

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

8 NOV 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT : Establishment of the TOP SECRET Special Collection of Articles of the Journal "Military Thought" ("Voyennaya Mysl") by the Ministry of Defense, USSR

Enclosed is a verbatim translation of the editors' preface to the initial issue of the above publication, released in early 1960. The Tables of Contents of the first five issues of this Special Collection are also included.

This material was acquired by a Soviet official who has provided reliable information in the past. We request that it be handled on a need-to-know basis within your office. Arrangements for utilizing any part of this document in any other form must be cleared with the originating office.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANS:

Richard Helms

RICHARD HELMS

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cc: Military Representative of the President

Special Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense

Director for Intelligence
The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Headquarters, U. S. Air Force

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence
Department of the Army

Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy

Director, National Security Agency

The Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

National Indications Center

Chairman, Guided Missiles and Astronautics
Intelligence Committee

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Assistant Director for National Estimates

Assistant Director for Current Intelligence

Assistant Director for Research and Reports

Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence

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COUNTRY : USSR

SUBJECT : Establishment of the TOP SECRET Special Collection of Articles of the Journal "Military Thought" ("Voyennaya Mysl") by the Ministry of Defense, USSR

DATE OF INFO: 1960-1961

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT : Documentary

SOURCE : A reliable Soviet source (B)

The following is a verbatim translation of remarks by the Voyennaya Mysl editors which appeared in the initial issue of the Special Collection of this publication, released in early 1960. Also included are verbatim translations of an editorial note which appears at the beginning of each issue (see page 6) and the Tables of Contents of the first five issues of this Special Collection.

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From the Editor

With a view to activating theoretical discussions of the most important and pressing problems of Soviet military science, and above all of military art, according to the decision of the Minister of Defense of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union R. Ya. Malinovskiy, in addition to the Secret Collection of the Journal "Military Thought" which is being published at present, a Special Collection stamped "Top Secret" is being initiated.

The leading personnel of our Armed Forces, from the troops, military academies, the chief and central directorates, and the General Staff, are invited to write articles for this Collection. Obviously the leading personnel of the Soviet Army and Navy, who have the best theoretical preparation, the greatest practical experience, and the widest horizons, can contribute most to the development of Soviet military theory in the light of the requirements of modern warfare.

This Collection will be sent to a limited circle of officials, from army commander upward according to a special list.

The creation of a new Collection was dictated by the desire to ensure responsible authors of an opportunity to express their ideas, proposals, and critical remarks on all immediate problems of military theory in a more restricted circle, which would be difficult to do in other printed organs.

The Collection should be regarded as a continuing forum for articles, in its way, a military-theoretical conference by correspondence.

The fundamental methodology of articles on the pages of the Collection should be sharp, controversial, and forcefully argued formulation of the most vital theoretical problems and a creative discussion of them. Depending on the elaboration and clarity of the various matters discussed, there will be published conclusive articles which we propose to invite the most competent individuals, collectives of creative authors, and, when necessary, official organs, to write.

The most urgent task of our military-theoretical thought is to overcome certain antiquated views, and to scrutinize boldly, on the basis of a feeling for new developments, the changes taking place in military affairs. Such an approach will assure the clear understanding of realistic courses of the further development of Soviet military

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science, and vigorous, creative elaboration of pressing, new problems of military art as regards strategy, operational art, and tactics, as well as problems regarding the structure and organization of the Armed Forces and of the development of military equipment.

Military-theoretical thought should look ahead boldly, vigorously pave the way to the new and progressive, refute decisively preconceived points of view, and evaluate critically the experience of the past.

As N. S. Khrushchev emphasized, "Under modern conditions, wars will not be waged as before and they will hardly be comparable to former wars." These new aspects of modern warfare, and their dissimilarity to previous wars, indicate with conclusive force the necessity which has arisen of examining from all aspects the qualitative changes which have occurred in military affairs. It is necessary to define the trends of their further development, to subject to a serious and decisive review the established theoretical viewpoints regarding questions of the conduct of war and military operations of all scales, of training, organization, equipping of the Armed Forces, and the gamut of other similar questions, the understanding of which has been predicated up to now to a significant degree on the experience of the last war.

It is envisaged that the theme of the Collection will be to examine problems relative to the nature of modern warfare, methods and forms of conducting armed combat, the use in it of all modern scientific - technical potentialities and means, of the types of Armed Forces individually and in coordination, and the employment of various means of mass destruction.

Particular attention should be paid to the examination of the nature, preparation, and conduct of operations of all types, particularly missile, under the various conditions of the probable theaters of war (TVD), and the strategic, operational, and combat employment of missile large units and units. It is necessary to elaborate on offensive and defensive operations of formations of the ground forces, air forces, the navy, troops of the PVO, and airborne troops, with exposition of those features and peculiarities which the use of the means of mass destruction and the conduct of missile operations inject into modern armed combat.

It is necessary to have an over-all analysis of the problem of modern combat with due regard to that particular influence which will be exerted on it by modern means of combat which will be employed by the higher command in the interest of conducting operations and the war as a whole.

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Particularly worthy of serious study and detailed elaboration are the problems of operational and combat support, among others, intelligence, protection of troops from the means of mass destruction, and radio countermeasures.

A large part of the pages of the Collection should be taken up by questions regarding the control of troops throughout all elements and echelons. Problems related to these questions are particularly important because the greater independence of action of strategic groupings in the TVD, operational formations, and tactical large units and units, complicates to a great degree, and gives special features to, the control of troops. Also entering into the framework of these questions is elaboration on the best forms of organizing the organs of control in all areas, the methods of their work, equipping and outfitting, using various means of automation, and problems of planning military operations.

It is very important to analyze as carefully as possible, and to elaborate, problems relative to the organization of the modern Armed Forces rear, of the field army and operational and tactical groupings of troops, from the point of view of maintaining uninterrupted supply to the troops of all necessary support for combat and life under conditions of continuous and powerful action against the rear by the combat means of the enemy; and the related problems of defense and protection of the rear and the coordination of operations in this area between the Armed Forces and civilian organizations. Also belonging to this group of questions is the problem of the preparation of the theaters of war and material reserves of all types and designations.

It is necessary, on the basis of profound analysis of the methods and forms of modern military warfare, to study and develop proposals for the future make-up of the Armed Forces and their organizational structure at all levels, and questions of the organization and methodology of training troops and command cadres.

Great importance may be attributed to proposals for further development of military technology, weapons systems, correlation of various types of weapons, vehicles, and mechanisms, and recommendations for further improvement of the old, and designs of new, models, based on the trends of development of technology.

The editors turn to the readers of the Collection, who should actually be its authors, with the request to participate widely and actively in the work of this publication and to submit articles which pose important problems and which propose realistic solutions.

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Taking into account the limited size of the Collection, the editors request the authors to make the articles as short as possible, to avoid redundancies and the commonplace, and at the same time, to argue convincingly their stated positions.

The Collection, with a volume of 8 to 10 quires, will be issued periodically. In the current year, it is proposed to publish 4-5 issues. In this first issue of the Collection are included articles which are most suited to the goals of this publication, chosen from articles received previously by the editors.

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From the Editor

Articles of the Special Collection of the Journal "Military Thought" (Voyennaya Mysl) are published as a discussion and express only the opinion of the authors on the subjects which are broached.

All articles for the Collection, as well as inquiries regarding its publication, comments on published materials, and remarks regarding them, should be sent to the chief editor of the journal "Military Thought," following the rules for transmittal of Secret materials.

The present issue of the Special Collection of Articles of the Journal "Military Thought" is being distributed to army commanders and higher, according to a special list.

Chief Editor General-Leytenant Radetskiy, N.A.

This Collection contains ___ pages

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Ministry of Defense of The Union of SSR's

Special Collection
of Articles of the Journal

MILITARY THOUGHT

<u>First Issue</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>1960</u>
		Page
	From the Editor	3
	A. GASTILOVICH - The Theory of Military Art Needs Review	6
	I. TOLKONYUK - Some Problems of Modern Operations	21
	V. BASKAKOV - New Developments in Operational Art and Tactics	30
	I. ZAVYALOV - The Suitability of Modern Means and Methods of Conducting Operations	42
	V. CHUYKOV - Intelligence at the Level of Modern Missions	56
	S. KUZNETSOV, A. TIKHOMIROV - Questions of the Control of Missile Units in an Offensive Operation	54

Military Publishing House
of the Ministry of Defense of the Union of SSR's
Moscow - 1960

1.3(a)(4)

-7-

1.3(a)(4)

1.3(a)(4)

<u>2nd Issue</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Page</u>
N. KUROCHKIN	- The Nature of Modern Armed Combat, and the Role and Place in It of the Various Branches of the Armed Forces		3
✓ Ys. IVANOV	- Certain Factors Influencing the Planning of a Modern Offensive Operation		14
G. KHETAGUROV	- A Front Offensive Operation Conducted Under the Conditions of the Initial Period of a Nuclear-Missile War		27
S. IVANOV	- Some Conclusions on Exercise "Sidestep" of the NATO Armed Forces		41
V. KASATONOV	- The Use of Naval Forces in Closed Sea Theaters in the Initial Period of a War		56
F. MALYKHIN	- Some Problems in the Preparation of the Rear for the Support of the Armed Forces in the Initial Period of a War		71
✓ M. GORYAINOV	- Nuclear-Missile Armament and Some Principles of Military Doctrine		89
✓ M. KOCHETKOV	- Elimination of the Lag in Operational and Tactical Intelligence		105
✓ M. IVANOV, P. CHIRKOV	- The Improvement of the Methodology of Operational Training of Generals, Senior Officers, and Staffs		112

Military Publishing House
of the Ministry of Defense of the Union of SSR's
Moscow 1960

1.3(a)(4)

1.3(a)(4)

Third Issue1960ContentsPage

✓ A. GORBATOV - Characteristics of Modern Armed Combat	3	
I. GUSAKOVSKIY - Some Questions Regarding the Theory of Military Art	10	
V. TRIBUTS - To Develop the Theory of Soviet Military Art	17	
✓ V. KURASOV - The Influence of Nuclear Weapons on the Principles of Offensive Operations of a Front	25	
✓ A. SHEVCHENKO - The Strike Groupings of a Front	41	
✓ S. SINYAKOV, - The Air Forces in the New Stage of Soviet M. KOZHEVNIKOV Armed Forces Development	47	1.3(a)(4)
V. BOGOLEPOV - The Role of Aviation in Military Operations at Sea	58	
✓ M. NOVIKOV - Rear Area Support of Missile Troops During Front Offensive Operations	67	
I. KOVALEV, - The Problem of Transportation in Modern Warfare P. BAKAREV, K. PAVLOVICH	77	
✓ P. DANKEVICH - Intelligence at the Level of Modern Missions	89	

Military Publishing House
Ministry of Defense of the Union of SSR's
Moscow - 1960

This book contains 92 pages.

EDITORIAL OFFICE ADDRESS

Moskva, V-160, ul. Kropotkina, 19. Telephone K-0-13-00, Ext. 53-66
Technical editor: Volkov, V. Ye. Proofreader: Pavlov, N.P.
Given for type-setting 17/10/60 Released for printing 10/11/60
Paper format 70 x 108 7/16 - 5 3/4 quires = 7.87 conditional quires
Pub. No. 2/8162ss Reg. No. 00220

1.3(a)(4)

<u>First Issue</u>	<u>Contents</u>	1961	<u>Page</u>
✓ N. PAVLOVSKIY	- The Initial Period of a Future War and Peculiarities of the Conduct of Military Operations During This Period		3
✓ P. ROIMISTROV	- The Paths of Further Development of Tank Troops of the Soviet Army		25
✓ A. BABADZHANYAN	- The Question of the Nature of Modern Warfare		38
✓ T. SEMENOV	- The Paths of Further Improvement of Combat Readiness of the Troops		45
✓ N. IGOLKIN, S. BURYAK	- Some Questions of the Organization of Modern Operational Defense		55
✓ M. IVANOV	- Improvement of Stability of Troop Control of a Front (Army)		67
✓ V. LISYUTIN	- The Use of Naval Forces in a Missile-Nuclear War		79
✓ Y. MALAKHOV	- Intelligence at the Level of Modern Requirements		90
✓ A. KLYUKANOV	- The Most Urgent Problems of Training of Senior Personnel and Increasing the Combat Readiness of Border Military District Staffs		93

Military Publishing House
of the Ministry of Defense of the Union of SSR's
Moscow - 1961

1.3(a)(4)

1.3(a)(4)

[REDACTED]

1.3(a)(4)

Second Issue

1961

Contents

Page

✓ A. ZHADOV - Trends in the Development of Tank Troops of the Soviet Army	3
S. VARENTISOV - Prospects for the Development of Missile Weapons of the Ground Forces	12
I. IVANOV - Turning Point in the Development of Soviet Military Art	21
S. ANDRYUSHENKO - The Deployment and Movement of a Combined-Army of a Border Military District in the Initial Period of a War	34
✓ V. MIKHAYLOV - Anti-Missile Defense of Troops of a Front	45
✓ K. PASHUK - The Organizational Structure of Field Command of a Front	56
✓ A. MOROZOV, - Some Questions of Troop Control in Modern N. LYASHCHENKO, Operations ✓ V. ARKHIPOV	65
✓ V. PLATONOV - The Missions of the Navy and Methods of Carrying Them Out	80
✓ N. ZVIYAGIN - The Use of Surface Vessels in Modern Military Combat at Sea	91
G. ODINTSOV - Rear Area Support of Missile Troops in Front Offensive Operations	103

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1.3(a)(4)

Military Publishing House
of the Ministry of Defense of the Union of SSR's
Moscow - 1961

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1.3(a)(4)

1.3(a)(4)