close quarters and attack them from a dive. The success of this operation depends on speed and dash.

"The Germans came in from the south, we from the west. They sighted us, and before reaching their targets began to turn in our direction. It was essential to attack before the planes got nearer the Soviet lines, so that the German bombs would fall on their own troops. I ordered four machines to attack the Heinkels from above and two to fall upon them at the height they were flying. During the first attack we shot down a flight of the Heinkels and during

(Continued on page eight)



Soviet pilot Captain S. Sibirin (left), congratulating a French fighter pilot of the Normandie Squadron, who has just brought down a German plane

Germans Destroy Art Treasures at Novgorod

The German barbarians have destroyed the centuries-old Russian churches near Novgorod—memorials of the beginning of the Russian State and jewels of ancient art.

The stern faces of princes and saints of old Russia, painted on ikons, stare through the broken walls of the Spass Nereditzy Church. Blocks of stone and heaps of rubble are all that remain of the strong walls built by unknown architects, which stood for seven and one-half centuries, until German artillery reduced them to ruin. Artists and scientists came from all countries of the world to view the wonderful frescoes, creations of the masters of those times, and to study the art and architecture of Kiev-Novgorod.

The blood boils with anger and grief when one walks through this land defiled by the fascist vandals—the land where over a thousand years ago the foundation of the Russian State was laid. Through a gap in the fallen walls the skyline of Great Novgorod can be seen. Marks of the German invasion are visible from afar. German shells have pierced the cupola of the Cathedral of St. Sofya, and the gold-leaf adorning it has been stripped off and sent to Germany.

Ancient Novgorod has become the den of Russia's eternal enemy. The Germans built barracks and pillboxes in the monasteries of Yuri, Kirill and Khutin, near the city. Every stone of these buildings breathes of antiquity. The city of Novgorod—in itself a museum—has been methodically plundered and destroyed by the Nazi bandits. The bells of the Novgorod churches were sawn into sections and carried away to Germany; the same fate befell the bronze monument commemorating the one-thousandth anniversary of Russia. Ancient books were also pillaged by the vandals.

For the third year now the German-fascist occupationists have trampled and defiled Novgorod earth. They have made serfs of the Novgorod collective farmers and plundered and tormented the local population, carrying out their predatory colonization plans.

Russian speech is no longer heard in the streets of the city. In September, 1941 the entire population was driven away. Signs reading "Access to the city is forbidden under pain of death" are posted at the outskirts. This thousand-year-old city, this treasure house of the Russian people, has been crushed under the jackboots of the Hitlerites. Unable to conceal their monstrous act of vandalism, the Germans try to justify it by the "military situation."

During the September fighting in the Mga area an article by a German oberleutnant, Huenter Kaising—printed in the Nazi newspaper *Front*—fell into our hands. Lauding the "valor" of his fellow-bandits of the Volkhov Front, the oberleutnant poses

as a historian. "The ancient Kremlin"—(of Novgorod)—he writes, "and the innumerable churches with their gold cupolas, are daily falling into decay. Our positions are located in the streets. Firing-pits and artillery observation posts nestle in the ruins of towers and our infantry is stationed in cellars and vaults. Soldiers of Northern blood again defend Novgorod—the ancient fortress and rival of Moscow."

The descendants of the Teutonic Knights have forgotten for a time the bloody lessons learned by their forefathers at the hands of the people of Novgorod—on the ice of Lake Peipus in the 13th Century. But—as happened 700 years ago—this lake has again become a cemetery for the German invaders. Hundreds of thousands of "soldiers of Northern blood" have found their graves in the virgin forests and marshes of Novgorod Region and in the waters of the gray Volkhov.

Here Hitler's picked troops, led by two field marshals and one colonel general, met their end—and the same fate will overtake the rest of them.



Ruins of the Cathedral of the Assumption—part of the ancient Pecherskaya-Lavra Monastery in Kiev, which was totally wrecked by the Germans

Radiophoto

FINLAND AND HITLER'S "NEW EUROPE"

The following article appeared in Number 13 of the Moscow publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The rulers of Finland now keep silence about the fight for Hitler's "new Europe." They take pains to evade this question. Yet two years ago this was the favorite subject in Finland's government-controlled press. Today this press is trying to prove that belligerent Finland never had anything in common with Hitler's plans of conquest. And Finnish Prime Minister Linkomies hypocritically asserts that Finland is fighting only "for peace, freedom and security."

It is therefore in place to recall what tunes these gentlemen from Helsinki sang at the stage of the war when the Hitlerites were scoring military successes. Thus, for instance, the *Uusi Suomi*, main organ of Prime Minister Linkomies' party, wrote on August 21, 1941, in an article entitled "Finland and the New Europe":

"After the mighty war machine of Germany has broken the last resistance on the continent of Europe, there gradually begins to take shape a new Europe, which is being built up under Adolf Hitler's leadership of genius. At last a great statesman has begun to guide the destinies of Europe. Hegemony in Europe belongs to Germany. It is now only a question of time until Europe, Asia and North Africa will in their main portions represent support bases for the new Hitler-led Europe. After the capture of Southern Russia, Germany will obtain Russia's large oil-fields and at the same time open a road to Iran and the Suez Canal. There is no reason to doubt that sooner or later Germany's victorious divisions will cut this vital artery of the British Empire. And if Eng-

land does not surrender even then, Hitler will have to continue his advance farther, perhaps as far as India, where he can acquire one of the most essential parts of the British Empire. Consequently, by persisting in the struggle England has compelled Hitler to advance ever farther in order to create a solid military, political and economic base for the new Europe projected by him."

In this Hitlerite "new Europe," Finland was of course going to hold the profitable place of a privileged vassal of Germany. In that same article the paper wrote: "Germany has secured for Finland, too, a position of prominence in this new Europe. In the new Europe, Finland will maintain her age-old glorious role as an outpost of the West against the East. But the creator of the new Europe, as a true statesman, has understood that for the successful performance of this role Finland needs another sort of base of support and different boundaries from those which she has today. That is why in the new Europe Finland will be a greater, stronger and wealthier state than at present." In conclusion, *Uusi Suomi* expressed its "sincere wish that other nations of the North should find their way to the new Europe," adding, "although it is not so easy for all of them as for us."

It has turned out that for Hitler's Finnish accomplices it is not "so easy" either. In fact, it has turned out that it is impossible, since Hitler's "new Europe" plans have utterly collapsed beneath the blows dealt by the Red Army. That, and only that, is the reason why Hitler's Finnish accomplices are now trying to cover up their tracks and deny their part in the crimes of the German fascists.

Worsened Conditions in the German Rear

By K. Velikanov

Reviewing the results of Wehrmacht operations along the Soviet-German front, General Dietmar, Nazi commentator, in a recent broadcast was compelled to admit that the principal result of its summer campaign was "total" retreat.

Although Dietmar labored to prove that November had brought some improvement in the unenviable position of the German army in the East, he refrained from saying that German troops would not be compelled to retreat before the blows of the Red Army in the future.

The initiative rests firmly with the Soviet troops, and the development of the autumn and winter cam-

paigns has proceeded according to the plans of the Soviet Command.

The desperate attempts of the enemy to stem the Soviet advance have cost him an enormous price in manpower and armaments. The Wehrmacht's operative reserves were expended during the first months of the summer campaign. The German command was compelled to transfer a number of divisions to the Soviet-German front from the west, thus making inroads on its strategic reserves and thereby rendering its defenses in the west even more vulnerable. As the Soviet Information Bureau reported, the Red Army during its summer campaign routed 144 enemy divisions, of which 28 were tank and motorized divisions. The Germans lost 17,700 tanks, 19,800 guns, 10,189 air-

craft, 75,982 motor vehicles and large quantities of other war materiel. No "super-total" mobilization or intensification of production will avail the Germans in replacing what they have lost on the Soviet-German front.

The Red Army commands superior forces. Soviet war industry is producing ever greater quantities of armaments. There are no hitches in the matter of getting supplies to the front. Soviet transport is coping with all requirements arising from the lengthening lines of communication as the Red Army continues its westward movement.

German transport, on the other hand, is unable to cope with its autumn and winter shipping, despite the fact that German lines of communication are growing shorter. The *Berliner Boersenzeitung* sounded a note of alarm on this score. The newspaper declares that overloaded transports are interfering with supplies to the front and rear and that the abbreviated communication lines have not alleviated matters for transport, confronted with tasks of unprecedented difficulty in the fifth winter of the war.

The massed blows recently showered upon Berlin and its environs by Allied aircraft will undoubtedly cause further disorganization in the German hinterland, where conditions must inevitably grow worse, particularly since German anti-aircraft defenses are unable to effectively ward off the blows of Allied aviation.

Millions of Germans are now experiencing on their own hides to what extent Germany's fighting power has declined as a result of the reverses sustained by the Wehrmacht on the Soviet-German front. If the

Luftwaffe had been able to preserve the 10,000 aircraft lost during the four months of the summer campaign on the Soviet-German front, German anti-aircraft defenses would be far more effective.

As Christmas approaches, the German people are gripped with melancholy when they compare Germany's condition with the situation during the first years of war. The future looms ever darker. In autumn there was a curtailment of various food rations. What are the perspectives with regard to food in the future?

Germany's Minister of Agriculture Backe portrays the situation in far from rosy colors. He declared that an enormous effort will be required to maintain the present level of the sowing area. He admitted that this was no time for extending the sowing of grain. German agriculture, experiencing an acute shortage of labor, is unable to handle two problems at once—extending grain-sowing and truck-farming. They must choose between the two. Backe emphasized that during the next year it would be essential to increase the harvest of potatoes and turnips. The extension of truck-farming was projected for the current year. "Nevertheless," said Backe, "for various reasons we were unable to achieve the results desired in this sphere."

Germany's Minister of Agriculture was more eloquent two years ago when Nazi troops captured the Ukraine. They are now losing the Ukraine and all its agricultural potential. The Germans derived foodstuffs from the Ukraine. In the future their army can be fed only by curtailing consumption in the hinterland. At the same time, Germany is compelled to allot part of its foodstuffs to its vassals.

FLIERS OF AIRACOBAS

(Continued from page five)

the second three more. We broke up the enemy formation in the first assault. Our two fighters operating at the same altitude as the bombers were covered by enemy machines, so that the latter could not open up without danger of hitting their own planes.

"In another battle we were four—and the enemy formation consisted of 18 Junkers and an escort of six Focke-Wulf 190's. Senior Lieutenants Ivan Loginov and Victor Anisimov, two fighter pilots of my squadron, engaged the enemy fighters and brought one down, while Senior Lieutenant Anatoli Kozlovsky

and I attacked the bombers. We raced after the Junkers 87's in a dive, and during the attack shot down two of them. We then climbed and rushed six other Junkers as they were about to dive. Our sudden appearance caused the bombers to scatter. One of the Junkers attempted to get away by flying low in the direction of our positions. I followed it, just skipping the trees. The German began to release his load, hoping to blow me up. I managed to stay to one side, and utilizing my advantage in speed began to climb. I kept after the Junkers and forced him to land in Soviet territory. The German gunner was killed during the battle, and the pilot was taken prisoner.

"The Airacobras sent us by our American allies are very popular with Soviet pilots."

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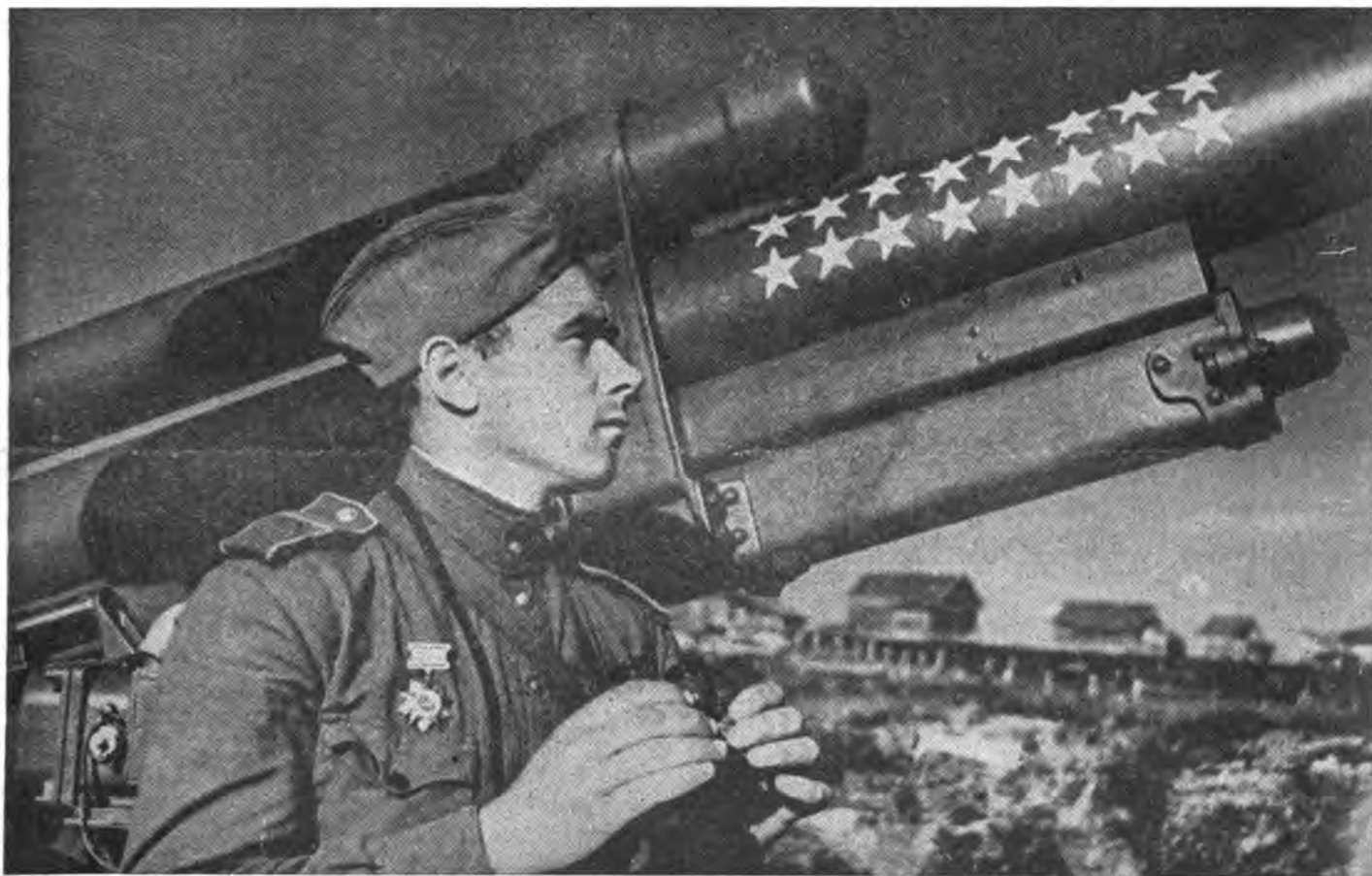
SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK TREATY

Treaty on Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Post-war Collaboration Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the President of the Czechoslovak Republic, desiring to modify and supplement the Treaty on Mutual Assistance existing between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic and signed in Prague on May 16, 1935, confirm the provisions of the Agreement between the Government of the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic on Joint Actions in War Against Germany signed in London on July 18, 1941, desiring to assist after the war in the maintenance of peace and in averting further aggression on the part of Germany and to insure continuous friendship and peaceful collaboration between themselves after the war, have decided to conclude a treaty with this purpose and appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

For the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—Vyacheslav Mi-



The Order of the Patriotic War, Second Degree, has been awarded Senior Sergeant Polyenko, commander of an anti-aircraft gun crew which has shot down 16 German planes

khailovich Molotov, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs; for the President of the Czechoslovak Republic—Zdenek Firlinger, the Ambassador of the Czechoslovak Republic in the Soviet Union, who upon the exchange of their credentials found in due form and good order have agreed upon the following:

Article I

The high contracting parties, having mutually agreed to unite in the policy of continuous friendship and friendly collaboration after the war as well as of mutual assistance, undertake to render each other military and other assistance and support of all kind in the present war against Germany and all those states which are associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

Article II

The high contracting parties undertake not to enter in the course of the present war into any negotiations with the Hitler government or with any other government in Germany which does not clearly renounce all aggressive intentions, and not to negotiate or conclude without mutual consent any armistice or peace treaty with Germany or with any other state associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

Article III

Confirming their prewar policy of peace and mutual assistance expressed in their treaty signed in Prague on May 16, 1935, the high contracting parties undertake that, in the event one of them finds itself in the postwar period involved in hostilities with Germany which would resume her "Drang nach Osten" policy, or with any other state which would unite with Germany directly or in any other form in such a war, the other high contracting party will immediately render the contracting party thus involved in hostilities every military and other support and assistance within its disposal.

Article IV

The high contracting parties, considering the interests of security of each of them, agree to maintain

close and friendly collaboration in the period after the reestablishment of peace and to act in conformity with the principles of mutual respect for their independence and sovereignty, as well as for non-intervention in internal affairs of the other State. They agree to develop their economic relations on the widest possible scale and to render each other every possible economic assistance after the war.

Article V

Each of the high contracting parties undertakes not to conclude any alliance and not to take part in any coalition directed against the other high contracting party.

Article VI

The present treaty comes into force immediately upon being signed and is subject to ratification within the shortest possible time; the exchange of the instruments of ratification shall be effected in Moscow as soon as possible. The present treaty shall remain in force for twenty years from its signature and, if at the end of the said period of twenty years one of the high contracting parties does not declare, twelve months prior to the expiration of the term, its desire to renounce the treaty, it shall remain in force for the next five years, and thus each time until one of the high contracting parties, twelve months prior to the expiration of the current five-year term, presents notice in writing of its intention to discontinue its operation. In testimony whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed this treaty and have affixed their seals thereto. Made in two copies, each in the Russian and the Czechoslovak languages. Both texts have equal force.

Moscow, December 12, 1943

(Signed)

On authorization of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR

MOLOTOV

On authorization of the President
of the Czechoslovak Republic

FIRLINGER

PROTOCOL TO THE TREATY ON FRIENDSHIP, MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND POSTWAR COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC CON- CLUDED ON DECEMBER 12, 1943

In concluding the treaty on friendship, mutual assistance and postwar collaboration between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic, the contracting parties have agreed that, in the event of some third country which borders on the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or on the Czechoslovak Republic and which formed the object of German aggression in the present war, desires to join this treaty she will be accorded the possibility, on the mutual consent of the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the Czechoslovak Republic, of signing this treaty which will thus acquire the quality of a tri-partite treaty. The

present protocol has been made in two copies, each in the Russian and the Czechoslovak languages. Both texts have equal force.

Moscow, December 12, 1943

(Signed)

On authorization of the Presidium
of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR

MOLOTOV

On authorization of the President
of the Czechoslovak Republic

FIRLINGER

FRIENDSHIP OF PEOPLES OF USSR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS GROWING AND GAINING STRENGTH

The following editorial was published in PRAVDA:

On December 12, 1943, a treaty of friendship, mutual assistance and postwar collaboration between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Republic, was signed in Moscow. This treaty corresponds to the interests of the development of traditional friendship between the USSR and Czechoslovakia. This friendship has gone through great trials, and has gained strength and grown tempered in the flames of the war of liberation of the freedom-loving peoples against humanity's most bitter enemy—Hitlerite Germany.

The friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia had already found expression in the Treaty of Mutual Assistance signed in Prague on May 16, 1935. That treaty had been concluded in the face of the growing menace of aggression on the part of Hitlerite Germany, which set as its aim the enslavement of Europe and the whole world, and in the first place, the destruction of the Slav peoples and States. The Czechoslovak Republic became one of the first victims of the bandit aggression of Hitler, who used for the realization of his predatory plans the notorious Munich policy, which meant the renunciation of resistance to Hitlerite aggression, and its actual encouragement.

Czechoslovakia has fully felt the pernicious consequences of this policy of the people who at that time headed the leading West European powers. The German-fascist brigands, together with the rulers of Hungary and Poland, first annexed a number of provinces of Czechoslovakia; then the Hitlerites criminally seized the entire territory of the Czechoslovak Republic, endeavoring to suppress by sword and fire the freedom-loving spirit of the Czechoslovak people and its love and devotion to its motherland.

The Soviet Union never recognized the decisions adopted at Munich, which struck a blow at the sovereign rights of the Czechoslovak people and infringed upon the integrity and inviolability of the territory of the Czechoslovak Republic. The Soviet Union invariably held true to its friendship for the Czechoslovak people, whose tragic fate deeply moved the Soviet people. The Soviet people met with satisfaction the Soviet-Czechoslovak Agreement concluded in London on July 18, 1941, on Joint Actions in the War Against Germany, as a symbol of the fighting friendship of the two peoples. On the basis of this agreement, the Government of the Soviet Union gave its consent to and rendered assistance in the creation on the territory of the USSR of national Czechoslovak units, which have already distinguished themselves by great valor in some sectors of the Soviet-German front.

The treaty on friendship, mutual assistance and postwar collaboration now signed is an important stage in the development of the traditional friendship of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. This treaty is called upon to modify and supplement the former treaties and agreements in conformity with the new situation. At the same time, it lays a stable foundation for strengthening friendship and collaboration in the postwar period. The entire treaty is permeated with the unshakable determination of the contracting parties to achieve the complete defeat of the common enemy, and to avert in the future the possibility of repetition of aggression on the part of Germany and all those states who are associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe.

An irreconcilable attitude toward the German invaders and a firm will to victory are expressed in the undertakings of both parties "not to enter in the course of the present war into any negotiations with the Hitler government or any other government in Germany which does not clearly renounce all aggressive intentions, and not to negotiate or conclude without mutual consent any armistice or peace treaty with Germany or any other state associated with her in acts of aggression in Europe."

Participants in the joint struggle for peace in the prewar period, fighting comrades-in-arms in the present war—the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia—by agreeing mutually to unite in a policy of continuous friendship and friendly postwar collaboration, as well as mutual assistance, are now already laying the foundation for an immediate and effective rebuff and counter-action to every attempt at the restoration of the old predatory bandit policy of an "offensive on the East" on the part of Germany and her associates in Europe. According to a statement made by President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Kalinin at the signing of the treaty, "The treaty lays a stable foundation for postwar collaboration of our peoples and for the prevention of all attempts on Germany's part to return to her old predatory policy of 'offensive on the East'—'Drang nach Osten.' The peoples of our countries must oppose this annexationist policy of German imperialism with all their forces."

The USSR and Czechoslovakia, bound by their common purpose and having a common State frontier, dispose of the necessary possibilities for the successful accomplishment of this historical task. By virtue of this, the high contracting parties assume the mutual undertaking immediately to render the "contracting party thus involved in hostilities every military and other support and assistance within its disposal."

From these mutual undertakings logically follow

the contents of Article Five of the treaty, according to which none of the contracting parties may conclude any alliance or take part in any coalition directed against the other contracting party. The policy of continuous friendship forms the basis not only of military undertakings provided for by the treaty, but also of a program of close collaboration in time of peace after victory is won. The stability of this friendship is insured by a mutual respect for the independence and sovereignty of each of the contracting parties, as well as by non-intervention in each other's internal affairs. The treaty provides for the development of economic relations between the two countries on the widest possible scale, and the rendering to each other of every possible economic assistance after the war.

Like the Anglo-Soviet Treaty of Alliance signed in its time, the treaty of friendship, mutual assistance and postwar collaboration between the USSR and Czechoslovakia has been concluded for a period of 20 years. Very important is the protocol appended to the treaty, according to which, on consent of both contracting parties, the treaty may be joined also by some third country which borders upon the USSR or the Czechoslovak Republic and which forms in this war an object of German aggression. The Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty not only strengthens the friendly collaboration between the two countries, but makes a substantial contribution to the cause of insuring general security.

As President of the Czechoslovak Republic, Eduard Benes stated in his speech at the signing of the treaty: "This treaty is one of the links of a future system which will be beneficial to us and to all our Allies and will help to strengthen peace in Europe."

Concluded soon after the historical conference of leaders of the Three Allied Powers—the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain—the Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty is one of the links of the common struggle of freedom-loving peoples against Hitlerite aggression, and an instrument of struggle for enduring postwar peace and general security. It meets the interests of all freedom-loving peoples and constitutes a valuable contribution to the common cause of the Allies. . . .

As far back as July 3, 1941 the leader of the peoples of the Soviet Union, Stalin, pointed out that the aim of our nation-wide Patriotic War against the fascist oppressors "is not only to liquidate the danger hanging over our country but also to aid all European peoples groaning under the yoke of German fascism."

The Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty has been signed at a significant stage in the development of the war. The Teheran Conference approved the military plans of the Allied Powers and established the scope and timing of operations against the Hitlerite army,

which will be launched from the east, west and south. The relentless and increasing offensive of the Allied Armies against the German-fascist hordes is forthcoming. The heroic struggle of the Red Army, which met the blow of Hitler's entire war machine, thwarted the cannibal plans of German imperialism, which wanted to destroy the Slav nations, stamp out their culture and establish the sanguinary rule of German slave-owners on Slav lands.

In the coming great battle for the final defeat of the enemy, the Slav peoples will play an outstanding part. The coveted hour of victory over the enemy and retribution for all his crimes is approaching. The valiant Red Army, under the leadership of the great Stalin, is striking violent shattering blows at the enemy. Shoulder to shoulder with the Red Army heroically fight the glorious sons of the Czechoslovak people. Many of them are chevaliers of our combat Orders. Among them are already Heroes of the Soviet Union. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR conferred the Order of Suvorov, Second Degree, upon the First Independent Czechoslovak Brigade in the USSR. Czechoslovak soldiers shed their blood at Kiev and in other sectors of the front. They knew that in fighting for Kiev they fought for their native Prague.

The treaty signed December 12 opens wide prospects for the further development of the fighting companionship of the USSR and Czechoslovakia in the war, and for their fruitful collaboration after victory is won. The friendship of the peoples of the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Republic is growing and gaining strength.

NEW SOVIET MILITARY DECORATIONS

By a decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, two new military decorations have been instituted in the USSR. The first is the Order of Victory, which will be the highest military decoration for members of the higher commanding personnel of the Red Army.

The emblem of the Order of Victory is a five-pointed ruby star bordered with diamonds. In between the points of the star are diverging rays studded with diamonds. In the center of the star is a circle covered with blue enamel, bordered with a wreath of laurel and oak leaves. In this circle is a miniature of the Kremlin Wall with Lenin's mausoleum and the Spasskaya Tower. A Victory Order plaque will be set up in the Grand Kremlin Palace.

The second decoration is the Order of Glory, which is instituted for the rank and file and non-coms of the Red Army, and also for junior lieutenants of the Red Army Air Force who have distinguished themselves in battle. It will have three degrees.

BOYS OF *Road to Life* NOW WAR HEROES

By Victor Fink

The novels of the late Anton Makarenko, well-known author and educator, have been published in many languages. One of his widely-read works is *The Road to Life*, a story of the homeless waifs and orphans left by the first World War, which has appeared in an English translation.

Son of a railway worker, Anton Makarenko was a highly-gifted teacher who devoted himself to the education of these waifs. He discovered new teaching methods in the very essence of the Soviet system. Thousands of stray children became useful members of society due to the solicitude of the Soviet Government, which provided financial and other means for the carrying out of Makarenko's theories—the founding of special towns for the homeless youngsters of the country.

I happen to live in the apartment occupied by the family of Anton Makarenko. Frequently boys who grew up in these children's towns come to visit his family. Recently I met three Red Army officers in the apartment—Captain Vasili Klyushnik of the Engineers; Major Mikhail Bondarenko, who specializes in bringing down German Messerschmitts and wears the Order of Lenin, the Order of the Red Banner, the Order of the Red Star, and two Orders of the Patriotic War; and Senior Lieutenant Victor Bogdanovich. Over tea they told stories of their past lives.

The biographies of the three officers are strikingly similar. Each is 29 years of age; they were three years old at the time of the October Revolution. Klyushnik's father was a laborer; the parents of Bondarenko and Bogdanovich were poor peasants. Their fathers died in the World War and their mothers during the epidemic and famine of 1921.

The homeless boys joined the street gangs of hungry and ragged urchins who robbed and terrorized the population. "We were caught a number of times and placed in children's homes," said Major Bondarenko. "But we couldn't stand the peaceful life there and each of us ran away many times. The educators didn't understand . . . they thought that life in a home where we were clothed and fed was much better than a ragged, hungry life in the streets. What they didn't understand was that we wanted adventure. But Anton Makarenko understood this . . . he gave us a new type of romance in place of the streets.

"He founded a town below Kharkov. There were 3,000 of us youngsters there, and not a single one ran away. We all received a high school education,

and most of us went on to study in universities and colleges."

That was the story Anton Makarenko told in *The Road to Life*.

Victor Bogdanovich worked in an optical factory and then entered a Red Army flying school. He is now senior signal officer in a regiment of night bombers; has been twice decorated with high military orders for distinguished services. Vasili Klyushnik was graduated from the Kharkov Machine-Building Institute with high honors and then enrolled in the Academy of Motorized Forces of the Red Army, where he specialized in tanks. He is now senior technical officer in a tank regiment.



Training Red Army Recruits—negotiating a log bridge, 30 feet long

Soviet Woman—Her Right to Work, Rest and Social Insurance

By Zinaida Kubrina

Prior to the great October Revolution, the labor of women in Tsarist Russia was confined chiefly to the home and to certain branches of industry, such as clothing and textile. Many trades were considered exclusively within the scope of men's work. In Tsarist Russia practically no women were engaged in



T. Galavenskaya, Soviet guerrilla heroine, wears the military Order of the Red Star

metallurgy and machine-building. There were no women engineers, mechanics or locomotive drivers, and very few women doctors.

In the Soviet Union, however, participation of

women in the most varied fields of labor has become commonplace. In 1929 women constituted 27.4 per cent of all workers in industry, while in 1937 this rate mounted to 39.8 per cent, and by the end of 1939 to 41.6 per cent.

It is noteworthy that women have come to occupy a large place in heavy industry. In 1938 women constituted 29.5 per cent of the workers employed in the coal industry, 26.3 per cent in metallurgy and 31.1 in the machine-building and metal-working industries.

By 1938 there were already about 140,000 women engineers and technicians, or 18 per cent of all those working in this field in the USSR.

In the sphere of agriculture women achieved equality with men as a result of the introduction of collective farming. Where formerly the women of peasant families were not independent because everything belonged to the head of the family—the father or husband—today the collective-farm woman enjoys equal rights with men, having her own share in the work and her own income.

The present war widened women's activities in all branches of economic and cultural life in the USSR, since they were called upon to take the places of men who had gone to the front to defend the country. The selfless labor of millions of women in factories and industrial plants and on collective farms is supplying a steady stream of arms and all kinds of supplies to the front. Thousands of women are managing factories and institutions. Hundreds of thousands of girls and women have mastered men's trades. Tens of thousands of women are agronomists, managers of collective farms, shop foremen and leaders of field and labor groups.

There are special labor laws for the protection of women. In factories women are under the supervision of doctors and are assigned only to work which their health permits.

Expectant mothers particularly are protected by the labor code. During wartime they receive 35 days leave of absence before delivery and 28 days after delivery with pay. During pregnancy and the nursing period the Soviet working woman is not allowed to work on the night shift. The nursing mother gets time off during the day to feed her infant.

The working mother receives a grant from the State to enable her to buy the necessary outfit for the

(Continued on page eight)

PLAIN LANGUAGE OF GANGSTERS

The following appeared in Number 13 of the Soviet publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

Recently Goebbels' weekly serving of lies in his newspaper *Das Reich* has been devoted to one theme: Under various names and in various versions we find developed there the same "idea," if we may call it that—namely, that Germany is defending Europe from "Bolshevism." This "idea" certainly cannot claim the glamour of novelty. But that does not daunt Goebbels. He keeps reiterating that the German army represents the sole "defensive rampart" guarding the peace of Europe against "Bolshevist upheavals," and that it is time this was realized by the British, who do not want Europe to become "Bolshevized." Goebbels assures England that the choice is between the "Bolshevization of Europe" and the preservation of Hitlerite Germany with her war machine, and that she must of course choose the latter.

As we know, this crude snare of the Hitlerite lying



Hitlerites taken prisoner by the Red Army at Spas-Demyansk

champion has not deceived anyone. As reported in the press of neutral countries, Goebbels' house was among those destroyed in the air raids of the Allied Air Forces over Berlin at the end of November. That, perhaps, is the sole answer the Hitlerites could understand.

As for their real intentions in regard to England, they are quite frankly set forth in *Das Schwarze Korps*. In a leading article entitled "The Day Will Come," this organ of the SS cutthroats pronounces: "England, as the author of the turbulence on the Continent, must be put an end to. The Fuehrer has said that the hour of retribution will come. We cannot at present get at America, but there is a country which is within our reach, and we will act accordingly."

This is the frank language of bloodthirsty gangsters. Of course, their monstrous threats are evidence not of strength but of impotent rage. Certainly the hour of retribution is close at hand—but it is the hour of retribution which will be meted out to the Hitlerite criminals.

In the inflamed imagination of the German-fascist murderers, England is of course "within reach." The Hitlerite robbers, reeling under the blows dealt by the Red Army, are now convulsively casting about for a loophole of escape—all they want is "to get out of the mess alive." But they are still full of venom; they are still brandishing their bloody knife at England and America, threatening in their impotent rage to "put an end to England." They thereby merely confirm that the task of all freedom-loving nations is to put an end to the Hitlerite plague without the least delay.

Smolensk Farmers Move in

The Soviet Government's plan for 22,000 agricultural cottages to be built in the Smolensk Region by November 1 has been bettered—24,162 were ready on the date fixed. In the towns, 6,703 flats have been restored or newly built, accommodating 17,243 people.

Over 600 teams of young workers are helping with the rebuilding of the Smolensk farmers' homes. They have already built anew or repaired about 2,000 residential or public buildings.

New Homes for Tula Region

In the whole period of intensive restoration work in the Tula Region over 24,000 homes have been rebuilt or repaired. Immediately the Germans were driven out the Soviet Government granted 17,000,000 rubles to restore the public services in this region, 4,000,000 rubles for the restoration of individual homes, and also provided building materials.

A CITY UNDER THE EARTH

By Evgeny Permyak

This town has no history. You wouldn't find it on any map. The new Soviet geography doesn't mention it. It sprang up in a week. It would take much less than a week to remove all trace of it.

In 1941, when the entire southern industry of the USSR had to be transferred eastward, when large industrial enterprises were being transplanted to the Urals, a party of 10,000 workers arrived in Taghil to turn a peacetime factory into a military undertaking.

Fedor Isayev, director of the Ural Building Trust, was faced with an extremely difficult problem. The workers' quarters were already overcrowded. Their double and triple tiers of bunks were occupied in shifts—a night shift sleeping in the daytime, and a day shift at night.

The 10,000 gathered at evening in a large field. Among them were Ukrainians, Russians, Tartars, Byelorussians, Tajiks . . . dozens of nationalities. The meeting was opened by Fedor Isayev.

"I've no accommodation for you, friends," he began. "We can't build houses. We haven't the time or the material."

He proceeded to come to the point. "There's no time to lose. The plant must be turned over to war production. But first you've got to put roofs over your heads. I give you 10 days to do it in. Dig into the ground. At the front, such things are done in

a few hours. In a week or ten days there must be a city on this spot." A storm of applause broke out.

The next day work began. Surveyors measured the ground and laid out blocks. Electricians put up searchlights for night work. Freight trains and trucks loaded with timber arrived. Excavators and shovels made a concerted attack on the earth.

In eight days a city was created. Its houses were built into the ground, with roofs sloping down to the surface. It had barber shops, laundries, bath houses, dining rooms, a polyclinic and a club. The builders named it Isai City, in honor of Isayev.

It is now almost two years old. It has its own laws and customs, and even its traditions. People live at close quarters here, with room for no more than a bed and a chair apiece. Yet the cleanliness is amazing. The polyclinic records no more cases of infectious disease than is usual for a town of this size.

Isayev, founder of the city, is a tireless organizer. He has even had a chaikhana—an eastern teahouse—put up. This is the favorite gathering place of the Uzbeks.

Isai city is a wartime city, a "utility city," if you like. When victory has been won, we shall need it no longer. It will vanish from sight, but not from history.

SOVIET WOMAN

(Continued from page six)

new baby. Women with large families are paid grants of 2,000 rubles for five years beginning with the birth of the seventh child, and those with more than 10 children receive 5,000 rubles for the first year and 3,000 for the next four years for every child born after the tenth. In 1942 alone the State paid 840,100,000 rubles in grants to mothers of large families.

A large network of children's institutions, such as nurseries, nursery schools, kindergartens, etc., has been created to enable Soviet women to engage in industrial and other work. Here are some figures: In 1914 there were 50 nurseries accommodating children, and the number of children of pre-school age in all children's institutions was not more than 70,000—in 1937 the nurseries of the USSR accommodated 748,200 and the kindergartens 3,218,900 children.

Care of mother and child is the chief concern of Soviet society. Working women in the USSR are insured proper rest. In addition to Sundays they receive an annual holiday of two weeks or more with pay. The State also provides for women unable to work. In case of illness women, the same as men, receive compensation from the social insurance fund at the expense of the State. Women who are permanently incapacitated receive pensions. Women are entitled to old age pensions five years earlier than men. After working a certain number of years women, the same as men, are entitled to a pension whether they continue to work or retire.

Many women who had retired on pensions returned to their enterprises after the outbreak of war, to take the place of their sons at the front and to do their part for victory. On all sectors of the labor front Soviet women have proved worthy daughters of the USSR. The Soviet woman is bending every effort to defend the rights gained by the October Revolution.

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THE CRUMBLING FASCIST BLOC

The following editorial appeared in Number 13 of the Soviet publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The radical turn in the course of the World War as a result of the Red Army's victories threatens not only Hitlerite Germany, but her vassals as well, with disaster. In his speech on the 26th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, Joseph Stalin pointed out that the defeats sustained by the fascist troops on the Soviet-German front and the blows our Allies struck at the Italian and German troops "have thoroughly shaken the edifice of the fascist bloc and it is now crumbling before our very eyes."

Facts reveal that the process of crumbling of the

fascist bloc has begun. Italy has irretrievably dropped out of the Hitlerite coalition. It is now the turn for the other participants of Hitler's gangster bloc. "Discouraged by Germany's military defeats, Finland, Hungary, Rumania and other vassals of Hitler have now lost all hope of the war ending in their favor, and are anxious to find a way out of the bog into which Hitler has dragged them." (Stalin)

The course of the war has shown that the fascist bloc never had a solid foundation. Hitler's satellites took an active part in fascist Germany's bloody adventure because they hoped to reap the fruits of quick and easy victory. Hitler promised to the rulers of those countries the territories of neighboring na-



Lieutenant I. Kapko, Chief Officer of a Soviet training ship, explains to cadets how to lay a course at sea

tions and the role of privileged omnipotent vassals of "greater Germany" in the subjugated "new Europe." Hitler's accomplices in brigandage have seized and pillaged foreign lands, primarily the lands of the Soviet peoples, and stained their hands by taking part in the bloody crimes of the Hitlerite brigands. It is natural that the rulers of these robber countries are now filled with apprehension and fear. Now that the time is approaching when they will have to answer for their brigandage, the accomplices of Hitlerite Germany, as Joseph Stalin said, "are looking about for a loophole, waiting for an opportune moment to slip away from this robber gang unobserved."

This finds expression, for one thing, in the fact that the government press and official spokesmen of the countries playing the role of Hitler's vassals now seek in one form or another to disclaim complicity with Hitlerite Germany. They no longer advocate the building up of a "new Europe under the hegemony of greater Germany." They often even avoid mentioning their alliance with Germany. They either claim—as Prime Minister of Hungary Kallay did recently—that they are maintaining a peculiar sort of "neutrality," or as is the case with the rulers of Finland, they insist that they are waging a "separate" war which they pretend has nothing in common with Hitler's war. At the same time they go out of their way to "prove" that it is wrong to regard their countries as "vassals" or "satellites" of Hitlerite Germany.

So much in words. In actual fact, Hitler's accomplices Rumania, Hungary and Finland are still working hand in hand with Germany, rendering her military and every other aid. They would like to slip away from the robber gang unobserved, but at the same time they are afraid to go further than mere words, afraid to take any practical steps along those lines. The rulers of these countries are dealing most ruthlessly with the anti-Hitlerite elements which exist in all vassal countries and reflect the discontent of large masses of the population with the ruinous policy of "alliance" with Hitlerite Germany. It is time that these men who speak in the names of those countries were clearly told: Your dissociation from Hitlerite Germany in words is not worth a farthing; it is not your words, but your deeds that will show which camp you are in, and against which bloc you are fighting. As long as the governments of these states let the Germans lord it over their countries; as long as they send their troops to fight with the Germans against the Soviet Union; as long as they are helping Hitler in his war against the USSR and its Allies, they are demonstrating before the entire world their continuing active participation in the criminal adventure of the Hitlerites, and also the utter falsity of their dissociation from it in words.

In the first place, what is required of the states that are Hitler's vassals is a resolute and complete break with Germany. The present rulers of these states cannot but see that rupture with the Germans

is inevitable, but so far they are seeking to delay this decisive step. This behavior is highly characteristic of their present position.

Hitler is, of course, doing everything he can to avert the further disintegration of his robber bloc. Cannon fodder is scarce and he has urgent need for 50 divisions from the vassal countries which are fighting together with the German troops on the Soviet-German front this year. He needs vassal countries also as strategic military bases and as suppliers of food and the necessary strategic raw materials, such as petroleum and timber.

After the bad scare the capitulation of the Italian government gave him, Hitler attacked his erstwhile partners with the ferocity of a gangster, in order that the fate of Italy, as he openly stated, should serve as a lesson to frighten Germany's other allies who might want to terminate their participation in the robber adventure. At the same time, the German fascists mobilized their agents and the most faithful accomplices in Finland, Hungary and Rumania to intensively struggle against the advocates in these countries of withdrawal from the war.

Hitler's agents and henchmen in these countries have begun to hold up the fate of Italy as an example, telling the population: "that is what rupture with Germany and an attempt to get out of the war leads to."

Actually the example of Italy, if analyzed objectively, furnishes grounds for entirely different conclusions. The present plight of Italy, whose territory became an easy prey for the Hitlerite bandits, is due not to the fact that Italy ventured to break with Germany, but that she took this step too hesitatingly and too late. It was this hesitation and delay on the part of the Italian government that gave the Hitlerites time and opportunity to convert the greater part of Italy into areas of savage violence and a theater of hostilities. The conclusion to be drawn is obvious: "The case of Italy proves to Hitler's vassals that the longer they put off their inevitable rupture with the Germans and the longer they allow them to lord it in their respective countries, the more will their countries be devastated and the more their people will suffer." (Stalin)

On the eve of the Moscow Conference of the three leading Powers of the anti-Hitler coalition, Hitler's toadies in Finland, Hungary and Rumania, started a campaign to scare the population with "the Russian peril." They spread all sorts of inventions about the Soviet Union's "enigmatical designs," and once more pulled out the bogey of the "Bolshevization of Europe." This campaign bore all the earmarks of its origin in Goebbels' lie factory, and its purpose was to "keep up the spirit" in the vassal countries, as well as to foment dissensions between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-Saxon countries.

Hitler's Finnish accomplices in particular spent a

lot of effort in an attempt to get certain circles in the United States and in Great Britain "to understand Finland's special position" and her participation in Hitler's war. As far back as last September the Prime Minister of the Finnish Government Linkomies, for instance, indulged in hypocrisy and flattery to express his "feelings of friendship" for America and "profound regret" at Finland's war with England, adding: "We have only one enemy, the Soviet Union."

The historic decisions of the Moscow Conference caused dismay and confusion among Hitler's accomplices. These decisions shattered their hopes for a split between the Allies, for the appearance of a rift between them, into which Germany's vassals thought they could insinuate themselves. Hitler's accomplices, his partners in the seizure and the looting of foreign lands, assumed an unnatural pose of offended innocence and began to vociferate about the "unfairness of the Great Powers." The lackeys of "greater Germany" began to whine that they were going to be placed at the "mercy of foreign powers," and that the Allies were ignoring the "rights of small nations." It thus appears that to the present rulers of Finland, Hungary and Rumania the right of small countries is primarily "the right" to seize the lands of neighboring nations with impunity, so that these small countries might swell to the proportions of fantastically great powers: "greater Finland," "greater Rumania" and "expanded Hungary." It is no wonder that these small but vicious robbers howl so much over the decisions of the Moscow Conference which contain a serious warning regarding the inevitable consequence of their wolfish claims.

It is obvious, however, that in spite of this the ruling cliques of the countries that represent Germany's satellites, judging by their press statements, have not completely given up their hopes for the intercession of certain circles in America and England in their behalf. Such hopes are fed, among other things, by the fact that in the Anglo-Saxon countries there are still persons to be found who are prepared to assume the not at all praiseworthy role of champions of Hitler's luckless accomplices. To be sure, the tricks of such irresponsible political brokers cannot logically stem the course of events. They cannot

save their hapless Finnish, Hungarian or Rumanian clients; but for the time being these persons, by encouraging them with illusory hopes, unquestionably are doing harmful work which is obviously detrimental to the interests of the common struggle of the Allies for the speediest annihilation of Hitlerism.

The Moscow Conference recognized that the first aim of the Allies is to hasten the end of the war against Germany and her satellites in Europe. Military operations are the first means to this end. But it cannot be denied that it is also important for the Allies to pursue a firm political line to hasten the inevitable crumbling blow to Hitlerites.

It must already be clear to the peoples of Germany's vassal countries that the Hitlerite clique is continuing to wage war without any hope of victory and with the sole purpose of delaying the hour of its doom. By still remaining in the camp of Hitler's coalition, the vassal countries help Hitler achieve this purpose, but they do this only to their own detriment.

The near future will reveal to what extent Germany's vassal countries are still capable of taking the road of an independent policy. The course of events will show whether these states are capable of extricating themselves from the death grip of doomed German imperialism. It is quite obvious that a state which persists in its obstinacy and keeps postponing the moment of its withdrawal from the Hitlerite coalition is seriously prejudicing its own future by this suicidal policy. Those Hitlerite vassals that continue the robber war against the powers of the anti-Hitler coalition to the very moment of Hitler's final defeat, have no reason to expect that the peace-loving powers will treat them less severely than they will treat Hitlerite Germany.

Heavy responsibility rests on the consciences of the present rulers of Finland, Hungary and Rumania for the numerous crimes they have committed against the Soviet people. But by prolonging their participation in the war, they will not diminish but still further increase this responsibility. The longer these countries go on fighting, the more will they share in the hatred which the Soviet people entertains for fascist Germany.



A German cemetery in the Cossack village of Krymskaya

DEFEATING NAZI MINE WARFARE

By Peter Pavlenko

The present concentration of tanks, aircraft and guns on the Soviet front is much greater than during the years of 1941-42. Never before have the Germans employed such quantities of war materiel as they used in the battles near Orel and Belgorod.

When the Germans are unable any longer to withstand the Soviet onslaught, they flee under cover of tanks or huge minefields.

The mine war has developed on a scale never known before. One of the best sappers in the Red Army, Senior Lieutenant Vladimir Terekhov, now fighting in the Ukraine, tells how he and his comrades clear up a village. Before they enter a cottage they automatically look under the doorstep. There's bound to be a mine there, and before touching a door-knob they examine the door carefully. It is certainly mined.

Mines hang in chimney pots, lurk under benches, in sacks of potatoes, haystacks, stables. If you hear a baby crying, call in the sapper before you take the child in your arms. In nine cases out of ten the cot will be mined. Beware of the smell of fresh bread coming from a captured enemy trench. Every loaf will be mined.

But every new weapon soon produces its antidote. And that applies to mines. The sapper is one of the most highly skilled and respected men in the Red Army. Sappers all have their particular "trade." There are men who are very clever at laying mines but not so good at detecting them. There are some men who "sense" mines, men for whom camouflage seems not to exist. A new type of sapper has come into being—the tank leader, or simply "leader," as he is commonly called on the Soviet front. On him depends the success or failure of an operation. Having opened a lane for the armor, he jumps aboard with the tankmen and hitch-hikes to the next job.

Kumpanenko, Kovalov, Frisov and Ivanov are ace sappers now operating in the south. They have an almost superhuman instinct for mines. They work under heavy fire. The Germans play searchlights over the area, while their snipers try to pick the men off—aiming not only at the sappers, but at their own mines, hoping to wipe out tanks as well as sappers.

"Is it luck?" I asked Kumpanenko, referring to his remarkable successes.

"Not on your life!" he said. "No amount of luck will help you if you don't know the rules."

ARTIST-SNIPER

By Kiril Levin

Recently I visited the hospital to see a Red Army man, a friend of mine named Peter Kursovoy. He's a sergeant, 19-years-old, fair haired, with tranquil eyes and a sad, serious smile. He was an art student.

Peter used to study with the well-known painter Alexander Gerasimov. His father, an army surgeon, has been at the front since the outbreak of war. Peter is not particularly tough, in a physical sense. That was why he decided to make up for his physical shortcomings by becoming a sniper. He was taught the art of sniping by a Kazakh, Selim Nakhasdinov, a small, thick-set man of few words, from whom he acquired extraordinary restraint and infinite patience. After nine months he was decorated for gallantry. Then he landed in a hospital. This is how it happened. Let him tell you the story in his own words.

"We were operating in a swampy part of the Bryansk district. I was given the job of watching a country road in the enemy's rear. It was a communication road for two German units.

"To break through the German lines was child's play, but to find a place where they couldn't spot me

was difficult. I crawled into a hollow tree standing right by the road. It never occurred to the Germans that a Russian sniper would do such a thing.

"I propped myself in the upper part of the hollow tree with my head and shoulders poking out—otherwise I couldn't have shot freely. I was beautifully camouflaged with twigs, of course. I had removed the bayonet from the rifle, and withdrew the rifle after each shot. I spent four days in the hollow. They came right up to my tree several times. I heard them discussing my whereabouts. They searched the wood and combed it with machine-gun and mortar fire. In four days I bagged 35 Germans.

"Then they plastered my bit of road with shells from end to end, and I was wounded by a shell splinter. I spent two more days in the hollow tree, in a sitting position as if in a cage—I couldn't move a muscle, let alone stretch myself.

"When our boys arrived I was lowered on a rope. I couldn't move a limb. They had a German prisoner with them, an officer. He'd been looking for me all over the place for days. You should have seen his face when the boys pulled me down!"

BLOOD OF LENINGRAD

By Nikolai Tikhonov

Last week the communique of the Soviet Information Bureau reported the havoc wrought in Leningrad by the enemy to blocks of flats and non-military objectives. We Leningrad citizens who read the report were naturally deeply moved. Indeed, not a day passes but we witness hideous scenes of carnage, for which the Germans and Finns, who are trying their best to destroy our beautiful city, are responsible.

During the past two or three weeks the artillery bombardment of Leningrad has been noticeably intensified. What this actually means to the city I would like to tell my readers.

It is a calm, wintry day. You find Leningrad busy

with its customary routine. Along Nevsky Prospect peaceable pedestrians hurry to and fro. In the middle of the street a car is moving—not a gun or an airplane—only streetcar No. 12, jammed with passengers from the Petrogradskaya Storona. Suddenly, out of a clear sky, a shell drops on the roof of the car and the passengers are turned into a shambles of human flesh. Pedestrians fall to the pavement, a woman crossing a street is also struck down; the asphalt runs red with blood from the mass of torn limbs, heads and bodies. You see a young girl lying with outstretched arms, eyes wide open in death. The head of an elderly working man, his throat cut by broken glass, is visible inside the wrecked car.



LENINGRAD IN THE FALL OF 1943—At right is St. Isaac's Cathedral. The structure on the left is the carefully protected statue of the Bronze Horseman, memorial to Peter I, who founded the city 240 years ago

Ambulances rush to the scene and first aid is administered to the wounded still living.

Another shell falls into the courtyard of a trade school filled with young apprentices—boys who have never had a rifle in their hands. Here they lie now, in pools of blood. Some are screaming and moaning. Many have been crippled for life; others will never see again. You see an old woman running along the street with a frenzied look—someone must have told her that her little grandson, who was playing in the square, now lies in the snow. A moment later you see her bending over the little boy, weeping inaudibly. He was all she had left in the world; the rest of her family were killed during the bombings in 1941.

Artists at work in their studios are interrupted by the crash of glass roofs. Canvasses and drawings are slashed and snow falls on the floor. The cold numbs their fingers. Moving to another part of the building, the artists restore their creations. Next day, however, the windows of their new homes are shattered and the place becomes uninhabitable. To paint or sketch becomes impossible. At the entrance to the house the bodies of the dead are being removed.

The apartment building where Leningrad writers and their families live is full of gaping holes. The ninth shell blasts into the attic, its splinters piercing the beams; another shell falls at the feet of two

women, who are hurled to the wall by the blast. By lucky chance the shell does not explode, and the women only find themselves covered with plaster from head to foot.

Shells burst on the roof of St. Isaak's Cathedral, penetrate it and shatter the crystal glass to bits. A shell pierces the wall of the former Dutch Church, one of the oldest buildings on the Nevsky. Shells come crashing into the Young Pioneers Club and into the Lenin Hospital, killing the head nurse. In the Neva River shells strike a little boat ferrying firewood. As the artillery alert resounds through the streets, people call for ambulances and the injured and dead are quickly picked up.

Leningrad's squares are submerged in blood. Houses are gutted and streets strewn with broken glass. Today I walked through Uritsky Square and noticed that a part of the stands of the parade ground was missing. I remember seeing them only yesterday. It appears that 20 minutes before I reached the Square the stands had been swept away by a Nazi shell. Was this a military objective?

The actress Prokofyeva has been badly injured in the eye by a shell splinter. She will be obliged to undergo a dangerous operation and will probably be an invalid for life. Was she a sniper or a tankman? Or has the enemy chosen her as a "military installation"?

New Industrial Development

On February 10, 1943, in the Uzbekistan Soviet Republic, construction of the Farkhad Hydro-Electric Station was begun. When completed this will be one of the largest power plants in the Soviet Union. During the past nine months tremendous strides have been made in the work; excavation of the derivation canal is almost finished. Over 5,000,000 cubic meters of earth were removed, and the canal will soon receive the waters of the Syr-Darya River.

Excavations for the foundations of the power plant are also nearing completion. Through pipes brought from Tadjikistan water is pumped uphill and then released with tremendous force to wash away the earth for the foundation site. By this method labor productivity achieved a new record.

The channel of the Syr-Darya River has been narrowed by 40 meters and a special dam is being constructed on its right bank, where already loom the gigantic buildings of the newly-constructed iron and steel works in the Uzbek steppes.

The first houses of a future city are springing up around the site of the power plant. Waterpipes have been laid and a plan of the streets and town drawn up.

The industries of the Bashkirian Autonomous Republic—oil, metallurgical, machine-building, electro-

technical, chemical and others—are constantly increasing their production.

In 1942 Bashkirian industry increased its output for the Red Army by 80 per cent, compared with the first year of the war. During 1941-42 several dozen important plants evacuated from the western regions were assembled and put into operation in Bashkiria. This influx of industry has radically changed the economic geography of the Republic.

New plants have been built and are under construction in Bashkiria. In Ishimbay, Ufa, Sterlitamak and Byeloretsk, industrial development is in full swing. Before the war the Byeloretsk Iron and Steel Works smelted only cast iron and ordinary steel; now high-grade steel for armaments is produced. In 1942, 56.5 per cent more metal was smelted than in 1941; in the first six months of this year the cast iron output was again increased by 18 per cent. Open-hearth furnaces have launched production of needed grades of steel and are increasing their output monthly. By 1942 the steel output had increased by 37.6 per cent as compared with the prewar level.

In 1942 the production of electric power in Bashkiria exceeded that of 1941 by three times, and in the first six months of 1943 the amount of power generated almost doubled the figure for all of 1940.

YOUNG PATRIOTS OF THE TRADE SCHOOLS

By Sofia Polyakova

Recently at a streetcar stop in Moscow I saw several youngsters clustered around a boy with an open newspaper. The young people's eyes were fixed on a story of the award of a Government decoration to Metal Workers' Trade School No. 2. By their uniforms and their hands, from which the smudges of machine oil had not been completely washed, I saw that they belonged to Moscow trade and railway apprentice schools. Very soon these youth will be sent to the devastated areas of the country to restore industry and transport crippled by the enemy.

The trade schools were set up in the Soviet Union three years ago; at present there are 55 such schools in Moscow, attended by youngsters of from 14 to 16 years of age. In all, 30,000 workers have been trained in these trade schools since the beginning of the war.

In addition to instruction in their particular trades, youngsters in these schools carry on an ordinary school program and also produce goods for the front. The State has already received 183,000,000 rubles' worth of products from the Moscow schools. In the past three years Trade School No. 14 has overhauled

15,000 cars; School No. 12 produces small lathes, and portable printing presses are manufactured in School No. 8.

As soon as these young people are graduated from the Trade Schools they join the ranks of full-fledged workmen in the country's factories.

There are many girls in the schools. Nina Rushmaniva served her apprenticeship in School No. 14; she now works as a turner in a defense plant. When she learned that her brother had been killed in action, Nina said, "Now I shall do the work of two." The foreman assigned her to three machines and soon she was over-fulfilling her quota by 240 per cent. She then learned to operate five machines and her daily output is now 2,500 parts as against the fixed quota of 450. Her example was followed by other girls, who now operate two or more machines.

Hundreds of former students of the trade schools are today fighting at the front. School No. 14 is proud of one of its graduates, Peter Trofimov, who was recently awarded the Order of the Red Star for heroism.



Soviet school children collect arms and ammunition abandoned by the routed Germans

Notes from Front and Rear

L. M. Kaganovich, People's Commissar of Railway Transport and member of the State Committee for Defense, has been awarded the Order of Lenin and the title Hero of Socialist Labor, together with the Hammer and Sickle Gold Medal.

He is one of 127 leading workers in railway transport, generals, officers and men of railway troops to receive this recognition for special services in assuring transport to the front and in the national economy, and in the restoration of railway transport under difficult wartime conditions.

★

A submarine built by the contributions of young Urals workers and collective farmers, and commanded by Captain of the Third Rank Khrulev, recently sank its second German transport in the Barents Sea. Immediately upon return to the base, the submarine's crew sent a telegram to the young builders announcing the victory.

★

Under the chairmanship of Dmitri Shostakovich, a jury will select the best new Soviet song submitted in a competition held in connection with the 25th anniversary of the Young Communist League. The competition was sponsored by the Soviet Committee of Arts under the Council of People's Commissars, the Central Committee of the League and the Union of Soviet Composers.

One hundred and forty-six songs have been submitted. A number of second prizes have already been awarded, including one to the Stalin Prize Winner Koval for a song entitled "Above the Dnieper River."

★

A new coal mine, the largest in Central Asia, has just been opened in the Kirghiz Republic. It is modeled on the most modern Donbas mines. A special branch railway has been built to connect it with the main line.

★

The United States "Distinguished Service Medal" was recently awarded by President Roosevelt to Senior Sergeant Moskalenko, one of the finest Soviet anti-aircraft gunners, whose battery has shot down 12 German planes. A Ukrainian by birth, Sergeant Moskalenko was formerly a Kharkov factory worker. He also wears the Soviet "For Distinguished Service" and "For the Defense of Stalingrad" Medals.

Lyudmila Pavlichenko, Hero of the Soviet Union, the famous girl sniper who visited the United States in 1942, is at present fighting on the Dnieper. She has now added many more notches to her rifle above the 309 dating from the defense of Odessa and Sevastopol.

★

The main streets of Kharkov, second capital of the Ukraine, recaptured by the Red Army on August 23, are crowded and animated. Shops, markets and dining rooms are busy. The streetcars will soon be running again. Two theaters and six cinemas are open. Seventy-seven newly-opened schools are attended by 23,000 children. Lectures have started at the Agricultural and Medical Institutes and the State University. Of the 65 machine-tractor stations which served the Kharkov region before the Germans came 63 have been restored.

★

One of the members of the "Young Guards" of Krasnodon who was thought to be dead and was posthumously decorated by the Soviet Government, has turned up in the ranks of the Red Army. Anatoli Lopukhov succeeded in escaping from the Germans when they killed or captured many of the "Young Guards," in a brutal roundup of these youthful patriots. He hid in Krasnodon until the Red Army arrived, then joined as a volunteer. The young hero has now been awarded the Guerrilla of the Patriotic War Medal, First Degree.

★

A conference has been held under the chairmanship of Potemkin, People's Commissar of Education of the Russian SFSR, to discuss the work of non-Russian schools in the Republic. At present about three million children of 43 different nationalities are studying in their own tongues in the special non-Russian schools of the Russian SFSR.

★

A woman railway worker of Leningrad, Antonina Alexandrova, was recently honored with the high title of Hero of Socialist Labor. During the war Alexandrova remained on duty at railway stations under enemy shell-fire, dispersing cars skilfully, saving important cargoes and repairing damaged tracks. In addition to this, she worked on the construction of fortifications for Leningrad, and still found time to teach her trade to six other women.

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THE GUERRILLAS OF MINSK

The entry of the Red Army into Byelorussia gave a powerful stimulus to activities of the daring Soviet patriots—the People's Avengers. Guerrilla detachments operating in all parts of the Minsk Region are striking more frequent and more deadly blows at the enemy.

For over two years one detachment, known as "The Flame," has been fighting the German invaders. During the past summer and fall this detach-

ment derailed 59 German trains, blew up six railway and 14 highway bridges, destroyed 13 German garrisons and killed 2,551 Hitlerites.

The Germans have been laying mines at the approaches to railway tracks and putting up barbed-wire entanglements. They have increased their guard, posting additional sentries at night. But guerrilla attacks on the most important enemy communications are on the increase. Reports were re-



Red Army artillerymen moving a gun over marshy terrain

cently received of one large detachment, "For Soviet Byelorussia," which has derailed 11 German military trains and wrecked 41 trucks on highways. The local population helped the guerrillas to put log-wall traps on the roads and to wreck railway bridges. Traffic over the railway was halted for five days.

A detachment of People's Avengers commanded by R. made a daring raid on a railway station not far from Minsk. They wrecked two trains loaded with gasoline and ammunition and destroyed the station. Within 12 days another detachment wrecked six enemy trains en route to the front. In this same area guerrillas tore up 12 kilometers of railway track, halting German troop movements to the front. The Germans sent an armored train with a military detachment to repair the road. The guerrillas attacked the train, put the locomotive out

of commission and destroyed 200 officers and men.

A detachment of patriots named for Marshal Zhukov derailed a German troop train, wrecking the locomotive, killing 168 Germans and wounding 123.

Guerrillas are also active in the city of Minsk. German bases and warehouses are set on fire, factories producing for the Germans are dynamited and fascist officials killed. Recently two locomotives were blown up at the Minsk station. In another part of the city, guerrillas set fire to a factory and killed 16 German officers; in still another they blew up a gasoline tank.

Minsk is alive and fighting. The patriots are taking ruthless revenge for the atrocities perpetrated by the Hitlerites in the capital of Soviet Byelorussia.

Misadventures of German Trains

By I. Chernyshev

Traveling in occupied Soviet territory is anything but a pleasure for Germans. Officers and men reveal in letters their awareness that the journey is fraught with peril. It is not surprising that old and seasoned soldiers have drawn up something in the nature of "instructions to be observed when traveling in Russia."

For soldiers about to leave on furlough, for example, there is this recommendation: "When leaving for Germany, take care to travel in the rear car—in case of a wreck you are less likely to be hurt. When returning to the front, on the contrary, sit in the first car—in the event of an accident you are most likely to be injured and sent to a hospital."

This is wise counsel, for the German military train is lucky if it reaches its destination safely.

One German soldier, whose name could not be deciphered, wrote his family: "I was fortunate to meet with no mishap on the way. You cannot imagine the state of the railways here. One sees derailed trains and wrecked and burned cars everywhere."

Lieutenant Heinrich Thaler, a German war prisoner, wrote: "Last February the 327th Infantry Division left France for the Eastern front. Near Orel a train in which one of the battalions was traveling struck a mine. The officers were in the front car, which suffered most of all. Several were

killed and nearly all the rest injured. The train in which Corporal Pataschik of my company was returning from leave was derailed three times between Minsk and Gomel, and each time men were killed or injured."

Byelorussian guerrillas twice attacked a train on which Lieutenant Hans Rosenbaum, commander of the Fourth Company, 317th Regiment, 221st German Infantry Division, was traveling. At one spot the train was halted by torn-up tracks. Guerrillas fired on the stalled train. Finally it got under way again, but after passing Minsk struck a mine. Two cars were wrecked. A repair train summoned to the scene also struck a mine, and traffic on the line was halted for three days.

Many of the stations in occupied Soviet territory look like fortresses. They are girdled with formidable defenses—but all the same the guerrillas attack them in broad daylight, killing the guards and destroying railway equipment.

For four months a regiment of the 221st German Infantry Division fought the guerrillas of the Mogilev area. Private Manfred Kraus states that when the Germans entered the forests they lived in constant dread of attacks from the rear. In one skirmish Kraus' company lost 20 men. In August his regiment was sent to the front to reinforce a depleted division. Seventy kilometers from its destination the train was derailed by guerrillas and many Germans were killed or injured.

Eleven Soviet Guardsmen

By A. Rostkov

On the west bank of the Dnieper, during a furious struggle for an important stronghold, a Soviet Guards unit advanced rapidly, pushing the enemy to the outskirts of the town. Continuing the drive, a small group of Guardsmen charged ahead of the unit and captured a commanding height.

This group of 11 Soviet warriors was led by an Azerbaijanian, Guards Lieutenant Mussei Bagirov. With him fought Nurgaliev, a Kazakh; Kastanyan, from sunny Armenia; Aripov, an Uzbek, a Russian machine-gunner and others.

The Germans counter-attacked the height. Three Nazi tanks and a group of tommy-gunners advanced upon the Guardsmen.

"Hold your ground!" Bagirov ordered.

The Guardsmen had only one anti-tank rifle, operated by Kastanyan. Hand-grenades were quickly tied together. Kastanyan opened fire and damaged the leading enemy tank, but the other two continued to advance. When they reached the Soviet trenches, Bagirov suddenly stood upright, hurling his string of grenades. The second tank was crippled. Guards Junior Lieutenant Azis Vakhobov flung another bunch of grenades and stopped the third. Meanwhile the men who had no pocket artillery fired away at the German tommy-gunners and tankmen with machine guns and rifles.

After repulsing this counter-attack, the Guardsmen were filled with new confidence. They determined not to budge an inch from their positions.

Shortly afterward several hundred men wearing

Red Army uniforms advanced toward the height from the direction of a village occupied by the Germans, waving their hands and shouting: "Don't shoot! We're Red Army men!"

The Guardsmen were not fooled. By the manner in which the group approached and by other details, they knew the men were Germans. They remained quiet, allowing the Hitlerites to approach close to their positions. Suddenly they opened fire with everything they had. The Germans replied. Junior Lieutenant Vakhobov was mortally wounded by the first volley, and above the noise of battle Bagirov's voice was heard: "Stand firm, comrades! Avenge the death of our friend!"

The 10 Guardsmen faced 300 Germans. They wreaked furious vengeance for their slain comrade. Scores of Hitlerites fell, but the others kept coming. On the left, Bagirov mowed down at least 100 of them. Ketanyev ably supported him on the left flank, while Nurgaliev, Kastanyan, Aripov and the rest picked off the enemy with their rifles.

From this incredible battle, which lasted for more than an hour, the Guardsmen emerged victorious. Two hundred and fifty Germans lay dead, and the Soviet heroes firmly held the height.

Warriors of five different nationalities, who had come from distant regions of the country to fight on Ukrainian soil, proved on this bloody battlefield their determination to hasten the hour of victory over an enemy equally hated by the Ukrainian, Uzbek, Azerbaijanian and other peoples of the Soviet Union.

"We Thought of Lidice"

Lieutenant Albert Zlovich, of the Czechoslovak Brigade fighting on the Soviet-German front, who was recently decorated by the Soviet Government for heroism in action, stated that the Czechs are proud to be fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Red Army.

"We are proud," said Lieutenant Zlovich, "that we were among the first to enter Kiev, capital of the Soviet Ukraine. . . . When we passed through the destroyed Soviet villages, we thought of Lidice, our native Czechoslovak town, erased from the earth by the German blackguards, and anger and hatred flamed in our hearts.

"Stalin has said that the results and consequences of the Red Army's victories reach beyond the limits of the Soviet-German front. We ourselves see this clearly. The Red Army is driving the Germans

westward, and that is the direct road toward the liberation of the Czechoslovak people, now languishing under the German-fascist yoke. When we were liberating Kiev, we knew that we were fighting for a free Czechoslovakia.

"We are proud that the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Marshal Stalin, commended the First Independent Czechoslovak Brigade in the USSR as one which had distinguished itself in action for the liberation of Kiev. This is indeed a great honor!

"We soldiers of the Czechoslovak Brigade fighting on the Soviet-German front will justify in action the gratitude and commendation of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief. We shall fight still more fiercely against our accursed enemy—the German-fascist occupationists—to achieve the great victory and win peace throughout the world."

100th German Plane Downed by French Fliers in USSR

Fighter pilots of the French Normandie Squadron in the USSR recently shot down their 100th German plane. Nearly two-thirds of this number were Junkers or Heinkel bombers. Most of the enemy fighters shot down by the Normandie airmen were Focke-Wulfs.

The French fliers are mainly engaged in escorting the Ilyushin-2, Stormoviks and Petlyakov-2 bombers in their operations against German troops and against the immediate enemy rear. They also pursue and force combat on the enemy fighters. The skill of the Normandie pilots is constantly increasing. In one battle 12 of their planes engaged a flight of enemy bombers and fighters. The French fliers separated into two groups—one flying above the German fighters while the other attacked the bombers. Within five minutes the Normandie fighters shot down five Junkers and four Focke-Wulfs, with no loss to themselves. French pilots flying Yakovlev fighters have proved their superiority over the enemy's machines and men.

Since Soviet bombers and French fighters work together, it was found necessary to work out a system of signals to overcome the language barrier.

A simple radio code was devised, which enables the French airmen to achieve instant understanding with Soviet fliers. The operations of both groups are distinguished by fine teamwork. In one engagement a group of Stormoviks escorted by nine Normandie fliers was attacked by 30 Focke-Wulf 190s. Three French fliers died the death of heroes, but not a single Stormovik was left unprotected.

The Normandie fliers destroy German planes not only in the air, but on the ground, and if the number of planes destroyed on airdromes could be added to their score it would be still higher. They attack German air bases in cooperation with Stormoviks and independently. French fliers recently attacked an airdrome serving as a base for Messerschmitts and Henschels. Despite heavy anti-aircraft fire the Normandie airmen made several strafing attacks, setting German planes, barracks and stores on fire. They returned to their own base without losses.

The French patriots are fighting wing to wing with Soviet fliers, taking bitter revenge on the Germans for the enslavement of France. Their constantly growing mastery of the air means that the victories of the Normandie Squadron will increase with each operational flight.

NEW MOSCOW SUBWAY LINE

By M. Makarov

Among Moscow's November Seventh Anniversary presents were two new stations and a subway line linking the Kursk railway terminal with the suburb of Kuntsevo. This line, covering about 14 miles, will ease passenger traffic in the center of Moscow. Many suburban trips now take only a fraction of the old time. For example, it is now only eight minutes to the Rzhev station from the Kursk terminal instead of an hour.

Among those who waited to greet the guests at the trial run were a number of distinguished Stakhanovites—Fyodor Permikov, who set a record on the overhead wiring, Burmistrov and Rogov, who regularly fulfilled two and a half norms instead of one, and linesmen Alyoshin, Belyaev and Karas, who finished their jobs 28 days ahead of schedule.

The chief architect of the Moscow Subway, Mikhail Zelenin, showed me around. The design of Novokuznetskaya Station is the joint work of two architects, Bykova and Taranov. The lobby and underground halls are faced with marble from Armenia—white, veined with rose. The lighting is derived from torch lamps on marble columns.

War themes have inspired the sculpture and other decorations. All branches of the services are depicted

in a large frieze. On the walls over the tracks bas-reliefs by Tomsy embody the features of leading Soviet men and women. The mosaics were set in Leningrad to designs by the artist Deineke. Their themes are various phases of Soviet economy: mining in the Donbas, harvesting, and men at work in a foundry. The entrance lobby is circular and has a columned cupola faced with grey-blue marble from the Urals.

Paveletsky Station was designed by the architects Dushkin and Knyazev. Though comparatively small, this station is very convenient and effective in appearance. Here, too, the walls bear fine bas-reliefs portraying the work of the Soviet rear to supply the front. In the escalator hall, Urals marble glitters in the lamplight. The ticket office niches are in red marble. The vestibule has a colorful mural composed of infantry, cavalry, artillery, tank corps and naval insignia.

A great mosaic panel facing the escalator, over 100 square yards in area, portrays the guns of Moscow saluting a Red Army victory. A panel contains a portrait of Marshal Stalin. The facade at Paveletsky Station is austere classic in line, with its four pillars of polished grey stone. A memorial plaque bears the inscription: *Built in the days of the Patriotic War.*

SOVIET SPORTS NEWS

The lull between the summer and winter sports seasons in the USSR has ended. Snow has fallen in many regions and Soviet skiers, hockey players and speed skaters are taking advantage of the below zero weather to get into trim for coming competitions. Sports organizations throughout the country are repairing ski stations and equipment prior to the opening of mass training sessions for young or inexperienced skiers.

Hundreds of thousands of skiers will be trained this winter according to a special 20-hour program for beginners and a 30-hour schedule for advanced groups. Sports organizations of the Soviet trade unions alone plan to prepare at least 400,000 skiers. Thousands of others will receive training in classes to be run by youth organizations, sports clubs and vocational and public schools.

Ski teams have already been formed in factories, mills, collective farms and higher schools. These teams will consist principally of young men of draft age. In addition to mass ski runs, in which millions of people take part each winter, a number of interesting contests and tournaments have been arranged for leading athletes of the country. An All-Union Skiing Championship Meet for collective farm youth will also be held.

The question of militarized ski training was discussed at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of Soviets of the Moscow Region. Fifteen hundred coaches now attending special courses are to teach skiing to thousands of persons throughout the Region. Military training centers, schools and trade schools are to have their own skiing bases. During the winter, regional skiing and skating championships are to be held. Militarized skiing groups will be formed of youths over 14. Special attention is being paid to the training of collective farm youth.

* * *

Leningrad streets were recently the scene of an unusual three-kilometer militarized relay race. Sailors from Baltic naval units competed for a prize offered by the Red Banner Military Council of the Baltic Fleet.

In the first lap the sailors carried light machine guns and rifles. From the second to the fifth laps they carried sub-machine guns, which during the sixth lap were turned over to men on bicycles. The succeeding laps were run by sailors wearing uniforms of the days of the storming of the Winter Palace in 1917. In the final laps the men wore gas masks and carried rifles. By a stiff fight, the unit led by Nikolai Kulishev won in 51 minutes, 30 seconds.

Winter in Moscow was ushered in by sleet, snow

and blizzards. The country's foremost skaters will soon be competing in ice-hockey matches. First to appear on the ice for training was the record-holder Peter Strood, followed by Zoya Kholshchenikova, champion of the USSR, and Ivan Anikanov, all-round champion of the USSR.

* * *

The winter sports season in Omsk was opened with the traditional relay ski-run. Twelve teams of men and 14 of women are participating. The men's 25-kilometer relay, won by Dynamo Association No. 5 in one hour, 40 minutes, was unusually tense.



Throwing the hand-grenade—part of the militarized ski race

In the Sverdlovsk Region, 80 of the best skiers of the Sverdlovsk Industrial Institute tried out for first place in a five-kilometer run. Nikolai Trofimov, a third-year student, came in first in 20 minutes, 55 seconds.

Poland and the Coming Phase of the War

By Academician Eugene Tarle

The following article appeared in Number 13 of the Moscow publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The moment for which the long-suffering Polish people has been waiting with the greatest impatience, the day of liberation from the Hitlerite yoke, is approaching. Yet it seems there are Poles who have still "not made up their minds" whose side to take—Hitler's or the Soviet Union's. At least, to the emigrant Polish government and the reactionary circles of the Polish emigration supporting it, this is still a "question."

This attitude has been expressed most clearly by the newspaper *Wiadomosci Codzienne*, which solemnly stated in its issue of November 7 that if the Red Army enters Poland without having previously renounced its claim to the "Eastern Provinces," meaning the areas of Vilnius, Western Ukraine and Western Byelorussia, "the Polish underground movement will fight against the Red Army just as relentlessly as against the German aggressor." The newspaper *Ongoes Prod* of Mikolajczyk's government hurried to "issue corresponding instructions to the Polish underground movement." What is pompously referred to here as "Polish underground" is of course not the movement of Polish guerrilla patriots, but of the few organizations of adherents of the emigrant government carrying out the latter's directives.

That is quite a logical upshot of the incessant flow of talk in which both the members of Mikolajczyk's cabinet and the Polish papers supporting his cabinet indulge. Only they modestly avoid dotting their "i's" and crossing their "t's" where necessary. It seems to us that the *Wiadomosci Codzienne*, even while fearlessly abandoning itself to the logic of its fundamental political creed, shied away from drawing the final and absolutely inevitable conclusion it was bound to make. Who indeed is going to believe that the so-called "Polish underground movement" can simultaneously and moreover equally "relentlessly" wage war both against the Germans and against the Red Army which will be driving the Germans from Poland? A choice will absolutely have to be made. No intricate schemes can eliminate this fateful alternative. In the 20th Century it is very hard to successfully play the ingenious and romantic role of a Konrad Wallenrod. It is much easier to become a Quisling. That is the logic of our prosaic age.

Hence what the emigrant Polish newspaper actually suggests to its compatriots is, firstly, to fight together with the Germans against the Red Army

and to vie with the Hitlerite horde in "relentlessness"; secondly, to continue to march shoulder to shoulder with Germany, following its fortune, as the old writers would say, and as a natural result to land where fortune will in the end lead Hitler and the Hitlerites. Once they take the road which a section of the Polish emigration offers to their tormented people, they will find it very hard to swerve from it and to escape grievous disaster. Consequently, to call upon Poland to take this road, one must have preserved absolutely intact, uncorroded by analysis, the former blind faith of Beck and Rydz-Smigly in the unconquerable might of Hitler and company; and still more, a similarly unperturbed faith that "his kingdom will never end."

Yet it has so many times been pointed out to the world (and namely, to the Polish world), that the Germans never helped Poland in any way, but always, without a single exception, sought to push her as quickly as they could into an abyss. . . .

The cordial friendship with Germany which sprang up so suddenly, developed—after Pilsudski's death—under Beck and Hitler, into ardent love. Then came the debacle of 1939, the panicky flight of the rulers who had sold out Poland, and the furious and barbarous devastation of the Polish land by the brutal German hordes.

* * *

The Soviet people is waging war against the Hitlerite robbers, the executioners of Poland. Soviet public opinion expects that one of the fruits of victory over Hitlerite Germany will be the creation of a new, strong, democratic Poland.

But it neither suits the Hitlerite propaganda department, nor does it accord with the program of the reactionary elements of the Polish emigration, to permit the unhampered and normal development of friendly relations, the relations of true allies, such as are quite natural between peoples carrying on a common struggle. There began a slander campaign of monstrous charges against the Soviet Union; charges so incredible as to be ludicrous. The emigrant Polish press did not conceal its disappointment at the profound silence with which British public opinion passed over the most pathetic Polish reports and the most sensational charges. If the gentlemen who have the audacity to represent themselves as speaking in the name of the Polish people had any more or less real knowledge of Polish history, they might have foreseen that no credence would be given in England to their daily impudent and varying Hitlerite anti-

Soviet lies, even if presented in the Polish language, printed in Polish newspapers and signed by Polish names.

The campaign of the Polish emigrant newspapers reached its high point in 1942, but that was only the beginning. Then came the formation of the Mikolajczyk government and the appointment of that good fascist, General Sosnowski, to the post of commander-in-chief of the Polish army. His advent ushered in a new era over which the entire Hitlerite press has been going into raptures—a period of systematic assassinations of Polish guerrillas at the hands of Poles, on the direct, open and official instigation and incitement of Sosnowski and his agents. These incredible events taking place in Poland fully justified the following question now squarely put to General Sosnowski not only by the British but also by the American press: What sort of orders is he going to transmit to his hands through his radio station SWIT when (as is inevitable) the Soviet Army pursuing the retreating Germans enters Poland?

Question Confronting Poles

It must be admitted that the question—are you with the Germans or with the Soviet Union?—now confronts every Pole in its most clear-cut form. We do not of course doubt that the Poland whose representatives are heroically fighting on our front and rejoicing at the fact that they have already set foot on the Warsaw highway, has made its irrevocable choice and will carry their decisions to the end. When we think of the past of the Polish people, our memory appeals to the names that have forever covered with glory the nation which gave them birth: Nicolaus Copernicus, Adam Mickiewicz, Tadeusz Kosciuszko, Juliusz Slowacki, Marie Curie Sklodowska and many others, who have sprung from the Polish people and whom the Poles gave to mankind.

And when we speak of present-day Poland, we also know that it is not the Sosnowskis—who (to the great delight of Goebbels' press) are murdering the Polish guerrillas fighting against Hitler—but these guerrillas who are the protagonists of a better future and of all the hopes of their people. We realize that for every Lukasiewicz or Matuszewski and their like, who sit in cozy London and New York cafes and hatch their vile and absurd intrigues, there are dozens of Lieutenant Czafkowskis and other heroes of the Kosciuszko Division giving their lives for Poland's cause, with ardent struggle and devotion. These are the worthy descendants of the warriors Boleslaw, the brave Stefan Batori, Jan Sobiesski and the great patriot whose name is borne by the Polish Division which is fighting alongside our troops and has already covered itself with glory.

Can anyone in possession of his senses even

broach the question of whose side Poland should take—Hitler's or the Soviet Union's? Is it possible for a Pole, unless he is distinguished by an absolutely phenomenal incomprehension (or unless he acts on direct instructions from Berlin) to agitate with zeal against a second front and frankly give vent to dismay at the victories of the Red Army? These near-quislings even lie exactly as do the real quislings and Laval. Laval calls Hitler's invasion of Russia an "uprising of Europe against Bolshevism" and Ignacz Matuszewski and his ilk also speak of "fighting against Bolshevism" as the paramount political task of the day. And since "Bolshevism" has already hurled the Germans beyond the Dnieper and will any day drive them still farther to the west, the conclusion for the Messrs. Matuszewskis is quite obvious.

When Jozef Beck, after safely delivering Poland into the hands of Hitler, modestly departed in strict incognito to rest from his labors in Rumania, there was hardly anyone who recalled with what ardor Beck once joined the "anti-comintern pact" the moment he was beckoned from Berlin. But when people repeat Beck's phrases with such strict exactness in London today, it can only be explained by their hope that Englishmen do not know the Polish language and that there are some Poles capable of forgetting the most glaring lessons of the past.

It is one thing, however, to write articles in emigration, far from the scene of war, but it is quite another to effect a Beck policy in Poland itself in 1943 or 1944—this is a venture incomparably harder, and doomed to failure in the end. The Polish people has languished these four years and still is languishing in the Hitlerite dungeon, and its psychology is rather different from that of its "government" and its other self-appointed guardians observing Poland from the beautiful afar.

Only One Possible Solution

The mad German beast who has outraged Poland worse than any other country, who has ordered the castration of Polish youths, exterminated the flower of Polish science and literature, wiped out the population of numerous Polish villages and towns long after the termination of all hostilities and after the complete subjection of this unfortunate country—this contemptible executioner hoped he would succeed, with the help of the reactionary Polish emigration, in driving a wedge between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-Saxon Powers. He failed in this. But he succeeded in something else: he succeeded in proving with the utmost clarity to all Poles who have not lost the capacity of reckoning with common sense, that Poland has no choice and that there is only one possible solution to the question. To take Hitler's side means to share the fate

(Continued on page eight)

THE PECHORA RAILWAY

By V. Grishanin

The natural wealth of the Soviet North is incalculable, but it is not always easy to exploit, because of the vast expanses dividing it from the major centers of the population.

Many areas of the Far North have come to life with the creation of the Northern Sea Route across the Arctic Ocean. But this communication has its weak points owing to seasonal climatic conditions. It was essential to establish railway line communications.

As far back as the middle of the 19th Century coal beds were known to exist in the extreme north of the Urals in the basin of the Pechora River, some 60 miles beyond the Polar Circle.

This is the region of birds which know no fear. Here the wilful Pechora with its countless tributaries winds its interminable course. Fish in lavish abundance, fur-bearing animals, magnificent forests, rich mines—all this wealth awaited the coming of man. But the nearest railway point from the river Vorkuta, with its coal-beds, was at Serov, over 600 miles away as the crow flies.

The Pechora River, 1,133 miles long, flows into the Arctic Ocean and is navigable for only some 150 to 165 days in the year. There have been projects to connect the Pechora with the basin of the northern Dvina, and with the Volga through the Kama, which would allow a direct outlet from the Volga into the Arctic Ocean through the Pechora.

A study of coal deposits, undertaken by Soviet authorities between 1921 and 1924, showed the existence of mighty veins extending from the middle reaches of the Pechora to the Arctic Ocean. There is also oil in the district of the Ukhta River. In 1936 the first oil refineries were launched in this area. The need for a railway became more and more apparent. Not only would it unfetter treasure from the eternal ice: it would also create vast new possibilities for the development of the Komi Republic. The decision was taken. The route was planned.

The construction of the new railway, 1,154 miles long, was started in 1940. Germany's attack, which demanded the mobilization of all the economic resources of the USSR, necessitated a speed-up of the work. The line has been in operation for some time. The track crosses vast forests, deep rapid rivers, marshes and tundra. Not only was the timber car-

ried hundreds of miles to many building sites, but even dirt and gravel had to be imported from great distances, as the tundra soils are not suitable for laying tracks.

Temporary wooden tracks were stretched across the marshlands and used for the delivery of building materials. In spite of the blizzards, hurricanes, frosts with the mercury 40 to 50 degrees below zero Centigrade, the uninhabited virgin expanses and the short northern day, the workers laid between three and four miles of track per day. Over 700 engineers and workers who contributed to that mighty effort have been decorated by the Soviet Government.

The new coal basins are already supplying fuel to the USSR. The Capital Shaft, largest in the Vorkuta center basin, is a highly mechanized enterprise. New beds and deposits are being discovered. The coal is of high quality. The Northern Fleet and the economy of the Soviet North are acquiring their own power base.

The gradual influx of settlers into these areas will facilitate the development of the timber, chemical and paper industries, in the course of which many new mineral deposits will be discovered, as happened in the Urals. The continuation of this trunk line eastward beyond the Ob River will ultimately connect all the new regions of the Soviet North with Moscow and the Far East.

POLAND AND THE WAR

(Continued from page seven)

of Hitlerite Germany. And to remain "neutral" also means taking Hitler's side.

The sole road is the one which the Czafkowskis have taken and which their comrades are now following. By following this road they have already set foot on the Warsaw highway, they are marching to their land, and they will march farther, pushing forward and extending the old (and even the oldest) western boundaries of their country, and tracking down the criminal enemies to their robbers' den. They can do this only in close, comradely unity with the Red Army. And they have already consecrated this unity with their noble blood.

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THE KHARKOV TRIAL

The following editorial appeared in PRAVDA during the recent trial of Nazi criminals in Kharkov:

A trial has opened in Kharkov. The criminals who perpetrated monstrous villainies against peaceful citizens and wounded Red Army men are now facing the Soviet court. A similar trial was recently held in Krasnodar; then it was the contemptible traitors to their country, accomplices of the Hitlerite butchers, who faced justice. Their masters, the Nazi fiends, succeeded for the time being in escaping trial and just retribution.

In Kharkov it is German criminals who stand in the dock. The hand of Soviet justice has reached them. The army of the German barbarians could not and cannot rescue its accomplices. The German bandits are being successfully ejected from the Soviet regions they temporarily seized, and where are discovered traces of the nightmare of crimes and atrocities perpetrated by them in pursuance of the cannibal orders of the Hitler command.

The fact that these German criminals have been caught and indicted and are being called to account



This is the village of Prokhorovka, in the Belgorod area, after the Germans were forced to retreat from it

before the court of the Soviet people is a direct consequence of the victories of the Red Army. The ruthless German wolves, arrant bandits, butchers and robbers, have been driven to the wall by inexorable facts and are giving testimony which indicts the entire Nazi ruling clique—headed by the arch bandit Hitler—of unprecedented crimes.

In the dock stand three Hitlerite criminals, and with them a traitor to our country. The indictment fully charges with the most heinous misdeeds the Hitlerite gang that exercised its brutal sway in Kharkov.

In the dock at Kharkov stand the Hitlerite assassins. What the arrested and indicted Nazi criminals perpetrated in Kharkov is being perpetrated in other cities and villages temporarily in the hands of the Germans. Formulated in the terse and precise language of a legal document, the indictment paints a staggering picture of the terrible life and painful death of the inhabitants of Kharkov who fell into the clutches of the Hitlerite beasts.

Again, as in Krasnodar, we meet with gruesome machines—death gas vans, “murder cars”—the abhorrent contribution of the German hangman’s science and technique for the wholesale extermination of defenseless people. Again, as in Krasnodar, we hear the heart-rending shrieks, moans and groans of mothers who with their children were shoved into the “murder cars” and condemned to painful death.

The blood freezes in one’s veins when one reads the testimony of the accused Retslaw, who directly participated in the slaughter of Soviet citizens.

“Wholesale executions by hanging and shooting,” this miscreant stated, “seemed to the German command too troublesome and slow a means for the accomplishment of the tasks assigned to the punitive organs, and therefore more simple methods had to be devised for the extermination of the population. It must be said that these methods were found.”

The accursed German assassins wanted to save themselves unnecessary trouble. Methods previously employed for the murder of peaceful Soviet citizens seemed to them too slow. They mechanized them; greedily sought to increase the number of their victims. Has the world ever known such villainies? Has the world ever known such criminals?

The indictment enumerated only a fraction of the atrocities committed by the Hitlerites. They murdered people and tried to murder the city itself. They wrecked, blew up and burned down buildings; they destroyed cultural values; they pillaged and shipped to Germany the national property; they carried off tens of thousands of Soviet citizens to slavery in Germany. They will be made to answer for everything!

These are not soldiers who are standing trial in Kharkov, but bandits and wild beasts. They perpetrated their atrocities against peaceful, unarmed, defenseless people. Their infamies are unparalleled, their crimes are unprecedented acts of banditry, and the German military uniform on the assassins of women and children does not lessen their liability before the court.

This criminality and banditry, this unprecedented annihilation of the civilian population, constitute the very essence of Hitler’s “total” war of extermination. The German command arranged special courses and lectures in its military schools on the necessity of exterminating the overwhelming majority of the people of the Soviet Union, especially the Russians and Ukrainians. Only a part of the population of the occupied Soviet regions was to be spared by the Hitlerites, who intended to employ them as slaves of the German landowners.

Acting on orders of the German high command and the Nazi bandit government, German fiends of all ranks are insolently and cynically violating all the rules of warfare laid down in international conventions. The German bandits are insolently trampling upon all universally accepted standards of law. The German army is nothing but a horde of the most unbridled criminals, of inveterate villains who constitute a mortal danger to all mankind.

The entire Soviet people will follow the Kharkov trial with the closest attention. In the courtroom are Soviet citizens who for many painful months experienced oppressive horror, utter lawlessness and humiliating impotence in a large city which had been converted into a gloomy Nazi prison. The one hope that buoyed up these Soviet people was that their Red Army would come to deliver those who still survived the intolerable torments, and to punish the Nazi assassins as they deserved.

Their hope was realized. Kharkov’s citizens now see standing in the dock the abominable miscreants who not so long ago paraded as victors through the streets of Kharkov, committed unspeakable outrages against peaceful citizens and gloated in their strength over the weak and defenseless. These villains will pay for their bloody crimes. Nor will their accomplices, SS Obergruppenfuehrer Dietrich, SS Gruppenfuehrer Simon, and other Nazi scoundrels named in the indictment, escape justice.

Our country expects that a stern and just sentence will be passed, and other peoples languishing under the hated Hitler yoke likewise expect this. The Kharkov trial is of great international significance. It proclaims the triumph of justice. It testifies that the insolent bandit violation of international legal standards will not go unpunished, that there is a force

in the world which will put an end to the Nazi nest of crime in Europe and restore the security of nations.

The war against bandit Hitler Germany is entering its concluding phase. The Nazi villains fear the inevitable retribution approaching. In vain do they try to conceal their crimes and to obliterate their bloody traces. They have been indicted and they will

be pursued to the uttermost ends of the earth. The sword of the Red Army and of the armies of our Allies triumphantly precedes the sword of justice. That sword will not be sheathed until the ringleaders of the accursed Nazi band pay with their heads for all their crimes against mankind.

Death to the German invaders!

Hatred Where it is Due

By Leonid Leonov

The following was written by the well-known Soviet author and playwright during his attendance at the Kharkov trial of the Nazi criminals:

Sorrow for the women and children murdered by the Nazis will be conserved for the day of final retribution. For the present, however, our hands clench into fists in spite of ourselves, and words are no longer sufficient to express what we feel. Only the artillery and tommy guns of the Red Army can convincingly reflect our sentiments when reading the indictment at the Kharkov trial.

In any country and in any war, such two-legged monsters—sadists in uniform, murderers of the most degenerate variety—are shot down like dogs. The current trial in Kharkov, in disclosing the very essence of fascism, will fill a special page in the history of the Patriotic War. For the sake of justice and the future welfare of the world it is necessary that all should be acquainted with even the slightest details in the exploits of the modern Niebelungen.

Thus, before we hear sentence pronounced, we listen in strained silence to what they have to say. We take notes on their speeches and do our best to follow the bestial logic of monsters who clubbed babies to death. We watch as the fascist fledglings stand on trial in all their Nordic splendor.

During the past month I have had occasion to visit many parts of Russia and the Ukraine and have seen plenty of Germany's handiwork. I saw many an empty town where not even a dog or a sparrow remained. I saw Gomel, which had been razed to the ground; the ruins of Chernigov and the bare site that was Yukhnov. I visited unfortunate Kiev and saw the gullies of Babi Yar, where 100,000 of our people were imperfectly cremated. Babi Yar is a hellish river of human ashes, half-burned children's shoes and the charred remains of bodies.

As the Red Army approached, the occupationists made frantic but vain attempts to efface all traces of the hecatombs of the dead. Huge furnaces were constantly in action. Capable of burning 200 corpses at a time, they were equipped with special devices for the removal of unburned bones, as the people of Kiev testified, and for the salvage of dental work from the

ashes of victims. The Germans were finally unable to bury the dead even with the help of prisoners of war. Common graves could not be dug deep enough and wide enough. When filled they were covered with thin layers of earth. The butchers were in a terrible hurry. They sweated under the fear that the avengers might catch them red-handed.

Finished with their ugly job, they emerged from the gully, made for the Pavilion of the Proletarian Guard and inscribed their own vile names upon the walls. One Teutonic hero, no doubt graduated from the same school as his Fuehrer, climbed upon the shoulders of his fellows to draw a life-size obscene



A German about to put another bullet into the head of a Soviet citizen already wounded but still living

(Photo found on a Nazi taken prisoner in the Kiev Region)
Radiophoto

picture on the wall with charcoal. And there, for the world to see, is the apotheosis of German culture, which masks a visage more grisly than that of primeval man.

This visage must be crushed with a mailed fist. Mankind must strike at it with tanks, battleships and self-propelled guns until nothing but a mass remains—until its bloodshot eyes and other false semblances of humanity have been stamped out. This must be done quickly if we do not wish to see that ugly visage rise over the windowsills of our children's nurseries.

The people of Kharkov will long remember this trial. In this crowded hall, of course, only a part of Nazidom's crimes may be mentioned. There is neither room nor time to deal with other matter: with, for instance, the Dergach pits below the Kharkov tractor plant, where were found the ashes of 300,000 who perished from hunger, were beaten to death or murdered with carbon monoxide. Nor can the Kharkov trial extract justice for the victims buried alive, those shot in the back, or those who were bayoneted, starved, frozen or otherwise put to death. No method of murder can be devised that has not already been tried in practice by these monsters of "the master race."

Incredible though it may seem, traces of their crimes lie bare to the eyes of all for hundreds of kilometers in every direction in the liberated territory. No elements of nature could wreak greater havoc. The countryside looks as though the devil himself had run amok and had indiscriminately left his sanguinary stamp upon everything—villages, railway stations and cities.

Everywhere, all that was built by human hands bears the mark of the incendiary's torch. Wet snow cakes the tumbled weeds amid the ruins, and one can scarcely believe that here mankind flourished; here were houses whose lights once twinkled cheerfully at night; here young housewives set their tables lavishly; here innocent children waved from the windows to soldiers marching and singing in the streets of their native towns. The silence of death now reigns everywhere. The songs of young girls, the laughter of children and even the barking of dogs has died away in the Ukraine. Still and terrible are the nights in the Ukraine now.

From whence came the touch of death to those who lived and prospered here? What were the forces that laid waste the flourishing cities and villages? The answer may be found at the Kharkov trial by examining the three prisoners in the dock. There is yet a fourth, but of him later.

The aforementioned three are merely average samples of the fascists' ideal hero. Each did his butchering to the best of his ability. They are Ritz, Retslaw and Langheld. Though the pen shrinks even from their description, I will try to put them down as they are. Their appearance may be worth remem-

bering. Let every man see the face of his would-be murderer, the visage of those who sought to plunder his house.

Hans Ritz, on the left, is a lieutenant and only 24, but he has done much for the glory of his Fuehrer. His college education no doubt stood him in good stead in the performance of his ghastly crimes. He is a bald little gnome with the chest span of a bird. And birdlike is his cherub face. Such as he are fond of having themselves photographed alongside the swinging corpses of guerrillas. They like to send such photographs home to their mamas and sweethearts, who are sentimentally charmed with them. The iron cross, second class, was conferred upon him back in Germany, apparently in anticipation of his success in Russia.

Sitting beside Hans Ritz in the prisoner's dock is Reinhard Retslaw, corporal. His is an uncomprehending skull. He was awarded a medal in the winter of 1941-42. His testimony frequently elicits laughter; if one is to believe him he is the world's fastest runner, despite his 36 years. He is a careerist, an industrious flunkey in the Hitler dungeon.

The third of the four facing the hall is Langheld, a captain of the Nazi counter-espionage, thin-lipped, with a bullet head. His lashless eyes, set wide apart and seemingly able to stare in two directions at once, are alien to the quality of mercy. He is just the sort of individual Hitler could use to slaughter an entire people. Such as he enjoy the moaning of children, the sobbing of women; he derives refined pleasure from such things. He was awarded an order and a medal because, as he explains, he "always fulfilled the wishes of the command." Langheld listened to the German translation of the indictment with particular attention, as though fearful of being accused of something he had not done. To add anything to his list of crimes would be difficult indeed.

The fourth prisoner in the dock was their accomplice in crime, the traitor and Gestapo hangman Bulanov. This young fellow, in a black jacket and with the face of a jailbird, displayed particular prowess in the murder of children. There are no less than 60 victims on his cast-iron conscience. His dark eyes under bushy eyebrows expressed nothing, though they had seen much. He sat there with his head bowed, as though striving even then to evade the imaginary noose. Bulanov will work for anyone who will pay. He is the faithful shadow of the three German uniforms beside him. The four are no more distant from each other than the fingers Hitler has tightened about the throat of the Ukraine.

For the time there are few of them on trial—just several little fuehrers, comparatively restricted in their activities. But criminals of larger caliber will inevitably reach the dock—the fate which inevitably awaits the very top Fuehrer himself.

Hitler and the Generals

By K. Velikanov

Toward the end of 1943 we observe a new accentuation of the differences between Hitler and the German generals, resulting from the severe defeats Germany has suffered. Echoes of the struggle behind the scenes in the German ruling camp are discernible in the German press, and primarily in Goebbels' articles.

In one of his articles published early in December Goebbels complains that in "German society" have appeared persons who "admire the enemy." The reference is not to scare the German burghers, who thirst for peace at any price. The reference is to a new phenomenon begotten by the process of "reevaluation of values" which is taking place in circles close to the Nazi leadership, under the influence of military defeats.

"Admiration for the enemy" is evinced by those who are daily confronted on the one hand by Hitler's "irrational impulses" and on the other by the truly high strategic skill displayed by the Soviet Command. That is the reason why Goebbels, referring to people who are apparently comparing the two strategies, adds: "We must not admire the enemy; we may only learn from him."

In other words, Goebbels tells the German strategists: "Instead of criticizing Hitler, gentlemen, learn to perfect your methods of warfare."

Hitler's conferences with representatives of the high command and gauleiters held in October and November brought to light new differences in the ruling circles, and what is particularly characteristic, the further decline of Hitler's prestige. From the transparent allusions of General Dietmar and other commentators, it may be inferred that Hitler's order to hold the Dnieper line at any cost was issued in defiance of the opinion of a large section of army leaders. The German generals were opposed to this and proposed their own plan of "concentrating forces" by shortening the front lines and economizing on reserves. The generals expressed dissatisfaction with the fact that the interest of preserving Hitler's prestige predominates over all German plans. Apparently the generals went so far as to recall the results of Hitler's decisions on the question of Stalingrad when, as has now come to light, General Mannstein and others demanded that the Sixth Army be withdrawn, while Hitler, supported by Goering, insisted on continuing the hopeless struggle.

It is significant that after those conferences Goebbels found it necessary to remind Hitler's opponents among the generals that the "Fuehrer's" decisions and authority "cannot be questioned." In an article in *Das Reich* on December 5, Goebbels wrote: "Only the Fuehrer from his watchtower as supreme chief

can correctly evaluate the situation as a whole. Only he is in a position to survey the situation in all its complexity and to evaluate all chances and all dangers. That is why he alone is entitled to make decisions. All others must obey him."

The very fact that Goebbels shifts the weight of the question to a plane of formal discipline is highly indicative. It shows that the German generals obey Hitler not from inner conviction but as a matter of discipline. How long such a state of affairs can endure depends on a number of factors—above all on the further development of events on the Soviet-German front and on the fronts of Western Europe. Today it may be taken for granted that the relations between Hitler and the majority of higher army generals are in a state of "unstable equilibrium."

The number of "100 per cent" followers of Hitler among the generals is dwindling. Rommel, Warlimont, Zeitzler, Kuechler, Kluge and a few others—that is the small group of generals closest to Hitler who enjoy his complete confidence. Among this group Rommel is coming ever more to the fore, and Hitler entrusts him with one mission after another. Several weeks ago Rommel, while retaining his post as commander of the German troops in Italy, went to the Balkans, where he visited Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. Prior to that he inspected German defenses on the Mediterranean and Atlantic Coasts of France. Quite recently he inspected, at Hitler's special orders, the German fortifications in Denmark. Apparently Hitler does not trust the reports he gets from the commanders of the German armed forces in France and in the Balkans—Generals Rundstedt and Weichs.

It must be pointed out, however, that symptomatic as the accentuation of the differences between Hitler and the representatives of the high command, and also between the various cliques of generals, are in themselves, they all realize that further defeats and loss of territory are bound to affect the German army and the morale of the home front.

The German command, irrespective of who is at its head, will of course seek to put up every possible resistance in the last decisive stages of the war. It will undoubtedly resort to all means at its disposal to make this resistance as effective as possible.

The German command is now carrying out the second "total"—or, as it is called, "super-total"—mobilization of reserves and material resources. The development of the processes at work in Germany and the fate of the Nazi regime will today, to an even

(Continued on page eight)

FINNISH CRIMES IN OCCUPIED SOVIET TERRITORY

Snapshots of ruined Soviet towns and villages and scenes of the execution of peaceful citizens, together with stories of people who managed to escape across the front-line, reveal the terrible crimes committed by the Mannerheim bands in the temporarily occupied territory of the Karelian-Finnish Republic.

The capital of this Republic, Petrozavodsk, founded by Peter the Great, is half-burned or ruined by the Finns. The section where the fine buildings of the Philharmonic Society, the Gostinny Dvor and the Severnaya Hotel stood, now resembles an empty lot. Beautiful Karl Marx Avenue is scarred; the town park has been converted into a cemetery for Schutz Korps men; the Palace of Pioneers no longer exists, and factories and mills have been turned into heaps of debris.

Similar barbarous destruction has been wrought in Konopoga and many other towns and villages. The Finns burned down the Vedlozero machine-tractor station and Jurgelitsky village; they razed to the ground the Nikola settlement in the Shletozero district. The Finns confiscated the entire grain stock from the population of the Kalevala Zaonezhye and other districts. They robbed the people clean and fed them only on birch bark, leaves, grass and straw. Twenty persons recently starved to death in the small village of Pagrema of the Zaonezhye district. The Finns exterminate local inhabitants systematically and according to plan, without sparing old folk, women and chil-

dren; they confine thousands of persons in concentration camps, where they are doomed to death and subjected to tortures. A brutal regime reigns in the concentration camps of Petrozavodsk, which are fenced off with barbed wire. A system of corporal punishment has been introduced there. Prisoners are forced to work 16 hours daily. They receive almost no food and for the slightest "offense" are beaten with ram-rods and flogged.

In the Severnaya Tocjka and Kukovka concentration camps, 80 per cent of all inmates were subjected to corporal punishment. Many times the policemen have organized drinking bouts during which they humiliated prisoners, beat them unconscious and used them for target practice. Of late, the Finns have applied a newly-invented torture: they beat a person cruelly, strip him of his clothes, wrap his bruised body in a sheet moistened with strong brine and leave him thus for several hours.

The list of crimes committed by Mannerheim's men is swelling daily. They vent their bestial resentment over military defeats on the peaceful population; they plunder innocent people, subject them to inhuman torture and exterminate them; they demolish Soviet towns and villages.

The hour of retribution is approaching. These bandits will answer for all the monstrous crimes they have committed.

A MUSCOVITE VISITS LENINGRAD

By Jeanne Inber

On the evening before I left Moscow to visit Leningrad, the Red Army liberated Kremenchug. My friends were giving me a farewell party. Suddenly a burst of thunder from 120 guns sent us rushing to the window.

From our flat on the eighth floor we saw Moscow's tall buildings, the Kremlin towers and the trees all emerge from the gloom as hundreds of blue and yellow lights flashed in the sky. After the 12th volley we returned to the table to toast the victory.

Early next morning, as I traveled down Gorky Street to the airport, I could not help admiring the spotlessness and trimness of Moscow.

Soon our plane was swooping over the golden birch forests. Evening came on very early. The trees began to look less leafy and more coniferous, with a touch of autumnal scarlet, which soon faded into the austere shape of Lake Ladoga. Low over the water, we were wrapped in a cold mist. The Germans were very close. Our gunner fired two test

volleys. Fortunately, there was no occasion to use the machine gun.

We landed at Leningrad, but the city was still invisible. Pitch darkness and quiet, an autumn sky with few stars. There was hardly anyone in the streets, lit with the tiniest flicker of lamps.

In the daytime, however, Leningrad came to life. Despite its shell-gutted streets and tottering masonry, it retains its incomparable beauty. In the Summer Garden, as in the time of the great Russian poet Pushkin, the leaves yellow and wither on the old trees, and Leningrad's little children, accustomed to adversity, play in the sand.

In comparison with animated Moscow, Leningrad looks somber, almost sullen. The milky waters of the canals reflect palaces with decapitated caryatides, and plywood patches over gaping holes in the windows. In the streets one hears the sweet sound of a Chopin ballad and the muffled roar of German guns, followed by mighty retaliatory volleys from Soviet artillery.

We Will Avenge!

It is an ordinary Leningrad day. Streetcars are running smoothly, crowded with passengers. Children play in the streets; avenues are filled with hurrying pedestrians.

Suddenly an artillery cannonade begins. The Germans and Finns are shelling the city—firing not upon military installations but upon the civilian population.

Study these ghastly photographs. This shattered streetcar was filled with peaceful Leningrad citizens on their way to work. Now they lie mutilated, mangled, dead. This woman's life has been cut short senselessly and frightfully.

Why did these people perish? Only because they were Leningrad citizens—people whose spirit could not be broken by the brutal enemy, now maddened with rage. Having lost all hope of capturing Leningrad, the German and Finnish beasts are attempting to annihilate it.

Let the innocent blood of Leningrad be upon the enemy's head! Let implacable vengeance overtake him! The blood of Leningrad must be avenged. We know—we are certain—that the hour of retribution is near. No mercy to these murderous fiends!

Death to the German and Finnish butchers!

(Text for the accompanying pictures was written by Nikolai Tikhonov, beloved Russian poet, who has remained in his native Leningrad throughout the war.)



Radiophoto

Heroes of the Railways

By Ruth Byelova

It is easy to understand how tremendous is the task of transferring military supplies to the huge Soviet Army fighting the German invaders. For week after week, since midsummer, the Red Army has been driving steadily westward, liberating hundreds of towns and villages.

The army of Soviet railwaymen is supporting this offensive 100 per cent. Their heroic and successful work in supplying the front recently received nationwide recognition when the Government conferred the title of Hero of Socialist Labor on 127 outstanding railway workers, and decorated another large group with various Orders and medals.

At the beginning of the war, the Hitlerites placed great hopes in the supposed inefficiency of Soviet railways. But they miscalculated in their estimate of our transport system, as they did in their evaluation of Soviet strength in general.

The first surprise was the epic achievement of the railways in evacuating industry from front-line regions to the deep rear of the USSR. During the first few months of the war, Soviet railwaymen transferred over a million carloads of factory equipment and raw materials from the danger zone to the eastern districts of our country. But this was not all—at the same time trains from the east were rushing whole armies and huge masses of equipment to the west.

Soviet railwaymen have since the first days of war performed their duties with the utmost valor, and have even fought side by side with the armed forces when occasion demanded. There was an instance in

the Battle for Stalingrad when engineer Shurupov was driving a troop-train to the front. The train was strafed by German bombers and Shurupov was severely wounded, but he remained at his post and brought the troops safely to their destination.

Women Heroes of Transport

Women railway workers have written some truly heroic pages in the history of wartime transport. Many of the workers recently honored by the Government are women. On one occasion an engineer was gravely wounded at a front-line station. His assistant, Sophia Shvarenko, a young girl, drove the train to safety. Later in the same day she drove another ammunition train to safety after the Germans had dropped a bomb on the engine. During this trip she was wounded, but continued to work, saving many carloads of war supplies.

Another case now widely known is that of the woman railway guard Sverkovskaya, who from her post of duty saw a German bomber circle over her own house, bomb it and then fly on to bomb the railway tracks. Resisting the powerful impulse to rush home to her two small children, Sverkovskaya went instead to warn the station master of the damaged track, thus averting a wreck. Only then did she go home, where she found one of her children dead and the other injured by the fascist bombs.

It is this spirit that fires the Soviet railway workers, who are playing a great part in the routing of the Hitlerite invaders.

HITLER AND GENERALS

(Continued from page five)

greater extent than before, be determined by the onslaught of the Red Army and the troops of the Allies against Germany.

On the eve of the New Year Germany is faced with the fact that Hitler's strategic plans have utterly failed. One observer recently compared the German army to a bull whom the toreador by strong and successive blows has brought to a state when the final mortal blow can be delivered. In 1944 the Red Army and the troops of the Allies will deliver this mortal blow.

Manganese, Coal, Copper and Bauxite From Kazakhstan

Over 70 geological exploration parties spent last summer in Kazakhstan, ranging far afield from the Caspian shores to the Altai mountains, and from Siberia to the Central Asian deserts. Large manganese deposits were found in eastern Kazakhstan. In this area, too, were discovered new coal seams which will provide all the fuel needed by the industries of the Upper Irtysh area.

New copper deposits have been discovered in southern Kazakhstan, and bauxite deposits near the railway.

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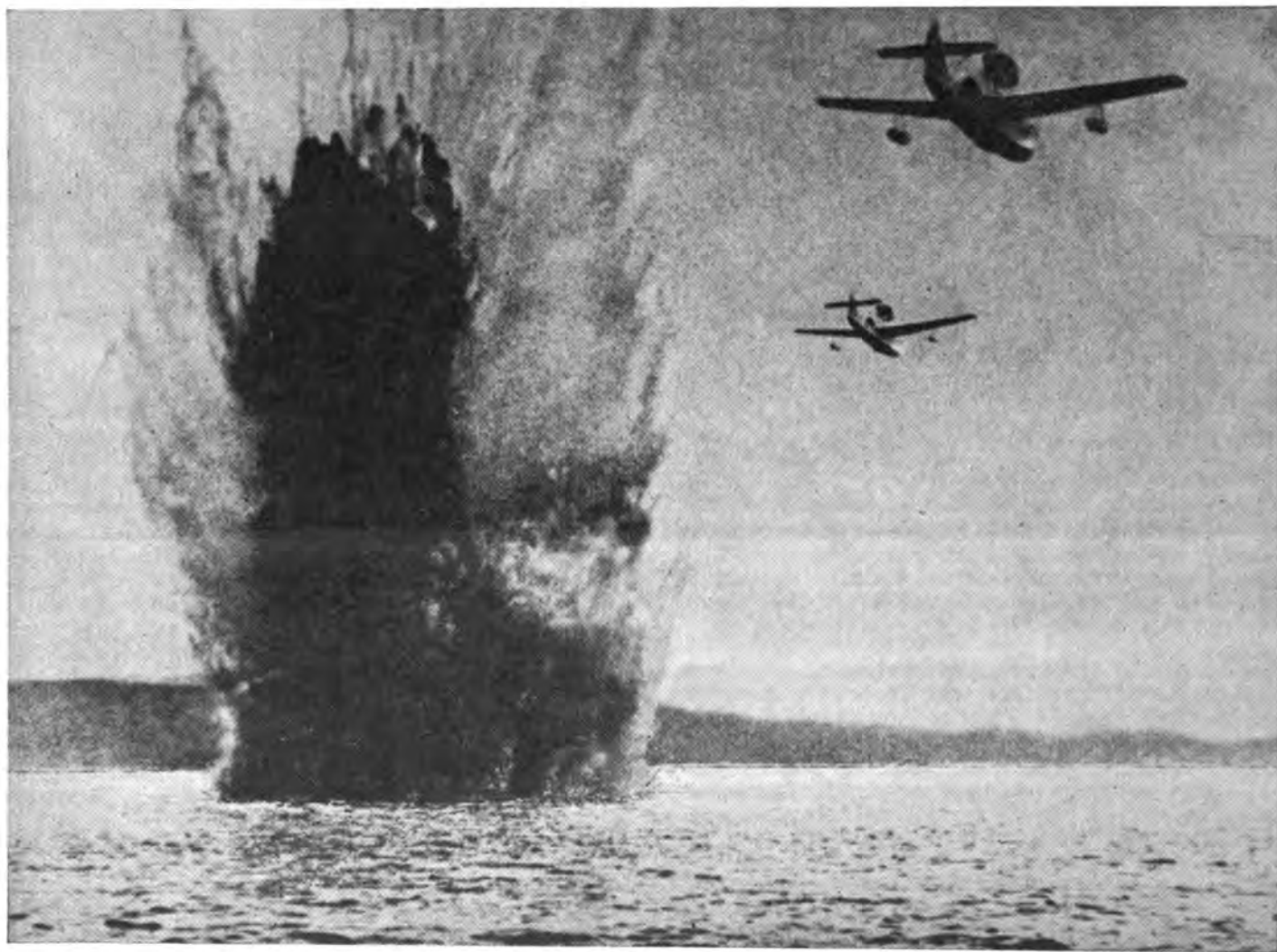
By Alexei Tolstoy

The following was written by Alexei Tolstoy from the courtroom at Kharkov during the trial in connection with German atrocities in Kharkov and the Kharkov Region:

Reinhard Retslaw is a Berliner with that sullen manner of speaking of which Berliners are so proud,

although it grates intolerably on the ear. However, there is a note of melancholy in Retslaw's voice, and when he comes to speak of wholesale bloodshed he becomes almost mournful.

He is more cunning than the other two Germans in the prisoners' dock. There is something in his past



Reconnaissance planes of the Soviet Northern Fleet bomb a German submarine

which remains obscure—for example, he had only a high school education and before the war held a small job managing a newspaper-distributing office in Frankfurt. Yet for some reason he gets into a very important school—the Altenburg Special Battalion—where only 200 men in all were trained for high posts in the secret police.

Schools for Executioners

"If we are to understand you correctly, Retslaw, you were being trained in this special battalion to be an executioner?" he was asked.

"Yes, it might be said so," he answered readily.

Asked whether he used a rubber club on arrested people, he replied regretfully, "Yes, I had occasion to. It was absolutely essential if you wanted to get confessions."

He had to fabricate a case against the guerrillas. Two workers from the Kharkov tractor plant were arrested and interrogated. Questioning them in the ordinary way did not yield the desired results, so Retslaw borrowed a rubber club from a sergeant who usually employed it during interrogations. But even with a rubber club he could not extort anything from the workers.

Retslaw did not know what to do with the stubborn Russians. At this stage, a superior officer entered the room. This fellow had an eagle eye and apparently summed up the situation at a glance. He snorted and said, "You need to be more resourceful, Retslaw. Look, that Russian has a fine beard. Pull it out. And as to that other one, stick needles into him."

"Thank you, sir," replied Reinhard Retslaw, impressed with the grandeur of the German race. "I'll follow your routine."

"Well, did you carry out his advice?" he was asked in court.

"Yes, I pulled out the beard of one and pricked the other with needles, but I suppose I wasn't stern enough," he replied, with restrained modesty. "I didn't get any confession out of them." He took a simpler course. He selected 15 workers of the tractor plant and shot them.

Retslaw spoke at length, as if telling of a modern technical invention, of the way the gas wagons or "murder cars" work. He told of how he called people out of the prison cells, lined them up in the corridor and told them they were being transferred to another place. The doomed persons unsuspectingly descended into the courtyard, where stood a dark-gray, closed, windowless motor truck with its rear doors open.

Among the victims were elderly people, women and children. One of them suspected that this was a "murder car" and shouted, "We're being sent to our deaths!" The people began crying; shrieking women

dropped on their knees and implored to be sent back to jail. The soldiers drove the Russians into the car with kicks and prods from their rifle butts. One woman with a baby in her arms dashed at the SS officer and scratched his face. She and her child were shot on the spot.

At last the hermetic doors were closed, the car moved on and the driver, by a turn of a handle, directed the exhaust gas into the closed car. Within a few minutes the cries, groans and stamping of feet ceased. Retslaw accompanied the "murder car" to some shacks on the grounds of the tractor plant, the dead bodies were unloaded into one of the shacks, and when it was full the corpses were drenched with motor fuel and burned.

This "gas car" is assuming a clearer and clearer shape at the trial. "With this machine we will establish the new order," said the driver of one of these "murder cars" to a witness at the trial, Karol Kosh, who met him on the road in the summer of last year. "We'll be in Moscow some time, and then I'll get extra piece rates working with this car."

Political Significance of "Murder Cars"

But the full significance of the "murder cars" as a big political factor was disclosed during the examination of witness Heinisch. He's an extraordinarily muscular man of middle height, some 40 years of age, wearing a well-cut uniform without shoulder straps or decorations. He lost them while riding in a motor car near Melitopol when he unexpectedly fell into the hands of the Red Army. Heinisch is a colonel; he has been a Nazi since the formation of Hitler's party, and was Hess' assistant chief of staff. He was commandant of the Melitopol military area.

Heinisch told the court that in the autumn of 1942 there was a conference between Hitler, Himmler and the chief of the SD, Kaltenbrunner, at which it was decided to proceed to exterminate the superfluous part of the population of the German-occupied regions. It was then that the wide-scale employment of the "murder cars" began, as an easy and perfected method of wholesale extermination. The Germans also began to asphyxiate people in special bathhouses to which they were sent supposedly to bathe and have their clothing disinfected. They were stripped naked in one building and passed into another—the bathhouse proper. But there was no hot water or steam; instead, poison gas was injected into the room. The asphyxiated people were then dragged to a third house and burned in specially constructed furnaces accommodating 200 bodies each. Such bathhouses were built in concentration camps in Germany and also in the Ukraine.

Heinisch told the court that it was expected the Russian Army would be quickly smashed this summer, and as they were finding it extremely hard to keep the Russian people in subjection, Hitler gave orders

for the application of ruthless repressive measures toward the civil population of the occupied regions, in order to weaken the resistance of the people as much as possible by reducing their numbers. The great battles at Kursk, on the Desna, on the coast of the Sea of Azov and on the Dnieper upset Hitler's plans. One of his high-placed underlings now stands before a microphone divulging his master's secrets.

* * *

Among the witnesses is a Soviet physician in whose hospital the Germans shot all patients—435 persons; another physician who jumped from the window of a burning building of the Red Army Hospital, where the Germans shot, killed with hand-grenades or burned alive about 800 persons; women who crawled out of a huge pit filled to the brim with the bodies of Kharkov citizens killed by shooting; a passerby who in ordinary words told an extraordinary story of how German soldiers out of hatred for the Russians, out of boredom or for the sake of amusement, shot in the back women walking along the sidewalks and pushed them into the shelter pits.

Again there rose before our eyes the bloody welter of the German occupation pits and trenches in Smolensk, Babi Yar in Kiev, the ravine in which even according to the obviously understated testimony of the accused lie 35,000 dead; the wholesale executions in Brovari, Zhitomir and Mariupol. There is no counting the gruesome and abominable traces of the brief stay of the Germans in our land.

Murderer Quotes Goethe

The trial draws to a close. The accused make their last speeches. First to speak is the red-headed Langheld. He declares in serious, almost solemn tones that he acknowledges his crimes, and again enumerates them.

"But, worthy judges, I am not the only one; the whole German army is like that. The Hitler regime has crushed in the Germans all noble instincts and has fostered the vilest."

He quotes from Goethe: "'Accursed evil engenders evil.'" He realizes that this does not extenuate his guilt, and toward the end adduces what in his opinion is extenuating—but in our opinion is only an aggravation of his crime:

"Herren judges, I behaved immorally, cruelly and criminally because I was fighting for my own life. The Hitler regime placed the Germans face to face with a fundamental contradiction: either be accomplices in the crime, or be crushed and annihilated."

And this, in justification of himself, he says to us—Russians! But we Russians demand of a man great and heroic deeds for society—not that he should save his own skin. The corner stones of the majestic edifice



Along the road of German retreat

of our Soviet State are self-sacrificing effort and heroic living for the sake of the commonwealth. Langheld cannot hope to mitigate his sentence by declaring that he joined the bandits and himself became a bandit to save his own skin.

Ritz, the second to speak, assured the court that he derived no satisfaction from torturing and slaying Soviet citizens, for if he had, he would have slaughtered on a far greater scale. Ritz is typical of the mechanical man of Hitler Germany; he has not even a glimmering conception of moral categories. His soul is painted in the monotonous color of the Hitler dungeon. He said to the court: "From the age of 13 I was subjected to Nazi propaganda. Where could I get a different upbringing?"

Where? I wanted to tell him from my seat in the court: "From the great common source of human sentiment—from the Beethoven sonatas, for instance, which you, Ritz, were fond of playing and hearing."

(Continued on page eight)

AFTER THE KHARKOV TRIAL

By K. Velikanov

The Kharkov trial of the Hitlerite fiends who exterminated peaceful Soviet citizens during the German occupation of Kharkov and the Kharkov Region is over. All four accused—three Germans and one Russian traitor—were sentenced to death by hanging. This just sentence has been carried into effect. It was greeted with approval by the Soviet people and by all freedom-loving peoples, who were staggered by the gruesome picture of German atrocities revealed in the course of the trial.

The world watched with strained attention as the trial at Kharkov unraveled the skein of untold villainies perpetrated by the Nazi fiends. The Hitlerite invaders were not content with shooting, hanging and torturing Soviet citizens in Gestapo dungeons. They considered that these methods of wholesale annihilation had too many inconveniences. As the accused at the trial admitted, and as preliminary investigation in Kharkov and other cities revealed, the Hitlerites—with a view to more systematic and methodical extermination of the Soviet population—resorted to what they considered an improved method, namely, asphyxiation in specially-designed motor trucks or "murder cars."

The significance of the Kharkov trial lies first in the fact that it threw additional light on the atrocities of the German army, atrocities unparalleled in the annals of history, and on the monstrous crimes perpetrated wherever the modern Huns set foot. Three representatives of this army of fiends and assassins were called to account before the Soviet court. But together with them sat invisibly in the prisoner's dock the entire Nazi army, headed by Hitler.

Kharkov Criminals Not Exceptions

The accused Langheld, Retslaw and Ritz were not exceptions or anomalies, but typical products of the Hitler system of educating and training assassins in army uniforms. For years Hitler has been impressing on the minds of the Germans that only the German race of Aryans, the "master race," has the right to exist and flourish, while all other peoples of Europe—and the Soviet people in the first place—must be exterminated, in order that the Germans may establish themselves in their "living space."

The hour of reckoning, the hour of retribution for the attempt to put Hitler's bloody ravings into practice, is nearing. The accused in this trial pleaded that they were only the instruments of Hitler's orders. Of course, Hitler and his gang are the chief inspirers and initiators of the wholesale massacre of innocent civilians, and the sword of justice awaits them for their crimes. But the Kharkov trial shows that just retri-

bution awaits all the instruments as well, for without army instruments Hitler could not implant his "new order" in Europe, with its wholesale shootings, its gallows and its "murder cars." These instruments manifestly found relish in this butcher's work, of whose gruesome details they spoke so calmly and deliberately in court.

The slaughter of 30,000 Kharkov citizens causes millions to clench their fists and to strive still more persistently for the defeat of Hitler's army and the calling to account of all those guilty of these atrocities. Comments on the trial pouring into Moscow from all parts of the world testify to the complete unanimity of opinion among freedom-loving nations. Most of the commentators declare that the Kharkov trials are only the beginning of a gigantic judgment of nations on all German military criminals, who will be brought to trial in all liberated countries.

Trial Only a Beginning

But the Kharkov trial is not only the beginning of a merited retribution. It is also an impressive illustration of the way in which the nations must give practical effect to the declaration of the leaders of the Three Allied Powers on the responsibility of the Hitlerites for the atrocities they have perpetrated.

The whole world has now learned of the new "secret weapon" of the German army—the "murder cars." These are the revelations Hitler and his gang feared most of all.

Hitler has every reason to dread the influence of the Kharkov trial on the peoples of occupied Europe. In every country temporarily seized by them, the Germans have lost thousands of their officers and men, exterminated by the people's avengers. The Brussels *Zeitung* reports that attempts of French patriots on the lives of the Germans are growing increasingly frequent. It admits that German occupation troops have not succeeded in disarming the French patriots, who possess secret stores of weapons in all parts of the country. The Nazi newspaper asks in alarm what would happen if the Allies were to land in France. The mere thought of the vengeance of the enslaved peoples makes the Hitlerites shudder.

Inspired by the decisions of the Teheran Conference of the leaders of the Three Allied Powers, the armed forces of the Allies are preparing to storm Hitler's fortress. However strenuously the Germans endeavor to muster their last forces, however desperately German troops counter-attack, Germany cannot avert ultimate defeat, nor the Hitlerite criminals escape merited punishment.

TEHERAN

The following editorial appeared in Number 14 of the Soviet publication WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS:

The historic decisions of the Teheran Conference of leaders of the Three Allied Powers—Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill—have focused the attention of the world. The meeting between these three most eminent statesmen of our era from the three leading powers of the anti-Hitler coalition had long been awaited by the entire world—with hope and comprehensible impatience in the camp of the friends of our righteous cause, and with fear and alarm in the lair of the Hitler bandits.

The Teheran Conference justified the expectations of the freedom-loving nations. At the same time its results surpassed the worst fears of our enemies—the Hitlerites and their camp followers, accomplices and agents, whatever mask they may wear.

It was not an easy path that led to the Teheran Conference; it was beset with many obstacles. The way to it was paved by the whole course of the development and cementing of the fighting alliance and friendly cooperation between the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States. From the common struggle against the common foe sprang and developed the union of the three greatest powers of our times. In the fire of this supreme struggle for liberation were consumed many obstacles standing in its way.

The Moscow Conference of the three Foreign Secretaries, which took place shortly before the Teheran meeting, signified a great advance in Anglo-Soviet-American collaboration in war and in peace. The Teheran Conference of the leaders of the Three Allied Powers consummated the long previous development, and at the same time opened a new phase of collaboration between the Allied Powers during the war and after the war. This new phase is characterized by the fact that now it is not a question of exchanging information, or of consultation on diverse questions, but of a joint decision on the cardinal problems of the war and peace. It is a question of dealing Germany a coordinated and final blow and of insuring a stable peace after the victory is won.

As the foreign press rightly points out, the Teheran Conference was the major diplomatic event in this war. That the Conference will exert an immense in-

fluence upon the course of the war and in the post-war world is beyond question. It demonstrated the enhanced stability of the alliance of the three Powers which will undoubtedly be still more closely cemented during forthcoming events.

That the leaders of the Three Allied Powers came together was significant in itself. The meeting put an end to the speculation of enemies who asserted that a lasting agreement between the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain was impossible.

As we know, during the war there have been several meetings between the leaders of Great Britain and the United States. The latest was in Quebec, in August of this year. But at these conferences, at which the Soviet Union was not represented, no full decision could be reached on the principal problem demanding the united efforts of all three Powers—namely, the problem of shortening the war. The Teheran Conference has now adopted the necessary decisions on this all-important problem.

An immense impression was made throughout the world by the Declaration of the Three Powers signed by Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. It goes further than any other document of the anti-Hitler coalition. The terse and impressive language of the Declaration fully harmonizes with its historic significance. This is not the language of general wishes, but the language of action. The time for words has passed; the time for action has come. The confidence and determination

breathed by every word of the Declaration inspire joy in the hearts of our friends and fear in the hearts of our enemies. Its sincere and stirring words testify that at the Conference that mutual understanding and unity essential for the decisive attack on the enemy and for insuring enduring peace, were reached.

The Declaration of the Three Powers formulates and affirms with maximum clarity and precision the common policy of the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain in the war and in the peace.

In regard to the war the Allies' aim is obvious: It is to achieve complete victory over Hitler Germany in the shortest possible time. In pursuance of this cardinal aim now confronting the Allies, the leaders of the



A new Soviet stamp issued to commemorate the Anglo-Soviet-American alliance. The inscription is a quotation from Stalin: "Long live the victory of the Anglo-Soviet-American fighting alliance!"

three Powers, in conjunction with their military staffs, concerted plans for the destruction of the German armed forces. This drives a stake into Hitler's last hopes of provoking dissension among the Allies on the subject of the conduct of the war. It paves the way to overcoming what is the biggest difficulty in every coalition war—namely, the concerting of joint blows at the common enemy.

It is now clear that henceforward the vast and hitherto unparalleled manpower and material resources of the three Allied countries will be employed as a single fighting machine for crushing the enemy. The guarantee of this is the complete agreement reached at the Teheran Conference as to the scope and timing of the operations which will be undertaken from the east, west and south. These joint blows will lead to the enemy's downfall.

While in no way underestimating the strength of the adversary, and soberly weighing his military resources, the leaders of the three great Powers, in conjunction with the representatives of their military staffs, worked out plans, the operation of which will insure swift and complete victory. The guarantee of victory is the mutual understanding reached by the leaders of the Three Allied Powers regarding military questions. Invincible confidence in early victory is implicit in the words of the Declaration, which state that no power on earth can prevent the Allied Powers from destroying the German armies by land, their U-boats by sea and their war plants from the air.

The cardinal military significance of the Teheran Conference lies in the fact that it worked out a concrete plan for the complete defeat of Hitler Germany. The Red Army's victories and the successful operations of the Allied Forces have brought about a radical change in the course of the war. Hitler Germany is in the throes of a profound crisis; it is on the verge of disaster. The task now is to hasten the final doom of the fascist beast. This task will be achieved by the relentless and increasing attack proclaimed by the Teheran Conference. The false illusion fostered by Hitler demagoguery that the force of the Allies' blows has already passed its zenith has been punctured. It is now clear to all that Hitler Germany will now have to face far heavier blows than ever before. The attempts to further protract the war promise Germany nothing but fresh casualties and sacrifices, fresh defeats and destruction, and severer and sterner retribution.

By uniting their strategy, the Allied Powers have passed the death sentence on Hitler Germany and her satellites; the thing now is to carry this sentence into effect. Prior to the Moscow Conference we had occasion to point out that in view of the immense war resources accumulated by the Allied Powers, all that was needed was the decision to put these forces into motion. The necessary decisions have now been taken and all that remains is to put them into practice.

The Hitler adventurers are trying by malicious in-

sinuations and ludicrous assertions, to cover up the extreme confusion and dismay into which they have been thrown by the historic Teheran meeting. Several days prior to the publication of the Teheran decisions, the Hitlerites declared the Conference would address an appeal to the German people, promising them lenient conditions provided they broke with Hitlerism, and that the chief purpose of the Conference was to undermine the "morale" of the German nation.

All the world can see that there is no talk of promises, but of relentless war for the complete destruction of the German war machine, as a result of which German "morale" will undergo far-reaching changes in any case. The thing is not only to insure the defeat of Germany in this war, but also to make it impossible for her to commit aggression in the future. It is clear to the Allies that the ulcer of German aggression must be cauterized once and for all if enduring peace is to be guaranteed to nations.

The Hitlerite fools attempt to conceal their alarm by declaring that the Teheran Conference is only calculated for psychological effect and is part of the "war of nerves." Let them talk. They'll get their reply very soon and in the only language they understand—the language of fire and steel.

The Teheran meeting is of no less cardinal significance for the cause of enduring peace as for the conduct of the war. The Declaration of the Three Powers expresses confidence that their concord will make for an enduring peace. The bitter experience of the past few decades teaches us that the preservation of peace and security must be based on real power capable of insuring peace and preventing its violation. Hence the supreme responsibility which rests on the Anglo-Soviet-American alliance and upon all the United Nations. The responsibility was fully acknowledged by the leaders of the three leading Powers of the anti-Hitler bloc, who expressed their determination to work together in the war and in the peace that will follow. The noble aim proclaimed at Teheran of creating a system of world security which will banish the scourge and terror of war for many generations, will undoubtedly meet with the ardent support of peace-loving nations.

The Teheran decisions dispelled a number of ingrained prejudices, the heritage of an earlier suspicious attitude of certain circles in the Anglo-Saxon countries toward the Soviet Union. They have disposed of the prejudice that there are insuperable obstacles to the cooperation of the other Powers with the Soviet Union not only in the war but also in supporting an enduring peace.

The Declaration of the Three Powers speaks of a world in which all peoples will live free lives, untouched by tyranny and according to their varying desires and their own conscience. The experience of the war has shown that differences in ideology and social systems do not preclude the development and cementing of a fighting alliance and friendly cooperation be-

tween the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States. The vitality of this alliance has stood some very serious tests. Future events will still further promote and strengthen this alliance.

Facts have refuted the assertion of our enemies and their associates that the Anglo-Soviet-American alliance is aiming at "a dictatorship of the great Powers." The Declaration solemnly proclaims a desire to seek the cooperation and active participation of all nations, large and small, whose people are in heart and mind dedicated, as are the peoples of the Three Allied Powers, to the elimination of tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance. What we seek is not world domination by the great Powers, but a world family of democratic countries. The guiding role of the great peace-loving Powers—the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain—in international policy is not designed to encroach on the rights and liberties of other freedom-loving nations. On the contrary, it is the best guarantee of this security and independent development in accordance with their national interests. The Declaration of the Three Powers passes a death sentence on the blood-thirsty aggressors and at the same time guarantees the liberty of all peace-loving nations.

The Declaration of the Three Powers should serve as a last warning to Hitler's satellites. Germany's vassals should understand before it is too late that the double policy they are now pursuing will not save them. Either they break with Hitler or perish with Hitler. There is no other alternative. And if lately Hitler's allies—and the rulers of Finland and Hungary particularly—while reluctantly admitting the inevitability of Germany's defeat, have been trying to arouse the pity of the freedom-loving nations, even appealing in their defense to the Atlantic Charter, all we can say is: "The devil can quote Scripture for his own purpose."

The significant words of the Teheran Declaration undoubtedly furnish beneficial food for thought to certain neutral countries still enrolled among the friends of the Axis powers.

The policy of the Allies toward small countries found vivid, concrete and striking expression in the Declaration of the Three Powers regarding Iran. The Declaration recognizes the assistance which Iran has given in the prosecution of the war against the common enemy. The Allied Powers proclaim their readiness to continue to make available to Iran such economic assistance as may be possible under conditions of war and to accord her necessary economic assistance in the postwar period. Particular mention should be made regarding the desire proclaimed in the Declaration for the maintenance of the complete independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran.

In the light of this unambiguous Declaration, what shall we say to the various fabrications of our enemies to the effect that the Soviet Union, Great Britain and

the United States lay claim to various parts of the territory of Iran? What shall we say, in the light of this Declaration, to all the other "suspicions" disseminated by Hitler's friends regarding the supposed "territorial claims" of the Soviet Union—such as access to the Persian Gulf, access to the Adriatic, and even access to the Atlantic? These unscrupulous fabrications are an attempt of our enemies to cover up the generally known fact that the Soviet Union, while demanding respect for its own territorial integrity and the inviolability of its frontiers as laid down in the Constitution of the USSR, for its own part sets an example in showing full respect for the territorial integrity of other countries, large and small.

The Soviet people—like the peoples of the United States and Great Britain—hailed with deep satisfaction the historic decisions of the Teheran Conference, beneath which they find the signature of their great leader. These decisions embody the iron determination of the people of the three great Powers to march together in war and peace. Nothing can break this determination—neither the resistance of the enemy, who, undoubtedly feeling his end approaching, will resort to the most desperate measures; nor the machinations of the numerically few but very vociferous abettors of our common enemy, who are still making their voices heard in the Anglo-Saxon countries. These people, blinded by hatred of democracy and social progress, are still endeavoring to save Germany from complete defeat. The determination of the Allies to remove once and for all the threat of German aggression and to refuse to support the anti-Soviet plans for the creation of a "cordon sanitaire" is dubbed by these people the "Balkanization of Europe"! But it is not these elements who express the national interests of Great Britain and the United States; on the contrary, they are militating against the interests of our Allies. It is not these elements who determine the policy of our Anglo-American Allies. If anything, these people express regret that the Teheran decisions are not "forthright enough." Nobody is likely to be deceived thereby.

The Soviet people, who have contributed some vivid pages to the history of the great war of liberation from Hitler oppression and tyranny, are responding to the decisions of the Teheran Conference by redoubling their efforts. They are confidently looking forward to the day when the immense power of the Allied Armies will be brought to bear on the enemy, and the fascist beast will be destroyed by the coordinated action of the three great Powers. Then the road will be open to the broad upbuilding of the world on the basis of freedom and security, and to peaceful and creative labor for all nations.

The closer the unity of the Three Allied Powers on the basis of complete, mutual respect for their vital interests, the more successfully and more fruitfully will be accomplished the grand tasks which confront the Allies and will confront them in the future.

MINISTER OF USSR TO CUBA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC OF CUBA

On December 22, 1943, in Havana, the Minister of the USSR to Cuba, Andrei A. Gromyko, who is simultaneously Ambassador of the USSR to the United States, handed his letters of credence to the Honorable President of the Republic of Cuba, Major General Fulgencio Batista.

At the presentation of the letters of credence was present the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, Doctor Emeterio S. Santovenia.

A guard of honor met the Soviet Minister at the President's Palace.

During the conversation of President Batista with Minister Gromyko, both expressed confidence in the victory of the United Nations.

On December 23, Minister Gromyko visited the Vice President of the Republic of Cuba, Doctor Gustavo Cuervo Rubio.



RETRIBUTION

(Continued from page three)

It is shameful to whine before the court. One should be a man first and foremost."

The concluding speech by the third accused, Retslaw, was so wretched and stupid it is not worth mentioning. Here was only an unrelieved wilderness—nothing even remotely resembling man—an evil and malignant machine.

Today they were hanged in the scorched square surrounded by the ruins of the city. Through the morning mist, high on the hill, loomed the majestic but gutted carcass of the House of Designs. Soon it will be rebuilt, and again the daring plans of Soviet scientists and architects, inspired by the spirit of good, will be drafted and given concrete shape and form.

Over 40,000 Kharkov citizens who survived the two years of the German regime filled the market square where stood the four gallows—a reminder of the stern retribution that awaits those who raise their hands against the freedom of our country.

Above: After presenting his credentials, Soviet Minister to Cuba Andrei A. Gromyko (left) talks with Cuban President Fulgencio Batista (center) and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Emeterio Santovenia. Below: Minister Gromyko, accompanied by the Soviet Charge d'Affaires, Dmitri Zaikin, entering the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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