

1: Soviet Red Army | Maoist Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

Red Army Command Cadre (), Vol. II: Profiles in Command at Main Direction, Front, Army, and Corps Level (pages and 24 figures). Includes biographical information and command profiles of the Red Army's command cadre at these levels, including senior engineer, artillery, air defense, and aviation commanders.

He was later "dismissed" after it became known that he was a " Mischling ersten Grades" as defined by the Nuremberg Laws , having half Jewish ancestry. In January , after World War I ended with the signing of the armistice of 11 November , the armed forces were dubbed Friedensheer peace army. The army was limited to one hundred thousand men with an additional fifteen thousand in the navy. The fleet was to consist of at most six battleships , six cruisers , and twelve destroyers. Submarines , tanks and heavy artillery were forbidden and the air-force was dissolved. A new post-war military, the Reichswehr , was established on 23 March General conscription was abolished under another mandate of the Versailles treaty. The American historians Alan Millet and Williamson Murray wrote "In reducing the officers corps, Seeckt chose the new leadership from the best men of the general staff with ruthless disregard for other constituencies, such as war heroes and the nobility". These officers saw the role of an air force as winning air superiority, tactical and strategic bombing and providing ground support. That the Luftwaffe did not develop a strategic bombing force in the s was not due to a lack of interest, but because of economic limitations. A secret collaboration with the Soviet Union began after the treaty of Rapallo. Germany helped the Soviet Union with industrialization and Soviet officers were to be trained in Germany. German tank and air-force specialists could exercise in the Soviet Union and German chemical weapons research and manufacture would be carried out there along with other projects. Nazism and the Wehrmacht After the death of President Paul von Hindenburg on 2 August , Adolf Hitler assumed the office of President of Germany , and thus became commander in chief. In February , the Defence Minister Werner von Blomberg , acting on his own initiative, had all of the Jews serving in the Reichswehr given an automatic and immediate dishonorable discharge. Hitler was most surprised at the offer; the popular view that Hitler imposed the oath on the military is false. German re-armament was announced on 16 March as was the reintroduction of conscription. The conscription law introduced the name Wehrmacht; the Reichswehr was officially renamed the Wehrmacht on 21 May In December , General Ludwig Beck added 48 tank battalions to the planned rearmament program. In a speech delivered in the Reichstag, Hitler stressed that by occupying Czechoslovakia, Germany gained 2, field cannons, tanks, anti-aircraft artillery pieces, 43, machine guns, 1,, military rifles, , pistols, about a billion rounds of ammunition and three million anti-aircraft rounds. This amount of weaponry would be sufficient to arm about half of the then Wehrmacht. As World War II intensified, Kriegsmarine navy and Luftwaffe air force personnel were increasingly transferred to the Heer army , and "voluntary" enlistments in the SS were stepped up as well. Following the Battle of Stalingrad in , fitness standards for Wehrmacht recruits were drastically lowered, with the regime going so far as to create "special diet" battalions for men with severe stomach ailments. Rear-echelon personnel were sent to front-line duty wherever possible, especially during the last two years of the war. Foreign volunteers were generally not accepted in the German armed forces prior to German propagandists wanted to present the war not as a purely German concern, but as a multi-national crusade against the so-called Jewish Bolshevism. Hence, the Wehrmacht and SS began to seek out recruits from occupied and neutral countries across Europe: The "voluntary" nature of such recruitment was often dubious, especially in the later years of the war, when even Poles living in the Polish Corridor were declared "ethnic Germans" and drafted. In the reshuffle in , Hitler became the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces and retained that position until his suicide on 30 April Each of these high commands had its own general staff.

2: Red Army | Revolvy

Appendix 2. Red Army Senior Command Cadre, Appendix 3. NKVD Forces and Other Specialized Red Army Forces in Wartime Appendix 4. Characteristics of Red Army.

Translated and edited by David M. Glantz and Harold S. Given how mostly they were expunged from Soviet records, a great deal of research has been required to identify the generals who were captured. Maslov has gone even further by discovering broader biographical information about most of them, including in many cases details of their capture. The book divides the generals into several categories, each with its own chapter: The division also experienced widespread desertion during the initial days of the war. For example, between June alone, 19 men willfully deserted from its artillery units. People have lost heart, especially the command cadre. I am putting things in order, [but] it requires considerable effort just to tighten up this lack of discipline a little. It recorded one of these successes in late July when it was engaged in heavy fighting for possession of the town of Lipovets. The following day, the journal records that the division seized another nine guns, three tanks, two heavy machine guns, and several prisoners from the enemy. The unfortunate division commander, S. Tkachenko, was wounded in the head and arms and taken prisoner by the Germans while attempting to escape from the encirclement. It seems that a treacherous comrade turned him over to the Germans. Tkachenko died in German captivity in February. The remainder of the first chapter provides general information about how the Soviet high command kept records of captured generals, and then details all that is known about the conditions in which they died. Unlike most of them, Tkachenko did not go down without a fight. Tkachenko died a heroic death in captivity. After organizing one in a series of escape attempts from the German prisoner-of-war camp at Sachsenhausen, he was captured shortly after midnight on 2 February, and was led away for execution. He was among anti-fascists in the camp who had been betrayed by traitors. Those who live in the Sachsenhausen region will long remember the extremely bloody struggle that took place that night and marked the final resistance of this group of exhausted heroes who were inspired by hatred of the inhuman fascist executioners. Long live the Soviet Army! On the ground lay the bodies of the dead who had never yielded. Among them was the valiant Ukrainian native son, S. Of the generals who entered German captivity and survived the experience, some were "forgiven by Stalin. In these harrowing circumstances, Zotov lost control of his units, was wounded, and fell captive to the Germans. Soon after, he earned the dubious distinction of being one of the first Soviet generals to end up in a German prisoner-of-war camp. This chapter is rounded out with material on treatment of the prisoners, their liberation or, with the three mentioned above, escape, how they were interrogated upon return to the Soviet Union, and their post-war fate. The next chapter deals with captured generals who were not treated so kindly when they were finally liberated. These accounts tend to be considerably longer than earlier ones, often running to five or six pages. At the time of his capture, he was riding along a road near the front to check on the operational situation. His vehicle encountered a German armored vehicle, and the Germans opened machine-gun fire. The general himself tried to escape, but a German tank soon caught up with him and the German tank crew took him captive. At first, the Germans sent their prisoner to corps headquarters, where he was interrogated and then confined in the German prisoner-of-war camp at Stalupenen. In May the Germans appointed him the commandant of the Zittenhorst prisoner-of-war camp, where he trained cadres for German installations on occupied territory. Beginning in September, he served as a senior instructor in the Zittenhorst camp, and, in March, he became the director of propaganda courses in Dabendorf for the German Armed Forces Department of Propaganda. At this time, although he bore the rank of major-general in the Russian Liberation Army, his salary was only marks per month, or that of a sergeant-major in the Wehrmacht. In the article he concluded: One can already state that forces that will not be inferior either in terms of equipment or combat training will oppose the Red Army. Vlasov, the Commander-in-Chief, and they will consist of all types of forces necessary to wage modern war, armed with the latest equipment. During the final days of the war, through his representatives, Trukhin attempted to make contact with the Anglo-American command, but failed. On 7 May he wound up in the custody of Soviet officers in the region of Prizibram, Czechoslovakia. In many ways, the fourth chapter,

"There Were Such Generals," is the most interesting, piecing together the incomplete stories of M. Maslov looks into all three stories in considerably more detail than other generals in the book, although the only facts that can be stated with certainty about this trio are that they were captured by the Germans but never accounted for at the end of the war. Based on testimony of other prisoners, fragmentary evidence, and shadowy allegations, Maslov speculates that these three might still be alive, might have defected to the West, and might even have some contact with Allied intelligence organizations. The final chapter looks at nine more generals whose captures prove unique enough not to fall into any of the previous categories. For the most part, these are officers who were either captured only very briefly blending into masses of POWs, unrecognized as generals, and promptly slipping into the forests, had already been mortally wounded when they fell into German hands, or were immediately executed. In his Conclusions, Maslov quantifies all the captured generals according to branch of service, position when captured including a Deputy Front Commander, how many were captured in each campaign, the battles in which generals were captured, and the Front in which each general served when captured. While the book focuses on biographical sketches of the generals, most accounts are fleshed out with varying amounts of additional information about unit strengths, combat operations, losses, weapons, unit morale, and so on. Some of this information is quite expansive and very detailed, and transcends simple biography. Similarly, the lengthy Appendix 1 consists of a vast assortment of official reports and extracts from various sources concerning the overall wartime environment in which these generals found themselves. The book ends with Appendix 3, an alphabetical listing of all the captured generals, each with one paragraph of basic biographical facts. In sum, Captured Soviet Generals reveals a great deal which has been hidden away since the war, and amounts to an impressive compilation of original research. Students of the wider war will appreciate the newly revealed information about so many Soviet generals. Readers looking for human interest stories will be fascinated by each dramatic tale. Available from online booksellers, local bookshops, or directly from Frank Cass. Thanks to Cass for providing this review copy.

3: th Rifle Division (Soviet Union) - Wikipedia

In the highest echelons of the Red Army the Purges removed 3 of 5 marshals, 13 of 15 army generals, 8 of 9 admirals, 50 of 57 army corps generals, out of division generals, all 16 army commissars, and 25 of 28 army corps commissars.

October – November The situation encouraged direct Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War , in which twelve foreign countries supported anti-Bolshevik militias. January – November Initially the White armies successfully advanced: The Whites defeated the Red Army on each front. Leon Trotsky reformed and counterattacked: Some peripheral battles continued for two more years, and remnants of the White forces continued in the Far East into At the start of the war, the Red Army consisted of infantry regiments. Free from international war, the Red Army confronted an internecine war against a loose alliance of anti-Communist forces, comprising the Revolutionary Insurrectionary Army of Ukraine , the " Black Army " led by Nestor Makhno , the anti-White and anti-Red Green armies , efforts to restore the defeated Provisional Government, monarchists, but mainly the White Movement of several different anti-socialist military confederations. , translit. Revolyutsionny Voyenny Sovyet Revvoyensoviet. Soon afterwards Trotsky established the GRU military intelligence to provide political and military intelligence to Red Army commanders. On campaign, the attached Cheka Special Punitive Brigades conducted summary field courts-martial and executions of deserters and slackers. The same tactic also suppressed peasant rebellions in areas controlled by the Red Army, the biggest of these being the Tambov Rebellion. The commissars also had the task of spying on commanders for political incorrectness. He also introduced penal battalions. This merged into the – Polish–Soviet War , in which the Red Army reached central Poland in , but then suffered a defeat there, which put an end to the war. During the Polish Campaign the Red Army numbered some 6. It decided to establish strictly organized military, educational and economic conditions in the army. However, it was recognized that an army of 1,, would be burdensome. The supreme military unit became corps of two or three divisions. Divisions consisted of three regiments. Brigades as independent units were abolished. Historian John Erickson sees 1 February , when Mikhail Frunze became head of the Red Army staff, as marking the ascent of the general staff , which came to dominate Soviet military planning and operations. In the late s and throughout the s, Soviet military theoreticians - led by Marshal Mikhail Tukhachevsky - developed the deep-operations doctrine, [33] a direct consequence of their experiences in the Polish-Soviet War and in the Russian Civil War. The deep-battle doctrine relies upon aviation and armor advances with the expectation that maneuver warfare offers quick, efficient, and decisive victory. Marshal Tukhachevsky said that aerial warfare must be "employed against targets beyond the range of infantry , artillery , and other arms. For maximum tactical effect aircraft should be employed en masse , concentrated in time and space, against targets of the highest tactical importance. The Great Purge of – and the Purge of – removed many leading officers from the Red Army, including Tukhachevsky himself and many of his followers, and the doctrine was abandoned. Only in the Second World War did deep operations come into play. Chinese–Soviet conflicts[edit] The Red army was involved in armed conflicts in the Republic of China during the Sino-Soviet conflict , the Soviet Invasion of Xinjiang , when it was assisted by White Russian forces, and the Xinjiang rebellion The Red Army achieved its objectives; it maintained effective control over the Manchurian Chinese Eastern Railway , and successfully installed a pro-Soviet regime in Xinjiang. Finnish forces inflicted stunning losses on the Red Army for the first three months of the war while suffering very few losses themselves. The Finns retained their sovereignty and improved their international reputation, which bolstered their morale in the Continuation War. By autumn , after conquering its portion of Poland, the Third Reich shared an extensive border with USSR, with whom it remained neutrally bound by their non-aggression pact and trade agreements. These conquests also added to the border the Soviet Union shared with Nazi-controlled areas. For Adolf Hitler , the circumstance was no dilemma, because [45] the Drang nach Osten "Drive towards the East" policy secretly remained in force, culminating on 18 December with Directive No. The Axis forces deployed on the Eastern Front consisted of divisions and 18 brigades 3 million soldiers. Repression of the Russian Orthodox Church temporarily ceased, and priests revived the tradition of blessing arms before battle. To encourage the initiative of Red Army

commanders, the CPSU temporarily abolished political commissars, reintroduced formal military ranks and decorations, and introduced the Guards unit concept. Exceptionally heroic or high-performing units earned the Guards title for example 1st Guards Special Rifle Corps, 6th Guards Tank Army, [52] an elite designation denoting superior training, materiel, and pay. Marshals Zhukov and Rokossovsky with General Sokolovsky leave the Brandenburg Gate after being decorated by Montgomery. At the same time, the osobist NKVD military counter-intelligence officers became a key Red Army figure with the power to condemn to death and to spare the life of any soldier and almost any officer of the unit to which he was attached. In , Stalin established the penal battalions composed of gulag inmates, Soviet PoWs, disgraced soldiers, and deserters, for hazardous front-line duty as trappers clearing Nazi minefields, et cetera. Likewise, the Soviet treatment of Red Army personnel captured by the Wehrmacht was especially harsh. A Stalin directive ordered the suicide of every Red Army officer and soldier rather than surrender; Soviet law regarded all captured Red Army soldiers as traitors. Of this total of 34,, it lost 6,, killed in action KIA, , deaths by disease and 4,, missing in action MIA most captured. Of these 11,, however, , rejoined the ranks in the subsequently liberated Soviet territory, and a further 1,, returned from German captivity. Thus the grand total of losses amounted to 8,, Of these 9,, the Soviets released 3,, from captivity after the war, thus the grand total of the Axis losses came to an estimated 5,, Until then the Red Army was often required to improvise or go without weapons, vehicles, and other equipment. The decision to physically move their manufacturing capacity east of the Ural mountains kept the main Soviet support system out of German reach. On 12 November the Soviet government appointed Krylenko as the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, and because of an "accident" during the forceful displacement of the commander-in-chief, Dukhonin was killed on 20 November. The Bolsheviks also sent out their own representatives to replace front commanders of the Russian Imperial Army. After the signing of Treaty of Brest-Litovsk on 3 March, a major reshuffling took place in the Soviet military administration. On 13 March the Soviet government accepted the official resignation of Krylenko and the post of Supreme Commander-in-Chief was liquidated.

Red Army Command Cadre (), Vol. III *Military Training Institutions, Improving the Officer Corps' Stature, and the Memoirs of a Student-Officer* (69 pages and 6 figures).

The Tsarist general Nikolay Dukhonin estimated that there had been 2 million deserters, 1. He estimated the remaining troops as numbering 10 million. If they were turned away they would collect scrap metal and prepare care-packages. In some cases the money they earned would go towards tanks for the Army. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk also aggravated Russian internal politics. This allowed direct Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War, in which twelve foreign countries supported anti-Bolshevik militias. January–November which saw the White armies successfully advancing: Anton Denikin; from the east, under Gen. Aleksandr Vasilevich Kolchak; and from the northwest, under Gen. The Whites defeated the Red Army on each front. Leon Trotsky reformed and counterattacked: Free from international war, the Red Army confronted an internecine war against a loose alliance of anti-Communist forces, comprising the Revolutionary Insurrectionary Army of Ukraine, the "Black Army" led by Nestor Makhno, the anti-White and anti-Red Green armies, and others. On campaign, the attached Cheka Special Punitive Brigades conducted summary field courts-martial and executions of deserters and slackers. The same tactic also suppressed peasant rebellions in areas controlled by the Red Army. The commissars were also tasked with spying on commanders for political incorrectness. In August, Trotsky authorized General Mikhail Tukhachevsky to place blocking units behind politically unreliable Red Army units, to shoot anyone who retreated without permission. Polish–Soviet War and prelude The Soviet westward offensive of 1919 occurred at the same time as the general Soviet move into the areas abandoned by the Ober Ost garrisons. This merged into the Polish–Soviet War, in which the Red Army reached central Poland in 1919, but then suffered a defeat there, which put an end to the war. During the Polish Campaign the Red Army numbered some 600,000. Historian John Erickson dates 1 February 1924, when Mikhail Frunze became head of the Red Army staff, as the ascent of the general staff, which dominated Soviet military planning and operations. In the late 1920s and throughout the 1930s, Soviet military theoreticians led by Marshal Mikhail Tukhachevsky developed the deep operations doctrine,[30] a direct consequence of their Polish-Soviet War and Russian Civil War experiences. The deep battle doctrine relies upon aviation and armor advances in the hope that maneuver warfare offers quick, efficient, and decisive victory. Marshal Tukhachevsky said that aerial warfare must be "employed against targets beyond the range of infantry, artillery, and other arms. For maximum tactical effect aircraft should be employed en masse, concentrated in time and space, against targets of the highest tactical importance. The Great Purge of 1937 and the Purge of 1938 removed many leading officers from the Red Army, including Tukhachevsky and many of his followers, and the doctrine was abandoned. Thus at the Battle of Lake Khasan, in 1938, and the Battle of Khalkhin Gol, in 1939, major border clashes with the Imperial Japanese Army, the doctrine was not used. It was not until the Second World War that deep operations were to be reused. The Red Army achieved its objectives; it maintained effective control over the Manchurian Chinese Eastern Railway, and successfully installed a pro-Soviet regime in Xinjiang. Finnish forces inflicted stunning losses on the Red Army for the first three months of the war while suffering very few losses themselves. The Finns retained their sovereignty and improved their international reputation, which bolstered their morale in the Continuation War. By autumn 1941, after conquering its portion of Poland, the Third Reich shared an extensive border with USSR, with whom it remained neutrally bound by their non-aggression pact and trade agreements. This conquest also added to the border the Soviet Union shared with Nazi-controlled areas. For Adolf Hitler, the circumstance was no dilemma, because[41] the Drang nach Osten "Drive towards the East" policy secretly remained in force, culminating on 18 December 1941 with Directive No. 21. The Axis forces deployed on the Eastern Front consisted of divisions and 18 brigades 3 million soldiers.

5: Number of Soviet Tank and Mechanized Corps - The Dupuy Institute Forum

Its includes a roster of the senior command cadre during wartime, a description of the army's weaponry and equipment, and a listing of the Red Army's and NKVD's order of battle at six crucial points from June 22, , through December 31,

On September 22, just before the German 17th Army began its offensive towards Tuapse , the th was in 47th Army , facing the German V Army Corps and the Romanian Cavalry Corps; it remained under this command until after the German offensive ended in November. Battle of Novorossiysk[edit] After months of stalemate, the battle for the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk began to come to a head on September 9, By this time all of the th was in 18th Army, which was commanded by Col. Following a fifteen-minute artillery bombardment and an advance guard of marines, the th Rifle Regiment, commanded by Lt. And although not all the regiment managed to land, the men who did get a hold on the shore attacked the enemy fortifications in a massive rush. By dawn they had seized an important strongpoint -- the Proletary cement works. The rest of the regiment joined them the following night. The th came under massive pressure from German counterattacks over the next 24 hours which pushed some elements back to the sea, but eventually they held. Kadanchik was killed on September 15 by German artillery, and was posthumously made a Hero of the Soviet Union three days later. Meanwhile, other elements of the division were entering the battle. Vrutzkii, commanding the th Rifle Division, landed together with the regiment but contact with him was lost Leselidze decided to send a senior officer [with another officer] to the power station area to find Vrutzkii Despite the danger they returned They also brought sad news: Vrutzkii had suffered severe concussion, lost an eye and been wounded in the arm. Vrutzkii until September 11 ; and Col. The troops who participated in the liberation of Novorossiysk, by the order of the Supreme High Command of September 16, , and a commendation in Moscow, are given a salute of 12 artillery salvos from guns. Vasili Fyodorovich Gladkov; this officer would be promoted to Major General on June 3, , would go on to be named a Hero of the Soviet Union , and would remain in command for the duration of the war. Even before the liberation of Novorossiysk, Axis forces had begun evacuating the Taman Peninsula across the Kerch Strait into the Crimea in what was called Operation Brunhild. Vasili Fyodorovich Gladkov, a post he would hold well into the postwar era. On the following day the division liberated Anapa , [11] and soon began preparing its own crossing of the strait. The main landing by 56th Army east of Kerch was delayed for two nights. The crossing was carried out using a vast assortment of fishing boats, tug boats, barges and other assorted craft. These encountered at least two German naval minefields which sank several vessels, killing over troops, including the commander of the th Rifle Regiment and most of his staff. The first vessels approached the beaches at hrs and began unloading; due to the presence of a sandbar 50 metres from shore, many heavily laden soldiers quickly found themselves well over their heads and drowned. The division lost many men and a good deal of equipment, including heavy weapons such as antitank guns and mortars, which would make it impossible to break out of the beachhead. In addition, about one-third of the transport vessels had been sunk. Nevertheless, the Soviets managed to land enough troops to secure a lodgment, and also overran two Romanian 75mm guns at the northern end. The senior officer was Major D. Koveshnikov, although initially he had no communications with the divisional headquarters across the strait, or to his subordinate units. On the German side, the landing was assumed to be a battalion-sized diversion. Once the scale of the landing was understood and a sufficient force was gathered for a counterattack, Koveshnikov had established radio contact with the artillery on the far shore, which forced the Germans to break off late in the afternoon. Overnight, Colonel Gladkov, with another 3, troops and nine mortars, were landed. Counterattacks by the German 98th Infantry Division , with armor and some air support, reduced its area by about half, but once again the Soviet artillery support from across the strait cost the Germans significant casualties, and they were also outnumbered by the Soviet troops in the beachhead. That night the main landing by 56th Army finally began at Yenikale. In an effort to make more troops available to contest this landing, the Germans and Romanians developed a plan to crush the Eltigen beachhead. Operation Komet on November 7 was an utter failure, but led to several consequences. First, the German Navy forces in the Crimea were finally persuaded to take part in the battle, seriously interfering in resupply missions to the

beachhead. Second, the Soviet command recognized the beachhead was a tactical dead-end, and ceased plans to reinforce it. During the rest of November the th was contained by Romanian troops and allowed to wither on the vine. The attack opened at hrs. The mountain infantry gained ground in the south, and over the next two days rolled up the beachhead from this direction. A group of more than 1, men broke clean through the enemy perimeter and began trekking north more than 17km. In the morning the beachhead was completely overrun and the Romanians took 2, prisoners, mostly from the th. They were soon penned in by the Romanian mountain troops and pounded by German artillery and aircraft over the next four days. Gladkov and some of his men escaped by sea, but the position was overrun on December 11, with another men taken prisoner. On August 15, , the th was officially converted to the th Mountain Rifle Division, with the following order of battle:

6: Fire!!! Berlin, | Coloured War | Pinterest | Red army, Wwii and World war two

One of the most sordid and obscure aspects of the Soviet-German War, , involved the repression of Red Army senior officers, who, in Stalin's eyes, failed to fulfill their duties to the.

The Bolsheviks raised an army to oppose the military confederations especially the various groups collectively known as the White Army of their adversaries during the Russian Civil War. The Tsarist general Nikolay Dukhonin estimated that there had been 2 million deserters, 1. He estimated the remaining troops as numbering 10 million. Its role being the defense "of the Soviet authority, the creation of a basis for the transformation of the standing army into a force deriving its strength from a nation in arms, and, furthermore, the creation of a basis for the support of the coming Socialist Revolution in Europe. If they were turned away they would collect scrap metal and prepare care-packages. In some cases the money they earned would go towards tanks for the Army. The demoralized soldiers are fleeing, panic-stricken, as soon as they see a German helmet appear on the horizon, abandoning their artillery, convoys and all war material to the triumphantly advancing enemy. The Red Guard units are brushed aside like flies. We have no power to stay the enemy; only an immediate signing of the peace treaty will save us from destruction. The situation encouraged direct Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War , in which twelve foreign countries supported anti-Bolshevik militias. January –November initially saw the White armies successfully advancing: The Whites defeated the Red Army on each front. Leon Trotsky reformed and counterattacked: Free from international war, the Red Army confronted an internecine war against a loose alliance of anti-Communist forces, comprising the Revolutionary Insurrectionary Army of Ukraine , the " Black Army " led by Nestor Makhno , the anti-White and anti-Red Green armies , and others. Revvoyensoviet, Revolyutsionny Voyenny Sovyet. The first Chairman was Leon Trotsky. Soon afterwards Trotsky established the GRU military intelligence to provide political and military intelligence to Red Army commanders. On campaign, the attached Cheka Special Punitive Brigades conducted summary field courts-martial and executions of deserters and slackers. The same tactic also suppressed peasant rebellions in areas controlled by the Red Army, the biggest of them being the Tambov Rebellion. The commissars also had the task of spying on commanders for political incorrectness. In August , Trotsky authorized General Mikhail Tukhachevsky to place blocking units behind politically unreliable Red Army units, to shoot anyone who retreated without permission. This merged into the – Polish –Soviet War , in which the Red Army reached central Poland in , but then suffered a defeat there, which put an end to the war. During the Polish Campaign the Red Army numbered some 6. It decided to establish strictly organized military, educational and economic conditions in the army. However, it was recognized that an army of 1,, would be burdensome. The supreme military unit became corps of two or three divisions. Divisions consisted of three regiments. Brigades as independent units were abolished. Historian John Erickson dates 1 February , when Mikhail Frunze became head of the Red Army staff, as the ascent of the general staff , which dominated Soviet military planning and operations. In the late s and throughout the s, Soviet military theoreticians led by Marshal Mikhail Tukhachevsky developed the deep operations doctrine, [32] a direct consequence of their Polish-Soviet War and Russian Civil War experiences. The deep battle doctrine relies upon aviation and armor advances in the hope that maneuver warfare offers quick, efficient, and decisive victory. Marshal Tukhachevsky said that aerial warfare must be "employed against targets beyond the range of infantry , artillery , and other arms. For maximum tactical effect aircraft should be employed en masse , concentrated in time and space, against targets of the highest tactical importance. The Great Purge of – and the Purge of – removed many leading officers from the Red Army, including Tukhachevsky and many of his followers, and the doctrine was abandoned. Thus at the Battle of Lake Khasan , in , and the Battle of Khalkhin Gol , in , major border clashes with the Imperial Japanese Army , the doctrine was not used. It was not until the Second World War that deep operations were to be reused. Chinese –Soviet conflicts The Red army was involved in armed conflicts in The Republic of China during the Sino-Soviet conflict , the Soviet Invasion of Xinjiang , when it was assisted by White Russian forces, and the Xinjiang rebellion The Red Army achieved its objectives; it maintained effective control over the

Manchurian Chinese Eastern Railway , and successfully installed a pro-Soviet regime in Xinjiang. Finnish forces inflicted stunning losses on the Red Army for the first three months of the war while suffering very few losses themselves. The Finns retained their sovereignty and improved their international reputation, which bolstered their morale in the Continuation War. By autumn , after conquering its portion of Poland, the Third Reich shared an extensive border with USSR, with whom it remained neutrally bound by their non-aggression pact and trade agreements. These conquests also added to the border the Soviet Union shared with Nazi-controlled areas. For Adolf Hitler , the circumstance was no dilemma, because [43] the Drang nach Osten "Drive towards the East" policy secretly remained in force, culminating on 18 December with Directive No. The Axis forces deployed on the Eastern Front consisted of divisions and 18 brigades 3 million soldiers. Repression of the Russian Orthodox Church temporarily ceased, and priests revived the tradition of blessing arms before battle. To encourage the initiative of Red Army commanders, the CPSU temporarily abolished political commissars , reintroduced formal military ranks and decorations, and introduced the Guards unit concept. Exceptionally heroic or high-performing units earned the Guards title for example 1st Guards Special Rifle Corps , 6th Guards Tank Army , [50] an elite designation denoting superior training, materiel, and pay. At the same time, the osobist NKVD military counter-intelligence officers became a key Red Army figure with the power to condemn to death and to spare the life of any soldier and almost any officer of the unit to which he was attached. In , Stalin established the penal battalions composed of gulag inmates, Soviet PoWs, disgraced soldiers, and deserters, for hazardous front-line duty as trappers clearing Nazi minefields, et cetera. Likewise, the Soviet treatment of Red Army personnel captured by the Wehrmacht was especially harsh. A Stalin directive ordered the suicide of every Red Army officer and soldier rather than surrender; Soviet law regarded all captured Red Army soldiers as traitors. Of this total of 34,, it lost 6,, killed in action KIA , , deaths by disease and 4,, missing in action MIA most captured. Of these 11,, however, , rejoined the ranks in the subsequently liberated Soviet territory, and a further 1,, returned from German captivity. Thus the grand total of losses amounted to 8,, Of these 9,, the Soviets released 3,, from captivity after the war, thus the grand total of the Axis losses came to an estimated 5,, Until then the Red Army was often required to improvise or go without weapons, vehicles, and other equipment. The decision to physically move their manufacturing capacity east of the Ural mountains kept the main Soviet support system out of German reach. On 12 November the Soviet government appointed Krylenko as the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, and because of an "accident" during the forceful displacement of the commander-in-chief, Dukhonin was killed on 20 November The Bolsheviks also sent out their own representatives to replace front commanders of the Russian Imperial Army. After the signing of Treaty of Brest-Litovsk on 3 March , a major reshuffling took place in the Soviet military administration. On 13 March the Soviet government accepted the official resignation of Krylenko and the post of Supreme Commander-in-Chief was liquidated. Organization For more details on this topic, see Formations of the Soviet Army. Unofficial Red Army flag, since the Soviet ground forces never had an official flag. Democratic elections selected the officers. However, a decree of 29 May imposed obligatory military service for men of ages 18 to Military commissariats, however, should not be confused with the institution of military political commissars. In the mids the territorial principle of manning the Red Army was introduced. A regular cadre provided a stable nucleus. By this system provided 46 of the 77 infantry divisions and one of the eleven cavalry divisions. The remainder consisted of regular officers and enlisted personnel serving two-year terms. The territorial system was finally abolished, with all remaining formations converted to the other cadre divisions, in " An American journalist wrote in Measure this against the fact that the infinitely richer United States will approximate the expenditure of that much yearly only in after two years of our greatest defense effort. Most of the money spent on the Red Army and Air Force went for machines of war. Twenty-three years ago when the Bolshevik revolution took place there were few machines in Russia. Marx said Communism must come in a highly industrialized society. The Bolsheviks identified their dreams of socialist happiness with machines which would multiply production and reduce hours of labor until everyone would have everything he needed and would work only as much as he wished. Somehow this has not come about, but the Russians still worship machines, and this helped make the Red Army the most highly mechanized in the world, except perhaps the German Army now. Like Americans, the Russians admire size,

bigness, large numbers. They took pride in building a vast army of tanks, some of them the largest in the world, armored cars, airplanes, motorized guns, and every variety of mechanical weapons. The 1st Mechanized Brigade consisted of a tank regiment, a motorized infantry regiment, as well as reconnaissance and artillery battalions. These were tank-heavy formations with combat support forces included so they could survive while operating in enemy rear areas without support from a parent front. All of these formations were larger than those theorized by Tukhachevsky. The pressure placed on factories and military planners to show production numbers also led to a situation where the majority of armored vehicles were obsolescent models, critically lacking in spare parts and support equipment, and nearly three quarters were overdue for major maintenance. This corps would prove to be one of the lucky few with a substantial number of newer tanks. However, the 4th Army was composed of tanks, all of which were the obsolete T, as opposed to the authorized strength of 1, newer medium tanks. After six months of combat against the Germans, the Stavka abolished the rifle corps which was intermediate between the army and division level because, while useful in theory, in the state of the Red Army in , they proved ineffective in practice. On the outbreak of war the Red Army deployed mechanized corps and tank divisions whose development has been described above. The initial German attack destroyed many, and in the course of virtually all of them, barring two in the Transbaikal Military District. The remnants were disbanded. It was late and early before larger tank formations of corps size were fielded to employ armor in mass again. By mid these corps were being grouped together into tank armies whose strength by the end of the war could be up to tanks and 50, men.

7: 34th Infantry Division World War II Resource site

Red Army documents, --Red Army senior command cadre, --NKVD forces and other specialized Red Army forces in wartime --The characteristics of Red Army wartime weaponry and equipment (including lend-lease) --Red Army orders of battle,

Details On September 17 , the Red Army marched its troops into the western Belarusian and Ukrainian territories controlled by Poland in the Interwar period , using the official pretext of coming to the aid of the Ukrainians and the Belarusians threatened by Germany, [12] which had attacked Poland on September 1 , The Soviet invasion opened a second front for the Poles and forced them to abandon plans for defense in the Romanian bridgehead area, thus hastening the Polish defeat. The Soviet and German advance halted roughly at the Curzon Line. The defined Soviet sphere of interest matched the territory subsequently captured in the campaign. Even though water barriers separated most of the spheres of interest, the Soviet and German troops met each other on a number of occasions. According to Soviet sources, the Red Army force in Poland numbered , The Winter War Template: Details On November 30 , , the war against Finland began when Red Army forces crossed the frontier. Soviet leader Josef Stalin had expected to conquer the whole country by the end of , but Finnish resistance frustrated the Soviet forces. The Red Army, which outnumbered the Finns 4: It was to last into , and lead to the Continuation War of - In March a peace treaty was signed. The results of the war were mixed. Although the Soviet forces finally managed to break through the Finnish defence, neither the Soviet Union nor Finland emerged from the conflict unscathed. Even worse, the fighting ability of the Red Army was put into question. Finally, the Soviet forces did not accomplish their primary objective of conquest of Finland, but gained only a secession of territory along Lake Ladoga. Details By the autumn of the Third Reich had an extensive land border with the Soviet Union, but the latter remained neutral, bound by a non-aggression pact and by numerous trade agreements. For Hitler , no dilemma ever existed in this situation. On February 3 , , the final plan of Operation Barbarossa gained approval, and the attack was scheduled for the middle of May, However, the events in Greece and Yugoslavia necessitated a delay " to the second half of June. Their Axis opponents deployed on the Eastern Front divisions and 18 brigades 5. However the first weeks of the war saw major Soviet defeats as German forces trapped hundreds of thousands of Red Army soldiers in vast pockets and the loss of major equipment, tanks, and artillery. Soviet propaganda turned away from political notions of class struggle , and instead invoked the deeper-rooted patriotic feelings of the population, embracing pre-revolutionary Russian history. Propagandists proclaimed the War against the German aggressors as the " Great Patriotic War ", in allusion to the Patriotic War of against Napoleon. Repressions against the Russian Orthodox Church stopped, and priests revived the tradition of blessing arms before battle. The Communist Party abolished the institution of political commissars " although it soon restored them. The Red Army re-introduced military ranks and adopted many additional individual distinctions such as medals and orders. The concept of a Guard re-appeared: Of these 11,, however, , re-joined the ranks in the subsequently-liberated Soviet territory, and a further 1,, returned from German captivity. Thus the grand total of losses amounted to 8,, The majority of the losses comprised ethnic Russians 5,, , followed by ethnic Ukrainians 1,, Of these 11,, the Soviets released 3,, from captivity after the war, thus the grand total of the Axis losses came to an estimated 7,, While the laws of the Red Army officially prohibited such activities, the leadership nonetheless tolerated them. Note however that some historians say they refuted allegations that Soviet officials actively encouraged such behaviour. In the first part of the war, the Red Army fielded weaponry of mixed quality. It had excellent artillery, but it did not have enough trucks to maneuver and supply it; as a result the Wehrmacht which rated it highly captured much of it. Red Army T tanks outclassed any other tanks in the world, yet most of the Soviet armoured units were less advanced models; likewise, the same supply problem handicapped even the formations equipped with the most modern tanks. The Soviet Air Force initially performed poorly against the Germans. Until the Soviet authorities re-established the industry east of the Urals, much improvisation was necessary, and Soviet units were routinely far below their weapons establishment levels. Soviet forces also attacked in Sakhalin , in the Kuril Islands and in northern Korea. Japan

surrendered unconditionally on 2 September. It had more tanks or artillery than all other countries taken together.

8: 61 results in SearchWorks catalog

The 1st Rifle Division was first formed in December, 1918, as a standard Red Army rifle division, in the Moscow Military District, but after a month was redesignated as the 2nd formation of a pre-war division that had been destroyed and disbanded.

The Bolsheviks raised an army to oppose the military confederations especially the various groups collectively known as the White Army of their adversaries during the Russian Civil War. Beginning in February 1918, the Red Army, along with the Soviet Navy, embodied the main component of the Soviet Armed Forces; taking the official name of "Soviet Army", until its dissolution in December 1991. The Red Army is credited as being the decisive land force in the Allied victory in the European theatre of World War II, and its invasion of Manchuria contributed heavily to the ultimate unconditional surrender of Imperial Japan. The Tsarist general Nikolay Dukhonin estimated that there had been 2 million deserters, 1. He estimated the remaining troops as numbering 10 million. Its role being the defense "of the Soviet authority, the creation of a basis for the transformation of the standing army into a force deriving its strength from a nation in arms, and, furthermore, the creation of a basis for the support of the coming Socialist Revolution in Europe. If they were turned away they would collect scrap metal and prepare care-packages. In some cases the money they earned would go towards tanks for the Army. The demoralized soldiers are fleeing, panic-stricken, as soon as they see a German helmet appear on the horizon, abandoning their artillery, convoys and all war material to the triumphantly advancing enemy. The Red Guard units are brushed aside like flies. We have no power to stay the enemy; only an immediate signing of the peace treaty will save us from destruction. October 1918 - November 1919. The situation encouraged direct Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War, in which twelve foreign countries supported anti-Bolshevik militias. January 1918 - November 1919. Initially the White armies successfully advanced: The Whites defeated the Red Army on each front. Leon Trotsky reformed and counterattacked: Some peripheral battles continued for two more years, and remnants of the White forces continued in the Far East into 1920. At the start of the war, the Red Army consisted of infantry regiments. Free from international war, the Red Army confronted an internecine war against a loose alliance of anti-Communist forces, comprising the Revolutionary Insurrectionary Army of Ukraine, the "Black Army" led by Nestor Makhno, the anti-White and anti-Red Green armies, efforts to restore the defeated Provisional Government, monarchists, but mainly the White Movement of several different anti-socialist military confederations. 1918, translit. Revolyutsionny Voyenny Sovyet Revvoyensoviet. Soon afterwards Trotsky established the GRU military intelligence to provide political and military intelligence to Red Army commanders. On campaign, the attached Cheka Special Punitive Brigades conducted summary field courts-martial and executions of deserters and slackers. The same tactic also suppressed peasant rebellions in areas controlled by the Red Army, the biggest of these being the Tambov Rebellion. The commissars also had the task of spying on commanders for political incorrectness. In August 1919, Trotsky authorized General Mikhail Tukhachevsky to place blocking units behind politically unreliable Red Army units, to shoot anyone who retreated without permission. He also introduced penal battalions. This merged into the 1919 Polish-Soviet War, in which the Red Army reached central Poland in 1919, but then suffered a defeat there, which put an end to the war. During the Polish Campaign the Red Army numbered some 600,000. It decided to establish strictly organized military, educational and economic conditions in the army. However, it was recognized that an army of 1,000,000 would be burdensome. The supreme military unit became corps of two or three divisions. Divisions consisted of three regiments. Brigades as independent units were abolished. Historian John Erickson sees 1 February 1922, when Mikhail Frunze became head of the Red Army staff, as marking the ascent of the general staff, which came to dominate Soviet military planning and operations. In the late 1920s and throughout the 1930s, Soviet military theoreticians - led by Marshal Mikhail Tukhachevsky - developed the deep-operations doctrine,[33] a direct consequence of their experiences in the Polish-Soviet War and in the Russian Civil War. The deep-battle doctrine relies upon aviation and armor advances with the expectation that maneuver warfare offers quick, efficient, and decisive victory. Marshal Tukhachevsky said that aerial warfare must be "employed against targets beyond the range of

infantry , artillery , and other arms. For maximum tactical effect aircraft should be employed en masse, concentrated in time and space, against targets of the highest tactical importance. The Great Purge of 1937 and the Purge of 1938 removed many leading officers from the Red Army, including Tukhachevsky himself and many of his followers, and the doctrine was abandoned. Only in the Second World War did deep operations come into play. Chinese-Soviet conflicts The Red army was involved in armed conflicts in the Republic of China during the Sino-Soviet conflict , the Soviet Invasion of Xinjiang , when it was assisted by White Russian forces, and the Xinjiang rebellion The Red Army achieved its objectives; it maintained effective control over the Manchurian Chinese Eastern Railway , and successfully installed a pro-Soviet regime in Xinjiang. Finnish forces inflicted stunning losses on the Red Army for the first three months of the war while suffering very few losses themselves. The Finns retained their sovereignty and improved their international reputation, which bolstered their morale in the Continuation War. By autumn , after conquering its portion of Poland, the Third Reich shared an extensive border with USSR, with whom it remained neutrally bound by their non-aggression pact and trade agreements. These conquests also added to the border the Soviet Union shared with Nazi-controlled areas. For Adolf Hitler , the circumstance was no dilemma, because[45] the Drang nach Osten "Drive towards the East" policy secretly remained in force, culminating on 18 December with Directive No. The Axis forces deployed on the Eastern Front consisted of divisions and 18 brigades 3 million soldiers. Repression of the Russian Orthodox Church temporarily ceased, and priests revived the tradition of blessing arms before battle. To encourage the initiative of Red Army commanders, the CPSU temporarily abolished political commissars , reintroduced formal military ranks and decorations, and introduced the Guards unit concept. Exceptionally heroic or high-performing units earned the Guards title for example 1st Guards Special Rifle Corps , 6th Guards Tank Army ,[52] an elite designation denoting superior training, materiel, and pay. Marshals Zhukov and Rokossovsky with General Sokolovsky leave the Brandenburg Gate after being decorated by Montgomery At the same time, the osobist NKVD military counter-intelligence officers became a key Red Army figure with the power to condemn to death and to spare the life of any soldier and almost any officer of the unit to which he was attached. In , Stalin established the penal battalions composed of gulag inmates, Soviet PoWs, disgraced soldiers, and deserters, for hazardous front-line duty as trappers clearing Nazi minefields, et cetera. Likewise, the Soviet treatment of Red Army personnel captured by the Wehrmacht was especially harsh. A Stalin directive ordered the suicide of every Red Army officer and soldier rather than surrender; Soviet law regarded all captured Red Army soldiers as traitors. Of this total of 34,, it lost 6,, killed in action KIA , , deaths by disease and 4,, missing in action MIA most captured. Of these 11,, however, , rejoined the ranks in the subsequently liberated Soviet territory, and a further 1,, returned from German captivity. Thus the grand total of losses amounted to 8,, Of these 9,, the Soviets released 3,, from captivity after the war, thus the grand total of the Axis losses came to an estimated 5,, Until then the Red Army was often required to improvise or go without weapons, vehicles, and other equipment. The decision to physically move their manufacturing capacity east of the Ural mountains kept the main Soviet support system out of German reach. On 12 November the Soviet government appointed Krylenko as the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, and because of an "accident" during the forceful displacement of the commander-in-chief, Dukhonin was killed on 20 November The Bolsheviks also sent out their own representatives to replace front commanders of the Russian Imperial Army. After the signing of Treaty of Brest-Litovsk on 3 March , a major reshuffling took place in the Soviet military administration. On 13 March the Soviet government accepted the official resignation of Krylenko and the post of Supreme Commander-in-Chief was liquidated. Organization Unofficial Red Army flag, since the Soviet ground forces never had an official flag. Democratic elections selected the officers. However, a decree of 29 May imposed obligatory military service for men of ages 18 to Military commissariats, however, should not be confused with the institution of military political commissars. 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against the fact that the infinitely richer United States will approximate the expenditure of that much yearly only in after two years of our greatest defence effort. Most of the money spent on the Red Army and Air Force went for machines of war. Twenty-three years ago when the Bolshevik revolution took place there were few machines in Russia. Marx said Communism must come in a highly industrialized society. The Bolsheviks identified their dreams of socialist happiness with machines which would multiply production and reduce hours of labour until everyone would have everything he needed and would work only as much as he wished. Somehow this has not come about, but the Russians still worship machines, and this helped make the Red Army the most highly mechanized in the world, except perhaps the German Army now. Like Americans, the Russians admire size, bigness, large numbers. They took pride in building a vast army of tanks, some of them the largest in the world, armored cars, airplanes, motorized guns, and every variety of mechanical weapons. The 1st Mechanized Brigade consisted of a tank regiment, a motorized infantry regiment, as well as reconnaissance and artillery battalions. These were tank-heavy formations with combat support forces included so they could survive while operating in enemy rear areas without support from a parent front. All of these formations were larger than those theorized by Tukhachevsky. The pressure placed on factories and military planners to show production numbers also led to a situation where the majority of armored vehicles were obsolescent models, critically lacking in spare parts and support equipment, and nearly three quarters were overdue for major maintenance. This corps would prove to be one of the lucky few with a substantial number of newer tanks. However, the 4th Army was composed of tanks, all of which were the obsolete T, as opposed to the authorized strength of 1, newer medium tanks. After six months of combat against the Germans, the Stavka abolished the rifle corps which was intermediate between the army and division level because, while useful in theory, in the state of the Red Army in , they proved ineffective in practice. On the outbreak of war the Red Army deployed mechanised corps and tank divisions whose development has been described above. The initial German attack destroyed many, and in the course of virtually all of them, barring two in the Transbaikal Military District. The remnants were disbanded. It was late and early before larger tank formations of corps size were fielded to employ armour in mass again. By mid these corps were being grouped together into tank armies whose strength by the end of the war could be up to tanks and 50, men. Although this sometimes resulted in inefficient command according to most historians, the Party leadership considered political control over the military absolutely necessary, as the army relied more and more on officers from the pre-revolutionary Imperial period and understandably feared a military coup. This system was abolished in , as there were by that time enough trained Communist officers to render the counter-signing unnecessary.

9: Red Army - Wikipedia

Read an Excerpt. Chapter One. The Red Army, RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR, One of the ironies of Russian history is that, having seized power in Petrograd by undermining military discipline and civil authority, the Bolsheviks owed their survival to strong armed forces.

Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, , no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, electrical, chemical, mechanical, optical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner. Enquiries should be addressed to the Publishers. In addition to sources listed in the Select Bibliography on page 40, the author would like to acknowledge the published works of the late Philip H. Buss, Dieter Deuster, S. Nafziger, Nikolai Tolstoy and Henry L. He would also like to thank his wife Heather for her tireless encouragement and support. For further information on Nigel Thomas or to contact him, please refer to his website nt-associates. Here you will find extracts, author interviews, details of forthcoming events and the option to sign up for our newsletters. For the sake of space, this text does not follow the usual MAA conventions for abbreviations. Between and our donations will be spent on their Centenary Woods project in the UK. Note that the date abbreviations in tables follow British style " i. Actual numbers are impossible to determine, but a total of at least , auxiliaries has been estimated, of whom perhaps half were armed troops. After the catastrophic German defeat at Stalingrad in Feb the Axis forces were condemned to almost continual retreat, and by Nov they had lost all the captured ground except the Baltic States. Nevertheless, tens of thousands of unlucky former Soviet personnel continued to serve until the very end of the war, on battlefields as diverse as Normandy and Croatia. The occupation zones Occupied Soviet territory was divided into four north-south zones, moving eastwards, expanding in width during the advances and narrowing during the retreats. The Western Zone, in theory pacified, formed two provinces sing. Reichskommissariat under German civilian administration: Moskau northern and central Russia and Kaukasus. Local recruitment There were nine categories of Soviet volunteers in the Wehrmacht. This text covers six of those categories: Soviet citizens joined the German forces for a variety of reasons. Some were from non-Russian nationalities dreaming of independent statehood; others were anti-Communist Russians determined to overthrow Stalin. Many were pragmatic opportunists who simply wished to protect their villages, or to avoid death by starvation in German POW camps. One man 3rd left wears a Latvian Army M khaki field cap without insignia, and an M field tunic without collar patches or shoulder straps. Both men have been awarded the General Assault Badge for participating in three separate attacks. The other three men are probably civilians. Nevertheless, the real inspiration proved to be the charismatic captured Russian general Andrey A. Prisoners of war and deserters were employed as interpreters, wagon and lorry drivers, cooks, medical orderlies, ammunition carriers and messengers in German sub-units, while civilians joined supply units and construction battalions. Prisoners in Red Army uniforms stripped of Soviet insignia carried out fatigue duties in German units. In Sept Hitler reluctantly agreed to allow recruitment of Soviet citizens as unarmed Voluntary Assistants sing. A few discrete Hiwi units, such as Hiwi Ersatz Bataillon depot bn 46, were formed later in the war. By the German Army contained at least , Hiwis, including female medical officers and nurses. German attitudes towards them varied from hostility to admiration; for their part the Hiwis, with everything to lose if they returned to Soviet lines, usually served loyally. Hiwi recruits wore Red Army uniforms without Soviet insignia, civilian clothes, or German Army uniforms without breast-eagles, collar patches or shoulder straps, but from 1 Oct an armband identifying their Wehrmacht service was worn on the left upper sleeve. They wear obsolete German M helmets, Red Army M khaki field shirts with M red Security Bn collar patches and shoulder straps, sharovary breeches and marching boots. A medical orderly far right displays a red-cross armband. Tchakov Collection MAA v9. These units fought on the Volkhov Front in Feb Army Group Centre, confronting huge numbers of Red Army stragglers fighting as partisans in the forests and swamps of Belarus, organized 66 battalions. German officers and NCOs, in standard uniforms, provided the bn and most co and platoon commanders and a specialist NCO

cadre. An NCO acting as Hauptfeldwebel the company sergeant-major appointment followed German practice by wearing two silver NCO-braid rings round both cuffs. Under Regulation 15 Nov published 12 Dec , officers wore the M peakless field cap sidecap and other ranks the M or M cap, with a badge comprising a bright red vertical bar on a dark bluish-green cloth oval. The German helmet bore no insignia. While in captivity, Vlasov, encouraged by sympathetic German officers, agreed to head a Russian anti-Communist movement. As the Germans retreated after Stalingrad a further 25 were formed: Most MAA v9. They wear M helmets without insignia; M or M tunics with respectively dark bluish-green, or field-grey, collars and shoulder straps. They have M belts and ammunition pouches, and Karabiner 98k rifles. Security Bn uniforms and insignia continued to be worn. A large number of Eastern Cos were also formed, either as cos within German bns or as independent sub-units. In all, of these Eastern Cos have been identified: This badge was a cynical ploy by the Germans to retain Russian loyalty and encourage hope for a Russian anti-Communist army, which Hitler had expressly vetoed. The group shows slight variations of German uniform: The Yefreytor in the foreground wears the M shoulder-strap rank bar. Russia ; , Volunteer Security Bn ; France - Beresina Eastern Combat Bn r. Germany - Ukrainian Bn 6 r. Germany - VI Volunteer Bn r. Germany - Finnish Security Bn r. Germany - Pripjet Eastern Combat Bn r. Germany - Self-Defence Bn r. Russian Liberation Army battalions, 24 Aug - 8 May cont. Italy - Cossack Sqn r. Germany - Eastern Bn 82 r. Russia ; summer , disbanded - Eastern Bn r. Russia ; , N. Germany - Eastern Bn r. France - Welcker Eastern Bn r. France ; , Russian Bn , W. France ; , destroyed - Eastern Bn r. France - Eastern Bn r. Germany - Eastern Bn 7 r. German-occupied Poland ; but in Sept - , six were redesignated Eastern Regimental Headquarters sing. Officers initially wore a red oval painted-metal cap badge with a surround of blue sunrays, but this was soon replaced by a red-blue oval with silver sunrays; NCOs and men had a red-blue oval only. General officers wore tongue-shaped dark bluish-green collar patches with gold cord edge-piping and a horizontal gold braid with a plain gold pebbled button; field and subaltern officers had the same patch but with silver distinctions; NCOs and men the same, without the silver piping. Officers wore dark bluish-green or field-grey shoulder straps shaped like Tsarist pogoni, piped red; generals had gold zigzag braid and 2 silver four-point stars; field officers had two lengthways red stripes with 2 silver stars; subalterns wore the same but with one red centre-stripe. Officers had been awarded Russian military rank titles under Regulation Nr. Transfers to the West As the Wehrmacht retreated after Stalingrad the previously modest level of desertions and mutinies amongst the 74 ROA bns began to increase, prompting Hitler to order their transfer to France and northern Italy in Sept Here a company march through the countryside wearing mostly M uniforms and insignia; they are almost indistinguishable from German troops apart from the ROA red-blue oval badges high on the front of their M field caps. All ranks up to general were theoretically open to the Volunteers. Seated, front row, left to right: Trukhin, chief of staff; General-leutenant Georgiy N. Zhilenkov, head of the Propaganda Dept; Vlasov. Pozdnyakov, and Polkovnik Igor K. Sacharov wears an M ROA uniform. Now at last he had some Russian troops under his operational control, although still under German strategic command. France Troops , C. Eastern Arty Bn ; 6. France - Hohlfeld Special HQ r. Welcker Eastern Bn; 8. Russia ; , disbanded - OC Eastern Troops r. Russia ; probably not formed - Eastern Regt HQ r. German cadre personnel retained the eagle-andswastika but removed the ROA arm shield. The AT Brigade-Russian comprised four man groups, each of three units, each divided into ten sections. Each division had three 2-bn infantry regts, a 4-bn artillery regt and supporting services, but the 22, strong 1st KONR Div numbered th Div in the German battle-order also had an AT bn with 10 Jagdpanzer 38 t self-propelled guns and some T tanks. The demoralized Gen Vlasov played no part in directing these operations. Other KONR troops were either shot, or imprisoned in Gulag concentration camps, which many did not survive. From 29 May these personnel wore M ROA cap cockades, collar patches, grey-blue shoulder straps highest rank Polkovnik, Col , and M ROA arm shields on a grey-blue background on the left sleeve. The eagle-andswastika was worn on the peaked service cap above a red-blue-silver oval cockade within a Luftwaffe wreath with stylized wings.

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